

Longevity 321

Chapter 321: Asking Yuan Gong for a Plan to Overcome Yulou, Tao Qian Uses the Beauty Trap Again

At last, it was the first time Tao Qian had come into contact with Zhang Baisui, the Tribulation Leader.

Having seen him twice before, Tao Qian had already thoroughly understood his character.

A second-generation warlord, he was quite appealing, although somewhat indecisive, but he definitely wasn't a bad person.

Especially since Zhang Baisui had also practiced the Forbidden Technique, and although he was merely a Destiny Defining Fetus Cultivator, he was a part of the Cultivation World, where the moral standards were much lower than in the Mortal World. By comparison, this young master was indeed a Good Person.

Zhang Bai didn't know that the stranger from the Jin family, a Tribute to the Overseas Dragon Demon, unexpectedly deemed him worthy of a Good Person Card.

Provoked, he angrily burst out, first hurling an insult at the Ninth Prince, Zhu Qi.

This scared several cultivators in the vicinity so much that their souls nearly flew out, and they all rushed to cover Zhang Baisui's mouth.

Tao Qian found it amusing yet understandable.

"Though he is a second-generation, he was sent here as a hostage, he really should be careful in what he says."

"Moreover, these guardian cultivators were initially thought to be backed by the Great Sect supporting the warlord Zhang Jiudeng; now it seems they are not. A true Great Sect wouldn't be so cowardly."

After these thoughts flashed through his mind, Tao Qian was just about to bid farewell.

Suddenly, Jin Xiuju, who had been lying in Zhang Baisui's arms all this while, stood up.

She wiped her tears, then returned the Exorcism Jade Machine filled with gold and silver treasures and spiritual materials and techniques to Tao Qian, and said very sincerely:

"My father's will made it clear. The Jin family's treasure is a reward for Sister Yunrong and Senior Jin Lin for escorting Xiuzhu here; if Senior Jin truly regards Xiuzhu as a junior, he should not refuse."

"Brother Zhang is still willing to abide by the marriage agreement to marry Xiuzhu, which is a blessing Xiuzhu cultivated in her previous life."

"Now that Xiuzhu's entire family has perished, without any blood relatives left to arrange things for her, only Sister Yunrong and Senior Jin Lin are left. I don't know if they could also stay for a while longer, see Xiuzhu off in the wedding palanquin before leaving."

After these three sentences, a flicker of surprise passed through Tao Qian's eyes.

Unexpectedly!

The previously spoiled and naive young miss had also matured.

Clearly, Jin Xiuju also knew that, for Mortals or ordinary cultivators, the invaluable Jin family treasure had no allure for Tao Qian and Yunrong.

If things were to end just like that, allowing the two to leave,

even though Zhang Baisui was provoked into fulfilling the marriage agreement, there was still no real guarantee for her.

On the contrary, by giving up the Exorcism Jade Machine and finding a reason for the two to stay at Zhang Mansion, even just for a while, she, Jin Xiuju, would have pillars of support.

If, within these days, she could seize the opportunity to grow closer to them,

then even as an orphan marrying into the Zhang Family, her life might not be so miserable.

"No wonder, suddenly facing such a huge catastrophe, with her entire family gone, only she is left."

"Suddenly maturing is also quite normal."

With this thought, Tao Qian sighed inwardly.

Then, under the anxious gaze of Jin Xiuju, he slightly nodded.

Seeing this, a look of joy could barely be concealed in Jin Xiuju's eyes.

Beside them, Zhang Baisui hadn't noticed anything amiss, but the group of guardian cultivators and the butler dispatched by Zhang Jiudeng to take care of the Young Master were in a panic.

These people did not want to openly defy the Young Master's decision in public, but they had already decided to immediately send someone to gather information.

If Prince Zhao Mansion persisted in exterminating the Jin family members, they would forcibly send Jin Xiuju away.

Because of this abrupt change, apart from Zhang Baisui, the other members of the Zhang Family did not show pleasant expressions towards Tao Qian and Yunrong.

Until the next moment, Tao Qian pushed the Jin family's treasury back into Jin Xiuju's hands, and then said:

"If it's said to be a dowry, then it's a dowry."

"It's not that I look down upon your Jin family, but Yunrong and I indeed don't lack these things."

"When the time comes for you to marry, as your only two elders, Yunrong and I will give you another great gift."

Hearing this, the expressions of the Zhang Family people looked much better.

Jin Xiuju, touched by something, began to cry and laugh.

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Although Zhang Baisui was provoked and promised he wouldn't breach the agreement.

But Jin Xiuju, Tao Qian, and their group still didn't stay at Zhang Mansion. The group of guards and butlers sent someone out to gather information, and after confirming that Prince Zhao Mansion had no plans to punish the Jin family, arranged for them in a neighboring vacant Bie Fu.

During this time, Tao Qian, having nothing else to do, randomly selected a guard cultivator from Zhang Mansion, tapped his palm, and glimpsed the background of these people.

He also learned some trivial information about the ludicrous warlord Zhang Jiudeng.

"Heavenly Immortal Dao!"

"Calls itself a part of the Daoist, but it actually belongs to a Heterodox force, initially a hidden small sect within the Ancient Qin Province, taking advantage of the crumbling Forbidden Technique, the whole sect of cultivators, big and small, stepped into the world."

"Because of the special nature of the 'Jade Emperor Heavenly Immortal Origin Scripture,' the Great Book they cultivated, this sect grew crazily strong through the power of Divine Dao incense, and in no time, it became the leading Heterodox force within the Ancient Qin Province."

"To extend its influence beyond Ancient Qin, it formed an alliance with the great warlord Zhang Jiudeng, becoming one of the many Cultivation forces supporting this warlord."

"This sect is adept in cultivating spiritual power and Summoning God among other Divine Power techniques. Once prepared, it can fight above its level, although not for long, and every battle requires a heavy toll."

"Over time, with many such battles, they inevitably perish."

"To gain the trust of Zhang Jiudeng, the sect resorted to a cunning strategy."

"First, they created a false god called the Golden Lotus Heavenly Girl, and nourished it for several months using the power of Divine Dao and incense. This Heavenly Girl, transformed from death to life, was stunningly beautiful, with an ethereal immortal aura, and later was presented by the Heavenly Immortal Dao to Zhang Jiudeng."

"This warlord, truly a hungry ghost in his lust, was greatly pleased to have the Heavenly Girl, and thus deeply entangled with the Heavenly Immortal Dao, further leading to more corruption in Ancient Qin Province.

Chapter 322: Tao Qian Seeks Advice from Yuan Gong to Overcome Yulou, Tao Qian Again Employs the Beauty Trap_2

In a quiet room in Bie Fu, Tao Qian held Yunrong in his arms, contemplating the Record that burst forth in his mind.

At the beginning, he thought that the force called "Heavenly Immortal Dao" was a somewhat normal side door to heterodoxy and taking advantage of the situation to rise was not too reprehensible.

However, as he looked more closely at the creation of fake gods and the practice of feeding incense to Heavenly Girls, Tao Qian's brow immediately furrowed, sensing that something was amiss.

"Side doors to heterodoxy, a group of demons dances wildly."

"Both of my past memories include records, and the territories of Ancient Qin Province have a population that doesn't lose to Southern Yue, and its heritage far surpasses the Ancient Qin province."

"This is because the position of Ancient Qin Province is extremely important within the national territories, it has been a battleground for strategists for thousands of years, and its provincial capital, Xiajing, has been the ancient capital of many dynasties."

"Such a province blessed by exceptional people and a brilliant land, now falls into the hands of an absurd warlord; the people there must be facing a great calamity."

From the little he could infer from a little cultivator of the Heavenly Immortal Dao, Tao Qian could guess the current living conditions of the hundreds of millions of people within Ancient Qin Province.

Regrettably, he was also temporarily powerless to help.

It seemed that the world was like this, not only in Ancient Qin Province.

Even after his upheaval in Southern Yue, disposing of demons and the hidden threat of a rebel army, now under the protection of the Infant Sect, it was only doing somewhat better than other provinces.

There were far too many roots of chaos in this troubled world, a veritable tangled mess that no one dares claim they can unravel.

Moreover, Tao Qian himself was now being extremely cautious about his first tribulation upon entering the world.

As he had glimpsed from the Records on Lady Mei, there was inevitably a disaster within ten days.

Now, just two to three days had passed.

Tao Qian had planned to delay for a day or two more, then make contact with either Lady Mei or Zhang Baisui, the two Tribulation Leaders.

But after the huge change in Jin Mansion, Tao Qian knew immediately.

He could not delay any longer. He needed to face the tribulation, or the next opportunity for disaster would be even more terrifying.

His initial contact with Zhang Baisui only revealed the existence of the Heavenly Immortal Dao and Zhang Jiudeng as an absurd warlord, a lustful hungry ghost, but he knew nothing of the collusion between Zhang Jiudeng and Zhu Qi or any beckoning of disasters and trouble.

Tao Qian was still pondering the huge change within Jin Mansion and the shocking secrets he had glimpsed from it.

"From the Record passed down by Lian Yulou, it is known that Zhu Qi is currently targeting Xiao Chenzhou of the Western Capital Army, but he must only be the first target."

"Such a huge mobilization suggests a grand scheme."

"However, those changes cannot yet affect me. The trouble I need to face, which is also an opportunity and a key to breaking through the tribulation, is Lian Yulou, the True Inheritor of the Evil Sect."

"This person also holds a grudge and is petty. When he fled, he used a stream of evil energy to mark me, clearly planning to seek revenge on me later."

"That actually suits me, as the secret technique for facing my tribulation also points to this person, which is why I have not cleared that evil energy."

"Since Lian Yulou is both Xiao Chenzhou's male concubine and in cahoots with the Ninth Prince, Zhu Qi, he must know exactly what calamity Demon City is brewing now?"

"If I can set up a trap in advance, when he comes to seek revenge on me..."

Tao Qian's eyebrows were tightly knitted as he silently deliberated.

Although it was said that he possessed a highly valued treasure and had the backing of Spirit Treasure Sect as the current True Disciple.

The background of Lian Yulou was not minor; not to mention a True Inheritor of the Evil Sect, he was also a Demon Path giant in his previous life.

One small advantage was that Tao Qian knew the background of Lian Yulou, while the latter did not know Tao Qian's foundation and only thought he was a somewhat special Dragon Demon.

But this advantage was not enough for Tao Qian to be confident in trapping and killing Lian Yulou; it might even lead to an unexpected flip in his own fortunes.

"Hmm? Don't I have a grandfather with me? Why trouble myself with wild thoughts?"

"The Returning Immortal Mirror once said that the Secret Demon Sect, Evil Sect, and Demon Buddha Temple often bully the Taishang Demon Sect."

"Being from the same Dao Path, as a senior from the Secret Demon Sect, Yuan Gong would know how to trap and kill someone from the Evil Sect, which would make sense too, right?"

With these thoughts swiftly passing through his mind, Tao Qian did not delay and immediately sent his message.

In no time, Yuan Gong's voice came through, laced with an unusual hint of surprise.

"The Desire Sin Scripture? Lian Yulou?"

"I know who that is. Boy, you're in big trouble."

"You must know that we Secret Demon Cultivators are a lawless bunch; in the Cultivation World, whether it be Daoists and Demons, Buddhas, or even those so-called Thousand-year-old Families, there's none we don't dare to strike."

"But occasionally, there are some forces and people we can't be bothered to provoke either, and the Evil Sect is one of them."

"Evil Sect practitioners are almost always crazed and erratic, deviating from the norm and greatly bizarre lunatics."

"When my Secret Demon Sect still existed, we once had an exchange with the Evil Sect. At that time, there was a youngster from the Evil Sect, neither male nor female, nor yin nor yang, whose Divine Skills, though immature, were incredibly strange. Moreover, their twisted nature led to the defeat of several of my Secret Demon Sect's Disciples. In the end, they suffered a blow of Demon Cleansing from my beloved Disciple... Now that I think about it, that youngster's surname was Lian; their name at that time should've been Lian Hongshang."

"In front of me, this person is a junior, but in front of you, they naturally become an old predecessor."

"After their reincarnation and re-cultivation, I estimate that after nine cycles of Evil Tribulation, they would achieve perfection. Should they break through the Daoist Transformation Realm smoothly, their Dao Path would even surpass mine."

Yuan Gong's words completely unveiled the roots of Lian Yulou.

Simultaneously, they caused a slight change in Tao Qian's expression.

It was not hard to hear that Lian Yulou's background was more significant than he had imagined.

Could such a figure indeed have been trapped and killed by him, Master Tao?

Subconsciously, Tao Qian grew somewhat apprehensive.

While contemplating whether to clear the evil energy, he sincerely and shamelessly asked Yuan Gong for advice,

"Master Yuan, now that I've learned the Sacrifice Sword Skill, I could be counted as your honorable external disciple, so it wouldn't be too much to address you as my Master."

"As a preceding senior from the Secret Demon Sect, dealing with a mere Evil Sect junior must be an easy task for you. I wonder, could Master Yuan have any Secret Techniques to teach me?"

Tao Qian transmitted these two sentences.

After a while, he received a direct response.

"Pah!"

"You, lad, are not just slippery but also have the thickest skin."

"No wonder Duobao was so indolent for so many years, yet in the end, he's willing to accept a disciple. It turns out he's birds of a feather with you, stinking the same."

Despite being scolded, Tao Qian didn't get upset.

On the contrary, he kept transmitting messages cheerfully.

"You're right in your teachings, Master. Indeed, sometimes I feel that my Master is truly too lazy."

"Speaking of which, when I first entered the sect, I was sent to the Miraculous Tree Great Venerate for Foundation Establishment. Although my Master clearly knew there were three Demon Immortals with ill intentions there, he did not tell me. I was naive and almost fell prey to the three demons."

"Please judge, wasn't my Master too lazy?"

Tao Qian shared his gossip, incidentally throwing shade at his own cheap Master.

As expected, a laugh from Yuan Gong, filled with both satisfaction and helplessness, came through.

"Ha ha ha... Duobao has picked up a treasure. When the time is ripe, he will surely pass on his Divination Technique to you."

"The Spirit Treasure Sect, having both you and your Master, I don't know if it's a fortune or a misfortune?"

"Anyway, it's just a mere Evil Sect junior, if you really want to trap and kill him, it wouldn't be difficult."

"If he survives the ninth Evil Tribulation, your death is certain."

"However, since you've already fought with him and even gained a little advantage, it shows he is still a bit away from perfection."

"At this moment, not only has this junior not reclaimed the cultivation power accumulated from previous lifetimes, but even in this life, his mind is confounded by the aura of lust and sin, just a normal True Disciple of the Evil Sect."

"As long as you can find some treasures that restrain the methods of the Evil Sect, with your current Divine Skills, a surprise attack would be enough to trap and kill him."

"As for which treasures can counter the Evil Sect?"

"Although they are rare, there are indeed a few."

"And the one you can obtain the quickest, you didn't have before, but now... it's far away on the horizon, yet right before your eyes."

"Hmm?"

Upon hearing this, Tao Qian's eyebrows immediately raised.

First, he thought carefully about all the treasures he possessed, then seemed to realize something, but still lifted Yunrong from his embrace with a doubtful expression.

"Does Yunrong have that kind of treasure?"

"Or is it something possessed by the lineage behind her from Jade Ring Mountain?"

Just after Tao Qian asked these two questions, a very satisfied transmission came from the statue in his arms.

"Well taught, boy!"

"It's indeed the latter. Go ahead and play your beauty trap, lad. I see that Kitten is just at the brink of burgeoning desire, and she won't be able to resist you."

Chapter 323: Haotian Divine Mirror, Fishing for the Heavenly Demon Again

Yunrong's true form was that of a calico kitten.

Since meeting "destiny" Tao Qian, she had become bewitched and increasingly revealed her kitten nature.

When they were alone, she would invariably shed her clothes and dominate the spot in Tao Qian's arms.

If she could lie down, she'd never choose to stand.

Currently, as Tao Qian held her up with both hands for a closer examination, Yunrong immediately opened her eyes.

All one could see was a pair of cool, enchanting pupils staring straight at Tao Qian.

Initially cold as millennia-old ice, the chill was palpable, but upon recognizing Tao Qian, the ice swiftly melted away, turning into gentle spring water.

She even instinctively let out a coquettish meow that made even Tao Qian itch with desire.

"Meow!"

"Daoist, by looking at me this way, are you willing to have a litter of kittens with me?"

Upon hearing this alluring female voice, Tao Qian nearly gave in.

Through their interaction over the past couple of days, Tao Qian had developed quite a liking for Fairy Yunrong.

There had been plenty of intimate gestures between them, but they still lacked the right opportunity to leap into a relationship of joy.

However, Tao Qian did believe that he might indeed be the "destiny" for Fairy Yunrong, as their natural rapport felt genuine and not something that could be faked.

Therefore, Tao Qian spoke with Yunrong straightforwardly, without any pretense.

Without hiding anything, he openly shared his plan to trap and kill the Great Sect's true inheritor Lian Yulou and the guidance he received from Yuan Gong.

He expected Yunrong to need time to ponder or perhaps send a letter back to Jade Ring Mountain for instructions before responding.

But as soon as Tao Qian finished speaking, Yunrong immediately responded:

"Ah, the Evil Sect, eh? Granny indeed mentioned this when I left the mountain."

"There's a treasure hidden within our Jade Ring Mountain called 'Haotian Divine Mirror.' This item can reflect all things under heaven and has various uses, even capable of pinning down Outer Realm Evil Gods for some time."

"The Evil Sect's techniques are quite deceitful, but most are countered by the treasure mirror."

"That Demon Puppet of the Evil Sect's true inheritor was probably also unable to withstand a beam of the Haotian Divine Mirror."

Hearing this, a look of delight surfaced on Tao Qian's face.

Haotian Divine Mirror!

Even the name sounded like a supreme treasure.

It made sense that it could counter the Evil Sect.

But then, Yunrong quickly poured cold water on his excitement.

"However, the Haotian Divine Mirror is a treasure that stabilizes the fortune and deters enemies of the Huan Mountain lineage. It is one with granny's Divine Soul and cannot be easily removed from Jade Ring Mountain."

"Even if I went back to borrow it, Granny would not permit it."

These words meant the hope was dashed.

Just as Tao Qian was contemplating alternative methods, Yunrong suddenly broke free from his hold.

With a leap, she landed on Tao Qian's shoulder.

Her fluffy kitten head rubbed against his cheek, and her moist little tongue licked his earlobe.

Then, a voice that was magnetic and alluring yet also playful whispered in his ear,

"Though I can't borrow the treasure itself, I can borrow a ray of Haotian Divine Light."

"When you want to trap that person, just call for me, big sister will help you."

Those tempting words nearly made Tao Qian jump the gun.

If it wasn't for the timing being off and the affection not quite there, perhaps he, Master Tao, would have lost himself already.

Despite this, he couldn't help but snatch Yunrong back into his embrace, and lovingly pet her for a good while.

After finally resisting Yunrong's temptation and the joy of petting the cat, Tao Qian spent some time discussing with her. They carefully finalized the plan to set a trap and kill the Evil Sect's true inheritor Lian Yulou.

The plan was set!

Whether it would succeed, Tao Qian himself didn't know.

Now that he had made contact with Zhang Baisui, it meant he was officially dragged into calamity.

According to his budget Master, even if Tao Qian did nothing, numerous troubles and disasters would still befall him.

While he still had the leeway, Tao Qian didn't waste any time.

Soon after, he closed his eyes to meditate and focus his spirit.

His Primordial Spirit leaped into the Secret Acupoint Platform to sit down, his hands forming a Demon Seal.

Before him, a seemingly paged ethereal Secret Book appeared and began flipping noisily.

Eventually, it settled on four pages.

"All Heavens Secret Demons, please come here!"

As the Demon Sound dissipated, four black whirlpools appeared within the immaculate spiritual platform.

From each whirlpool, a reluctant Demon was vomited out.

Apart from the "Substitute Demon," which was a familiar one for Tao Qian.

There were three other completely unfamiliar Demons.

They were, in order, a creature with pitch-black skin, upside down with disordered features; a formless being that was nothing but an ever-changing cloud of deadly mist; and a skin-like deceitful object, neither large nor small, devoid of any flesh, floating around... All three were Demons with their own names.

They were the Inversion Demon, the Soul-destroying Demon, and the Formless Demon pointed out earlier by Yuan Gong.

Together with the Substitute Demon, they made for quite the lottery combo.

And the prize?

It was the significantly useful "Secret Demon Formless Inversion Secret Method" for Tao Qian at this stage.

He had previously concealed his abilities well, so no one had designs on him.

But today, he had incurred the wrath of Lian Yulou.

Though Tao Qian was confident his thrifty Master would help conceal his life's Heavenly Mechanism, he was equally confident that his Master loved to trip him up at inopportune moments.

Hence, he needed to learn this technique.

Most importantly, it wasn't difficult.

When the four Demons were summoned by Tao Qian, before they had the chance to strike at the Human Clan Cultivator Tao Qian, they saw his face full of a kind smile, looking at the Four Demons as if he were tricking children.

Floating before him were Corpse Demonic Sky Demon Elixirs that were irresistible to Outer Realm Heaven Demons.

Suddenly, upon seeing the Demon Pill, all four demons bared their teeth and grimaced, unable to contain their burgeoning greed.

But it didn't take long!

Within this Secret Acupoint Platform, the cries and howls of the demon began to echo.

The source of the noise was exactly that undulating mass of flesh, accompanied by demon fog and flickering shadows.

Tao Qian sat cross-legged in front of the flesh, very satisfied, looking at a bone bead in his hand that resembled a relic, its colors mottled.

This object, formed from Demon Thought, contained a Secret Demon Sect's Cultivation Technique, precisely the "Secret Demon Formless Inversion Technique."

"It seems my fortune is indeed good today; I extracted the secret technique on the very first try."

"Of course, this is also thanks to the help of everyone here."

"And rest assured, I am someone who always keeps his promises; now I will let you return to the Outer Realm."

As he spoke, Tao Qian released the closure of the secret acupoint.

Seeing the chance to survive, the four demons, no longer preoccupied with crying or their intertwined state, scrambled over each other, tugging at the flesh to rush out.

In the final moment of leaving this dreadful Human Clan Cultivator's spirit platform, all four demons glanced back, and they all saw a look of disappointment in Tao Qian's eyes, along with him muttering to himself,

"Eh? They are truly just leaving like this, with no intention to break their oath and seize my body?"

On hearing this remark, the demons were startled and then fled even faster.

They were infinitely greedy, but compared to those low-level, insignificant demons, their wisdom was not low.

How could they not understand?

This Human Clan Cultivator was simply waiting for them to regret their decision, ready to turn around and continue beating them.

As the secret acupoint closed again, the demons' few strands of fearful thoughts slowly dissipated.

Tao Qian heard this and couldn't help but curl his lips.

As if in contemplation and indeed somewhat disappointed, he said,

"The higher the level and rarity of a demon, the greater its wisdom."

"It seems that in the future, while calling upon demons will be easy, it will be more difficult to deceive them."

"Sooner or later, the 'Corpse Demonic Sky Demon Elixir' will become ineffective. I need to quickly come up with a higher-level Demon Control Pill."

While muttering to himself, Tao Qian did not hesitate to clap his hands on the bone bead.

Following the flashing light, a stream of luminance poured into it.

In the blink of an eye, Tao Qian had learned the "Secret Demon Formless Inversion Technique."

Having had the experience with the Refining God Technique, Summoning Demon Technique, etc., he faced no obstacles in learning this new magic skill.

In just one night, he had already mastered the basics.

There in the quiet room, Tao Qian performed the casting gesture with his hands and voiced,

"Inversion! Formlessness and Selflessness!"

Immediately, a mass of chaotic and quiet light surged out of nowhere and enveloped him.

In an instant, Tao Qian completely disrupted and concealed his fortune's qi mechanism.

The effect of this technique, as described by Yuan Gong:

"After entering the gateway to this technique and casting it, ordinary cultivators will not be able to track you again. Techniques like Demon Crystal Soul Searching or Blood Shadow Reflection Divine Skill and other Evil Techniques won't be able to find even your shadow, and if they forcibly try, they might even suffer backlash."

"Even if disciples of Great Sects use secret techniques for prediction, they will obtain incorrect results."

"Although it cannot fully exempt you from the likes of Duobao Daoist's Divination Technique or the Great Reincarnation Temple's old undying monks' Great All Heavens Reincarnation Secret Method, it is enough to provide a layer of concealment, so as not to reveal your secrets completely."

Being able to achieve such effects upon just entering the gateway, Tao Qian was very satisfied.

Completely unaware that while he was casually summoning demons, extracting techniques, learning, and casting effortlessly,

Encased within the statue in his arms, Yuan Gong's crimson eyebrows were furrowed, as he exclaimed and hesitated,

"This youth, whether in talent, disposition, or methods, aligns perfectly with our Secret Demon Sect."

"Even when the Mountain Gate was still in place, no one in the younger generation could learn this Inversion Technique so quickly."

"Not to mention the Sacrifice Sword, Refining God Technique, and the Summoning Demon Technique before that."

"It seems as if all the Secret Demon Sect's methods become effortless in this young man's hands."

"Shouldn't he be the true inheritor of our Secret Demon Sect?"

"But how did he end up at the Spirit Treasure Mountain's doorstep? And to top it off, a disciple of that Duobao character?"

"If I pass on the Secret Demon Inheritance to him, wouldn't I be falling into Duobao's scheme?"

"But if I miss out on this youth, when will our Secret Demon Sect ever rise again?"

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Unaware of the previous senior Yuan Gong's dilemma, Tao Qian, who easily retrieved the secret techniques from the alien demon's thoughts, pondered whether he should rapidly learn the "Innate One Qi Great Seizing Hand" and the "Spirit Treasure Golden Light Body Protection Divine Spell" as well.

However, at that moment, Tao Qian felt a sensation.

Waving his hand, he opened the door to the quiet room, and sure enough, before long, he saw a Cloud Token Letter flying towards him.

Tao Qian caught it, and with a thought, he opened it. Inside, an image of a young man who appeared frail but had an extraordinary bearing emerged—it was Xu Damo, whom he met yesterday at Jin Mansion, the one with the electric car company.

The man, refined and very polite, first thanked Tao Qian for rescuing him the day before, then extended an invitation, asking Tao Qian and Yunrong to visit Xu Mansion.

Before Tao Qian had the chance to reply, soon, many more similar letters, like snowflakes, arrived.

The contents were largely the same.

Each started by expressing thanks and then respectfully invited him to visit.

Along with these Cloud Token Letters, stewards and attendants from various families also began knocking on the door of Bie Fu, bringing many gifts, mostly spiritual materials and treasures.

Tao Qian understood what these people wanted but was not immediately inclined to make their acquaintance.

At this moment, a very polite and simultaneously familiar voice came from outside Bie Fu.

It sounded like some kind of voice transmission supernatural power, audible only to Tao Qian and Yunrong.

"Is Mr. Jin Lin there?"

"I am Yu Yanshi; yesterday at Jin Mansion, I owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Jin Lin for saving several members of our National Salvation Congress."

"We have come together this time and wonder if Mr. Jin Lin is available for a meeting?"

Hearing these words, Tao Qian, who intended to decline the many invitations and continue his seclusion, suddenly had his spirit stirred and became intrigued.

Chapter 324 Many Devils in Demon City, Primordial Human Dao Scripture

Tao Qian appeared to the public as having embarked on his third Method of Transcend Mortality, which is why he had re-entered the world from the Mountain Gate.

However, he knew himself that even without this pretext, he couldn't possibly endure the arduous cultivation within the Mountain Gate year after year.

Sooner or later, he would have found himself unable to bear it and returned to this chaotic world.

He had only been in Demon City for a few days, and although everything was unfamiliar, he had already witnessed a corner of the intense integration between the Cultivation World and the Mortal World.

The people who had sent the Cloud Token Letter this time all had connections with many forces within the Cultivation World.

Thanking him for saving their lives was one reason.

Another purpose was undoubtedly to also draw him in along with the Overseas Immortal Island behind him.

"In a certain period of my past life, facing powerful beings, the situation must have been similar."

"Now, it's merely changing the skin of a cultivator."

"Seeing as this is so, in the Demon City, teeming with dragons and snakes and dancing with a group of demons, perhaps only the National Salvation Congress is worth making contact with and befriending."

Shortly after this thought occurred to him,

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In a certain part of Demon City, not far from a bustling district and the slums like General's City, there was a restaurant with the sign "Xianheng Hotel" where suddenly five or six guests appeared.

There were both men and women, among whom one was a young man with excessively handsome features, possessing a charm not of the Human Clan, which made him particularly bizarre, and he was holding a tabby cat in his arms.

It was unclear how he had raised it, but the cat was very close to him.

If a bystander were to look his way, they would only meet a chilling gaze that pierces the soul and cuts to the bone.

Tao Qian took a seat with Yu Yanshi and others near the window.

He quickly realized this was a good spot.

Tao Qian looked up and immediately saw above the sky of Demon City a complex, ink-splattered-like intense Qi.

Originally, his Qi was also among them, until he had mastered the Inversion Secret Method last night, easily disturbing and concealing it.

After a few glances, Tao Qian looked again towards General's City nearby.

Just after a day or two, it seemed they had grown careless about concealing themselves. With a casual glance, Tao Qian saw in that city, crowded with pigeon cage-like rooms, numerous cultivators with inhuman faces, corpse cultivators filled with Yin Qi, magicians performing intricate refining of Yin Demons and Ghost Mothers, and evil cultivators fatigued from consuming too many elixirs, their bodies laden with elixir poisoning.

As Tao Qian's brow furrowed, Yu Yanshi's explanatory voice suddenly reached him:

"Daoist, you are not mistaken, those are all Heterodox Demon People."

"That place, called General's City, is the territory of the Heterodox Sect 'All Techniques Sect' from Da Ji Province."

"Though called Heterodox, it actually follows the Demon Path."

As Yu Yanshi finished speaking, a woman beside him, who bore sword-like eyebrows and appeared very heroic, took over the conversation.

"Recently, Demon City has seen an increase in cases. Floating corpses consuming people, devil offspring devouring hearts, and so on. Likely, all these atrocities are committed by the devils from the All Techniques Sect. It is detestable that nowadays the head of the Demon City Police Department, Huang Dayou, being taken under the wing of Elder 'Corpse Demon Wan Nanchuan' from the All Techniques Sect, disregards these bloodstained cases."

"Ying Qiong, don't be anxious. The demon Wan Nanchuan is a blood-sucking zombie who has achieved enlightenment, practicing 'Taiyin Three Corpses Scripture.' His mana is extraordinary. To tackle him and his group from the All Techniques Sect, careful long-term planning is required."

Having said that, Yu Yanshi did not continue on this topic.

Instead, he turned to Tao Qian, gesturing towards the sky above Demon City, and then added,

"Since Mr. Jin Lin is here in Demon City for gaining world experience, one cannot overlook the current situation in Demon City."

"If it had been earlier, though there were numerous demons hidden here, the major power to really watch out for was actually Prince Zhao, who is also the Ninth Prince, Zhu Qi. He commands a fierce and brutal Heavenly Demon Army, with the Demon Sect Taishang Demon Sect backing him."

"Now, the situation in Demon City has become much more complicated."

At this point, Yu Yanshi paused for a moment, then directly started introducing the current situation in Demon City to Tao Qian.

In a sense, being a disciple of Weng Zhong Immortal, a Loose Immortal of Great Wilderness Mountain, Ultimate Happiness Realm, he counts as a local cultivator in Demon City.

Holding a high position, and a leader of the current social movements in Demon City, the information he disclosed was naturally detailed and trustworthy.

"Due to that so-called 'Treasure Convention,' Demon City is now a pandemonium of demons."

"Not only did the All Techniques Sect send a corpse demon, but Cao Gang also dispatched Elder Shi Jian, who practices the Heterodox Great Book 'Blood River Scripture' and has reached the Cavernous Mystery Realm. He supposedly commands a hundred thousand Cao Workers at his beck and call, ready to offer their souls and essence blood through secret techniques to boost his divine powers."

"The largest Heterodox force in Da Ji Province, the 'Poison Immortal Sect,' sent Elder Five Poison Immortal Liu Ying, leading a group of poison cultivators. It is said that when this group passed through a certain province and had a clash with a minor sect, they released a million poisonous insects, wiping out the sect's mountain gate overnight and even affected nearby villages, leaving thousands of villagers dead."

"Then there's Elder Shang Lan from the 'Naked Sect' of Dayun Province, who is also in the Cavernous Mystery Realm. Not long ago, he arrived in Demon City with a large group of Naked Witches. Had it not been for the intervention of demon cultivators from Prince Zhao Mansion, the order in Demon City would probably have completely collapsed that day."

"And the most lawless of all is the group from Beimang Mountain 'Six Paths Sect.' Sounding like a proper Daoist sect, it is actually a Ghost Path sect, also sending an elder 'Ogre Li Qingpan' leading a group of ghost cultivators. Had it not been for my uncle, Tianjiang Immortal, who happened to pass by that day, this beast nearly devoured an entire slum with his horde of ghosts."

"However, some also met bad luck due to continuous wars, like the Demon Path force 'Red Cloud Sect' from Eastern Four Provinces. It is said that its sect master got an ancient demon scripture 'Red Cloud Heavenly Book' and took advantage of the wars to nurture nearly ten thousand sorcerers skilled in witchcraft who consume raw meat and blood. These sorcerers roamed Eastern Four Provinces and even infiltrated Demon City. Unfortunately, when a warship under the Ninth Prince spotted them, it bombarded them with several shots from its cannons combining Heavenly Mechanism Building's magic and Western Magic, resulting in heavy casualties and showcasing significant power."

"... These many Heterodox Evil Cultivators are most rampant, almost openly so."

"Yet within the borders of Demon City, there's far more than just them."

"Not to mention others, just yesterday at Jin Mansion, you've already seen forces like Qingjing Temple, Lingxu Sect, Xuan Miao Temple, among others, whether Buddhist or Side Door forces, even Nanhua Sect from the Twelve Major Daoist Sects had sent people."

"As for forces like Changchun Society, Peddler Sect, Thousand Tomb Sect, which belong to the low-class Streams, they are countless."

"I even suspect that even forces like Great Freedom Temple, Vajra Temple, Spirit Treasure Sect, Taishang Dao... Such high-level forces might have also sent people."

At this point, Yu Yanshi suddenly stopped.

With the group, some looked seriously at Tao Qian.

Just then, Tao Qian also looked back at them.

The most appealing and charismatic was naturally Yu Yanshi, followed by the sword-browed woman Shi Yingqiong, the middle-parted, bespectacled Li Wenyan with his honest countenance, the silent and strong Wen Ruyue, and finally the quiet young man Yang Li whose stature and appearance were not to be underestimated.

None of these individuals were mere mortals.

Although they were yet unaware, their inadvertent touches during their arrival had allowed Tao Qian to glean a little about their backgrounds.

Being the sole disciple of Ultimate Happiness Wanderer was needless to mention for Yu Yanshi.

The hot-tempered, righteous Li Wenyan was a fellow sect member of Xiao Hua Daoist, a disciple of the Heavenly Talisman Sect.

And the woman Shi Yingqiong came from the most low-profile yet frighteningly powerful among the Twelve Major Daoist Sects—the Shaoqing Sect.

Wen Ruyue hailed from the Cultivation World's renowned Heavenly Mechanism Building, known for their mastery in crafting various treasures and strange items.

Lastly, the most mysterious Yang Li, who did not shave his head, came from the Hidden Buddhist Sect of the Reclining Buddha Temple.

Who could have imagined it?

In the courts of Demon City, there existed a small society loathed by the court and all factions—National Salvation Congress.

With only a few members, each came from a significant background.

Even those aware of their origins might still wonder:

Was the intent to save the nation and the world their own aspiration, or did it come from instructions or hidden support given by their respective sects?

Of course, these were others' doubts.

With a soul that cheated the ordinary, Tao Qian directly peered into the answer.

The reasons were somewhat complicated!

For instance, Yu Yanshi, whose relief efforts and aspirations to save the nation and world benefited him due to his practiced Cultivation Technique.

The rest had their reasons too.

Ultimately, what moved Tao Qian and others was: the purpose of National Salvation truly aligned with their collective aspiration.

"To some extent, these individuals, and my reborn original self, are of the same kind."

"The difference being, my original self was beheaded before he could even delve into the Cultivation World."

"These individuals, instead of recklessly acting, sought first to understand the world and strengthen themselves before beginning their schemes."

"In this light, as long as there are more of such people, this world indeed holds considerable hope."

After these thoughts flashed through Tao Qian's heart,

He suddenly smiled at them and then spoke,

"Daoist Yu, Daoist Shi, Daoist Li... you invited me to join you, seems like it's not just to thank me for saving your lives?"

"Especially Daoist Yu, you've elaborated quite a bit with me, with several examples that seemed slightly forced; it seems you have already sensed the outcome."

"How so? Am I trustworthy?"

At his words, they were all astonished.

Then Yu Yanshi was the first to smile, he stepped back and sincerely bowed to Tao Qian, slightly apologetically saying,

"After seeing the methods you employed yesterday at Jin Mansion, Yanshi knew today I would be exposed."

"However, in these times, finding a Daoist who shares our aspirations is extremely difficult, and it wasn't right to miss such an opportunity despite the impropriety."

"Since Daoist has seen through, Yanshi may as well tell the truth."

"The Great Book I cultivate is 'Primordial Human Dao Scripture,' historically, cultivators of this scripture are required to save the world and aid the Human Dao Destiny; within it lies a Sublime Dharma called 'Heavenly Human Sensing Technique'. By executing this technique, I can find like-minded individuals."

"At Jin Mansion, I felt a vague sensation, but then your display of Bo Dragon true form puzzled me; after all, it's hard to understand how a Dragon Demon could also wish to save the world."

"Just now, I deliberately spoke at length about the suffering of the people, you were moved, and I subtly became aware of it."

"Thus, Yanshi confirmed that you and we are of the same kind."

At this point, it was already enough.

But under the surprised gaze of Shi Yingqiong and Li Wenyan, Yu Yanshi showed great respect to Tao Qian once again.

Then, he spoke words that made everyone show the same expression,

"No, Daoist is not only the same kind as us."

"The Heavenly Human Sensing Dharma feedback informed Yanshi that before this, Daoist has already saved tens of millions of lives."

"Human Dao Destiny cannot be fooled; there is a surge of fortune within Daoist that clearly verifies this."

These words also caused Tao Qian to raise his eyebrows.

Although the Record he previously glimpsed had already mentioned the marvels of the 'Primordial Human Dao Scripture.'

He hadn't expected it to this extent?

Chapter 325: Daoist Hidden Sect Named Primordial, Zhu Qi Dances Sword Intent as Pei Duke

Inside the Xianheng Hotel, Shi Yingqiong, Li Wenyan, Wen Ruyue, and Yang Li were all shocked by the few sentences spoken by Yu Yanshi.

Human Dao Destiny!

He had already saved tens of millions of lives!

Their original thought was that the Dragon Demon who came from the Overseas Immortal Island, once verified by Yu Yanshi, might be recruited into the National Salvation Congress.

However, unexpectedly, the two parties were originally like-minded, and Tao Qian was already a step ahead.

After their initial shock, everyone smiled, about to emulate Yu Yanshi in offering a salute.

However, Yu Yanshi waved his hand indicating for them to sit properly, and he himself sat back down with a chuckle. Then he explained to Tao Qian,

"Daoist friend, there is no need to worry about the leak of your identity. Today, among the sixty or seventy provinces in the world, nearly every one of them is in utter chaos, with incessant wars eroding them year after year. The Longevity Heavenly Dynasty is truly in its last days."

"At this juncture, there are indeed many favored by the Human Dao Destiny."

"Moreover, even if you, Daoist friend, do not wish to speak, I, Yu Yanshi, am no mean person and certainly won't make wild guesses."

While Yu Yanshi spoke, his face was full of openness.

Completely unbeknownst to him, although he had learned a critical piece of information about Tao Qian, Tao Qian had inadvertently probed into his own roots.

[Name: Yu Yanshi.]

[Record Type: Cultivator.]

[Record: A resident of Demon City, originally named Yu Butong, the eldest son of the second family of the prestigious Yu clan of Demon City. He was kidnapped as a youth, inadvertently fell into a slum, spent several days witnessing the suffering of the lower-class citizens, and encountering a kind person who rescued him. After returning home, he developed a desire to save his people. After taking charge of part of the family business as an adult, he started running schools and medical halls, and frequently opened the granaries to relieve the disaster victims... But soon he realized that the efforts of one person were but a drop in the ocean, utterly meaningless. More so, under the influence of radical members of the Western Study Society, he concluded that the tyrannical Emperor and the leech-like upper class he represented were the root cause of the country's calamity.]

[Note one: On his twentieth birthday, Yu Yanshi, along with a group from the Western Study Society, planned to sneak into the Imperial City and assassinate the Emperor... It was at this time that he met his master, the Great Wilderness Mountain Wanderer Weng Zhong Immortal Ruan Xizhai, passed three tests successfully, became the sole inheritor of the lineage from Great Wilderness Mountain, was granted the Great Book "Primordial Human Dao Scripture," and was given his current name by his master, changing Butong to Yanshi.]

[Note two: The Primordial Human Dao Scripture is one of the Lifebound Scriptures of the "Primordial Sect," a major Daoist sect from ancient times. This scripture, unlike other cultivation methods, is

practiced by leveraging Human Dao Fortune and is dedicated to saving the world. Yu Yanshi is extremely compatible with this scripture, and in a short time, he has already advanced to the Foundation Establishment Realm.]

[Note three: After cultivating the Lifebound Scripture, Yu Yanshi gave up on assassinating the Emperor, returned to Demon City, gathered like-minded individuals, and formed the National Salvation Congress. Besides initiating public education campaigns and utilizing newspapers among other actions to open the minds of the people, they also secretly planned various covert operations.]

[Note four: Officially, Yu Yanshi is just a disciple of Weng Zhong Immortal, but in reality, he is taught by three immortals simultaneously. Weng Zhong, the Copper Tripod, and Tianjiang, all three immortals have extraordinary backgrounds and profound connections to the Primordial Sect.]

...

Tao Qian, reflecting on this information, knew that he had unintentionally peered into a great secret of the Cultivation World.

More accurately, it was a secret of the Daoist sect.

In ancient times!

There were three major Daoist sects: Spiritual Treasure, Primordial, and Taishang.

Subsequently, due to a cataclysm that swept across the entire world, the Primordial Sect disintegrated.

Yet unbeknownst, as thousands of years of change arrived, a successor of the Primordial Sect had appeared in the world.

"From this perspective, the three practitioners from the Great Wilderness Mountain situated nine hundred miles away from Demon City—Weng Zhong, Copper Tripod, and Tianjiang from the Ultimate Happiness Realm—could they possibly be members of the Primordial Sect?"

"It makes sense, as the Secret Demon Sect managed to retain their strength and come back even after perishing, let alone the Primordial Sect, once known to rival the Spiritual Treasure and Taishang Sects."

"In that case, would this make Yu Yanshi, Daoist friend, a true inheritor of the Primordial Sect?"

With many thoughts settled, Tao Qian smiled.

He did not directly reveal his own identity and roots, but simply looked at the others and asked,

"Do you, fellow Daoists, come here to invite me to join the National Salvation Congress?"

As Tao Qian finished speaking, including Yu Yanshi,

Everyone nodded simultaneously and was just about to speak.

However, just at this moment, suddenly a sizzling sound unexpectedly erupted within the "Xianheng Hotel."

Tao Qian, hearing this familiar yet strange sound, memories from his previous life surged, and he immediately turned to look.

Only to see in the hotel lobby, atop the greasy, gleaming counter, there lay an abnormal item.

A radio?

It looked similar, but many of its intricate details obviously displayed more refined mechanical constructions, and it was studded with peculiar gemstones like green gemstones all over.

As the sound of electricity started, this odd mechanical object immediately transmitted a very loud voice.

The speaker seemed to be a so-called radio broadcaster.

But no one cared about him. Everyone in the store, including Tao Qian and Yu Yanshi, were all captivated by the content.

It was news!

One piece of news followed another, starting from the morning news, then more recent ones, until it finally became live news:

"Yesterday, a massacre occurred at the Jin Family mansion in Demon City, where the malevolent troops of the Western Capital Army broke in, completely exterminating this good family and even abducted Her Highness, the Princess who was visiting the Jin Family. This heinous disgrace has utterly infuriated His Highness, the Ninth Prince, and the Prince Zhao Mansion has issued a 'Proclamation to Punish the Western Capital Bandits,' swearing to annihilate the Western Capital Army completely, not to cease until none are left alive."

"The Rashamon King, after hearing about his daughter's plight, has dispatched the navy and a large force of magicians, driving warships from the sea inland to join with the Heavenly Demon Army under the command of the Ninth Prince, together enclosing and attacking Xiao Chenzhou."

"Today, at the hour of 5am-7am, the great general Yin Qiye of the Heavenly Demon Army under the command of the Ninth Prince employed a ruse to lure out the main forces of the Western Capital Army, ambushing and utterly annihilating them. Then under the cover of Rashamon Country's magicians, the Heavenly Demon Army launched a surprise attack on Xiao Chenzhou's headquarters, coupled with bombardment from the naval warships across the river. The main tent of the Western Capital Army suffered heavy losses, and the army of two hundred thousand Devil troops perished in one day."

Chapter 326 The Daoist Sect's Legendary Name is Primordial, Zhu Qi Dances with Sword Intent Overwhelmingly Powerful_2

Xiao Chenzhou and his daughter Xiao Chunjiao, leading the remnants, fortified themselves within Xixia City without emerging, while secretly calling for the rest of the Taiping Army rebels to come to their aid.

At noon, another rebel faction of the Taiping Army, the Jiao Demon Department, came to reinforce them, only to fall into an ambush laid by the Ninth Prince's good friend, Zhang Jiudeng, the current Great Governor of Ancient Qin Province. After an hour of intense battle, the Jiao Demon Army was routed and suffered a disastrous defeat.

The remaining rebels of the Taiping Army, upon receiving the news, retreated one after the other, and the Devils no longer had any reinforcements.

General Zhang Jiudeng's leading general, Lin Dechang, led the main army to join forces with Yin Qiye, besieging Xixia City alongside the Heavenly Demon Army.

Without water or food, and bombarded with countless secret techniques, it was estimated that within two to three days, Xixia City would inevitably fall.

Xiao Chenzhou, Xiao Chunjiao, and other Devils would surely be brought to justice.

At this time in Demon City, it wasn't just the strange device known as the "Spirit Stone Radio" that came from Western Countries broadcasting the news.

The newsboys who were shouting along the streets were also continuously exclaiming "Shocking news," "Major announcements," "Extra, extra," and the like.

In no time at all, everyone in Demon City, from the distinguished officials to the lowly foot traders, knew of the Ninth Prince's ruthless methods, who nominally reigned over this territory.

The Princess had been kidnapped!

In just one day's time, he had summoned a great force and dealt a heavy blow to the Western Capital Army.

You see, in recent years, the power of the Taiping Army had expanded day by day, and Xiao Chenzhou's Western Capital Army was among the most prominent of its factions.

Many provinces had repeatedly sent troops to suppress them, but none could get the better of Xiao Chenzhou.

And yet, having crossed the Ninth Prince Zhu Qi, he did not even withstand a single day?

Tao Qian had yet to learn the explanations from the Cultivation World about this situation.

For now, in the Xianheng Hotel, he was hearing the many opinions of the ordinary people about this matter.

After all, the court had won a victory, so the people should have celebrated.

However, that wasn't the case.

What buzzed in his ears were, at most, a few words of sympathy for the Rashamon Girl, Princess Zhao.

"Ha, I always said the Ninth Prince was just for show. To think he married such a fascinating Rashamon Girl, only to fail to protect her, letting the Devils of the Taiping Army abduct her."

"What a waste of a heavenly gift. The Princess is truly an exotic fairy-like beauty, to be snatched away by the Devils of the Western Capital Army, how could she stay alive?"

"That's not the case. I'll quietly tell you a secret, don't tell anyone, alright... Everyone knows that the Ninth Prince has become tyrannically insane in recent days, right? There's a reason. On his wedding day, he was ambushed by Princess Taiping Xiao Chunjiao. She struck his vital parts with a hidden weapon. Tsk tsk, perhaps the one who took action this time was that very Commandery Princess Xiao Chunjiao."

"Now that you mention it, I'm suddenly guessing something."

"No need to guess. Just go to that Flower Alley and ask those courtesans, they'll tell you. There have long been rumors that Princess Taiping Xiao Chunjiao and our Princess are the true couple, and it was only because the Ninth Prince snatched her away that she fiercely took revenge. Now she's gone as far as to abduct the Princess, likely to flee to the ends of the earth."

"That's not right, I heard the one who caused the bloody incident yesterday was a male Devil?"

"You don't get it. Some theaters in the south are rehearsing a new play called 'Rashamon Girl,' I heard it's a story about two women."

"These street rumors can't be taken seriously, but who would've thought the Ninth Prince's army could be so strong. The Western Capital Army has always been known for its combat prowess, yet within one day, they fell to Yin Qiye. It seems the Ninth Prince may still have a chance to contend with the other Princes, and he might even become the next Emperor."

"They are all tarred with the same brush. The Ninth Prince's Heavenly Demon Army, the Taiping Army's rebels, and that absurd warlord Zhang Jiudeng - not one of them is a good person. Whoever ends up in charge, it's us common civilians who suffer the most."

"You said it! Just look at the world today. Demons have entered the world, a group of demons causing chaos. Us weak members of the Human Clan are probably going to end up in the pitiful position of the Ancient Era, have you ever heard of 'two-legged sheep'?"

"It's infuriating, the world is crumbling to such an extent. I also want to pursue Immortality and learn the Dao, but sadly, I have no Sect to join."

"Hey, have you heard of the Huang Lian Saint Mother? I'm telling you, those are all relatives there. Not only can you pursue Cultivation, but you can also..."

...

Seeing Tao Qian's serious face, listening intently to all this.

After yesterday's experience at Jin Mansion, Yu Yanshi and others didn't think that Tao Qian cared about the gossip or sensational rumors.

Thinking it over, they took turns to clarify Tao Qian's doubts.

After all, they had been mingling in Demon City for a long time and each had significant backgrounds; they effortlessly divulged secrets Tao Qian was unaware of.

First came Shi Yingqiong from the Shaoqing Sect, who happened to hear a newspaper boy on the street recounting the glorious military achievements of Yin Qiye, a major general of the Heavenly Demon Army. Her swordlike eyebrows arched as she said coldly,

"Yin Qiye, this man, is a True Inheritor of the Taishang Demon Sect's True Lineage, and he is highly skilled in various Heavenly Demon Secret Techniques."

"Such a figure, if in any other sect, would have great freedom."

"Yet in the Taishang Demon Sect, he is ordered by the Sect Master to assist that Zhu Qi... A grand sect of the Demon Path bearing the name 'Taishang', yet it seeks to seize Fortune through the power of Zhu Qi, truly a laughter-inducing farce."

After Shi Yingqiong finished speaking, surprisingly, it was Yang Li from the Reclining Buddha Temple who picked up the conversation.

This handsome young man also spoke softly, directly revealing Zhang Jiudeng's background:

"Zhang Jiudeng is an absurd warlord; he practices bizarre Evil Techniques, and behind him are the supports of many sects, such as the Heavenly Immortal Dao, White Bone Temple, Plague Locust Sect, and so on."

"Although they are all considered heresy and heterodoxy, their strength is indeed not poor."

"He conspired with Yin Qiye, and with preparations made in advance, he indeed was able to inflict heavy losses on Xiao Chenzhou in a single day."

"However, Zhu Qi's goal will not be so simple; he intentionally allowed his subordinates not to completely annihilate the Western Capital Army, just to besiege it. I'm afraid it is to draw out Xiao Chenzhou's financier behind the scenes..."

"The Fourth Prince Zhu Xuan!"

At this moment, Yu Yanshi joined the conversation.

He appeared to know quite a lot and, seeing Tao Qian's curiosity, he revealed everything he knew.

"Yesterday's bloodshed at the Jin Mansion should be a deliberate act by Zhu Qi."

"It was just looking for an excuse to go to war, and with such a swift strike in a single day, a mere Xiao Chenzhou could not possibly satisfy the ambition of the Ninth Prince who aims to ascend to the throne."

"This is an overt plot!"

"Xiao Chenzhou may be the Prince of the West Capital for the Taiping Army, but in truth, he has long sided with the Fourth Prince Zhu Xuan."

"He even sent his only daughter, Xiao Chunjiao, to Zhu Xuan to be a negligible concubine. On the day of Zhu Qi's grand wedding, Xiao Chunjiao publicly attempted an assassination with a Dragon-locking Needle, fatally wounding Zhu Qi's lifeline—eager to make a mark and vie for favor in Zhu Xuan's eyes."

"Now Zhu Qi's counterattack has arrived, it remains to be seen what Zhu Xuan will do."

"This spectacle is worth watching, and it's a good opportunity to see if there are any benefits we can take advantage of."

"Our National Salvation Congress does not have much wealth, but we can't miss this chance."

Quite rarely, Yu Yanshi, like a sly merchant calculating business, made the others nod in agreement with his point of view.

This scene further piqued Tao Qian's curiosity.

The National Salvation Congress has assets?

Is this Yu Yanshi's scheming besides demonstrations and publishing?

After some interaction, Tao Qian was no longer a stranger to the group.

Therefore, he also didn't plan on being polite and asked what came to mind.

Unexpectedly, his question made the others reveal smiles.

Yu Yanshi was the most excited, swiftly reaching out to grab Tao Qian and lead him toward a secret territory.

While pulling him, he enthusiastically said,

"We are not fools; how could we truly believe in saving the nation and the people through merely organising protests and shouting slogans? Would that not turn us into a joke?"

"Now the time is not yet ripe; hence, our preparations are carried out in secret."

"If it were someone else, they certainly wouldn't be privy."

"But Daoist friend, you are different; my 'Heavenly Human Sensing Technique' has never been wrong, you surely share our ideals and path."

"Today is a good hour; whether or not Daoist friend chooses to join our National Salvation Congress, let's not rush the decision. Yu Yanshi presumes to invite Daoist friend for a visit, to see the assets we have accumulated over these days."

Chapter 327: Hidden in Plain Sight, Secret Realm of All People

Speaking of family business, Shi Yingqiong, Li Wenyan, Yang Li, and others were just as excited as Yu Yanshi.

Dragging Tao Qian, the new fellow Daoist, away from the Xianheng Hotel, they headed towards a large residential area nearby—a sprawling complex of alley-style structures called "Immortal Radiant Square." Inside resided tens of thousands of people, surrounded on all sides by a bustling downtown, river and sea, as well as slums—complex and lively, yet not devoid of peace.

As Tao Qian followed the members of the National Salvation Congress, he stroked a cat out of habit while casually asking many questions.

He made no attempt to conceal his curiosity, and so Yu Yanshi and the others quickly grasped Tao Qian's intentions.

For Master Tao to join the National Salvation Congress, they couldn't just talk the talk.

Their philosophies and ideas had to align.

Therefore, not only was Tao Qian asking questions, but later on, Yu Yanshi, Li Wenyan, and Shi Yingqiong also started to ask Tao Qian about his many thoughts concerning this world, this nation, and its people.

After the discussion, both parties felt refreshed and pleasantly surprised.

Tao Qian was astonished by their view of the common people.

"In a world not only dominated by the Feudal Dynasty but also infiltrated by Demons, besieged by Outer Realm Evil Gods, and filled with Cultivators who amass transcendent powers... normally, the vast majority—those without power—would have an extremely low status, so low that most Cultivators view the weak Human Clan no better than ants."

"Indeed, that is the case, yet the National Salvation Congress members believe in 'equality for all,' that neither Demon Cultivators nor the Emperor himself should oppress and trample over the billions of ordinary folk."

"Such ideas and views would be considered advanced even in a past life."

What amazed the National Salvation Congress members was Tao Qian's concepts from his past life.

They hardly knew what to say, feeling not only kinship but also that his views were even more refined.

Both parties had no significant grievances to begin with, and now they felt a sense of regret for not having met sooner.

They quickly entered Immortal Radiant Square, and after several turns, they passed under an archway known as "All People Lane."

Then Yu Yanshi suddenly spoke again,

"Once we pass the archway, we'll arrive at our family's foundation."

"There is a Barrier enveloping this place, dear Daoist friends, so do not be alarmed."

As his voice trailed off, Tao Qian stepped forward and immediately a Record surged in his mind.

[Subjected to "Primordial Sealing Spirit Forbidden Technique" verification... Passed!]

[This technique, originating from the Ancient Daoist Sect Great Sect, the Primordial Sect, can seal away all forms of scrutiny, hidden within the flow of the Human Dao Fortune, and is extremely covert.]

...

"What a great hidden treasure within the city!"

Having just crossed the workshop and witness the transformation of heaven and earth before his eyes, Tao Qian could not help but exclaim in wonder.

Who would have thought?

A small world, hidden right beside the bustling district of Demon City.

Tao Qian had seen too many vast and spectacular sights of immortal territory, in places like Spirit Treasure Mountain Gate and Penglai Sea.

By rights, the various Grotto-Heaven Blessed Lands in this world would no longer surprise Tao Qian.

But this sight forced him to reveal his astonishment.

The first thing to enter Tao Qian's eyes beyond the Forbidden Law Barrier was a towering, massive mountain. Its air surged with life, with boundless Source Qi and spiritual Qi flowing out, seemingly inexhaustible, sustaining all things within this small world.

Surrounding the mountain lay not one but three cities, with towns, villages, numerous spirit fields, rivers, lakes, forests, and mountains below.

Aside from these, there were also a myriad of unnatural, hardcore-styled structures, such as factories belching demon flames and black smoke, or Sky-reaching Towers purely crafted from steel and ore, and grave mounds made of a million broken swords and remnants of warriors... There were even mechanical planes and steam airships shuttling back and forth.

Watching all this, Tao Qian also saw a great number of commoners, some farming, others laboring.

Among them, some Cultivators mingled, and the interaction between the two groups was surprisingly harmonious.

As Tao Qian watched, his eyes gradually widened.

And nearby, Yu Yanshi and the others, seemingly privy to Tao Qian's expected reaction, began to show smiles.

"Dear Daoist, how do you find the foundation we've created in secret for the National Salvation Congress?"

"Astonishing!"

Even though Tao Qian had yet to truly enter and see every detail inside,

his intuition at that moment led to this emphatic answer.

Earlier, during their mutual disclosure, Tao Qian had asked some very pointed questions.

For instance, when individual power utterly surpasses the collective, how can one revolt? Is rebellion useful?

Even if one succeeded against all odds, could the conditions of billions of commoners fundamentally change?

Clearly, if Yu Yanshi and the others were to simply imitate the ideas of the Western Study Society, there would be no hope.

The situation in the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty was far more complex than that of Western Countries by more than tenfold.

Especially with Demons and the Cultivation World being near unsolvable issues.

However, Yu Yanshi and the others were highly intelligent and had given this considerable thought and had even begun practicing early on.

At that time, Yu Yanshi had responded to Tao Qian like this,

"Work with the trend, overturn the order of the world."

"National and global salvation is not achieved in a day; it requires a gradual plan. With the shattering of the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique, the commoners, already bled dry by the rotten ruling classes like the Imperial Family, have sunk even lower. Beyond revealing the tip of the iceberg of the lofty Cultivation World, there are also those Demons and ghosts wreaking havoc in the world."

"What we must first do is to go along with the current state of the world, accelerate the integration of transcendent powers with the mundane, and then control this integrated power. This way, the weak and frail Human Clan commoners will gain the right to speak with Demons and Cultivators alike."

Chapter 328: Hidden in Plain Sight, Secret Realm of All People_2

"Afterwards, we will further undermine the foundation of the Demon and Evil Cultivators' malevolence... by then, this cruel world that devours people will gradually be reformed."

Tao Qian vaguely understood Yu Yanshi's idea, which could be described as a radical change that would shock the world.

However, such a grand venture is simple in words but immensely difficult in practice.

The very first step alone, blending the Transcendent powers with the mundane world and making such strength useful to the commoners,

seemed to Tao Qian nearly impossible.

Why?

It couldn't be simpler; this very first step already violated the Cultivation World's foremost iron law.

"Cost!"

"Whether it's Daoist, Buddhist, Demon, and Devil, other Cultivators, or even those Demons and Ghosts, Alien Species and Charmers, the possession of strength is always backed by unimaginable sacrifices, sacrifices that mortals could never afford no matter what."

Members of the National Salvation Congress also knew this point.

Therefore, they didn't say much, only inviting Tao Qian to come and see for himself.

What Tao Qian saw now was the fruit of their long efforts.

Almost at first sight, Tao Qian realized why they had been so excited before.

They were indeed plotting an unprecedented reform, and they had already succeeded somewhat.

Cradling Yunrong in his arms, Tao Qian had just entered this Small Cave Heaven named the "Secret Realm of All People" by Yu Yanshi, along with the others.

They had only walked a few steps when a very unique "fruit forest" blocked their path.

Tao Qian approached and discovered that within this forest were planted countless species of fruit trees. At first glance, both mundane fruit trees and some common spirit fruit and alien trees from the Cultivation World were mixed in together, creating an extremely abnormal sight.

Yet with another careful look, he could immediately tell something was amiss.

Take these three or four trees in front of Tao Qian, for example, no more than two zhang tall and twisted at odd angles, exactly like crooked-necked trees.

The trees were laden with strange fruits, almost bending them over with their weight.

But these fruits were really... about the size of a fist, resembling dried-up skulls with smiling faces, with skin clinging to bone. With the breeze blowing, it looked as though hundreds or thousands of smiling skulls were swaying in unison, quite bizarre indeed.

Even weirder was the old man beneath the trees, bare-chested and fanning himself with a palm-leaf fan as if he were a fruit farmer.

Upon seeing him, Tao Qian immediately sensed: a Transcend Mortality Realm Cultivator!

A Transcend Mortality Cultivator, who would be an esteemed guest elsewhere, now stood below the tree, hands on hips, and suddenly burst into "Ha ha ha" laughter.

As soon as he laughed, the dried-up skull fruits began to laugh too.

Then, with a succession of thuds, each of the fruits fell from the tree.

The fruit farmer laughed a few times and just as many fruits fell.

The old man took a fruit basket and deftly picked up seven of the skull heads and put them into the basket, then came up to them smiling, fanning himself, and said,

"It's rare to see new faces brought by my acquaintances, you must be distinguished guests."

"I, Old Liang, don't have much to offer, so I welcome you with these 'Laughing Corpse Fruits,' I hope you won't find them distasteful."

After saying this, he passed the basket forward, and by coincidence, Tao Qian was the first in line.

Before Tao Qian could reach out, Yu Yanshi's voice came again,

"This is Liang Qiu, a member of the millennium-old Liang Family. He has voluntarily left home due to disagreements with his family's principles, and joined our National Salvation Congress a few months ago."

"Liang Daoist is responsible for the cultivation of spirit fruits and immortal plants, but his goal is not to cultivate fruits that increase the supernatural power of Cultivators."

"He seeks only one thing, to cultivate a large quantity of fruits that can be of great use to the common people."

"This Laughing Corpse Fruit is Liang Daoist's proud creation. Despite its dreadful appearance, it is actually juicy and sweet, refreshing, with high yields, and does not require laborious harvesting, as a laugh causes a fruit to fall. Cultivators have little use for it, but a commoner who eats one can be satiated for the whole day, with unceasing energy, a clear mind, and bright eyes. Indeed, it is a marvelous thing."

In fact, without Yu Yanshi's introduction, Tao Qian had been intrigued since the first glance.

As soon as the fruit basket was offered, Tao Qian directly reached out and took one.

First impression feedback: the touch and the smell were indistinguishable from a dried corpse's head.

Subsequently, records surged in his mind.

[Record Name: Laughing Corpse Fruit.]

[Record Type: alien.]

[Record: This object is an Alien Species Demon Fruit, a hybrid of a mundane pear tree and a Corpse Locust tree, nurtured through the constant watering of a highly poisonous sap that causes death with

laughter before dying; after forty-nine days and seven cycles, it is finally cultivated successfully, renamed the "laughing corpse tree." This tree only needs to be fertilized with blood once to bear hundreds or thousands of Laughing Corpse Fruits, unaffected by seasons; if the fertilization is sufficient, it can bear fruit all year round. The fruit is useless for cultivators to consume, but mortals can satisfy their hunger for a full twenty-four hours and gain increased strength.]

[Note One: Consuming this fruit comes with a price. First, within the twenty-four hours, one will laugh uncontrollably several times, with each episode requiring dozens of breaths to cease; second, there is a significant chance of vomiting and diarrhea when eating other food the next day.]

[Note Two: The person who cultivates this tree and fruit is known as Liang Qiu, a millennium-old member of the Liang Family, ranked among the top three of the Liang family's younger generation. Despite splitting from the family due to differences in Daoist heart and ambition, his cultivation was not revoked, and he has reached the Perfect Transcend Mortality. He specializes in cultivating spirit fruit and immortal plants through the "Divine Wood Seed Origin Scripture."]

[Note Three: The price can be waived!]

"It turns out to be true, indeed a good thing."

After perusing the record, Tao Qian immediately exclaimed.

Although strictly speaking, this Laughing Corpse Fruit still comes with a price.

Such as the uncontrollable laughter and the possible diarrhea and vomiting.

But compared to the effects, these prices could be considered negligible.

Tao Qian thought this and then planned to let Sister Yunrong in his arms have a taste first, but reconsidered, as it would most likely earn him a scratch.

The little ones like Little Age and a few others had been left behind in Bie Fu this time, guarding Jin Xiuju.

Without anyone to pass the buck to, Tao Qian resigned himself to putting the Laughing Corpse Fruit into his mouth.

His only consolation was that Yu Yanshi and the others would have to eat it too.

When Tao Qian bit into the shriveled outer skin, he was surprised by the unexpected sensation, incredibly sweet and crisp juice flowed forth.

For a moment, Tao Qian felt as if he were eating some sort of Immortal pear.

But as he continued to eat, he still had to close his eyes.

It's the taste!

No matter how delicious, it cannot change the fact that it looked like a dried corpse's head.

Obviously, Yu Yanshi and the others shared the same sentiment. After eating the Laughing Corpse Fruit, they quickly dragged Tao Qian onto the next territory.

Completely ignoring them, Liang Qiu Daoist courteously called out from behind, "Don't leave, don't leave, take a few along for the road. Oh, and I've recently cultivated the Yellow Infant Fruit, Blood Line Banana, Centipede Date... they all taste quite good and are quite effective for commoners, definitely worth promoting."

After passing through the bizarre fruit orchard, they soon saw a great marshy lake.

At first glance, it appeared to have rippling azure waves and endless mist, certainly another beautiful scene.

By the lake stood a middle-aged woman in green clothes, reeking of fish and with hands full of calluses, resembling a weather-beaten fisherwoman.

As everyone approached, Yu Yanshi immediately introduced her.

It turns out this place is called "Fish Planting Lake," and the fisherwoman named Anong was also a Transcend Mortality Cultivator.

Her reason for joining the National Salvation Congress, however, was far more complicated.

Anong had lived in a fishing village since she was young, living an ignorant life and earning her keep by fishing.

Who would have thought that one day, as soldiers and bandits passed through and massacred the villagers, Anong jumped into the lake to escape death and unexpectedly found a Secret Realm at the bottom. There, she obtained an ancient Cultivation Method, "Spiritual Carp Heavenly Water Scripture," began her cultivation, established a foundation, and then ventured out into the world. During this time, she witnessed many tragedies in the Human World, which gradually cultivated a desire for seclusion, along with a heart filled with sorrow and unwillingness to accept her fate.

Fortunately, she met the Great Wilderness Mountain Wanderer, "Tianjiang Immortal," who introduced her to the National Salvation Congress, where Anong was responsible for the fishery business.

In layman's terms, this meant aquaculture.

However, the aquatic species she raised had extraordinary effects.

Thus, as Tao Qian and the others headed to the next territory, Anong likewise called out from behind:

"Slow down, my Daoist friends, first try these thinly veiled fish eggs. This is an ancient fish species; don't be fooled by its sharp teeth, tentacles, and toad-like head, which do not match the descriptions, but its snake-like body and six legs are consistent."

"The most important thing is, these fish can spawn and lay eggs all year round, and with a simple rub, you can get three or four pounds of fish roe, delicious and savory. Eating it not only fills the stomach but also prevents nightmares and brings blessings of many children and fortune..."

Chapter 329: Devil Demon Blood Flesh Crushed into Mud, The Disaster Star Tao Qian Troubles All People

Whether it was Liang Qiu's orchard or the fisherman Anong's "Fish Planting Lake."

Though abnormal, they were still within Tao Qian's acceptance range.

But very soon, the group arrived at a vast expanse of fields.

At first glance, Tao Qian's expression immediately stiffened, a chill of horror washing over him.

In front of him, acre by acre, the soil was so abnormal it was unnerving. The crops being cultivated were far from ordinary rice and wheat. Many bodies of demons and deceitful creatures, both familiar and unfamiliar to Tao Qian, were either neatly arranged or shredded and mixed into a bloody mud.

Just like the first plot in front of him, where about dozens of unclothed, human-headed snakes, ferocious and terrifying "Beautiful Pythons," all dead, were neatly arranged. Their bodies were punctured with numerous holes, out of which large, brilliantly colored mushrooms emitted an exotic fragrance. Some were as big as carriage covers, casting shade and attracting insects the size of fists, resembling neither flies nor bees, buzzing chaotically.

Looking further into the distance, such sights were everywhere.

Fields purely made from the shattered corpses of demons and monsters, with strains of odd rice standing tall, their grains crimson like blood, as lustrous as jade or glass, fragrance overwhelming.

On the side, vein-like objects spread across the ground, bubbling liquid inside, feeding a fruit as large as a house at the center, resembling a watermelon, except its surface was crystal clear, revealing the tempting juice inside.

A decaying giant, covered in red hair with limbs having sharp claws and only a monstrous gaping mouth in place of eyes and nose, lay on the ground, its body overgrown with vines bearing thousands of chili-like fruits.

In the distance, a small mountain made of corpses engulfed in black mist, tubers resembling tumors with blood-mud around them throbbed like hearts.

...

For a moment, Tao Qian felt as if he had returned to the Fragrant Meat Collection in Southern Yue.

Everywhere he looked, there was flesh and blood!

The stench was overpowering!

The difference was, this time, the victims were not from the Human Clan, but demons and other monstrous creatures.

Each kind, capable of wreaking havoc on its own, yet here, they had become mere compost?

Had it not been for the orchard and the Fish Lake as a precursor, Tao Qian would have instinctively drawn his sword by now.

Even so, his complexion was not very good at this moment.

The previous two scenes Tao Qian could accept, but the scenes before him now were too shocking.

Yan Shi and the others clearly understood this and only after several moments did he begin to explain:

"Daoist, do not panic, this place is called the Demon Field."

"Although it seems terrifying, there's no difference from the previous two places."

"The materials used are all from demons and monster species notorious for their wickedness and brutality."

"Such as that group of man-eating Beautiful Pythons, or that red-haired giant, originally an evil cultivator from the outskirts of Demon City. His evil technique went out of control and mutated him into this monstrous being, devouring ten villages in a day. Had it not been for my uncle, the Copper Tripod Immortal, taking action personally, the tragedy would have been even greater."

"The person in charge here is Daoist Liu Minong."

"Although he only has the cultivation of the Foundation Establishment Realm, he is a genuine talent. His roots are particularly extraordinary, being a descendant of the ancient Shennong, inherently possessing divine power to identify and domesticate the grass and trees of heaven and earth. Later, he even obtained a volume of the 'Taishang Five Grains Scripture,' making his cultivation of grains even more miraculous."

"Taishang Dao? Does this complete the three great sects of Daoism?"

As Tao Qian muttered to himself, he suddenly turned his head, looking towards the center of the Demon Field.

He saw a manure pit, its contents unknown but filled with demon corpses, venom, and plasma, all producing a stench unbearable to withstand. The stench visibly conglomerated into thick, colorful clouds, solidifying above the pit, motionless.

Yet wisps of stench still surged in every direction.

Suddenly, a figure leapt from the manure pool with a "splash".

Before he could get a clear look at this figure, he saw him, covered in filth and blood plasma, rushing towards them.

While running, he laughed and said:

"Brother Yan Shi, don't boast for me. Others might take it seriously and link me with Shennong and Taishang Dao."

"Who am I, Liu Minong, to be so bold?"

"Just so the Daoist knows, I am merely someone born with some specialties, and by chance, I obtained a volume that came from Taishang Dao, merely the middle volume. If Taishang Dao doesn't chase me down to retrieve that volume of the Wonderful Scripture, it's already a blessing from all the Gods and Buddhas."

As he spoke, a miraculous sight appeared on his body.

Gentle breeze, sweet rain, heavenly fragrance... these things that even Tao Qian would need to cast spells to summon appeared spontaneously around him, instantly cleaning him from head to toe, leaving not a trace of dirt nor an odd smell.

Most crucially, Tao Qian did not detect any traces of casting.

Just this scene alone confirmed for Tao Qian that what Yan Shi had said was true.

The person before him, disheveled, dressed in shorts, with a bulging forehead sporting a pair of flesh horns, indeed might have a uniquely special bloodline.

Such individuals, from the moment of their birth, were accompanied by extraordinary phenomena.

Merely thinking could bring about sweet rain and heavenly fragrance, a rarity even in the Cultivation World.

"This person has such talent, and he has obtained the 'Taishang Five Grains Scripture.' Clearly, he has karma with Taishang Dao."

"If he were to seek discipleship, he could easily become a disciple of Taishang Dao. Why does he not go?"

"Know that among today's Twelve Daoist Sects, the largest without a doubt is our Spirit Treasure Sect, but the strongest is not necessarily us. Most Daoist cultivators regard Taishang Dao, normally desireless and unseeking, as the strongest. If this person could become a disciple of Taishang Dao, wouldn't he be even more capable of assisting the National Salvation Congress?"

Chapter 330: Devil Demon Blood Flesh Crushed into Mud, The Disaster Star Tao Qian Troubles All People_2

Tao Qian had just had this notion in his mind.

He saw the distinctive man called Liu Minong stride quickly up to the group, locking his eyes on Tao Qian the moment he appeared.

Without the slightest hint of courtesy, he moved closer, sniffing around endlessly while muttering to himself,

"Strange, strange! Daoist friend, your aura seems like the Dragon Seed, with even a hint of thunderous rainbow glow, it must be the Bo Dragon Bloodline, but oddly, the scent is slightly off, not rich or fragrant enough..."

"But no matter, since Daoist friend is brought by Brother Yan Shi and Sister Ying Qiong, you must certainly be a fellow member of the National Salvation Congress."

"It's timely, actually, I've been cultivating a new type of grain called 'Dragon Tooth Rice.'"

"I need some fertilizers like Dragon Blood, Dragon Shit, Dragon Saliva; if Daoist friend's true form is significant, why not show it now? No need for you to struggle, I can personally extract it, ensuring a

painless process. If Daoist friend usually suffers constipations or the like, Minong will cure it for you right here."

"Of course, if Daoist friend has also saved up some Dragon Shit or Dragon Urine, you might as well contribute it now, Mingong will give you a fair price."

Hearing these words, Tao Qian suddenly realized why this man had not gone to Taishang Dao to seek a master.

Maybe, he had tried.

Only to be kicked out for this demeanor.

Who asks for feces and urine upon first meeting?

What's more, he planned to extract them himself?

If it wasn't for the fact that Tao Qian had seen this Demon Field and somewhat prepared himself mentally, he might have unleaded his Immortal Slaying Sword Intent right then and there.

Yan Shi and the others clearly knew about Liu Minong's habits too and hastened to explain before he could make an even more outrageous comment,

"Brother Minong, don't be hasty, this Mr. Jin Lin is not yet a member of our National Salvation Congress."

"He's here because my 'Heavenly Human Sensing Technique' accidentally perceived some of his background and recognized that his aspirations align closely with ours, hence the forceful invitation for him to visit this secret realm."

"And just yesterday, Mr. Jin Lin even saved our lives from True Disciple Lian Yulou of the Evil Sect."

"This impulsiveness might scare Daoist friend off, which would be unfortunate."

Once that was said,

Liu Minong's expression changed to sudden realization, and with a broad smile, he said,

"I see, Brother Yan Shi, Sister Ying Qiong, you brought him here to make me the envoy to persuade."

"I'm not good at rhetoric, but when it comes to enticing one into joining, I, Liu Minong, have my methods."

"Just wait a moment, let me harvest some good stuff to treat Daoist friend."

With these words, Liu Minong seemingly pulled out a sickle from nowhere and dashed toward those bizarre crops.

Clearly, he planned to harvest and cook on the spot, using the crops he personally grew to entertain Tao Qian, an esteemed guest.

Seeing this, Tao Qian unconsciously began to shake his head.

Sister Yunrong in his arms even warned him through a psychic message, "Dear brother, if you eat these things, don't plan on any joy with me anytime soon."

Great!

From Yunrong, this was undoubtedly the highest level of warning.

But Liu Minong was intentionally distracted by Yan Shi, and the group stayed at the Demon Field without proceeding further.

Tao Qian noticed this and understood quite well.

Yan Shi, Shi Ying Qiong, and the others hoped Tao Qian would join the National Salvation Congress and were excited to show him their enterprise.

However, Tao Qian had not yet agreed and was not truly a member of the National Salvation Congress.

They had already seen the fruit garden, Fish Lake, and Demon Field, which was enough.

Going beyond that would lead to factories, the Sky-reaching Tower, Sword Tomb, and other core secrets.

No non-member should see.

"Daoist friend, seeing this, you must understand what the National Salvation Congress aims to do."

"Saving the nation and the world cannot just be empty slogans."

"Actually, we also don't yet know where the solution lies, we can only try different approaches."

"The first step is to enable the weak Human Clan to also possess the Extraordinary Power that cultivators can have, trying to remove the costs and impurities within it; those fruit gardens, Fish Lake,

and Demon Field are the fundamental parts, as the saying goes, people regard food as heaven, we must first satiate All People before moving to the next step."

"We also plan to promote the integration and improvement of weapons and cultivation techniques, using the words of the Western Study Society, this is a revolutionary event capable of overturning the world."

"But at this stage, we are still in the experimental phase, not yet fully mobilized."

"Our aspirations align with yours, so, would Daoist friend wish to join the National Salvation Congress?"

As expected, after visiting some foundation projects of the National Salvation Congress, Tao Qian received a personal invitation from Yan Shi.

Shi Ying Qiong, Li Wenyan, Wen Ruyue, and Yang Li did not speak, but their gaze towards Tao Qian communicated the same message.

They hoped he would agree, adding another strong member to the National Salvation Congress to strive together for their shared aspirations.

Although expected, receiving the formal invitation still plunged Tao Qian into contemplation.

"They say people from the Evil Sect, like Lian Yulou, are heretics."

"Yet compared to these cultivators of the National Salvation Congress, it still lacks a certain flavor."

"These individuals including Liang Qiu, Anong, Liu Minong, and other unseen members would likely all have the ambition to overturn the old world order, prioritizing the Human Clan, as seen from the fruit garden and Demon Field, they act without regards."

"If they find the fusion method between the Extraordinary and the mundane, it might indeed spark a Cultivation revolution."