

Longevity 601

Chapter 601 - Holy Embryo Renamed People Species Bag, Spirit Treasure Daoist Becomes Buddha's Son

Master Yuan's assessment was exactly what Tao Qian had in mind.

The time Demon City was struck, Kongchan Arhat's true face was fully exposed. If he were the one in charge of Demon Buddha Temple in Qiantang Province, it would have been impossible for him to let True Lord of a Hundred Demons Gao Yang off so cheaply. There must be some secrets in play that the fellows around here are unaware of, possibly some shady dealings.

"So it seems, the Gao Family must be keeping secrets from Demon Buddha Temple and Cheng Arhat, each playing their own games."

"If nothing unexpected happens, Demon Buddha Temple is likely to get the upper hand."

"This actually makes it more convenient for me to act, using the cover of the Gao Family's name to blend into Qiantang, perhaps even leveraging their power to dismantle the many forces besieging the Devil Concubine."

"Furthermore, Gao Buxi's intelligence is a bit outdated, saying Yuann Mingzhen will soon be encircled. In fact, the information from the Spring and Autumn Chariot indicates that the Devil Concubine is currently trapped within Qiantang Province, which looks quite like a... trap?"

Although aware of much, he was, after all, not yet in Qiantang.

Separated by great distances, he could not yet discern the truth.

Only one thing was certain: Tao Da needed a new disguise.

No sooner had this thought arisen than Tao Qian's face showed difficulty.

A new disguise, in fact, was quite simple.

With Tao Qian's Profound Mastery of Cavernous Mystery that had broken through the first Divine Communication Barrier, and his majestic mana that crushed nearly all of his peers and fellow cultivators, combined with the Secret Demon Transformation Technique, even a cultivator with the means to see through it may not be able to pierce the illusion.

Just like how Mei Su, who cultivated the Taiqing Dharma Eye of the Taishang Dao, might look at him again and most likely see nothing.

But that was not necessarily foolproof.

"What if there's a true Ultimate Happiness Realm expert in Qiantang Province, who happens to refine a divine power similar to Taiqing Dharma Eye? Wouldn't that give the game away?"

"By then, with a horde of demons surrounding the battlefield, it wouldn't be easy to escape."

"The best plan for now!"

"Is to create an absolutely foolproof new disguise that cannot be penetrated."

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When in doubt, consult Master Yuan. This had become a bit of a dependency for Tao Da.

This time was no exception.

And Master Yuan did not disappoint Tao Qian. Upon hearing the query, he immediately provided an answer.

But before revealing the answer, he couldn't help scolding Tao Qian for not forgetting to belittle the efficacy of the Secret Demon Transformation Technique by bringing up the Mei Su Daoist and the Fangcun Golden Ape when seeking advice.

"Ptui, you lazy brat."

"Ask yourself, have you ever really considered yourself the Secret Demon Child? You merely treat our Secret Demon Sect, Secret Demon Magic as a spare wheel."

"There are indeed some Divine Powers and Alien Life Forms that can counteract the Secret Demon Transformation Technique, such as Taiqing Dharma Eye, and that little ape's Eyes of Golden Flame."

"But this is also because you haven't properly cultivated it. Magic improves with practice, and since you haven't practiced diligently, whom can you blame if you're seen through?"

"If you're looking for a technique that cannot be detected, there's no such magic in this world."

"You must understand that the principle of mutual generation and mutual overcoming is not said in vain. Even if Lingbao Tianzun himself were to change his form, could he definitely fool Taishang Dao Ancestor, Yuanshi Tianzun, Great Freedom Buddha Ancestor, Demon Buddha... these beings?"

"However, if you want to make sure that not even Ultimate Happiness Realm, or even Daoist Transformation Realm experts can see through you, there is indeed a way."

"And you don't need to search far and wide. The one who can help you is as distant as the horizon yet close at hand."

After Master Yuan said the last sentence, Tao Qian instinctively stared at Duan Yuhong in front of him.

The latter, being observed by someone she revered, despite sensing curiosity and scrutiny without any malice, inexplicably blushed with embarrassment because her husband in name, Gao Buxi, was speaking close by.

Just when she was about to ask questions, Tao Qian suddenly had a premonition.

Abruptly raising his hand, he fell back on his old trick, plunging Gao Buxi into a state of confusion and daze.

Almost immediately after shielding Gao Buxi's perception,

A familiar voice rang out in the crimson bridal chamber:

"My dear brother!"

With that seductive voice came a flicker of enchanting immortal light, as a figure of peerless grace, which could make most female cultivators in the world feel inferior, slowly emerged.

The visitor was none other than Yunrong, who had grown impatient waiting for her beloved brother and decided to take matters into her own hands.

As she appeared, her eyes immediately swept back and forth between Tao Qian and Duan Yuhong.

There was no suspicion in her eyes, only curiosity and a malicious sense of fun.

Seeing this, Tao Qian knew he had been played by Master Yuan.

Indeed, the next moment, laughter from Master Yuan echoed in his mind:

"Hehe, with all the sisters and aunts you have, you claim to be innocent now, but we'll see in the future."

"I have to live a bit longer to not miss such a wonderful spectacle, not miss it indeed."

Tao Qian ignored him, internally cursing the old hermit, while openly introducing both parties and explaining what he had encountered and his intentions.

After he finished speaking, it was Duan Yuhong's turn to look curiously at Yunrong, her heart pounding with excitement, already planning to divulge and gossip with her sisters back at the Mystical Water Palace.

Yunrong, after a moment of contemplation, showed a shy blush and unabashed pride on her face.

Then she said:

"There is indeed a way on Jade Ring Mountain to allow my brother-husband to disguise himself as anyone without the risk of being discovered."

"It's quite simple, brother. You just perform your transformation, and afterwards, I will have grandmother remotely use the Haotian Divine Mirror to cast a light upon you, capturing the image of your transformation."

"After that, no matter who it is, whether they use Secret Technique or belong to an Alien Species, they will only see the image reflected by the Haotian Divine Mirror... unless they are experts at the Tribulation Immortal Level, or possess a treasure capable of breaking the power of the Haotian Divine Mirror, no matter what, they won't see through you."

Chapter 602 - The Holy Embryo is Renamed as People Species Bag, The Spirit Treasure Daoist Becomes the Buddha's Son_2

"Previously, little brother, you couldn't utilize this method because grandmother had rules: only someone from the Jade Ring Mountain lineage, and a person of revered status, was permitted to request its use,"

"Now that you, little brother, are considered to be my husband, Yunrong, as well as the male head of the Kitten lineage, you possess the qualifications."

"Moreover, let alone borrowing the divine power of the 'Haotian Divine Mirror' from afar, if you, my husband, wished to borrow that [Haotian Divine Mirror] for a use... Yunrong would also implore grandmother on your behalf several times. Most likely, you would be able to borrow it."

After this last sentence was uttered,

whether it was Duan Yuhong or Yuan Gong in Tao Qian's arms, they couldn't help but detect a hint of sourness.

Especially Master Yuan, who couldn't restrain himself and directly scoffed:

"Tsk tsk, I never expected that I, Old Ape, would take in a pretty boy as a disciple at the brink of death."

"This must be what they call joining a family by marriage in the Mortal World, right?"

"Jade Ring Mountain's uxori-local son-in-law! What a title!"

"To prevent you from being unaware of the power of the Haotian Divine Mirror, as your master, I remind you that even the three Immortal Treasures Duobao commonly uses, when added together, can't beat the Haotian Divine Mirror."

Yuan Gong openly reminded Tao Qian.

In secret, he also couldn't help but calculate:

"What a clever Duobao, truly aiming for this. Are the girls from Jade Ring Mountain so easily deceived?"

"However, speaking of which, Tao's luck and Peach Blossom fate are indeed extraordinary, using him to swindle treasures is an immensely profitable trade."

"Given that, why can't I, Old Ape, use the same trick?"

"Exactly, exactly, if Duobao can do it, why can't I, Yuan Gong?"

"Let me think, which female fairy in the Cultivation World has many treasures and is easy to deceive."

"The one from Kunlun Mountain, the one from Taiyin Star, the Heavenly Consort from the south, or should I say those infamous Female Demon Gods from the Outer Realm... Troublesome, for a moment I really don't know where to send this boy."

Tao Qian naturally didn't know that his second master was already planning to pawn him off for treasures.

And his aspirations were much bigger than Duobao's.

The female fairies and female demons he listed were all terribly formidable.

Tao Qian, moved by Yunrong's words, didn't mind Duan Yuhong nearby, and stepped forward to take Yunrong's hand, softly saying:

"Big sister need not do this. You must understand, my master is Duobao True Monarch. If truly I wanted to borrow a treasure, wouldn't my master be unwilling to give it to me?"

"Only the divine power of Haotian, indeed, I need to borrow for a use."

"Hmm?"

At this point, Tao Qian seemed to think of something.

He then looked at the coquettishly charming Yunrong, a smile playing at his lips:

"During my three days of spiritual wanderings, apart from comprehending the Dao, I also acquired the Exotic Skill to observe qi and know fate."

"I vaguely sense: this trip to Qiantang for the rescue, and to retrieve that [Spring and Autumn Chariot], seems to be a scene free from dangers and surprises."

"Given that, why not have you, big sister, accompany me on this journey?"

"We could change our appearances and then present ourselves directly as a cultivator couple."

"The Warrants currently circulating everywhere only show my true appearance, and those other disguises like Secret Demon Child, Overseas Dragon Demon, and the secrets of the Toad Sect; Primordial Demon True Monarch, Xiu Zhonglin, and those two weird alchemists, none of them would expect me to be able to alter my appearance to such an extent."

"Great!"

Without any hesitation, Yunrong was immediately tempted by Tao Qian's words and agreed.

Although she was now carrying Tao Qian's child, she was, after all, no ordinary woman.

The idea of a ten-month pregnancy didn't apply to her.

Expressing her calculations in front of Duan Yuhong, she said:

"If I were to give birth during my Transcend Mortality stage, ten months indeed might be plausible."

"However, I'm currently stepping into the Cavernous Mystery, where my bloodline is gradually undergoing a Transformation and ascending to profoundness, inescapably requiring three years."

"Although grandmother urges me to return to Jade Ring Mountain to nurture the fetus, it's not pressing. Besides, with me accompanying little brother, grandmother will surely be concerned at all times. Should we truly encounter danger, she'll rush over with the Haotian Divine Mirror. Unless a Tribulation Immortal expert deems it necessary to trouble you, all other difficulties can be smoothed over."

The only two listeners, Duan Yuhong and Yuan Gong, felt even more sour after hearing this.

At this moment, Yunrong started discussing with Tao Qian what kind of cultivator couple they should pretend to be.

After some thought, Tao Qian laughed and said:

"I've tried playing a Daoist, a Demon, and a Devil before, this time why not try being Buddhist."

"Moreover, I currently have all these tricks at my disposal, like secret demon power, Spirit Treasure Daoism, the Toad Pearl, and the Wa Dang, which I temporarily can't use."

"It's just that the Holy Embryo Bag has not revealed its true form yet; I can take that out for a try."

"Buddha Bird Relics have been exposed, but with the [Rainbow Bone Relics] combined, I can extract the supernatural powers of the Buddha Bird Protectors and use them as if they were my own."

"Marvelous! I shall play the role of Buddha's son for a bit."

As the words fell, Tao Qian made his move.

Suddenly, he stomped his foot, and the room was aglow with Buddha Light.

Upon looking again, there appeared a young, handsome, barefoot monk in a spotless white robe.

The two women in the room brightened up at the sight.

What a monk!

His mere appearance wasn't the main attraction, it was the boundless, deeply profound mana of the Buddhist Sect that truly captured attention.

Any cultivator with a bit of discernment would immediately speculate: This person must be a Buddha's son from some grand temple.

Tao Qian was also quite satisfied with his disguise, he looked left and right, then reached into his bosom and took out the rarely used "Holy Embryo Bag," with a rather wicked pleasure, he mused:

"Good bag, suitable for a temporary measure; from now on, you shall be called 'People Species Bag'."

"As long as I use it well, I guarantee your fame will rival that of the Toad God Tile."

Rather recklessly, Tao Qian had named his cloth bag after a revered Buddha Treasure, one he had heard of in his past life.

His thoughts were: since that Buddha Treasure does not exist in this world, why not let my treasure take its place for now.

Having said that, he hung the cloth bag at his waist.

Currently, in the guise of a monk, Tao Qian seemed rather amusing to Yunrong, who couldn't help but reach out to touch "Master Tao's" shiny bald head.

She soon found herself in a quandary, because pairing with a Buddha's son was rather inappropriate.

"Dear brother, I can't very well transform into a nun, can I? That would be most unfitting."

After Yunrong said this, Tao Qian leaned in with a suggestion.

In the next moment, Yunrong turned around.

Within the room, Buddha Light was reborn.

In the eyes of Duan Yuhong, a majestic Female Bodhisattva with long, graceful eyebrows and a treasure crown, hair tied in an updo, draped in a large scarf and long skirt, with a Buddha wheel behind her head and a Lotus Platform underneath her, was reflected.

Such a disguise was even more splendid than Tao Qian's.

The Female Bodhisattva looked at herself and was very satisfied, although a hint of worry still lingered on her face.

Tao Qian understood and spoke directly:

"Sister, you needn't worry, just play this Bodhisattva, and I'll handle all the tasks that require action."

"Crafting an excuse will be easy enough to avoid suspicion."

With these words, Tao Qian glanced at Gao Buxi and then looked seriously towards Duan Yuhong.

"Daoist Duan!"

"Once I awaken Gao Buxi, you can take the opportunity to claim credit, saying you recalled hearing his plan and thought of two senior experts back home in the South Sea."

"They are a Buddhist couple, each with Cavernous Mystery Cultivation, possessing quite formidable supernatural powers, and they are currently traveling for training in the neighboring province, so you can send a message inviting them to lend a hand."

"Afterward, we'll head back to Immortal Crane Mountain and arrange for Wutong Master to fail in his cultivation, mutated, and Fallen."

"From then on, the two of us can be seen as your 'maternal kin,' appropriately ensuring your safety and allowing you to better play the role of a jealous and venomous woman, preventing you from being discovered by his descendants and concubines."

Hearing these words, Duan Yuhong pondered for a moment, then nodded with an excited smile:

"Excellent!"

"If Tao Master arranges it so, it is undoubtedly proper."

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After everything was settled, Tao Qian and Yunrong once again concealed themselves and woke Gao Buxi.

Poor man that he was—if he had indeed been a genuine cultivator of the Cavernous Mystery Realm, he wouldn't have been so easily manipulated by Tao Qian, unable to distinguish between illusion and reality.

Unfortunately, his entire level of Transcend Mortality Cultivation was built upon elixirs.

To him, Master Tao was unequivocally a Great Divine Power wielder.

Be it Secret Demon magic or True Word Secret Decrees, real unbridled manipulation was something he wouldn't even notice the slightest trace of.

And sure enough!

Upon hearing what his wife recounted, he immediately beamed with excitement and joyfully exclaimed:

"Really?"

"Two great Buddhist experts of the Cavernous Mystery Realm are coming?"

"If that's the case, won't I, Gao Buxi, be able to recruit six formidable Cavernous Mystery warriors this time? No one under my great-grandfather's command will be a match for me."

"Ha ha ha... My wife is truly my lucky star. For me, Gao Buxi, to marry you must be the result of auspicious karma accrued over three, no, nine lifetimes."

Chapter 603 - Spirit Dog Locking Yin, Wutong's Mutation

Upon receiving the joyous news, Gao Buxi had wanted to reinvigorate his manly vigor, but unfortunately, the might of the dozens of Joyful Demons was not to be taken lightly, and the bottle of Bone Marrow Replenishing Pill was utterly ineffective.

He silently sensed, but there was absolutely no response; he couldn't even raise a flag.

With a silent sigh, he smelled again the Exotic Fragrance lingering in the bridal chamber.

This was called "Fragrance Mist Soul Lossing Qi," something he had arranged in advance to boost the mood. Now, it was of no use.

To avoid embarrassment, he quickly thought of an excuse, slapped his forehead, and said to Duan Yuhong,

"Wife, I've just remembered."

"The Four Demons are still neglected in the main hall. Though they're just loose cultivators and demons, their supernatural powers and Cultivation Realms are formidable enough to dominate a region. They're perfect for recruiting to serve our Gao Family, and we should offer them good treatment."

"I'll go and appease them, promise them some conditions, and with the help of the two guests invited by my wife, it won't be hard to make these Four Demons bow their heads."

Gao Buxi spoke with a dignified air.

But even someone as innocent as Duan Yuhong could tell that this fellow was chickening out.

If she were her usual self, by now she should be blushing with shame, spitting out a rebuke, and then casting a spell to summon a waterfall to wash away this filth.

However, remembering the instructions of Tao Master, she knew how to respond.

The newlywed female fairy raised her eyebrows, gave Gao Buxi a few glances, and nodded with dissatisfaction.

Then, with a voice clearly suppressing anger, she said,

"Go then, and don't return too late."

"Also, don't forget your promise. If tomorrow within this Gao Mansion another wife or concubine is found, either you kill me or I, Duan Yuhong, will fight to the death with you."

"We still need to set three rules. First, you're not allowed to frolic with Fox Immortals and Dog Demons, Female Magicians, and the like. Second, you must send away all your good-for-nothing, unfilial descendants. Third, you must make a contribution every three days."

"Gao Buxi, can you do it?"

Duan Yuhong spat out these words, and immediately the sophisticated middle-aged scholar's face revealed a distressed expression.

He hesitated for a few moments before tentatively trying to renegotiate the conditions,

"Wife, calm your anger!"

"The first two conditions, your husband will certainly abide by. With you as my wife, why would I need those useless wives and descendants?"

"About the third condition, could my wife possibly grant an extension? It's not that your husband is chickening out, but at this moment I'm at a critical time for cultivation and cannot indulge in the pleasures of men and women, lest it interfere with my Cultivation."

"Wife, rest assured, as soon as I make a breakthrough into Cavernous Mystery, I will call upon the 'Great Strength Lusty Desire Demon' to assist me."

"At that time, it will surely be you, my wife, who begs for mercy."

Having said this, seeing Duan Yuhong reluctantly nod her head, Gao Buxi dared not stay any longer.

He fled quickly, like a doggy with its tail between its legs.

Meanwhile, Tao Qian and Yunrong had already left discreetly.

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In the City Lord Mansion's main hall's banquet, the tall figure of Lord Gao, who had vanished not long ago, suddenly reappeared, clutching his waist.

Then, in the bewildered gaze of the Four Demons, he ostensibly found a pretext to burst out at his own offspring.

"Scram, a bunch of lazy, stupid creatures! If your Cultivation is poor, so be it, but you don't even respect your elders. You've surely been eyeing my beautiful concubines all this time, and now you can't even manage something as simple as entertaining guests. You don't deserve to be my descendants, Gao Buxi."

"It's my fault for spoiling you ungrateful children so much. From today on, the rules change."

"Each of you go to the Treasure Vault to take some Cultivation Resources and a Secret Book, and then get out of Guangping City. Little birds must eventually fly high; you can't stay here eating free food all day long."

"Oh, and take your mother and the young ladies with you."

"If you're not gone by dawn, don't bother leaving; I'll slaughter you all for fertilizer."

With these words pronounced, the whole place was shocked.

If it weren't for the fact that there was nothing unusual about Gao Buxi, everyone might suspect he was in the midst of Mutation or falling into depravity.

Or worse, going insane.

Those descendants and wives suddenly facing disaster thought the same, wanting to beg for mercy or to rebel.

Unfortunately for them, Gao Buxi, his body and soul, was infected with "Joyful Demon Poison," and with Tao Qian's "True Word Secret Decree," even his own father couldn't lift the curse, much less a bunch of incompetent fools.

The next moment, an eerie spectacle unfolded within the City Lord Mansion:

On one side, big red happiness characters, a new consort rising to prominence.

On the other side, wailing descendants, as if their house was being raided.

The Four Demons seemed to notice something, and the Old Turtle Demon, Deng Xuechao, with a teasing look towards Gao Buxi's waist, smirked and said,

"Lord Gao really knows how to let go, forgetting the old in favor of the new."

"That Miss Duan sure is a beauty, but who knew she had such Charm to make Lord Gao so heartlessly drive out all the offspring and wives from the mansion."

Hearing these two remarks, Gao Buxi immediately grinned and proudly retorted,

"Brother Deng, your cultivation is not of the Human Dao, so you naturally don't understand its wonders."

"My wife is a peerless beauty of this world. The experience of being with her is Ultimate Happiness beyond the imagination of ordinary people."

"I would not hesitate to give her my life and assets if my wife wished to control them."

These words were spoken, and the Four Demons exchanged glances with one another.

Each was doubting and curious in their hearts.

Who didn't know the true character of Gao Buxi?

A scholar of refined taste?

No, nothing more than a beast of wanton depravity.

All the demons had thought that the so-called taking of a concubine was just the same old tactic of deceiving men and dominating women.

Yet, to their surprise, in just a short hour, he had changed so dramatically.

That female cultivator from the South Sea, Duan Yuhong, just who was she?

Though confused, it did not prevent the Old Turtle Demon, who had already decided to join the Gao Family, from seizing the chance to fawn and flatter.

Chapter 604 - Spirit Dog Locking Yin, Wutong's Mutation_2

His grotesquely turtle-like face contorted into a smile, oozing mucus and wriggling red worms, as he clasped hands and congratulated:

"Looks like Lord Gao has found an immortal couple this time, congratulations, congratulations."

"However, it seems to me that Lord Gao isn't very skilled in the arts of Yin Yang Dao, while I, Old Deng, am quite knowledgeable in that area."

"Here I have a bottle of 'Yuanji Turtle Essence Dew' and a 'Ten Thousand Sons Sun Breeding Secret Method', both of which can greatly enhance one's virile vigor."

"Since I've come in a rush and haven't prepared a fitting gift, I would like to offer these two items to the City Lord to help celebrate the occasion."

After speaking half in jest and half in flattery, the old Turtle Demon finished.

The other two Demons, having made their decisions, spoke one after another.

Tao Qian, posing as Wutong Master, also chipped in with a follow-up.

"Gao Daoist, I too have an Exotic Skill to offer, called 'Spirit Dog Locking Yin Technique'. I can gift it to you. It says in my Great Lifebook Scripture: 'No female spirit under heaven can withstand this Exotic Skill.'"

"I don't have any Elixir Secret Skills to offer, but instead I can give you a 'Lustful Ghost'. Once it possesses you, performing a hundred times in a single night will be nothing out of the ordinary."

"Me as well, though Wutong is quite impoverished, the Immortal Crane Mountain I guard is not too bad. Recently, I discovered a herd of Alien Species Spirit Sheep in the mountains, busy every day, which made the Yin Yang Spirit Plants grow abundantly in Sheep Valley. After I return to the mountains, I'll have them harvested and sent over, hoping Gao Daoist won't look down upon them."

It was truly odd that the Four Demons had yet to present their formal wedding gifts to Gao Buxi.

Instead, they each contributed a gift to enhance libido, which was quite an unusual sight even in the Demon Realm.

Normally, if several Demon neighbors questioned his ability in bed, Gao Buxi would have been outraged and certainly would have argued back, muttering things like "This City Lord doesn't know his own strength," "I, Gao Buxi, am vigorous like a dragon and fierce like a tiger; what need do I have for such peculiar and lascivious skills?" and so on.

Now, when such thoughts crossed his mind, a piercing pain suddenly shot through his lower back.

Finding no choice but to put on a sheepish smile, he said to those who had arrived:

"Such generosity from my Daoist brothers, it seems you've all made your decisions?"

"If that's the case, how can I, Gao, refuse the kindness of the four of you?"

While speaking, that scoundrel extended his hand and took all the libido-boosting items.

The Spirit Plants promised by Tao Qian were not present at the moment, but the Turtle Essence Dew, Sun Breeding Secret Method, Spirit Dog Locking Yin, and Lustful Ghost were all immediately at hand.

Gao Buxi, who had just suffered a miserable defeat at the hands of dozens of Joyful Demons, now found his confidence.

Clutching a pile of beneficial items, he secretly thought, "Sleep has come and here's the pillow. Just wait, my love, your husband is on his way."

Before leaving, Gao Buxi seemed to remember something and a smile spread across his face.

Although most of the people of the Gao family were beasts, they were accustomed to being Emperors.

Their skills in commanding others were well-practiced.

Feeling that he had already taken the Four Demons under his wing, and in order to prevent them from becoming arrogant due to their Cultivation Realms, Gao Buxi now spoke, half-reminder and half-enticement:

"Oh, right, there's another piece of good news I nearly forgot to tell my Daoist brothers."

"My wife, knowing of my plans, has specially called in a favor and invited two expert friends from the South Sea to help."

"I heard both are Cavernous Mystery Cultivators who practice Buddhist Law, each with supernatural power, and even I with my 'Xuan Yin Blood Frost Saber' might not be a match for them."

"With the arrival of these two, plus the four Daoist brothers, my journey should win a grand prize from my great-grandfather."

"The chances of you, my brothers, achieving a Breakthrough will also increase substantially."

"Today truly is an auspicious day, with good news coming one after another."

"Servants, come, spread the word, let the entire city celebrate."

"Set up the banquet for me, all are guests here, three days of feasting and drinking without end."

Around Guangping City, the ones truly deserving Gao Buxi's attention were just these Four Demons: Wutong Master, Li Fengxian, Deng Xuechao, and Qu Zhongyuan.

The rest of the Evil Demons and Devils were simply there for a free meal and drink.

Upon hearing Gao Buxi say so, they all cheered loudly, falling over themselves with flattery.

After speaking, Gao Buxi clasped hands towards the Four Demons and said:

"Do not return to the Daoist field just yet, my four Daoist brothers. Feast and be merry in my residence. Come dawn, we shall discuss the intricate details of our great plan."

"Right now, well, I am impatient for the beautiful lady awaiting in my chamber, so I must excuse myself."

With those words, the scoundrel hastily departed.

All demons knew without thinking that he had earlier lost face in the bridal chamber.

Now, armed with the fine gifts bestowed by the Three Demons, he planned to return and fight another round.

The several guests at the feast were all from the Cavernous Mystery Realm.

Yet now, they were forced to submit to the dominion of Gao Buxi, who was only of the Transcend Mortality Realm. Although they were enticed by benefits, they still felt some dissatisfaction deep down, especially the more prideful among them like Li Fengxian and Qu Zhongyuan, who even felt somewhat humiliated.

Bear in mind that overtly, all four had become "house servants" to Gao Buxi.

It was somewhat tolerable in Guangping City, but once they left this place and met up with the main forces, they would be seen by the rest of the Gao family, especially by True Lord of a Hundred Demons Gao Yang, as nothing more than dogs.

At this thought, including Old Turtle Demon Deng Xuechao, all spat a few sarcastic remarks.

"Alas, I don't know whether my choice was right or wrong. On a whim, I've ended my carefree days. Now that I've joined the Gao family's ranks, fortune or misfortune is uncertain."

"Hmph! You've already offered up your flattering gifts, what use is it talking about this now? Better to focus on our tasks and actually achieve something noteworthy. If we really could use the 'Ten Thousand Marvels Sky-reaching Treasure Tower,' taking this chance to step into the Ultimate Happiness Realm, then we truly could achieve Ultimate Happiness and extend our lives by a thousand years. That's far better than spending our days in constant fear, worrying about the unknown calamity that could befall us at any moment."

"I fear our plan might not succeed that easily. The Treasure Tower only has twenty-four esteemed seats left, a number not exactly secure. Not to mention the Guest Elders and Tributes recruited by other members of the Gao family, but just looking at Gao Buxi's branch alone, besides the four of us, suddenly there are two more South Sea Buddhist Practitioners? There's bound to be more competition for those seats."

"It's tricky. Who doesn't know that Buddhist Practitioners are the most cunning? And those two were invited by Duan Yuhong. The influence of pillow talk is not to be underestimated, is it? If the seats Gao Buxi later secures from True Lord of a Hundred Demons are ample, then good. But if they are limited, I fear those two will be given priority."

"That Duan Yuhong is so fake. At first, with her appearance, I thought she was a chaste and resolute woman— who would have known that she would change her tune so quickly?"

"Not just that. Do you really think Gao Buxi is not adept in the arts of the bedchamber? The Gao family are all experts in this field, and it's no wonder the woman quickly submitted to Gao Buxi. To speak of chastity, she is clearly someone versed in the paths of desire, a pretender."

"It's useless, unless that woman is the Joyful Demon Lord from the Outer Realm; otherwise, she simply cannot withstand the 'Spirit Dog Locking Yin Technique' I've sent out."

"Hardly, hardly. The Turtle Essence Dew I have is even more potent."

"You two don't practice the Ghost Path, so how could you understand the capabilities of the Lustful Ghost?"

...

The Three Demons had quickly slipped into the role of house servants and were engrossed in their conversation.

Suddenly, as if they were reminded of something, they looked at each other sharply and then all turned their inquiring gazes towards the fourth person at the table.

Wutong Master!

He had been silent from the start.

They were all well-acquainted neighbors; who didn't know Wutong's background?

Although he wasn't a chatterbox, he was someone who loved to prattle.

At such a time, how could he keep such silence, unless something had changed?

Just as the Three Demons were forming this thought, the next moment reflected in their eyes confirmed it.

Wutong Master's face, which was already hideously ugly like a festering toad laden with tumors and pustules...

After all, there were few comely faces among evil demons.

But now, Wutong's was even uglier.

His face swelled and contracted, with dense pustules constantly forming, then bursting rapidly... And such a scene was eerily silent.

It wasn't until the Three Demons looked over that they met Wutong Master's increasingly inhuman green toad-like eyes.

The Three Demons were all wide-eyed and exclaimed:

"This is bad!"

"Wutong's Mutation!"

"Disaster has arrived."

Chapter 605: Evil Money Copper Plate, Wu Gou Miao Yin (1st Update, Please Subscribe!)

"The so-called natural disasters and man-made calamities often arise out of nowhere, without any warning signs.

One unique disaster to this realm, the 'Cultivator Mutation', is no exception.

And mutations, too, vary in type, with the resulting destructive powers being by no means uniform.

Mostly, they involve the burst of Source Qi within the cultivator's body breaking through constraints, causing the cultivator to transform from a thinking, rational member of the Human Clan into a monster driven solely by destruction and slaughter.

A cultivator post-mutation will see a drastic increase in combat strength, and before falling dead, they will tirelessly kill indiscriminately any life in their vicinity.

This is why whenever a cultivator mutates, those fellow Daoists nearby will try to save them if possible; if not, they will strike them down without hesitation.

And among the Evil Path, it is even more the case of the latter.

Realizing that 'Wutong Master' displayed signs of mutation, the Three Demons acted on instinct while simultaneously aiming to deliver a killing blow to Wutong, all the while their minds recalled what they had witnessed earlier on Immortal Crane Mountain.

'So that's how it is, this ugly toad has been leaking energy across the mountain for some time, perhaps cultivating a fault for a while now.'

'It's a good opportunity, killing Wutong not only yields rewards but also means one less competitor for the Ten Thousand Marvels Sky-reaching Treasure Tower.'

'Immortal Crane Spirit Mountain, the Nameless Treasure Pearl, will all be mine.'

The Three Demons harbored their own sordid thoughts.

Regrettably, they were all destined not to have their wishes fulfilled.

Wutong's Mutation!

This, in truth, was a play.

Directed by Master Tao and starring Master Tao.

The removal of this ugly and stinking temporary disguise also marked the moment for a couple, hidden Buddhists from the South Sea, to enter the scene.

'My entry with Yunrong requires a proper stepping stone.'

'Before that, it's also time to do something for the territory around Guangping City and the mortals living there, such as slaughtering most of the Demons and Ghosts right here in this land.'

'The timing couldn't be better, how could I pass up such an opportunity?'

When these decisions were made, the Three Demons' attacks also arrived.

At the same moment, Tao Qian, who was disguised as Wutong, took action.

His neck suddenly swelled to the size of a grindstone, his skin translucent, covered with purple-black veins. He opened his large mouth and his toad-like calls reverberated throughout the Gao Mansion.

'Goo!'

'Goo goo goo!'

With several harrowing sounds, where the terrifying sonic waves passed, time and space seemed to freeze.

The Three Demons showed expressions of agony and halted their attacks.

The myriad of Demons and Ghosts that were indulging in wanton revelry within the mansion were grievously wounded in both body and soul, paralyzed on the spot, unable to move. They could only barely twist their necks to stare with eyes filled with terror at the main hall, where Wutong Master, now devoid of his physical body, revealed his true form.

All Demons took one look and thought: What a formidable One-Horned Demon Toad.

In the hall, there was now a toad as big as a small house, its thick yellow body covered with pustules and tumors, its back was full of holes, each embedded with shining, sticky pearls that housed a multitude of grotesque tadpoles the size of a palm. Underneath its abdomen, there were unexplainably patches of crimson blood lines; it seemed like some kind of worms were wriggling and extending outward...

But any unfortunate Little Demon or ghost struck by them would lose their life, turning into a pool of crimson pus.

Anyone seeing this scene would understand this was a fearsome Devil.

And the next transformation further confirmed this.

Accompanied by the swelling of the Demon Toad's neck once again from Wutong's Mutation, and the 'goo goo' rumbling from within, its large mouth opened wide, releasing a dark yellow radiance, flickering throughout the City Lord Mansion.

A rain of flowers showered Copper Coins!

One after another, the Copper Coins flew out, landing with uncanny precision on top of everyone's head.

Even the Three Demons were no exception.

The two sides of the Copper Coin were engraved with the characters "Life" and "Death".

When they landed on the heads of All Demons, the Copper Coins took root, slowly draining their Essence Qi to feed back to Wutong Master.

This turn of events, of course, terrified All Demons, all wishing to flee.

But in the next moment, they heard the angry shouts of the Three Demons:

'If you don't want to die, no one make a move.'

'These are 'Evil Money Copper Plates' from Wutong, once Copper Coins hit the ground, your life is not guaranteed.'

'Wutong's cultivation has gone awry; he is now instinctively trying to save himself. These Copper Coins are merely draining some of your Essence Qi, and won't claim your life, but if you act rashly and cause the Copper Coins to fall, waking Wutong entirely, he won't look like this anymore. His true size would at least swell to half the size of Immortal Crane Mountain outside the city; by then, no matter how fast you can run, you won't outpace his divine ability to open his large mouth and engulf the heavens and earth.'

Each of the Three Demons in turn pacified the demons in the mansion.

After Wutong finished spitting out the Copper Coins, his true form shrank slightly, his eyes filled with Evil Light and killing intent drooped as if he was falling asleep.

Seeing this, All Demons breathed a sigh of relief, their lives were spared?

But the Three Demons exchanged glances, their gazes all locked onto the Treasure Bead inside Wutong.

Below the translucent skin, a Treasure Bead was gestating, with Divine Light leaking out.

There were rumors in the territories surrounding Immortal Crane Mountain that Wutong had by sheer luck obtained a Toad Pearl from the Nine Toad Sect—a treasure that granted him his extraordinary Divine Skills.

Who wouldn't covet such treasures?

Especially at this moment, the Three Demons all saw that Wutong was caught in the midst of Mutation; despite his instinctive self-saving actions, he was likely beyond saving.

The Bead should again become ownerless.

Who it would belong to, however, was another question.

The Three Demons of course did not consider the rest of the Demons as threats, only each other and Gao Buxi.

Before Devouring Ghosts Master Qu Zhongyuan and Dog Immortal Li Fengxian could speak, Old Turtle Demon Deng Xuechao couldn't hold back and transmitted a message:

'Daoist friends, the signs of Wutong's Mutation were clear for some time now, it seems he won't hold out much longer. When the moment arrives, the three of us should strike together, exterminate his body and soul, and eliminate future troubles.'

Chapter 606 - Evil Money Copper Plate, Wu Gou Miao Yin (2nd Update, Please Subscribe!)

"This old monster must have quite a bit of savings. I have no interest in anything else except the treasure bead in his belly, which greatly complements the Cultivation Technique I practice. How about you two giving it to me?"

As soon as his telepathic message ended, it was met with rejection and mockery from the other two.

"Old Deng, do you think we are ignorant? You speak these deceptive words. What kind of savings could the Wutong Old Monster have? It's nothing more than toad piss and shit. The only valuable thing he has is that bead, and if it's truly the one from the rumors, it's a magnificent item that could achieve Dao. Even the Heavenly King wouldn't let it go."

"Wutong himself has boasted that what he obtained is the Toad Pearl, lost by the Nine Toad Sect, a top-tier treasure in the world. If I were to consume it, I might even cultivate a Swallowing Sky Ghost. That bead is definitely mine."

The two revealed the Turtle Demon's plan, thinking he would be ashamed.

However, Deng Xuechao just laughed heartily and transmitted another message:

"Hahaha... So the two of you Daoists were eyeing such a beautiful opportunity?"

"Nine Toad Bead?"

"You believe the Wutong Old Monster's self-praise?"

"You should know that the Toad Sect is one of the top-ranked side doors, strong enough to compete with most of the Twelve Daoist Sects, and the Nine Toad Bead is their Sect's sacred treasure. If the Wutong Old Monster really had such a treasure, how could he only have such mediocre mana? He would either have the power to swallow mountains and cities or would have joined the Nine Toad Sect instead of being a struggling Loose Cultivator."

"Not to mention other things, you both should know that disciples of the Toad Sect can pick up various treasures anywhere, especially if they can obtain a Toad Pearl, their blessings reach the sky."

"Look at Wutong, does he have such treatment?"

"Remember the Warrant that Gao Wanchou issued to you two? On it, a Spirit Treasure Daoist had a Toad Pearl. He steps outside and picks up two Ancestor God Treasures."

"What does Wutong get when he goes out? Only piss and shit paving the way."

These words were quite reasonable.

Li Fengxian and Qu Zhongyuan fell into silence, utterly unable to refute.

They couldn't help but doubt: Could it be that the treasure bead inside the Wutong Old Monster isn't a Nine Toad Bead?

It was no surprise they thought this way, as there indeed was no evidence to prove the bead's origin.

Even the scheming Turtle Demon, coaxing them at the moment, harbored the same doubts, though it didn't affect his actions.

Whether it was or not, he would snatch it first.

Even if it was not, it must still be quite an extraordinary treasure.

With this thought, the Turtle Demon continued to concoct new evidence to deceive them:

"I'd hate to hide it from you two, but Old Deng actually knows the origin of that bead."

"Wutong, originally named Liu Le'an, his whole mana and even his Daoist title, come from a book, 'Wutong Immortal Technique'."

"And that bead, called the Wutong Toad Pearl, is the condensation of his whole body's essence, mana, and soul."

"This bead is of little use to you two, but for Old Deng me, who practices a book called 'Water Uncle's Pulse Gathering Scripture,' a secret scripture of the Devil Clan, which involves the Cultivation of absorbing the bloodlines of other Devil Clan members. Over these decades, my practice has nearly reached perfection; only a few rare ones, including the Wutong Toad, are still needed."

"If the two of you Daoists would relinquish this bead to Old Deng, consider it a favor owed to you, and I shall repay you handsomely in the future."

Deng Xuechao supposed that his well-reasoned argument would certainly land the bead in his hands.

But he didn't know, Qu Zhongyuan and Li Fengxian nominally nodded in agreement.

Secretly, they also transmitted:

"This Turtle Demon is a smooth talker, not to be trusted."

"Yes, how about after we kill Wutong later, we first snatch the bead to verify it before we decide?"

"Excellent! Let's do that."

The intrigues of the Three Demons were all seen by Tao Qian.

In fact, this was also due to his covert manipulation.

The reason why he didn't immediately let Wutong mutate and unleash a massacre was naturally because of the plot arrangement.

He and Yunrong, posed as a Buddhist couple, needed time.

It could not be that Duan Yuhong issued a Cloud Scroll and they would appear instantaneously.

Not even the Great Freedom Heart Light Escape is that fast.

Moreover, Tao Qian reflected on himself: Previously, the crafting of various aliases was rather perfunctory, casually created and formed.

This time, he planned to put in more effort.

Apart from the leverage gained from spongeing off the Haotian Divine Mirror, he also, through the Golden Radiance Token, asked his Master to arrange in advance the life and story for him and Yunrong, who would soon appear as the Buddhist couple.

In other words, this time if someone checked, aside from unassailable appearance and aura, they would also find the additional, whether prediction or local investigation.

It would reveal one result: in the South Sea Territory, there indeed was a Buddhist couple.

"The only problem is I don't know what kind of messy background story my Master will arrange for me and Yunrong. Something feels a bit off."

...

Meanwhile, inside the City Lord Mansion, where the situation was somewhat tense.

In the rear hall's bridal room, Gao Buxi, only in his undershirt, looked shamefully at his wife sitting again on the ceremonial chair.

Evidently, he was still quick and brief.

However, this time, he had an excuse. With a sweep of his Divine Thought, he immediately pointed towards the main hall and righteously said:

"My lady should see, it's all because of Wutong. What a time to mutate, just now. Who can stand that noise? Truly a cursed filthy creature."

"Let me handle him first and then return to entangle passionately with my lady. Then, I promise to exert twelve times the effort until my lady cries for mercy."

Having said that, Gao Buxi stood up to take the Xuan Yin Blood Frost Saber.

Murderous and ready to slay the Wutong Toad.

Unfortunately, before he could act, a haze of fragrant mist arose, triggering his desires, and his anguished yet joyful wife transmitted to him:

Chapter 607 - Evil Money Copper Coin, Wu Gou Miao Yin (3rd Update, Please Subscribe!)

"Husband, do not rush!"

"The Wutong Master is not a problem, I have already sent the Cloud Scroll."

"Within a few hours, Master Wu Gou and Miao Yin Bodhisattva will both rush to Guangping City."

"Although the two seniors are not well-known in the South Sea Territory, anyone who has heard of them knows their methods."

"An ordinary Mutated Demon is something the two of them could suppress with a flick of their wrist."

Hearing this, Gao Buxi felt unease but quickly pushed it to the back of his mind.

After all, the joy of dozens of black-skinned babies pouncing on him was enough to make one forget everything.

And for some reason?

This time, Gao Buxi always felt extraordinarily valiant, winning consecutive battles and quickly losing himself in the pleas for mercy from the Beautiful Lady.

Gao Buxi, of course, did not know that in a few hours, something significant could happen.

Inside the main hall, the Three Demons finally agreed on the apparent procedures.

After exchanging glances, they shouted lowly, "Take action!"

Suddenly, the Dog Demon Li Fengxian opened its mouth wide, and two streaks of light flew out, transforming into a pair of ferocious Devil Blades, which swiftly circled the dozing Wutong's neck.

With a hiss, a column of blood spurted, tossing a large toad's head into the air.

This sudden change completely awakened Wutong.

His fierce eyes abruptly opened, and immediately the entire Guangping City heard a "gulping" sound.

As if the roaring of a primordial beast echoing, countless lines of blood forcibly dragged the toad's head back.

At the same time, the original form, as big as a millstone, began to madly swell, about to burst through the palace in a moment.

But at this moment, the other two Demons also made their move.

Devouring Ghosts Master Qu Zhongyuan was the fiercest of them, and now, with no hesitation in his actions, his might became even more horrifying.

Blood light filled the air!

Numerous ghosts surged!

In an instant, nearly half of Guangping City was enveloped by the Ghost Shadow, and while suppressing the Wutong, hordes of Fierce Ghosts and Ghosts swooped in, beginning to gnaw wildly at the flesh of Wutong. Li Fengxian's pair of blades, which could weaken the soul and devour Essence Qi, watched as the Mutated Wutong Master began to wither and shrink.

Did it seem, he was about to burst?

As such, All Demons also did not leave, harboring wild thoughts in their hearts, wondering if when a Cavernous Mystery Realm Demon died, they could reap some benefits?

Even a single piece of flesh consumed might significantly increase one's lifespan and Mana.

It was this greedy thought that cost them their lives.

The Three Demons had agreed to strike fiercely together, kill the Wutong, and then divide the spoils.

But the Old Turtle Demon Deng Xuechao guessed the other two Demons' thoughts.

At this moment, he sneered.

Suddenly, a "whoosh" sounded, and a river made purely of foul-smelling, icy mucus emerged from nowhere, submerging the Wutong.

In the river, an old turtle, as big as a waterwheel, appeared and quickly shrank.

In a moment, it was in front of Wutong's belly, and with a few crunches, it had chewed through the One-Horned Demon Toad's belly and swiftly burrowed inside.

All Demons immediately saw the Turtle Demon's clear objective: after burrowing in, it went straight for a Treasure Bead. Snatching it in its mouth, the Turtle Demon burst into insane laughter.

"This indeed is the Toad Pearl, which suits me perfectly, thanks to the two Daoists for facilitating this!"

"In the future, if Old Deng gains anything, it certainly will be..."

Deng Xuechao was so full of triumph he was oblivious to the calamity he'd invited.

Before he could finish speaking, a continuous "gulping" noise came from within Wutong.

A foul and fishy glow began to twinkle like stars.

In an instant, an immense quantity of palm-sized One-Horned Demon Toads emerged, pouring out like a torrential Demon Toad waterfall.

Every one of the Demon Toads opened their mouths to swallow toward him, and Deng Xuechao immediately felt his essence blood and Mana slipping away.

Within a moment, he had lost at least a quarter of his Essence Qi.

He was stricken with horror and wanted to flee.

But the Toad Pearl in his mouth became unbelievably heavy, anchoring him in place, forcing him to watch as the waterfall enveloped him.

In an instant, his body, Mana, and even his soul, were all consumed, not even the skin was left, completely eroded into nothingness.

If this had been a fight in the outside world, it would have been impossible.

But within Wutong's belly, it was as easy as flipping one's hand.

"No!"

"Why... why am I here? Fellow Daoists, quickly save me."

Deng Xuechao let out an anguished cry before dying.

Li Fengxian and Qu Zhongyuan were just as shocked and puzzled: could the Old Turtle Demon have gone mad? Who didn't know that all of Wutong's Spells were in his mouth and belly, especially that belly which could swallow heaven and earth? He should have waited until Wutong's belly was cut open before taking the bead, why would he willingly burrow into Wutong's belly, isn't this act akin to seeking death?

Although the two Demons had some experience, they were ultimately still backwater country bumpkins.

Where would they know that in this world there existed "True Word Secret Decree" – a Divine Power that could reduce one's intelligence?

Chapter 608 - Swallowing Heaven and Devouring Earth, Consort of the Buddhist Sect

Great Master Tao had his script ready, and fate was sealed for all.

Nearly all Demons and Evil Cultivators in the surrounding area of Guangping City had gathered for this joyous banquet, making it convenient for Tao Qian to act.

At that moment, he allowed his killing intent to surge within, continuing to masquerade as Wutong, riding on the momentum of "having consumed Deng Xuechao," performing a completely out-of-control, Mutated, and Fallen Great Demon.

Coos echoed, reverberating throughout Guangping.

Accompanied by a sky of blood-red brilliance that dyed the Taiyin Star red, the main hall of the City Lord Mansion was utterly shattered.

A One-Horned Demon Toad resembling a barbaric behemoth of ancient times crushed Ghost creatures and sent Devil Blades flying.

Bulging, lantern-sized, and violent toad eyes stared unblinkingly at all the living creatures around.

Although it included the Mortals within the city, if there were a need to kill and feast, it would naturally prioritize the tastier surrounding Demons first.

A moment ago! All Demons thought to share a piece of the spoils.

This instant! There wasn't even enough time to flee.

Without any pause or cushion, all witnessed a flash of red light as a Transcend Mortality Realm Jiao Demon, which had shown off prominently at the banquet and was only second to the Four Demons, was wrapped by a crimson tongue covered in sharp teeth and fleshy growths, and then was violently dragged into the Demon Toad's belly.

A gulp sounded, swallowed down, sealing its fate to death and oblivion.

It should be known that this Demon had a background, self-proclaimed as the Six-Headed Daoist, an Alien Species Dragon Beast who occupied a mountain stream with spiritual water two hundred miles outside of Guangping City for its cultivation.

Inherently lustful and fond of eating humans, openly, it was friends with Gao Buxi.

As it was being devoured, the Jiao Demon revealed its true form, its body stretching dozens of feet, adorned with dragon scales and horns, and indeed six dragon heads—no wonder it was called Six-Headed.

Given time, it would likely become a renowned Great Demon in the future.

Unfortunately, unlucky for it, having attended the banquet meant entering a calamity; once caught in calamity, how can one escape death?

Not to mention it, how many within the mansion could survive?

After devouring its small appetizer!

Tao Qian playing Wutong didn't utter a single word, simply spewed forth a Treasure Bead from his stomach, which transformed into a blood moon; the crimson moonlight enveloped the City Lord Mansion, turning it into a deadly Barrier.

Tens of thousands, perhaps millions of Evil Money Copper Plates, poured down like a torrential rain.

This time, even Li Fengxian and Qu Zhongyuan, the two Demons, had their expressions drastically change.

"Not good! It's Wutong Old Monster's 'Evil Money Barrier,' let's break out of here."

"We can't escape—everybody, let's quickly join forces to slay Wutong, otherwise we'll all die."

The two distinct choices were made clear after the resounding cries.

The solitary Dog Demon Li Fengxian chose to flee.

In contrast, Qu Zhongyuan, who was the Clan Leader of the Qu Clan and had a family to consider, surprisingly chose to fight.

The former's choice was not wrong, the right decision of wise self-preservation, the method of survival.

Within the Cultivation World, regardless of good or evil, unless absolutely necessary, they usually wouldn't lightly enter into conflict with others of equivalent strength, let alone a life-or-death conflict.

After all, a minor injury could turn into a chronic disease, and heavy injuries necessitate a terrible price; no one knows if, due to unbalanced repercussions, one might meet their death one day.

But even while surviving cautiously, there needs to be decisive action taken early.

Qu Zhongyuan indeed possessed some exceptional wisdom.

Wutong was already powerful and adept at Subterranean Evasion Speed, and after mutation, his strength increased further, consuming the Old Turtle Demon and growing yet again.

In other words, fleeing was meaningless, only to be killed and devoured one by one by Wutong.

The only chance of survival: collaborating with all Demons to kill Wutong.

Especially as Qu Zhongyuan believed there was another powerful ally: Gao Buxi, wielding the Xuan Yin Blood Frost Saber.

This Lord of Guangping had the power to slice through the skin of Wutong Old Monster and the continually falling Evil Money Barrier; so even if the united Demons could not kill Wutong, as long as they held on for a bit longer for Gao Buxi to come to the rescue, chances of survival would emerge.

What didn't Qu Zhongyuan realize?

Right then, Gao Buxi couldn't even rise from his bed, let alone know that his own ranks were being slaughtered to near-extinction.

So, what came next was predictable.

Slaughter!

A one-sided massacre that took place within the blood moon Barrier.

The giant toad Tao Qian had become strolled leisurely inside, reducing the entire City Lord Mansion to ruins, carefully avoiding where Gao Buxi resided.

Gobbling one after another, with each lash of the tongue.

It was plain to see that the mutated Wutong Old Monster had lost all humanity, lost all sense of Mind.

The spectacle was clearly one of relishing the slaughter and the devouring.

In reality, of course, that was not the case. All the Demons who seemed to have been swallowed by the One-Horned Demon Toad actually fell into the Valley God Gui; their flesh and blood transformed into Five Grains Essence, Immortal Elixir.

...

Roughly an hour later, the slaughter neared its end.

This was the outcome after the Demons realized they couldn't break the Barrier and gathered the will to fight to the death, otherwise, they wouldn't have lasted even that long.

Additionally, there were two tough nuts to crack inside the Barrier.

Devouring Ghosts Master Qu Zhongyuan!

The spirit Dog Demon Li Fengxian!

Both with reputations, out of the hundreds of Demons and Evil Cultivators who came to the Gao Family's celebration, aside from these two, the rest perished.

Such a massive slaughter should have left the ground littered with corpses and the air filled with the stench of blood.

What was eerie, though, was the absence of that.

The ruins of the Gao Mansion were spotlessly clean; not a single piece of a broken body was to be found. Instead, what covered the ground, wedged into the corners, and stuck to the eaves were countless Evil Money Copper Plates.

This sight was bizarre and sinister.

The two Demons confronting Wutong observed the scene inside the mansion, feeling their scalps tingle.

"What on earth has this old monster cultivated? Not only is his appetite huge, but how can he eat so cleanly?"

"Damn it, why is he only targeting us? Though many of the city's inhabitants have fled, they are merely flesh and blood; they walked in on two legs, how far can they run? With so much to consume, why isn't this old monster going after them?"

Chapter 609 - Swallowing Heaven and Devouring Earth, Consort of the Buddhist Sect (2nd Update, Please Subscribe!)_2

"This is no simple matter. The old monster has lost all sense of reason and humanity, only the instinct to kill and devour remains. To him, our cultivated Essence Qi is like two chunks of juicy meat. Before he devours us, he won't bother chasing those mortals."

"No, we must summon Gao Buxi, or we'll just have to hold out until the Source Qi within the old monster collapses and he bursts apart first. But by doing so, both you and I will unavoidably suffer severe injuries, and our path to further cultivation will become hopeless."

"How to summon? The old monster's body is blocking that spot. Whether it's transmitting a message or Divine Thought, all sorts of methods have been tried, but there's no response from Gao Buxi at all. Who knows what kind of mishap has befallen him? Could it be the 'Spirit Dog Locking Yin Technique' you mentioned? I heard that once applied, the Locking Yin lasts for several hours? Inseparable, which allowed all the Daoists to die without anyone coming to the rescue."

Inside the Barrier, the Dog Demon Li Fengxian had also revealed its true form.

It looked like an enormous palace, with a body of pure white, encircled by chilling winds and cold flames, paws treading upon poisonous fire, and eyes of blood-red.

It had been locked in fierce combat with the One-Horned Demon Toad and was at the end of its strength.

Its once smooth and supple fur was now disheveled and messy.

Furthermore, it was covered with holes and scars, and one of its eyes had been blinded by the Poison Smoke exhaled by Wutong.

Struggling to hold on, it suddenly heard Qu Zhongyuan's words from the other side where the ghosts lingered, and immediately retorted:

"My Magic Skill indeed has that effect, but while it locks the Yin, it doesn't block perception."

"For Gao Buxi to be as absent as the dead leaves only two possibilities: either he is indulging in pleasure, behind a sealing Great Prohibition, or all these happenings here are orchestrated by the beast itself..."

What Li Fengxian said was actually what Qu Zhongyuan had in mind.

The second possibility was more plausible, and there was evidence to support it.

Why did the Demon Toad massacre and devour everyone yet deliberately avoid Gao Buxi's chamber? Even if it were a coincidence, it should not be so coincidental, right?

"There's no point waiting any longer, let's fight with all we've got."

"We'll escape first, keep an eye on Wutong from afar, and when he bursts apart, we'll return to pick up the spoils... That Treasure Bead, the devoured Old Turtle Demon, as well as the other Demons, along with Wutong himself, once we've healed our injuries, we might still profit."

"Good!"

Both beasts understood that this was the final moment and that they could no longer afford to hold back.

They took action at the same time!

Suddenly, from within the Barrier that Qu Zhongyuan had unleashed, a hundred Fierce Ghosts with green faces and tusks like Great Strength Demons leaped out, each brandishing weapons such as swords and spears, axes and halberds, sticks and staves, whips and maces, all rushing forward to beat the Demon Toad into pulp.

Li Fengxian was even more ruthless; with an unknown Secret Technique, its fur turned inside out, transforming into a bizarre creature with blurred flesh all over. Below its belly sprouted hundreds of sharp claws, its gaping maw extending outward like a blooming chrysanthemum, with a mist of blood behind it, causing its body to flicker between visibility and invisibility, as it lunged to gnaw on Wutong.

Upon seeing this, Qu Zhongyuan was overjoyed.

While secretly thinking, "This Doggy is finally willing to put up a desperate fight, even taking out the [Blood Shadow Demon Dog Dharma Form]. There's hope for survival."

At the same time, he poured the remainder of his Mana into the ghosts, compressing them into long nail-like blades, with boundless sharpness, and hurled them at the Evil Money Barrier.

As he expected, it worked out. But then, a new surprise occurred.

There was a "crack" as two things shattered.

One was the Evil Money Barrier, and the other was Gao Buxi's bridal chamber.

As the final blow from the Fierce Ghosts and Li Fengxian struck, the massive body of the Demon Toad collapsed with a thunderous fall, and thus no longer a single building within the Barrier was spared; all were leveled to the ground.

However, while the latter was demolished, the people inside were unharmed.

The thick Forbidden Law Barrier inside the room was crushed in an instant, and Sky-reaching Blade Light, accompanied by Gao Buxi's shout of anger, cleaved away half of the Demon Toad's body.

"Wutong Old Monster, what... what have you done?"

Gao Buxi, still dressed in his robe, his face pale, shaking, and holding the Xuan Yin Blood Frost Saber, watched everything unfold before him in disbelief.

Dead?

Everyone died?

His underlings, the foundation of his enterprise that he had painstakingly built, all gone in one night? No, within an hour?

And even harder to accept were the two beasts.

While they took advantage of the broken Barrier to flee, they watched Gao Buxi's demeanor and thought to themselves: Could it really be this ridiculous? Was this massacre just a coincidence? As all the Daoists died, was this Gao Buxi still frolicking in bed?

As the two beasts pondered this, they didn't forget to transmit the details of the events to him.

Thus, they all saw Gao Buxi's expression crumble.

And before the three could clarify everything, another change occurred.

This time, it was Wutong.

It seemed that after battling for so long, sustaining such deep injuries, and now suffering from the Hundred Ghosts Devouring the Flesh and Li Fengxian's Blood Shadow Soul Devouring,

the Mutated Wutong Master, Liu Lean, appeared to have a moment of lucidity, as if the light had momentarily returned to his eyes.

Therefore, he also became aware of his own condition.

He glared at the surviving Three Demons and the South Sea female cultivator, Duan Yuhong, and with a hoarse voice, he crazily laughed, saying,

"Die, all of you die."

"To let you die with your eyes closed, this divine skill is called 'Swallowing Heaven and Devouring Earth'."

"I, Wutong Master Liu Lean, am proud to be able to cast this technique before perishing."

"My friends, join me on the journey."

As soon as Wutong's voice fell, his mouth split open.

With a whooshing sound, an already huge toad mouth suddenly split further, growing wider and wider.

The filthy tadpoles within the holes on its back, not caring that they were not fully gestated, burst forth prematurely, wrapped in mucus, escaping in all directions.

The pool of blood worms beneath it, too, writhed violently, tunnelling into the ground.

In a daze, the heavens and earth transformed, and a blood moon plummeted.

Like a mountain flood, a waterfall of filthy, stinking matter surged forward, everything turning foul and dim.

Many mortals within the entirety of Guangping City had yet to escape.

Thus, they had no choice but to witness this scene of Swallowing Heaven and Devouring Earth alongside the Three Demons.

And they, too, were the objects being swallowed.

Mortals can resign to their fate!

But how could Gao Buxi, Li Fengxian, and Qu Zhongyuan resign themselves to this end? They each desperately mobilized their mana, hoping to save themselves.

Yet, they all could see that this was Wutong's most ferocious technique before his death and path was extinguished.

It was not just about resisting; they couldn't even escape.

"It's over!"

"No, I cannot accept this. I, Qu Zhongyuan, who dines on ghost hearts and expertly cooks ghost brains, how can I be swallowed by a stinky toad?"

"Is it true that blessings and calamities have no gate and come without reason?"

"But to have tangled in love with my lady before death, Gao Buxi has no regrets..."

Just when numerous mortals and the Three Demons fell into despair,

suddenly at this moment, a Buddha's name resounded through Guangping City without warning.

"Amitabha!"

"You evil beast, let's see if your Swallowing Heaven and Devouring Earth Divine Skill can withstand my Handheld Buddha Country."

Before the echo of those words faded, everyone saw a giant hand, surging with ten thousand feet of Buddha Light, reaching across space to strike down.

Accompanied by a thunderous boom, the stinking, filthy belly of the toad burst open.

Buddha Light flooded in, shattering the blood moon.

Then, from the horizon, an inconspicuous old cloth bag flew in.

The bag emanated an unbeatable suction force, further enhanced by the Buddha Light; amidst the whistling sound, it forcibly sucked in the Mutated Wutong, which had expanded to the size of a mountain.

With the filth gone, flowers fell from the sky, and Buddha Light chanted in the air.

As everyone looked up, they immediately saw a pair of Buddha's disciples, a match that is hard to find in the world, descending into Guangping with the Buddha Light.

One of the splendid Buddha's sons, Miao Seng, retracted the Buddha's Palm and retrieved the cloth bag.

Barefoot and suspended in the air, he offered a Buddhist salute, then shook the cloth bag, spilling out a listless, torn-mouthed, flesh-rotten, One-Horned Demon Toad onto his palm, and then addressed the crowd,

"Respectful greetings to my fellow Daoists, I am Wu Gou."

"This evil creature has been cleansed by my People Species Bag. Its demonic nature is gone, its mana completely lost, it shall commit no more evil."

Chapter 610 Ten Lifetimes of Resentful Couples Desire Mahayana, Wu Gou's Name Has a Reason

In Guangping city, they paid no attention to the many mortals who, by sheer luck, had escaped disaster.

Let's just talk about the four individuals Li Fengxian, Qu Zhongyuan, Gao Buxi, and Duan Yuhong – all of them were outstanding among humans and heroic among devils.

Which of them didn't possess an extraordinary charm? How could mortals not bow down upon seeing them?

Yet at this moment, upon seeing a Buddhist couple in front of them, all four felt a sense of being unworthy and lessened.

Before them stood a marvelous monk, Buddha's son, in white robes and bare feet, untouched by dust.

At his side was a compassionate Bodhisattva, in a long scarf and gown, her divine presence dignified.

As this Buddha's son, called Wu Gou, descended, a divine skill and a treasure were all it took to defeat and subdue the Mutated Five Abilities, which had been wreaking havoc and had killed hundreds of evil cultivators.

Perhaps it was the imposing demeanor of these two that was too extraordinary, or perhaps it was that Li Fengxian had been severely injured and his spirit unsettled.

This doggy, inexplicably, displayed a somewhat foolish demeanor.

With hands pressed together in a salute, he replied with a bow and subconsciously asked,

"for what purpose has the Buddha's son come? Is it to enlighten me?"

No sooner had this unexpected question been asked,

when they saw the marvelous monk, Buddha's son, burst into laughter, formed a Zen seal with his fingers, and chanted loudly: "I have come to this land to teach the Dharma and enlighten those lost in love,"

As he finished chanting, the dignified Bodhisattva at his side also smiled with a gesture of picking a flower, formed the Wisdom Seal, and followed with a chant: "In past lives, we were resentful lovers; in this life, we unite in the Mahayana."

At the utterance of this Buddha's verse, the ignorant Dog Demon still didn't understand,

but Gao Buxi and Qu Zhongyuan quickly guessed the hidden meaning:

"This Buddhist couple must be resentful lovers entangled over many lifetimes, only in this life do both have the potential to attain the great Mahayana."

"They still need to roll together in the mortal world, to preach the Dharma and comprehend the Dao."

As a look of realization crossed their faces, they failed to see the slight twitch at the corner of the mouth of the monk called Master Wu Gou.

In his heart, he relentlessly mocked the situation.

Indeed, these were his and Yunrong's latest covers.

And as for the so-called resentful lovers, to be precise, they were lovers of ten lifetimes' resentment.

Duobao True Monarch's one of the highly marvelous Cultivating Spirit Treasure techniques, the Divination Technique, was not only unparalleled in prediction and calculation but also excelled in crafting destinies and narrating stories.

As this was Master Tao's first request, the Lord was quite excited and took his responsibilities very seriously.

Not only had he arranged an extremely melodramatic and heart-wrenching story of ten lifetimes' resentment for Tao Qian and Yunrong,

to avoid suspicion, this generous Master had even proclaimed:

"My good disciple, such a shocking background story should have a reasonable explanation. For instance, given the complexity of your entanglement, there should be a powerful master supporting you from behind."

"Especially considering the risks you both are taking, it's inevitable you'll encounter the True Lord of a Hundred Demons Gao Yang – though his supernatural power is somewhat wasted, he's suspicious and lecherous by nature, and might try to dishonor you both."

"It's actually perfect, for your master had also worn covers while roaming the South Sea Territory in the past, and to this day, my details remain unknown to others."

"The monk known as 'Qingjing Zen Master' has some renown in the South Sea. He lives a sequestered life, perfectly fitting to stand by you at the crucial moments, to lend you support and facilitate your actions."

Duobao True Monarch's arrangements were surely foolproof.

However, after hearing the story he told, Tao Qian directly questioned its inspiration, fearing it might have been taken from the ill-fated mentor-disciple pair, 'Lian Yulou and Zhuge Qingyi.' To call it plagiarism would not be overstating it.

Moreover, Duobao's other persona seemed, upon first hearing, to be a kind and tolerant high monk of the Buddhist Sect.

But when Tao Qian asked Duan Yuhong, a native of the South Sea, the answer he got was somewhat surprising.

"Qingjing Zen Master is a secluded high monk known to all cultivators in the South Sea,"

"It is said that he was born from a fisherman and an exotic beast of the sea, a hybrid of human and devil, naturally gifted with a pair of mystical and spirited eyes that understand the nature of water and can perceive hidden truths. In his youth, he obtained a copy of the secret 'Great Compassionate Heart Mantra Scripture' from the sea's depths, prompting him to begin his cultivation."

"Later, he met a teaching monk from Dharma Cakra Temple who was on a pilgrimage, and he received the Dharma Cakra Secret Technique. It is rumored he attained the status of Arhat, yet he declined an invitation to join Dharma Cakra Temple, dedicating himself solely to the South Sea territory, enlightening devils and protecting the world's people."

"Because the Zen Master's methods of enlightenment were... excessively violent, rarely leaving survivors, his reputation did not spread beyond the South Sea."

From Duan Yuhong's introduction, it was not hard to see that Duobao True Monarch's methods were indeed far more sophisticated than Tao Qian's.

When Master Tao created personas, he always used them once and disposed of them immediately, without considering the aftermath.

In contrast, Duobao's dealings were much more meticulous, with a credible and detailed backstory that could be maintained in the long run.

After hearing all this, Tao Qian exclaimed, "I've learned something new again."

Yuan Gong, cradled in his arms, seemed to recall something and suddenly realized something before angrily spouting, "Shameless Duobao! So he's the one behind the Qingjing Zen Master from the South Sea whose methods of enlightenment are no different from those of a devil? Then, that time in Demon City, when Duobao covered for you and fought with Zhuge Qingyi, was he disguised as someone from my Secret Demon Sect?"

"Which one? Who exactly was Duobao pretending to be?"

The matters between the two masters were not for Tao Qian to meddle in.

He and Yunrong each took on the personas of 'Master Wu Gou' and 'Miao Yin Bodhisattva,' using their great divine power to subdue Wutong. They also went along with subduing Gao Buxi, Qu Zhongyuan, and Li Fengxian.

Introduced by Duan Yuhong, they exchanged brief courtesies and thus became acquainted.

Although the two creatures were both righteous and evil, seeing Tao Qian's disguise, they judged him to be a Buddha's son who had attained enlightenment within the Buddhist Sect. Fearing he might be the type who despised evil, they dared not speak much or get too familiar, worried about being identified as evil demons and possibly enlightened by his hand.

It was Gao Buxi, however, who got a "reminder" from Duan Yuhong in advance and fully understood that this pair of high-ranking monks were not as upright as they seemed on the surface and knew their purpose in descending into the mortal realm.

Now, without blushing or skipping a beat, he half complimented and half invited,

"I, Gao, have met Master Wu Gou and Miao Yin Bodhisattva."

"My wife said the two of you possess unrivaled divine powers, and indeed it seems so at first sight."

"My wife also mentioned that your descent into the world was twofold: one was to seek an opportunity to overcome the barrier of Divine Communication and set foot into the Ultimate Happiness Realm; the other was to seek talented prodigies to take on as disciples and bring back to the South Sea, intending to establish a new Buddha lineage there."

"In that case, it is quite fortunate. The well-known Devil Concubine Yuan Mingzhen is currently trapped in the neighboring province of Qiantang, where all demons are gathering. Furthermore, since this province has become an Earthly Buddha Country and was transformed into a strange place by the Demon Buddha Temple, all people are exhausted... Right now, that territory is in turmoil, a sign of chaotic times."

"My family, the Gao, wishes to send troops to Qiantang for some business."

"The two of you now have a connection with my family. Why not join in as well? With the support of my family, surely, your thoughts and plans will be realized."

To be frank, Gao Buxi's invitation lacked strong appeal.

Leaving aside others, not even a decent person would be persuaded by his family's reputation.

But this was of no consequence; their mutual understanding went unspoken, each harboring their own devious plans.

"Good, then, there's no problem at all," one agreed.

"Yuhong is a good friend of mine; her guarantee is enough for both my spouse and me to trust her."

The moment they consented, the atmosphere immediately became harmonious.

Tao Qian saw Qu Zhongyuan and Li Fengxian staring at the shriveled corpse of the toad in his hand and chuckled inwardly, guessing at the thoughts of the two monsters.

He soon burst their bubble, offering an apologetic smile and saying,

"It seems you two Daoists have been injured by this evil creature and wish to obtain some compensation from its remains."

"Had it died under my Buddha's Palm, its essence blood and soul could have been preserved."

"However, I was in a hurry earlier and had to use the 'People Species Bag' to collect it."

As Tao Qian mentioned this, including Gao Buxi, everyone turned their gaze towards the worn cloth bag hanging at his waist.

They all recalled that astonishing moment and knew that it must be a valuable treasure.

Only its name was quite abnormal, called the rather puzzling "People Species Bag."

Fortunately, Master Wu Gou was very considerate.

He continued to explain without pause,

"Don't be fooled by the drab appearance of my cloth bag; it is indeed an extraordinary treasure."

"My master confined me to harsh cultivation on the island for many years, and this is my first time venturing into society. Fearing for my life, he thus entrusted this treasure to me."

"It is named 'People Species,' meaning that once inside the bag, one can start anew."

"Yet, where there's a path to life, there naturally exists a path to death."

"I thought this evil beast was too savage, so I took it upon myself to erase its demonic mana and filthy flesh, leaving only this withered husk."

"My fellow Daoists, please do not take offense."

After Tao Qian finished, the three creatures formed a new impression of him in their hearts.

This Buddha's son seemed to be a straightforward man.

Normally, even a Buddhist cultivator wouldn't reveal their foundation and origins upon first meeting.

Only the truly naive would be so foolish.

The three monsters couldn't know that this too was deliberately staged by Master Tao.

With only the toad's skin left of the Wutong Old Monster, it meant that its blood and essence, as well as the Toad Pearl, were all gone.

Although Qu Zhongyuan and Li Fengxian were quite dissatisfied, they quickly thought of something else.

After exchanging glances, they almost simultaneously took their leave from Gao Buxi.

It wasn't a refusal to join, but simply saying: they would return to their cave mansions to recuperate and come together at dawn to head for Qiantang.

As long as he wasn't talking to Duan Yuhong, Gao Buxi was a cunning evil cultivator, and he guessed the monsters' intentions just by the thought.

"Truly, two country bumpkins!"

"What return to their cave mansions to recuperate? They clearly want to raid homes."

"Wutong and Deng Xuechao both died here, and there must be some good things left inside their Immortal Mountains and Water Mansions. However, they're nothing special, not worthy of my notice."

While he thought this, he certainly couldn't say it out loud.

He simply smiled and nodded in agreement, saying,

"Go ahead, go ahead!"

"Come with me at dawn to meet with my Gao Family's large army stationed at the Qiantang border, and Gao will ask my great-grandfather to properly arrange things for us."

"This time, we shall truly accomplish feats and earn a place on the Ten Thousand Marvels Sky-reaching Treasure Tower."

Gao Buxi, with royal lineage, was also skilled at making empty promises.

Seeing the two monsters hurrying away, the directions they headed in were clearly not where their cave mansions were situated.

The Dog Demon Li Fengxian headed to the Immortal Crane Mountain, the region of Wutong Temple.

The Ghost-eating Qu Zhongyuan went to the Blood Nest Water Mansion near the Wuling River.

Clearly, they were off to rob and collect the inheritance of the two demons.

Tao Qian laughed to himself and didn't mind.

He had already orchestrated such a grand play; how could he forget about Immortal Crane Mountain?

Shan Jiu, still very young, and Lian Jing'er had long returned to the Holy Embryo Bag.

As the Dog entered the mountain, he would only find piles of manure — nothing more.

Of course, who's to say he wouldn't genuinely enjoy that.

While Tao Qian mumbled his snide remarks, he also said to Gao Buxi,

"Daoist Gao, if you don't mind, Sister Miao Yin and I would like to take a stroll around your Guangping City to see if there are any good prospects."

"Additionally, my sister practices the Guanyin Method, a true Bodhisattva heart, who cannot bear to see mortals suffer. She wishes to use magic to summon some sweet rain to relieve these mortals of their minor miseries and afflictions."

"Certainly, there's no problem at all; the two of you are free to do as you wish," he readily agreed.

Gao Buxi openly agreed repeatedly, lavishing praise on the Miao Yin Bodhisattva, as played by Yunrong.

Inwardly, however, he mocked unreservedly,

"Heh heh!"

"Such hypocrisy! If my spouse hadn't already informed me of your two's backgrounds, I Gao Buxi would have really believed I had encountered two true Bodhisattvas."

"What sweet rain to relieve suffering? It's nothing more than using secret techniques to accumulate merit power in advance, to balance out the repercussions of your misdeeds later."

"Miao Yin is still okay, but how did this title of Master Wu Gou come about?"

"Not because this boy's soul is pure, clear, and without contamination, but because he has a heart so murderous, he spares no lives, leaves no whole corpses. His pair of Buddha feet tread not on filthy flesh and blood, and that's why he is called 'Wu Gou.'"