

Refining 1131

Chapter 1131 – Coming to an Agreement.

Of course, complaining was just complaining. In the end, Qi Zhen and Thousandhonor Marquis would eventually explain the situation to Qin Yu.

Unless these two old bastards never thought about cooperating to begin with, Qin Yu wouldn't have haphazardly followed them.

The guests and host took their seats. Qi Zhen casually took the seat of honor. Thousandhonor Marquis paid him no attention and stood across from Qin Yu.

Like before, as Qi Zhen pointed a finger, the space within the tent was isolated from the outside.

"Do you want to tell him or do you want me to?" Qi Zhen lazily said, fiddling with the leaf of a demon plant.

A plant that would be carried around by Thousandhonor Marquis was of course not ordinary. Although it looked like a small and ordinary plant right now, once its true form was restored it would gain man-eating features.

But now, the demon plant that Qi Zhen was playing with, even tearing the leaves off of, would tremble in fear but actually didn't dare to resist.

This demon plant had sharp senses. It had no idea who Qi Zhen was, but it could feel the possibility of complete destruction from his aura.

Resisting was impossible. As long as it wasn't pulled out and eliminated, even if its branches and leaves were broken, it had no choice but to endure it!

No...even if it knew it was going to be destroyed, it still didn't dare to resist...the demon plant shivered even harder, emanating a sense of fear and despair.

Thousandhonor Marquis glanced over. He took a breath and said, "I'll tell him. If I'm missing anything, you can chime in."

Qi Zhen made a random gesture and continued to focus on messing with the demon plant on the table, as if he was a pervert who grew more excited the more horrified the plant was.

"Qin Yu, you should know who I am, so I won't speak about that." Thousandhonor Marquis looked at Qin Yu and spoke after a brief hesitation. "Simply put, I am in a similar situation to Qi Zhen. We both want to break the current state of things."

Qin Yu was shaken. He looked at Thousandhonor Marquis. Was this another person who didn't want to live anymore?

Qi Zhen didn't look at Qin Yu but he seemed to guess Qin Yu's thoughts. He curled his lips and said, "Thousandhonor Marquis doesn't want to die. He is the same as...that person. He is far from having lived enough! Tsk tsk...this tenacity, it's hard not to admire it!"

Thousandhonor Marquis glanced at him, not paying attention to these strange words. "In short, Qi Zhen and I have a common goal, and that is to destroy the Nightmare Ancestral Land. And you, you are the person who can help us complete this plan.

"Only the Nightmare King can enter the ancestral land. So, we will do everything in our power to help you defeat your opponents and obtain the throne. As for what happens after entering the ancestral land..."

He took a deep breath and his expression became especially dignified. From this look, Qin Yu could even sense fear.

Just mentioning it caused Thousandhonor Marquis to subconsciously feel fear...there was undoubtedly some great terror in the Nightmare Ancestral Land!

Qin Yu said, "Then, I must ask Thousandhonor Marquis to tell me what I need to do."

Qi Zhen was terrifying. And if this seemingly not-scary Thousandhonor Marquis could cooperate with him, then he had to be equally terrifying.

Facing such a terrifying character, and two of them at that, it would be a lie to say he didn't feel any pressure.

But there was a point that Qin Yu was aware of. They both needed his help to complete their plan.

Perhaps they would conceal some things, but they at least wouldn't harm him. So, he could just barely maintain his composure.

Qi Zhen glanced at him with a look of appreciation. This was also a core reason why he had decided to place his bet on Qin Yu.

If Qin Yu was a gutless and weak-hearted boy, what did it matter even if he managed to enter the Nightmare Ancestral Land?

Courage wasn't necessarily a good thing, but it was a key requirement that a person needed to destroy the Nightmare Ancestral Land.

Thousandhonor Marquis' voice deepened. "There is an ancient existence in the Nightmare Ancestral Land. Its name cannot be spoken out loud, so let's call it 'Shadow' instead."

"Use a different code name!" Qi Zhen raised his head and stared at Thousandhonor Marquis, upset. "You know that I do not like that name."

Thousandhonor Marquis didn't refuse. He hesitated and asked, "Change it to what?"

"Anything works...Thousandhonor Marquis, you are careful enough that you don't even want to be contaminated by any cause and effect. Then, let me think about it." Qi Zhen's eyes brightened. Although he sounded dissatisfied, he was actually fully invested in this matter. He slapped his forehead and said, "I know, what about Old Turtle?"

Qin Yu could clearly see Thousandhonor Marquis' expression stiffen and his pupils shrink with unconstrained fear.

“Haha, that’s appropriate, it really is appropriate!” Qi Zhen clapped his hands and laughed out loud, “I’ve suddenly found that I have a talent in creating nicknames. Thousandhonor Marquis, you’ve used your title for so many years, aren’t you tired of it yet? How about I give you a new one?”

“No thanks!” Thousandhonor Marquis categorically refused. His face was sullen and pale, “There’s no need to trouble yourself!”

Qi Zhen curled his lips, “As you wish. It’s your loss if you refuse anyways...but the name I chose cannot be changed, otherwise you can think of one yourself.”

Thousandhonor Marquis took a deep breath, “Fine!”

It was just a code name and not something he said, so he shouldn’t be aggrieved...how hateful, it was ridiculous if Qi Zhen died so easily...he was just courting death!

Uh...but this seemed to be Qi Zhen’s original goal. If he really could disappear like that, he would be even happier.

After being left speechless, Thousandhonor Marquis restrained his thoughts and continued, “The reason the Nightmare Ancestral Land...can continue to exist, is because of this Old Turtle...and that’s also the reason why I and Qi Zhen are limited. So by eliminating it, you can complete your mission.”

It really was that simple. There was an existence code named ‘Old Turtle’ in the Nightmare Ancestral Land. Although Qin Yu had no idea what it exactly was, he would call it that for the time being.

And once this Old Turtle was killed off, the Nightmare Ancestral Land would be destroyed. Qi Zhen would be able to close his eyes and not wake up, and Thousandhonor Marquis could break out of his difficult situation.

But the simpler it sounded, the more dangerous it was. Thousandhonor Marquis’ various reactions were a clear warning of how dreadful this Old Turtle was.

Qin Yu thought that with his current methods, he was afraid he wouldn’t be able to do this...no, it wasn’t that he was just afraid, but that it was absolutely impossible!

Qi Zhen was so strong and yet he was limited by Old Turtle. Thousandhonor Marquis was almost as strong as him, yet he also had to use this code name.

Then, just how terrifying was this Old Turtle? Just thinking about it left him breathless.

Qi Zhen laughed out loud. “That’s enough. I’ve discovered that Thousandhonor Marquis is lacking in courage and he has no idea what to say. Look at the nonsense you’ve spouted. You’ve frightened Qin Yu before he’s even gone in.”

He finally let go of the shivering demon plant on the tabletop. But, the torn leavens scattered around showed that it had been sufficiently hurt and humiliated.

Now, it shrank into itself, wishing it could hide away.

Qi Zhen rubbed his chin, “Mm...to be exact, Thousandhonor Marquis’ reaction isn’t wrong. This is just how the situation is like.”

Qin Yu: ...

Weren't you reprimanding him a second ago? And now this is the answer you give instead? Hohoho!

Qin Yu felt heartbroken.

Qi Zhen curled his lips. "What are you scared of? If there is no chance of success, do you think we would be wasting our time here with you? We would have killed you a long time ago, refined your soul, and then taken it into the ancestral land to take credit from Old Turtle.

"Old Turtle is indeed strong, but it isn't without weakness. For instance, if it wishes to live on, it has to supplement its strength. This is the reason why Thousandhonor Marquis provoked a war with the Nightmare Beast Territory."

Thousandhonor Marquis nodded. "That's right. I only started these arrangements after receiving the order."

Qi Zhen snapped his fingers, "So right now, you can say that Old Turtle is in its weakest state and this is the best time to get rid of it! And there's another point. To a degree, Old Turtle is the same as me. It might seem strong, but these are just minor methods. Even its true strength cannot be compared to yours."

These words were a bit confusing. What did he mean not strong? Strong was strong. At the very least, in Qin Yu's eyes, the methods Qi Zhen had displayed so far were extremely scary.

And this old fellow had said that if he wanted to kill him, it would be a simple matter. Now he was using this comparison to comfort him? He was simply speechless!

Qi Zhen lightly coughed, feeling that he was being too deceptive. "In short, you don't need to be too scared. Old Turtle is strong, but a major reason for it is that we have no means to resist it when we face it. But Qin Yu, you are different. There is no connection between you and Old Turtle, so it will be difficult for it to control you."

Thousandhonor Marquis said, "That's right, you are...an existence that stands beyond the rules. You can break open all possibilities. Of course, I and Qi Zhen will help you...for instance, we can do something to the nightmare beast crystal nucleuses that are going to be brought into the Nightmare Ancestral Land."

Qin Yu was silent. Although there were still many things he didn't understand, a general outline of the plan had appeared.

He already knew there was danger and never thought of escaping. But since a chance appeared, he had to obtain as many chips as he could to ensure his own safety.

Little blue lamp...should he contact it at this time? After entering the abyss, his connection to it had become extremely weak, as if they would be separated at any moment.

Qin Yu wasn't sure what this meant exactly, but he guessed it was restraining its aura as best as it could to hide itself.

After hesitating a little, Qin Yu discarded any thoughts of contacting the little blue lamp...

Qi Zhen faintly smiled. "Qin Yu, we've basically said all that we can say to you. Although we know that you likely won't refuse, there's always a chance, right? So I should be more honest with you."

He pointed at Thousandhonor Marquis and then at himself, "You might not know everything about our statuses, but you should have guessed enough. Don't deny your cleverness; I am very confident in you. So, if you agree to cooperate with us, you will be good, we will be good, we will all be good...otherwise, hehe, don't blame me for being impolite. The reason this secret is a secret is because people can die for it!"

This was a threat, a stark naked threat that wasn't concealed at all and brightly placed in front of him.

Do you accept or not? If you don't accept then you will die!

Qin Yu was at a loss of words for a second. He felt a bit of regret for telling him about Ning Ling before, otherwise this old fellow wouldn't have dared to be so unscrupulous.

But this also confirmed something else. It would be even more difficult to obtain more information from them.

After a brief silence, Qin Yu said, "I can agree to this, but I hope you two can tell me something. What are the chances that I will survive?"

All of this only had meaning if he survived.

"If you fail you will certainly die. And after you die, the two of us will meet with disaster." Qi Zhen replied without hesitation, "As for succeeding...you will be at death's door. It will be a 99% chance of death and only a sliver of a chance to survive. And it will all depend on your luck."

He was straightforward enough!

Chapter 1132 - Turbulence

Thousandhonor Marquis' eyes twitched, wishing he could choke Qi Zhen. Even if this was true, there was no need to really say it.

How come he didn't know he was such a straightforward person before? Or had he slept for too long this time, so his personality had become completely twisted?

Qin Yu bitterly smiled...as he thought, it was like this. But it was still better than no chance of survival. Otherwise, no matter how confident Qi Zhen seemed, he really would hesitate.

"Great! Then I agree to this matter. What should I do now?"

Qi Zhen clapped his hands and said, "I knew you had the courage. Then it's settled!" He slapped Qin Yu's shoulder and raised an eyebrow at Thousandhonor Marquis, "And you? This is a crucial moment so don't even think of backing out. You have a previous criminal record!"

Thousandhonor Marquis' face darkened and he humphed. "There's no need for you to worry. Just figure out how you want to die!"

These words were rude, but Qi Zhen wasn't angered at all. Rather, he nodded his head in contemplation. "I have to think over it and make sure it's flawless. Otherwise if too great of a commotion is stirred up, it will be easy to be discovered."

He turned and looked at Qin Yu, rubbing his chin, "Boy, what suggestions do you have? A situation where I can be killed and it won't be troublesome."

This was the first time Qin Yu had been asked such a question. Although he had no idea what medicine these two old fellows were selling, he did have a plan.

Thinking of it, Qin Yu said, "First you kill Cloud Mist...of course, I am only speaking of the kind where everyone believes that you killed her. And you need a good motive for that. Then, I will kill you out of revenge. Even if others learn of this, it would be the Ancient King's Lineage who killed the successor of the Old King's Lineage first. They won't have anything they can say about it."

"Great idea!" Qi Zhen raised a thumb in praise. "You are smart, but this plan isn't something that you could have come up with at a moment's notice. It seems that the Old King's Lineage already had a plan in store."

Qin Yu forced a smile. When he and Cloud Boundless came up with this plan, he never thought things would turn out like this.

Thousandhonor Marquis slowly said, "This is not difficult. It can be done with a little manipulation."

The three carefully discussed a bit more. Then, Qi Zhen waved his hand. Qin Yu didn't feel anything, but he vanished from sight.

In the next moment, Qin Yu appeared in the camp of the Old King's Lineage. He looked around and at the camp of Thousandhonor Marquis not too far away, and he sighed gently.

Before, it was one thing when Qi Zhen personally brought him back and forth. Now he only waved a hand to send him away and he had no idea what happened.

This was considered a 'minor' method? Then what terrifying minor methods did the Old Turtle at the Nightmare Ancestral Land have?

Before, he had only been thinking of entering the Nightmare Ancestral Land...but now he realized that only after entering would the true horror begin!

But in any case, he had to survive...the bitterness and helplessness in Qin Yu's eyes faded away until there was nothing left but resolve. He had rushed through numerous deadly situations in coming this far. He could make it out this time too.

If he really fell into desperate straits, at worst he could...put up a shield and fight back.

However, he had no idea if he could smoothly summon the Demon Dragon Elder within the Nightmare Ancestral Land...and even if he successfully summoned him, what if that old dragon turned around and chewed his head off...!

...

The clouds of war hovered over the Nightmare Clan and Nightmare Beast Territory. It grew increasingly dark and gloomy, and could erupt at any moment. But at this time, another major event occurred.

The successor to the Old King's Lineage, Cloud Billow, had undergone another awakening of his bloodline after absorbing a nightmare beast crystal nucleus, transforming into the royal king bloodline.

News instantly spread out, shocking all Nightmare Clansmen in the Nightmare Beast Territory. For a time, the camp of the Old King's Lineage was full of noise and bustle and numerous guests came to visit.

Although Cloud Boundless vigorously denied this matter and didn't acknowledge it at all, he couldn't prevent others from sensing it. After Cloud Billow's bloodline breakthrough, he was unable to restrain his strength, causing his aura to leak out.

This matter was soon confirmed...Cloud Billow had fully awakened the royal bloodline!

In the test of the struggle for the throne, Cloud Billow had awakened the royal bloodline. This was undoubtedly a great bomb for all parties involved.

This was especially true for the Ancient King's Lineage who believed that the new King's throne was already theirs. They found this even more difficult to accept.

In the camp of the Ancient King's Lineage, Seven Wounds Clan Elder paced back and forth, his face dark and gloomy. A cold chill flashed in his eyes.

How hateful!

He had originally prepared plans to announce that Qi Zhen had fully awakened the royal bloodline. This would have guaranteed that the Ancient King's Lineage would obtain even more benefits in the war against the Nightmare Beast Territory.

But who could have imagined that before he had a chance to do anything, Cloud Billow would also awaken the royal bloodline. The commotion was so great that it completely stole the limelight from the Ancient King's Lineage.

Stealing the limelight wasn't much, but Cloud Billow had actually awakened the royal bloodline. He could not endure this.

The throne must belong to the Ancient King's Lineage...if they didn't, the series of consequences that would occur would completely destroy them.

He took a deep breath and said, "Qi Zhen, you have already awakened the royal bloodline. Can you sense Cloud Billow's aura?"

He wanted to confirm once more.

Qi Zhen nodded. He said, "Yes, I can feel Cloud Billow's aura. He has fully awakened the royal bloodline." He swept his eyes around. Those here were absolute confidantes of the Ancient King's Lineage. "Cloud Billow will be my greatest threat in capturing the throne...because in my senses, his bloodline gives me a suppressive feeling...so I hope that you may all take action to kill him!"

The faces of everyone in the camp changed.

The successor of the Old King's Lineage might have a precious status, but killing him was just killing him. In the end, he was merely a junior that hadn't yet grown up.

But now, Cloud Billow had awakened the royal bloodline...in other words, he had the qualifications to ascend the throne of the Nightmare King.

Killing such a Cloud Billow would produce a storm ten times, a hundred times greater. It would shake the very foundation of the Nightmare Clan.

This was not a minor matter!

Moreover, Cloud Boundless was here. He might have patiently endured it before, but if Cloud Billow was really killed off now...they feared that old thing would go crazy. Who knew how many people would die together with him?

That's right, after killing Cloud Billow, Cloud Boundless also had to die. Only after eliminating him could they fully erase the threat of the Old King's Lineage.

In the silence, Seven Wounds Clan Elder looked up. His sharp eyes landed on the silent Thousandhonor Marquis.

"Thousandhonor Marquis, do you think we should do this?"

Thousandhonor Marquis looked back and then at Qi Zhen. He furrowed his eyebrows and let out a breath, "Qi Zhen has already awakened the royal bloodline so there is no reason for us to back down...once Cloud Billow dies, everything will be settled!"

After a pause he continued, "As for Cloud Boundless, if I join together with Seven Wounds Clan Elder it will be enough to suppress him. And as for the turbulence that will follow...once Cloud Billow dies, we can announce that Qi Zhen has awakened the royal bloodline. This will resolve all issues."

Seven Wounds Clan Elder shouted, "Good!"

He smiled in satisfaction. Thousandhonor Marquis might be independent and erratic, but his interests were closely tied with the Ancient King's Lineage.

At important times, he still knew what decisions to make.

With the support of Thousandhonor Marquis, the Ancient King's Lineage could move without scruples in the Nightmare Beast Territory...Cloud Boundless, your time of death is near!

...

The war against the Nightmare Beast Territory finally roared to life!

Raging flames of war blazed into existence, releasing their own violence and destruction.

Countless nightmare beasts howled in sorrow as they were struck down, turned into crystal nucleuses that were taken away by the Nightmare Clan as spoils of war.

The nightmare beast kings desperately resisted but they were still pressed into the ground and beaten.

From the start, the massive disparity in strength between both sides led to a doomed result.

Of course, when the Nightmare Beast Territory faced off against the invasion, they weren't lacking all power to resist. For example, the Giant Alligator King and Golden Eagle King were able to cause damage to the Nightmare Clan.

These two top class nightmare beast kings had come to some kind of unknown agreement. They laid down their battle to join forces against their common enemy.

Thousandhonor Marquis moved according to the circumstances. He enlisted powerhouses from all sides to encircle and kill the two top class beast kings. Cloud Boundless and Seven Wound Clan Elder, as well as countless powerhouses, were included in the name list.

During the siege against the two top level beast kings, the skirmishes occurring on other battlefields came to a temporary pause. The forces were recalled in order to avoid a frantic counterattack that would lead to more casualties.

The team of powerhouses that were to kill the Giant Alligator King and Golden Eagle King set off. If everything went as planned, the death of the two top class beast kings would lead to the end of this war.

But before then, there was a disturbance that was brewing. And it would eventually erupt...because, someone had to die.

Although no one knew what the conflict was, it was produced because of the friction between the Ancient King's Lineage and the Old King's Lineage. Their long hatred exploded when they met, leading to a series of uncontrollable matters.

It just so happened that at this moment, there was a raid from nightmare beast kings on the camp. To ensure the safety of the camp, Thousandhonor Marquis led powerhouses to fight back.

Without sufficient suppressive pressure in the camp, the situation intensified. Cloud Billow was eventually killed, slayed in full view of the public by Qi Zhen.

Cloud Billow, who had awakened the royal bloodline and was considered by countless people to inevitably be the new Nightmare King, was killed off like that.

Everyone who saw this felt a chill shoot up their backs, making them feel as if they had fallen into an icy lake.

They could not figure out how things had come to this point. But even an idiot could tell that the Old King's Lineage would never let go of Cloud Billow's death. This would inevitably detonate into tumultuous chaos that would sweep over the entire Nightmare Clan.

But things didn't proceed as everyone thought. This was because Qi Zhen, who had just killed Cloud Billow, was immediately killed by someone else.

And the one who killed him was someone from the Old King's Lineage, named Qin Yu.

This time it was the turn of the Ancient King's Lineage to go insane. They had smoothly killed Cloud Billow, but now Qi Zhen had been slain too?

Was this a joke? If Qi Zhen died, would the rest of them have a good life?

If it weren't for Thousandhonor Marquis and the others repelling the attack of the nightmare beast kings and hurrying back to the camp in time, a war might have erupted between the Ancient King's Lineage and the Old King's Lineage.

Thousandhonor Marquis forcibly interfered, finally suppressing the matter. But everyone knew that things wouldn't end so easily now that Cloud Billow and Qi Zhen had both died.

Undercurrents shook the Nightmare Clan. This wasn't because of the inevitable collision that would occur between the Ancient King's Lineage and Old King's Lineage, but because with the deaths of Cloud Billow and Qi Zhen, the struggle for the new King's throne had become chaotic once more.

Originally, no one had hopes. But now...there seemed to be a chance...in that case, should they try and struggle a bit?

As everyone's hearts were unstable, Qin Yu, surrounded by guards from the Old King's Lineage, was the first to leave the Nightmare Beast Territory. This was to avoid any attacks from the Ancient King's Lineage.

As the troop left, a strange female Demon Commander joined their ranks. Although she appeared abruptly, she didn't attract any attention at all. Along with Qin Yu, they both vanished into the transmission array.

Chapter 1133A – Help and Thanks

Adversity Peak City, Bluetile Courtyard.

Qin Yu smiled. "Congratulations. From now on, you can live in this world using your true identity."

The woman in front of him had delicate eyebrows and exquisite facial features. She was tall and proud. As she heard this, her eyes rippled and she bowed, "I have you to thank for all of this...Qin Yu, I never imagined that there would come a day when I would be able to recover my true identity."

She looked at Qin Yu and felt her heart wrench. This was the man she had settled on, but she was actually doomed to be unable to be together with him.

But in the end, she was a successor that the Old King's Lineage had carefully trained for many years. She took a deep breath and suppressed the emotions in her heart, earnestly saying, "Qin Yu, I have freed myself, but what will you do? The Ancient King's Lineage will not give up on this. Qi Zhen has died...they will surely go crazy."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed with guilt. Even Cloud Boundless hadn't been informed about this plan. It was all to make it seem as real as possible so that no one discovered it.

So Cloud Mist remained unaware.

He lightly coughed. "Don't worry, I'll be fine. Just go into hiding for a time and don't reveal any flaws."

As he spoke, he laughed, "After all, it was Qi Zhen who killed you first. I only killed him in revenge...if others were to find out you are still alive, then I will be truly pitiful."

Cloud Mist nodded, not saying much. She could feel that Qin Yu was hiding something. But for some unknown reason, she didn't feel any restlessness.

What she felt was still worry.

After all, with his status, it was impossible for him to do anything that endangered the Old King's Lineage.

If Qin Yu were to hear her thoughts, he would have bitterly smiled. What status did he have?

If he hadn't entered the abyss, eventually causing his impression of the abyssal demon race to change, then he really wouldn't have minded inciting a war between the Ancient King's Lineage and the Old King's Lineage, drawing the entire Nightmare Clan into an era of internal strife, and thus weakening the overall strength of the abyss.

"That's enough. Stop wasting time with this little girl. Since we came out first, we have other arrangements to deal with." The already dead Qi Zhen's voice resounded in Qin Yu's mind.

This caused Qin Yu's eyes to cloud over a little. He immediately covered it up and said, "Cloud Mist, I have some matters that I have to deal with alone for the time being."

"Okay...if you need anything, just ask." Cloud Mist nodded before turning and walking away.

When the doors shut tight, Qin Yu coldly snorted, "Senior, isn't this different from what we discussed before?"

After Qi Zhen was killed, Qin Yu discovered that his soul had leapt into his body.

Or to be more accurate, it was the shadow beneath him!

The shadow wriggled up, turning into a phantom that comfortably leaned back against a sofa. "Stop pretending. You kid, you are acting as if you're angry, but I bet you're overjoyed inside. After all, since I'm with you, I must enter the Nightmare Ancestral Land too, so how can I stay out and let you deal with everything yourself?"

As he spoke, he lifted a teacup and took a drink. Qi Zhen was now a shadow, so it was unknown where the tea he drank went.

Qin Yu's eyes sparkled. Qi Zhen wasn't mistaken. In truth, his happiness over this was greater than his anger. But facts were facts and he had to display the correct attitude.

He wanted to give Qi Zhen a reminder that for anything that happened in the future, he had to give him as clear an explanation as possible so that he wouldn't be caught off guard again.

In truth, when 'Qi Zhen' was killed and his soul suddenly flew into his shadow, Qin Yu was given a scare.

He even thought about the worst case situation...that everything Qi Zhen and Thousandhonor Marquis said before was just to lull him into a state of false confidence. What the two truly wanted was to seize his body and enter the Nightmare Ancestral Land themselves to complete the plan to destroy it.

Or perhaps, there was no so-called destruction plan, and everything was to have him quietly disappear...after all, according to what they said, Qin Yu's existence broke all rules. If the two didn't have any intention of betrayal, then it was natural for them to kill him.

Luckily, these dark and sinister thoughts didn't develop into facts.

When Qi Zhen drilled into his shadow, Qin Yu couldn't feel any aura at all. It was like Qi Zhen had truly fused inside and had become a part of his shadow.

Qin Yu wasn't overthinking this. With the methods that Qi Zhen had revealed so far, accomplishing this wasn't difficult.

But that was another topic.

In short, after expressing his attitude, Qin Yu didn't care whether he was seen through by Qi Zhen. He directly said, "What do we do now?"

Qi Zhen said, "That Thousandhonor Marquis fellow might be cooperating with us, but he cannot be fully trusted. So for safety reasons, we must create something that will thoroughly suck him into this matter so he can forget about withdrawing."

He coldly sneered, "At that time, even if Thousandhonor Marquis has some other thought, he will only be able to keep it in his belly...this is a rare opportunity to do anything to that Old Turtle in the ancestral land. It cannot be missed out!"

Qin Yu rubbed his forehead. Qi Zhen had babbled on and on, but after thinking about it carefully he still didn't know anything.

These people, why did they like to speak so vaguely as if they wanted to be some kind of fog-covered mountain? Couldn't they be more direct!?

Qi Zhen seemed to sense Qin Yu's thoughts. He looked up and strangely smiled. "Do you think that I'm being too long-winded and not straightforward? But in fact, if I spoke clearly, maybe I would be fine, but you would definitely be in trouble...if you don't believe me, maybe we can try..."

Before Qin Yu could say anything, Qi Zhen's complexion darkened, turning serious. "Thousandhonor Marquis came into being and hid in the Nightmare Clan because he is shouldering a mission of destruction. And the target that he must destroy is..."

Qin Yu's eyes widened. Fear surged within him without warning, as if death would arrive at any moment.

Bang –

Outside Adversity Peak City, winds and clouds began to surge as the skies turned pitch black and all light vanished. The entirety of Bluetile Courtyard fiercely shook as countless cracking sounds filled the air and the whole courtyard sank down three inches.

Countless demons from the Old King's Lineage were pushed into the floor, their eyes wide with endless fear. At this moment, they could feel a boundless pressure suddenly arrive. Any movement could grind them to dust.

Qi Zhen's eyes lit up. Without any hesitation, he lifted a hand and grasped forward.

His hands were clearly empty, but he seemed to have caught something...it was like a big fish in water, struggling to escape.

Qin Yu's heart throbbed. Before he could think further, a fierce shock roared into his mind.

At this moment, even with his soul cultivation and powerful will, he still couldn't resist this shaking strength. His consciousness immediately fell stagnant.

In a trance, Qin Yu felt someone slap his forehead. He shuddered as his consciousness returned.

It was only now that he felt the terrifying feeling that coursed all through his body, as if he was being squeezed into a meat patty.

Qin Yu's chest ached and he spat out a mouthful of blood. His face paled and he stared at Qi Zhen.

Right now, Qi Zhen was coughing but laughing out happily. There was nothing between the five fingers of his shadow, but Qin Yu felt as if he held some kind of terrifying existence.

"Hehe, after so many years, you've finally been fooled by me once...it's not that bad..." As Qi Zhen spoke, he coughed even fiercer. The shadows that formed his body violently shook, like he would break apart at any moment.

Then, in front of Qin Yu, he really did break apart and fade away.

Qin Yu was stunned. Then he heard Qi Zhen's weak voice in his ears, "I played a bit too much, but it would be a pity not to do that when there was such a good opportunity...anyways, I have to recover. I can't help you with what you must do next, so do it yourself."

A thought spread into his mind.

Before Qin Yu could respond, Qi Zhen's aura thoroughly faded away. If it wasn't for the ripples that appeared in his shadow, Qin Yu would really be worried that this fellow had died!

Chapter 1133B – Help and Thanks

Adversity Peak City, City Lord Mansion.

Qin Yu raised his head, looking at the majestic main entrance. His eyes flashed and a trace of brilliance appeared.

The Nightmare Clan started a war against the Nightmare Beast Territory. Cloud Boundless, Seven Wounds Clan Elder, Thousandhonor Marquis, and many others had all gone there to participate.

But on this great list, there wasn't Blue Sea's name...in other words, he was excluded and was not eligible to participate in the distribution of benefits from the Nightmare Beast Territory.

With Blue Sea's status and position, he absolutely had the qualifications to participate. This result showed what sort of awkward position he was in within the Nightmare Clan right now.

He had killed the previous City Lord through a challenge and succeeded him, rising up like a comet. Yet because of this, even though he joined the Ancient King's Lineage he still wasn't completely trusted.

Without a foundation and with no allies in the Clan Elder Assembly, of course there were times when he had to suffer setbacks. For instance, when he moved against Cloud Mist...strictly speaking, Blue Sea had enough status to plot out plans like Cloud Boundless, Seven Wounds, and many others. But he was forced to appear in person and ended up in a distressed state.

As for the distribution of benefits...hoho, sorry to say, but there really was no share for him right now.

Of course, it was impossible for Qin Yu to think that Blue Sea could be used just because of this. More importantly, when he 'killed' Qi Zhen, he discovered something interesting.

This Adversity Peak City Lord might be unwilling to be alone and wanted to stir up some wind and rain in the competition for the new King's throne.

"Halt! This land is the City Lord Mansion, those without invitation cannot enter!" A guard at the entrance shouted out, his ice cold gaze locked onto Qin Yu. As long as Qin Yu did anything wrong, he would welcome an all-out attack.

Qin Yu said, "Could you pass on a message for me? Qin Yu from the Old King's Lineage requests an audience with the City Lord."

The guard's complexion changed. Although the demons who went to participate in the subjugation of the Nightmare Beast Territory had yet to return, some news had come back.

A key point was that a conflict had erupted between the Ancient King's Lineage and the Old King's Lineage, and Qin Yu was a vital part of this.

At this time, the guard didn't believe that anyone would dare to pretend to be Qin Yu. After all, if news that he was here was leaked, powerhouses from the Ancient King's Lineage might soon arrive to smash him to bits.

What was Qin Yu's goal here? He was now an infamous person. Even Qi Zhen had died beneath his hands, so no one dared to be careless around him.

"Please wait a moment, I will immediately pass on the message!" A guard turned and rushed into the City Lord Mansion.

Soon, a demon appeared from the other side of the door. He looked at Qin Yu and then turned around and waved a hand, "Take them away."

A group of black-armored demons poured out. The expressions of the guards changed but they didn't resist at all as they were carried away.

As for the guard who went to send a message, he had long since disappeared. He was likely with these people and had his freedom limited right now.

After completing all of this, the demon cupped his hands together and said, "May I ask why Your Excellency Qin Yu has arrived? Our reception has been embarrassing. There are many people here, so please follow me."

Qin Yu nodded, "Thank you."

After entering the City Lord Mansion, the demon in front of him said, "My name is Yun Teng, I am a part of the mansion staff. During the banquet I saw Your Excellency Qin Yu from afar." His manner was calm and his expression was warm. "The City Lord has ordered me to ask you, what is the purpose of your visit here today?"

Qin Yu smiled. "There is a matter I hope to obtain the City Lord's help with."

He spoke straightforwardly. Yun Teng paused for a moment before he smiled and said, "This must not be a simple request. I hope that you can obtain a satisfactory result today."

As he spoke he paused and gestured a hand, "Your Excellency Qin Yu, the City Lord is waiting inside."

As his voice fell, Blue Sea's calm voice resounded in their ears, "Bring Sir Qin Yu inside."

Yun Teng respectfully bowed, "Your Excellency Qin Yu, please!"

Since he had come, there was no reason to hesitate. Although this building didn't seem normal...Qin Yu didn't feel that Blue Sea would flip the table on him.

Even if he had already pledged himself to the Ancient King's Lineage!

Taking a step in, he could feel weak spatial fluctuations. This was a barrier that blocked inside and outside auras.

The building wasn't large and was arranged like a study. Blue Sea held an ancient beast skin scroll in his hands. He stood up and cupped his hands together, "Sir Qin Yu, we meet again."

Qin Yu bowed in courtesy. "Today, I came to ask the City Lord for help. At the same time, I would also like to take this chance to express my thanks."

Blue Sea was confused. "When did I help Sir Qin Yu?"

Qin Yu said, "In the Nightmare Beast Territory, if it weren't for Clear Sea retreating then I might not have been able to kill Qi Zhen and take revenge. Since this was so important, I certainly had to come here personally and give thanks."

Blue Sea laughed, "Sir Qin Yu, I fear you made a mistake. I have already expressed my stance and said that I would support the Ancient King's Lineage in seizing the throne, so why would I help you here?"

His gaze was faint and full of unpredictability. "It is Sir Qin Yu who has great courage. You clearly know that I made a choice and yet you still dare to come to the City Lord Mansion. Aren't you afraid that I will capture you and hand you over to the Ancient King's Lineage...after all, this would be a great merit."

Qin Yu had a tranquil expression, "Since I came here, of course I'm not worried about such things. The City Lord absolutely would not hand me over to the Ancient King's Lineage. After all, if I say something, I'm sure you will be in grave trouble."

Blue Sea looked at him, "Does Sir Qin Yu believe that some accusations without any evidence would cause me trouble? Perhaps you are too confident in yourself."

Qin Yu said, "I have no evidence...but Clear Sea himself is the best evidence. Unless City Lord plans on killing him, the Ancient King's Lineage can simply confirm the strength he is hiding and they will naturally believe my words.

"Certainly, City Lord might have many ways to argue back, but will the Ancient King's Lineage believe you?"

Blue Sea was silent for a moment. Then he laughed in acclaim, "Sir Qin Yu has sublime wisdom. May I ask what help you came here today for? If I can help, I would be glad to make friends with Sir Qin Yu."

These words alone were a statement. Yun Teng's complexion changed. He looked at Qin Yu in a different light.

As one of the City Lord's most trusted confidantes, he certainly understood Blue Sea's personality. To be openly threatened and yet be able to patiently endure it, this proved just how much he dreaded Qin Yu.

Was Qin Yu really that frightening?

Even if he couldn't figure it out he wouldn't say anything. As a trusted advisor of the City Lord, he could only give advice and not make decisions.

Qin Yu said, "Then I must thank the City Lord ahead of time...this matter won't be a major problem to you."

Blue Sea smiled, hinting for him to continue.

"I hope to obtain one or two items that have been contaminated with Thousandhonor Marquis' aura." Qin Yu calmly said.

The atmosphere fell silent.

Blue Sea's pupils widened. He never thought that Qin Yu would make such an unexpected request.

His gaze sharpened as he looked at Qin Yu. It was like he wanted to completely see through him.

Thousandhonor Marquis...Qin Yu's current intention was clearly to do something to him...but why? Or, had he noticed something?

In a flash, countless thoughts ran through Blue Sea's mind. The emotions on his face grew increasingly heavy.

"Qin Yu, do you understand what you are doing?" After a long silence, he slowly spoke up, his expression grim. "Thousandhonor Marquis is one of the peak existences of my Nightmare Clan, one of the cornerstones of the entire tribe...after proposing such a request, do you really think I wouldn't dare to suppress you?"

Qin Yu's lips curved up in a smile. "If City Lord really believes that you can suppress me so easily, why speak so much?"

His smile vanished and his eyes hardened, "Or should I be more direct? Although City Lord is strong, it still isn't enough to suppress me."

Yun Teng took a step forward. This previously calm and kind staff member had unsheathed his sword. He could release a heaven-shaking blow at any time.

Being locked onto by this person, Qin Yu's back turned cold. In his chest, the heart of the abyss skipped a beat.

"Anyone that disrespects the City Lord...must die!"

Blue Sea lifted a hand, "Yun Teng, stay your hand. Do not be disrespectful to Sir Qin Yu."

Yun Teng took a breath and stepped back. As he did, his aura restrained itself, like a sword returning to its sheath.

This ability to control his strength was sufficiently startling.

Qin Yu smiled. "City Lord truly has capable subordinates. Just a single Clear Sea has surprised me, but I didn't think there would be another."

Blue Sea lightly said, "I cannot compare to someone like Sir Qin Yu, who would dare to target Thousandhonor Marquis...hoho, to speak the truth, there aren't many people in the entire Nightmare Clan that I do not understand, but Thousandhonor Marquis is absolutely one of them. And the most dangerous one at that. Qin Yu...you are playing with fire right now. It's not too late to give up, otherwise you will end up burning yourself to ashes in the end."

Qin Yu said, "I understand what I am doing. I hope that the City Lord can help me with this minor favor."

"Minor favor?" Blue Sea shook his head. He flipped a hand and a round black bead appeared in his palm. "This thing is a tool worn by Thousandhonor Marquis in the past. It has absorbed some of his aura. I inadvertently obtained it previously. If this still cannot meet your needs, there is nothing else I can do to help you."

He really had something!

Qin Yu was overjoyed. To be honest, he just came here with the mindset of trying. Thousandhonor Marquis was unwilling to remain in his current predicament, and even now Qin Yu had no idea what this predicament was.

But that wasn't important. What was important was that a person who was unwilling to remain in the status quo would definitely contact other unwilling comrades. Only by joining forces could they stir up a greater storm and find a chance to break through the situation.

So Qin Yu had made a bet that Thousandhonor Marquis had some contact with Blue Sea.

Although this judgment was a bit forced and risky, Qin Yu wasn't worried that Blue Sea would reveal anything...because just like Qin Yu said before, he really did have the City Lord Mansion's weakness.

That Clear Sea had truly hidden himself deeply. When Qin Yu went to kill Qi Zhen, Clear Sea had erupted with his aura for a brief instant.

In fact, Qin Yu hadn't noticed it. It was Qi Zhen who had told him that Clear Sea was a considerably good little kid.

As long as Clear Sea survived, he would remain the best evidence. During this crucial time as people fought for the new King's throne, the guilty Blue Sea wouldn't dare take such risks.

In short, it didn't matter if it was true or not. Qin Yu just didn't think he would hit the jackpot on the first attempt.

Blue Sea had inadvertently obtained this bead? Hum hum, not even a ghost would believe this.

It seemed that this fellow had a great number of plans. He had been thinking about how to deal with Thousandhonor Marquis for a long time.

But Qin Yu also wondered, did Blue Sea really know the details about Thousandhonor Marquis?

It had to be known that he was a terrifying existence who could cooperate with Qi Zhen. Who knew what else he was hiding beneath the surface?

Tsk tsk, if he didn't come here today and Blue Sea really carried out his own plans to move against Thousandhonor Marquis, he would have likely been blown into pieces and died in an incomparably tragic manner.

Thinking like this, then he had indirectly saved Blue Sea's life...this fellow, his luck was really good!

Blue Sea furrowed his eyebrows. He always felt that there was something wrong with Qin Yu's eyes. Had he aroused his suspicions?

But even if he was suspected, there was no evidence at all. It would be a pity if he missed out on such an opportunity.

Qin Yu received the bead and cupped his hands together. "Thank you for the help, City Lord. There's no need to see me out. We'll meet again in the future if there's a chance."

He turned and walked away.

Chapter 1134 – Truly Old Man

Yun Teng took a deep breath, confusion etched on his face. "City Lord, how can you endure this? This Qin Yu is too insolent!"

Blue Sea smiled. "Thousandhonor Marquis is unfathomably deep. Since this person wants to try something, what's wrong with helping him? As for his attitude..."

He looked at Yun Teng and said, "You have followed by my side for many years, so how can you not have realized a truth? The abyss has always revered strength above all...if I do not have full confidence that I can suppress Qin Yu, then he naturally has the qualifications to be insolent in front of me."

Yun Teng was puzzled. He couldn't say that he knew the entirety of the City Lord's strength, but it was far deeper than what it seemed on the surface.

Qin Yu could kill Qi Zhen, so he had to be strong. But if someone said he could compare with the City Lord or be even stronger than that, Yun Teng wouldn't believe it.

Blue Sea saw his confusion but didn't give any further explanation. He didn't care much about Qin Yu at first, but now...hoho, it seemed he had underestimated him.

Having killed Qi Zhen and taken revenge for the Old King's Lineage, did he plan on substituting for Cloud Billow? If so, then giving him a much higher evaluation wasn't a problem.

And Qin Yu's parting words still echoed in Blue Sea's mind. They would meet again...it seemed there was another profound meaning behind these words.

Interesting, how truly interesting. Perhaps even more twists and turns would appear in this competition for the throne.

Blue Sea took a deep breath. When he let it out, a dazzling light erupted in his eyes.

In any case, he believed he would be the last one smiling. For this goal, he had prepared a corresponding price...he would not fail, he absolutely would not!

...

Qin Yu looked at the round bead that gradually sank into the ground below, and he smiled. Such a difficult thing had been solved so easily. It seemed that his luck was quite good.

He hoped that his good luck would continue to last until he returned from the Nightmare Ancestral Land.

But committing the result entirely to luck was clearly an irresponsible approach for handling his own life.

His eyes flashed with a sharp light. He was waiting, waiting for the little blue lamp's next action.

Some time ago –

When Qi Zhen's consciousness fell silent, a weak fluctuation appeared in his connection with the little blue lamp.

This was not an accident. Although the little blue lamp hadn't sent a thought transmission, the act of shaking their connection was in itself a hint.

If it didn't want to do something, then with the little blue lamp's carefulness it wouldn't have done that. The long silence from before was clear evidence of this.

In other words, it was prepared to do something...Qin Yu had no idea what the little blue lamp wanted to do, but his intuition told him that it wouldn't be simple.

Originally, even if Qi Zhen fused into his shadow and Thousandhonor Marquis cooperated with him, Qin Yu had no confidence that he could destroy the Nightmare Ancestral Land.

After all, what he had to face was a powerful existence code named Old Turtle, an existence so frightening that even Thousandhonor Marquis was scared.

But now, with the little blue lamp's movement, Qin Yu finally had some basis for confidence.

He had no idea how many people would try to take the stage in this upcoming major drama. But maybe he could try to be the last one remaining!

...

The war against the Nightmare Beast Territory ended. The final outcome was as expected. The Giant Alligator King, Golden Eagle King, and the rest of the seven remaining nightmare beast kings were slain, and six precious king-rank crystal nucleuses were offered up.

Innumerable nightmare beasts had died. Although this war hadn't lasted long, it had severely damaged the Nightmare Beast Territory.

For at least the next thousand years, they wouldn't have any strength to cause disturbances. When they regained their strength, that would be the time for the next harvest.

The nightmare beast kings might not be ignorant of this, but what could they do? If they wanted to survive, they could only endure the humiliation. To put it bluntly, they had to fall to their knees and beg.

Of course, the Nightmare Clan wasn't without losses. The reason they only obtained six king-rank crystal nucleuses in the end was because the Giant Alligator King blew himself up.

This strongest of nightmare beast kings had only been a thread away from breaking into the King boundary. He desperately fought back against the suppression of the Nightmare Clan, finally managing to successfully destroy his own crystal nucleus.

A peak Demon Commander powerhouse had poor luck and was tied down by the Giant Alligator King. Without being able to escape, he was blown apart and met a cruel and horrible death.

The other Nightmare powerhouses that surrounded the Giant Alligator King were wounded. Many of them were severely injured and would need at least several years to recover.

Cloud Boundless withdrew fully intact. In fact, when the troop went to encircle the Giant Alligator King, he was at the forefront. But he was smart enough and sensed something wrong, and thus ran away quickly. This was the only reason he managed to escape the core of the explosion.

This caused Seven Wounds Clan Elder's teeth to itch with hate. How come this bastard wasn't blown up?

Because Qi Zhen and Cloud Billow had died, the Ancient King's Lineage and Old King's Lineage tore apart all pretense of face. When the two factions were damaged in the war, if one looked closely they would see the handiwork of the other party involved.

Thousandhonor Marquis had a private talk with Seven Wounds Clan Elder and then found Cloud Boundless afterwards. It was unknown what they talked about specifically, but both sides maintained a certain degree of restraint and the conflict didn't erupt beyond all redemption.

But everyone understood that the Ancient King's Lineage and the Old King's Lineage were not the winners of the nightmare beast hunt. They had each lost their best successor. This time, the struggle for the new King's throne might not be their stage!

...

Seven Wounds Clan Elder fell on his knees, his face full of shame. "Patriarch, I am responsible for Qi Zhen's death. I ask you to punish me!"

Across from him, the Ancient King Patriarch had a calm expression. His eyes were shut tight as he leaned back against a chair. He was like a silent mountain, solemn and dignified. He slowly said, "Tell me everything. From beginning to end."

Seven Wounds Clan Elder didn't stand up. He remained kneeling on the floor as he explained everything that occurred in the Nightmare Beast Territory.

The Ancient King Patriarch opened his eyes, a trillion bolts of lightning flashing there. "Does this matter have any signs of Thousand Honor Marquis' influence?"

Seven Wounds Clan Elder shook his head, "Patriarch, I have carefully investigated what happened, and although there are some coincidences, there are no signs of his interference."

The Ancient King Patriarch nodded, not responding.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder clenched his teeth, "Now that Qi Zhen has died...who is our alternative?"

This was perhaps the most important issue in the Ancient King's Lineage right now. No matter how outstanding Qi Zhen was, it was meaningless now that he had died.

Whoever was chosen would rise up to become a pivotal figure in the entire family, and have the qualifications to aspire to the peak!

"There is no alternative." The Ancient King Patriarch's voice was calm, but exuded an inexplicable meaning.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder stiffened. His eyes widened with disbelief. How could the solemn Ancient King's Lineage not have a backup plan for the struggle for the new King's throne?

Qi Zhen had been killed but the Patriarch said there was no other choice. If he didn't hear this with his own ears he simply wouldn't have believed it.

A trace of bitterness and helplessness appeared in the Ancient King Patriarch's eyes. The ancestral land had given a reminder to the Ancient King's Lineage that someone with the royal bloodline would awaken amongst their ranks and inherit the empty throne. He had already determined there would be no problems, so why would he need to make separate preparations?

That would be disrespectful to the ancestral land!

And now, while Qi Zhen had indeed awakened the royal bloodline, he had perished midway...this was different from what the ancestral land had said. Where had a problem occurred?

Why would another royal bloodline awaken in the Old King's Lineage? Was Qi Zhen and Cloud Billow's deaths really so simple?

The Ancient King Patriarch's heart fluttered with restlessness. This was the reason he had traveled to Adversity Peak City to participate in the struggle for the throne. Otherwise, he wouldn't be willing to come so close to this city that was so close to the ancestral land...

This concerned a secret...a great secret that only the few highest ranked people within the Nightmare Clan knew about.

The purpose of the throne was to secure the hopes of the family, allowing them to prosper. But this also represented an unknown terror!

He suppressed these thoughts and looked up. The Ancient King Patriarch said, "That old thing from the Old King's Lineage has arrived. I will personally discuss this issue with him. Pass down an order. The other clansmen are not to act rashly."

Seven Wounds Clan Elder nodded respectfully.

He was very strong, so he had the qualifications to be arrogant. But, the Patriarch was stronger. As for how much stronger...even now, he hadn't discovered the Patriarch's limits.

If the will of the abyss hadn't limited a tribe to only having one true King, he suspected that the Patriarch would have already broken into the King boundary.

But even if he wasn't at the King boundary, someone like the Patriarch couldn't be defined by the strength of the Demon Commander realm anymore.

At the same time, in the cracked and messy Bluetile Courtyard, Cloud Boundless respectfully bowed to an old man sitting in a seat of honor.

It was a really, really old person.

Qin Yu could clearly sense the rich aura of death and decay coming from this person. He was even surprised that this person was still living.

His body was incredibly withered, like a bag of skin hanging off bones. The sparse white hairs on his head could almost be counted.

But such an old person, someone who seemed as if they would die at any time, was the Patriarch of the Old King's Lineage, and someone who Cloud Boundless bowed respectfully towards.

This alone proved that what he saw wasn't everything. This unbelievably old person had to be hiding a terrifying power.

"Rise. I know what happened already. You did well." The Old King Patriarch's voice was clear, but it sounded weak and weary. He looked at Cloud Mist, "Girl, it's been rough on you for these past years. Everything we owe you will be repaid to you."

Cloud Mist's eyes reddened. She fell to her knees and said, "Old Ancestor, your grandchild did not suffer!"

The Old King Patriarch smiled and nodded in gratification. After hinting for her to stand up, he turned and looked at Qin Yu, "You are Qin Yu? Good, good. Before, Boundless told me that you are an outstanding young man, and now I see that you live up to your reputation."

Qin Yu's heart skipped a beat. After being locked onto by this person's gaze, he felt as if he was being seen through. The only time he felt a similar feeling was when he faced the Demon Dragon Clan Elder, Ao Fa.

As he thought, the Old King's Lineage still had their sea-suppressing divine pillar!

Qin Yu had long since suspected this. Cloud Boundless was strong, but could he fight with the Ancient King's Lineage all the way until now with his strength alone?

Facts proved that the true boss had waited until today to appear.

But what was the reason?

Despite it being something as important as the struggle for the throne, the Old King Patriarch didn't come to Adversity Peak City until now. Expanding his scope of thinking, this was also the same for the Ancient King's Lineage, and also the leaders of the new faction. After all, Qin Yu hadn't heard Cloud Boundless mention those people before.

Did they not care about the inheritance of the throne? That clearly wasn't right. But if they did care, why wouldn't they personally come to handle things?

Or to be more direct, why didn't these terrifying old fellows that shook the heart just wade into battle and participate in the struggle themselves?

If they could become Patriarchs, would their bloodline be lacking? Did they not satisfy the qualifications to be the new Nightmare King? It was simply a joke!

At this moment, countless thoughts tumbled in Qin Yu's mind. Then, one floated to the top...could these people also know about the existence of the 'Old Turtle'?

As this thought appeared his heartbeat started to accelerate. The more he dwelled on it, the more likely it seemed.

If it weren't for Qi Zhen having played too much and pushed himself into a half-dead half-asleep state, Qin Yu would have definitely asked him about this.

If this was true...the muddy waters of the Nightmare Clan were more than ten times, a hundred times deeper than he imagined!

His throat turned dry and his voice became hoarse. He bowed, "I greet the Patriarch!"

The Old King Patriarch smiled and nodded, "Stand up. There's no need to be so nervous. Since I have agreed to Boundless' proposition, I have already regarded you as one of our people."

He coughed twice and waved a hand, "Boundless, Cloud Mist, you two leave first. I have some words to speak to Qin Yu alone."

Cloud Boundless and Cloud Mist respectfully nodded before turning and leaving.

When the two left, the Old King Patriarch smiled and looked at Qin Yu. He gestured with a hand, "Please sit down. I apologize if there was any previous affront."

Qin Yu shook his head, "There is no need for Patriarch to be so polite."

"It's not good if I'm not polite. There are so many monsters, ghosts, and snakes wandering around that if one isn't careful, they will accidentally step on one and cause an accident." The Old King Patriarch smiled and calmly looked at Qin Yu, "Now, I have a question, and I hope you can answer me earnestly...just who are you?"

Chapter 1135 – The Truth

Qin Yu did his best to maintain his composure. He furrowed his eyebrows and said, “I do not understand Patriarch’s meaning.”

The Old King Patriarch’s gaze didn’t waver. “You understand, so why have me break through your act? In this changing of the throne, my family has no royal bloodline, but the aura coming from your body is truly the royal bloodline...and it is my late King’s aura!

“So, this is why I need you to give me an explanation.”

He leaned forward slightly. Although he was still old and decrepit and had an extremely weak aura, in Qin Yu’s senses, he was like a giant beast rushing at his face, his fangs clearly exposed and stained with old meat and blood.

Qin Yu froze in place, as if he would be torn apart at any moment!

As he thought, the Old King Patriarch wasn’t completely clueless about the ancestral land.

‘My family has no royal bloodline’ – this phrase alone disclosed a shocking amount of information.

Beads of sweat covered Qin Yu’s forehead and his complexion turned pale white. This had nothing to do with fear. Anyone below the King boundary would be in such a state in front of this old fellow.

Of course, in truth Qin Yu did feel a little fear. What nonsense, this person could crush him to death with a flick of his finger, so how could he not feel fear?

If someone actually dared to say they felt no fear, they were either dead or an idiot!

But fear was just fear. Qin Yu didn’t lose his ability to think because of it. On the contrary, his thoughts moved at an alarming speed.

The first key. Did the Old Patriarch only learn that ‘there is no royal bloodline in my family’ today? That was definitely not the case.

Since he already knew, why did he agree with Cloud Boundless to let him substitute for Cloud Mist’s position and participate in the struggle for the throne?

There were two possibilities. The Old King Patriarch wasn’t sure whether the news he obtained was correct. What if Qin Yu really was the reincarnation of the late King? Or, he knew that there was a problem with Qin Yu, but chose to go along with it for some reason.

And no matter which possibility it was, it indicated one thing...the Old King Patriarch held some vague sense of hostility or distrust towards the ancestral land!

Otherwise, after confirming Qin Yu’s bloodline, no matter what his true status was he would have controlled him and then traced back his origins.

Throughout the entire Nightmare Clan, the solemn Old King Patriarch could be considered one of those with the highest status excluding the Nightmare King. Yet, he harbored hostility and distrust towards the ancestral land...even if he were to tell others, they wouldn’t believe him.

But this answer explained all the riddles in front of him right now...

For instance, why did incomparably formidable old people like the Old King Patriarch not directly participate in the struggle for the throne themselves? The most likely possibility was that they already sensed some kind of threat and restlessness.

If this was true, the present situation wasn't as dangerous as Qin Yu thought.

He took a deep breath and slowly said, "Patriarch indeed knows some matters. It seems that I cannot continue to conceal them."

His eyes locked onto the Old King Patriarch. As he spoke, the Old King Patriarch's complexion didn't change from before. This caused Qin Yu to scold this old bag of bones inwardly!

It was simple for this sort of existence that had lived for innumerable years to restrain his mood.

Qin Yu thought about probing the Old King Patriarch's innermost feelings through words, but his idea was no different from the babblings of a moron. In fact...even if Qin Yu saw a change in emotion, could he believe it? Who knew whether what he saw was deliberately shown to him?

However, the situation needed to be looked at from both sides. Sometimes when there was no expression, that might mean someone was shaken to the core. Otherwise, why would they need to hide their expressions?

To truly achieve indifference towards all, that was impossible unless...one was a block of wood!

Qin Yu's thoughts continued to race, his voice deepening and his tone became crabbed...because by speaking this way, he could talk slower and not be suspected. He would even have more time to think.

That's right, Qin Yu was coming up with a story, but coming up with a story was an extremely technical skill. This was especially true when his audience was an old freak who had lived for countless years.

Although Qin Yu didn't feel that this situation was as dangerous as he thought, who knew if his judgment was correct? If he was unlucky and was killed because he misspoke, wouldn't he have died wronged?

"Thinking about it, Patriarch should have sent others to investigate my background already." Qin Yu lowered his head, a bit of helplessness on his face. "Then you should know that a woman called Feature once appeared by my side. In fact, when I first opened my eyes, she was the first one I saw."

He wasn't lying. When he fell unconscious in the Path of 10,000 Souls and opened his eyes again, the first person he saw was Feature. So, when he said this, it came from the bottom of his heart and thus sounded true to the ears.

This was the highest level of storytelling, subtly transforming one's own experiences and embellishing it a little, all in order to galvanize the audience's thinking.

The Old King Patriarch's eyes flashed. It was clear that Qin Yu's words had shaken him.

Feature...he knew of this woman's name, and it was in far more detail than Qin Yu imagined.

The matters of Great Deer City seemed to have faded away like ripples in a lake, but many clues and traces remained.

For instance, Black Astral's close subordinates in the Merry Forest, the fox woman from Thousand Eye Temple, or the lucky Cow Sledgehammer who had transformed his bloodline.

These clues appeared to be fragmented and without direction, but the Old King's Lineage was formidable enough to obtain all this information and slowly piece them together to come up with useful conclusions.

Thus, Qin Yu might have surfaced at the start, but the Old King Patriarch's attention eventually became focused on Feature. She and Qin Yu suddenly appeared within the abyss. The Crow Clan warriors should have been the first people to meet them.

What happened after that was a blank.

Crossing multiple layers of the abyss to trace the origins of two people was far more difficult than looking for a needle in a haystack. If it weren't for the Nightmare Clan being sufficiently formidable and things being forced by someone as powerful as the Old King Patriarch, it would have been impossible for there to have been any harvests.

Of course, even if the Old King Patriarch took action, it took him a long, long time before he was able to stitch together the clues and come up with an outcome.

It seemed a bit off-topic, but the final conclusion the Old King Patriarch came up with was that Feature was the most mysterious existence of all.

Black Astral, Old Fox, Shadowless Demon, the reason the three of them followed Qin Yu should have been because she forced them to...this matched with what Qin Yu said.

Just who was that woman?

As the Old King Patriarch's thoughts turned, Qin Yu didn't stop speaking. He forced a smile and said, "Feature vanished. I have no idea how to describe it, but she slowly turned pale like a shadow until all signs of her were lost. I felt no fluctuations at all, as if she were really...just a shadow.

"In fact, there are many things I want to ask her but I never had enough time. She...deceived me. She gave me a ten day agreement, but when the deadline came, that was when she vanished. I didn't have enough time to say everything I wanted."

Qin Yu suddenly looked up, his eyes falling on the Old King Patriarch. There was anticipation in his eyes. "Patriarch, you are powerful and knowledgeable, so do you know what kind of existence Feature is? Will I see her again in the future? Although she lied to me...strictly speaking, she lied to me twice, but I still know that I owe her far too much.

"In the future, if there is a chance to see her, I will certainly try to figure out a way to return what I owe her...but I have no idea where she is. Ever since Feature vanished, I haven't felt any traces belonging to her."

The Old King Patriarch suddenly said, "When she left, did she leave anything to you?"

Qin Yu nodded, "She gave me some demon medicines she refined. She said that I could use them to preserve my life if I was in danger in the future."

As he spoke he turned his hand. Demonic light surged and a jade bottle appeared.

The Old King Patriarch took it in hand. When he touched the jade bottle, he paused for a brief moment.

He poured out the demon medicine and put it in front of him, looking at it for a time. Although his expression remained the same, his breathing was a bit deeper than before.

Many years ago, the Old King Patriarch experienced a great change. This was why he had his current appearance.

But even though his mortal body had turned dried and withered, a single breath of air hadn't yet dispersed. This single breath of air was enough to stabilize the Old King's Lineage until now.

His boundary was still there. So, he could feel a faintly terrifying aura coming from this pill.

This was...the taste of the source...and in the world of the abyss, the only one who could use the source to bless demon medicines was the will of the abyss...or, someone that had been approved by the abyss' will, a demonic refining master who stood at the very summit of their kind – an Abyss Walker.

But the Old King Patriarch knew that Feature wasn't an Abyss Walker. That left only one possibility...the strength of the abyss' will!

This matter was indeed far more complex than he first imagined. Had that existence within the ancestral land roused the attention of the abyss' will?

Thousandhonor Marquis launched a war against the Nightmare Beast Territory. Calculating the time, that important juncture should have arrived again.

Perhaps Qin Yu appeared here shouldering some unknown destiny...perhaps he really was the reincarnation of the late King...

Qin Yu bitterly smiled, "Maybe Patriarch doesn't believe this. I know my name, but I don't know my past. Simply put, I know who I am, but I don't know who I was.

"The reason I came to Adversity Peak City is that Feature gave me a reminder, and also because I felt a connection to this land. That is the reason I entered Nine Nether Pagoda to cultivate. It was there that I sensed something mysterious.

"Although I have no idea what that place is, my intuition told me that it might be the Nightmare Ancestral Land."

These words were both true and false, completely mysterious and yet sounding correct. Even Qin Yu almost believed it.

The Old King Patriarch's complexion changed. He slowly leaned back against his chair, and the terrifying aura he released gradually faded away.

According to the results of the investigation and what he heard here, he had no choice but to believe what Qin Yu said.

Qin Yu knew who he was now, but not who he was before...he certainly wouldn't know, nor did he have his own will...

Because he was only a chess piece, a chess piece placed down by the abyss' will, and whose final destination was unknown.

And the prototype of this chess piece was likely to be the Nightmare King born from the Old King's Lineage...it was no wonder he had remained alive for countless years but then dissipated without warning.

Now, there was an explanation for everything.

Everything born in the abyss survived under the will of the abyss. Even if the late King was suppressed in the living world, as long as the abyss' will wished for it, the late King would dissipate with only a thought.

Qin Yu didn't speak further. His face was vacant and helpless. His fists occasionally squeezed together.

The hall fell silent.

After an unknown period of time, this peace was interrupted. "I know your status now. There are many matters I must deal with, so go down and rest first."

The Old King Patriarch slowly said, his expression becoming warm once again. When he looked at Qin Yu, there was some pity there.

He felt as if he had found the truth of the matter.

This truth was brutal, but he couldn't make any changes to it.

Because the will of the abyss could not be defied. Since it had taken action, the outcome was determined from the start.

This time, a change was bound to occur in the ancestral land. But, who knew what the final result would be?

Would that one...continue to exist? If it vanished, would that be fortune or woe to the Nightmare Clan?

Qin Yu bowed. He paused for several breaths of time, and then spoke with a voice full of expectation, "Patriarch, you know who I am, right?"

The Old King Patriarch shook his head, "Go for now. I cannot determine your status."

"...Yes." Qin Yu turned and left. His steps were heavy and plodding. When he left the hall, he angled his head up to the skies at a 45-degree angle and sighed.

He gave himself 99 points for this performance. Sure enough, pressure was power. Qin Yu believed his acting skills had never been as amazing as they were today.

The reason he gave himself 99 and not 100 was to ensure he remained calm and didn't get overly complacent with himself...

Acting skills were only acting skills after all. It might work once or twice, but what happened if he failed? All that remained was him being blown up!

If he had enough strength, what could the Old King Patriarch do? As for being cautious and eventually having his acting potential forced to awaken?

He would have just suppressed that old man!

Stand firm, don't be arrogant! Always remember that strength is the most basic foundation of all!

After secretly giving himself a warning, Qin Yu walked away.

Chapter 1136A – Chosen Platform

In the hall, the Old King Patriarch looked away. Although he was here, he still saw everything that Qin Yu did after he left.

His silence, his exhalation, the struggle in his eyes, as well as the firm step of his departure...all of this became that final straw that crushed all doubts.

The Old King Patriarch was now sure of his guess. Qin Yu was Qin Yu. He was the late King's reincarnation...but at the same time, he was also a chess piece whose fate was difficult to predict.

But the greater possibility was that no good fate should befall him...after all, he was a person that didn't even have a memory!

In a corner of the hall, a shadow wriggled and appeared. A respectful voice sounded out, "Patriarch, that one from the Ancient King's Lineage requests to meet you."

The Old King Patriarch waved his hand, "I understand."

This was as it should be. Since everyone was here, of course they had to sit down and have a talk.

After all, far too many accidents had occurred, so many that even old ghosts like them couldn't quietly sit back and fish while watching the situation change.

Qi Zhen should have become the new King, but he had perished...Qin Yu had replaced Cloud Mist and possessed the awakened royal bloodline...the great chess game was constantly changing, and these old fellows were no longer qualified to make a move.

Perhaps calmly waiting for the final result was the best choice for them.

Heaving a deep sign, the Old King Patriarch stood up. His body shook like a tree that would blow over at any moment. But as he stood straight, the entire hall started to shake and creak, as if it was withstanding a terrifying weight and would collapse soon.

Taking one step out, the Old King Patriarch vanished from sight. All that remained were the trembling wails still echoing in the hall.

...

No one knew what happened in secret, but the expected conflict between the Ancient King's Lineage and the Old King's Lineage didn't erupt. Like light winds and pale clouds, everything slowly faded away from sight.

Qi Zhen and Cloud Billow's deaths were quietly covered up. This certainly wasn't normal. But no one was in the mood to continue investigating the secrets between the two parties.

Because the Chosen Platform would soon arrive!

The top ten ranked groups that hunted the most nightmare beasts in the Nightmare Beast Territory all obtained the qualifications to enter the Chosen Platform. After they underwent the test from the ancestral land, the final three would earn the qualifications to enter the Nightmare Ancestral Land.

Although the nightmare beast hunt had been interrupted due to the sudden explosion of war between the Nightmare Clan and the Nightmare Beast Territory, the hunter rankings were still there.

The ten factions who won the top rankings all did their best to prepare and try their luck...the Ancient King's Lineage and Old King's Lineage had both lost their successors, and this might be the best chance for them.

If they succeeded, their entire families would rise with a single leap, becoming the rightful rulers of the entire Nightmare Clan. The harvest would be unimaginable.

...

"The Chosen Platform is a part of the ancestral land. After obtaining its approval, it will bring you into the space of the ancestral land. Besides that, there is no second way to enter." Cloud Boundless looked at Qin Yu, a dignified light in his eyes. "This is the last threshold placed before you. As long as you cross it, you will be the new Nightmare King!"

His expression was decisive and without hesitation.

Qin Yu had thoroughly awakened the royal bloodline. After entering the ancestral land he would immediately obtain its approval. The others that entered the ancestral land with him simply had no chance of resisting.

So in Cloud Boundless' opinion, the Chosen Platform was the final difficulty that the Old King's Lineage needed to face.

The Ancient King's Lineage would definitely try to figure out a way to prevent Qin Yu from obtaining approval. Because after ascending the Chosen Platform, he would no longer be able to hide his aura.

He had informed the Patriarch of this matter, but what left him puzzled was that the Patriarch didn't have much to say about it. The Patriarch simply waved his hand and dismissed the topic.

Perhaps the Patriarch had already made arrangements...but Cloud Boundless felt that he should be serious and warn Qin Yu about what might happen to avoid any possible accidents occurring.

"Mm, I understand." Qin Yu calmly nodded.

Cloud Boundless furrowed his eyebrows. He thought for a moment and said, "Did the Patriarch say something to you? If you can't tell me then there's no need to."

Qin Yu wryly smiled, somewhat guessing Cloud Boundless' meaning. But in truth, he felt no pressure in entering the ancestral land.

What he feared was what would happen afterwards!

Without a way to explain it nor wanting to, Qin Yu simply nodded, acknowledging that Cloud Boundless was right and he indeed couldn't say anything.

Cloud Boundless smiled. He knew that the Patriarch must have made preparations earlier. This was a key step in capturing the throne, so how could he not have done anything?

"Good, then I won't say anything else about that. This is the information collected on the Chosen Platform. If you have any questions or don't understand anything, then feel free to ask me."

Qin Yu received the demon crystal and said, "Can I go back and look at this? There is something else..." He began to speak but hesitated a little.

Cloud Boundless immediately understood. "Of course you can take it back. I can make time for you whenever you want. Just ask me if you don't understand anything."

Qin Yu expressed his thanks and left, then he returned to his dwelling without delay.

He said there was something else and there really was something else. After Qin Yu closed the door, he could clearly feel a subtle change in space.

He had felt this change from Qi Zhen's actions before, but it was a little different...he couldn't sense what the difference was, but without a doubt his connection to the outside world was isolated.

Space rippled and Thousandhonor Marquis stepped out. When Qin Yu looked at him, his eyes shifted.

Although the Thousandhonor Marquis he saw was visibly flawless, Qin Yu could still perceive a different...this wasn't the true Thousandhonor Marquis, but something close to a projection or avatar.

Could he be wary of the Old King Patriarch who had arrived? Besides this, Qin Yu couldn't think of any other possibility.

His thoughts turned and he bowed, "I greet Thousandhonor Marquis."

"There's no need to be so courteous." Thousandhonor Marquis lightly said, "Qi Zhen and you are equals, so you are the same as me."

Qin Yu stood up, "Then I will be rude. Thousandhonor Marquis, why did you come here today?"

There was no need to talk about how formidable Qi Zhen and Thousandhonor Marquis were. If it weren't for Qin Yu cooperating with them right now, he feared one of those two old freaks would have immediately attacked him.

After all, as an existence outside of the 'rules', they had to be very interested in Qin Yu's identity and origin.

Qin Yu believed that Qi Zhen and Thousandhonor Marquis fervently desired for him to destroy the ancestral land, but they would absolutely not care about whether he lived or died.

So Qin Yu felt dread towards these two powerful old freaks, but no respect.

Thousandhonor Marquis clearly did not care about this. He looked at Qin Yu and said, "I came here today to give this crystal nucleus to you."

As he spoke, he revealed a ring-like object. It was pitch black and forged from some unknown material.

"Remember, the crystal nucleus in this ring is prepared for contingencies. Do not act rashly."

Thousandhonor Marquis solemnly reminded before handing the ring over.

Qin Yu nodded. "Don't worry, I understand the weight of this situation. I'm not the type to joke around with my life."

Thousandhonor Marquis looked up into the distance and subconsciously frowned. "It's about time for me to leave. Tell Qi Zhen that after entering the ancestral land, anything that happens afterwards is unrelated to me. This is all I can do."

As his voice fell he no longer spoke. His figure flickered and he fused into the spatial ripples, vanishing from sight.

Shua –

Within Qin Yu's senses, the power of distorted space disappeared with him.

Somewhere else in Bluetile Courtyard, there was another garden. Although it had been repaired, one could still see tiny cracks spread throughout the foundation.

The Old King Patriarch reclaimed his eyes. With a light 'pa', he set down his teacup.

The aura he felt just now was incomparably obscure. If he hadn't made earlier preparations he wouldn't have been able to catch it. But since he was paying attention to it, no matter how vague it was it would inevitably leave behind some traces.

He didn't try anything, but he would never mistake that feeling...sure enough, it was the work of the abyss' will...Qin Yu was still concealing some matters.

But this was unimportant. Even if Qin Yu was willing to speak about it, the Old King Patriarch didn't want to hear it.

When the abyss' will took action, anyone who slightly affected or was related to it had a chance of being sucked into the vortex and destroyed in the end.

He had constantly lived together with death since many years ago. But he still lived now, and without accident he would continue living on.

The Old King Patriarch wasn't afraid of death. Because the suffering and difficulty he underwent in order to survive had slowly whittled away the awe he felt towards death.

But he couldn't die. At least not before a new guardian was born in the Old King's Lineage. Until that happened, he had to live on.

So if Qin Yu was concealing something, he could continue concealing it.

He just used this incident to further confirm his identity...a chess piece of the abyss' will had fallen into this game...

Great changes were about to come!

Chapter 1136B – Chosen Platform

Blue Sea bowed, his voice full of veneration, "Patriarch, please rest assured. Since I joined the clan, I will treat the clan as my family. I will not disappoint the trust you placed in me today. If I violate this promise, I will be rejected by the abyss!"

Up high, the Ancient King Patriarch had a calm expression. "I naturally trust you, otherwise you would not be chosen as the alternative."

He waved his hand, "Go. The Chosen Platform will soon arrive. The Ancient King's Lineage will support you to obtain the qualifications to enter with all our strength."

"Yes." Blue Sea bowed once again. After taking several steps back, he turned and left.

A voice in the hall sounded out, "Patriarch, why did you choose him?"

Then, another demon said, "Qi Zhen might have died, but our bloodline still has numerous outstanding juniors."

"Blue Sea might be splendid, but he is not from our family!"

Many voices in the hall were filled with anxiousness and confusion.

But before, none of them expressed their opposition. This was the power and authority of the Ancient King Patriarch!

The Ancient King Patriarch lightly said, "I have already contemplated this matter. There's no need to say anything else." He waved a hand, "You may all leave."

"Yes, Patriarch."

"Then I shall excuse myself."

Figures quietly left the hall one after another. Their eyes met and they could sense each other's confusion and helplessness.

Blue Sea... it was actually Blue Sea!

Let alone others, even they who could be considered top figures of the Ancient King's Lineage still felt disbelief over this decision.

Just what was the Patriarch thinking?

The hall emptied out until only the Ancient King Patriarch was left. His faint and quiet eyes rippled with turbulent waves.

Qi Zhen should have become the King but he perished ahead of time. From that moment, the entire chess game had turned chaotic and unpredictable. If so, why not throw in another bomb and see what power was hiding behind Blue Sea?

By making the situation even more volatile, he might be able to take this opportunity to use the power of the ancestral land to destroy the claws hidden in some people's hearts...did they really think that the Nightmare Clan was something they could covet?

"Ancestral land..." The Ancient King Patriarch mumbled beneath his breath. After a moment, he chuckled.

His laugh was bitter and deep, but was even more a mockery of himself. He laughed at himself as well as the others in the clan that were like him.

The Nightmare Clan's ancestral land was known as the foundation of the entire tribe and was the envy and awe of all parties in the abyss...yet they themselves also felt awe and dread and needed to borrow the hands of outsiders to probe it.

This was simply a joke!

...

Three days later, the Chosen Platform arrived. It really was just an incomparably giant stone platform. Every inch of it was covered with traces of the baptism of time. The tiny cracks and markings exuded the breath of the years.

With just one glance, one could see that it had been subjected to an almost endless span of time.

In the skies, space fiercely shook. It didn't dissipate at the Chosen Platform appeared but became increasingly violent.

It was like countless stormy waves surrounded the Chosen Platform, forming a terrifying barrier.

The Chosen Platform came from the Nightmare Ancestral Land and was a part of it. It only opened for the Nightmare Clan.

Outsiders could not enter. If they tried to break through, this terrifying spatial barrier was enough to completely destroy them!

Qin Yu looked up, his eyes falling on the skies. Even separated by a vast distance, he could feel that boundless imposing momentum.

And this imposing momentum was in great part because it was extremely, extremely large – so large that it seemed to cover the entirety of the heavens!

A summoning strength transmitted from the Chosen Platform. It wrapped around Qin Yu and became increasingly strong over time.

He had an intuition that with just a thought, he could use this summoning strength to be dragged directly onto the Chosen Platform.

Cloud Boundless took a deep breath and said, "Qin Yu, I will go together with you to enter the Chosen Platform...compete with all your strength. As long as I don't die, I will do everything in my power to protect you!"

Qin Yu nodded, not saying much.

Cloud Boundless laughed out loud, "Let's go!"

Shua –

Shua –

The two of them suddenly vanished from where they stood. Several ripples appeared where they had been like stones falling into water.

....

Qin Yu never thought that from the moment he entered the struggle on the Chosen Platform, there would not be a moment's delay before he reached the climax of it.

And what happened afterwards proved that he still underestimated the powers that had been gathered for the struggle for the Nightmare Throne.

In the top ten ranks for the nightmare beast hunt, the Ancient King's Lineage, Old King's Lineage, and New Faction took the first three spots. But while the remaining seven parties were weaker, they were still powerful and pivotal figures within the Nightmare Clan.

As people gathered atop the Chosen Platform, an invisible repelling force erupted, forcing Cloud Boundless and the other protectors to the edges of the field.

Then, a priming force was released from the Chosen Platform. It could stimulate the bloodline aura of the ten top ranked people.

It was simple and crude, yet extremely quick and effective!

The various abyssal clans were established on the basis of their bloodline. The Chosen Platform would choose the three with the strongest bloodline today, and they would be allowed to enter the ancestral land.

Of course, this was only a simplified explanation. It was naturally impossible for people to be chosen in such a simple manner.

Without further ado, the bloodline auras broke free from the ten contenders for the throne.

Bang –

Bang –

Bang –

Blood red columns appeared above their heads, rushing into the skies like infinite smoke as their own formidable oppression was recklessly released.

This was the bloodline strength within their bodies. As time passed, the blood red columns would grow higher and higher.

10 feet...30 feet...50 feet...

Cloud Boundless was expressionless, but his fists were clenched beneath his robes. Even now, the fact that Qin Yu had awakened the royal bloodline was a top-level secret.

But soon this secret would be exposed. Without a doubt, the first to turn on him would be the Ancient King's Lineage.

He looked around and saw Seven Wounds Clan Elder. Even today, it was this bastard that came. Although Cloud Boundless was confident that he could wipe the floor with this bastard, it was impossible for him to be given the chance to fight fairly.

He had to be heavy-handed and cripple someone first so he could deter the others. Otherwise, if he was besieged, even if he had three heads and six arms he still wouldn't be able to protect Qin Yu.

And Seven Wounds was undoubtedly the best candidate...thinking of this, Cloud Boundless licked his lips, a cruel light in his eyes.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder paled. He felt nervous and uneasy. Just why was that old bastard staring at him with such an expression?

The Chosen Platform sorted by bloodline and would choose the strongest three to enter the ancestral land...but in truth, after the rankings were obtained, one had to have enough strength to survive until the Chosen Platform returned to the ancestral land.

This period of time...hehe, it could be called drenched in blood!

What wasn't one willing to do for the throne?

Through countless years, as the throne changed hands, brothers turned against each other, husbands and wives split up, and brothers and sisters betrayed one another...what type of plot hadn't occurred?

As for dead people, that was far too common.

The blood red columns rapidly grew as time passed, soon breaking past 100 feet.

By now, someone's light had started to slow down. They roared in unwillingness, but there was nothing they could do to stop it.

"Humph!"

A protector demon had a face full of annoyance. The candidate for the throne that their family had chosen had only managed to create a 110 foot blood red column before it stopped growing. He was ranked first...from the bottom.

A 100 foot high blood column was the threshold for competing for the throne. There had never been a single person who hadn't achieved this.

110 feet was enough, but this result was doomed to never have the qualifications to enter the ancestral land.

Soon, blood columns of other competitors began to stop growing.

Most of them paused between 140 feet and 190 feet. The only ones to break past 200 feet were those of Qin Yu, Blue Sea, and an unfamiliar demon youth.

And these three people each represented the Old King's Lineage, Ancient King's Lineage, and New Faction!

At the edge of the Chosen Platform, a complex look appeared on the faces of the protectors whose chosen successor's blood column had stopped growing.

Disregarding the New Faction, even if Qi Zhen and Cloud Mist had died, the alternatives chosen by the Old King's Lineage and Ancient King's Lineage were still terrifyingly strong.

It had shocked everyone when the Ancient King's Lineage chose Blue Sea. As the Adversity Peak City Lord, Blue Sea's power was well known. So, when the blood column that represented his bloodline strength broke past 200 feet, no one was surprised.

But Qin Yu...

To be honest, this was also an unexpected result. No one thought that he would be the one to replace Cloud Billow.

It had to be known that even now, no one had managed to determine Qin Yu's origin. It wouldn't be going too far to say that he was an unknown factor.

The Old King's Lineage unexpectedly chose him...

And this junior's bloodline strength was astonishingly strong. After his blood column grew past 200 feet, it continued to climb, no weaker than Blue Sea and Xi Mo.

Xi Mo was the competitor that the New Faction had chosen.

The New Faction was different from both the Ancient King's Lineage and Old King's Lineage. To sum it up, they were formed from the countless grassroots that had fought and risen up. They converged together to fight for their combined interests. After a series of transformations, they finally became a massive influence.

The surname Xi was not famous within the Nightmare Clan, but if Xi Mo could defeat numerous other competitors and be chosen by the New Faction in the end, his overall strength was without doubt.

In an instant, the blood columns broke past 300 feet.

Then 400 feet...500 feet...

Only at this point did the blood columns above their heads begin to slow down.

Cloud Boundless furrowed his eyebrows. A 500 foot blood column was startling, but to someone who had awakened the royal bloodline, this wasn't a normal result.

The clan had clear records of the past. Whenever someone awakened the royal bloodline, they would directly break through 1000 feet; there were no exceptions.

Could this be an arrangement that the Patriarch had completed ahead of time? To conceal the fact that Qin Yu had awakened the royal bloodline until after they entered the ancestral land...hehe, of course Blue Sea and Xi Mo had no chance of succeeding!

The Patriarch was truly worthy of being the Patriarch. He even dared to intervene with the Chosen Platform. He was just amazing beyond compare!

Cloud Boundless relaxed. Before he came today he had prepared himself for the worst possible situation. Even if he died, had to protect Qin Yu with all his strength.

But if didn't have to risk his life, it couldn't be any better...living was wonderful. Only the perverted and abnormal wanted to die!

As Cloud Boundless was overjoyed that he wouldn't need to go all out, Qin Yu was actually muttering in his heart.

That Old King Patriarch, after staring at him and pressing him for his status, had vanished like a shadow.

Even now after entering the Chosen Platform, Qin Yu still hadn't seen him.

So when Cloud Boundless imagined that the so-called Patriarch was epic and amazing and well-prepared, the truth was that his shadow was nowhere behind his incident.

At this time, Qin Yu could clearly feel the blood energy surging within him like a stormy sea.

But it seemed to be trapped in a net with one hole open in it, making it so that his bloodline aura was limited.

And this opening was constantly shrinking, causing the bloodline aura he released to lessen.

This was the reason for the current sight, where his blood column slowed down at almost the same time as Blue Sea and Xi Mo.

The Chosen Platform was a part of the Nightmare Ancestral Land. In other words, was the ancestral land helping him conceal his bloodline?

What was the reason for this?

Although he had no idea what sort of existence the Old Turtle in the ancestral land was, from inside it that existence was able to control the entire Nightmare Clan. Even Qi Zhen and Thousandhonor Marquis felt extreme dread towards it. Formidable characters like the Old King Patriarch and Ancient King Patriarch both kept their distance from it.

If it was so formidable, would it really be unaware of everything occurring in the outside world?

The new King candidate that Old Turtle had chosen was undoubtedly Qi Zhen. But, Qi Zhen had died. Qin Yu had now leapt out, becoming the new 'person with the awakened royal bloodline'.

Would Old Turtle not notice Qin Yu? Would it not think that this character that existed outside the rules might represent danger?

It was because of this that Qin Yu was confused. The other party had no reason to help him conceal himself and smoothly enter the ancestral land.

What it should do was find a way to destroy Qin Yu and erase all unknown variables before they had a chance to grow...as for who entered the ancestral land in the end...as long as it wasn't Qin Yu, then the result likely wouldn't be any different.

The Nightmare King would still be the Nightmare King.

Chapter 1137 – Sudden Change

600 feet.

The blood columns above Blue Sea and Qin Yu's heads nearly stopped growing. Without accident, this would be the final result of the three.

There was no suspense in the selection of the top three. The remaining seven competitors and their protectors all showed dispirited looks.

They were strong, but their opponents were even stronger. And this 'stronger' was not just in the normal sense. It was at least three times higher, representing an overwhelming difference in strength.

Moreover, the Ancient King's Lineage, Old King's Lineage, and New Faction were the strongest three factions of the Nightmare Clan...now that their benefits were united as one, no one could stir up a storm.

The situation had been decided!

But this was only a result that would occur under ordinary circumstances.

Accidents often happened when everything seemed to have settled down, when a person felt helpless and unwilling and was about to accept their fate.

This was because Qin Yu's confusion was correct. The Chosen Platform helped him conceal his bloodline...but it wasn't going to keep concealing it until the end.

The consequence was that the barrier that surrounded his bloodline aura suddenly vanished.

That's right, it had vanished without warning. All of a sudden it disappeared, as if it never existed at all.

So...

Bang –

Everyone heard a thunderous peal in their ears. An invisible pressure rushed at them. Their hearts skipped a beat before accelerating.

The 600 foot blood column above Qin Yu's head seemed to have swallowed hundreds of supplementary pills. It started to rise again and again.

In the blink of an eye it broke through 700 feet. But this wasn't the end. Instead, it was only the beginning of the storm.

800 feet...900 feet...1000 feet...

Cloud Boundless' eyes widened. He looked at the blood column that was growing crazily.

What kind of situation was this?

Hadn't it been decided that the Patriarch had made earlier arrangements? How come things suddenly turned into this in the blink of an eye?

Looking at the vigorously growing blood column that didn't stop even after breaking past 1000 feet, Cloud Boundless' lips twitched and he bitterly smiled.

It seemed that people who lived for too long like him couldn't have beautiful and relaxing thoughts. He had to work hard and risk his life, and this was something he couldn't escape.

The entire Chosen Platform fell deathly silent. Everyone widened their eyes as they looked at the growing blood column above Qin Yu's head.

It had broken through 1000 feet...

When it came to records of the royal bloodline, it wasn't just the Old King's Lineage that possessed them.

In fact, this wasn't a secret at all. So when everyone glanced at it, they could guess what was happening.

With wide eyes, their hearts shook in chaos and confusion!

Cloud Billow had already died; he had been slain by Qi Zhen in public view. There were numerous nightmare clansmen who saw this happen so it was impossible to be false.

So how could they explain Qin Yu?

A blood column that broke through 1000 feet, this was a result that only those who completely awakened the royal bloodline could obtain.

Moreover, the blood column above Qin Yu's head was still growing, without any sign of slowing down.

This indicated that his bloodline was unusually strong, even stronger than a fully awakened royal bloodline.

The Old King's Lineage had two king-rank trump cards born in their ranks? That was impossible! But just as this thought appeared it was pushed down. Something like this had never happened throughout the entire history of the Nightmare Clan.

Otherwise, did people really think awakened royal bloodlines were just like big radishes on the side of the road that could be casually picked out?

As this thought raced in their minds, everyone looked at Cloud Boundless and Seven Wounds Clan Elder.

The looks were half-admiration and half-sympathy.

Although there was no evidence, sometimes things didn't require exact evidence. People just needed to believe it.

While they didn't know specifically what happened, it should be summed up like this: the Old King's Lineage had played a higher-level chess move and used a fake piece to exchange for the Ancient King's Lineage's own king-rank chess piece!

If this were true, then tsk tsk...the Old King's Lineage must have planned this for a long time and been meticulous in doing so. It was simply amazing.

Cloud Billow was the visible pawn, and Qin Yu was the true trump card. Over the years, they had never revealed a single flaw.

If it weren't for the fact that one was unable to conceal their bloodline aura after stepping onto the Chosen Platform...this matter might have never been exposed.

No...everyone suddenly thought about how the blood column had seemed to almost stop growing above Qin Yu's head, nearly slowing down at the same rate as Blue Sea and Xi Mo's.

It seemed that the Old King's Lineage had tried to do something so that they could continue concealing this.

But looking at things now, while their efforts had a certain effect, they failed in the end. If the Old King's Lineage managed to deceive everyone, then after entering the ancestral land, Qin Yu would definitely be acknowledged and capture the new King's throne.

Then in this chess game, the Old King's Lineage would be the final victor. Everyone would be dancing in their palm...and the ones who were played with the most miserably were undoubtedly the Ancient King's Lineage!

Qi Zhen had also awakened the royal bloodline and absolutely had the qualifications to become the new Nightmare King. Yet, he was unexpectedly exchanged for the diversionary chess piece that was Cloud Billow...this slap was so loud that it rang in everyone's ears.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder's breathing quickened and his eyes reddened. After a brief pause, he immediately 'saw through everything'.

And he believed his thoughts were much more comprehensive.

It was no wonder that they obtained top-secret news that Cloud Billow was a woman. That had all been a smokescreen to divert their attention and provide perfect cover for Qin Yu.

For this matter, Seven Wounds Clan Elder had fallen face-down into the ground and disgraced himself, and Cloud Boundless seized the chance to cause a ruckus at the Clan Elder Assembly. The Ancient King's Lineage had been pushed into a corner and had no choice but to pay a great price to finally extinguish this issue.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder originally believed that this was the most disgraceful point of his life. But now...he realized he was too naïve.

Because that matter was just a tiny and inconspicuous link in a massive conspiracy. He and the entire Ancient King's Lineage had been kept in the dark, becoming clowns who were mocked and laughed at.

The Old King's Lineage indeed had an awakened royal bloodline. However it wasn't the dead Cloud Billow, but the Qin Yu in front of him...this was all a plot, a vicious and sinister plot!

...

When a pot was cracked, it might as well be smashed to pieces, and if a person saw something hopeless, they might as well be reckless. It wasn't like he hadn't risked his life before, and wasn't he still alive?

Cloud Boundless coldly sneered, giving an expression that Seven Wounds Clan Elder's guess was correct as he wickedly glared at him.

Little guy, I've already endured you for a long time. If it wasn't for all the scruples I've had these years, I would have taught you why flowers are red!

You want to flip the table and attack me? Then hurry up. I'm waiting for you!

Seven Wounds Clan Elder's lungs almost exploded with rage. This bastard Cloud Boundless still dared to be so domineering and arrogant at such a time!

He nearly gnashed his teeth to pieces as flames blazed in his chest. His heart seemed to turn into fire...but, he would endure it for now.

The table was going to be flipped in today's situation. But if he was alone, he likely wouldn't be able to defeat this old schemer Cloud Boundless.

Only like this did he meet the basic standards of a wily old man. His anger might soar to the skies, but he wouldn't lose his rationality because of it. Besides being suppressed, what other good fate would he have?

Cloud Boundless curled his lips and muttered, "Weak chicken." His voice wasn't loud, but everyone in the surrounding region could hear him.

Their eyes fell on Seven Wounds Clan Elder and watched his blue veins stick up on his forehead. While they felt sympathy, they also felt awed.

Even now, Cloud Boundless remained unhurried? He might be strong, but he should still be scared of others joining forces to suppress him.

After all, with what had happened, anyone who had a little bit of interest in the throne wouldn't just watch helplessly as Qin Yu entered the ancestral land.

With his bloodline aura, how could anyone else continue to play the game if he went in? There would be no leeway for him to do anything!

No, something was wrong...someone as sinister as Cloud Boundless must have prepared for this in advance...

Could it be that the Old King's Lineage had already planned for this...yes, they must have been aware of Qin Yu's bloodline level.

If this was the case, how could they not have prepared themselves before coming to the Chosen Platform? That was impossible!

For a time, everyone was indecisive. They hesitated on how to deal with the Old King's Lineage. Who would take the lead?

The first one to step up would suffer the most. If they were struck by the card that the Old King's Lineage prepared, they would be done for.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder's face paled even further, so gloomy that he almost dripped water. This old bastard Cloud Boundless was a truly sinister schemer. With just a simple provocation, he had frightened everyone here.

He had originally been thinking of agitating the protectors of the other families to deal with Cloud Boundless together. No matter how strong he was, he was still just one person. If he was pressed down he could only passively take the hits.

But what was the result? Before he had done anything, Cloud Boundless almost strangled this path to death...and Seven Wounds Clan Elder didn't dare to take the risk either. What if this was really the case?

If he took the initiative and was killed by Cloud Boundless, wouldn't he just become bridal clothes for others...?

And the look that the old schemer gave him was far too terrifying. A great deal of Seven Wounds Clan Elder's fury was immediately extinguished. Just recalling it caused chills to race up his spine.

If this was just it, then Cloud Boundless' plan had succeeded without a doubt. By frightening these people, he could delay for time.

But the key problem was...Qin Yu's strength didn't allow this!

Chapter 1138 – Boundary of the Nameless True King

Bang –

Above his head, the blood column began to rise. It soon broke past a terrifying height of 2000 feet.

200 feet was three times less than 600 feet. And 600 feet was around a third of 2000 feet. These numbers seemed similar, but the base was different.

The visual effect was far too compelling. The terrifying aura that erupted from the center of the Chosen Platform was so strong it shook the heart.

Even Cloud Boundless and the others on the edge of the field felt a formidable suppression. His lips twitched as he begged inwardly for Qin Yu to stop showing off!

He was fierce, but he couldn't withstand so much turbulence.

Yet in fact, this scene was just the beginning of showing off. Because the blood column above Qin Yu's head did something even more extreme – it recklessly crushed the blood columns above the heads of Blue Sea, Xi Mo, and the others!

That's right, 'crushed' wasn't wrong, but was an appropriate word to use.

Pa –

The contender whose blood column only reached 110 feet, as weak as an egg, suddenly had his blood column break apart.

He stiffened as if he received a heavy blow. He spat out a mouthful of blood, his face turning deathly pale as he was left weakened.

He stubbornly glared at Qin Yu. There was fear as well as endless hatred and resentment in his eyes.

Then, in less than a breath of time, a competitor with a 130 foot blood column was the next to be crushed.

Pa –

With cracking sounds, his blood column shattered!

Then a third, a fourth...all the way to the seventh person.

In the blink of an eye, besides Blue Sea and Xi Mo, all other competitors for the throne on the Chosen Platform had their blood columns ruined.

The process continued with unstoppable force and without stopping. Everyone lined up together and were finished together. As for the over 2000 foot blood column above Qin Yu's head, there were almost no fluctuations in it as it swept over all its competition!

"Ahh! Qin Yu, you dare!?"

"Cloud Boundless, your Old King's Lineage has gone too far!"

"Even if you are strong, you have intentionally injured others!"

"Unforgivable!"

The protectors on the edge of the Chosen Platform all roared in anger. Their eyes locked onto Cloud Boundless as if they would spurt fire.

This bastard was too excessive!

Kacha –

Kacha –

As shattering sounds filled the air, the angry roars quickly vanished.

The blood columns above Blue Sea and Xi Mo were withstanding a terrifying pressure. They fiercely shook as cracks began to appear in them.

The two paled. They looked at Qin Yu with disbelief and ice-cold eyes!

Qin Yu's bloodline strength far surpassed their expectations. It was because of this that the two of them were incomparably sure of one thing. They could not allow him to enter the ancestral land!

Blue Sea turned and looked at Xi Mo. In the next moment, the blood column above his head shattered and collapsed. It wasn't that it was crushed, but that he voluntarily stopped releasing his bloodline aura.

The result was the same, but by taking the initiative to let go he could reduce the damage he received to the lowest possible degree.

Xi Mo's eyes flashed with admiration. Although he had thought of this, he wavered. He wasn't able to achieve Blue Sea's decisiveness.

After all, strictly speaking, to voluntarily stop releasing his bloodline aura meant that he gave up his qualifications for the test on the Chosen Platform.

Taking a deep breath, the blood column above Xi Mo's head disintegrated. Blood energy roiled in his chest and he spat out a mouthful of blood.

Giving up on the selection of the Chosen Platform was a risk, but what if everyone lost their blood columns? Then the selection would become invalid.

Of course, to achieve that condition, Qin Yu had to be eliminated! If he was still here, he would be the only candidate who could enter the ancestral land...the throne would naturally be his.

And destroying the blood columns of all other competitors on the Chosen Platform was indeed an incredibly domineering and aggressive qualification. Even through the history of the Nightmare Clan, this had never happened before.

But with so much limelight, it was possible for things to backfire on him and for him to twist his own neck! At this time, the pale and annoyed Seven Wounds Clan Elder couldn't help but laugh and applaud Qin Yu's actions.

Wonderful, too wonderful!

Originally, the protectors of the various families were still hesitating, none of them wanting to attack first. But now they were all forced into a dead end and had no other choice.

Otherwise, they would be cupping their hands together and giving the throne to the Old King's Lineage.

If two successive Nightmare Kings were born from the same family, then without a doubt, a new family that rivaled the Ancient King's Lineage would be born.

The resulting changes would have a strong impact on the entire internal situation of the Nightmare Clan. Many people would see their interests suffer.

After all, when a massive faction rose up to the top, it would inevitably be by standing on the corpses of countless others.

And the families that were present on the Chosen Platform today were undoubtedly on this list.

The New Faction's protector was a thin middle-aged man. His hair was messy and scattered, and with his eyebrows as the boundary, the left side was dark and the right side was pure white.

And what was even stranger was that when he looked up, his left eye gradually turned white and his right eye turned pitch black.

The name of the New Faction's protector was Blackwhite Visage. No one knew the specifics of how he had risen up and his true level of strength was also a mystery.

But to this day, no one who fought him had survived...this person was a peak powerhouse of the New Faction and it was rumored he could even fight against the King boundary.

The New Faction who rose up from the grassroots had the weakest background and had no formidable relationships. The reason they were able to keep pace with the Ancient King's Lineage and the Old King's Lineage was that their peak combat strength was sufficient.

A dangerous aura was released from Blackwhite Visage. It locked onto Cloud Boundless, causing his complexion to become dignified.

To not enter the King boundary and yet have strength comparable to an Abyssal King, this was a difficult road found beneath the limit of the abyss' will that was paved by countless powerhouses spending innumerable years.

Each person's path was different, but as long as they stepped in, they could enter the boundary of the Nameless True King while having the prestige of a true King.

Cloud Boundless was at the edge of this threshold. He was just half a step from stepping onto this road...and Blackwhite Visage should be even stronger. He could be said to have stepped onto this path already.

But for some unknown reason, Blackwhite Visage's aura wasn't complete, resulting in a flaw within his strength so that he didn't achieve the boundary of the Nameless True King.

Today on the Chosen Platform, including Seven Wounds Clan Elder, all of the protectors here were absolute powerhouses of the Nightmare Clan.

But the only one who Cloud Boundless dreaded was Blackwhite Visage...now, he was clearly unable to hold back any longer and chose to take action.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder coldly said, "Cloud Boundless, did you really think the Old King's Lineage could do whatever they wanted? You shall pay the price today!"

He stepped forward. Terrifying killing intent burst out and he raced at Cloud Boundless.

While he was sick, take his life!

Now that Blackwhite Visage had moved, this was undoubtedly the best chance to get rid of Cloud Boundless. He couldn't miss out on it!

If he killed Cloud Boundless, he could resolve the hatred in his heart and cut off one of the arms of the Old King's Lineage...but the most important reason was that he could sever all chances of Qin Yu entering the ancestral land!

A contender for the throne who lost their protector...their only fate was to die without a burial ground!

"Hold on!" Cloud Boundless shouted out loud. He took out the Black Token. "Blackwhite Visage, you should know what this is. If you join together with these people, I will immediately use it against you!"

Blackwhite Visage was expressionless. "You think I am afraid?"

Cloud Boundless shook his head, "No, I understand your strength. You are stronger than me. The most likely result is that I will be struck down by you."

Blackwhite Visage lightly said, "The one that will die is you."

Cloud Boundless said, "But you will also be injured." He paused and looked around, his voice deepening, "If I know I am going to die, even I don't know what sort of strength I can erupt with in the end. You absolutely cannot retreat intact."

"If you are injured in today's situation, do you think someone won't take this chance to sneak attack you? Even if they cannot kill, kicking the New Faction out of contention isn't difficult. After all, the New Faction has risen too quickly, and you have too many enemies lurking in the shadows."

Blackwhite Visage frowned. He looked over, "What do you want to say?"

Cloud Boundless snapped his fingers, "Simple! None of us will interfere in what happens next. We will let these juniors figure things out on their own..."

Seven Wounds Clan Elder coldly sneered, interrupting him. "Cloud Boundless, stop playing with words. Are you trying to delay for time? Let me tell you—"

Bang —

He suddenly stopped speaking as he was sent flying away. Cloud Boundless drew back his fist. "Seven Wounds, if you dare speak to me again I will immediately use this Black Token and I will kill you no matter the price!"

Bastard!

Seven Wounds Clan Elder felt as if his lungs were going to explode. This old bastard Cloud Boundless was clearly at a disadvantage, so how could he be so arrogant and rampant to attack him...

But the strength behind that fist was far too great. Seven Wounds Clan Elder felt his chest tumble as the taste of blood filled his mouth. Even as rage flooded his heart, he shook a little.

Ignoring Seven Wounds Clan Elder's angry expression, Cloud Boundless looked around. "Of course, if any of you object, you can speak up...there is only one Black Token, so I can only kill one person...it will all depend on who is the most selfless and willing to sacrifice themselves to help others."

Everyone's faces stiffened.

Everyone understood Cloud Boundless' strength, Besides Blackwhite Visage, who could guarantee they were a match for him?

If this was normal times then they would have some scruples when they came into conflict. In a situation where there was room to retreat, engaging in a minor scuffle wasn't a big problem.

But now, it was clear that Cloud Boundless was willing to go all-out...if the Black Token was released, someone would perish. It would not end until someone paid with their death!

The atmosphere fell silent.

Seven Wounds Clan Elder roared inwardly. Here it was! Here it was again!

This damned Cloud Boundless, he threatened again and again and it was the same two moves. The first was that he had no concern for his face and the second was to say he was going all-out. But at this time, these two moves had an incredible effect. Looking at everyone's faces it was easy to see they were frightened.

The most critical Blackwhite Visage was also moved...how hateful, his thoughts of using this chance to get rid of Cloud Boundless would fail!

It was just that Seven Wounds Clan Elder forgot that he was also one of the frightened people.

"Good, I agree." Blackwhite Visage took a step back, his expression faint, "You all heard him. If you desire the throne, fight for it yourself."

At the center of the Chosen Platform, the contenders with the crushed blood columns all looked at Qin Yu, ice cold intent in their eyes.

Cloud Boundless used this all-out method to hold back the other protectors, but so what? If the nine of them attacked together, could they not kill Qin Yu?

As long as he died, the selection would restart!

Chapter 1139 – Blood Dyed Crown

Blue Sea's lips suddenly moved. To his side, Xi Mo furrowed his eyebrows. The two of them spoke a bit more through sound transmissions before nodding at each other.

It seemed that in this simple exchange, they had come to some sort of agreement.

In the next moment, the two simultaneously took a step forward. Blue Sea spoke up, "Everyone, if Qin Yu doesn't die, the Old King's Lineage will inevitably rise. None of us will be able to escape unscathed. Today, I and Xi Mo vow that as long as anyone kills Qin Yu, no matter who ascends the throne in the end, we will shelter the benefits of your families and will not harm them!"

Xi Mo said, "That's right, this is a pledge that we both make!"

On the edge of the Chosen Platform, the protectors who were forced to stand back by Cloud Boundless all widened their eyes.

Everyone knew their self-worth. Unless they managed to kill Qin Yu, Blue Sea, and Xi Mo, the throne would be unrelated to them.

As for the possibility of achieving this...

Hoho, if the three of them were muddle-headed and engaged in a tangled melee, it might be possible for others to benefit from the sidelines.

But, this possibility was almost negligible.

They could not allow the Old King's Lineage to rise and become a massive faction on par with the Ancient King's Lineage. This was the basis for cooperation.

With this basis, Blue Sea and Xi Mo's pledge seemed especially weighty...after all, once Qin Yu was killed off, one of these two would likely become the new King.

After realizing all of this, it was easy to imagine what decision the others would make.

The protectors all nodded at their chosen competitors, hinting for them to agree.

Qin Yu had a completely awakened royal bloodline and he was bound to be tyrannically strong. But no matter how strong he was, could he block a joint attack from nine people?

He had to die, so when making the decision no one tried to cover it up.

There was no need to fear someone who was doomed to die...as for the Old King's Lineage, they were indeed strong right now, but once the new King took the throne perhaps there would be no need for them to continue existing.

At that time they wouldn't even be able to protect themselves, much less retaliate. It was simply laughable!

Cloud Boundless looked towards the center of the Chosen Platform where Blue Sea, Xi Mo, and the others had encircled Qin Yu. His complexion turned ugly.

But forcing Blackwhite Visage and Seven Wounds Clan Elder to not interfere was the limit of what he could do. It was impossible for him to help further.

"Qin Yin, this is a mess you created so don't blame this old man! It's understandable that young people like to show off, but your limelight is too bright this time. This is all I can do...whether you live or die, that's up to you!"

The 3000 foot blood column came into view. Its overwhelming momentum stirred the skies above the Chosen Platform, causing rumbles to fill the air.

Standing below it, Qin Yu didn't feel any self-satisfaction from showing off. Instead, his eyebrows were furrowed together in helplessness.

The ancestral land's hostility towards him was extremely strong. It actually used this method to try and kill him while he was outside.

He glanced around at the ice-cold gazes looking at him, all of them filled with cruel killing intent.

Qin Yu could understand their emotions. After all, he even crushed their blood columns and severed their paths for becoming the King. This was a truly irreconcilable enmity.

But understanding was one thing. Qin Yu's attitude towards people who wanted to kill him had never changed – if they wished to kill him, he would kill them, no matter who was right and who was wrong.

I'm right, so killing you is a matter of course.

And if I'm mistaken, killing you is also a matter of course!

If he didn't even have this sort of psychological mindset, was he supposed to think that all the people he killed over the years were truly guilty and deserved death?

His mind would have already collapsed from self-torment.

But how to kill these people was a question. Looking at these nine demons around him, the only ones Qin Yu dreaded were Blue Sea and Xi Mo.

It might seem like bragging to describe them as vegetables waiting to be chopped, but the difficulty really wasn't that large.

Fortunately, in this situation, Blue Sea and Xi Mo definitely wouldn't attack first in order to avoid receiving any damage.

As Qin Yu's thoughts raced, the blood column above his head finally stopped growing. Then it began to collapse inward...no, this description wasn't appropriate. It was actually shrinking at a collapse-like speed to form a mark.

What looked like a miniaturized version of the blood column flashed and then fell between Qin Yu's eyebrows.

Faint haloes of light circulated on the surface of the mark. Looking at it, one could feel a sense of oppression.

Dignified, solemn, awe...this mark represented that Qin Yu had passed the selection and obtained the approval of the ancestral land.

Rumble rumble –

Above the Chosen Platform, the skies began to heave and rage. An incomparably massive black vortex rapidly condensed.

This vortex was the channel leading to the ancestral land. And before it fully condensed...this was the aforementioned period of dripping blood.

In normal circumstances, three people would appear and obtain the approval of the ancestral land. They would enter the final struggle for the throne.

And the victor would be the new Nightmare King!

What would the people excluded do? Unless the difference in strength was too great, there would definitely be those that were unwilling. Or to be more accurate, as long as the disparity in strength wasn't too great, there would always be people willing to take the risk and fight.

The way was simple and brutal. By eliminating any of the chosen three, an open spot would appear and they would have an opportunity.

The Chosen Platform was the selection of the ancestral land. It was also a way for the competitors of the throne to struggle against their destiny.

If they weren't resigned to defeat?

Then it was time to fight, to have their opponent's blood dye the crown atop their heads red!

And now, there was only one chosen...killing Qin Yu was the only thought in the minds of these nine competitors.

"Kill him!"

The 110 foot blood column competitor was the first to attack. In truth, even if Qin Yu was killed, there was no chance for him to gain approval.

But Blue Sea and Xi Mo's pledge had moved his heart. As long as he could kill Qin Yu, he would have done a great merit for his family.

In the future, the position of Patriarch would be his!

He no longer dared to ask for the throne. Then, becoming the Patriarch of his family as well as a powerful tyrant of his own domain was his life's highest goal.

A 3000 foot blood column...Qin Yu had to be shockingly strong, but the height of a blood column and one's true strength couldn't be considered the same.

That's right, the strength of the abyssal demon race was established on the foundation of their bloodline. But the Chosen Platform was stimulating their bloodline potential only.

Even if Qin Yu awakened the royal bloodline, there was still a great distance between him and the peak level of strength he could possess.

Otherwise, he would have already obtained the approval of the abyss and become the Nightmare King.

Everyone was a Demon Commander. He might be strong, but who among those who came to the Chosen Platform weren't chosen prides of heaven in their own right?

When it came to strength, no one would back down!

So what if it was Qin Yu? He wouldn't necessarily be unable to kill him!

Whoosh –

Air split apart, forming a grating, ear-piercing sound. The competitor who attacked emitted a red demonic energy. It lengthened and narrowed into a sharp arc around him...like a saber that was slashing down!

Wild and overbearing...as if nobody could defeat him!

Air split apart and space violently trembled. Before it landed, Qin Yu could feel that destructive aura.

He sighed with emotion. It seemed he had somewhat underestimated the strength of the Nightmare Clan's younger generation powerhouses...but this wasn't enough to change the result.

Qin Yu stepped forward and wild demonic energy erupted around him, turning into a massive cloud of black fog that submerged him.

Within the blood-colored saber, the attacking competitor's eyes flashed with swift and fierce killing intent. "Tricks and illusion. Break for me!"

Bang –

As the blood red energy submerged into the billowing demonic energy, it tore open a long opening in the fog. But then, this opening closed in an instant. Following that...silence!

The competitor who entered was like a pebble falling into a lake. After creating a few small ripples, it returned to tranquility.

The entire Chosen Platform fell deathly silent!

Countless eyes stared at the black fog, their pupils shrinking with endless shock and disbelief.

It was over like that?

The performance of 110 Foot Blood Column was indeed the worst amongst the group, but that didn't mean he was weak to the point where he would collapse upon first strike.

On the contrary, those that had the qualifications to be pushed forth to compete in the struggle for the Nightmare Throne were all outstanding figures of the tribe.

Perhaps they had seen each other or perhaps they hadn't, but everyone had heard of each other and had an approximate understanding of them.

But such a 'fairly well known' powerhouse of the younger generation had rushed into the black fog and then vanished without a sound.

To accomplish this, it had to be an overwhelming difference in strength...how could Qin Yu be this strong? There was a problem, there was definitely a problem!

They stared at the black fog. While no one knew the fate of 110 Foot Blood Column competitor for sure, it wasn't hard to predict it.

They all wanted to kill Qin Yu, so they couldn't expect him to show mercy, right? Hum hum, everyone understood this truth!

They originally thought to join forces to eliminate Qin Yu and then discuss things afterwards. They never expected for things to change in an instant.

Now, let alone killing Qin Yu, their first thought was whether or not they could survive...110 Foot Blood Column couldn't even summon a splash before he was finished.

If it were them, were they much stronger? Okay, they might be able to cause a splash, but the final outcome would be the same.

The remaining competitors felt the pressure on them suddenly increase drastically. But time waited for no one. Once the channel was completed, the Chosen Platform would bring Qin Yu into the ancestral land.

As they said, fortune and dangers came hand in hand...

“I’ll go!” Almost 200 Foot Blood Column was a man with a gruesome scarred face. It was unknown what he had experienced in the past, but just looking at the scar made one feel that it must have hurt.

He looked at Blue Sea and Xi Mo. “But in this situation, if the two of you want to sit back and enjoy the spoils, you will have to add in more chips.”

Blue Sea nodded, “Speak.”

Almost 200 Foot Blood Column smiled, the scar eerily creeping on his face as he did. “Simple. If I kill Qin Yu, the third spot of the Chosen Platform will be mine!”

The complexions of the other competitors changed. They all revealed angry glares.

“Impossible!”

“The final spot depends on everyone’s own skills!”

“I don’t agree with this!”

Almost 200 Foot Blood Column fiendishly grinned. “Do you oppose? Good, then I won’t do anything. If anyone wants to risk it, then step forward!”

“If you kill Qin Yu, the spot is yours. I will be the first to agree to this...you two, you agree with me as well, right?”

Blue Sea nodded. “Alright.” He glanced around. “I guarantee that whoever kills Qin Yu will join me and Xi Mo and obtain the third spot.”

Xi Mo remained expressionless. His silence indicated his opinion.

Everyone hesitated.

Everyone wanted the last spot, but that black fog...it really was death’s door. Going in was easy, but it was unknown whether they would survive to come out.

Seeing everyone waver, Almost 200 Foot Blood Column laughed out loud, mockery in his eyes. “If you have the intent but not the courage, are you still worthy of being chosen?”

He stepped forward and rushed ahead like a rainbow, tearing into the black fog as he entered. Then, thunderous rings rang out. Even the Chosen Platform started to shiver.

Massive swathes of black fog were torn apart and countless cracks appeared. Within the distorted fog, one could vaguely make out the form of Almost 200 Foot Blood Column.

He laughed recklessly, potent strength surging through his body. Everyone’s complexions changed, and even Blue Sea and Xi Mo were stunned.

This person was hiding his strength. Or perhaps he used some card that allowed his strength to erupt. Strictly speaking, this degree of strength already surpassed the Demon Commander boundary and nearly touched upon the path of the Nameless True King.

“Qin Yu, I’ll kill you today...” The wild cackles suddenly stopped and the riotous impacts of strength also immediately dissipated.

The fiercely tumbling black fog fell silent, as if it was a crazed giant beast that suddenly turned docile.

This sudden change was too sudden, without any forewarning at all...

The result was that Almost 200 Foot Blood Column was just like 110 Foot Blood Column. They both vanished without leaving any sounds behind.

He was also done for...

Chapter 1140 – A True King Arrives

Seeing this sight, everyone felt a chill rise up their feet, spreading along their backs and through their limbs, making them feel as if they had fallen into an icy lake.

Fear, uncontrollable and surging from the depths of their hearts, completely submerged their minds.

When 110 Foot Blood Column vanished, no one felt this. But they knew how strong Almost 200 Foot Blood Column was.

Such a strong person had vanished in the blink of an eye, without any more sounds coming out...the terror this represented was several times greater!

Blue Sea's eyes darkened. He turned and looked at Seven Wounds Clan Elder. This old thing had no expression and just stood there like a motionless statue.

He cursed inwardly. What useless people. A group of powerhouses had actually been frightened by Cloud Boundless!

If not for that, killing Qin Yu wouldn't be so troublesome...

The current situation wasn't good. He looked up at the skies. The vortex was rapidly condensing – there wasn't much time left.

He took a deep breath and said in a deep voice, "Everyone, we must all kill Qin Yu now. If we fail in this, have you thought about the ramifications?"

Xi Mo glanced at him and spoke up, "If Qin Yu doesn't die today, then once he returns from the ancestral land, that will be the day when everyone here will perish in both body and soul."

The air fell silent. Unconstrained fear appeared in everyone's eyes. There was no need to mull over such a simple matter. Just a warning was enough for them to understand everything.

If Qin Yu didn't die...they would die!

Blue Sea's tone deepened even further. "Of course, you won't necessarily die. For instance, if your background is formidable enough that even the Nightmare King would feel dread, then perhaps you may survive.

"For instance, me. For instance, Xi Mo. We both represent the Ancient King's Lineage and the New Faction. If we pay a certain price, we might live...but what about the rest of you?"

His complexion turned cold. "So if you don't want to die, go all-out. Qin Yu's strength absolutely has not reached the level where he could kill those two in an instant. If he can do this, he must have drawn support from some card that the Old King's Lineage prepared for him."

Xi Mo said, "None of us lack things like hidden cards. You should all be aware that such things cannot be used forever. For instance, the first person might have instantly vanished, but the second person had enough time to erupt with his aura."

"Qin Yu's card might be weakening as we speak...and you don't have to attack one at a time. If you join together to kill him, our previous pledge remains effective. I guarantee that the benefits, power, and influence of your families will be protected, and the third spot will be left for the rest of you to decide for yourselves!"

The two sang together, cooperating perfectly and causing the expressions of the remaining five other competitors to change again and again. Although they didn't want to admit it, this was true...perhaps Blue Sea and Xi Mo could live, but they would die.

If they didn't want to die, they could only risk their lives!

At the edge of the Chosen Platform, the various protectors paled. Anger lit up their eyes.

But since they had made their choice, there was no significance in regretting. They all stared at Cloud Boundless, trying to discern some information from his face.

"Humph! What are you all staring at me for? If you want to kill Qin Yu, those people are far from enough!" Cloud Boundless jeered before smugly laughing. He lightly glanced at everyone, "The new King's throne is ours!"

Seven Wounds Clan Elder suddenly said, "Cloud Boundless, your current performance seems off."

Cloud Boundless coldly sneered, looking at him but not speaking. The derision in his expression increased, as if he couldn't deign to speak with him.

But this time, Seven Wounds Clan Elder wasn't angry. Instead, he revealed a mysterious smile. "Everyone, with Cloud Boundless' personality, what sort of performance would he show right now?"

"According to what I know, if the Old King's Lineage was truly confident in Qin Yu, then Cloud Boundless would definitely show a blank face with a trace of apprehension that was just enough to be discovered by us. And this would all be in order to trick the other competitors into continuing so that Qin Yu could gather all the juniors together and wipe them out in one stroke."

As his voice fell, everyone's eyes brightened. It was said that when it came to knowing someone, their opponent was definitely amongst those with the best understanding.

In these years, Seven Wounds Clan Elder had eaten innumerable losses from Cloud Boundless, both publicly and in the shadows.

Just now, Seven Wounds had been slammed into the floor in front of everyone and completely lost face.

So saying that there was bitter hatred between the two wasn't going too far.

If such a Seven Wounds Clan Elder said this, it was worth contemplating. In addition to Cloud Boundless' sinister performance...everyone suddenly became aware!

This was it, it had to be this!

Qin Yu had a card in hand, he had to have one. But, this card existed under some severe limit. For instance, the duration, or there was a restriction to use, or it weakened each time...

The channel was forming, and no one had an accurate timeline of when it would fully come into existence. So, no one could wait longer.

If Qin Yu entered, everything would lose significance. No one would be able to run away. They would just have to wait for Qin Yu to return from the ancestral land and then clean them up.

They could not wait, they had to fight!

They had to bet that Qin Yu's card had some extreme limit...Xi Mo was right about one thing. The second person who entered the black fog was able to release his strength before he died...

This was evidence!

"Attack together!"

"Kill Qin Yu!"

"I don't believe that you can still resist when they all join hands!"

The demon protectors roared out loud.

They had been chosen to ascend the Chosen Platform today. They were protectors but they also represented the will of their families. In critical times, they could make vital choices. For instance, now.

If someone from their families could capture the qualifications to enter the ancestral land, that meant they had the qualifications to succeed the throne.

Their statuses were different now and the protectors didn't dare to casually give orders...but in this situation, they couldn't care about such things.

If Qin Yu didn't die, no one would have a chance!

The five competitors all revealed bitter expressions. If they had a choice, none of them would be willing to rush into the black fog and risk their lives.

But they clearly had no choice.

They could only risk it all!

"It's not me! It's not me! The one to die won't be me!"

"Peh peh peh, bad luck be gone, good luck come to me!"

"I can survive, I will definitely survive!"

These were the thoughts wildly fluctuating in their hearts.

That's right, in the eyes of these five competitors, what they had to bet on was their luck. They also believed Seven Wounds Clan Elder's judgment. Qin Yu had a trump card, but this card wasn't strong enough to kill all of them.

Otherwise, why was Qin Yu hiding in the black fog and pretending to be so mysterious? He could have just come out and killed them all.

Since his card wasn't able to kill all of them, whether they lived or died would depend on their luck!

As for the likelihood that Qin Yu had no hidden card and was relying entirely on his own strength to kill others...hoho, that was simply impossible.

There was not even the tiniest bit of possibility!

All of them were Demon Commanders. Unless he had thoroughly stepped onto the path of the Nameless True King and had strength comparable to that of a true King, he could give up any idea of accomplishing that.

This was a paradox...if Qin Yu already had strength comparable to a true King, why would he need to go through so much trouble?

That's right, this was simple reasoning. So what they needed the most right now was to have good luck.

Blue Sea said without expression, "Everyone, do not delay any further." In the next moment, many eyes glared at him, threatening and sharp.

Bastard, the one risking his life isn't you so stop spouting so much crap!

But just like Cloud Boundless realized before, if there was a time to go all out, there was no way to avoid it.

"Everyone, let's attack together!"

"Qin Yu's card might be strong, but it cannot deal with our combined attack!"

"Kill him and everything will return to normal!"

"Go!"

"Die!"

The five competitors might have known that there would be innumerable dangers after entering the Chosen Platform, but they never expected it would be so tragic and frigid to the point where they all had to risk their lives.

With loud roars, tyrannical fluctuations of strength erupted. Five figures blasted into the black fog from different directions.

It wasn't that no one thought to play tricks. For instance, stepping into the black fog a little bit later.

But the key was that they weren't the only ones on the Chosen Platform today.

The protectors saw everything happening from the edge of the battlefield. It was impossible for anyone here to fish in troubled waters. If anyone dared to play tricks and stay out, they would immediately be eliminated.

Rumble rumble –

The black fog instantly roiled, turning wild as the five competitors erupted with their complete strength without hesitation.

In the next moment, the black fog popped like a giant bubble.

Qin Yu sighed inwardly. Plans were only ever plans. Even if he didn't want to expose himself, there was no other way.

He looked up. His eyes were pitch black like the endless night, capable of swallowing all!

“Abyssal Gaze!”

Seven Wounds Clan Elder screamed out loud. Because his emotions were fluctuating too fiercely, his voice came out sharp and high. His eyes widened as he stared at Qin Yu in abject disbelief.

At this moment, everyone on the Chosen Platform finally realized what Qin Yu's card was.

Cloud Boundless felt as if he had taken a carriage to a mountain summit. After reaching the top, he plummeted all the way down. Although this description wasn't too appropriate, it was still barely usable. He mumbled to himself, “That brat Cloud Mist was still concealing things from me...”

Outside the Chosen Platform, two figures flew high in the skies.

The Ancient King Patriarch took a deep breath, “Old King's Lineage, what amazing methods!” Awakening the royal blood and awakening a royal bloodline that obtained the power of the King boundary were two entirely different levels.

Even he never imagined that Qin Yu could use the Abyssal Gaze.

He wasn't a true King, but he had a portion of a true King's might ahead of time...a variable was indeed a variable. It could never be anticipated with common sense.

The Old King Patriarch coughed several times, a ruddy look coming across his withered face. “The feeling is mutual. I'm also curious. Why did you choose Blue Sea?”

If he hadn't interfered, it would have been impossible for Cloud Mist to completely conceal everything about Qin Yu. Even someone like Cloud Boundless had been kept in the dark.

“Humph!” The Ancient King Patriarch looked into the distance, “It seems that someone cannot wait any longer.”

The Old King Patriarch had a light expression, “The changing of the throne is a matter for my clan alone...it seems that someone has reached too far.”

Neither of them spoke again. These two old demons that had lived for an unknown number of years both had light shining in the depths of their eyes.

The ancestral land was the Nightmare Clan's ancestral land. It was the foundation of their tribe. At the same time, it was a shadow that covered the entire Nightmare Clan.

Even they, who had spent numerous years bitterly trying, had never been able to unlock its secrets.

If someone wanted to demonstrate their existence, they might as well give them a chance...maybe there would be a harvest.

Bang –

A terrifying aura instantly arrived, galvanizing vast and powerful amounts of demonic energy to surge and howl. At that moment, this entire level of the abyss fiercely shook.

A true King had arrived!