

## Longevity 301

Chapter 301: The Gathering Treasure Golden Tower holds a Profound Mystery, Lingmu Holy Embryo accepts the Medical Immortal

Medicine King Temple, from heaven to earth, thousands of cultivators, demons, and alien species.

With Tao Qian himself included, all had their expressions frozen for a moment.

Under the gaze of many, Tao Qian, looking at the warm, dazzling, and weighty "Golden Mountain" in his palm, really wanted to make an excuse.

"It was the Gathering Treasure Gold Mountain that started it, I just touched it once."

"This is clearly a setup, I haven't even inherited my cheap master's mantle yet, I can't be considered Duobao."

Tao Qian muttered internally, which did not alleviate the awkward atmosphere.

However, soon enough, He Sen reacted.

He saw this good-looking leader of the Changchun Society step down through the air.

In a blink, he was in front of Tao Qian.

Although Tao Qian had concealed his aura of being a Spirit Treasure True Inheritor, his Foundation Establishment Realm cultivation was something anyone could see at a glance.

He Sen, as a cultivator of Perfect Transcend Mortality, naturally discerned this immediately.

Even so, he bowed respectfully and then said,

"Daoist's aura is extraordinary, and your divine powers are not something ordinary cultivators possess, presumably, you are a true disciple from a major sect or great sect."

"Considering that it's only a [Gathering Treasure Mountain], if Daoist has the means to take it, our Changchun Society should not be stingy, and making a friend would be good too."

"However, there is a particular reason here, this treasure mountain is prepared by our Changchun Society to reward many fellow Daoists. If we let Daoist take it all away, it might be somewhat inappropriate."

"How about this, Daoist put the treasure mountain back, and our Changchun Society will offer another generous gift in return?"

"How about it?"

Honestly, He Sen's words were quite a decent response.

It sounded reasonable and justified, and the surrounding cultivators, upon hearing this, nodded in agreement.

Especially those low-level cultivators who had grabbed golden bricks but ended up seeing them fly away, their gazes were particularly eager.

Having a treasure voluntarily flying into someone else's hands, who wouldn't feel miserable?

At this moment, Tao Qian also came to his senses from his daze and did not respond to He Sen immediately, but first looked at the Record that burst into his mind.

[Record Name: Gathering Treasure Golden Tower.]

[Record Type: Alien object.]

[Record: This treasure was commissioned by the Changchun Society with spiritual materials compensation, securing the Demon City Giant Merchant Liu Hongsheng and several dozen other cultivators skilled in Refining Treasure to craft it together, consisting of two parts: one is over ten thousand Wealth-Attracting Gold Bricks, the other is the Gathering Treasure Pearl; when combined, they form an exotic treasure not only capable of attracting wealth and treasures but also capable of attacking at will.]

[Note 1: The ten thousand and eighty-one gold bricks can be distributed and not only assist the bearer in absorbing fortune and energy but also absorb the fortune of the bearer itself. Once a certain limit is reached, various accidents will cause the bearer to lose the gold bricks, which will then return to the possessor of the Gathering Treasure Pearl.]

[Note 2: The Gathering Treasure Pearl, currently in the hands of the Undying Doctor Immortal He Sen, who plans to spend ten years to gather all the gold bricks, after which the power of this treasure can increase by fifty percent.]

[Note 3: Exemption from fortune absorption is possible! But cannot be exempted from being reclaimed by the pearl!]

...

"Ha, just as I thought, a fishing man is just a fishing man."

After reading the Record, Tao Qian immediately criticized in his mind.

Before coming here, Tao Qian had conveniently slaughtered a few disciples of this so-called He Sen, an evil cultivator.

From these few people's experiences, this good-looking Medical Immortal was actually a shameless fishing man.

Now it seemed, without a doubt, this to be true.

But his methods were indeed very covert, if Tao Qian hadn't cheated with an abnormal soul, he would not have noticed at all.

"Ten years, who will remember this after ten years?"

"The mortality rate of low-level cultivators in the Cultivation World is already high. Even if someone notices some clues after ten years, there would likely be no evidence."

"Ordinarily, during a grand opening, such devious moves shouldn't be made to avoid affecting the reputation of the square later."

"But if it could be done so covertly, a demon evil cultivator like He Sen wouldn't also refuse."

A few thoughts flashed through his mind, and Tao Qian recognized the underlying secrets.

At the same time, regarding why the golden tower proactively sought him out, Tao Qian had a guess: It seemed not to be the manipulation of his scheming master but more likely due to the tribulation energy accumulated on his body plus the absorbing power of the Nine Toad Bead drawing in treasures.

Alien objects that absorb wealth and fortune should also attract each other.

But who draws whom?

Naturally, it depends on the tier.

In this regard, the Nine Toad Bead was naturally far superior to the golden tower.

Realizing all this, Tao Qian listened as He Sen came forth to ask for it.

He didn't respond immediately, nor did he return the golden tower.

Instead, he took a good look at this extraordinary and handsome Undying Doctor Immortal, considered his identity and status, the layers he could contact, and then looked up at the few Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivators above, silently forming a plan.

Tao Qian first weighed the golden tower in his hand, then asked with an innocent and puzzled expression:

"Didn't Mr. He earlier say that it's for us to use as we wish?"

"Although I don't really like this thing, it's strangely heavy."

"But I do like gold. You mentioned there are more than ten thousand gold bricks here, that's wonderful. After I return, I'll melt them down to build a golden house, golden beds, golden tables, golden toilets, and that would be pleasant indeed..."

With each word Tao Qian spoke, he could see He Sen's expression darken a bit more.

But earlier, it was his own promise.

With the square's imminent opening, it wouldn't be good to go back on his word.

And he couldn't directly take out the [Gathering Treasure Pearl] to reclaim the golden tower, which would completely ruin his reputation.

Thus, at this moment, He Sen had to suppress his anger, bowed again, and then spoke with even more sincerity:

"If Daoist truly desires a golden house, then it's quite simple. I can directly build one to exchange with you."

"No, two golden houses, considering it as Changchun Society making friends with Daoist, we'll build two golden houses in exchange for this golden tower, how about that?"

He Sen thought these words were highly sincere, enough for success.

However, the strange big-eared cultivator before him, upon hearing this, still shook his head and directly stuffed the golden tower into his bosom.

Shaking his head pompously, he adopted the stance of an expert and said,

"Mr. He, no need for further words, although I am not keen on this Golden Tower."

"But it comes with sincerity, willingly offering itself to me, believing that we are fated. How could I have the heart to refuse it?"

"Mr. He, do not entangle me further. Go, just go."

As his words fell, Tao Qian led the three youngsters and turned to depart.

Perhaps because he left so swiftly, He Sen was unable to react in time. After dazing out for a moment, a fierce light burst in his eyes.

Still, he did not make a move but secretly transmitted his voice:

"Daoist, your skills are admirable. I, He Sen, admit defeat."

"Please state your conditions then, the Changchun Society is willing to accept the bet and admit loss."

Tao Qian heard the transmission but completely ignored it.

Entering the crowd, within a few breaths, he reached the edge.

Just as he was about to leave the Medicine King Temple, He Sen, with a grim face, instantly moved to block in front of Tao Qian.

Outwardly, he still spoke loudly, stubbornly saying, "Hold on, Daoist. Please, hear me out..."

This, of course, was for the audience. Secretly, he transmitted to Tao Qian:

"I can see it now; you deliberately came to cause trouble, are you perhaps one of the little demons from the Ten Thousand Demon Square?"

"You dare not provoke the Lotus Heart Temple but think you can bully the Changchun Society?"

"If you do not return the tower today, I'm afraid you will lose your life."

As soon as he transmitted this message, Tao Qian's body abruptly halted.

Seeing this effect, He Sen thought it was working and was about to press harder.

However, the next moment, he saw this strange cultivator in front of him behaving oddly once more.

First, he looked up at several Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivators above who were too proud to land. Then he raised his hand to calculate, and suddenly, he openly revealed He Sen's secrets.

"Mr. He, although you are involved in heresy and heterodoxy, you cultivate the 'Mixed Element Life Extension Scripture' and intentionally spread the Beast Heart Technique to create puppet slaves. Furthermore, you abuse mortals everywhere, cultivating Medicine People for your own cultivation... Such actions have already led you to become a Fallen Demon."

Not only was He Sen stunned by Tao Qian's words.

Many surrounding demons, evil cultivators, and others reacted similarly.

Fallen Demon?

Ha, if that's the standard, there wouldn't be many in the Medicine King Temple who haven't fallen.

What He Sen did, many cultivators were also doing.

It was just that, due to the difference in power, their actions were not as outrageous as He Sen's.

Thinking this, He Sen was about to mock this peculiar youth.

However, Tao Qian, as if anticipating this, took another step forward, blinked at him, and spoke again with a smile:

"Being a Fallen Demon might not be much, but your entanglement with me,"

"This proves, Mr. He... your moment of doom has arrived!"

"What?"

The last sentence hit He Sen, immediately setting off alarms in his heart.

His face also showed shock, disbelief, and irritation.

No wonder he reacted this way.

Who could have expected?

A mere Foundation Establishment Realm cultivator daring to strike a Perfect Transcend Mortality cultivator?

Such behavior, isn't it seeking death?

Yet, Tao Qian not only made his move, but it was also certainly not suicide.

While he was still talking, Tao Qian grinned and suddenly waved his sleeve at He Sen.

A flash of white light abruptly streaked past, and a formidable Transcend Mortality cultivator disappeared without a trace.

So easily, he was taken by Tao Qian.

The Undying Doctor Immortal He Sen!

He had mastered many magical skills and divine powers, but now, facing a Foundation Establishment cultivator, he didn't even get a chance to resist or cry out before he abruptly vanished.

When this scene unfolded, the atmosphere in the entire Medicine King Temple momentarily stalled.

Then, it completely erupted.

In the area where Tao Qian was, all nearby demons and evil cultivators wished they had an extra leg to flee as quickly as possible.

No one was foolish; such actions by this strange cultivator must have something to rely on.

Whether he could withstand the suppression from the Changchun Society and the two Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivators above mattered not.

Those close to him had to escape immediately to avoid being affected if the young man was attacked.

Before the thousands of spectators, demons, and cultivators could express their shock, the several well-watched Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivators showed surprise on their faces.

Then, they directed their gazes at Tao Qian.

Since Tao Qian had not disturbed Lian Niang's lotus pond, the White Lotus Sect had no significant hostility towards him.

However, the Changchun Society's cultivators were all terrified and furious. The Demon City Giant Merchant and the Xiu Family Elders burst into power, moving to suppress Tao Qian.

"Universe in the Sleeve? From Spirit Treasure Sect?"

"No, do not be mistaken, Mr. Liu. This child used a bag-type magical treasure to take He Sen away."

"It's interesting indeed. Take the kid, and the bag is mine."

"Hold on. The kid first snatched my Golden Tower, so let me capture him."

Perhaps the two Cavernous Mystery Great Cultivators,

completely confident that Tao Qian was just a small Foundation Establishment cultivator relying on an exotic treasure, hadn't immediately made a move against Tao Qian but earnestly argued over the possession of Tao Qian's "Holy Embryo Bag."

Chapter 302: The Merchant Calculated Two Disasters, Tao Qian Requests a Sword to Conquer the Gold Rat

"I've been underestimated!"

On Medicine King Temple Street, Tao Qian, who had just stolen the "Universe in the Sleeve" Divine Technique from his Aunt Ma Yi and trapped He Sen, the leader of Changchun Society, in his bag, looked coldly at the argument above between two Cavernous Mystery Realm Great Cultivators.

Besides three youngsters around him, there wasn't even a shadow of anyone else.

Even the Heterodox Female Mage, who had previously handed him the Strengthening Yang Worm, was now keeping her distance from him.

Like thousands of other cultivators and demonic beings, the look they gave Tao Qian implied, "This young man looks so unique and carries himself in no ordinary manner, how can he be a fool?"

Some demons, more outspoken, directly started discussing.

At first, their words were normal, but after a few sentences, they steered off into an unknown direction.

"Did this human clan youngster get frightened into stupidity? He robbed Changchun Society's Golden Mountain and captured their leader, yet he stays put instead of moving. Although it's indeed impossible for him to escape, he could at least try and make an effort to flee."

"You, imbecilic thing, think you're qualified to look down on this Daoist? Look carefully, this Daoist's earlobes are plump like Buddha's, and his double teeth mark him as a strange person. He effortlessly captured that He Sen, who was a Perfectly Transcended Mortality Realm cultivator without a flicker of exhaustion. If he weren't a Cavernous Mystery Realm powerhouse, how would he possess such divine skills?"

"That's right, this must be a senior, disguising his aura and energy. Did he specially come tonight to seek trouble with Changchun Society?"

"That makes sense! I guess this senior must be a Demon Sect Master from the Ten Thousand Demon Square, but I wonder which Demon Sect?"

"If that's the case, then might we witness a battle between Cavernous Mystery Cultivators tonight?"

"We're in luck, in luck! He Sen and Huang Lian Saint Mother played us, but now the tables have turned, and he's become someone else's prisoner at their feet. Perhaps we might even see a real battle between Great Cultivators tonight."

Listening to the noisy surroundings, although Tao Qian felt something was off about this development, it generally did not deviate from his expectations.

He suddenly targeted He Sen, the Undying Medical Immortal, not because his tribulation energy made him foolish, thinking to battle with the numerous Cavernous Mystery Cultivators and to stir chaos in the Demon City.

Let's not even talk about whether Tao Da, the Great Master, could do it, just an "Undying Medical Immortal" wasn't significant enough.

Tao Qian knew this before he even set foot in Demon City.

Once he entered the world, it meant disasters and troubles would continuously entangle him.

Because he chose the Third Method, some disasters might have even begun brewing before his entry into the world.

This lesson, Tao Qian learned in Southern Yue.

Three Calamities, one more ferocious than the next, in the end linking together, erupting in the highest difficulty.

If Tao Qian were to wait passively for the calamity before responding, it would be too late.

After entering Demon City and a series of observations, even encountering Lady Mei and Zhang Baisui in the Sleepless City ballroom, Tao Qian subtly sensed a huge storm brewing within Demon City, which was

both his destined calamity and contained great opportunities and benefits as mentioned by his nominal master.

Tao Qian, now equipped with various methods, was no longer comparable to his time in Southern Yue.

Although unlike his master who could cheat using the "Divination Technique" to manipulate others.

Tao Qian also had other ways of cheating.

Using energy to attract and choose.

Tao Qian felt that tonight, as well as the called evil cultivator He Sen with his Cultivation Realm and identity, was extremely appropriate.

"Both Lady Mei and Zhang Baisui are my Tribulation Leaders; sooner or later, both must officially interact."

"Although I'm delaying, I can't delay for too long, or else the accumulated tribulation will become even more fierce."

"But before that, I want to find out what exactly the Ninth Prince is up to in Demon City, what kind of disaster is brewing? Similar to the one in Southern Yue?"

"Thankfully, the strongest in the scene are only Cavernous Mystery Cultivators, and none in my sensing could compare in strength to the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva, all being slightly weaker."

"With many battle methods I've accumulated at the Mountain Gate, choosing one to join me in an act should not be difficult."

These thoughts, though complex when spoken, flashed through Tao Qian's mind in an instant.

At this moment above in the sky, Demon City's giant merchant Liu Hongsheng and the Xiu Family Elder had just had the conversation from before.

These two Cavernous Mystery Great Cultivators, with their keen and piercing vision,

obviously wouldn't misinterpret Tao Qian as an old Cavernous Mystery Demon like the ignorant demon crowd had.

Although they couldn't figure out Tao Qian's origin and background, his Foundation Establishment Cultivation was definitely genuine.

"Even if he's a Foundation Establishment disciple from the Taishang Dao, he absolutely cannot contend with a Cavernous Mystery Cultivator."

"This youngster just luckily obtained a good treasure and couldn't refrain from showing off in public."

"Such fledglings are not uncommon in the Cultivation World."

Holding such thoughts, they did not rush to exterminate Tao Qian.

Instead, they maintained an expert's demeanor, taking a couple extra moments apparently chatting and laughing lightly, but in reality, they were vying for the Holy Embryo Bag that Tao Qian had revealed.

That treasure, which was refined by Duobao using Lingmu Aunt's relic, was indeed extremely good.

It's only normal for the Cavernous Mystery Realm to covet something so enticing.

In this brief interlude, Tao Qian also quickly made a plan and mentally communicated with another treasure.

Soon there came a response, unexpectedly, it was Yuan Gong's voice:

"Clever lad, have you thought this through? If you use the 'Spirit Treasure Enchantment Secret Technique' to invite my projection to possess you, although it will allow you to successfully cast 'Demon Suppressing Sword Intent' and bully that shit-eating rat above..."

"Doing so means you would not only be unable to nourish the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent for a while, but also for the next three days, if you see a female demon of your liking, you'll be unable to resist your desire and will recklessly approach her seeking pleasure... Ah, why do I even advise, this technique is indeed very good, extremely good."

"Hurry up, lad, I can't wait to see the scene of you begging a female fairy to grant you joy, hahaha."

The mischievous laughter permeated Tao Qian's mind.

Listening to the undisguised malice, Tao Qian couldn't suppress his desire to retort.

Truly, birds of a feather flock together!

Among the old generation of cultivators who could contend with his nominal master, there seemed to be few who were decent.

Though ridiculed, Tao Qian didn't plan to change his decision.

As a Foundation Establishment Realm cultivator aiming to defy common sense in the cultivation world and fight across multiple realms, he naturally had to walk an unconventional path.

Either use the Buddha Bird Relic, the treasured artifact of the Buddhist Sect, to easily combat the Cavernous Mystery Realm, but at the risk of exposing his identity.

Or he must rely on the "Ancestor Master's Teachings" and learn the "Spirit Treasure Unlimited Salvation Scripture", devising his own unique method from this Great Book.

The Great Book of Imperial Decree contained various Secret Summoning Spirit Techniques, able to call upon spiritual objects to aid in battle.

Yuan Gong, merely a wisp of a projection, frail and feeble, had no power for slaughter, but once he possessed Tao Qian, it allowed him temporarily to unleash the "Demon Suppressing Sword Intent", still borrowing mana through the Spirit Treasure Returning Immortal Technique from the Ancestor Master.

This method would cost others dearly,

But for Tao Qian, it was much lighter.

Ignoring the unkempt old man with red eyebrows standing in Medicine King Temple Street, watched by thousands of cultivators, Tao Qian suddenly let out a sigh of lament.

He now bore a strange condition, still embodying Buddha and the saint.

Though lacking the aura of cultivation, his guise was distinctly convincing.

A single sigh!

All eyes riveted!

Tao Qian purposefully ignored the Xiu Family Elders, focusing only on Liu Hongsheng, the giant merchant building banks and factories, and assumed the approach he had used on He Sen.

Pretending, he raised his hand and made calculations, then addressed this Cavernous Mystery Cultivator, whose essence was revealed to be of a transformed nature:

"This Mr. Liu Daoist, your true form is that of a Swallowing Gold Rat. If you would practice the correct teachings, you also might find your path to enlightenment,"

"But instead you chose to cultivate an Evil Technique. Although it has brought you to the Cavernous Mystery Realm, your descent into the demonic is too deep, beyond any hope of salvation."

"I calculate that tonight you will face two calamities."

As Tao Qian's words fell, it provided the perfect excuse for Liu Hongsheng, who was now genuinely furious.

The short figure clutching the abacus suddenly burst out with a terrifying presence, and in an instant, a golden pillar of light shot into the sky.

Even in this moment, having his true nature exposed by Tao Qian, he did not descend.

Instead, he looked down upon Tao Qian from above, grinning amusedly and asking:

"Oh? Tell me then, which two calamities will I, Liu Hongsheng, face tonight?"

Tao Qian was evidently waiting for this question. He stepped into the air and ascended directly to a position several tens of feet from Liu Hongsheng, grinning back.

The next moment, with a resolute tone, he echoed through the Medicine King Temple area:

"One is the calamity of bloodshed; tonight you will face the Slaughter Sword, striking at your skin and flesh "

"The second is the calamity of losing treasures; tonight you will be crushed under the Golden Toad, swallowing your fortune and treasure aura."

Initially, upon hearing these prophecies from Tao Qian,

Both Liu Hongsheng and the watching cultivators wanted to laugh it off.

But soon, they were faced.

The moment his words subsided, Tao Qian immediately released a secret technique, thinking inwardly:

"Please, Mr. Yuan Gong, possess me!"

As the imperial command was issued, a wisp of red smoke suddenly entered Tao Qian's body.

Following that, another mutation arose on Tao Qian's body, modest yet distinct, as his eyebrows swiftly turned a brilliant red.

The sounds of golden cavalry, once faded, returned again, followed by a terrifying and overwhelming rush of crimson sword light that aimed to flatten and suppress everything.

The entire area of Medicine King Temple was thrown into chaos.

This place was rife with demons and monstrous beings.

When that crimson sword light appeared, although normal cultivators were also terrified, their fear was not profound.

They completely couldn't comprehend the scene of numerous monsters, stricken with fear, prostrating and trembling on the ground, wailing in agony.

Some devilish beings, of low cultivation and deeply mutated and corrupted, had their courage and spirits entirely shattered in this moment.

One after another, they died on the spot!

These creatures never expected that merely watching could cost them their lives.

And as for Liu Hongsheng, who bore the brunt, he seemed unharmed at a glance.

But soon the cultivators witnessed, as that bizarre youth merged entirely with the sword light, forming a terrifying scarlet killing sword, and began to combat Liu Hongsheng, who couldn't even endure two breaths before letting out a sharp shriek. Amidst bursting clothes, a giant Rat Demon appeared above Medicine King Temple.

This Rat Demon, covered in golden fur, had two pairs of wings, one much larger than the other.

If one only looked at its torso, it almost appeared as a Spirit Beast of alien species.

But upon closer examination of its head, the flesh was raw and hairless, pierced with ancient Copper Coins and Golden Jade Banknotes among other things.

Dirty and disgusting.

Seeing this scene, the cultivators realized: The Daoist was right; Liu Hongsheng's true form was indeed a Swallowing Gold Rat, just deeply mutated and corrupted.

Everyone thought that after revealing his true form, Liu Hongsheng would turn and confront that strange Daoist.

With his Cavernous Mystery Cultivation, he could forcefully suppress the opponent.

But he did not, showing his true form.

His two pairs of wings flapped swiftly, and his bulky tail covered in coins thrashed violently, his four paws also swiftly scrambling, actually attempting to transform into a beam of golden light to flee the scene.

As he fled, he screamed in terror:

"Secret Demon Sacrifice Body Sword! Demon Suppressing Sword Intent!"

"Are you a True Disciple of the Secret Demon Sect?"

"Have you gone mad, having received the Secret Demon Inheritance yet daring to openly appear in Demon City, unafraid of being besieged by former peers?"

"Leave now, and I, Old Liu, swear not to trouble you."

Chapter 303: One Against Four, Rising to Fame

The Medicine King Temple, enshrouded by the barrier of the cultivators, experienced the fluctuating emotions of thousands of cultivators and Demon and Monster from all directions during this night.

The initial anticipation was for a battle of Perfect Transcend Mortality, and when that fell through, news spread that one could effortlessly grab others' treasures, causing great elation, only for those treasures to fly into the hands of others.

Before they could become infuriated, the situation changed again.

A peculiar cultivator appeared, waving his sleeve to collect one of the main characters, the "Undying Doctor Immortal."

Now, this cultivator revealed strength capable of contending with the Cavernous Mystery Realm.

No!

More accurately, he was suppressing Liu Hongsheng of the Demon City, the Great Demon of the Cavernous Mystery Realm, in battle.

Liu Hongsheng, this cultivator with a mysterious background, had a substantial reputation within the Demon City.

Hence, upon seeing this sight, many onlookers excitedly cheered, feeling the trip was worthwhile.

Above them, hearing Liu Hongsheng's words that carried a soft undertone beneath their apparent solidity, Tao Qian burst into laughter.

He had paid a price to have Yuan Gong take over his body.

Having barely released the "Demon Suppressing Sword Intent," he intended to use Liu Hongsheng's cultivated power and position to practice and gain benefits. How could he possibly let him go so easily?

Therefore, not only did Tao Qian not leave, but he also slashed with even more vigor.

The Spirit Treasure Returning Immortal Technique also operated wildly, borrowing tremendous mana from the ancestors.

As Tao Qian slashed, the gigantic Rat Demon's flesh was turned inside out, drenched in blood, and he taunted with a laugh:

"You don't want to trouble me, yet I insist on troubling you."

"Mr. Liu Daoist, earlier you were so arrogant, completely disregarding me, and now how do you think to deceive me with words to retreat?"

"As for whether I am a Secret Demon Child, why doesn't Mr. Liu Daoist verify it with his life?"

"My divinations are always accurate; I said you would face two disasters, and so you shall."

"No skimping!"

With these words spoken,

the thousands of cultivators and demons below, scattered around to avoid the aftermath, all inwardly acclaimed his dominance.

Looking up above, a blood-red sword net spread out across the sky, terrifying as a storm, densely covering the Medicine King Temple's sky, forcing the other Cavernous Mystery cultivators to yield some territory.

The Black Armored General of the Ninth Prince was entirely independent, the two invited by the White Lotus Sect remained spectators as Tao Qian didn't touch the lotus pond, and the Xiu Family Elders felt apprehensive of Tao Qian's suddenly displayed terrifying power.

Of course, these individuals were all wary of Tao Qian's Secret Demon Sacrifice Body Sword.

"This strange Daoist can unleash [Demon Suppressing]; who knows what else he can do, if I approach and he unexpectedly strikes with [Destroying Buddha], [Demon Cleansing], wouldn't that lead directly to disaster?"

This common thought caused several of them to remain spectators for the time being.

As a result, Liu Hongsheng was put in a difficult position.

Forced to reveal his true form, a grotesquely ugly gigantic golden Rat Demon, wearing a head full of Copper Coin, Ancient Coin, ingots, and banknotes, struggled within the Demon Suppressing sword net.

If it were other Sword Cultivators, he thought he could manage.

But unfortunately, this was the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent.

The dreaded old ancestor of the Secret Demon Sect had created a sword technique specifically targeting the Devil Clan, born to counter devils like him innately.

Before long, Liu Hongsheng's body was left without a patch of unharmed skin.

The glittering golden rat fur was almost entirely stripped away, and the now almost bald merchant, repulsively ugly, was hard to bear looking at.

"Xiu Daocheng, with the friendship we share, how can you stand idly by at this moment?"

"I see this man is still young, surely he only knows the Demon Suppressing Sword. You are not a devil, what are you afraid of?"

"When you came to the Demon City, I treated you well for months, offering all enjoyments, so please come to my aid quickly."

Hearing these words bellowed from the bloodied Rat Demon entangled within the sword net,

even the ordinary cultivators below shook their heads.

Such a tone was no way to ask for help.

Could it be that the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent made the merchant lose his senses?

Indeed, upon hearing these words from Liu Hongsheng, the elder named "Xiu Daocheng" showed displeasure on his face.

However, what Liu Hongsheng said was also true; he indeed received many favors from Liu Hongsheng in the Demon City.

Given the young appearance of that strange Daoist, it was common sense that being able to produce the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent was already a sign of genius.

He surely wouldn't know the other Sword Intents within the Sacrifice Sword.

If he helped now, he could certainly make Liu Hongsheng owe him a big favor...

Just as the thought arose in the Xiu Family Elder's mind, the scene suddenly changed.

The bullying Tao Qian, upon hearing those words, abruptly turned his head, fixing his gaze not only on Xiu Daocheng but also glancing at the other three Cavernous Mystery cultivators.

The next moment, another terrifying Sword Intent soared to the sky.

Although it quickly receded, it nevertheless sent another wave of cultivators into a fright.

Immortal Slaying!

Although not many were scared to death on the spot compared to Demon Suppressing, the might of the Immortal Slaying Sword Intent was even more terrifying.

The previously eager Xiu Daocheng immediately halted.

Though he was not of the Immortal kind, he belonged to Alien Species.

If the Daoist could do Demon Suppressing and Immortal Slaying, wouldn't he be capable of "Slaying Strange"?

Sharing the same thoughts were Master Jing Yin and the Witch Jiang Ruyu.

Tao Qian, seeing his intimidation effective, didn't harbor much joy.

He was acutely aware that the situation wasn't as favorable as it appeared; he could flip over at any moment.

For now, he was merely taking advantage of the complex relationships between the two major forces present and these Cavernous Mystery cultivators, which led him to target He Sen and Liu Hongsheng.

On the surface, Tao Qian still maintained an intimidating presence, but inwardly he muttered:

"It's about time to leave; to delay further may invite misfortune."

Chapter 304: Facing 4 Alone, Rising Fame\_2

When this thought arose,

because he had used the Immortal Slaying technique, Liu Hongsheng, who had been stubbornly resistant, finally completely gave in.

Inside the sword net, an ugly rat without skin, its flesh blurred and bloody, covered its head with wings and wailed:

"Don't slay anymore, I yield, I, Old Liu, yield."

"If you want anything, just ask, Old Liu is willing to give Magical Treasures, even the Golden Mountain can be yours, if one isn't enough, ten, even a hundred are possible."

Hearing this, Tao Qian's face showed no joy.

On the contrary, as soon as Liu Hongsheng begged for mercy, the Cultivation Tribulation Technique within Tao Qian automatically activated, and a sense of danger suddenly struck.

Almost at the same time, the Black Armored General who had stood silently by finally seemed to discern some details about Tao Qian.

Beneath the pitch-black helmet, a deep voice suddenly transmitted:

"Esteemed fellow of the Secret Demon Sect, please stop. Spare Mr. Liu Daoist's life."

"It was just a misunderstanding earlier. Since you are a disciple of the Secret Demon Sect, you shoulder important responsibilities."

"My master controls Demon City and is also preparing some significant matters these days. I impudently, on behalf of my master, invite you to our residence for a chat."

This was what the Black Armored General openly said.

In secret, Tao Qian received another message:

"You seem to be a True Inheritor of the Secret Demon Sect's True Lineage. If I'm not mistaken, you must have recently retrieved the Secret Demon Inheritance from the Outer Realm. You have yet to truly master the Sacrifice Sword Technique, merely borrowing a Secret Demon Treasure to temporarily release the Demon Suppressing and Immortal Slaying Sword Techniques."

"Furthermore, your eyebrows turned blood-red during casting, likely inheriting from Yuan Gong, the Sect's elder of yesteryears."

"Today, all you Secret Demon Sons shoulder the significant task of rebuilding the Mountain Gate. Not only is my master the Ninth Prince, the controller of Demon City, he also holds immense influence within the Taishang Demon Sect. If you join us, my master can surely support you... if things are conducted properly, you might become the new Sect Master of the Secret Demon Sect in the future."

These words, upon hearing,

even Tao Qian had to admit, the temptation was indeed great.

Good heavens, the position of Sect Master of the new Secret Demon Sect.

The Ninth Prince he hadn't yet met, but a big pancake was already thrown his way.

Nevertheless, after hearing this, Tao Qian's eyes indeed showed a hint of a smile.

Naturally, it was not because he "secret demon child" was happy about the potential to rebuild the sect, but because all this fighting hadn't been in vain.

It was because his identity as a Secret Demon Son was now recognized.

"My true body has yet to enter tribulation, but this false identity has been acknowledged."

"Once the events of tonight spread, acting in the future will be much easier for me."

"It's time to cash in, to collect the actual rewards."

Once this thought finalized, Tao Qiang immediately ceased the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent.

All that could be seen was the crimson sword light disappearing in an instant, revealing the strange cultivator, who loudly responded back to the Black Armored General:

"Your honor, don't talk nonsense. Where in the world are there any Secret Demon Sons now?"

"I am but a Loose Cultivator from the wilderness, were bold and rude, merely fortuitously learned a couple of Secret Demon Sword techniques, unworthy of entering the Ninth Prince's palace."

"Enough, enough!"

As his words fell, Tao Qian turned around, ready to escape.

but at that moment, Liu Hongsheng, who had previously been begging for mercy, as soon as the sword light stopped hacking at him, his pairs of crimson eyes immediately emitted a terrifyingly fierce light.

His blurred and bloody body suddenly began to swell, evidently using some kind of 'Dharma Manifestation Heaven and Earth' Divine Skill, and with a roar, a gigantic, skinless, blood-smeared winged Rat Demon appeared and lunged at Tao Qian, its fierce rat head snapping at him.

At the same moment, the cold voice of the Black Armored General transmitted:

"Fellow Daoists, let us together assess the methods of this newly emerged Secret Demon Son."

With this sudden change, the atmosphere below once again boiled over.

All the cultivators originally thought themselves lucky to have witnessed a duel between two Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivators, little expecting the end was near.

Suddenly, a one-on-one duel turned into a group beating.

As soon as the Black Armored General spoke, except for Master Jing Yin of Lotus Heart Temple who did not move, the remaining two including the Black Armored General himself, very synchronously encircled him.

Four against one!

At this point, anyone would think that this ancient Daoist, presumed reborn True Inheritor of the Secret Demon Sect, was doomed.

Hearing the meaning in the Black Armored General's words, it seemed that a normal invitation failed, so they planned to forcibly invite him.

The Ninth Prince, controller of Demon City, and possessing immense influence within the Taishang Demon Sect, if he could further subdue a True Inheritor of the Secret Demon Sect, he would be even more powerful and validate the orthodox prestige.

Thinking to earn this merit, the Black Armored General not only personally invited Tao Qiang through a message but also communicated to the others, revealing Tao Qian's "details" while also promising many benefits to the two.

In the eyes of the Black Armored General, this situation was almost foolproof.

Just as he thought this, and was about to use Taishang Demon Sect techniques with the other two Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivators to capture the Secret Demon Son in front of him,

suddenly, he saw through his helmet that the Secret Demon Son, faced with this change, showed no sign of surprise or fear.

He even seemed at leisure, with a mocking expression, winked at him.

Then he saw something round and rolling suddenly fly out from the Daoist's bosom.

Before he could make out the details of the object, the next moment.

Quack!

Above the heavens, a pleasing crow sounded.

Originally, there was no moon tonight, but with that cry, suddenly a bright full moon appeared without warning.

Moonlight fell like torrents, each piece as heavy as boulders, each piece as large as mountains, instantaneously stunning the Black Armored General, Xiu Family Elders, and the Witch Jiang Ruyu altogether.

Though the time was extremely brief, it was still enough.

Chapter 305: Rising to Fame by Fighting 1 Against 4\_3

The cultivators only saw the treasure bead that flew out from Tao Qian's bosom suddenly transform into an extremely colossal Three-legged Golden Toad.

Since they were within the borders of Demon City, to prevent attracting even greater trouble, the Golden Toad held back its golden light.

After leaping, it violently stomped down, accompanied by a dull thud.

Liu Hongsheng, who had attempted to ambush Tao Qian, saw his bloodied Rat Demon true form immediately suffer severe damage as a well-formed rat head had its skull and facial bones directly crushed, and its colossal body stamped into the ground, sending dust flying into the air.

What was worse, before it hit the ground,

The underside of the Three-legged Golden Toad collapsed inwards as it forcefully sucked in.

In a flash, specks of heavy and dazzling treasure light separated from Liu Hongsheng's body and rushed towards the toad's belly.

Everyone saw it clearly, inside each speck of treasure light, there lay a treasure.

Also being absorbed along with it was a fitting golden aura, which was none other than the wealth energy from Liu Hongsheng's body.

"Ahh, no!"

"Fellow Taoist, please close your mouth, stop already."

"I was wrong, I fully submit, Fellow Taoist, do not absorb my treasured wealth energy."

Within the ruins of Medicine King Temple, a severely injured Rat Demon was wailing.

Earlier, when it suffered from the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent, not a single piece of good skin remained on its body, but it hadn't made such a pitiful noise then.

However, being sucked in by that Three-legged Golden Toad this time, for the Demon City giant merchant, it truly seemed like a catastrophe.

Unfortunately, Tao Qian had long seen through this Rat Demon's two-faced and fickle nature.

If the occasion arose, Tao Qian would not have been able to resist mocking him.

But now, time was of the essence.

Tao Qian did as he said he would, giving the Rat Demon a true double catastrophe, then paid him no further heed.

At this point, the three cultivators of the Cavernous Mystery Realm had already broken free from the entrapment of the Nine Toad Bead's divine skill. Just as the three regained their freedom, looks of anger appeared on their faces all at once.

Intent on taking a harsh action, they wanted to capture this Secret Demon Child that had caused them such embarrassment.

But in an instant, that infinitely majestic Three-legged Golden Toad re-transformed back into a treasure bead, an exceptionally enormous one.

As if a Taiyin Star had descended upon the world, it directly charged towards the three of them.

The Black Armored General, the Xiu Family Elders, and the Heterodox Witch, Jiang Ruyu... all three genuine Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivators, let out exclamations in unison, and each was staggered by the impact of the treasure bead.

Their encirclement instantly had a gap created within it.

Without waiting for everyone to react, around the bright full moon, the heavenly stars suddenly appeared without warning.

Soon after, the earth trembled faintly as a dazzling stream of starlight passed over.

That strange cultivator, along with the three little ones, vanished in the blink of an eye.

Nothing was left except a mocking voice that echoed in the space,

"No need to see me off, friends. I am on my way."

...

As the words fell, the moonlight and starlight gradually disappeared as well.

Within the region of Medicine King Temple, aside from the loud wails and screams of Liu Hongsheng, the Great Demon, the rest of the noise ceased to exist.

However, the thousands of cultivators, demons, and alien species at the scene truly started to get excited.

Although no one dared to speak aloud, the atmosphere became completely agitated.

While passing messages to each other silently, they also quietly raised their heads to look at the several Cavernous Mystery Realm Great Cultivators in the sky.

Including the Black Armored General, all of them were engulfed in silence.

They indeed wanted to continue the pursuit of Tao Qian, only none were adept with escape skills; if they truly went after him, they wouldn't even catch a glimpse of Tao Qian's shadow.

The only glimmer of hope lay with Master Jing Yin from Lotus Heart Temple.

Seeing several people looking over, the elderly nun's expression remained unchanged; she was completely still, speaking only in a slow and steady voice,

"Amitabha!"

"Don't look at this poor nun. The technique that the Secret Demon Sect Daoist just used was the Star Zha Escape Technique. If there were a brother from the Great Freedom Temple here, it would be more convenient. The Heart Light Escape Technique could certainly stop that Daoist. Although I have also cultivated the Step-by-Step Lotus, I cannot catch up to a Star Zha Demon."

"Even if I could catch up, I wouldn't want to. Although that Daoist has cultivated the Secret Demon magic, there's no resentment or evil spirit emanating from his person. This poor nun can befriend him, but will not become his enemy."

"Huang Lian'er, this karma has ended. I hope you take advantage of the market to accumulate good deeds. This poor nun will take her leave."

After her final words, Master Jing Yin suddenly stepped forward; a green lotus burst forth beneath her feet, swiftly enveloping her form, and in an instant, she vanished from sight.

Master Jing Yin departed decisively, and seeing that pursuit was hopeless, the others also chose not to linger.

The Black Armored General left most readily, not even leaving a word, hastily rushing towards the Ninth Prince's Mansion, presumably to report the night's events.

The Elder of the Xiu Family watched the waning moonlight and stars, muttering to himself in puzzlement,

"The Secret Demon Sacrifice Sword, the Star Zha Demon... To possess both techniques simultaneously, this individual must indeed be a True Inheritor of the Secret Demon."

"But the might from that treasure bead was clearly the Toad Pearl, an exotic treasure of the Nine Toad Sect. Such an item cannot be possessed by anyone not deeply blessed. How did it fall into the hands of a Secret Demon Child?"

"And there's also that bag of treasures at the outset, its aura dazzling, its charm extraordinary."

"This individual clearly has only reached the Foundation Establishment Realm in his cultivation, but the treasures he possesses are far from ordinary. Truly strange, strange indeed."

After a few more sentences, he too emitted a burst of black light, which enveloped him and caused him to vanish as well.

Then, there was the Red-footed Witch, Jiang Ruyu, who gazed long into the direction where Tao Qian had left, a flash of interest appearing in her eyes.

Soon after, she shrugged her shoulders and turned to Huang Lian'er, saying,

"Why the long face, Huang Lian'er? The only real loser here is the Changchun Society."

"And your White Lotus Sect has picked up a great bargain."

"With this event, the Medicine King Temple Market can be said to have truly established its reputation. Manage it well, and in the future, you may catch the eye of your sect leader. Perhaps soon you'll be able to step into the Cavernous Mystery Realm and call me Daoist as well."

After a pause, the witch suddenly seemed to recall something.

Her gaze sharply dropped to Liu Hongsheng, who was still tumbling about in the ruins.

She immediately let out a charming laugh, then said sympathetically,

"The most unfortunate one, however, is Mr. Liu Daoist. First, he was ravaged by the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent, then swallowed by the Toad Bead."

"He lost not only a lifetime's collection of treasures but also his fortune and luck."

"Unless there's some unexpected twist of fate, in the coming days, Mr. Liu Daoist will suffer continuous disasters. His banks will face runs, his factories and companies will go under, one after another. His wealth as a giant merchant of Demon City will shrink by a sizable fraction, perhaps even over ninety percent, reducing him to a small merchant at best."

"Pitiful indeed; that Secret Demon Child is mysterious in his origins, peculiar in character, and vindictively thorough. He promised to afflict Liu Daoist with two disasters, and indeed there were two—not a smidgen missed."

"Anyway, if I encounter him again, I won't put on airs about being in the Cavernous Mystery Realm. Speaking gently might even allow me to extract some essence of the Secret Demon Child."

In the end, the Red-footed Witch acted coy, then transformed into a beam of white light and left the territory.

Once the influential figures had gone, the suppressed atmosphere instantly burst forth.

A flood of discussions broke out.

The several thousand excited cultivators and devils, having witnessed a "major scene," began picking lotus seeds while calling over friends, spreading word of the night's events far and wide.

Within a few hours, many cultivators throughout Demon City were aware of a skirmish that had taken place at the Medicine King Temple Market, knowing that Demon City had gained a highly skilled killer who also possessed exotic treasures—a child of the Secret Demon Sect.

Though Tao Qian had not revealed his name, it was safe to say he had achieved sudden fame overnight.

If he were to step forward now and recruit a group of cultivators under the banner of the Secret Demon magic, it would be effortless.

Chapter 306: The Western-style Mansion in Japan Hides Four Charms, The Prince's Severed Root Has a Reason

Master Tao, who became famous overnight at the Medicine King Temple in Demon City and was recognized as the inheritor of the Secret Demon, escaped from the encirclement of four Cavernous Mystery Cultivators but did not go far.

In fact, he hadn't even left the bustling urban area of Demon City.

Flashing in various places a few times and confirming no one was following, Tao Qian's figure suddenly appeared in an alley within Demon City.

The place held no particular intrigue, except for the dilapidated Western-style mansion into which Tao Qian was now stepping—a place empty, dusty, and eerily desolate.

A sign still hung in front of the building, bearing the words "Japan Cherry Blossom Western Clothing Store," clearly indicating the building had some unique history.

Since the Longevity Barrier shattered, not only had demons entered the world, but many foreign occult practices and magic skills had also been introduced into the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty. In addition to

the strange and mysterious Western transcendent techniques, some remote and secret countries also brought in exceptional magic.

For instance, the small country known as Japan had sent over practitioners who called themselves Onmyoji, Spirit Mediums, and Magic Monks, collectively labeled by the Cultivation World as heresy and heterodoxy. These Japanese heterodox invaded the previous naval battle with the Western Alliance Army, only to be defeated by the Ninth Prince.

The Rashamon Country was defeated and forced to marry off a princess as a peace offering.

Japan suffered even more, now being partitioned by Western countries, with many of its cultivators dying in Demon City and a handful escaping back to their homeland.

Tao Qian chose this Western-style mansion for a very simple reason.

Inside, the desolation and absence of life masked the presence of several ghosts, exactly the temporary shelter he needed.

The moment Tao Qian blinked into the mansion, his fresh human presence triggered four ghostly atmospheres.

Perhaps it was Tao Qian's blood that was too enticing, for the four ghosts, originally hiding on the second, third, fourth, and fifth floors, now simultaneously revealed themselves on the first floor. Tao Qian watched their energies intermingle and collide, each ghost fighting the others to claim him.

Though they thought their true forms concealed, their mana was so pitifully weak that even without High Spirit Vision, Tao Qian could see them clearly.

The first was a woman dressed in a Japanese wedding garment, her teeth blackened, hair disheveled, and her body seething with resentment, holding a gesture to put on makeup as she held an ancient mirror—her beauty still fairly presentable.

The second was an elderly woman, her face devoid of any color and coated in a whitish powder. She held an umbrella overhead and carried a cane and a wine bottle. Smiling grotesquely at Tao Qian, she seemed oblivious to her own horrifying appearance, believing herself to be kind and amiable.

The third was more unusual; her true form resembled a giant snail. With a girl's head on a snail's neck made of squishy, adhesive material, she dragged a huge snail shell as she slithered along the beam toward Tao Qian.

The fourth appeared the most normal and was also the most active. She, genuinely a young Japanese girl with a pretty face, even wore the latest fashion for schoolgirls in Demon City. She hopped towards Tao Qian enthusiastically.

With her hands behind her back, she innocently asked, "Am I beautiful?"

Upon hearing this, Tao Qian immediately sensed malicious intent surging from within the female charm.

His expression turned strange as he felt that connection with his past life that was both familiar and foreign.

Without looking deeper, he simply sighed.

Looking at the four ghosts, he spoke with a tinge of regret, "Since you are not female demons, and I am not Xiao Hua Daoist, nothing much will happen between us tonight."

"And since your sins are severe and your misfortune was to meet me, it's time for you to depart."

After Tao Qian spoke, the expressions of the four ghosts turned dire, and they simultaneously revealed their ferocity.

The wedding dress ghost turned her head violently, screeched piercingly with her black teeth bared, spewing out foul-smelling fumes. The old woman swung her large umbrella, releasing deadly pale powder that scattered like a cloud. The snail-headed ghost was more straightforward, her normal-looking girl's head launched viciously at Tao Qian with its sharp teeth bared for attack.

Lastly, the young Japanese girl, with the ripping sound of tearing flesh, saw her pretty appearance vanish as her mouth grotesquely ripped open to her ears, revealing terrifying flesh, her hands which had been behind her raised to brandish a large pair of scissors intent on slicing at Tao Qian's neck.

These frightful visions could scare a mortal Human Clansperson to death on the spot.

But for Tao Qian, even if he stood motionless and allowed the four women to do their worst, they could not harm him in the slightest.

However, he disdained the hassle and with a cold snort, the Nine True Spirit Sound echoed through the space.

Upon hearing it, the ghosts didn't even have time to wail or scream before their souls dispersed and vanished.

All the horrific scenes dissipated like illusions.

The previously dark and frightening Western-style mansion returned to a state of normality after a single breath.

Tao Qian couldn't be bothered to touch the weak ghost remnants left by the Japanese mages after their deaths, erasing them with a single Spirit Sound.

He then summoned a light breeze and sweet rain to cleanse his temporary abode.

"Now it's time to reap the true benefits. Perfect Transcend Mortality realm, and a leader of the local Longevity Society of Demon City,"

"One would expect you to know many secrets; don't disappoint me."

Muttering to himself, Tao Qian waved his sleeve.

Suddenly, a figure stumbled out like a tumbling gourd—none other than He Sen, the so-called "Undying Doctor Immortal" evil cultivator, who also looked quite refined.

While it may seem that He Sen couldn't even resist Tao Qian and was immediately taken into custody with a single gesture when they first met,

Whether it was the discussions among the curious cultivators or the glimpse Tao Qian had when he flung He Sen out, it was clear that He Sen's combat prowess was not to be underestimated.

If it came to a fair fight, although Tao Qian could easily crush him, he wouldn't be defeated without landing a blow.

But this was not He Sen's fault!

Who would have thought?

A cultivator from the Foundation Establishment Realm, who seemed as weak as a chicken, was actually one of the Spirit Treasure Eighteen True Transmissions and controlled many Slaughter Divine Powers with plenty of treasures.

Logically speaking, it was Tao Qian who should have been crushed to death.

Emerging from the Holy Embryo Bag, even a Cavernous Mystery Cultivator would unavoidably be in a daze for a while, let alone a Transcend Mortality Cultivator.

While his Divine Soul was muddled, Tao Qian couldn't effectively cast the Soul Searching Technique.

Thus, the moment he released him, he immediately took a vicious Exotic Treasure gifted by some uncle or aunt and thoroughly ruined his entire cultivation.

At the same time, he summoned the Miraculous Tree Roots to tightly bind him.

Only then did he have the leisure to turn his attention back to the Record bursting forth in his mind.

[Name: He Sen.]

[Record Type: Cultivator.]

[Record: This person is from the Ancient Yu Xinghua County. He was orphaned at a young age, relying only on his sister. They initially survived on charity from neighbors, but during a year of famine, everyone was too preoccupied with their own survival to care for them. In order to feed himself and his

sister, He Sen had no choice but to mingle with ruffians and commit evil deeds for food until the day when an army of refugees passed through Xinghua County. Many county residents perished, including his sister... Seeking revenge for his family, He Sen risked entering the mountains to seek an Immortal Master and unexpectedly encountered an Immortal Fate, obtaining a copy of the Heterodox Great Book "Mixed Element Life Extension Scripture". This scripture compiles various Occult Practices from the medical path of Side Doors, being both right and wrong, depending entirely on the heart of the cultivator.]

[Note One: Because of the hatred in his heart, He Sen mutated and fell into corruption from the very start of his cultivation path. He once enlightened a terrifying Magic Skill from his Lifebound Scripture, a skill that easily cured many illnesses; however, those he healed would soon die, their souls and all their knowledge and skills going to him.]

[Note Two: Practicing medicine with that Evil Technique, although He Sen harmed hundreds of believers, he also quickly gained the reputation of a "Medical Immortal". Moreover, with the resources he gained after killing that group of refugees, his cultivation progressed at an astounding rate.]

[Note Three: He Sen did not restrain himself after taking his revenge but became ever more unscrupulous in his deeds, and it was not long before other cultivators noticed something amiss, and the title of Medical Immortal before his name was prefixed with "Evil".]

[Note Four: Because of similar experiences, He Sen gained the favor of Huang Chong, one of the Saint Heirs of the Alchemist Organization, and he was involved in many secrets.]

...

The initial Records couldn't cause much stir in Tao Qian, who by now had experienced many things.

There were indeed many pitiable and hateful people amidst the chaos of war.

However, that fourth Record sparked a glint of anticipation in Tao Qian's eyes.

Just at that moment, He Sen slowly regained consciousness.

The first thing he saw was the strangely familiar face of Tao Qian.

After all, as a Transcend Mortality Cultivator who held some status, he wouldn't be at a loss upon waking.

Thinking it over in his mind, He Sen immediately understood the cause and effect.

How could he not know?

He had failed to recognize that this person was a ruthless character.

Without a word, he had gotten into trouble.

The eccentric cultivator before him had taken him in with a wave of his sleeve; he must be a cunning elder disguising as a harmless pig to eat the tiger.

He just didn't know the man's purposes.

If it was because of a verbal conflict, then he, He Sen, might still have a chance at life.

"He Sen pays respects to the Elder. Earlier, this junior made a huge mistake, I implore the Elder's forgiveness," he said.

"If the Elder has any commands, He Sen will do his utmost to fulfill them."

"If the Elder's requests are significant, He Sen can even seek the help of my lord, even if it involves trouble with a Cavernous Mystery Cultivator, my lord..."

He Sen cut himself off mid-sentence when he violently realized that all of his Perfect Transcend Mortality Cultivation had vanished.

Before he could cry out in anger, he also discerned the profound implications in Tao Qian's eyes.

With his intelligence, he quickly came to a realisation.

"Who exactly are you? Are you here for my master...?"

As he spoke, he instantly attempted to self-destruct his body and Divine Soul.

Unfortunately, the instant he fell into Tao Qian's hands, he was destined to have no power to resist.

Neither could he seek life, nor could he seek death.

"Daoist He, your true tribulation has arrived."

As these words were spoken, Tao Qian's two fingers were already pointing at He Sen's forehead.

With the initiation of the Soul Search, all of He Sen's boiling memories and secrets began to surface in Tao Qian's mind.

Tao Qian glanced over He Sen's tragic first half of life and his evil deeds.

It didn't take long for the first secret that interested Tao Qian to emerge.

But it wasn't something else; it was the continuation and cause of the events that the Returning Immortal Mirror prophesied when Tao Qian traveled through Demon City with the Three Immortal Treasures.

"On the day of the Ninth Prince's Grand Wedding, Princess Taiping Xiao Chunjiao sneaked into Demon City and launched an assassination in the streets. Although she failed under the protection of the Taishang Demon Sect's guards, besides Xia Chunjiao herself who used her father's Great Brightness Purple Gold Shuttle to escape unscathed, all of her subordinates were killed."

"However, while escaping, Xiao Chunjiao also released another Exotic Treasure, the 'Taiyin Xuan Nu Locking Dragon Needle'."

"With a total of eighty-one needles, anyone pierced by them, even a naturally-born Dragon Seed, would be locked by the Dragon Root and from then on, could not follow the Human Dao."

Chapter 307: Soul Search to Spy Secrets, Seeking Joy in the Bustling Market

"The Ninth Prince possesses impressive cultivation skills, and even had Cultivators sent by the Taishang Demon Sect to guard him. However, the scene was chaotic at that time, and the Dragon-locking Needle is an invisible object, activated by mere thought, making it nearly impossible to guard against."

"Along with the screams, the Ninth Prince's Protective Demon Light shattered, and his Dragon Root was pierced by eighty-one Xuan Nu Needles. It was bad enough that his accumulated Essence Blood was completely drained, but the root of his Dragon Root was also locked by the Exotic Treasure. If he could not break the curse within eighty-one days, for the rest of his life, he would be incapable of walking the great path of Human Relations."

"Due to this catastrophe, the Ninth Prince fell into a rage, repeatedly attempting to lead a military campaign against Xiao Chenzhou, the father of Princess Taiping, leader of the branch of the Taiping Army advancing towards West Capital."

"Unfortunately, the majority of the Ninth Prince's forces were naval, with no land forces to command, leaving him completely helpless against Xiao Chenzhou."

"Because of this, the Ninth Prince has recently become increasingly deranged. Rumor has it that his hosting of the treasure convention was exactly for the purpose of gathering rare and exotic treasures from around the world to remove the eighty-one Dragon-locking Needles and heal his offspring root."

"Of course, the convention was merely a front. The Taishang Demon Sect has extraordinary means and already has the method to resolve the Dragon-locking Needle issue, requiring only the collection of all necessary spiritual materials."

"...

'The Returning Immortal Mirror was right; this Princess Taiping, Xiao Chunjiao, is indeed ruthless. It's unclear what the Ninth Prince did to offend her.'

Tao Qian continued to read through He Sen's memories while also unable to help but express his amazement.

The power involved in this major incident further broadened Tao Qian's horizons.

When he was in Southern Yue, Tao Qian saw a branch of the Taiping Army emerge from within the Beautiful Corpse Bodhisattva to assist Tang Xianzong in a joint attack against Ji Xianxian.

That army belonged to Zhang Yuanji, who was also a leader of a branch of the Taiping Army, dubbed the 'Primordial King.'

From He Sen's memories, it seemed that their power was no less than that of Xiao Chenzhou, the Prince of West Capital.

This indirectly reflects the current chaos and frailty of the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty. A self-proclaimed prince of the Taiping Army dared to have his daughter assassinate the reigning Ninth Prince and even succeeded, yet the Ninth Prince was unable to do anything about it.

Utterly preposterous!

After his amazement, Tao Qian continued to dig deeper.

As Record had said, He Sen indeed held a high place in the esteem of another 'Saint Heir' of the Alchemist sects, Huang Chong.

He had indeed many secrets and important information in his mind.

Tao Qian quickly browsed through them while summarizing.

In not too long, he had a rough understanding of the current situation in Demon City and, compared to other well-informed Cultivators, Tao Qian knew many more secrets.

It was while Tao Qian began to unearth secrets related to the 'Saint Child' called Huang Chong, that an ominous sense of danger manifested without warning.

The next moment, a muffled 'boom' was heard.

In front of Tao Qian, it was as if a watermelon had burst open, with blood, flesh, and shattered bones spraying in all directions, along with some strange pale brain matter.

There was also a faint light flickering, obviously carrying some abnormalities.

If touched, it may be harmful.

However, Tao Qian had sensed it early on and had disappeared from the first floor before the explosion, managing to completely avoid it.

At the second floor staircase, Tao Qian frowned slightly as he looked at the scene that seemed like a dye workshop married with a violent crime.

The explosion of He Sen's Divine Soul and head, although somewhat unexpected, also made sense.

From He Sen's point of view, Saint Child Huang Chong not only possessed Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivation, but he was also elegant and charming, endowed with extraordinary wisdom, cunning, and masterful at the art of uniting and leveraging others' powers to achieve his own goals.

He seemed to be stronger than Qin Wuxiang; it was normal for him to meddle in the Divine Soul of his loyal subordinates.

Although Tao Qian didn't get a detailed look at Huang Chong's information or learn the internal structures of the 'Alchemist Organization', his arduous Soul Search yielded significant rewards.

Apart from learning about the origins and consequences of the Ninth Prince's emasculation, he faintly became aware of another major event brewing in Demon City.

Moreover, after grasping those memories, Tao Qian's own Cultivation Tribulation Technique and Human Dao Destiny within his body began to stir.

Without a doubt, he was touching upon a disaster.

"According to He Sen's memories, the Ninth Prince was not only prepared early on to refine the 'Six Desires Demon Pill' to heal his offspring root, but he was also concocting a great conspiracy."

"That conspiracy is the source of the current chaotic situation in Demon City."

"Many forces in the Cultivation World learned through various channels that the Ninth Prince possesses a treasure of immense power."

"The power of that treasure is incredibly terrifying. Anyone who gets a hold of it can refine it to completely control a territory comparable to Demon City, where they can follow the saying and enforce their will, killing or sparing at their heart's desire."

"Even though many forces suspect this could be a trap set by the Ninth Prince, as seeking after Demon City equates seeking skin from a tiger, when greed takes over, it's not so easily dispelled."

"This conspiracy involves several other major forces apart from the Ninth Prince himself."

"The first is the absurd warlord from Ancient Qin Province, Zhang Jiudeng, who, to demonstrate his commitment to the alliance, even sent his only son Zhang Baisui to Demon City as a hostage."

"The second is the Alchemist Organization, namely Saint Child Huang Chong. This is quite normal; those Saint Heirs from the Alchemist Organization, like Qin Wuxiang, enter the world with the purpose of selecting someone to support for the Dragon Court."

"Qin Wuxiang chose the tyrant Ji Xianxian, but failed due to Bai Qin's calculation."

"Huang Chong, apparently, has chosen the Ninth Prince, planning together with the Taishang Demon Sect, to support him in ascending to the throne."

Tao Qian's mind flickered with thoughts, as he sorted through the complex memories obtained from a soul search.

He then glanced at the horrific crime scene before him, tugged at the corners of his mouth, and muttered,

"Divine Soul self-destructed, I guess it won't be long before Huang Chong finds out that He Sen has been soul-searched by me."

"But knowing that, what does it have to do with me, Master Tao?"

As soon as he finished mocking himself, Tao Qian's figure had completely vanished from the dilapidated Western-style building in Japan.

...

Sleeves sweeping people in, another soul search for secrets had resulted in a good and complete Transcend Mortality Cultivator, the local leader of the Changchun Society, He Sen, dying miserably inside a Western-style building in Japan.

Tao Qian, who had done such a thing, was now effortlessly blending into the night market of Demon City with three youngsters in tow.

The nightlife in this bustling city wasn't for the commoners, but a portion of the wealthy could enjoy it, and many commoners were part of it—only as part of the backdrop of this grand scene, serving others for a living.

Of course, there were also many who were not satisfied with their lot.

On Tianjing Road, the most prosperous commercial street in Demon City, there were one grand building after another, like the Demon City Royal Bank, Hundred Beasts Restaurant, Ultimate Happiness Stage, Yong'an Department Store, Hongsheng Silver Building... and so on.

Many who came to make their mark in Demon City would first stop here to look around and dream of their future.

Just like now, at the street corner opposite the Ultimate Happiness Stage, a group of youths chewing on sugar cane and eating steamed buns sat with eyes gleaming at the vibrant scene before them.

Among them, a few were casually dressed with unkempt appearances, and although each was a Cultivator, their Cultivation was truly meager, merely at the Energy-Introducing Realm.

Tao Qian took a whim to sit with them, hiding his own Cultivation, because they had all emerged from the General's City.

All with eyes filled with envy at the Demon City grandeur that their rural territories could not match.

Thinking they were speaking softly so no one could hear, they didn't expect Tao Qian to hear everything.

"Just look at Demon City, it's so beautiful, so much better than our hometowns. Look at those dancing girls' big butts, tsk tsk, imagine one of them sitting on your lap and shaking, the feeling must be so much more satisfying than with a female zombie, and no need to worry about being absorbed."

"Shh, what nonsense are you spouting? These are living people, how can you compare them to Floating Corpses?"

"Heh heh, no matter how good this place is, what's the use? We can't afford the good food, and the pretty women look down on us. If only Master hadn't strictly forbidden us from using Mana, then... huh huh."

"I say we just do it secretly. They're just ordinary civilians; how could they withstand my hypnotism Secret Skill?"

"If you want to find death, go by yourself, don't drag your brothers into it. You really think this place is the same as our rural territories? This is Demon City, not only is it the Ninth Prince's territory, but it's also crawling with Ten Thousand Demons, and countless other Cultivators."

"If anyone dares to commit a serious offense here and disturb the order, don't say our small Energy-Introducing Realm shrimps—even those of Qi Refinement, Foundation Establishment, or Transcend Mortality would die just the same."

"Brother is right. When we left, Master also said Demon City is getting more and more dangerous and told us not to court death."

"We came out to gain knowledge. The higher-ups in our sect have important matters to attend to, so let's not hold them back. Being turned into a zombie would not be good."

Listening to these crude words, which also revealed no secrets,

Tao Qian was not disappointed. All Techniques Sect was a truly loose and Heterodox Sect filled with mixed characters, with most secret affairs handled by a group of higher-ups.

These few Energy-Introducing Realm shrimps weren't even cannon fodder.

He was just curious why he had the sudden urge to sit here.

As the question arose, the answer immediately followed.

Another sleazy-looking Cultivator was eagerly whispering,

"Quick, look across at the Hundred Beasts Restaurant; two great beauties have come out."

Upon hearing this, the pack of youths all looked in that direction, with the sound of them slurping their saliva immediately rising.

Tao Qian also turned his gaze, and right then his expression drastically changed.

He saw a large group of people leaving the Hundred Beasts Restaurant, surrounding two women with much fanfare.

One woman, trying to be fashionable, was wearing the recently popular white gauze dress in Demon City and was adorned with various jewelry. However, all these items could not obscure the radiance of her extremely beautiful face, as her skin was snow-white and her eyes full of life, innocent and spoiled.

The other, slightly older, had an elegant demeanor, beautiful looks, wearing a large-sleeved blouse and the Double Ring Immortal Bun hairstyle—somewhat exaggerated fashion that suited her perfectly.

Especially when she inadvertently revealed a pair of small tiger teeth, she was charmingly cute and had an extraordinary charm that made countless people look over involuntarily, resulting in more than one traffic accident.

However, none of these were the key points.

What truly changed Tao Qian's expression and made his breathing quicken was the feeling that emerged when he saw the woman at the back.

That woman was not human; she was a Devil.

Before Tao Qian had time to react, Yuan Gong's voice, filled with schadenfreude, came from something in his arms:

"Hahaha... lucky boy, you're in for a treat."

"This lady is an Alien Species Cat Demon, naturally gorgeous, and what's more, she's a rare virgin."

"Hurry up and court her, or you will regret missing the opportunity."

Chapter 308: Kitten Demon, Socially Dead on the Street

"Sweet rain... are you waiting for me here?"

Across the street from the Ultimate Happiness Stage, Tao Qian, mingling with a group of low-level cultivators from the All Techniques Sect who practiced Corpse Refining, turned deathly pale after laying eyes on that great beauty.

It wasn't that he had a hidden sickness; he hadn't expected his normally reliable gut feeling, which had always served him well, to betray him this time.

Not long ago, at the Medicine King Temple Market, Tao Qian had, in an attempt to show off and also to smoothly lay some foreshadowing, used the Spirit Treasure Enchantment Secret Technique to summon a divine soul projection of Yuan Gong into his body, successfully overpowering Liu Hongsheng, a Demon City Giant Merchant disguised as a Swallowing Gold Rat demon, with a brutal application of "Demon Suppressing Sword Intent."

Regrettably, as exhilarating as showing off was, it had its price.

One consequence was a temporary inability to nurture his Sword Intent, which wasn't much of an issue.

However, a far greater price was that for the next three days, Tao Qian, upon encountering any female demon, especially those that suited his taste, could not suppress his desire and would recklessly pursue them. Should he be rejected, he would mutate and fall from grace, transforming from human to demon.

What was ultimately fatal, was the feedback from Tao Qian's abnormal soul:

"You may be exempt from the mutation cost!"

"You cannot be exempt from the cost of pursuit of affection!"

This was actually quite reasonable.

Being exempt from mutation was already exceptional; one shouldn't expect to have everything go their way.

Tao Qian's initial plan was to find a secluded place and let the consequences pass quietly.

However, after leaving that Western-style building in Japan, on a whim, Tao Qian found himself in this predicament.

The abnormalities related to his lower body weren't much of an issue.

What was crucial was that other mutations, such as scales, tails, and claws, began to manifest.

"I'll pursue affection, and if I don't get it, this trial will be considered passed."

"I won't turn into a demon; I'll just lose a bit of face. It's nothing serious."

"Besides, I have the Secret Demon Transformation Technique; such minor trouble is merely trivial."

After quickly convincing himself, Tao Qian no longer cared about the three juniors; right now, they were also eagerly looking forward to the spectacle.

Suddenly standing up, Tao Qian underwent minute changes in his appearance and demeanor.

These minute changes accumulated, and by the time he stood firm, his entire appearance had drastically changed.

His long ears and double teeth were concealed, his looks stealthily improved, and his aura grew mysteriously alluring.

Now presentable, Tao Qian rushed towards the group about to leave by carriage under the astonished gazes of the few All Techniques Sect cultivators and other idlers.

Meanwhile, the comforting yet immensely amused voice of Yuan Gong inside the sculpture in his arms came through:

"You slick kid, you need not feel ashamed. Seeing a beauty and feeling joy is perfectly natural."

"Although you've used the Secret Demon Transformation Technique to turn into a handsome man, it rather seems like trying to hide your ears while stealing a bell."

"I assure you, Duobao that shameless Daoist had anticipated this moment for you. He must be using the Returning Immortal Mirror right now to watch this embarrassing scene from afar, maybe even calling friends over, including your 'kind aunts'..."

Considering Yuan Gong had lent him the Demon Suppressing Sword Intent, Tao Qian tolerated his elder up to the third sentence.

Then, unable to bear it any longer, he locked him back inside the Holy Embryo Bag.

Though Yuan Gong's schadenfreude was no longer audible, many men on the street who also coveted the looks of the two women began to mock Tao Qian's actions with cold sneers.

Especially a few who knew the background of the two women openly remarked:

"Heh, where did this bumpkin come from, fancying swan meat?"

"A country bumpkin who must have heard some storytelling and thinks his genuine passion can sway the mistress of the Gold Family."

"There's a spectacle to watch now. This boy will surely have his legs broken by the Gold Family's guards. I heard the Gold Family mistress recently has been quite close to Zhang Baisui; if that becomes true, the Gold Family will have climbed high."

"The guards are nothing; if he angers the person beside the Gold Family mistress, he might not even save his life."

"Shush, we can't talk about that person. I've heard the Gold Family master spent a huge price to bring him here."

...

The various noises did not reach Tao Qian's ears amidst the bustling market, filled with many mortals and also a good number of hidden cultivators.

None could see through Tao Qian's disguise; they all just thought he was a daring country lad.

But as Tao Qian neared the carriage team, a bizarre scene suddenly unfolded: the guards, who should have stopped him, inexplicably cleared a path, allowing Tao Qian to approach the mistress of the Gold Family and the distinguished guests.

As many bystanders watched in astonishment, Tao Qian reached the two women.

However, in his eyes, he completely overlooked the Snow-White-skinned mistress of the Gold Family.

His gaze was entirely fixed on the slightly older woman, originally a Cat Demon.

As the distance closed, Tao Qian's physical reactions intensified—swallowing, flushed cheeks, visibly aroused... none were missing, none were spared. If not for his ability to mask it somewhat, he would have been thoroughly embarrassed by now.

The two women also noticed the bizarre scene of the guards stepping aside, but the young mistress was completely unbothered and looked interestedly at Tao Qian.

Noticing that this strange man wasn't even looking at her but was completely focused on Sister Yunrong.

Just as she was about to mock him, Sister Yunrong stepped forward, her expression solemn as she looked at Tao Qian.

A qi unique to Transcend Mortality Cultivators emanated from her, sending a warning to Tao Qian.

At the same time, she spoke: "I wonder what the Daoist desires...?"

This Cat Demon female cultivator was entirely unaware that her magnetic, charming voice was the final trigger for Tao Qian.

He resignedly sighed and then spoke to the Cat Demon female cultivator with utmost sincerity,

"Esteemed Daoist, upon seeing your countenance and demeanor, my heart couldn't help but adore you."

"I came here not for other matters, but to ask Daoist a question," he said, "Would you be willing to practice the Joyful Zen with me?"

As soon as he uttered the words, Tao Qian felt a sense of relief.

He then seemed to think of something, and his pupils suddenly constricted.

Sure enough, the truly disastrous moment arrived next.

Yuan Gong had just worried about Tao Qian mutating into a demon, but in fact, as long as Tao Qian sent a signal of seeking joy, his abnormal soul could naturally exempt the subsequent cost.

The problem was, during the exemption of the cost, Tao Qian also reacted.

So at that moment, in the presence of two beautiful women, Tao Qian's body shivered violently.

He watched as both women's expressions froze completely.

Especially the elder sister of the Jin family, who first was stunned, then incredulous, and finally turned to embarrassment, her eyes even flashing with fierceness.

However, she did not call out loudly for guards; instead, she waited for her own Sister Yunrong to make a move and give the debauchee a harsh lesson.

But very soon, that Sister Yunrong of hers unexpectedly gave an answer beyond her wildest imagination.

The cat demon female cultivator, still with that magnetic and charming voice, softly said,

"I am willing!"

"Ah?"

Both Tao Qian and the Jin family's elder sister exclaimed, widening their eyes.

As if those two words were not outrageous enough, the cat demon female cultivator then made an astonishing move.

She suddenly stepped forward, unexpectedly taking the initiative to take Tao Qian's hands, her cool exotic fragrance assaulting the senses, her sweet, magnetic voice entering the ears.

"Daoist sees my admiration, and Yunrong sees that Daoist also harbors joy in his heart."

"To practice the Joyful Zen together is indeed something I earnestly desire."

Previously, when seeking joy, Tao Qian had felt somewhat embarrassed.

Hearing these words now, Tao Qian, already free from the cost, immediately furrowed his brows.

His eyes, filled with scrutiny, suddenly focused on the cat demon female cultivator nestled close to him.

Just then, with their skin touching, ideas naturally burst forth in Tao Qian's mind.

His surprise and curiosity quickly found answers in a series of annotations.

"Record Name: Yunrong."

"Record Type: Devil."

"Record: This woman's original form is an Alien Species Cat Demon, originally living in Jade Ring Mountain in Ancient Yue Province. Since childhood, she was enlightened by a Great Demon and received the top three volumes of the 'Great Dao of Unlimited Longevity Scripture' from the Devil Clan's Great Book. Being of an alien bloodline, she cultivated very quickly after receiving the True Skill and stepped into the Transcend Mortality Realm in just a few decades; however, entering the Cavernous Mystery Realm required fate... Thus, she was offered tribute by the great merchant family of Demon City, the Jin family, left the mountain to join society, and agreed to protect the Jin Family for ten years."

"Annotation Three: Upon descending from the mountain, instructed by a Great Demon, she would meet a destined person in Demon City; following this cultivator could lead her into the Cavernous Mystery."

"Annotation Two: This woman has cultivated a pair of 'Infinite Demon Eyes' and, with her alien bloodline, although she cannot see through the Secret Demon Transformation Technique, she has keenly perceived a whiff of Spirit Treasure Immortal Spirit Qi, confirming that the Spiritual Treasure Cultivator concealing his true self is indeed her destined opportunity."

"Annotation Three: Although she has taken human form, her true nature is still that of the Kitten, immediately feeling joy upon seeing a destined person, initially being sticky and affectionate, unable to extricate herself."

"Annotation Four: This woman is currently in a period where her desires are awakening, having already planned to practice Joyful Zen together with the destined person and bear a litter of Kitten, thus propagating the Kitten Demon line of Jade Ring Mountain."

...

As Tao Qian looked through these annotations, he was stunned.

Although the cat demon female cultivator's strange answer and behavior now had a logical cause,

it didn't stop the torrent of thoughts crashing through Tao Qian's mind, his desire to complain completely unrestrained.

"This whim of mine, tried and true in the past, always brought good fortune and opportunities to me."

"To give me a Transcend Mortality Cat Demon can somewhat be considered a great benefit."

"But what does 'bearing a litter of Kitten' mean? I didn't pay the social death cost to bear a litter of kits with a cat demon!"

While Tao Qian's emotions surged,

the elder sister of the Jin family next to him couldn't hold back anymore; seeing her greatly admired Sister Yunrong throw herself into that rogue's arms,

and seeing those guards as if bewitched to make way, her little head immediately spun with numerous fantasies.

A Demon Cultivator?

A Demon capable of hypnotic devil arts?

A devil lurking in Demon City, absorbing Yin to supplement Yang?

Thinking of these possibilities, her expression drastically changed.

She suddenly sprang into action, seizing her Sister Yunrong's hands and attempting to flee the scene while pretending to be fierce. She warned Tao Qian,

"How dare you harm people in the street?"

"Moreover, to harm those from our Jin family, I must inform you, even if you're a so-called Cavernous Mystery Realm cultivator, you absolutely cannot provoke our Jin family."

"My father is a subordinate of the Ninth Prince, and Sister Yunrong and I are close friends of the Princess... Oh yes, my fiancé is Zhang Baisui, my future father-in-law holds sway over the entire Ancient Qin Province, capable of dispatching even an Ultimate Happiness Realm cultivator."

"If you do not wish to die, you'd better leave quickly."

Just as Tao Qian thought this confrontation absurdly provided an opportunity, suddenly, after hearing those few sentences from the elder sister of the Jin family,

thunder seemed to crash in his mind, and in an instant, he had an epiphany.

Chapter 309: Dragons are Naturally Lewd, The Black Water Demon Blade

"Ninth Prince... Princess's best friend... Zhang Baisui... So that's how it is, now it all connects."

"Perhaps because I failed to make contact with Lady Mei and Zhang Baisui, the two Tribulation Leaders, right away, the tribulations have not yet come upon me, but they are still drawing me toward them in the unseen world."

"This Third Method is indeed terrible."

Tao Qian, who had been perceived as a rapist by the Jin Family's young lady, saw the connections after revealing his origins.

The reason he whimsically squatted opposite the Ultimate Happiness Stage before was due to the influence of tribulation energy, to ensure his encounter with the Jin Family.

As for the Cat Demon female cultivator now nestling by his side, calling herself "Yunrong," she could only be considered collateral damage.

Tao Qian pondered and recalled his experiences since setting foot in Demon City, a vague premonition taking root in his heart:

"If I delay again, avoiding the Jin Family who are clearly enmeshed in disaster, I fear the troubles drawn by the tribulation energy next time will not be so gentle."

"Who knows, it might be that bothersome Ninth Prince dispatching the Demon Army and Demon Cultivators to capture me under some trumped-up charges."

"It'd be better to make contact with the Jin Family first, temporarily take shelter in this wealthy household of Demon City, and then plan things slowly."

With these thoughts firmly in mind, Tao Qian immediately made a decision.

Contacting the wealthy families of Demon City to some extent meant stepping into the spotlight, hence his Secret Demon Child identity could no longer be utilized.

His true identity, the one belonging to Spirit Treasure Sect's current generation of eighteen True Inheritors, Master Tao Da, was even more crucial to conceal.

Although he didn't know the nature of the relationship between Huang Chong and Qin Wuxiang, since they were both part of the "Alchemist" organization, they must be acquainted with each other, not to mention he had a significant grudge with Great Freedom Temple. If exposed, he would be hunted down by Qin Wuxiang and the bald monks of Great Freedom Temple.

Fortunately, this wasn't a problem.

"My Secret Demon Transformation Technique is quite refined, still worth observing."

With a bit of self-praise in his heart, Tao Qian then transformed his body under the watchful eyes of the Jin Family's young lady, who once again widened her eyes in astonishment.

His face suddenly shone with a brilliance as golden pupils and dragon teeth emerged, his hair also beginning to show a hint of green, releasing an imposing aura unique to the Dragon Clan.

However, he controlled it perfectly, letting only the Jin Family's party sense it.

Deliberately showing off his new Half-human Half-dragon true form so that others could witness it, Tao Qian then performed a reluctant gesture, a bitter smile emerging on his outstanding face, before bowing slightly to the Jin Family's young lady:

"To let you know, Miss, I am not a Demon Cultivator, nor am I some vile cultivator who seeks to enhance vitality through the commingling of Yin and Yang."

"My name is Jin Lin, being of Half-dragon Half-man origin, what I just showed is my true form."

"Due to an accident during my cultivation, I have since developed a persistent problem – whenever I see a female cultivator that I fancy, I can't help but approach and confess my admiration."

"These guards were bewitched by my techniques; by now, they should all have come to their senses."

"As for why Kitten Daoist here looks this way, I'm not sure myself."

To bolster his persuasiveness, Tao Qian spoke softly, secretly employing the Nine True Spirit Sound.

With the Spirit Sound entering their ears, combined with Tao Qian's mysterious, savage, yet awe-inspiring Dragon Clan aura,

Both the Jin Family's young lady and the revived guards hesitated for a moment before subconsciously choosing to believe him.

At the same time, Kitten Demon "Yunrong," who received Tao Qian's secret transmission, also delivered her assist at that moment.

The female cultivator, struggling to step half a pace away from Tao Qian, then had an epiphany:

"So that is how it is!"

"I wondered why Daoist suddenly approached me seeking intimacy; it turns out to be due to his cultivation."

"Dragons are lascivious by nature, which is fairly normal."

"There is no need for Sister Xiuzhu to be alarmed. We cultivators often have eccentric behaviors; Daoist's condition is rather commonplace."

With Yunrong voicing these words, the atmosphere onsite immediately relaxed considerably.

Being a Devil Immortal of notable origins and someone for whom the Jin Family Patriarch had prepared many gifts and personally invited from Jade Ring Mountain, Yunrong's status within the Jin Family was not something to be taken lightly.

Her personal validation of Tao Qian naturally left no room for further doubts.

Initially, after clearing up the misunderstanding, the two parties should have gone their separate ways.

However, how could the Jin Family's party have anticipated?

After a brief encounter, their worshiped Devil Immortal had already quietly turned towards this strange Half-human Half-dragon cultivator.

Willing to even bear a litter of Kitten cubs, let alone help Tao Qian make a legitimate entrance into the Jin family.

Upon hearing her Sister Yunrong speaking of "Dragons are lascivious by nature" and the like, Miss Jin Xiuju might have thought of something, as her face immediately blushed red, and without a greeting, she nearly ducked back into the car.

But at that moment, she was stopped by Yunrong, who turned to look eagerly at Tao Qian, asking:

"Where do you come from, Mr. Jin Lin? Do you have a destination?"

"I come from the Cloud Mist Marsh on an Overseas Immortal Island. I ventured into the world to cultivate and seek opportunities, and only today I arrived here, yet with no place to go."

Upon hearing this, everyone noticed the enchanting gleam in the Kitten Demon's eyes filled with the charm of Yunrong.

Her voice was still magnetic, only now with an added touch of eagerness:

"Then it's perfect. Yunrong feels an instant connection with you, Daoist. You must come with me tonight."

"In the terms of Mortals, I will prepare my humble abode to welcome you, and we can discuss our cultivation by candlelight through the night."

"By the way, it's quite difficult for our Devil Clan to cultivate, with spiritual materials being so hard to come by. If we could receive tributes from the Mortal Great Families, a lot of trouble would be spared. There's no need to worry about debts of gratitude or vengeance; if the Mortal Great Families provide spiritual materials, we offer them protection in return. Thus, neither side owes the other anything."

"Yunrong is currently accepting tributes from Xiuzhu's family. Your aura is as powerful as mine, Daoist; why don't you join us?"

"Sister Xiuzhu's father is actually looking all over for powerful cultivators, but so far he's only found worthless ones. If you go, he will surely accept you with delight."

Listened as Sister Yunrong misused idioms and even went so far as to invite that strange Dragon Demon on behalf of her family.

Jin Xiuju's expression subtly shifted, as she was about to gracefully decline.

But the next moment, the words she was about to speak had to be swallowed back.

This being called "Jin Lin," exceedingly handsome and mysterious, who had never deigned to give her a proper look, upon hearing Yunrong's invitation,

suddenly tilted his head slightly, gazing at her earnestly, and flashed her a smile.

A Cultivator who has achieved some success naturally possesses an uncommon allure for the Mortals of the Human Clan.

Tao Qian, without using any Divine Skills or Secret Techniques, simply emanated goodwill and favor, which immediately dissipated any thoughts of refusal she might have had.

Especially when soon after, Tao Qian beckoned over Little Age, Lian Jing'er, and Shan Jiu.

Shan Jiu, a wild green Wild Leek Demon, naturally held no appeal for a young girl.

Lian Jing'er, a mechanical life form, had grown much and no longer possessed the cuteness of its youth, having become mysterious and formidable.

But Little Age alone!

Even those Aunts in the Penglai Sea, with terrifying Cultivation Realms, were extremely fond of him.

This Little Taisui, with his cherubic appearance, came bouncing along, instantly drawing Jin Xiuju's gaze.

At that moment, she heard the beautiful Dragon Demon speak in a somewhat hesitant tone:

"I am not alone, however; I have brought three young ones with me."

"Is that also acceptable?"

Faced with the sincere gaze and query of the handsome Devil Cultivator, Jin Xiuju felt unable to resist at all and said directly, "It... it's fine."

No sooner had she spoken these words, than the scene that unfolded left many Mortal Cultivators watching on the street utterly dumbfounded.

That shameless toad, that impudent and faceless scoundrel, had actually succeeded in his flirtations.

Together with the two ladies from the Jin family, they got into a car and, in the blink of an eye, disappeared in front of the bustling restaurant, heading toward the not-so-distant Jin family estate.

...

At the Jin Mansion, in the main hall, a stout middle-aged man in brocade robes sat upright in the seat of honor.

His countenance was that of authority, with crafty flashes that occasionally shot from his eyes, revealing at a glance he was no ordinary character.

Yet he sported a beard and always maintained a benevolent smile, perfectly concealing any trace of harshness about him.

This man was none other than Jin Xiuju's father and the Jin Family Patriarch, Jin Tianyang.

Although just a commoner with worldly ambitions and wisdom, he actively sided with the Ninth Prince when there was a lack of trustworthy people in Demon City, and indeed quickly gained the Prince's favor. Not only did his family's wealth increase exponentially, but the Jin family also truly integrated into the upper echelons of Demon City's society.

Even after such achievements, he was not satisfied, especially after learning of the vastness and wonder of the Cultivation World, and he harbored new ambitions.

He had heard of the myriad legends of Thousand-year-old Families like the Zhang Family, the Xiu Family, and the Si Family, and so, he planned to gradually shift the Jin family from a secular moneyed clan to a Cultivator family.

Though he was granted a Cultivation Technique by the Taishang Demon Sect after siding with the Ninth Prince,

Jin Tianyang's natural cultivating talent was merely average, but he was still allowed to use Secret Techniques and materials to forcibly elevate himself to the Foundation Establishment Realm.

However, this realm was his limit.

And of the Jin family, including "Jin Xiuju" and many other juniors, none met the criteria to be accepted by the Taishang Demon Sect, and not one could join.

Despite this setback, Jin Tianyang was undiscouraged and persisted with numerous methods and attempts.

For instance, at a great cost, he went to Jade Ring Mountain and invited the Kitten Demon, Yunrong, to serve as a Tribute.

He also schemed to have his cherished pearl, his daughter, form a marriage connection with Zhang Baisui, the son of a powerful warlord, with both families having already started to discuss engagement dates.

Beyond these, he also used his family's immense wealth to collect Cultivation Secret Manuals, spiritual materials, and treasures from all over.

At this moment, several stewards stood before him, presenting the items they had gathered for his inspection and approval.

Jin Tianyang's focus, of course, were those most precious manuals, each demanding careful examination.

"This volume is named 'Black Water Evil Scripture.' Cultivation of it can result in water attribute divine power, but the cost is steep. One must first find a Black Water Poison Swamp and endure ascetic training for ten years, eating poisonous insects and drinking toxic waters; upon success, though a Cultivator, one turns into a Poison Man... The fatality rate for practicing this scripture is extremely high, with barely one survivor out of ten."

"This manual is called 'Devil Sword Scripture,' belonging to heresy and heterodoxy. One must first find a Treasure Blade and feed it fresh blood and human souls every day and night. After anchoring one's Spirit in it, the blade can be fused with oneself – the person becomes the sword, and the sword is the person... Practically no one succeeds in practicing this scripture; this is clearly a high-level cultivator's method for Refining Treasure, utterly malevolent."

"Hmm, this is a Buddhist Technique? Named 'Transforming Vajra Enchanting Soul Method,' originating from a defector of Vajra Temple who transformed a proper Buddhist Law into an Evil Technique."

"If one could master this method, indeed it would be tremendously powerful, obtaining formidable Mana and lethal means."

"However, to practice this method, one must pay a severe price of self-castration, damaging the soul, and purifying the body."

"That aside would be acceptable, yet it also demands that the practitioner possesses a Buddhist talent... Ridiculous, if I had the talent, wouldn't I directly go to Vajra Temple?"

Jin Tianyang commented while inspecting and evaluating.

Suddenly, a bodyguard who had gained Extraordinary Power from martial practice darted into the hall as swiftly as a phantom.

He knelt immediately and reported on the incidents that had unfolded in the busy street and the news that the convoy would soon return to the mansion.

Jin Tianyang, sorting through some rubbish cultivation techniques, immediately sparkled in the eyes upon hearing this.

And a hint of anticipation emerged on his face.

"You're saying a Dragon Clan Demon Cultivator has come forward seeking to join us, and their Cultivation and strength have been acknowledged by Fairy Yunrong?"

"A Dragon Demon of the Transcend Mortality Realm?"

"He must have a significant background; if we can form good relations, perhaps it can connect my Jin family with a major force in the Cultivation World."

#### Chapter 310: Demon Eye Peeks Secrets, Yunrong in Deep Sleep

The Jin Family Patriarch, Jin Tianyang, upon learning that a Dragon Demon of at least the Perfect Transcend Mortality had voluntarily offered its service, quickly prepared an array of Spirit Fruits and fine wines, arranging a splendid banquet, only waiting to thoroughly charm his guest.

However, he was completely unaware that his beloved daughter had nearly been abducted by this Dragon Demon called "Jin Lin."

In front of Jin Mansion, a group had just stepped out of their carriage, led by Jin Xiuju, Yunrong, and Tao Qian.

Jin Xiuju, who had been wary of Tao Qian until recently, was now blinking her starry eyes, pleading with him for food.

"Senior, please, those fruits smelled so divine. Could you give me another?"

"Just one for me to give to my father."

Tao Qian, observing the Jin Mansion, couldn't help but reveal a hint of helplessness upon hearing this.

He had decided to stay at the Jin Family first, using the convenience to handle impending calamities.

To dispel the suspicions and hostility of Jin Xiuju, the young Miss, without stooping to flatter.

Tao Qian directly took out a Longevity Immortal Peach, applied a concealment technique, and merely claimed it was a Dragon Saliva Fruit, saying it could extend one's life, as a courtesy gift for their meeting.

The efficacy of the Immortal Peach was, of course, beyond doubt.

Even many disciples and masters within the Spirit Treasure Sect, who had consumed the Immortal Peaches from Master Tao, had nothing but praise.

What more for a Mortal Human Race, the effects were naturally even more significant.

Looking at it now, the effect was probably too strong.

After a short journey, Jin Xiuju had already regarded Tao Qian as a handsome and highly skilled senior cultivator with understanding.

Aside from requesting fruits, she also shared her personal circumstances and troubles, including her romantic entanglements with the warlord scion Zhang Baisui.

As for the Kitten Demon, Yunrong, who descended to the mortal world for fortune, she was uninterested in the myriad significant matters of the mundane world and, after a telepathic communication with Tao Qian, decided to cooperate unconditionally with him, a man of destiny.

Thus, at this very moment, at the entrance of Jin Mansion.

When Jin Tianyang came out to greet them, he immediately saw his daughter, alongside Fairy Yunrong, both flanking a highly handsome, mystically powerful but also slightly sinister young cultivator entering this luxurious mansion.

And Jin Xiuju, typically haughty and willful, was coquettishly pleading with the cultivator.

Had he not had full confidence in the strength of Fairy Yunrong from "Jade Ring Mountain," this sight alone would have been enough to ignite Jin Tianyang's rage and suspect that the cultivator might have used some Evil Technique.

Even so, he still harbored doubts.

As he approached, he secretly used a highly concealed spying technique received from the Ninth Prince.

Coincidentally, Tao Qian also noticed Jin Tianyang, sensed his intent, and silently chuckled without exposing him.

The moment they met, the spoilt Miss Jin Xiuju immediately bounded forward excitedly:

"Father, come quickly. Haven't you been looking for a powerful cultivator to serve our family? Sister Yunrong and I have found just the one."

"Speaking of which, Senior Jin is even our own kin. Sister Yunrong says he is incredibly powerful."

"Also, the senior grows an Immortal Fruit that's sweet and tasty and extends lifespan. I ate one when I came, and I can live much longer now."

"Though the senior is a bit stingy, only willing to give me one, and he wouldn't give another for you, father..."

The usually aloof Jin Xiuju reverted to her girlish nature in front of Jin Tianyang, chattering incessantly.

Jin Tianyang, hiding all edges of his sharp personality, suddenly focused more intently upon hearing the words "Immortal Fruit."

Still, he wore a smile, bowing slightly as he said:

"Senior's visit truly graces our Jin Mansion with brilliance."

"My daughter has been spoiled since childhood, quite willful. She must have troubled the senior."

Tao Qian, also eyeing Jin Tianyang, activated his spiritual vision. With his keen insight, he quickly deduced quite a few secrets about this man.

A Foundation Establishment Cultivator, and a Demon Cultivator at that.

But with a fragile Dao Foundation, and mixed Source Qi within his body, clearly having forcibly elevated his level through Secret Techniques and treasures, he lacked real lethal power but possessed quite a few treasures that could be considered combat strength.

For instance, right now, this man was using a kind of "Demon Eye" treasure to spy on Tao Qian's background.

Likely an artifact from the Taishang Demon Sect, very concealed.

Such a device would be hard to detect by any other Transcend Mortality Cultivators or Great Demons, too bad he had managed Telerikent Demon Transformation Technique of Great Master Tao.

Despite being suspected and spied upon at first meeting, Tao Qian pretended ignorance, secretly signaling Yunrong to cooperate with him.

Meanwhile, he also portrayed himself as a newly-arrived, good-natured, and extraordinary Demon with a grand background.

"No worry, Xiuzhu is innocent and cute, quite like the Dragon Girls under my care."

"The Dragon Saliva Fruit is not about me being miserly, but rather, I didn't bring many when I left the island, and the rest were divided among these youngsters."

Seeing Tao Qian pass the blame, Little Age, Lian Jing'er, and Shan Jiu each revealed a simple and harmless smile to Jin Tianyang.

Before Jin Tianyang could say anything, Tao Qian gently lifted his hand.

Immediately, several vibrantly colored, palm-sized light dragons emerged with the sound of Dragon Roar.

Then, they quickly reverted back to their original forms—each a uniquely colored, crystal-like Dragon Ball.

"I've ventured into the world on short notice and didn't bring many fine things."

"Tonight, upon meeting Daoist Yunrong, we connected instantly, but I must impose somewhat. Consider these Dragon Balls a greeting gift."

"They aren't real Dragon Balls but merely things formed from pearls infused with the saliva drooled during the playful Dragon Girls' sleep."

"The benefits are still decent, please laughingly accept."

"Wow, how beautiful."

Tao Qian had just finished speaking when Jin Xiuju exclaimed in shock.

At the same time, Yunrong showed signs of impatience beside them, paying no mind to Jin Tianyang's expression.

She pulled Tao Qian towards a quiet and refined courtyard within the Jin Mansion. Before leaving, she dropped a sentence:

"Mr. Jin, regarding whether to invite Brother Jin Lin as a Tribute, please consider it yourself."

"I hit it off with Brother Jin Lin at first sight, tonight we shall have a heart-to-heart talk by candlelight, rubbing temples is essential."

Yunrong finished speaking.

As expected, Jin Tianyang was stunned.

It was only when the cry of disbelief from Jin Xiuju arose:

"Sister Yunrong, you're misusing the idiom again, it's only used between spouses and lovers."

"And Sister Yunrong, you're a Cat Demon, a cat, Brother Jin Lin is a dragon, you're not even the same species, how could you endure such rubbing?"

As the two left, Jin Tianyang, engrossed in thought, subconsciously ignored the taboo words his beloved daughter had uttered.

With a flick of his sleeve, he gathered all the floating Dragon Balls before him, and despite Jin Xiuju's protests, he sent her back to her room.

Then, he called upon his group of guards and began an in-depth interrogation.

Soon, many details of the trio's encounter that night came to light to him.

It even included Tao Qian's public display of affection.

Although this peculiar predilection was bizarre, Jin Tianyang, as a person from the Cultivation World, accepted it rather easily.

No real problems, it seemed?

Back in the main hall, Jin Tianyang's brow furrowed slightly; after dismissing the guards and the butler, he suddenly asked:

"Mr. Yan, were you able to discern this man's background and capabilities?"

"Is there any issue?"

As his words fell, a wisp of black mist drifted out from the top of his head, condensing into a huge Demon Eye in the midair, which harbored the tortured, distorted form of a Human Clan Cultivator, seemingly always wailing.

Seeing this, Jin Tianyang showed no change in expression; this object was known as the "Heavenly Demon Eye."

It was both a treasure and a type of Demon Soul life form.

Simply by capturing a cultivator with a specific talent, killing them, and refining their soul with the secret technique of the Taishang Demon Sect, one could obtain a Demon Eye capable of discerning a person's secrets.

Jin Tianyang served the Ninth Prince efficiently and had thus been rewarded with one.

Although he addressed it as Daoist, the soul within the eye was unappreciative and began cursing immediately upon hearing him.

However, simultaneously, the Demon Eye eerily spoke:

"There are countless Overseas Immortal Islands, indeed many from the Dragon Species Clan reside there."

"Dragon Saliva Fruit that can extend life exists too, and these few Dragon Balls are genuine as well."

"The Qi inside this person is overwhelming; he is surely at the Perfect Transcend Mortality, as I vaguely heard the sound of thunder when I spied on him, and saw visions of storm clouds and fog. This person's other half of the lineage, apart from the Human Clan, should be that legendary Bo Dragon."

"Even among the enormous Dragon Species Clan, the Bo Dragon ranks highly, capable of casting Great Divine Power and adept in killing methods."

"If he goes all out in a battle, this person's strength would surpass that of that alien species Kitten Demon."

"As for that infatuation peculiarity, it sounds minor and indeed indicates his cultivation path has some deviation. His advent into the world might be to set foot in the Cavernous Mystery and erase this price to pay."

"His background is clean and trustworthy, suitable to be recruited as a Guest Elder Tribute."

"If you manage well, you might connect with an Overseas Immortal Island of the Dragon Clan behind him, which will surely possess the Cavernous Mystery, or even stronger members of the Dragon Clan."

With each phrase spoken by the Demon Eye, Jin Tianyang's expression lightened.

In his heart, he had made up his mind; by tomorrow morning, he would prepare many spiritual material treasures and formally invite this person to serve as a Tribute for the Jin Family.

"With two Perfect Transcend Mortality Great Demons at hand, even in Demon City, my Jin Family now has some confidence."

...

While Jin Tianyang was indulging in his dreams, Yunrong had already brought Tao Qian back to her room.

The two were alone, and Tao Qian was about to thank her.

However, in the next moment, he saw the Kitten Demon female cultivator abruptly turn her body and pounce towards him.

While still in midair, various garments and accessories began to fall.

A charming female cultivator turned into a black and white lively Kitten Demon with emerald gemstone-like charming eyes in an instant.

Ignoring Tao Qian's polite words of thanks, she pounced and cleverly landed in Tao Qian's arms.

Her small feet fluttered twice to adjust to the most comfortable position.

Then, that voice, filled with magnetism and charm, once again entered Tao Qian's ears:

"Daoist, no need for politeness, my grandma once said, after I descend the mountain, the first Spirit Treasure Disciple I meet is my destined person."

"After seeing you, I felt great joy, which is a sign."

"Destined person, as you wish, if you desire to share joyous moments, ask me then. If I'm interested at that time, I'll accompany you."

"If my desires aren't stirred, don't disturb me."

"Also, grandma said that if I don't give birth to a litter of Kitten pups, I can't return to Jade Ring Mountain."

"It's up to you now, destined person."

Having said these few sentences, under Tao Qian's incredulous gaze, Yunrong, having revealed her true form, fell sound asleep in his arms.