LONGEVITY CHRONICLES

Chapter 19 18: Three True Monarchs, Gourd Demon, and Selling Chestnut Woman

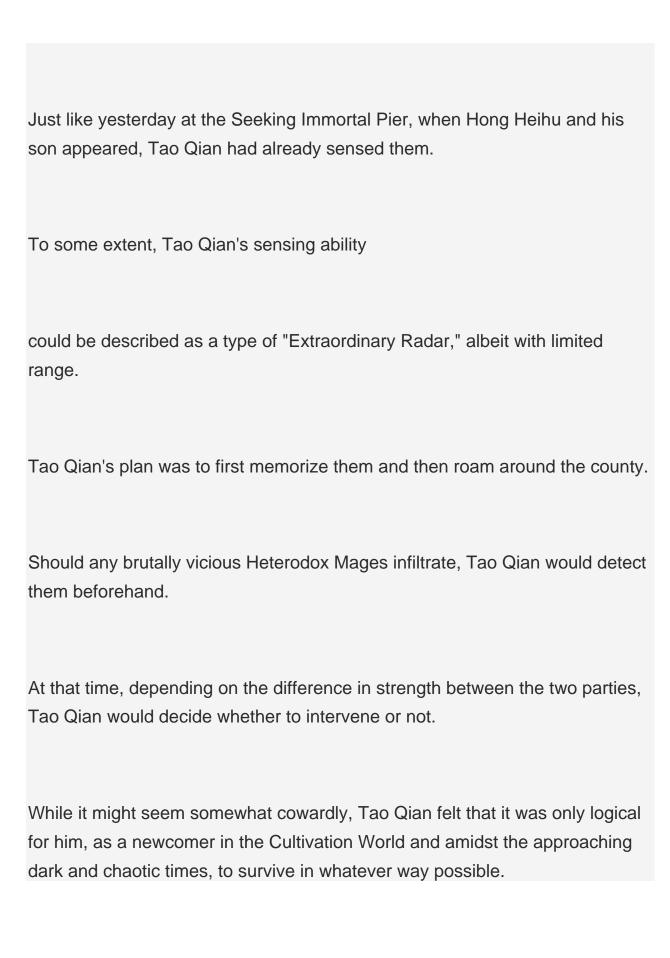
Tao Qian acted as a bystander, completely ignoring the constable's announcement.

His gaze was firmly locked onto the wanted posters on the board, tagged as suspects such as river and sea bandits and rebels, which Tao Qian directly disregarded.

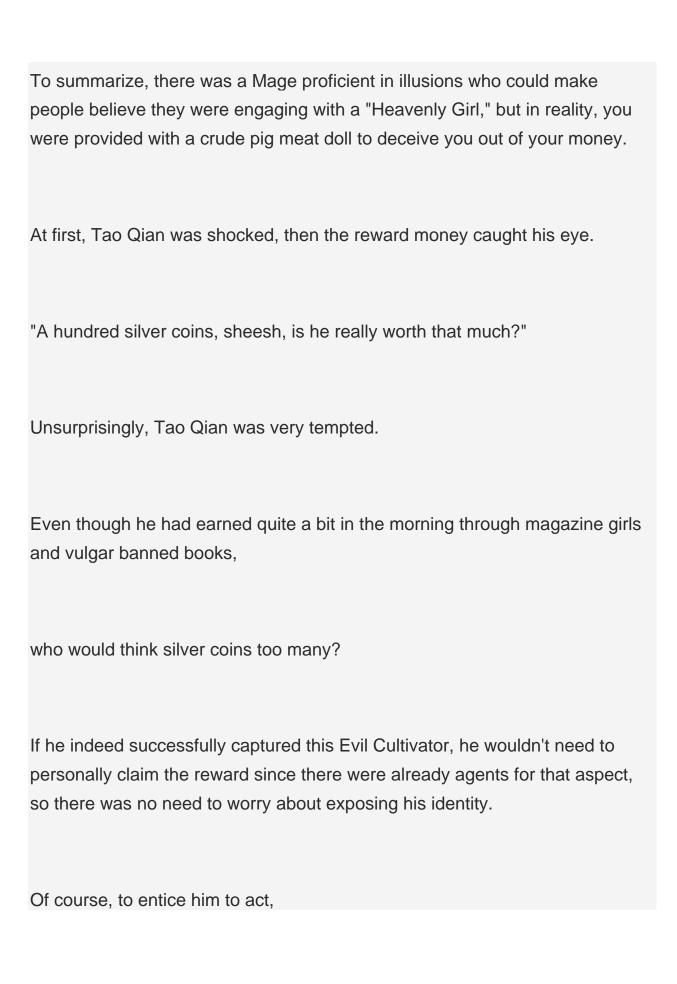
For the former, he had no way of identifying them; for the latter, Tao Qian actually hoped they would succeed in escaping.

The reason Tao Qian suddenly garnered the inspiration to choose these wanted criminals as his real-world targets was that he had a chance to find them.

The prerequisite was that they had to be Cultivators.



In an instant of thought, Tao Qian had already excluded mortal bandits. What he observed and remembered were all extremely sinful Heterodox individuals who showed extraordinary and mysterious traits. "Yuan He, thirty years old, seven feet two inches tall, from Cangwu, characteristically deep-eyed and with a bristly beard, often masquerades as a Taoist claiming to be skilled in 'Summoning Heavenly Girl Skill,' deceiving wealthy households to give money, then summoning a heavenly girl to fulfill the deal; in reality, he is proficient in illusions, the so-called heavenly girl is nothing but straw clothing filled with pig meat and pigskin." "Whoever spots this man and reports him will be rewarded ten silver coins, and whoever captures him will be rewarded one hundred silver coins." Just the first Mage on the wanted list startled Tao Qian. The explanation was crude yet easy to understand.



it had to be those truly wicked Evil Cultivators, and additionally, their Cultivation and skills must be weaker than his. Thankfully, in these aspects, Tao Qian had ways of verification, preventing any tragic misjudgments.

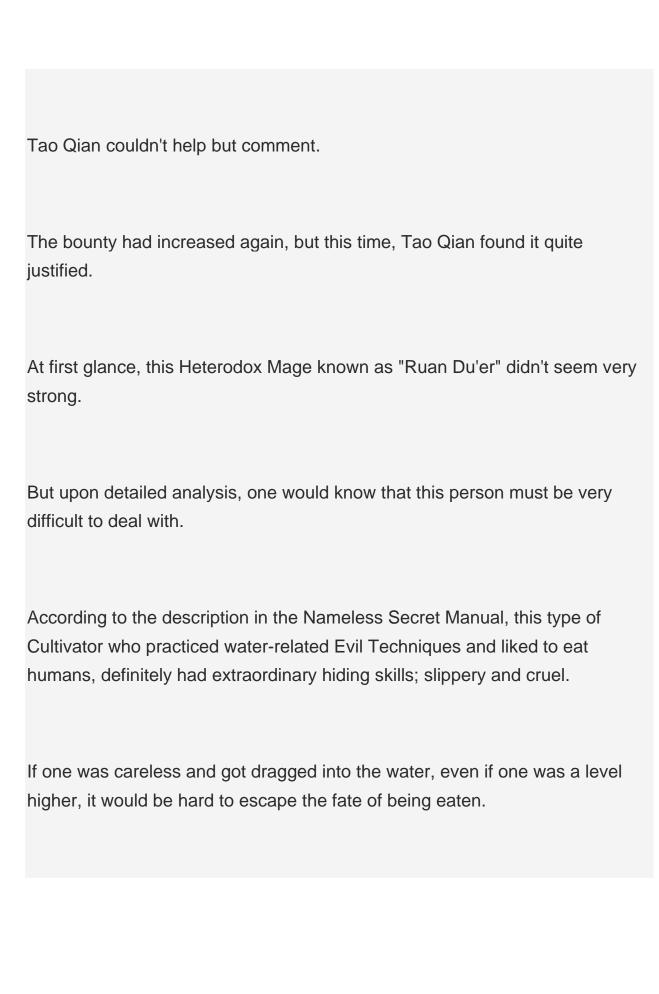
With a resolved thought, Tao Qian's gaze sharpened, and he continued scanning further down.

"Ruan Du'er, twenty years old, approximately six feet one inch tall, a local from Southern Yue, although thin yet robust like a beast, cultivated a called 'Water Beast Technique' Evil Technique, capable of growing gills, fins, etc., and hiding underwater for days... This person relies on this technique to hide in rivers, ports, mountain streams, often dragging people into the water, drowning and then consuming them, extremely cruel, no longer human but a beast."

"Should you spot this person, do not alarm others but report quietly, reward twenty silver coins."

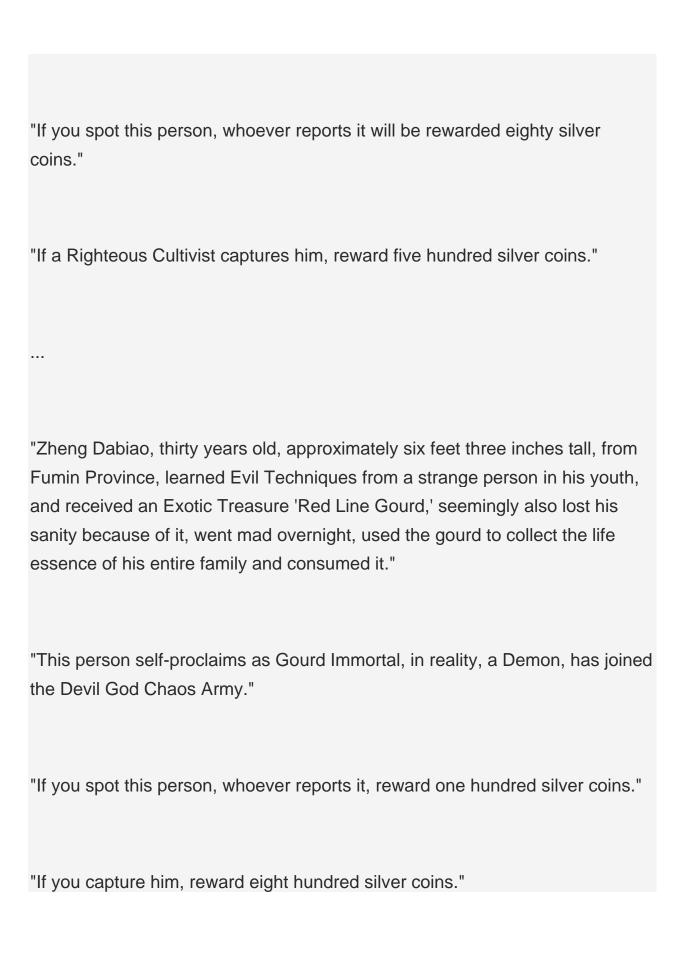
"If a Righteous Cultivator captures him, rewards two hundred silver coins."

"Water Monkey Mage?"



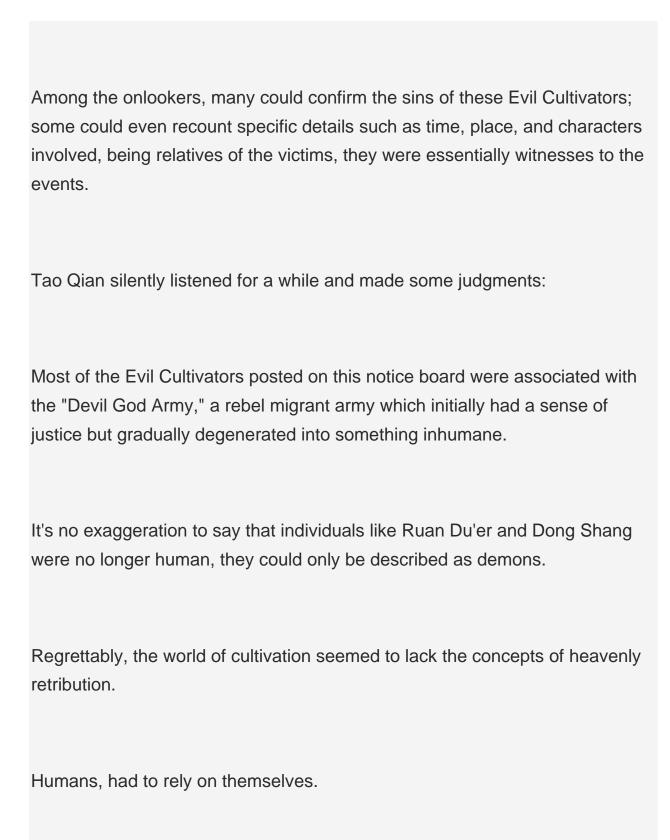
To capture such a Mage, one would need to call upon a Mage of the same level who could restrain him; otherwise, it would be extremely difficult. "I possess the Power of Bo Dragon, which just happens to restrain this guy. If I encounter him, there's a chance for me to intervene," Tao Qian muttered. Continuing to look down, one after another, vile and wicked Heterodox individuals appeared in Tao Qian's view. "Wang Hanshui, forty years old, approximately seven feet one inch tall, an Evil Person hailing from the Miasma-infested lands of the South, born deformed, rumored to have swallowed his two brothers while still in his mother's womb, resulting in a meat lump on each shoulder, stumbled upon Evil Technique inheritance in the Miasma Forest, became a bandit after achieving Cultivation, self-proclaims as 'Three-headed Monarch,' naturally cruel, fond of eating people, indulges in lust, rapes, and plunders, does all sorts of evil." "This person has joined the Devil God Chaos Army but does not obey orders, often loots privately and retreats back to the Chaos Army when in danger,

truly despicable."



"Dong Shang, forty years old, approximately six feet four inches tall, an unknown origin, rabbit-like face and rat-like eyes, a large black mole on the corner of his mouth, proficient in mesmerizing, hiding, and slaughtering three Exotic Skills, commonly targets pregnant women during the day, sneaks in at night using Evil Techniques to mesmerize the pregnant women and their families, making them willingly obey without awareness, then he uses a knife to cut open the abdomen to take the infant for his Cultivation of Evil Techniques." "This person is a newcomer in the rebel army 'White Lotus Sect,' extremely wicked, deserving of Heavenly Punishment." "If you spot this person, whoever reports it, reward one hundred silver coins." "Capture the offender, reward five hundred silver coins." "Selling Chestnut Woman, age unknown, origin unknown, only known to appear as a stooped old woman with white hair and bark-like skin. This person seems to move like a spirit, possibly possessing an exotic skill that

allows her to travel a thousand miles in a day. She is usually seen holding a basket of chestnuts, blocking the official or smaller paths, and sometimes she even ventures into the market streets of towns selling her chestnuts."
"If someone inquires, this old venomous woman invariably refuses to accept silver coins, coercing customers to trade their lifespan, organs, and such for her chestnuts. If they refuse, she forcibly feeds them the chestnuts, which are highly poisonous, and the consumers die instantly."
"This old venomous woman is also a part of the new White Lotus Sect of the rebel army, her sins are grievous and unforgivable."
"If you spot this person, and report the news, the reward is eighty silver coins."
"Capture the offender, reward five hundred silver coins."
Cruel, inhuman practitioners of heterodoxy, one after another, caught Tao Qian's eye.
Not only did this broaden Tao Qian's horizons, but it also left him feeling somewhat oppressed.



Not all those who rebelled, like the original body that Tao Qian possessed, could be termed "heroes."

Nearly ten minutes later, Tao Qian blinked, making sure he had memorized every one of the Evil Cultivators.

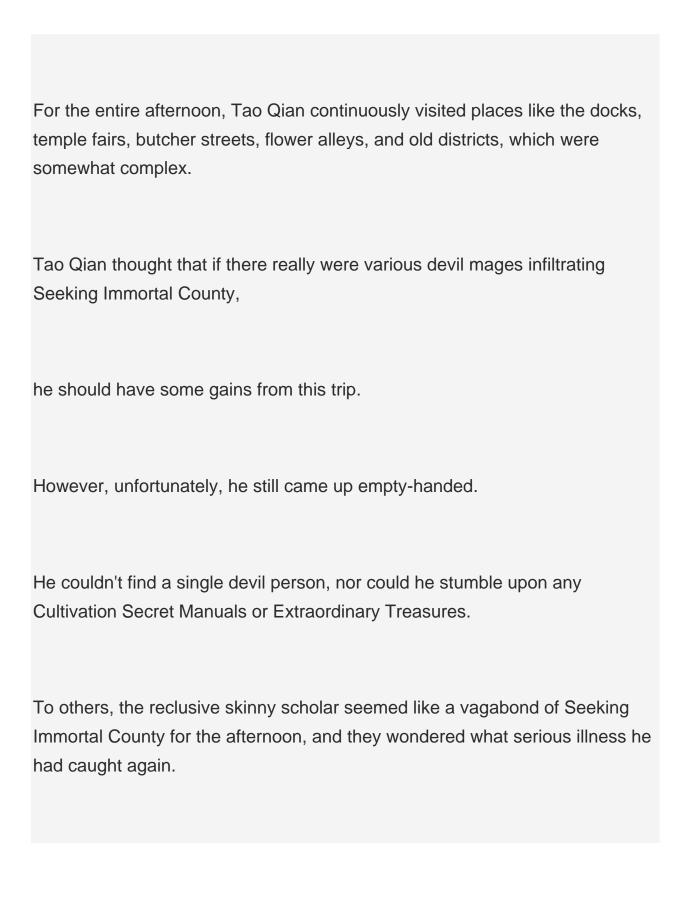
After pondering for a few seconds, Tao Qian turned around, departing the crowd to head towards the poorest and most chaotic part of the south city.

Such dark, heterodox demon people and questionable mages would choose Seeking Immortal South City, a mix of dragons and snakes, as their hiding spot.

Unfortunately, as Tao Qian wandered around the area, engulfed in various foul smells, he discovered nothing.

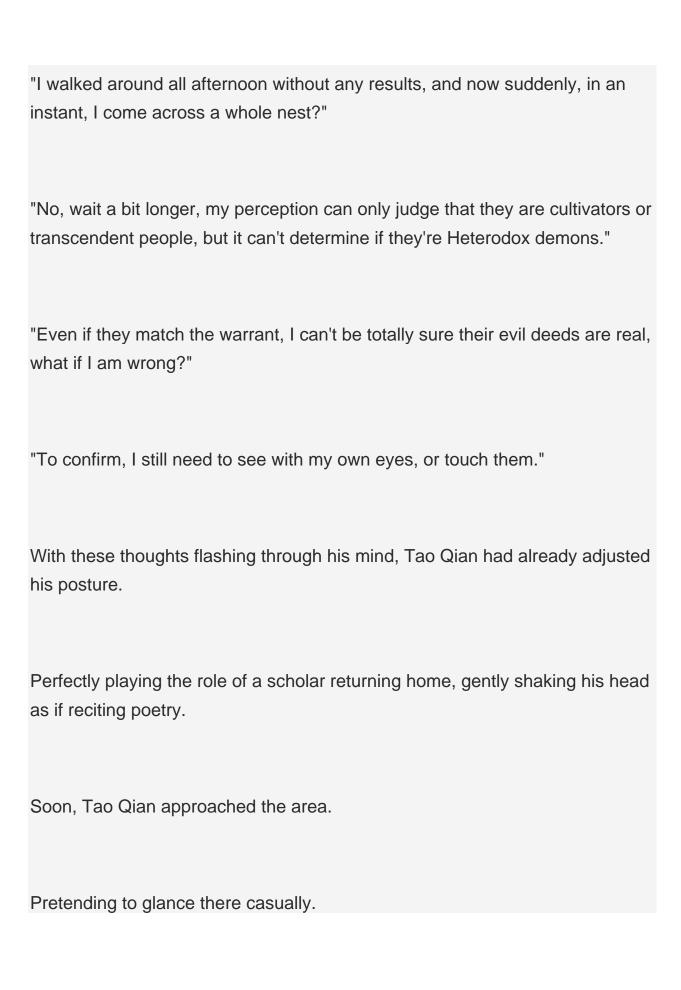
Not a single devil mage or practitioner, Tao Qian could not start his hunt as he had hoped.

Given there was nothing else to do and since all his new stock was sold out, he did not plan to return to the bookstore.



Tao Qian did not care about the gaze of others, he just felt disappointed as he headed back towards Vegetable Market Street.
At the same time, he lamented inwardly:
"It seems that cultivation and transcendent matters are not as close to ordinary people as I imagined."
"Perhaps, today is not the day for finding treasures, maybe tomorrow will present better opportunities."
As Tao Qian pondered this, he arrived at the wealthy sector of Seeking Immortal County.
Known as East Street, the area was dotted with various rich estates and buildings like Western-style churches and bell towers constructed by Westerners.
Even the homes of high officials like the county magistrate were located here.

This area should be the least likely to encounter Heterodox demons. Yet as Tao Qian approached the area, his extraordinarily acute "Extraordinary Perception" was triggered the next moment. Simultaneously, his face involuntarily showed a look of surprise. A thrilling sensation! That familiar thrilling sensation surged through Tao Qian's mind, not just one but a full four waves. And they were all clustered together, right ahead, around the street corner. Tao Qian, with his head slightly lowered and pretending nothing was amiss, continued to walk forward, resisting the urge to sweep his gaze toward them. "What's this?"	
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In the next second, Tao Qian clearly saw his target.

His face showed no anomaly, but his mind whirled, matching up as many as four warrants in the blink of an eye.