



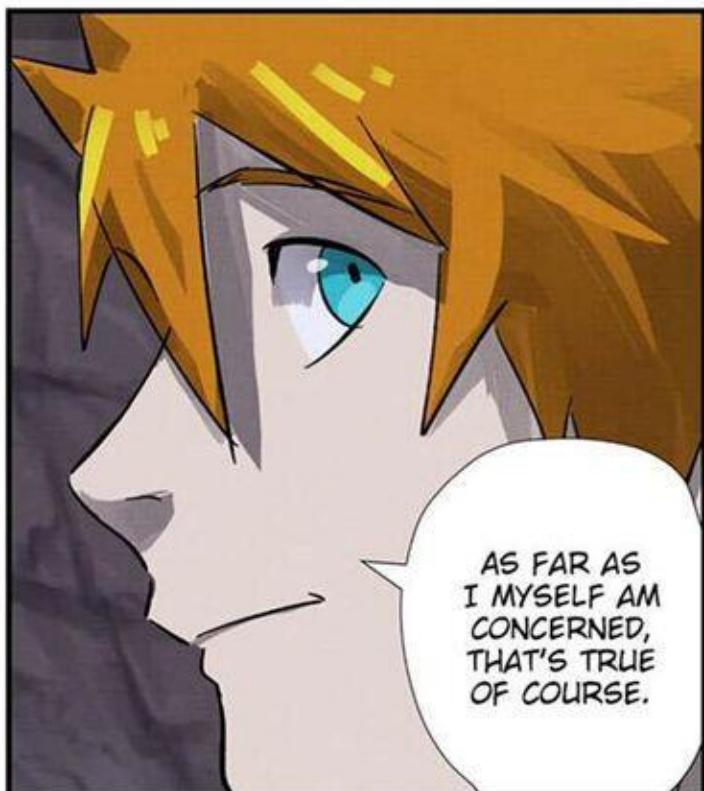
WITH BROTHER  
NIE LI'S ABILITY,

DO YOU  
REALLY NEED  
TO TAKE THE  
MASTER OF THE  
NETHER REALM  
AS YOUR  
MASTER?



EVEN IF YOU  
WERE TO RELY  
ON YOURSELF,

YOUR FUTURE  
ACHIEVEMENTS WOULD  
BE EXTRAORDINARY.



AS FAR AS  
I MYSELF AM  
CONCERNED,  
THAT'S TRUE  
OF COURSE.



BUT I NEED TO  
MAKE PLANS FOR  
MY COMPANIONS  
AS WELL.









YOU LET  
ME HAVE  
NING'ER,

AND  
I'LL BE THE  
BACKER FOR  
ALL OF YOU.  
HOW ABOUT  
THAT?



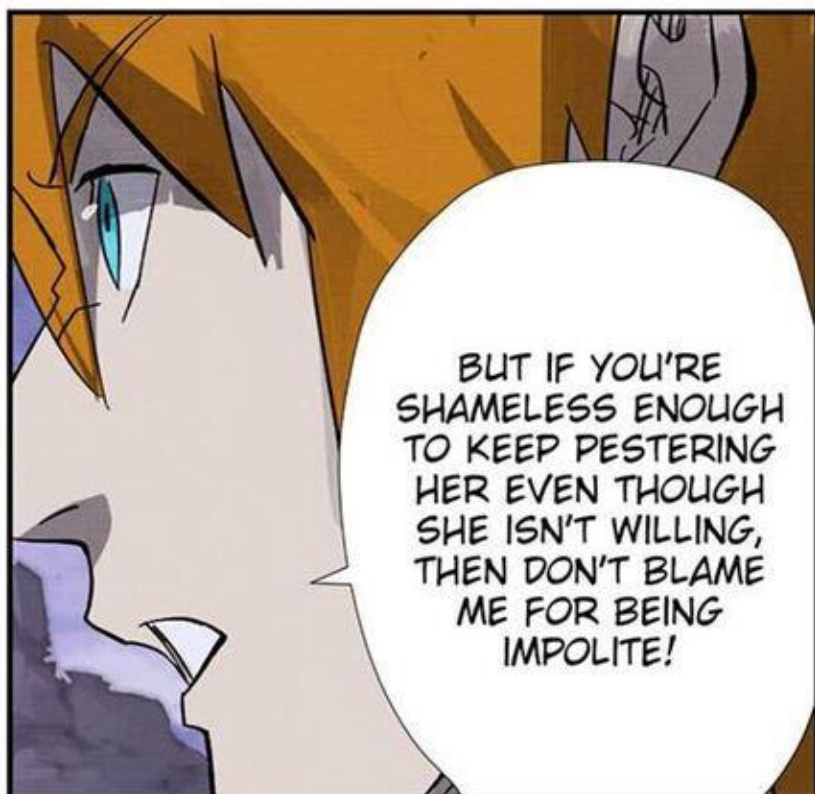
NING'ER ISN'T  
AN OBJECT...

THAT CAN  
BE GIVEN  
AROUND HERE  
AND THERE.



IF NING'ER IS  
FOND OF YOU,

I, OF COURSE,  
AM IN NO POSITION TO  
GET IN YOUR WAY.



BUT IF YOU'RE  
SHAMELESS ENOUGH  
TO KEEP PESTERING  
HER EVEN THOUGH  
SHE ISN'T WILLING,  
THEN DON'T BLAME  
ME FOR BEING  
IMPOLITE!



HAHA,  
NO NEED  
TO GET SO  
WORKED UP.  
I WAS JUST  
JOKING.









IS HE  
REALLY A  
MARTIAL  
ARTIST...?



THIS HAND...  
IT'S AS FAIR AS THAT  
OF A MAIDEN WHO HAS  
NEVER HAD TO PERFORM  
ANY CHORES\*.

[Note: Literally, "five fingers that have never touched winter water".]



YOU COULD SAY THAT  
HE'S HANDSOME, BUT YOU  
MAY AS WELL SAY THAT HE'S  
PRETTY INSTEAD...

WOULD NING'ER  
LIKE THIS TYPE OF...?



THIS JADE  
HAIRPIN IS AN  
HEIRLOOM THAT  
MY MOTHER  
LEFT BEHIND  
FOR ME.



I'M VERY SORRY  
TO HEAR THAT.

BUT I DIDN'T  
SAY ANYTHING, SO  
WHY DID YOU HAVE  
TO EXPLAIN THAT?

AHEM.





AND SO, NIE LI AND COMPANY SEARCHED FOR SPIRIT ORIGIN FRUITS WHILE ALSO SEARCHING FOR THEIR OTHER COMPANIONS.

MEANWHILE, DEEP IN THE FIRST LEVEL OF THE NINE-LAYERED DEATHLANDS...







SHAA!



AH.  
ACTUALLY  
DARING TO  
SNATCH OUR  
SPIRIT ORIGIN  
FRUITS;

YOU  
MUST BE  
TIRED OF  
LIVING!



RUSTLE

RUSTLE

STILL GOING  
TO HIT ME?



SHOULD HAVE  
TAKEN A GOOD  
LOOK AT WHO'S  
GOT MY BACK.

?



WE WERE  
CLEARLY  
THE FIRST  
TO SEE  
THE SPIRIT  
ORIGIN  
FRUITS...

JUST WHO'S  
SNATCHING WHOSE  
STUFF HERE!



