

## Longevity 711

### Chapter 711 Ancient Three Emperors, Tao Qian's Evil Interest

Atop the Spring and Autumn Chariot, Tao Qian embraced Yunrong with a solemn face, gazing at Yuan Mingzhen before him.

The conditions proposed by the Devil Concubine were unreasonable yet not without reason.

The unreasonable aspect was her desire to become a Human Emperor, to have Tao Qian fully assist her before he returned to Penglai Sea. Beyond the jurisdiction of the three provinces, she wanted the Yu Ding and Valley God Gui, even a complete set of the Nine Provinces' Twelve Treasures, given to her for nothing.

The reasonable aspect was that she entrusted her life and death to Tao Qian.

Tao Qian was familiar with adding ingredients to the mix; if Yuan Mingzhen let her Heart Soul be manipulated by him, indeed, afterwards he could toy with the Devil Concubine at will.

Moreover, having seen the "Mingzhen Governance Scripture," and with the example of her ruling the Imperial City, Tao Qian also acknowledged that if this woman became the Emperor, she would indeed be an enlightened ruler.

Especially, there was an even more important factor: Duobao True Monarch.

"My Master repeatedly urged me to return to the sect, and it wasn't just talk."

"He couldn't directly insist, so he found a 'spare one' who could take on the responsibility for me?"

"My cultivation is in the Spirit Treasure Great Method. I have repeatedly faced various calamities upon entering the mortal world. By rights, it's time to return to the mountains, consolidate my achievements and step into Ultimate Happiness, but it was my reluctance to leave the mortal woes that kept me here. My Master arranged for Yuan Mingzhen to inherit my Human Dao Destiny and various treasures such as the Yu Ding... He transferred the benefits and the consequences to the Devil Concubine, thus freeing me."

A couple of thoughts flashed, and Tao Qian faintly guessed his Master's intentions.

If it were anyone else's worries, Master Tao wouldn't take them too seriously.

He considered himself versatile, feeling that if he could escape promptly after his identity was exposed, preserving his life should not be difficult.

But what about Duobao?

His concerns, naturally, were very different.

"As for calculation and Prediction, to say my Master is the best in the world may be exaggerated, but at least he is beneath Daoist Transformation."

"Since it's my Master's guidance to pass the treasures and fortune, along with the burden, to this woman, he must have Predicted: If I continue to be entangled in this, I might end up dead and extinguished, hence he used 'Uncle Qin Jiao' as an example to enlighten me."

"The current situation indeed looks similar. Didn't Uncle Qin Jiao also fail to heed advice, ultimately forcing him to participate in a desperate struggle?"

As Tao Qian pondered, his brows furrowed ever tighter.

At this moment, sensing her good brother's heart brimming with sorrows, Yunrong struggled free.

Her Infinite Demon Eyes glared at Yuan Mingzhen.

Despite the Devil Concubine's notable cultivation and profound foundation, she was startled by the fleeting Evil Light of the Kitten and the Taizhen Golden Bell.

In her heart, she secretly thought:

"Master Tao really has deep Blessing. Such an Alien Species life also fancies him, even bearing his Descendants."

"No wonder he was able to maintain his composure under my active offer, but having a good Fortune doesn't necessarily mean everything goes smoothly; otherwise, the Lingji Fairy would not have met such misfortune."

"Besides, this Kitten is truly annoying."

As Yuan Mingzhen had this thought.

Yunrong had already leapt onto Tao Qian's shoulder, whispering into his ear:

"Husband, no matter what, your sister supports you."

"If you really don't wish to abandon mortal hardships and return to the sect, sister can sneak back to Jade Ring Mountain to find some more support for you."

As Yunrong spoke, Tao Qian noticed her figure had slightly changed.

Her belly had risen considerably, and the sweet scent of milk wafted around her. Her originally spirited, fierce, and peculiar Kitten eyes gradually became as tender as water, filled with a soothing maternal glow.

Their hearts resonated, and Tao Qian instantly perceived Yunrong's current state.

Her pregnancy was evident, and her physique had changed.

Her temperament had likewise shifted, becoming fiercer toward others and increasingly tender toward Tao Qian.

At this moment, Tao Qian also felt a touch of emotion.

He had, after all, blended into this world and adapted to much.

"In my previous life, when could I have made a cat pregnant?"

At the bottom of Tao Qian's heart, some bizarre thoughts unfit for normal people to voice flashed by.

Then, as if a decision had been made.

He suddenly reached out and pointed a finger towards Yuan Mingzhen's forehead, while also saying:

"If Daoist Yuan trusts me, relax your Heart Soul and do not move."

As Tao Qian spoke, he deliberately activated the Innate Spiritual Vision gifted by Senior Sister Lingji , and Yuan Mingzhen, indeed perceiving it, remained motionless.

His fingertip landed on the forehead embellishment, and a warm, supple sensation came through.

With the spiritual vision reflected, indeed, he saw surrounded by swirling Dragon Qi, the Taiyin Heavenly Phoenix preparing to gather strength, as if it could soar to the heavens at any moment.

Of course, these weren't the focus.

Tao Qian's real attention was on the detailed Record that burst forth in his mind.

Even though Yuan Mingzhen had previously willingly revealed her past life, exposing all sorts of secrets including her physical details, Tao Qian has always been cautious, and he naturally preferred to verify it again.

This verification indeed brought Tao Qian some delightful discoveries.

And not just one kind.

So there he was, touching the delicate brow of the Devil Concubine for a long, long time, until finally an unprecedented amount of Record information burst forth:

[Record Name: Yuan Mingzhen.]

[Record Type: Mixed Blood.]

[Record: This person's background is complicated, derived from three strands of Spiritual Resonance blue silk, Imperial Family Dragon Blood, Taiyin Heavenly Phoenix and so on mixed together, a true Mixed Blood life. However, her Soul and True Spirit mostly belong to the Human Clan, due to the blood in her veins and the nurturing of the Xie Family, Guanyin Temple, and Nine Spirit Sect over the years. She possesses governing talent, extraordinary intelligence, mastery of monarchical arts, and a compassionate heart, making her a born enlightened Human Emperor.]

[Note 1: Due to years of brainwashing and being manipulated as a Tool Man, Yuan Mingzhen harbors two major obsessions: one is to establish a Longevity nation with achievements not inferior to the Ancestor Dragon; the other is to retire once successful, cutting off worldly ties, and to become an ordinary woman in the Mortal World, experiencing life's joys and sorrows.]

Chapter 712 Ancient Three Emperors, Tao Qian's Vile Hobby\_2

[Note 2: Because she had control over the remnants of the imperial family, these individuals had intricate connections with the "Alchemists," including the likes of Gao Cheng, son of Gao Huan, which made it extremely convenient to spy inside the secretive world of the Alchemists. Yuann Mingzhen originally planned to operate through controlling the law and fortune to gain recognition from the Alchemists and then slowly plot their downfall, using their power to rebuild Tian Chao, and ultimately destroy them, just as the cuckoo takes over the sparrow's nest... This plan collapsed due to the Yang Sui Uprising, and she was forced to consolidate her power and relinquish the Imperial City.]

[Note 3: After leaving the Imperial City, due to the multitude of spies, she also uncovered a big secret of the Alchemists: the Ancestor Dragon once signed a contract with the Daoist and Buddhist Sects, with one benefit being a large amount of Daoist Transformation, and protection from the Tribulation Immortal gods and buddhas. Due to the Barrier breaking, the gods and buddhas still protect this realm, but have deliberately ignored the Alchemist Organization nestled within the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty. Coupled with the actions of Spirit Treasure True Inheritor Tao Qian, both internal and external troubles have caused this huge entity to shrink and suffer continuous damage, on the verge of extinction.]

[Note 4: In order to save themselves, the Alchemists initiated the Hidden Dragon Mutual Devouring Plan to recreate a second Ancestor Dragon. Aside from offering the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline, they also had to sacrifice the tremendous resources they accumulated over more than two thousand years to help the second Ancestor Dragon rebuild the Ancestor God Forbidden Law and the Longevity Barrier... And as the old monsters become weaker, they are selecting potential Hidden Dragons in advance, currently favoring Si Xixin and Zhang Jinluan. Whoever enters the Imperial City first will become the second Ancestor Dragon.]

[Note 5: Because of this secret, and with Duobao True Monarch visiting later, Yuann Mingzhen concocted another plan. She purposely made contact with Spirit Treasure True Inheritor Tao Qian, with the best strategy being to subdue him, and if not, at least become entangled with him, entwining their fates, to create momentum and pressure the Alchemists to prematurely launch their plan, commit all their amassed resources to rebuild the Longevity Barrier... Not all Ancestor God Treasures will choose to follow the second Ancestor Dragon; Yuann Mingzhen estimated that a small portion would select a local master, some would choose Yu Yanshi from the Primordial Sect in the south, some would choose her and Spirit Treasure True Inheritor Tao Qian, while most would choose the second Ancestor Dragon, eventually forming a unique Barrier with one major and several minor powers.]

[Note 6: If this plan were to succeed, it could save tens of billions from the Human Clan. Although most of the fortune would end up with the so-called second Ancestor Dragon... it would also help Yuann Mingzhen pass the test given by the Ancient Three Saint Emperors.]

[Note 7: Because the Great Book Yuann Mingzhen cultivated is the "Holy Emperor Supreme Dao Scripture," and coupled with her extraordinary talent and unparalleled strategic mind, upon ascending the imperial throne, the Ancient Three Saint Emperors, from the Outer Realm, resonated with her and



subjected her to numerous tests through the void. If she could complete them, the Three Saint Emperors would acknowledge her as their inheritor and assist her ascension to the position of Human Emperor.]

[Note 8: The Ancestor Dragon was also an inheritor of the Ancient Three Emperors, and the shattering of the Ancestor God Forbidden Law was linked to the Ancestor Dragon and the Three Emperors as well.]

...

The initial Record and annotations.

They were no different from what Yuann Mingzhen herself had revealed.

Even that "evaluation" was exceptionally high.

Especially the phrase "benevolent love for the people," which even caused Master Tao's hostility to fade, no longer minding her attempt to swindle under false pretenses.

But then those annotations!

Ha, it was fortunate that Master Tao had long cultivated the ability to keep a straight face, no matter how shocking the secrets laid out in the Record; otherwise, his true feelings would be exposed at this moment.

Originally, it was just a tentative verification to see if Yuann Mingzhen was as good as she claimed to be.

Who would have thought that upon checking, Master Tao was thoroughly shocked.

At the bottom of his heart, a thought emerged:

"The prettier the woman, the more deceitful she is."

Yuann Mingzhen had indeed shown Tao Qian almost everything, but the secrets she hid...

Each one was outrageously large.

There were those concerning the Alchemists, which Tao Qian had painstakingly managed to arrange for the spy "Qin Wuxiang" to infiltrate.

Yuann Mingzhen, on the other hand, had gathered a bunch from somewhere, such as that Gao Cheng, who was clearly the biological son of that old beast Gao Huan. Although Gao Cheng was rejected by the Alchemists, he still had that relationship and could easily uncover core secrets. Back in Steamed Buddha City, Gao Yang, that mad True Master, was still obsessed with his brother Gao Cheng.

And there were many such individuals under Yuann Mingzhen's command, perhaps the Alchemists were as infiltrated as a sieve?

"It's no wonder she was able to escape to Qiantang safely after losing the Imperial City and being abandoned by the Xie Family. I thought it was the merit of the [Spring and Autumn Chariot]."

"It seems that she had this foundational strength all along and intentionally sought me out."

"The most incredible thing is, she even received support from the three Ancient Holy Emperors?"

"Isn't she ordained with such a backer?"

At this very moment, Tao Qian still maintained his pose with one finger pointed at Yuann Mingzhen's brow.

With an expressionless face, he watched the Devil Concubine, filled with inward sighs.

When it came to the act of "pretending to be a pig to eat the tiger," he, Tao Da, was also quite skilled.

But compared with Yuann Mingzhen, he was far behind.

The Ancient Three Emperors!

These three, are all at the Tribulation Immortal Realm.

With such a powerful backing brought forth, who wouldn't be astonished?

Amid the surging thoughts, Tao Qian withdrew his finger.

He didn't respond to Yuann Mingzhen immediately, but seriously contemplated.

This time, it was different from before.

Tao Qian, having glimpsed great secrets within Yuann Mingzhen's Heart Soul, leveraged his perspective to detach from his past viewpoint and ascend to another level of strategic contemplation regarding the affairs of the world.

The previously tangled mess abruptly became much clearer.

"After the Yang Sui Uprising, I've been entangled in the Northern Land Provinces—New Moon, Tiannan, Qiantang... If things continue like this, with my indecisive nature unable to overlook the suffering, I fear it will be very difficult to return to the Penglai Sea. The end result could indeed be the same as Uncle Qin Jiao's."

"Now it seems I've been trying too hard, becoming too attached, having fallen into some hero complex, foolishly trying to resolve the chaos of the Northern Land single-handedly."

"Apart from being overconfident, it's also a suicidal move. Not to mention anything else, I simply can't stop the imminent 'Central Plains Great War'. That situation won't allow me to disguise as a Horse and subtly cause destruction. I absolutely can't prevent the birth of the second Ancestor Dragon, the return of the Ancestral Divine Treasures, or the reconstruction of the Forbidden Techniques."

"Only halfway through, I would end up dying, both in body and dao, as pitiful as a mantis trying to stop a chariot."

"Hm?"

"Why try to stop it?"

"Instead, why not follow Yuann Mingzhen's plan, deliberately build momentum, and force the Alchemists to give up the supplies they've hoarded for over two thousand years, as well as their own contributions, to exhaust all resources to rebuild the Forbidden Law Barrier."

"Once successful, the billions of people of the Human Clan at the base will immediately have the chance to breathe and recuperate. No longer will they be treated like two-legged sheep to be bullied, exploited as expendables, suffering beyond words and too appalling to witness."

"Although there will still be a lot of conflicts and killing afterward, these will transfer to the upper echelons."

"Fighting over the authority of the Forbidden Techniques is always better than the current situation, right?"

"Especially since not all the barriers will belong to the second Ancestor Dragon, there will be smaller barriers in various places, some belonging to Yu Yanshi, and I will also gain a share."

"As for high-end power struggles in the future, I might actually have an advantage..."

As Tao Qian thought more and more, the brightness in his eyes grew.

He now felt quite grateful to Yuann Mingzhen for providing an alternative perspective.

Originally set on annihilating the Alchemists, he now realized, he could first make use of them, empty them out, to repair the crumbling Longevity Heavenly Dynasty after the breakdown of the Forbidden Law Barrier.

...

With his thoughts settled, Tao Qian immediately turned to look at Yuann Mingzhen.

With a meaningful smile, he then spoke, "Yuann Daoist, indeed you and I can form an alliance and agree on a contract, however..."

As Tao Qian spoke halfway, Yuann Mingzhen felt a surge of joy, but upon hearing 'however,' she instinctively asked, "However what?"

Knowing the figure before him seemed like an innocent rabbit, but in reality, was a master of strategy with her ambitions as a Human Emperor laid bare, Tao Qian, at this moment, suddenly felt a bit mischievous.

"However, Yuann Daoist, you're currently fallen in the Phoenix Falling Plain, seen as a prize to be fought over by warlords, and even if you take a stand, your rallying power might not be sufficient."

"Instead, let Tao Qian do it."

"Once the great momentum begins, when the Central Plains Great War erupts, the Longevity Barrier is rebuilt."

"Tao Qian will step forward, and Yuann Daoist can also take advantage of the aftermath of the Devil Empress's influence to announce allegiance to me..."

Chapter 713 - False Siblings, Perfect Master and Disciple

Upon hearing Tao Qian's words, Yuann Mingzhen's phoenix eyebrows twitched, a look of surprise flashing across her face, before she glared at Tao Qian.

Tao Qian glared back, the two of them exchanging questions and answers.

"True Master, do you wish to proclaim yourself emperor?"

"How could that be possible? I, Tao, used Zhu Yong's mouth to abolish the imperial system. How could I possibly declare myself emperor again? Doing so would surely mark me as a duplicitous schemer."

"If True Master doesn't become emperor, how could Mingzhen marry you?"

"Why should she marry me? Yuan Daoist has met Tao, and after a thorough exchange of philosophies, she has deeply understood the fallacies of the imperial system. She is determined to abandon the title of Devil Empress and 'return to the truth', joining Tao as 'Hero Yuann Mingzhen' in our common endeavor. This is what one might call a meeting of minds."

"From today onwards, you call me Brother Tao, and I call you Miss Yuann. We will then be comrades in arms, able to address each other as comrades."

...

Master Tao's string of awkward and eccentric words spilled out, just shy of writing 'intend to freeload' across his face.



Yuann Mingzhen wasn't annoyed, but instead laughed, clearly not expecting this renowned Spirit Treasure Daoist—a figure with a reputation for national salvation—to show such an unscrupulous side.

She didn't argue with Tao Qian, but spoke quite seriously:

"Brother Tao, Mingzhen chose to stay in Qiantang on her own. Whether it's the Three Arhats from the Demon Buddha Temple or those warlords, in reality, none can keep me."

"Yan Shi from the south has invited me multiple times, wanting to form an alliance with me. Although Fumin is small, it's not a bad starting point. With Mingzhen's methods, capturing one or two additional provinces is not difficult."

Her words seemed to divert the subject, but in reality, they answered Tao Qian, telling him that she wasn't without other options.

Tao Qian, of course, understood, but still asserted firmly:

"Yuan Daoist, you won't go south. Although those dozen or so provinces haven't truly united in name."

"Everyone knows that the south is thoroughly the domain of the Primordial Sect. I know your strength is exceptional, but you absolutely cannot win against Yan Shi. Even those few powerful seniors supporting you might persuade you to submit to Yan Shi to maintain face for the Heavenly Venerate, potentially becoming a lesser bride."

"As for your Brother Tao, I am different. I am wholeheartedly seeking the Dao and Longevity. What I have done in the past and what I am doing now, having acquired the Spring and Autumn Chariot, you should also understand the reasons."

"The Human Dao Destiny is good, but for those without a firm heart, it actually becomes an enormous burden."

"While cultivating, while wandering in spirit, I inevitably witness the tragedies happening every moment across the seventy-two provinces... This world is complex and bizarre, there is not much Tao can do. Initially, like a repairer, I would fix leaks wherever they appeared, but now that I see a way to temporarily protect billions from the Human Clan, how could I miss it?"

"But doing good deeds, let's not ask about the future."

Master Tao Qian let out a ramble of words, and Yuann Mingzhen fell silent.

She too understood the subtext in Tao Qian's words: going to the Primordial Sect would mean losing everything, while joining forces with Tao Qian held the promise of inheriting the fruits of victory.

The reason behind it?

Tao Qian was clearly the type of seeker who, once the deed was done, would make a swift exit, withdrawing from the scene.

In short, Tao Qian painted a highly tempting picture for Yuann Mingzhen.

Included in this 'big pancake' were the three provinces of New Moon, Tiannan, and Qiantang, the Twelve Artifacts of the Nine Provinces, the overwhelming Human Dao Destiny, and the implied support of powers that might be involved later on, such as Taishang Dao, Fangcun Mountain, Canxuan Sect, the Spirit Coffin lineage... and so on.

No Hidden Dragon Talent in the world could resist such a temptation, let alone Yuann Mingzhen, an Empress with grand aspirations?

"Okay!"

"From today on, Mingzhen is Brother Tao's person."

"After the success in Qiantang in the upcoming days, Mingzhen will immediately send out a communication to the nation, declaring herself as the successor of the Zhu Dynasty, announcing her transformation due to Brother Tao's influence and joining the uprising. Brother Tao, you then come forward, actively connecting with many powerful forces like the Primordial Sect, inevitably forcing the Alchemists to contribute all to rebuild the Barrier."

"Good sister!"

...

The development of this secret meeting in the dream was quite unexpected.

By all accounts, Tao Master should have been the great hero, saving the Devil Concubine and whisking her away to safety.

Yet here they were, pretending affection, each with ulterior motives.

Of course, to say so would not be exactly right.

Having just returned to the quiet room in the Zen Temple, the awakened Tao Qian opened his eyes and immediately assessed:

"Yuann Mingzhen is a good ally; although our paths differ, our current objectives align, and thus an alliance can be formed."

Failing to make Yuann Mingzhen surrender to him did not annoy Tao Qian; on the contrary, he appeared to be pleased.

He was not one who was proud and presumptuous, considering himself a chosen one whom all must follow.

Different paths, in fact, are the majority.

Same path, that's a rarity.

Seeing a way to protect billions from the Human Clan in Yuann Mingzhen, is that not cause for joy?

With this thought, Tao Qian once again took out the Golden Radiance Token.

Yuann Mingzhen revealed that it was none other than Duobao True Monarch pushing from behind all that transpired between Master Tao in Qiantang and the Devil Concubine.

However, Tao Qian did not seek retribution; instead, he conveyed the entire Great Plan he had discussed with Yuann Mingzhen to his own Master.

Finally, he solemnly inquired:

"Master, what exact outcome did you predict?"

"Why are you so certain that after I leave, Yuann Mingzhen, with all the advantages gained, will not choose to proclaim herself emperor?"

Tao Qian's questions were somewhat strange.

After all, in Yuann Mingzhen's words, Duobao's arrangement was simply to let the Devil Concubine inherit Tao Qian's troubles and benefits, and then to continue on the path of an Empress.

Tao Qian had asked his question, but the Golden Radiance Token made no movement, not even a tremble.

"Master, there's no need to deny it!"

"It was by my hand that the imperial reign of the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty was destroyed. What I think in my heart, Master must be able to predict. How could you not know that it's impossible for your disciple to support another female emperor? If I did indeed do that, it would definitely become a Dao Heart Demon in the future, a major hindrance to my cultivation, and I'd absolutely fail to overcome the Daoist Transformation Tribulation."

"Master knows all this, yet you still arranged for me to meet with Yuann Mingzhen. I suspect, you have plans in place, or you've already predicted that even if she benefitted from the many advantages I've left her, she would never claim the throne."

"Perhaps she might even choose to help me..."

"If I hadn't guessed all this, how would I dare draw such a big pancake for her, luring her into serving under my command?"

As he spoke, Tao Qian's eyes became brighter and brighter.

...

At this very moment, in the distant Penglai Sea, on Golden Radiance Island, within the Observatory Hall.

When Tao Qian's voice transmitted from the Jade Case Golden Radiance Token, the two big, furry legs that had been swaying non-stop suddenly froze, and the big man with an explosive haircut, the imposing Duobao True Monarch, wore a constipated-like wry smile on his face.

Listening to his own disciple's increasingly pleased voice, Duobao rubbed the grime under his ribs and tapped on the Golden Radiance Token to respond:

"You slippery kid, what nonsense are you blabbering about? As your master, I haven't even taught you the Divination Technique yet. With these petty thoughts of yours, you can guess my intentions?"

"Besides, am I, Duobao, that kind of master who dotes on his disciple, who carefully considers everything for him, a top-notch master in this world?"

"..."

Once these words were spoken, silence once again fell in the quiet room.

It was good that Yuan Gong knew the matters discussed between this master and disciple were critical, concerning Tao Qian's Dao Path and even life and death. Otherwise, he would have surely jumped out to mock them thoroughly at this moment.

After hearing this, Tao Qian instantly knew he had indeed guessed correctly.

However, the outcome, his master probably wouldn't say it.

He also knew not to divulge the "Heavenly Mechanism" for good reason, so he didn't press further.

Rising to his feet, he bowed towards the Golden Radiance Token, and then towards the direction of the Penglai Sea, before saying:

"Thank you, Master, for your careful planning for your disciple!"

"After entering the world, I've attracted calamities and caused troubles time and time again. Master, you did not tire of helping me out repeatedly. Naturally, you are the top-notch master in the world."

"Once this matter is concluded, as long as the barrier succeeds, those Evil Cultivators will no longer be able to treat the billions of Human Clan as disposable, two-legged sheep, and tragedies like Iron Buddha



Temple, Fragrant Meat Collection, and Gao Ren City will not be widely repeated. Your disciple will surely follow Master's instructions and return to the mountain to cultivate in peace."

After Tao Qian finished speaking, he didn't realize there was anything amiss in his words; he had set a goal for himself.

On the other end of the Golden Radiance Token, Duobao's annoyed voice came through:

"Dealing with you, kid, is my bad luck. I should never have been impulsive and fought with Yunhua over a disciple."

"The talent is good, but the troubles are also too many to count."

"This one incarnation of Qingjing Zen Master that I've cultivated for so many years was meant for great use. Your interferences have wasted it."

"This account is on the books; you'll have to repay me in the future."

"Go and rest, stop bothering me."

After that, the Golden Radiance Token became silent again.

At this moment, the joy on Tao Qian's face suddenly became much richer, and he was even more elated and excited.

The Human Dao Fortune within him also began to boil over.

The reason was simple; he believed that matter was very likely to succeed.

"Master's Divination Technique is the best in the world. Since he has personally stepped in and made such arrangements, it means that the pressing matter of forcing the Alchemist to rebuild the barrier is bound to succeed."

"Although the barrier's reconstruction will not rectify the chaos of the Seventy-two provinces, at least at the grassroots level, the number of tragedies will greatly reduce."

"The tens of billions will not only have a breathing space, but they will also have a greater chance to brew a more suitable path..."

Tao Qian was excitedly contemplating this.

On the other hand, Duobao True Monarch's face grew even more bitter.

He complained to the three treasures in the hall, the Heavenly Punishment Sword, the Returning Immortal Mirror, and the Ruyi Ring:

"Now I truly understand Uncle Ji's situation back then. Junior brother Qin Jiao was also of the same temperament back in the day; obstinate and determined, one couldn't reason with or dissuade him."

"My disciple is even worse. The tough enemies he attracts are more numerous than my own archenemies. The misfortunes he creates get increasingly horrendous. If it goes on like this, either he dies or he'll inevitably pierce through the heavens someday."

"It's difficult for me to turn a blind eye and not care. Truly, such worries can kill a person."

"Heavenly Venerate Grand Master, what exactly were you thinking?"

"In our Spirit Treasure Daoist Collection, there are so many great books that could have been passed down, but you specifically left him the Scripture of Salvation. If he were an existence like the 'Ancestor Dragon,' then the Scripture of Salvation would be just that, and I could invite and deceive one by one, luring all of our Spirit Treasure Sect's Ten Thousand Immortals out of the sea to fight for him if necessary."

"But can't you see, Grand Master? The boy doesn't have such ambitions, and his understanding of this world isn't sufficient. He's still an indecisive repairer and a reckless fool."

"I won't bother about it anymore. You must have your own arrangements since you're the one who designated me as the future Sect Master of the Spirit Treasure Sect. With such a high status and incredible power, you must not let anything happen to me, right...?"

In the hall, the Three Immortal Treasures originally wanted to respond to their master.

But after hearing the latter part of the rant, they chose to keep silent and instead communicated among themselves secretly.

The Returning Immortal Mirror had the harshest comments. The upside-down mirror surface flashed four ancient seal characters:

"Perfect Match of Master and Disciple!"

Chapter 714 - Conceiving That Day, Magic Battle Live Stream

After his secret meeting with Yuan Mingzhen and uncovering a major secret, Tao Qian's considerations immediately expanded from just Qiantang Province to the whole world, encompassing the Seventy-two Provinces.

This perspective was sufficient to resolve his current predicament and, more importantly, might allow the several billion members of the Human Clan, who had been suffering under the erosion of Evil Cultivators, to catch a much-needed breath. It was an opportunity he could not afford to miss.

However, before taking action, he still needed to deal with the Tiannan Gao Family and the Demon Buddha sub-temple.

Tao Qian communicated with Zheng Yin, Zhao Gongda, Meng Shoudao, Guo Huchen, and a few others without revealing his emotions, continuing to push forward the original plan.

At the same time, the strategy he had already agreed upon with Duobao was also timely launched.

Brutishly simple!

Master Tao acted as a double agent, deceiving both parties into betraying each other.

The first step was to have Gao Buxi act as a guide, personally leading two Arhats from the Demon Buddha Temple to Tiannan Province, the Gao Family ancestral lands, inadvertently delivering a heavy blow to both the Gao Family and the old Alchemist monster, Gao Huan.

...

Early this day, within Steamed Buddha City, Gao Buxi, the most favored descendant of True Lord of a Hundred Demons Gao Yang went to seek Gao Yang, suddenly bringing along his newly-wed wife, Duan Yuhong.

He claimed his wife was pregnant and that he would not participate in the upcoming battle in Qiantang Province City. He planned to take his wife back to Tiannan Province, to the ancestral lands, hoping to benefit from the ancestors' blessings so their child could have an exceptional Talent and Spirit Root.

"Already pregnant? Haven't you two just gotten married?"

"Did you use some Alien Species method?"

"My wise ancestor, I was eager to have a child, and luckily my wife hails from the South Sea Territory. She had a fortuitous encounter when paying respects at the Heavenly Consort Temple and received a blessing from the Heavenly Consort. Once the time came, we would be assured of a child with extraordinary talent, and now it has come to pass."

Gao Yang was astonished, turning his gaze to his granddaughter-in-law.

His eyes Flashing red not only quickly laid bare Duan Yuhong's background but also directly perceived the fetus within her womb.

He then immediately exclaimed:

"South Sea Heavenly Consort! Your wife actually has such a great Blessing?"

"Indeed, it is a child with exceptional roots, naturally spirited, truly capable of inheriting my Hundred Demons Magic."

"I approve!"

"Anyways, you lad have no significant combat Power. If you can spread our Gao Family's Descendants and bear more offspring, that in itself would be your great contribution. Hurry and take your wife back to the ancestral lands to nourish the fetus."

Suddenly blessed with a descendant of extraordinary talent, Gao Yang was very Joyous.

He specifically sent some Demon Soldiers to escort the couple covertly back to the most secret Gao Family Ancestral Land in Tiannan Province.

Unfortunately, content as Gao Yang was, he still had his heart set on the meaty prize within Qiantang Province City.

He was completely unaware that following behind his obedient grandson and his wife, there was a large number of Monk Soldiers and Buddhist Practitioners trailing them.

A total of two massive forces of Monk Soldiers, along with two incredibly powerful Arhats, were concealed within something known as the Great Sumeru Formless Treasure Banner, merging with the sky, following the pregnancy party, heading to the most central domain of the Gao Family.

Inside the treasure banner, Kongchan Liansha, the two Arhats, watched Gao Buxi and Duan Yuhong from afar.

With a look of eager Joy on their faces, they spoke to each other:

"Qingjing, your methods are impressive. You were able to deceive the True Lord of a Hundred Demons so effortlessly. Once we reveal the Gao Family Ancestral Land, Tiannan Province will belong to our Demon Buddha Temple."

"The disciple Wu Gou also has not an insignificant technique. That woman named Duan Yuhong must be one of his subordinates, I wonder what methods he used to train the Gao Family lad so well."

"These master and disciple, outwardly they seem more upright than those from Great Freedom Temple, but their methods are sneakier than ours, fitting to join our Demon Buddha Temple."

"Once this mission succeeds, our lineage's status within the temple will rise once more. Brother Shipi need not mention, the Daoist Transformation Tribulation won't affect him, and with such a great merit we have collected, the temple will have to aid us in overcoming our tribulations somehow. Brother, allow me to congratulate you in advance."

"Let's rejoice together!"

...

When it comes to Divine Power, Gao Yang and even Kongchan Liansha—the two Arhats—are top-notch.

Ordinary Ultimate Happiness Realm Cultivators simply cannot outwit them.



Unfortunately, it was precisely Duobao whom they failed to detect even the slightest clue.

While they were each rejoicing, within Qiantang Province City, the Buddha's Birthday celebration was still underway, with an atmosphere of great zeal.

Moreover, the excitement was not confined to just Qiantang Province.

In other surrounding provinces and even in far-off super cities like Demon City and Imperial City, a multitude of eyes were turned towards the celebration.

This had been made possible by a novelty in this realm.

It was none other than the Divine Ear Sect, Ting Di Sect, and Ten Thousand Miles Sect, along with a dozen other special sects dedicated to the pursuit of secrets and knowledge.

They had joined forces and installed countless Spirit Mirrors, Spirit Crystals, and similar objects in important municipalities within each major province, or within city walls.

Under the enhancement of Forbidden Techniques and Secret Skills like the Ten Thousand Miles Light Capturing Projection Technique, Sky Shrinking and Light Separation Skill, Little All Heavens Crystal Ball Shadowing Great Method, etc., they could broadcast scenes from tens of thousands of miles away to almost every province.

Though there was some delay, it was intriguing and fun nonetheless.

Such devices had appeared during the intense integration of the Cultivation World and the Mortal World.

But to have a widespread setup allowing simultaneous viewing in the Seventy-two Provinces, combined with the explanations provided by Cultivators from these aligned sects, was unprecedented.

The Buddha's Birthday festival, with a projection covering tens of thousands of miles and the combination of elements such as the warlord representatives of the Northern Land, Demon Buddha Temple, Free Temple, Devil Empress... and others, was also a rare first-time occurrence.

Inside the Province City, people were not yet aware of the tremendous stir that this spectacle had caused across the provinces.

Of course, Mortals still couldn't see it.

The reason was simple: they could not withstand the contamination within.

However, the presence of Transcendent beings such as Cultivators, Demons, Alien Species, and so forth, their numbers were also surging.

Chapter 715 - Conceiving on the Same Day, Live Magic Duel\_2

Accumulated, it was already beyond remarkable.

Although a host of warlords and strong people did not understand how those knowledge-seeking cultivators managed to convince the three Arhats of the Demon Buddha Temple, they were all thrilled at the prospect of such a high-profile event.

Tao Qian took one look and was amused.

This thing was all too familiar to him, just a fantasy version of a live broadcast.

"So-called debating scripture and competing in magic skills is just a pretense, all for show."

"Neither the Demon Buddha Temple nor the Free Temple are under any illusions."

"It takes a great deal of effort for any one family to conquer the territory of a province, and when Master Shenxiu was provoked into agreeing to the wager by me, the Free Temple took the opportunity and smoothly sent some power over to cause trouble. They don't necessarily aim to take over Qiantang but are content as long as they can spoil the Demon Buddha Temple's plans."

"And the three Arhats, feeling they have the upper hand, are confident in their hold over the Free Temple, and decisively stir up a big sensation with their promotion."

"And today, there is yet another reason to draw attention in a clandestine manner; the more attention this event receives, the more covert the assault of Kongchan and Liansha, the Two Arhats on the Tiannan Gao Family, can be."

"Hmm, everybody is quite the player."

After murmuring these points, Tao Qian also began his own maneuvers.

Now, the images projected thousands of miles away to major cities across the seventy-two provinces predominantly showed the demon monks preaching, which must be one of the conditions imposed by the three Arhats. Apart from generating hype, they also took the opportunity to teach, casting their net wide with the hope of catching some fish.

Tao Qian, of course, did not approve and, as luck would have it, the Beautiful Corpse, Lady You Rui, had invited him to preach.

Seizing the opportunity, he readily climbed onto the stage with Yunrong and truly began to deliver his teachings.

He neither knew much about Buddhist teachings nor were they appropriate for him to discuss.

But his current persona was extraordinary, supported by the narrative of "Ten Lifetimes of Resentful Couples" alongside Yunrong.

The story between the two of them not only contained profound Buddhist principles but also had a plot full of ups and downs, which easily could be divided into hundreds of chapters and last for nine thousand installments, allowing him to speak continuously for a day and a night if he wished to.

As Tao Qian lectured, the popularity soared.

By the end, the entire Qiantang provincial city, with millions of inhabitants, had come to listen.

Even Shipi Arhat, within his own Little Leiyin Temple, was trimming flesh while listening with great interest.

Occasionally, he even exclaimed:

"Qingjing Daoist is truly devoted to cultivation, not only does he possess divine powers superior to mine, but he also understands Buddhist teachings more deeply than I do. No wonder he was able to transcend the tribulation of Daoist transformation before me."

"Daoist friend has asked to use my territory to first promote his fame; I, as a Buddhist practitioner, should logically refuse. However, since the Daoist friend has already promised to ascend to the Demon Buddha on the day of pulse opening, it is only right that I offer him the Convenient Gate."

...

Clearly, the laypeople were enjoying an exciting story.

But the cultivators who were proficient in Buddhist teachings and had deep cultivation were listening to the profound Buddhist principles contained within.

Tao Qian gradually noticed something amiss; the story of the Ten Lifetimes of Resentful Couples, which he thought was absurdly melodramatic and put together by Duobao Daoist, seemed to have a magical allure, drawing in large crowds to listen.

He even surmised that if it was like this here, then the many cities and towns currently watching the "live broadcast" across the seventy-two provinces must also be gathering a multitude of Daoist and Buddhist cultivators from side sects, evil cultivators, and more to watch.

This also meant that he, Master Tao, had once again gained fame throughout the world.

But this time, it was under the false identity of "Wu Gou Buddha Son."

Also becoming widely known alongside him was the lineage of the South Sea Qingjing Zen Master.

While Tao Qian read his prepared manuscript with animated expression, he couldn't help but mock inwardly:

"Could Master have foreseen all this and that's why he seriously concocted the story of the ten lifetimes? Sure plays the game well, but isn't afraid of giving himself away."

"Then there are these stories, which are just too melodramatic..."

Despite his complaints, Tao Qian continued narrating. It was far preferable to listen to the story of Ten Lifetimes of Resentful Couples than to listen to those demon monks teaching and demonstrating magic, only for the Demon Buddha Temple to treat the audience like fish, swept away into the Buddha's Golden Soup to be fished out and disposed of at will.

Soon, the second night arrived.

Whether in Qiantang Province City or among the audience from the seventy-two provinces who were watching the event, everyone, including various Daoist and Buddhist side sects, demons, and alien species, was excited.

All of them were discussing:

Who will prove more superior, Wu Gou Buddha Son or Master Shenxiu?

Will the Devil Concubine come again tonight?

If this contest is lost again, will the Demon Buddha Temple's Three Arhats acknowledge the debt?

For a time, it was the center of universal attention.

The fervor was on a completely different level compared to last night's event.

As the hour arrived, the scene from last night replayed, with the Heavenly Phoenix neighing and Devil Concubine Yuan Mingzhen arrived from the Han Mountain Temple in the ancestral god treasure, the Spring and Autumn Chariot.

In Tao Qian's heart: Though Miss Yuann had some connection with Senior Sister Lingji, she lacked her poise and bearing.

Yet in the eyes of the world, the name Yuan Mingzhen already signified the foremost beauty under Heaven.

The magic competition had not yet started, but the excitement had already peaked.

At this very moment!

In secret places across the seventy-two provinces where the "Spirit Mirror Projection" could be viewed, cheers and gasps of admiration resounded, filled with greedy and envious tones.



Daoists, Buddhist monks, loose cultivators, purveyors of heresy and heterodoxy, demons and monsters, evil spirits, and divine spirits of the land... all were raising their voices.

"What a fine woman, she is the Devil Concubine Yuan Mingzhen indeed. Truly worthy of being called the incomparable Empress of beauty—if only I could spend a spring night with her, I'd willingly give up ten years of my life."

"Ha! You may be willing, but she's certainly not. Look in the mirror before you get ahead of yourself."

"A phoenix in distress is not as good as a chicken; this woman was once an empress, yet now she faces great difficulty. Rumor has it that major powers like the Xie Family, Guanyin Temple, and Nine Spirit Sect have all abandoned her. Now, being used as a prize in this Dharma assembly, as soon as it ends tomorrow, those savage warlords will swarm her, vying for her possession."

"Bad fortune, inadequate methods, no one else to blame. I'm more concerned about that Spring and Autumn Chariot; such a divine treasure, I wonder who will eventually possess it?"

"Why guess? The Ancestor God Treasure always follows the Child of Fortune. I heard that at the banquet of the assembly, there was Shi Zhongsheng from the Xixin Mansion; the Spring and Autumn Chariot will surely be his."

"Daoist friend, the person who flashed by at the banquet in Little Leiyin Temple seemed to be your Pure Yang Sect's prodigy and true inheritor, You Changqing?"

"Hmph! Don't mention him. As a disciple of the distinguished Pure Yang Sect, he's foolishly infatuated with the Devil God Princess—his unrequited love has disgraced our sect's reputation."

"Trouble yourself to turn the projection crystal ball toward the Devil Concubine and not those two monks, what's his name, Master Shenxiu? How come he turned out so ugly?"

"Stop, stop, stop—a fine looking monk there. Is this person the Wu Gou Buddha Son from the South Sea? Truly pure and untainted, he makes one want to embrace him and shower him with affection."

...

Yuan Mingzhen's appearance and her procession nearly drew away all attention.

Many who saw her transcendent presence for the first time were instantly captivated.

Some even began making their way to Qiantang Province City right then, knowing well they couldn't rescue the Devil Concubine, yet still harboring delusional thoughts.

However, very soon, as the magic skill competition began.

Everyone's gaze was compelled to rest upon Wu Gou and Shenxiu, the two monks, and then couldn't be moved away.

First was Master Shenxiu!

Don't be fooled by the monk with the lump on his forehead; he might be somewhat ugly.

But in the next moment, as he stepped out from the formation and began chanting the Buddhist scriptures, no one in Qiantang Province City or any transcendent audience member watching through the spirit crystals in the seventy-two provinces wanted to look away, including those cultivators who were clamoring to watch the Devil Concubine.

The reason was simple; instead of entering into a competitive state, Shenxiu started to bestow blessings generously.

As he walked forward step by step, with palms pressed together, he chanted, "All Buddhist laws, originally exist within the heart, seeking outside one's heart..."

Nearly everyone who saw or heard him instantly received various Buddhist Divine Skills and magical techniques gifted by the master.

This seemed to be a very profound and incredible Sublime Dharma.

Just by watching and listening to him at the moment, one could gain insights and thereby acquire the Buddhist Law.

And Tao Qian's mind also buzzed with a Record:

[You are listening to Master Shenxiu's chanting... This is the gradual Magic Skill of universally saving all living beings, even the most foolish can benefit from it.]

[This technique is aimed at the foolish and ordinary beings. Since you are a person of the highest caliber, you will not gain anything.]

Upon reviewing these two Records,

Tao Qian's expression became slightly stupefied, and he thought to himself, "What does this mean? Ordinary people benefit from listening, but geniuses gain nothing?"

Chapter 716: Earthshaking Transformation, Heart Cleansing Emperor

Tao Qian heard the chant and felt that Shenxiu spoke well of Buddhism, simple and easy to understand, leading people gradually into the Buddhist Sect, providing a glimpse into the Sublime Dharma.

But if one were to say it was profound, it would not count as such, for cultivators like Master Tao who were only a step away from the "Ultimate Happiness Realm," it would not yield much gain.

Rather, it was the Mortals or those with low-quality root who, each and every one of them, showed joy in their expressions, surprised and delighted beyond measure.

Whether it was within the provincial city or before the Spirit Mirrors in the secret sites of the Seventy-two provinces, everyone began to exclaim:

"What a great master, as he has granted me a Magic Skill [Arhat Fist], powerful and vigorous, which is just right for Demon Suppression."

"Many thanks to Master Shenxiu for bestowing the Divine Abilities, I have also received a power called [Heavenly Dragon Swordsmanship], 108 forms, mysterious and unparalleled."

"Ha ha ha, I've obtained a Magic Skill [Free Serenity Technique], now I don't need to mutate, the master is truly my lifesaver, from today onward I will head to Free Temple, not asking to be admitted into the temple, but happy to be a farmer at the foot of the mountain."

"The master is truly compassionate and generous, my hometown is currently plagued by a beast disaster, and now being granted with this [Burning Wood Blade Technique], I can return home to save people and alleviate the calamity."

"I have also gained something, [Rebirth Mantra], able to transcend the souls of the deceased, how virtuous and good."

"He he, the Magic Skill I obtained is the best, called [Red Desire Stealing Fragrance Technique], don't misunderstand, although it sounds like the Joyful Zen Magic Skill, the Buddhism within it leads people toward goodness."

...

For a time, the name Shenxiu echoed throughout the provincial city and every place in the Seventy-two provinces.

Others might not see it, but Tao Qian saw it clearly.

Quite grandiose, strands and threads of golden Fortune came from all directions, flowing into Shenxiu's body.

It wasn't Human Dao Destiny, but something else.

Merit!

With this wave of spreading the Divine Abilities to all living beings, Shenxiu instantly received vast amounts of merit.

Quite a few powerful individuals recognized this happening, but none envied him.

Even though at that moment, a rare look of joy floated on Shenxiu's otherwise unappealing face.

"Spreading transcendent Magic Skills to the ignorant masses and bestowing them, though it brings merit, the backlash that will come later will not be small. Little accumulates to more, the merit and evil power cancel each other out, overall he is at a loss."

"Of course, looking at it from a fishing perspective would be different."

"It offers greater benefits to the Free Temple."

After Tao Qian discerned the inner cause and effects, he did not act but simply watched Shenxiu perform.

This is a good thing, to be supported.

About 15 minutes later, Shenxiu stopped chanting.

Instead, with a joyful expression, he raised his hand and thanked Tao Qian: "Many thanks to Wu Gou for helping me achieve this."

Seeing that the Wu Gou Buddha Son in front of him did not stop him from spreading the Buddhist Law, Shenxiu became more certain of his guess, secretly thought: "Wu Gou must have his own way of saving, being connected with the Three Arhats of the Demon Buddha Temple, I should not overtly help him, but without revealing all my cards or giving my full effort, there should be no problem, tomorrow, the battle between the Great Abyss Zen Master and Cheng Arhat, there's an eighty to ninety percent chance of winning, thus there are no worries."

Confident in his own eyesight and Divine Abilities, Shenxiu regarded the Wu Gou Buddha Son, disguised as the real Master Tao, as a good figure.

Deeply admiring, he planned to go easy in the upcoming confrontation.

Tao Qian, of course, was unaware of these things; his original plan was to act according to the plan and ambush this high monk.

Seeing Shenxiu's operation, he also came upon an inspiration.

Quite a bold inspiration!

His overly handsome face also revealed a smile, replying:

"Master spreads salvation to the ignorant masses, how could Wu Gou stop it. Please don't be so polite."

"Just right, seeing any person free of blemish, all are people of destiny."

"Wu Gou offers flowers in the Buddha's name, and also gifts something to all."



With that, Tao Qian also began to preach.

The very first sentence involved his own master, and he said: "My master Qingjing Zen Master once made a verse: A thousand feet of silk line hang straight down, one wave makes ten thousand follow. In the cold water at night, fish do not bite, an empty boat returns under the moonlight..."

Initially, everyone could tell the profound Buddhist Law pervading the sermon, assuming Wu Gou was upset with Shenxiu Monk stealing the limelight and thus decided to compete.

However, unlike Shenxiu, Wu Gou spoke of Zen, of reason.

This was not pleasing, as all living beings seek Magic.

Thus, at this moment, everyone was smirking and dismissive.

Until suddenly, they heard the Wu Gou change his tone and began narrating various small Buddhist Scripture stories, most involving serendipitous treasures and fortunate encounters with wise masters. The circumstances of those in the stories were enviable.

But soon, the audience heard the endings of those protagonists.

Instantly, those who had just received Magic Skills, the ignorant, those of low-quality root, each one turned pale and broke into cold sweat.

They understood, what Wu Gou was telling was a series of "fishing stories."

The central theme was extremely cruel, summarized in eight words:

"Beneath enticing bait, there must be a sharp hook."

At this point, all those who had been granted Magic Skills glared angrily at Shenxiu.

Clearly, they all had received a revelation, some of the more impatient ones directly cursed: "What an ugly monk, using us as fish for bait."

Seeing this, everyone from the Demon Buddha Temple burst into laughter.

Completely drenched in the fragrant oil, Cheng Arhat, with his greasy large hands thumping his chest, fervently praised: "Nephew Wu Gou the monk is truly a distinguished disciple of Qingjing Zen Master, profound in Buddhist Law, skilled in Divine Abilities, knew from last night's scripture debate that we should have let the nephew speak, guaranteed making those nuns from Guanyin Temple speechless."

Shenxiu was planning to go easy, never expecting to be betrayed by the high monk and Buddha's son in his heart.

As the Buddha witnesses: other monks and Daoists spreading Divine Skills might consider this fishing business, but not him, Shenxiu.

Although Shenxiu was mentally resilient, suddenly being accused in this way, he couldn't help but be momentarily stupefied.

#### Chapter 717: Earthshaking Transformation, Heart Cleansing Emperor\_2

Just as he was about to argue, the crowd suddenly saw Wu Gou Buddha Son confronting Master Shenxiu and loudly questioning him, "A thousand feet of thread dangled, aiming for the deep pool. Merely three inches from the hook, why didn't you speak?"

As these words rang out, Shenxiu was again shocked into contemplation.

To the people of Demon Buddha Temple, it seemed like their good disciple and ally was using twisted logic to oppress the ugly monk.

Then, in the next moment, Tao Qian made his move.

Seemingly unwilling to give Shenxiu time to think, Tao Qian pulled out the Golden Cymbal borrowed from Shipi Arhat.

He threw it into the air and with a thunderous, odd sound, it enveloped Shenxiu.

The latter's body emitted bursts of blue Buddha Flame, and Thunder Sound echoed all around, the formidable Great Freedom Thunder Sound Buddha Flame.

Tao Qian himself was now a cultivator with Great Divine Power, but he knew it would be tough to withstand a full force strike from Shenxiu.

However, the Golden Cymbal was different, being a Great Buddha Treasure.

The Demon Sound of the Golden Cymbal ignored the Buddha Flames and poured into Shenxiu's ears, truly just as Shipi had said, causing his Dharma Body to abruptly falter.

In that moment!

Wu Gou Buddha Son also untied the cloth bag from his waist and hurled it over.

As the cloth bag opened, Golden Light surged and swallowed Shenxiu inside.

Quick! It was so fast!

None of the factions could react in time.

Just a moment ago both Buddha Sons had been discussing the Dharma, and in the blink of an eye, Wu Gou Buddha Son used two Buddha Treasures to disrupt Master Shenxiu's Divine Skills and captured him.

Seeing this, the faction from Demon Buddha Temple cheered and jumped for joy, while the faction from Free Temple was utterly shocked.

Especially Shenxiu's over a hundred Vajra Monk friends, who shouted in unison, their instincts pushing them to rush out and rescue their master.

Thus, the million people in the province city, along with audiences from other places, had their eyes opened wide.

Over a hundred Vajra Monks, each one transformed into a genuine small golden figure, radiating dazzling light.

They instantly formed a Vajra Arhat Array, intent on crushing their way across.

If this Array were to succeed, not even Tao Qian,

Not even a cultivator from the Ultimate Happiness Realm, might be able to profit from it.

Great Abyss Zen Master was too late to stop them, Shipi Arhat also unclear of his intentions, had likewise not made a move.

The warlords and other strong individuals from Little Leiyin Temple, except for a few,

chiefly those previously chastised by Tao Qian, Gao Tianci and Yelü Baoshan, were both hoping to see this slick monk embarrass himself greatly.

Seeing this, Tao Qian still had that charming smile on his face and he said aloud,

"Excellent Array!"

"If you really form it, my decent face, I fear, will be swollen from hammering."

"Worrying about Master Shenxiu's safety, why not just enter my People Species Bag together?"

Before his voice fell, Tao Qian suddenly reached out and summoned the Golden Cymbal back.

Shipi had previously assessed: Wu Gou's nephew's mana could roughly make the Golden Cymbal sound once.

But now, you could see Tao Qian, with forceful strength, pulling it apart and an unknown torrent of mana poured into it, forcibly making the Golden Cymbal sound again.

Startling Demon Sound suddenly rose, creating big disturbances throughout the large provincial city.

The entire Little Leiyin Temple trembled a few times, Shipi lost a chunk of flesh, Cheng Arhat tumbled from the Dharma Platform, warlords were thrown off their horses, millions were in agony covering their ears... over a hundred Vajra Monks, their forming Array was also instantly disrupted.

Once they looked up, the People Species Bag had opened again.

To the disbelief of all onlookers, these hundred-plus Vajra Monks were also sucked into the bag.

Such a scene!

Such exploits!

Left both sides, Demon Buddha and Free temples stunned, and even more so the watching warlords agape.

However, the million believers and ordinary onlookers from the seventy-two provinces, not understanding the significance, thought they witnessed an exciting battle among high monks, absolutely thrilling and unpredictable, which left them immensely satisfied.

The bursts of speech also mostly expressed envy for the Golden Cymbal and the People Species Bag.

Even mortals could tell those two were precious treasures.

This also served as a reminder to others, who almost mistook Wu Gou Buddha Son as a cultivator from the Ultimate Happiness Realm.

Now realizing, they knew it was the credit of the two treasures.

Gao Tianci and Yelü Baoshan, not daring to speak loudly, but dared to mutter in a sour tone quietly,

"Humph, just relying on powerful treasures, if it weren't for that Golden Cymbal and People Species Bag, this pretty-faced monk, I could smash with one hand."

"Why wouldn't they, being the only disciple of Qingjing Zen Master? The Golden Cymbal and People Species Bag, likely the treasured lineage artifacts of the South Sea Pure Lineage, were all given to him, not fearing they'd be coveted and seized by some expert."

Not just these two were muttering.



Others, after watching, also had various comments.

"How rash, is this Dharma battle already over? Previously I thought these two Buddha Sons would have a substantial fight, surely at least several hundred rounds, battling until the heavens darken before it would be fitting, who knew the gap would be so big?"

"How big? In terms of Divine Skills and mana, that Shenxiu Monk was actually still superior to Wu Gou Buddha Son; the latter won only because of his powerful treasures."

"Daoist friend's Dharma Eye is accurate, if I had those two treasures, I could also defeat Master Shenxiu."

"Accurate? I think you've gone blind. Wu Gou Buddha Son's treasures are powerful, but didn't you see that before the fight started, Master Shenxiu had already been tricked by Wu Gou Buddha Son with Buddhist principles, losing the upper hand. Even if without treasures, he might not necessarily be Wu Gou Buddha Son's opponent."

"That Fishing Poem is truly thought-provoking, regardless of one's spiritual roots, after hearing it one should gain something."

"So, was Master Shenxiu actually fishing before? I even obtained a Withering and Flourishing Zen Skill; If the Master harboured ulterior motives, then I won't cultivate this skill..."

Just as the scene was chaotic and discussions were everywhere.

Tao Qian, having previously captured Shenxiu and a hundred Vajra Monks, suddenly opened the People Species Bag again two breaths later, releasing all the monks.

Chapter 718: Earthshaking Transformation, Heart Cleansing Emperor\_3

Everyone originally thought that either the magical confrontation would continue, or Master Shenxiu would retort.

However, what followed was a scene in which Master Shenxiu wore a look of joy and thanked Tao Qian with a bow, saying again,

"Thank you, Daoist, for the teaching. Should Shenxiu achieve fruition in the future, it would surely be thanks in part to Daoist."

Tao Qian also smiled upon hearing this, not only returning the gesture but also intentionally speaking up to validate the master's sincerity and dispel any suspicion of impartiality.

"Master need not be polite. Wu Gou was simply delighted by the hunt, seeing that the master is a person with great merit, great potential, and great enlightenment, just a step away from Perfect Merit. It was out of boldness that I helped the master lift that veil."

"With this revelation by Wu Gou, the master has received the merit without having to bear the evil power. Those who have received the Magic and Divine Skills have reaped the benefits without paying the price. Isn't this a win-win situation?"

"Excellent indeed!"

"Daoist is compassionate and magnanimous; this monk admits his inferiority and acknowledges defeat in this battle."

As soon as Master Shenxiu uttered these words, a great uproar swept through the entire Cultivation World, across the vast seventy-two provinces.

He was, after all, one of the leading sons of Buddha from the Free Temple, humbling himself as a stepping stone for the Wu Gou Monk who came from the South Sea, admitting his shortcoming and aiding him in gaining fame—how could anyone not be shocked?

Add to that the Golden Cymbal, People Species Bag, Fishing Poem... and other such factors.

Suddenly, the reputation of the South Sea Pure Lineage soared.

Many cultivators knew: within the many great temples of the Buddhist Sect, another formidable force had emerged.

Those close to the South Sea Territory were already contemplating seeking apprenticeship and holding onto the coattails of power.

...

Tao Qian returned to the Little Leiyin Temple, in the face of the questioning gazes from a gathering of demon monks, and even Cheng Arhat and Shipi.

Their doubts centered around why Tao Qian would remove the false accusation placed upon the head of Monk Shenxiu.

If left unaddressed, who is to say whether this Buddha's son with a great future at the Great Freedom Temple wouldn't develop a Heart Demon, mutate, and explode to death because of it.

Tao Qian was well aware of this and chuckled, voluntarily "revealing" the mystery,

"The Buddha's verse I recited contains a part of my master's lineage."

"After taking Shenxiu into the bag, it was also to have him unconsciously assimilate the inheritance so that when the time comes... perhaps this Master Shenxiu could even become my junior brother."

Upon hearing these words, the demon monks saw the brilliance and once again praised the Wu Gou Buddha Son for his extraordinary methods.

Shipi Arhat, still whittling away at his own flesh, eyes suddenly bright as though he'd spotted a blind spot, joyfully exclaimed,

"I was saying, with such a high level of Cultivation and such a good magic vein, how could Qingjing only take one disciple, you, his nephew. I thought it was because Qingjing had high standards but it turns out there's a larger plan."

"The Buddha Dharma encapsulated in that [Fishing Poem] is indeed extraordinary, and I find it quite engrossing to chew over."

"Also, Qingjing's way of snatching disciples is rather profound. It's worth learning to employ this tactic... if in the future I feel inclined to take disciples, I might use this move..."

Shipi kept praising once he heard the explanation, full of admiration for Zen Master Qingjing.

Little did he know that at that moment, the remnant soul of Yuan Gong within the bosom of his ostensible nephew before him was thoroughly mocking the old acquaintance,

"Poor Shipi, to have ended up like this."

"What a waste of such a formidable reputation, to be tricked into such a foolish figure by this shameless master-apprentice duo."

"Hahaha..."

Yuan Gong laughed heartily, but Tao Qian was quite tense.

It was not because he was worried his half-truths might give him away, but because he feared that Shipi would come to his senses and demand the return of that Golden Cymbal.

In his mind, thoughts flashed,

"That Golden Cymbal is truly a wonderful treasure, an excellent match for my People Species Bag."

"Giving it back to Shipi for that coarse monk to use would be a waste. It's only right for me to use it."

"Yes, it should be so."

"I, Tao Qian, am a True Inheritor of Duobao, how could treasures that fall into my hands be returned? "

Master Tao pondered, while firmly making up his mind.

If Shipi truly asked for it back, he would employ a delaying strategy, claiming some gains from using the treasure and needing to study it for a day or two.

As long as he could delay past the next day, when the great battle erupted, it would be a question of whether Shipi could look after himself, let alone a Golden Cymbal.

Just as Tao Qian was smugly calculating, an unforeseen event suddenly occurred in the gathering.

The second round of the Dharma Assembly's confrontation concluded!

One would expect everyone to return to their respective places, the Free Temple to accompany the Devil Concubine and their group back to Han Mountain Temple while the Various Warlords in the Little Leiyin Temple continue their revelry.

All the Spirit Mirrors and Crystal Balls, maintained by the Divine Skills of the cultivators from the Divine Ear Sect, Ting Di Sect, and Ten Thousand Miles Sect, should have been packed away.

But at that moment, all the Spirit Mirrors and Crystal Balls exploded with brilliance.

Dozens of Daoist Sects seeking the secretive knowledge sent stationed cultivators in the Imperial City to simultaneously broadcast a shocking message from the direction of Imperial City, echoing throughout nearly every city in the seventy-two provinces.

The Qiantang Province City, naturally, was no exception.

Amidst the brilliance, millions heard a clamor of voices mixed together in the Spirit Mirror Crystal Balls, exclaiming,

"Urgent news! Urgent news!"

"Tonight at 7 p.m., the Great Governor who controls the Demon City and the provinces of Ancient Yu, Tiandu, Hanxi, and Wu Jun, master of the Xixin Mansion, recognized as the Future Emperor Talent Hidden Dragon Si Xixin, personally led a hundred-thousand-strong army, esteemed Daoist and Buddhist experts, powerful families, Heterodox Sects, Divine Species, and so on, to launch a surprise attack on the Imperial City."

"In just one hour, they ended the in-fighting among the various little warlords in the Imperial City, slaying Zhang Jinluan, Song Tiecheng, Wu Shaozu, Yelü Lushan, and the remnants of the armies left behind by various warlords."

"Three breaths ago, Si Xixin announced to the nation that he had taken command of the Imperial City."

"In the coming days, he will marry Devil God Third Princess Hong Fu in a lavish ceremony, restore the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, and re-establish the imperial system."

"Great Freedom Temple, Vajra Temple, Heavenly Dragon Temple, Canxuan Sect, Pure Yang Sect, Mixed Element Sect, Zhengyi Sect, and the Si Family, Qin Family, Bai Family amongst thousands of heritage families, as well as Heavenly Mechanism Building, Fungus Sect, and many other Heterodox Great Sects... A myriad of forces have followed suit with announcements, expressing their willingness to support Si Xixin's proclamation as emperor."



...

Suddenly, as if a bolt from the blue struck a clear sky.

The entire Qiantang Province City and even all seventy-two provinces were shaken by this unexpected news.

All people couldn't help but stare at those Spirit Mirror Crystal Balls with expressions of unfathomable shock.

Chapter 719 Devil Concubine Teases, Ancestor Dragon Dead Fetus

"Si Xixin has gone mad," someone said.

At this moment, any warlord or cultivator who considered themselves even slightly wise harbored this thought after the nationwide broadcast.

There had been rumors that Si Xixin was to marry the Devil God Third Princess, Hong Fu.

However, the actions Si Xixin took tonight could not be compared, as the alliance of two major forces only made the other warlords tense, especially with the presence of "Zhang Mazi, Zhang Jinluan," the biggest target, which prevented Si Xixin from becoming the common enemy.

But tonight, everything changed.

Si Xixin, already one of the three major powers, possessing Demon City along with four provinces, greedily launched a surprise attack on the Imperial City, annihilating the formidable armies left by his rivals.

Now holding sway over two cities and four provinces, and allied through marriage with the Devil God Third Princess, plus the support of major forces like the Si Family and Free Temple.

Si Xixin!

This man had suddenly become the largest power among the seventy-two provinces.

While he was incredibly close to the throne of the Human Emperor, he had also made himself the enemy of the world.

Clearly, it wasn't just the largest holder of provinces in the Northern Land, Zhang Jinluan, who would attack him; dozens of other warlords, both large and small from the North, would also unite against him.

And from the South, many forces, particularly Yu Yanshi of the Primordial Sect, would also become his enemies.

"To do this, although it brings control over the Imperial City and the Dharma lineage, isn't really worth the price when measured carefully."

"Even though Si Xixin's alliance with the Devil God Third Princess makes him slightly stronger than Zhang Jinluan, if he is surrounded and attacked, he likely won't last long."

"What exactly is Si Xixin thinking?"

"Could there be some secret unknown to us that has driven Si Xixin to believe he can gain the upper hand by acting this way?"

Tao Qian was not the only one thinking this; anyone who had a little understanding of the situation in the seventy-two provinces shared this thought.

At this moment, the host, Shipi Arhat, sensing the mood of everyone present, slightly altered his expression.

Such shocking news!

The representatives from various provinces aside, none of the major warlords was likely to remain calm.

Indeed, the next moment, they erupted.

The originally harmonious and joyful gathering at the religious feast turned furious after they heard the news.

With fierce glances instinctively targeting two individuals.

Shi Zhongsheng!

You Changqing!

These two, the prominent generals under Si Xixin and Hong Fu.

Their faces showed no change, but their hearts were indeed troubled.

The reason?

They were unaware of Si Xixin's sudden action.

You Changqing might be excused for his lack of knowledge, being primarily under Hong Fu's command and not Si Xixin's.

But even Shi Zhongsheng was unaware, his mind filled with confusion:

"How could this be?"

"The strategies decided by the advisors at Xixin Mansion were clearly not like this. Everyone agreed that the Imperial City, being watched by the seventy-two provinces, was a death trap for anyone daring to seize it."

"Brother Si even said to advance slowly, consolidate power gradually... How could he suddenly attack the Imperial City and declare himself Emperor?"

"And why wasn't I informed?"

Though full of doubts, Shi Zhongsheng showed no trace of this.

He assumed some unforeseeable situation had arisen in Xixin Mansion, but he wouldn't suspect Brother Si of mistrusting him.

Next to him, seeing Shi Zhongsheng's seemingly forewarned calm demeanor, You Changqing couldn't help but feel resentful, thinking, If we are allies meant to be joined through marriage, why hide this?

However, despite his resentment, he still presented himself as standing firmly with Shi Zhongsheng.

The furious warlords within the Little Leiyin Temple were unaware of this complex web of thoughts. Seeing their demeanor only fueled their rage.

Gao Tianci was the first to take action, drawing out his Pus Blood Demon Sword and Ten Thousand Soul Demon Banner, riding a Chaos Beast, and charging directly at them while savagely shouting:

"Si Xixin and Hong Fu, this pair of cunning foxes, used such a clever move to seize the Imperial City."

"But you two, one a cuckold and the other a lackey, are in big trouble today and are likely to lose your lives here."

This warlord, fiercer than a Fierce Ghost, knew his initiative would lead the others in the temple to erupt.

And indeed, it happened.

Dozens of warlords, including "Zhu Xun," the Heavenly Eunuch Warlord who had been humiliated the previous night, all rose up and surrounded the two.

"You two will die."

"Si Xixin, the most shameless of all, will meet disaster. Let us start by using this Worry-free Immortal, Shi Zhongsheng, as a sacrifice."

"Let's slaughter these two bastards and send their heads back to that cunning pair."

"Well said, kill them."

The warlords went berserk, their ferocity mixed with palpable killing intent nearly overturning the entire Little Leiyin Temple.

Just as these warlords were about to tear You Changqing and Shi Zhongsheng limb from limb,

suddenly, a cold snort emerged.

Instantly, everyone was forced to calm down.

In a trance, their minds conjured the image of a towering Buddha Dharma Image.

This image was almost exactly like the legendary "Buddha," except it was covered with wounds. Below the radiating Golden Light were densely packed countless shadowy figures, all lifeforms, each with its mouth wide open like a hungry Walking Corpse Puppet, waiting for pieces of the Buddha's flesh to fall...

With just a glimpse, everyone felt as if they had experienced a lingering death, trembling as they returned to their seats.

In Tao Qian's mind, a Record burst forth:[Observing the Dharma Image of Shipi Arhat...Since only the outer layer was shown, the contamination is not deep...Exemption granted!]

Chapter 720 Devil Concubine Plays a Trick, Ancestor Dragon Dead Fetus\_2

While perusing the "Record," Yuan Gong's voice also transmitted a reminder to Tao Qian:

"Can you feel how formidable that bald old thief Shipi is?"

"It's fine to scheme against that baldy, just make sure you don't confront him yourself. Although you possess many treasures, if that old thing truly harbors killing intent, he could poke you to death with a single finger."

"Let Duobao go up, or let the Alchemist Gao Huan come."

Upon hearing this, Tao Qian immediately agreed in his heart.

Shipi Arhat was unaware that the "good disciple" he had in mind was plotting against him. After a cold snort calmed down the rampaging warlords, he found himself in a bit of a bind.



These warlord generals, along with the millions in their Extraordinary Armies, had all been deemed by him as mere materials and provisions for Refining Treasure.

However, the plan was to initiate action the following night.

Now was not the right time.

And as could be expected, due to the unexpected news, so many generals would no longer sit tight and wait for tomorrow night's event.

The long-anticipated "Central Plains Great War" was likely to break out early in the Northern Land Provinces, and these generals, having failed to surround and kill Shi Zhongsheng and You Changqing, would probably leave ahead of time as well.

Without these lures to bait them, the three big fishes from the Tiannan Gao Family would also not be drawn in... a chain reaction that could possibly lead to failure.

If Kongchan were here, with his crafty mind, he would probably come up with a solution,

but since he and Lian Sha had gone to Tiannan, and Shipi himself was not adept at plotting, he frowned in thought.

Suddenly, Tao Qian sent a message:

"Uncle Shipi, with such an abrupt incident, it's not good to delay further, lest it leads to unexpected changes."

"First pacify these warlords, then force the Devil Concubine to perform a dance, and move the third part of the Dharma assembly ahead. There are only a few hours left until dawn on the third day; it's enough time to activate the Big Array."

"As for the Tiannan Gao Family, you could deliberately tear up the covenant and not inform them to come here. The Three Jile will undoubtedly think there's an opportunity here and might rush over. At that time, Uncle, you can use your skills to trap everyone here, and just wait for the return of the two uncles, then everything will be settled."

"Not only can the Great Compassionate and Merciful Transcendent Bodhisattvas be refined, but you can also capture the Devil Concubine and the Spring and Autumn Chariot, as well as bring Tiannan and Qiantang provinces into your fold."

"With Si Xixin and Hong Fu currently drawing the enmity of all the seventy-two provinces, there's no need for the Demon Buddha Temple to worry about the potential retaliation from the warlords' backing."

As soon as Tao Qian finished speaking, Shipi Arhat's eyes lit up.

Cheng Arhat at his side also overheard and chuckled silently, then sent a message:

"Elder brother, the arrangement devised by our immaculate disciple is wonderful, perfectly satisfactory."

"Speaking of which, this is the first time he has called you Uncle. It seems we can expect good news soon from Qingjing Zen Master's side."

"Three joys are coming our way; act swiftly."

After Cheng Arhat finished speaking, Shipi Arhat no longer hesitated.

He looked at the assembly of generals inside the temple, adopting the posture of a senior expert, and then said:

"Although you are all esteemed guests, you must also understand that this place is Little Leiyin Temple, the Daoist Field of Demon Buddha, and one should not rashly wield weapons and engage in killing here."

"However, I understand that you are all currently overwhelmed with the urge to kill, and all have grievances to resolve."

"How about this: the third bout of the Dharma assembly is brought forward by three hours. Yuann Daoist, you should also get ready; do not forget the promised dance offering."

"After everything is concluded, I can act on behalf of all to offer flowers to the Buddha; you may go to the old site of Han Mountain Temple to settle your disputes. Whether to fight over the Devil Concubine or to vie for the Spring and Autumn Chariot, that is up to you. How does that sound?"

Shipi finished speaking and looked towards the Free Temple side.

Master Shenxiu, Zen Master Da Yu, and others, all turned their gaze to Yuann Mingzhen.

They were indifferent to the Dharma assembly being brought forward,

but for the Devil Concubine to perform a dance was seen by them as a humiliating matter; it was unlikely that Yuann Mingzhen would agree.

Surprisingly, she consented.

She did so very readily, as though she had already resigned herself to fate.

Standing atop the Spring and Autumn Chariot, the Devil Empress nodded silently and then turned to leave for Han Mountain Temple.

After some explanations, a mix of cajoling and seduction, plus the deterrence of the Buddha's Dharma Image, truly calmed down the assembly of warlords.

"Fine, we'll give the Arhat some face. After the Dharma assembly concludes, we'll slay you two."

"The Green Hat Slave and Lackey wouldn't think of running away overnight, would they? We'll have to keep a close eye on them."

"Exactly, these two bastards are very likely to flee."

"Having lost the Imperial City Governor, he is bound to be annoyed. If he could seize the Devil Concubine and the Spring and Autumn Chariot and offer them up, he might even turn this into a great merit."

"Humph, Si Xixin is just courting his own destruction."

...

With but a few words, Tao Qian dispelled a bloody melee, advancing the Dharma assembly.

This also caused the atmosphere inside and outside Qiantang Province City to resemble that of a volcano on the verge of eruption, with restless energy visible everywhere.

An Extraordinary Army numbering in the millions, vile and violent, stood ready to run amok at any moment.

Amidst such a tense environment, Tao Qian once again received an invitation from Yuann Mingzhen for a covert meeting in her dreams.

Perhaps intent on offering a dance, Yuann Mingzhen did not appear this time in her usual plain and charming maiden disguise.

Instead, she wore a very serious outfit, dressing up as the Empress.

She even cunningly allowed Master Tao to catch a glimpse of her changing clothes. Though no indecent exposure occurred, the scene that Tao Qian saw was nevertheless enchanting.

Due to being in her dream, this teasing became quite successful, and Tao Qian was at a loss for words. He merely considered that Yuann Mingzhen guessed that the idea to move the contest ahead had come from him, hence her playful mood.

Had it not been for Yunrong's presence, Tao Qian might well have been pushed onto the phoenix bed by this dear younger sister.

Having her fun spoiled, Yuann Mingzhen raised her delicate eyebrows in anger and said,

"Brother Tao is not a good person. If you can influence that Shipi Arhat, why then do you force your sister to perform a dance?"

"If Brother Tao you truly wish to see Mingzhen dance, just say so. I can dance for you right now. Even the Heavenly Demon Dance and the like, Mingzhen knows them all."

As Yuann Mingzhen spoke, she even made a move as if to stand up, ready to shed the Empress' robes and perform the Heavenly Demon Dance for Tao Qian.

Tao Qian, witnessing this, remained unmoved.

After several encounters, how could Tao Qian not understand what kind of person Yuann Mingzhen was?

Though she appeared as a delicate and pretty young girl, she possessed transcendent intelligence and was adept at imperial strategies—a true ambitious figure.

She acted this way before Tao Qian precisely because she knew that Master Tao was susceptible to such behavior, and so she adopted this guise.

To truly believe her would be to not even know how one had died.

He remained silent, but Yunrong had something to say. Displaying her true Kitten nature, she stretched lazily in her husband's embrace, gave Yuann Mingzhen a sidelong glance, and promptly revealed,

"What kind of act is this little phoenix putting on?"

"Those crude and foolish warlord Demon Cultivators think they can feast their eyes on your dance, but with your cunning, how could you truly be taken advantage of?"

"If I am not mistaken, your so-called dance performance probably involves some scheme concocted with Shipi Arhat, designed to incite those brutes to kill each other."

"Am I right?"

After Yunrong finished speaking, Tao Qian also couldn't help but glance at his dear sister, his good wife.

Seeing Yuann Mingzhen's reaction, it was clear that Yunrong had guessed right.

Indeed, the situation was as such!

The dance that Yuann Mingzhen agreed to perform had its own significance.



Watching it, those brutal and uncouth warlord generals—and the millions of soldiers with them—would become restless and begin to slaughter each other.

"This fat cat is such a bother."

Yuann Mingzhen too looked at Yunrong, making no attempt to conceal her displeasure.

She found it peculiar; she had never seen Yunrong before, yet for some reason, she could not stand her.

As a result, she also took a dislike to all creatures of the Kitten's kind.

Having her intentions guessed, Yuann Mingzhen was not about to let Yunrong have the last laugh. Without replying, she turned to Tao Qian, revealing a secret:

"I have received secret messages from many of my planted agents within the alchemists."

"Si Xixin's raid on the Imperial City was a unilateral action, and a decision made on the spur of the moment at that. Not only were confidants like Shi Zhongsheng, who were sent on external missions, unable to get the word in time, even his wife in name, the Devil God Third Princess, did not receive the news."

"The Third Princess is now fiercely angry and is considering calling off the marriage."

"The reason Si Xixin took such action is that within the alchemists, Li Wanshou, Gao Huan, and a few other old monsters seem unable to resist the mutation and have decided not to wait for the Hidden Dragon to devour each other any longer, instead placing their bets on Si Xixin first."

"These old monsters collectively instructed Si Xixin to take over the Imperial City, intending to force the other old monsters to also support Si Xixin."

"Moreover, these old monsters had already given part of the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline to Si Xixin in advance. If I am not mistaken, Si Xixin's daily meals now consist of nothing but Ancestor Dragon Dead Fetuses..."