

## The Ages 951

### Chapter 951 - Sixpole Demon Blades, Canine Voidgod

"Wait, Big Bro, you got it wrong!" Huiye Shi hurriedly explained, "I was just curious about the lifebound beasts they have, so I asked Li Tianming to exchange blows with me. We just went a little too far and he accidentally struck me. He wasn't trying to challenge my authority!"

"He hit your face accidentally?" Huiyue Yin laughed. "Huiye Shi, give your head a shake. Do you hear sloshing water? Is your head empty or something? Think about your status and theirs! Don't bring down the status of the entire divine moonrace!"

"What the hell!" she snapped, "Whatever, Huiyue Yin. I'll let you know that he's only twenty-three! I have my sights on him and I want to take him back to the Divine Moon Realm."

"Are you looking for a pet, or a man?" he mocked.

"Shut up! He's charming and talented. I want to take him back and let the clan nurture him. He'll grow stronger than you. You can't be worried that I'll inherit more of the family wealth after getting an amazing husband like that, eh?"

"Now that's weird. You came to this backwater and got a dog to be your man. Aren't you afraid of becoming a laughingstock of the entire Divine Moon Realm? Huiye Shi, people can't mate with animals, got it? The reason celestial orderians can't have children with those of the rootbeast race is because they can't be considered human, understand? The people of the past once thought that if a cultivator had both lifebound beasts and totems, they'd be unmatched, which was why there were many celestial orderians that formed unions with the rootbeast race in an attempt to create offspring with both of their qualities, only to be stumped when they couldn't produce children!"

"Who said that they're animals? The rootbeast race is still considered rather powerful in the astralscape of order, alright? Huiyue Yin, get off your high horse. The rootbeast race is also a part of the realm of order, so how much worse can they be compared to celestial orderians? Not to mention, few celestial orderians got together with the rootbeast race to begin with. And even if they can't produce offspring, so what?" Huiye Shi snapped.

"If you don't have offspring, how can you fight for an inheritance? He can't compare to the other men you fell for back then!" He almost couldn't help but shake with laughter.

"Nonsense. You only want to avert your eyes to the truth. He's much stronger than they ever were. Not to mention, who said that I could only fall for one man all my life? If you can have concubines, I can just take a few more divine moonrace husbands! There's many pretty men in this world. I couldn't possibly just settle for one!"

"So you want to embarrass me with your actions? Do you know how embarrassing it is to be associated with you? If you bring him up there, our entire clan will be mocked and humiliated, moron!" He had stopped laughing and looked truly angry.

"Big Bro, I'm serious. It has nothing to do with you."

"So what? I can't stand disgusting things, so...." He turned to look in the direction of Xuanyuan Lake.

"What're you planning to do?" she said anxiously.

"I can solve this by simply cutting him down. Why should I even argue with you?" After saying that, he vanished in the moonlight. "I might as well vivisect that animal and see what's so special about him. I might yet gain something from it."

As for whether the humans of the Flameyellow Continent would survive, he couldn't give the slightest shit. He was here for nothing but the sights. The moon guide was the one in charge of things, and he had already gone back.

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"Tianming, Huiyue Yin is outside," Xuanyuan Dao said right as Tianming guided the caelum of the emperor down to live his experiences.

"Alright." He returned the caelum and had his lifebound beasts enter his lifebound space.

"Be careful." The others were rather worried.

"It'll be fine." Tianming wasn't one who would be afraid to step up. Since Huiyue Yin had come, he knew it was bad news. He had begun to understand a key difference. In the Divine Capital and the Grand-Orient Realm, he had the protection of Li Wudi and the Decimo Dao Palace. In the Archaion Sect, he'd had the protection of the goddess. So, he hadn't been in any real danger, and nobody would harm him over jealousy for his talents. Yet now before the lofty divine moonrace, he didn't have anyone he could count on but himself.

"Maybe you shouldn't put up a strong front and just focus on surviving," Li Caiwei said. "Want me to teach you how to get convincingly beaten up?"

"There's no time." Tianming smiled and had her rest before leaving the Old Deepstar Path, followed by Xuanyuan Dao, Feiling, and the rest. There was a hint of anger and worry in Feiling's eyes.

"He'll be fine, Ling'er," Lin Xiaoxiao consoled.

"Whether he'll be fine or not doesn't change how cruel Huiyue Yin is," Feiling said.

Lin Xiaoxiao was taken aback by the strong spirit Feiling had, despite how soft she seemed. Her beautiful, watery eyes seemed to squint with displeasure, giving off a sense of danger. She now seemed just like she had when she used Perpetia to deal with the Archaionfiend.

"Never doubt this: she's the most terrifying of them all, a billion times more than even Li Tianming," the Archaionfiend said from within Lin Xiaoxiao's lifebound space. "I advise you to never cross this woman, especially when it comes to taking her man. You'll die a horrible death, Xiaoxiao."

"What nonsense are you spouting! I don't want to ruin their happiness. Not to mention, those two are so deeply in love that nobody can possibly get between them."

"Oh, so you've thought about it before."

Lin Xiaoxiao began anxiously sweating.

They all turned to look at Huiyue Yin, who was looking down on them from above. Behind him was the round moon, making for quite an ethereal, almost godly sight. Tianming left the path and came to Huiyue Yin, not looking directly at him. With the most polite voice he could muster on the advice of Xuanyuan Dao and the rest, he asked, "Lord, what can I do for you?"

"I want your life. Give it." Huiyue Yin cracked a smile as the others opened their eyes wide in shock.

Tianming didn't even have a chance to lament his woes at all. Huiyue Yin had come to demand his life without so much as a reason. Huiyue Yin's eyes glowed with the power of the Ascension stage and stellar source as he manifested his totems.

Tianming didn't know how many totems he had. If his talent was on the level of Huiye Shi, there should be five in total. At that moment, one of the totems manifested from his bane-ring, appearing as a glowing, towering figure of a hundred meters in height. It looked far more savage than Huiye Shi's totem, having a humanoid body but six arms that wielded fang-like, demonic blades. It had a bestial head despite its humanoid body, and a wide, bloody mouth and two moon-like glowing eyes.

The totem didn't seem to have a corporeal form, making it look really wide and spread out. Its lower body seemed like mist that circled around Huiyue Yin. Apart from light, there were many little dots swirling around it, forming various complex patterns. This was his totem, the canine voidgod.

Huiyue Yin's lips curved into a sly smile under the illumination of the moon. "Lowly natives, witness the totem of the divine moonrace!"

He lightly waved and the totem let out a loud, thundering roar as it charged toward Tianming, threateningly waving its six blades. Everyone's expression tensed up in anxious anticipation.

### **Chapter 952: The Feeling of Indulgence**

Huiyue Yin didn't hold back at all and summoned his totem the moment Tianming came out of the Old Deepstar Path. The six demon blades that came striking didn't leave much time for him to react.

This was Tianming's first encounter with an ascendant. He could clearly feel that the energy radiating from the canine voidgod was fundamentally different from tribulation force. Not only was it more dense and of higher quality, there were also many finer aspects that he couldn't quite make out for now; for instance, how the energy related to the heavens and earth, the world, and the universe. For instance, if tribulation force was akin to water, the energy of the Ascension stage would be like metal. Even though they were both matter, their properties were hard to compare.

Even so, Tianming still managed to react rather quickly. At such a critical juncture, his only means of defense was offense. He summoned the Grant-Orient Sword and Prime Tower at the same time. As the Prime Tower was still expanding, it could only block one of the swords. There were five remaining, all being used to execute battle arts and avoiding the Prime Tower while coursing toward Tianming.

The power of the totem was that it was able to phase in and out of corporeal existence. Even though it seemed to ram into the Prime Tower, its body soon phased through it.

Tianming then used the Soulshaker Eye. The totem was formed from terra, one of the three parts of Huiyue Yin's soul. Compared to the caelum, terra was far closer to the human body and could even return to the sea of consciousness. Since the Soulshaker Eye worked on souls, it should also work on totems. After it was used, the sky seemed to darken. The totem lost Tianming's position, but even the random flailing of its flexible body could be fatal.

Tianming used the Grand-Orient Sword to execute the Asura Fiendgod Formation. Coupled with the Imperealm Sword Formation, the attack landed on the canine voidgod. Spiritforms weren't the same as ethereal souls, after all. Instead, they were ethereal souls given corporeal form. While they were flexible and malleable, they could still be attacked and torn apart!

Amidst the rampaging sword ki, the six demon blades still managed to suppress Tianming's sword formations, letting out countless sounds of blades clashing. The enemy had the complete advantage and overwhelmed Tianming as the canine voidgod came bearing down. A blade tens of meters in length slashed toward the Grand-Orient Sword, sending him crashing into the group of people.

The attacks of totems all contained a component that targeted the soul and threatened to harm Tianming's vita. Fortunately, he had the Soul Tower, and the canine voidgod didn't seem to be able to break it. As a result, the attack was mitigated and the weakened remnant of the energy wasn't able to kill Tianming outright. Even so, it was a close call.

Tianming charged once more and furiously glared at Huiyue Yin. The man had almost killed him in a single strike. Now that's ruthless. He wants to kill me over a minor disagreement!

The flames of rage burned within him. He had been fuming from the visit of the envoys of the Divine Moon Realm and itching to kill them, but he knew what status Huiyue Yin had. He was an envoy of the Divine Moon Realm, and if he perished at the hands of humans for any reason, the divine moonrace would no doubt aid the specters in wiping out the rest of them. It wasn't only him; Xuanyuan Dao, Li Caiwei, and the rest were indignant as well.

"Lord, why are you trying to kill him? Isn't the Divine Moon Realm here to help us?"

"Could it have been a misunderstanding?"

A few people stepped in front of Tianming to defend him as he stood up. They knew full well that they could be eradicated with a casual wave of Huiyue Yin's hand, yet they had chosen to do so.

Stunned by their suicidal act, Huiyue Yin said, "This mutt is interesting. To think that he could take my attack and survive...."

He completely ignored Xuanyuan Dao and the rest, as if they didn't even exist. He was beyond negotiation.

He doesn't even see us as human! The rage continued simmering in Tianming's belly. When he saw Huiyue Yin make a move again, he immediately had Xuanyuan Dao and the rest move aside. He was the target. Does he really think he's a god? Tianming wasn't far from the truth—Huiyue Yin did in fact feel like an omnipotent god in this world.

"I didn't think that coming down to this place would be so much fun. I'm able to see all your helpless expressions of rage. Yet all of you have no choice but to respect me. It's truly fun. If it weren't for the

restrictions of the territories of order that prohibit us from coming down whenever we like, I would've long made this run-down world my hunting ground."

That was the true motivation behind his stay here.

"If I don't massacre thousands to show you the might of the Divine Moon Realm, you won't fear and respect us. I should vent my rage like this more often. Who wouldn't want to come down for this?" It was perfect for him. "Looking at the faces of you livestock as I beat up your legend is exhilarating!"

He couldn't help but start to laugh. "I've been raised so strictly that I've never known the sweet bliss of release! I should keep relishing it."

He narrowed his eyes and playfully swept them through the people around Tianming, feeling all the better at their gazes of fear. "Listen up. You dogs have offended me. Anyone who dares obstruct me shall die. It's better if you move aside and make sure you continue your family line. I wouldn't want to be blamed for ending it."

As he spoke, one canine voidgod after another manifested. There were five in total, each one more than a hundred meters tall. They all had dog heads and humanoid bodies with slightly different features. Some had long tails, while others had completely human arms. It was almost ironic for him to use 'dog' as a derogatory term when his totems were all dog-like. Now, even his own teeth seemed to possess a canine quality.

Either way, he was letting it all go. The five totems were absolutely able to suppress everyone there. Such was the power of a 'god'. Back then, the other sects all feared Feiling for the same reason—the potential of being able to dominate the entire continent!

"Retreat, now!" There was no other choice now. Tianming asked them to retreat and stood in front of them. Right as carnage was about to break out, a white figure appeared in front of Tianming. Then five moonfiends tens of meters in height surrounded him.

"Huiyue Yin, stop!" Huiye Shi shouted.

"Move aside or I'll beat you up, too." Huiyue Yin curved his lips into a cold smile. There was no way he would stop his streak of debauchery.

"Stop messing around! If you cause trouble here, I'll report your misbehavior to Mom and Dad! If you kill him and cause the humans of the Flameyellow Continent to be exterminated by the specters, you'll be responsible for billions of deaths! The clan will definitely hold you accountable for your heinous crimes!"

"Are you threatening me? Billions of deaths? That's simple. All I have to do is to kill the dozen specters there. I just have to wipe the strong ones out to balance the scales. They're all laughably weak, anyway."

Huiye Shi was completely flabbergasted.

"Move aside," Huiyue Yin growled.

"Forget it. I'll give you the trimoon source I got for this half of the year to spare his life. That'll do, won't it?"

"Hand it over." Huiyue Yin smiled.

Huiye Shi took out a jade box and unwillingly tossed it to him. "Now scram!"

"Just this small bit? Man, letting you trade this for the life of a talented dog is truly a steal for you. If you don't make him fall head over heels for you, this will have been a horrible waste! Hahaha!" Turning to Tianming, he snorted. "To think that the legend of the Flameyellow Continent needs to be defended by a puny girl. What a joke. Open your eyes and stop thinking you're a ruler. You're just a village idiot."

He felt much better after getting something out of this engagement. He hummed as he left while others watched him carefully; the atmosphere was completely quiet. Tianming's expression remained cold the entire time, and he only blinked when Huiyue Yin left. He had long outgrown childish things like trash talking. Life wouldn't always be smooth sailing, and there would always be those powerful enough to humiliate him. If anything, the only way to survive was to make the enemy think of you as a helpless creature that couldn't pose any threat. Tianming didn't need to prove himself to anyone.

Let's see who'll have the last laugh. By now, he was able to control his impulses, so he let it go after that thought. He had many other burdens to carry, so he wouldn't risk losing it all and surrender all reason just because he couldn't swallow his pride.

"It's over for now, everyone. Let's disperse," he said to the rest. They could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

As the threat of the specters still loomed over them, they couldn't offend the Divine Moon Realm right now at any cost. So they understood that, apart from Tianming, none of them should fight back against the humiliation and ruthlessness. Though, that didn't mean they had to be grateful, not to Huiyue Yin nor to Huiye Shi.

"Who said it's over? It isn't!" Huiye Shi snapped.

"What's left?" Tianming asked as he turned back to look at her with everyone else.

"Hey, why are you this way? I lost my trimoon source to save you! That's a precious treasure I need to cultivate my totems! Do you think my brother would leave if it wasn't precious? You owe me at least a word of thanks, right?"

### **Chapter 953 - Who Do You Think You Are**

"Oh, that, I do owe you. Thank you, Lady Huiye," Tianming said with a smile.

"That wasn't sincere. I don't believe it," she said.

"Then what do you want me to do?" There was no free lunch in this world, and she definitely wasn't one that would help out without seeking something in return. But with the bar of the divine moonrace's decency set so low by the moon guide and Huiyue Yin, Huiye Shi almost seemed annoyingly charming. Even so, Tianming knew full well about the pride and ruthlessness in her heart, so he didn't just assume she would be that good to him. He still had to take the time to find out what kind of person she truly was.

Huiye Shi was quite unhappy about how Tianming was giving her attitude in public. "Don't you know what I want? How could a man be like that? Don't you already know the truth?"

"Pray tell. What truth am I missing?"

"Right now, you stand at the top of the Flameyellow Continent. However, you're nothing but livestock in the eyes of higher lifeforms like us. This place will only limit your growth and leave you languishing in obscurity. You have to expand your horizons. Follow me to a higher realm. Only after you find your footing in the Divine Moon Realm will others respect you. My brother wouldn't be able to humiliate you like that again, either. If you just stay here, you'll eventually become useless! I'm only telling you this because I pity you. Stop being so ignorant! What's so good about this rotten world that you aren't able to let go of it?"

She was no doubt angry. There was no way she would go so far and ignore the feelings of everyone there otherwise.

After hearing all that, Tianming laughed. "Lady, I won't regret the paths I pick for myself. I don't need your pity, so please go back."

His smile as he said that made her fume even more, especially when the others were still looking on. "Li Tianming, do you think that just because you defeated me and made me like you a little bit that you can do whatever you want? Are you really that ignorant about your status?"

Tianming merely kept smiling.

"I know why you don't want to leave with me now. Have your woman get her ass out here!" She immediately set her sights on Feiling. "You, come here."

Everyone turned to look at Feiling.

"Your Eminence...."

They could see that her eyes were as cold as Tianming's, but she seemed to have an added murderous air that normally wasn't present. "What do you want?"

"Do you really like him?" Huiye Shi asked.

"It has nothing to do with you."

"Oh, I know now. You're just a useless accessory that selfishly stifles his bright future. What else are you good for? If you really love him, you should let him go. Let him come with me. You aren't suited to be with him, you know? Don't be stubborn and think you can dominate him just because you're a little pretty. Beauty is only skin deep. Only true power and status can bring dignity, understand?"

"I don't understand what you mean. All I know is that someone like you just comes off like you haven't been taught well growing up. All you know how to do seems to be disparaging others and not giving any basic semblance of respect. You're the one who truly isn't a good fit for him. You think you're all that great just because you have some background, and all of us should have to bow and kneel to you? I'm sorry, but you have no right to barge into our relationship. You aren't even a third wheel between Tianming and I. Did your clan only teach you how to fight and squabble without educating you on basic etiquette and manners?" Feiling said in a poised manner. Compared to Huiye Shi's childish tantrum, she truly seemed on a different level.

"How dare you? Are you asking to die?!" Huiye Shi's eyes turned red as tears began flowing.

"Who do you think you are? What else can you do apart from crying?" Feiling said.

"Die, wench!" Huiye Shi cried, sending her totems to attack Feiling.

Needless to say, Tianming blocked it and pushed Feiling back, turning to point his sword at Huiye Shi. This was his answer.

"Very well! Truly amazing! I really wasted my trimoon source for nothing!" Huiye Shi laughed pitifully as endless rage built up in her. Glaring at Tianming, she continued, "I've always been able to get what I want! You will not be able to escape my grasp! Even if I have to drag you along like a dog, I will take you away from here!"

Then she shot Feiling a dark, threatening look. Who knew what she was going to do? If it weren't for the fact that he didn't have a choice, Tianming wouldn't have wanted to offend her either, but now that Feiling was involved, Tianming wouldn't want her to be troubled by it in the least.

After Huiye Shi left, everyone turned to look at their human emperor and goddess with troubled expressions, still reeling from the sheer oddity of the situation. However, they had to admit that hearing their goddess say that was almost cathartic.

"It's always your good looks that invite trouble. Why couldn't you have been uglier?" Li Caiwei sighed, diffusing the tension.

Everyone broke out in laughter, save for Feiling and Tianming. The atmosphere soon got a little awkward again.

"Then, how about I recite a poem?" Ouyang Jianwang said. The moment he spoke, Feiling turned to leave and Tianming hurried to join her at the newly reconstructed Soulburn Hall.

"Ling'er, don't be mad."

"I'm not mad." Though she said that, her face looked frozen like ice.

"Then...."

She entered the hall and closed the door just as he was about to enter. "Big Brother, I don't want to be looked down upon by others. Don't interrupt me."

It looked like Feiling was raving mad from the encounter. As long as Huiyue Yin and Huiye Shi didn't leave, they would come to cause trouble time and again. Next time, they might even come together.

As Tianming stood outside, Ying Huo and the rest watched wide-eyed from within his lifebound space.

"Darn, Ling'er was so badass!" Ying Huo said. "I'm falling in love! Tianming, my friend, go! Let's see who's tougher! You, or her? Don't hold back!"

Tianming sat down at the entrance and looked at the starry sky. "If it was possible...." His gaze soon turned cold. "Give us some more time. We'll show them!"

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The Hexapath Sword Palace under Xuanyuan Lake had collapsed from the grand battle, but had been reconstructed. Within it was the Hexapath Sword Insight Rock and Tianming. Before him sat the Hexapath Sword God, smiling as his beard fluttered in the wind. Tianming performed the Ninesky Beastsoul Formation and Asura Fiendgod Formation for the apparition.

"How did I do, Senior?" Tianming asked.

"You're a brilliant student."

"I guess it's not enough, then."

"You're a brilliant student."

"If I'm a brilliant student, you should start teaching me then!"

The Hexapath Sword God actually stood up. "You executed the formations decently. We can move on to the next step now."

"What's the next step?" Tianming's eyes were glowing. He would finally be learning the fifth move of Hexapath Samsara Sword!

"The next step is... let me see how you look without clothes on," said the Hexapath Sword God in a laughing manner.

#### **Chapter 954 - The Hadean Reincarnation**

"Fuck!" Tianming broke out in a cold sweat. "Senior, I'm a man!"

"I don't care if you're a man or woman. Strip!" The Hexapath Sword God grinned.

Tianming got the feeling that the inseparable Feng Qingyu and Jian Wuyi had patterned themselves after this old man.

"No." Tianming firmly refused.

This Hexapath Sword God was merely a Sword Formation that repeated the words left by him.

"Wow! You're handsome. I like how you're built!"

The Hexapath Sword God replied as expected. Tianming's expression was dark; he hadn't removed anything! The Hexapath Sword God continued reading his lines. "Since you've granted me a feast for the eyes, I'll teach you the Purgatory Dao today!"

They were finally getting started.

Tianming had been frightened by the old man but also admired the fact that he'd held on to his interests even after being dead for so many years.

"This sword is a true divine-class sword intent, the crème de la crème! According to legend, humans will enter reincarnation and the eighteen hells after death. There's the frost, volcano, and thunder hells and so forth...."

The Ninefold Hell of the specter race was merely the name of a star. No one knew where the fabled hell of the mortal world was. Perhaps it was only an unfounded myth. However, the Hexapath Sword God had created a sword art derived from the Purgatory Dao.

“In the six realms of reincarnation, the Heavenly Dao governs the upper three realms, while the Purgatory Dao rules the lower three realms, reigning over the beasts and hungry ghosts! This move merges the sword formations into one and combines the eighteen layers of hells. You will have a revelation about the power of the universe that’ll guide you in comprehending the quintessence of Ascension. Only by understanding the firmament can you walk the heavens. Eighteen-fold swords become one. All living beings perish under one sword. Thus, this sword is called the Empyrean Reincarnation. After mastering this sword, you may proceed to the ultimate sword, the Hadean Reincarnation. The two swords can be used together—like earth and sky, or yin and yang.” The Hexapath Sword God had lived for a long time. After becoming a god, he had merged all his creations into these two sword strikes.

“How lonely!” he suddenly shouted. “The two swords are in unparalleled harmony, yet no one in this vast world possesses a matching pair of swords.”

He sounded helpless and mournful as he continued, “You’re about to see hell and the eighteen levels of reincarnation.”

Using his middle finger as a sword, he pointed at Tianming and began his demonstration.

Like the awakening of the heavens and the earth, a sword embodying a dark world shot out and eighteen levels of reincarnations emerged, sweeping over Tianming like a howling storm.

“How powerful!” Tianming could feel it.

"The Flameyellow Continent is submerged in hell, and my people are dancing dangerously on the line between life and death! I must master this sword and drag the others to hell!"

During the day, Tianming practiced his sword in the Hexapath Sword Palace, and at night, he cultivated in the Old Deepstar Path.

Feiling hadn’t left Soulburn Hall over the past few days, and Huiye Shi had disappeared and no longer bothered him.

On this day, both Tianming and Lin Xiaoxiao had good news. Through his recent efforts and under the guidance of Emperor Xuanyuan’s caelum and thousands of specter caeli, he finally entered the tenth-level life phase. When the Aeonian Grandbane integrated with his samsara ring, Tianming clearly sensed the expansion of the ring and an increase in strength.

This led to certain changes. Compared to samsarans of the same level, his strength was far more profound. From death to life phase, Tianming's strength had undergone a great transformation.

Meanwhile, Lin Xiaoxiao and the Archaionfiend entered the twelfth-level death phase, only one step short of achieving godhood. Even so, she was still no threat against Tianming. His breakthrough had come at the right time. This was the result of Tianming's painstaking cultivation under heavy pressure.

This time, he had held on.

During this period of time, he had observed Great Emperor Xuanyuan's entire life until his enlightenment of Ascension. In the future, Great Emperor Xuanyuan's caelum and these specter caeli would have a less significant effect on Tianming.

"So what if I've entered the tenth-level life phase?" Gaze cold, he recalled the humiliation they had suffered. "It's been a while since Huiyue Yin's run amok. Is it because he's assimilating the trimoon source?"

At that moment, his thoughts were interrupted by Xuanyuan Dao. "Tianming, there seems to be movement on Her Eminence's side. Would you like to take a look?" asked Xuanyuan Dao.

"Yes."

Tianming rushed toward Soulburn Hall.

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Late at night, in the wasteland of ice and snow—

"There you are!"

Huiye Shi descended from the sky, landing on the ice and snow. In this cold wasteland, a man sat on the ice, surrounded by five canine voidgods. Steam swirled, rising from his body.

It was none other than Huiyue Yin.

Hearing the sound, Huiyue Yin opened his eyes, the five totems on his body slowly fading. Upon noticing Huiye Shi, his lips curled in a smile. "You're too late, I've already given the trimoon source to my canine voidgods. It's already been fused."

"Why so rushed!" Huiye Shi disdained.

"That's because I know how shameless you are. If I didn't quickly fuse the trimoon source, who knows if you'll go complaining again and accuse me of stealing your treasures?" Huiyue Yin rolled his eyes.

"I'm going to complain anyway! It's your fault for always bullying me!" Huiye Shi grit her teeth.

Looking at his sister, Huiyue Yin shook his head helplessly and said, "Why are you looking for me? You should already have your beauty. What're you doing here instead of being intimate with your lover? Do tell me if you're tired of him. I have my eye on his sword."

"Who says I'm tired of him? You're not allowed to touch his things!" said Huiye Shi.

"He's not yours yet, is he?" Huiyue Yin sneered.

"Nonsense!" Huiye Shi pouted. "The harder it is to obtain something, the more interesting it is. Isn't that right?"

"That's true." Huiyue Yin applauded. "Do you want me to forcibly bring him back to the Divine Moon Realm?"

"No, but since you've received my trimoon source, you must do me a favor if you don't want me to tell on you," said Huiye Shi.

"Oh, do tell!"

Hui Yeshi gritted her teeth. "Big Brother, kill someone for me. No, I've changed my mind. Play with his woman in front of him! You've seen her, haven't you? She looks decent."

"I do have a slight impression of her." Huiyue Yin looked Huiye Shi up and down and said in amazement, "I didn't expect you'd come up with something so exciting."

"So you agree, then?" asked Huiye Shi.

Although many days had passed, the more she thought about it, the more angry she grew; she was on the verge of exploding with rage. Feiling's words were still ringing in her ears even as she cultivated.

"Of course not. I'm not like you. I'm a selective man. I don't want to touch animals," said Huiyue Yin.

"You—!"

"But I can get others to do it, perhaps a few ugly ones. What do you think?" Huiyue Yin smiled.

Huiye Shi stared blankly at him. Sure enough, the man was ruthless. In this case, Tianming would hate that woman even more, wouldn't he?

"Alright, but you can't hurt him!" she said.

"You're hilarious! You're about to break his heart, yet you want to protect his body?" Huiyue Yin laughed.

"I'm doing him a favor. As long as he climbs out of this quagmire, he'll thank me. What's so great about that bimbo?" said Huiye Shi.

"How exciting! I'll do it." Huiyue Yin added, "His sword belongs to me, got it?"

"Alright, but you can't tell him I was behind this," said Huiye Shi.

"Of course. You'll show up and comfort him like you always do, but I'll be his enemy for life," he said.

"Are you afraid?"

"Afraid? That's funny."

Looking down, Huiyue Yin glanced at the five bane-rings on his arm. He had grown stronger again and was close to a breakthrough.

"Shishi, come over here. Let's gaze at the moon together."

At the end of their discussion, the brother and sister lay on the icy wasteland.

"Gaze at the moon?"

Huiye Shi looked up at the full moon in the sky.

"In the Divine Moon Realm, I never thought our home would be the most beautiful place," said Huiyue Yin.

Huiye Shi nodded. "The Divine Moon Realm is so beautiful!"

"But it's a place full of strict rules and regulations. The elders even control our thoughts and force us to become exact replicas of them. There's no freedom, no wantonness. Everything follows a prescribed order. It's so boring," said Huiyue Yin.

"So we've become unbridled ever since coming to this place. I feel like there's a devil living in my heart. Seeing their fear of me makes me delighted," Huiye Shi replied.

"This is what being strong feels like. Do you understand? It's a once-in-a-lifetime trip down here. This is our hunting ground. After repressing our emotions for so long, we'll go crazy if we don't relax! So stop complaining all the time. It's silly. Have fun when it's time to play. Unburden yourself on these prey! There's a devil in everyone's heart. If you don't look for opportunities to let it out, it'll just drive you crazy," said Huiyue Yin.

Huiye Shi nodded, though she didn't seem to understand everything.

"You can kill and set fire to your heart's content, break their beliefs, and see the fear and awe in their eyes. That feeling is amazing. Li Tianming carries the hope of many people. Don't you think breaking him will be most enjoyable?"

Huiye Shi nodded vehemently.

"So your idea is very exciting. I'm hooked."

"And?"

"I'm going. You just wait to play the good samaritan!"

Huiyue Yin rose to his feet and headed toward Taiji Peak Lake.

"When we're done playing and return to the Divine Moon Realm, we'll turn over a new leaf and be good children again."

## **Chapter 955 - Between A Rock And A Hard Place; The Battle To Break The Game**

After Bodhi left the Dark Palace, six-eyed specter, Yi Jun, and other specters of the royal bloodline took over. Today, they paced back and forth as usual.

"Have you all recovered?" asked Yi Jun.

"I've recovered the strength of first-level Ascension."

"I won't lose to that divine moonrace in my current state."

"I've been cultivating. Although my strength has yet to match my cultivation level, I've recovered about eighty percent."

"What about you, Yi Jun?" they asked.

"I should be able to defeat Huiyue Yin with one move." Yi Jun was confident in his strength.

"In this case, it should be easy to conquer the Nine Divine Realms and make them our foundation with our current strength."

"Yes. If we take control of the Flameyellow Continent, our clan can continue prospering. As for revenge on the Divine Moon Realm, we can only look to the overlord. This is our long-term plan," said Yi Jun.

"Now we just have to wait for those two kids to return to the Divine Moon Realm."

"It's been over a month. They should be done playing. It's clear they aren't planning on helping the humans."

"In fact, I can kill them both."

"Don't! The overlord has made it clear. we mustn't cause more problems. Those two may be easy to deal with, but others might be drawn over. All we have to do is take over the Flameyellow Continent and allow the overlord to regain his strength," Yu Jin warned.

"Yes!"

"The entire clan is ready. When the two of them leave, we'll immediately attack the Flameyellow Continent and conquer it in one day!"

Standing by the entrance, Yi Jun stared up at the Flameyellow Continent, his heart aflame. Two hundred thousand years worth of rage was close to erupting.

"One day, our hatred will burn from the Flameyellow Continent to the Divine Moon Realm!"

.....

Late at night, the bright moon rose and the stars flickered. With only the moon for illumination, the heavens and earth were dim. A chilly breeze blew in the bitter cold that belied the coming of spring.

In the deathly stillness, a white-haired figure dressed in black floated above Xuanyuan Lake. He had been waiting there for three days. No one knew what Tianming was up to; perhaps he was practicing the sword in the sky. Thus, they didn't ask.

Over the past few days, the specter race had frequently taken action. The entire human race was living in fear, watching the strange-looking alien race swagger around the periphery of the cities. Some had even charged into the villages, slaughtering at will and causing endless tragedy.

The scattered specters had become the world's nightmare. Everyone hid in the cities and towns, too afraid to move. The entire continent had shut down. Tianming witnessed all of this. He was only one man and couldn't split himself into an army to slaughter the specters.

Xuanyuan Dao and the others in charge were even more worried. The moment the people of the Divine Moon Realm left, disaster would befall the human race. But even now, Tianming and Feiling were in great danger under the current circumstances.

"Caught between a rock and a hard place!" Late at night, the people lamented.

Only Tianming remained in the sky above Xuanyuan Lake like a beacon, still cultivating the sword. As long as he still stood, there was hope in the hearts of the people.

In the dead of night, the sword in his hand danced along a mysterious trajectory, the air vibrating between each movement.

A cold wind swept over. Without a doubt, the person he was waiting for had arrived. The sword in his hand ceased its movement as he turned to look at the end of the horizon. A radiant figure was flying toward Xuanyuan Lake. Because the sky was dim and Tianming was the only one in the air, he immediately caught sight of the man.

It was Huiyue Yin. Tianming raised the Grand-Orient Sword and pointed at the approaching figure. For a moment, his actions stunned Huiyue Yin. From his perspective, Tianming should kneel and tremble in the face of a superior being like him.

“Where did this mad dog come from? Up to no good again?” Tianming said coldly.

“Are you talking to me?” Huiyue Yin stopped in front of him in shock. It was unbelievable!

“Oh, so you admit it.” Tianming smiled strangely.

“What?”

Huiyue Yin didn’t understand how Tianming had gained such courage. But in the next instant, Tianming turned around and fled.

He roared with laughter, seemingly amused. Had Tianming put on this pretentious act because he knew about his sinister intentions?

Chasing after him, Huiyue Yin shouted, "Don't go! I'm bored tonight, but I won't kill you. I've only come to play a game with you."

“What kind of game?” Darting out of Xuanyuan Lake, Tianming headed outside Taiji Peak Lake. Having entered the tenth-level life phase, his speed was rather impressive.

“A game called ‘Cuckolded A Dozen Times’. You’ll be cuckolded on the spot. Isn’t it exciting?” Huiyue Yin couldn't help laughing at the thought of that scene. He must be a genius for coming up with such a perverted game. How could he behave like this in the Divine Moon Realm?

“You’re a cruel man.” Tianming understood his intentions. The anger he felt was beyond description. The ruthlessness and cruelty of some people was mind-numbing. And because of that, Tianming decided to make a crazy, yet heroic attempt.

“Not really. Don't leave, you’re the protagonist. This won’t be fun without your presence,” Huiyue Yin laughed.

“Fuck off!” With an angry roar, Tianming fled like the wind, letting loose in the icy wilderness.

“Are you scared? A legend like you is afraid to face this small thing? It's alright. A woman with many lovers has more experience. Wouldn't it be more enjoyable?”

Huiyue Yin felt like a lion playing with prey that was desperately fleeing.

However—

“How can you outrun an ascendant? Come back now. I want you to watch!”

A little annoyed, Huiyue Yin suddenly accelerated. But he soon frowned upon realizing that Tianming had increased his speed as well. It took him a lot of effort to catch up to Tianming, and by the time he actually did, they were already far from Taiji Peak Lake.

They had stopped in a vast snowfield. Unbeknownst to Huiyue Yin, this was the place of Xuanyuan Yuheng’s demise. In fact, he hadn’t caught up to Tianming. It was Tianming who had actually stopped as soon as they’d arrived. In the blink of an eye, all four of Tianming’s lifebound beasts appeared by his side.

A towering tree extended its roots in the snowy ground, its branches, leaves, and vines stretched out, and three huge flowers glowing in the night sky. A two-headed dragon with nine gigantic mountains on its back crawled on the ground, staring at Huiyue Yin. As it roared, its Kilofold Rings flickered with a cold gleam against the snow and ice like countless scimitars. Atop Tianming’s head was a scarlet phoenix, covered in flames and straightening out its feathers in the wind, and in his arms was a black cat nestling comfortably, making up for missed sleep.

Dumbfounded, Huiyue Yin stood in front of Tianming, feeling a twinge of annoyance, but also tempted to laugh.

“What tricks are you up to? Throwing straws against the wind? You wouldn’t have deliberately provoked me just to lead me here, would you? What’s the matter? Do you have a trap prepared for me?” Huiyue Yin laughed. He was amused. Why didn’t these insects possess the slightest intelligence?

“There aren’t any traps.”

Tianming’s long, white hair fluttered in the wind, his eyes cold and brimming with killing intent. Split into two, the gold Grand-Orient Sword shimmered, the black dark and gloomy. A frosty wind swept across the battlefield, followed by the flapping of Tianming’s black robes.

“Damn, you’re one pretentious prick!”

Huiyue Yin held his stomach and bent over with laughter. Based on their difference in status, as well as the current situation, Tianming was only qualified to kneel and beg him for help. What kind of mad act was this?

The man was out of breath from laughing. But at that point, he felt the temperature behind him drop several degrees. When he turned around, a young woman dressed in blue caught his attention. In the white snow, the moonlight shrouded her body as she floated in mid-air, her eyes glowing white and her expression icy. There was an air of indifference about her like an immortal banished from the heavens overlooking the earth.

“Hey, isn’t this our heroine? Don’t tell me you were waiting in ambush for me?” Huiyue Yin laughed hysterically. But upon closer inspection of Feiling, he was taken aback.

“Ascension?!”



This was the first time he had shown any change in expression. He wasn't afraid of an ascendant; however, the last time he had seen her, she was merely an eighth-level samsaran at most, judging by her tribulation force. No one could rise that rapidly, unless they were originally this strong.

"I heard you have a god from over a hundred thousand years ago who was reborn. I'd assumed the ignorant masses were fooled. So you're that god? You're a clever one! All you did was retreat and rebuild, yet you dare brag about this?! So you're the master of the Flameyellow Continent!"

Huiyue Yin seemed to have figured it out. "So that's why you brought me here tonight like two idiots. Don't tell me you're trying to kill me."

Eyes wide with shock, Huiyue Yin stared at Tianming for a while, then turned to Feiling. He burst out laughing. "Where do you get such courage? Not to mention that I can kill you with just a pinch, if you even dare touch a hair of mine, your entire race will die! Being ignorant of the difference between a superior and an inferior and offending your superior are unforgivable sins. Don't you idiots understand?" In all his life, he had never been teased like this. He laughed so hard his mouth was about to split.

"You two are unimaginably peculiar! I need a moment. God damn! If this was known to my group of brothers, we could laugh about this for an entire year!"

He chattered on for a long time. But at the end of his one-man speech, he realized Tianming and Feiling still had the same gloomy look in their eyes. To his utmost surprise, the two went on the offensive as soon as he uttered his last word.

"Fuck!"

Huiyue Yin pinched himself. He wasn't dreaming!

## **Chapter 956 - Spaceshock Punch**

"You reckless fools have a death wish! This is interesting. An ascendant? You've got the skills. Looks like I'll have to wrong myself tonight. I'll toy with her myself! Just wait and see. You'll wish you were dead!"

When he had enough of laughing, the malice in his heart surged. Huiyue Yin drew his weapon, an enormous huge scimitar known as the Hellmoon Sunderer.

His five canine voidgods suddenly emerged. With the power of an ascendant, the canines expanded to over a hundred meters tall in this no man's land. Their bloodthirsty mouths opened wide as bloodlust and savagery rose within them. They could all fight autonomously, and on a certain level, they were similar to lifebound beasts that could execute battle arts. However, comprehension wasn't required; they could use any battle art that Huiyue Yin had mastered.

The snow exploded as Tianming and Feiling charged in for the kill. Beside Tianming, Xian Xian's Radiant Vines, Bloodrain Sword, and the black roots under the snow had covered the entire battlefield.

As spiritforms, the canine voidgods were immune to a certain amount of physical damage. However, in the event of overwhelming attacks, they would receive damage until they completely collapsed. The

totems also had to remain close to Huiyue Yin. From the very start, he was doomed to face an encirclement.

Tianming's lifebound beasts acted together, focusing on the five totems and suppressing their attacks as Tianming had instructed. Lan Huang unleashed its Primordial Wheel and rolled across the barren snowfield, snow and ice exploding in the air. The dragon slammed into two of the totems.

Although Lan Huang was much larger than the canine voidgods, their bodies could twist and contort. However, Lan Huang's bite packed quite a punch and tore a piece of one apart. This was one way to weaken the totems. If the spiritforms were intangible, their attacks would only work on the soul, which was less effective. With a part of them corporeal, their strength increased, but they were also made susceptible to physical attacks and abilities.

The black cat circled Huiyue Yin, its tiny body moving at the speed of lightning with the Ninefold Chaos Thunderscape for protection. Lightning snaked across the sky. Upon its fur crackled a series of black lightning, electrocuting the canine voidgods. Even though they were ascendants, they still screamed miserably. Blazing with Infernal Haze, Ying Huo flickered around the periphery. Before Tianming and Feiling could make their move, the bold phoenix shot at Huiyue Yin with a battle art.

"Bingo! We're here to kill you! Enjoy what's about to come! Let's see who can be more ruthless!"

The Ninesky Beastsoul Formation smashed down along the way cleared by the Sixpath Infernal Lotus. A gigantic canine voidgod rushed out with six scimitars in its hand, blocking Ying Huo's sword formation. However, the burning lotus spread across the canine's body, causing it to dim. For totems, dimness meant damage.

Huiyue Yin's utter disbelief reflected his volatile state of mind.

"For real? Are they stupid?" He had become prey? "Two aboriginals of the mortal world are looking down on me?"

He was no longer amused, but filled with earth-shattering rage. Influenced by his emotions, the five canine voidgods roared in unison. If it weren't for the distance, their deafening roars would be heard all the way to Taiji Peak Lake.

"If I don't torture you two, I'll spell my name backwards!" Eyes red, he exploded with all his strength. Waving the Hellmoon Sunderer, he focused solely on Feiling and completely ignored Tianming.

The Thousand Snowmoon! As an ascendant, what he demonstrated was a divine-class battle art. The blade danced swiftly, its shadow flickering like wave after wave of crescent moons spinning around him, each faster than the other.

The fierce blade flashed across the snow, shooting toward the unarmed and defenseless Feiling. The detached young woman's actions were neat and precise, her thin arm striking in what seemed to be a weak punch. However, at the moment she released her fist, Huiyue Yin heard the sound of an explosion.

A thunderous blast swept across toward Huiyue Yin, resulting in a sonic boom that almost deafened him. This was a spatial shock. A loud bang sounded and the universe seemed to shake. The intense shock tore through his crescent moons and slammed into his body.

In the face of imminent danger, Huiyue Yin drew one of the canine voidgods over, blocking in front of him and withstanding the punch. The power of the fist shook the ground under his feet as a dense network of cracks suddenly appeared. The canine howled in pain, turning translucent from the impact.

Huiyue Yin had underestimated his enemy. But even so, it still proved one thing—Feiling wouldn't be as easy to deal with as he had imagined. More importantly, Tianming's strength had also exceeded the limits of a samsaran. Even if there was a fundamental gap in strength between Ascension and Samsara, when his strength reached the peak, he demonstrated a lethality that could threaten even an ascendant.

As Feiling suppressed Huiyue Yin with her Spaceshock Punch, Tianming and his lifebound beasts attacked from behind, displaying a lethality that far surpassed Feiling's. Not only had Huiyue Yin underestimated Feiling, he had also underestimated Tianming.

Amid the brilliance of the Human Emperor's Dragonhide, the Asura Fiendgod Formation gathered thousands of sword ki strands. The two swords transformed into fiendgods, piercing through the ice and snow and arriving before Huiyue Yin! Ying Huo, Meow Meow, Lan Huang, and Xian Xian were suppressing the remaining four canines so Tianming could break through their circle of protection.

Having just resisted Feiling's Spaceshock Punch, Huiyue Yin was faced with yet another fatal threat from behind. He immediately turned around and struck with the Hellmoon Sunderer.

“What impudence from you, as well!”

In his mind, he imagined the Execution Ghostblade to be fast and brutal, and certainly capable of killing in a single blow. However, the reality was that he was unprepared after having been suppressed by Feiling. His hasty actions allowed Tianming to slash at him with the Asura Fiendgod Formation.

In that instant, he met Tianming's cold gaze. The black Grand-Orient Sword struck, imperceptible to the naked eye. Another sword pierced his shoulder blade.

Blood splattered.

Huiyue Yin let out a miserable cry, his expression drastically altering. He quickly backed away, pulling out the sword as he turned and waved his blade with lightning speed, his moves erratic. Tianming received a slash to the shoulder. The Hellmoon Sunderer struck the bone and blood burst. At the same time, Ying Huo bypassed the canine and attacked Huiyue Yin from behind, tearing a gaping hole in his back.

He screamed miserably. His face was pale, and even his lips began trembling as he suddenly retreated.

“You're merely a samsaran. How can you be so powerful!”

## **Chapter 957 - Trilife Mirror**

Huiyue Yin felt utter shock, but that wasn't all. He witnessed the wound on Tianming's shoulder healing at a rate visible to the naked eye, while his own shoulder was still bleeding out. That was when he truly realized how scary Tianming's cold gaze was, but he didn't even have time to mull over that realization.

Right after he escaped Tianming, Feiling appeared behind him. He immediately turned around and saw her cold, godly eyes and the white flames around her body. She seemed to be just as fast as they were! She used a weird technique that wasn't a battle art. It resembled an ability instead, but she wasn't a specter!

As Huiyue Yin watched with shock, countless light beams came shooting out from Feiling's body toward him, forming a mirror beneath his feet. There seemed to be three layers to that mirror. The layers began to spread, one facing the sky, one facing the earth, and the other facing Huiyue Yin himself.

"What... what is this?" He was completely reflected by the mirrors. Within the reflection, he could see his birth, his aging, and the day of his death. The Trilife Mirror contained a terrifying power that even Tianming couldn't understand. It didn't seem to belong to Xuanyuan Xi, but rather the lord of Perpetia.

The mirror kept Huiyue Yin completely confined, and he didn't seem to feel the passage of time. No matter how hard he struggled, the Trilife Mirror merely shuddered without breaking. "Impossible! What kind of method is this?!"

It wasn't just him; the five canine voidgods were also wildly struggling.

He felt like he was going mad. When he looked up, he saw Tianming with the Grand-Orient Swords raised. Behind him was the glowing figure that controlled the Trilife Mirror, keeping him confined within.

"Break!" Huiyue Yin cried. The mirror began cracking and the canine voidgods also seemed to be starting to free themselves.

That was when Tianming came charging in. Without wasting any words, he merely shot Huiyue Yin a chilling gaze, fused the two swords into one, and slashed it down at his arm.

"No, animal! Stop!" His face paled from feeling genuine terror as he struggled. The moment the mirror shattered, Tianming's slash came down on his right arm, sending it flopping to the ground and creating a spray of blood.

"No, no!" Tears and blood mixed together as they flowed down. That was his most precious arm, a really important part of his body. Feeling faint from the pain, he turned to look at Tianming, who stabbed his sword five times at the five bane-rings. Each thrust destroyed a bane-ring. Soon, all five canine voidgods shook and exploded. With the bane-rings gone, the canine voidgods had returned to their terra form.

While his terra was fine, Huiyue Yin would never be able to manifest the canine voidgods for the rest of his life with his bane-rings gone. That kind of pain and realization tore at his heart and caused his mind to blank out. How could this happen in a place he had looked down upon so much? All of a sudden, the ruthless efficiency with which Tianming had dispatched him seemed to horrify him to the core.

"You're dead, you hear?! Dead!" he cried, breaking his voice. He began running, but before he could get anywhere, Tianming caught up to him. Feiling used Spaceshock Punch, completely crushing his body. As his blood was about to burst out, Tianming whooshed past with both swords, separating Huiyue Yin's legs from his body.

"Aaaaaagh!" He collapsed with only one arm remaining, suffering in utter pain and anguish. This couldn't be anything but a dream. This couldn't be happening. As he turned around and laid on the ground, he

saw the couple standing by his side, looking down on him, making his hairs stand. He was about to vomit out bile at the thought that he was from the Divine Moon Realm.

"How dare you cripple me?! You're dead! All the humans of the Flameyellow Continent will be buried alongside you! My parents will kill you tens of thousands of times over!" Even as he ruined his throat screaming, he still crawled pathetically on the ground with his remaining arm.

"Oh, I think you might be mistaken, Huiyue Yin." Tianming stood under the moonlight, pushing his sword against Huiyue Yin's throat as he spoke to him in a similar tone as was used to using. His plain smile looked like the smile of death.

"What was I mistaken about?! Don't you know who I am? You're dead for sure!"

"You said we would suffer for crippling you, but that's not all we're going to do. Instead, we'll send you straight to hell, understood? This is real and it's going to happen. Do you comprehend now?" As he smiled, he squatted down and grabbed Huiyue Yin's neck with his black arm and lifted him up. Blood was trickling down from his body nonstop as his skin turned purple. He had even lost control of his bowels from hearing Tianming's words.

"Huh, I didn't think you'd be this soft. You sounded so tough back then. Huiyue Yin, open your eyes and look. What are you now, compared to me? Even a mighty dragon in the sky won't be able to dominate a serpent on the ground. This is my turf, so I call the shots. I'm going to kill you, got it?"

He tightened his grip, casting the shadow of death over Huiyue Yin. Even then, he still didn't seem to understand his predicament. "You wouldn't dare! Killing me will be a disaster for you! The moment I die, my parents will know!"

He had never imagined that everything in his life would be ruined over a simple game of his... over a rudimentary trap.

"Then I wonder what I should do? Sigh, I guess you won't understand even if you die." Tianming punched him in the stomach.

"Ugghhh!" Huiyue Yin spat out mouthfuls of blood as his body twitched from the subsequent punches. "Stop, please! Don't kill me! Let's talk! Let's talk, okay?" The pair's unfettered ferocity had finally convinced him to beg for mercy.

"That won't do. I have to make your corpse look completely battered. Only then will your parents go mad and lose their reason, understand?" Tianming crushed his mouth, completely contorting his teeth. "You'll die a horrible death, and nobody will know I was the one who did it. This is what will happen. Do you understand now, Huiyue Yin?"

"Uuuugggh! Mmmpppph!" He couldn't even speak now. His gaze was one of complete despair as the terror filled his mind.

"Sssshhhh. Be good now. Keep quiet and enjoy the sensation of death. You'll only get to experience it once," Tianming whispered near his ear. When Huiyue Yin widened his eyes and continued struggling, Tianming slammed his fist into his body, utterly crushing his innards.

"Ughhh...." He was still breathing as he looked at Tianming in despair.

"I already have a scapegoat for this. Let's just see how well your sister acts later. Huiyue Yin, take my advice and don't force people into a corner in your next life. If you don't give a desperate person an option to escape with their life, they'll have nothing left to lose. You only get mercy if you give mercy, got it?"

Huiyue Yin finally breathed his last breath when he heard that. His arm, that had been gripping Tianming's own, finally flopped lifelessly down.

"It's done." Tianming packed up the corpse and put it in his spatial ring before completely erasing all traces of battle. Then he turned to look at Feiling, who stood with her arms crossed, tears glistening under the moonlight. "Ling'er, do you think I was too cruel?"

She shook her head and smiled. "He forced this outcome. We only want to live peacefully with the ones we care about. There's nothing wrong in wanting peace."

"Good!" He wiped the blood on his hands on his body and put his arm around her shoulder. "From now on, anyone that dares insult you will end up even worse than this."

They met each other's gazes and hugged. "Next, we'll look for Huiye Shi. It's her turn now."

"This is a risky move, Big Brother."

"A move that's already halfway in the making. They forced us into a corner, so it's the only thing we can do to survive."

.....

Near Taiji Peak Lake, Huiye Shi was standing on a hill in anticipation. "Why hasn't anything gone down yet?"

She had been waiting for a long while. "That fellow must be crying and sobbing. Hehe, it didn't have to be this way. That wench really thinks she's hot stuff. How shameless of her to scold me!"

If it weren't for the fact that she wanted to disassociate herself from the act, she would have gone and relished in Feiling's suffering. "I wonder if she'll cry out nicely...."

As she snickered, she felt the atmosphere around her chill. Looking up, she saw a couple descending before her, hand in hand.

"Y-you!" She was completely stunned.

"Lady Huiye, we have a gift for you. It's called a reality check, want to see it?" Tianming's lips curved into a gentle smile.

### **Chapter 958 - Latticeheart Curse**

A linen sack was dropped in front of Huiye Shi. Tianming and Feiling had erased all evidence of battle before they returned, so naturally they didn't look like they had just been fighting.

"What?!" Huiye Shi could already smell the blood coming from the sack. The thought of Huiyue Yin having gone to mess with them gave her a bad feeling. What am I thinking? My brother's an ascendant! Thinking about how laughably ridiculous it would be if Huiyue Yin's corpse was in the sack, she relaxed and glared at Tianming, then Feiling. That loose bitch!

Lazily, she said, "Oh, and to think you'd give me a gift. Open it to show your sincerity then."

"Sure thing." Tianming tore open the sack with a stream of sword ki, revealing a battered corpse whose eyes were wide open in agony. It only had one arm remaining, and the other limbs were nowhere to be found. The face was contorted and torn apart, but she still instantly recognized it as Huiyue Yin.

Stunned, she rubbed her eyes and looked again. "Huh?" She still thought that she was just seeing things.

"Do you like the gift?"

"A mannequin?" She stepped forwards and looked at the corpse. The longer she looked, the more she began to pale and shake. Her teeth began chattering and she let out a horrifying shriek that almost broke her vocal cords. Then she collapsed as if she had just seen the most terrifying thing in existence and hurriedly scrambled backward. Looking up, she saw Tianming standing before her.

"Would you believe it? I killed Huiyue Yin. He died a horrible death." When he offered his hand to help her up, she shrieked and hurriedly backed off even more. "If you don't believe me, you can take a closer look."

Huiye Shi turned back and looked at the corpse before squealing again, her face losing all color. "How could you possibly do something like that?! That aside, it's over for you! If my parents find out about my brother's death, they'll definitely head over here!"

She was beginning to panic. It was so unbelievable that it didn't feel real to her. She stared at Tianming, still unable to imagine how he would be daring and powerful enough to kill Huiyue Yin, given their completely different status.

"You're in big trouble!" she said with a sobbing tone.

"Oh, thanks for reminding me that we're short on time." He turned to Feiling and said, "Let's start, Ling'er."

"What?" Terror began filling Huiye Shi's mind. "Li Tianming, you can't kill me! I didn't offend you!" She didn't understand why he would do something like this. In her eyes, he was a mad demon.

Tianming merely looked at her wordlessly. By now, Feiling was standing behind her. Then Huiye Shi suddenly moved, perhaps thinking that by taking Feiling hostage, she would be able to survive. Just as she stretched her hand out toward Feiling, her speed suddenly slowed like she had been dumped into a quagmire. The girl she had looked down upon waved, trapping her easily within the Trilife Mirror. If it took even Huiyue Yin quite some time to shatter the mirror, Huiye Shi definitely wouldn't be able to move at all.

"How is this possible...." Her eyeballs darted around as she looked at Feiling with disbelief, understanding full well that this power was coming from her. Feiling was no doubt more powerful than

Huiye Shi, and the realization caused her to completely break down. All she did was glare hatefully at Feiling, but she was unable to hide the fear that she felt.

"Ling'er, will it work?" Tianming asked. They looked at Huiye Shi like they would a rabbit roasting on a spit.

"It's fine. We'll just keep roasting her for half an hour and she'll be well done. A little sprinkle of spice and she'll be ready to eat," Feiling teased, winking at him.

"Waaaah!" Huiye Shi paled even more. If she could move, she would immediately kneel to them. The thought of being roasted alive completely terrified her. If she had a chance, she would swear to never offend Feiling ever again. Though, naturally, Feiling was only messing with her.

"I'd wanted to use the Imperial Sword Prison on her. It's already a really stable method, so I can easily control her life with it," Tianming said.

"It's fine, Big Brother. Just trust me. The Latticeheart Curse is even more effective. If you need proof, look at the Archaionfiend's Bloodrose Curse. Even though it isn't as strong as that one in terms of raw power, it has the strongest control according to Xuanyuan Xi's memories. It's a little like the heartscourge worm."

"That's great. I really wonder what kind of being the one who controlled Perpetia used to be to possess so many scary methods. Xuanyuan Xi's Latticeheart Curse must've come from her too."

"Yes. But even though she has many terrifying methods, that doesn't mean she's a terrifying person," Feiling said.

"By the way... Is the 'lattice' the same character as the 'ling' in your name?"

"Yes."

Now it made sense. For the name of the technique to share a character with Feiling's name.... One had to wonder what significance that held. As Tianming wondered that, Feiling began applying the curse.

"Let her speak," Tianming said.

"Okay." She relaxed her control over Huiye Shi, allowing her to beg and cry.

"I beg you, spare me! I won't dare do that ever again! Waaaah!" She still thought she was going to be roasted alive.

Feiling calmly looked at her and said, "I'm going to place a curse on you. It's like a seed that's being planted inside your heart. If you don't do what we say, I'll let it sprout in your heart. It'll then slowly grow, spreading throughout your body over the span of a year. At the end, it'll spread its roots into your brain and begin consuming it. Throughout the entire time, you'll feel unimaginable pain, but it'll even be able to prevent you from committing suicide."

"Aaaaah! Dammit! Are you some kind of pervert?!"



"I knew you wouldn't believe it, so I'll make it sprout a little to make you taste the initial pain. Every day this goes on, the pain will only intensify. A year later, you'll truly feel despair," Feiling said with a beautiful smile, though it looked nightmarish to Huiye Shi.

Ying Huo and the rest were shivering in Tianming's lifebound space.

"I swear I won't ever mess with Ling'er again! She's a closet demon!" Ying Huo said.

"That woman deserves it for calling Ling'er an accessory!" Xian Xian said, delighting in her suffering.

Huiye Shi's expression suddenly changed. Feiling hadn't been joking in the least. The Latticeheart Curse was far more effective at controlling others than Tianming's Imperial Sword Prison. Huiye Shi began to twitch and shriek in pain, her eyes turning bloodshot and her nose, ears, and chin shaking throughout the process. She couldn't even move the other parts of her body. That kind of despair was traumatizing, even though it only lasted an instant. Fortunately, the pain subsided soon enough.

Sobbing uncontrollably, Huiye Shi said, "I submit! I'll kowtow to you, alright? Please don't torture me anymore."

"Big Brother, it's finished. It's your turn," Feiling said, taking a few steps back.

"Beautifully done." He shot her a thumbs-up.

"Tianming, save me... save me, I beg you," Huiye Shi pleaded.

"Don't be afraid. It's over... for now, anyway. As long as you do what we say, that thing in your heart will remain dormant."

"I'm scared...."

"It's in your best interest to remain calm. Listen to everything I say from now on, or the rest of your life will be a living nightmare."

"I will! I will!" She stopped crying and forcibly controlled her emotions, staring hard at Tianming.

"Will you listen now?"

"I will. I'm ready."

"Alright. Listen up." Tianming squinted and whispered in her ear. "When your parents come, tell her that the specters were the ones that killed Huiyue Yin."

"Huh?"

While she was still confused, he continued, "This is your mission! If you don't put up a convincing act and get your parents to kill the specters, you know what'll happen. What you do now isn't for our sake, but yours! Naturally, you're free to tell your parents the truth. Tell them that I was the one who killed him. By then, we'll surely die, but you will too. The only difference is that it'll take you one long year and you'll die a far more horrifying death than anyone else! After we die, nobody will be able to remove the curse. What you felt just now was just an appetizer. When it really starts, you won't even be able to kill yourself!"

Before Tianming had killed Huiyue Yin, he was already planning how to make use of the Divine Moon Realm to take care of the specters. That was the only path through which humanity would make it out alive. Huiyue Yin's parents wouldn't doubt it if Huiye Shi was the one who made the testimony. As long as she accused the specters, no explanation or excuse from the specters would work. The parents would never doubt the eyewitness testimony of their daughter. Not to mention, if they hid Feiling away, nobody else on the Flameyellow Continent would possibly be powerful enough to kill Huiyue Yin. As risky as this was, it was do or die for Tianming, who had been sandwiched between a rock and a hard place between the threat of the specters and the unprovoked animosity from Huiyue Yin.

"Huiye Shi, I want to make sure you understand one thing. Your brother's death and the extermination of the specters come at no cost to you. But if you harm us, you'll pay millions of times for it! It was you all who forced us to do this! You have no grounds to blame us for being cruel, understand? We're weak, and only barely surviving, so we no longer have anything to lose after being forced into a corner. This is the only way we can take to survive both the divine moonrace and the specters! If you do what we say and put up a good act, then both of us will win. Perhaps one day, we might even remove the curse. You can take my word for it. I always keep my word. Know that we never wanted to offend anyone. You were the ones who forced us to do this! When all of this is over, we might even be friends."

After saying that, he relaxed his stern expression and smiled. "Hey, did you understand all that?"

#### **Chapter 959 - The Reckoning Approaches**

"I... I got it..." Huiye Shi looked at Tianming with her eyes wide open like an idiot. She felt all kinds of chaotic emotions. She never could've imagined that the prey she'd had her eyes on would actually manage to turn the tables on her. It was one thing for them to kill Huiyue Yin, but another for them to be able to push the blame on their nemeses!

Originally, the specters would've attacked and massacred the humans once the siblings left. Yet, a mere mortal was going to make use of gods to kill the demons that plagued them. While it was a bold plan, to say the least, it was detailed and well thought out. The sheer terror of the Latticeheart Curse had also managed to instill fear and obedience into Huiye Shi. Right after that, they floated a much more pleasant alternative to the fate brought by the curse to coax her into cooperating. The carrot was just as important as the stick, and it was one delicious carrot indeed.

All of that had made her mind a little numb from the realization. Who exactly was the prey here? Right now, Tianming and Feiling were traumatizing existences to her. What was even more laughable was how the siblings had even claimed to have released their inner demons after their power trip. Now, Huiye Shi was at rock bottom.

Tianming smiled and asked, "Lady Huiye, mutual cooperation or destruction, which do you choose?"

As he had said, she hadn't lost much from Huiyue Yin's death. They weren't even that close as siblings, anyway. But if she continued resisting Tianming, everyone may die, but she would suffer a far worse death than they would.

"You didn't give me a choice at all. What else can I do to survive?" she said, still sobbing.

"That's right. It's a really simple affair. Clear cut and no headaches. I won't bully you at all either. Once the Divine Moon Realm is no longer a threat to me, I'll have this curse dispelled," he said, patting her on the shoulder. "And I mean every word I said. We're now in the same boat, so that makes us friends, right?"

"Yes, you're right! You're so amazing! Everything you do or say is right! My brother died a horrible death for his foolish mistakes. I'm utterly terrified of you now!" She had completely submitted.

"Alright, Ling'er, release her."

The Trilife Mirror vanished, allowing Huiye Shi to regain movement. She weakly slumped to the ground and cried.

"That's right. Keep this up and remember this state of mind. When your parents come, don't tell them any details. Just focus on your feelings, your hate, and your brother's horrible death. Think well on what you plan to do. If you fail, none of us will have an easy time."

Huiyue Yin's death demanded a culprit. If the blame wasn't put on the specters, it would come to Tianming sooner or later. Failure in this case meant only death, nothing else. The proud divine moonrace would no doubt descend to kill the murderer. When the time of reckoning came, there was nothing Tianming could do or say. All of it hinged on Huiye Shi's performance.

"I know. It's not hard, anyway. Didn't you make sure this plan was already flawless? Not to mention, nobody could possibly know you're capable of killing my brother. Nobody even bothers to come to this backwater. Who else could have murdered my brother but the specters?" Huiye Shi said.

"We won't have a problem, then." Tianming gave her some space to come up with a convincing performance and went back to Feiling's side. "Ling'er, apart from me, nobody else knows you're an ascendant. So you must lay low for now. Don't show yourself, no matter what happens. It's too risky."

"Take care, Big Brother." She held his hand with a worried look, her eyes as clear and beautiful as ever.

"It'll be fine. Everything is under control," he said confidently to alleviate her worries.

"I'll wait for you to come back."

"Alright. See you."

They let each other's hands go. Feiling bit her lip and left immediately, as they didn't know when the divine moonrace would come. Tianming watched as she flew off. "Ling'er...."

This crisis had significantly changed her. She had been growing time and again since coming to the Nine Divine Realms, and he could finally rest assured, knowing she could protect herself. Now they could move forward and grow together, facing all kinds of challenges, no matter how big.

"What else can a man ask for but a partner with which to tread the mortal coil?" Tianming waxed poetic.

"Blergh!" Huiye Shi feigned vomiting. "How shameless! Gross!"

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When day broke, the light from the nova source of the sun illuminated the entire Divine Moon Realm, and beyond that, the Flameyellow Continent. The sky was pure white and blindingly bright.

On a snowy plain stood two people and a corpse. Huiye Shi looked blankly at Tianming as he basked in the sunlight.

"What're you looking at?" he said distastefully.

"Since you dare to strip, I dare to look," she quipped.

Tianming blanked out. What in the world was coursing through her mind this time? "Start cultivating your feelings! You need it for your act! Didn't you say they should be here soon?"

"Ah, how handsome... and you're a bad boy, too. You're just my cup of tea," she lamented.

"You're still saying that? Aren't you afraid of her?" Tianming said, referring to Feiling. She shut up and shuddered at the mention of the demoness. "Huiye Shi, you should know that this plan of mine is riddled with holes and flaws. It all hinges on your act!"

"Don't worry! You don't understand my parents. If my mom is here, I don't even need to talk. I just need to point at the culprit and she'll immediately kill him without another word. Her precious son was killed, after all."

Tianming relaxed a little after seeing how confident she was.

"I'm only in my twenties... I still have centuries or even millennia left to live! I don't want to die!" she emphasized. "Not to mention, Huiyue Yin had been getting on my nerves anyway. I was bullied by him quite a lot, growing up, so he deserved it!"

As she rambled on, the moment of reckoning came. The sharp cry of a woman came from the direction of the bright moon. "Yinyin!"

Hearing that, Huiye Shi immediately put on her act. Her feelings came gushing out as she laid on Huiyue Yin's body and bawled. It seemed really genuine, as if she'd pass out from exhaustion from the sheer effort it took her to cry.

"Dad, Mom!" she cried, looking up.

Three figures slammed into the ground above Tianming. They were rather terrifying and completely renewed Tianming's outlook on ascendants. The power of the stellar source was densely wafting off their bodies, creating a field that somewhat stifled his breath. The one on the left was the moon guide from before, and the other two were the parents of the siblings.

The man in the middle had a really huge build and a tall ponytail. He was dressed in a broad robe that made him look really domineering. He had a rough, almost barbaric look. For him to be able to have beautiful children the likes of Huiye Shi and Huiyue Yin implied that his wife was a stellar beauty, and that was exactly the case.

The woman looked almost like a sister to Huiye Shi. She had a curvy, alluring figure that even her loose purple dress couldn't hide. Her face was beautiful and charming, much like Huiye Shi's, but more mature. Every movement of her body was imbued with a primal, seductive grace. The moment she saw

the mutilated corpse of her son, her face lost color. She wailed in pain and fury, allowing it to contort her beautiful face as she stumbled and leaned on her husband. She scrambled to Huiyue Yin's corpse and gave it a good look, then tears began uncontrollably flowing from her eyes. Her vision blacked out and she almost fainted.

Even knowing that he was dead, seeing it for herself felt much more painful than she had imagined.

"T-t-this... this was beyond my expectations, Huiyue Du." The moon guide was completely stumped. Among them, he was the most culpable for this turn of events.

Huiye Shi's father, Huiyue Du, fumed with rage. His hair seemed to rise as he slapped the moon guide hard. "You... Liu Yizhao! You took my son here and left him while you returned to have fun. Now he's dead!"

"Brother Huiyue, calm your anger. This can't be possible! Let's ask who the culprit is first." His face turned red from the slap, but more from rage than the slap itself; his status was actually not that much lower than Huiyue Du's.

"Shishi, stop crying! Stand up!" Huiyue Du roared.

"Dad! Waaaah! Brother died a horrible death! Those monsters... he only killed a few of them, and they ganged up on him for revenge, those animals!" Huiye Shi cried, kneeling and clutching Huiyue Du's leg. She was smart enough to even give the specters a motive for killing Huiyue Yin that matched how they were perceived. "Dad, you must avenge Brother! They were too cruel! They initially cut off one of his arms, then destroyed his totems! He was terrified and tried to escape, but then they cut off his legs and tortured him to death before casting him into the wilderness! I was hiding far away and couldn't move an inch. I would've died otherwise!"

She bawled all throughout her explanation and her voice turned coarse.

"So you're saying the specters were the ones who killed Huiyue Yin, right? It started because he killed a few of them to start with?" Moon Guide Liu Yizhao asked.

### **Chapter 960 - Death of the Overlady**

Huiye Shi nodded, sobbing, but didn't give a direct answer. Liu Yizhao was the only clear-headed person there, so directly answering him would reveal some flaws in the story.

"Why even bother asking? Apart from those monsters that just got out, who else on the Flameyellow Continent could possibly kill my son?!" Huiyue Du raged.

"Brother's fate was too tragic. I didn't dare to interrupt at all," Huiye Shi said while hugging her mother, Yusheng Luo. "Before he died, he even cried for Dad and Mom to kill all specters to avenge him! Otherwise he'll never find restful peace!"

"Kill! We'll kill them!" Yusheng Luo snapped out of her grief and focused on her rage and murderous urges. Standing up and glaring at her husband, she snapped, "What're you waiting for? We have a debt of blood to pay!"

"Dad, don't let Brother wait too long. He didn't deserve to die that way. The specters are unevolved animals!"

"Where are they?!" Huiyue Du cried. His rage and fury simmered to a boiling point, with much of that having Huiye Shi to thank for. They had all committed to the manufactured narrative. Huiye Shi had really done her best in order to survive.

"They're down there at the Abyssal Battlefield," Liu Yizhao said. He was also filled with anger. At the end of the day, he was also partially responsible for this turn of events. So avenging Huiyue Yin might be one way to redeem himself to Huiyue Du. As Tianming had expected, all three of them were in a hurry to get things settled.

"Let's go down!"

There happened to be a bottomless pit near them. After Yusheng Luo placed the corpse of Huiyue Yin into a crystal coffin, they immediately went through the pit and emerged at the Abyssal Battlefield. Naturally, Tianming went with them as he had to see the events unfold with his own eyes. There was still quite a lot of risk involved. The moment they suspected the circumstances, everything would go to waste. This would be a terrifying battle for Tianming's survival.

He followed behind while Huiye Shi stayed nestled in her mother's embrace, continuously dropping one incendiary statement after another. Tianming saw that Yusheng Luo had completely been blinded by rage.

The five of them went straight to the Ninefold Hell. As Tianming followed, his heart began beating faster and faster. The moment the three elites from the Divine Moon Realm clashed with the specters would be one that forever changed his life, and that of all humans of the Flameyellow Continent as well. There was too much uncertainty as to how this would play out. Any plan could be derailed, especially this one, so he felt rather nervous and short of breath.

Finally, he came to the Ninefold Hell a third time, but he wasn't being pursued this time. The Divine Moon Realm's elites zeroed in on the palace of the specters. A single roar from Huiyue Du was enough to cause chaos in this deathly quiet world. Almost immediately, tens of thousands of elite specters appeared, most of whom were samsarans and elites of their race. Leading them were around a dozen ascendant specters who seemed in much better shape than before, having recovered much of their powers.

If we don't deal with them now, once the divine moonrace leaves the Flameyellow Continent, the specters will be able to easily wipe out the Flameyellow Continent's humans! Tianming knew how dire their situation was. Had that not been the case, he wouldn't have risked his life to carry out this plan.

Currently, the only unexpected thing was that Bodhi was nowhere to be seen. Instead, two specters led the rest, the first being the six-eyed Yi Jun, and the other the wife of Bodhi and the overlady of the specters. In terms of power, Yi Jun seemed to be stronger, but the overlady had a higher status.

Back then, Bodhi had stopped the others from showing up, but now every one of them was furious about the sudden invasion by the divine moonrace. With Bodhi away and unable to control the situation, they reacted strongly and sent out almost all of their elites. All of this was working out better

and better for Tianming. Huiye Shi wasn't the least bit disappointed by this turn of events, either. When she saw the overlady, she knew that she was someone important.

"Mom, that's the one that killed Brother!" The whole way here, she had continuously painted the specters as the horrible culprits.

When Yusheng Luo saw that the horrid killer of her son was actually another woman, she seemed to explode. The two clashed and she went in for the kill the next instant. Given how powerful she was, the couple was probably among the elites of the Divine Moon Realm. With Bodhi away, the other weakened specter elites weren't able to stop her rampage at all.

Kill her! Tianming cheered in his mind. Once Bodhi's partner was killed, the truth would no longer matter. As he had hoped, Yusheng Luo manifested her five totems. They were pink, vine-like plants that were covered in thorns. They immediately shot out to a kilometer ahead right as the overlady was about to approach and ask them for the reason for the invasion. Almost immediately, the clouddream vines pierced through her chest and sent her smashing into the walls of the palace, causing the entire building to collapse. The thorns of the vines nailed the body of the overlady fast on the walls. Before she could even say a word, her body lifelessly slumped down and she stopped breathing.

"How dare animals like you kill my son... Today, I'll bury your entire race as a sacrifice for my son!" Yusheng Luo had completely lost herself. Her clouddream vines seemed to work a little like Xian Xian. As she charged into the crowd, specter blood began spraying all over. Huiye Shi hadn't exaggerated when she described her mother's temperament. It had tremendously helped Tianming out. The spoiled brat deserved a lot of credit for how well things were working out.

"Overlady!"

All of the specters were shocked and enraged. How could the divine moonrace kill them without even saying a word? The overlady had held an extremely high status, and seeing her nailed to the ruined palace caused the short-tempered specters to see red.