

King Hall 541

Chapter 541 Sleep!

Mu Jinyu hesitated in his heart, but thinking of the reputation of being "Omniscient," he finally gritted his teeth and said, "Fine, then, you can keep the Ghost-Faced Demon!"

"Hm?" Li Yaotong heard Mu Jinyu's response, somewhat surprised that the man who had been clinging to the Bridal Gown Bride would suddenly choose the Ghost-Faced Demon.

However, the surprise was fleeting; after all, he had a suitable method to control that particular demon.

"Fine."

Li Yaotong didn't care much and called his subordinates to throw the bag made of gold thread, containing the faceless Ghost-Faced Demon, to Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu watched Li Yaotong so easily let go of the Ghost-Faced Demon, feeling surprised and momentarily regretful.

Did he guess wrong?

Did Li Yaotong actually want the Bridal Gown Bride after all?

But the words had been spoken; after all, he was the Dragon King of the Dragon King Hall, and he could not go back on his word shamelessly to demand the Bridal Gown Bride again.

Moreover, he indeed found the Ghost Face to be quite unique.

If he could control the wedding dress, he should be able to achieve a relative balance, suppressing the other demon and greatly increasing his own defense.

But if he controlled two Ghost Faces at the same time, it wasn't impossible to cleverly reach some sort of balance between them.

In that case, the combined power of the two Ghost Faces would surely amplify to a terrifying degree!

So, Mu Jinyu wasn't too regretful.

"All right, then take care with it," he said as he accepted the gold thread container from Li Yaotong and his group.

"Hmm, then... I'll take my leave..."

Li Yaotong grasped the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument made by a high monk under Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and instructed his subordinates to carry away the Golden Coffin before taking his leave.

After Li Yaotong left.

The group of expert scholars cautiously interacted with Wang Hu, asking him some questions.

Wang Hu still had his sanity, naturally he wouldn't harm them without reason, but his face gradually turned a shade of greenish-gray, showing a tendency towards becoming half-human, half-corpse.

He answered their questions stiffly and gruffly.

When it came to questions he didn't understand, he just kept a cold face and completely ignored them.

Compared to his once cheerful personality, this was a drastic change in temperament.

After experiencing a demon's attack at Ah-Huang's house and seeing Ah-Huang dragged into the Mirror World by a strange demon, followed by witnessing Wang Hu suffer, Mu Jinyu wasn't physically weary but did feel mentally exhausted and wanted to rest well.

"Sigh..."

With a soft sigh, Mu Jinyu looked towards Mu Hongchen and said, "Aunt Mu, I'll go back to rest first, please take care of yourself. There are many things requiring your attention now, but don't overwork and harm your health—that wouldn't be worth it."

"Mm, I know..." Mu Hongchen nodded and replied, "Recently, Xiyan and the others have also been helping me handle some matters; it hasn't been too tiring actually."

"Mm, then I'll head back first, come find me if anything comes up."

After saying this, Mu Jinyu walked wearily toward the family building inside the headquarters.

Gu Xiyan and Su Zijin were staying there now.

Although the Gold Safety House had not been completed yet, the members of Dragon King Hall were mostly equipped with Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments. As long as no Great Demons broke into the Dragon King Hall headquarters, the families living here were still quite safe.

Returning to the floor of their family residence, Mu Jinyu opened the door to find the room empty.

Only the kitchen had the faint sound of running water, someone must be cooking.

Mu Jinyu guessed that Gu Xiyan and the others were probably still immersed in cultivation, as for who was in the kitchen cooking, it was likely either Wen Rou or Su Zijin.

Upon reaching the kitchen doorway, indeed, busily moving about the kitchen and causing the noise, was Wen Rou.

"Hmm?"

Wen Rou had also stepped onto the path of cultivation. The sound Mu Jinyu made at the door was soft; she didn't hear it, but the sound of him walking into the kitchen, although also not loud, became noticeable to her due to the proximity, and her divine sense, sharp as it was, directly alerted her to someone's approach.

Turning her head and seeing Mu Jinyu's return, the tension on Wen Rou's face immediately disappeared, and she gave him a sweet, tender smile, "Little Mu, you're back. Nothing unexpected happened, right?"

"Nothing."

Mu Jinyu stepped forward, wrapped his arms around Wen Rou's slender waist, and rested his chin on her shoulder while lightly inhaling the refreshing scent coming from her hair—probably from her shampoo, but it smelled good.

He did not tell Wen Rou about Ah-Huang being dragged away by the weird demon from the mirror world or Wang Hu's painful attempts to control the demon, nor did he mention the significant shock he had experienced.

To confide in her, to seek a bit of comfort.

It was pointless to do so, and it would more likely scare Wen Rou instead.

When Wen Rou heard Mu Jinyu's words and felt his embrace, a faint worry stealthily flashed in her eyes. She understood that when Mu Jinyu said "nothing," if it truly were nothing, he wouldn't have revealed such a vulnerable side.

But since he didn't wish to speak more about it, she wouldn't ask further.

Mu Jinyu quietly held Wen Rou for a few minutes, feeling his initially restless, conflicted, and troubled heart gradually returning to calmness.

He didn't let go of Wen Rou but smiled and asked, "Where are Xiyan, Sister Mei, and my mom?"

"My cultivation progresses faster than theirs, so I've completed a Grand Circulation earlier on. They might still be absorbing spiritual energy now. I had nothing to do, so I came out to cook."

Wen Rou replied.

There was no arrogance or disdain in her tone, just a calm statement of the facts.

Mu Jinyu smiled and said, "Then let's just eat first, without waiting for them. We can leave some dishes for them later."

"Is that really okay?" Wen Rou frowned slightly, speaking softly.

Mu Jinyu leaned close to Wen Rou's ear and whispered, "I'm a bit tired today and want to rest early. After we finish eating, you can accompany me to rest."

"Oh, okay..." Wen Rou's cheeks turned slightly red, nodding like a pecking chick.

Indeed, it had been quite a long time since they had been intimate.

Ever since being targeted by Slaughter Redemption, Mu Jinyu and Xiang Mantang had gone to the Slaughter Redemption headquarters, and after returning, they were supposed to get married, but then the attack on Kunlun occurred, causing Mu Jinyu to fall into a prolonged slumber.

After Mu Jinyu awoke, he had been constantly dealing with troubles caused by demons and hadn't had the chance to properly accompany them.

Therefore, Wen Rou actually also yearned for some alone time with Mu Jinyu, to use her tenderness to alleviate his weariness, but as someone who understood the bigger picture, she couldn't just ask Mu Jinyu to set aside matters and accompany her properly in this situation.

Now that Mu Jinyu had brought it up himself, although she felt a little embarrassed, her heart was quite thrilled.

Soon, after Mu Jinyu helped Wen Rou finish cooking, they ate, and after leaving plenty of food for Gu Xiyan and the rest, Wen Rou, with her head lowered and like a shy newlywed bride, went back to the room with Mu Jinyu.

An hour and a half later.

Gu Xiyan and the other two walked out of their rooms, called for Wen Rou a few times, realized there was no response, but smelling the aroma of the food, they ran to the dining hall and found that Wen Rou had indeed left food for them, which puzzled them.

"Where did Wen Rou go?"

Su Zijin did not run to the kitchen like Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue, but stood in front of Mu Jinyu's room for a while, a relieved smile appearing on her face.

Hearing Gu Xiyan coming out of the dining hall and mumbling to herself in confusion, she went over and said with a gentle smile, "Let's eat first. Xiaorou has probably gone out."

Chapter 542:

The next day.

Mu Jinyu woke up feeling refreshed and invigorated, all the fatigue smoothed away by Wen Rou's tender care.

Gazing at Wen Rou, who was nestled against his chest and sleeping soundly like a little kitten, Mu Jinyu gently stroked her silky black hair and decided not to get up immediately, wishing to let Wen Rou sleep a while longer.

He picked up his mobile phone with his left hand, unlocked it, and glanced through the messages, only to discover that Mu Hongchen had not sought him out yesterday, indicating that there likely hadn't been any serious problems near Capital City.

As for the cities beyond Capital City, there were certainly still many demons rampaging and causing havoc, but for now, he was truly powerless to help.

He was just one person, not a god; managing the situation in Capital City alone was already beyond his capacity, let alone extending his rescue efforts to the plights of other cities.

Even if he hadn't come back to rest last night and instead had rushed to the nearby cities to save others, how many demons could he have dealt with? How many lives could he have saved?

Moreover, continuously saving others without rest would eventually wear him down.

It would be better for him to get a good night's rest, to relax both body and spirit so that he could come up with better solutions to this dark, chaotic situation.

In particular, Mu Jinyu had also entertained the concept of setting up a formation that could mass-produce the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments almost like a production line; although their effects would be far from what he could create by hand, and certainly not on par with those crafted by the experts of Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and Way of Nature, they would still, at the very least, offer protection against the calamity of panic.

Under the current circumstances, the demons that urgently needed to be dealt with were not the brutal ones committing rampant slaughter across the lands, but rather the harbingers of panic and the Tide of Chaos.

The panic and man-made disasters caused by these two demons were resulting in far more human deaths at the hands of their own kind than those killed by the demons.

If they weren't imprisoned soon, humanity might perish first in internal strife.

However, Mu Jinyu's idea for the formation was still just a concept, and actualizing it to mass-produce the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments like a production line would be very challenging!

Mu Jinyu put down his phone, his eyes reflecting deep thought as he continued to ponder the setup of the formation and Dragon King Hall's next moves.

While it was essential to devise ways to imprison the harbingers of panic and the Tide of Chaos first, this did not mean the other murderous demons should be ignored; on the contrary, they too required earnest attention.

Both aspects had to be managed with equal vigor and determination!

And to accomplish this, it was necessary to create a considerable number of Demon Whisperers.

This approach and process needed careful consideration: should he have the members of Dragon King Hall touch the demons to see if they have the aptitude to control them, and then attempt to master the demons?

Such a method would inevitably lead to many sacrifices, potentially only one out of ten surviving, which warranted proper deliberation.

However, the advantage was that the Demon Whisperers created in this way would still follow his orders and not become so inflated with power as to betray him.

An alternative plan was to select from the civilians those who had survived encounters with demons and had become Demon Whisperers.

It wasn't about neglecting them, sacrificing a large number of civilians to create rare Demon Whisperers, but in this era, people were encountering demonic attacks every moment. During that time, a considerable number of Demon Whisperers would naturally emerge. It would be better to invite them to join Dragon King Hall rather than letting them go unchecked.

However, the downside of this method was that the Demon Whisperers joining could vary significantly in quality due to the diverse circumstances of their emergence; some might be aggressive, others timid or lustful. Directing them to suppress demons would certainly require careful handling.

After pondering for a while, Mu Jinyu felt it would be better to enlist the civilian Demon Whisperers.

Having the members of Dragon King Hall try to become Demon Whisperers was ultimately too cruel; it was likely that not even one in ten would survive, and it was unnecessary.

Unless they strongly requested to become Demon Whisperers, or, like Wang Hu, they had already been invaded by demonic power and would die if they did not try, he would then allow them to attempt controlling demons.

As for employing the civilian Demon Whisperers that emerged, they still needed some training before they could be trusted with any responsibility; indeed, those utterly uncontrolled could not be utilized.

As for whether they would be willing to join Dragon King Hall, Mu Jinyu didn't see it as a problem since he possessed the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments capable of warding off panic.

As long as their families were still alive and they were not of the inhumanly cruel sort, the vast majority, for the sake of their families, would surely agree to join Dragon King Hall.

As for those Demon Whisperers who chose not to join, he wouldn't insist. As long as they didn't misuse the Demon Power to wreak havoc, he couldn't be bothered to care.

"I'll discuss it with Aunt Mu later."

Mu Jinyu felt a bit of a headache thinking about it and decided not to dwell on it, just quietly holding Wen Rou and savoring this rare moment of tranquility.

Soon, Wen Rou also moaned softly and woke up.

She looked up at Mu Jinyu, her slightly confused eyes suddenly clear. A blush flushed over her face, and then she realized, glanced at her watch, and exclaimed, "Oh dear, it's getting late. Little Mu, why didn't you wake me up earlier? I... I'll go prepare breakfast now."

As she spoke, Wen Rou hurriedly struggled out of Mu Jinyu's embrace, then threw on her robe and dashed out the door towards the kitchen.

Mu Jinyu was about to tell her not to rush and that he wasn't hungry, but Wen Rou moved too quickly, getting dressed and running out in no time.

Mu Jinyu stared blankly, let out a soft "huh," and said, "How did Wen Rou's cultivation improve so quickly?"

"Could it be that doing this kind of thing can also increase the speed of cultivation?"

Mu Jinyu murmured to himself and felt the True Yuan within his Dantian, realizing that there was indeed more than the day before.

Suddenly, Mu Jinyu had an epiphany and understood why those five women were all able to cultivate.

There was no need to mention Su Zijin and Mu Hongchen as they inherently had the aptitude for cultivation and weren't bad at it either.

But Wen Rou, Gu Xiyan, and Mei Yinxue, it didn't make sense for all three to be able to cultivate, right?

He was a bit surprised at the time, but ultimately it was a good thing, so he didn't think too much about it.

Now it seemed that they all had relations with him; they initially lacked the aptitude for cultivation but were transformed to have it.

For example, Wen Rou's natural aptitude might have been similar to Su Zijin's, or even a bit worse, but because of her Yin Yang Union with him, her aptitude became much stronger.

As for Mei Yinxue, she might have had the same level of aptitude as Gu Xiyan is now. After all, having started martial training from a young age, it wouldn't make sense for her to be entirely without talent. It was because of her union with him that she became equivalent to Mu Hongchen.

And Gu Xiyan was probably originally just a person with average aptitude, which had now become quite decent.

As for why it was so?

Mu Jinyu didn't understand. Maybe it was because of his so-called Dragon Clan's Bloodline?

But he couldn't even show a Curse Mark like Xiang Mantang did, so it probably wasn't that, right?

Or maybe it was because he grew up soaking in a medicinal cauldron since he was a child?!

Mu Jinyu was unclear about the specifics, but he felt that just the improvement of Wen Rou's cultivation alone might not be enough to confirm his just now speculation.

He quickly threw on his robe and ran out of the room.

Outside the room, Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue were still joking about him hogging all the food to himself.

Mu Jinyu immediately ran over, grabbed both of their hands, and said, "Come on, let's go back to the room and do an experiment."

"Oh? What are you doing, it's still broad daylight!"

Gu Xiyan exclaimed in a somewhat panicked manner.

However, although she was shy, she hadn't been intimate with Mu Jinyu for quite a while, so she didn't firmly reject it.

Chapter 543 Friends Have Arrived

Over two hours later.

Mu Jinyu and Gu Xiyan walked out of the room together.

Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue's eyes held a touch of surprise, and their cheeks were flushed, resembling red apples, tempting one to take a bite.

During the experiment with Mu Jinyu, they had discovered that the Union of Yin and Yang indeed enabled them to absorb spiritual energy faster.

Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue had previously been at the stage of trying to absorb spiritual energy, but now they had reached the threshold of cultivation, just like Wen Rou.

This situation left them both shocked and delighted.

At the same time, thinking back to how Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou had sneaked back to the room yesterday, they began to suspect that Mu Jinyu often secretly tutored Wen Rou.

Once they voiced their query, Mu Jinyu naturally had to properly 'teach' them.

This was why the experiment, which wasn't too long initially, ended up dragging on for over two hours.

Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue were left without any energy, and they had no mind to feel jealous or begrudge. Even if Mu Jinyu went to tutor Wen Rou again, they had no objections.

"Why did it take so long? Breakfast has gone cold."

Su Zijin didn't know what Mu Jinyu had done taking Gu Xiyan back to the room and only heard Wen Rou explain that they were conducting a cultivation experiment, so she didn't think much of it.

Assuming it wouldn't take long, Su Zijin decided to wait for the three to finish before eating together since they hadn't had a proper meal together since Mu Jinyu woke up from his long slumber and hurried to find Xiang Mantang.

But the wait turned out to be over two hours, and breakfast had gone cold.

"Mom, you didn't have to wait for us, it's alright, I'll go make everyone a fresh breakfast."

Hearing Su Zijin's words, Mu Jinyu immediately apologized with a rueful smile, feeling embarrassed.

Seeing Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue's odd complexion, Su Zijin also vaguely guessed what they might have been doing upon their return to the room.

A little time apart makes the reunion sweeter, after all, and she understood.

Thus, she changed the subject and didn't probe further, saying, "It's okay, mom was just complaining for the sake of it, Xiaorou has already gone to prepare breakfast again."

"Yes, I made century egg and lean pork congee, and stir-fried eggs with garlic chives."

At that moment, Wen Rou came out of the kitchen with a clay pot and headed towards the dining room.

Mu Jinyu went to help and carried the stir-fried eggs with garlic chives and other small dishes from the kitchen to the dining room.

About ten minutes later.

They had finished breakfast.

Mu Jinyu said goodbye to Su Zijin and the others, ready to leave.

He couldn't continue to indulge in the pleasures of love; he had planned to discuss the subsequent development of Dragon King Hall and arrange for meetings with the experts to discuss the creation of a production line for the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument after breakfast.

But because he had suddenly discovered that the Union of Yin and Yang could aid in cultivation, he spent more time than expected conducting the experiment with Gu Xiyuan and the others. Now that the experiment was over and the results were satisfactory, there was no need to continue.

Otherwise, he might just wear out Gu Xiyuan and the others.

"Eh, Jinyu, my family, Linglong, and Qiaoxia, they have all come to Capital City, and for now, they are arranged to stay in another residential building to be observed. Do you want to go and see them?"

As Mu Jinyu was preparing to leave to find Mu Hongchen for work, Gu Xiyuan suddenly remembered something and spoke up.

"Oh, have they already come? Then I'll go see them first,"

Upon hearing Gu Xiyuan's words, Mu Jinyu's eyes lit up, and she nodded.

When the Dark Turmoil erupted, Gu Xiyuan was concerned for her family members and those of Yu Linglong's family, although she couldn't go to River City to find them herself.

Nevertheless, she made a phone call, urging them to take advantage of the still-operational high-speed rail and come to the Capital City as soon as possible.

Gu family Members, Yu Linglong's relatives, Lin Qiaoxia's family, and the Family members of the Xu family who were on good terms with Mu Jinyu, were at a loss, unsure whether to stay put at home or seek refuge in a safer place. Upon receiving Gu Xiyuan's call, they didn't hesitate and immediately set off for the Capital City.

Although the journey was fraught with danger, staying in River City wasn't necessarily safe either. They trusted Mu Jinyu's side more in comparison.

Luckily, after a day of travel with some close calls but no harm done, they finally made it to the Capital City, and after several transfers, arrived at the Dragon King Hall headquarters in the suburbs.

They had just arrived that morning, and initially, Gu Xiyan had planned to notify Mu Jinyu when he woke up. Instead, as soon as he came out, he dragged her and Mei Yinxue into his room, and in her excitement, she forgot to mention it.

It wasn't until Mu Jinyu was about to leave that she remembered.

Seeing that Mu Jinyu wanted to go see these friends first, Gu Xiyan also said, "I'll go too. I had planned to go with you this morning. I haven't seen my parents in a long time."

"Okay, let's go then."

Mu Jinyu didn't waste any more time, and immediately went with Gu Xiyan, Mei Yinxue, and Wen Rou.

Although Mei Yinxue and Wen Rou didn't have family members there, they still had friends. For example, Mei Yinxue's subordinate Ah-Biao and others, and Xu Qingya was Wen Rou's friend.

Now that they had arrived, as friends, they naturally had to go and see them.

Mu Jinyu led Gu Xiyan and the others to the family building where these people were currently staying, starting with a visit to Gu Xiyan's relatives.

Gu Zhengxin and the other family members of Gu Xiyan all showed expressions of shame and gratitude upon seeing Mu Jinyu and Gu Xiyan.

Back then, they had had a falling out with Gu Xiyan, and although it was not to the extent of wishing death upon her, it was still pretty ruthless. If it had been them, they probably would've cut ties with her long ago.

Yet now, amid such Dark Turmoil, Gu Xiyan hadn't abandoned them. She had let go of past grievances, contacted them proactively, invited them to the Capital City, and took care of their accommodation.

This made them feel incredibly ashamed and deeply grateful to both Gu Xiyan and Mu Jinyu.

"Dad, Mom!"

Seeing her parents after a long time, Gu Xiyan couldn't help but tear up and went forward to hug them.

Then she prepared to chat with them.

However, Mu Jinyu first asked Gu Xiyan to come back, then inquired, "Have all of you had your blood tested, any issues?"

"No, no, we are all normal. A few who had black blood wear magic artifacts and live in another building,"

Gu Zhengxin hastily explained.

After arriving at the Dragon King Hall headquarters, they had been subjected to blood testing and were each given a low-grade protective talisman.

These talismans could only withstand one incursion by the great calamity and were of no use against an attack from Great Demons, but since staying in headquarters was relatively safe, they were sufficient for the time being.

If their talisman were destroyed by the incursion of the great calamity, they just needed to contact the staff promptly to get a replacement, and they would be mostly fine.

As for those who had already been afflicted by the great calamity, wearing a low-grade talisman could suppress their demonization. Still, to be on the safe side, they were required to live in isolation.

"Hmm, no blood issues mean there's no affliction by the great calamity, but that doesn't mean your memories haven't been tampered with by the Tide of Chaos. Xiyan, go ask them some questions to see if any of them have problems,"

Chapter 544 I Thought You Had Forgotten About Me

"Oh, okay..."

Gu Xiyan had originally dared to hug her parents because she clearly knew that their blood tests were fine, only then did she do so.

But she forgot about the Tide of Chaos and the demons.

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's instructions, her heart tensed, and she began to interrogate everyone one by one.

In the end, she found that Gu Shiqian, the cousin who had once taken over her Face of Jade Company, had many problems with her memory and could not answer many of her questions.

Gu Xiyan's heart sank. Although the two had had many conflicts, she truly did not wish for any misfortune to befall her relatives when it came to serious matters.

But Gu Shiqian seemed to have had her memory tampered with by the Tide of Chaos.

And when Gu Xiyan asked Gu Shiqian several questions, to which she gave incorrect answers, the faces of the Gu family members by her side also changed slightly.

They knew something was wrong with Gu Shiqian.

When Gu Xiyan bluntly pointed out that Gu Shiqian might have a problem, Gu Shiqian's parents couldn't help but burst into tears.

Though they could hardly bear to part with their daughter, they didn't dare to forcibly keep her with them for the safety of everyone else.

Meanwhile, Gu Shiqian's expression changed dramatically as she pleaded in haste, "I'm fine, I really don't have a problem. Cousin, are you doing this because of the conflict we had a while ago?!"

"I was wrong, I won't dare to do it again, cousin, brother-in-law, please don't send me away, okay?"

Gu Shiqian begged piteously, then turned to look at her parents, grandparents, uncles, and aunts, hoping they would speak up for her.

Gu Xiyao calmly said, "Don't worry, Xiaoqian, your problem isn't serious, but for everyone's safety, you need to live alone in another building temporarily, rest assured, if anything happens, we won't ignore you..."

"I don't want to!"

Gu Shiqian screamed, "Those people over there have blood problems—who knows when they'll become demonized. They weren't immediately killed just because it's a mercy. You're making me live with them, what about my safety? Why don't you go live with them?"

"I don't care, I came all the way here with great difficulty, I'm fine, no one can send me away..."

Gu Shiqian screamed as if she were going mad.

"Slap!"

Mu Jinyu had no patience for her, walking up and slapping her directly.

He had plenty of matters to attend to; if these people hadn't been somewhat related to him, he wouldn't have bothered coming to see them at all, let alone spending time checking to see if any of them were demon minions.

"You hit me?!"

Gu Shiqian, holding her face, looked at Mu Jinyu incredulously, and then started screaming like a madwoman, "I'm going to fight you all, I'm clearly fine, and yet you insist on framing me!"

"Slap!"

Mu Jinyu gave her another slap, this time with a bit more force, knocking her out.

"Take her away!"

Mu Jinyu didn't bother to argue with Gu Shiqian or to explain anything to the Gu family members; he just gave his order to the members of the Dragon King Hall behind him.

"Yes."

The member responded and stepped forward without delay, picking up Gu Shiqian and taking her away.

Gu Shiqian's parents watched the scene, trying to speak several times but stopping themselves, and in the end, they said nothing.

After all, judging by their daughter's reaction just now, the problem seemed quite serious. If they let her stay in their suite, they might not be able to prevent a major incident.

As parents, they might be willing to take the risk, but now they were not the only ones living together, there were other residents as well, so they dared not speak up.

"These people should all be safe for now, you go have a good talk with your parents first."

Mu Jinyu looked at the Gu Family Members who began to show fear towards him, didn't say much, just nodded slightly to Gu Xiyan's parents, gave Gu Xiyan a few instructions, and then went with Wen Rou and Mei Yinxue to find the Family Members of the Xu family.

After meeting the Family Members of the Xu family, Mu Jinyu briefly spoke with them, questioned them with the investigative materials he had, and seeing that they were generally all right, he then went to find Yu Linglong and the others.

Wen Rou and Xu Qingya were whispering to each other. Xu Qingya looked at Mu Jinyu several times as if she wanted to say something but stopped herself, and finally, as he left, she watched his back and her eyes dimmed.

"Wen Rou, I'm so envious of you right now,"

Xu Qingya said in a low voice after Mu Jinyu left.

"Ah? What happened?" Wen Rou asked, somewhat puzzled.

Xu Qingya's tone was filled with regret as she said, "Back then when I saw a few of you follow Director Mu, I liked him in my heart, but I didn't want to compete for anything and just buried this feeling deep inside. Now... sigh..."

Wen Rou understood Xu Qingya's thoughts upon hearing her words.

It wasn't that she thought women who were with Mu Jinyu during these dangerous times would be better taken care of, which was why she envied them.

It was likely that, faced with the possibility of an untimely death, the uncertainty of living from one day to the next, life being so fragile, she could no longer suppress her feelings and longed to have a lover by her side to protect and encourage her during these times.

But obviously, it was no longer possible for Mu Jinyu to easily accept another woman.

So her feelings were doomed to remain unrequited.

"Sigh..."

Wen Rou let out a small sigh too, feeling sorry for Xu Qingya. Among them, Xu Qingya was actually the first one to meet Mu Jinyu, but due to her personality, they never ended up together in the end.

But she couldn't comfort Xu Qingya with anything, only joining her in feeling sorry.

Mu Jinyu was unaware of Xu Qingya and Wen Rou's conversation. After leaving the temporary suite of the Xu family, he went to look for Yu Linglong, Lin Qiaoxia, and the others.

Due to limited housing, Yu Linglong's family, Lin Qiaoxia's family, and Shen Shuyao's family all lived together in one apartment.

"Jinyu!"

When Yu Linglong and Lin Qiaoxia saw Mu Jinyu coming over, they both appeared quite excited, especially when they saw Gu Xiyao and Wen Rou were no longer by his side, they couldn't help wanting to rush forward and embrace Mu Jinyu, to express their fear and anxiety from the past few days.

However, because of the presence of both families' parents, as well as Shen Shuyao and the others, they didn't dare to act on this impulse and instead greeted Mu Jinyu with restraint.

"Are you all okay?" Mu Jinyu asked with a smile.

Yu Linglong shook her head and said, "We're fine, but we were really upset for a long time when you were unconscious a while back."

"Sorry about that..." Mu Jinyu wasn't in a position to tell them that he had actually come close to dying that time, so he changed the subject, asking how they had been recently.

Shen Shuyao and her grandfather, Shen Changchun, stood to the side, listening to their conversation with a complicated expression.

In her heart, she thought she had long been forgotten by Mu Jinyu, but to her surprise, during this crisis, he had even called them to come to the Capital City for refuge, which moved her deeply.

"It's been a long time, Miss Shen."

As Shen Shuyao was lost in her thoughts, Mu Jinyu finished speaking with Yu Linglong and approached Shen Shuyao with a smile, saying, "Good to see you again."

Shen Shuyao came back to her senses, looked at Mu Jinyu, and replied with a smile, "Yes, it has been a long time. I thought with all your important affairs, you would have forgotten about me and my grandfather."

"How could that be?" Mu Jinyu touched his nose and said, "When the Jinyu Group was being boycotted by Lin Pharmaceutical, you were the first to stand by me. How could I forget you?"

Chapter 545 City God!

After a brief catch-up with the Yu Family, Lin Family, and Shen Family, and a quick interrogation based on the collected data, Mu Jinyu took his leave when he found no issues with them.

He was simply too busy.

Although he hadn't seen these old acquaintances for a long time and wanted to chat with them more, the current situation didn't allow him to waste any more time.

Watching Mu Jinyu's departing figure,

Lin Qiaoxia, Yu Linglong, and Shen Shuyao couldn't help but show a hint of disappointment and sorrow in their eyes.

...

Leaving the family building, Mu Jinyu went straight to Mu Hongchen's office.

Entering the office, Mu Hongchen was already sitting in her chair, staring at the screen, tapping away at the keyboard, busy with work.

It wasn't clear whether she had come in early to work or had been up all night.

However, judging from her slightly weary demeanor, she had probably been working overnight.

"Aunt Mu, did you work all through last night?"

Mu Jinyu couldn't help frowning as he spoke.

"Ah?"

Mu Hongchen seemed to notice Mu Jinyu's presence only then, briefly stunned before turning to look outside the window; although it was morning, it was still pitch-black outside.

The blue-black haze that now filled the sky had turned to pure black, making it impossible to distinguish day from night in the world.

Mu Hongchen raised her watch to check the time and, realizing it was already past nine in the morning, she tiredly rubbed her temples and said, "I'm sorry, Dragon Master, I got carried away and worked until dawn."

She, of course, wanted to rest too.

But there were so many matters to deal with at Dragon King Hall, and they were understaffed after losing so many people; many things were beyond Mu Jinyu's understanding, and naturally, the burden had fallen entirely on her shoulders.

That's why she had been caught up with official duties until now.

"You should get some rest sooner rather than later. There are many things you don't need to bother with; you can just ignore them. Right now, what we at Dragon King Hall need to deal with most are the demon issues, not the management of magical artifacts,"

Mu Jinyu said with a hint of helplessness.

"I understand, I will try to neglect these trivial matters in the future," Mu Hongchen replied apologetically.

Seeing her like this, Mu Jinyu knew she hadn't really listened and, with a sigh of resignation, said, "Never mind, Aunt Mu, go rest. If there's anything, leave it to me and my mom."

"But..." Mu Hongchen was about to say that the Dragon Master didn't really know how to handle many official duties.

But Mu Jinyu continued, "Don't worry, I know I might not be a very qualified Tiance True Dragon, and there's a lot I don't understand, but my mom, as the Saintess of Dragon King Hall, should still be capable of handling some official duties. Let her teach Xiyan and Wen Rou. Afterward, they and you can take turns on duty, so you don't have to be so exhausted."

Hearing Mu Jinyu's suggestion, Mu Hongchen thought it wasn't a bad idea, but... it felt somewhat improper, didn't it?

Mu Jinyu, seeing what Mu Hongchen was thinking, persuaded her, "Don't feel embarrassed about it. If you collapse from exhaustion, I won't be able to deal with these matters, and they will still fall on their shoulders in the end. After all, in the entire Dragon King Hall, the number of people we can be sure haven't had their memories tampered with is just the few of you."

Mu Hongchen was silent for a moment and then smiled, "Then I'll have to trouble the Dragon Master, I'll go rest now."

"Mm." Mu Jinyu extended his hand, "Leave your phone behind. You shouldn't be bothered with whatever comes up; I'll handle it."

"Okay." Mu Hongchen handed over her phone to Mu Jinyu and left, yawning.

After Mu Hongchen left.

Mu Jinyu sat in her original spot, registering the various demon-related materials that were sent from all over. Then, from time to time, Mu Hongchen's phone would ring, with some influential figures asking her for the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument.

Mu Jinyu spoke to them directly and unapologetically, saying there were none available.

He knew that among these people, there were many with status and position, and in many cases even Dragon King Hall could not simply ignore them.

This was also the reason why Mu Hongchen, upon receiving their calls, had to repeatedly weigh the pros and cons before considering how to tactfully refuse or arrange for someone to deliver the artifacts to them, wasting quite a bit of effort.

If every case were like this, the wasted energy would be considerable.

However, Mu Jinyu didn't care about these matters; the majority of these people were virtually useless in the current era of darkness and turmoil. Those who were useful had generally received their magical instruments promptly. Those who hadn't received them yet were mostly of the kind that had been abandoned.

If there were more sufficient magical instruments, then they might consider them.

So, for now, he could simply refuse them all.

After discussing with the experts of the two major organizations on how to mass-produce the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments, they would then see if they wanted to distribute them to these individuals!

Having registered the relevant information of about a dozen demons he had just learned about, Mu Jinyu began contacting his subordinates, instructing them to pay attention to those who had come in contact with demons but had not, and who had managed to harness some of the Demon Power.

If they found any, they were to invite them to Dragon King Hall and promise them the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument.

After passing on this information.

Mu Jinyu frowned and fell into deep thought.

The temptation of the Gold Inlaid Jade's magical instrument alone might not be enough to make them swear allegiance to Dragon King Hall, and the so-called righteousness, to restore the world to a bright and orderly state, was just empty talk to fool people. If there weren't any incentives, why would anybody risk their life for you?

Mu Jinyu started considering how much salary a Demon Whisperer who joined Dragon King Hall should receive each month, how much authority over certain areas they should have, and rewards determined by the level of threat posed by the demon disturbance they resolved...

Thinking about it gave him a bit of a headache, so in the end, Mu Jinyu called Su Zijin and Gu Xiyan to come over.

With nothing much to do, Su Zijin and the rest arrived quickly after receiving a call from Mu Jinyu.

After Mu Jinyu shared the problems he was considering with them, they began to discuss amongst themselves.

For example, after joining Dragon King Hall, depending on the ability of the Demon Whisperers, decide how much gold they should get each month, along with Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments, and when a safer method of controlling two demons is developed, those Demon Whisperers with more contributions could be given priority to try controlling a second demon.

After all, simply harnessing the power of one demon, without the counterbalance of another, means the more you use the Demon Power, the more likely it is that the demon will erode all the Qi-Blood in your body, likely leading to a quick death!

At that time, controlling a second demon to achieve internal balance could actually prolong life.

Thus, certain individuals who were quite hostile to the officials might not have a choice but to work for them for the sake of survival.

And they didn't necessarily need these people to join Dragon King Hall; they could simply be assigned to protect a city each, ensuring the safety of that city, named as "City God," right?

"City God, huh?" Mu Jinyu, hearing the proposal from Mei Yinxue, showed a contemplative look, and finally nodded, "Mhm, not bad, they don't need to join Dragon King Hall, as long as they're willing to be City Gods, we would still ensure their safety first!"

"Dinglingling!"

At that moment, Mu Jinyu's cell phone rang.

He looked at the caller ID and then answered the call.

"Hello, Dragon Master? The Xuanwu Hall Master has returned, but he..."

Chapter 546: Wu 13 Returns, Controlling Demons!

"What happened to the Xuanwu Hall Master?"

Mu Jinyu, upon hearing his subordinate's report, felt a sudden surge of concern and asked in a grave tone.

The Xuanwu Hall Master referred to none other than Wu Shisan.

If he remembered correctly, the day before yesterday, when he had gone to handle the Ghost-Faced Demon in a suburb village, Mu Hongchen had mentioned that Wu Shisan was also handling another demon event.

Now, nearly two days had passed, and he had thought Wu Shisan had returned long ago and was merely resting.

Unexpectedly, he had only just returned!

Had something happened?

That subordinate sighed, "The Xuanwu Hall Master is being eroded by a demon, and his condition isn't good right now. Dragon Master, would you like to come and see?"

"Yes, I'll come right away!"

Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu furrowed his brows, not expecting Wu Shisan to end up in such a plight while dealing with a demon event.

It wasn't fair to say he was incompetent, after all, he was only a Martial Artist at the Complete Energy Transformation Stage, and while he could easily deal with ordinary people or martial artists, facing demons was a challenge even for a warrior of the Divine Realm like himself, sometimes rendering him powerless...

Wu Shisan getting himself into this mess could be considered bad luck, but it was also fortunate. At least he had kept his life.

After hanging up the phone, Mu Jinyu said to Gu Xiyan and the others, "There's a situation with Wu Shisan, I need to go check on it. Continue discussing the details of the 'City God' plan, and mom, handle any issues that come up for me."

"Sure, no problem. Mom used to be a Saintess and handled many things before. I withdrew from the Dragon King Hall due to some reasons in the past," Su Zijin nodded, ensuring Mu Jinyu would have no concerns.

"Alright, I'll go first then."

Mu Jinyu said no more, grabbed some items, and hurriedly ran out to the field.

Soon, he arrived at the field and saw Wu Shisan whom he hadn't seen for a while.

Wu Shisan looked miserable and bedraggled, as pale as a corpse, with his hair drenched, dripping murky water onto the ground continually, making him look almost like a Water Ghost.

Mu Jinyu, seeing the lifeless Wu Shisan, furrowed his brows even more and said, "Xuanwu Hall Master, what happened to you..."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Wu Shisan's stagnant eyes moved slightly before he turned to look at Mu Jinyu.

The moment Mu Jinyu met his gaze, he inexplicably felt a chill, sensing that Wu Shisan was very dangerous at that moment.

No, it should be said, the demon that Wu Shisan was restraining, was extremely dangerous.

"Dragon Master..."

Wu Shisan looked at Mu Jinyu, his eyes conveying a multitude of emotions.

There was excitement, loss, resentment, despair, pain...

So many emotions mixed together made his eyes look exceedingly complex.

"Right now, I have a Water Ghost inside me! I don't even know if I still qualify as a human!"

Wu Shisan said in a hoarse voice.

Mu Jinyu didn't know how to comfort him and sighed deeply, "Our Dragon King Hall also has someone in a similar situation, but he willingly let the demon enter his body."

"Oh? What's that about?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Wu Shisan set aside his dejected and grieving emotions for a moment, and asked curiously.

He had just returned and was still somewhat unclear about the sudden change in the situation, and he could hardly understand why someone would deliberately let demons enter their body. Wasn't that like the proverbial old man who feasted on poison looking for death?

Mu Jinyu then explained to him that only demons could fight against demons, as well as Wang Hu's situation. He also shared his own experience of helplessness against the ghost-faced demon in a village on the outskirts and his narrow escape from death with the ghost bride, informing Wu Shisan of all these events.

"Hmm? So, you're saying that even Diving Realm Warriors find it difficult to suppress demons with just their abilities and instead need to control the demons to better combat them?" Wu Shisan spoke with a peculiar tone.

Originally, he had thought his situation was quite dire, but hearing Mu Jinyu say this, it seemed his condition was actually better.

At least in this chaotic world plagued by demons, he was more sought after than Mu Jinyu.

As for the cost of a shortened lifespan, he didn't care much about that.

He had always pursued a life of spectacle; if he was to merely live a mediocre life and die after a century, he would be utterly unwilling. He would rather blaze like a meteor; even if it was only a moment of brilliance, that moment of stunning beauty would be enough for people to remember him forever!

"Hmm." Mu Jinyu, unaware of Wu Shisan's thoughts, patted his shoulder and comforted him, "That means the safety of Dragon King Hall actually relies on you and Wang Hu in the future."

"Hiss hiss!"

His palm emitted a fierce corroding sound.

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu quickly withdrew his hand, refraining from patting Wu Shisan's shoulder again.

Fortunately, seeing Wu Shisan's drenched appearance, he had been extra cautious and covered his hands with True Yuan, which prevented any serious harm.

Yet, the True Yuan that could resist the Rotten Corpse Demon's Corpse Water for over a minute could not hold long against the liquid on Wu Shisan's body. It seemed that after controlling a demon, Wu Shisan might even be able to fight against a Divine Realm Warrior.

Wu Shisan also noticed this and his eyes sparkled; the previous defeatism and despair were swept away, replaced by great excitement.

If even Mu Jinyu's True Yuan couldn't resist the liquid on his body, did that not mean he could now be considered the top figure in Dragon King Hall?

Then wouldn't becoming the Tiance True Dragon be as easy as flipping his hand?

However, Wu Shisan was raised by the Old Dragon King. Although not recognized as an adopted child, he remained deeply loyal to the Old Dragon King.

Previously, when the Old Dragon King was on his deathbed, he had clashed with Xiang Mantang vying for the position of Tiance True Dragon because he felt that the title of Dragon King should not fall into the hands of outsiders. Xiang Mantang was clearly an outsider, and it was more legitimate for him to take on the role of Dragon King.

Now that Mu Jinyu, the Old Dragon King's grandson, was to assume the role of the New Dragon King, he naturally had no intention of dissent.

"Dragon Master!"

At that moment, having been informed, Wang Hu also quietly appeared behind Mu Jinyu.

"Hmm?"

Mu Jinyu and Wu Shisan were both startled.

They hadn't noticed at all when he had moved over.

Then, Mu Jinyu turned and, looking towards Wang Hu, could faintly sense a subtle hint of a rotten corpse smell.

It was uncertain how Wang Hu controlled it, but the previously strong smell of decay was now almost undetectable unless one paid close attention.

"What are you doing here?" Mu Jinyu asked, looking at the suddenly appearing Wang Hu.

Wang Hu looked at Wu Shisan, his tone stiff and emotionless, "Dragon Master, I have controlled two demons now, but haven't officially fought with them yet. I'm a bit eager to fight, and knowing that Xuanwu Hall Master has also controlled a demon, I wanted to come and test him!"

As he spoke, though his face was expressionless and his eyes were ashen, it seemed like a fighting spirit was bursting forth.

Mu Jinyu, hearing this, turned to look at Wu Shisan, "Xuanwu Hall Master, what do you think?"

He was quite interested in seeing a battle of Demon Whisperers, but this matter still needed Wu Shisan's consent. If Wu Shisan refused, he couldn't possibly force him into fighting Wang Hu!

Chapter 547: Demon Whisperers' Showdown!

Wu Shisan did not immediately respond to Mu Jinyu's words.

His eyes shining brightly, he looked at Wang Hu and could distinctly feel the pressing sense of oppression and threat emanating from him.

To him, this young man who had recently risen to prominence under the Dragon King Hall seemed to pose an even greater threat than Mu Jinyu.

"Alright, let's test each other's mettle. I am quite curious to see what being a Demon Whisperer entails, as well as the abilities of other Demon Whisperers!"

Finally, Wu Shisan spoke in a deep voice.

Mu Jinyu cautioned, "Be careful. Wang Hu has tamed two demons, and although his cultivation is not like yours, in some aspects, he is far more dangerous than you."

"Don't let your guard down and embarrass your seniors."

Wu Shisan nodded gently, saying, "No problem, I never underestimate others!"

"Hmm." Mu Jinyu thought for a moment, then seeing that the two were about to begin, he hastily shouted, "Wait a moment before you start! Let me call everyone out to watch as well. This way, they can gain some experience too, what do you think?"

He knew that some people disliked being watched during combat, as it gave them the humiliation as if they were monkeys performing in a show.

So, he was merely seeking their opinion. If they agreed, he would call everyone over to watch, and if not, he wouldn't insist.

"No problem."

Wu Shisan naturally had no objections.

He looked at Wang Hu and asked, "What about you?"

Being a newly emerged figure, he didn't know the other's personality. If it were Shen Cangsheng or Di Yin, Qin Qiao, and Chu, he knew that some would agree and others wouldn't, so he wouldn't have asked more.

"No problem."

Wang Hu had no objections either.

"Then good, I'll go inform them to come out."

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu took out his phone and called out to the members of the Dragon King Hall who were still at headquarters, asking them to come out and watch the battle and gain experience!

Soon, hundreds of Dragon King Hall members had all rushed to the field.

Wu Shisan, seeing that everyone had arrived, slightly twisted his neck a few times, making a series of cracking sounds.

He felt his body becoming stiffer, as if it was developing towards becoming a corpse.

But having heard it from Mu Jinyu, he knew this was the price of taming demons. He was distressed, yet he could reluctantly accept it.

"I'm ready anytime, how about you?"

Wu Shisan moved slightly and asked Wang Hu.

"No problem," Wang Hu nodded slightly.

"Then good, when I count to three, you start."

Mu Jinyu asked the spectators to move back, retreating to a distance of about a hundred meters, while he stood about thirty meters away. At this distance, if any corpse water splashed towards him, he could dodge it in time.

"Three!"

"Two!"

"One!"

"Begin!"

As soon as the words were spoken.

Wang Hu's eyes gleamed with a fierce light, and with a step, his figure darted forward like a specter, yet resembling a tiger descending a mountain, with an extremely ferocious momentum, he rushed at Wu Shisan.

Then, he raised his foot, unleashing a swishing sound as he aimed a strike at Wu Shisan's chest!

This force was immense, merely with his physical strength, Mu Jinyu guessed it could burst a tank, comparable to a martial artist at the Peak of Energy Transformation.

'Is this the power of the rotten corpse's legs, along with a pair of Embroidered Shoes?'

Mu Jinyu muttered inwardly.

"Bang!"

Although Wu Shisan had prepared for Wang Hu's speed and knew of his ability to appear and disappear like a ghost, he hadn't expected him to be so incredibly fast.

Just as a thought arose, Wang Hu was already right in front of him.

Therefore, he didn't even have the chance to block, and his whole body was kicked into the air!

"Whoosh..."

With a stomping on the ground, Wang Hu suddenly soared high into the air, like an eagle taking flight, instantly reaching a higher point than Wu Shisan.

Then, he lifted his right leg, with great force and momentum, like a landslide, and smashed it directly towards Wu Shisan's abdomen!

The embroidered shoes he was wearing emitted a sinister red glow at the same time!

"Bang!"

However, Wang Hu's kick did not successfully harm Wu Shisan.

Because at the critical moment, Wu Shisan's pores began to release a large amount of water, which quickly gathered in front of him into a shield.

This water shield, manifested by the demon power of the water spirit within him, just managed to block Wang Hu's kick!

"Boom!"

However, since Wang Hu had tamed two demons, and Wu Shisan's water ghost was not that powerful, the shield barely resisted before immediately shattering!

"Roar!"

Wu Shisan, struck by Wang Hu's embroidered shoe-covered kick, immediately plummeted like a meteorite, heavily smashing into the ground!

Dust billowed, and the ground was smashed into a deep pit, with Wu Shisan lying inside it like a dead dog!

'Alas, it seems that a Demon Whisperer who has tamed one demon is no match for one who has tamed two,' Mu Jinyu thought with a sigh in his heart.

"Xuanwu Hall Master, thanks for the match," said Wang Hu as he landed lightly from the air, his movements graceful and agile, his embroidered shoes making him look like a lady from Jiangnan gracefully stepping out of a sedan chair.

Only, his rough and husky face, along with the rotting legs revealed from his split trouser legs after the fierce fight, was quite nauseating!

He believed he had already defeated Wu Shisan and, while his tone wasn't very humble, it wasn't too arrogant either.

Because he felt it was only to be expected, after all, he had taken the risk of nine deaths to tame two demons. If Wu Shisan could have beaten him with just one water ghost, why would he take such a risk?

Mu Jinyu also thought that Wu Shisan had lost and, seeing him not rising from the deep pit for a while, thought he had been seriously injured and was about to go help him up.

Suddenly, he felt something was amiss.

The moment Wu Shisan's water shield was destroyed by Wang Hu's kick, it turned into a drizzling rain that fell from the sky, but after all, it was just a small shield, it shouldn't continue raining for two to three minutes without stopping, right?!

As the rain grew heavier and turned into a torrential downpour, Mu Jinyu sensed something wrong and hurriedly shouted to the spectators a hundred meters away, "Back, back, back!"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, the spectators were startled and did not understand why he was shouting like that.

But when the Dragon King spoke, they did not dare not to listen and immediately turned and ran off into the distance.

Meanwhile, Mu Jinyu intensified the flow of True Yuan to draw upon the Heaven and Earth Vital Energy, forming an invisible Elemental Qi Shield above his head to prevent the rain from reaching him, also quickly running to a distant place!

"Boom boom boom!"

As Mu Jinyu had just retreated far enough and was completely protected by the Elemental Qi Shield from a single drop of rain, that pit burst forth with a noise like a dam breaking, and the unstoppable floodwaters surged forth!

"Boom boom boom!"

Enormous waves surged out, striking Wang Hu, who stood there dumbfounded!

Facing this flood as powerful as a force of nature, Wang Hu had no resistance whatsoever.

He was swept up into the sky by the deluge!

Chapter 548: The Idea of Becoming a Demon Whisperer

In an instant, the flood became a disaster.

The vast training field, which had been the site of Wu Shisan's duel with Wang Hu, had turned into a lake.

The area spanned two to three hundred meters and was more than ten meters high.

The reason the height of this lake could be estimated was because the flood did not surge everywhere after pouring out, but was controlled by Wu Shisan after spreading out two to three hundred meters, and then, as if frozen, it stagnated in this area.

It was like the domain of the River Lord!

The onlookers who narrowly escaped the sweep of the flood stood panting with bent waists, their eyes wide with shock and full of fear, as they watched the two figures within the lake.

Due to the darkness and their distance, they could only vaguely make out two figures in the lake. One of them, a thin figure, was trapped within the water, completely immobilized, just like the fruits in jelly—pineapple, coconut, peach—completely at the mercy of the other figure within, who seemed like an eel boring through jelly, gnawing at him.

Of course, this is just a metaphor; in reality, it was a brutal beating.

Although the onlookers couldn't tell who was being beaten and who was delivering the blows, if there were no surprises, it should be Wu Shisan counterattacking and pummeling Wang Hu!

The crowd was dumbfounded on the spot, completely unprepared for the sight of Wu Shisan, who appeared defenseless, to suddenly unleash such power and savagely beat the terrifyingly fast and strong Wang Hu!

"Alright, the outcome is pretty clear. You can stop now!" Mu Jinyu said in a deep voice from the air.

His voice, spoken with some secret technique, directly spread to the stagnant lake, reaching the ears of Wu Shisan and Wang Hu.

Mu Jinyu had just in time realized something was wrong. Although he was too close and failed to instantly run a few hundred meters away, he had the presence of mind to leap into the sky, thus escaping from being swept away by the great flood.

Mu Jinyu was quite relieved in his heart.

After all, Wu Shisan's current condition was abnormal. Although he likely meant no harm to Mu Jinyu, who knew what issues might be within the water spewed by the Water Ghost inside him. Accidentally getting even a touch of it might bring trouble.

Following Mu Jinyu's words reaching their ears, Wu Shisan, who had been somewhat enraged and furiously beating Wang Hu, sobered up.

Looking at Wang Hu, beaten to a swollen mess, Wu Shisan stared blankly at his own hands, realizing he had become even more furious than before.

Was it the influence of the demon within?

Thinking this, Wu Shisan then controlled the Water Ghost within his body and gradually retracted the vast lake that stretched two to three hundred meters back into his body.

As the onlookers witnessed the scene that resembled a tide receding, they couldn't help but marvel. How could it be done? How could so much water enter one person's body without bursting him!

Seeing the lake water being retracted by Wu Shisan, Mu Jinyu finally descended from the air.

He approached Wu Shisan and Wang Hu, who lay motionless on the ground.

As he drew near, Mu Jinyu could see that Wu Shisan had become very swollen, his skin exhibiting an edematous appearance, giving off the impression of a bloated drowned corpse.

Soon, as the lake was completely absorbed by the Water Ghost in Wu Shisan's body, his swollen figure returned to its usual form, though his clothes and hair were still drenched, as if he would forever maintain the appearance of a drowned ghost.

"Is he alright?" Mu Jinyu glanced at Wu Shisan, then turned his gaze toward Wang Hu, who was lying on the ground, gasping for air. His body was also drenched, his skin, which had been relatively intact on the upper half of the body, now looked somewhat corroded, and his embroidered shoes seemed ready to fall off his feet.

Mu Jinyu had a feeling that once the Embroidered Shoes fell from Wang Hu's feet, the rotten corpse inside him would likely become uncontrollable, and he would die in a state of demonic revival.

Wasn't Wu Shisan the same just now? It must have been a demonic revival, right?

It's just that his strength was still strong after all, and he managed to forcefully suppress the demon that was preparing to revive within him.

"Should be fine."

Wu Shisan glanced at Wang Hu, who looked as if he had just been fished out of a river, and said in an indifferent tone.

"Ah." Mu Jinyu sighed softly and said, "I just wanted you guys to spar a bit, how did it turn into this!"

Wu Shisan said calmly, "Can't help it, when true fire comes out, who can control it?"

Mu Jinyu thought back to how Wu Shisan had just been beaten by Wang Hu, and figured there was a point there. As a Sub-hall Master, being pinned to the ground and rubbed by a junior was one thing; not being able to fight back was another. But it was quite normal to strike back with force if one had the means to do so.

Wu Shisan glanced at Wang Hu, who lay like a dead dog, and raised his head to say to Mu Jinyu, "Dragon Master, I don't feel quite right now and need to go back to recuperate. Please approve."

"Mhm, go ahead." Mu Jinyu nodded.

He understood what Wu Shisan meant—ordinary rest wouldn't require his approval.

His approval to recuperate meant that if there were disturbances by demons in the near future, he wouldn't intervene and would instead focus on recovering and adjusting his state.

Under normal circumstances, Mu Jinyu certainly wouldn't agree. After all, in the current situation, who had the privilege to rest peacefully amid demonic havoc?

However, Wu Shisan's current condition did seem to be not so good, and if Mu Jinyu were to take him on now, he might not necessarily be a match for Wu Shisan, who couldn't control the demon inside.

Without absolute authority, even if Mu Jinyu didn't agree, if something went wrong and he called for Wu Shisan's help, and Wu Shisan ignored him, what could he really do to Wu Shisan?

So it was better to agree to Wu Shisan's request outright.

"Thank you, Dragon Master."

Wu Shisan said in a low voice, then proceeded with heavy steps, leaving footprints behind as he walked towards his dormitory building.

Mu Jinyu watched the liquid dripping from Wu Shisan's body, corrosive as sulfuric acid, etching footprints and small pits into the ground, and felt an increased pressure.

Originally, he thought that when there were more Demon Whisperers in Dragon King Hall, he could relax a bit.

But now it seemed that after becoming a Demon Whisperer, the personality would also be influenced by the demon within, becoming even more uncontrollable; when the temper flared, there would be no regard for the bigger picture!

And he himself, despite having the power of God Realm, felt quite helpless against the demons. How could he then assert authority over everyone and keep them from being unruly?

It seemed that for the greater good, he too should try to harness a demon...

Mu Jinyu had thought about keeping to himself and not getting involved with demons, but the situation was such that there was no way for him to stay out of it.

As the Dragon King, once his subordinates controlled demons and far surpassed him in strength, how could he assert his will over them and secure their loyalty? With his personal charisma?

He had to have sufficient strength and also leverage mutual interests for the City God plan to have a sustainable future.

Chapter 549: Lacking the Upright and Magnanimous Energy

As Mu Jinyu pondered,

Wang Hu, lying on the ground panting weakly like a dying dog, suddenly began to sweat profusely, and his breathing grew louder.

Then, as the pool of water was expelled from his body, he struggled up from the ground with a grunt.

It seemed that Wang Hu had fallen into such a lifeless state because too much of the Water Ghost's liquid had infiltrated his body and seized control of it, leaving him unable to move.

It was unclear whether Wu Shisan had let him off on purpose, or if it was because, with Wu Shisan's departure, he could no longer remotely control the pool of Evil Water, that Wang Hu finally was able to act.

"Damn it!"

Wang Hu got to his feet and glared in the direction Wu Shisan had left, cursing angrily.

However, Wu Shisan had already left and couldn't hear his cursing.

And he knew that he was no match for Wu Shisan and didn't intend to chase after him to continue the fight once he was free.

Wang Hu cast a cold glance at Mu Jinyu, snorted, and left without saying a word.

He seemed to be quite resentful that Mu Jinyu hadn't stood up for him just now, and he didn't reproach Wu Shisan for his reckless actions either.

Watching Wang Hu leave without a word, Mu Jinyu gave a wry smile but said nothing.

Indeed, to earn respect, if you don't have sufficient strength, it's simply not possible.

Shaking his head slightly, Mu Jinyu no longer dwelled on these thoughts and asked the onlookers to leave while he headed toward a building.

That building wasn't home to any families.

Instead, it housed the esteemed members of sects like Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and Way of Nature, who essentially didn't have to do any other chores but wake up, eat, and then monotonously craft Gold Inlaid Jade Magic Artifacts.

Some were taken by them to be handed over to Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and Way of Nature behind them, while others were distributed by Dragon King Hall.

However, Mu Jinyu felt that they couldn't tolerate such a dull life forever.

So he wanted to discuss with them whether it was possible to rely on formations to achieve mass production of Gold Inlaid Jade Magic Artifacts.

"Dragon King, what brings you here?"

When Mu Jinyu reached the door of a suite on the second floor and began to turn the doorknob, the people inside, who were continuously carving jade, looked up at him.

Seeing that it was Mu Jinyu who had come, Ning Fan from Way of Nature chuckled lightly and asked.

Mu Jinyu didn't beat around the bush and got right to the point, "Esteemed masters, I've recently had an idea. I always feel that relying solely on manual craftsmanship to produce magic artifacts is hardly sufficient to meet the current demand, so I've been thinking if we could use a formation to replace our handiwork..."

After listening to Mu Jinyu's explanation and proposal, everyone fell into thought, then Master Yi shook her head and said,

"Wouldn't that be difficult? When creating these magic artifacts, the difficulty isn't in engraving the Evil-Repelling Runes—we are all thoroughly familiar with that, and using machines might be feasible, but the most important thing is, if the engraving of the Evil-Repelling Runes isn't accompanied by the appropriate pure True Qi, then it would be pointless."

"Right," Ning Fan agreed, "We're indeed getting quite tired of carving these magic artifacts. If we could substitute machines, we would be delighted, but the key issue is that if a machine does the engraving of the talismans, we can't accurately embed True Qi into them, activate the talismans, and make them effective."

Arhat didn't directly object like the others. After pondering for a moment, he said, "Let's give it a try. Since the Dragon King has suggested it, he must be somewhat confident, and if it proves successful, or even somewhat feasible, we'll help analyze how to use formations for the crafting process. That would allow us to withdraw earlier and head to the battlefield!"

"All right, let's give it a try then!"

Arhat clearly held a very high status, and once he spoke, no one had any objections.

Mu Jinyu nodded slightly and also breathed a sigh of relief.

What he feared most was that these people, too stubborn by nature, wouldn't even be willing to give it a try.

Left on his own, he couldn't fathom how much effort it would take to delve in and perfect the process.

Afterward, Mu Jinyu used local materials, picking up several pieces of high-quality jade from the ground, quickly carved a few runes, and then began setting them up.

After nearly half an hour, Mu Jinyu finally completed the formation.

Then, he picked up a piece of jade and said to everyone, "Now, I will carve the Evil-Repelling Spell. I won't infuse True Qi while carving."

With that, he put his fingers together like a blade, and began to quickly etch dense runes onto the piece of jade with his middle and index fingers.

He finished the carving quickly.

Everyone watched the piece of jade in Mu Jinyu's hands, knowing for certain that there was no fluctuation of True Qi present.

If Mu Jinyu had been infusing True Qi while carving just now, then by embedding this piece of jade into a gold bar, it would have become a fine Protective talisman.

But at this moment, if Mu Jinyu's experiment failed, there was a very high probability it would be ruined.

Because after the runes were carved, infusing True Qi would result in a stagnant sensation, making it impossible to fully channel the True Qi back into the countless runes inside the jade, with a great possibility of a failed inscription, rendering it a defective product in the end.

"All right, the jade is carved. Let's try it now,"

Mu Jinyu said softly, and then placed the piece of jade into the small Primordial Gathering Formation he had just set up.

He then activated the formation.

"Humming..."

The formation emitted a humming sound, and the Spiritual Energy and Elemental Qi in the air were drawn over, starting to flow into the jade at the core of the formation according to its operation.

Everyone stopped their jade carving and stared unblinkingly at the process.

They saw the Spiritual Energy and Elemental Qi turning into fine threads, guided through the eye of an invisible needle controlled by the formation, and then surged into the gaps within the runes carved in that piece of jade!

It didn't take a minute for the Spiritual Energy to fill the entire piece of jade, perfectly activating the Evil-Repelling Spell carved upon it!

Mu Jinyu stepped forward, removed several pieces of jade, halting the small Primordial Gathering Formation, and took out the piece of jade used for the experiment.

He did this because operating the formation would deplete the Spiritual Energy within the jade used for the formation. If he didn't dismantle it, the jade would eventually run out of Spiritual Energy and be completely wasted.

Now that high-quality jade was scarce, it should not be wasted.

Holding the piece of jade, Mu Jinyu felt the changes in it, his eyes revealing a hint of disappointment. He then handed it to Arhat and sighed, "The crux of the matter is just so. Using formations to create magic artifacts is feasible, but the only difficulty is that something is missing, something that prevents the Evil-Repelling Runes from being truly activated!"

Arhat took the piece of jade, looked at it thoughtfully, and then said, "I think I know what's missing."

"What's missing?" Ning Fan took the jade and also noticed that although the Evil-Repelling Spell was filled with Spiritual Energy without a trace lacking, it still wasn't activated.

Arhat replied, "Upright and Magnanimous Energy."

Chapter 550 Guang Buddha Temple!

Mu Jinyu's eyes flickered when he heard Arhat's words; he had roughly guessed what they meant.

And the Arhat continued, "Dragon King, you should consider, among the cultivators in your Dragon King Hall who possess True Qi, there should be quite a number, right? Or perhaps among the people of other organizations, there are Qi Cultivators, but why don't you ask someone else and insist on inviting us over?"

"This is because the three schools of Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism—oh, we should also include Brilliant Divine Authority—their cultivation techniques are unique. They inherently contain upright and magnanimous energy, which is unafraid of being eroded by demons and heresies. However, this is not the case for ordinary cultivators."

"So... Dragon King, you should realize the flaw in your formation, which is that it can only draw upon the pure spiritual energy of nature. If it's used for alchemy and cultivation, that would be extremely beneficial, but for crafting Evil Warding Magical Implements, it's not quite suitable!"

"Therefore, my suggestion is for you, Dragon King, to obtain a sacred treasure from one of the three schools to serve as the core of the formation. In this way, when crafting magic artifacts, it will naturally draw the upright and magnanimous energy of nature, providing true protection and blessing to the Evil Warding Magical Implement!"

"I see..." After hearing Arhat's words, Mu Jinyu immediately showed a look of realization and praised, "That's an eye-opener indeed. Previously, I only pondered how to arrange the formation to activate the Evil-Repelling Runes on the magic artifact with spiritual energy but neglected this most important point."

Speaking of which, Mu Jinyu slightly furrowed her brow and humbly asked, "Then might I inquire, Master, what are the sacred treasures of the three schools that can be used to establish the formation? And where might I go to find them?"

The Arhat said, "Dragon King need not look far and wide. In Capital City's Guang Buddha Temple lies a relic left behind by an Arhat who entered nirvana over three hundred years ago. If it is obtained, it can certainly be used as the core of the formation and will be more than sufficient."

An Arhat of this caliber was a high-ranking monk, a divine realm powerhouse, on par with the likes of Buddha Head Shining with Buddha's Light or Victorious Buddha.

However, more than three hundred years ago, the Buddha's Light Alliance did not exist. Otherwise, with its strength, vying for the position of Buddha Head would have been easy.

Mu Jinyu, upon hearing Arhat's words, was somewhat surprised and quickly said, "Then could Master please contact the masters of Guang Buddha Temple and borrow that relic for our use? Once this darkness and upheaval are over, I will definitely return it intact!"

"This..." Arhat appeared troubled at Mu Jinyu's request.

Mu Jinyu asked, "Does Master have a difficulty?"

Before Arhat could reply, Master Yi beside him started to explain, "Dragon King may not be aware, although 'Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere' is a coalition of monks, nearly all monks and nuns participate, yet this doesn't mean that within Buddha's Light, it's all solidarity..."

"Oh..." Mu Jinyu replied upon hearing Master Yi's explanation, suddenly comprehending.

He realized that 'Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere' was like the previous 'Slaughter Redemption' led by a Buddha Head with monks under his command, while there were still disputes among the major temples underneath, either for profit or for status. In short, they were not united!

"Yes!" Then Arhat continued with a sigh, "The abbot of Guang Buddha Temple, Master Rushi, and the heads of both Dharma Hall and Arhat Hall, Master Ru Nei and Ru Wai, the three of them once contended with Victorious Buddha for the position of Buddha Head. Having narrowly lost, they began to act out within 'Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere,' showing signs of wanting to withdraw from the alliance. Therefore, if I were to make contact, I might ruin the matter..."

Master Yi also sighed, "Yes, it's not suitable for me either. If we want to ask them to lend us the relic, I'm afraid Dragon King you will need to make the trip yourself."

"Is that so..."

Hearing them mention this, Mu Jinyu felt that the monks of Guang Buddha Temple would be difficult to deal with. Approaching them to borrow the relic would most likely result in rejection.

After thinking it over, he asked, "Then if we don't seek this relic, does the Taoist Sect have any other treasures that might serve as the cornerstone?"

Both Arhat and Master Yi naturally were not clear on such matters and turned their gaze to Ning Fan.

Ning Fan shook his head and said, "Although I hold a nominal position in 'Way of Nature,' I've always lived a carefree life. If I hadn't happened to be nearby this time, obliged by duty, I probably wouldn't have come to face this crisis with everyone. Therefore, I am not aware of any treasures within the Taoist Sect."

"There is still another option."

Arhat said, "The sacred treasure of Brilliant Divine Authority, the Spear of Longinus, would also more than suffice to anchor the formation if used as the core."

"Brilliant Divine Authority?"

Upon hearing Arhat's suggestion, Mu Jinyu did not show any ecstasy.

The Dragon King Hall, the Brilliant Divine Authority, and the Fallen Splendor all held some grudges with each other. Although the dark unrest now called for united hatred and concerted action in slaying demons, it was clear they would not willingly lend out the Spear of Longinus to themselves.

Even if they were willing to lend it, they would likely stall, waiting until the Dragon King Hall had suffered more casualties before handing it over while also imposing various demands!

"Forget it, I might as well make a trip to the Guang Buddha Temple myself!"

After weighing the options, Mu Jinyu decided it was better to seek help from the three monks of the Guang Buddha Temple than to borrow treasures from the Brilliant Divine Authority.

"That works too. Let us wish the Dragon King a smooth journey then!"

Arhat, upon hearing Mu Jinyu's decision, wasn't surprised and respectfully placed his palms together before saying.

"Hmm, before I borrow the Buddha Relic, I'll have to trouble the masters to continue crafting protective talismans," Mu Jinyu apologetically said.

"It's no trouble. For the sake of all beings in the world, this bit of hardship is nothing. It's far less than what the warriors who face the chaos of demons and resolve the issue of devils endure," the Arhat replied.

Mu Jinyu nodded without saying anything more and left the room.

After Mu Jinyu had left, the Arhats didn't waste any more time and continued the monotonous process of crafting the magical instruments they had made thousands of times before.

Upon leaving the small building, Mu Jinyu didn't disturb Mu Hongchen who was resting but instead asked Gu Xiyuan and the others to help find the location of the Guang Buddha Temple.

Very soon, Gu Xiyuan sent the exact location of the Guang Buddha Temple to Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu then drove to the Guang Buddha Temple.

Due to the havoc wreaked by the demons, the journey was unusually smooth and unobstructed.

Half an hour later, Mu Jinyu arrived at the foothills of the Guang Buddha Temple.

Ascending the stone steps, Mu Jinyu quickly made his way into the Mahavira Hall.

A few young novice monks, upon learning that the Dragon King from the Dragon King Hall had come to visit, quickly ran to contact Abbot Rushi.

Soon, draped in a kasaya and holding a Zen Staff, Rushi entered the Mahavira Hall, chanted a Buddhist mantra, and said, "Amitabha, I am the Abbot Rushi of Guang Buddha Temple, I greet the Dragon King. May I know the purpose of the Dragon King's visit?"

Mu Jinyu took out a Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument and handed it to Rushi, saying, "Master, please take a look at this magical instrument."

After examining it briefly, Rushi smiled in admiration, "It's indeed a fine magical instrument. But, it only has the power to ward off evil. Does this relate to the reason for the Dragon King's visit?"

Mu Jinyu replied, "Gold can block the corruption of demons, but it's not feasible for people to be fully armored in gold. Therefore, using an evil warding magical implement amplified by gold can ward off the pervasive disaster ..."

He briefly explained the principle and efficacy of the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument to Rushi.

Rushi listened and was full of praise.

Mu Jinyu continued, "But the current difficulty lies in the shortage of people who can make these magical instruments, and the demand for the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments is extremely high. Hence, I've developed a formation that will allow for mass production; I'm just missing one thing."

He paused, then spoke earnestly, "Therefore, I've taken the liberty of coming to your esteemed temple to humbly request that the master lend it to me for use!"

"What thing?" Rushi asked in confusion.

Mu Jinyu answered, "The Arhat Relic."