

The Doctor 1601

Chapter 1601: Young Master!

Chu Liuyue agreed without hesitation because she knew very well that this was the greatest concession the other party could give.

Although she had only obtained the time before Tuan Zi matured, as an ancient legendary fiend that had inherited the Ancestral Soul, it was clearly very rare.

She wasn't someone who would push her luck, so she naturally agreed coolly. "Seniors, don't worry. Tuan Zi has followed me for many years; we're already as close as family. No matter what, I'll protect her."

Chu Liuyue spoke seriously.

Only then did Yi Zhao's expression ease a little. *Shangguan Yue is quite smart. There are some things I didn't say in detail in front of Tuan Zi, but fortunately, Shangguan Yue understood them. It is indeed extraordinary to be able to reach this stage at such a young age.*

!!

At the side, Yi Gong was instantly shocked. "Clan Leader—"

"It's settled then." Yi Zhao ignored him and walked out of the hall. "Come with me, Tuan Zi."

Chu Liuyue roughly guessed something and put Tuan Zi down.

Tuan Zi was a little reluctant at first, but after being repeatedly persuaded to follow him, she finally relaxed and followed Yi Zhao.

Elder Yi Shang was stunned for a moment. In the end, he could only smile helplessly and follow her out.

The elders followed.

Chu Liuyue walked at the back.

Creak—

The heavy and dignified door opened!

The brilliant afterglow instantly surged in, illuminating most of Godly Phoenix Hall!

...

As the door suddenly opened, the originally noisy square fell silent.

Everyone looked up at Godly Phoenix Hall!

Curiosity, excitement, agitation, concern...

All kinds of emotions surged in everyone's hearts.

They all knew very well that since the door of Godly Phoenix Hall had opened, it meant that today's matter had finally come to an end!

Countless eyes landed on Yi Zhao, who was the first to walk out.

His face was as serious and cold as ever. It was impossible to discern anything.

The atmosphere was cold, and many people's hearts pounded.

Then, five elders walked out. The expressions of these people were also very complicated, especially Elder Yi Gong.

His expression was so gloomy that water could drip from it.

Some people looked at each other. *From the looks of it, could it be that... the matter hasn't been resolved successfully?*

At this moment, another small figure walked out from the depths of the hall.

The bells rang, and her skirt swayed.

Everyone's hearts tightened. *She's here!*

Then, they saw Tuan Zi walk to the clan leader's side and stand still.

Against Yi Zhao's tall figure, Tuan Zi looked especially petite and exquisite. However, she stood there calmly and sincerely.

There was also an indescribable noble aura.

Compared to the dignified Yi Zhao beside him, she actually didn't lose out much.

Quite a few people sighed. *As expected of someone who has fused with the Ancestral Soul. How could a child have such an aura?*

Yi Zhao looked around, his deep gaze sweeping across everyone.

Unknowingly, an invisible pressure enveloped him.

The crowd grew quieter, and the huge square was so silent that one could hear a pin drop.

Yi Zhao said in a low voice, "Tuan Zi is born with the purest bloodline and has already transformed into human form. Moreover, she has consecutively opened up to the fourth meridian and is indeed a role model among the younger generation today! Coupled with the fact that she was chosen by the ancestor and fused with the Ancestral Soul, she's the best choice as the young mistress!"

"Therefore, from today onward, Tuan Zi will become the young mistress of our family! When she becomes an adult, she will inherit the position of clan Leader!"

He paused. "Because she's still young, she will continue to cultivate with Shangguan Yue for a period of time until she reaches adulthood."

As soon as he finished speaking, everyone was stunned for a moment. Then, gasps sounded one after another!

What does the clan leader mean?!

Tuan Zi will become the next young mistress. Moreover, after she reaches adulthood, she will directly become the clan leader!

But more importantly, she has to continue following Shangguan Yue until she reaches adulthood? Doesn't that mean that they have yet to break the contract?!

How—how could this be?!

After a short silence, the square was in an uproar!

"Clan Leader, I'm afraid this isn't appropriate, right?"

"That's right. No matter what, we can't let a bloodline that has contracted with the human race bear this heavy responsibility, right?"

"Tuan Zi is very talented, but shouldn't we choose another more suitable person as the young master..."

Yi Zhao looked up. "Are you so against it because there's a better candidate, or... do you want to violate the ancestral order?"

These calm words successfully shut everyone up.

The ancestor had already made his choice. Even the clan leader wasn't qualified to say anything, let alone them.

"The Ancestral Soul has already fused into Tuan Zi's body. She will breathe the same breath as our race and share our fate. She will naturally fulfill the heavy responsibility of revitalizing our race seriously."

Yi Zhao frowned as he spoke. "Why are you all still standing there?"

Someone was the first to react and hurriedly said, "Greetings, Young Mistress!"

This instantly reminded the rest of them.

Everyone bowed. "Greetings, Young Mistress!"

No matter what they thought, the matter was already set in stone and could not be changed. In that case, the only thing they could do was obey.

Behind the crowd, Yi Ran looked at the small figure standing beside Yi Zhao from afar, and his ears buzzed.

He finally couldn't hold on and collapsed.

Yi Zhao glanced in that direction.

He was the clan leader. Everything that happened in the square was under his control.

He knew what was happening there, of course, but he didn't care.

"Clan Leader, someone seems to have fainted over there," Tuan Zi suddenly said.

After hearing Yi Zhao's words and confirming that she could continue following Chu Liuyue in the future, Tuan Zi finally felt relieved and felt much better.

Although her eyes were still red, a brilliant smile bloomed on her small face, and her voice was clear.

When everyone heard this, they subconsciously turned around and saw that Yi Ran had fallen to the ground unconscious.

Many people secretly exchanged glances and saw the shock in each other's eyes. *We're so close, but we didn't even notice. How did Tuan Zi know?*

Yi Zhao knew that Tuan Zi had fused with the Ancestral Soul and was different from ordinary people, so he wasn't too surprised. He only turned to look at Yi Gong. "Yi Gong, bring him back to rest well. Perhaps he can recover early."

Elder Yi Gong could only agree. "Yes..."

But just as he took a step, he heard Tuan Zi's voice again. "He won't recover."

Elder Yi Gong suddenly turned around and frowned. "You—Young Mistress, Yi Ran is at least a little older than you. How can you curse him like this?"

Tuan Zi blinked. "I'm telling the truth. His third meridian is broken and can't be mended. If you don't believe me, go take a look yourself!"

Elder Yi Gong originally didn't think much of it, but when he heard the last sentence, his heart skipped a beat.

He turned at once and hurried over.

Chapter 1602: Ancestral Worship

Everyone hurriedly made way.

Elder Yi Gong walked to Yi Ran's side, squatted down, and grabbed the latter's wrist. A moment later, his expression changed drastically!

He suddenly turned around to look at Tuan Zi!

"You—" His face was filled with shock and disbelief.

Yi Ran's third meridian was indeed broken.

He had been forcefully interrupted when he was opening the fourth meridian, and the backlash of power had affected his body to a certain extent. However, it wasn't as if there had never been instances of failure and backlash in the past.

He was not the first person whose third meridian had been broken...

Elder Yi Gong only thought about it carefully and guessed the general situation. *After Yi Ran failed to open his meridians, he was clearly excited, and his blood essence rioted, so... In that situation, he*

should've calmed down and sorted out the chaotic power in his body as soon as possible, not continue to argue and resist like that.

It's a pity... In the end, Yi Ran can only blame himself for this.

Elder Yi Gong gritted his teeth. The veins on his forehead bulged, and his temples throbbed.

He was really furious and aggrieved!

All these years, he had spent so much effort to nurture Yi Ran! In the end, it was all in vain!

With the third meridian broken, Yi Ran would basically become trash in the future! However, he did not even have the right or reason to blame others!

...

Seeing this scene, what did everyone not understand?

It seemed that Yi Ran really couldn't take it anymore...? Many people sighed inwardly.

Back then, Yi Ran was so arrogant that he did not take any of his peers seriously. In the end, not only did he fail to sit in the position of young master, but he even became trash.

In the future, it would probably be difficult for the entire race to have a place for him!

Yi Zhao lowered his head curiously and asked, "Tuan Zi, how... did you know this?"

Many people pricked up their ears.

Tuan Zi pouted. "Of course, I can tell!"

The crowd was speechless.

Yi Zhao's eyelids twitched violently. "You... you could tell directly?"

One had to know that even he couldn't determine these things out of thin air!

Tuan Zi—

"Yeah." Tuan Zi nodded disapprovingly. *?It was so obvious with one glance.*

After receiving her affirmative answer, everyone fell silent. *?The purest bloodline and the Ancestral Soul are actually... so heaven-defying!?*

Some people who were previously dissatisfied with Tuan Zi shrank back. *?The clan leader is right. We are indeed inferior to Tuan Zi...*

Yi Zhao took a deep breath and didn't continue on this matter, changing the topic. "Since you've already become the young mistress of our clan, you should follow me to Godly Phoenix Hall to pay respects to our ancestors officially."

Tuan Zi nodded, not understanding.

Yi Zhao turned around and brought Tuan Zi into Godly Phoenix Hall again. When he crossed the door, he brushed past Yi Shang and the others waiting at the door.

They bowed in unison but did not follow them in.

After entering the hall, Yi Zhao's gaze landed on Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue immediately understood what he meant and straightened her back. "Tuan Zi, follow the clan leader obediently. I'll wait for you outside."

Tuan Zi nodded obediently.

Chu Liuyue quickly walked out.

The door slowly closed.

Tuan Zi quickly disappeared.

"Miss Shangguan, there are chairs over there. Please wait there. It will probably take a while for the young mistress to worship her ancestors." It was Elder Yi Shang who spoke. His expression and tone were very polite.

Chu Liuyue's eyes curved up. "Thank you, but I'll just stand here."

This place was closer to Tuan Zi.

Although she knew that there should still be layers of barriers inside Godly Phoenix Hall, there was actually no point in such a short distance. It was better for her to be here.

When Tuan Zi came out, she could see her directly.

Seeing her determined attitude, Elder Yi Shang didn't say anything else. He nodded and took a few steps back, waiting patiently at the side.

The people in the square did not return, and all returned to their original positions. It seemed like they were going to wait together.

After all, Tuan Zi was the young mistress of the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan that was selected only once every thousand years. They naturally had to wait here for all the processes to end.

Elder Yi Yu smiled at Elder Yi Gong. "First Elder, we're here, so don't worry. Bring Yi Ran back first. His body probably won't last long."

Elder Yi Gong gritted his teeth in hatred. Unfortunately, he had already been completely defeated and was really unable to counterattack.

He could only grit his teeth and endure it!

He helped Yi Ran up and left quickly!

Chu Liuyue only turned around to take a look before quickly retracting her gaze. *The other party isn't on the same level, so there is nothing to care about. On the other hand, Tuan Zi... Since she has already fused with the Ancestral Soul, the ancestral worship should be quite fast, right?*

...

Tuan Zi followed Yi Zhao into Godly Phoenix Hall and headed toward the innermost area.

It was very quiet.

Tuan Zi looked around as she walked.

The interior was actually not much different from the main hall outside, but the deeper she went, the more she could sense the vast pressure.

Finally, the two of them reached the innermost area of Godly Phoenix Hall.

Looking at the much smaller but more awe-inspiring door in front of her, Tuan Zi's eyes flashed.

Yi Zhao stood in front of the door. "According to the rules of the clan, I can't enter with you next. You can only go in by yourself."

Tuan Zi nodded and reached out to push the door open.

She lifted her foot and quickly disappeared behind the door.

The door closed again.

Chapter 1603: Personally

The square outside Godly Phoenix Hall was silent.

Time slowly trickled past. The sun descended, and the starry sky arrived.

The candles in Godly Phoenix Hall automatically lit up. The bright light caused the entire hall to be illuminated and bright.

The light that kept shining through the window cast a long shadow of Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue looked up.

!!

In the dark night sky, only a few stars shone peacefully and quietly.

Tuan Zi had been inside for roughly six whole hours, and she still hadn't come out.

At this point, Chu Liuyue faintly understood what Elder Yi Shang had said earlier. *This time, it seems like Tuan Zi will need quite some time to pay respects to her ancestors. But upon deeper thinking, this is normal. Tuan Zi has the purest bloodline and has merged with the ancestral soul, so the situation is special. It is expected that she will take more time.*

Chu Liuyue silently surveyed the square and quietly retracted her gaze.

She could clearly feel that some people were still looking at her with varying expressions. However, they were much more restrained compared to the start.

They were more curious than anything.

Chu Liuyue did not care about this either. She always treated everyone how they did her tenfold.

As long as they didn't take the initiative to cause trouble for her, she was happy to interact with them peacefully.

No matter what, Tuan Zi was also the young mistress now. After she became an adult, she had more right to directly become the clan leader.

Such a status would even be higher than the five elders. And she, as Tuan Zi's owner in agreement, naturally had an increase in status.

Thinking about how Mentor and the others had all sorts of worries about us coming over more than a month ago... At that time, who could think of today's ending?

Oh, right. Chu Liuyue's gaze suddenly moved. Tuan Zi and I have been here for so long, and Ancestor is still waiting outside. He still shouldn't know about everything that has happened in Godly Phoenix Mountain. He must be very worried now...

"Elder Yi Yu." Chu Liuyue walked toward the side and softly spoke.

Elder Yi Yu was considered the one she was most familiar with here. She also trusted him very much, so it was most appropriate to ask him for help.

"Hm? What's the matter?" Elder Yi Yu originally had his arms crossed and leaned against the pillar as if he were thinking about something.

Seeing Chu Liuyue come over, he found it a little strange.

Chu Liuyue smiled and said, "Elder Yi Yu, I wonder if I could trouble you with something. When Tuan Zi and I came, we were with my ancestor. But when we entered Godly Phoenix Mountain, Ancestor was left there..."

"You want to invite him over?" Elder Yi Yu stroked his chin. "I'm afraid this will be a little hard..."

Shangguan Yue's entry was still thanks to Tuan Zi in the end. As for the others, they definitely could not be easily let in.

"You've misunderstood." Chu Liuyue's eyes curved up. "I'd just like you to help me send a message to him. As long as Ancestor knows that Tuan Zi and I are fine now, it'll be enough."

Actually, Shangguan Jing and Shangguan Yue had a way of sensing each other through telepathy. However, he only knew the gist of what was going on and not the specifics.

If he can send a message out and let Ancestor clearly know that we are safe here, I can rest assured as well.

"The main point is that we don't know when Tuan Zi's matter will end, so—"

"Oh, you're talking about this? It's simple!" Once Elder Yi Yu heard it, he was instantly elated. "I thought it was a big matter! Don't worry—leave this to me!"

Then, he suddenly raised his hand.

A red-golden feather appeared in his hands with a flash.

He passed the feather to Chu Liuyue. "Just directly write down whatever you want to say. Oh right, when you're writing, you need to be careful. It's written with fire."

Normal humans naturally couldn't use such a thing, but Chu Liuyue had an agreement with Tuan Zi, so she was naturally an exception.

Chu Liuyue thanked him and held the feather with two hands.

This was rather similar to the Ancestral Golden Feather that previously appeared, but its size and color clearly couldn't compare to it.

This should be Elder Yi Yu's own feather.

Chu Liuyue paused for a moment, and a red-golden fire rose in her palm! Then, she held the feather and wrote a few words in the air.

As the feather moved, fire seeped out of its tip and quickly disappeared.

"It's over." After Chu Liuyue wrote the message, she handed the feather back.

Elder Yi Yu smiled and took it. His wrist then moved slightly, and the feather flew up and afar!

In no time, it disappeared in the dark night sky.

"He should be able to receive your letter very soon."

Chu Liuyue's red lips curved up. "Thank you."

...

The Sky-Cloud Empire.

"When the clan leader came back, he directly came here and didn't leave until he was discovered."

The crowd stood before a hall.

Respected Elder Yu Jing was at the front, while Respected Elder Yu Jing stood one step in front of him and carefully explained, "After we discovered that the clan leader was unconscious, we tried all sorts of methods. However, we couldn't wake him up, so we informed the other venerables. Then... 36 Respected Elder Ming was the first to rush over and brought the clan leader to Jishen Palace."

As Respected Elder Yu Jing spoke, he clenched his fists in his sleeves tightly.

Actually, he informed Respected Elder Tong Chuan first back then. It was a pity 36 Respected Elder Ming reacted very quickly for some reason and arrived before everyone else.

36 Respected Elder Ming directly suggested bringing Baili Chun to Jishen Palace, so the crowd naturally couldn't object to it and agreed.

"Afterward, we tightened our defenses in this area and commanded people to strictly watch over it. We didn't dare to let our guard down at all." Respected Elder Yu Jing lowered his head as if he were very respectful and careful.

After the previous encounter, he didn't quite dare to talk to Rong Xiu directly. In front of Rong Xiu, he had a feeling that... he was seen right through.

It was as if he just had to think slightly to expose any trickery.

This feeling wasn't really good, so he could only abide by the 'doing less means fewer mistakes' policy. Other than saying what was necessary, he tried hard to make himself invisible at other times.

Rong Xiu looked at the tightly shut door and squinted his eyes dangerously. "Other than yourself and 36 Respected Elder Ming, who else has been here before?"

Respected Elder Yu Jing's gaze floated around.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan said, "Your Highness, after 36 Respected Elder Ming left with the clan leader, I've also meticulously checked this area. It's a pity we didn't find any clues."

Rong Xiu shot a look at him. "Respected Elder Tong Chuan went in alone?"

Respected Elder Tong Chuan hesitated for a moment. "Respected Elder Yu Jing came with me as well."

Rong Xiu's thin lips curled up slightly. *They are all his people. It isn't that important if they went in together or not.*

His gaze turned. "36 Respected Elder Ming, did you notice anything strange back then?"

36 Respected Elder Ming knitted his brows and shook his head. *I did check carefully back then, but...*

Rong Xiu nodded in understanding. He then whipped his clothes and walked forward. "Then, I shall go in and take a look personally."

Chapter 1604: Explicitly State

"The few venerables can come in together." As Rong Xiu spoke, his sleeves moved, and the door opened with a sound.

When Rong Xiu walked to the door, he stopped in his tracks and turned around in a seemingly smiling manner. "If anyone has suspicions, you can come along as well."

The crowd behind exchanged glances, and the atmosphere was rather awkward.

At Tongshen Palace previously, the crowd was dumbfounded by Rong Xiu's continuous questioning and interrogation. Then, Rong Xiu suggested that he come over to check himself.

At this point, he clearly said this to target them.

!!

Suspicion?

Isn't this clearly mocking us for suspecting and questioning him?

36 Respected Elder Ming went over first and laughed. "It's better if everyone comes in and watches! We have strength in numbers! Perhaps we really missed something out previously, and we can rely on everyone's help to find some clues."

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's face darkened, and he immediately went over. Then, it was Respected Elder Yu Jing and the others.

All the family heads hesitated for a moment. Seeing that Rong Xiu and the others' figures were about to disappear gradually, they felt uneasy as well. In the end, they clenched their teeth and followed in.

...

Baili Chun was the clan leader. His residence was naturally lavish and extravagant.

Rong Xiu walked all the way into Baili Chun's bedroom.

Actually, at Baili Chun's cultivation level, staying awake for a month wouldn't have much of an impact on him. Hence, even though this was known as his bedroom, he spent most of his time cultivating here.

Rong Xiu walked in and first sized up the surroundings.

The outside was already very extravagant, but the inside was on another level.

When the few family heads entered, they couldn't help gasping.

Other than Baili Chun, usually nobody else had the right to enter this place. This was their first time seeing this scene, and they couldn't help but be shocked.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan turned around and stared at the few of them in dissatisfaction, causing the few of them to fall silent and not dare to let out another sound.

But at this point, Rong Xiu suddenly laughed. "Clan Leader's room is very big, and there are two side rooms as well. Everyone, let's split up and search around. You must search carefully, and you don't have to restrain yourself because this is the clan leader's bedroom. You have to know that finding clues and revealing the truth is the most important for the clan leader."

The crowd didn't dare to ignore him and nodded. "Yes, Your Grace."

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's lips moved. However, he did not say anything and just looked at Respected Yu Jing.

Rong Xiu stood rooted to the ground for a while before walking forward.

Just when the crowd thought that he was going to start searching for clues, they suddenly saw him sitting next to a chair by the window.

The crowd stopped in their actions.

Rong Xiu raised his sharp brows slightly. "You can do your own things."

The crowd did not dare to speak further and continued searching around.

Rong Xiu just sat there motionless like a mountain, and there seemed to be leisurely intent in his eyes. Then, he looked up slightly at Respected Elder Yu Jing and Respected Elder Tong Chuan.

His thin lips curled up. "Venerables, why aren't you searching?"

This stumped the two of them.

His tone was too high and mighty, and he simply treated them as slaves! It made them displeased!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan paused and asked, "Your Grace, are you not going to look around yourself?"

Rong Xiu acknowledged this, and the smile on his face deepened slightly. "I've been handling quite a few matters lately, so I'm quite tired and plan to rest. Besides, the venerables and the family heads are here, so I'm very assured."

Respected Elder Tong Chuan felt that his blood was about to rush up his head! *Rong Xiu has really become addicted to commanding us!*

He clenched his teeth and quickly acknowledged it before walking in another direction.

Respected Elder Yu Jing didn't dare to speak further and went in another direction.

Hence, in the entire space, only Rong Xiu was sitting down and resting while the others were searching effortfully.

After about an hour or so, the crowd stopped.

"Your Highness, I didn't find anything."

"Your Highness, there's nothing on our side as well."

"It seems like there's nothing strange..."

Everyone present had distinguished statuses in the Sky-Cloud Empire. After they cooperated and searched around, they still couldn't find anything, and it seemed like there was no evidence.

Rong Xiu looked down slightly and didn't speak as if in deep thought.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan walked over and cupped his fists. "Your Highness, we have tried our best to search, but we really didn't find anything."

His tone went back to his usual nonchalance and arrogance. Only his eyes had a hint of mockery that was hard to discover. *Search? Of course, there's nothing to find here.*

Rong Xiu brought so many people over, but he wasted everyone's time. Does he really think that he can successfully do whatever he wants because he is His Grace? With this commotion, those people below will be even more dissatisfied with him.

On the surface, it seems like Rong Xiu already holds great power in the Sky-Cloud Empire. But in actual fact, he only controls the group of soldiers he brought up himself.

These divisions seemed like they respected him greatly on the surface, but in actual fact...

Rong Xiu was young when he ascended the throne. When he came of age, he suddenly left for a few years. During this period of time, the booklets in the Sky-Cloud Empire were approved by me, Tong Chuan.

This time, Rong Xiu came back and snatched this power back less than a year ago. It's a huge question as to how much power he has!

Rong Xiu still didn't speak.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan knitted his brows in annoyance. "His Highness?"

Roar!

A roar suddenly came from afar! Then, a totally snow-white, fit figure jumped in from the windows—it was Xue Xue!

The crowd was stunned by this sudden scene. When they saw Xue Xue's current appearance, they were taken aback.

Xue Xue's body had pockets of bloodstains, and its face had been scraped by something. Its muscles were exposed, and a bloody smell permeated the air.

They all knew that Rong Xiu's legendary fiend was extremely strong and rarely failed, let alone end up in such a miserable state.

I wonder what it has experienced—

Besides, it seems to be biting on something in its mouth.

Rong Xiu stood up and stroked Xue Xue's forehead. "It's been hard on you."

Xue Xue shook its head and spat out the item in its mouth.

Clang!

A wooden token fell to the floor.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's expression changed drastically!

Chapter 1605: Interrogation

That was a wooden token stained with blood. It lay on the ground quietly and glowed with a cold gleam.

Faintly, one could see a certain pattern carved on it.

The crowd looked over in a daze. *Why did Xue Xue suddenly bring this item back??*

Among the crowd, only Respected Elder Tong Chuan's face was pale and extremely ugly.

The hands in his sleeves moved. His feet seemed to be nailed to the ground and couldn't move.

"This is..." 36 Respected Elder Ming took a step forward and glanced at it. Then, his expression shockingly changed! "This is Black Demon Hole's wooden token?! Wait a minute! The level of this wooden token doesn't seem low—"

"Venerable, you have good eyesight." Rong Xiu raised his brows slightly. "This wooden token is only owned by the eight hall leaders of Black Demon Hole."

In Black Demon Hole, the hall leader position was just below their demon master, and it could be considered a strong existence.

Upon hearing this, the crowd seemed shocked.

"Hall leader? Hasn't Black Demon Hole gone into hiding for many years? Why did they suddenly appear now?"

"In Black Demon Hole, those with higher statuses take greater care of their wooden token. A wooden token of such level is extremely hard to find. I wonder where it came from?"

36 Respected Elder Ming knitted his brows. "Could it be that Xue Xue fought with a hall leader from Black Demon Hole?"

It looks like it was difficult to obtain this wooden token—even Xue Xue was injured.

Xue Xue snorted and glanced at Respected Elder Tong Chuan. Its ice-blue eyes were as sharp as a knife, as if it wanted to skin him alive!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's heart suddenly sank!

The moment he saw Xue Xue bring that wooden token back, he felt that something bad would happen. However, he harbored one last hint of hope and prayed that they didn't discover it.

However, it seemed like... it was impossible!

Detecting Xue Xue's gaze, the crowd was first confused before their expressions became incredulous.

Xue Xue's attitude toward Respected Elder Tong Chuan was amiss, and Respected Elder Tong Chuan's reaction was even more abnormal!

Rong Xiu raised his chin, and his voice was nonchalant. "Respected Elder Tong Chuan, are you going to claim this item?"

Once he said this, the originally quiet room became deadly silent.

Even though they had already guessed that something was amiss, quite a few people widened their eyes in shock upon hearing the meaning behind Rong Xiu's words. *?I-isn't this the wooden token of Black Demon Hole's hall leader? Why did His Grace get Respected Elder Tong Chuan to 'claim' it?!?*

"... I don't know what you mean, Your Highness." Respected Elder Tong Chuan clenched his fists tightly, trying hard to make his voice sound as calm as normal. However, his heart beat wildly, and his blood was overwhelmed as if it was about to explode the next minute.

“Previously, I felt that the Sky-Cloud Empire seemed rather dirty. After leaving, I asked Xue Xue to secretly guard the place itself. After such a long time, it finally found something,” said Rong Xiu slowly. He dragged his ending syllable in a rather nonchalant manner.

However, Respected Elder Tong Chuan’s brain tensed up!

If anything happened, he would directly collapse!

“Respected Elder Tong Chuan, Xue Xue did snatch this wooden token back from someone. And now, that person is already dead. However, this wooden token still has aura in it. It proves that the person who died isn’t the true owner of this wooden token.”

“The most important thing is that I found the aura inside familiar. Respected Elder Tong Chuan, why don’t you personally come over and see... if you recognize this aura?”

Respected Elder Tong Chuan’s body stiffened, and coldness surged up his body from the bottom of his feet.

Rong Xiu’s thin lips curled up as if he were smiling. However, his pair of dark phoenix eyes were like the coldest and sharpest sword that pierced through one’s heart.

“If I haven’t guessed wrongly, this aura seems extremely similar to yours, Respected Elder Tong Chuan.”

Once Rong Xiu said this, the temperature in the room dropped drastically! It was as if it was frozen!

At this moment, even the air was about to freeze!

“I wonder how you intend to explain this, Respected Elder Tong Chuan?” Rong Xiu didn’t look angry. Instead, his demonically handsome face was calm.

His eyes had their usual coldness and nonchalance. His brows were raised slightly, and his lips curled up, showing that he was relaxed.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan’s lips moved, but he felt his throat tighten.

When he spoke, his voice became much hoarser for some reason. “...I-I don’t know...”

“Oh right, there’s something I almost forgot.” Rong Xiu suddenly interrupted him and smiled. “I previously said that I hadn’t found out the reason behind the clan leader’s coma. But upon seeing this wooden token, I suddenly recalled something.”

“The strong warriors in Black Demon Hole can execute some sort of seal and cause one to be unconscious. Such a seal is extremely poisonous and cruel. Other than the victim being unconscious, nothing will happen to the victim’s body. But as time passes, the victim’s force will gradually disappear, and their soul will completely break down after the torture.”

“It takes as long as a year and as short as three months before the victim’s soul is silently destroyed. Then, the victim dies.”

“Thinking about it now, the clan leader must be... under this seal. Respected Elder Tong Chuan, what do you think?”

'Ugly' could no longer be used to describe Respected Elder Tong Chuan's face.

He stared dazedly at Rong Xiu in shock and as if he didn't expect him to say such words.

"How would I know—no! I don't understand what you just said, Your Highness!" Respected Elder Tong Chuan tried his best to deny it, but at this point, his words all seemed especially weak.

"Respected Elder Tong Chuan, you want to ask how I know about the top and most secretive technique in Black Demon Hole?" Rong Xiu chuckled. "A few years ago, someone tried to use this seal on me, but it was a pity it didn't succeed. However... that was how I learned of such things."

"Respected Elder Tong Chuan, do you want to know who that person is?"

Chapter 1606: Rejoicing

The last trace of color on Respected Elder Tong Chuan's face completely faded!

Everyone looked shocked as 36 Respected Elder Ming frowned and took a step forward. "Your Highness, you—"

"I'm fine." Rong Xiu smiled faintly. "I don't care about these tricks."

36 Respected Elder Ming pursed his lips, his eyes still tainted with self-blame and guilt. "I'm useless and actually failed to sense Your Highness's danger..."

Although Rong Xiu said it casually, it wasn't difficult to imagine how powerful the seal was from his description just now!

!!

Rong Xiu can brush it off with a few words now, but as long as one thinks about it, they'll know that Rong Xiu must've experienced all kinds of difficulties and danger at that time! And I actually didn't know all of this before!

Ever since Rong Xiu returned to the Sky-Cloud Empire back then, 36 Respected Elder Ming had taken good care of him and almost treated him as half a son. However, he didn't expect such a major mistake to still happen!

As if guessing his thoughts, Rong Xiu's eyes softened as he said, "Speaking of which, this happened a few years ago when I first left the Sky-Cloud Empire. Therefore, it's normal for you not to know."

Only then did 36 Respected Elder Ming understand. *I see! At that time, Rong Xiu had just taken over not long ago. On the surface, it looked calm, but in reality, there were hidden troubles. I stayed behind and didn't go out with Rong Xiu.*

For a period of time after that, Rong Xiu kept in touch with me, so I stayed at the Sky-Cloud Empire in peace and didn't think too much about it. Unexpectedly... there was actually such a thing.

Rong Xiu looked at Respected Elder Tong Chuan again and raised his eyebrows.

His substantive gaze landed on Respected Elder Tong Chuan with deterrence!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's eyelids twitched violently. "Your Highness, are you suspecting that I was the one who attacked you?"

He suddenly sneered. "Your Highness, I was born in the Sky-Cloud Empire and have been loyal for hundreds of years! Countless people in the Sky-Cloud Empire can testify to this! You can say that I'm arrogant and have a bad temper, but this—this is impossible!"

"You're the Sky-Cloud Empire's His Grace, and you're also the person with the best bloodline talent in the Sky-Cloud Empire in the past thousand years! Why would I secretly kill you?! Or did I use the method of Black Demon Hole!?"

Respected Elder Tong Chuan looked furious as if he had suffered great humiliation and grievances. "You've slandered me today. If you can't produce evidence, I definitely won't just let it be!"

His angry, agitated voice echoed through the room.

The expressions of many people around them wavered.

To be honest, Respected Elder Tong Chuan might not have that much respect for His Grace and might even have wanted to seize power. However, he still didn't say anything to the Sky-Cloud Empire.

He couldn't be related to the people of Black Demon Hole, right?

Besides, does Rong Xiu mean that Respected Elder Tong Chuan is one of the eight hall leaders of Black Demon Hole? That sounds even more ridiculous.

Rong Xiu glanced at him and nodded with a smile. "Sure."

Respected Elder Tong Chuan was stunned for a moment before he realized what Rong Xiu meant. *Does he really have evidence?*

Then, he saw Rong Xiu raise his chin at Xue Xue and say very gently, "The sea-buckthorn wood token of Black Demon Hole's hall leader is extremely precious. It must be extremely effective to grind the teeth."

Roar!

Xue Xue let out a low roar and pounced forward again, holding the wooden token in its mouth!

Its sharp white teeth clenched on the black wooden token, glinting coldly.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's heart skipped a beat at first. Then, he forced himself to calm down. *It is just a legendary fiend. If it wants to destroy this wooden token, it is still—*

Ka!

Xue Xue bit down hard, and a crack instantly appeared on the wooden token!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's eyes widened in shock. *How—how is this possible?! When did that beast have such combat strength?!*

Before he could think clearly, a second crisp sound landed!

Crack!

The sound of the wooden token cracking was no different from a death warrant in Respected Elder Tong Chuan's ears! Without thinking, he immediately attacked and wanted to snatch the thing back from Xue Xue's mouth!

Whoosh!

Just as he moved, Rong Xiu appeared in front of him in a flash and quietly stopped him. "Respected Elder Tong Chuan, what are you doing? Since that wooden token is one of the eight hall leaders' items, as long as it's destroyed, the owner of the token will suffer extremely heavy backlash even if he isn't here. However... why are you so anxious?"

Tong Chuan's face was pale, and large beads of sweat appeared on his forehead.

He looked up and saw Rong Xiu looking at him with a faint smile.

Oh no! Respected Elder Tong Chuan's heart sank! No matter how much I said before, this attack is equivalent to admitting all of Rong Xiu's previous evidence!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan gritted his teeth. Then, a black fog suddenly surged out from the depths of his ancient eyes!

A cold and sinister aura instantly spread from his body!

Rong Xiu narrowed his eyes, and the smile on his face seemed to be covered in a layer of frost!

Whoosh!

Suddenly, the aura around Respected Elder Tong Chuan surged!

He abruptly raised his arm, and a black saber suddenly appeared in his hand! The next moment, he stabbed at Rong Xiu without hesitation!

The two of them were extremely close to each other, and Respected Elder Tong Chuan attacked very suddenly this time. The sharp blade was about to land on Rong Xiu's shoulder!

"Be careful, Your Highness!" Everyone was shocked!

Nobody expected Respected Elder Tong Chuan to attack just like that, and he was extremely ruthless!

Chapter 1607: Conflict

Respected Elder Tong Chuan immediately wanted to catch up, but before he could move, a golden light flashed in front of him!

The next moment, a barrier formed by golden flames blocked him!

"Get lost!" A hoarse roar erupted from Respected Elder Tong Chuan's old voice!

At this moment, his eyes were completely enveloped by black fog. Cold, mournful, cold...

It made one shudder!

He raised his hand and slashed down!

Now he couldn't care less. The most important thing was to chase after the black wooden token!

With a slash, the golden flame barrier was split in the middle!

Just as Respected Elder Tong Chuan was about to pass through, he saw that the flames had actually divided into two ropes that surrounded him!

He subconsciously dodged and waved the black saber in his hand crazily, trying to isolate it. This was because he knew too well how terrifying Rong Xiu's flames were!

Once entangled—

Shoo!?

A golden spark suddenly exploded in his ear!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan turned his head stiffly and realized that there was already a small golden flame behind him!

At this moment, golden flames bloomed and turned into countless dazzling lights that floated in the air.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan was shocked! He glanced up automatically.

Outside the window, Xue Xue had disappeared. However, intense pain began to spread through his body!

The wooden token was beginning to be destroyed!

"You! You!" Respected Elder Tong Chuan became even more panicked.

Whir!

A strange sound suddenly entered his ears.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan came back to his senses and immediately widened his eyes in shock!

At some point, those stars danced in all directions, drawing streams of light that interweaved and overlapped. They actually formed an extremely complicated and profound formation!

This profound formation wasn't big, but it firmly bound him inside!

He felt uneasy and wanted to break free even more. But at this moment, he suddenly realized that he couldn't mobilize the force in his body!

"I've been studying this Divine Sealing Array for a long time. I only have a chance to experiment today, but it looks pretty good." Rong Xiu spoke slowly with a smile on his face as if he were quite satisfied with the effects of this Xuan formation.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan was shocked. *How is that even possible? Rong Xiu is only a true god now. Even if he has two divine bodies and two God Realms, he is still only a true god! Meanwhile, I'm a legendary warrior! How did Rong Xiu's Xuan formation achieve such power?!*

Although legendary warriors were above true gods, the difference between the two was like a chasm.

In the God Residence Realm, there were countless true gods. However, legendary warriors were extremely precious!

They all knew that Rong Xiu's combat strength was higher than cultivators of the same level. However, they didn't expect that he was actually already able to resist a legendary warrior now!

Not to mention Respected Elder Tong Chuan, even the onlookers were stunned in their spots.

The reason why Respected Elder Tong Chuan previously had such high status in the Sky-Cloud Empire was that he was strong enough!

But when fighting with His Grace now, Rong Xiu, he was actually... at a disadvantage?!

Rong Xiu did not give Respected Elder Tong Chuan much time to react.

He raised his hand, and his long, well-defined fingers then closed gently.

Whir!

The Divine Sealing Array shone brightly!

In an instant, Respected Elder Tong Chuan felt as if his entire body had been ruthlessly crushed by something! Intense pain came from all over his body—it almost drove him crazy!

“Ah!!!” Respected Elder Tong Chuan finally couldn't hold back and let out a shrill moan of pain.

Surrounded by the light, nobody could see his current appearance. They could only roughly see the outline of his body and the blood dripping onto the ground.

The strange thing was that the color of the blood was actually black and red, and it carried a strong stench!

The carefully laid jade bricks on the ground seemed to have been corroded by the blood, emitting sizzling sounds and black fog.

This voice and this scene made everyone's hair stand on end!

If they still couldn't tell that Respected Elder Tong Chuan was from Black Demon Hole, they wouldn't be able to survive in the God Residence Realm!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's voice gradually softened. He seemed to slowly stop struggling as well.

Only the blood on the floor increased.

At a certain moment, the black fog barrier set up by Respected Elder Tong Chuan suddenly shattered!

Thump!

The black fog quickly dispersed and gathered in Respected Elder Tong Chuan's body. However, this bit of strength was already a drop in the bucket for the current him.

The light on the Divine Sealing array faded. Only then did Respected Elder Tong Chuan's figure appear in front of everyone again.

Someone couldn't help but gasp, then quickly fell silent.

Silence filled the room. However, there was still shock and shock in their eyes.

At this moment, the person who reappeared in front of them could barely be considered a human.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's entire body seemed to have been sucked dry by something—it became shriveled and withered. His cheeks were deeply sunken, and there was no color on his face. He only stared with a pair of completely black eyes... Terrified, miserable, and resentful.

It looked really unsettling.

At some point, a totem had appeared between his eyebrows! That wasn't the Sky-Cloud Empire's totem, but... Black Demon Hole!

Suddenly, Respected Elder Tong Chuan opened his mouth. A completely different hoarse, low, and cold laugh came from afar. "Rong Xiu, I've really underestimated you."

Chapter 1608: I Really Didn't Know

As soon as he finished speaking, Respected Elder Tong Chuan's body suddenly burned! Thick black fog emitted from it, carrying a nauseating stench like rotting corpses.

Everyone's expressions changed slightly.

36 Respected Elder Ming frowned. "Your Highness, be careful!"

Thump!

An explosion suddenly sounded!

Respected Elder Tong Chuan's body suddenly exploded!

Rong Xiu's expression turned sharp, and the Xuan formation immediately spun!

The splattered flesh and black fog were devoured by a powerful force. In the end, they all disappeared in the light.

After about a quarter of an hour, the light dissipated, leaving only dried dark-red blood on the ground.

Rong Xiu narrowed his eyes.

Roar!?

With this roar, Xue Xue appeared outside the window again. It flew in front of Rong Xiu and spat out the wooden token in its mouth.

The black wooden token had already shattered into several pieces.

Rong Xiu's expression was indifferent as he raised his finger.

A golden flame flew out and landed on the wooden token, burning quietly. In a moment, the wooden token had completely turned to ashes.

...

So many things had happened in a short period of time that everyone present was shocked speechless.

Everyone looked at the ashes and the remaining blood for a long time.

36 Respected Elder Ming finally couldn't help but say, "I didn't expect Tong Chuan to be the hall leader of Black Demon Hole..."

"He's not the real Respected Elder Tong Chuan," Rong Xiu suddenly said.

36 Respected Elder Ming was shocked. "Your Highness, you mean..."

Rong Xiu said concisely, "His body was stolen."

Everyone fell silent.

After a long while, 36 Respected Elder Ming sighed in realization. "I see..."

If that was the case, it wasn't difficult to explain why Respected Elder Tong Chuan managed to stay in the Sky-Cloud Empire all these years without being discovered.

It turned out that he had been replaced halfway.

"Then, the real Respected Elder Tong Chuan..." 36 Respected Elder Ming stopped mid-sentence.

Actually, there was no need to ask this question anymore. Since his body had been stolen, the real Respected Elder Tong Chuan was naturally no longer alive.

Rong Xiu pondered for a moment before saying, "It should've been a few years ago. When I first left the Sky-Cloud Empire, his body had already been stolen."

Actually, he had been suspicious since that time, but because he had other things to do at that time, he did not investigate personally.

After that, Respected Elder Tong Chuan didn't show any abnormalities, let alone leave any evidence. It became even harder for him to check again—until something happened to Baili Chun this time.

"But hasn't Black Demon Hole been in seclusion for the past few years? Why did they have to go through so much trouble to send a hall leader to sneak into our Sky-Cloud Empire secretly?"

The other elders looked puzzled and glanced at Rong Xiu without batting an eyelid. *Moreover, the other party's goal seems to be... His Grace? Even when he attacked the clan leader, Baili Chun, the other party seemed to be targeting Rong Xiu in the end.*

"Only by living in seclusion will there be time and energy to do other things," Rong Xiu lightly said.

Actually, the voice just now didn't belong to this possessed hall leader, but...

In order to deal with him, the other party had used all kinds of methods and was even willing to sacrifice a hall leader for this.

36 Respected Elder Ming asked in a low voice, “Your Highness, what do we do next? Do you have any plans?”

The other party had bullied them, so there was no way this matter would end just like that. Moreover, Respected Elder Tong Chuan had always held a high position in the Sky-Cloud Empire and had stolen countless secrets.

This account was probably even more shocking.

“Their target is me.” Rong Xiu seemed to have guessed what he was thinking and said calmly, “Respected Elders, don’t worry. Although Respected Elder Tong Chuan has held great power in the past few years, but... what he knows is what I let him know. I just didn’t expect him to actually wait until today to make his move. However, Yu Mo and the others should’ve already cleaned up most of the nonsense outside.”

This meant that when he attacked Respected Elder Tong Chuan, the people outside had already surrounded his subordinates!

Hearing this, everyone had complicated expressions.

Shock, surprise, exclamation...

At this moment, they finally understood that Rong Xiu didn’t call them over to investigate the reason why Baili Chun was unconscious. He had just made up his mind to attack Respected Elder Tong Chuan today!

It was just a trap!

When 36 Respected Elder Ming heard this, he heaved a sigh of relief. “That’s good, that’s good. Your Highness has always been scheming. I’m really ashamed.”

Rong Xiu smiled. “For the sake of convenience, I didn’t tell you some things. I hope you can forgive me.”

At this point, what else did 36 Respected Elder Ming not understand?

Rong Xiu seemed to have left the Sky-Cloud Empire in the past few years and had never bothered about the matters here. Instead, he handed everything over to 36 Respected Elder Ming. But in reality, he had already secretly set up another huge net!

36 Respected Elder Ming wasn’t angry. On the contrary, he was very relieved and happy.

He had watched Rong Xiu grow up. He knew how outstanding Rong Xiu was and had seen his growth along the way, but it was only today that he could finally rest assured.

Rong Xiu’s thoughts and methods are definitely enough to support him in stabilizing his position as His Grace! Killing Tong Chuan today to eradicate the scourge is also a warning to those who are restless. Even someone like Respected Elder Tong Chuan didn’t end up well in Rong Xiu’s hands, let alone them.

36 Respected Elder Ming glanced around and nodded in satisfaction when he saw their expressions. *From today onward, all the troubles in the Sky-Cloud Empire should’ve been resolved.*

One of them had a particularly interesting expression.

36 Respected Elder Ming raised his eyebrows. “Respected Elder Yu Jing, you and Respected Elder Tong Chuan have always been close. These things—”

“I didn’t know!” Before he could finish asking, Respected Elder Yu Jing hurriedly denied it.

He looked at Rong Xiu nervously, his face pale. “Your Highness, you’re wise! I really don’t know anything about this! Although I have a good relationship with him, it’s actually only because his status is higher that I have no choice but to obey. However, I didn’t participate in this matter—this is absolutely true!”

His voice sounded sharp with anxiety and worry.

After saying this, he was already covered in cold sweat.

Respected Elder Yu Jing wasn’t stupid.

Respected Elder Tong Chuan was from Black Demon Hole and had attacked His Grace. If he had anything to do with him now, he would probably be doomed!

He had to get himself out!

Rong Xiu lowered his eyes and glanced at Xue Xue. “Go and clean up at the fountain. You’re too dirty.”

The fountain was a hot spring on Suming Peak. Usually, only a few people were qualified to go there.

Most importantly, the spring water had the effect of healing injuries. Xue Xue’s injuries weren’t light this time.

Hearing this, Xue Xue agreed happily and quickly turned around to leave.

Only then did Rong Xiu look up at Respected Elder Yu Jing. His eyebrows rose in a half-smile. “Do you really not know anything?”

Chapter 1609: The Wedding

Respected Elder Yu Jing choked, and a moment of hesitation flashed in his eyes.

However, this was only for a moment. Soon, his expression returned to normal, and he swore firmly, “I really didn’t know!”

Rong Xiu’s smile deepened, but there was a hint of cold sarcasm. “After the clan leader fainted, you were the first to discover it. Then, you called Respected Elder Tong Chuan over. Now, the reason for the clan leader’s fainting is clear—it’s because of Respected Elder Tong Chuan. Don’t you think there’s something wrong with the timeline?”

Respected Elder Yu Jing was immediately speechless. After hesitating for a moment, he explained, “This, this—he must’ve attacked the clan leader first! Then, he pretended that nothing had happened and pushed all the responsibility away! That must be it!”

“There’s one thing you might not know. After the seal is placed, the clan leader’s body can no longer accept the outside world’s origin power. This naturally includes the origin power in the human body.”

Respected Elder Yu Jing suddenly realized something, and the rest of his words were stuck in his throat. He looked up at Rong Xiu in shock, but he only saw that the man seemed to have seen through everything.

“...Your... Your Highness...” His lips moved as if he wanted to say something more, but no sound came out.

Rong Xiu’s words were very clear.

The gazes of the surrounding people landed on Yu Jing, but at this moment, they were like knives on his back.

His mind was blank except for a voice that kept lingering. *It’s over... It’s really over...*

Plop!

Respected Elder Yu Jing abruptly kneeled down, and his knees landed heavily on the jade bricks with a sickening thud.

He put his head to the ground and begged, “Your Highness, I admit that I listened to Respected Elder Tong Chuan’s orders and went in first to attack the clan leader! B-but I really didn’t know—”

After Baili Chun came out of seclusion this time, his strength increased greatly. Although he had suffered a blow because of Jiang Zhiyuan, his combat strength could not be underestimated.

At that time, the two of them had entered together. He had attacked first, and then Respected Elder Tong Chuan had attacked again.

At that time, Respected Elder Tong Chuan only said that it was to push all of the blame onto Rong Xiu and pull him down from the position of His Grace.

Respected Elder Yu Jing didn’t want to do this at first, but after thinking about it, he finally agreed under Respected Elder Tong Chuan’s persuasion. However, he only thought that Respected Elder Tong Chuan was doing this for the sake of the clan leader and the position of His Grace. Who would’ve thought that he was actually from Black Demon Hole?!

In the end, he was also wronged!

Rong Xiu had already turned his gaze to 36 Respected Elder Ming. “I still have to go and see the clan leader. I’ll leave these things to you to deal with.”

36 Respected Elder Ming nodded. “Don’t worry, Your Highness.”

With that, Rong Xiu walked out.

Respected Elder Yu Jing wanted to beg again, but he was deterred by a glance from 36 Respected Elder Ming and shut his mouth.

Silence filled the room.

Everyone’s gazes still subconsciously followed Rong Xiu.

At the door, Rong Xiu suddenly stopped and half-turned. Then, he raised his eyebrows and chuckled. "From today onward, you don't have to worry about the clan leader."

Many people's faces alternated between red and white. In the end, they all responded and bowed respectfully. "Yes."

After Rong Xiu left, the room was still silent for a long time.

Today's battle was too thrilling.

Thinking about it carefully, many people felt sad. *With Rong Xiu's thoughts and methods, it would be easy for him to deal with us. To think that we were so naive to think that we could fight him... It seems that the best choice in the future is to listen to all his orders obediently...*

36 Respected Elder Ming looked around and laughed. "Everyone, should we settle this score today?"

...

Rong Xiu walked out of the hall.

Yan Qing, who was waiting outside, hurriedly welcomed him. "Your Highness, there's news from Yu Mo that everything is almost settled."

Rong Xiu raised his sharp brows slightly. "He's fast."

"Your Highness, everything had already been set up in advance, so things were naturally finished quickly."

Rong Xiu glanced at him and smiled. "Your acting skills have improved."

A rare look of embarrassment appeared on Yan Qing's cold face. "Your Highness, you flatter me. These things are all that I should do."

Rong Xiu let him go and did not continue teasing him. Instead, he moved in the direction of Suming Peak. "Is the clan leader awake?"

"Your Highness, he isn't."

Rong Xiu's expression was indifferent. It's indeed a little troublesome to deal with the seal."

Although he had escaped death back then, it didn't mean that he could easily break through it.

This seal was one of Black Demon Hole's top secret techniques, and very few people knew about it. If he wanted to resolve it completely, he would probably... have to spend some effort.

"Your Highness, the princess consort..." Yan Qing spoke hesitantly. "Since the trouble here has been resolved, we should be able to invite the princess consort back, right?"

Rong Xiu's dark red lips curled up slightly, and his eyes softened. "After this matter is over, I'll personally go to Godly Phoenix Mountain to pick her up."

Previously, he pretended to be in a hurry to return to the Sky-Cloud Empire and didn't tell her the truth. In fact, he wanted to bring her back after settling these matters.

She had already spent enough effort on the red-gold heavenly phoenix.

Yan Qing was stunned, but he quickly returned to normal and responded respectfully.

As they spoke, the two of them had already arrived at the top of Suming Peak.

Rong Xiu flew down and landed on the black jade.

The soldiers in charge of guarding bowed in unison. "Greetings, Your Grace!"

Perhaps it was an illusion, but the iron-blooded aura on their bodies seemed to be stronger than before.

Rong Xiu nodded slightly and walked toward Jishen Palace.

Yan Qing followed closely behind.

Wherever they passed, the soldiers kneeled on one knee to welcome them. They all knew that the seemingly calm Sky-Cloud Empire was about to have another storm of blood!

Rong Xiu walked to the door of Jishen Palace and suddenly stopped. "By the way, how's the preparation for the wedding?"

Yan Qing immediately said respectfully, "Your Highness, everything is basically ready."

They had started preparing a few years ago and had used a lot of manpower and resources. How could they not have prepared well?

Rong Xiu nodded, and there seemed to be a glint in his phoenix eyes. "When I bring her back, we can choose a good day to get married."

Chapter 1610: Come

The sun rose, and the dark sky gradually brightened.

The last light of Godly Phoenix Hall quietly went out.

A breeze blew, and the white mountain mist dissipated bit by bit, revealing the figures of the people sitting quietly in the square.

Chu Liuyue slowly exhaled and opened her eyes.

The natural energy here was very abundant and pure. Cultivating here was almost twice as good as outside. Therefore, while she waited for Tuan Zi outside the door, she didn't waste any time and diverted a portion of her attention to cultivate.

!!

After breaking through to a true god, her efficiency in absorbing force had increased greatly, and her cultivation speed had naturally increased.

There were a total of three stages, namely the early stage, the middle stage, and the peak stage. And the difference between these three stages wasn't small.

Now that she was still at the early stage... If she wanted to continue breaking through, she could only cultivate diligently.

After being tempered by pure force, her spirit had recovered a lot, and her black jade-like eyes were bright.

She glanced toward the doors of Godly Phoenix Hall.

Tuan Zi had been in there for three days, but there was still no sign of her coming out. Yi Zhao was accompanying her inside, so naturally, he did not come out.

Chu Liuyue hesitated for a moment before looking to the side.

Elder Yi Yu had left yesterday. It seemed that the people below had discovered that the damage to Phoenix Valley was a little serious and invited him back to take a look.

It made sense. She could barely remember how many bolts of lightning she had triggered in the previous month.

Although these lightning bolts had been devoured by Tuan Zi, energy surged and affected Phoenix Valley during the process.

It was rare for Chu Liuyue to feel guilty, and she originally wanted to follow him. However, Elder Yi Yu waved his hand and told her to continue waiting for Tuan Zi here. As for the rest, she should leave it to them.

This was originally their base, so Chu Liuyue naturally didn't know as much as them about how to repair it.

Facing Chu Liuyue's apology, Elder Yi Yu's attitude became even more carefree. "You've already opened the fourth meridian for Tuan Zi. What's this small matter?"

Tuan Zi's significance to their entire red-gold heavenly phoenix clan was immeasurable. Even if Phoenix Valley was really destroyed, they would have nothing to say.

Phoenix Valley could be rebuilt, but there might not be a second Tuan Zi.

Since the other party said so, Chu Liuyue did not insist.

After the first day, Elder Yi Gong never appeared again. Thus, at this moment, there were only three elders waiting outside the hall.

Chu Liuyue looked at Elder Yi Shang, who was closest to her. "Elder Yi Shang, may I ask if this ancestral worship... Will it always take so long?"

Elder Yi Shang looked back and smiled gently. "Under normal circumstances, it'll only take a day for the young master to worship their ancestors. But Tuan Zi is special, so it's normal for it to take longer."

Chu Liuyue pressed her lips against each other.

She naturally knew this very well, but three days had passed, and there was no movement at all. It really made one's heart pound.

“Then... do you know how long it will take?”

Elder Yi Shang shook his head. “That... is still up to her.”

In the past, although the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan had also had the purest bloodline, nobody had summoned the Ancestral Soul.

This was the first time Tuan Zi had done this. They didn’t have much experience, so it was not appropriate for them to say anything.

She nodded in understanding and could only continue waiting patiently. *Fortunately, there is a connection between Tuan Zi and me. It feels like there is no question—*

Suddenly, a subtle fluctuation came from Chu Liuyue’s dantian.

Her expression froze.

A moment later, the fluctuation came again, and this time, it was clearly louder than the first time.

It came from that water droplet! Somehow, something seemed to be calling.

Chu Liuyue looked up in the direction of the summoning and instantly held her breath. *This power seems to come from Godly Phoenix Hall!*

She looked around.

Everyone looked the same.

This power seems to have only summoned me? This... Chu Liuyue’s eyebrows twitched.

She could sense that the power of this summoning was extremely vast and powerful, carrying an astonishing pressure that couldn’t be disobeyed!

Even Yi Zhao from before could not be compared to it! However, this power was very gentle to her, so although it landed on her, it didn’t make her feel uncomfortable.

A ridiculous and bold guess instantly flashed across her mind. *Who else can have such summoning power other than the ancestor in Godly Phoenix Hall, who has been worshiped by the red-gold heavenly phoenix clan for generations? But I’m the only human here, and the only connection I have with the red-gold heavenly phoenixes is Tuan Zi. How could—*

Suddenly, Chu Liuyue calmed down. *Could it be... because of Tuan Zi?*

Gradually, the fluctuation became stronger and stronger, so much so that she could not ignore it.

Finally, before Chu Liuyue could take the initiative to speak, the doors of Godly Phoenix Hall suddenly opened.

Creak—

The long, weathered voice was especially clear in the quiet square.

Everyone looked up in the direction of the doors.

Yi Shang and the others also had solemn expressions.

From the looks of it, the clan leader and Tuan Zi were about to come out?

As expected, Yi Zhao's figure quickly appeared behind the doors.

He stepped out the doors, and everyone bowed respectfully. "Greetings, Clan Leader!"

Many people heaved a sigh of relief. *It seems that the ancestral worship inside is finally over.*

However, some more meticulous people quickly realized that Tuan Zi did not follow the clan leader out. *Logically speaking, the two of them should've come out together...*

Yi Zhao's gaze landed on Chu Liuyue.

As if sensing something, Chu Liuyue looked up.

The two of them stared at each other.

Chu Liuyue could clearly see the complicated emotions in Yi Zhao's eyes.

Then, Yi Zhao said, "Shangguan Yue, go in."

Those few simple words stunned everyone on the spot.

Some even rubbed their ears, thinking they were hearing things.

Some of them looked at each other and confirmed what the clan leader said from their shocked gazes.

Yi Shang and the others were also stunned.

Although Shangguan Yue had entered Godly Phoenix Hall twice before, it was both under special circumstances.

However, it was different now! Tuan Zi was worshipping her ancestors inside. Why did they suddenly let Shangguan Yue go over?!

But seeing Yi Zhao's serious expression, they did not dare to ask further and only subconsciously looked at her.

Sure enough.

After calming herself down, Chu Liuyue nodded slightly and walked straight to the main hall.

Everyone's gazes subconsciously followed her.

When she brushed past Yi Zhao, she could clearly sense that he was sizing her up.

His gaze was different from before. Although he looked calm on the surface, it was obvious that the waves in his heart had yet to subside.

She paused for a moment before continuing to enter Godly Phoenix Hall without looking sideways.