

King Hall 531

Chapter 531 - Investigation!

"Don't worry,"

Mu Jinyu turned his head to glance at Wen Rou, giving her a reassuring look, and said,

"Currently, many people are at risk of being eroded by the Tide of Chaos, but you should be safe. After all, you have always been wearing the protective talismans I gave you. In theory, they should also block the erosion of the Tide of Chaos, so you needn't worry too much."

Upon hearing this, Wen Rou nodded somewhat absentmindedly, not saying much more but seemingly calmed down.

But she knew in her heart that Mu Jinyu was only saying they should not be eroded by the Tide of Chaos or have their memories altered; he did not guarantee that it absolutely would not happen.

It seemed that they should avoid getting too close to Mu Jinyu for the time being, before he had thoroughly investigated the Tide of Chaos, lest they harm him.

Mu Jinyu saw the concerned expressions on Wen Rou and Su Zijin and sighed inwardly, not saying anything further, instead continuing to speak with Mu Hongchen:

"In this current situation, I find it very difficult to trust too many people. However, Aunt Mu, your strength is formidable; it's highly unlikely that your memory will be altered by the Tide of Chaos anytime soon. So, in the future, many things might require your personal attention."

Mu Hongchen nodded and said, "That's not a problem."

As she spoke, she also felt a sigh of relief.

After all, Mu Jinyu had just recently attended the meeting of the Nine Great Organizations not long ago and learned much about demon-related information. Since he stated that her strength was formidable

and implied that she won't be eroded by the Tide of Chaos even without a magical artifact, it was highly likely that she was safe.

Otherwise, she was afraid that she might have already been eroded by demon power, no longer herself, yet still believing she was.

Mu Jinyu continued, "Right, Aunt Mu, later, have someone renovate the underground storage room, completely replace the door and the room with gold to ensure that even if demons leak from the containment, they can't spread to other areas..."

"Then, assign the permission to open the door only to you and me for the time being. No one else, including Wu Shisan, will be able to enter..."

"Alright, I've got it..." Mu Hongchen felt a chill in her heart as she listened to Mu Jinyu's words, realizing that his move was entirely to guard against the possibility of traitors infested by demon power within the Dragon King Hall.

The two continued to discuss various detailing change strategies, and before long, there was a knocking at the door.

"Knock knock."

Mu Jinyu paused his conversation with Mu Hongchen and called out, "Come in."

"Dragon Master, I'm back."

The person who entered was the young man who had just left the underground storage room and parted ways with Mu Jinyu.

At this moment, his right calf was tightly bound by a gold shackle, making him move uncomfortably and causing him to limp when he walked.

This was a suggestion from Mu Jinyu; after all, the Omniscient Li Yaotong and their ilk would be arriving shortly, but they had not yet found a method to contain the demon erosion. All they could do for the time being was to use gold to make a binding ring, to see if it could slow down the corruption of his right foot.

"How does it feel?"

Mu Jinyu glanced at the golden ring on the young man's foot, which actually looked quite stylish, and asked softly.

"Not too good, but it seems like the spread of the corruption has indeed slowed down," the young man replied.

"Then that's good," Mu Jinyu nodded slightly, then, as if remembering something, added, "By the way, I still don't know your name?"

The young man gave a shy smile and said, "Dragon Master, my name is Wang Hu—'Wang' as in the word for a cur, and 'Hu' as in tiger."

"Pfft!"

Mu Jinyu couldn't help but laugh out loud at his self-introduction.

Su Zijin and the others felt the same, thinking that Wang Hu was quite amusing.

At that moment, "Knock knock!"

The knocking sounded again.

"Come in," Mu Jinyu called out.

The door was opened again.

Then, a group of about a dozen people came in.

They were the same team Mu Jinyu had sent to carry the coffin that day.

They had recently resisted a Zombie Demon, and Dragon King Hall, fearing that its members would become exhausted and collapse after prolonged battles with demons, allowed them to rest. So as soon as they received Mu Jinyu's notification, they immediately rushed over.

"Dragon Master, do you have any tasks for us?" one of them asked.

Mu Jinyu did not answer but looked towards the person whose hand had been cut that day, showing black blood. With a flick of his finger, a strand of Sword Qi shot out, cutting open his skin again.

"Hiss!"

Another strand of black blood oozed out from the cut on his skin.

"It hasn't healed yet? It seems that the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument can only temporarily suppress the infection of the Tide of Chaos; it can't eliminate the Demon Power inside the body," Mu Jinyu murmured softly, lowering his gaze and withdrawing his look.

"However, this is still somewhat good. At least it stabilizes the situation. If we completely find the Tide of Chaos and suppress it, I guess everyone could return to normal. Removing the Magic Artifact without worrying about sudden demonization would also be possible."

After a slight shake of his head, Mu Jinyu looked at the slightly uneasy victims of the Tide of Chaos and said, "When the Golden Coffin that sealed the Zombie Demon was placed into the storage room, were you the last one to come out?"

His question was directed not only at that person but also at the other members of the small team.

"No," the man shook his head, "I was the first one out. The last person I remember coming out was Ah-Huang..."

"Ah-Huang?" Mu Jinyu's voice raised slightly.

The rest also turned their gaze to a pale-faced young man, saying in unison:

"Right, Da Bai didn't lie. I also remember that the last one to come out was Ah-Huang."

"Yes, at that time, Ah-Huang even stood in front of the Golden Coffin, swayed a few times as if he was going to fall from lack of oxygen, and we even joked about his weak constitution."

"Dragon Master, why do you ask this? Is there an issue with how the Golden Coffin was placed, or something else?"

Mu Jinyu did not immediately answer their question but instead looked at the young man named Ah-Huang. With a flick of his finger, another strand of Sword Qi shot out, cutting into Ah-Huang's skin.

Blood flowed out, a bright red color.

If looking at blood problems after being eroded by demons, it was clear that Ah-Huang was problem-free.

Instead, it was Da Bai, who had pointed him out, with the black blood, who had the problem.

But...

Mu Jinyu then shot out several more strands of Sword Qi, cutting a small slit in the skin of everyone's hand present.

All bright red blood.

It couldn't be that those who supposedly had no issues were all lying in collusion with him, could it?

It seemed that the degree of erosion by the Tide of Chaos was indeed a bit more severe than the Tide of Chaos, at least to the extent that it could not be detected.

Thinking this, Mu Jinyu looked at Ah-Huang and said, "They all say you were the last to come out. Do you have anything to say about this?"

"Nothing," Ah-Huang said. "I indeed was the last one to come out, but Dragon Master, why do you ask these questions? Is it that we didn't manage something properly?"

Towards the end, his tone became somewhat tentative.

It wasn't the guilty conscience of someone about to be exposed for wrongdoing but the nervousness of not knowing exactly what one might have done wrong.

Chapter 532: Bridal Gown Bride!

Mu Jinyu looked at Ah-Huang and said, "Not long ago, I caught another demon and sent it to the storage room to be sealed, but something almost happened there."

"What happened?" Ah-Huang and others asked anxiously.

Mu Jinyu said indifferently, "The Golden Coffin was pierced through by someone with bare fingers, and all the Corpse Water flowed out..."

"How could that happen?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, everyone's face turned shocked and awful, ashamed of their negligence.

Then, they all looked towards Ah-Huang, also understanding why Mu Jinyu had just asked that question.

At that time, they were all quite afraid of the sinister demon, fearing that the Golden Coffin would not contain it, so they hurried away after laying it down, only Ah-Huang, shaking, almost fell over.

They thought it was because Ah-Huang was weak due to the lack of oxygen in the underground storage room that he almost fainted.

But now it seemed very likely that the intact Golden Coffin had its lid punctured at that very moment by him.

"Ah-Huang, raise your hand!"

Suddenly, someone commanded.

Ah-Huang, pale-faced, raised his hand unconsciously upon hearing that.

Everyone looked closely and saw some gold dust in the crevices of his fingers.

"This..."

Ah-Huang also saw the gold dust in his fingernail crevices, widened his eyes, somewhat in disbelief that he had indeed caused the puncture in the Golden Coffin.

Everyone looked at Ah-Huang with complicated and somewhat frightened eyes.

They had not expected Ah-Huang, who always appeared normal, to have been eroded by the demon unknowingly, without showing any symptoms.

They were grateful that those days were their days off.

Otherwise, if they had gone out on a task with Ah-Huang, who knew when he might suddenly stab them and then die at the hands of the demon without them knowing!

"Dragon Master, I'm sorry, I really... I really didn't know it would turn out like this..."

Ah-Huang's face turned ashen, and he lowered his head, his hands trembling, somewhat incoherently apologizing.

Mu Jinyu said, "It's not necessarily proven yet that it was you who did it, Aunt Mu, please review his records and recent experiences to check if there's something wrong with his memory."

"Okay," Mu Hongchen nodded and agreed.

Mu Jinyu naturally could not conclude that the person who had damaged the Golden Coffin and nearly released the Zombie Demon was Ah-Huang based on just these few pieces of evidence.

A more rigorous investigation was needed to avoid temporarily isolating Ah-Huang, only to find out later that the real culprit was someone else, wouldn't that be terrible?

Then they wouldn't know how many people might have fallen victim to the Tide of Chaos that tampered with memories!

Mu Hongchen quickly brought up Ah-Huang's records and the details of his recent months' activities.

Then she started questioning him based on this information.

"Where did you go two weeks ago?"

"What is your favorite food?"

"..."

Mu Hongchen stopped after a few questions and with a sigh of resignation, turned to Mu Jinyu and said, "Dragon Master, his memory indeed has major issues and a lot was missing. Like the fact that his mother passed away long ago, yet two weeks ago, he went to pay respects at her grave but believed he was going on a blind date..."

Mu Jinyu nodded, ready to have Mu Hongchen scrutinize a dozen others as well.

Yet Ah-Huang suddenly exclaimed with a changing face, "My mom is dead? Then who did I bring home this morning?"

"What?!"

Upon hearing Ah-Huang's words, everyone's face changed drastically.

Ah-Huang's mother had long died, and Mu Hongchen had discovered from the questioning that his memory had been tampered by the Tide of Chaos, causing some mistakes, potentially a side effect, so they hadn't taken it too seriously.

But now, according to what Ah-Huang said, it seemed he was not merely mistaken about his mother being alive; instead, he seemed to have brought someone back?

Could he really be bringing home a human given his current situation, or is it a demon?!

"Quick, first isolate Ah-Huang, then let's go check out his house," Mu Jinyu immediately decided and shouted.

Although Ah-Huang had big problems, Mu Jinyu couldn't just kill him outright; he had to imprison him for now and see what happens later.

Ah-Huang also understood that he was in big trouble and did not resist the decision Mu Jinyu made.

He even felt a bit relieved.

If it had been any other more ruthless leader, who would kill without hesitation, he would probably be dead by now.

Mu Jinyu sent people to take Ah-Huang to detention, got Ah-Huang's home address, and hurriedly had someone drive him there.

As for Mu Hongchen and Su Zijin, Mu Jinyu naturally wouldn't let them come along.

After all, they hadn't succeeded in their cultivation yet; going there would be useless and might only cause chaos.

If they were successful in their cultivation, he wouldn't mind taking them along on missions that weren't too dangerous.

Soon, Mu Jinyu arrived at the residential area where Ah-Huang's home was located.

But the area had a power outage, and he couldn't use the elevator, so he had to climb the stairs himself.

Ah-Huang lived on the eighteenth floor.

Mu Jinyu took a little more than a minute to climb up.

Then, he stood at the door of Ah-Huang's home, his eyes wary, and kicked the security door open with his last step.

"Clang!"

"Bang!"

The security door slammed onto the tiles, making a heavy sound.

If there were anyone inside, they would surely be startled and come out to check at this moment.

But as the dust gradually settled,

the inside of the house remained silent.

Mu Jinyu sent his Divine Sense inside and eventually detected a strange power in the study that blocked his probing.

"It's here!"

Mu Jinyu instantly realized that what Ah-Huang brought back, supposedly his "mother," was indeed a demon currently hiding in his home's study.

Then, Mu Jinyu cautiously stepped up to the study door, covered his palm with True Yuan, gently touched the doorknob, ready to turn it.

He dared not simply kick the door in, not knowing what level the demon inside was; it could be lethal if provoked.

Wouldn't he be done for if he kicked the door open?

"Creak..."

Carefully opening the door, a putrid smell of rotten corpse wafted out from the room.

Mu Jinyu held his breath, not daring to smell it, since his probing with Divine Sense was being blocked by the demon's power; he could only cautiously look inside the room.

He saw...

In the study, in front of a row of bookshelves, stood a woman dressed in a red wedding dress, who from her silhouette appeared incredibly graceful and exquisite.

But the intense stench of corpse told Mu Jinyu that this odd Bridal Gown Bride was the demon Ah-Huang had brought back.

"What kind of demon is this? Ah-Huang said he was bringing his mother home, why do I feel like he brought back a date instead?" Mu Jinyu thought to himself.

As the study door opened, the Bridal Gown Bride, who had been standing elegantly in front of the bookshelf, browsing through books like a well-bred lady, turned her head to look at Mu Jinyu.

Chapter 533 - Absolute Suppression!

What kind of face was it?

The flesh of the face had completely decayed, not a single piece of skin remained intact, and many maggots were constantly burrowing through the rotting flesh. The eye sockets were dark and empty, the eyeballs evidently having fallen out long ago.

Within those dark, hollow eye sockets, two small red snakes coiled, flicking their tongues lightly, their serpent eyes fixed intently on Mu Jinyu as she turned her head towards them.

The item that the Bridal Gown Bride held and examined in her hands was not any sort of book; it was actually a collection of intact human faces.

Mu Jinyu glanced once and immediately felt his scalp tingle.

For those human skin faces in the hands of the Bridal Gown Bride seemed alive, their expressions changing unpredictably—twisted, anguished, despairing, pleading, hateful...

The range of emotions was vivid and clear, giving the impression that they were not yet dead, or perhaps, even if they were dead, their souls had been stripped away along with their skin, sealed within and unable to find release!

"Shh!"

At that moment,

The Bridal Gown Bride made her move.

The two small red snakes coiled in her eye sockets shot out like arrows released from a bow, instantly lunging at Mu Jinyu.

Their speed was so fast that Mu Jinyu barely reacted in time, narrowly avoiding being bitten in the eye sockets!

"Shh!!"

Mu Jinyu had no time to swing the Golden Dagger to kill these bizarre red snakes and instead turned his head to evade them first.

Only then did he grip the dagger firmly, and as the snakes turned in midair to strike at him again, he swung his blade down in a chop!

"Tss!"

The two small red snakes were slashed by the Golden Dagger, and immediately a dark black blood burst forth, before they divided into four lengths of snake body, falling to the ground and writhing incessantly.

Mu Jinyu wondered what kind of ghastly presence this was. How had Ah-Huang managed to bring it back without getting hurt?

"Huff..."

A gust of cold wind blew.

Mu Jinyu immediately remembered the Rotten Corpse Bride ghost behind him. Knowing it was her who was attacking him, he hastily sprinted forward before turning back to look.

He saw the Rotten Corpse Bride clothed in the wedding dress standing not far from where he had just been, her perfect, flawless jade hands gently caressing the air.

Mu Jinyu's scalp tingled at this sight.

Because if he remembered correctly, the Rotten Corpse Bride was caressing the air where his face had just been.

Could it be that this demon also wanted to strip off his own facial skin?

Mu Jinyu thought so, suddenly feeling an ominous premonition. If that was indeed the case, then what about Ah-Huang who was in the headquarters of Dragon King Hall?

But there was no time for further thought.

For, after touching the empty air, the Rotten Corpse Bride clumsily turned its body and then looked towards Mu Jinyu.

It awkwardly took a step, its red embroidered shoes peeking out from underneath the red dress.

Suddenly, it flew swiftly to Mu Jinyu's side and continued to raise its hand to touch his face!

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu clenched his teeth, raised the Golden Dagger, channeling all his True Yuan into the blade, and furiously slashed downward, creating a dazzling and brilliant arc of light, cutting straight towards the Rotten Corpse Bride!

This stroke was the strongest one he could perform with his current ability in the God Realm; not just a tank or an armored vehicle, even a building could easily be cleaved into a heap of ruins and debris!

However...

"Dang!"

As Mu Jinyu's blade struck the Rotten Corpse Bride, not only did it fail to split her in two, it also emitted a sound like gold striking iron.

It was as though he had hacked at stone with an iron sword.

Not a single blow could inflict any damage upon this demon!

"Just as I thought!"

Mu Jinyu had anticipated this, knowing that his slash might not cause any real damage to the demon, so he wasn't particularly disappointed.

Taking advantage of the Rotten Corpse Bride's brief moment of sluggishness after being struck by his blade, he gripped the Golden Dagger and thrust it straight into its chest!

Mu Jinyu was unsure whether destroying the heart of a demon like the Rotten Corpse Bride would be effective, but having no other methods at hand, he decided to give it a try.

Without other options, he would have to stall for time, engaging in a protracted battle until the Golden Gatling was ready at Dragon King Hall. Then, he would praise the Gatling Bodhisattva and perform a physical transcendence for the benefactor who tragically became a demon on her wedding day!

"Hiss!"

Mu Jinyu, holding the Golden Dagger, stabbed precisely into the heart of the Rotten Corpse Bride and quickly let go, retreating backwards.

He stared intently at the brightly clad bride before him, hoping she would simply stop moving. If so, all he had to do was wait for the Golden Coffin from Dragon King Hall and seal her inside it.

However.

The situation didn't play out as Mu Jinyu had hoped.

Initially, when the Rotten Corpse Bride was stabbed in the chest with the Golden Dagger, she did stop moving. However, a scarlet light suddenly flared from her red wedding dress, and the dagger plunged into her heart clattered to the ground.

Mu Jinyu's pupils shrank slightly at the sight.

He discovered that the wedding dress was completely undamaged, meaning his earlier thrust with the dagger hadn't succeeded in piercing the demon's chest, nor in reaching its heart!

"Is there a problem with that wedding dress?"

Mu Jinyu had just realized this

when the Rotten Corpse Bride, wearing Embroidered Shoes, once again flew towards him.

"These Embroidered Shoes are problematic too!"

Mu Jinyu felt his heart sink.

With these two Ghostly Artifacts, wasn't the Rotten Corpse Bride invincible?

Her defensive capabilities were of first-rate strength, and her speed was on par with that of the God Realm. Unleashed upon the world, she could wreak havoc on her own!

"Shick!"

Mu Jinyu was just about to take out a spare Golden Dagger to fend her off while waiting for the Golden Gatling to be delivered

when suddenly, the Rotten Corpse Bride released her grip, and the many human skins in her hands began to float in mid-air.

The expressions on them were all different: some in agony, some numb with despair, others filled with raging resentment.

"Uh-ah!"

"Roar!"

These vividly expressive human skins, floating in mid-air and revolving around Mu Jinyu, emitted a cacophony of screeches and roars!

It was as if fierce ghosts were wailing and weeping!

"Damn it!"

As these ghostly wails and howls arose, Mu Jinyu, who was about to extricate himself, suddenly found that he couldn't move his body.

He was entirely rigid, as if he himself was exerting a fearsome pressure to subdue ordinary people, preventing them from moving.

However, at that moment, he was the one paralyzed by the demon's terrifying pressure.

"Swoosh!"

The Rotten Corpse Bride glided in front of Mu Jinyu, raising her crystal clear, flawless hand—beautiful as if it did not belong to a normal person—toward Mu Jinyu's face!

The gesture was so gentle, like a lover caressing their beloved's cheek.

Yet Mu Jinyu was horrified, his body hair standing on end as he inwardly shouted furiously, struggling to break free from the ghastly presence of the demon and escape.

If his face were touched by the demon's hand, who knew what would happen?

It was very likely that his skin would be peeled off along with his very soul, dragging both down to perdition.

Chapter 534: Arrive Just in Time!

"Damn it, get away from me!"

Mu Jinyu watched in horror as the Rotten Corpse Bride reached out her salty pig-like hand toward him, making his skin crawl and his heart pound as if it was about to leap out of his throat.

Unfortunately, despite his cultivation in the God Realm and his control over the Dragon King Hall, he seemed utterly powerless against this strange demon, unable to withstand a single blow.

"Swoosh!"

Just as the Rotten Corpse Bride's hand was about to touch Mu Jinyu's cheek, suddenly, a dark shadow appeared, standing in front of Mu Jinyu and grasped the Rotten Corpse Bride's wrist.

This caused her jade hand to stop dead, just an inch away from Mu Jinyu's cheek.

"Huff..."

Mu Jinyu didn't know what was happening, but he was relieved that the filthy hand hadn't touched him.

"Buzz buzz buzz!!"

At that moment, faces made of human skin, spinning in the void and emitting ghostly howls, seemed to be under the Rotten Corpse Bride's control, producing even more urgent and mournful cries.

"Screech screech screech!!!"

Instantly, the dark shadow that entwined the Rotten Corpse Bride's wrist began to show signs of collapsing, seemingly unable to hold her anymore.

"Dada dada..."

At this critical moment,

a series of rapid footsteps approached, and then several pale-faced middle-aged men ran into the study. Two of them grabbed the Rotten Corpse Bride, and another lifted his pale, withered palm, grabbing the floating human skin faces from the air and stacking them together.

"Whooo..."

The urgent and mournful cries emitted from the human skin faces were instantly subdued by the grip of that corpse-like hand; they no longer dared to make those unnerving screams.

With the disappearance of those cries, Mu Jinyu suddenly found himself freed from the ghastly presence, able to move freely.

"Crap!"

Mu Jinyu cursed and quickly distanced himself from these people and the Rotten Corpse Bride.

"Dragon King, are you alright?"

Just as Mu Jinyu, with a confused and alarmed look, was staring at these strange people who had subdued the Rotten Corpse Bride, observing their pale faces and the sinister aura they exuded, suspecting whether they were normal humans, he heard a somewhat familiar voice.

He suddenly turned his head to look back.

The person was Li Yaotong.

"Huff..."

Mu Jinyu sighed with relief and relaxed his tense expression, saying, "Are these your 'Omniscient' people?"

"Yes," Li Yaotong walked slowly into the study and said, "This is a demon subduing method I just developed. The effect is pretty good, right? In the past, you could have killed these people with one move, but now, facing demons, Dragon King, you seem helpless and weak, while they can easily subdue them!"

"What's the principle behind this?"

Mu Jinyu, warily eyeing the immobilized Rotten Corpse Bride and the stack of human skin faces held in the hand of another, asked curiously.

"It's because demons are not ordinary beings but are rather like fierce ghosts. We normal people, no matter how strong, have only a slim chance of subduing demons. But becoming a demon, that's different. Only a demon can combat a demon!"

Li Yaotong said softly.

"A demon can only combat a demon?"

Mu Jinyu, hearing Li Yaotong's words, slightly shifted his expression and said, "Have they also become demons?"

As he spoke, Mu Jinyu looked at those people with deep aversion, noticing they truly didn't seem human anymore, looking almost corpse-like, with their stiff, pale faces, dull gray eyes, and an overall sinister aura emanating from them.

Li Yaotong explained, "It's not exactly becoming a demon, but rather, controlling demons and harnessing their power, which is why they can be contested with!"

"So, it's becoming half-human, half-demon?" Mu Jinyu said.

"Something like that." Li Yaotong nodded.

"How can one achieve this, and what is the price?" Mu Jinyu asked.

If this were any other matter or not during these dark and chaotic times, Mu Jinyu would never directly ask someone such personal questions.

But now, in these times, he believed that Li Yaotong had already shared so much with him that he would not conceal the crucial parts, thus he saw no need for beating around the bush and asked directly.

Sure enough, Li Yaotong did not conceal anything and, without hesitation, answered directly, "By subjugating the demons and harboring them within one's body, trying to merge with them, and attempting to control them, the price is that, over time, the demon inside the human will devour the flesh and blood and grow stronger until one day, they break free from human control and completely consume the person, causing their death during the demon's revival!"

"This..."

Upon hearing Li Yaotong's words, Mu Jinyu's expression changed dramatically.

Initially, he thought that if the price of controlling the power of demons wasn't too great, even though it might make him as grotesque as a walking corpse, he wouldn't mind becoming a demon himself to better combat the demons and save the world.

But the actual cost, inevitably dying from the resurrection of the demon, amounted to a slow suicide, and he no longer considered it.

After all, with his status, being alive held far more value than combating a few demons and then dying due to their resurgence.

"Can just anyone freely control the power of demons?" Mu Jinyu couldn't help but ask.

"Not exactly," Li Yaotong shook his head and said, "Most people who try to control demons end up dying horrifically."

"Tap, tap, tap..."

At that moment, another series of footsteps came from outside the door.

Turning his head, Mu Jinyu saw several members of the Dragon King Hall approaching with the Golden Coffin meant for detaining the Rotten Corpse Bride.

However...

Mu Jinyu forced a smile, knowing that if it weren't for the arrival of someone Omniscient to assist, not only could he have possibly died at the hands of the Rotten Corpse Bride just moments ago, but these people coming to bring the Golden Container would likely have perished as well.

Alas, ordinary people encountering demons have only one path—death. As a powerful being of the God Realm, it's slightly better; though most demons cannot defeat him, he can still escape, but encountering a demon like the Rotten Corpse Bride is much more disastrous, and escape is much harder.

In the face of demons, human strength is fragile like porcelain.

"Dragon Master, we're late, but fortunately, it didn't waste any time."

These members of the Dragon King Hall had no idea about the recent events on Mu Jinyu's side, and they thought that the Rotten Corpse Bride, clothed in a wedding dress, was subdued by Mu Jinyu before handing her over to these strange-looking people to be restrained.

Upon approaching, they smiled politely at these Omniscient subordinates and were about to grab the Rotten Corpse Bride to lock her in the Golden Coffin.

Their expressions rigid, almost corpse-like, these people remained indifferent to the actions of the Dragon King Hall members.

"Don't touch this demon!" Mu Jinyu, seeing their actions, quickly shouted sharply.

"Ah?" they stuttered, involuntarily halting their actions.

"Why?" they asked, puzzled.

Li Yaotong answered for Mu Jinyu, "Because you are ordinary people, and rashly touching the demon will lead you to a very gruesome death."

As he spoke, he pointed to a subordinate clutching a stack of human skins and said, "The likelihood is that you'll end up like those with the face of human skin."

"Ah?!"

Hearing Li Yaotong's words, their expressions noticeably changed.

Now, they carefully looked at the two people restraining the Rotten Corpse Bride and realized that they indeed didn't look like normal people, but rather...

A moving corpse!

Chapter 535: Method of Control!

The people of Dragon King Hall instantly understood that Mu Jinyu and Li Yaotong were not just trying to scare them.

If they had rashly touched the Rotten Corpse Bride just now, their fate would have been absolutely dreadful.

"Place the Golden Coffin properly and open it, and let my people imprison the demon!"

Seeing the faces of these people, Li Yaotong knew that they dared not be careless anymore, so he commanded softly.

"Ah? Okay..."

Upon hearing Li Yaotong's orders, these people hurriedly carried the Golden Coffin that was placed at the entrance inside, positioned it not far from the Rotten Corpse Bride, then opened the coffin's lid, and cautiously looked up at the two people who were pressing down on the Rotten Corpse Bride.

Without speaking, as if they were a dead corpse themselves, they saw the Golden Coffin had been opened and silently seized the Rotten Corpse Bride, carefully placing her into the coffin and then covering it with the lid.

"Bang! Bang!"

With the coffin lid sealed, several thumping sounds immediately emanated from within the Golden Coffin; the demon inside was evidently rather powerful, as, despite being trapped by gold, it still managed to lash out ferociously.

However, due to the special properties of gold, as long as it wasn't artificially destroyed, no matter how violent the imprisoned demon became, it would be difficult to shatter the gold and escape on its own.

Li Yaotong withdrew his gaze, looked at Mu Jinyu, and said softly, "I'll trouble the Dragon King to burn those human skin faces with Taoist True Fire."

"Oh? Eh... isn't it true that only a demon can counter a demon?" Mu Jinyu, hearing Li Yaotong's words, subconsciously set about taking action then felt something was amiss, and asked quizzically.

Li Yaotong said, "Indeed, only a demon can counter a demon. This stack of human skin faces is actually also a demon, but it was under the control of the Bride Demon. The favor I'm asking of the Dragon King is not aimed at the Ghost-Faced Demon but at the souls of the victims trapped on the human skin faces."

"Oh, I see now. It's to help them find early release, rather than being trapped on the human skin faces, right?"

Understanding Li Yaotong's intention, Mu Jinyu began casting a spell and instantly, a ball of flame rose from his hands.

The light was not so intense, but the temperature was incredibly terrifying.

Mu Jinyu said, "Brother, throw that stack of faces over here for me to burn."

The person did not move.

Li Yaotong said, "It's fine, his Ghost hand is quite strong. It can withstand the scorching of your Taoist True Fire for a while, and if he releases the Ghost-Faced Demon, should it escape, he can't guarantee that he would be able to capture it again."

"Oh, I understand now, brother, I'll apologize in advance."

Mu Jinyu, after hearing Li Yaotong's explanation, could only look apologetically at the person, then directed the dancing Taoist True Fire in his hand to burn the stack of faces he was gripping.

Since he was gripping the stack of faces tightly, no matter how carefully Mu Jinyu tried to avoid his fingers, it wasn't possible, and in the end, he also ended up burning the man's hand.

However, the man's palm was withered, pale, showing a hint of cyanosis, and was exceedingly stiff and cold. Facing the burning of Mu Jinyu's Taoist True Fire, he seemed to feel nothing at all.

Not even his expression flickered.

"Sssss!"

Pure Taoist True Fire, when applied to the stack of faces, instantly sent plumes of black smoke rising.

Mu Jinyu then saw the emotions of pain, despair, and hatred on those faces abruptly vanish, turning into relief and gratefulness, and then under the burning of the Taoist True Fire, they turned to black ashes and fell to the ground.

Finally, in this person's cold and stiff palm, only a face devoid of expression remained.

This... must be the Ghost-Faced Demon that Li Yaotong mentioned, right?

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu knew the demon couldn't be burnt by his Taoist True Fire alone, so without further thought, he extinguished the flame in his hand to avoid injuring the person.

Upon seeing Mu Jinyu put out the fire, the person hurriedly took out a gold-threaded bag from his pocket and threw the expressionless, pale ghost face into it, quickly zipping it up to seal it completely.

"Squeak, squeak..."

Sounds like the squealing of mice came from the gold-threaded bag, which inflated and contracted constantly, indicating the Ghost-Faced Demon inside was not settling down.

However, due to the properties of gold, its screams didn't affect those outside as they had Mu Jinyu earlier, rendering him completely immobile as if bound by a Ghastly Presence.

"Alright, both demons are temporarily contained, now we can go to your Dragon King Hall headquarters for a detailed discussion."

Seeing that the Ghost-Faced Demon was imprisoned, Li Yaotong retracted his gaze and softly said to Mu Jinyu.

"Hmm, very well... this way, please."

Mu Jinyu also shifted his attention from the gold-threaded bag and ordered his subordinates to carry the Golden Coffin, then walked side by side with Li Yaotong out of the study, heading outside.

"As we were discussing earlier, not everyone is capable of controlling Demon Power. Ordinary people who rashly attempt it are highly likely to be killed by demons right away, only a few survive. Those who survive then have the chance to try controlling the demons..."

Li Yaotong continued the discussion he had paused earlier due to the arrival of members from the Dragon King Hall, who had come to contain the Rotten Corpse Bride.

Mu Jinyu listened, his eyes briefly flickered as he said, "So by that logic, does Wang Hu from our Dragon King Hall—who was touched by the Zombie Demon's Corpse Water and, instead of dissolving into a puddle of the liquid, merely had his right foot rot—have the potential to try controlling demons?"

"Yes," Li Yaotong nodded, "His constitution is special, and he could try to control a demon."

"Is that limited to the Zombie Demon he touched, or could he control other demons as well?" Mu Jinyu asked.

Li Yaotong replied, "That depends on the situation. Some can control other demons and use them to suppress the first one they controlled, creating an opposition between the two demons. This delays the erosion by the demons and allows the person to live much longer... "

"Such people have a naturally special constitution, but the majority, even if they can control a demon, generally do so with difficulty and cannot control multiple demons. If they encounter a second demon, the first controlled demon may counter the second, resulting in immediate death!"

Listening to Li Yaotong's answer, Mu Jinyu found himself deep in thought, contemplating whether or not to let Wang Hu attempt to control demons, controlling multiple demons?

After considering, he thought it somewhat inhumane to force Wang Hu to control demons, which might provoke his rebellious spirit and not necessarily be a good thing. Hence, he asked, "Then with Wang Hu's condition, has he begun to control demons, or does he merely possess the qualifications to control the Zombie Demon?"

Li Yaotong said, "He merely has preliminary qualifications to control demons. Isn't the actual Rotten Corpse Demon still locked up in the sealed storage of your Dragon King Hall?"

Mu Jinyu's gaze became distant as he further inquired, "Then what if he doesn't try to control the Rotten Corpse Demon? What would his fate be?"

Li Yaotong replied indifferently, "He will die, only a little slower than if he tried to control a demon. At best he has a year, at worst half a year before he inevitably collapses dead."

After a pause, he went on, "So, my suggestion is to let him try controlling the Rotten Corpse Demon. Although the demon is high-level, and he might not succeed, I have a method that can slightly increase the success rate, albeit with great risk. If he fails to control the demon, there won't be even the slightest chance of salvation, but if he succeeds, the benefits are unimaginable."

"What method, what benefits?" Mu Jinyu curiously asked.

Li Yaotong replied dispassionately, "Have him directly attempt to control the Rotten Corpse Demon and also try to control the Embroidered Shoes on the feet of the female demon we just dealt with!"

Chapter 536: The Law of Demons!

"This..."

Mu Jinyu, upon hearing Li Yaotong's words, couldn't help but be frightened by his bold idea.

Attempting to control the Rotten Corpse Demon was already extremely risky, and Wang Hu could easily die, yet he even wanted Wang Hu not only to start by controlling the Rotten Corpse Demon without several trials, but also to wear the Embroidered Shoes of the Ghost Bride and control them as well.

Wouldn't this lead to an even quicker death?

Li Yaotong explained in a very calm tone, "Don't think that I'm deliberately sending someone to their death. This method seems very dangerous, and the risk is indeed great, but the success rate is actually higher than controlling a demon alone, and if successful, the benefits are greater. It enables one to control two demons at once and live much longer."

"Why would that be?" Mu Jinyu's racing heart slowed as he curiously asked.

Li Yaotong said, "Because if one tries to control a single demon, that demon seems to decide whether to inhabit a human body based on one's Qi-Blood or something, and the likelihood of failure is very high.

If it fails, the person is directly drained into a mummy.

However, if two demons are controlled together, both demons want to inhabit the human body but might give up draining a large amount of Qi-Blood from the human body at the beginning and instead attack each other.

If one can endure it, the Qi-Blood drained by the demons from the human body isn't as much, the lifespan is longer, and since the demons are at odds, a balance is achieved, which allows one to control both demons directly...

In the future, the use of demon power would also cause each demon to extract less Qi-Blood during each application, compared to when controlling a single demon!"

After explaining this, Li Yaotong saw that Mu Jinyu still seemed a bit confused, so he explained further, "You know, currently, other than gold, only a demon can restrain another demon. This method is about letting the two demons fight each other to achieve a delicate balance..."

Mu Jinyu also understood, and with a somewhat dazed nod, said, "According to what you're saying, the risk is indeed greater, but the chance of success is also somewhat higher, and if successful, the benefits are greater..."

After pausing, he added, "However, the reason for the high risk should be that it's difficult to find two demons that can oppose each other and achieve a clever balance, right?"

"Exactly!" Li Yaotong nodded and said, "Although a demon can restrain another demon, each demon's level of terror varies, and not every demon can be controlled by humans, so each attempt carries great risk. But it's because the level of the Rotten Corpse Demon you mentioned seems quite high, and if it's paired with those Embroidered Shoes from the recent Ghost Bride, it might be possible to achieve a balance."

He paused, then shook his head and added, "Of course, not having seen the Rotten Corpse Demon myself, I can't guarantee that it will definitely work. It's just a suggestion for you to try to help the people of Dragon King Hall handle demons more effectively!"

Mu Jinyu nodded, then furrowed his brow and asked, "Wait, isn't the Ghost Bride that Rotten Corpse Bride? Why not use her to counteract, but instead use her Embroidered Shoes?"

"Because that Ghost Bride Demon is not just an ordinary demon. To be exact, she is an amalgamation of three demons. The female corpse is one demon, the wedding dress is another, and the Embroidered Shoes are also a demon..."

"Ah, I see!" Mu Jinyu said, feeling a chill after having listened.

An amalgamation of three demons, no wonder he was overwhelmed by her, almost immediately suppressed with no chance to fight back!

But wait...

She previously held that stack of human faces, one of which was a Faceless Ghost Face Demon. This meant it was a combination of four demons, which explained why it was so horrific!

But why was Ah-Huang able to bring her home without any issue?

Mu Jinyu thought of this, and his heart sank.

He knew there was a high probability that something had happened to Ah-Huang.

The Ah-Huang at the headquarters of Dragon King Hall most likely wasn't the real Ah-Huang!

Therefore, he quickly took out his phone and called Mu Hongchen to warn her to be wary of Ah-Huang.

Mu Hongchen said, "Yes, Ah-Huang hasn't shown any abnormal behavior, he has been isolated alone, just a bit downcast! I will keep a close watch on him."

"Good, wait for my return," Mu Jinyu said, and then he hung up the phone.

Being anxious now was useless, Mu Jinyu suppressed the urgent feeling, turned to Li Yaotong, and sought to extract more information about demons from him.

He asked, "You just mentioned that the Ghost Bride is a combination of three demons, which should make her a tough character to deal with. Why were your subordinates able to subdue her then?"

Li Yaotong didn't hide anything and explained, "If we were to face the Ghost Bride Demon directly, my subordinates probably couldn't have subdued her, but first, she was mainly dealing with you at the time, and even used the Ghost-Faced Demon to intimidate you."

"Secondly, her three demons, the Rotten Corpse, Wedding Dress, and Embroidered Shoes, although cleverly balanced, don't possess high intrinsic strength. The Wedding Dress isn't geared toward attack, and the Embroidered Shoes are more about speed, which led to our successful subjugation..."

Mu Jinyu frowned and said, "That doesn't sound right, even if her three demons aren't inclined towards killing, they're still considered high-level demons. They shouldn't be so easily subdued."

Li Yaotong explained, "This brings us to another issue, the number of demons."

"For high-level demons like the terrifying disasters and the Tide of Chaos, even if there is only one of them, humans couldn't subdue them by harnessing multiple demons."

"Whereas for lower-level demons, they obey the rule of numbers, akin to strength in numbers. Once they are intimidated by more demons, they won't behave like humans and fight to the bitter end; instead, they will cease their attacks, like crashing a system, allowing me to imprison them easily."

"This is why I suggested that you, Dragon King Hall, should also train more Demon Whisperers. Otherwise, the martial artists of your Dragon King Hall alone may have a hard time defending the Huaxia land in this dark and chaotic era!"

"I understand," Mu Jinyu nodded slightly, his expression slightly frustrated, and then he asked, "Hey, according to what you said, there were only two people who subdued the Ghost Bride just now? Does that mean one of them already controls two demons?"

Asking this question made Mu Jinyu's heart skip a beat, surprised at the fast pace of those who were omniscient.

Just as he had discovered that people eroded by demons but not dead might be subjected to some experiments, they had already known how to control the demons and had started controlling two each.

Li Yaotong nodded and did not deny, "Yes, of the two people who subdued the Ghost Bride, one possesses the Ghost Hand and the Ghost Shadow, and the other was equipped with a glove-shaped demon. This allowed them to overpower the Ghost Bride using the force of three demons, and the relatively high level of the Ghost Shadow made it possible to subdue the Ghost Bride!"

Chapter 537: Soul Reaver!

Li Yaotong laughed at himself again and said,

"Of course, I have you, Dragon King, to thank for distracting the Ghost-Faced Demon's soul-absorbing firepower. Otherwise, with the Ghost Bride's defense from the Wedding Dress, her speed from the Embroidered Shoes, and her attacks from the Ghost-Faced Book, my three subordinates, even with four demons, would likely have found it difficult to subdue her!"

Mu Jinyu smiled and said, "It seems that you, Omniscient, have already figured out quite a few patterns of the demons."

"It's just luck," Li Yaotong said modestly.

Mu Jinyu sighed and said, "I don't like forcing people. I'll inform the subordinate at Dragon King Hall, who's been eroded by the rotten corpse, about the current situation and let him make his own decision. If he's willing to try to control two demons at once, then I'll need Mr. Li's assistance."

"Of course," Li Yaotong nodded and agreed.

He didn't take the opportunity to extort anything from Dragon King Hall.

Mu Jinyu understood that Li Yaotong would certainly agree.

Because the reason he had shared so much information about the patterns and rules of the demons was not only because keeping his knowledge to himself in the current situation was not beneficial, but also

because he wanted to use people from Dragon King Hall as an experiment to increase his experience in controlling demons.

Li Yaotong also understood that, even if Mu Jinyu was aware of his intentions, he wouldn't refuse him.

After all, Dragon King Hall currently had no experience in controlling demons. If they tried recklessly, Wang Hu would likely die at the hands of a demon. And if they were to attempt to devise a more reliable method of control on their own, it would probably cost them hundreds of lives.

That was a price Mu Jinyu couldn't bear.

Moreover, if Dragon King Hall kept dragging its feet, the Demon Whisperers from the other Nine Great Organizations would gradually increase. As this continued, Dragon King Hall would become the weakest organization.

Additionally, the demons within the Huaxia Region were gradually awakening, becoming a significant threat. Their procrastination would result in countless civilians dying at the hands of demons. They needed to create more Demon Whisperers sooner to contain all the demons!

As Mu Jinyu thought about this, he suddenly found it somewhat ironic.

They were trying their best to contain the demons, but in their normal states, it was very difficult to do so. Thus, they had to first transform into devils themselves in order to better contain the demons.

If this continued, wouldn't it result in not many demons being contained, but instead, in creating more demons with human consciousness?!

What would the world look like then?

Mu Jinyu sighed deeply in his heart and dared not continue the thought.

He was somewhat reluctant to let the members of Dragon King Hall try to control the demons, lest disaster ensue, but he didn't have a choice. If Dragon King Hall didn't have Demon Whisperers, the Huaxia Region would eventually be in dire straits.

Soon, the vehicle carrying Mu Jinyu arrived at the headquarters of Dragon King Hall.

As for the Golden Coffin, it naturally wasn't transported in the same vehicle as Mu Jinyu, but was hauled by a special truck, still trailing behind and soon to be returned.

Upon returning to the headquarters, Mu Jinyu didn't rush to find Wang Hu to inform him about the Demon Whisperers.

Instead, he took Li Yaotong with him and hurried to the room where Ah-Huang was detained.

He needed to see if Ah-Huang, who had encountered the Ghost Bride and brought her back, had any issues.

He wasn't sure if he could spot the problem himself, but with Li Yaotong, the Omniscient high-ranking official, present, they should be able to figure out what was wrong with Ah-Huang.

"Dragon Master!"

As they arrived at the door, the members responsible for guarding Ah-Huang bowed and greeted Mu Jinyu respectfully.

Mu Jinyu gestured for them to stand down and asked, "How is Ah-Huang doing inside? Has anything unusual happened?"

"Nothing!" the people shook their heads, "Ah-Huang has been sitting inside without reacting much, just staring at the mirror all the time. Maybe the shock was too great?"

At the end, their voices were filled with dismay.

After all, they were colleagues; just a few days ago, Ah-Huang was fine and even planning to go on a blind date. But suddenly, memory alterations from the Tide of Chaos and suspicions of being influenced by other demonic encounters had set in, and even if they weren't close to Ah-Huang, it was disheartening.

"Alright, you can step back now."

Mu Jinyu nodded slightly, then spoke softly.

Upon hearing this, everyone replied in the affirmative and then left.

They knew that Mu Jinyu was protecting them. After all, no one knew exactly what kind of eerie situation Ah-Huang was in now; if Mu Jinyu made contact with him and a sudden outbreak occurred, they standing outside might also be affected.

After they had left, Mu Jinyu's expression turned grave as he firmly grasped the doorknob and then opened the door.

As the door opened, they saw Ah-Huang sitting in front of the dressing table, with his back facing them, staring blankly into the mirror, lost in thought.

"Ah-Huang."

Mu Jinyu, seeing Ah-Huang seated quietly in front of the dressing table, thought of the ghost bride in her wedding dress and called out in a heavy voice.

Ah-Huang still made no movement.

Li Yaotong, standing behind Mu Jinyu, frowned tightly and stared intently at Ah-Huang's back, trying to discern what was so eerie about him.

Mu Jinyu sighed inwardly, knowing that Ah-Huang was indeed in big trouble.

He had responded seriously to the questions earlier, probably deliberately guiding him to his home to deal with the ghost bride!

But no one could have predicted that Li Yaotong would arrive in time at the last moment to rescue him.

As for who made Ah-Huang guide him there, whether it was the ghost bride or the Tide of Chaos, Mu Jinyu was not certain, but he leaned towards the latter, since the ability to tamper with people's memories obviously required more intelligence.

And during his encounter with the ghost bride, he had seen no sign of any spiritual wisdom.

'This Tide of Chaos is too dangerous,' Mu Jinyu cursed inwardly and then cautiously stepped forward, walking to Ah-Huang's back.

After that, he raised his hand to pat Ah-Huang's shoulder. Of course, he made sure to cover his hands with True Yuan to avoid any ill fortune.

"Bang!"

As soon as he touched Ah-Huang's shoulder, Ah-Huang's body went limp and toppled over to the side.

Mu Jinyu dared not help him up, so Ah-Huang simply crashed to the ground. But given the physical condition of Dragon King Hall members, if he were asleep, such a fall wouldn't be a big issue.

But Ah-Huang lay on the ground without any reaction, staring blankly at the ceiling with eyes that had no pupils.

"What's happened to him?!"

Mu Jinyu, seeing Ah-Huang in this state, exclaimed in shock.

Li Yaotong stepped forward, glanced at Ah-Huang, and said with a sigh, "He's already dead!"

"Huh? How could that be?" Mu Jinyu, upon hearing this, carefully sensed Ah-Huang's heartbeat and breathing, finding both to be normal.

His condition was like that of an idiot, not death.

Li Yaotong said, "His body is still alive, but his soul is gone, as if a Soul Reaver had reaped his soul."

"Snap!"

No sooner had he finished speaking, when a crisp sound suddenly emanated from the dressing table in front of them.

Mu Jinyu and Li Yaotong looked toward the mirror at the same time, only to discover...

In the mirror, there was a clear image of Ah-Huang struggling continuously, and then a white shadow dragged him away.

Dragging him to the farther reaches of the Mirror World!

Chapter 538: Are You Ready?

"What is this?!"

Mu Jinyu watched Ah-Huang struggling in the mirror for a long time, his face filled with desperation and collapse. After hitting the mirror, Ah-Huang was finally dragged away by a white shadow, causing Mu Jinyu's pupils to constrict and goosebumps to cover his entire body.

"He was actually struggling in the mirror all this time? I didn't notice at all!"

Mu Jinyu's hair stood on end, his body chilling; even when he had faced the attack of the Ghost Bride, he hadn't felt this uneasy.

"What is that world inside the mirror, then?!"

Mu Jinyu couldn't help but reach out and lightly tap the mirror on the dressing table.

Unfortunately, his palm couldn't pass through the mirror like a water curtain to reach the mirror world where Ah-Huang was dragged.

"That might be a world that only a High-level Demon can traverse!"

Li Yaotong was also stunned for a while, before he finally sighed softly and spoke slowly.

He hadn't expected, even after coming into this room, that he would fail to notice the strangeness in the mirror and that a demon could spirit away Ah-Huang's soul right under their noses!

"Bang bang bang!"

After hitting the mirror several times, Mu Jinyu couldn't suppress his feelings of unease and fear any longer, and with a smack, he shattered the dressing mirror to pieces!

"Crash tinkle!"

Pieces of the mirror scattered all over the ground.

Mu Jinyu cursed hatefully, "Damn it! What is this cursed thing!!!"

Originally he had still been hesitating, struggling with whether to allow his subordinates from Dragon King Hall to try to control the demons, transforming into a half-human half-demon to fight against them. His only concern had been fearing they might become uncontrollable later!

But now, Mu Jinyu was no longer thinking about that, potential future loss of control was a problem for the future.

If they didn't imprison the demons causing chaos in the human world soon, who knew what other problems might arise!

After all, while humans controlled the demons, only martial artists like him would be affected. They were still human, still rational, and wouldn't accidentally lose control and cause chaos across the city or even the entire country.

But real demons lacked any rationality, as well as any sense of the bigger picture. If left to cause chaos in the human world, it was feared they would create a situation utterly beyond control!

"Huff..."

After a long exhale, Mu Jinyu took another deep look at the grinning foolishly Ah-Huang, withdrew his gaze, and said, "Let's go. Let's find Wang Hu and try to control the demons."

"Hmm," Li Yaotong responded.

His look towards Mu Jinyu held a bit more admiration.

This Dragon King was quite rational, knowing when something was not feasible, and he didn't just stand furiously in front of the mirror, trying vainly to reach into the mirror world to save Ah-Huang.

After all, looking at the current situation, even if Mu Jinyu went mad, he probably wouldn't be able to reach the mirror world. They could only wait for the next opportunity, perhaps, to enter that world.

Then, Mu Jinyu and Li Yaotong left the room to find Wang Hu.

As for Ah-Huang in the room, Mu Jinyu didn't just leave him be; he called someone to take care of him. Although he might have turned into an idiot, his physical body wasn't dead, and Dragon King Hall could certainly afford to take care of him. For now, they would just keep him.

You never know, they might find a way to retrieve Ah-Huang's soul someday.

Afterward, Mu Jinyu and Li Yaotong arrived at the training ground.

And Wang Hu, who had already been corroded by the Rotten Corpse Demon, had been waiting there for a while.

Mu Jinyu looked at the slightly uneasy Wang Hu, walked over, and informed him of his situation: he could die from corrosion by the Rotten Corpse Demon within half a year to a year.

Then he had to make a choice, whether to try to control the Rotten Corpse Demon from the storeroom of Dragon King Hall!

When Wang Hu first heard Mu Jinyu say that he had at most one year to live, his face turned deathly pale with not a trace of color.

But when he heard Mu Jinyu talk about controlling the demon, and that he might die on the spot or possibly live a bit longer, he became less panicked.

After listening, Wang Hu was not so terrified anymore.

He stood still, began to deeply contemplate the pros and cons, his expression fluctuating uncertainly.

If he gave up this opportunity and lived just one more year, he indeed could live peacefully, and Dragon King Hall would surely take good care of him. However, with his legs gradually decaying, he feared everyone would eventually despise him, unwilling to have more contact with him.

But if he accepted Mu Jinyu's arrangement and tried to control the demon, he might die today or he might survive. If he survived, he could live only one or two months, or perhaps even longer.

No matter how long he lived, by controlling the demon and being able to easily handle ordinary demons, he would certainly gain the attention of Dragon King Hall and be able to show his last burst of light and heat in life.

He was not so noble as to think only of sacrificing himself to save others.

He just wanted to burst into a brilliant display of fireworks in his final moments, making people remember him, Wang Hu.

And by controlling the demon, completing the various tasks arranged by Mu Jinyu, he could also make Mu Jinyu promise to take good care of his family.

Dragon King Hall surely wouldn't take great care of every member's family if they weren't of much value, but someone like him who made a major contribution would definitely receive special treatment!

Since he wasn't going to live much longer anyway, why not carve out a path for his family?

Thinking this way, Wang Hu looked down at his decaying right leg and gritted his teeth, "I am willing to try controlling the demon, I just hope that if your subordinate fails and dies, please Dragon Master make sure to take care of my family!"

"No problem," Mu Jinyu nodded, "I have already asked my fellow practitioners from Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and Way of Nature to continuously make protective talismans, soon everyone in your family will be able to wear one."

"Today you're making such a sacrifice, regardless of whether it succeeds or fails, when the safe house on Dragon King Hall's side is ready, I will bring your family in."

Mu Jinyu made the promise.

Wang Hu is currently very important to Dragon King Hall, whether or not he could control the Demon, his trial would accumulate a lot of experience for Dragon King Hall.

As a pioneer, he deserved special treatment.

"Thank you, Dragon Master..."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's assurance, Wang Hu's eyes showed a look of gratitude as he spoke repeatedly.

"Let's begin then!"

Mu Jinyu did not say anything more. Seeing Wang Hu agree, he went to contact Mu Hongchen and find some professional scholars to come over to observe Wang Hu's experiment and to analyze and study to increase the success rate for future attempts.

He himself then walked to the underground storeroom, which only he and Mu Hongchen could access.

After a series of checks, Mu Jinyu entered the gloomy storeroom and carried away the slightly moving Golden Coffin.

"Bang!"

Mu Jinyu walked out of the storeroom and hurried to the drill field, gently placing the Golden Coffin on the ground.

Seeing this, some members of Dragon King Hall warily kept a distance from the Golden Coffin.

At this time, a group of professional scholars brought by Mu Hongchen also got out of their cars, whispering and discussing among themselves.

"Are you ready?"

Li Yaotong had people carry another coffin containing a Ghost Bride down from the truck and asked Wang Hu.

Chapter 539: Riding in Progress!

Wang Hu looked tense, but he had made up his mind, and he wouldn't regret or shrink back now.

"Either way, I have to die within a year, so why not take part in this experiment today and secure some benefits for my family? No reason for me to be afraid of doing it."

So, clenching his teeth, he said, "I'm ready, we can start at any time!"

"Good," Li Yaotong replied in a deep voice, then shouted to the three subordinates he had brought, who were enveloped in a deathly aura, "Open the coffin, be careful not to let the demons escape our control."

His subordinates didn't respond verbally but went straight to open the golden coffin containing the Ghost Bride.

The present-day golden coffins had been professionally designed so there was no longer the need for it to be sealed shut as with the earlier versions used to contain demons, which could risk demons escaping if the seams weren't sealed properly.

The current golden coffins, once sealed, were completely impenetrable, with no need for smelting fire to seal them!

Therefore, it wasn't much trouble for Li Yaotong's three Demon Whisperers to open the lid of the coffin.

As the lid of the golden coffin was lifted, the Ghost Bride, who had been quite quiet within, suddenly had a red glow begin to emerge from her dark, empty eye sockets.

Signs of resurrection began to show.

This Ghost Bride was never very compliant within the golden coffin, occasionally struggling. Now that the golden coffin was opened, although she still lay within it, given a little time, she could still run out.

However, with these three Demon Whisperers present, they would not give her the chance.

Together, the three controlled four demons within them. Raising their hands to press down on the Ghost Bride instantly stilled her restless movements.

Then one Demon Whisperer, who controlled only a single demon, let go and allowed the other two to subdue the Ghost Bride while he walked to the lower end of the golden coffin and began to pry off the red embroidered shoes under the Ghost Bride's feet.

The embroidered shoes on the Ghost Bride's feet were as if glued on, and it took the Demon Whisperer quite an effort before he managed to pry the shoes off.

"Shh!"

As the embroidered shoes were removed, a pungent mix of foot odor and rotten corpse stench began to waft from the Ghost Bride's rotting feet, now crawling with maggots.

"Ugh..."

The group, upon smelling this overpowering scent, nearly vomited out their last meal.

It was truly... unforgettable.

Even the Demon Whisperers, who had become half-human, half-zombie, frowned upon sniffing this odor, despite their expressionless faces, as it triggered a nauseating feeling.

However, after becoming Demon Whisperers, their appetites had gradually diverged from those of normal people, preferring raw food, so although the smell was unpleasant, they could withstand it.

"Hurry up and close the coffin lid!"

Li Yaotong, covering his nose, ordered them.

Hearing Li Yaotong's words, the two pressing down on the Ghost Bride immediately released her and then swiftly sealed the golden coffin lid once more.

With the removal of the embroidered shoes, the Ghost Bride's stature was somewhat diminished, and after the coffin was sealed again, the occasional noises from before ceased.

"Prepare to open the other golden coffin,"

Li Yaotong said, relieved after seeing the embroidered shoes in the hands of a Demon Whisperer, then ordered again.

The other two no longer concerned themselves with the sealed golden coffin but turned to the one containing the Rotten corpse that Mu Jinyu had dragged out from storage.

Approaching the Golden Coffin, they looked at it, completely sealed without a single crack, and frowned. Then, they resorted to violent dismantling!

"Bang! Bang! Bang!"

Soon, the Golden Coffin, crudely sealed by Mu Jinyu, was violently pried open.

"Gurgle gurgle..."

As the coffin was opened, they could hear the sound of flowing water, which was the sound of Corpse Water moving inside the coffin from the rotten corpse that had accumulated.

The two Demon Whisperers, seeing the state of the rotten corpse, did not dare to be careless. They deliberately put on specially made Gold Thread gloves and then one of them, who had control over two Demons, held down the Rotten Corpse Demon so it could hardly move, quietly lying inside the chamber.

The other took a very sharp Golden Dagger and removed the Rotten Corpse Demon's legs with repeated cuts.

"Alright, let's switch to a new Golden Coffin!" Li Yaotong, looking at the now badly damaged coffin, knew it was no longer usable to contain the Zombie Demon.

The Demon Whisperer who had controlled the two Demons, upon hearing Li Yaotong's words, dragged the immobile rotten corpse out of the old coffin and stuffed it into another new Golden Coffin, quickly covering it with the lid—problem solved.

As for the old Golden Coffin, it obviously wasn't going to be discarded just like that. With gold being a scarce resource around the world and the price skyrocketing, Mu Hongchen would naturally take it to be smelted and reforged.

"What do we do with this?"

Mu Jinyu looked at the two Demon Whisperers, one holding two rotting thighs and the other holding a pair of Embroidered Shoes, finding it quite odd, and asked Li Yaotong.

Li Yaotong said, "You can't directly control a whole Zombie Demon with the physical condition of your subordinates. Even if you could control it, it wouldn't be easy. After all, to achieve a mutually restraining effect, you would have to use the Ghost Bride's Wedding Dress and Embroidered Shoes, which makes it much more difficult. Hence, using just the legs paired with the Embroidered Shoes is the most appropriate solution..."

Mu Jinyu, hearing Li Yaotong's explanation, looked at his three subordinates who were Demon Whisperers. One was said to control a Ghost hand and Ghost shadow, another the Ghost gloves, and the third was unknown, but clearly, they all seemed to be dealing with incomplete parts of whole Demons.

"Let's get started," Mu Jinyu said solemnly, having a rough idea of what Li Yaotong intended to do.

The scholars nearby, who were almost fainting from the stench of the Ghost Bride's foot odor mixed with the smell of decay, perked up at Mu Jinyu's words, ready to watch and study closely.

Wang Hu, the main character, naturally became more nervous, but he did not flee the scene.

Li Yaotong nodded slightly at the two holding the Ghost legs and Embroidered Shoes, and commanded, "Proceed."

"Yes!"

Finally, they spoke for the first time, their voices hoarse and grating, as if someone was scraping their nails across a chalkboard.

Then, they emotionlessly walked towards Wang Hu, one carrying the rotting legs, the other the Embroidered Shoes.

Standing in front of Wang Hu, one of them took the pair of dead legs, first removed the gold bands from Wang Hu's legs, and then pressed the corpse legs onto Wang Hu's legs.

Suddenly...

"Sss... Sss... Sss!"

The sound of corrosion continued to rise, Wang Hu's intact legs quickly corroded further from the touch of the Corpse fluid on the rotten legs, his skin, which had appeared somewhat fair, rapidly decomposed.

The rotting flesh on the legs that the Demon Whisperer was holding seemed to be infused with some inexplicable strength into Wang Hu's legs. The rotten flesh quickly fell off the bone and turned into a pair of thigh skeletons.

Once they became skeletons, a breeze blew by, and the grey-white skeletons turned to dust, scattering with the wind.

"Quick, put the Embroidered Shoes on him!"

Li Yaotong had been closely monitoring Wang Hu's condition and immediately shouted when he saw what was happening.

Chapter 540 - Two Choices!

Attempting to fit a large man like Wang Hu, with his bulky frame, into a pair of tiny three-inch Golden Lotus Embroidered Shoes was somewhat comical and also not easy to accomplish.

If this had taken place during the Peaceful Era, the people present would probably have been unable to restrain their laughter upon hearing Li Yaotong's words.

But now, as demons run rampant, they understand that Wang Hu's actions were intended to increase his strength so he could better combat the demons and protect everyone. How could they possibly find it funny?

Instead, they looked on with an expression of pity, knowing that Wang Hu was about to endure great pain.

How could it not be painful?

Wang Hu had just fused with a pair of rotting corpse legs, both of which had begun to decay, causing him excruciating pain that twisted his face.

If these were not men handpicked by Dragon King Hall, almost all of them as tough as nails, an ordinary person in this situation would probably collapse in agony, screaming and begging for mercy without end.

And now, to cram Wang Hu's size forty-five feet into those three-inch embroidered shoes, to let the two demons fight against each other to reach a balance, one could only imagine how painful it would be.

The Demon Whisperer holding the embroidered shoes, upon hearing Li Yaotong's words, continued with an expressionless face to grab Wang Hu's rotting right foot and proceeded to force the shoe on it.

Another, after successfully transferring the secret power of the decaying corpse legs to Wang Hu and watching the skeleton turn to dust and scatter with the wind, wasted no time in crouching down, snatching the other embroidered shoe and stuffing it onto Wang Hu's left foot.

These embroidered shoes appeared to possess some mystical power because, as Wang Hu's feet were forced inside, they emitted a series of bone-cracking sounds, contorting his feet in a way that crammed them into the shoes with force.

It looked as though he was wearing ballet shoes, with the arch of his foot bending sharply.

Ordinary embroidered shoes would certainly burst from the force of being so aggressively stuffed, but these embroidered shoes remained perfectly intact. When Wang Hu's feet were successfully inserted, they started to emit a seductive red glow.

As the red light from the embroidered shoes began to shine, Wang Hu's highly decayed legs, which had been about to spread up to his waist, halted. Then a deathly ash color began to emerge, spreading down towards his feet, ready to oppose the power of the embroidered shoes.

As soon as this confrontation became apparent, the two Demon Whisperers quickly retreated, not daring to stay close to Wang Hu any longer, to avoid the risk of multiple demons gathering and triggering some unforeseeable consequence.

"Thump!"

"Ahhh!!!"

With the forces of the two demons battling each other, Wang Hu finally couldn't bear it any longer; he let out a piercing scream and collapsed to the ground with a thump, rolling around and roaring in agony.

"Ah!! Kill me!! Kill me!"

"My feet, my feet hurt so badly!"

The onlookers all showed expressions of pity. Many thought that if Wang Hu were not trying to tame the demons under current conditions, but was instead in a normal state, they would definitely go to comfort him and call an ambulance to take him to the hospital for treatment.

But now, he was attempting to master the power of demons, and not just one, but two simultaneously. No one could help him; they could only watch to see if his willpower was strong enough and if his luck was good, to successfully reach a relatively balanced state with the two equally matched forces.

If he succeeded, as long as he stayed alive, he would rank just below Mu Jinyu, Mu Hongchen, and Wu Shisan among the upper echelons of Dragon King Hall.

About half an hour had passed.

By now, Wang Hu was too exhausted to say anything.

He lay on the ground, gasping for air, his sweat soaking the floor, and over the course of the demons' confrontation, his body had gone from fit to a mere skeleton. It was a frightening sight.

The sunny, cheerful smile that used to grace his face now seemed chillingly cold and creepy against his gaunt, skeletal cheeks.

He managed to endure it, after all.

He survived!

"Congratulations!"

Li Yaotong had been observing carefully for over half an hour as Wang Hu struggled against the two crippled demons, watching the constant drain of qi-blood within his body, and the eventual

achievement of balance with the demons. Convinced of a certain hypothesis, she smiled and congratulated him upon seeing that Wang Hu had survived.

"Huff..."

"Am I... still alive?"

Wang Hu, panting heavily on the ground, heard Li Yaotong's words. He felt his legs, which were numb and ice-cold, almost as if they no longer belonged to him.

However, he tried to move them and eventually managed to stand up from the ground.

His legs could still be controlled, but they weren't very flexible, as if he was wearing prosthetics.

"Dragon King, how about that, I didn't lie to you, did I? The risk was much higher, but there was a slight increase in the success rate, and once successful, the benefits are great," Li Yaotong said, turning to look at Mu Jinyu, who was deep in thought, and chuckled softly.

"Hmm," Mu Jinyu responded, asking, "What are you trying to say?"

Li Yaotong replied, "Nothing much, just hoping that my proposal could make the Dragon King be more cautious. If you want to attempt it in the future, you could use today's experiment as a reference, to avoid sacrificing too many people."

Having said that, she turned to look at the Golden Coffin nearby and added, "Alright, I should be going now. Dragon King, you wouldn't mind giving me a Golden Coffin, would you?"

"I don't mind giving you a Golden Coffin, but your intention isn't really for the coffin itself, is it?" Mu Jinyu spoke indifferently.

Mu Jinyu, of course, understood Li Yaotong's intent.

She was preparing to take away the Ghost Bride and her Wedding Dress from inside the Golden Coffin.

But the Wedding Dress was an extremely rare demon, with very strong defensive capabilities. Even a full-force strike from Mu Jinyu, a God Realm powerhouse, could not penetrate it. If someone managed to control it, future missions to subdue demons would likely become much easier.

Moreover, this demon had appeared on his territory and been captured by him, so Mu Jinyu naturally did not want Li Yaotong walking away with it.

Even though the first Demon Whisperer of his Dragon King Hall had emerged under his guidance.

Li Yaotong said candidly, "Of course, the main reason is to conveniently take away the demon inside."

After finishing her statement, she looked calmly at Mu Jinyu and continued, "Dragon King, don't feel bad about me taking advantage, as this demon was originally captured by Omniscient. If it weren't for our timely intervention just now, you might have been in big trouble, right?"

"But haven't you already taken away a Ghost-Faced Demon?" Mu Jinyu spoke.

Suddenly, Li Yaotong proposed, "How about this? We'll leave the Ghost Bride and her Wedding Dress for your Dragon King Hall, and we'll only take away the Ghost-Faced Demon, as well as the other one with the crying and smiling face that your Dragon King Hall captured not long ago. This can be considered the reward for Omniscient's assistance and my guidance today, what do you think?"

"Alternatively, we'll give you that Ghost Face to have a matching pair in Dragon King Hall, and we'll take the Bridal Gown Bride instead."

Mu Jinyu fell silent for a moment.

Li Yaotong was giving him two options.

One, to let her take away the Ghost Bride and the Wedding Dress while he keeps the Ghost Face, or, two, to keep the Ghost Bride and let her take away both the Ghost-Faced Demons.

Mu Jinyu's original plan was to keep the Ghost Bride and the Wedding Dress, letting Li Yaotong take away the Ghost-Faced Demon.

But, after hearing Li Yaotong's proposition, he began to feel that her real goal from the start was not the Wedding Dress but the other Ghost Face in his possession?