

My System 461

Chapter 461 - Madam, Madam! _4

Empress Wei of Great Wei listened to Cheng Guang's words, thoughtful, then nodded slightly.

"Now that you mention it, it does seem wise to send it away," she said.

"Of course, if you were capable of dealing with so many Sky-Men, I naturally wouldn't have sent it away. It's just that you're too useless," Cheng Guang said in an even tone, his handsome face showing a trace of disdain at just the right moment.

Empress Wei noticed the disdain on Cheng Guang's face, her lips quivering slightly as she looked on, seemingly beyond reason.

How do you have the right to disdain me??

I am a Sky-Man, after all!

What about you!?

Empress Wei's fingers clenched gently, tightened slowly, and then relaxed.

This was not because Empress Wei had fully come to terms with the situation, but because she realized she couldn't lay a finger on Cheng Guang.

She had already sworn an oath.

As a Sky-Man, once she broke her oath, the consequences were unbearable.

If not bound by the oath, Empress Wei would have loved to hang Cheng Guang from a tree and give him a good whipping to vent her frustration.

But at this moment, Empress Wei could only grit her teeth and think such thoughts.

Cheng Zhihai, seeing Empress Wei in such a state being manipulated by his son Guanger, couldn't help feeling a secret delight.

This was Empress Wei after all.

She stood at the extreme end of Four Directions Mortal World, on par with Emperor Zhou, and yet here she was, being disdained by his own son.

This was no small matter.

Cheng Guang paid no attention to what Empress Wei and Cheng Zhihai were thinking. He shifted his gaze from Empress Wei's face to the distant peculiar scorpion.

Although Emperor Zhou had taken his storage ring, at most he was merely keeping it safe for him.

Later, when Emperor Zhou discovered the gift he had sent him, he would probably be so excited that he would jump up right away.

For now, he still needed to think about how to obtain the wine from this urn.

The scorpion atop Around Immortal Residence was indifferent to his entry because it simply did not care about the residence at all.

The peculiar scorpion only cared about the wine urn.

If he harbored any thoughts of taking the wine, he feared he would be dead before he even started acting on it.

Forcing it was not an option.

He had to outwit, not outfight.

As Cheng Guang was contemplating, suddenly, he heard a series of roars coming from afar.

Emperor Zhou, his face tense with urgency, darted around, shouting out in a panic, "What are these ghastly things!!"

"How could there be such Mysterious Bugs inside the storage ring!!"

Behind him, one could see rice grain-sized Worms, with a touch of malevolence in their tiny eyes, aiming frantically at Emperor Zhou as if they had spotted something delicious.

Emperor Zhou and a group of Sky-Men seemed to also be chased by a swarm of Worms.

They had merely circled the surroundings for a short while.

It seemed they had attracted even the imperceptible Worms from the shrine of the Chicken Demon.

The air vibrated continuously, and the roaring was incessant.

"Damn it all!! What are these things!!"

"How come we can't do anything about these Worms...? What are these Worms made of, that they are so tough!!"

"Run!! Run!! Don't let the Worms contaminate you!!... Ahhh!!!"

In the sky, the angry shouts of Sky-Men persisted.

However, after a short while, a Sky-Man suddenly stiffened in movement, then let out a series of piercing screams.

The Sky-Man was torn and bitten by the Worms, his breath faltered, and the immense pain caused his inner energy to momentarily lose control.

He attacked the Worms burrowing into his flesh in a state of despair and fear.

Fear and desperation made him utterly disregard whether such actions might harm himself.

His Divine Power was unleashed, attacking his own body without restraint.

Explosions sounded within the Sky-Man's body.

With each explosion, his body involuntarily shook, and at the same time, from his pores, like fountains, billowed clouds of blood mist.

In the sky.

It did not take long for it to stain with blood again.

Meanwhile, due to the Sky-Man's rushed and chaotic response, the injuries caused by the Worms' bites worsened considerably.

In just a short while, the piercing screams grew fainter.

At the same time, from under his torn skin and bloody flesh, rice grain-sized white spheres began to emerge.

These white spheres were the Worms, which continuously rooted themselves on the Sky-Man's body, sucking and drawing.

The light in the Sky-Man's eyes dulled in an instant, and his fate was the same as the ancestor of the Great Abyss dynasty.

He was already dead.

But not completely dead yet.

The tragic state of this Sky-Man made the surrounding Sky-Men targeted by the Worms turn pale.

Especially Emperor Zhou, who had released the Worms and, with his own actions, plunged himself into such jeopardy.

Emperor Zhou's expression was extremely grim.

He couldn't understand, he couldn't comprehend.

Why were there such bizarre creatures like the Worms in Cheng Guang's storage ring?

The Sky-Men's attacks didn't harm the Worms at all.

He could still temporarily escape from the Worms' attacks, but if this dragged on and his energy was depleted, his fate wouldn't be much better than the Sky-Man who was just parasitized by the Worms!

"What shall we do now!!"

Emperor Zhou's majestic and stern face darkened, his eyes scanning the surroundings, noting that most Sky-Men beside him were in no better condition.

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These sudden appearances of the Worms were not completely without benefits.

At a minimum, they had held back other Sky-Men who wished to snatch the storage ring from his grasp.

Moreover, Emperor Zhou, hovering high in the sky, also noticed that these suddenly emerged mysterious Worms were not showing much interest in beings below the realm of Sky-Man.

They were extremely covetous of Sky-Men though.

All Sky-Men at this moment were being besieged by the Worms.

Making the connection, Emperor Zhou's gaze suddenly flicked to the side and noticed Empress Wei standing beside Cheng Guang, her expression serene, atop the Around Immortal Residence.

Something was amiss, hold on, wait.

If all Sky-Men were targeted by the Worms at this moment, why wasn't Empress Wei affected in the slightest??

Emperor Zhou's eyes widened slightly in confusion.

If it weren't for the fact that he was surrounded by the Worms, unable to move swiftly, and had to fend off the relentless attacks of countless Worms, he would already have wished to approach Cheng Guang to investigate.

"Aside from the Worms I took out from Guanger's storage ring, the majority of the Worms flew up from the base of the mountain."

"This means that Empress Wei and Guanger, who arrived later from the base of the mountain, might have already encountered the Worms."

"These Worms are only interested in Sky-Men, and it's normal that Guanger and the others are unharmed, but why is Empress Wei still in good condition?"

While Emperor Zhou was dealing with the tides of Worms that were crazily sweeping towards him, his dignified eyes glittered as he pondered.

Since the very beginning.

He found it strange when he saw Empress Wei appearing next to Cheng Guang, following him step by step.

It seemed as if by staying close to Cheng Guang, Empress Wei could feel a greater sense of safety.

This feeling was absurd, and Emperor Zhou initially did not take it seriously.

He thought Empress Wei was simply acting on a whim.

As for Empress Wei, Emperor Zhou did not understand her, nor did he wish to have too much contact with her.

But.

At this moment, linking Empress Wei's actions with those of the Worms.

Perhaps it was possible to deduce a reason or two behind it.

Could it be...

Empress Wei was saved by Guanger when she encountered these Worms previously??

At this thought, Emperor Zhou's heart was deeply shaken, and even as one who could face the collapse of Mount Tai without changing his expression, he was now barely able to keep his composure.

For the moment, Emperor Zhou could not comprehend what means Cheng Guang could possibly have to help Empress Wei repel the ferocious Worms.

And upon further reflection, perhaps the Worms taken from Cheng Guang's storage ring were the result of Chen Guang's own arrangement.

This Guanger...

Was he actually betraying his own uncle??

This was not something Guanger was capable of doing!!

In Emperor Zhou's view, when he tried to assassinate Cheng Guang, Cheng Guang himself was utterly unaware.

Furthermore, the impression Cheng Guang had left on him previously was not one of being as scheming as he seemed now.

Emperor Zhou's face darkened slightly as he listened to the incessant hissing of the Worms, and his mood became increasingly irritated.

"All of you, get lost!!"

Emperor Zhou, with a grim expression, shouted angrily, startling the Worms nearby, and the powerful Harmony of the Primordial Spirit emanated out from the center of his brow.

All the Worms that were close to Emperor Zhou recoiled a step.

Emperor Zhou briefly forced the Worms back, no longer holding back, and the Power of the Primordial Spirit surged out wildly, forming a barrier of moderate size around him.

It temporarily kept all the Worms at bay.

His form turned into a streak of light, heading rapidly towards the location of the Around Immortal Residence.

The mere hundred zhang distance forced Emperor Zhou to walk out of a sensation akin to traversing through a mountain of knives and a sea of fire.

As he walked, he appeared to have faced great terror, his face pale and beads of sweat as large as beans sliding down from his forehead.

By the time he approached Cheng Guang

Emperor Zhou was already struggling to withstand the ceaseless attacks and biting of the Worms around him.

Should he relax even slightly, the Worms nearby would engulf him.

"Guanger!! Quick, come help your uncle!!"

Emperor Zhou called out urgently, the tension in his eyes genuine.

Cheng Guang heard Emperor Zhou's words and turned his head to look, only to see Emperor Zhou step by step, struggling immensely to make his way through the oppressively heavy air toward him.

Around him, a few clearly visible giant Worms lurked by Emperor Zhou's side and did not tear into him with the haste of the smaller, nearly invisible Worms.

Instead, they seemed like a fisherman calmly waiting for his catch, their eyes filled with malice, quietly lying in wait for Emperor Zhou to show a weakness.

"Uncle, what are you talking about?"

Cheng Guang feigned a puzzled expression, looking at Emperor Zhou, utterly baffled.

At this moment, Emperor Zhou knew most of the Worms around him were invisible, so he harbored no suspicions.

He quickly said, "I'm surrounded by a large number of Worms!!"

"They're from inside your storage ring! Guanger, do you have any way to deal with these things?"

Cheng Guang's face showed a slight shock, then he shook his head appropriately.

"If you, uncle, can't handle these Worms, how could I possibly have a way?"

After Cheng Guang said this, Emperor Zhou's face turned exceptionally ugly.

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His lips began to twitch uncontrollably.

He absolutely did not believe Cheng Guang's ghost stories.

In the beginning, Cheng Guang managed to put on an act as though he didn't know what was happening.

But now, after he had confided in Cheng Guang, how could Cheng Guang still tell him that he was powerless?

How could that be possible!!

If Cheng Guang himself was powerless, then how could there be so many white worms inside his storage ring...?

Emperor Zhou clenched his teeth in the shadows, furrowed his brows, and seeming to realize that Cheng Guang probably did not want to help him, he straightforwardly cut to the chase and replied:

"Guanger, how can you help me?"

Upon hearing Emperor Zhou's words, Cheng Guang's face twisted with conflict, and then he spoke:
"Uncle, I also don't know how to help you, perhaps you should first return my storage ring to me, and then I can consider it further."

Without any hesitation upon hearing Cheng Guang's words, Emperor Zhou immediately took off the storage ring and flung it directly at Cheng Guang.

All the white worms were only interested in Sky-Men and had no interest in an object like the storage ring.

Therefore, the storage ring easily penetrated through the swarm of white worms and landed in Cheng Guang's palm.

Cheng Guang took the storage ring, opened it, and checked inside.

He noticed that aside from the absence of the peculiar white worms the size of rice grains, everything else was completely undamaged.

Cheng Guang breathed a sigh of relief, slowly turned around, and walked towards the Around Immortal Residence, without the slightest intention of paying further attention to Emperor Zhou.

Emperor Zhou was first taken aback.

Then he saw Cheng Guang's figure gradually walking farther away.

He was completely dumbfounded.

So, from the beginning...

Cheng Guang had never intended to save him??

Was this Cheng Guang's own plan??

Or did Cheng Zihai instruct him to do so??

Emperor Zhou's mood was a mix of grief and fury as he let out a wrathful yell, his majestic and frosty visage now filled with ferociousness.

"Guanger! You've gone too far!"

Before Emperor Zhou's words could fade, his voice was drowned out by the white worms.

Immediately after came a piercingly tragic scream.

Cheng Guang did not attend to Emperor Zhou.

Although Emperor Zhou had been very good to him at first, that was no longer the case.

Neither the previous assassination attempt nor the earlier action of taking his storage ring could absolve him.

Cheng Guang's expression remained calm, while Cheng Zhihai beside him had a complex look on his face.

He had always been respectful towards Emperor Zhou.

The ideas of the dynasty, of loyalty to sovereign and father, were deeply engraved in his mind.

It was the prior assassination attempt by Emperor Zhou on Cheng Guang that had shifted his perspective a bit.

Otherwise,

Cheng Zhihai would have been restless now and only think of rushing to help Emperor Zhou immediately.

But at this moment,

Cheng Zhihai simply couldn't bring himself to move.

An Emperor Zhou, who had always wanted to take action against Duke Zhen's Mansion, was gone; perhaps, that was a good thing for Duke Zhen's Mansion.

Anyone could be Emperor Zhou, but in the future, it must absolutely not be Wu Shang.

Cheng Zhihai took a deep breath, fighting the urge to look back, and shifted his gaze away from Emperor Zhou.

He steadily followed Cheng Guang.

Cheng Guang walked towards the Around Immortal Residence and stopped when he reached the peculiar scorpion.

The peculiar scorpion was not drinking at the moment, but rather watching the distant Emperor Zhou, who was enveloped by countless white worms.

A tinge of melancholy surfaced in the deep brown depths of its eyes.

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He poured a mouthful of wine into his lips,

"How sad, how lamentable—the path to divinity has ultimately nourished such a collection of things."

"This is not sainthood—it's closer to demonhood."

Having spoken, the strange scorpion filled its mouth with another gulp of wine, paying no heed to Emperor Zhou. Instead, its gaze settled on Cheng Guang, revealing a hint of interest.

"You, you are somewhat interesting, how did you come to know the use of Tri-color Grass?"

For the first time, the strange scorpion struck up a conversation with Cheng Guang.

Cheng Guang had approached Around Immortal Residence, intending to test the strange scorpion.

The system task notification had stated that as long as the wine jar wasn't broken, the strange scorpion wouldn't lay a hand on him.

Therefore, within this certain range, Cheng Guang was safe.

Cheng Guang, upon hearing the strange scorpion's question, was momentarily stunned. He hadn't expected the strange scorpion to also be able to detect the scent of Tri-color Grass on him.

It seemed that the strange scorpion wasn't entirely oblivious to the events occurring within the Secret Realm.

And the way the strange scorpion talked about these Worms, referring to them as part of the path to sainthood.

Considering the Chicken Demon's mention of Saint Dao Fruit,

what exactly were the Taoists inside the Five Daos Mountain doing with these bizarre Worms in their cultivation?

Cheng Guang was perplexed.

Yet, faced with the strange scorpion's question, he still responded, "I learned of it by chance."

The strange scorpion heard this, did not probe further, and merely nodded silently.

"You're lucky. Otherwise, at this moment, you would have already died. You'd best leave soon, lest you die in vain."

"It's strange how the evil birds below didn't cause you trouble."

"Is he dead?"

The strange scorpion's eyes rested on Cheng Guang as it posed the question.

Cheng Guang was taken aback by the mention of the evil birds from the strange scorpion, and then quickly surmised that the strange scorpion was likely referring to the Chicken Demon.

Cheng Guang shook his head and said calmly, "Are you speaking of the Chicken Demon? It is already dead."

"Chicken Demon?" The strange scorpion paused upon hearing this, as if it didn't quite understand, and then suddenly burst into loud laughter, "Chicken Demon is a good name. It's not any important figure, just a Chicken Demon."

The strange scorpion laughed for a while, then suddenly, tears rolled down from its eyes.

"I just didn't expect that it would actually be dead."

He laughed heartily, his voice tinged with desolation.

"My lady, my lady! It is my incompetence, the great vengeance has been avenged, but it's a pity that the Chicken Demon didn't die by my hand!"

After laughing for a few moments, the strange scorpion's aura of sorrow grew deeper. It took a while before it regained composure.

Staring at Cheng Guang.

His voice grew colder.

"Did you kill it?"

Cheng Guang, upon hearing the strange scorpion's words, didn't answer. "Does it matter?"

"Perhaps it has been long dead."

The strange scorpion fell into silence.

For a long time.

It slowly exhaled and turned to glance at a distant mountain, its eyes filled with complexity.

"Indeed, perhaps it has been dead for a very long time."

"Besides me, many, many others are also dead."

"How long has it been since anyone has been to the Five Daos Mountain? How many years?"

"Countless, uncountable."

Towards the end, the strange scorpion's voice grew weaker, and after shaking its head, it reached out to grab a gigantic wine jar in its hand, then grabbed another stream of wine and offered it to Cheng Guang.

"Come, it's rare to encounter a real living being. Have a drink with me!"

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The words of the strange scorpion fell into Cheng Guang's ears, causing his spirits to surge.

Immediately afterward, Cheng Guang saw the stream of alcohol offered by the strange scorpion's hand, exuding a strong fragrance of liquor.

The smell of alcohol hit his nose, making the Qi and Blood throughout Cheng Guang's body uncontrollably begin to stir.

Even before drinking it, Cheng Guang behaved as if drunk, with his Qi and Blood churning, Qi reverberating, his cultivation level suddenly rising, causing his body to stagger.

Seeing Cheng Guang in this state, the strange scorpion was first slightly stunned, then chuckled.

"Your tolerance for alcohol, I'm afraid, is worse than that of the Earth God."

The strange scorpion shook its head with a laugh, pouring another mouthful of alcohol for itself and no longer paying attention to Cheng Guang.

Just as it was pouring the alcohol into its mouth, it suddenly seemed to sense something, its eyes briefly dropping to fixate in the direction of the distance, motionless.

A moment later, the strange scorpion finally shifted its gaze onto Cheng Guang and the others.

"The Heavenly Dao crumbles, the nature of the world grows cold."

"Although I do not know where you have come from, you should leave quickly now; this isn't a place you should be."

The strange scorpion spoke in a solemn voice.

Hearing the words of the strange scorpion, Cheng Guang hurriedly stored the offered alcohol into his storage ring.

Merely getting close and taking a whiff was enough to stir his Qi and Blood like this; what would happen if he actually drank it? Wouldn't he burst and die on the spot?

Cheng Guang pondered, looking up towards the strange scorpion, about to ask how he should leave the Secret Realm when he saw near the entrance of the Daoist Temple they had come through on the way.

The initially faint and illusory entrance suddenly thundered.

Strong individuals attempting to approach then blinked out of existence, disappearing on the spot.

"We can get out!"

"Finally, we can get out!!"

The many strong beings lingering near the temple gate had already been so crushed by the existence inside the Secret Realm that their will to pursue their Dao had collapsed, and they swiftly flew towards the entrance of the Secret Realm.

Without any hesitation.

Cheng Guang saw the entrance to the Secret Realm in the distance, then glanced up at the strange scorpion on the rooftop of Around Immortal Residence.

No sooner had the strange scorpion told them to leave early than the entrance to the Secret Realm opened.

He wondered whether it was the strange scorpion's doing.

Cheng Guang didn't think further.

He turned and called out to Cheng Zhihai and Qin Beifeng.

Escorting Empress Wei, he flew towards the entrance of the Secret Realm.

Upon reaching the entrance to the Secret Realm, Cheng Guang didn't immediately step in but instead turned to look towards Around Immortal Residence.

He watched as the strange scorpion stood up from the roof, its gaze fixed intently on the depths of Five Daos Mountain.

And in those depths, something appeared to be awakening, as the mass of the mountain faintly began to tremble and shudder, the bloody twilight sky took on an even more vivid hue.

It was as if blood tears were falling.

"Sad, sad, the sadness of my race..."

A somewhat ethereal and hollow voice sounded from afar.

Upon hearing these words, Cheng Guang felt his heart shake suddenly, and a profound sadness inexplicably rose up within him, an urge to weep bitterly overcoming him.

It was at this moment.

The Proving Dao Map in his mind vibrated slightly.

Cheng Guang felt a clear stream flow from his brow, instantly pulling him out of that intense sadness.

Cheng Guang was deeply shaken.

What kind of existence lay in the depths of Five Daos Mountain,

That merely with a single phrase, it could influence the emotions of others.

Cheng Guang's gaze swept to his side.

Cheng Zhihai and Qin Beifeng were faring poorly.

Although they did not burst into loud tears, the corners of their eyes involuntarily moistened.

Only Empress Wei was first bewildered, then her delicate body shivered, and she quickly regained her senses.

Following that, she quickly turned her gaze toward Cheng Guang.

Empress Wei had assumed Cheng Guang would be affected by that mysterious voice, yet she saw that he was calm, faring better than Qin Beifeng and Cheng Zhihai, both of Ninth-order Martial Emperor Realm strength.

Empress Wei's red lips parted slightly, surprised, then she pursed the corners of her mouth, her beautiful eyes curving slightly.

This Town-Nation Duke's Heir...

Really was not simple...

Empress Wei looked at the Town-Nation Duke's Heir and then saw Cheng Guang's gaze constantly fixed on the depths of Five Daos Mountain; she followed his gaze toward the distance.

Looking towards the depths of Five Daos Mountain.

Empress Wei could perceive much more than Cheng Guang did.

Merely casting a glance, Empress Wei frowned slightly, sensing as if the depths of Five Daos Mountain hid a vague, enormous being, watching this place.

Just when Empress Wei decided to take a closer look,

Cheng Guang was struck with an urgent sense of alarm, decisively saying, "Let's go!"

Cheng Guang stepped into the entrance of the Secret Realm.

Empress Wei, Qin Beifeng, and Cheng Zihai followed him into the entrance of the Secret Realm.

And in the moment just after the three of them entered the Secret Realm,

An elderly figure in a gray-white robe appeared out of thin air.

His eyes were filled with numbness and coldness, his expression one of extreme sadness.

"Sad, sad..."

As the decrepit old man appeared, the strong beings flocking towards the Secret Realm seemed not to see him at all, ignoring him entirely as they passed straight through his body.

They passed through the decrepit old man as though he were a wall of insubstantial air, feeling no barrier whatsoever.

The decrepit old man just stood there, after looking towards the Secret Realm entrance, he sighed deeply and his figure slowly disappeared from the spot.

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Cheng Guang stepped into the entrance of the Secret Realm.

A white light flashed before his eyes.

After a brief moment of dizziness, he found himself back on the soil of Great Zhou.

At the same time.

After Cheng Guang emerged from the Secret Realm, numerous powerful beings followed suit, streaking out in succession.

Most wore expressions of utter shock.

Looking around, they suddenly realized that other than the Empress of Great Wei, it seemed none of the Sky-Men who had entered the Secret Realm had appeared; their expressions changed dramatically.

Those Sky-Men who had just entered the Secret Realm were either emperors or ancestral figures of their Sects, all of them holding positions of considerable status.

If only one or two Sky-Men had gone missing, it might have been overlooked.

But the disappearance of so many at once...

The world was liable to fall into chaos!

The recently quelled turmoil could erupt anew with the sudden disappearance of the top Sky-Men from the Four Directions Mortal World.

"Where are those Sky-Men? I was at the foot of the mountain the whole time and didn't dare to go up."

"I have no idea what happened on the mountaintop?"

A multitude of powerful beings whispered amongst themselves, stirring a wave of commotion around the entrance of the Secret Realm.

The Sky-Men were mainly around the Around Immortal Residence, and due to the presence of that strange scorpion, only Cheng Guang, Cheng Zihai, and Qin Beifeng had managed to reach the peak and come near the Around Immortal Residence, apart from the Sky-Men.

The vast majority of powerful beings, while aware of the fall of a Sky-Man within the Secret Realm, were unaware that besides the Empress of Great Wei, news of all the other Sky-Men, including Emperor Zhou, was still pending.

Perhaps they were delayed by something and had not yet emerged?

Some powerful beings' eyes flickered as they decided to wait quietly from a distance.

They were not concerned about the welfare of all Sky-Men, only those from their own Clan Power.

A Clan Power could only truly establish itself once it had a Sky-Man; even the World Royal Family would not easily offend them.

Within the territory of Great Zhou, the Clan Powers that even Emperor Zhou could not easily meddle with were like this, as were the Four Great Hidden Sword Sects.

Most of them harbored Sky-Man-level beings.

The World Royal Family also had an unspoken agreement to avoid offending any power with a Sky-Man.

But now.

If, because of this Secret Realm, nearly eighty percent of the world's Sky-Men suddenly disappeared...

How could the world not descend into chaos??

Not only would it be chaotic!

Even the Demon Beasts lurking around the Four Directions Mortal World might mobilize en masse and turn the entire mortal realm into a purgatory!

Considering this, many powerful beings felt a shiver down their spine.

While powerful beings were observing the entrance to the Secret Realm.

Cheng Guang was also watching it.

He had known since he received the system task alert that most Sky-Men who entered the Secret Realm this time would not come out.

However, the system task alert did not mention the powerful beings present.

It was unclear whether this was an intentional omission or if they had all perished within the Secret Realm.

Cheng Guang pondered deeply, taking a deep breath.

"Those bizarre Worms, called Saint Dao Fruit by the Chicken Demon, what exactly is 'Saint,' and what is the Dao Fruit?"

"Why did that strange scorpion guard the Around Immortal Residence so tenaciously, unwilling to leave?"

"What beings exist in the depths of Five Daos Mountain??"

Question after question arose in Cheng Guang's mind, forming a fog of huge mysteries that enveloped him completely.

The deeper he delved into this world, the more ignorant he felt.

While Cheng Guang was contemplating, the entrance to the Secret Realm suddenly trembled lightly and began to fade from solid to void.

In just a moment.

It dissipated like a soap bubble.

The anomalies in the sky, following the disappearance of the Secret Realm, also began to fade, gradually losing their visibility.

The sky returned to its clear blue, with fluffy white clouds drifting by.

A gentle breeze blew by, bringing peace.

However.

As the Secret Realm suddenly vanished and none of the Sky-Men inside emerged, a chill settled in everyone's heart.

Even though summer's heat was near, all the powerful beings felt as if they were in the depths of winter.

A bone-chilling cold took hold!

Seeing the entrance to the Secret Realm disappear completely, everyone realized that the many Sky-Men who had not yet come out of the Secret Realm might now never be able to.

Some powerful beings stood dumbfounded, lost in thought for a moment before turning to the surviving people around them and saying, "Let's go!"

With that, they stepped on Qi and quickly left the scene.

In a short while, the vicinity of the Secret Realm grew sparse.

"Guanger, we should leave as well."

Seeing the dwindling crowd, Cheng Zhihai spoke to Cheng Guang.

Cheng Guang heard Cheng Zhihai's words but did not respond immediately. The moment the entrance to the Secret Realm dissolved before his eyes, he also heard a cold, emotionless voice at his ear.

[Task completed, would you like to receive the reward?]

After hearing this voice, Cheng Guang was momentarily stunned, then overwhelmed with joy.

He had originally thought that exploring the entirety of Five Daos Mountain was required to complete this system task.

He had not expected that just by entering the Secret Realm for a short while, just being near the Around Immortal Residence, the task would be completed.

Cheng Guang suppressed the joy in his heart, planning to claim the system task reward after returning.

"Let's go."

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Cheng Guang nodded slightly, acknowledging Cheng Zhihai with a brief sound.

After he had finished speaking,

Cheng Guang's gaze shifted towards Empress Wei. Seeing that she had not yet left, he asked with puzzlement, "Aren't you leaving?"

Empress Wei, with her beautiful eyes fixed on Cheng Guang, surveyed his peerlessly handsome face for a moment, then turned and glided away towards the distant sky without uttering a word.

In the blink of an eye, she had vanished from Cheng Guang's sight.

After the figure of Empress Wei had disappeared, Cheng Zhihai's gaze also returned from the distance, looking at Cheng Guang, he said, "Guanger, although the Empress Wei is young, her methods are by no means inferior. It's better not to have too much contact with her unless necessary."

Cheng Guang nodded slightly.

Cheng Zhihai seemed worried as he murmured, "This time, many Sky-Men were trapped in the Secret Realm and couldn't escape, with only Empress Wei emerging unscathed. The strength of Great Wei will likely climb to an even higher level."

"It's uncertain what the future holds for the world."

As Cheng Zhihai spoke, Cheng Guang glanced at him and offered a reminder.

"Father, rather than worrying about these issues, you should think about what moves Great Zhou will make in the future. My uncle hasn't emerged either."

At the mention of this, Cheng Zhihai's expression froze momentarily, then he slowly shook his head and replied with a wry smile, "My child, of course I am aware of this, you don't need to remind me."

Cheng Zhihai said this with a look of emotion on his face.

"If Emperor Zhou of Great Zhou has truly perished, never escaping from the Secret Realm, it would be a tremendous boon for Duke Zhen's Mansion."

Cheng Guang nodded slightly, "Aside from Emperor Zhou, in the future no one else will be able to check Duke Zhen's Mansion."

"You could say that once Emperor Zhou dies, our Duke Zhen's Mansion is practically the uncrowned king of Great Zhou."

"Throughout the entire Great Zhou Court,"

"There is only our grandfather, Duke of the State, who is a Sky-Man."

Cheng Zhihai sighed deeply, "Yet, with the death of Emperor Zhou, the entire Great Zhou Dynasty will obviously lack a leader, attracting the covetous gazes of many."

"Even with your grandfather, a Sky-Man, we cannot fend off the greedy looks from others across the world."

"The future of the Great Zhou Dynasty is certain to be chaotic."

Cheng Guang nodded slowly, then added,

"There may be turmoil in various places, but it is also an opportunity."

"In such circumstances, Duke Zhen's Mansion might be able to break away from the Great Zhou Dynasty and establish its own faction."

"Even the possibility of founding a new dynasty isn't out of the question."

"Founding our own dynasty."

At this point, Cheng Zhihai stared blankly at Cheng Guang beside him; he had not expected Cheng Guang's ambition to be so great.

In Cheng Zhihai's opinion, maintaining the status quo, remaining at the pinnacle of power within the Great Zhou Dynasty was enough; he had never contemplated establishing a dynasty and becoming an emperor.

To become the emperor of a dynasty, one needed royal blood and the cultivation of Spirit Dao, using cultivation to suppress all the forces in the world.

With this advantage, one can be deemed as a royal family.

If one didn't possess the advantage of practicing Spirit Dao, even if they could suppress all dissenting voices with their current strong cultivation, the dynasty would soon encounter a generational gap as time went by.

The cultivation speed for the majority of martial artists is normally slower compared to those with royal blood, who can practice Spirit Dao.

You can ensure your own strength, but you cannot guarantee the perpetual strength of your descendants.

This is where the superiority of the royal bloodline becomes evident.

Unless one were to plunder royals from other families, using them to bear children, to acquire a royal bloodline in turn.

But such actions would invite pursuit and assassination from the World Royal Family.

No royal family would allow the leakage of their royal bloodline.

This matter is tied to their very foundation.

There's no chance for compromise or concession.

"Guanger..."

Reaching this point in his thoughts, Cheng Zhihai couldn't help but call out to Cheng Guang.

Cheng Guang looked towards Cheng Zhihai, "What is it?"

Cheng Zhihai hesitated for a moment, but in the end, he did not voice his concerns.

He simply shook his head.

"Let's just take things one step at a time," he said.

After saying this, he stepped on Qi and, together with Cheng Guang, headed towards the Great Zhou Capital.

Cheng Guang returned to Duke Zhen's Mansion with Cheng Zhihai.

These days Duke Zhen's Mansion seemed quieter than usual.

After arriving at Duke Zhen's Mansion, Cheng Guang went straight to Million Specie Garden.

Upon entering Million Specie Garden, Qing Luan immediately came up to greet him. After giving a slight bow to Cheng Guang and addressing him as Princely Heir, she brought over some tea of her own accord.

Cheng Guang sat down near a stone table at the side.

At this time, in Million Specie Garden, Qin Yanqiu and Ning Qianxue were chatting idly.

Mostly, it was Ning Qianxue who did the talking.

Qin Yanqiu would occasionally chip in a sentence or two.

One was talkative, and the other was more reserved; their personalities were completely opposite.

Both women turned their gazes towards Cheng Guang upon hearing his arrival.

Cheng Guang exchanged a smile with them, just as he was about to take a sip of the tea Qing Luan had passed to him. Suddenly, sensing something, he turned his head to look towards a quiet area of Million Specie Garden, and particularly, at Queen of the South Ming, who seemed unusually silent.

The Queen of the South Ming at that moment was also staring at Cheng Guang non-stop.

Yet, for some reason,

Cheng Guang inexplicably felt that this Queen of the South Ming was slightly different from the one he was familiar with.

Under Cheng Guang's scrutiny, Queen of the South Ming suddenly stood up and walked towards him, her face of extraordinary beauty displaying little smile.

Chapter 467 - Heaven and Earth are Heartless, Treating All Beings as Sacrificial Straws! _4

When the Queen of the South Ming walked toward Cheng Guang,

The Black Cub, who had been lying beside her, fattened up considerably over the past few days, quietly opened its eyes and looked at the Queen of the South Ming.

It seemed to find something odd about the Queen.

Within its jet-black pupils, a human-like confusion emerged.

The Queen of the South Ming stopped not too far from Cheng Guang, gracefully took a seat opposite him, and then kept staring at Cheng Guang without pause.

At this time, Cheng Guang was also quite puzzled by the Queen's inexplicable behavior.

But he didn't rush to ask anything.

He picked up a cup of tea, sipped it slowly, and waited for the Queen of the South Ming to speak.

While Cheng Guang could afford to wait, the Queen could not.

After sitting for a short while, she finally spoke,

"She has already sensed my abnormality,"

"And a part of her consciousness has descended upon me, just that she can't control me at this moment."

After the Queen of the South Ming spoke,

Cheng Guang was visibly taken aback.

She had already sensed the Queen's abnormality?

Who was she?

Cheng Guang thought for a moment and quickly realized that the 'she' the Queen referred to was probably her original Demon Emperor self.

The purpose of this avatar of the Demon Emperor, the Queen of the South Ming, was to aid the King of South Ming in overthrowing the Great Zhou Dynasty and to excavate vast benefits for the Demon Emperor.

By now, the Queen's plan had already failed.

Having been silent for so long, the Queen couldn't hide even if she wanted to.

Cheng Guang pondered in his heart, his eyes flickering slightly.

"You mean to say that the original Demon Emperor's consciousness has descended upon you, but she hasn't gained control over you yet?"

After Cheng Guang spoke,

The Queen of the South Ming nodded slightly.

Cheng Guang then asked, "Does that mean she can hear everything I'm saying to you right now?"

The Queen nodded again, her autumn-water eyes revealing a touch of helplessness.

"She's currently trying to control me, to take your life with a single blow."

"That certain... stockings... you put on me... have changed my personality..."

"This influence seems to have affected the original self as well."

"She's furious now."

Cheng Guang listened to the Queen's words, the smile at the corner of his mouth twitching slightly.

The memories of his death were suddenly attacking him again.

Had the Queen not suddenly brought it up, he would have forgotten about those stockings by now.

Now that the original self had suddenly shown up,

Cheng Guang suspected the real reason might not be due to the mission's failure that the Demon Emperor had noticed.

It could be due to the influence of the Queen's stockings on the original self.

That's why she had come knocking.

At this moment, she was still frantically trying to control the Queen of the South Ming, wanting to kill him with a single blow.

It was foreseeable that the original Demon Emperor likely was also frantically on her way to the Four Directions Mortal World.

The Queen of the South Ming smiled meaningfully, gazing at Cheng Guang. Even though her face bore a smile, her complexion was pale. Her delicate, pear-blossom complexion and her slender, willow-like waist were coupled with deep fatigue in her eyes.

"Princely Heir, what do you plan to do now? Do you have a way to remove that bizarre influence of the stockings?"

"The original just communicated with me, asking me to inquire if you have a way. If you can rid her of the stocking's influence, she might not make things difficult for you."

After the Queen spoke,

Cheng Guang looked at the Queen, and retorted with a question.

"Do you believe what she's saying?"

The smile on the Queen of the South Ming's face stiffened slightly, and the joy previously present turned into a bitter smile.

After all, she was an avatar; no one understood the original's thoughts better than she did.

This was probably just an excuse. Even if Cheng Guang were to eliminate the influence the stockings had on the original, it was very likely that she would not just let things go.

The Queen slowly shook her head, "Apart from this, there are no other options left."

"The power of the Demon Emperor exceeds that of the average Sky-Man, beyond what you can fathom."

Cheng Guang, hearing the Queen's words, stood up smiling, walked over to her, lifted her chin with one hand, and gazed into her autumn-water eyes.

"Can you let her take control of your body?"

"Let her come out, and I'll have a chat with her myself."

The Queen of the South Ming showed little aversion to Cheng Guang's actions, maybe because she had grown accustomed to his ways over these past days, or perhaps the influence of the stockings was too profound, leaving her unable to muster much of a resistant emotion instinctively.

A flicker of concern passed through the Queen's autumn-water eyes as she fixed her gaze on Cheng Guang and asked, "Are you confident in dealing with her?"

"Even with just her consciousness arriving, she can unleash the strength of Ninth Grade."

Cheng Guang laughed, "Merely Ninth Grade. Lately, everyone I've come across is of the Sky-Man caliber. I might be afraid if her original self showed up, but right now, her level doesn't intimidate me."

The Queen listened to Cheng Guang's words, utterly disbelieving them in her heart, but since Cheng Guang had spoken, she didn't refute any further and nodded her agreement.

After all, later on, she believed she could still regain control of this body in a short time.

The Queen of the South Ming closed her eyes gently and, after a few moments of silence, suddenly opened them again.

She immediately set her gaze on Cheng Guang.

In her eyes, there was no longer the previous splendor but instead a deep fury.

An indescribable authority emanated from the Queen of the South Ming's body, bearing down straight onto Cheng Guang's head.

Chapter 468 - Heaven and Earth Are Heartless, Treating All Beings as Straw Dogs! _5

"You member of the Human Race! How dare you humiliate me like this!"

The Abyss Demon Emperor was already very angry, but now he watched Cheng Guang hook her chin with one hand, a form of humiliation she had never experienced before, making her feel as if she was exploding from the inside out.

Right then, without caring whether the influence of the Princess's silk stockings could be eliminated or not, she immediately wanted to crush Cheng Guang to death.

And as this aura began to rise from the body of the Abyss Demon Emperor.

Cheng Guang, although he could feel the terrifying aura emanating from the Abyss Demon Emperor, exhibited little fear.

At the same time.

In the surrounding air, several gazes suddenly appeared.

There were looks from Black Cub, Qin Beifeng, Qin Yanqiu, Ning Qianxue, and Qing Luan.

The aura on the Abyss Demon Emperor had just begun to surge when.

Black Cub could no longer sit still, yawned and with a flick of its pitch-black paw, sent a dark essence onto the body of the Abyss Demon Emperor.

The Abyss Demon Emperor's face suddenly changed drastically, her beautiful features paling as she sharply turned her head to look at Black Cub.

"You..."

"You..."

Even when under the scrutiny of Qin Beifeng, a Ninth-order Martial Emperor Realm powerhouse, the Abyss Demon Emperor had not felt much of a threat, but now, with just one glance at Black Cub, she felt like she was sitting on pins and needles.

"What exactly are you..."

Staring at Black Cub, the Abyss Demon Emperor's expression was one of shock, her voice faltering as she uttered incredulously, "What in the world are you?"

"Why do you carry the aura of that fellow from Hell?"

Black Cub looked at the Abyss Demon Emperor, and upon hearing the words that came from her mouth, showed an odd expression on its dog face.

It was truly too embarrassed to admit that it had acknowledged a Human as its master.

The once mighty Hell's Demon Emperor, one of the Ten-Layered Demon Sea, ruler of Hell, was now owned by a Human.

If the word got out, it would lose all its dog-face.

Black Cub quietly shifted its gaze away and did not continue to fix it upon the Abyss Demon Emperor.

At the moment, the Abyss Demon Emperor's presence was merely here.

Her true self had not yet arrived.

If her true self did come, Black Cub might not necessarily have the means to handle her, but right now, that was possible.

Suppressed by Black Cub's essence, the Abyss Demon Emperor felt as if there was a huge mountain weighing down on her, and even if she exerted all her strength, it seemed to make little difference.

Even moving her fingers felt incredibly difficult.

Suddenly, the Abyss Demon Emperor's face turned as pale as paper, unsure of how to respond, and after giving Cheng Guang a resentful look, she said:

"What have you done to my avatar to change her personality!"

"Do you have a way to remove this strange influence?"

The Abyss Demon Emperor asked Cheng Guang for answers at that moment.

Cheng Guang, facing the Abyss Demon Emperor's question, simply didn't take it seriously and examined her closely.

Although she shared a body with the Queen of the South Ming, the demeanour of the Abyss Demon Emperor was quite different from that of the Queen.

Maybe it was because the Queen of the South Ming had stayed in the Four Directions Mortal World for too long.

She inevitably picked up some habits exclusive to the Human Race.

Thus, she appeared gracefully dignified.

The Abyss Demon Emperor, on the other hand, was completely casual.

She had little regard for politeness.

Had it not been for Black Cub's essence suppressing the Abyss Demon Emperor at that moment, she would probably have been clawing at Cheng Guang by now.

After examining the Abyss Demon Emperor for a while, Cheng Guang helplessly spread his hands and said in a slow voice, "There's no way."

Upon hearing this, the Abyss Demon Emperor's voice faltered, and her complexion turned ugly.

She did not know whether Cheng Guang was telling the truth.

If it was true.

Then this personality-affecting consequence, if irreversible, would tarnish her, the mighty Abyss Demon Emperor, with the mannerisms of a succubus—wouldn't that be a joke among the greater Demonic Race!

"I don't care! You'd better find a way to solve it before my true self arrives!!"

"Otherwise, even that guy from Hell coming in person won't be able to save you!!"

After bitterly speaking these words, the Abyss Demon Emperor withdrew her consciousness.

After the Abyss Demon Emperor had withdrawn.

The expression of the Queen of the South Ming returned, and she looked at Cheng Guang with a helpless gaze in her melancholic eyes.

"Princely Heir, what do we do now?"

Cheng Guang wasn't as tense as the Queen of the South Ming, he appeared calm and composed as he let go of her chin and walked over to Black Cub. After rubbing its head for a while, he spoke slowly.

"Black Cub, let her go."

Black Cub complied, withdrawing all the suppressing essence from the Queen of the South Ming.

Once the Queen of the South Ming had regained her freedom of movement, Cheng Guang sat back down at the stone table, poured himself a cup of tea, and looked at her as he asked:

"How much longer before your true self arrives in the Four Directions Mortal World?"

After a moment of hesitation, the Queen of the South Ming replied, "The distance from the Ten-Layered Demon Sea to the Four Directions Mortal World is vast, and a Spacetime Rift must be opened; it will take at least a month."

"But my true self has already set out, and I don't know for how long."

Cheng Guang nodded slightly, took a sip of his tea, and said, "I reckon she'll be here soon. You don't need to worry; I will think of a way to handle that true self."

Upon hearing Cheng Guang's words, the Queen of the South Ming felt a wave of disbelief.

That was the Abyss Demon Emperor they were talking about.

One of the strongest among the top ten in the Ten-Layered Demon Sea.

A mere Sky-Man would be no match for her.

Where did Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, get the confidence to think he could deal with the Abyss Demon Emperor??

Chapter 469 - Heaven and Earth Are Heartless, Treating All Beings as Straw Dogs! _6

The Queen of the South Ming didn't understand.

Cheng Guang didn't plan to explain too much to the Queen of the South Ming. After a brief statement, he finished all the tea in his cup and walked slowly towards the bedroom.

Before entering the bedroom, Cheng Guang gave an instruction to Qing Luan.

"Qing Luan, don't let anyone disturb me."

Qing Luan quickly responded respectfully.

Cheng Guang entered the bedroom, glanced at the system task he had just completed, and planned to claim his reward directly.

"System, claim reward."

As Cheng Guang's voice fell.

In front of Cheng Guang, dazzling golden light began to appear mysteriously.

The strands of golden light, like flowing water, streamed out of the void and gathered before Cheng Guang into the shape of a pill.

Cheng Guang slowly reached out, and the moment his fingertips touched the pill, it instantly solidified.

It fell heavily into his hand.

After gripping the pill, Cheng Guang could feel a warm sensation.

This pill in his hand was not cold, but felt more like a small furnace.

At the same time, as the pill became solid, a rich fragrance of the pill diffused into the surroundings.

Cheng Guang was startled and quickly waved a stream of Qi to isolate the inside from the outside world.

Although it wouldn't block much, at least it wouldn't let the fragrance be so intense.

Looking at the pill in his hand, a message from the system emerged in Cheng Guang's mind.

[Heavenly Dao Pill: A necessary pill on the path to sainthood. By swallowing it, you can obtain the Fruits of Path to Divinity, but you will also become a slave to the Heavenly Dao. Apart from great power, you will have no freedom, and everything must follow the will of the Heavenly Dao.]

Cheng Guang looked at the Heavenly Dao Pill in his hand, and his heart was shocked.

After swallowing the Heavenly Dao Pill, one can actually obtain the Fruits of Path to Divinity?

Previously in that Secret Realm, the Chicken Demon, in its pursuit of sainthood, regarded those bizarre Worms as Dao Fruit.

And now, by merely consuming a pill, he could obtain the Fruits of Path to Divinity.

At least from the surface.

This path seemed to be the righteous one.

And clearly, the path the Chicken Demon took was heresy.

Cheng Guang held the Heavenly Dao Pill in his hand, staring at the word "slave" in the system's prompt information.

By swallowing the Heavenly Dao Pill, there would be advantages, directly obtaining the Fruits of Path to Divinity.

With the Fruits of Path to Divinity.

Perhaps future achievements could go beyond those of the Sky-Man.

To become a saint, to enter the Saint Realm, might even be above the Sky-Man.

Reaching the Saint Realm, perhaps one could truly stand alone at the top of the world.

But.

There were also disadvantages to swallowing the Heavenly Dao Pill.

It could potentially lead to becoming a slave to the Heavenly Dao.

However.

Cheng Guang, who had experienced two Secret Realms, recalled the words of the peculiar scorpion.

The Heavenly Dao is collapsing.

The Heavenly Dao might have already ceased to exist.

Even if he became a slave to the Heavenly Dao, no harm would come to him.

As Cheng Guang thought about it, he gripped the Heavenly Dao Pill in his hand, somewhat tempted to swallow it immediately, but he still had some doubts.

After all, if things went wrong, he could directly become a slave to the Heavenly Dao.

Nature is not kind; it treats all beings as straw dogs.

This was no joke.

Cheng Guang thought for a moment and set the Heavenly Dao Pill down.

Even though the Heavenly Dao Pill, if released to the outside world, would be coveted by countless people who wouldn't even dare to dream of it, the very thing those Chicken Demons in the Secret Realm desperately yearned for.

At that moment, Cheng Guang also dared not consume it.

Cheng Guang then took out some of the items he got from the Secret Realm and began to check them one by one.

After checking for a while.

Cheng Guang reopened the scrolls he had obtained in the Around Immortal Residence.

Those scrolls appeared black and blank on the surface, but upon opening them, one could see the complex scriptures written within.

Simply holding them in hand, without delving into the details, you could hear a Taoist quietly chanting something next to your ear.

Suppressing the discomfort in his heart, Cheng Guang decided to listen.

Relying on the Proving Dao Map in his mind.

Cheng Guang's mental state was not affected much.

And as time passed.

The voice of the old Taoist chanting in Cheng Guang's ear became increasingly sharp, increasingly grating, and increasingly frantic.

"Heaven and Earth are heartless! Heaven and Earth are heartless!"

"All immortals, all Buddhas, it doesn't matter if all of you are dead! But why, why do you block my path to divinity!!"

"This Taoist cannot accept this!! Cannot accept this!!"

Listening to the voice of the old Taoist, it was as if Cheng Guang saw an old temple with a horizontal wooden beam and ancient lanterns, where a ragged-robed old Taoist was pointing to the sky and cursing furiously.

Suddenly the sky lost its color, myriad thunders converged, forming a bolt of lightning that struck down.

After a flash of lightning.

The old Taoist was unscathed, first laughing loudly, then as he laughed, he began to cry.

"Even the thunderbolts are so weak!"

"Is this world still our world or not!?"

For a while.

Only the mournful laughter of the old Taoist remained in Cheng Guang's ears.

Having listened for a bit, Cheng Guang once again felt that intense emotion of sadness from within the Secret Realm.

This old Taoist...

was mysteriously within the Secret Realm of Five Daos Mountain.

This old Taoist, who cursed the heavens and earth for their heartlessness...

Could he still be alive????

Cheng Guang thought of this, only to feel a chill spreading from the soles of his feet to his heart.

After taking a deep breath.

He managed to calm his emotions.

He slowly set down the scroll.

Cheng Guang looked out the window at the world, "The heavens and earth are heartless," treating all creatures as straw dogs.

Now that the Heavenly Dao is collapsing, how could it still possess the capacity to treat all creatures as straw dogs?

If even the old Taoist can curse the heavens and earth, why can't he?

A thought emerged in Cheng Guang's mind to take the Heavenly Dao Pill.

Just for the Fruits of Path to Divinity.

It was worth a gamble for him.

But, before that, he still needed to figure out a way to deal with the dangers of the Heavenly Dao Pill.

Following the collapse of the Heavenly Dao, the Chicken Demon sought the Saint Dao Fruit. It seemed to rely on the Heavenly Dao, yet had to rid itself of it.

It certainly needed some preparation.

Perhaps the things placed on its offering table were of use.

Thinking of this, Cheng Guang took out several pills and a bowl of water he had obtained from the Chicken Demon's offering table.

After studying them carefully.

Cheng Guang was perplexed.

He didn't quite understand the purpose of these pills and the water.

While Cheng Guang was feeling bewildered, the system seemed to have detected the two items in his hands, and two pieces of information flooded into his mind.

[Curse-Removing Pill: Nullifies any cost, exempts certain curses, needs to be taken in conjunction with Rootless Water.]

[Rootless Water: Nullifies any cost, exempts certain curses, needs to be taken in conjunction with a Curse-Removing Pill.]

Cheng Guang started to look at the two pieces of information that had appeared in his mind.

After reading them.

His eyes suddenly lit up.

Weren't these prepared for him to take the Heavenly Dao Pill?

With this thought, Cheng Guang no longer hesitated, swallowing the Curse-Removing Pills together with the Rootless Water in one gulp.

Instantly, he could feel a warm current arise within his body.

He then immediately took out the Heavenly Dao Pill and tossed it into his mouth.

The moment Cheng Guang swallowed the Heavenly Dao Pill.

Outside his bedroom.

The world changed dramatically!

The winds and clouds lost their color!

At the moment Cheng Guang swallowed the Heavenly Dao Pill.

The entire world seemed to fall into silence.

Cheng Guang's body bathed in a faint golden light, like an Immortal descending to the world.

The power of the Heavenly Dao Pill flowed like spring water, filling his entire body, radiating splendid golden brilliance.

Above Cheng Guang's bedroom.

Suddenly.

A crack appeared in the sky, and from it came a distant tolling of a bell.

The bell sound pierced through the clouds, echoing between heaven and earth, imparting a solemn yet mysterious feeling.

After the bell, clusters of colorful clouds began to gather in the sky, displaying red, yellow, blue, green, and other colors, like a brilliant tapestry.

Then, the clouds at the firmament began to stir, vaguely revealing the silhouettes of a group of Immortal Buddhas.

They had handsome faces and were dressed in colorful robes, with different hues of light radiating from behind them.

It seemed they were celebrating Cheng Guang's achievement.

Such a scene was indescribably moving and awe-inspiring.

Immortal music floated gently, Buddha's light shone universally.

At this moment.

Cheng Guang was oblivious to what was happening outside.

Meanwhile, within Million Specie Garden.

It had long been silent and lifeless.

Whether it was Qin Yanqiu, Ning Qianxue, Qing Luan, or others.

All of them were staring at Cheng Guang's bedroom in shock.

Feeling the vast power, as if it were the heavens and earth itself, compelling them to kneel and look up.

At that moment, their minds were tremendously shaken.

For a while.

They couldn't utter a single word.

At the same time.

This aura also drew the attention of countless people between heaven and earth!

Gazes streaked across layers of space, converging towards Duke Zhen's Mansion in Great Zhou!

"This!! What is this!!"

"A Sky-Man!? No, no, no, not like a Sky-Man!"

"It feels more like something above a Sky-Man!"

"Could it be that someone within Duke Zhen's Mansion has stepped into a realm above Sky-Man!?"

After a deathly silence, came a series of explosive exclamations!!!!!!

Chapter 470 - Tianzhu – Fruits of Path to Divinity!

Countless gazes were fixed on the location of Duke Zhen's Mansion at this moment.

Sounds of astonishment that seemed to pierce the sky were unceasing.

Many powerful beings were shocked by the aura emanating from Cheng Guang's bedroom within Duke Zhen's Mansion.

Eyes widened, breathing nearly halted.

Under the watchful eyes of many.

Above Duke Zhen's Mansion, waves of vast aura, like ripples on water, spread out in all directions.

A natural phenomenon, where both the Immortal Buddha and Sky-Men arrived simultaneously.

Inside Duke Zhen's Mansion.

Cheng Zhihai walked out of the courtyard, his face full of shock as he looked towards Cheng Guang's location.

He had not expected that at this time, just after his return to Duke Zhen's Mansion, before he could calm his emotions from escaping the Secret Realm, Cheng Guang would cause such a commotion.

"What kind of aura is this?"

"It seems like that of a Sky-Man, yet not quite, as if it's beyond a Sky-Man?"

Cheng Zhihai's gaze stayed on the direction of Cheng Guang's bedroom as he muttered to himself.

At his side, Wu Yuemei also stepped out from the courtyard, slightly lifting her gaze to the extraordinary scene above Cheng Guang's bedroom, her red lips parting in surprise, her gentle face showing a touch of peculiar color.

"What has caused Guanger to make such a big commotion?"

"Has his cultivation broken through?"

Cheng Zhihai shook his head with a bitter smile, "I don't know either."

As he spoke, Cheng Zhihai's tone paused slightly, then with a hint of weirdness he said, "A breakthrough in cultivation wouldn't cause such a big commotion."

"Perhaps it's the disturbance caused by some Different Treasure."

"Different Treasure?"

Wu Yuemei, puzzled, frowned lightly.

Seeing Wu Yuemei looking so, Cheng Zhihai wasn't surprised and silently smiled, "I also don't know if it is."

"However, the commotion Guanger has caused, I fear not even some Sky-Men could manage."

"The Capital city, and indeed the entire Great Zhou, the whole world, I wonder how many people felt this aura and turned their eyes toward our Duke Zhen's Mansion."

"The following period of time, I estimate the Capital city won't be peaceful."

Cheng Zhihai's words entered Wu Yuemei's ears but did not cause much change in her expression.

She just nodded slightly and then said, "The Capital city is, after all, the Capital city of Great Zhou—it won't run into any trouble."

"For the next while, let Guanger stay within the mansion, he should not go anywhere."

"Causing such a huge commotion without reason, who knows how many interested parties will cast their gaze upon him."

Cheng Zhihai's face bore a strange color.

Wu Yuemei didn't know at this time, that Emperor Zhou and a group of Sky-Men were trapped in the Secret Realm, unable to escape, and might have completely perished within the Secret Realm.

With the Emperor not in the Capital city.

The current Great Zhou Capital might not be considered safe.

Without a Sky-Man to quell unrest, relying solely on this Bureau of the Lamp to suppress the chaos stirred by powerful beings from all over the world wasn't going to be an easy task.

Cheng Zhihai sighed and didn't plan to discuss this matter with Wu Yuemei just yet.

Although Wu Yuemei had had some unhappy dealings with Emperor Zhou over Cheng Guang's affairs, after all, the two were siblings and quite close.

If Emperor Zhou was indeed dead, it would be difficult for Wu Yuemei to avoid feeling heartbroken.

With so many sudden events occurring one after another, even Cheng Zhihai himself was finding it tough to handle, let alone Wu Yuemei.

Mulling over these thoughts, Cheng Zhihai rubbed his forehead with a troubled expression, wondering if there were any medicinal pills that could heal Wu Yuemei's injuries.

If Wu Yuemei's body could be healed,

she would then be able to cultivate in the future, and her body wouldn't be so fatigued by emotional fluctuations anymore.

.....

Elsewhere.

Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

Crown Prince East Palace.

Wu Ling sat in a secret chamber, dressed in a wispy, smoky white skirt, golden light shimmering at her brow, inhaling and exhaling slowly, mist swirling around her.

The surrounding mist enshrouded her, making her seem like a fairy in the clouds, unlike a mortal.

If one looked closely at these mists, they would realize they were not actually mists but rather extremely dense Qi.

While visualizing the Proving Dao Map, Wu Ling breathed in the Qi, strengthening her Primordial Spirit.

Suddenly,

Wu Ling felt a sensation and ceased cultivating, rising to her feet and walking towards the door of the chamber.

She pushed open the door of the secret chamber.

The palace maid outside hurriedly bowed and greeted her:

"Your Highness."

Wu Ling did not acknowledge the palace maid by her side but stared blankly toward the palace gates, in the direction of Duke Zhen's Mansion.

Her exquisitely beautiful eyes seemed slightly reddened as if she had just cried.

"This, is this the Princely Heir's aura??"

Wu Ling murmured to herself, seemingly in disbelief.

The Emperor had said that Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, was dead.

Words spoken by Emperor Zhou Wu Shang were unquestionable.

Now the phenomenon above Duke Zhen's Mansion, revealing the aura of Cheng Guang, didn't seem like a deception either.

In a moment, Wu Ling became confused, turning to the palace maid by her side and asked, "Did the Town-Nation Duke's Heir return to the mansion today?"

The palace maid quickly explained, "Yes, Your Highness. The Town-Nation Duke's Heir came back a few days ago, saying he had not been assassinated. It was just a misunderstanding."

"A misunderstanding..." Wu Ling murmured.

The palace maid beside Wu Ling seemed to recall something and said, "It's just that after the Town-Nation Duke's Heir returned to the mansion, a Secret Realm appeared near the Capital, so he did not stay for long or have his grand wedding. Instead, he left the Capital city right away and entered the Secret Realm."

"That's why Your Highness was unaware of the Princely Heir's news."

"Thinking about it now, the Princely Heir might have just come out of the Secret Realm."

