

Longevity 131

Chapter 131: Spirit Treasure Golden List, Mysterious Master

In the Penglai Sea, there is a place where an endless storm converges, within it another world exists. Bypassing the many exotic immortal landscapes and heading straight to the apex of a massive island craggy with strange rocks, there lies a convergence of boundless thunder and fierce winds, further inducing a burst of rosy light that streaks through the sky.

Deep within that rosy light, there is a mysterious and enormous palace.

Inside the palace, there are Sky-reaching Stone Pillars, Jade Lampstands, and other splendid arrangements; at its center, there is a curtain encircling a towering and majestic sculpture of an Innate Divine Being that cannot be gazed upon directly.

Under the flickering lamplight, a little Devil Immortal who was asleep is startled awake by some disturbance.

This Devil Immortal resembles a dog that has attained enlightenment, dressed in luxurious attire yet with chest bared and two tender white legs exposed, gold rings adorning both hands and feet, retaining original features such as ears and nose on its head, while the rest of the face resembles that of a young man, except for the bean-shaped eyebrows which seem somewhat comical.

The Devil Immortal, just awoken from a deep dream, blurrily turns its gaze towards the golden list floating above a jade stone container at the center.

This Golden List is now unfurled, stretching over a zhang in length.

It's unclear what material it is made of, but it constantly emanates a hazy Divine Light.

Within it, the landscapes of the Shen Zhou Holy Land and the creatures of the earth occasionally flash by, transforming into the Chaos of the universe; it is precisely during the transformation that many points of light flicker within, varying in size and brightness.

At this moment, the Devil Immortal's gaze is fixed on an inconspicuous corner of the list, where there are around several hundred glittering points of light, most of which are dim and seem like they could extinguish at any moment. A few, however, are becoming brighter, seemingly ready to join the ranks of the lights that roam freely in the Chaos.

What truly draws the Devil Immortal's attention is one particular point of light that continues to grow stronger and frantically moves forward.

This Golden List is called the "Spirit Treasure Golden List." All living beings who have cultivated the Spirit Treasure Root Skill are reflected on the list, including all members of the Spirit Treasure Sect and also those Loose Cultivators in the wilderness who have not yet touched the Mountain Gate.

Those several hundred points of light in the corner are precisely this group.

Watching the light spot about to reach the very front of the corner, the Devil Immortal steps forward and touches it with a finger.

In the next moment, a hazy and spectral figure sitting in meditation leaps out, and next to this figure, ancient seal characters glittering with golden light slowly take shape.

The Devil Immortal instantly widens its eyes, and even without intending to, it reads out loud,

"Nine hundred and ninety-nine threads of Immortal Spiritual Qi, Innate Dao Seed, Taishang Spirit Treasure No-leak Body, transcended Two Calamities... Hiss!"

"Could it be that in the Mortal World, such a Cultivation Seed exists; could it be the reincarnation body of one of the Spirit Treasure Sect's elders? No no, each elder's reincarnation body is brought into the sect by the higher-ups; they wouldn't be left to drift outside."

"Is this truly just a Loose Cultivator who has fortuitously found the Spirit Treasure Root Skill and cultivated it with great effort?"

"Oh Ancestors above, those lazybones forcefully put me in charge of watching over the place, but today it seems my blessing has come. It seems right for me, Gou Lv'er, to gain some wealth and benefit."

"Let me think, most of the Elders in the sect do not lack disciples, but seeing such talent and quality, they must scramble to take him in."

"With this child's talent, he could probably take a seat as a True Disciple as soon as he enters the sect, and in a hundred years or so, perhaps another powerful Elder."

"So, to which elder should I report this to get the greatest benefit?"

While this canine Devil Immortal is muttering to itself in contemplation,

Suddenly, its head is shadowed, and it sees a head full of curly hair and beard poking out, followed by a gruff voice, "Little doggy, what are you looking at?"

Gou Lv'er is pricked painfully by the other's needle-like beard and really wants to wipe away the scene before him.

Unfortunately, upon the other's arrival, he's affected by some immobilization spell, unable to make even a peep, much less move.

All he can do is watch helplessly as a burly, middle-aged Daoist, more than a zhang tall, emerges from behind him, dressed haphazardly in a green and black Daoist robe, with two hairy legs exposed, a face full of whiskers, and curly hair as if ready to burst open.

If this person appeared in the Mortal World, anyone who saw him would surely exclaim "What a hero."

If he were on the battlefield amidst the ranks, he would unquestionably be an unbeatable mighty general.

But here, he is a genuine Cultivator.

And now, this Daoist clearly has come with a certain purpose.

He watches with a smile, thoroughly enjoying the fuzzy figure that has emerged upon the Golden List, especially the ancient seal characters, shimmering with Golden Light next to the figure, bringing great satisfaction to the Rude Daoist.

While watching, he turns to Gou Lv'er, whom he has immobilized, and says with a smug laugh,

"This morning, I had an impulse and calculated a bit, finding that I was due for a fine disciple."

"So, I specially came early, and sure enough, I've stumbled upon it."

"Have I not always treated you well, little dog?" Tao Qian asked. "Now tell me, were you not just about to report to me?"

As he spoke, the immobilization spell on the little demon immortal dog dissolved on its own.

This clever little demon immortal immediately clasped its fists in gratitude as soon as it was freed and said with firm conviction,

"Of course, True Monarch has always been extremely generous to this little dog, often rewarding me with Immortal Treasures."

"Since I am on duty today and have discovered such a suitable seedling for the Dao Path, I must report it to the True Monarch without delay."

"This person is extremely fortunate to be able to become a disciple of the True Monarch, making this little dog truly envious."

As it spoke, the little demon immortal genuinely showed a look of loss, as if it were about to cry.

The Rude Daoist couldn't help but chuckle and said,

"You, little dog, are so cunning and so sweet-talking, no wonder your path has been so smooth, easily securing the position of guardian for the Biyou without a single calamity or tribulation, making your fellow kin, who have fallen to the Demon Path, green with envy."

"Well, I'm in a good mood today, so I'll reward you with something nice."

"When the others arrive later, you must remember what you should and shouldn't say."

Having said that, the Rude Daoist reached into his garment, rubbing around his waist and armpit, and in the blink of an eye produced a pill the size of a chicken egg, tossing it directly to the little demon immortal.

The demon immortal caught it joyfully, neither disdaining nor hesitating to accept the gift.

Having just completed their transaction, the Daoist seemed to sense something.

Suddenly, he waved his hand, erasing the image of his figure completely, along with the spot of light that represented it, disappearing into invisibility with his spellcasting.

Suddenly, light and shadow started flashing in the great hall.

One after another, demon immortals and Daoists, each enshrouded in divine light and of various appearances, both beautiful and ugly, began to appear.

The first to arrive was a dazzlingly beautiful, brightly embroidered female fairy.

She had just stood firm and was about to look around the hall when she first addressed the little demon dog,

"Little Doggy, you seem to have been on duty a lot lately. Is there any movement on the Spirit Treasure Golden List? Everyone is taking on disciples recently, and I can't fall behind. Rest assured, little dog, to reward you handsomely."

After speaking, she noticed the Rude Daoist and exclaimed in surprise,

"Eh, how come our True Monarch brother is so early today? Usually, you're the last to arrive, not even the Sect Master's punishments can change your lazy ways. Could it be that the stars have shifted...?"

Before she could finish, she saw the Rude Daoist step forward, blocking her and the other demon immortals and Daoists' view, while he said impatiently,

"What's so strange about that? Today, the Sect Master is going to teach the 'Ten Thousand Treasure Secret', and who doesn't know I love this the most? All treasures under heaven should belong in my treasure bag, rightfully."

"The Sect Master will soon lead us to the Outer Realm of Spiritual Treasure Heaven. Everyone take your seats and don't be disorderly."

The Rude Daoist's interruption caused all the demon immortals and Daoists to forget about the female fairy's question regarding the Golden List. They followed him toward the Seven Treasures Curtain, where the statues of the Innate Divine Beings were located.

Nobody noticed the look of regret deep in the eyes of the little demon dog.

Nor did they see the subtle action of the Rude Daoist, as a gleam of light fell from his sleeve, left the great hall, skipped through various strange and beautiful Immortal Landscapes, and finally entered a dark Cave Mansion.

Deep within the Cave Mansion, there was a space that seemed like a starry secret realm.

Inside, countless strange creatures were surging, emitting sounds both beautiful and terrifying.

The point of light arrived and exploded, at last transforming into the sound of the Rude Daoist echoing,

"I have just taken on a promising disciple currently wandering abroad, who needs to be guided back to the Sect."

"My disciple is in the early stages of Cultivating Spirit Treasure Skill; although endowed with excellent talent, without guidance, they have unfortunately taken a few wrong turns."

"While others avoid disasters, and if they can't avoid them, they will resolve them, mine indeed sought them head-on. Resolutely confronting calamities with brute force, he has accumulated a heavy karma, leading to a situation where pulling one hair affects the whole body. Now he faces the Three Calamities with the first two already endured, yet the third is inevitable."

"However, this might be a blessing in disguise, as surviving the third calamity could bring great fortune."

"My disciple, named Tao Qian, is currently within Fumin."

"Send over a clever girl, have her collect several Magical Treasures from my Cave Mansion, and then head to my disciple's location."

"Remember, do not reveal yourself upon arrival. Stay hidden and protect my disciple, lest my yet-to-meet promising disciple survives the third calamity only to fall victim to the fools currently within Southern Yue."

"If you complete this task successfully, there will be great rewards."

Chapter 132: Taixuan Slaying Devils, Abnormality Jiao'er

Deep in the dark cave, before the Starry Sky Secret Realm.

After the Rude Daoist's voice had fallen, a burst of secretive whispers suddenly emerged as if countless little girls were squabbling over something. The voices were somewhat chaotic, but strangely pleasing to the ear.

Soon, the outer layer that looked like a "Star Membrane" pulsated a few times before a cluster of rainbow glimmer shimmered forth.

Having touched the ground, it transformed into a dazzling young girl. Clearly not of the Human Clan, her skin was unnaturally pallid, and atop her head were four symmetrically crafted, delicate horns resembling Crystal Stones, while her azure hair trailed all the way to the floor.

However, her little face was completely like that of a Human Clan girl, exceptionally adorable, with a pair of unusually large, clear eyes.

As soon as she had assumed this physical form, she was bombarded with a multitude of naive voices from within the Star Membrane:

"Silly Dou'er, you can't go to the Mortal World all bare like this; the humans would laugh at you for not wearing clothes."

"It doesn't matter if you scare others, but you mustn't frighten the Young Master. If you come back and True Master punishes you, that'll be the end of it."

"Quickly change, we'll give you some advice; first, you need a pair of boots..."

"Nonsense, clearly a hat is needed first."

"You're the one talking nonsense; what Dou'er needs are clothes, do you understand that?"

"Are you referring to those things called 'bellybands'? I overheard a male and a female human discussing them, saying they're silky smooth and pretty."

"All of you shut up. First, my name is Zhong Dou'er, not Silly Dou'er; second, who asked for your advice? Haven't you heard what Master said? Only a clever girl can go to meet the Young Master, and I, Zhong Dou'er, am the cleverest."

"It's just clothes; I'll transform using the attire of the immortals as a model. For the hat, I'll use Aunt Hu's, the boots will be Aunt Fox's, the clothing from Aunt Cai Yun, and as for the bellyband, hehe, that won't stump me. I have served Aunt Jin Ling while she bathed; her bellyband is really pretty."

As these words faded away, a dazzling radiance flickered about inside the cave.

And in no time, the young girl had changed drastically.

Her appearance and stature were still as cute as before, but her head now donned a resplendent tiger-patterned hat with long ornaments, her rosy ears adorned with peacock feather earrings, and she was dressed in a radiant colorful skirt that continuously emitted Spirit Light, revealing a pair of fair legs and wearing a pair of exquisitely crafted fox-fur boots.

The only thing missing was the bellyband.

The girl spun around a few times, immediately garnering a heap of praises, followed by many envious voices.

"I'm so envious of Silly Dou'er, who gets to play around in the Mortal World and even meet the Young Master. What a great task."

"I can't see how Silly Dou'er is clever; she's just sweet-tongued and particularly good at pleasing the immortals."

"I wonder what the Young Master looks like. Will he be fierce? If he's like True Master, then we'll lose again to those coquettish foxes."

"Exactly, those coquettish foxes brag all day about their Young Master's Immortal Flesh and Bone and top-notch Talent and Innate Divine Abilities. They claim he's incredibly handsome, and that staying by his side increases their cultivation. So they fight over his favor every day, shamelessly."

"Haven't you heard what True Master said? Our Young Master is incredibly talented and even dared to forcibly overcome the Three Calamities. He truly is unmatched and formidable."

"Formidable? Does that mean he might not be handsome?"

"Enough chatter. Silly Dou'er has run away."

This shrill scream instantly drew numerous gazes from within the Star Membrane, and indeed, they saw the young girl turn back and pull a funny face at the starry sky.

Then with a light stamp of her foot, the young girl seamlessly merged into the Void and vanished without a trace.

Leaving behind envious voices within the Star Membrane:

"I wonder what Magical Treasure True Master will give to Silly Dou'er. I really want to sneak a peek in Master's Treasure Vault and broaden my horizons."

"It must be a formidable Magical Treasure. Who doesn't know our Master has the most treasures in the Spirit Treasure Sect? Even the True Masters from the Taishang Dao often borrow treasures from our Master."

"To successfully retrieve the Young Master, she'll need a defensive treasure. It might be the Taixuan Ruyi Circle. That little circle is extraordinarily fierce."

"She should also receive an offensive treasure, like the Heavenly Punishment Demon-Slaying Sword. If she gets that sword, Dou'er wouldn't even need to wield it herself; just tell the Demon-slaying Sword Spirit and it'll go slashing on its own. I heard that when Master was young, he used the Demon-slaying Sword to annihilate an entire tribe of the Devil Clan in the North Sea; he was truly ruthless."

"Stop arguing. When Silly Dou'er returns, let her tell us all about it."

...

Unaware of the commotion in the distant Penglai Sea was Tao Qian.

At this moment, he had just finished his last shiver, formally concluding his cultivation session.

Within the temporary Cave Mansion he had fashioned, Tao Qian felt the cultivation throughout his body and the transformed state of his flesh, unable to hide the smile on his face.

Abruptly he lifted his hand, conjuring a water mirror before him.

He saw reflected in the mirror a young Daoist, whose appearance, though merely handsome and delicate, could not be said to carry the stature of an Immortal.

However, Tao Qian at this moment was bright-eyed and radiant; he seemed to be emitting a Pure Spirit Immortal Qi. Even if he did nothing but stand there, he would repel snakes and insects, automatically shun diseases and calamities, and thus the land beneath his feet possessed an aura of Immortal Spirit and Nature.

Anyone who saw him would declare: This youth must be a True Master of the Dao.

"Taishang Treasure No-leak Body, truly astounding," Tao Qian uttered with a touch of surprise.

He was now absolutely certain that the calamity came with immense benefits.

The more severe it was, the greater the gains.

After the first calamity, it was so, and this second one was even more so.

Whether it was the 999 flows of Spirit Treasure Immortal Spirit Qi or this unexpected formation of the Taishang Treasure No-leak Body, for Tao Qian, both were massive surprises beyond his wildest fantasies.

"Innate Dao Seed combined with this No-leak Body, plus the two calamities I've overcome, according to Lin Xiaohua's description of the Twelve Major Daoist Sects, my current natural talent is enough to compete for the position of a True Disciple."

"I really want to hurry to the Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate. These Heart Inquiry Three Calamities are indeed..." Tao Qian said, cutting himself off as he quickly reined in his thoughts.

As the saying goes, "You remember the meal but not the beating, the healed wound but not the pain."

At this moment, however, he recalled the horror of those two calamities. The first calamity wasn't that bad, but the second calamity was extremely dangerous.

"But for that second calamity, Master Xiao just smashed it right onto my body. The situation clearly showed that there was no choice but to endure it."

"Remember the lesson, quit while you're ahead."

"That third calamity, I definitely won't go through with it."

"I'll just exit my retreat now, follow the preset route, give those several Star Zha Demons some hard work, and directly escape to the Penglai Sea."

As he thought, Tao Qian dispersed the water mirror and stood up.

He lifted the Forbidden Techniques inside the Cave Mansion and, just as he stepped out of the cave entrance, he also collected defensive items like the Xuan Yin Invisible Sword Array.

Silently calculating, he quickly figured out how long he had been in retreat.

"It's been seven days this time. It must've all been spent on that Immortal Spiritual Qi; attaining the nine-extreme number is indeed not easy."

"It's been so long, those two little things Sui and Lian Jing'er must be going wild with play."

Muttering to himself, Tao Qian's much more profound Divine Thought was just about to sweep across the mountain bristling with thorny spikes.

He wasn't worried about the two little ones getting into trouble. For one, there were no dangers nearby and he had already given instructions; and, for another, he was still assimilating the benefits from the blessing of passing the second of the Three Calamities. Logically, Sui and Lian Jing'er, who had been by his side for some time, would also share in some of those benefits.

Though he couldn't help them stumble upon the Basic Method, being safe and sound should pose no problem.

Just as he was thinking this, the entire Thorny Mountain trembled.

From both sides, there was a commotion, both heading toward his retreat in the Cave Mansion.

Tao Qian's brow slightly furrowed. After silently sensing for a moment and then relaxing, his expression turned to one of surprise as he involuntarily recalled the scenes from the Peach Blossom Spring he had seen not long ago.

Without intending to, Tao Qian muttered, "Can it be, again?"

In the next instant, his premonition became a reality.

His gaze swept across the entrance to the Hidden Valley, just in time to see two opposing armies spilling out from the left and right ravines. One side was orderly and disciplined, while the other, although disorganized, was filled with a wild, primitive energy. As they marched, they also roused their spirits, and they were evenly matched.

Of course, upon closer inspection, one would realize that these so-called armies were merely a joke.

After all, each side numbered only dozens or nearly a hundred at most; together, they didn't even add up to two hundred. One side mostly comprised Tree Spirits and Crystal Stones, or some mineral-based Alien Species that entered the Dao, while the other side consisted of small demons that were animals of the mountains which had undergone Transformation.

Led by Sui and Lian Jing'er, they were indeed making a bit of tumult.

However, when they charged in front of Tao Qian, they all panicked.

Human Clan Cultivator!

And a very strong one at that!

The combination of these two factors was enough to scare over a hundred Mountain Spirits and Ghosts little demons witless.

However, under the suppression of the two little ones, they all obediently stayed within the Hidden Valley, mostly with their heads lowered. Only a few bold ones dared to steal glances at Tao Qian.

This scene really made Tao Qian seem like a great master who ruled over the mountain.

The two little ones, as always, joyfully ran towards him, their heads held high, two pairs of gem-like eyes glistening brightly as they watched Tao Qian.

Indeed, the two were once again waiting for Tao Qian's praise.

At first, when Tao Qian saw the two little ones making such a spectacle, he would be surprised.

Now, he had grown accustomed to it.

"Daoist Xiao Hua didn't provide enough detailed instructions at the beginning; he also didn't mention that these two had a habit of gathering a crowd and fighting. Could it be that they picked up this hobby after following me?" Tao Qian mused.

"But that can't be right. As Tao Da, I'm all for peace and quietness. I've never taught them any of this."

After muttering a few complaints to himself, Tao Qian thought of something else.

He first habitually praised the two little ones, then asked them to inquire within their respective armies if there were any devils with recent contact with the Mortal World, and ones that knew some current news.

He didn't hold out much hope for this. The Mountain Spirits and Ghosts on Thorny Mountain were mostly clueless, and it was obvious they were isolated from the world.

However, his inquiry unexpectedly yielded results.

Before long, little Sui came trotting over, dragging a small demon with a peculiar appearance.

This demon lay somewhere between a fox and a wild dog, with a fluffy tail and cunning eyes. Most distinctive were its ears, which looked as if they had been scorched by fire, blackened, and occasionally wafting wisps of smoke and embers. It was quite mysterious.

As little Sui dragged it over, the demon wore an unwilling expression.

But upon drawing near, it immediately switched to a flattering smile, not even waiting for Sui to speak.

It rose to its feet, bowed to Tao Qian, and introduced itself:

"This humble one, Jiao'er, pays respects to the True Master."

"I am not a devil but an Abnormality that took the Dao in Thorny Mountain. I have a habit born of nature, which is to hang from the trees by the road or from the beams in houses, eavesdropping on the speech of the Human Clan. This habit benefits my Cultivation; hence, I've persisted in it for years. However, the Human Clan has many Evil People, and if I didn't have an Innate Divine Ability to hide and save my life, I'd probably have been beaten to death long ago."

"At first glance, the True Master is clearly a True Practitioner. If this humble one can resolve the True Master's questions, it would be my fortune arrived."

"Please ask your questions, True Master."

Chapter 133: Emperor's World Suppression, Daughter Spring Water

Tao Qian immediately noticed that this creature called Jiao'er was different from the naive nature of other mountain spirits and ghosts in Hidden Valley.

Perhaps due to its natural proclivities and too much contact with the human world, it had picked up some crafty, shifty tendencies.

However, this wasn't necessarily a bad thing; at least from its aura, Jiao'er didn't appear to have committed heinous acts like cannibalism, nor had it mutated and fallen.

After thinking for a moment, Tao Qian asked several questions directly, pertaining to the current political changes within Southern Yue and Fumin.

He had already left Southern Yue and obviously had no intention of getting involved.

But given his past entanglements with Southern Yue, not to mention having recently sent Master Xiao to Guanyin Temple,

and hearing from the Star Zha Demon upon its return that Master Xiao had managed to summon the Infant Sect Master, it seemed likely that the individuals tormented by parasites in Meiling - these parasites carrying the blood of the Dragon Clan - had been rescued. Also, the rebellion within the Infant Sect was probably quelled. However, it was uncertain whether Ji Xianxian and Qin Wuxiang's schemes would develop further.

What stage had the distress caused by the Devil God Army reached?

Having secluded himself for seven days, Tao Qian found it difficult to predict the exact situation in the rapidly changing climate of Southern Yue.

After inquiring out of curiosity, Tao Qian didn't actually expect Jiao'er to provide many details—an overview was sufficient.

But surprisingly, Jiao'er gave Tao Qian a pleasant shock.

As this abnormal creature fanned its charred ears, scattering sparks, it answered,

"True Master, there's a cultivator's market hundreds of miles away. I hung around there over the past few days and heard a lot of news. I happen to be acquainted with the answers to these questions."

"The current situation in Southern Yue Province is pretty good for the Human Clan, but those demons have suffered."

"The Devil God Army had already considered Southern Yue as easy prey and began bestowing titles upon various Great Demons. Meanwhile, the Southern Yue official authorities, namely that Governor Ji Xianxian, continued to cower within the provincial city without taking any action, and his 800,000-strong Demon Suppression Army also remained motionless."

"But seven days ago, there was a major shift."

"Ji Xianxian, who originally was just a secular official, inexplicably attained an incredibly powerful cultivation level, as if he had become an immortal and entered the Dao overnight."

"And it wasn't just Ji Xianxian—his Demon Suppression Army, by some secret technique, also had their cultivation skyrocket along with him. The very next day, they were renamed the 'Emperor's World Suppression Army.'"

"Leading this 800,000-strong force, Ji Xianxian began to sweep across Southern Yue. Those demons, which used to boast about their might, turned out to be frail when they faced the army, unable to withstand a single blow."

"A Loose Cultivator from Southern Yue who had witnessed it firsthand said that a Cavernous Mystery Demon, especially invited by the Devil God Army from the neighboring province, thought highly of its own powerful cultivation and numerous subordinates. It planned to have a decisive battle against the 800,000-strong army at a location known as 'Falling Phoenix Plain.'"

"Yet as soon as the Great Demon finished gathering its forces and arrived at the plains, including itself and the tens of thousands of devils, they were instantly annihilated by a sky filled with Demon Extinguishing Spears."

"That day, it is said that even the light from the Sun Star was obscured for a moment. The plains, originally devoid of trees, promptly gained a forest of spears, while the flesh and blood of those group of devils became fertilizer."

"Since that battle, the situation in Southern Yue had completely reversed. Wherever the 800,000-strong World Suppressing Army passed, no demon could stand in their way, either fleeing in advance or being mercilessly slaughtered. The dismembered corpses were used as materials or, if useless, were disposed of and sold as food to the common folks."

"According to rumor, the humans in the Southern Yue Province city are almost sick of eating demon meat."

"In a span of seven days, most of the districts and counties of Southern Yue that had fallen were reclaimed by Ji Xianxian, earning him royal commendation from the Human Clan court."

"It is said that Ji Xianxian also issued a Summoning Immortal Token, calling many cultivators from neighboring provinces to come and assist. He promised to reward their merits, causing a large number of Human Clan Cultivators to start flowing into the Southern Yue territory. This has caused much dissatisfaction among officials from the neighboring provinces."

This detailed information poured out of Jiao'er's mouth, causing Tao Qian to glance sideways in surprise.

He felt as if he had stumbled upon treasure, suspecting that even if he went to the cultivator's market himself to inquire, he could not get more than this level of detail.

But upon further reflection, it made sense that this creature called "Jiao'er," with a penchant for eavesdropping, would be privy to this information.

With this in mind, Tao Qian no longer hesitated and continued to ask many more questions.

After a moment, Tao Qian stopped asking, the look of confusion in his eyes almost completely dissipated.

Even Tao Qian himself hadn't expected that, after a seven-day seclusion, he would manage to learn about the current changes directly from the mouth of an abnormal creature.

"That is to say, the calamity I endured wasn't in vain."

"The turn of events in Southern Yue began seven days ago, the very day Master Xiao summoned the Infant Sect Master."

"On his way back, the Infant Sect Master rescued many civilians and cultivators. The next day, Ji Xianxian started to lead his forces to quell the rebellion."

"And a day after that, the Third Prince, who had initially joined the Infant Sect, made an excuse that the Basic Methods didn't suit him and returned directly to the Imperial City, while several Infant Sect elders went back to their Sect, announcing a retreat into seclusion."

"Then Ji Xianxian's nephew announced his initiation into the Infant Sect as a True Disciple."

"From this perspective, although Master Xiao invited the Sect Master to quell the internal chaos, he didn't seem to take any action against Ji Xianxian and Qin Wuxiang. Instead, some kind of deal was struck."

These thoughts flashed by, but Tao Qian's face showed neither anger nor disappointment.

He wasn't a child, and naturally understood that not everything in life could be perfectly resolved.

Even the powerful cultivators in the Cultivation World, when facing certain matters, especially those involving a greater force, likely had to compromise.

Maybe they discovered they couldn't suppress Ji Xianxian forcefully, or perhaps they needed him to suppress the rebellion.

"In any case, it no longer concerns me."

"At least tens of millions of the Human Clan in Southern Yue have achieved peace. If this is considered a merit, then surely I have a share in it?"

"I don't care anymore, now that I've left Southern Yue, the sky's the limit for me to fly high. Off to the Penglai Sea."

"As for the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva and Qin Wuxiang, I'll just note them down in my little black book. When I, Tao Qian, have increased my cultivation in the future, I'll come back for revenge."

Tao Qian reaffirmed his resolve in his heart.

Then he saw that the Abnormality, Jiao'er, who had answered all his questions, didn't immediately return to the group.

Instead, it gazed at Tao Qian with a pair of eyes that seemed both fox-like and wild dog-like, its pair of charred-black ears flapping occasionally, creating a shower of spark-like embers.

Seeing this, Tao Qian couldn't help but chuckle, instantly understanding the hint.

He was in a good mood, and he somehow took a liking to this "Jiao'er."

Thinking to form a good connection, he directly plucked a porcelain bottle from the Mustard Seed Talisman Seed. The bottle contained about two hundred "Hundred Herbs Firming Origin Pills," a low-level but side-effect-free Spirit Pill that Tao Qian had scrounged from a Loose Cultivator.

Removing the stopper, he tossed out the Spirit Pills, ensuring each Mountain Spirit and Exotic Beast within the Hidden Valley received one.

The remaining dozen or so pills were all stuffed into Jiao'er's hands.

He also handed it a dirty but tightly-sealed clay pot, explaining,

"In this pot is the urine of some Exotic Beast. Just a drop spilled out can envelop an area of a hundred feet in stench, causing any Human Clan Cultivator or Devil to become dizzy and vomit incessantly."

"If you ever get caught eavesdropping on gossip by hanging under someone else's rafters next time, just sprinkle a drop before you run. You shouldn't get beaten to death."

"Of course, it only works on low-level cultivators and Devils. If you meet someone from the Qi Refining Realm, well... use a little more."

"Don't stray into Mutation and Fallen ways in the future if you have the chance to find a Basic Method that suits you. And remember not to pick up habits like eating humans."

With that, Tao Qian then took Little Age and Lian Jing'er with him.

According to the terrain and direction gleaned from Jiao'er, he chose a direction and immediately vanished using the Small Innate Nascent Soul Escape Technique.

There were many Devils in this Hidden Valley, so he couldn't use his Summoning Demon Technique. Luckily, the Small Innate Nascent Soul Escape Skill was quite effective.

As a wisp of Nascent Soul fragrance drifted down, the bewildered Devils in the valley finally realized—the two who had played with them for seven days, their leaders, were gone, and the formidable Human Clan Cultivator was gone as well.

The only one with clear awareness was "Jiao'er."

This fox-like yet not fox, dog-like yet not dog Abnormality, clutching the bottle of Spirit Pills and the dirty clay pot, seemed to comprehend something as its ears began to flap vigorously.

And then, under the puzzled gazes of other Devils, it suddenly knelt down and, facing the direction Tao Qian had left, solemnly kowtowed several times.

...

Whatever "Jiao'er" suddenly understood, Tao Qian was unaware.

He was now standing on a cloud, holding Little Age and Lian Jing'er, watching the strange scene below with a puzzled gaze.

By now, he had escaped hundreds of miles away, where there was no one around. He was about to summon the "Star Zha Demon" to speed away from Fumin and head towards the next large province.

However, before summoning, he inadvertently saw on the land below.

Numerous commoners were converging from all sides towards a certain area; from high above, it looked like an ant trail.

However, Tao Qian glanced a few times and didn't follow his curiosity to go down and investigate.

"What if it's the Three Calamities? I need to hurry on my way."

With that thought, Tao Qian summoned a Star Zha Demon, which enveloped him and the two little ones.

Accompanied by a "thunderous" noise, even in daylight, the stars could be seen twinkling all around.

In an instant, they shot forward at great speed.

Almost immediately, they darted past many landscapes, suddenly plunging into a large rain cloud.

This wasn't actually unusual; employing an Escape Skill in the sky often resulted in encounters like this.

Those raindrops and thunderbolts couldn't really harm a cultivator of Tao Qian's caliber.

But unexpectedly, an accident occurred.

As soon as he plunged into the pouring rain cloud, a sense of palpitations surged in Tao Qian's mind, immediately triggering a perception.

The first Record he untangled made Tao Qian's eyes widen, almost causing his soul to fly out of his body.

"Record: Daughter Spring Water!"

"Description: This substance is a natural creation of heaven and earth. If consumed, it can cause male creatures to transform into females and breed offspring without the need for Yin Yang Union, producing only female offspring..."

Chapter 134: Queen of Daughter Country, Daughter of Devil God

"Transform into a female and conceive a daughter?"

With just these eight characters, Tao Qian was plunged into panic.

How could he have anticipated that merely using an Escape Skill to rush on his journey would bring about such a bizarre encounter? He could hardly imagine himself turning into a girl, let alone being pregnant, which was truly troublesome.

At this moment, Tao Qian found himself enveloped in rain mist, seemingly not having drunk from the "Daughter Spring Water", but the water had already vaporized into mist, entering his mouth and nose with each breath he took.

Fortunately, he soon saw more information, the last piece being exactly what he needed now.

"Record: Eight hundred years ago, there was a female cultivator surnamed Zhu, a member of the Heterodox Sect. Although she was a prodigious talent, she faltered due to the lack of a suitable Basic Method, with her Daoist Path seeming hopeless, until one day she obtained an earth-spirit item, the 'Daughter Spring,' which greatly increased her cultivation. Not only did she step into the Daoist Transformation Realm, but she also founded the Heterodox Sect of the Daughter Palace within Fumin Province."

"Note one: Recently, the world has been in chaos, spawning many refugees, and many Loose Cultivators also fear the rampaging Demons and Ghosts, desperately needing the protection of a major power. Therefore, the current Palace Master of the Daughter Palace has decided to expand the Sect, seizing a large area of Fumin, and the Daughter Palace will soon be upgraded to the... Daughter Country."

"Note two: To establish a nation within a short period, the Palace Master of the Daughter Palace uses the treasured Daughter Spring. Within three days, Daughter Spring Water will continuously descend in this area, and anyone willing to step into it, transforming from male to female, can become a member of the Daughter Country. This news has attracted people from all over and many lower-tier Loose Cultivators."

"Note three: Although the high officials of the court who hold power in Fumin are severely resisting the establishment of the Daughter Country, the current Palace Master has wide connections, even the great aloof Sect like Guanyin Temple has implied their support, so in just two days, Daughter Country has already taken shape, and the influence of the Daughter Palace has exponentially grown."

"Note four: The cost can be exempted! Just avoid intercourse for forty-eight hours, otherwise, you'll inevitably conceive and give birth to a daughter."

...

The last note caused Tao Qian to heave a huge sigh of relief.

Although there were still some restrictions, Tao Qian had no intention of engaging in such activities, and he was also taking care of two children.

Huh?

Tao Qian was suddenly startled, consumed with his own worries; he had forgotten that Sui and Lian Jing'er were also within this rain mist. Could those two little things have already transformed into females?

Worried, Tao Qian looked down to the left and right, but the next moment, the scenes that met his eyes were completely different:

Little Sui was squinting, lying comfortably in the mist, allowing the Daughter Spring Water to seep through his mouth, nose, and even into the cavities of his body, all while making content noises like someone enjoying sweet rain, seeing that it seemed that not only did the water not transform him into a female, but it even seemed to nourish him?

The situation with Lian Jing'er was much more normal; his gemstone eyes were flashing with a faint light, and soon, a green light membrane appeared over his body surface, blocking the approach of the Daughter Spring Water. Meanwhile, he kept emitting mechanical sounds: "A body of flesh and blood must have weaknesses... This stuff could contaminate my body, might rust, expel it..."

Seeing this, Tao Qian breathed another sigh of relief.

All good, it seems that their inherent peculiarities were enough to let them fear not the water of the Daughter Spring.

"This spring water is quite magical. If it were unowned, I would definitely have to collect a few barrels, whether to study later or to give people to drink; both are good uses."

"Unfortunately, it already has an owner. It's better not to stir up trouble, better to leave quickly."

Two thoughts raced through Tao Qian's mind.

After that, he was about to use Star Zha to escape from this place.

This was the lesson he had drawn from surviving two disasters in a row.

Do not act rashly, do not meddle aimlessly, just head north towards the Penglai Sea.

Alas, whether or not a mishap occurred many times did not go according to Tao Qian's wishes.

Just as he was about to escape, at that very moment, a woman's soft exclamation suddenly rang out beside Tao Qian's ear.

Tao Qian considered himself to have substantial mental fortitude, especially after achieving the Taishang Spiritual Treasure No-leak Body, which made him highly resistant to charm-like evil influences.

But upon hearing that soft exclamation, Tao Qian unexpectedly felt his heart flutter, his bones go soft, and he involuntarily stopped his movement, wanting to listen more.

In a trance, Tao Qian saw a supremely beautiful figure appear in front of him.

Focusing his gaze, it was indeed a queen, her eyebrows like emerald feathers, her skin like creamy sheep fat. Her face framed by peach blossom petals, her hair piled with golden phoenix silk. Her autumnal eyes deep and devilishly enchanting, her tender figure seductively slim. Diagonally flowing silk fluttered in brilliant colors, tall pins of pearls and emeralds reflecting the light... In days past, Tao Qian had seen many beautiful maidservants in the Joyful Treasure Pavilion.

He had also seen the Stunningly Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva, his Puppet Body had grown intimate with the charming female cultivator Pan Hongniang, and he had even been in the company of gentle and dignified female cultivators like Master Xiao, who embraced the world with their hearts.

Not to mention the many trials Tao Qian had faced while refining demons and summoning spirits.

By rights, no outer beauty should have startled him anymore.

But now, Tao Qian realized he was wrong.

Suddenly seeing this phantom of the queen, Tao Qian couldn't help but take several more glances.

It was precisely these glances that delayed his chance to escape.

Unexpectedly, what Tao Qian had originally thought was a "phantom" of the queen swiftly solidified from illusion to reality, a real queen glided towards him in a blink, reaching out and capturing him.

Then, in a gentle voice, she said:

"Immortal Spiritual Qi, Auspicious Cloud Skill, what a Spirit Treasure True Practitioner."

"My Daughter Country has just been established, and we are currently inviting guests from all directions, many Daoist friends."

Chapter 135: Queen of Daughter Country, Daughter of Devil God_2

"Little Daoist, since you've passed this place and stumbled into this cloud and mist of Daughter Country, it must be the work of fate. Why not follow me to the banquet below and have a cup of daughter wine with me to celebrate? With the good fortune of a Spirit Treasure True Cultivation like you, our Queen will surely present a generous gift."

As soon as these words were spoken, this terrifying female cultivator who claimed to be the Queen of Daughter Country did not give Tao Qian a chance to refuse.

The next moment, light and shadow fluttered.

Tao Qian only felt the world around him change, and he immediately fell from the sky above.

Looking ahead, he found himself directly in the midst of a splendid and brilliant hall, where gold and jade pillars stood tall, and many palace musicians played immortal melodies inside a bead curtain made of jade. Beside the peacock screen, performers skilled in strange and enchanting arts were putting on a show. The main hall and both sides were filled with banquets, and there was a constant stream of laughter and joyous noise.

Tao Qian was clearly one of the latecomers and couldn't find a seat at first glance.

However, he had regained his senses now and was secretly complaining in his heart, devoid of any interest in feasting.

With just a cursory glance, he surveyed the guests within the "Daughter Country Banquet."

Being a Great Heterodox Sect, it was naturally incomparable to the scene of a group of demons run amok like on Iron Buddha Mountain.

The first thing Tao Qian noticed were the many human cultivators. Although their attire was diverse and their auras somewhat mixed, most seemed to be Heterodox individuals, with a few from Daoist and Buddhist sects or thousand-year-old families. The overall atmosphere was quite harmonious.

However, on the right side of the meat banquet, Tao Qian saw many spirit monsters and devils, most of whom did not even bother to conceal their true forms, revealing themselves openly, only shrinking a bit for the convenience of the feast.

In addition to this, Tao Qian sensed many powerful presences, and found himself having to shut down the perception in his mind.

Originally, Tao Qian thought that after being brought down by the Queen of Daughter Country, she would let him go and have a maid or female official guide him.

He made up his mind that he would take the opportunity to slip away.

But who would have guessed that not only did the Queen of Daughter Country not let him go, she even held on to him tighter.

Seeing the surprised look on Tao Qian's face, the Queen playfully winked at him, her charming voice entering his ear:

"You Spirit Treasure little Daoist underestimate this Queen."

"Others led by me would've been already weak at the knees, filled with bashful delight, yet you, a Daoist, are fully intent on escaping."

"This Queen has a pair of exquisite immortal eyes that can discern a sliver of fortune on all things in this world. Seeing you've just reached Qi Refining Realm Perfection, your aura rich with immortal spiritual Qi, and a No-leak Body well cultivated, your fate seems to soar through the clouds. That's why I impulsively decided to stop and invite you here."

"Don't be annoyed. You must be on your way to pledge yourself at Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate. It just so happens that I am good friends with Yunhua Immortal from your Spirit Treasure Sect."

"As a compensation for using some of your fortune to celebrate the founding of Daughter Country, I can directly recommend you to become a disciple under Sister Yunhua."

"How about that?"

These words seemed complex but were received by Tao Qian in an instant.

With the Queen of Daughter Country speaking to this extent, Tao Qian felt it would be unwise to refuse anymore.

It was not because of the string of question marks that had formed in his mind when he first touched the Queen of Daughter Country.

Nor was it for fear that this purely beautiful Queen would go to her best friend to complain if he refused.

"It's hard enough to get through two disasters, to reach Mountain Gate and be able to pledge, possibly even be taught Sublime Dharma, maybe even clinching a spot as a True Disciple."

"If because of missing a cup of daughter wine, some mishap occurs, that would really be too foolish."

With these thoughts, Tao Qian put on an official and polite smile, then nodded his head to show his willingness.

In the next moment, the two figures finally appeared slowly.

At first, nothing.

But soon, all the guests in the banquet, whether they were cultivators, devils, or other alien species.

All noticed the young Daoist person being personally led by the Queen of Daughter Country into the hall.

With a "whoosh," all eyes were upon them.

The Queen of Daughter Country seemed naturally like that, or perhaps simply regarded herself as a senior to Tao Qian.

Under so many gazes and without any reservation.

She still dragged him toward the most prestigious seats, which was enough to make Tao Qian wonder if he was being treated as an "auspicious mascot."

Soon, Tao Qian was pulled by the Queen up to the small banquet separated by bead curtains.

Just as Tao Qian entered, he felt fortunate for having shut off his soul perception.

Because the imposing figures seated at the banquet, nearly ten in total, each emitted an extraordinary aura and presence that was extremely remarkable.

Several of them were no less formidable than the "Queen of Daughter Country."

For instance, there was a female cultivator who evidently came from a Buddhist Sect, draped in a white robe, with a solemn and Buddha-like appearance, her bare face turned toward heaven.

Or an old man dressed in a wide-sleeved robe, wearing a Ge Cloth on his head.

Then there was a being that, despite being nothing but a skeleton, still dressed to the nines, with red light flashing in the eye sockets.

As well as a girl clad in a red robe, whose eyes appeared capable of ensnaring souls and seizing spirits.

The remaining guests also radiated powerful energies, at least existences that Tao Qian currently had no ability to contend with, but none could compare with these four.

The Queen of Daughter Country had just led Tao Qian to his seat and had yet to do anything when suddenly the girl in the red robe took the initiative to look over.

First, she stared at Tao Qian with keen interest non-stop, then her gaze landed on Little Age and Lian Jing'er standing behind him.

Especially upon seeing Little Age, the girl couldn't help but extend her delicate tongue and lick her lips.

Then, without any attempt to conceal the sound of her swallowing, she directly said to Tao Qian:

"Little Daoist, is this Taisui Baby yours?"

"Delightful, it truly is too delightful."

"Would you be willing to make a trade with me, to hand over this baby in exchange for anything you desire? This girl can give it to you."

These words reached him, and Tao Qian's brow immediately furrowed, nearly refusing without a second thought.

The girl in the red robe had sharp eyes and discerned Tao Qian's intention.

But she did not back down; she cast another truly captivating glance that was meant to freeze Tao Qian's soul in an instant.

At the same time, she began naming her price.

"Don't be so quick to refuse me, little Daoist. For a small Qi Refining Realm cultivator like you to encounter someone like me willing to trade, you can say you've stumbled onto great fortune."

"In this Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, in this Cultivation World, there is little that this girl cannot get her hands on."

"If you desire cultivation, I can assist you in breaking through both Foundation Establishment and Transcend Mortality within a month, and even gift you many Magical Treasures and Killing Devices, as well as introduce formidable mentors to you. Even advancing to the Cavernous Mystery Realm in the future will not be too difficult."

"If you desire pleasure, I can grant you a large territory, armed forces, civilians—everything included, letting you taste what it's like to be a Human Emperor."

"How about it? Name your conditions, this girl only wishes to taste the fragrant meat of the Taisui Baby today."

"Boom"

With each word the red-robed girl uttered, Tao Qian's mind became more dazed.

Listening to her offer, he even began to feel a strong impulse to agree.

It was only when he suddenly shivered that a beating pulse and awareness emerged in his mind.

"Record: Currently subjected to Heavenly Demon Chaotic Divine Sound, an art from Devil Gods... The cost has been waived!"

"Boom!"

Almost immediately, key words in the Record made Tao Qian's eyes widen in shock.

Just as he was about to do something, the body of the Queen of Daughter Country blocked his view.

Her giggles suppressed the confounding Heavenly Demon Chaotic Divine Sound that involuntarily took control of souls.

At the same time, Tao Qian heard the Queen's voice, tinged with a trace of dissatisfaction.

"This little Daoist is a disciple of my close friend, Yunhua Immortal, a True Practitioner of Spirit Treasure True Cultivation, and is not some Loose Cultivator from the wilds that you can bully at will."

"As the Daughter of Devil God, you are indeed accustomed to having your way, but surely you wouldn't dare to provoke my Sister Yunhua, right?"

"Didn't you come to reunite with your beloved, Tang Xianzong? I heard his current situation is not too good, so why aren't you, demoness, rushing to your Prince Consort's aid instead of lingering in my residence without any reason?"

Chapter 136 Bao Yin Bodhisattva Startles the Demoness, Tao Qian Wishes to Take Yunhua as His Master

The Queen of Daughter Country spoke three sentences, immediately causing the Red Robed Demoness to display a look as if she were on the verge of tears, her eyes still soul-capturing, yet her voice filled with resentment as she said:

"Sister Xue, how can you be so heartless? I've only stayed a few days, and now you want to drive me away?"

"To help Sister Xue ascend the throne of Daughter Country, I've been running around doing so much, and only then did I manage to sort things out with the court."

"True, the Imperial Family these days are mostly good-for-nothing and can't even keep hold of their kingdom. But they've accumulated power over hundreds of years and have profound roots. It took me a great deal of effort to persuade the Imperial Family to allow your Daughter Palace to establish a nation."

"Now that you are about to ascend the throne, you suddenly disdain my background?"

"Talking about Daughter of Devil God, talking about Prince Consort, Sister Xue, with your smooth Dao Path, resembling a Goddess, adored by all who see you—how could you possibly understand my struggles?"

Upon this outcry, all the guests at the banquet couldn't help but show a look that was a mixture of laughter and helplessness.

This demoness was clearly the one who insisted on having the Taisui Baby, yet after being thwarted, she was still claiming credit and playing the victim at the same time.

However, as the Daughter of Devil God, every single word and action of hers could tug at the hearts of others.

Had Tao Qian not been exempted from the effects of the Heavenly Demon Chaos Divine Sound Skill, he might now be speaking on her behalf.

Fortunately, her charming speech was completely ineffective against the Queen of Daughter Country.

The stunningly beautiful Queen still stood in front of Tao Qian, her lovely brows raised, her gaze stern, and she said directly to the Red Robed Demoness:

"Yin Susu, as the ninety-seventh Daughter of Devil God, who in the Cultivation World, aside from those few Great Sects, would dare to mistreat you?"

"You have done some things for my Daughter Palace, but that was a transaction, for which I have already given you compensation."

"If you wish to be a good guest, I Naturally welcome you."

"But if you want to be a troublesome guest, making things difficult for the guests I have specially invited, then I will not tolerate it."

With such a domineering response from the Queen, the guests at the banquet cast surprised glances again.

Even those who were previously enjoying themselves and conversing with each other suddenly took an interest.

The Queen of Daughter Country clashing with the Daughter of Devil God?

And the reason is a pretty-faced male cultivator?

In an instant, almost all the eyes of the guests at the banquet lit up.

In the center of the storm, Tao Qian felt somewhat relieved after hearing the authoritarian words of the Queen of Daughter Country.

Since surviving the extremely dangerous Second Calamity, Tao Qian had reflected repeatedly and came to a conclusion: he had been too rash, and sometimes it might be wise to consider avoiding disaster.

Thus, after Tao Qian set off on his journey again, he became much more cautious.

Originally dragged to this banquet by the Queen of Daughter Country against his will, Tao Qian had been somewhat nervous.

If not for the Record he sensed, along with some corroborating evidence, which proved that the Queen of Daughter Country was a kind-hearted left-wing cultivator, and her claim to be a close friend of an elder of Spirit Treasure Sect known as 'Yunhua Immortal,' Tao Qian would not have been able to relax.

Now, observing her actions and listening to her words, Tao Qian felt that the Daughter Country was unlikely to be his Third Calamity, nor was its Queen.

Tao Qian had just harbored this thought when suddenly, an extremely dangerous aura erupted without warning.

The source was none other than the Red Robed Demoness.

Accustomed to freedom, as the ninety-seventh daughter of a Devil God, wherever she went, she was treated as an esteemed guest of honor.

Even those Righteous Sects that found her disagreeable mostly refrained from speaking to her in the austere tone the Queen of Daughter Country just had.

She had thought that by appearing pitiful, she could easily take that "Taisui Baby" for her own.

How could she have anticipated such humiliation?

At this moment, the Red Robed Demoness was leisurely standing up, squinting her eyes and locking gazes with the Queen.

Behind her, it was as if a baleful otherworldly realm was slowly opening up, containing endless darkness within. In the murky depths, an immensely large figure, devilish aura billowing to the sky as if it could devour everything, seemed ready to open its eyes.

With her advancing step by step, an extremely rich and pure devilish aura directly solidified into substance, consisting of various colors and flowing stickily like sand, like water. Anyone who saw it would feel their soul bewildered, afterwards hearing the endless roars and howls of demons, mutating and falling into depravity amidst the atmosphere.

Fortunately, no weaklings were present at this banquet; all could resist this Devil God's aura.

Yet, some strange objects, even inanimate ones, were touched by that aura and directly underwent a transformation into demons.

For instance, a copper candlestick contaminated by it suddenly morphed into an Alien Species with a head ablaze, mouth full of tusks, howling as it sought to set fire to burn everyone present.

A spirit fruit resembling a pear underwent the touch and instantly swelled to the size of a millstone, sprouting numerous eerie black voids from which hundreds and thousands of poisonous snakes crawled out.

There was also a steamed fish that, upon making contact, returned to life and transformed into a Fishman with rotting body and sprouting black hair, which threw up a waterfall-like torrent of poison.

The formerly peaceful banquet seemed on the verge of descending into chaos.

Several guests were about to intervene, but at the next moment, a spring as if never drying up and able to irrigate billions of acres of fertile land, appeared suddenly behind the Queen of Daughter Country. The sound of the spring water's pleasant tinkling accompanied by the refreshing fragrance abruptly spread throughout the area, expelling and suppressing all mutated forms.

While these scenes unfolded, the guests could no longer conceal the shock on their faces, having originally thought that the exchange between the two powerful female cultivators was merely a minor verbal clash that had been defused.

Yet now, was a bloody skirmish about to unfold over that young Daoist who came from who knows where?

For a moment, Tao Qian felt all eyes turning towards him once again.

The sudden turn of events also made Tao Qian tense up, and he muttered to himself in distress:

"Alas, what does this have to do with me?"

"Weren't they saying my luck reaches the heavens? This scene doesn't look like it at all."

"I, a minor Qi Refining Realm cultivator, was merely passing by on my journey, how could I possibly have to face such a scenario?"

"And stay calm, stay calm, based on the experience of the previous two calamities, there's always a sign before calamity strikes."

"Up until now, no warning bell has sounded, there should be a chance for change, it shouldn't be the third calamity."

While such thoughts flickered through Tao Qian's mind, 999 strands of Immortal Spiritual Qi were eager to move within him, and he had long prepared the Demon Gourd filled with demons, the Xuan Yin Invisible Sword Array, and various Thunder Fire Pills.

Should a real fight break out, if the Queen of Daughter Country couldn't handle the demoness and she broke through to attack him and the Little Age.

Tao Qian didn't bother with pleasantries, employing every tactic at his disposal. Even if he couldn't injure his opponent at all, creating a diversion to make his escape was preferable to surrendering without a fight.

However, it was at that moment.

Suddenly, a Buddhist chant filled the banquet, immediately dispelling the intense atmosphere of conflict.

"Amitabha!"

Tao Qian had heard the Buddhist chant of the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva before, and he'd also heard the chant from Bai Qin of the Great Freedom Temple.

Both were terrifying in their power.

But in terms of purity, neither could compare to this single chant.

The many strange phenomena that had filled the room dissipated like bubbles at the sound of this chant.

The hostility and killing intent that had been gradually spreading became nothingness.

Everyone involuntarily looked towards the plain-faced nun in their midst, who smiled at the Red Robed Demoness, saying,

"Princess Yin, today is the establishment of Daughter Country, and it's really not proper to resort to violence. As for this young cultivator from Spirit Treasure Sect, his immortal spirit is innate, his divine aura exceptional. Even in my Dharma Eye, I can see a not-so-shallow connection to Buddhism."

"May I ask if Your Highness could give me some face and cease this confrontation?"

"Additionally, should you visit Southern Yue, you might also wish to advise your husband to refrain from needlessly taking lives and to avoid colluding with the abandoned disciples of Guanyin Temple, bringing harm to the innocent."

It was strange to witness the Red Robed Demoness, who had been baring her fangs and claws, acting as if she feared neither heaven nor earth,

Suddenly displaying an unmistakeable hint of hesitation after the nun spoke.

Her eyes still flashed with ferocity, yet she dared not vent her frustration on the nun.

Eventually, as if having realized something, her gaze swiftly shifted back and forth between the Queen of Daughter Country and the majestic-looking nun.

She stamped her foot, as if she had experienced a sudden revelation,

"So that's it, I see it now."

"Sister Xue, you must be afraid that I covet your treasures, thus you invited Bao Yin Bodhisattva here, hoping to deter me. But you thought wrong this time. While your Daughter Spring is indeed precious, it only works once for my father. Having traded with you already and taken a river's worth of Daughter Spring Water for my father, stealing more of your spring holds no value for me."

"I've lingered for several days because I seldom have good friends; I only pestered you because I wanted to become intimate friends."

"But since Sister Xue has made her intentions so clear, I, Yin Susu, am not so shameless as to overstay my welcome. I shall take my leave then."

"Hmph!"

After dropping these words, the Red Robed Demoness paid no heed to how the Queen of Daughter Country or anyone else in the room took them.

After a cold snort, the ninety-seventh daughter of the Devil God, whose body was alluring beyond measure, leapt into the air, transforming into a red cloud that soared into the sky, and in the blink of an eye, she was beyond the borders of Daughter Country.

People were completely unprepared for this turn of events.

But having listened to Yin Susu's words, it wasn't hard to understand.

"It's possible for the Daughter Palace to establish a country because the Devil God Princess had exerted effort, but it was a transaction; the compensation was a river's worth of Daughter Spring Water."

"However, the Queen of Daughter Country suspected that Yin Susu lingered around with the intent of eyeing their divine terrestrial treasure, planning to steal the entire Daughter Spring Water."

"Therefore, taking advantage of the country's founding celebration, the Queen invited Bao Yin Bodhisattva from Guanyin Temple, hoping to leverage the temple's power to persuade Yin Susu to leave."

"And indeed, she succeeded."

Thoughts flashed through Tao Qian's mind; in an instant, he understood what had just happened.

Then, he couldn't help but secretly complain: "So, the unintended victim was still me; even without Little Age, these two powerful female cultivators were bound to clash."

With Yin Susu gone; the ambiance of the banquet immediately improved.

The mood of the Queen of Daughter Country brightened considerably; she unabashedly pulled Tao Qian to sit down and then proceeded to introduce him to the various distinguished guests around the table.

Their Cultivation Realms alone indicated that each one had an impressive background.

Each represented a significant force within Fumin Province.

The one who scared off the Daughter of Devil God with just a few words, "Bao Yin Bodhisattva," naturally came from Guanyin Temple within Fumin Province, from the same Sect as Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva. In fact, Beautiful Corpse even owed her the honorific title of senior sister.

The elder dressed in wide-sleeved robes and wearing a Ge Cloth on his head came from the millennium-old Zhang Family, one of the Zhang Family's Elders stationed in Fumin Province.

The being that was nothing more than a skeleton was an Elder from the local Sect of Fumin, the White Bone Cave, which had some ties to the Buddhist Sect, making it a curious mix of Heterodox and Righteous paths, with extraordinary strength and deep roots.

Aside from these three, the origins of the other guests were similarly remarkable.

The weakest among them was associated with a power much stronger than the Joyful Pavilion.

"The presence of these powerful individuals means that Daughter Country has effectively attained a certain status, earning recognition from many forces in Fumin, including Guanyin Temple."

"No wonder they dared to fall out with Yin Susu and send her away."

"It also proves that the Queen of Daughter Country truly did intercept me on a whim, apparently seeing my stroke of extraordinary luck and wanting to use me as an auspicious symbol."

As Tao Qian grasped the situation, there was no longer any rush to depart.

Joining a Sect was of utmost importance, but if there were shortcuts to be taken, Tao Qian wasn't opposed.

He had just served as a lucky charm, so taking some rewards was justified.

Tao Qian wouldn't admit that this thought crossed his mind just because, after he toasted the newly-crowned Queen, she leaned in whisper,

"Lending me your auspicious words, this Queen won't be stingy."

"When you leave, in addition to many rich gifts, I will write a letter to my Sister Yunhua and also give you a personal token of mine."

"With these, you can be assured of entry into Sister Yunhua's tutelage."

"Do you understand that as one of the top Great Sects in the Cultivation World, the Spirit Treasure Sect is home to a myriad of strong cultivators?"

"Even so, Sister Yunhua is one of the noticeable female fairies in the Spirit Treasure Sect, and she's very likely to advance to the 'Tribulation Immortal' Realm in the future."

Chapter 137: The Three Calamities Return, the Beautiful Corpse Goes Mad

Undoubtedly, the Queen of Daughter Country's conditions were extremely tempting.

This threw Tao Qian into a happy dilemma because he suddenly remembered that Master Xiao had previously given him a letter of introduction.

It claimed that she had an old tie with Luo Daoist from the Spirit Treasure Sect and could make a referral or two.

However, Master Xiao's wording wasn't as assertive as the Queen of Daughter Country's, merely stating she could provide a referral; whether Tao Qian could enter the Sect depended on his innate talent.

Hm?

As he pondered, Tao Qian suddenly thought of something but it wasn't appropriate to directly ask Yunhua Immortal what her surname was.

He had no choice but to suppress the inspiration that had seemingly arisen from nowhere, quietly becoming an auspicious mascot.

At the same time, he didn't forget to prick up his ears, listening to the exchanges and discussions on the path of cultivation among the assembly of strong figures. Although they didn't delve into any profound Magic Skills due to being at the banquet,

some of the key experiences and astonishing encounters mentioned were highly attractive to Tao Qian, who hadn't been cultivating for long.

Perhaps because of the recent setbacks and having had some drinks, coupled with Tao Qian's peculiar luck and the rich Immortal Spiritual Qi, he could distinctly feel it.

Even though he had not been formally accepted by Yunhua Immortal, the Queen of Daughter Country already treated him as if he were the disciple of her close friend from the boudoir, showing him considerable favor.

As a result, both Sui and Lian Jing'er also reaped benefits. They were attended to by a female official summoned by her, who organized a special banquet just for the two little ones and prepared rare delicacies they could eat, like Jiao Marrow and Jiao Bone, which they had tasted once before and had longed for ever since, and which, surprisingly, there was no shortage of in Daughter Country.

During the feast, Tao Qian actually wanted to ask Bao Yin Bodhisattva a question.

Since Guanyin Temple was aware that the Beautiful Corpse was within Southern Yue, so close by, why didn't the temple send several powerful Bodhisattvas to besiege and defeat the Beautiful Corpse, to clean house?

However, before Tao Qian could voice his question, the Bodhisattva sensed his intentions first.

This plain-faced nun looked over at him and without speaking a word, she began transmitting directly into his mind to clear his confusion:

"I am not worthy of the title 'Bodhisattva.' Mr. Tao may simply call me Bao Yin Daoist if we meet in the future."

"Mr. Tao's concern is understandable to me. It indeed is a fault of our temple for not managing to purge our ranks in time; however, there are reasons for this."

"After the Beautiful Corpse defected from our temple, she obtained protection from the Demon Buddha Temple. From that day on, our temple has fought several battles with the Demon Buddha Temple in the Outer Realm, truly leaving us without the spare strength to try to enlighten the Beautiful Corpse."

"I was able to spare the time to congratulate the Queen and ward off that daughter of the Devil God with an ulterior motive, only because several of my elder sisters took up my responsibilities by facing a demon monk from the Demon Buddha Temple in my stead. Now that the affair has been settled, I too must return to the temple to continue clashing with those demon monks."

"Mr. Tao's compassion for the world has not gone unnoticed by these Dharma Eyes of mine."

"However, please do not worry. Although our temple lacks the strength to clean up our ranks directly, we have long since requested assistance from the Great Freedom Temple."

"The Beautiful Corpse's fate has been sealed, and she certainly won't escape Southern Yue to return to the Demon Buddha Temple."

"It is truly a pity for my junior sister, for she was born with exceptional talent yet ended up choosing the wrong path."

"Mr. Tao has a profound Blessing, and his path in cultivation is immeasurable. I hope you maintain your original heart and do not fall into the Demon Path."

"Amitabha!"

After the final chant of 'Amitabha' echoed in Tao Qian's mind, there wasn't time for him to digest all this information.

The plain-faced nun then got up from her seat, bid farewell to everyone, and her body turned into a wisp of smoke, vanishing in an instant.

Such an Escape Skill, while not as imposing as Bai Qin's "Great Freedom Heart Light Escape," was equally exquisite.

Others, including the Queen of Daughter Country, naturally didn't hear Bao Yin Bodhisattva's transmission; they thought she had merely departed normally.

As for Tao Qian, his mind was churning.

Although the information obtained from Bao Yin Bodhisattva couldn't be considered earth-shattering secrets,

upon reflecting on some past events, he could see that there had been a predestined cause all along.

"At that time, when Master Xiao launched two strikes against Iron Buddha Temple, ultimately forcing the Beautiful Corpse to reveal her incomplete Heavenly Demon Buddha Mother Dharma Form, who would've thought that it would attract Bai Qin?"

"Now it seems that Guanyin Temple must have sought help from the Great Freedom Temple first before dispatching Bai Qin."

"But why? If Bai Qin could have killed the Beautiful Corpse, then why did he choose to sit and transform, only planting a relic inside the Beautiful Corpse's belly?"

"Also, what does Bao Yin Bodhisattva mean by saying I have a connection with Buddhism? I am a bona fide Spirit Treasure Cultivator."

Tao Qian figured out some things, but this resulted in even more questions.

He found these high monks of the Buddhist Sect somewhat annoying now, their cryptic speech left him wandering in clouds and fog.

However, Tao Qian could always prioritize what mattered and set aside confusing thoughts; if he couldn't figure something out, he simply wouldn't dwell on it. He preferred to join the Sect first and seek a stable cultivation environment.

With these thoughts in mind, Tao Qian stayed in Daughter Country for another two days after the feast.

It wasn't that he didn't want to leave, nor was it because in those two days, everyone in Daughter Country treated him with great courtesy; furthermore, many female officials and cultivators were quite bold in wanting to engage intimately with him.

They claimed it was a custom of Daughter Country and that he needn't take any responsibility for raising offspring.

They would simply give birth and raise the children themselves.

It was also due to Tao Qian's body exuding an extremely rich Immortal Qi; the Qi from his nine-extreme number Immortal spirit spread around, leaving a pure, natural Immortal Qi wherever he went or passed by.

To anyone who was not blind, it was clear that Tao Qian was a Spirit Treasure Cultivator with exceptional talent.

Such geniuses were highly welcomed everywhere.

The female officials and cultivators of Daughter Country, although usually relying on the Daughter Spring Water for procreation,

Yet, if they encountered a male cultivator with extraordinary bloodlines and talent, they wouldn't mind seeking his seed together.

Tao Qian had asked the Queen of Daughter Country about it, and it truly was their local custom.

Regrettably, had Tao Qian not known of the effects of "Daughter Spring Water", he might have actually agreed.

After all, in the past two days, the many female cultivators and female officials he had seen were each as stunning as the next, clearly revealing the beautifying and nourishing properties of that spring water.

Of course, in the vast Daughter Country.

Many of the female cultivators were originally girls.

Like the King herself.

In the past two days, Tao Qian had also heard numerous legends related to the Queen of Daughter Country, real and false, hard to distinguish.

However, it was certain that she was the infant daughter birthed by the previous Palace Master, extremely powerful, possibly at the Perfection of Cavernous Mystery level, with her actual name being quite cute – called "Xue Baobao".

As the two days came to a close, Tao Qian, dragging the already plumply nurtured Little Age and Lian Jing'er, bid farewell to the King.

Although Daughter Country was pleasant, Tao Qian had begun to sense the flavor of impending calamities, even though the Three Calamities Bell had not yet tolled.

The King, seeing Tao Qian's urgency, did not hold him back this time.

Instead, she personally cast a spell to sense that the Daughter of Devil God, Yin Susu, was not around and just received a report that Yin Susu had arrived in Southern Yue, meeting with her Prince Consort, Tang Xianzong.

Only then did she truly feel at ease, letting go of Tao Qian, this little Daoist whom she had come to regard as part of her own kin.

Before he left, she indeed kept her promise.

She wrote him a sincere letter of recommendation and gave him a personal token called the "Jade Lady Heart-Clearing Pendant", an artifact she wore for defense during her early years of experience outside, capable of resisting attacks directed at the spirit and soul.

Besides, she bestowed many gifts upon him and even arranged for eight maids to accompany him, cramming them all into a Phoenix Carriage capable of sky-controlling flight.

Seeing this grand setup, Tao Qian faintly understood why many Loose Cultivators in the Cultivation World dreamed of joining a Major Sect. Besides the "Basic Method", there was another significant factor – having a powerful backing, a foundation.

Tao Qian was clearly not yet a disciple of Spirit Treasure Sect, nor had he formally entered under the tutelage of Yunhua Immortal.

But now, he was already prematurely enjoying the care of his elders.

In the end, however, Tao Qian did not accept the maids, only taking the Phoenix Carriage, which was clearly also a Magic Artifact.

"There's no need for the King to see me off; the junior has already received guidance and, barring unexpected incidents, should safely reach Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate."

"Whether I can enter under Yunhua Immortal's tutelage or not, when the junior has made progress in his cultivation, I will be sure to visit the King."

After saying this, Tao Qian bowed to the beautiful King, surrounded by numerous female cultivators and female officials, took one last look at the country with its unique customs and magical charm, and left the great hall.

He stomped his foot to summon an auspicious cloud, and upon reaching the sky, flew out for several miles but felt it was not satisfying enough.

Directly he used the Small Innate Nascent Soul Escape Technique with a single thought traveling a hundred miles towards the border of Daughter Country.

Daughter Country, though called a "country", was actually not that large, only occupying a large tract of territory within Fumin Province.

Tao Qian, carrying the two, quickly arrived at the border and just crossed over.

He was about to summon the Star Zha Demon to initiate the Starlight Escape Technique when following his planned route to the Penglai Sea.

Unfortunately, at that very moment.

The Three Calamities Bell that Tao Qian had been on guard against for so long suddenly tolled without warning.

His Divine Soul began to tremble violently.

"The third calamity, so suddenly?"

"But what kind of disaster could there be here at the border?"

Tao Qian unexpectedly sensed the approaching third calamity, but he could not fathom what the disaster would be.

The first two calamities, although sudden, at least had traces to follow.

The terrifying sight within the Fragrant Meat Collection and the second calamity brought by the wailing of infant spirits.

But now, looking around, Tao Qian saw nothing but wilderness and mountains – where could this third calamity be coming from?

Despite his bafflement, Tao Qian swiftly descended from the cloud.

First, he put Little Age and Lian Jing'er into a Magic Artifact, then directly summoned a "Substitute Demon", ordering it to transform into his likeness and continue using the Auspicious Cloud Skill to advance.

Meanwhile, Tao Qian himself hastily created a crude Cave Mansion nearby, disguising himself as a Loose Cultivator with the Secret Demon Transformation Technique, hiding in the cave and pretending to be a hermit in secluded cultivation in the wilderness.

After preparing for all these, Tao Qian concentrated his spirit, ready to face this unforeseeable third calamity.

Then, in the next moment, he suddenly froze.

A terrifying perception abruptly entered his mind, not that he himself had suffered any mishap.

Rather, it was his Puppet Body.

On Iron Buddha Mountain, the Puppet Body that Tao Qian had completely let roam free.

At this moment, it conveyed a perception, within which was information that also left Tao Qian stunned.

"There's been a shocking change at Iron Buddha Temple, the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva... she has gone mad."

Chapter 138 Blood and Flesh Bodhisattva Devours All Demons, Madly in Love with Matchmaker Desires Soul Splitting

Due to the roaring of the Three Calamities Bell, Tao Qian was very tense and prepared to respond, but unexpectedly, he was greeted with an extremely abrupt and alarming piece of news.

Iron Buddha Temple, has the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva gone mad?

Receiving the perception transmitted from his Puppet Body, Tao Qian did not immediately meditate and immerse himself to feel the movement on the Puppet Body's side.

Being cautious in everything, Tao Qian also dared not confirm whether the third calamity would extend over from the Puppet Body, after all, Iron Buddha Temple was somewhat far from his current location.

Thus, Tao Qian only spared a sliver of his spirit to peek at the current activity on Iron Buddha Mountain.

This peek also made Tao Qian once again feel what was indescribable as "immense terror."

He had once borrowed the shell of the Puppet Body to experience that sensation on Iron Buddha Mountain, as if someone was pounding on his divine soul and spirit with immense force.

Because of this sensation, although Tao Qian had not formally gone to look,

he had made a judgment in advance: the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva had again released her Heavenly Demon Buddha Mother Ming King Dharma Form.

The next moment, Tao Qian's sliver of spirit, taking control of the Puppet Body's shell, for the first time felt the tender and soft body of his own master.

Only, unlike the past ambiguous and charming moments, Master Pan Hongniang and her disciple were now on the run.

Tao Qian, carried by Pan Hongniang, was wrapped in a pink miasma cloud, madly fleeing down the mountain.

Those disciples had long disappeared without a trace, but Shan Jiu, with a head of messy green hair and a suffering expression, was closely following the master and disciple.

This Wild Leek Demon was fleeing while continuously murmuring in a low voice:

"So terrifying, so terrifying, Leek is scared to death."

"Run, run, if I get eaten by that giant monster this time, how long will it take me to revive?"

"Such a loss, had I known, I wouldn't have come to play on Iron Buddha Mountain."

...

Running with them were countless demons and ghosts, Evil Demons and Alien Species.

From the distant sky, it seemed like an anthill disturbed, countless twisted figures desperately trying to leave the region of Iron Buddha Mountain.

And the cause of this scene, sat the shocking figure at the mountain peak.

Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva!

She had revealed her Dharma Image, illuminated by Ten Thousand Feet of Buddha Light, accompanied by endless Buddhist chants, with the upper body still in alluring form, wearing bead and jade Treasure Crown, a high bun, a large shawl, adorned with earrings, Arm Bracelets, and bracelets, just by seeing these, along with the giant shadow of the Big Peacock that shaded the sun, one would truly think she was a compassionate Buddha Mother Bodhisattva.

Until she revealed her lower half, that continuously swelling, devouring everything devil body, those white skeletons, wailing resentful souls, and one by one blood-red Demon Eyes... The originally for the sake of opening the Beautiful Corpse lineage and thus opulently built Iron Buddha Temple was directly crushed by her.

In the ruins of the Buddhist Temple, a dozen or so figures of demons at least in the "Transcend Mortality Realm" were wailing, struggling, and furiously howling and cursing.

Most of them, Tao Qian actually did not recognize, they should be the Transcend Mortality Realm demons attracted to the mountain later on.

But there were still a few, Tao Qian was too familiar with.

Such as the Naked Saintess, the Wolf Demon, and Python Demon, as well as the Yin Yang Elder, but the giant troll baby demon was no longer to be seen, probably having been eaten by the Beautiful Corpse early on.

Including those four demons, a total of a dozen or so Transcend Mortality Demons were at that moment all being suppressed by the Dharma Image of the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva.

These demons, each mighty in power,

were now forced to reveal their true forms, all mountainous and dreadful.

But it was all in vain, not to mention the gap in their Cultivation Realms,

just the Divine Powers alone, the Beautiful Corpse who had refined the Heavenly Demon Buddha Mother Dharma Image, was enough to crush any of her same level opponents.

Let alone these demons, which were weaker than her by more than just a notch, no matter how they wailed, their bodies, cultivated with much pain, were bit by bit being devoured and assimilated by the crazily swelling flesh.

"Beautiful Corpse, wake up quickly, have you gone mad?"

"Madam Beautiful Corpse, please wake up quickly."

"Bodhisattva, quickly come to your senses, you are about to eat us all."

"You fools, that lunatic Beautiful Corpse is clearly in her right mind; she wants to devour us all to repair her damaged devil body."

"She's afraid, scared of Ji Xianxian and that eighty thousand World Suppressing Army, she's got enough benefits and wants to disengage and return to the Demon Buddha."

"Beautiful Corpse, I am from the Naked Sect, my master is the 'Clothesless Old Lady', my following you in wreaking havoc in Southern Yue was merely a transaction, since you're unwilling to pass the Secret Technique to me, I won't force you, but you must let me leave, if you eat me today, my master will sense it, and she'll become your calamity in future, claiming your life."

The last voice was clearly from the Naked Saintess.

Her bizarre Parasitic technique had left an extremely deep and terrifying impression on Tao Qian, but now, she too was begging the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva for her life.

Though her words were not without threats, it was not hard to hear that she was actually pleading.

Unfortunately, by this point, it was utterly meaningless.

The Beautiful Corpse sitting on the lotus seat indeed opened her eyes, including the Demon Eye in the center of her forehead, all three eyes turned vivid red.

The Demonic Qi surged within, but there was no chaos or madness.

She was sane, she was in a state of clarity.

First looking down at the dozen or so Transcend Mortality Demons beneath her, she laughed lightly:

"Naked Sister is actually threatening me, your master as an Elder of the Naked Sect with Ultimate Happiness Realm cultivation, is indeed a powerful senior, but so what?"

"Once I've consumed all of you, and then swallowed all the citizens from the several nearby towns and counties, with these supplements, although my devil body can't be considered Perfect, but all injuries gone, I will return to the Demon Buddha Temple for refining, why should I fear your master?"

"The power of the Naked Sect is not small, but they wouldn't dare to seek trouble with my Demon Buddha Temple's Mountain Gate even if they had ten times the courage."

"Alright, alright, stop struggling, merge with me, let's share the Ultimate Happiness."

As the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva uttered these words, the already surging flesh could no longer be restrained.

Truly like a mountain flood pouring out, in an instant, all the Transcend Mortality Demons were swallowed.

Including the Naked Saintess within, all resistance was in vain.

"Hmm, truly comfortable indeed,"

"Having savored the first course, it's time to try some desserts."

"You little demons all admired my Beautiful Corpse Dharma, so why did you flee so far away, making this Bodhisattva have to pick you up one by one."

"Freeze!"

Accompanied by this terrifying speech, the enormous shadow of the Big Peacock behind the Beautiful Corpse immediately emitted strange, demonic lights.

These demonic lights had once immobilized even Master Xiao and many other strong cultivators of the Righteous path, let alone these demons who had not even reached the Transcend Mortality Realm.

Despite having recruited more demons over the past several days, the number on Iron Buddha Mountain had far exceeded the initial count.

But no matter how many they were, the vast gap in cultivation realms could not be bridged.

A single breath, just one breath.

No matter how far they fled, they were all frozen in place.

In fact, the demons could not get far, after all, the Hundred Demon Embryo Blood Refining Array that enveloped Iron Buddha Mountain and its surrounding territories was connected to the spirit of the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva. As soon as the unexpected change occurred, the array activated, trapping all the demons within, truly like shooting fish in a barrel.

Thus, at this moment, all the demons could only watch, wide-eyed, as that now horrific, fierce, unbearable to look at "Blood and Flesh Bodhisattva" moved down from Iron Buddha Mountain.

With a cruel sense of amusement, it extended arms studded with Demon Eyes and skulls, continuously picking up demons and Evil Cultivators from the ground, the Void, or some other hidden places, stuffing them into the gaping maw that was layered with blood and flesh and beginning to bloom, revealing endless tusks like eating desserts.

The Beautiful Corpse seemed to be indulging in its demonic nature, freezing the demons in place but not their Divine Souls nor even sealing their mouths.

It allowed all the demons to break down, then to cry, curse, and go mad.

Throughout the process, the demons remained conscious.

Watching their bodies being chewed to pieces, their flesh and blood splattering, even their souls could not escape, being utterly devoured.

Truly, one by one, they were eaten with great relish.

Such a spectacle, in an instant, scared countless demons and Evil Cultivators mad.

They all knew that it would soon be their turn, with no place to escape.

Some distance from Iron Buddha Mountain, up in the high sky within a patch of pink miasma that was frozen in place.

Shan Jiu had a pained expression on his face, constantly mumbling to himself.

And Tao Qian's puppet body was being tightly embraced by Pan Hongniang, who, unbeknownst to when, had already started crying. She foolishly stared at her lover, her eyes already red, filled with regret so deep it seemed as if she wished to grind herself to pieces.

She wanted to kiss her lover but could no longer do so, just kept apologizing:

"Fei'er, my Fei'er."

"It's Hongniang who has wronged you; I only wanted you to convert and cultivate the Demon Buddha Dharma."

"I didn't expect it to be a trap, our delusions led us astray. This demon from the beginning never intended to start a lineage of the Beautiful Corpse; she was simply using it as a pretense to gather supplies."

"Hongniang was wrong; I should have taken you back to Peach Blossom Valley, I should have married you first."

"Now, I have dragged you into this doom, my love, and Hongniang hates herself for it."

On the surface, Tao Qian heard Pan Hongniang's cries, full of bitter resentment and grief.

At the same time, a faint telepathic message resonated in his mind.

"Fei'er, don't speak, just listen to me."

"When that Beautiful Corpse comes to devour us, I will use the 'Peach Blossom Five Lustful Soul Splitting Technique.' At that moment, both our bodies will explode into dust, but this is just a Blinding Technique. At the moment of the explosion, I will use the last bit of my mana to place your soul inside a peach blossom petal."

"That petal contains part of my essence, which can take root upon falling to the ground. After forty-nine days, it will bear a peach fruit containing a Peach Blossom spirit with your soul inside."

"After your rebirth, you can use the soul brand Pan Hongniang gave you to open the Peach Blossom Treasure Vault."

"You may take whatever supplies you need from inside, but do not cultivate the 'Five Immoral Lustful Peach Blossom Scripture' anymore. You can take the scripture to some Heterodox Sect and exchange it for a chance to join them."

"Hongniang has long realized, we Loose Cultivators are adrift with no path to follow, even if we exhaust our efforts, we only reach Foundation Establishment, Transcend Mortality at best."

"In the eyes of a Great Demon like the Beautiful Corpse, we are merely ants, fodder that can be nibbled at will."

"Fei'er, before, it was Hongniang who held you back; now I've dragged you into this torment."

"After your rebirth, forget about me completely. Hongniang wishes you success in your future path, that you may become an immortal and ancestor."

Tao Qian's true body and puppet body, upon hearing Pan Hongniang's arrangements before her death, felt complex emotions.

At the same time, many doubts arose in Tao Qian's mind.

"The Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva is panicking like this because she fears Ji Xianxian and Qin Wuxiang's prowess; she doesn't want to become the sacrificial pawn at the vanguard of the Devil God Army."

"After all, she is a Great Demon with significant origins, unlike the Cavernous Mystery Realm demon that was slain on the Falling Phoenix Plain. She knows well the grand battle is fast approaching and plans to reap the last benefit before slipping away."

"After all, as a figure from the Demon Buddha Temple, once she returns to the temple, no one in the Cultivation World can do anything to her."

"But this doesn't seem like my Third Calamity, does it?"

"Situ Fei is just my puppet body; if it is devoured, then it is devoured, what does it have to do with my real body?"

Tao Qian murmured in his mind, filled with doubt.

Yet, the trembling within his Divine Soul did not lessen in the slightest; it even continued to increase.

The very next moment, quite suddenly.

Tao Qian felt another unexpected change, but this time it was not with the puppet body.

It was with the "Substitute Demon" he had sent out to scout the way earlier.

That demon, taking on his appearance, had already flown hundreds of miles away.

Then, without any warning, the Substitute Demon inexplicably vanished.

Chapter 139: The demoness wields the Body Seizing Technique, seeking to take Tao Qian as her Male Courtesan.

Tao Qian was puzzled when, unexpectedly, the Substitute Demon he had sent out vanished without a trace.

He promptly retraced his sensing, yet couldn't find any clue, only to see the Substitute Demon that took his form flying smoothly, directly seized by an unknown force that was utterly irresistible, with not even a process to it, crude and mysterious.

Upon seeing this scene, Tao Qian's heart began to pound furiously.

His Divine Soul trembled, and his spirit became unstable—this was undoubtedly the Third Calamity rapidly approaching.

Tao Qian's brows furrowed tightly, and his expression turned exceedingly solemn.

"We're in trouble, we're in trouble. Why is this Third Calamity so strange?"

"The first calamity was so obvious, and for the second, Master Xiao gave me a hint by smashing me. But this third one, there's nothing at all."

"If my Puppet Body runs into trouble, that's one thing, but what does it mean when my Substitute Demon is captured?"

"Escape? Or stay put and deal with it?"

In Tao Qian's mind, thoughts were wildly surging at this moment.

But before he could think of a countermeasure, suddenly, an extremely strong sense of crisis abruptly surfaced.

A feeling of palpitation passed through his mind, followed by another familiar shiver.

Anomalous information burst forth immediately:

[You are under attack by "Heavenly Demon Capturing Body Technique"... This technique is a pure Heavenly Demon Skill, searching this world with the power of Devil Gods to capture Life; nothing can withstand it... Taishang Treasure No-leak Body can resist some, but it still takes twenty-four hours to be completely immune.]

As this formatted information surged out, Tao Qian almost couldn't help but curse out loud.

The name of this Divine Power skill directly exposed the perpetrator behind the capture of the Substitute Demon.

And it made Tao Qian think back to the first calamity when he was sensed by numerous Demons using skills like Search God and Soul Capturing.

He had faced more at that time, but probably none of those skills could compare to this damned "Heavenly Demon Capturing Body Technique." After all, those skills from that day could only deduce his location and other information, and at most curse him from afar. Yet, this Divine Power from the Devil God could directly capture him from afar, which really was brutally unreasonable.

"I, TMD... is that Heavenly Demon the one called Yin Susu, the Daughter of Devil God?"

"She doesn't dare to trouble the King, so she plans to vent her anger on me?"

"Twenty-four hours; I'm afraid my body will be cold by then."

Thoughts flashed like lightning in Tao Qian's mind.

Yet, his hand movements were even faster, as he directly took out the Demon Gourd.

Opening the stopper and giving it a shake, he saw another Substitute Demon drop out.

Under Tao Qian's command, it transformed into his likeness once more and left the rough cave mansion, selecting a random direction to start flying forward.

Tao Qian himself, however, stayed in place with a cold expression, silently awaiting what would come.

One breath!

Two breaths!

Three breaths!

Almost reaching ten breaths, just when Tao Qian thought there might be good news, suddenly the smoothly flying Substitute Demon disappeared again.

This sight made Tao Qian's face become even more unsightly, but at the same time, it verified something.

"The Heavenly Demon Capturing Body Technique can capture from a distance, but it can't distinguish the Substitute Demon from my true body; moreover, my Taishang Treasure No-leak Body also has a certain resistance to this technique, hence every time the technique is activated to capture, it will prefer to capture the Substitute Demon first."

"That is to say, as long as I have enough Substitute Demons, I can fully withstand it."

Two thoughts were born, even including the solution.

But Tao Qian's face showed no joy, for a very simple reason.

Twenty-four hours, equivalent to a whole day—where would he find so many Substitute Demons to take his place?

Deep down, Tao Qian couldn't restrain a tirade against Yin Susu.

But cursing aside, he still had to struggle.

The moment the second Substitute Demon was captured, Tao Qian shook out a third one from the gourd. The latter, reluctantly transformed into Tao Qian and, turning around, was ready to leave the cave mansion.

Before leaving, Tao Qian seemed to think of something, his eyes suddenly lit up, and after searching briefly within the Mustard Seed Talisman Seed, he quickly took out a bunch of "Yin Thunder Fire Pills" and other items, stuffing them into the Substitute Demon's arms.

With a hint of a sly smile, he instructed:

"If you get captured inexplicably, just detonate these Thunder Fire Pills."

"When the thunder explodes, remember to blow your body to dust as well."

"If by chance you can escape a trace of Demon Thought back to the Outer Realm, I won't boss you around next time and will give you some benefits."

After Tao Qian finished, he only received a resentful gaze from the Substitute Demon.

The Demon then flew into the sky bearing the demeanor of a brave man headed to death, carrying the shape and features of Tao Qian, and with pockets full of Thunder Fire Pills, riding a cloud of good fortune, it continued in the previous direction up into the sky.

Very quickly, even more so than before.

Barely five breaths had passed when this Substitute Demon also disappeared inexplicably.

But this time, Tao Qian's face showed a rare look of anticipation, beginning to silently wait.

Even going as far as to verify something, he didn't release another Substitute Demon.

He just kept holding that Demon Gourd, ready to shake out a Demon at will.

Unexpected but in line with Tao Qian's expectations, a good 15 minutes passed without that sense of danger attacking again.

Just as Tao Qian thought he might have passed this sudden crisis.

Suddenly, the once-weakened sense of danger exploded again.

At the same time, there was a soul-capturing voice, filled with eerie malice and intense interest, that came from an unknown, distant territory.

"What a Spirit Treasure True Cultivation, what a Secret Demon Dark Child."

"I only wanted to capture you to vent a little, and by the way, taste what Taisui Baby is like. But I didn't expect to bump into such an interesting little Daoist."

"I, Yin Susu, love bad men the most, especially ones like you, who appearing saintly on the outside but are truly rotten to the core with Demon nature."

"Let's play a little game of affair with you, little man. I will continue to capture you from a distance, and you just handle me with these Demon heads; I, the Princess, am curious to see how many Substitute Demons you can summon, and if you can escape the palm of my hand, Yin Susu."

"You better hold out for a bit longer, don't be like that dead ghost of mine who couldn't stand even a few short breaths."

"Additionally, let me add one more rule: You're not allowed to go back to Daughter Country to find that cheap woman Xue Baobao. Your soul energy has already been locked by my Heavenly Demon Skill, and the moment I sense you or any Substitute Demon you send back to Daughter Country, I, as Princess, will

immediately employ the power of the Heavenly Demon bloodline and directly cast the Heavenly Demon Slaying God Curse Secret Method."

"You can gamble and see if those Substitute Demons on you can block a curse strike from me."

As these sentences drilled into Tao Qian's mind, his face immediately revealed a complex expression.

Bitterness, mixed with a strong urge to critique.

This voice confirmed once and for all that it was indeed the ninety-seventh daughter of the Devil God, Yin Susu, who had stealthily attacked him, the same one who had been driven away by Bao Yin Bodhisattva two days before.

"Tang Xianzong can only last a few breaths in bed, leaving you unsatisfied; you could simply find yourself another prince consort, why make things difficult for me, a mere little Qi Refining Realm cultivator?"

"The King disfigured you; if you really have the ability, go seek revenge on him. What does that have to do with me, Tao Qian?"

As Tao Qian critiqued, he didn't dare delay even for a moment.

The Demon Gourd shook abruptly, and this time, two demons tumbled out.

One was a Substitute Demon, and the other was a Black-skinned Joyful Demon.

Just like before, Tao Qian took the two demons aside to give detailed instructions before sending the Joyful Demon into the arms of the Substitute Demon and then hitting the road, leaving the Cave Mansion behind.

He, too, followed out of the Cave Mansion.

He then shook out a Star Zha Demon, commanding it to burst open and envelop him, ready to make his escape back to Daughter Country.

But just as he was about to do so, he was suddenly struck by whim.

More intense than any premonition of death he had ever felt, it hit him out of the blue.

"After cultivating the Taishang Spiritual Treasure No-leak Body, all my premonitions have been accurate."

"That means what the demoness said is true; if I actually go back to Daughter Country, I will be cursed and killed in the next breath."

Realizing this, Tao Qian's face turned extremely ugly in an instant.

Tao Qian had once remarked how good it was to have a solid foundation and backing.

Now he had encountered a demoness with a backing and a Cultivation Realm that was extremely formidable, making things difficult for him.

Her Divine Power methods were overbearing and utterly unreasonable.

While Tao Qian was angrily contemplating his next move, without any surprises, the Heavenly Demon Capturing Body Technique came again, seizing the two demons he had dispatched through the void.

Tao Qian's expression changed yet again.

The game had begun.

Although reluctant, Tao Qian took out the Demon Gourd once more.

This time, he directly shook out three Substitute Demons and paired them with a multitude of Thunder Fire Pills and an Illusion Demon amongst other combinations.

He had them scatter and flee; this arrangement could buy Tao Qian some time.

After completing these preparations, Tao Qian suppressed the throbbing in his mind, and as if struck by another thought, his eyes lit up.

He directly released Little Age and Lian Jing'er, commanding the Star Zha Demon to wrap the two little ones and head to Daughter Country for help.

"That demoness overlooked one thing, I can't return, but that doesn't mean I can't send others for help."

"Hold on a little longer, as long as the King arrives, this crisis should be surmountable."

As he spoke, Tao Qian watched the two little ones disappear with the Evasion Light towards Daughter Country.

He himself turned back into the Cave Mansion and immediately sat down to meditate, starting to summon demons at the fastest speed.

"Substitute Demons are rare indeed, but that's relative to other cultivators. In the Outer Realm, with its endless sea of demons, the number of Substitute Demons must be equally astonishing."

"Answer my call, and you will become mine; I refuse to believe that I can't hold out until the King arrives."

As Tao Qian made his fierce vow, it brought disaster upon a kind of demons from the Outer Realm known as Substitute Demons.

Enticed by the Summoning Demon call and seeing the Heavenly Demon Blood Transformation Elixirs, they thought great benefits awaited them, unaware that the Demon Pills had been tampered with.

Careless for a moment, they lost their freedom one by one.

However, Tao Qian was aware of the time pressure; it wasn't long before he had controlled four more Substitute Demons and promptly came out of meditation.

Just as he opened his eyes, he had an immediate sensation.

The demons he had arranged were all captured.

Simultaneously, his prior instructions to the demons worked, and he once again heard Yin Susu's voice transmitted through the void.

What's the best way to drag out time?

Naturally, it's to play on the opponent's pride and arrogance, sparking her interest in conversation.

The longer she talked, the faster the time passed.

Thus, Tao Qian sent out demons, well aware they'd be captured, but he specifically instructed them to ask Yin Susu some questions on his behalf.

Now, it was Yin Susu's turn to respond.

Perhaps it was the ludicrous and laughable nature of Tao Qian's queries, but as he shook out a new combination of demons, what he first heard was an enchanting laugh that threatened to shake one's soul.

"...you little Daoist are really not honest; you claim to be a Spirit Treasure True Cultivation, yet you sent me a Joyful Demon."

"Tsk tsk, I've long heard that Joyful Demons are proficient in the pleasures of All Heavens, capable of rendering true joy. I didn't believe it before, but now that I've truly experienced it, I realize the rumors are not false."

"However, your tactics have reminded me."

"I initially thought you were just at the Qi Refinement Realm, and it was rare you could summon a Substitute Demon. I didn't expect you could also command Joyful Demons, Empty Demons, and other equally rare demons."

"With that being the case, it's inevitable that you will overlook something. You must have already sent other demons to send messages."

"Heh, that's fine."

"Little Daoist, you can start running now. We're changing the game; I will come catch you myself."

"A fun little man like you should serve as my male courtesan, not be wasted on that cheap maid Xue Baobao."

"Boom!"

That final sentence from the Daughter of Devil God was like a thunderbolt from the blue, echoing through Tao Qian's mind.

Chapter 140: Shocking Secret, Innocence Hard to Maintain

Tao Qian already possessed common sense and astute judgment, inferred from the confrontation between Yin Susu and the King during the previous banquet.

This ninety-seventh daughter of the Devil God must possess a Cultivation Realm comparable to that of the King.

In other words, she too was a Cultivator from the Cavernous Mystery Realm.

Moreover, her background and origins were much more terrifying than that of the King.

It was no wonder Tao Qian was so panic-stricken at the prospect of such a formidable female cultivator vowing to capture him personally.

However, Tao Qian quickly regained his composure.

With clear thoughts flashing through his mind, he quickly assessed the situation and discerned a sliver of viable opportunity.

"Although the omens of the Three Calamities constantly thunder, they strangely haven't materialized from void to reality, utterly unlike the certainty of the first two calamities. Could it be that being captured by this demoness isn't the third calamity?"

"I also have a premonition from my Taishang Treasure No-leak Body. If there truly were a life-and-death crisis, it would have already started warning me."

"This demoness, being arrogant and haughty, does not see me as an equal, only viewing me as a cat views a mouse. Naturally, she wouldn't employ any ruthless tactics; she just wants to capture me to serve as her Male Courtesan, and there wouldn't be an immediate threat to my life even if captured."

"With the speed of the Star Zha Demon, as long as nothing unexpected happens, the King should arrive soon."

"So, what I must do is try my best to delay for time."

These thoughts flashed by in an instant.

Then Tao Qian immediately sprang into action, shaking a Substitute Demon from his Demon Gourd, allowing it to assume his appearance, while also shaking out an Illusion Demon and two Joyful Demons.

Although somewhat embarrassed by his actions, compared to being captured to serve as a Male Courtesan, Tao Qian preferred to preserve his purity.

Thus, without further delay, he directly commanded:

"Use whatever methods you can, be it seduction or illusion, but just try your best to stall that incoming demoness."

"The longer you delay, the greater your merit. Afterwards, I, the Master, will reward you abundantly with Untainted Heavenly Demon Blood Transformation Pills."

Having said that, Tao Qian left his crudely constructed Cave Mansion.

If it was a regular Transcend Mortality Cultivator coming to capture him, Tao Qian's arrangements would have been entirely different.

He would have prepared the Xuan Yin Invisible Sword Array, Thunder Fire Pills, and so on.

Alas, it was a Cavernous Mystery Cultivator coming.

Those things, lethal to Qi Refinement and Foundation Establishment, likely couldn't breach Yin Susu's defenses, so there was no point wasting effort.

After exiting the Cave Mansion, Tao Qian quickly determined his bearings, launched his Evasion Light, and flew toward the nearest city.

In just a few breaths, he continuously shook out one Substitute Demon after another, each accompanied by at least one Joyful Demon. Fortunately, the latter were not as rare as the Substitute Demons, so Tao Qian had plenty in stock.

These demons all transformed into his likeness, recklessly emitting "Tao Qian's" scent and dispersing in all directions.

If someone had witnessed this scene, they would likely be thrown into confusion.

Even observers with sharp eyes and related divine abilities couldn't possibly distinguish the real from the fake.

Substitute Demons!

Though not high in rank, they were indeed rare.

Even Demon Sect Cultivators who had mastered the Summoning Demon Technique couldn't shake them out in such numbers.

The reason was simple: Controlling and refining demons always came with a cost.

Who else but Tao Qian could develop a Corpse Evil Brain God Elixir like this and exempt himself from the associated costs?

Despite all these preparations, however, Tao Qian's face did not betray much joy.

"After all, Yin Susu is a Daughter of the Devil God with numerous divine abilities, incomparable to mine."

"All I can do is try my best to delay."

With that thought, Tao Qian used the Secret Demon Transformation Technique to change his appearance once more and quietly descended to a county city below called "Deer Medicine City."

This county city had some reputation within Fumin Province as a hub for grass medicine trading.

Tao Qian thus directly disguised himself as a medicine merchant and seamlessly blended in.

His actions were also a reluctant choice, not daring to head towards Daughter Country. He couldn't risk whether his abnormal soul could withstand the terribly powerful "Heavenly Demon Slaying God Curse Secret Method."

And just as Tao Qian began wandering aimlessly around the city, his mind and those of the remaining Substitute Demons suddenly echoed with Yin Susu's voice:

"Alright, alright, little Daoist, this Princess believes you are a Spirit Treasure True Practitioner."

"Susu doesn't want to kill you or disrupt your plan to infiltrate the Spirit Treasure Sect, I just want to capture you to enjoy some happy days first."

"However, since you little demon have such plans, once you join the Spirit Treasure, you really should be cautious about using your Secret Demon Means so recklessly, releasing demons, especially Substitute Demons, Empty Demons, Joyful Demons, and other rare beings like these. Unless the Master you serve is blind, how could they not know your origins?"

"Look, I've caught a few more heads and am nearing you now."

...

As Yin Susu responded to the questions Tao Qian had prepared, his expression continuously changed.

It seemed that with every sentence she uttered, she captured one of his demons.

Following this conversation, half of the demons he had dispatched had shockingly been captured.

Clearly, the Joyful Demons had not served their intended purpose.

It seemed somewhat counterproductive now; Yin Susu might covet the charms of the Joyful Demons, but she might not necessarily want to enjoy them right away. Wouldn't it be better to capture all and indulge slowly later?

Realizing this, Tao Qian found himself in a difficult position.

Should he flee desperately?

Or gamble that Yin Susu wouldn't see through the Secret Demon Transformation Method?

As he began to ponder, no conclusion emerged.

Tao Qian's mind once again filled with the voice of Yin Susu responding to his prepared questions.

"You really are a tender-hearted little man, asking about Tang Xianzong, that dead ghost facing troubles. Are you worried about me, as his wife, getting dragged down if he fails?"

"You're worrying unnecessarily," she said. "Although Tang Xianzong is useless in bed, he is a formidable figure elsewhere. He had anticipated Ji Xianxian's moves long before. Others think that becoming my husband gave him control over the Devil God Army, but little do they know that before marrying me, he was already the illegitimate son of a high-ranking general of the Taiping Army."

"Moreover, by offering Father the Daughter Spring and Dragon Lust Blood, among other things, I've also secured some rewards that can help the dead man turn the tables."

"Once Tang Xianzong seizes Southern Yue, my status with my father will rise sharply, and I might even be able to compete with my power-wielding sisters."

"But you can rest assured, Tang Xianzong would never dare interfere with this princess's pleasures."

"You just need to obediently come back with me, let me enjoy you for a few days, and I can also offer you some assistance. At least helping you secure a position as a Spirit Treasure True Inheritor is not difficult."

"How about it, little brother? Are you tempted... Sister is coming."

When these words reached his ears, Tao Qian could not hide the shock on his face.

Especially the part about Tang Xianzong's background, which sparked a sudden realisation in Tao Qian about the impending upheavals of Southern Yue.

Tang Xianzong, this Taiping Army General's illegitimate son, seen by others as a man who sponges off a woman.

Does this mean, aside from commanding the Devil God Army, he could, no, would surely summon another division of the Taiping Army?

"It all makes sense now."

"Qin Wuxiang and Ji Xianxian thought that Tang Xianzong only had that military force, so they approached him for a partnership, to grow strong within their own ranks before taking absolute power from the court, and then turning to clean up Southern Yue, seizing control of this province with tens of millions of people."

"And Tang Xianzong, despite knowing he'd be discarded, agreed because he concealed his true origins."

"In the final battle, as long as he uses the Devil God Army as bait to draw Ji Xianxian and his forces in, and then summons the Taiping Army from behind, Ji Xianxian is doomed to defeat."

"Ji Xianxian and Qin Wuxiang's deaths are no loss, but if Tang Xianzong prevails, won't Southern Yue end up as... a country of demons?"

Realizing this, Tao Qian's pupils dilated slightly.

Almost immediately, Tao Qian instinctively wanted to use a technique to share this information with Master Xiao.

However, at that moment, an extremely strong and terrifying palpitation struck.

Tao Qian raised his head sharply and immediately saw outside Deer Medicine City in the sky, a highly enchanting figure in red robes appearing without warning. In her pale hands floated a Demon Banner, its surface swarming with demons that Tao Qian had released.

In such a short time, she had captured them all.

And the laugh she emitted instantly plunged tens of thousands of citizens of Deer Medicine County into a state of confusion.

They fell to their knees, shouting involuntarily:

"The Goddess is a heavenly goddess descending to the earth."

"The Goddess is so beautiful, so very beautiful."

"From today onward, I am the Goddess's servant, willing to die for the Goddess."

Tao Qian intended to blend in among them, guessing that this demoness surely couldn't uncover the Ten Thousand Transformation Technique.

Indeed, the Secret Demon Transformation Technique, which even the Daoist and Buddhist Sects needed to prepare specially to see through, was beyond Yin Susu's ability to detect on short notice.

But being undetectable also meant she had her own ways of capturing someone.

With a coquettish smile, Yin Susu suddenly spoke toward the city, in a tone akin to teasing a lover:

"Little man, it seems in addition to the Summoning Demon Technique, you've also mastered the Secret Demon Transformation Technique."

"Is that all? You still dare claim you're not a little devil from the Secret Demon Sect, but this is better for me. Without the transformation technique, perhaps I would grow tired of you after a few days."

"Now... You can transform at will, meaning you can pretend to be any being in the world... Sister is getting excited already, just follow me obediently back home, let Sister train you a bit before sending you out to wreak havoc on the world."

After delivering these three sentences, Yin Susu paused deliberately for a breath or two.

Tao Qian, of course, made no movement.

But unexpectedly, Yin Susu laughed again, her enchantingly mischievous face manifesting an even denser sardonic expression as she directly spoke:

"Naughty little man, do you really think Sister would personally identify each one and then get delayed by you until that bitch Xue Baobao arrives?"

"If you want to hide, then hide. As long as I kill all these mortals, the one who doesn't die must be you."

"This method is called 'Devil God Blood Flame Needle', not a very profound technique. I usually use it to gather essence blood, a flick of a needle light can instantly extract a mortal's vital essence and blood."

"Of course, they can't harm you, little devil."

Almost instantly as Yin Susu's words fell, she waved her sleeves dramatically toward Deer Medicine County.

Suddenly, the sky changed.

A perfectly fine day turned into an evening glow.

The red radiance covering the sky above the city was actually comprised of the blood flame needles that could snatch lives.

Seeing this scene, Tao Qian could no longer contain himself, sighed once, and as he leaped into the air, he shouted: "Stop, I'll go with you."

Clearly, this Daughter of the Devil God truly fancied Tao Qian, for as soon as he spoke, the entire evening glow abruptly stopped above Deer Demon City.

The next second, the glow quickly returned to Yin Susu's vivid red sleeves.

At the same time, Tao Qian felt himself suddenly embraced by an extremely hot, seductive body filled with a provocative fragrance, as the powerful demon magic power completely restrained him from head to toe.

Yin Susu's beautiful face was inches away, and she even leaned in to kiss him, seemingly ready to enjoy a round of pleasure right there in the sky.

But her expression shifted again, beaming radiantly as she glanced towards a particular direction, even waving her hand in that direction.

Afterward, without delay, still holding Tao Qian, she turned into a streak of red light, diving into the void and vanishing from sight.

At that last moment, Tao Qian clearly saw the familiar figure of the Queen of Daughter Country, steering the waters from afar, rushing over from a thousand miles away.

"My sweet rain... was just a moment too late?"

As the two figures disappeared, only the sound of Tao Qian's furious cursing echoed in the air.