

King Hall 571

Chapter 571: Jinyu Mantang Finally Meets!

"So, it's you!"

Mu Jinyu looked at the Le Le, exuding a cold, eerie aura, his pupils shrinking slightly as he said, "Then it seems, Li Yaotong must be dead, right? It has been you impersonating him all this time?"

"Yes," Le Le nodded.

Although he knew that Mu Jinyu was stalling for time, he was not at all afraid.

At this point, Mu Jinyu's shariputra was destroyed, Sheng Rulai's life-saving Buddha Beads were clamped on that mass of waste flesh, Reinhardt's Spear of Longinus had penetrated deep into the waste flesh, the Holy Blood on it had been washed clean by impurity, completely reduced to junk—they couldn't pose any threat to him anymore.

Sheng Rulai also knew that Mu Jinyu was delaying, so he frowned slightly and began to silently recite a spell, trying to control the Buddha Beads to return to him.

However, even though his murmured spell and the Spiritual Thought that diffused out clearly touched the Buddha Beads that clung tightly to the demon-possessed rotten corpse, the Spiritual Thought was like a stone sinking into the sea, unable to make the Buddha Beads expand and retract again!

Reinhardt was even more out of options, his only reliance for exorcising demons was the Spear of Longinus, which now could not be retrieved because it had impaled the Agglomerate Demon.

Even if he could take it back, he dared not, for he would have to face being encircled and attacked from both sides!

Mu Jinyu was still dragging out the time, waiting for Sheng Rulai to retrieve the Buddha Beads, not knowing Sheng Rulai's helplessness. He continued to ask, "Was this entire outbreak of dark chaos plotted by you and Li Yaotong? Why would you do such a thing?"

Not just to delay time, Mu Jinyu also truly didn't understand why Le Le, living a good life, became sick of it. Why would he instigate such events, plunging the world into chaos! Making countless innocent people across the world sacrifice!

Le Le laughed and said, "Simple, haven't you realized my purpose from the name 'Paradise Lost'? I indeed grew tired of living and found the human world worthless, so I wanted to destroy it!"

Mu Jinyu listened to Le Le's chuckling response, feeling a chill in his heart, not knowing whether he was joking, unwilling to answer his question, or whether he was truly insane?

"Alright, no need to struggle, I've explained very clearly, so you can go to the Underworld without being confused ghosts, you may be at peace on your way!"

"Swoosh!"

As the words fell, Le Le's brows twitched, revealing a sinister Demon Eye, then the other two eyeballs also instantly turned into eye whites with no pupils...

"Hiss hiss hiss!"

Le Le's clothes burst open, and two Bone Wings sprouted from his back!

His entire form began to undergo a great change, as if the dozen or so demons he controlled were all resurrecting!

Mu Jinyu, Sheng Rulai, and Reinhardt all began to be unsure of what to do.

Mu Jinyu bit down hard, trying to use his Ghost-Faced Demon to contend with Le Le.

However, the sound of eerie laughter and wailing went out but failed to affect Le Le at all.

Then, Mu Jinyu switched to another Faceless Ghost Mask, attempting to suppress Le Le. Although, considering the number of demons Le Le controlled, even if he could suppress him, it probably wouldn't be for long.

But if successful, it should allow them to escape from here, go back to make arrangements, on how to kill this guy!

However...

Mu Jinyu switched to the Faceless Ghost Mask form, and it still failed to suppress Le Le's actions.

"How many demons has he actually controlled?"

Mu Jinyu was shocked in his heart, finding it unbelievable.

This Faceless Ghost Mask he was using was of a very high level and could even ignore the quantity and grade of demons to suppress the opponent, just like just now, the Agglomerate Great Demon of more than fifty demons, wasn't it also unable to move for five seconds under his ghost mask?

Could it be that the number of demons controlled by this guy exceeded a hundred?

"I told you, it's useless, give up the struggle!"

Le Le spoke again, but this time his voice had become very strange, as if a hundred people were talking at once!

The overlapping voices almost made it impossible to discern what he was saying.

"Run!"

Mu Jinyu sensed that Le Le's condition was becoming more and more bizarre, so he made a split decision to shout to Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt, then prepared to scatter and flee with them!

However...

As soon as Mu Jinyu entertained the thought of escaping, he realized his legs wouldn't obey him at all, as if they had been amputated!

The same was true for Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt; they couldn't move at all.

All of them could feel an extremely terrifying pressure bearing down on their shoulders, making it impossible for them to so much as move a finger!

"Pfft!"

Just then.

A shadow rapidly spread their way, and everything it touched along the way—buildings, living creatures—aged and decayed as though experiencing a century passing by in an instant, before finally collapsing into oblivion!

"What is this?!"

Just as Le Le was about to take action, he saw this scene and all three of his pupils simultaneously contracted. Without hesitation, he gave up on attacking Mu Jinyu and the others, turning around to flee the place!

However...

It was too late!

The spreading shadow, seeing Le Le's attempt to escape, initially at a distance from him, suddenly shot out eight thin black lines, like an octopus striking its prey, covering a hundred meters in a breath and pinning Le Le to the spot as he tried to flee.

Le Le was impaled on the spot by the shadow, struggling ceaselessly, releasing the terrifying demon power of over a hundred demons within him, trying to break free from his restraints and regain his freedom.

But the difference in strength was too clear.

It was like an ant desperately struggling in a human's grip, at best only managing to bite the person without causing any pain or discomfort, while the person could crush it at any moment!

Therefore, at a speed visible to the naked eye.

Le Le aged rapidly, his originally collagen-filled face became loose, covered with wrinkles and age spots, followed by death spots; in no time at all, his pupils dilated, his breathing grew faint.

Another second passed, and Le Le completely expired, then turned into a pile of dry bones, with flesh long decayed beyond recognition.

And strangely, the bones he left behind were black!

They were still moving, trying to break free from the shadow's hold!

At the same time, Le Le's three eyeballs fell out, bouncing like rubber balls, and countless organs, just like his eyeballs, tried to escape!

This was because after Le Le's death, the demons that he had previously suppressed began to resurrect!

"Eh?"

Xiang Mantang's voice suddenly rang out.

At the same time, the shadow that had been slowly creeping behind surged forward, enveloping all the fragmented demons that were remnants of Le Le.

Three seconds later.

As the shadow receded like the tide, heading toward two people coming from the distant horizon, there were no longer any demons left on the spot, not even the very bizarre black skeleton.

"Ah Xiang!"

It was then that Mu Jinyu finally came to his senses, seeing Xiang Mantang walking hand in hand with Jian Ruyan, he couldn't help but call out in delight.

Chapter 572: Stripping Gui Lian!

"Junior Brother."

Though Xiang Mantang had already learned from Jian Ruyan that Mu Jinyu had awoken, the sight of him lively and bouncing about still filled her with an irrepressible joy.

Had it not been for her current odd condition, she might have rushed over to embrace him in her excitement.

"Ah-Xiang, you are... all right now?"

Mu Jinyu suddenly thought of the strange shadows Xiang Mantang had just used, which were exactly the scenes from the video Jian Ruyan had shown him, where darkness had eroded an entire village.

But at that time, it had clearly been out of control, and it was about to spread globally; now it seemed that Xiang Mantang had completely mastered it.

"Yes, for now, I am all right,"

Xiang Mantang said with a light laugh, not wishing to discuss her condition further.

Then, she walked to the school gate with Jian Ruyan at a leisurely pace.

"Dragon Master."

Jian Ruyan nodded slightly to Mu Jinyu, greeting him with a smile that, possibly due to the recent reunion with Xiang Mantang, lacked her usual cold pride.

She seemed more like the girl next door, brimming with youthful cheer.

Mu Jinyu felt a myriad of emotions upon seeing this and greeted her with a smile as well.

"Amitabha, thank you Practitioner Xiang for your timely rescue,"

At this moment, Sheng Rulai also came to his senses, pressed his hands together, and thanked Xiang Mantang.

Although grateful, Sheng Rulai, too, remembered the fearsome power Xiang Mantang had just used, which had devastated everything at the site of the incident, so he felt somewhat wary of her.

Reinhardt felt the same and was quite unhappy with Xiang Mantang, the primary culprit.

However, given that circumstances were beyond his control for now, his displeasure had to remain unspoken; otherwise, if he dared to accuse Xiang Mantang outright, he wouldn't fare well if things turned hostile.

Xiang Mantang nodded to them tepidly and, as she approached, noticed Mu Jinyu's condition and couldn't help but frown slightly with a soft "hmm?"

"Junior Brother, what's this...?"

She had detected something off about Mu Jinyu's face, which seemed similar to some of the demon-controlling wrongdoers they had come across, wreaking havoc wherever they went.

Xiang Mantang did not understand why Mu Jinyu would end up like this.

But she wouldn't let him continue in this state.

Without another word, Xiang Mantang's expression darkened as she uttered a soft command. The shadow behind her carefully extended its arms, stretching out swiftly toward Mu Jinyu's face.

Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt, startled by Xiang Mantang's sudden action, feared she might be compromised like Le Le had been and were about to confront her when they realized her target didn't include them but was solely aimed at Mu Jinyu.

Their movements hesitated, unsure what to do.

In that brief moment of hesitation, Xiang Mantang, controlling the ghostly shadow, had already reached close to Mu Jinyu with her dark shadowy arms.

Although Mu Jinyu reacted, knowing Xiang Mantang meant him no harm and curious about what she intended, he didn't dodge.

Thus, the shadow arms controlled by Xiang Mantang gently touched Mu Jinyu's facial skin.

"Ah!!"

The Shadow Ghost Hand touched his face, and Mu Jinyu immediately felt a burning sting on his face, as well as those two ghostly apparitions, which had calmed down, beginning to squirm restlessly, eager to awaken. Mu Jinyu couldn't help but cry out.

But he still restrained himself and did not flee, continuing to stand his ground, enduring the pain that felt like being flayed.

"Hmph, still trying to resist!"

Xiang Mantang noticed that the two Ghost-Faced Demons on Mu Jinyu's face, sensing his intentions, were frantically trying to burrow into Mu Jinyu's face, rushing into his body. He couldn't help but sneer.

The Shadow Ghost Hand then increased its strength, seeping into Mu Jinyu's face, and, in one fell swoop, grabbed hold of the two ghost faces and violently tore them off!

"Chila!"

With a light tearing sound, Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt watched in horror as the two ghostly faces were ripped from Mu Jinyu's face by the Shadow Ghost Hand, controlled by Xiang Mantang.

One appeared to smile but didn't, its mouth corners twisted into a chilling cold smile, while its eyes were stained with tear marks, as if it were crying.

The other was a Faceless Ghost Mask, with no features visible at all.

"Chila!"

With another sound like tearing cloth, the two frantically struggling ghost faces were violently ripped off Mu Jinyu's face by Xiang Mantang.

As they were pulled off, one could see they were smeared with sticky blood, writhing as if alive...

But unfortunately, as the Ghost-Faced Demons got torn away, Xiang Mantang's movements were no longer gentle; the Shadow Ghost Hand roughly crushed them, making them vanish into nothingness.

"Hiss, it hurts so much!"

Mu Jinyu raised his hands to his cheeks, feeling a scorching pain on his face, as if it had indeed been violently stripped away by Xiang Mantang.

"It's okay, elder brother. Fortunately, you didn't merge with those ghostly things for too long. If it had been delayed any longer, I might not have been able to separate them from you. And if we tried to force them apart, I'm afraid your face might have been peeled away as well," Xiang Mantang consoled Mu Jinyu.

"Also, elder brother, don't try to master such ghostly things again. If I had a choice, I would rather not have these ghosts following me!"

As Xiang Mantang spoke, the Ghost shadow behind him, after dealing with the ghost faces, withdrew its Ghost hand and took the same pose as Xiang Mantang, as if it truly were his shadow.

But its previous actions clearly informed everyone that this Ghost shadow was tremendously problematic.

"I know these aren't good things, but I had no choice at the time. And if it weren't for these ghost faces, I probably would have died several times over these past few days," Mu Jinyu said with a wry smile.

At that moment, he felt the pain on his face lessening, so he let go of his face, only to see bloodstains on his hands.

It seemed the Ghost Faces's forcible removal by Xiang Mantang had caused significant damage to him.

Thinking this, Mu Jinyu circulated his True Yuan and cast Clear Water Art, conjuring a sphere of water out of thin air. He splashed it over his face, washing away the bloodstains.

After cleaning his face, he asked Xiang Mantang, "I'm not disfigured, am I?"

"No," Xiang Mantang and Jian Ruyan both shook their heads.

"Whew..." Mu Jinyu relaxed a bit.

Xiang Mantang said, "Don't worry, elder brother. I know you care about your appearance, so I was more careful. But the cost of that was making you experience excruciating pain just now."

Xiang Mantang's skills were impressive; the Shadow Ghost Hand only contacted the ghost faces and did not infiltrate further into Mu Jinyu's face. Otherwise, his face would have been corroded away as well.

Chapter 573: The Black Skeleton!

"So it is, I thought you were deliberately seeking revenge on me,"

Mu Jinyu gritted his teeth and grimaced as he recalled the agonizing pain that had made life unbearable just moments before, upon hearing Xiang Mantang's explanation.

As he spoke, a thought occurred to him, and he hurriedly asked, "By the way, this ghost face of mine, and those demons that emerged after Le Le's death just now, where did they all go? Did you completely destroy them?"

Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt, who had been silently observing until now, also perked up at the mention of this, equally concerned about the answer to this question.

If these demons could be totally dealt with by Xiang Mantang, then they wouldn't have to keep imprisoning them in the golden container and later search the world for a fold in space to banish them into.

Xiang Mantang shook his head; "It's not that simple. I'm not capable of destroying these ghostly things for the time being. However, this ghost shadow of mine is quite special as it inherently possesses a layer of Ghost Domain. These spirits are trapped inside it for now, unable to escape."

Upon hearing Xiang Mantang's explanation,

Mu Jinyu and the others also came to a realization.

They remembered the video they had watched.

The ghost shadow that appeared behind Xiang Mantang at that time was probably the first demon to show up, but as it went out of control and erased a small village and a town, countless other demons also ran out.

Like those associated with dire calamities, the Tide of Chaos, and other such demons.

At the time, they thought these demons had escaped because the Minor World imprisoning them was opened by Xiang Mantang, but now it seemed they had actually escaped from the ghost realm within the ghost shadow.

"So these demons, as long as they are captured into your Ghost Domain, they won't get out again? Or is there a limit, like there's a maximum number of demons that can be imprisoned at once, and then no more will fit?"

Reinhardt couldn't help but ask.

Xiang Mantang glanced at him and shook his head, "I don't know, but for now, I haven't felt any pressure."

As he said this, he noticed the Agglomerate Demon, which was pinned by the Spear of Longinus and unable to move, behind them, and frowned, "There's still such a thing here?"

Xiang Mantang suddenly understood what Mu Jinyu had meant earlier; without that ghost face, he probably would have died at the hands of the demons long ago.

On his journey back from overseas, he had witnessed many scenes of demons causing chaos, and he knew how helpless ordinary people were against these demons.

In contrast, the Demon Whisperers who had accidentally merged with the demons and become half-human, half-ghost possessed some resistance to the demons.

Although Mu Jinyu and the others were all strong beings from the God Realm, they felt equally powerless against the demons because the demons could not be killed!

Perhaps by cultivating to an even higher realm, one could kill the demons, but at least with their current God Realm cultivation, they were temporarily unable to do so!

Afterward, Xiang Mantang turned to glance at the ghost shadow behind him, thinking that the risks and dangers of controlling demons were too great, and there was no need to expose so many people to risks in a desperate struggle!

Since he had already fallen to this state, and temporarily controlled the ghost shadow, and since this calamity was originally unleashed by him, created by his own hands, then it was only right for him to resolve this issue.

There was no need to involve those innocent victims anymore.

With his mind made up, the ghost shadow behind Xiang Mantang stirred slightly, extending and stretching out once more, and then enveloped the Agglomerate Demon lying near the school gate.

Soon, this Agglomerate Demon, which comprised the Knocking Ghost, the Nursery Rhyme Witch, the Chef Ghost, and other extremely terrifying demons, began to dissolve on the spot, visibly to the naked eye.

If it weren't for Xiang Mantang's recent clarification that he could only imprison these demons within the Ghost Domain that accompanied the ghost shadow, Sheng Rulai and the others would have probably thought that these demons were truly being completely dealt with.

As the Agglomerate Demon, comprising around fifty demons, was being imprisoned, Mu Jinyu and the others clearly sensed that the thick ghost mist, which had been shrouding the school and obstructing their divine sense, was gradually dissipating with the fog!

In the sky above, the thick layer of pitch-black fog that had once hung heavy seemed now to have dissipated considerably. The oppressive feeling of dark clouds bearing down on the city, threatening to crush it, was gone, replaced by a sense that daylight was about to return.

Mu Jinyu and Sheng Rulai felt a sudden surge of excitement and immediately spread their divine sense to scan the inside of the school, eager to find out which of their companions who had entered were still alive.

Unfortunately, despite several searches, they couldn't find a single soul within the school.

It seemed that Lucifer, Ren Xiaoyao, Wu Shisan, Wang Hu, and the others who had come on this mission... had most likely... all perished!

A wave of distress washed over Mu Jinyu.

The once-mighty Dragon King Hall, besides the Dragon King, the Hall Master, once had seven Great Hall Masters. Now, of these seven Great Hall Masters, only Xiang Mantang and Jian Ruyan remained.

Wang Hu, the once promising rising star, had also sacrificed his life here.

The organizations such as Way of Nature and Fallen Splendor had similarly suffered greatly, with the leaders of their organizations falling as victims.

As for Paradise Lost, Omniscient, and Withered Tree Quest for Spring, there was no need to mention their fates!

In short, during this event, aside from the Heavenly Palace, which had always remained out of sight, each of the top ten organizations suffered heavy losses!

Xiang Mantang also used his divine sense to scan the inside of the school. Finding no one there, and judging by the expressions of Mu Jinyu and the others, he guessed that there must have been many people who entered together, but in the end, they probably all died inside.

"Sigh..."

Xiang Mantang let out a light sigh and said, "Well, now that everyone is safe and the schemer has also died, I won't stay any longer. I will continue chasing and capturing the demons causing chaos across the world!"

With that, Xiang Mantang prepared to leave Capital City.

He had come all the way from overseas, for the sole purpose of checking on Mu Jinyu and the situation in Capital City.

Now that the fifty or so demons within the school grounds had been dealt with, Capital City and its surrounding areas were essentially free of demons. He could leave with peace of mind and continue chasing demons around the world, restoring peace and order.

"Hmm?"

Xiang Mantang was about to leave when he suddenly sensed something amiss.

With a sudden wave of his hand, the ghost shadow behind him mimicked his action.

Then, a pitch-black skeleton was flung out by the ghost shadow.

Different from before when the skeleton had been placed into custody by Xiang Mantang, having not a single shred of flesh on it, it was now covered in thin strands of blood that were still slightly writhing.

"What's the matter? Is there a problem with this skeleton demon?"

Mu Jinyu, seeing Xiang Mantang suddenly halt his departure and throw out a black skeleton, recognized it as one of those that had remained after Le Le's death and asked.

Xiang Mantang stared at the dark skeleton and scoffed, "This wretched thing is quite cunning, actually hiding within my Ghost Domain, planning to strip other demons of their flesh to rebuild its body. If I hadn't noticed something was off, it might have really caused some trouble in the end!"

After speaking, he turned to Mu Jinyu and said, "Brother, call for a golden coffin to be brought here so we can separate and suppress it."

"No need to call for anyone." Mu Jinyu looked over at the nearby truck and said, "When I came over, I was prepared with several golden coffins. I assumed that if we found demons inside the school, we could immediately come out and get a golden coffin to suppress them. But we were blocked inside and couldn't come out. Now, they can finally be put to use."

Saying so, he ran over, opened the truck's cargo compartment, and dragged down a golden coffin.

The black skeleton, struggling on the ground, noticed Mu Jinyu bringing over the golden coffin and seemed to realize that something was wrong. It tried to stand and flee, but the ghost shadow pressed it down, and eventually, Xiang Mantang threw it into the golden coffin, thoroughly sealing it inside!

Chapter 574:

"Clang!"

After sealing the Golden Coffin, Xiang Mantang instructed, "Brother, be careful with this thing. Don't let it escape. Once I've captured all the demons scattered outside, I'll take it back to where it belongs."

"Okay." Mu Jinyu nodded, then seemed to recall something and added, "By the way, there are two more demons in Dragon King Hall. Do you want to take them away now?"

The two demons Mu Jinyu referred to were naturally the Long-Tongued Demon and the Giant-Mouthed Demon that he had acquired at Guang Buddha Temple.

Originally, he had planned to implement the City God Plan, providing these demons to the internal members of Dragon King Hall who wished to become Demon Whisperers as a priority.

But the so-called City God Plan, guarding one city each, had virtually come to an end with the return of Xiang Mantang!

It was meaningless now.

The demon Xiang Mantang commanded was a Seventh-level demon capable of sweeping away everything in its path, so there was absolutely no need for people to make such sacrifices anymore.

Things often turn out this way, plans cannot keep up with changes.

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Xiang Mantang had originally thought that the two demons must have been suppressed by Gold and wasn't in a hurry to take them to the Ghost Domain.

But thinking of that Skeleton Demon, he realized that if it were placed with other demons, even with Gold to suppress them, there was no guarantee there wouldn't be problems!

"Alright, let's head back to Dragon King Hall first."

Xiang Mantang made his decision.

Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt, after their Agglomerate Demon was taken into the Ghost Domain by Xiang Mantang, retrieved their Magical Buddhist Beads Instrument and the Holy Artifact, the Spear of Longinus.

Seeing their decision, Sheng Rulai also took leave by saying:

"Amitabha, then we shall take our leave first!"

Reinhardt nodded to everyone, holding the Spear of Longinus that had lost its divinity, and left with a frown.

Watching the two of them leave, Mu Jinyu called for Xiang Mantang to get in the car and drove towards the headquarters of Dragon King Hall.

As he drove, he asked Xiang Mantang about his experiences during this period.

Especially why this dark turmoil had been stirred up.

As Sheng Rulai and the others were present just now, some things were not suitable to be asked, but now that it was just their own people, there was nothing that couldn't be asked.

Xiang Mantang frowned and replied that he had been guided by an Omniscient person to seek the Garden of Eden. After searching for several days without success, and in a rush, he was led by the people of Paradise Lost along the River of the Lost to a strange world.

Fallen Angels, the shadowy demons under the Bone Tree, and the method of saving people taught to him by the demons, as well as a dictated family letter...

Upon leaving that world, his memory was somewhat fuzzy; fearing he would forget later, he wrote it down, but unintentionally, it turned into signing a contract, ultimately releasing the Ghostly Demon which nearly destroyed the world!

"So, this affair was indeed caused by the Omniscient and the people of Paradise Lost!"

Mu Jinyu said, suppressing his anger, "They really do deserve death, for the sake of their own calculations, they would even sacrifice the people of the entire world!"

"Yes, let's not settle accounts with these two organizations for now. After I've taken care of all the scattered demons, I will settle this with them properly!"

Xiang Mantang sat in the back seat, a trace of cold light flitting across his eyes as he spoke softly.

Mu Jinyu nodded slightly, then curiously asked, "Hey, Ah-Xiang, how did you manage to suppress the Ghostly Demon behind you?"

He found this a bit strange. Judging by the destructive power of the Ghostly Demon, it was obviously far beyond the so-called God Realm boundary. The force of such devastating erosion really seemed devilish and godlike, and it shouldn't have been something Xiang Mantang could control and master.

"This... I'm not very clear about it..."

Xiang Mantang frowned and shook his head, "It might be the so-called 'Bloodline Power'?"

"Brother, take a look."

As he spoke, Xiang Mantang made the Cursed Vermilion Phoenix Mark that he had kept hidden appear again.

Mu Jinyu then saw a speck of red light first light up on Xiang Mantang's forehead, followed by countless fine lines spreading across his entire body, eventually intertwining into the pattern of a Vermilion Phoenix.

"The Bloodline Power activated by the Blood Phoenix Slaughter Art?"

Seeing Xiang Mantang like this, Mu Jinyu immediately recalled that every time Xiang Mantang used the "Blood Phoenix Slaughter Art," such a curse mark would appear, only it hadn't been as terrifying or dense as it was now.

And when it was used, it would also bring a rush of killing intent to his brain, making him fall into a berserk state, his emotions very unstable.

But at this moment, after Xiang Mantang manifested these Cursed Vermilion Phoenix Marks, his eyes were much brighter, yet he remained calm and did not have the mad intent to destroy everything in his sight.

"Have you... gained control over this Bloodline Power?"

Mu Jinyu asked excitedly.

He still remembered the master once saying that Xiang Mantang's Phoenix Clan bloodline was not very pure, which caused his consciousness to be disturbed when he activated the Bloodline Power with the "Blood Phoenix Slaughter Art"!

And if Xiang Mantang could thoroughly refine the essence of the Phoenix Clan Bloodline and gain control over it, his achievements would be no less than those of Mu Jinyu himself.

Unexpectedly, Xiang Mantang had actually succeeded.

"Ah-Xiang, how did you manage to do this?" Mu Jinyu asked, "Is it because of the ghost shadow?"

Xiang Mantang replied, "There's a high possibility. Take a look at Ah-Xiu."

With that, Xiang Mantang turned his head and gestured to Jian Ruyan, who then also cast her secret technique. On her forehead, too, the pattern of an Ice Phoenix took shape.

Xiang Mantang explained, "Originally when Ah-Xiu used her secret technique to activate her Ice Phoenix Bloodline, it wasn't stable or long-lasting, lasting only thirty seconds, at most a minute. But now, staying by my side and jointly suppressing the ghost shadow, her Bloodline Power seems much purer, and she can maintain this state for three minutes now."

"Is it really that miraculous?"

Upon hearing Xiang Mantang's words, Mu Jinyu's eyes lit up, thinking that he too had once controlled a Ghost-Faced Demon, and perhaps he could also activate his own Dragon Clan Bloodline.

The master had said that his bloodline was thin, and it was destined to be difficult to activate, but since Xiang Mantang was able to refine the impurities of his not so pure bloodline into purity under the

erosion of the demon, he didn't expect the Bloodline Power to become concentrated, he just wished for it to be activated.

Therefore, Mu Jinyu stopped the vehicle by the roadside and tried to cast the "True Dragon Art."

The original "True Dragon Art" secret technique was somewhat of a chicken rib in Mu Jinyu's hands, hardly useful, and could only manage to move some Azure Dragon Blood when Xiang Mantang was on the verge of losing control, to calm him down.

But now, if he still could not activate the bloodline, and with Xiang Mantang no longer losing control, the "True Dragon Art" would become even more of a chicken rib.

"Ha..."

As Mu Jinyu began to cast the "True Dragon Art," he let out a soft shout, and a point of clear light suddenly lit up on his forehead, then extended outwards, weaving into the shape of a dragon.

"Eh, Eh, Eh..."

Seeing the Dragon Pattern emerging from Mu Jinyu's forehead, Xiang Mantang also lost a bit of his composure, exclaiming, "Brother, you can now activate the Bloodline Power too!"

Chapter 575: Act Separately!

Mu Jinyu also saw the faint dragon pattern that appeared on his forehead through the rear-view mirror, and his eyes immediately lit up with surprise and delight.

"Hahaha, I can finally activate my Bloodline Power as well."

Mu Jinyu felt very happy, feeling that only now he could truly be considered a real Dragon King.

But after his laughter, Mu Jinyu slightly furrowed his eyebrows and muttered, "But what use is this Bloodline Power of mine?"

Mu Jinyu didn't feel a significant increase in his strength, unlike Xiang Mantang, who activated the Vermilion Phoenix Bloodline and nearly doubled her strength.

Or like Jian Ruyan's Ice Phoenix Bloodline, which allowed her to manipulate the Ice Element once activated.

He felt that after activating the Azure Dragon Bloodline, nothing much seemed to change, except that his body felt much more comfortable.

The lingering internal injuries left by the Ghost-Faced Demon seemed to have healed and disappeared.

Xiang Mantang stared at the dragon pattern on Mu Jinyu's forehead and pondered for a moment before saying, "The Eastern Green Dragon of Wood represents vitality. Brother Mu, you can try to see if your strength hasn't changed, but perhaps your True Yuan has."

"Alright." Mu Jinyu, upon hearing Xiang Mantang's suggestion, had a moment of realization.

After that, he scratched a small wound on the pad of his finger with his fingernail and then proceeded to channel his True Yuan into it.

Instantly, the wound on Mu Jinyu's hand healed as if he had applied the best external medicine, leaving not even a scar.

Seeing this, Xiang Mantang nodded with understanding and said, "Indeed, Wood Spirit Qi contains the most Life Force and is most suitable for healing wounds."

Mu Jinyu sighed and said, "Well, it's already enough that my talent is suited for medicine, and now even my Bloodline Power is like this. It seems fighting and killing really aren't for me."

With that, Mu Jinyu stopped displaying the 'True Dragon Art,' and the dragon pattern on his forehead faded away, then he started the car and continued driving towards the Dragon King Hall headquarters.

Xiang Mantang sat in the back and, hearing Mu Jinyu's words, couldn't help but laugh and say, "What's so good about fighting and killing? When you have time, why not go see more school beauties?"

Mu Jinyu glanced at the dim streets outside, empty of people, and said helplessly, "Where are there any school beauties to see now? They've all become a joke."

Xiang Mantang's expression turned serious, and he spoke with a hint of apologetic fatigue, "Once I've imprisoned all the scattered Demons, this turmoil should end soon."

Mu Jinyu replied, "Actually, regarding the little demons, having seen your performance just now, I have no doubt that none of those Demons can escape your sniping, but the Perilous Disaster and the Tide of Chaos, these two Demons seem to be formless, invisible, and their speed in fleeing is top-notch. Do you have a way to deal with them?"

Xiang Mantang pondered uncertainly, "I don't know either, I haven't encountered these two Demons yet, and I don't know if the ghost shadow behind me can catch them. It should be possible, right? After all, they were originally from its Ghost Domain."

Mu Jinyu also sighed and said, "If they can't be captured smoothly, even if those little ghosts are captured, with the Perilous Disaster around, it would be hard to stabilize the world."

Xiang Mantang said, "If it really can't be done, then when the time comes, we'll have to seek out the people from Omniscient and Paradise Lost to see if they know any solutions."

"Mhm." Mu Jinyu nodded in agreement, "They should have a method, I still believe that the Garden Owner of Paradise Lost does not truly wish to destroy the world, but rather seems to want to take this opportunity to eliminate the other organizations that inhibit his growth. In the end, he will definitely imprison those troubling Demons back again..."

Xiang Mantang also felt that Mu Jinyu's speculation was probably correct and said, "Let's do that, then. In the meantime, I'll go capture the scattered Demons roaming outside while you, Brother Mu, along with Sheng Rulai and the others, seek out the bases of Omniscient and Paradise Lost. By the time you figure out how to capture the Perilous Disaster, I should have those little ghosts captured too."

"Okay." Mu Jinyu nodded.

Feeling satisfied with the division of labor.

Soon, the car returned to the Dragon King Hall headquarters.

Mu Jinyu parked the car haphazardly outside and led Xiang Mantang and Jian Ruyan towards the underground storage room.

With Mu Jinyu leading the way, the modified tunnel was naturally smooth and unobstructed.

It was a sight that gave Xiang Mantang a great sense of satisfaction.

Mu Jinyu was clearly aware of the significance of the demon issue, which is why he set up so many checkpoints outside the passageway to the storage room where the demons were imprisoned.

Those with ulterior motives, even if they wanted to cause destruction, would find it hard to prevail!

And from the recent questioning, Xiang Mantang also knew that this was all Mu Jinyu's own idea; he had taken several measures against the demons, which made him feel that Mu Jinyu had really grown up a lot.

Finally, they arrived at the entrance to the storage room. Mu Jinyu once again used facial recognition to open the door, went in, and dragged out two huge Golden Coffins.

With gentle hands, he opened them, revealing inside the coffins a deep abyssal maw and a fresh red tongue over a meter long.

With the opening of the Golden Coffins, the tongue was still slightly curling, dripping with clear, thick saliva.

Jian Ruyan frowned at the sight, feeling utterly disgusted.

"It's these two," Mu Jinyu said, placing the coffin lid aside and speaking to Xiang Mantang.

"Hmm."

Xiang Mantang casually responded, and behind him, a black domain spread from the ghost shadows, surging toward the two demons and instantly engulfing them into the ghost domain he possessed.

After all, the level of these two demons was quite low. They were far from matching the Knocking Ghosts, Nursery Rhyme Witches, and those Rank Four Demons; facing Xiang Mantang's ghost domain, they had no power to fight back, let alone these two.

Watching the two demons being taken by Xiang Mantang, Mu Jinyu put the Golden Coffin that held the mysterious demon with a black skeleton back into the storage room.

After placing it properly and confirming that there were no problems, Mu Jinyu walked out of the storage room and closed the door.

"Alright, this most bizarre demon will be imprisoned here for now. After you've cleared out the other demons in the outside world, we'll see how to deal with it," Mu Jinyu said, dusting off his hands to Xiang Mantang.

"Alright, then Ah-Xiu and I will take our leave now,"

Xiang Mantang, holding Jian Ruyan's hand, said to Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu said, "Eh, aren't you going to meet my mom and the others? They're quite worried about you too."

Upon hearing this, Xiang Mantang thought that since he had come back anyway, it would indeed be inappropriate not to see the Lower Godmother, and it wouldn't waste much time, so he nodded in agreement.

Seeing Xiang Mantang agree, Mu Jinyu took him and his sister to find Su Zijin and the others.

Su Zijin and Gu Xiyan, upon seeing Xiang Mantang returning safely, also felt relieved and began to express their sentiments.

After speaking a few words with everyone, and seeing Su Zijin about to cook for him, Xiang Mantang quickly shook his head and said, "Lower Godmother, don't bother, Ah-Xiu and I are leaving right now."

"Ah? So soon?" Su Zijin was slightly stunned, then realized the urgency.

Indeed, there were still many demons roaming outside, and with each passing minute, likely many people were dying.

The longer Xiang Mantang delayed, the more people would die.

So, Su Zijin did not insist on having Xiang Mantang and Jian Ruyan stay for a meal but urged them to be careful.

"Hmm, Lower Godmother, sister-in-law, take good care of yourselves. Ah-Xiu and I will take our leave now,"

After speaking, Xiang Mantang left the Dragon King Hall, taking Jian Ruyan with him to continue clearing out the demons wreaking havoc outside.

Meanwhile, Mu Jinyu did not idle either; he discussed with Mu Hongchen how to find ancient records detailing methods to subdue the disaster.

He also tasked Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt to help search for the whereabouts of the Omniscient and Paradise Lost base!

Chapter 576:

Tathagata and Reinhardt also hoped the dark chaos would end soon, and naturally agreed to Mu Jinyu's request.

Five days later, they had still not found a way to resolve the disaster and the Tide of Chaos.

However, good news continued to arrive in the Capital City every day.

Xiang Mantang, along with Jian Ruyan, suppressed the Ghostly Demon, traveling across the Huaxia Region. It took almost five days, but they finally managed to imprison more than a hundred demons scattered throughout the region.

And as he used the power of the Ghost Shadow, his techniques became more skilled, allowing him to directly strip away the Demon Power from those who had been eroded by the disaster and were at risk of demonization, thus rescuing them.

Another piece of good news

was that the Ghost Shadow, being the source of the ghosts, seemed to instill fear in both the disaster and the Tide of Chaos. After Xiang Mantang roamed the Huaxia Region, there were no more incidents of sudden demonizations.

The entire Huaxia Region seemed to have finally become safe.

Xiang Mantang then left Huaxia and went to other countries to continue capturing demons worldwide.

And on this day,

Mu Jinyu saw off Arhat, Ruyi, Ning Fan, and other masters from Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and the Way of Nature. Finally, the pressure in his heart eased.

With the Huaxia Region stabilized, there was no longer a threat of disasters intruding and afflicting people, and the plan to mass-produce protective talismans to safeguard the public no longer needed to continue given the changed situation.

Mu Jinyu felt truly relieved. His original plan to gather local Demon Whisperers to act as City Gods, safeguarding the safety of a city's residents and no longer needing to spend vast amounts of Gold and Jade Materials to produce Magic Artifacts, was also shelved as everything gradually improved.

This sudden and unexpected change in plans was something Mu Jinyu hoped would happen more often.

It would be best if all these demons vanished from the human world and returned to the hell they belonged to.

"Dinglingling!"

Mu Jinyu was about to return to the office when his cellphone rang.

He took out his phone and saw the caller ID: "Tathagata."

Indeed, even the Head of Ten Thousand Buddhas doesn't possess the divine skill to communicate over thousands of miles and needs to make a phone call.

Mu Jinyu found it odd to communicate with Tathagata through a phone call at first, but after getting used to this quirky scenario, it wasn't a big deal anymore.

Upon answering the call, Tathagata's voice came through, clear and unruffled, "Dragon King, good news. I have finally succeeded in the mission and found the base of Paradise Lost."

"Oh, is that so?" Mu Jinyu's eyes lit up upon hearing the news he had been waiting for for days. He quickly asked, "Where is it?"

Tathagata replied, "In Dongying, at Zuoxu Shrine."

"The specific location, brother." Mu Jinyu couldn't help but speak flatly.

Tathagata then gave Mu Jinyu a detailed location of Zuoxu Shrine.

"Alright, I've got it. I'm setting off now," Mu Jinyu said.

After finishing the conversation, and since Tathagata had no other updates, he exchanged a few more words and then hung up.

He then went back to the office and said to Su Zijin and the others, "Mom, Xiyan, we've found the base of Paradise Lost. I need to go there with Buddha Head and the others to check it out."

In the office, Su Zijin and Gu Xiyan, hearing Mu Jinyu's words, all looked up at him with a hint of worry in their eyes, but they didn't dissuade him, merely cautioning, "Hmm, be careful on the road."

"Hmm, I'm leaving now. Once this dark chaos is over, I'll spend more time with you all."

Having said that, Mu Jinyu left.

Gu Xiyan and Mei Yinxue's faces turned slightly red as they thought of Mu Jinyu's promise when he had gone to rescue Xiang Mantang in Kunlun Mountain, to return and marry them.

With the end of this dark turmoil in sight and everything needing to be rebuilt, they also felt very tired and didn't want to run around as they had before.

They just wanted to settle down and stay close to Mu Jinyu.

Even Gu Xiyan, who had previously been somewhat proud and coy, now felt that there was nothing wrong with the three women marrying Mu Jinyu together.

Even if it meant including Lin Qiaoxia and Yu Linglong, who had some minor flirtations with Mu Jinyu, she didn't mind too much anymore.

During this period, the three women had helped each other and their relationship had progressed quickly, resolving any grievances with Mei Yinxue and becoming truly like sisters.

"I hope there won't be any more twists this time,"

Gu Xiyan and the others silently said in their hearts.

...

Mu Jinyu was unaware of Gu Xiyan and the others' thoughts.

Due to his busyness during this period, he had actually forgotten the idea of marrying them and hadn't had the time to think about it.

Moreover, with the dark turmoil still unresolved, particularly the two most troublesome aspects, the Imminent Disaster and the Tide of Chaos, he was hardly in the mood for romantic considerations.

It would only be after the dark turmoil ended, with Su Zijin's urging and reminders, that he would remember such matters.

At that time, he would certainly, without a second word, give Gu Xiyan and the other devoted women a status.

Having no airplane to travel with, Mu Jinyu flew through the sky directly to Dongying!

It took him two to three hours.

Mu Jinyu finally arrived at the gate of Zuoxu Shrine as described by Sheng Rulai.

Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt were already standing at the gate, just waiting for him.

"Sorry for being late,"

Mu Jinyu, seeing Sheng Rulai and the others waiting for him, apologized.

"No problem, Dragon King. You came quickly and just at the right time,"

Sheng Rulai said with a very polite smile, his hands pressed together in greeting.

Reinhardt also nodded slightly, showing no signs of impatience.

After all, he was still dealing with numerous demons rampaging through the countries of Europe, waiting for Xiang Mantang's intervention to incarcerate them.

"How are things? Have you checked inside yet?"

Mu Jinyu did not waste words and asked directly.

While speaking, he glanced at some people lying unconscious on the ground and asked, "Have you managed to pry anything out of these people?"

Sheng Rulai said, "They know very little. They're not sure why Le Le can control so many demons, but we did find out from them how Le Le located these demons."

He then raised a black candle in his hand, which appeared to have been used many times; wax had overflowed on its surface and solidified again, making it resemble a dead person's finger with its dark color!

Before Mu Jinyu could inquire, Sheng Rulai introduced it himself, "This candle is called Ghost Candle, and it is very attractive to demons resembling fierce ghosts. It's like in the sea, where the scent of blood from an injured creature attracts sharks. Once lit, it can lure demons!"

Mu Jinyu suddenly realized, "No wonder the dark turmoil had just started, and he, Le Le, was already teeming with demons!"

Chapter 577: Black Bone's Warning!

"Should we try lighting it?"

Sheng Rulai held the Ghost Candle and asked Mu Jinyu.

"No need," Mu Jinyu shook his head, his eyes showing a hint of wariness.

"I'm not in control of demons right now, and if we rely solely on golden weapons to fight the demons, we might be in trouble if a particularly terrifying one appears, so let's forget it," he said.

"Hmm," Sheng Rulai nodded and put the Ghost Candle away.

Then he said, "We haven't started exploring inside the shrine yet. We just got this information from them, and you arrived, so let's go in together now."

"Let's go," Mu Jinyu didn't hesitate.

In fact, on his way here, he had planned to contact Xiang Mantang for a joint exploration, but then he thought about it, Xiang Mantang was currently dealing with demons all over the world, and his main goal was still to find a solution to the calamity at hand. It was uncertain whether there were still demons here, so there was no need to call Xiang Mantang over.

To avoid wasting time and having more people die at the hands of demons.

Once they were certain there were demons in the shrine and the three of them couldn't handle it, he would contact Xiang Mantang to come over.

Gently pushing open the door of the shrine, which was like a temple, Mu Jinyu and two others stepped in, followed by many monks and cardinals.

These people were the core elites of Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and Brilliant Divine Authority.

In terms of status, some were akin to Sub-hall Masters of Dragon King Hall, and others were Star Lords of Xingxiu.

Entering the shrine, everyone could clearly feel a chill wind blowing.

It made their bodies slightly cool, and their hair stood on end.

Yet, looking at the inside of the shrine, there were clearly no windows or vents, and this chilling wind didn't seem to be blowing in from outside.

They had stood at the door for quite a while just now and hadn't felt this.

So there was only one explanation, there was a serious issue inside the shrine.

Even though they hadn't found anything yet, everyone's pressure had already suddenly skyrocketed.

"That is..."

At that moment, someone pointed at the Divine Platform at the center of the shrine, speaking with a look of surprise.

Everyone's gaze was drawn there, where on the Divine Platform, something was covered with a large red cloth, its purpose unclear.

As they approached, they could smell a strong odor of blood and decay.

It seemed that this piece of red cloth had likely been dyed with blood.

As for the decay, could it be that a corpse was wrapped in the red cloth?

Everyone speculated in their minds.

Mu Jinyu, unwilling to get too close, used his cultivation technique and with a wave of his hand, a surge of True Yuan roared out!

"Whoo..."

Like a sudden fierce wind, the red cloth fluttered loudly, but oddly, it seemed fused with whatever was underneath, as if they were inseparable.

"Hmm?!"

Mu Jinyu frowned, let out a forceful shout, and pushed his True Yuan even harder.

In an instant, a violent wind surged, causing the entire building to start shaking as if it were about to collapse at any second.

Finally, the red cloth could no longer withstand the force and was blown away.

Underneath it was a shrine.

Inside the shrine, there was no corpse or divine image, just a blackened finger bone.

It was very inconspicuous; if one didn't look closely, they probably couldn't tell what it was.

"Hmm? What is this..."

Mu Jinyu looked at the finger bone, exchanging glances with Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt, their eyes revealing a trace of surprise.

If he wasn't mistaken, this black finger bone was probably one of the demons that emerged from the ashes after Tian Lele's death.

It hadn't seemed very noticeable at first, but later, Xiang Mantang realized something was amiss and retrieved it from the Ghost Domain, confining it in gold.

This was enough to illustrate its eeriness, and now, the sudden appearance of a finger bone here made them wary.

"Let's not bother with it for now, let's search around the area."

Mu Jinyu turned back and said to the crowd.

The crowd nodded slightly and then dispersed, searching within the shrine.

After a while.

Everyone stopped their search and turned back towards Mu Jinyu and Sheng Rulai, shrugging their hands to indicate that they had found nothing.

"Huh?!"

At that moment, Mu Jinyu faintly heard a voice echoing in his mind.

Initially, it was some strange language he could not understand.

But then, the owner of the voice seemed to realize he could not understand, so began to speak in another language, eventually switching to Chinese.

"Young man, stop looking. I am the bone in the shrine!"

Mu Jinyu's gaze sharpened when he heard this voice.

There were talking demons?

He had encountered many demons before, but most were like zombies or bitter spirits, lacking consciousness and attacking humans!

He had never encountered a conscious demon like this before.

Mu Jinyu immediately understood why Xiang Mantang was so cautious about that black skeleton and had deliberately expelled it from the Ghost Domain, confining it inside a golden container.

"Young man, I can fulfill all your needs, as long as you bring me the flesh and blood I require!"

As Mu Jinyu was stunned, that voice once again whispered in his mind.

"Huh? What kind of flesh and blood do you need?"

Mu Jinyu asked after his gaze flickered.

The voice said, "Isn't it very dangerous outside right now? There are many demons roaming around. The term 'demon' is what you have coined. You just need to bring me any demon with flesh and blood; not those rotten corpses."

"No rotten corpses?" When Mu Jinyu heard the Black Bone Demon's words, he immediately thought of the Nursery Rhyme Witch and the Knocking Ghost among the rank four demons.

These demons had intact bodies, much like humans. The only differences were their lack of consciousness and the strong ghostly aura they emitted!

Then, Mu Jinyu recalled the scene when the black skeleton was driven out of the Ghost Domain by Xiang Mantang.

The skeleton seemed to have stripped a lot of flesh from a certain demon at that time, and threads of blood began to attach and wriggle on its bones.

He had witnessed this scene with his own eyes.

Why was this Black Bone Demon telling him these things now?

Mu Jinyu guessed that perhaps the skeleton was swallowed by Le Le at the time, and its consciousness remained on this piece of finger bone, thus unaware of the Spirit Communicative Ghost School incident.

This seemed exploitable.

"Okay, then tell me, how can I suppress the Tide of Chaos and the Panicking Catastrophe!"

Mu Jinyu directly asked.

"The Panicking Catastrophe?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's question, the Black Bone Ghost Voice hesitated and then explained, "The Panicking Catastrophe doesn't exist among the living; it can't be suppressed in reality."

"Then where does it exist?" Mu Jinyu asked.

The Ghost Voice echoed in Mu Jinyu's mind, "Go into the mirror, it exists in the mirror world."

"Mirror world?"

Upon hearing the response from the Ghost Voice, Mu Jinyu's mind flashed like lightning, immediately recalling the time when a member of the Dragon King Hall had his soul dragged into the mirror world.

He had indeed thought about, after dealing with these demons, asking Xiang Mantang for advice on how to handle the Mirror Demon.

But it turned out, the Panicking Catastrophe was hiding in the mirror world!

Chapter 578: Do Not Trade!

Mu Jinyu was unsure whether the words of the Black Bone Demon could be trusted, but he felt that there was some credibility to them.

However, due to caution, he couldn't rashly enter the Mirror World; the risk was too great, so he decided to make contact with Xiang Mantang.

After all, whether the Demon's words were true or not, he needed to contact Xiang Mantang to suppress the consciousness-bearing Demon.

If he could also resolve the Tide of Chaos along the way, that would naturally be for the best.

Mu Jinyu no longer listened to the Demon, he signaled to Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt with his eyes, and then led the group to retreat for now.

"Dragon King, what happened?"

Sheng Rulai had noticed Mu Jinyu's changed expression earlier and was unsure what he had discovered, but it wasn't appropriate to disturb him. Only after Mu Jinyu signaled to gather everyone did he finally ask.

Mu Jinyu then shared what he had just heard from the Black Bone Demon with everyone and asked if they had also heard the Ghost Voice?

The group exchanged glances and then shook their heads, indicating they had heard no Ghost Voice.

Sheng Rulai frowned and said, "Can we trust what this Demon says? Could it be trying to trick us into entering the Mirror World?"

"There is that possibility," Mu Jinyu replied. "However, look at its current state; it doesn't pose much of a threat. It could be worth a try..."

"Moreover, it hasn't told me how to enter the Mirror World. Clearly, it's using that information as a bargaining chip in a trade, promising to tell us how to get in only after I bring it the flesh and blood of a Level Four Demon..."

"So, what we should worry about is what changes might occur after it obtains the flesh and blood of a Level Four Demon!"

"That's true." When Sheng Rulai heard this from Mu Jinyu, he too felt that the Black Bone Demon, in its current form, wasn't really frightening. What needed to be guarded against was the potential transformation it could undergo after obtaining demon flesh and blood.

"Right now, it's just a finger bone. It seems that even if it obtains demon flesh and blood, it may not cause much trouble. I guess it plans to have us help it retrieve its full skeleton after completing this trade," Reinhardt said.

"Yes, that's right. Its consciousness only resides in this finger bone and not in that complete skeleton. Hence, it doesn't know about what happened that day. That is our advantage," Mu Jinyu stated.

"Then, let's contact Hall Master Xiang," Sheng Rulai decided and said so.

Reinhardt also nodded in agreement.

"Alright, I'll contact Ah-Xiang." Seeing their agreement, Mu Jinyu took out his phone and called Xiang Mantang.

Xiang Mantang, who was still eliminating Demons somewhere in Europe, had his expression change upon receiving Mu Jinyu's call and warned him, "Don't make a deal with these Demons. Stay away from that Shrine for now; I'm on my way!"

Making a deal with Devils, there's absolutely no good outcome, Xiang Mantang had learned this the hard way.

The reason he ended up in such a sorry state recently, nearly losing his life, wasn't it because of a deal with a Ghost Shadow lurking behind him?

If it weren't for his unique bloodline and Jian Ruyan's timely arrival, he likely wouldn't have been able to return to society and would have had to live in seclusion.

Therefore, he wouldn't allow Mu Jinyu to trade with the conscious Demon. Who knew what kind of trap lay behind that deal?

He would rather slowly search for clues than deal with the Devil again.

After hanging up, Xiang Mantang said to Jian Ruyan, "Let's head to Dongying first."

"Okay," Jian Ruyan obediently nodded, with no objections.

Holding her hand, Xiang Mantang rose into the air and flew towards Dongying, disappearing in a flash like a streak of dark cloth.

...

After hanging up, Mu Jinyu relayed the words of caution from Xiang Mantang to Sheng Rulai and others and then decided to back away from Zuoxu Shrine for the time being.

Even without Xiang Mantang's warning, he actually couldn't have made any deal with the Black Bone Demon.

After all, it was asking for the flesh and blood of a Rank Four Demon, a creature that could potentially destroy an entire province or city. How could they easily capture one?

They stayed 300 meters away from Zuoxu Shrine, quietly watching to prevent any unexpected developments during this time.

After more than an hour of waiting,

Xiang Mantang finally arrived with Jian Ruyan, crossing the void to stand before them.

"How is the situation? Nothing unexpected happened, right?"

Xiang Mantang, along with Jian Ruyan, landed on the ground, looked at Mu Jinyu, and then glanced over everyone before asking.

"No, the shrine has been very quiet, and the Black Bone Demon confined within the shrine should not be able to escape," Mu Jinyu shook his head and said.

"Let's go, let's go in and see."

Xiang Mantang's brow furrowed slightly, then, taking Jian Ruyan's hand, he stepped forward, leading the way into the shrine.

Upon entering the shrine, he immediately spotted the black finger bone placed within the shrine.

Before Xiang Mantang could react,

the finger bone, upon seeing Xiang Mantang, burst into a violent reaction, writhing in the shrine like a leech, trying to distance itself from Xiang Mantang, or rather, from the ghostly shadow behind Xiang Mantang!

Unfortunately, the shrine seemed to be bound by some sort of restrictions; it simply couldn't escape.

"Hmph!"

Seeing the reaction of the black finger bone, Xiang Mantang realized it must be hiding something sinister, and the deal he had just contemplated with Mu Jinyu was likely fraught with many traps.

"This..."

Mu Jinyu and Sheng Rulai and the others followed inside and saw the reaction of the finger bone within the shrine, and also found it very strange.

At the same time, they felt a chill of fear.

Xiang Mantang turned to Sheng Rulai and the others and asked, "Do you have a Golden Container?"

"Yes," Sheng Rulai quickly nodded.

Xiang Mantang said, "Bring a container that can hold this shrine."

"Alright," Sheng Rulai turned and instructed the disciples behind him to go fetch it.

Soon, several monks came in, carrying a golden box the size of a safe.

Xiang Mantang went over, picked up the shrine, and didn't remove the black finger bone from it, but enclosed the shrine together with the bone inside the Golden Container, then sealed the container completely.

He did this as a multiple precaution because he wasn't sure what change might occur if the conscious demon was removed from the shrine; it might be better to seal it together.

During this process, the black finger bone desperately struggled within the shrine, but to no avail.

Xiang Mantang also heard many unintelligible voices in his mind, but he paid them no attention.

After securing the shrine, Sheng Rulai said, "What should we do now? How do we enter the Mirror World?"

He felt that although the finger bone demon had been evasive and calculating in its words, there must be some truth among the lies. To imprison the demons of the Tide of Chaos, they would need to enter the Mirror World.

"I'll give it a try,"

Xiang Mantang did not dismiss the speculation about the Mirror World, but he felt that he might also be able to enter, considering the ghostly figure behind him was the source of all evil.

The demons of the Tide of Chaos were brought about by it, and since they were able to wander outside by means of the Mirror World, it should presumably be possible for it as well.

Thinking in this way, Xiang Mantang surveyed the layout of the shrine and soon found a bronze mirror, then attempted to stretch the ghostly shadow from behind him toward the mirror.

Instantly, a bizarre scene unfolded.

When the ghostly figure touched the bronze mirror, under the control of Xiang Mantang, it didn't corrode the mirror directly but instead slowly seeped into the mirror.

Chapter 579 - Mirror World!

As the ghost shadow slowly delved into the bronze mirror,

a twisted world eerily reflected back from it, filled with many pale, ethereal figures floating in the air.

"Is this what entering the Mirror World looks like?"

Mu Jinyu squinted his eyes, watching this eerie scene, wondering if those pale figures were like Ah-Huang, souls that had been pulled into the Mirror World.

Everyone held their breath, afraid to speak, lest they disturb Xiang Mantang's operation.

Xiang Mantang himself, seeing his control of the ghost shadow truly entering the Mirror World, also narrowed his eyes and then, gripping Jian Ruyan's hand, he stepped forward slowly.

He reached out his other hand that was empty, gently extending it towards the surface of the bronze mirror.

Then, his palm began to slowly and gradually penetrate the surface of the bronze mirror.

To those watching behind him, it seemed as if the mirror was swallowing his hand whole.

What was strange was that the world reflected in the mirror did not show Xiang Mantang's hand appearing within it.

Mu Jinyu grew increasingly nervous as he watched, feeling that the Mirror World wasn't as simple as they had initially surmised.

It likely harbored great danger and was unpredictable.

"Let's go."

After Xiang Mantang's hand had reached into the mirror and knowing it was possible to enter, he held Jian Ruyan's hand tightly and whispered, then pulled her as he stepped entirely into the bronze mirror.

Consequently, Jian Ruyan, holding his hand, also entered halfway into the bronze mirror with him.

It looked extremely eerie, as if they were being devoured by the bronze mirror.

Mu Jinyu watched anxiously, and suddenly having a thought, he snatched the Ghost Candle from Sheng Rulai's hand and grabbed Jian Ruyan's right hand that was still dangling outside the mirror, pulling her along as they both were drawn in.

Sheng Rulai hadn't reacted before the three of them disappeared into the bronze mirror.

With Xiang Mantang's disappearance and the absence of the ghost shadow's influence, the mirror's surface wobbled slightly, not only failing to reveal the trio's figures but also causing the previously eerie world to vanish, turning it back into an ordinary bronze mirror.

Sheng Rulai didn't understand why Mu Jinyu also decided to go in, let alone why he took the Ghost Candle; watching the bronze mirror return to normal, he approached it with concern, tapping the mirror surface only to find that he couldn't reach inside.

"Sigh..." Sheng Rulai sighed lightly, turning to look at Reinhardt, "What do we do now?"

"Wait, the Dragon King brought the Ghost Candle with him; there must be a reason. Perhaps he's concerned that the Mirror World is vast, and the Tide of Chaos could be wandering aimlessly. Hall Master Xiang may not find the Tide of Chaos and end up lost in the Mirror World, so maybe that's why?" Reinhardt conjectured.

"I hope they come out safely," Sheng Rulai said, his words tinged with worry.

...

In a world devoid of color and shrouded in gray,

suddenly, a light screen appeared out of nowhere.

The screen twisted nonstop, and then a hand cautiously reached through, followed by half a torso, and finally three people fell from the sky together.

"Bang!"

Xiang Mantang fell from above, quickly correcting his posture, not landing awkwardly on the ground but steadying himself upon the ground with stability.

Jian Ruyan, initially panicked from being suddenly grabbed by the hand and trying to shake it off ceaselessly, became less anxious when she realized it was Mu Jinyu who had taken her hand upon entering the Mirror World. She still felt somewhat uncomfortable,

as she seldom had contact with men other than her brother Xiang Mantang, and she hadn't been this close to anyone else.

After descending, Xiang Mantang discovered that Mu Jinyu had followed in and couldn't help frowning, "Senior Brother, why did you also come in? It's very dangerous here."

Xiang Mantang had not hoped that Mu Jinyu would follow, to tell the truth, if Jian Ruyan wasn't by his side, their combined bloodlines suppressing his Ghost Shadow, he wouldn't have wanted to bring his sister here at all.

Once Mu Jinyu steadied herself, she continued to hold Jian Ruyan's hand, not letting go, for fear that loosening her grip might lead her to be guided by this strange world and get separated on her own.

Hearing Xiang Mantang's words, he held up the Ghost Candle in his right hand, explaining, "It's fine, if there's trouble you'll block it, right? I'll just hide behind you, I won't be in any danger. This Ghost Candle can attract demons, and I was worried that this Mirror World is too vast. After you entered, you might not find the Tide of Chaos immediately and could get lost, unable to find your way out, so I followed in."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Xiang Mantang sighed faintly, "Alright, since you're already in, just stay close to me later, and don't wander too far away."

"Don't worry, I've died once; I value my life greatly now," Mu Jinyu said with a smile.

Afterward, he began to meticulously inspect the Mirror World.

Before his eyes lay a vista of dim, grey buildings that Mu Jinyu eyed, seemingly identical to a Dongying town they had just passed through.

But the weird part was that the city adjoining it abruptly changed its architectural style—it was no longer Dongying-style buildings but European-style ones instead. Mu Jinyu hadn't been to Europe much, but he knew this had to be a city from some European country.

In the real world, these two cities were far apart, but in this Mirror World, they were forcefully stitched together, a very artificial style, yet it seemed somewhat natural in this twisted grey tableau.

Not far off, Mu Jinyu could see quite a few silhouettes standing on the streets.

These people stood still by the roadside, with pale faces and vacant eyes. Some wore foolish grins, while others had fierce expressions, as if enduring pain.

It was unclear if they were happy or suffering.

"These people, are they not demons but rather souls that have been dragged in by the Tide of Chaos or the Tide of Chaos?"

Mu Jinyu said, not entirely certain.

He then turned his head toward Xiang Mantang and asked, "Should we..."

He wanted to ask if they should just light the Ghost Candle to see if it could attract the Tide of Chaos or if they should first scout out the situation here.

That's when he felt Jian Ruyan struggling with her small hand, making no small effort.

Mu Jinyu looked at her in surprise, asking, "What are you doing?"

Jian Ruyan stopped her struggle, her expression rigid as she said, "I... am not used to..."

"What's there to be unused to? I haven't done anything to you. I'm just holding your hand, don't you do the same with your brother?" Mu Jinyu asked, puzzled.

Seeing a hint of color creep onto Jian Ruyan's snow-white face, Mu Jinyu found it quite amusing.

However, he decided not to tease her, to prevent Jian Ruyan from getting infuriated and possibly getting into a fight with him.

So Mu Jinyu said, "Or I could hold onto your sleeve, would that be alright?"

Jian Ruyan still seemed a bit uncomfortable, "Go hold my brother's other hand!"

"No!" Mu Jinyu shook his head, "What's the point of two grown men holding hands? Besides, he's our main support here; he should keep one hand free to deal with any emergencies, right? You're the weakest, so if you can't free your hands, you might as well be useful as a tool, right?"

Xiang Mantang spoke gravely, "Enough, Ah-Xiu stop being squeamish, Senior Brother stop teasing her, everyone be more aware of our surroundings."

Jian Ruyan and Mu Jinyu looked up upon hearing Xiang Mantang's words and saw the previously lifeless-eyed figures beginning to lumber their way, possibly attracted by the noise from Mu Jinyu and Jian Ruyan's bickering.

"This..."

Mu Jinyu loosened his tight grip on Jian Ruyan's hand and switched to tugging at her sleeve, then he said to Xiang Mantang, "Should we clear them out directly?"

Chapter 580:

"They could be the souls of ordinary people who were dragged in here, some of whom may have had their physical bodies destroyed long ago. Let's try a few then."

Xiang Mantang did not respond to Mu Jinyu's suggestion and soon found a middle-aged man with a fierce demeanor. She then controlled the ghost shadow behind her to extend towards him.

"Ssst!"

As soon as the ghost shadow touched the man's figure, it instantly shredded it like a piece of paper, which then transformed into specks of light and gradually dimmed down.

"This doesn't seem dangerous," Mu Jinyu commented upon seeing this and let out a sigh of relief. She then gathered the Ghost Candle in her hand and asked, "So now, do we light the Ghost Candle to see if we can summon the looming disaster, or do we explore the vicinity first?"

"Dragon Master, what is a Ghost Candle?"

Jian Ruyan, now less tense and uncomfortable since Mu Jinyu had loosened his grip, looked at him gratefully and asked.

Because they had arrived in haste, both she and Xiang Mantang were unclear about the function of the Ghost Candle that Sheng Rulai and the others had found.

Mu Jinyu introduced them to the efficacy of the Ghost Candle and then hesitated, adding, "Of course, this is what Sheng Rulai told me. He shouldn't deceive me, but the people of Paradise Lost might conceal or lie..."

"Perhaps the effect of the Ghost Candle is not to summon demons but to increase the strength of the nearby demons several-fold under the flame of the Ghost Candle?"

Upon hearing this, Xiang Mantang said nonchalantly, "No problem, let's try it. There don't seem to be any demons nearby anyway, and even if there are, I'll just collect them into the Ghost Domain!"

"Alright then!"

Mu Jinyu nodded at Xiang Mantang's words, preparing to light the Ghost Candle that resembled a dead man's finger.

He then felt the pull on his sleeve by Jian Ruyan and found it a bit cumbersome. He turned to Jian Ruyan and said, "Ah-Xiu, hold onto my sleeve, don't let go. I'll light the Ghost Candle."

"Oh, okay."

Although Jian Ruyan didn't quite understand why Mu Jinyu insisted on holding onto each other, if he had instructed her to do so, and since he wasn't grabbing her hand, simply pulling on his sleeve, she complied without hesitation.

She reached out and took hold of Mu Jinyu's sleeve. Seeing this, Mu Jinyu let go of her sleeve, then began to recite Taoist Law, and a flame burst into existence between his fingertips.

Then, Mu Jinyu slowly brought the flame from his fingertips towards the Ghost Candle.

"Ssst!"

The Ghost Candle was lit.

A pale, eerie flame began to flicker.

"Whoosh..."

In an instant, a chilling and bone-piercing wind started to howl around them.

The wind twisted and thinned the slack-jawed figures stumbling their way towards them, and as the wind grew fiercer, these figures couldn't hold on and were blown into specks of light that dispersed with the wind.

"Whoo-whoo..."

The demonic Qi grew denser, and the clothes of all three were flapping wildly in the wind, their bodies struggling to stay grounded as if the wind was about to whisk them away.

Seeing this, Jian Ruyan finally understood Mu Jinyu's concerns. No longer being coy, she withstood the discomfort and firmly grasped Mu Jinyu's hand to prevent them from being scattered and lost.

The evil wind intensified, and Xiang Mantang, her expression grave, squinted as she observed the changing surroundings. Eventually, she noticed that the little town of Dongying was being sliced open by the raging wind, revealing villages of African tribes.

It was as if some of the stylistically similar Dongying oil paintings had suddenly been replaced with primitive African artwork, creating an awkward and peculiar contrast through these inexplicable changes.

Xiang Mantang felt a shiver of fear. This place was indeed bizarre. If Mu Jinyu hadn't followed them in with the Ghost Candle, she feared that if she had been alone with Jian Ruyan searching for the looming disaster, she might have never found her way back after several shifts in the terrain.

And even now, if the howling wind continued, they might genuinely become lost here.

"Whoosh..."

Just then, the raging wind abruptly stopped, and two figures, one black and one white, reminiscent of Black and White Impermanence, appeared above them.

Emanating a strong demonic presence!

Xiang Mantang, although he had never seen them, recognized them instantly as the only two Level Six demons, the Calamity of Fear and the Tide of Chaos!

"Huff... Huff..."

As they appeared, the ghostly green flame of the Ghost Candle in Mu Jinyu's hand started flickering wildly as if it was about to be extinguished!

"Boom!!"

As soon as the two demons appeared in the void above, before Xiang Mantang could make a move, they directly lunged to attack them!

"Pfft!"

As they pounced, the Ghost Candle couldn't withstand the ferocious demon qi and went out directly!

"Hmm?!"

Xiang Mantang, seeing them charging at him and the others, could clearly feel the immensely strong force of demonic evil, chillingly sinister.

It was far different from what Mu Jinyu had told him before, a force that was silent and insidious, only subtly affecting humans.

Clearly, this Mirror World must be their home turf, which is why they could display such ferocity here that they couldn't in the real world!

However...

A cold smile curled at the corner of Xiang Mantang's mouth, watching as the two demons, like Black and White Impermanence, were about to reach them, when suddenly the ghost shadow behind him stretched out its arms.

"Shsh! Shsh!"

The ghost hands of the ghost shadow, with precise targeting, steadily grasped the two demons!

This instantly made it impossible for them to continue their frenzy!

Just as Xiang Mantang was preparing to drag them into the Ghost Domain, suddenly, with two 'pfft' sounds, the two demons turned into a wisp of grey smoke and disappeared.

"Escaped?"

Xiang Mantang's eyebrows knitted tightly, finding the situation to be somewhat troublesome!

In this Mirror World, these two demons were far more capable than the fifth-level demons he had captured in the real world!

"Did it fail?"

Mu Jinyu watched as Xiang Mantang's ghost shadow caught the two demons and then saw them disappear from view; he initially thought they had been successfully captured.

But seeing Xiang Mantang's furrowed brow and absence of a smile, he felt that it probably was a failure.

"Hmm," Xiang Mantang's eyebrows relaxed, and he said without much disappointment, "This is their home field. It's normal to let them slip away if we are not careful. Let's try again."

"Okay," Mu Jinyu nodded.

He then let Jian Ruyan relax her tight grip on his hand and go to pull at her sleeve as he lit the Ghost Candle once more.

With the Ghost Candle lit, the dismal green Ghost Fire flickered, and once again, a fierce wind arose.

Then, the Calamity of Fear and the Tide of Chaos came as expected, but this time, before Xiang Mantang could act and without even touching them, the Ghost Candle was extinguished under their ghost qi, and they escaped once more.

"What should we do now?"

Jian Ruyan tightly held Mu Jinyu's hand, looking anxiously at the remaining bit of the Ghost Candle in his other hand, she asked with concern.

Xiang Mantang's eyebrows were furrowed as well, uncertain what to do next.

The Ghost Candles were not enough; they couldn't afford to waste them recklessly.

After a moment of thought, Mu Jinyu turned his head toward the way they had come and said, "Let's go back first, and ask Buddha Head and the Pope for advice to see if they have a way to hold these two demons down and prevent them from running away!"