

Prodigies 2591

Chapter 2591 Leng Qingxue

That's good to hear?

Nie Qingrong was stunned, and a complicated look crossed her eyes.

Lin Xun knew at a glance that she had misunderstood. He laughed, "Truth be told, I and the Zhu Clan have a grudge. If you want to take over Liangyi Academy, then I wouldn't mind giving you a hand."

So that's why... Nie Qingrong finally understood. Once she processed this information, she was jolted. A grudge against the Zhu Clan?!

The Zhu Clan was a behemoth in the Sixth Heaven Domain. A normal cultivator in the First Heaven Domain wouldn't even be qualified to earn their enmity.

What surprised Nie Qingrong even more was Lin Xun's offer to help her take the position of principal. This was something she could never imagine.

Only after a long time did she whisper, "Dao Brother, if you don't mind me asking... Who are you really?"

The look in Lin Xun's eyes became subtle. "You should have a guess already, no?"

Nie Qingrong seemed to be lightning struck. Abruptly raising her eyes, she stared at him and stammered, "Dao Brother... You shouldn't...shouldn't be..."

Lin Xun nodded, "My surname is Lin."

Hiss!

Nie Qingrong gasped, causing her chest to puff to the point they looked like they were going to break through the thin fabric.

She took a long while to calm down a little. As if making an oath, she solemnly promised, "I will definitely not divulge half a word about this!"

Lin Xun revealed an enigmatic smile, "Telling you this myself means I'm not afraid of you divulging it. Do consider my offer though, and you don't have to be in a hurry to give me a reply."

"Mhm." Nie Qingrong suddenly felt an indescribable panic.

Lin Xun's proposal was like an irresistible temptation that teased her mind that had been enduring for nearly a thousand years.

If I become principal, not only will I get to have more cultivation resources, but I will also be valued more by the He Clan. When that happens, I may just be able to compete for a position in Jiuxuan Academy in the Second Heaven Domain...

Nie Qingrong had certified her Emperor Ancestor dao for a long time now. Considering the cultivation resources she had at her disposal, she would never be able to find a chance to certify immortality in a million years if she remained in her current position.

The reason was that the threshold of the immortal path was too high, so high that it was difficult for even an Emperor Ancestor like her to touch.

However, if she could change her situation and become the principal of Liangyi Academy... Then with only a few thousand years of hard work, she would likely be rewarded by the He Clan and get sent to the Second Heaven Domain!

Even better, if she performed well enough to be taken seriously by the He Clan, then she might just be able to go straight to the Sixth Heaven Domain! At that time, there would be hopes for her in seeking the immortal path!

Yes, hope! To Emperor Ancestors in the First Heaven Domain, a glimmer of hope was already enough to make them fight tooth and nail for. Nie Qingrong was naturally no exception.

However, she knew equally well that should she accept his help, she would also have to bear an unforeseen risk.

Simply because he was Lin Xun, the heaven-defying menace who was notorious throughout the Eternal True Realm!

Being able to be regarded as an enemy by various powerful organizations in the Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Heaven Domains, the man called Lin Xun from the Ancient Nebula Road, in the opinion of the whole world, was the Eternal True Realm's Most Wanted Criminal!

How could there be no risk in getting involved with such a person?

Nie Qingrong's expression kept changing as her mind was in complete disarray. She was tempted by Lin Xun's proposal, but she also feared the unknown risks she would have to face.

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Half a month after departing from Qingliu City, their group arrived at Liangyi Academy.

The mountain range stood straight under beautiful rolls of auspicious clouds. The sky was packed with dancing rays of light, which dropped beautiful colors as the sunlight shone through them.

Rows and rows of ancient buildings were like stars as they dotted the verdant mountains. From a distance, it looked like an otherworldly fairyland.

This was where Liangyi Academy, the number one power of Donglai Region, was located: Shentu Mountain Range. It was also a famed top-tier blessed land!

With just a look from the distance, Lin Xun assessed that this area was extremely suitable for cultivation. Had he come here three years ago, his injuries would have healed long ago. It was worth noting an ordinary blessed land could no longer satisfy his needs at all because his current cultivation level was too high.

According to the Everything Codex, unless necessary, no immortal expert would be willing to stay in the First Heaven Domain for a long period of time. The reason was that heavenly law and the blessed lands of this domain simply could not support the cultivation needs of an immortal figure.

Take Shentu Mountain Range for example, while it might still be able to satisfy a supreme Emperor Ancestor like Lin Xun, if an immortal expert were to cultivate here, the chaos qi generated in the entire mountain range would be exhausted in less than five years!

When Lin Xun was in Yunying Village, his daily cultivation was almost entirely powered by cosmic origin crystals, with tens of thousands of them consumed at every little turn.

Compared to the places where he had been, the richness of the aeth qi in Yunying Village was on par with that of the Great Primordial Chaos World in the Ancient Nebula Road, while Shentu Mountain Range was superior to the bases of the Great Six Courts!

“Dao Brother, little sister Xiao Xi, please come with me.” Nie Qingrong led the group into Shentu Mountain Range.

The path wound through verdant grass, waterfalls and springs, old trees, and clusters of divine herbs. Rare birds and auspicious beasts walked leisurely among the scenery. From time to time, chants of sutra sounded from the ancient buildings, adding a tranquil vibe to the atmosphere.

Shentu Mountain Range was massive with peaks rising straight up into the sky like halberds, and each peak showed unique characteristics.

According to Nie Qingrong, Liangyi Academy had thirty-six mountains and one hundred and eight buildings. The space around each mountain was covered by pocket worlds and secret realms, which were specialized dwellings for Emperor experts when they needed closed-door training.

The disciples of Liangyi Academy were divided into four types: outer, inner, true, and core disciples. The number of outer disciples was the biggest whereas that of core disciples was the smallest. In total, the number of disciples in all four categories added up to ten thousand.

The academy had one principal, four vice principals, thirty-six peak masters, and over a hundred elders and stewards. In terms of scale, it was bigger than any of the Great Six Courts in the Great Primordial Chaos World!

Along the way, Lin Xun couldn't help but lament to himself. This is only one of the major forces in the First Heaven Domain. How grand will it be in the Sixth Heaven Domain? And what about the Seventh and Eight Heaven Domains? I bet they are on a whole another level again.

Such was the Eternal True Realm. There was no surprise that it was the supreme holy land in the eyes of countless cultivators all over the Great Thousand Worlds.

Lin Xun's group passed by many disciples of Liangyi Academy. Upon seeing Nie Qingrong, they all bowed respectfully like she was a god.

Dianchang Peak was shaped like a dragon coiling up to the sky with its top shrouded in steaming clouds. Along the mountain were ancient buildings lined up in a fan shape. This was where Nie Qingrong resided.

"Master, you're finally back. Vice Principal Leng Qingxue has been waiting for you for days," a cute servant child came out and joyfully greeted the trio as soon as they arrived at the foot, curiously checking Lin Xun and Xiao Xi as he spoke.

Nie Qingrong looked surprised, then a little hesitant.

"If you have something to attend to, just let this child be our host for the time being," said Lin Xun.

"I'm really sorry, Dao Brother. Please excuse me," apologized Nie Qingrong before she instructed the child, "Qingyun, treat the two honored guests according to our highest standard. If you show any negligence or if anything goes wrong, you will be answering to me."

The boy called Qingyun hurriedly nodded, then brought Lin Xun and Xiao Xi to a building halfway up the mountain.

Nie Qingrong, on the other hand, went straight to the mountain top. In the sea of clouds at the peak, the beautiful silhouette under an old tree rose to her feet when she saw Nie Qingrong and greeted the latter, "Senior Sister, you've finally returned."

It was a woman in snow-white clothes who had an ice-cold, desolate temperament. Her appearance was that of an outstandingly beautiful girl in her teens. Her long, black hair was tied up with a golden silk band, her brows were like ink, her lips were healthy pink, and her eyes shone like the brightest stars.

She resembled a goddess from beyond this world. A quiet, cold, and ethereal air permeated her entirety. This was Leng Qingxue, of the four vice principals of Liangyi Academy. Despite her youthful look, she was actually an Emperor Ancestor of astonishing depths and talent!

"Qingxue, I heard you've been waiting here. Did something happen while I was away?" asked Nie Qingrong.

Leng Qingxue's eyes flashed with worry, "That's right. Seven days ago, the principal personally took action and imprisoned Vice Principal Nian Yunjing for no reason. I only found out later that the principal had received a letter from Binglin Academy on the same day, and it made me suspect that this matter is related to them. The most worrisome thing is that Nian Yunjing's state...has been unknown."

Nie Qingrong's expression became grave, "What about Yong Feidu, what was his reaction?"

Yong Feidu was the other vice principal.

"Him?" Leng Qingxue's eyes flashed with disgust. "Now that that ungrateful, subservient, petty man has the backing of the principal, how could he possibly care whether Nian Yunjing is alive or dead?"

Nie Qingrong's face clouded over, "He is still Master Nian Yunjing's final core disciple. How could he not be worried at all?"

Leng Qingxue said, "Sister, what do you think we should do? Since the principal has acted against Master Nian Yunjing, he definitely won't let us off the hook either. Moreover, quite a few people in this academy are coveting our positions. Once the principal reveals his intention to deal with us, they'll definitely crawl out of the woodwork to add insult to injury."

Nie Qingrong's brows were creased as Lin Xun's offer kept popping up in her head: "If you want to take over Liangyi Academy, then I wouldn't mind giving you a hand."

Her dao heart instantly became restless again. What happened to Nian Yunjing made her realize that if she didn't make an immediate decision, then she herself would be the next to suffer!

Chapter 2592 Request for a Meeting from the Principal

Only after a long time did Nie Qingrong look at Leng Qingxue, "Qingxue, guess what happened to me on my way back?"

The latter was stunned.

The next moment, Nie Qingrong recounted how Yuan Wanzhong's group had intercepted her ship.

Leng Qingxue's face dropped, "Binglin Academy again!"

Nie Qingrong said, "My return route is only known to the top officials of Liangyi Academy, which makes such an interception very abnormal and suspicious."

Leng Qingxue's eyes gleamed coldly, "Do you mean our principal leaked the details of your trip to Binglin Academy?"

Meanwhile, Nie Qingrong had calmed down. She said, "It's hard to say for now, but if Master Nian Yunjing's persecution is really related to the letter from Binglin Academy, then I have a reason to suspect that our principal had a hand in divulging my whereabouts."

"What exactly is he...trying to do?" Leng Qingxue's picturesque face flickered dimly. After a long silence, she continued, "Senior Sister, our academy still has the support of the He and the Hong Clans. Shouldn't we contact them after such a serious matter has occurred?"

"Distant water cannot quench a fire nearby," sighed Nie Qingrong. "Their patrol envoys only descend here once every three years. Even if we contact them, it's impossible for their envoys to arrive in time to help us. "

Leng Qingxue suggested, "Why don't we leave Liangyi Academy and hunker down first, then report the matter to the patrol envoys when they come?"

Nie Qingrong shook her head, "No. Master Nian Yunjing's state is still uncertain, how can we ignore it?"

"Then what do you think we should do?" Leng Qingxue was at her wits' end.

Nie Qingrong's heart was flushed with pity.

Leng Qingxue was a special existence in Liangyi Academy. She had excellent aptitude for cultivation as well as a calm and firm mind, which had made her into a powerful Emperor Ancestor. However, she had always been so obsessed with cultivation her whole life that she had very little experience about worldly matters.

In Nie Qingrong's view, Leng Qingxue was like a spotless mirror. Letting her deal with the sinister things was obviously making it difficult for her.

"Master, proper arrangements are in place for the two honored guests," Qingyun arrived and reported in a clear voice.

Nie Qingrong nodded, "Good. You can go."

Only after Qingyun left did Leng Qingxue ask curiously, "You even brought friends back with you this time?"

Nie Qingrong was silent for a moment before she said, "Qingxue, didn't you ask me what we should do? I've decided to make You Qianheng pay for his evil deeds!"

A look of determination flared in her beautiful eyes. You Qianheng was the current principal of Liangyi Academy!

“Just tell me what to do, Senior Sister.” Leng Qingxue’s eyes lit up, devoid of fear and worry.

“We’ll first need to ask for help. One of my two honored guests is a powerful dao brother. If he lends us his hand, then even killing You Qianheng will be as easy as pie.” Nie Qingrong’s heart burned and shuddered when she recalled the scene of Lin Xun executing Yuan Wanzhong’s group.

“Now I want to meet that honorable guest of yours and see if he’s as strong as you say.” Curiosity was written all over Leng Qingxue’s eyes.

“Don’t,” Nie Qingrong hurriedly stopped her. “He’s unimaginably terrifying, Qingxue. It’s better that I take care of this matter.”

Given Leng Qingxue’s character, Nie Qingrong worried that she might accidentally anger Lin Xun. However, the more she acted like this, the more curious Leng Qingxue became. She said, “How about I just take a look from afar?”

Nie Qingrong hesitated for a moment, but she ultimately acceded, “Remember, only watch from afar. Don’t try to do anything to test him.”

Leng Qingxue agreed straightforwardly.

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In a courtyard halfway up the mountain, a stream flowed under a bridge, old trees were rooted in the soil, and exotic flowers competed in a display of beauty. A sedge of snow-white cranes danced on the glimmering turquoise lake, emitting loud and crisp cries as they did.

Lin Xun was sitting leisurely on a green boulder by the lake, one hand resting on his wine gourd while the other holding a fishing rod made of green bamboo. Refreshing wind blew by, bringing a pleasant mix of lake water mist and rich aeth qi.

Meanwhile, Xiao Xi was wandering aimlessly. Everything was new to her since it was her first time in Liangyi Academy. Inside, she was scared but at the same time she was also full of anticipation.

Splash~

The lake surface was disturbed as an agile big blue fish took the bait. As Lin Xun raised the bamboo rod, the fish kept struggling in the air.

“Tsk, since you’re very close to developing sentience, I’ll spare you.” With a flick of Lin Xun’s wrist, the fish regained its freedom and leapt back into the lake.

“It seems you’re enjoying your time here, Dao Brother.” Nie Qingrong’s stunning figure appeared in the distance, an intoxicating smile blooming on her plump lips.

Lin Xun didn’t get up. He casually said, “Balance is important on the path of cultivation. It’s a good idea to relax once in a while.”

“A pot of wine and a fishing rod. How many people in the world can be like you?” Her voice was soft and her smile sweet as she stopped at his side. Since she was tall with straight, long, and slender legs, her proud figure was outlined to perfection when the breeze dragged the hem of her dress behind her.

Lin Xun chortled. Taking a sip from the gourd, he said, “You’ve made up your mind, I presume?”

Nie Qingrong nodded and related to him what had happened to Nian Yunjing. Finally, she said, “Dao Brother, I’m really desperate, so I can only throw my face away and come to seek your help.”

“Mhm.” Lin Xun’s eyes were crystal clear as he gazed at the spot where the fishing rod was dangling. “Don’t put too much pressure on yourself. When it comes down to it, you can push all the blame to me

to make sure that Liangyi Academy won't be affected in any way. Even if the Zhu Clan deploys people to settle the score, they won't go after you."

Inexplicable warmth flooded Nie Qingrong's heart. "I'm already grateful that you agree to help, how could I possibly let you shoulder all the consequences?"

Lin Xun laughed, "I'm doing this so that Xiao Xi can cultivate in Liangyi Academy without any worry, so just do as I say. My only request is that you don't disclose my identity. I'd like to see if the Zhu Clan will send their experts to retaliate after You Qianheng is captured..."

The realization hit Nie Qingrong. "Are you trying to confront the Zhu Clan?"

Lin Xun thought about it and answered, "Sort of."

He had nothing else to do anyway. Also, while he couldn't just head straight to the Sixth Heaven Domain for the time being, it wouldn't be a problem to lure some of his enemies to the First Heaven Domain.

At least, he was able to attack and retreat as he pleased in the First Heaven Domain. Even if an immortal expert targeted him, he could just pat the dust off his butt and slip away.

"Who is she?" asked Lin Xun all of a sudden. He had long noticed the white-clad figure standing in the extreme distance whose transcendent beauty seemed to come out of a painting.

Nie Qingrong froze in confusion for a second before she realized who he meant. She whispered, "Leng Qingxue, who is a vice principal like me. She followed me here because she's curious about you."

Speechless, Lin Xun shook his head and continued to focus on fishing. Seeing this, Nie Qingrong wisely excused herself. On the way out, she also took Leng Qingxue with her.

"Senior Sister, is he the terrifying expert you mentioned?" Leng Qingxue commented, "But I couldn't see anything special about him."

“People call this ‘well concealed.’ How is he an unfathomable expert if you could see right through him at a single glance?” Nie Qingrong snickered.

Leng Qingxue pondered, "Fair enough, but do you really think he can really defeat You Qianheng? After all, our academy is protected by a law power. Although it's only a third grade Earth Rank law, the principal has sole control over it. Defeating him is almost impossible within this territory."

Nie Qingrong said, “Oh, you. You are too focused on cultivating so there’s no room in your brain for anything else. When we make a move against You Qianheng, it won’t be in Liangyi Academy because as you said, he has an absolute geographical advantage thanks to the law power here. We must think of a way to lure him out. Without the help of the law power, he definitely won’t be a match for that dao brother.”

Leng Qingxue latched on Nie Qingrong’s arm, rested her head on the latter’s fragrant shoulder, and smiled, “Whatever. With you here, I don't have to wrap my mind around that stuff.”

In a great mood, Nie Qingrong suddenly wrapped one arm around Leng Qingxue's slender waist and grabbed her chest with the other hand.

A startled Leng Qingxue quickly jerked away. Her pretty, aloof face flushed red like the sunset as she stuttered, “Senior Sister, what...what are you doing?”

Nie Qingrong laughed so hard that her phoenix eyes became two lines. “I was wondering why your body is so flat. Turns out that you are binding your chest.”

She then drew a round curve in the air with her long, slender finger, biting her rosy lips as she giggled, “To think that they are so much bigger than I expected, almost catching up with mine. Oh my junior sister, you are really the ‘well concealed’ one here.”

The teasing words set Leng Qingxue's cheeks ablaze. As if under a great shock, she stood there not knowing what to do with her hands and feet.

Nie Qingrong roared with laughter. Leng Qingxue had always looked like a goddess from high above, sober and indifferent. This kind of embarrassed and innocent look was rarely seen on her. Of course, it was a very interesting spectacle.

Unbeknownst to them, Lin Xun's outstanding spirit sense was able to soundlessly capture this scene despite the great distance between them. His fingers on the fishing rod slightly stiffened, and a corner of his lips twitched slightly.

This Nie Qingrong...has quite a wicked little quirk for a hallowed Emperor Ancestor, alright.

At the same time, he was surprised as well. Looking at Leng Qingxue's slim body, it couldn't really be as well concealed as Nie Qingrong said?

Lin Xun quickly shook off this thought with a chuckle.

Right at this moment, an elegant, handsome figure swept in from the distant void. He stopped and floated before Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue and said smilingly, "Greetings. The principal has requested an audience with both of you!"

Chapter 2593 Cyan Law Power

The principal has requested our audience?

Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue exchanged a glance. Having a bad premonition, they inwardly put their guard up.

"Yong Feidu, what happened to Nian Yunjing? Is he still alive?" Nie Qingrong's eyes were ice-cold.

The elegant-looking man was none other than Yong Feidu, one of the vice principals of Liangyi Academy. Hearing her question, he laughed, "Why don't you ask the principal about this when you see him?"

His eyes unobtrusively scanned Nie Qingrong's charming and imposing figure, and a heat wave rose in him.

Logically speaking, he could sever his desire at his current level, but when facing Nie Qingrong, he was hardly able to control his desire to possess her. An existence like him had long been accustomed to the sight of heavenly beauties. Only those in the same cultivation stage as him could catch his eyes.

Putting aside all the other aspects, Nie Qingrong being an Emperor Ancestor alone already gave him a strong desire to conquer. The fact that she was an absolute nymph on top of this only strengthened his lustful thoughts.

He wouldn't dare to have this kind of delusion in the past, but now...the situation had changed!

Yong Feidu's gaze was imperceptible, but the sensitive Nie Qingrong captured it. Indescribable disgust welled up in her as she said, "Nian Yunjing is your master, but you don't seem to care about his well-being at all. Are you not afraid of retribution?"

Yong Feidu smiled it off, "I couldn't care less about retribution whatsoever. Shouldn't you two be moving already? The principal is still waiting in Liangyi Hall."

Leng Qingxue wanted to say something, "Senior Sister..."

Nie Qingrong cut her off, "Since the principal has invited us, let's go see him and ask about Master Nian Yunjing while we're at it."

Leng Qingxue said, "Okay."

Yong Feidu smilingly made a 'go ahead' gesture, "Both of you, please."

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In Liangyi Hall, You Qianheng was in the main seat at the center, assessing an old and worn map. His stature was majestic. His long hair hung down loosely around his youthful, handsome face. Even though he was sitting casually, he gave off the intimidating might of a coiling dragon.

"Principal, the two vice principals are here." Yong Feidu's voice rang outside the big hall.

Following that, he walked into the hall along with Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue.

You Qianheng put away the secret map and looked up with utter indifference in his eyes, "I invited the two of you here for only one matter."

Nie Qingrong coldly and calmly said, "Before we talk about it, may I ask if Master Nian Yunjing is still alive?"

You Qianheng frowned and said unhappily, "What's the point of mentioning that fossil? But since you asked, I might as well tell you that he's dead."

"Dead?!" Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue were shocked. Their faces dropped slightly as the bad news caught them off guard, and they were unable to accept it in a short time.

"I received news that he secretly colluded with the people of Binglin Academy in an unfavorable plan against me. What's the use of keeping such an evil old thief around?" said You Qianheng ruthlessly.

"How can you...be like this?" Leng Qingxue was furious, her eyes filled with frost.

You Qianheng snorted, "As the principal, it is my duty to purge Liangyi Academy of its traitors. It's not up to you, a vice principal, to question my decision!"

Nie Qingrong stabilized her mind and signaled Leng Qingxue not to act rashly, then said, "Then for what matter have you summoned us here?"

You Qianheng knocked his finger on the arm of his chair and looked at Yong Feidu who had been standing at one side, "You tell them."

“Yes!” Yong Feidu immediately stepped out and faced Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue with a smile, “The principal has decided to appoint new vice principals in your places, meaning that the two of you will no longer hold this position moving forward.”

Nie Qingrong’s and Leng Qingxue’s hearts sank.

Yong Feidu continued, “However, on account of our long relationship, the principal would like to give you two a chance. As long as you join our camp, Liangyi Academy will always have a place for you.”

Nie Qingrong smiled out of utter anger, “What if we don’t agree?”

Yong Feidu no longer hid his scorching possessiveness as he stared recklessly at Nie Qingrong’s body, “Then...that old thief Yunjing is your forewarning. But of course, I will plead with the principal to spare your life. After all, it must not have been easy for such a delicate beauty like you to become an Ancestor. It’d be heartbreaking to let you die. ”

“You seek death!” A bone-chilling coldness permeated Leng Qingxue’s eyes, and killing intent spread on her face.

Nie Qingrong said, “Have you not considered what’ll happen to you once the He Clan and the Hong Clan know about this?”

Behind Liangyi Academy stood the three Immortal Imperial Clans of Zhu, Hong, and He in a balance. They kept each other in check and generally avoided open conflicts with one another.

However, Yong Feidu sneered, “I forgot to tell you, the Zhu Clan has recently obtained a Heaven Rank law from a taboo secret realm. It won’t be long before they migrate from the Sixth Heaven Domain to the Seventh Heaven Domain and take root there... Do you think that under such a circumstance, the Hong and the He Clans will turn their back on the Zhu Clan because of your deaths?”

Nie Qingrong’s face changed completely as she finally understood why You Qianheng and Yong Feidu dared to be so brazen. It turned out that the Zhu Clan had climbed to another level!

“Sister, I would rather die than yield,” Leng Qingxue stressed every word.

“You really don't know what's good for you!” Yong Feidu huffed. “You could only ignore everything to focus on cultivation because that old thief Nian Yunjing sheltered you all these years, but he’s dead now. I guarantee that you can't die even if you want. Your only option is to submit!”

“Who the hell do you think you are? If Qingxue and I are determined to fight to the death, believe it or not, even You Qianheng won’t be able to save you.” Nie Qingrong's gaze was vicious.

Yong Feidu's face finally faltered, “Are you really considering that?”

Nie Qingrong paid no more attention to him and turned to You Qianheng, “So, if the two of us don't agree to your demand, we won't be able to leave this place today?”

You Qianheng sighed, “Why must you two act like this? I really don't want you to follow in the footsteps of Nian Yunjing.”

Nie Qingrong laughed icily, “Final question, was it you who leaked my whereabouts to Binglin Academy?”

You Qianheng's pupils froze quickly before he put on an expressionless face. “Ridiculous. As the principal of Liangyi Academy, how could I possibly do such a thing?”

Saying that, he fiercely stood up, his eyes surging with a mighty light as they swept Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue, “I'll only ask one thing, have you made up your minds?”

Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue exchanged a quick glance.

Swish! Swish!

Almost immediately, they vanished into thin air, teleporting toward the outside.

“Think you can still escape after you’ve entered this hall...?” You Qianheng's lips curled into a smirk.

Boom!

Near the grand entrance, a light screen of law power abruptly emerged, tightly blocking the door like a heavenly moat. Hitting it, the figures of Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue appeared as they staggered back. Their hearts instantly lurched to the bottom.

Originally, they had been prepared and vigilant, intending to find an opportunity to lure You Qianheng out of the academy and borrow Lin Xun's power to take care of him. Who would have thought that You Qianheng's killing intent would hit so quickly!

If they had known that they would face such a situation, they would never have agreed to come here, but it was clearly too late to regret it now.

“Hahaha, Nie Qingrong, Leng Qingxue, you’d better be obedient and surrender. In this place, the principal is the sky who can decide everyone’s fate. Struggle is useless!” Yong Feidu let out a loud laugh, his eyes filled with lust. He wanted to capture Nie Qingrong and subjugate her under him.

“Let’s kill this shameless vile thing first!” Nie Qingrong raised her hand, sending a snow-white flying dagger to chop at Yong Feidu.

“Go!” Leng Qingxue's lightly uttered, and with a clang, a gorgeous shuttle that seethed with a shocking killing intent shot out like a dazzling lightning bolt.

Yong Feidu laughed impudently as he dodged their attacks from a distance.

Boom!

A terrifying cyan law power surged out and formed a big net of light. The gleaming flying dagger and the brilliant shuttle were instantly caught in the net, buzzing nonstop as they could no longer move an inch.

At the same time, the pressure of the cyan law power directly confined Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue in place. They also found themselves unable to move a finger despite their Ancestor cultivation.

The two couldn't help but reveal a look of despair. This was the power of a law. Even though it was only third grade Earth Rank, it was not something that Emperor Ancestors like them could fight against. You Qianheng, who was in charge of this law, was basically the overlord of this territory!

"You can't even be martyrs and kill yourselves even if you want to, hahahaha..." Yong Feidu laughed, unbridled as he stared at Nie Qingrong and licked his lips, "Principal, please hand Nie Qingrong to me. I'll make sure to train her until she's completely submissive and can never think of betraying you!"

"You..." Nie Qingrong was so ashamed and angry that she wanted to die. Her phoenix eyes were spitting fire, but any resistance she tried to put up was to no avail.

"Both of them are yours to subdue. Remember, what I want is their loyalty." You Qianheng's expression was merciless.

Yong Feidu was overjoyed, "I will not let you down, Principal!"

Saying that, he walked toward Nie Qingrong. This peerless beauty had long become his heart's demon, and now that he was finally able to get his hands on her, the excitement and thirst in him was boiling over.

"Beauties, I shall love you well," he said, wanting to take away the confined Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue.

Right at this moment, an indifference voice abruptly sounded outside the hall, "Don't you think...it's too early to be complacent?"

Yong Feidu was dumbfounded.

Meanwhile, the desperate Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue were thrilled. It's him!

You Qianheng frowned and immediately directed his eyes at the outside, "Who is the rat that dared to sneak into my academy!?"

His words were still echoing when a tall figure walked into the hall. Clad in moon-white clothes and having a handsome face, it was precisely Lin Xun.

Chapter 2594 Master, Is There More?

Lin Xun's appearance surprised both You Qianheng and Yong Feidu, as his face was too unfamiliar to remind them of anyone. Out of instinctive vigilance, they didn't attack him right off the bat.

As surprised and happy as Nie Qingrong was, she quickly remembered something that made her expression change drastically, "Dao Brother, run. This place is covered in law power!"

"Run? I'm afraid that's not possible!" said You Qianheng coldly. "I didn't expect that you'd come back with a helper in tow, Nie Qingrong, but unfortunately for you, I see nothing but a fool who doesn't know his own limits, or else he wouldn't have barged in here right at this time, no?"

"Indeed. No different from running head first into his own demise!" Yong Feidu concluded with a smile, fearless after having recovered from the initial shock.

Where were they? The most important place of Liangyi Academy that was fully enveloped in law power. Not to mention ordinary cultivators, even an immortal figure would be miserably suppressed if they barged in here!

Yet, Lin Xun seemed to be utterly unaware as he refused to retreat or stop walking on. He took a glance at the cyan law power that filled the hall before turning to Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue.

He smiled warmly at them, "Don't worry, since I've decided to help, I won't let some law power obstruct me."

His calm reassurance smoothed out the anxiety in their hearts.

"Some law power?" You Qianheng almost thought his ears had gone wrong. He blurted out a laugh, "Nie Qingrong, where did you find such a weirdo?"

“Principal, let’s get rid of this person quickly.” Yong Feidu was in an irritable mood, having been interrupted when he was so close to getting his hands on the two women.

“You’re right,” said You Qianheng, and a jade seal circled by a stream of cyan light emerged on his palm.

Kaboom!

Countless cyan chains of law power burst out the next second and shot toward Lin Xun. Instead of evading them, he stood still and transmitted in his mind, “Wushuang, the food is all yours this time.”

“Thank you, Master,” replied a clear and sweet voice as amidst a rain of light, the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron quietly transformed into a pattern and appeared in Lin Xun's hand.

In the Nirvana law power resting deep within the sword cauldron, a white-clothed girl who looked to be around fifteen years old woke up from silence. Graceful with a bit of childlike features, charmingly frail, and glowing with an innocent aura, she was like a young miss raised in a noble family.

She was Wushuang, the heavenly law spirit of the Genesis Realm in the last epoch!

The exchange between her and Lin Xun and what followed was naturally invisible to outsiders. Almost immediately, he made a grabbing gesture with his hand.

Boom!

The churning cyan law power filling the air suddenly converged into a mass and then got confined to that spot. The bizarre scene stunned everyone.

No way?!

Immediately afterward, the sword cauldron pattern in Lin Xun's hand started rotating. Like a black hole, it released a horrifying devouring energy and pulled the cyan law power into it ray by ray. In a mere

blink of an eye, the third grade Earth Rank law permeating Liangyi Hall had been swallowed to the last trickle.

“What the...” Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue were stupefied while their hearts were reeling inside. That was a law power! It had dominated them to the point they couldn’t even put up a fight, yet, it had been completely devoured with a grab of Lin Xun’s hand!

“How is that possible?!” shrieked You Qianheng in disbelief, his face livid. This was the first time in his life seeing something so inconceivable that it directly disoriented his mind.

The grand hall fell dead silent. Everyone’s expression was a wonderful sight to behold.

“Master, is there more?” Wushuang in the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron timidly asked as though her hunger still hadn’t been satisfied.

Lin Xun's lips twitched. He replied, “If you keep up with the good work, I will help you collect more law power in the future.”

Speaking of which, it wasn’t long ago when Lin Xun had noticed signs of awakening from Wushuang. Moreover, she seemed to have been completely trained by the Nirvana law power, showing absolute submission when his spirit sense scanned her.

This change was definitely recent.

Unfortunately, although Wushuang had awakened now, she was extremely weak. Furthermore, as a law spirit with no true intelligence, her whole behavior and speech were interpreted with the help of her own law power.

According to the feedback from Lin Xun’s spirit sense, even if she fully recovered one day, he still wouldn’t be able to borrow her power in a fight before he set foot on the immortal path.

Fortunately though, when it came to confronting another law, both Wushuang and the Nirvana law power were able to display unexpected abilities, such as in the current situation.

“Principal, he must carry a forbidden item that’s capable of restraining law power!” shouted Yong Feidu whose wits had returned after the fright.

“Too much nonsense,” Lin Xun redirected his attention to the outside world, looked at Yong Feidu, and struck out with his palm.

Boom!

A huge, primitive, and solid palm qi coalesced in the air and slapped at Yong Feidu. As an Emperor Ancestor, the latter naturally wouldn’t sit and wait for death. He immediately mobilized his strength and countered with a secret skill.

However, it was a pity that he had zero idea how terrifying this young man in front of him was.

Bang!

With a heavy, dull sound of clashing, he was sent flying. His flesh was ruptured and spraying blood all over. When he smashed onto the ground, he was close to dying from serious injuries, unable to climb up.

“He’s yours to do with as you please.” Lin Xun cast Nie Qingrong a glance before he turned to You Qianheng, “Are you going to surrender or do I make you?”

“Who on earth are you?” You Qianheng was shocked and furious. The cyan jade seal in his hand, which was the secret treasure used to control the law power in the hall, was now in pieces. This meant he had lost his most reliable weapon.

“I’m the one asking questions,” Lin Xun smiled and suddenly grabbed at the air.

Whoosh!

You Qianheng instantly teleported in an attempt to escape, but he was clutched mid flight and froze in the air like a fly, unable to move an inch.

He was horrified, "Are you not afraid of retaliation from the Zhu Clan?"

Lin Xun's eyes gleamed with pity, "I'll be honest with you on this one, I'm here precisely because I know that you're a lapdog of the Zhu Clan."

"You..." You Qianheng panicked, but before he could get his words out, his vision went black. He had been knocked unconscious. He plopped on the floor.

Seeing this, Leng Qingxue finally understood why Nie Qingrong had repeatedly warned her not to test Lin Xun. He...was indeed an unimaginably powerful character!

"Do you still need my help?" asked Lin Xun.

Having escaped death and quickly composed herself, Nie Qingrong hurriedly said, "I won't trouble you from this point on, Dao Brother. You can leave the rest to Qingxue and I."

Lin Xun nodded and left the scene. Only after his figure disappeared from sight did Leng Qingxue say, "Senior Sister, who exactly is that dao brother of yours? He...isn't a supreme Emperor Ancestor, is he?"

Although Leng Qingxue was simple-minded and inexperienced, she wasn't stupid. She knew at a glance that it was simply impossible for a normal Emperor Ancestor to possess the battle prowess that Lin Xun had.

"His identity is indeed not simple, Qingxue, but that's all you should know. Don't ask any more questions about this," Nie Qingrong sighed with emotion, then smiled. "Maybe I'll tell you all about it one day when the time is right."

"Mhm," said Leng Qingxue.

Bang!

With a heavy sound, Yong Feidu's head shattered under Nie Qingrong's palm strike. As if her hatred hadn't been fully vented, wisps of golden flame drifted out from her fingertips and burned away at the corpse until it went up in smoke.

"Damned bastard wanted to subdue me, who the hell did he think he was?" said Nie Qingrong as her eyes overflowed with resentment and disdain. She then walked toward You Qianheng.

"Senior Sister, if what You Qianheng said is true, then the current Zhu Clan is completely different now. I'm afraid the He Clan won't offend them by standing up for you if you kill him," Leng Qingxue couldn't help but remind her.

"My silly junior sister, there is no turning back at this point. As for the Zhu Clan... Someone else will be dealing with them," Nie Qingrong said and waved her hand.

Kabang!

Endless flames swallowed up the unconscious You Qianheng. In the blink of an eye, he was reduced to scattering ashes on the floor.

Leng Qingxue watched in a daze, "What if the He Clan abandons you because of this? You know full well that while we appear to enjoy a splendorous life, people like us are nothing more than pawns that can be discarded at any time to those Immortal Imperial Clans."

There was a complicated look in Nie Qingrong's eyes as she said, "Just rest easy, Junior Sister. That dao brother has made every preparation and thought of a solution to this."

Lin Xun had told her to put the blame on him. Even if the Zhu Clan sent experts to handle this matter, he would be the one to deal with them.

In this way, the He Clan wouldn't have any objection. Instead, once Nie Qingrong took charge of Liangyi Academy, the more contributions she made, the easier it would be for her to gain their attention.

However, she felt indebted to Lin Xun thinking he lost out in this and didn't know how to repay him. She had even thought of giving herself to him and honoring him as her master, but the other party probably wouldn't accept it.

After all, how could a legendary figure like him possibly lust after mere beauty alone?

.....

On that same day, Nie Qingrong announced to the public that Principal You Qianheng and Vice Principal Yong Feidu had lost their lives to the hands of enemies, so moving forward, she would take over the position of principal!

Liangyi Academy was instantly in an uproar. Its countless disciples were alarmed, while the heads of the thirty-six peaks couldn't sit still and flocked to Liangyi Hall to inquire the details.

Among them, there was no lack of influential names who were loyal to You Qianheng. Upon verifying the news, these characters realized that there was no room for salvation!

Even the most loyal followers of You Qianheng had no reason to oppose Nie Qingrong. She had the support of the He Clan, while her close friend Leng Qingxue had the support of the Hong Clan. Now that You Qianheng was deceased, the Zhu Clan's camp in the academy had no confidence to go against them even if they wanted to!

A period of turmoil was inevitable. After all, it wasn't long ago when Vice Principal Nian Yunjing had been suppressed. Now, both Principal You Qianheng and Vice Principal Yong Feidu had simultaneously fallen.

Losing three pillar figures at once was certainly the heaviest blow ever to the entire Liangyi Academy. It even deeply impacted the academy's status in the First Heaven Domain!

Chapter 2595 Forever Fall Forbidden Land

Half a month later.

After some initial turmoil, Nie Qingrong obtained full authority as the principal of Liangyi Academy, returning stability to the school.

It must be noted that Liangyi Academy was the number one force in Donglai Region. While it might seem to have only ten thousand disciples, its numerous subordinate forces could be found all over the entire Donglai Region.

A perfect example of this was the Water Cloud State Lord, Huo Xingdu. While the First Heaven Domain might not be as good as the other Heaven Domains, it was far from comparable to the planes of the Great Thousand Battle Domain.

As Donglai Region's number one faction, the tribute received each year by the Liangyi Academy reached unimaginable proportions.

Of course, the majority of this wealth was ultimately going to be sent to the Sixth Heaven Domain.

Over the half a month period, Lin Xun lived his days leisurely, either cultivating, fishing, or cooking delicacies. He paid zero attention to the affairs of Liangyi Academy.

Occasionally, he would instruct Xiao Xi in her cultivation, but more often than not, he spent his time studying the Everything Codex.

Presently, he understood that there were two ways to enter the Second Heaven Domain from the First Heaven Domain.

One was to be received by someone from the upper realm. For instance, if Nie Qingrong wanted to enter a higher Heaven Domain, she would have to borrow the power of the He Clan to receive her.

The other was to challenge the barrier. The First and Second Heaven Domains were separated by boundary barriers which came in varying forms.

Some were fatal violent spatial turbulence, some were fractured void zones where even immortal-level individuals would likely become lost in... For cultivators, the safest way to cross a boundary barrier was undoubtedly through the boundary star paths within them.

These boundary star paths were twisting roads that stretched between two domains, adorned by innumerable star remnants. Only by following the star path would a cultivator have a chance to arrive at the end of the path and reach the Second Heaven Domain.

However, the boundary star paths weren't completely safe either as there were many terrifying and bizarre beings along the winding star paths. Even a mighty Emperor Ancestor would die nine out of ten times if they tried to pass through!

Therefore, normally speaking, if one could be guided by someone from an upper realm, very few people would choose to go use the star paths. To Lin Xun, however, it was the most reliable method to travel to the Second Heaven Domain.

In fact, he very much suspected that when Eldest Senior Brother and the others arrived at the Eternal True Realm, they had used the star paths to force their way into the Sixth Heaven Domain in just nine days!

In the Everything Codex, there was a record of a star path to the Second Heaven Domain, and it was extremely easy to find, just above the 90,000-foot sky dome of the First Heaven Domain.

"When my cultivation is restored, I should go there to have a look..."

Lin Xun sat at the lake shore with a bamboo pole propped in front of him as a fishing rod. From time to time, he would pick up his wine gourd to drink, appearing cozy and leisurely.

"Dao Brother." Nie Qingrong's silhouette skipped over from afar.

Lin Xun asked, "Have you taken care of everything?"

"Mhm." Nie Qingrong arrived at Lin Xun's side. She gazed at him with her beautiful eyes and said in a soft, gentle voice, "I came to discuss a few matters with Dao Brother."

Lin Xun said, "Speak."

Nie Qingrong said, "Every three years, a Heavenly Inspector will descend from the upper realm. The next three-year period will arrive in three months."

The Heavenly Inspectors were basically envoys of the Immortal Imperial Clans. Every three years, they would descend from the Sixth Heaven Domain to collect tribute and take away a few of the most outstanding and excellent cultivator seedlings.

This wasn't limited to Liangyi Academy. The other two great academies of the First Heaven Domain also experienced similar situations.

Lin Xun asked, "That is to say, the Heavenly Inspector from the Zhu Clan will arrive in three months?"

Nie Qingrong nodded. "Yes."

Lin Xun chuckled and said, "Good, then I'll wait to meet this Zhu Clan Heavenly Inspector. By the way, what's their cultivation level like?"

Nie Qingrong pondered and answered, "In times past, the duty of Heavenly Inspector was normally taken on by Emperor Ancestor clansmen from the Immortal Imperial Clans, but on occasion, they might send an Immortal-level cultivator. However, that rarely happens."

Lin Xun accepted the information and said, "When the time comes, give me a heads up."

Nie Qingrong moved on to her next agenda, "Does Dao Brother still remember the killing calamity we encountered when we first returned to Liangyi Academy?"

Of course he remembered.

"At that time, Yuan Wanzhong demanded a secret map from me. Although I was bewildered back then, I now realize that they were after this item."

With a flip of her hand, an aged, yellowed scroll appeared. "I found this among the items You Qianheng left behind. It's most likely left by an Immortal-level hegemon from long ago, and contains information about a mysterious forbidden zone where a law power very likely exists."

She handed the scroll to Lin Xun. "Dao Brother will understand once you have a look."

As he received it, a scene of blood stains entered his eyes and an ancient aura assaulted his senses. When he unfurled the scroll, a map revealed itself, labelled with the names of several mountains and lakes.

"Forever Fall Forbidden Land?" Lin Xun was stunned. It was an odd and ominous name.

Nie Qingrong said, "From my knowledge of the First Heaven Domain, Forever Fall Forbidden Land is most likely located near the Donglai Region's Withered Willow Mountain Range. It's an extremely remote and uninhabited area which is perennially shrouded in a foul miasma. Even from long ago, very few people would willingly reside in its vicinity."

Information about the Withered Willow Mountain Range from the Everything Codex immediately surfaced in Lin Xun's mind and he compared it to the secret map. Sure enough, he realized that there were many similarities between the two.

"If there is indeed a law power in Forever Fall Forbidden Land and it is located somewhere near the Withered Willow Mountain Range, the value of this map will be immeasurable." Nie Qingrong continued, "I suspect that Binglin Academy has known this for a long time, but they don't know who has the map."

Lin Xun nodded. "Speaking of which, I did destroy Liangyi Academy's law power, which equates to you, the principal, losing your greatest trump card. When I have time, I will personally go to the Withered Willow Mountain Range to take a look. If I manage to find the law power, I will try to subdue it and bring it back to Liangyi Academy."

Shocked, Nie Qingrong couldn't help but say, "Dao Brother, that law power is a priceless, supreme treasure. If you obtain it, you could even start your own sect in the Eternal True Realm!

"Even if you can't use it yourself, offering it to the Immortal Imperial Clans will immediately make you their honored guest, allowing you to cultivate in the Sixth Heaven Domain."

"Do you think I care about such things?" Lin Xun chuckled.

Nie Qingrong gulped as she recalled the mind-boggling rumors about Lin Xun, allowing her to gain a faint insight into his mindset. While law power was a priceless treasure in her eyes, it was definitely not the same for him!

"Then I'll entrust this secret map to Dao Brother for safekeeping."

Nie Qingrong didn't try to advise him any further. "Also, does Dao Brother require any more cultivation resources? Since I'm now in charge of Liangyi Academy, I'll be more than happy to help you in any way I can."

Lin Xun thought for a moment and asked, "What are your plans for Xiao Xi?"

Nie Qingrong pursed her lips and smiled. "I was hoping to discuss that with Dao Brother. I intend for Xiao Xi to cultivate under Vice Principal Leng Qingxue. Qingxue is pure and noble by nature and her attainments in the dao can be described as solid and refined. With her teaching, she will definitely allow Xiao Xi's natural talent and physique to bloom."

The figure of a beautiful woman dressed in snow-white with a green sash binding her golden hair appeared in his mind.

He immediately agreed, "That sounds good."

It was undoubtedly a blessing to have an Emperor Ancestor teach Xiao Xi. After all, she was only a young girl at the Longevity Tribulation Stage.

"Senior Sister." Suddenly, a clear voice burdened by worry sounded in from afar. Leng Qingxue's graceful figure emerged amidst a wave of spatial ripples.

Nie Qingrong smiled and said, "Qingxue, I've already told Dao Brother that from now on, you'll be Xiao Xi's master and she'll be your closed disciple. You'd best be ready to take on the responsibilities of a teacher."

Leng Qingxue acknowledged with a soft grunt and quickly said, "Senior Sister, let's put that aside for now. I've just gotten word that the three vice principals of Binglin Academy will soon be arriving at our Liangyi Academy. They claim to be coming to offer condolences to the recently departed You Qianheng, but I suspect that they're up to no good!"

It was near impossible to conceal the worry in her voice.

Binglin Academy!

Nie Qingrong's beautiful eyes narrowed. Just as the situation was finally stabilizing for Liangyi Academy, the Binglin Academy's bigwigs had gathered and were coming here under the pretense of giving condolence to You Qianheng!

If You Qianheng's loyal supporters in Liangyi Academy found out about this, they would likely try to take advantage of the situation to stir up a commotion.

Nie Qingrong asked, "Are you sure that the three vice principals are the only ones coming?"

Leng Qingxue hesitantly answered, "I'm not fully certain."

"Leave this matter to me." Lin Xun put away the fishing rod, stood up, and said, "Consider it Xiao Xi's greeting gift to her new master."

"Dao Brother..." Deeply touched yet inwardly ashamed, Nie Qingrong felt that she had already troubled Lin Xun far too much and only continued to owe him more and more.

"Don't forget that I was the one who killed Yuan Wanzhong and the others in the first place, and the reason for killing them is also why I helped you deal with You Qianheng. What else can I do when the Wen Clan is backing Binglin Academy?"

Lin Xun smiled. With these final words, he flew away and disappeared in the blink of an eye.

He was gone before Nie Qingrong could say anything.

Leng Qingxue dazedly asked, "Senior Sister, could Dao Brother have feelings for you? Why else would he do so much for us?"

Nie Qingrong's beautiful face burned red for a moment as she lightly spat out, "Don't talk nonsense, a woman of my stature can't even enter his eyes."

Towards the end, she couldn't help but feel a sliver of disappointment and frustration.

It would be great if he did...

Chapter 2596 Grilling Fish and Murder

Auspicious clouds floated within the vast dome of the heavens that stretched endlessly into the distance.

Jin Jiuyin pointed at a far away spot and said, "That's Shentu Mountain Range. It's the most blessed mountainous area of Donglai Region and home to Liangyi Academy."

With a halberd-shaped beard, a strong, robust body, and a proud and fierce aura, he was one of Binglin Academy's vice principals. He was also the leader of the group.

Next to him, another vice principal of Binglin Academy, Huang Zhen, remarked with a frown, "I still can't figure out how someone like Nie Qingrong managed to kill You Qianheng, who controlled a third grade Earth Rank law power. When did she become so terrifying?"

With sword-shaped eyebrows and star-like eyes, he stood atop a picture of the sun, moon, and land as his feathered cloak fluttered around him, emanating a dashing and unbridled aura.

"The Zhu Clan has already captured a new Heaven Rank law power and it won't be long before they relocate to the Seventh Heaven Domain. Given these circumstances, it is indeed very daring of Nie Qingrong to kill You Qianheng, who is backed by the Zhu Clan," said a lovely woman beside Huang Zhen. She wore a black dress and carried a flower basket in her hand.

Her name was Shi Yunfei, and she was also one of Binglin Academy's vice principals.

The leader, Jin Jiuyin, nonchalantly said, "According to the information I received, it wasn't Nie Qingrong who killed You Qianheng, but a person of mysterious origin. Nie Qingrong merely took advantage of the situation, otherwise, how could the position of principal possibly have fallen into her hands?"

Huang Zhen and Shi Yunfei revealed looks of understanding, feeling that this made more sense.

After You Qianheng, Nian Yunjing, and Yong Feidu died, Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue were the only qualified people left to take over the position of principal. Since Leng Qingxue never cared about such things, it was only logical that Nie Qingrong would take advantage of the opportunity to instate herself as principal.

Huang Zhen asked, "Does Brother Jin know who that mysterious person is?"

After a slight pause, Jin Jiuyin answered, "I do not. The two of you should also be aware of the pawn our Binglin Academy planted within Liangyi Academy. However, from the information he has sent to us, even he doesn't know who the mysterious figure is.

"Also, it's very strange that Nie Qingrong pushed the deaths of You Qianheng and Yong Feidu onto the mysterious person as soon as she took over. If the mysterious person was invited by her, would she dare to pour dirty water over his head?"

Huang Zhen and Shi Yunfei couldn't help but frown as well. It was indeed very odd.

"Regardless, our goal is to verify the truth of the situation in Liangyi Academy. In addition, although You Qianheng is dead, before his death, he sent out a message that Nie Qingrong is in possession of a dao map involving a law power. As long as we manage to get rid of her, the map will belong to our Binglin Academy."

Jin Jiuyin's eyes flooded with iciness as he continued, "But as you two should also know, Vice Principal Yuan Wanzhong recently failed in his task and has most likely perished. This matter has angered our principal, and he believes that You Qianheng tricked us to sabotage our Binglin Academy."

At the mention of this matter, frosty expressions also spread from Huang Zhen's and Shi Yunfei's brows.

The deaths of Yuan Wanzhong and his group were extremely strange, making them suspect that it was some kind of evil plot by Liangyi Academy. To use a map as bait to draw them in and kill them!

"It is said that after You Qianheng's death, Liangyi Academy's third grade Earth Rank law power went missing instead of coming into Nie Qingrong's possession. So if the opportunity presents itself, we will capture her!"

Murderous intent flickered across Jin Jiuyin's face, "When that happens, Liangyi Academy will become akin to a headless dragon and fall into chaos. Our Binglin Academy can then take advantage of that weakness!"

Huang Zhen and Shi Yunfei inwardly nodded. They had come to Liangyi Academy for this very reason. The only uncertainty now was the mysterious person who killed You Qianheng.

"We're almost there. Everyone, it's time to show the power of our Binglin Academy!"

Upon seeing the numerous rising peaks of Shentu Mountain Range in the distance, a feeling of imminent glory rose in Jin Jiuyin's heart as light surged in his eyes.

Regardless of everything that had happened, with the fall of You Qianheng and the others, Liangyi Academy was at best keeping up a strong front while trying to recover from grave injuries.

Hence, this was their opportunity! Filled with confidence, Huang Zhen chuckled and remarked, "Heh heh, I'm interested to see how Nie Qingrong will be able to withstand us."

"Hmm?"

Shi Yunfei was also about to say something when she suddenly sensed something and focused on a certain spot in the distance.

In front of the Shentu Mountain Range, smoke spiraled into the air from the bank of a stream at the foot of a mountain, while the faint fragrance of grilled meat spread. Upon closer inspection, one would discover a campfire beside the stream where a fat skewered fish was slowly being grilled to perfection.

The griller was seated on the ground with all kinds of seasonings lined up beside him. From time to time, he would carefully apply another layer of seasoning to the grilled fish with the movements of a skillful expert. That was the origin of the smoky fragrance.

"Don't tell me that's a gluttonous disciple from Liangyi Academy. I can't believe he's grilling fish right in front of his academy. What kind of behavior is this? This only shows how much Liangyi Academy has fallen."

Jin Jiuyin couldn't help but laugh when he saw this.

"It's a sign that Liangyi Academy will soon fall into ruin."

Huang Zhen commented, "If this happens in our Binglin Academy, the disciple will be severely punished along with his instructor. At best, he will face solitary contemplation, and at worst, expulsion."

Due to the tantalizing scent, Shi Yunfei couldn't help but smile and teasingly remark, "However, I have to say the kid is pretty decent at grilling. He's making me hungry."

"Regretfully, you won't have the fortune to enjoy it."

A nonchalant voice rang out as the figure at the bank of the stream removed the tender grilled fish with a slice of his finger, shoved it into his mouth, and began chewing with a satisfied expression.

It was Lin Xun. The grilled fish in his hand was born from a highly spiritual water source, and its flesh was perfectly fatty and extremely pure. After being coated with all kinds of seasonings from his private stash and meticulously grilled, its flavor was simply wonderful beyond words.

"There's something fishy about him!"

After hearing Lin Xun's words, Shi Yunfei's, Huang Zhen's, and Jin Jiuyin's eyes narrowed, realizing that something was amiss. An ordinary disciple of Liangyi Academy wouldn't dare to talk to them in this manner!

Jin Jiuyin transmitted, "Don't do anything rash for now, let me probe him first."

His gaze burned like a torch as it locked onto Lin Xun, "This old man is Jin Jiuyin of Binglin Academy, may I ask for this young friend's name?"

"What's the point of asking such questions when you're about to die? Don't be so anxious, I'll send you off once after I finish eating this fish."

Lin Xun chewed while sipping on alcohol, appearing completely at ease. His words, however, sounded extremely offensive to Jin Jiuyin and the others, causing their expressions to darken as iciness surged in their eyes. There was indeed something fishy about this kid!

"Does that mean you were specifically waiting here for us?" Jin Jiuyin's deep voice boomed as enormous and oppressive intent swept toward Lin Xun like a hurricane. At the same time, Huang Zhen and Shi Yunfei also got into their battle stances.

"You can say so." Lin Xun finished off the fish in three quick bites, leaving only a snow-white fish skeleton. He casually tossed the bones aside and took a long swig from his wine gourd.

Before Jin Jiuyin's spirit sense could come near, it was crushed and dissolved by an invisible force. This made his heart shudder. An increasingly ominous sensation grew within him as he hurriedly transmitted, "Quick, kill him!"

Rumble!

Space quaked as the sun and moon lost their light. Jin Jiuyin decisively attacked with a thunder-stirring broad sword, setting off waves of endless Ancestor dao light as it chopped towards Lin Xun.

Huang Zhen and Shi Yunfei also made their moves at that same moment.

Omm!

A picture of the sun, moon, and land rapidly expanded in the air, transforming a vast world that covered the sky and blotted the sun.

Crash~

Shi Yunfei tossed out her flower basket. Nine streams of gorgeous light poured from the basket, each transforming into a different primordial divine beast that charged at Lin Xun with earth-shaking roars.

How terrifying was the combined assault of three Emperor Ancestors?

The originally peaceful land was immediately swallowed by chaos. Various daos rumbled amidst churning sword intent, a flipping dao picture, and the roars of divine beasts, causing the mountains and rivers to tremble as grass and trees were burnt to ashes.

Due to the sturdy heaven and earth laws of the First Heaven Domain, only Immortal-level experts were capable of causing heaven-destroying catastrophes. Given this, the fact that the three Emperor Ancestors from Binglin Academy were able to create such a dreadful scene of destruction was proof of their extraordinary foundations and cultivation.

Boom!

In an instant, the area around the foot of the mountain collapsed, the stream was completely vaporized, and everything else was annihilated amidst the raging dao light.

Strangely enough, Lin Xun's figure could not be found amidst the destruction. This made Jin Jiuyin's heart jump as he inwardly cursed in alarm. Just as he was about to react, an ominous figure appeared out of thin air and pointed at the center of his forehead.

Bang!

A bloody hole appeared between Jin Jiuyin's eyebrows as he stared wide-eyed, with confusion and disbelief written all over his face. He couldn't even block a single finger?!

In the next moment, his consciousness dispersed as his body noiselessly turned into ashes. The power of the finger had not only pierced his primordial spirit, but also wiped out all of his vitality!

"Shit, run!"

The scene was clearly reflected in Huang Zhen's and Shi Yunfei's eyes, leaving them so shocked that their scalps felt as if they were about to explode. Their immediate reaction was to escape. However, how could Lin Xun allow them to do so?

With a wave of his sleeve—Rumble!

A handful of dao light condensed in the air and transformed into a shimmering river of sword qi. Huang Zhen was engulfed in an instant. No matter how desperately he resisted, no matter how many times he roared, no matter how many dao arts and treasures he summoned, it was all futile and everything was crushed by the vast river of sword qi.

Bang!

In the blink of an eye, he imploded and scattered amidst the raging sword qi, only able to release one final mournful shriek before his death, "You're that mysterious person—!"

Chapter 2597 Initiative

The mysterious person!

Shi Yunfei's heart violently shuddered at the revelation. She also realized that he had been waiting for them, and was obviously on Liangyi Academy's side. Why else would he ruthlessly attack them for seemingly no reason?

"That damn Nie Qingrong must have some special relationship with this mysterious person!"

Shi Yunfei wasn't stupid and couldn't help but gnash her teeth in hatred after roughly guessing the truth.

"How far can you run?" A nonchalant voice sounded in her ear, striking her heart like a lightning bolt. Inwardly trembling, she desperately waved her hand.

Swish!

A dao sword covered in densely-packed runes roared forth, shooting out a wave of silver law power. Shi Yunfei had obtained this secret treasure from the Binglin Academy principal before the mission, which was capable of wielding law power.

The original plan was to use it to subdue Nie Qingrong after entering Liangyi Academy, but she was now forced to use it as a means of escape.

Rumble!

The silver law power resembled an arc of lightning. It brilliantly illuminated the surroundings, exuding a dreadful and extremely intimidating aura.

Lin Xun extended his arm as a phantasm of the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron appeared in his palm. Like a python that had been caught, the silver law power was continuously devoured and disappeared in the blink of an eye. It had become Wushuang's meal!

Shi Yunfei's soul nearly left her body, unable to believe her eyes. She was in the exact same state as You Qianheng back then, unable to believe that law power could be so easily defeated.

"Who are you?!" She shrieked as blood drained from her face.

The only reply was a blast of sword qi. It rushed towards her like a blazing rainbow that spanned across the nine heavens, paralyzing her heart and mind.

Plop!

In the next moment, she disintegrated into nothingness.

"Is it important to know who I am when you're going to die..." Lin Xun shook his head and turned away.

After he disappeared, a group of lights soon appeared from Liangyi Academy and swiftly approached the area. They were led by none other than Nie Qingrong, Leng Qingxue, and the other bigwigs of Liangyi Academy.

Evidently, Liangyi Academy had detected the disturbance due to the battle. However, the battle had already ended when they arrived, leaving only the shattered and devastated terrain.

"What happened here?"

Many of them revealed uncertain and worried looks.

"Weren't the three vice principals of Binglin Academy supposed to be coming? Could they have encountered a killing calamity and died?" Someone made a guess and looked toward Nie Qingrong.

"Don't make wild guesses before the facts have been verified." Nie Qingrong glanced at the person. Her icy gaze caused the latter's expression to change slightly, and he quickly lowered his head. "We'll return to the academy."

With her decision made, Nie Qingrong led the party back. Although everyone was confused, they obediently followed.

Only Leng Qingxue seemed to understand, and couldn't help but transmit, "Elder Sister, Dao Brother is amazing. The entire battle was finished in an instant."

The others might not know, but how could she not know that this was Lin Xun's handiwork?

"If it weren't for him, our Liangyi Academy would have met with misfortune today." With a churning heart, Nie Qingrong sighed. She would likely never be able to repay Lin Xun in this lifetime...

A disaster was thus averted in front of Shentu Mountain Range. While the Liangyi Academy cultivators were still in the dark, Lin Xun had already quietly returned to his dwelling. Apart from Nie Qingrong and Leng Qingxue, no one knew that he, the mysterious person, had been at Liangyi Academy all along.

"Dao Brother, thank you." Upon returning to Liangyi Academy, Nie Qingrong immediately visited Lin Xun's abode, her beautiful face filled with unconcealable gratitude.

"I did say that this would be Xiao Xi's greeting gift to her new master." Lin Xun smiled and said, "Also, please prepare a map of the Nanhua Region Binglin Academy for me."

Nie Qingrong was alarmed. "Dao Brother, what are you planning to do?"

"Waiting for the enemy to come to us is too passive, don't you think?" Lin Xun chuckled.

Nie Qingrong immediately understood, causing her heart to churn again.

.....

A day later, Lin Xun quietly left Liangyi Academy. He didn't rush to his destination. Instead, he traversed the First Heaven Domain like a lone traveler, wandering through vast mountains during the day, and moving through bustling cities at night...

This was the first time he had so vividly and intimately experienced the Eternal True Realm. Although it was only the First Heaven Domain, it was still a truly eye-opening experience for him.

A month quickly passed. Lin Xun finally arrived at Yuliu City, which was the closest city to Binglin Academy. It wasn't that he had deliberately slowed his pace, but rather, the distance from the Donglai Region to the Nanhua Region was simply tremendous.

"I'll rest here tonight."

Lin Xun found an inn to serve as his temporary residence. Although it was called an inn, it was actually made up of a series of independent cave dwellings, and was luxuriously designed to cater to the needs of Emperor Stage cultivators.

Of course, the sky-high rates were naturally beyond the means of ordinary cultivators.

"In less than three months, my strength should be restored to peak condition..." Lin Xun sat cross-legged as he meditated and sensed his internal energy. Although his cultivation was still at the initial Emperor Ancestor Stage after recovering, things were completely different from before.

As if being reborn anew, his rebuilt cultivation had transcended its previous limits, establishing an entirely new foundation. Moreover, it was based on the Great Dao Furnace Art, making its foundation and potential much stronger than before.

The most significant change was his innate talent! Recently, his heart meridian would often produce strange and obscure fluctuations that caused a faint burning sensation in his chest. Lin Xun couldn't help but wonder if this was a sign that the third stage of his innate talent was awakening!

If that were true, it would truly be something to look forward to.

Back in the Taiyi Ruins of the Great Thousand Battle Domain, he had witnessed the Omega Lord wield the power of the Blade of Time, which returned Wei Mingzi back into a youth in one move, stripping him of all his cultivation. It was an ability that seemed to defy the heavens themselves!

Moreover, that very Blade of Time ability was currently sealed in his heart meridian! Back then, Lin Xun had deduced that he would be able to easily wield the Blade of Time when he awakened his third stage talent.

At the same time, he would also awaken his own unique talent power! When each bearer of the Great Abyss Heaven Devourer awakened their talent power, they would obtain a unique talent ability.

For example, the Star Annihilation Battle Emperor awakened the Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer Art.

Lin Xun's first stage talent had awakened the powers of Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer, while his second stage talent had awakened the Time Stopping ability. Ultimately, the powers and talents of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer were related to laws of time.

"If I awaken my third stage talent, I might gain the power to fight back against an Immortal-level expert..." Lin Xun's black eyes shone brightly, greatly looking forward to that day.

.....

Early the next day, Lin Xun had quietly left the inn before dawn. Meanwhile, deep in the Lanhe Mountain Range, where Binglin Academy was located.

"It's about time that Jin Jiuyin and the others should be returning..."

In a magnificent and resplendent hall, the principal of Binglin Academy, Rui Taifu, paced back and forth with his hands behind his back.

"If they manage to bring back that law power dao map, there won't be any need for me to go searching because I can offer it up as tribute when the Heavenly Inspector from the Wen Clan arrives, earning myself great merit. When that happens..."

At this thought, Rui Taifu's heart stirred as his eyes shone with anticipation. "Why would I have to worry about not being able to enter the Sixth Heaven Domain to cultivate?"

Rui Taifu suddenly called out, "Attendant."

The figure of an attendant appeared outside the hall and respectfully inquired, "Milord, what instructions do you have?"

Rui Taifu asked, "Is there any news of Jin Jiuyin or the other vice principals?"

It was a question he constantly asked these days.

The attendant shook his head and answered in a low voice, "No need to worry, Milord. Vice Principal Jin and the others will surely succeed in their mission and return in triumph."

"Return in triumph? I will be satisfied as long as they manage to bring back the map."

Suddenly, a voice as calm as water rang out outside the main hall, "Unfortunately, they can never return, and you are destined to never be satisfied."

Rui Taifu's pupils constricted, and he abruptly saw an unfamiliar figure appear out of thin air outside the hall.

Furious, the attendant scolded, "What gall. Who are you to dare to sneak into Binglin Academy?"

The visitor was none other than Lin Xun, who casually said, "This is no den of dragons or tigers and I will come and leave whenever I wish. Why should I have to sneak in?"

"You..." The attendant opened his mouth, only to suddenly feel a sharp pain in his spirit. It caused him to fall unconscious and his body limply fell to the ground.

Lin Xun then looked at Rui Taifu and said, "Are you the principal of Binglin Academy?"

Rui Taifu had regained his cool by this juncture. Divine light flashed in his eyes as he asked, "Who are you?"

Lin Xun smiled slightly. "I'm the one asking, and you only need to answer. If you don't cooperate, don't blame me for being impolite."

Rui Taifu's face became extremely ugly. This was his territory! Who had ever dared to threaten him like this?

Soon after, he seemed to guess something and blurted out, "Are you the mysterious person who killed You Qianheng?"

Lin Xun sighed softly. "It seems you're not listening."

His voice continued to echo as he suddenly vanished.

Rui Taifu inwardly shivered. Flames immediately rose from him as he roared, "Rise!"

Silver law power suddenly emerged in the hall, condensing into a thick network of law power chains which formed a powerful defensive formation around him. At that moment, Lin Xun appeared as a dazzling palm of light struck like a swift and ferocious stream of domineering dao light.

Rumble!

In an instant, the law power that Rui Taifu considered invincible and unshakable shattered layer by layer with a loud rumble!

Chapter 2598 Arrival of an Immortal Expert

Rumble!

Before the shattered law power fragments could scatter, they were engulfed by the dazzling palm of light and sent flowing into the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron without leaving a single shard behind.

In the world created by Nirvana law power, a figure resembling a pure maiden in white let out a joyous cry. To her, these law power fragments were akin to the most delicious of foods.

Moreover, the fact that neither Little Immortal nor Little Nether were able to compete with her at the moment made her feel even more pleased.

Meanwhile, the Binglin Academy Principal, Rui Taifu, was frightened out of his wits. Like Liangyi Academy's third grade Earth Rank law power, the law power Lin Xun shattered and devoured had also been Rui Taifu's greatest source of confidence. Yet, it had been unable to withstand even a single blow!

"No——"

Before he could do anything else, Rui Taifu's throat was gripped by Lin Xun and imprisoned in a single move. He trembled uncontrollably, utterly terrified. Since the start of his cultivation journey, Rui Taifu had experienced all kinds of storms, challenges, and dangers, but when had he ever witnessed something so inconceivable?

Lin Xun's black eyes appeared impossibly deep as he indifferently asked, "Will you properly cooperate now?"

As he spoke, he threw the restrained Rui Taifu to the ground. He convulsed wildly; his expression filled with fear, shock, and confusion.

In a trembling voice, he asked, "My Binglin Academy has no enmity with this esteemed one, why...why are you doing this? What exactly do you want?"

"I have a grudge with the Wen Clan."

Rui Taifu felt as if he was struck by lightning, immediately realizing that he had been implicated by the Wen Clan!

"But I'm not a member of the Wen Clan..." Rui Taifu tried to distance himself from the Wen Clan.

Lin Xun interrupted, "If the owner finds out his dog is disloyal, what do you think will happen to it?"

Rui Taifu's face turned deathly pale.

"Moreover, as far as I know, you've been wholeheartedly trying to curry favor with the Wen Clan since you first set foot in the Emperor Stage and have served them for nearly two thousand years. Do you still dare to say that you have nothing to do with the Wen Clan?" Lin Xun's voice was laced with sarcasm.

Rui Taifu internally crumbled, frozen on the spot as light faded from his eyes.

Lin Xun said, "Of course, the Wen Clan is the Wen Clan, and you are you. Although I've killed countless people, I'm not someone who indiscriminately kills the innocent."

Like a desperate prisoner who had seen a glimmer of hope, Rui Taifu gushed, "Esteemed one, if you spare my life, I will repent, change my ways, and never again be a pawn for evildoers!"

Lin Xun said, "Would this have happened if you had cooperated earlier?"

Rui Taifu felt a bitter taste in his mouth. Would he have dared to not cooperate if he had known that even law power would be useless?

"Refine this talisman into your True Self Emperor World, and I'll give you a chance to live."

Strands of divine light appeared in his palm, condensed into a strange black talisman, and shot into Rui Taifu's forehead.

Dao Restriction Divine Talisman!

It was a secret art recorded in the Origin Dao Canon of the previous epoch, which allowed one to refine one's will into a talisman and plant it into an enemy's body like a seed of misfortune. With a single thought from the user, the power of the Dao Restriction Divine Talisman would instantly destroy the enemy's cultivation, making it an exceedingly ruthless and strange technique.

Rui Taifu displayed the utmost willingness and opened his True Self Emperor World without any resistance or delay. The Dao Restriction Divine Talisman immediately transformed into strands of black light that merged with his cultivation.

Lin Xun said, "I won't make things difficult your whole life. As long as you obediently follow the Liangyi Academy Principal, Nie Qingrong, and gain her acknowledgement and approval, she will remove the talisman from your body.

"It also won't hurt to inform you that even an Immortal-level expert won't be able to help you remove the talisman, so you'd best not entertain any vain hopes."

Rui Taifu took a deep breath and said, "Thank you, Elder!"

Even the way he addressed Lin Xun had changed.

It mattered not to Lin Xun whether this was true sincerity or not. After all, as long as he had the Dao Restriction Divine Talisman, there was no need to fear the other party going back on their word.

Lin Xun said, "From today, you will still be the principal of Binglin Academy, understand?"

After pondering for a moment, Rui Taifu solemnly nodded. "This old one will remember the elder's teachings."

.....

That same day, Lin Xun left Binglin Academy and began his return journey. Meanwhile, the world remained unaware that Rui Taifu, the current principal of Binglin Academy, had already become a pawn of the Liangyi Academy Principal.

A month later, Lin Xun appeared in his residence within Liangyi Academy. The trip had taken two months in total, but the results were satisfactory to him. At the very least, even when he left in the future, Binglin Academy would become a major asset to Liangyi Academy.

That same day, Lin Xun passed Nie Qingrong the secret art to control the Dao Restriction Divine Talisman, which left her in shock. Never in her wildest dreams would she have expected Lin Xun to have not only subjugated the Binglin Academy Principal, but even gained absolute control over him!

While Lin Xun didn't explain much, Nie Qingrong was tactful enough to not ask any questions. Before leaving, she informed Lin Xun about a certain matter. In about half a month, Heavenly Inspectors from the three Immortal Imperial Clans of Zhu, He, and Hong from the Sixth Heaven Domain would be arriving together!

It made Nie Qingrong extremely nervous, afraid that the Zhu Clan's Heavenly Inspector's anger would soon fall upon her due to You Qiangheng's death.

If that happened, even the He Clan's Heavenly Inspector would probably be powerless to intervene, because the Zhu Clan was no longer in the same weight class as before. After all, it wouldn't be long before the Zhu Clan relocated to the Seventh Heaven Domain.

In all likelihood, the He Clan wouldn't want to offend the other party at this critical juncture.

After learning this, Lin Xun couldn't help but smile and comfort her. "Don't worry, just push all the blame to me. I'm interested to see what kind of Heavenly Inspector the Zhu Clan will be sending."

Time passed quickly. Without noticing, more than ten days had passed.

By a large, tranquil lake, Lin Xun awoke from his meditation with a deep exhale. "Just a little more to my full recovery."

After sensing his condition, a wave of relief washed over Lin Xun's heart. Several years prior, he had been seriously injured to the brink of death. Hence, he was naturally pleased now that he had finally rebuilt his cultivation and risen again from the ashes.

Moreover, his heart meridian had acted up more and more frequently, like a stirring seed eager to break out of the soil. It made Lin Xun realize that he was getting closer and closer to the third stage of his talent power, which he looked forward to with great anticipation.

Hmm?

Suddenly, Lin Xun seemed to sense something and looked towards the far reaches of the sky. At that moment, space rippled outside Shentu Mountain Range as three figures were revealed.

The trio was headed by a slim middle-aged man. Tall, imposing, and dressed in black, his entire being was enveloped in a halo of immortal dao light. It made him resemble a supreme ruler descending upon the world, causing the entire realm to wail incessantly.

He was accompanied by a man and a woman, both of whom also gave off powerful presences. Only, they were completely overshadowed by the aura of their black-clad Immortal expert leader.

"To think an Immortal expert has come..."

By the lake, Lin Xun's black eyes narrowed as he silently retracted his spirit sense. He didn't need to guess to know that these three individuals were the Heavenly Inspectors sent by the three Immortal Imperial Clans of Zhu, He, and Hong.

Meanwhile, Liangyi Academy seemed to heave with excitement as the principal, Nie Qingrong, personally led a group of bigwigs to welcome the three Heavenly Inspectors, drawing the attention of countless students.

"Dao Brother."

In less than an hour, Leng Qingxue hurriedly appeared before Lin Xun, her beautiful face filled with worry.

Before he could say anything, she reported everything that had happened.

The three Heavenly Inspectors were called Zhu Hun, He Youfang, and Hong Yinghe respectively.

Among them, Zhu Hun was the tall and slim black-clad middle-aged man, an Immortal expert at the Heavenly Longevity Stage.

Things immediately went awry as soon as he arrived at the Liangyi Hall.

Several Liangyi Academy bigwigs criticized Nie Qingrong's ambition, claiming that she had unscrupulously plotted to kill You Qianheng and Yong Feidu to seize the principal position. They hoped that Zhu Hun would capture Nie Qingrong to uphold justice for You Qianheng.

Of course, Nie Qingrong naturally wouldn't sit back and wait for death. She immediately explained everything, shifting all the blame onto the 'mysterious person' played by Lin Xun. Moreover, He Youfang and Hong Yinghe also spoke up for Nie Qingrong, allowing her to narrowly avoid disaster.

However, none of them could have anticipated that Zhu Hun would not only ignore You Qianheng's death and the 'mysterious person,' and instead ask about the supposed law power map.

He directly issued an order, saying that if the map was not seen within an hour, he would hold Nie Qingrong accountable!

Leng Qingxue came for this very reason. From this information, Lin Xun immediately ascertained that the true purpose of Zhu Hun's visit was likely the map related to Forever Fall Forbidden Land.

As for the fates of You Qianheng and Yong Feidu, an Immortal expert like Zhu Hun naturally couldn't care less!

"No wonder an Immortal-level expert was sent here; they're after that law power..."

Realization dawned upon Lin Xun. Moreover, an Immortal-level expert like him would never come to the First Heaven Domain in person to collect mere tribute.

"Dao Brother, what should we do?" Leng Qingxue couldn't help but ask, worried.

Lin Xun thought for a moment and said, "Since he came for the map, he won't make things difficult for Dao Friend Nie as long as he receives it. Take the map to Dao Friend Nie now and let her hand it over to Zhu Hun."

Leng Qingxue was surprised. "Dao Brother, what will you do if you hand over the map?"

Lin Xun pointed to his head. "I have already memorized all the clues on the map."

Leng Qingxue anxiously said, "That's not what I meant. Wouldn't it be too much of a freebie to let Zhu Hun find the law power? That would be a huge loss."

Lin Xun smiled and casually said, "That's why I'll be following Zhu Hun when he sets out to find the law power. When the time comes, we'll see who manages to seize the law power, and which of us...will be able to come out alive from Forever Fall Forbidden Land!"

Towards the end, a cold glint flashed in his eyes.

Chapter 2599 Forever Fall Forbidden Land - Law Fire

Liangyi Hall.

A hint of satisfaction spread across Zhu Hun's lips when he saw the map Nie Qingrong handed to him.

"This map saved your life." He put away the map and glanced at her, causing her to involuntarily jerk under his ice-cold gaze.

"As for the tribute, I'll leave it to the two of you." Zhu Hun gazed at He Youfang and Hong Yinghe.

"Is Elder going now?" He Youfang cupped his hands together. Although he was a member of the He Clan, he still had to be respectful when facing an Immortal expert.

"It's better to be early than late for such things, not to mention, this esteemed one came here for this very law power." Zhu Hun softly sighed. "It's a shame that You Qianheng died too early. Otherwise, given the merit of presenting this map, this esteemed one wouldn't mind bringing him to the Sixth Heaven Domain to cultivate."

A wave of unease washed over Nie Qingrong.

Thankfully, Zhu Hun didn't pursue the matter any further. Instead, he walked out of the hall. "Everyone, this esteemed one will be taking my leave first."

He vanished while his voice continued to echo in the hall.

"Nie Qingrong, why didn't you inform us earlier that you had such a map?" With Zhu Hun now gone, He Youfang's expression immediately darkened. "Do you understand what it would mean to capture a law power?"

Nie Qingrong lowered her head and said, "Your subordinate only just obtained the map, so it was too late to make a report."

"Hmph!"

He Youfang said, "If you reported this in advance, you could have earned great merit that would have allowed you to easily enter the Sixth Heaven Domain to cultivate, but now, the Zhu Clan practically had a freebie land on their lap. I see now that you deserve to be stranded in the First Heaven Domain for the rest of your life!"

With that, he too left with a swish of his sleeves. Nie Qingrong's face paled as a chill crept up in her heart. She realized that He Youfang, who represented the He Clan, was now displeased with her because of this matter!

"What an amazing opportunity."

The Heavenly Inspector from the Hong Clan, Hong Yinghe, also let out a soft sigh. It was unknown whether she was feeling sorry for Nie Qingrong or regretful about her missing such a golden opportunity.

Nie Qingrong lowered her head, not daring to say anything. So what if she was an Emperor Ancestor? So what if she was the principal of Liangyi Academy? In the eyes of these Heavenly Inspectors, she was still no different from a disposable pawn!

"Elder Sister, are you okay?" It wasn't until Hong Yinghe also disappeared into the hall that Leng Qingxue stepped forward and gazed in concern at the downcast-looking Nie Qingrong.

"I'm fine." Nie Qingrong shook her head as she forced a smile. Today's matter might seem to have been completely resolved, but it left her rather upset. It was only after facing these bigwigs from the Sixth Heaven Domain that she realized how small and pathetic she was in their eyes!

"Elder Sister, Dao Brother mentioned that he would follow Zhu Hun when he leaves..."

Before Leng Qingxue could finish, Nie Qingrong's expression changed drastically as she exclaimed, "That's too dangerous! This won't do, I must stop him!"

Immortal experts were existences that could summon the wind and rain in the Sixth Heaven Domain. While Lin Xun might be powerful, how could he possibly be a match for Zhu Hun? However, his residence was already empty when she arrived there with Leng Qingxue.

"He...actually went..." Nie Qingrong looked as if she had lost her soul.

Leng Qingxue comforted her sister, "Elder Sister, since Dao Brother chose to do this, he must have something up his sleeve. I have a feeling that the Zhu Clan's Heavenly Inspector might suffer a big loss this time."

After a while, Nie Qingrong returned to her senses and suddenly remembered some rumors.

Several years ago, an unprecedented bloody storm occurred in the vicinity of the Ruins of the Gods in the Great Thousand Battle Domain due to a certain legendary Fangchun Mountain disciple.

At that time, even Immortal experts died in swathes, let alone ordinary Emperor Ancestors or supreme Emperor Ancestors! All of this started from Lin Xun!

His martial uncle, Kong Jue, had shocked the world in a single battle, drawing the attention of the Eternal True Realm once again. His senior brother, Ling Xuanzi, also rose to fame in the battle, creating quite a stir in the Eternal True Realm!

While Lin Xun might seem to have been overshadowed by his martial uncle and senior brother, after carefully analyzing his battle accomplishments, one would realize how dazzling he had been in the Ruins of the Gods.

Even powerhouses from the Donghuang's Four Clans had been utterly crushed, while even high-ranking experts from the Eighth Heaven Domain had been slaughtered one after another! How could such a formidable individual possibly be measured by common sense?

At this thought, the anxiety and worry in Nie Qingrong's heart subsided substantially and she said, "Qingxue, maybe you're right..."

.....

Whoosh!

Amidst the vastness of heaven and earth, Lin Xun's large sleeves fluttered as he moved through the air. He had moved soon after Zhu Hun departed. However, he didn't follow behind because it was too risky. If the other party noticed, endless troubles would certainly follow.

Instead, he chose a different route that would also lead him to the vicinity of the Withered Willow Mountain Range.

Although my current combat power should be below his, he can't compare to me in terms of subjugating law power...

I'll have to observe and act accordingly. It will naturally be best if I can somehow find a chance to kill him, but even if I can't, I'll still make sure to seize the law power...

Lin Xun moved at full speed while pondering.

He couldn't rely on Martial Uncle Kong Jue at the moment. After being injured outside the Ruins of the Gods several years ago, Kong Jue had fallen into a deep slumber inside the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron.

While Lin Xun was incredibly worried, he couldn't help but find the situation rather comical.

It was because his martial uncle snored like thunder while sleeping. If it weren't for the fact that he was unable to awaken, anyone would have suspected that his injuries were far less serious than they seemed.

Xia Zhi was in a similar state of deep slumber with her slender figure covered by Nirvana law power.

Although Lin Xun had inspected her condition many times, he had no inkling of when she would fully recover from her internal injuries or how much longer she would stay unconscious.

In other words, he could only rely on himself for the current operation.

Instead of being afraid, Lin Xun felt a vague sense of excitement. It was a type of desire to test himself in battle.

He had been keeping a low-profile for several years due to his injuries. Although he still wasn't fully recovered, he could no longer find any worthy opponents at the same realm in the First Heaven Domain!

While the likes of You Qianheng, Yong Feidu, and Rui Taifu were considered top-tier experts in the First Heaven Domain, they were no different from wild chickens or dogs in Lin Xun's eyes.

Moreover, supreme Emperor Ancestors were extremely rare in the first six Heaven Domains, making them practically akin to phoenix feathers or unicorn horns. In other words, he was practically invincible in the First Heaven Domain!

Fortunately, an expert called Zhu Hun had appeared. Although he was a Heavenly Longevity Realm Immortal expert, Lin Xun was itching to test his newly rebuilt cultivation against this formidable foe.

A few days later, under the dusky sky, a biting cold wind raged across the void, emitting ghostly wolf-like howls as a vast mountain range appeared on the horizon. The winding mountain range seemed to stretch without end, covered in boundless acrid, fog-like miasma.

Not a single inch of grass was visible. It was as if all vitality had been drained from the land, leaving only the angrily flowing miasma. In an environment as harsh as this, even an Emperor expert would have their cultivation eroded if they stayed long enough, let alone ordinary cultivators.

This was the barren, uninhabited, and inhospitable land known as the Withered Willow Mountain Range.

Swish!

The air rippled as Lin Xun emerged. Dao light flowed around him, chasing away the dreadful miasma nearby. He lifted his gaze and looked around as a map of Forever Fall Forbidden Land appeared in his mind. After a brief comparison, he walked straight towards the depths of the Withered Willow Mountain Range.

Moments later, he found traces of a battle. Dark black blood stains were splattered across the side of a collapsed mountain peak, while bits of flesh and bone were messily scattered across the ground.

With a sweep of his spirit sense, Lin Xun judged that the battle had only taken place less than fifteen minutes ago. It appeared that several extremely vicious beasts had been slaughtered. From the blood and auras they left behind, he could discern that they were comparable in strength to fifth realm Emperor experts.

However, they had died rather pitifully, killed by a single strike without being able to put up any resistance! His black eyes flickered in thought as he continued on. More traces of battles appeared along the way, resembling the scenes he had first discovered.

"It seems that the old man arrived rather early." Lin Xun quickened his pace without hesitation. He didn't encounter any danger because all of the beasts seemed to have been exterminated by Zhu Hun.

An hour later.

Rumble!

A muffled roar rang out from the depths of the foggy miasma, and Lin Xun's spirit sense immediately moved to investigate. On a barren mountain in the distance, countless grayish-white lightning bolts that were as thick as an arm flickered and intertwined. From time to time, strands of dazzling sparks burst from them, accompanied by a dull rumbling boom that echoed across the area.

His pupils abruptly shrank. The grayish-white lightning was law fire: a terrifying fire formed from the condensation of countless tiny fragments of shattered law power. In the Great Thousand Battle Domain, Lin Xun had once risked his life to collect extinguishing law fire. So how could he not know the dreadfulness of this power?

It was fire that could threaten even Immortal experts! Soon after, joy bubbled in his heart. Since all of his extinguishing law fire had been used up at the Ruins of the Gods, this was an excellent opportunity to collect more law power fire with the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron! With it, he would gain a powerful weapon against an Immortal expert like Zhu Hun.

Whoosh!

While various thoughts were rapidly swirling in Lin Xun's mind, a figure faintly flickered deep in the mountain covered by countless grayish-white lightning bolts, dove into a giant ravine, and disappeared in the blink of an eye.

Despite this, Lin Xun immediately judged that the figure belonged to Zhu Hun!

Chapter 2600 Withered Willow Law

Could the giant ravine be the entrance to Forever Fall Forbidden Land? Lin Xun's heart stirred as he silently approached.

Rumble!

Grayish-white lightning continuously intertwined and collided in the air, splattering wisps of flames that pulsed with extremely dangerous auras. The flames were law fire.

Lin Xun immediately summoned the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron. Millions of dao light rays gushed out and enveloped him as he looked down at the flowing law flames below.

An enormous ravine spread between the barren mountains as if it had been torn open by a giant hand from the heavens. Baleful qi churned within its unfathomable depths, and even with spirit sense, it was impossible to discern anything beyond a thousand feet.

Lin Xun resisted the urge to enter and quietly waited. Like him, it was Zhu Hui's first time entering Withered Willow Mountain Range. Since he had rushed into the ravine, a commotion would likely follow the moment he encountered any unknown perils.

When that happened, Lin Xun, who was waiting here, would immediately notice, allowing him to move at the right moment.

A quarter of an hour quietly passed. Deep in the ravine, no abnormalities could be observed in the swirling mist and Zhu Hui was nowhere to be seen. If the entrance to Forever Fall Forbidden Land was indeed somewhere in the ravine, it was highly likely that Zhu Hui had already entered.

"I can't wait any longer..."

Lin Xun abruptly raised his head and his gaze locked onto the densest patch of grayish-white lightning, where the law flames were also the most numerous.

A split second later, he dashed forth like a streak of light. In a flash, he arrived at his target destination. The long waiting Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron immediately descended.

Rumble!

With a heart-pounding rumble, silver-white lightning bolts crazily bombarded Lin Xun like startled gods of violence. The terrifying radiance produced was so piercing that no one in the vicinity would dare to open their eyes.

Worst of all, the law flames captured by the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron frantically bashed at the walls of the cauldron in a berserk manner in an attempt to escape. The impacts jolted Lin Xun so much that his qi and blood churned uncomfortably, nearly making him vomit blood.

He didn't dare to hesitate a single moment longer and immediately rushed toward the ravine below. In the process, the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron rumbled and trembled violently under the dreadful onslaught.

Without the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron's protection, that destructive power would have easily turned a supreme Emperor Ancestor like Lin Xun to slush.

Only when he finally tumbled into the ravine did the silver-white torrent of lightning finally stop in place. It was as if the ravine was a forbidden zone that they didn't dare to trespass.

Phew~

Amidst the swirling mist of the ravine, Lin Xun let out a long sigh of relief, his back already drenched in cold sweat.

The violent torrent of broken law power had been horrifying beyond imagination. Although the danger had already passed, his senses still felt overstimulated as if he was crazily grabbing beyond on the border of death.

However, the rewards were also tremendous. Inside the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron, the violent law flames were ruthlessly suppressed and restricted by Nirvana law power, rendering them incapable of moving.

Lin Xun counted a total of nineteen law flames! Moreover, their quality and power were not the least bit inferior to the extinguishing law flames he had collected before.

The corners of his lips spread into a smile, before he looked up at the dense mass of grayish-white lightning bolts still producing heart-palpitating flames as they intertwined and collided.

"I will clean out this place when I return!"

Lin Xun licked his lips. With enough law flames, he would have a super killing move. Even when encountering an Immortal-level expert, he could brainlessly throw the flames over with nothing to fear.

Soon after, he discarded these distracting thoughts and his spirit sense spread towards the depths of the ravine like invisible ripples. He moved as well, making sure to be careful and alert.

A quarter of an hour.

Half an hour.

An hour.

Two hours...

Lin Xun didn't encounter any danger in the thickening mist, but a vague sense of unease gradually crept up within him. The ravine was too deep. He had already traveled more than thirty-thousand feet but the end was still nowhere in sight.

To make things worse, when he tried to approach the walls on both sides of the ravine, all he found was emptiness instead of rock. It was as if he had fallen into an endless abyss that spread infinitely in all directions.

The situation was creepy beyond belief!

Forever Fall Forbidden Land...Forever Fall...could I have already reached the mysterious forbidden land recorded on the map?

Lin Xun's eyes flickered in thought.

Forever fall meant falling forever. It was easy to understand but chilling when one properly thought about it. Because it implied that the ravine most likely had no end. Otherwise, it would not be 'forever fall.'

I can't go on like this.

A sense of crisis gradually intensified. However, when he tried to go back up along the original path, a terrifying force pressed downwards on him as if a barrier had appeared above him, making it impossible to return.

To make things worse, the oppressive force pushed him from above, making him fall even faster! Lin Xun's expression changed slightly. He now finally understood why it was called Forever Fall Forbidden Land.

The laws of this godforsaken place made it impossible for anyone who entered to turn back, leaving them no option but to keep falling forever!

Rumble!

Just as Lin Xun was about to channel his full power into the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron to force open a path, a wave of battle fluctuations erupted from the depths of the ravine, stirring up the swirling mist.

At the same time, a shocked and impassioned laugh loudly rang out. "Hahaha, there is indeed a law power in this hellish place!"

Lin Xun's heart fluttered. That was definitely Zhu Hui's voice! He stealthily circulated his aura, retrieved the Limitless Abyss Sword Cauldron into his body, and moved down.

Rumble!

The mist heaved and surged like giant waves. Tree branches as thick as chains waved and danced in the mist, glistening with a grayish-white hue while giving off a boundless aura of terror.

A thin figure was engaged in battle with the branches. Dressed in black, the aura of an immortal glowed around him. It was obviously none other than Heavenly Inspector Zhu Hui from the Zhu Clan. The outline of a hazy white world floated above him, blocking every chain-like branch that lashed at him.

Bang bang bang!

Light rained and splattered amidst the spreading terrifying destructive power. Although the hazy white world shuddered violently each time, it managed to block each and every one of the terrifying attacks. Protected by the white world, Zhu Hui approached the source of the branches step by step.

At closer inspection, he was holding a snow-white crystal rune edict that surged with inexplicable law light. It was this very power that formed the white world above Zhu Hui and defended him from the bizarre branches.

It was a terrifying and strange scene. Numerous bare branches shot forth like divine chains from hell, splattering grayish-white law power with unmatched ferocity. Even an Immortal expert like Zhu Hui was only able to withstand the aggressive law power assault due to the mysterious edict.

"This..."

As he approached step by step, Zhu Hui's eyes suddenly went round. What had he seen? A withered willow tree made from law power!

It had taken root in the void, its bark scorched black as if it had endured years of being endlessly struck by thunderbolts, while surrounded by a dense network of grayish-white lightning.

Its leafless branches were as sharp as swords and became soft and flexible as divine whips when they danced in battle. Strands of law power curled around them, making the branches seem to glow with a terrifying, heart-palpitating aura.

In Zhu Hui's eyes, this was a great blessing that could never be sought through normal means; it was a fortuitous encounter that would be rare and precious even in the Sixth Heaven Domain.

It was most likely a withered willow made from a ninth grade Earth Rank law power!

Rumble!

A branch suddenly lashed out. Zhu Hui staggered backward as the hazy white world above him nearly collapsed. His expression changed. With a deep breath, he unfolded the edict in his hand.

Clang!

The edict swiftly transformed into a stream of snow-white crystalline law power that coalesced into the shape of a silver-white spear. As he grasped the spear, his aura abruptly changed.

"I refuse to believe that my clan's ninth grade Earth Rank law power won't be able to suppress it!"

With a roar, Zhu Hui engaged the withered tree. An intense clash between two law powers unfurled, unleashing a horrifying flood of destruction.

Zhu Hui was strong. Like a domineering god, he wielded the silver-white spear with his Immortal power, boasting unrivaled and unyielding combat strength. However, his expression changed moments later.

"The law power rank of this withered willow isn't the least bit weaker than my clan's extreme yin law power. In fact, it's stronger!" His heart shuddered in surprise as his excitement intensified.

"Could it be a rare ninth grade Earth Rank law power? Or maybe...a Heaven Rank law power?"

Zhu Hui's heart churned as he grew as excited as a ravenous wolf.

Boom!

He went all out, fighting as if his life was on the line. The injuries he accumulated and the blood surging up his throat failed to eliminate the burning excitement within, making him increasingly pleased instead. The stronger the withered willow, the more terrifying it would be once he subdued it!

Soon after, despite his disheveled hair, numerous wounds, and blood-soaked body, Zhu Hui appeared incomparably determined. He looked ready to give everything and more to subdue the withered willow tree.

Rumble!

The withered willow tree shuddered violently as its branches were crushed and turned into specks of light. Its thick trunk turned into a stream of grayish-white lightning that seemed to gradually evaporate like steam in the void.

This was its true form: a mysterious and inexplicable complete law power! Meanwhile, Zhu Hui's complexion was deathly pale as blood continuously dripped from his mouth. His body was tattered and torn, covered in grave injuries.

The battle had nearly taken his life! Despite this, a smile blossomed on his face when he saw the grayish-white law power return to its original form, unable to stop himself from grinning from ear to ear...