

## Longevity 721

Chapter 721 Mechanical Ancestor Dragon, Fragrant Oil Arhat

Yuan Mingzhen spoke until the end, then suddenly revealed ancient secrets Tao Qian had never known.

It seemed she knew Tao Qian was curious about this, so Yuan Mingzhen did not pause, continuing to explain:

"Alchemists were originally an organization established by the Ancestor Dragon, gathering all manner of extraordinary people, strong as a forest, with an inexhaustible supply of provisions and treasures."

"When the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty was first established, the Alchemists were as strong as the Taishang Dao, Spirit Treasure Sect, Free Temple, and other great sects, except for their highest level of combat power."

"After the mysterious death of the Ancestor Dragon, the Alchemists gradually changed, internal chaos ensued many times, and various forces splintered off... but ultimately, the main body of the Alchemists was inherited by successive founding emperors, turning into the ugly appearance of today."

"Despite this, the Alchemists still possess an extraordinary foundation, especially regarding the treasures and secret techniques related to the Ancestor Dragon, of which the Alchemists have the most."

"Take the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline, for example, there are actually more than one way to obtain it."

"And the quickest, with the lowest difficulty, is called the [Swallowing Fetus Skill]."

"The Ancestor Dragon once refined an ancient secret technique called the 'Chaos Primordial Embryo Ascension Technique.' After refining, one could molt a Nascent Soul Dead Fetus, and although each molt would lose some Essence Blood, it would grant longevity, Extraordinary Power, and other benefits, with a not too high cost. The Ancestor Dragon's against the heavens combat power also partly came from this technique."

"The dead fetuses molted by the Ancestor Dragon totaled ninety-nine, all of which should have been destroyed, but a eunuch named 'Zhao Gao' hid these dead fetuses at the time."

"Years later, they all fell into the hands of the Immortal Fish Daoist Li Wanshou."

"It seems Li Wanshou has some unspeakable relationship with Si Xixin, and is now overtly supporting this person."

"As long as Si Xixin can swallow the ninety-nine dead fetuses, she will almost certainly become the second Ancestor Dragon."

...

Yuan Mingzhen spilled unusually detailed secrets related to the Ancestor Dragon, which were of great antiquity, from her mouth.

Tao Qian's face was full of surprise, aware that he too had planted a covert agent within the Alchemists.

Saint Heir Qin Wuxiang!

Yet such secrets were beyond the reach of someone at Qin Wuxiang's level.

But in Yuan Mingzhen's mouth, they seemed trivial.

Seeing Tao Qian's expression, Yuan Mingzhen showed a satisfied look, not keeping secrets, and directly continued saying:

"In my command, there are dozens of descendants from various imperial families across generations, including descendants of the Liu Family Ancestor and Zhao Family Ancestor, who although have left the Alchemists, still have connections and know secrets that others simply cannot access."

"Of course, the things about the Ancestor Dragon were actually told to me by a predecessor from the Nine Spirit Sect."

"This sect is an ancient hidden sect; Lu Sheng, an ancient Qi Refiner who helped the Ancestor Dragon establish the Longevity Heavenly Dynasty, was actually one of the founders of the Nine Spirit Sect."

"That year, when Mingzhen nearly got killed by the Xie Family Master, it was Elder Yuan Tiangang of the Nine Spirit Sect who spoke up and saved my life."

After Yuan Mingzhen finished speaking, Tao Qian suddenly understood the connections.

His mind raced, sorting through it clearly: "Though Yuan Mingzhen seems frail, in reality, she has the support of powerful forces behind her, be it descendants of imperial families like Gao Cheng, the son of Gao Huan, or the mysterious Nine Spirit Sect, they should all have instructions from the [Ancient Three Emperors]."

The Devil Concubine candidly disclosed her backing, which Tao Qian didn't mind at all.

Now, he was clear about what he should do and to what extent.

Therefore, after pondering for a moment, he directly asked two key questions:

"Which candidates do the thirteen old monsters of the Alchemists each support, and what is the strength like?"

"Besides the Swallowing Fetus Skill, are there other ways to obtain the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline?"

Yuan Mingzhen guessed Tao Qian's thoughts and immediately replied:

"The thirteen old monsters of the Alchemists usually fight on their own, but they tacitly form old and new factions. The old faction is led by the Liu Family Ancestor, and the new faction by Li Wanshou. The strength of the two factions is not much different, but Elder Yuan Tiangang has said that the Liu Family Ancestor is not as simple as he appears on the surface, perhaps he has something hidden."

"The new faction supports Si Xixin, the old faction was wavering, but now it seems they are going to support Zhang Jinluan."

"The Liu Family Ancestor happens to control another technique; it is said that the Ancestor Dragon once obtained a complete [Outer Realm Mechanical Divine Inheritance], capable of conquering vast territories, defeating thousands of Deceitful Objects, Evil Spirits, extraordinary creatures, and God Demons, also largely thanks to this Mechanical Divine Army. The establishment of the Ancestor God Forbidden Technique was also with the participation of the Mechanical God."

"To perfectly control this part of the Forbidden Law Barrier power, the Ancestor Dragon once created an avatar called the [Ancestor Dragon Divine Machine] that was a Corpse Immortal."

"This avatar is hidden within a secret realm."

"And that secret realm is now in the hands of the Liu Family Ancestor."

"If nothing unexpected happens, Zhang Jinluan will have the chance to get this Divine Machine avatar and after refining it, he should be able to stand contrary to Si Xixin."

Even though Tao Qian already knew the details about Yuan Mingzhen, he was still astonished at this moment.

These secrets that were unheard of to him seemed to be effortlessly revealed by this woman.

However, after listening, Tao Qian became even more excited.

A vast map suddenly appeared in his mind, with the territories of the seventy-two provinces on it.

There was a distinction between north and south, clear and murky.

And in the central zone were the New Moon, Tiannan, and Qiantang provinces.

Following the predictions in Tao Qian's mind, he suddenly made a judgment saying:

"With internal strife within the Alchemists and the oppression of the Primordial Sect from outside, even without other accidents, Si Xixin and Zhang Jinluan will be due to the Ancestor Dragon Bloodline rights, relaunched the Longevity Barrier; it is just that the time could be delayed by a few years, or perhaps fifteen years."

"What you and I should do is to gently nudge it."

"You and I will be the final bit of pressure to advance the timeline completely."

"Not only could we save tens of millions of people, but hundreds of millions could also be saved."

Chapter 722 - Mechanical Ancestor Dragon, Fragrant Oil Arhat\_2

...

Tao Qian had once again acquired secret information, which let him understand the causes and effects of past events, enabling him to better favor his own plans. Thus, he no longer lingered in the dream of Yuan Mingzhen and left directly.

Completely disregarding the Devil Concubine's attempt to detain him with promises of a dance.

The woman now fully understood Tao Qian's nature and knew that this Spirit Treasure Daoist posed no obstacle to her path to becoming Emperor; collaborating with him might even allow her to inherit the fruits of victory without effort and gain control of the lands of three provinces.

Confident and unafraid, she would often reveal her true nature, attempting to bridge the gap between them.

Master Tao was fully aware of this play-acting, too.

Outside, the Demon Buddha Temple, a host of warlords, the Tiannan Gao Family... naturally, none were aware of the hidden siblings' plans and were still restlessly making their moves, all eager to explode into action.

Three hours passed in a flash.

A ray of sunrise cast golden light from the Little Leiyin Temple, spreading across the whole Qiantang Province City.

At Han Mountain Temple, the Heavenly Phoenix shrieked, and the Free Temple's group arrived as scheduled.

The third session of the Buddhist ceremony began ahead of time.

Both sides had their assurances of victory, smiles on their faces, entirely indifferent to the Peeping Secret Sects such as the Divine Ear Sect, Ting Di Sect, and Ten Thousand Miles Sect setting up their Spirit Mirrors and Crystal Balls once again.

Although last night's event of "Si Xixin claiming the throne" had almost attracted the attention of all seventy-two provinces,

It had also turned this dispute into the center of universal attention.

Why?



Everyone now knew that a great battle in the Central Plains was about to erupt.

And most likely, it would be Zhang Jinluan joined by dozens of big and small warlords in a united attack against Si Xixin and Hong Fu.

However, a conflict of this scale required substantial time to prepare and develop.

Conveniently, Qiantang Province City had gathered representatives from all provinces and warlords of the Northern Land, including Devil Concubine Yuan Mingzhen and Spring and Autumn Chariot, these "super attractions."

Everyone regarded the outcome of today's event as the harbinger of the Central Plains' great battle, a prelude.

Like Gao Tianci and Yelü Baoshan, who had received messages from their respective masters last night, they were to seize Yuan Mingzhen and the Spring and Autumn Chariot at all costs.

For this reason, each side had sent even more powerful reinforcements.

Shipi Arhat was only too pleased with this situation; he now saw himself as the ultimate hunter, having dug a huge pit in the city, simply waiting for these expendable and treasure materials to jump in, aiding him in the creation of the Eighteen Great Transcendent Bodhisattvas... by then, even if the powerful backers of these people were dissatisfied, it would be useless.

The fusion of eighteen Bodhisattvas would invoke the "Namo Nirvana Buddha," capable of cutting through Daoist Transformation, enough to protect Tiannan and Qiantang provinces. Who would dare provoke them?

It was in such a bizarre and restless atmosphere.

Almost steeped in grease, Cheng Arhat, infamous for his double-dealing, made the first move.

The corpulent monk suddenly rose from the Dragon Chariot, and a pillar of mixed Buddha Light and Dragon Qi shot into the sky; this monk, who always maintained a strange smile, ascended to the heavens like a "Buddha Emperor," for all in the seventy-two provinces to witness his repulsive face.

What was strange, though, was that everyone could not help but swallow down their saliva, all harboring a desire to consume the "golden sesame oil" that continued to flow and drip from his body.

In their minds arose a single thought: to eat that substance would grant Longevity and Extraordinary Power.

At that moment, the Buddha Emperor no longer acknowledged the existence of his opponent, Great Abyss Zen Master.

It seemed this was not a duel, but rather his own day of enlightenment.

His feigned compassionate smile, as if to fill the world with fragrant oil... Cheng Arhat's figure and face suddenly seemed to appear before every believer of Qiantang Province.

Under the witness of the masses, he proclaimed his grand vow:

"I am Cheng Arhat, Lord of the Earthly Buddha Country."

"My vow to all sentient beings in Qiantang: when I attain Bodhi in a future existence, should any living creature be troubled by hunger and thirst, and commit evil deeds for food, upon hearing my name and maintaining it devotionally, I will first satisfy them with exquisite food and drink..."

With each word Cheng Arhat uttered,

the Buddha Light from his body flared even fiercer.

In a trance, the sky cracked open, and amidst the surging golden light, it seemed as if the Western Heavenly Bliss Land descended upon Earth, from which a treasure fell.

That treasure turned out to be a majestic and towering Glazed Buddha Tower.

Constructed with glass, inlaid with Demon Buddha's All Treasures, its base made of mortal white bone.

Cheng Arhat leapt into the tower, his grand vow echoing repeatedly.

As he pronounced "I invite all beings of Qiantang to chant my name, and fragrant oil from heaven shall descend, satisfying body and soul, dissipating sins and resolving calamities,"

The White Bone Glaze Tower suddenly expanded to almost the same size as the city, every glazed tile reflecting the faces of countless mortals.

The devotees revealed by the light all felt a startle in their body and soul, receiving some kind of message.

Then, in unison, they began to chant the name of Cheng Arhat.

The next moment!

A shocking scene unfolded throughout Qiantang Province.

Across the province's boundaries, in every city, every market, every county... wherever people chanted Cheng Arhat's name, sweet rain began to descend.

But this was no ordinary rain.

It was oil!

Golden, thick, incredibly sweet fragrant oil!

The common people, the devotees, seemed to go mad.

Together they rushed outdoors, opening their mouths to catch the drops of fragrant oil falling from the sky.

Their throats moved, constantly swallowing.

During this process, miraculous scenes continuously played out.

Those who were hungry were sated, those suffering from illness were cured, those bound by love and hate were released...

These sights seemed to confirm: Lord of Buddha Country had not lied.

Especially since everyone could see, as the "fragrant oil rain" kept falling, the figure sitting upon the Glazed White Bone Tower, resembling a mountain of flesh, was rapidly slimming.

In the end, like a monk on the verge of passing into nirvana, he became skeletal.

Even so, he was still smiling, full of compassion.

For a time, millions of people chanting the venerated name of Cheng Arhat grew louder, and without agreement, incense began to burn above their heads.

Plumes of "Human Incense" wafted up, converging towards the Glazed Tower, burrowing into Cheng Arhat's body.

Though his skeletal frame did not regain its fullness because of this.

Yet, the various warlords present all saw a sense of unprecedented comfort flash across Cheng Arhat's face.

That manner!

It looked just like those opium addicts in the Mortal World, crazed by a smoke high.

Low-level cultivators, at this time, might not understand the situation, even truly believing Cheng Arhat was emulating Buddha, making grand vows, offering himself, thus moving the people and about to attain Buddha status and save the world.

But somewhat knowledgeable cultivators, seeing this scene, sneered.

Particularly Tao Qian, who reached out her hand, allowing a drop of golden sesame oil to fall onto her palm.

A Record instantly erupted.

After Tao Qian read it, she couldn't help but angrily say,

"This fatso really made a killing!"

"His body's fragrant oil indeed benefits the Mortals, but there's also not a small amount of spiritual pollution."

"Cheng Arhat first divested himself of these, using the Power of the Demon Buddha Glaze Tower to artificially rain down a fragrant oil sweet rain."

"Millions of people consumed his fragrant oil, gaining benefits but also sharing the pollution."

"Unknowingly, they are all grateful and indebted, in return chanting his honored name, voluntarily lighting Human Incense, offering up their pure Will Power, Blood, Soul Essence and such from within their bodies."

"In giving and in getting, Cheng Arhat not only completely enlightened these millions of people but also reaped tremendous benefits, breaking through the barrier of the Ultimate Happiness Realm in a leap, becoming a bona fide Arhat-level strong presence."

"Looking at this spectacle, this display, it wouldn't be surprising if this fatso's future title is called 'fragrant oil Arhat.'"

"No wonder Shipi and the other two were certain this battle was sure to win."

"Now, with millions of civilians frenziedly swallowing fragrant oil, to resolve this situation, one must first offer greater benefits... Not to mention whether giving them would cover the costs, just offering benefits equal to this fragrant oil is beyond most, let alone delivering them into the hands of millions of people, which is even harder."

"In such a state, whoever it was would likely have no way to turn the tables,"

"If it were me up there, there are indeed some methods to use, like taking out the Toad God Tile and continuously beckoning above my own head. Such a performance would surely move the Toad God, then I would implore Him to scatter Golden Ingots to every single person in the millions of Qiantang Province, that should be no problem."



"Unfortunately, I cannot reveal my identity for now, so I must refrain."

"At present, we can only see what techniques the Great Abyss Zen Master has..."

As these many thoughts settled, Tao Qian's gaze involuntarily turned towards the direction of Free Temple.

Chapter 723 - Nameless Buddha Sutra, Destroy Your Dao Path

Not only Tao Qian, many warlords, provincial representatives, well-known Loose Cultivators, and others, had also gathered to watch the monk from Free Temple.

Although most people had already concluded that Demon Buddha Temple would win, and that Cheng Arhat could not only win this battle, but might even use this opportunity to successfully break through to the Ultimate Happiness Realm and become a genuine "Fragrant Oil Arhat."

However, a few still believed that "Great Abyss Zen Master" might create a miracle.

Why?

Despite not having shown Great Divine Power, and lacking strong backing,

the methods he had hurriedly displayed were beyond even what strong people from Great Sects could manage.

Such as the Heavenly Heart Mirror, or compiling Buddhist Scriptures on the spot, all proved this ascetic monk was no ordinary person.

Especially Yuan Gong seemed to greatly admire this junior, also transmitting his voice at this time:

"Watch, Shipi that old thief is about to be countermanded."

"His arrangement with Kongchan is indeed good, capable of helping that fat dead man break into Ultimate Happiness, but with Qiantang Province tainted by Demon Buddha for so long, other monks' chanting is mostly useless here."

"But this man is different, clearly a Natural Buddha Son, possessing Bodhi Heart and Qingjing Body, deliberately defiling himself to cultivate the Path of Salvation... Hmm, he must be one with innate wisdom."

"His Dao Path, specifically overcomes Cheng Arhat."

As if to prove Yuan Gong's words,

Great Abyss Zen Master voluntarily stepped forward, his face rarely showing a trace of anger.

Not for anything else, but for what Cheng Arhat had done.

His gaze fixed on the top of the crystal tower, where Cheng Arhat, despite nearly becoming a dried corpse, had his cultivation soaring every moment, he directly said:

"Daoist Cheng, this poor monk originally wrote a scroll of 'Withering and Flourishing Nirvana Sutra' for you, to save you and make you put down the butcher knife, to achieve Nirvana and become Buddha, so long as you try your best to redeem your past sins, you can avoid the fate of falling into the Beast Path."

"Now it seems, you can't hear this sutra anymore."

"You deceive All People to light Human Incense for your nourishment, these sins, you must endure a lingering death, fallen as a beast, to repay part of it."

"Watch, this poor monk will now break your deceitful Arhat's Vow."

As soon as he finished talking, Great Abyss Zen Master immediately made his move.

The audience watching this spiritual battle, including those from the Seventy-two provinces, all heard the Zen Master chant: "All Living Beings possess the Tathagata's wisdom and virtuous nature, but due to delusion and attachment, they cannot realize it... All should view all realms as illusions, all Buddhas as shadows, Bodhisattva's deeds as dreams, Buddha's teachings as echoes..."

Following the chanting of the Zen Master, the next moment, or rather, the whole Qiantang Province began to witness an unbelievable scene.

The source was Great Abyss Zen Master.

Buddha Light surged from his body, every thread transforming into a new Great Abyss Zen Master.

Clones?

Projections?

In any case, he instantly produced hundreds of thousands, even millions of "clones" that burst out of his body.

These clones, like mist, drifted to every corner of Qiantang.

The first contacted, naturally, were the residents of the province city.

One million province city residents, also utilized the "fragrant oil" from Cheng Arhat's body, their lit Human Incense being particularly intense.

But now, the Zen Masters entered their bodies.

Every resident felt something strange at their necks.

Turning their heads, they were shocked to see a golden tumorous bulge emerging, bursting open to reveal a head identical to their own, emerging from the splattered golden pus.

Bearing a golden face, filled with Buddha's wisdom.

This scene, both horrifying and bizarre,

Instantly, Qiantang Province city had a million double-headed people, the mortals' second heads emerged, and without a word, began chanting along with Great Abyss Zen Master.

In a moment, the chanting reached the heavens, driving the Buddha Light to become even thicker, and the number of clones emerging from Great Abyss Zen Master also increased.

One million, two million, three million... densely packed, flying to every city, county, town, and village of Qiantang Province.

As far as the eye could see, all were the face of Great Abyss Zen Master.

Everyone, Tao Qian included.

Now all were stunned, wide-eyed and slack-jawed, unable to believe the scene before them.

Wasn't it said the Zen Master had no Great Divine Power? What was this then?

The Clone Technique wasn't anything special, many cultivators had cultivated similar Magic Skills.

But at most it was one or two, a few more perhaps dozens or hundreds.

Or like Tao Qian who could easily summon "Substitute Demons," flawlessly perfect.

But clones in the hundreds of thousands, millions?

Tao Qian doubted, even cultivators of the Daoist Transformation Realm might not be able to achieve it.

Despite Yuan Gong having anticipated it, he was still astonished at this time:

"Good monk, truly extraordinary."

"This kind of Divine Power Skill I'm also seeing for the first time, it must be his original creation."

"Kid, no need to doubt anymore."

"This monk must have had a past life, and he was a Highly Virtuous Monk, but since he's reluctant to join Free Temple, he probably doesn't come from a Buddhist Temple, perhaps a Loose Buddhist Practitioner in a previous life, accumulating a lifetime's merits and cultivation, to awaken innate wisdom in this life, to cultivate this incredible Path of Salvation."

"If you have the chance, you could try to draw him in, with the Human Dao Fortune on you, with your accumulated merits, just by revealing your foundation, the monk may not bow his head immediately, but at least he'll likely establish a good relationship with you."

"Mutually beneficial, each with its advantage."

Yuan Gong had just finished speaking, when suddenly the resonating chanting experienced a stutter.

Everyone looked down and finally understood why Great Abyss Zen Master had the confidence to break Cheng Arhat's Great Vow Burning Incense Secret Method.

In their ears filled with Buddhist notes, the chanting entering the million city residents' ears seemed like a torture.

Regardless of men, women, old, or young, they all tried to stop "the other self" from chanting.

Chapter 724 - Nameless Buddha Sutra, Destroy Your Dao Path\_2

Some covered their ears with both hands, others blocked their mouths with their hands, and some thrashed and tore... There were even more brutal ones who simply took up arms, intending to chop off that head.

Unfortunately, all these attempts were futile.

The head that was chanting sutras could actually move.

Therefore, they could only cry and shout:

"Stop chanting!"

"Please, stop chanting."

"Shut up, I tell you to shut up."



"I'll kill you, kill you."

"Ahhhh... It hurts so much, please shut up, I can't take it anymore."

As far as the eye could see, millions of people were wailing.

Tears and snot mixed as they rolled in the dust, and even more extreme individuals attempted self-harm to end their torment.

Then quickly, a change occurred.

Some people, in extreme pain, suddenly turned red in the face and then flipped over to vomit.

Unclean chunks of flesh, grease, and various filth representing desires mixed together, cascading down like a small waterfall.

Amid the intermittent sounds of vomiting, the Qiantang province city, originally surging with Buddha Light and resembling the Pure Land of Ultimate Happiness, instantly transformed into a filthy realm.

It was like a mountain of garbage, a decaying city.

The stench was overwhelming, making one want to vomit too.

This scene, however, lit up Tao Qian's eyes as he suddenly understood:

"This must be some kind of detoxification secret technique. Fragrant oil and Demon Buddha Origin Qi are like opium-like addictions to the Mortals of the Human Clan."

"As long as their bodies can be freed from the addiction, and they are brought to their senses, the Wish Power dissipates, and the Human Incense will naturally extinguish."

"This is indeed the right cure; truly it is the work of a high monk."

"Anyone could understand the keys to it, but to detoxify millions of people at once is not something an ordinary person could accomplish."

"Great Abyss Zen Master is certainly extraordinary, but... what is the cost?"

As Tao Qian marveled, he simultaneously thought of something.

Immediately, he looked up at Great Abyss Zen Master.

Once the Innate Spiritual Vision was activated, Tao Qian felt his eyes filled with an overwhelmingly intense Buddha Light.

At this moment, Great Abyss Zen Master had already lost all human form.

The whole person had turned into a wildly burning scented Buddha Lamp.

His body, embodying pure Buddha Nature, and soul, were being intensely consumed along with the chanting.

The flames of the lamp brought Tao Qian a sense of burning pain so intense that golden tears continuously streamed from the corners of his eyes.

At the same time, messages began to burst in his mind:

[Peering into Great Abyss Zen Master's Ding Guang Dharma Form...]

[Great Abyss Zen Master in his previous life was a reclusive Buddhist practitioner "Ding Guang Arhat," who had joined major Buddhist Temples, cultivated various Buddhist Laws, and finally achieved realization. Out of compassion for the suffering of the world, he made a great vow to save the world, intending to turn calamities many times, perfecting the Buddhist Law to save the world, as this is his second incarnation. Since childhood, feeling innate wisdom, he avoided an invitation from the Free Temple and came to Qiantang knowing he would meet his end to this calamity.]

[He has already ignited his "Ding Guang Dharma Form," transforming into a Buddha Lamp to burn away, paying the price for forcibly detoxifying ten million people.]

When Tao Qian saw this, his complexion immediately changed.

It was at this moment that a new Record emerged: [As he is about to pass away and because the Buddha Natures align... Great Abyss Zen Master wishes to pass half of the Nameless Buddha Sutra to you.]

When Tao Qian saw this Record, he also met eyes with Great Abyss Zen Master.

Previously, Yuan Gong was still speaking about maybe bringing him over.

Little did they expect, their gazes met.

Unfortunately, with the Zen Master about to die, recruiting him was probably no longer possible.

Great Abyss Zen Master, truly a high monk with profound foundations, Tao Qian barely glanced at him when he was noticed.

He was clearly using divine power, battling with Cheng Arhat.

Yet he was still able to divert his attention, his voice resonating unexpectedly in Tao Qian's mind:

"Little monk, who are you exactly?"

"I see that your body holds complex energy, and each strand comes from an extraordinary origin. Shenxiu already mentioned you are from the South Sea; I have also been there, but we had no karma to meet you and your master."

"How is Zen Master Qingjing, I wonder? Although you possess a multitude of Buddhist treasures, you have never cultivated any Buddhist Scripture."

As expected by Tao Qian, Great Abyss Zen Master's voice was gentle and warm, peaceful and distant.

From his voice alone, one could know: here indeed was a very worthy senior monk.

In these few sentences questioning his identity, Tao Qian could detect no malice.

Sure enough, the Zen Master's tone changed again as he continued:

"Very well then."

"You should not study other Buddhist scriptures indiscriminately, as it would not be favorable. I have a half volume of Buddhist scriptures here, still unfinished, hence unnamed."

"I am dying and I wish to transfer this scripture to you. Are you willing to accept it?"

"I have never deceived anyone in my life, and even in death, I cannot break my vows, so I must explain the price to you clearly."

"If you accept the Great Book of Buddhist scriptures that I have written across my past and present lives, it also means that you are karmically linked with me. Do not be deceived by my appearance of being unworldly; in reality, I have many troubles, which will inevitably stick to you in the future, and you may not be able to handle them."

"Of course, there are some benefits as well."

"It is not just self-praise, but this half volume of Buddhist scripture is ranked top even within the Great Reincarnation Temple, Great Freedom Temple, and other major temples."

"Once you possess it, you may be able to establish a lineage."

...

Given Master Tao's usual caution and his lack of interest in the Buddhist Technique,

He should have refused under such circumstances.

Yet inexplicably, he was moved. He looked over the city where a million people were vomiting, then glanced at the Zen Master clones flying around Qiantang; a mysterious intuition rose in his heart.

In the depths of Tao Qian's heart, a voice sounded:

"I am willing!"

"It is not because I covet the Great Book; it is just that I feel a connection."

"This scripture and I are fated."

As this thought was transmitted, Tao Qian's eyes, still streaming with golden tears, immediately reflected the change in expression of the Great Abyss Zen Master.

At first, he was taken aback, then he showed a smile, as if he had guessed something.

Inside Tao Qian's heart, the voice of this gentle and noble monk sounded again.

However, it was not to expose his identity but rather directly, through an incomprehensible secret technique,

He forcefully implanted the incredibly complicated, vast scripture filled with unfathomable Buddhist principles directly into Tao Qian's mind.

Given Tao Qian's current state of the Spirit Treasure Sublime Body and Cultivation Realm, he instantly felt his head swelling, nearly exploding.

He had no time to examine further Records that burst forth but then heard the voice of Great Abyss Zen Master taking care of the aftermath:

"I had long foreseen the journey to Qiantang, which would make this life perfect. I will undergo transformation and complete this life, with the scriptures I've written finding their disciple in you."

"We do not have a master-disciple karmic connection, but we are connected in the passing of the light."

"I was somewhat worried before, concerned that, with my help, Qiantang Province might fall to Great Freedom Temple, which would certainly be a trouble."

"Now that I have seen both you and your disciple, this worry can be put aside."



"Demon Buddha Temple cannot have it, Free Temple cannot have it, very good, very good. The so-called Buddha Country is absurd and should be discarded."

"When I reincarnate, and the timing is right, I will find you again, to pass on the remaining half volume of Buddhist scripture..."

Tao Qian endured the swelling in his head, striving hard to think through the information contained in the last words of Great Abyss Zen Master.

At the scene, this most unexpected Salvation Battle was coming to an end.

Everyone could clearly see:

First in the province city, as a million people vomited out their internal contaminants, the Human Incense naturally extinguished.

Then in other cities and counties within Qiantang Province, the same scenes continuously unfolded.

Originally, as many as "tens of millions" of Human Incense sticks were extinguished frantically.

During the process, Cheng Arhat naturally tried to stop it, and even Shipi Arhat tried to interfere stealthily.

Unfortunately, it completely failed to affect the Buddhist Secret Technique accrued over two lifetimes by the Great Abyss Zen Master, a technique that had never appeared before.

With the chanting of scriptures and vomiting echoing throughout Qiantang Province, almost in every corner,

Everyone knew who the loser was, Cheng Arhat; he lost.

Now, the Lord of the Earthly Buddha Country, having become a "dried corpse," was helplessly seated in the White Bone Glaze Tower, glaring at the Great Abyss Zen Master with intense hatred.

The latter truly transformed into a Buddha Lamp illuminating the entire sky and the whole province of Qiantang.

The intense Buddha Light directly blinded Cheng Arhat.

Tears flowed, the oil was exhausted, and the light faded.

Even so, he still wailed and cursed:

"Who exactly are you, you bald dead man? What grudge do I have against you, why must you treat me like this?"

"Why, why destroy my Dao Path, why?"

The once dignified King, now reduced to a state akin to a fishwife cursing in the streets, had completely lost his former majestic appearance.

But among the warlords present and the rest of the audience, everyone understood his feelings.

Ultimate Happiness Realm, ah!

To be ruined like this by a nameless ascetic, anyone would find it hard to let go.

Chapter 725 - Duel Outcome, The Main Show Begins

Cheng Arhat was no minor figure in the Northern Land, and all warlords knew of his life story, admiring the shameless path he took to climb to the top.

Not only was he of lowly birth, but his talent was also quite ordinary. When he started out, he wasn't backed by any significant support and relied on various acts of betrayal to gradually ascend to his current status.

He wielded control over Qiantang, a flourishing province in the Northern Land, and had secured the recognition of the Three Arhats from the Demon Buddha Temple, who were willing to help him break through to the Ultimate Happiness Realm, which was tantamount to a meteoric rise.

Regrettably, it was this crucial step that was forcefully disrupted.

So close to success, yet all his efforts were in vain; in fact, things turned out even worse. As Cheng Arhat's obsession deepened, fixated on the Great Abyss Zen Master, after being blinded, his mind and soul were set aflame.

Thus, the next moment, all the warlords and audiences from the seventy-two provinces heard a "boom"—a muffled explosion amidst the sound of a shrewish scolding.

The body of Cheng Arhat, already like a dried-up corpse, suddenly waxified.

His body turned to wax, with his soul as the wick, burning fiercely.

Who knows what he saw before his demise, but as he burned with crackling sounds, he ranted incoherently,

"Hahaha... I am Cheng Arhat, the Lord of Earthly Buddha Country, the future fragrant oil Buddha, eternally undying, with boundless Ultimate Happiness."

"Cheng Arhat has seen Elder Kongchan. Han Mountain Temple, ignorant of what's good for them, refuses to help me. Elder, if you're willing to lend your strength, I offer Qiantang Province with both hands."

"I have grand aspirations. Regardless of life or death, no matter the cost, I wish to quell the many warlord and bandit issues in the province, to protect the millions of people. Would the brothers, elders, and abbots of Han Mountain Temple be willing to assist me?"

"Master, I seek Buddha's Divine Power not for myself, but for these common people, for all under heaven. I would rather sacrifice my flesh and soul..."

...

As people listened, they all understood that as the "Human Candle" burned, Cheng Arhat was returning to his original state.

Now blind, his body nearly burnt out, he tearfully mistook the Great Abyss Zen Master for his childhood teacher, Master Zhishan, who had presented him with the Withering and Flourishing Scripture and introduced him to the Buddhist Sect. He knelt with genuine emotion, shouting hoarsely to express his faith and grand aspirations.

It seemed so sincere.

A stirring, tragic lament that moved people.

This made many wonder how such a good and heroic figure in his youth had become what he was today.

Others didn't understand, but Tao Qian wasn't surprised at all.

"All things are prone to change, especially humans."

"This wretch, slick with fat and deceit, is no different from the other warlords present here."

"But his goodness as a child, his youthful passion... weren't necessarily all lies."

"One can only say that human hearts are fickle."

As Tao Qian thought this, the Great Abyss Zen Master, burning out himself, smiled.

He nodded at Cheng Arhat, then said:

"Good, I'll grant your wish."

After speaking, Cheng Arhat seemed to move on his own.

He seemed to be completely under the control of the Great Abyss Zen Master as he stumbled out of the White Bone Glaze Tower.

On his face, too, there appeared a look of emancipated joy.

Ignoring everyone, including Shipi Arhat.

He fiercely broke off one of his own arms, and as golden blood splattered, he threw the limb towards Qiantang Province City below. As the flesh dissolved mid-air and collided with the clouds, it was transformed into a fine rain and breeze, with a calming fragrance that gently caressed Qiantang Province City.

"This is an Arhat repaying a debt, everyone should accept it."

The million inhabitants of the city had already been released from addiction by the Great Abyss Zen Master's Buddhist Law and had awakened from the pollution of the Demon Buddha's influence.

Now touched by this fine rain and breeze, they suddenly had a greater understanding.

No one responded in kind; they all simply sighed.

Cheng Arhat, now in a special state, laughed as he rushed to various market towns across Qiantang. His limbs, flesh, organs, and skin... bit by bit, were forcefully torn and transformed into a fine rain and breeze, seemingly intent on purifying the entire province of Qiantang.

This, presumably, was the so-called taking from the people, and now giving back to the people.

The Cultivation Power of Cheng Arhat was nourished by the fat and essence of the people of Qiantang Province; he was now merely returning it completely.

In a sense, it was also the most thorough lingering death.

All the warlords and spectators found it astonishing, and then they all turned their gaze to the Three Arhats of the Demon Buddha Temple.

Cheng Arhat was supposed to be a strong figure in the Ultimate Happiness Realm that the Demon Buddha Temple wanted to cultivate.

Having been defeated and treated like this,

Shipi, Kongchan, and Lian Sha should have been furiously reacting, preparing to take action directly.



But strangely, there was no such reaction.

With a placid face, the fleshless Kongchan Arhat looked at the Great Abyss Zen Master, instantly seeing through his condition, and said admiringly:

"I don't know which expert you were in your last life."

"Such Buddhist Divine Powers, none of us three brothers have ever seen before. I reckon you're not from the Free Temple."

"Elder, had you revealed your identity from the start, we three would have been willing to negotiate with you. Now, it seems we've damaged our relationship, creating enmity."

"Elder, your refining is most vulnerable to others' covetous thoughts, and given our people at the Demon Buddha Temple are vengeful, it will be hard to trouble you upon your enlightenment. However, your reincarnated form is likely to be sought out by us, to exact revenge."

Kongchan's words were a mix of soft and hard tactics.

Also, in front of everyone, he revealed a bit about the Great Abyss Zen Master's background.

Which was normal. The astonishing and unbelievable avatar of millions that had appeared earlier.

Any slightly knowledgeable Buddhist Practitioner would have guessed that the Zen Master, who looked like an ascetic monk, must have had no ordinary origins.

Chapter 726 - The Outcome of the Magical Contest, The Main Event Begins\_2

At this moment, Great Abyss Zen Master had almost transformed into a dazzling golden sun.

Every person in the entire province, every corner, was illuminated by his lamp flame Buddha Light.

Now, even a fool could understand.

This previously inconspicuous Great Abyss Zen Master was in fact the true heavyweight presence in this contest.

Regrettably, this heavyweight had arrived in haste and was now departing just as quickly.

Was he really about to die?

The Great Abyss Zen Master looked directly at the Three Arhats and said,

"In this life, this humble monk has no fame, and it was the same in my previous life—a Nameless Monk, merely a commoner of the secular world."

"My reincarnation was meant to experience various tribulations."

"If the Daoists from Demon Buddha Temple have gone out of their way to trouble my Reincarnation Body, isn't that exactly what I wanted? I should thank the three of you."

After uttering these words, the Zen Master then turned his gaze toward Shipi Arhat in the middle,

and advised him,

"Daoist friend, your Buddhist Law is profound, and the Dao Path you cultivate is good."

"You have only strayed a little; I hope you wake up in time, turn back from your path, for there will be a time for enlightenment."

"Otherwise, even if you should overcome the Daoist Transformation Tribulation, I fear you will perish in the Karmic Fire Tribulation, never to escape."

If it were someone else, like Shenxiu Monk, admonishing Shipi like this, he would most certainly have been mocked by the Arhat, and could have even been slapped to death on the spot.

Great Abyss Zen Master was different, though; his past life's Dharma Cakra Arhat Cultivation was already above Shipi's.

After undergoing his recent refining tribulation, his realm had grown much stronger than Shipi's.

When he gave advice, even if Shipi felt dissatisfied at heart, he did not openly retort; instead, he took it seriously and contemplated.

It was at this moment!

Cheng Arhat's debt repayment came to an end; his body, blood, flesh, organs, marrow, and even his Divine Soul self-immolated, leaving behind a mottled relic that shattered in the skies above his hometown's Lingxing Temple in Dongan County, turning into rain and wind, returning to the heavens and earth, vanishing without form.

However, some remnants of his True Soul likely persisted, arranged by Great Abyss Zen Master to be reincarnated.

Of course, it was probably in the realm of beasts.

The chanting that echoed throughout the province also suddenly ceased at this time, and the second heads on everyone's necks disappeared along with it.

The golden sun began to slowly extinguish.

The shocking presence from the elder expert thus became nothing, not a single superfluous word left behind.

"Amitabha Buddha!"

"The master is merciful!"

Those from Free Temple, as well as the million commoners below, all chanted the Buddha's name to see him off.

The other haughty warlords held disdain in their hearts, though no one dared to express it openly.

As for Tao Qian, who had gained a great benefit, he started to secretly grumble about his master in his heart:

"Look at this, such enlightenment is truly the demeanor of a high monk."

"My master, on the other hand, prepared Buddha's verses like scripts for his entrance and exit; a pity that I have not yet managed to learn them."

Tao Qian knew that it was still not the time for him to act, which is why he had the leisure to grumble.

And at the center of the arena, as Great Abyss Zen Master assumed his seated position, he passed away.

This also signaled that the third contest had been decided.

According to the prior "agreement," now Qiantang Province, this Earthly Buddha Country, should be relinquished by the Demon Buddha Temple.

The group of warlords inside Little Leiyin Temple could scarcely contain themselves, salivating excessively over Yuann Mingzhen.

But reflecting on this suspense, they all held back.

Along with Shenxiu Monk and over a hundred Vajra Monks, they all turned their gaze to the Three Demon Buddhas.

Leading with a bow, Master Shenxiu asked respectfully,

"Three Arhats!"

"Now that three rounds of scriptural debate and spell casting are over, our Free Temple has two victories to one defeat, and the winner is clear."

"Following the agreement, are you willing to hand over Qiantang and withdraw on your own accord?"

"Here are numerous Daoists from Seventy-two provinces as witnesses; I trust the three will not break the pledge."

While Shenxiu spoke in such a manner, in his heart he did not expect the three would keep their promise.

Thus, even as he spoke, he was secretly ready to mobilize people.

He already had a contingency plan: as soon as his master Long Meng Arhat, his uncle Auspicious Arhat, and his granduncle Shanjian Arhat arrived, and with the previous agreement as an advantage, they could easily drive out the monks of Demon Buddha Temple.

He had imagined such an ending, yet who would have expected the next word that entered his ears to be a single "agreed."

At this word, everyone was astonished.

Not just Free Temple, the group of warlords, spectators from Seventy-two provinces, the million citizens— even the Demon Buddha Temple monks, the disciples and elders, the city's monk officials, the Jialan Gati, and other Divine Spirits, all looked at Shipi Arhat with disbelief.

Was it to be conceded just like that?

The most bustling province in the Northern Land, a nascent Earthly Buddha Country, was to be handed over so easily?

And to the Great Freedom Temple, the mortal enemy of the Demon Buddha Temple?

Shipi Arhat wouldn't bother explaining to anyone. After agreeing with Master Shenxiu, he simply waved his sleeve, and all the magnificent Floating Buddha Cities within the province, including the palaces and grand temples and even the Little Leiyin Temple, were swept away.

He then took out a bowl-shaped Exotic Treasure and had countless Monk Officials, Disciples, Elders, Dharma-protecting Divine Spirits, Demon Buddha Beasts, and the like all enter it.

Such an act made Tao Qian nod in approval as well, muttering to himself:

"Shipi sure knows how to play his part well, a smooth handover that makes one doubt its authenticity."



"But with these added gestures, others will naturally speculate that the Demon Buddha Temple doesn't want to ruin their reputation by breaking the pact; they're just stalling to cause trouble for Great Freedom Temple, with plans to later use magic to snatch the Buddha Country back."

"Who would have thought? These three baldies have grand schemes in mind, willing to temporarily offer up an entire Qiantang Province as bait."

"Once Yuann Mingzhen makes a move..."

Tao Qian hadn't finished murmuring.

When in the midst, Master Shenxiu had already taken the province from Shipi Arhat's hands with a host of Vajra Monks, following the momentum.

Even though the city was now "empty," apart from a million residents, there wasn't a single person left to maintain the operations of the province, nor a single building; the sight was one of devastation.

However, everyone understood that for Great Freedom Temple, these were not significant troubles.

At Tao Qian's side, some warlords and Evil Cultivators openly murmured:

"What are these, really?"

"All the Demon Buddha Temple's methods are but imitations learned from Great Freedom Temple and Dharma Cakra Temple."

"In a few months, Great Freedom Temple could easily transform the Demon Buddha Kingdom into a supreme True Buddha Shakyamuni Kingdom, even better than before."

"They are first-class temples; it's understandable that they don't want to lose and break their promise, creating some trouble is understandable."

"Compared to great interests, what are promises but things made to be broken?"

"It was unexpected, though. One would think these three Arhats not to be trifled with, but now it seems they are indeed easy to bully."

The Three Arhats could, of course, hear all this idle chatter, but they seemed to care not a whit.

Especially Shipi, who still had the leisure to whittle away at his own flesh and blood.

Simultaneously, he loudly addressed Yuann Mingzhen above:

"Yuann Daoist, we monks have kept our vow, and today we shall return to our own temple."

"But before going back, you must resolve the promised sacred dance."

"No more delays, present it swiftly."

With these few words from Shipi,

The crowd, and the onlookers on the other end of the Spirit Mirror Crystal Balls, all erupted in excitement.

Master Shenxiu's party couldn't even manage a word of objection before being drowned out by the surging waves of clamor.

"Shipi Elder is right, Devil Concubine must not dally, present the dance swiftly."

"Enchanting dance, enchanting dance, the world's most beautiful woman, Tian Chao's number one Empress, is going to perform an enchanting dance."

"According to the previous pact, the Devil Concubine must reveal her true form, adorned in nothing, and fly from Han Mountain Temple."

"Hahaha, the real show is here, I want to see for myself, the Devil Concubine who, so the story goes, the Emperor of Zhu Dynasty couldn't last a single night with, to see how bewitching, how wonderful her unadorned body truly is."

...

After all, they were allies, and Master Shenxiu and the host of Vajra Monks intended to intervene.

But they were momentarily distracted by the sudden uproar, and just as they were about to forcefully stop it,

They suddenly heard Yuann Mingzhen also give an affirmative "Good."

This Devil Concubine!

This Empress!

She remained lofty, standing atop the Spring and Autumn Chariot, looking down upon everyone from high above.

As though she still saw herself as the Human Emperor, her eyes teeming with disdain.

This attitude, paired with her flawless, sultry, and regal appearance, caused many a sordid warlord to lose composure on the spot.

Even more thrilling was what she said next:

"You all came here, for the sole reason of fighting over me, over the Fortune and Life Chart within me, and over this Spring and Autumn Chariot."

"No need for pretense, let's cut to the chase."

"Winners rule; losers yield, I submit."

"This place is not suitable for your battles, and conveniently, at the Top of Han Mountain, there's an ancient Alien Species Biwu Divine Tree."

"Within ten breaths, I shall manifest the Heavenly Phoenix Dharma Form and fly to that tree, and whoever among you can climb the mountain, whoever sees me, I will follow and marry your masters behind you."

As Yuann Mingzhen made this promise, the faces of the warlords, the several million members of the Extraordinary Army outside the city, and the spectators from the Seventy-two provinces, all showed exhilarated expressions.

It was clear to all that the contest between the Demon Buddha Temple and Great Freedom Temple.

Was barely a preview worth watching, and what was to unfold next, would be the truly exhilarating main event.

Chapter 727 - Mountains and Rivers Both in Ruins, A New Barrier Established

Tao Qian and Yunrong watched the boiling scene around them, the atmosphere so fervent it far surpassed the previous confrontation between the two monks.

They both felt a sense of wonder, each in their own way.

Tao Qian thought to himself, "As expected of the Devil Concubine, with just a few words, she has stirred up this group of powerful Evil Demons to such a state. One imagines that with a little more seduction and hypnosis, she could incite these Evil Demons to slaughter each other."

Yunrong, on the other hand, thought, "This stinky little sister has the body of the Heavenly Phoenix, and her soul possesses an extraordinary allure. It turns out she is quite suitable for joining my Jade Ring Mountain. Granny would probably like her very much... Hmph, but I dislike her."

As the couple each had their thoughts on Yuann Mingzhen, ten breaths of time suddenly passed.

Under the watchful eyes of thousands, the Devil Concubine standing atop the Spring and Autumn Chariot suddenly bestowed a coquettish smile.

Instantly, everyone who saw that smile felt a sense of intoxication, some of those with average Cultivation and weaker willpower even began to think, "I would die for this woman."

Then, in the next moment, the smile on her face faded, turning into a sacred and solemn expression as she slowly closed her eyes.

Suddenly, the world around them seemed to change color.

It was the start of the day with the Sun Star rising, but suddenly it was shrouded in a layer of chaotic sky curtain; a myriad of rosy rays burst forth, primarily green, with red, black, purple, white... All colors becoming more intense and accompanied by an ancient, far-reaching song that seemed to come from the primitive times.

Sacred and ancient, charming and majestic.

Even Shipi Arhat could not help but turn his head to look.

Within the rosy light that filled the province's territory, along with an unbelievable screech, a Huge Monster that could be called a divine bird flew out, her true form seemed to be constructed from rosy light and White Jade, stunning beyond compare, making it impossible for anyone to look away.

Even to Tao Qian, while it was beautiful, there was also an Abnormality.

For example, Yuann Mingzhen hadn't transformed her head away.

She revealed a body that was beautiful as though it was that of an ancient Divine Spirit, yet still bore a human head.

Despite Yuann Mingzhen's head being sacred and dignified, possessing an indescribable allure that penetrated the soul,

The combination of human head and bird body still appeared bizarre.

Tao Qian first glanced at the Record erupting in his mind: [Being subjected to the charm contamination of the Qingluan Heavenly Phoenix Origin Qi... Exempt!]

Then, he looked at the group of warlords who were becoming increasingly deranged, slipping into madness.

"Qingluan Heavenly Phoenix!"

"Ancient Alien Species, a Divine Bird from the Outer Realm."



"So beautiful, incredibly beautiful."

"In this world, there could exist such a perfect Life, I really want to eat her flesh."

"She is mine, I want to break her wings, strip her naked, break all her bones, and keep her by my side forever."

"She is mine, she will be mine, if I can't have her, I'll destroy her."

"Marry my master? No, you should marry me, you are mine, you definitely will be mine."

...

Without any warning, most of the warlords and even the Evil Demons and Loose Cultivators went mad.

Even those like Gao Tianci and Yelü Baoshan, found resisting very difficult.

Only those like Shi Zhongsheng and You Changqing, who had someone in their hearts, remained relatively at ease.

But very soon, Yuann Mingzhen emitted another sound, like a lament or a soft sigh, and she soared into the sky, dancing gracefully in the rosy light that filled the sky as she flew towards the Biwu Divine Tree at the Top of Han Mountain, planted by the founder of the Han Mountain Temple.

Almost at the same time, her enormous body's back, belly, and tail feathers shot out brilliance. Beads of a divine White Jade revealed and opened their eyes.

A ray of light turned substantial, infecting the world with a green hue, scattering down from the sky.

The world here had completely changed colors, the dance of the Heavenly Phoenix in the daylight, the ancient, melancholic songs, were pulling this territory into some kind of a Source Qi Secret Realm.

In Tao Qian's mind, another series of Records burst forth:

[Entering the Qingluan Original Qi Secret Realm... Exempt!]

[Within this Secret Realm, one can witness the true form of the Qingluan Heavenly Phoenix, witness the Heavenly Phoenix Rosy Clouds Dance, hear the song of the Qingluan Phoenix, experience the joy of flesh, peer into the secrets of Longevity... at the cost of becoming a puppet of the Qingluan.]

[To summon this Secret Realm, a Qingluan must use itself as bait to call forth the Source Qi from the Outer Realm. Afterward, all changes within the Secret Realm are controlled by the Qingluan... If no desire is harbored, there will be no control.]

[If desired and ill intentions arise, one will be implanted with a "Qingluan Jade Egg" and in the drunken dream-like state, one will entirely reveal their brutal and frenzied nature, in joy, killing, union... until returning to the essence of flesh and blood.]

[This Secret Realm can only be summoned by the bloodline of the Qingluan Heavenly Phoenix's Imperial Family, and only once every ten years, afterwards suffering the punishment of "desire burning the body."]

...

Before Tao Qian had time to grasp the true meaning of these Records,

In his Innate Spiritual Vision, a tableau that also changed his expression emerged:

The Heavenly Phoenix body with a human head, resembling an ancient Divine Spirit, as Yuann Mingzhen flapped her wings toward the Biwu Divine Tree, her tails of rosy light began to extend indefinitely, proliferating without end, ultimately turning into tendrils soft as if cast from Jade, cascading down, with blobs of White Jade-like soft and warm flesh at the ends.

In the center, a crack slowly opened with a "pop," spraying Jade Liquid, and began to shoot out Jade Eggs like a machine gun.

Those crystalline and translucent eggs, like grains of rice, dispersed like dandelion seeds.

Yet they implanted incredibly accurately into every warlord, Soldier Demon, Evil Cultivator, and Demon who were mad for Yuann Mingzhen.

Not one resisted!

Some expressed incredible joy.

One such egg seemed to play an "Evil Play," drifting towards Tao Qian, intending to burrow into his forehead.

But before the Jade Egg could test the power of the Spirit Treasure Sublime Body, with a cold hum from beside, the sound of the Golden Bell rang out, and the Jade Egg exploded alongside it.

Chapter 728 - Mountains and Rivers in Ruins, Establishing the Barrier Again\_2

"This demoness is incredibly annoying."

"Dear husband, pay her no mind. If she provokes us again, I'll pluck every hair from her body, leaving her a bald white jade bird."

At this moment, Tao Qian had no time to pay attention to anything else.

He watched in horror as almost every warlord completely lost control.

There was an abrupt disturbance that erupted like a volcano and churned like a boiling fishpond.

Around Tao Qian, there were hardly any members of the Human Clan.

Every warlord was howling, shrieking, singing, revealing their most repulsive, most disgusting, deeply Mutated true forms.

In Fengtian Province, Gao Tianci was gone, replaced instead by a headless, muscled ten Zhang giant holding a knife in one hand and a flag in another, with nipples for eyes, and a navel for a mouth. Its body was covered with wounds as if tens of thousands of Evil Ghosts had gnawed on it, spewing pus and blood that reeked unbearably.

In Desert North Province, Yelü Baoshan was nowhere to be seen, and in his place was a monster resembling a ferocious dragon tortoise, its back loaded with Long Spears, eyes growing everywhere, and even sporting three heads.

In Fengcang Province, Li Zhixian laughed as he shed his human skin and transformed into a monstrous strange fish resembling a mountain, colorful, with appendages, membranous wings, and gaping bloody mouths.

The fleeing warlord Zhu Xun, who was the greediest and most desirous of Yuan Mingzhen's power, was now Parasited by a Jade Egg. As he reaped the benefits, his Mutated true form was the most grotesque among all the warlords.

His refined clothing burst apart, his pale body swelling in the wind, becoming bloated and smooth, with meat pillars of varying lengths and thicknesses growing from it. They were of different colors, mainly dark and bright red. Curiously though, where his body should naturally have had them, there was nothing.

Onlookers could not easily distinguish the true forms of the other Mutated warlords,

But Zhu Xun was strikingly visible.

...

Besides these warlords, some Evil Cultivators had also fallen victim.

Like Lady You Rui.

Her Mutated true form matched Zhu Xun's quite closely.

If this was the state of the warlords, the armies stationed outside the provincial cities from each province would not be spared either.

Adding up to a total of millions, the army was directly stirred into a frenzy by Yuan Mingzhen.

Just like their masters, they followed the sacred, bewitching, and sinister Devil Concubine Qingluan towards the summit of Han Mountain Temple.

Whether it was the earth or the sky,

This moment was anything but peaceful.

Even Tao Qian, Yunrong, and even Shipi were startled by the restlessness between heaven and earth.

Inside and outside the city, all sorts of evil energies were mixed together, colliding, fighting, merging... reminiscent of an era dominated by the elements of earth, water, fire, and wind.

Mere contact with these energies meant certain death.

Tao Qian, Yunrong, You Changqing, Shi Zhongsheng, Elder Du Shou – those unaffected could still cope.

But the lower-level Cultivators and the million citizens of the city—

As dozens of large and small warlords began rushing out of the city, they were already in danger of being affected.

Right at this moment!

Master Shenxiu and over a hundred Vajra Monks finally understood why Demon Buddha Temple had so easily relinquished the provincial city, only to wait here.

Cursing under their breath, the monks were forced to act, forming a Big Array to protect the civilians.

Master Shenxiu even threw out several powerful Buddha Treasures, including the Great Auspicious Bright Cloud, barely fending off the onslaught as the Mutated warlords tried to break out of the city and cause disaster.

They didn't even have a chance to catch their breath.

Shortly thereafter, a truly terrifying impact arrived.

Outside the city was a sight that left all spectators from the Seventy-two provinces, who had been watching through the Spirit Mirror Crystal Ball, with an unforgettable image.

Dozens of Mutated monsters, along with millions of Mutated members of the Extraordinary Army... Their gathering place was fitting for descriptions such as Human World's Purgatory or Demon World.



For a moment, it seemed as though people had traveled through time and space, witnessing the world that their ancestral Human Clan had faced.

Most likely, it resembled this scene.

They had lost all their humanity!

Only the most primitive, wild desires remained, trampling over each other, chasing after the stunning Qingluan in the sky.

Primordial myths, ancient epic scenes, seemed like Heavenly Dao seals imprinted onto the hearts of all who saw them.

And then, back to the grim reality.

As the bird-headed human-bodied Yuan Mingzhen landed on the Biwu Divine Tree, all Evil Demons, in their pursuit to ascend the mountain, to seize her, began to slaughter each other without restraint.

Flesh and blood!

Halos of light!

Destruction!

The outskirts of Qiantang Province City had become a blood-soaked Secret Realm.

The horrific noise was so overwhelming that it stunned the senses, leaving only a torrent of images that plunged Minds into turmoil and Heart Souls into chaos.

This was a spectacle like no other, a chaotic battle like no other.

Tao Qian had experienced the upheaval in Demon City, the Yang Sui Uprising, the New Moon Uprising... plenty of military clashes.

For instance, the outskirts of Demon City had once seen similar scenes.

However, they were so diluted compared to this.

Whether it was the strength of the warlords and their soldiers, the intensity of madness, or the chaotic mix of Source Qi, it couldn't compare at all.

If Demon City was a fraction, then the fields outside the provincial city were the whole.

Killing! Completely driven mad with killing.

Every moment brimmed with astonishing contamination.

Following the "boom boom boom" of explosions, most Spirit Mirror Crystal Balls shattered.

If not for Master Shenxiu acting promptly to shield the eyes of a million civilians with the auspicious light, perhaps they too would have already gone mad.

But this was only temporary, the slaughter was too severe, the evil too intense.

Chapter 729 - Mountains and Rivers in Total Disarray, Reestablishing the Barrier\_3

Rivers of blood flowing along the terrain, floating islands of Demon flesh, frenzied Demon Souls, chaotic Source Qi, out-of-control treasures... No matter which kind, it was not an issue for Master Shenxiu and the Vajra Monks to protect themselves, but to also shield a million people was simply impossible.

Observers from the Seventy-two provinces also realized this and could not help but feel pity.

"Qiantang Province City will sooner or later fall, and a million people will suffer."

No sooner had this thought arisen than a Buddhist chant sounded from a distant territory.

Approaching rapidly, it arrived in an instant.

Tao Qian and the others looked over and saw an imposing monk, an Arhat, rushing over. He bore whiskers like coiled serpents, a round face with large ears, a straight nose, and a square mouth. His muscles appeared as if they were coated in gold lacquer, and behind his head, a Buddha Ring glowed ominously. He was always in a wrathful state, and over his shoulder, he carried a Wolf Fang Club studded with lapis lazuli, relics, gold, and silver.

This Arhat upon arrival didn't greet anyone, but instead shouted:

"Amitabha!"

"With the humble monk here, Devildom, disperse."

After speaking, he stood with the Wolf Fang Club in front of the city.

He slammed it down, and as the ground shook and the mountains quivered, a giant pit large enough to contain a Great Buddha appeared in front of the city gates.

Golden Buddha Light surged, and the Arhat showed his Great Dharma Body, taking a seat in the pit.

Opening his Buddha Mouth, his lower jaw touched the bottom of the pit, and his forehead rose above the city walls, miraculously transforming into a gaping maw capable of swallowing the heavens and the earth, ingesting all the filth flowing from the Han Mountain territory into his belly.

Gulping sounds echoed throughout Qiantang Province City.

While everyone was still stunned, the Shipi Arhat laughed mockingly and mercilessly exposed the truth:

"Long Meng Arhat, why have you come alone? Where are Auspicious and Shanjian?"

"It seems you have finally realized the situation here is rotten and complex, the costs are high, and your Free Temple has weighed and calculated the matter, finding this idle trouble to be not cost-effective and very undesirable, thus sending you, this dead head, to minimize the loss and reluctant to take over."

"Am I right? Hahaha..."

Shipi spat out these words.

Instantly, the faces of those from the Free Temple soured.

Especially Master Shenxiu, who looked embarrassed. While he said nothing openly, in secret, he continually transmitted messages to his own Master.

No one knew what Long Meng Arhat's reply was, but Master Shenxiu's expression grew even worse.

Clearly, Shipi was right.

This was something that any cultivator with a little bit of wisdom and insight could discern.

However, Tao Qian also had some doubts:

The Free Temple had ostensibly already won, so why were they reluctant to take over?

Even if the cost was higher, wouldn't owning a province's land still be worthwhile?

Fortunately, at that moment, Yuan Gong transmitted an explanation:

"Major Buddhist Temples, unless they are actively scheming, usually do not want to be involved with karmic consequences. However, once involved, they will do their best to resolve them."

"But the Free Temple is different; this temple is most adept at calculation. Whether actively or passively involved, their participation depends entirely on what they stand to gain."

"This time, the Free Temple miscalculated several times."

"First, they did not anticipate that the [Great Abyss Zen Master] would trick them. This monk is extraordinary, daring to step on the greatest Buddhist Temple, quite audacious."

"Second, they did not realize that this place involved so many warlords and even the overall situation of the Northern Land and the Central Plains, potentially signaling the start of a great war. Too many forces are involved here; the Free Temple feels it's too much to handle."

"Third is the simplest, initially Long Meng, Auspicious, and Shanjian, the three baldies, might have thought it was three against three and were confident in their chances for victory. Later, they probably predicted the involvement of Nirvana Demon Buddha behind Shipi, with the stakes suddenly skyrocketing, they definitely did not want to pay a huge price to invite a True Buddha capable of contending with the Nirvana Demon Buddha."

"It's normal to calculate and then minimize losses. Fortunately, Long Meng still has a conscience; by rushing to protect the citizens of this city, he might also avoid the last bit of karmic debt."

"Come to think of it, I haven't seen a scene like this in quite a while."

"Once the Northern Land is truly in chaos, I fear it will be a hundred times worse than here, too dangerous. You must withdraw quickly."

Hearing the urgent advice that followed, Tao Qian had wanted to discuss it with Yuan Gong.

But the sudden change outside the city forced Tao Qian to immediately hold his tongue.

Han Mountain Temple territory!

It was almost completely destroyed, the ancient Han Mountain Temple that had stood for a thousand years had also been completely razed by numerous demons, only the bare Biwu Divine Tree on the top remained.

The demons scrambled frantically to climb it, yet whenever a Great Demon came close, it would be promptly attacked by the rest of the horde.

Gao Tianci, Yelü Baoshan, and Zhu Xun had all nearly succeeded, but were quickly dragged down by the group of demons.

Because of their fighting, this territory was utterly filled with the stench of blood and foul odors.

To take a single breath was torture.



Yet an even more astonishing change occurred the next moment. After Zhu Xun, the Heavenly Eunuch Warlord, had his flesh pulled and eaten, leaving him covered in wounds, drained of energy and blood, he finally realized that he could not seize the Devil Concubine alone.

In desperation, he offered a price unimaginable to others, summoning a part of the "Six Yang True Monarch" from the Demon Cave of the Outer Realm.

His combat strength instantly surpassed Cavernous Mystery.

Although not the true Ultimate Happiness, to call it a "false Ultimate Happiness" was not far from the truth.

What was terrifying was that after he had taken the lead, the other warlords followed suit, each beginning to use their trump cards.

One should know that not a single warlord here was a pushover, each backed by a Major Sect.

And so, a cacophony of roars began to reverberate around Tao Qian.

Demon Sect, heresy and heterodoxy, Twelve Daoist Sects, ancient Divine Spirits... either treasures, Divine Skills, or the limbs of an Ultimate Happiness Realm monster.

Already fighting heatedly, with combat power finally raised half a realm higher, Han Mountain Temple finally changed completely.

Heaven and earth!

Mountains and rivers!

Being smashed over and over, reshaped time and time again.

At times a murky Blood River, at times a sea of stone, at times the heavens collapsing and the earth caving in...an intense sense of temporal and spatial chaos swept over the heart of every person.

At this moment, Tao Qian also truly had a moment of dizziness.

He seemed to foresee the spectacle that the many provinces of the Northern Land, no, all seventy-two provinces would have in the future.

In front of him was, in truth, just a miniature model, like a sand table Prediction.

The inevitable future battle of the Central Plains, the three-way dragontooth struggle, the war between north and south, the civil wars within the seventy-two provinces... countless battles.

Once fully unleashed, how many would die?

One hundred million? A billion? Or tens of billions?

With this thought, Tao Qian's heart grew even more urgent, and he became ever more convinced of the correctness of his actions.

"Fighting is allowed, but not like this."

"When mountains and rivers are both wrecked, the Human Clan will definitely return to the dark ages within a few years."

"We can't delay any longer. I must make the Forbidden Technique reshape things, the Barrier needs to be re-established."

"Even a temporary Forbidden Technique can avoid this unprecedented catastrophe of Human Dao."

The immense Human Dao Destiny within Tao Qian, upon having this thought, began to surge violently.

With this movement, the scattered Ancestor God Treasures in the seventy-two provinces also started to stir.

## Chapter 730 - The Grand Banquet Begins, Devil Concubine Enters the Cage

Qiantang Province City, the whole city was silent.

Whether they were mortals or the extraordinary beings above them, at this moment, everyone was staring dumbfounded at the scene outside the city.

The territory had undergone countless transformations due to the slaughter of millions of terrifying demons, gradually turning into something vastly different from the present, with words like ancient, barbaric, and exotic realms.

A group of cultivators and monks displayed a mix of bewilderment, astonishment, and disbelief on their faces.

And the million city dwellers had only one expression: fear.

It was as if the "ant colony" they had always been part of suddenly had a veil torn away, revealing the cruel, real world finally, a world extremely terrifying and powerless to them.

No!

Not just the million residents of Qiantang Province.

But also the audience in front of the spirit mirror crystal balls in the seventy-two provinces.

Suddenly, the Human Dao Destiny within Tao Qian began to stir more frantically, with strong resentments and prayers washing over him.

What alarmed Tao Qian was that, deep within this overwhelming public sentiment, something cryptic was brewing, filled with the unknown and destruction.

...

Millions of Demon Army savagely and indescribably massacred each other from dawn until noon.

Centered around Han Mountain, that vast area of land had almost turned into nothingness.

On the ground, a giant gash had appeared, large enough to swallow the provincial city and still have room to spare.

Above this horrific wound hovered the ruins of Han Mountain Temple, where, perched atop the Biwu Divine Tree like an ancient goddess, the Devil Concubine Yuan Mingzhen, maintaining her human-bird appearance, rested lazily and proudly, utterly indifferent to the disgusting world below.

A completely new terrain had gradually formed there: millions of demon corpses, various thick pus and blood, and various unsightly mutated beings... Mixed with bizarre clouds and rainbow lights, adhered together by the common obsession to "must have the Devil Concubine."

Eventually, it seemed like a massive bloody pustule had been jammed into that gash.

It was both a swamp lake and ancient mountain forest.

Within it, about a dozen demons from the Cavernous Mystery Realm and several others who had borrowed strength from their masters to forcibly rise to just short of Ultimate Happiness, roamed and trampled each other in the meaty swamp mountain, all aiming to reach the peak of Han Mountain, yet any warlord who came close would be collectively attacked by others.

Several hours ago, people like Gao Tianci, Yelü Baoshan, Zhu Xun, Li Zhixian, and Lady You Rui were all renowned warlords from the Northern Land.

But now, they had completely mutated.

And the cause of all this was none other than the infamous Devil Concubine.

The audience across the seventy-two provinces was now astonished, having previously heard that Yuan Mingzhen had been ousted and fled the Imperial City in a sorry state, they had underestimated her.

But the sight before them sent chills down their spines.

"What a Devil Concubine! She possesses such enchanting Divine Skills, nearly rivaling a God Demon. In a few hours, she's buried millions of Evil Demons, it's hard to imagine the cost of such methods, truly fascinating."

"This debacle cost the Northern warlords dearly, regardless of whether she can flee to the south, her future likely holds a grim fate."

"Is this the so-called 'Devil Concubine's Dance'?"

"Hisss, thought it was a seductive dance, didn't expect a deadly Demon Dance."

"This technique must have a cost unimaginable to others, otherwise she would have used this method during the Imperial City incident."

"Look closely, the key to this technique can't escape the word 'desire.' If you have no thoughts about the Devil Concubine, like You Changqing, who everyone knows pined for Hong Fu and could not have her, or Shi Zhongsheng, rumored to have been involved with men... It seems that as long as one has no lustful thoughts, they can be immune to this Divine Skill."

"Heh, easy for you to say, would your heart not stir if the Devil Concubine stood naked before you? I bet your whole body would react."

...

Although beings such as cultivators, Evil Demons, alien species, and Divine Spirits mostly originated from the Human Clan.

Once transcended, most didn't care about the fate of human mortals.

Seeing the terrifying scene of the "Han Mountain Blood Battle," they were initially shocked, but then quickly dismissed it, starting to discuss something else.

Except for Tao Qian Yunrong.

But the Great Demon, Shipi Arhat, also suddenly focused on the million trembling city dwellers, then turned to look at Long Meng Arhat.

With ill-intent, he chuckled and asked,

"Long Meng, you agreed to honor the bet earlier, and my Demon Buddha Temple gave this Buddha Country to your temple."

"With the situation as it is now, with storms of blood and Corpse Mountain Blood Swamp, the karma is not easy to carry."



"Let me teach you, honorably admit defeat before me and return this Buddha Country city to us. Though you lose some face, you wouldn't need to pay any price, wouldn't that be wonderful?"

Shipi finished speaking.

Long Meng Arhat only shook his head, neither admitting nor denying.

Fortunately, he had a reason; he was protecting the million city dwellers.

Shipi laughed even more joyously, then said:

"Long Meng, the bald monk, is as dull as ever. Not like your abbot, Auspicious, who knows how to manage."

"If he were here, he would know

"Senior's Buddhist law is profound, this humble monk trusts completely,"

"Speaking of accepting a loss after agreeing to gamble, if there is anything this humble monk can help with, Daoist need only instruct, even if it means sacrificing this filthy body and this life of cultivation, this humble monk is willing to contribute his meager strength."

With these words, Tao Qian did not feel surprised.

From their first meeting, he had known that Master Shenxiu was different from those with many schemes in their hearts, a sincere and honest monk.

Where would Master Tao know anything about being polite?

He immediately transmitted his response, saying,

"Master's noble spirit is admirable, this poor monk respects you."

"That's good, it won't be long before there is indeed an opportunity for the master to lend his strength, I only hope the master will not refuse at that time."

"The humble monk shall comply."

"Good!"

Master Shenxiu taking the initiative brought a slight ease to Tao Qian's expression.

But in the next moment, after scoffing at the corpse of Long Meng Arhat, he suddenly transmitted with a laugh to Tao Qian,

"Daoist nephew, the good show is about to start."

"If this major event can be accomplished, both you and your disciple shall have great merits."

"Three pieces of trash from the Tiannan Gao Family are here... Three great dishes, the feast begins."

Upon hearing the last sentence, Tao Qian abruptly turned his head.

It was at that instant that the territory of Qiantang Province City once again started to tremble wildly.

Following this, a huge amount of light mist, similar to a 'Mirage', spread out; mountains shifted, Buddha Light surged, and a peculiar city was forcibly thrown over from deep within a distant mountain range by the force of an array.

That city was enormous, landing perfectly into a formed pus-blood and flesh swamp.

Arriving midair, it crashed down.

Inside, almost a million Extraordinary Army divided into three groups descended simultaneously.

And these three armies were far more ruthless and fierce than any mutated warlord-led armies present.

Upon their appearance, the three distinct yet related types of Demon Qi they released together caused the frozen swamp to show signs of collapsing and reshaping.

Once the Devil flesh swamp was formed, the consensus among cultivators was clear: death was certain for anyone under Cavernous Mystery who entered, and even for Cavernous Mystery, survival was a slim chance; for ordinary lifeforms, assimilation was almost guaranteed.

But at this moment, that consensus was forcibly changed.

The three Evil Demon Armies, all "refined," suddenly developed an appetite for the flesh frozen throughout the land and mountains.

The sound of swallowing filled the air.

Everyone focused their sights, and upon seeing the true appearance of the three armies, they quickly understood why:

The various warlord-led armies slaughtering each other were all evil cultivators or Soldier Demons, but at least they were human.

However, these three armies were not.

They were Demons.

Three types that had completely diverged from the Human Clan, transformed into a different kind of creature.

They were the Giant Divine Demon, Yang Flame Red Demon, and the Immaculate Jade Demon.

What other people avoided as the polluting mutated source Qi, was nourishment and a delicacy to these demons.

Among the spectators, there were many knowledgeable ones.

After the armies appeared, they all locked onto the figures standing at the forefront, three mighty cultivators in Emperor robes, looking down upon the world.

After clearly distinguishing their faces and recalling why the land was Qiantang's neighboring province.

Instantly, whether inside the province city or among spectators from the seventy-two provinces, all began to stir and exclaim in shock:

"The Tiannan Gao Family?"

"It's True Lord of a Hundred Demons Gao Yang, Jade Demon True Monarch Gao Zhan, and Yang Demon True Monarch Gao Wei... the current three heads of Tiannan Province's Gao Family, all former Emperors, all cultivators from the Ultimate Happiness Realm, with terrifying Demon armies under their command, now all emerging here, aren't they planning to devour Qiantang?"

"Like the proverb 'when the snipe and the clam grapple, the fisherman profits,' must be so, the Tiannan Gao Family always had wild ambitions, taking the chance while Demon Buddha Temple and Free Temple are fighting each other, now they come to pick the fruits."

"It's said that the Gao Family's ancestor Gao Huan was a Daoist Transformation Realm strong cultivator, and also one of the thirteen old monsters among the Alchemists, Qiantang is in danger now, likely to fall into the hands of the Tiannan Gao Family."

"Truly, when one wave subsides another rises, who would have thought the Tiannan Gao Family would also come to join the chaos."

"Nevermind Qiantang for now, look quickly, the Devil Concubine is about to fall into Gao Yang's hands."

Upon this reminder, everyone simultaneously looked towards Han Mountain.

Surely enough, as soon as the Tiannan Gao Family invaded, Devil Concubine Yuan Mingzhen, who was still idly resting, was also awakened.

That divine, indifferent yet supremely beautiful face slowly opened her eyes.

Locking eyes with Gao Yang, the True Lord of a Hundred Demons immediately showed excitement, his eyes blatantly filled with greedy possession.

He flipped his hand, and from somewhere, took out an item.

Then, he threw it towards the top of Han Mountain.

The object expanded as it met the wind, appearing both like and unlike a cage, adorned with a canopy and precious ornaments, embroidered with vast landscapes, bursting with bright Halos, auspicious clouds surrounding it—a sight that forcibly dispersed the filthy clouds, and then enveloped the Devil Concubine, who seemed as if she had just woken up.

The spectacle was like a giant fetching an ornate cage to encase a bird.

Following that, people heard him laugh heartily:

"I've long heard of the Devil Concubine's fame, recognized as the foremost beauty in the world, and seeing her now, she is indeed the perfect match for me, Gao Yang."

"This object is called the 'Jiangshan Xiangyun Cage,' alas, took me quite some efforts and used a bit of my family's fortune to craft."

"It has no other use but to encage you, this bird."