

Ancient ST 431

Chapter 431 - Phoenix Mountain. Liu-li gets a Demonic Stonegold Rabbit King

It had already been one day since Qing Shui and the two ladies started their journey back to Heavenly Palace.

The speed of his Golden Winged Thunder Condor had increased greatly. It also had an astonishing amount of endurance. However, as Qing Shui decided not to rush back to Heavenly Palace so quickly, they decided to take a rest when the sky turned dark. Whenever they reached a city, they would stay the night in an inn, or else they would have to camp outside.

On the first day, they left Cang Lang county. When it was close to dusk, he told the two ladies, "It is getting dark. Let's rest here for the night, we can continue tomorrow."

"Okay. The scenery here is quite nice. There are mountains, rivers and forests. I will take a walk with Liu-li." Canghai Mingyue replied with a smile as she surveyed the picturesque scenery.

Qing Shui shared the same sentiments once Canghai Mingyue brought it up. There was a rapid-flowing river. On its left, there was a long mountainous range at the height of about 1000 meters, and such rock formations were considered small mountains in the World of the Nine Continents. On the right of the river, there was a forest filled with tall maple-like trees. The trees were all bare and it would take a least another month before their leaves sprout again.

As Qing Shui's eyesight was sharp, he could easily see some of the small wild beasts or flying beasts as he scanned the area while he was on the back of his Golden Winged Thunder Condor.

With a loud condor call, there was an eruption of flapping wings and scurrying wild beasts from the forest and hills below.

Swish swish~

Qing Shui shot out two stones from his hand as his Golden Winged Thunder Condor landed.

Chichi~

Two Mountain Leaping Rabbits were hit, the stones penetrating through their heads. Qing Shui decided that they would have these two rabbits for dinner tonight. Mountain Leaping Rabbits were about a foot tall. They were no different from the rabbits from his previous world. The only difference was that they leapt around on their two rear feet akin to kangeroos while holding something in their forepaws... Their ears were very big and their back limbs were muscular. They could jump up to 100 times their body height. As their speed was very fast, they were difficult to catch albeit belonging to the lowest level of the food chain in the mountains.

When the condor was landing, Qing Shui had spotted about 200 mountain rabbits on the hills. They scurried away so quickly in fear when Qing Shui shot out the stones, so now there were only the two dead rabbits left.

Qing Shui did not allow the two women to help him with the skinning and washing. He really detested it when women had to do this sort of thing. He would rather they kill treacherous people or use their long swords to cut down demonic beasts. He just did not like them doing what he was doing now. Perhaps,

he thought that women should be more gentle, so he preferred to “cruelly” hunt those rabbits over seeing the “cruel” side of the women when they do it. Similarly, in his previous incarnation, Qing Shui did not like watching women kill chickens and fishes during new year.

Qing Shui did this very quickly, taking out the utensils. There was meat soup and there was barbecue meat, and they were seasoned with the best spices. Furthermore, Qing Shui’s cooking skill was quite good, as this was part of the “Culinary Arts” skill.

Although his cooking skills were not bad, the most important thing were the spices. Those imperial cooks and similar personages actually had their own special spice mix, or rather recipes for their flavouring. They usually did not teach it to others.

Qing Shui did not feel the need to do this. When he was at Earthly Paradise, he once taught many of his culinary skills and tips to Mei Yanxue who had great interest in cooking.

So now, Mei Yanxue usually called him “Teacher”. In the world of the Nine Continents, the term “Teacher” was an honorific analogous to “Sir” but signified a closer relationship.

Qing Shui was not able to convince her otherwise. Even with Huoyun Liu-li’s teasing, Qing Shui became the “Teacher” of that beautiful chef.

“It smells really good. Sister, isn’t Qing Shui bad. He wants to feed us till we are fat. I really want to eat, but I am scared that I will get fat.” Huoyun Liu-li said dejectedly to Canghai Mingyue.

“Don’t worry. If you get fat, look for Qing Shui, he will take the responsibility for that.” Canghai Mingyue chuckled.

When she was among friends, especially when it was the three of them together, Canghai Mingyue could be quite easy-going, and she would joke from time to time. Sometimes, she would even join Liu-li in teasing Qing Shui.

“Our Liu-li will not get fat no matter how much she eats!” Qing Shui laughed as he handed each of them a cooked mountain rabbit hindleg. He did not really feel confident saying that, as this was not usually how he spoke even if it were true.

“It’s your responsible if I grow fat.” Huoyun Liu-li said mischievously as her sexy eyes fluttered.

Canghai Mingyue just smiled without saying a word.

“Fine, my lady. Even if you become a little piggy, I will not abandon you.” Qing Shui said and bit into the piece of meat in his hand.

It tasted good!

“You are the little piggy. Huh!” Huoyun Liu-li rolled her eyes at Qing Shui and bit off a huge chunk of the barbecue meat she was holding.

The setting sun was fading away, but the red skies made the two ladies look so much more breathtaking that, for a moment, Qing Shui stared blankly at them.

“Sister, there is a hoodlum.” Huoyun Liu-li blushed as she said to Canghai Mingyue, smiling at Qing Shui coyly.

“Alright, Liu-li. Let’s go walk around nearby!” Canghai Mingyue was made slightly uncomfortable by Qing Shui’s stare. Qing Shui’s eyes were not lecherous, rather, from a third person perspective, they appeared clear and filled with a sort of warmth and admiration.

Qing Shui could not do anything. This was not the first time he had been teased by Huoyun Liu-li. When he saw the beautiful figures of the two ladies, he subconsciously started thinking about the three Portraits of Beauty.

Qing Shui felt that Canghai Mingyue and Huoyun Liu-li were as beautiful as the women in the Portraits of Beauty. Canghai Mingyue had a beauty that could ruin cities, so while she had an aura of magnanimity, her eyes could also hold disdain. Her overall appeal was not inferior to the women in the portraits.

On the other hand, Huoyun Liu-li was enchanting, which was a sort of appeal that came from within. She had sexy and alluring eyes. All her facial features were considered beautiful, but when they came together on that perfectly shaped face of hers, they became even more attractive and exquisite.

It is beauty that came from within, a charm that extends from her soul!

“Are you coming with us?” Huoyun Liu-li grumbled after a few steps and looked back at the dazed Qing Shui.

“Yes, let’s go!” Qing Shui touched his nose as he recovered from his daydreaming. He always let his imagination run wild, so he did not know if the two ladies thought he was thinking of depraved things.

“Are we climbing the mountains or going into the maple forest?” Huoyun Liu-li asked Qing Shui, who was standing beside her.

“It’s up to you. They are the same to me.”

“Then, let’s climb!” Canghai Mingyue smiled.

The three of them walked towards the mountain range. Even though the mountains were not tall, the paths were rugged and meandering. They were at the start of the mountain range.

As they walked and slowly climbed up the mountain, the wind grew stronger. Their sleeves fluttered noisily against the howling gale.

The sight of the two ladies’ hair dancing in the wind was an extremely captivating scene.

At this moment, a golden mountain rabbit appeared in front of the group. It seemed to have been startled. It leapt upwards towards the mountain top, every leap bringing it as high as an amazing 100 meters.

Its shining, golden-colored pelage was very eye-catching. It was so much more beautiful than the other grey or stone-colored Mountain Leaping Rabbits. It was not much bigger than the normal Mountain Leaping Rabbit, but its hindlegs were more muscular and it seemed stronger.

“Demonic Stonegold Rabbit King!” Canghai Mingyue exclaimed.

Qing Shui had already shot a stone at it. Qing Shui wanted to catch the rabbit not because of Canghai Mingyue's exclamation, but because he felt that he needed to catch this golden rabbit that appeared formidable. He felt that this rabbit would be useful for his Core Qi Method from the Black Armored Jumping King.

Qing Shui targeted the rabbit's back as he locked on to it in midair. He did not want to kill it, nor did he want to damage its legs.

Pu!

Qing Shui was shocked when the stone was smashed to pieces as it hit the rabbit. It did not affect the golden rabbit even a bit, let alone bring it down.

Before Qing Shui could respond, the golden rabbit had already flipped its body mid air. It was now lunging towards him, baring its set of golden rabbit teeth. It was as agile as a bird, and incredibly lively.

"This thing is even more agile than a flying bird?"

Only then did Qing Shui use his Spirit Sense on the rabbit. It was a Xiantian level rabbit. Before Canghai Mingyue's exclamation, Qing Shui had already dashed out, so he did not hear what she said. That was why he only used a very small amount of strength to attack the Xiantian demonic beast.

"So even rabbits will bite when they are anxious." Qing Shui could not imagine that even this sort of Mountain Leaping Rabbit could reach Xiantian level. Seeing that it had this dazzling golden color, it probably evolved after eating some sort of treasured items or herbs.

Taichi Cloudhand!

As the golden rabbit approached in its attacking stance, Qingshui reached forward and grabbed it with a smile!

The golden rabbit struggled and kicked in Qing Shui grasp. It was certainly quite strong, but unfortunately it was Qing Shui who caught it. If it was a Xiantian level warrior like Huoyun Liu-li, she probably wouldn't have been able to handle it.

The golden rabbit was about a foot in length, which was only half the size of his arm. Surprisingly, Qing Shui discovered that it weighed close to 100 jin...

This was an evolution of constitution.

It did not feel soft. The golden rabbit felt a bit hard. At the moment, it looked at Qing Shui with its two large pitiful rabbit eyes.

Qing Shui wanted to curse out. This little thing seems to be quite intelligent. Knowing that it cannot use a "hard" approach, it was changing its tactics to a soft approach.

"Qing Shui, don't kill this Stonegold Rabbit King. It is so precious." Huoyun Liu-li rushed over when she saw that Qing Shui had caught the rabbit. Her eyes were filled with envy as she looked at the foot-long golden rabbit.

Huoyun Liu-li reached out to touch the Stonegold Rabbit King. The little thing actually closed its eyes and looked like it was enjoying that!

“What the fuck. Perverted Rabbit. You better watch out, or I might peel off your skin!” Qing Shui yelled at the rabbit in his hand.

The Stonegold Rabbit King managed to slyly pull away its loach-like muscular hindlegs from Qing Shui and leapt towards Huoyun Liu-li.

Being surprised, Qing Shui almost hit its head instinctively.

“Don’t kill it!” Huoyun Liu-li shouted suddenly. She was not afraid that the Stonegold Rabbit King would harm her and actually stepped forward and hugged it!

Qing Shui felt his heart tense up. Even if the Stonegold Rabbit King wanted to attack, Qing Shui still had the ability to protect Huoyun Liu-li. The hindlegs of the Stonegold Rabbit King were strong enough to rip open the chest and stomach of Xiantian-level warriors. Furthermore, it had a mouthful of gem-like teeth. Qing Shui knew that it was not as cute as it looked.

Shockingly, the little thing stayed obediently in Huoyun Liu-li’s embrace. It even gazed at Qing Shui with a pair of scared-looking eyes, as if Qing Shui was extremely scary...

Gegege!

Qing Shui gloomy expression made Huoyun Liu-li extremely happy, even Canghai Mingyue started to laugh softly!

“Qing Shui, don’t kill it. Let it go. This sort of creature only appears every once in a hundred year. It is even rarer than a Mutated Beast.” Huoyun Liu-li already knew about the rabbit’s uniqueness from Canghai Mingyue.

Qing Shui originally wanted to catch it so that he could observe it for two days and then eat it. But he did not know that its body was that hard. Since he had seen it leaping a few times, he agreed with a nod, not wanting to disappoint Huoyun Liu-li.

Huoyun Liu-li gave him a warm smile. She bent down and placed the Stonegold Rabbit King on the ground.

“You can go, little one!” Huoyun Liu-li touched its little head to indicate that it could leave.

Surprisingly, the Stonegold Rabbit King glanced around and jumped back into Huoyun Liu-li’s arms.

“This perverted rabbit!”

.....

Qing Shui did not expect this Stonegold Rabbit King to actually get smitten with Huoyun Liu-li. He thought that it would just run away immediately, but now it was actually staying.

Qing Shui was afraid that this was only temporary. Since it seemed to have chosen Huoyun Liu-li, Qing Shui decide to grab the opportunity. He secretly stuffed two Endurance Pellets into Huoyun Liu-li’s hands so that she could bribe the little creature. Sadly, he no longer had any Imperial Beast Pellets.

Huoyun Liu-li looked at the two Endurance pellets. She remembered that he had given such a thing to her before, but she could not remember where she kept it.

When Huoyun Liu-li placed one of the extremely fragrant pellet in front of the Stonegold Rabbit King. It was visibly attracted by the fragrance, but it seemed hesitant.

Qing Shui was a bit astonished when he saw the Stonegold Rabbit King's gaze. It was really intelligent - it was probably as intelligent as his Diamond Demonic Boar.

Huoyun Liu-li smiled as she held out the Endurance pellet, looking lovingly at the Stonegold Rabbit King's two huge eyes.

After about ten breaths, the Stonegold Rabbit King raised its front paw and took the Endurance Pellet. It swallowed it and closed its eyes, showing the same expression it had previously when it was in Huoyun Liu-li embrace.

"This is one perverted rabbit. Let me see if it is a male or female. I will castrate it if it is a male." Qing Shui was astounded. He reached out to check just as he finished his sentence.

"Qing Shui, you are a baddie! Do you want to die!" Huoyun Liu-li said furiously.

Qing Shui was only kidding!

The Stonegold Rabbit King emitted a golden light!

"Ji Ji!"

The Stonegold Rabbit King leapt with joy as golden light surrounded it. As it was only a small bounce, it only bounced up around half a foot high, while its voice was filled with joy.

Qing Shui looked at the Stonegold Rabbit King expressionlessly. He realized that the rabbit had absorbed the entire Endurance Pellet, and that it seemed to emit a strong medicinal aura when it was surrounded by the golden light. It was as though the rabbit itself was equivalent to a 1000-year herb.

Chapter 432 - Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass、 Phoenix Tail?

It took a short while before the golden glow dissipated. There were no overt changes, but Qing Shui could sense that the rabbit's attributes had risen somewhat moderately.

The Stonegold Rabbit King began to stare at Huoyun Liu-li again, but this time with a different gaze.

It was just like how his Diamond Demonic Boar looked at him. Qing Shui was amazed that the rabbit could be bought over by just a single Endurance Pellet. But he thought back to how the rabbit was already mesmerized by Huoyun Liu-li even before it was fed the pellet.

"Nevermind, anyway all is good. It is good that the Stonegold Rabbit King is with Huoyun Liu-li. It could be used for a sneak attack."

Huoyun Liu-li also fed it the remaining Endurance Pellet. Once again, there was a golden glow. After that, the Stonegold Rabbit King did not pester Huoyun Liu-li for another pellet.

"Mingyue, what ability does this Stonegold Rabbit King have?" Qing Shui asked Canghai Mingyue.

“I read about Stonegold Rabbit Kings in a book called “Fantastic Beasts of the Central Continent”. Stonegold Rabbit Kings evolve from Mountain Leaping Rabbits. The evolution requires a stalk of Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass.”

“Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass?” Qing Shui said asked excitedly, interrupting Canghai Mingyue.

Canghai Mingyue was perplexed when she saw Qing Shui grow so excited.

“Yes, The Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass possesses a miraculous energy that allows Mountain Leaping Rabbits to direct evolve to become Stonegold Rabbit Kings,” Canghai Mingyue continued.

“This Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass can possess such an amount of energy?” Qing Shui was astonished. He remembered that the recipe for the Great Revitalizing Pellet required a Phoenix Tail. He wondered if the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass was the “Phoenix Tail” mentioned.

“Well, in addition to that, this little creature is very lucky. There is only a one in ten thousand chance that a Mountain Leaping Rabbit is able to fully digest and squeeze out every drop of medicinal value from the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass. That’s why I told you not to kill it.”

“Is the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass very common?” This was the problem that Qing Shui was most concerned about.

Canghai Mingyue smiled at Qing Shui. “This mountain range is the Phoenix Mountain Range. It is called Phoenix Mountain in short. If you look down from the sky, you will notice how the mountain range forms the shape of a flying phoenix. Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass can only be found here nowadays. They are exceedingly rare. A single stalk only appears approximately every hundred year. It only appears at the tail end of the mountain range, otherwise known as “ The Phoenix Tail”.

“Mingyue, so are there any Phoenix Tails here?”

“I suppose so. However, when this plant is near maturity, there will usually be a wild beast or demonic beast guarding it. Oddly, there are not really any strong demonic beasts around Phoenix Mountain. There are basically no Martial King level demonic beasts here, which is already out of the ordinary. The rarity of the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass should usually be guarded by Martial King level demonic beasts. Weirdly, once a demonic beast reaches Martial King level, they will choose to leave this place. How else will a Mountain Leaping Rabbit get the chance to consume the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass?”

Canghai Mingyue explained quite a lot in one go. She probably had researched about Phoenix Mountain and the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass only found exclusively here.

“Then, Mingyue, you probably know where Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass grows!” Qing Shui thought about his Realm of Violet Jade Immortal and decided that he would harvest one even if it has not matured.

“Yes. It is not far from here. It grows in a small gorge surrounded by mountains. It is a place with good Fengshui!” Canghai Mingyue replied with a smile.

“This is the place that you mentioned was suitable for your cultivation, right?” Qing Shui recalled she had made mention of something like that before.

“Yes!” Canghai Mingyue nodded as she continued walking.

The three of them reached the mountaintop very quickly. The mountaintop was not smooth. It was covered with standing mountain rocks, which were a few stories tall, but they did not obstruct the view of the horizon.

Standing on the expansive rugged mountaintop, they could not see if the mountain range looked like a phoenix. Qing Shui put off proving it for now, as his priority was rather finding the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass.

If it was the “Phoenix Tail” required, or if it could replace that ingredient, he would be able to create the Great Revitalizing Pellet. He had always been fascinated by the recipe of the Great Revitalizing Pellet, and he had a feeling it may be more than he bargained for.

Effect of Great Revitalizing Pellet: Increase total stats by 20%, increase lifespan by 20 years, heals internal injuries within a short time, total stats will double within a one-hour span post-consumption, which will be followed by the user’s abilities being reduced to parity with a normal person’s for an entire month. The effects will only be limited to one pellet. Additional consumption will only cure internal injuries, extend the duration of the hour that stats are doubled, and the user’s ability will still be reduced to a normal person for one month.

Qing Shui felt that he had a very one-sided understanding of the pellet. When his stats were much lower, he did not understand the impact of the doubled total stats within the one hour.

Even without considering the other benefits, the effect that could double stats alone was already heaven-defying!

Phoenix Tail, Flower of Life...

These were based on the foundation of boosting total strength. He had always only thought that the pellet was amazing as it could provide an additional 20 years to one’s lifespan and could cure internal injuries.

He now knew the significance of the temporary effect of the double stats only when he had reach this level of strength.

If he had reached the peak of the Marital King Level and then consumed the Great Revitalizing Pellet, was it possible for him to destroy Sword Tower?

“Qing Shui is dreaming again. Look at that expression, it is so funny!” Huoyun Liu-li pinched Qing Shui’s waist.

“Have we arrived?”

“Just over there.” Canghai Mingyue pointed ahead.

Qing Shui discovered that they had already reached the edge of a gorge. It inclined downwards and they could hear the sound of a waterfall.

They walked into the gorge. For a second, Qing Shui thought he had entered an indescribably beautiful realm of sorts. There were hills, water, trees and land.”

There was a huge waterfall pool not far from them. The medium sized waterfall created the additional sense of otherworldly beauty as the birds and beasts gathered around the pool.

Every now and then, there were little animals appearing. There were also Mountain Leaping rabbits, as not many other creatures could do much to them.

“Mingyue, since this herb is so valuable, why are there no large family clans guarding this place. Or even re-planting them somewhere else?” Qing Shui felt that this point was odd.

“Phoenix Mountain is not very famous in Cang Lang Country. Furthermore, it takes a hundred year for one Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass to grow. Who will have that sort of patience? Furthermore, it only gives an opportunity for a demonic beast to evolve or explode to death. Thus, even though it is rare, it is not that useful. The Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass will also die if it leaves this gorge. Maybe it takes too much skill, or it is not really that good. The energy it possesses is real, but at this moment, no alchemist can use it.” Canghai Mingyue walked towards a purple black patch of land when she finished explaining.

Qing Shui had the feeling that the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass was indeed the Phoenix Tail that he was looking for. It was because such energy could only be found in the “phoenix tail”. It must be the active ingredient in Great Revitalizing Pellet that grants that overall doubling in strength without being limited by the user’s cultivation level.

It should be able to affect any level of user, but Qing Shui was not sure if the double effect was based on base capabilities or overall boosted ability.

This temporary effect usually applied itself to the overall boosted ability. Qing Shui had high hopes for the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass and the Great Revitalizing Pellet.

This could be the crux of the problem that determines his success at the Sword Tower. After all, the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass only appears once in a hundred years, and it was not like he could grow them on trees.

This was why the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass was so rare. He could not even use his Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. As what he heard from Canghai Mingyue, the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass did not have any seeds. It was grown from the essence of the Phoenix Mountain.

“Look, there. Unfortunately, it seems to be only a few years old.” Canghai Mingyue pointed at the area near one of the rocks.

“Yes!”

Qing Shui followed Canghai Mingyue’s vision and saw clearly a stalk of Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass nearby. It was golden and just as tall as a hand palm.

It only looked golden. Actually, it should not be. This was because the stalk of Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass was beside a one metre square golden rock. There was a strong spiritual energy flowing through the rock.

Stonegold!

Qing Shui was very excited. The palm height Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass was the Phoenix tail he was looking for. It must have been form with the influence of the Stonegold.

Its effect should surpass even a real phoenix tail!

Qing Shui felt a rush of hot-blooded excitement. He would now be able to create the Great Revitalizing Pellet. But now he was hesitant, as he did not know if it could persist in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal.

But it still needs a hundred years. What can happen in a hundred years? If it was destroyed in this timeframe, wouldn't that be a pity? Qing Shui thought about it and came to a decision.

He must replant it in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. It should work!

"I will take a bath first. Will you two be bathing?" Qing Shui asked the two ladies.

"To hell with it! Qing Shui!" Huoyun Liu-li spat.

Canghai Mingyue gave Qing Shui a look of annoyance as she pulled Huoyun Liu-li away from the gorge.

Qing Shui could not do anything about it. The secret of the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal and his origin was something that he could not tell anyone. This would do them no good and only bring disasters.

He did not want them to see. It would be very troublesome for him to come up with a lie and explain himself, so he would much rather find such an easy solution. Qing Shui scanned the area with his Spiritual Sense and confirmed that there were no demonic beast guarding the area.

Qing Shui directly dug out the entire plot of land with the large Stonegold within it. In his previous world, this was not something that could be done in one day as a stone of that size and composition required a few men to carry.

Qing Shui took the Stonegold, the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass, and at least 2 meters worth of soil located beneath the grass. He transferred it all into the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal.

"It will depend on fate whether it can survive." Qing Shui prayed silently.

He dug a huge hole in the Realm and placed the piece of earth with the Stonegold into it. He did not even touch the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass, feeling that this was the best measure he could take.

Chapter 433 Canghai Mingyue's Request, The Success of Godly Force Talisman

Exiting the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal, Qing Shui had no idea if the "Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass" would still grow here. He also wondered if he would have the Golden Stone Phoenix Tail Herb in his Realm of Violet Jade Immortal after 100 years by transferring this Stonegold and patch of land in there.

If it takes 100 years to mature, then what happens after 1,000 years? Would the medical properties be even more potent? Qing Shui pinned a lot of hope on this "Stonegold". If he had a continuous supply of Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass and Flower of Life in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal, then he would be able to concoct the Great Revitalizing Pellets.

That increase of strength by onefold for an hour was indeed heaven-defying, but with the caveat that it would render the user as weak as an ordinary person for one month. This consequence could be fatal to others, but not to Qing Shui.

This is because he possessed the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal and time in the realm made a day outside equivalent to a month inside it. This would allow him to recover in there after using the Great Revitalizing Pellet. By the time he exited the realm, he would be fully recovered.

The mere thought of it made Qing Shui all fired up.....

After exiting, he discovered the two ladies playing with the “Stonegold Rabbit King” nearby. He had wanted to ask Canghai Mingyue about the strong aspects of the Stonegold Rabbit King, but they strayed off topic every time, and he never received an answer in the end.

The sky had already turned dark, but the the moon in the sky was still bright as usual. Reminiscent of silver threads, the moonlight shone down and illuminated the mountain’s summit, shrouding it with a hazy beauty.

Beauties under the moonlight appeared even beautiful and fair. The scenery on mountain summit was breathtaking, and the two ladies were like goddesses under the silver light.

The wind was starting to howl. The mountain summit was quite cold at night. At least the three of them were cultivators. Although seeing the dresses of the two ladies fluttering and their tresses flowing in the wind was a beautiful sight, it made Qing Shui feel that they were a little too frail, albeit in a feminine way.

“Let’s go down. It’s getting cold,” Qing Shui smiled.

“Alright!” The two ladies nodded their heads!

The Stonegold Rabbit King was jumping in front of them, leading the way. He would leap back into Huoyun Liu-Li’s arms from time to time. This made her extremely amused and her distinct laughter could be heard. It was a little melodious and was a type of charm.

“Mingyue, I have forgotten to ask you about the abilities of this ‘Stonegold Rabbit King’,” Qing Shui walked up to Canghai Mingyue’s side and asked. Huoyun Liu-Li was one step away in front of them.

“You were in such a hurry just now, and I didn’t even have the time to tell you.” Remembering how Qing Shui was bombarding her with questions just now and didn’t even give her a chance to answer, Canghai Mingyue couldn’t restrain herself from rolling her eyes at Qing Shui.

“Right, it’s my fault. Please enlighten me, Lady Mingyue,” Qing Shui chuckled.

“Do me a favour and I’ll tell you,” Canghai Mingyue looked at Qing Shui with a smile instead.

Qing Shui was flabbergasted. It was rare for Canghai Mingyue to talk to him this way. For an arrogant gorgeous lady to resort to a method that she wasn’t accustomed to was quite shocking to him. Furthermore, he didn’t have a single clue as to what her request would be.

“What is it? I’d even agree if it’s my body you want.” Qing Shui said solemnly.

“Call me big sister. I have always envied people who have a younger brother. If you can let me be an elder sister for a while today, I will tell you.” Canghai Mingyue didn’t really react to what Qing Shui had said. She had only replied to him gently, with a serene tone in her voice.

Qing Shui frowned, and his heart thumped. He then forced a smile and repeated her request. "Be an elder sister just for a while, right?"

"Yes!" Canghai Mingyue confirmed with a smile on her face, but he couldn't really tell what kind of expression it was.

Huoyun Liu-Li, who was just beside them, was also smiling at them from the front. She didn't say anything, but she had an anticipating look on her extremely gentle face.

"Big sister....."

"Wait, that doesn't count. Why did it sound a little awkward? One more time....." Qing Shui said strenuously with a red face.

Canghai Mingyue watched Qing Shui tenderly and extended her hand to touch his face. Qing Shui felt extremely muddled right now. Canghai Mingyue was a little confused by this situation.

Could it be that she was feeling insecure?

"Big sister! You are just as important to me as my real sister!" Qing Shui embraced her gently and spoke to her softly while staring into her beautiful and gentle eyes.

"Good!" Canghai Mingyue was still smiling and pinched his cheek!

Qing Shui didn't say anything else.

"This Mountain Leaping Rabbit's favourite food is actually a type of mountain herb, which explains the reason behind the exceptionally strong medicinal properties in their body. Their blood also contains extremely strong medicinal properties that can cure some leg ailments, activate blood circulation and remove blood stasis. So this Mountain Leaping Rabbit can fetch the price of 5 taels of silver in the city, but they are commonly sold at 10 taels of silver, so they are not something that poor families can afford to eat. After devouring the Stonegold Phoenix Tail Grass, this "Stonegold Rabbit King" is practically a "Living Medicine"." Canghai Mingyue explained as she gently pulled away from Qing Shui.

"Only this?" Qing Shui was very surprised. He had thought that it would have more value than this.....

"Of course not. The Stonegold Rabbit Kings can be battle pets, too. They have strong spirit energy and are highly intellectual, so they are fast learners. On top of that, their speed over a short distance is as fast as lightning, so they can be very dangerous to opponents of the same level of strength. The Stonegold Rabbit King has a lot of room to evolve. Oh right, they have another name, too. Are you interested?"

Canghai Mingyue stopped there and laughed while looking at Qing Shui!

"Sister. Big sister. Dear sister. Sister Yue. Sister Goddess. What's with you today? Is it that fun to leave someone in suspense.....?"

"Shush!" Canghai Mingyue blushed at all the random names that Qing Shui came up with for her. She was clearly seen by Qing Shui under the moonlight, and it made his heart itch a little.

“The Stonegold Rabbit King is also known as the Treasure Seeking Rabbit. It will be able to sense some Gifted Earth Treasures as soon as it evolves into a Stonegold Rabbit King, although this kind of sensory ability only covers one area.” Canghai Mingyue explained while they descended towards the foot of the mountain.

“Treasure Seeking Rabbit?” It was out of Qing Shui’s expectation for this dazzling golden rabbit to be a Treasure Seeking Rabbit. Judging from Canghai Mingyue’s serious look on her face just now, it seemed like its treasure-seeking ability was quite impressive. He was actually quite interested in how this rabbit could be a battle pet. In addition, it would imply it could be Huoyun Liu-Li’s assistant.

Huoyun Liu-Li was extremely happy to have the Stonegold Rabbit King in her arms. She didn’t own any mounts, but this powerful rabbit could be considered as her battle pet now. Owning this Xiantian-graded demonic beast had brought her some sense of security.

When they reached the foot of the mountain, Qing Shui bid his farewell to the two ladies and returned to his own tent!

Cultivate. Qing Shui cultivated one cycle of first before he began drawing talismans. He felt that as long as he spent a little more time on this, he would be able to succeed.

He still had a lot of “Beast-shaped Beast Skins” and blood of the Darkgold Three-headed Python in surplus from before. So without further ado, Qing Shui started drawing every piece of it carefully.

The progress was at 90%!

Qing Shui could easily draw 90% of the entire Godly Force Talisman by now, and he could even feel the subtle movement of spiritual energy emitted by the talisman.

The closer he got to the completion of the talisman drawing, the movement of spiritual energy grew stronger. Qing Shui continued drawing untiringly, the strokes of his brush also turned more vigorous.

He had used up more than half of the Darkgold Three-headed Python’s skins. Every stroke on the talisman was a drop of Qing Shui’s blood and sweat. Over this period of time, although it didn’t seem long, Qing Shui had been practising diligently for more than half a year in actuality.

Qing Shui could clearly feel that his drawing skill was improving at a speed observable by the naked eye. This made him excited, much like how one could observe their continuous improvements when learning calligraphy or cultivating. It was impossible to be unhappy about it.

He stopped to catch some rest and felt like having some turtle meat. He laid down on the ground and glanced over at the Primordial Demon Refining Furnace sitting not far from him. He never had the chance to use it.

He had been practising the Mighty Elephant Stomp and drawing talismans along with the refining processes lately, so he didn’t manage to do any research, although he had always wanted a Demon Refining Furnace and possessed one now.

The Demon Refining Furnace was gray in colour, a gray of the purest gray. It wasn’t really spectacular, or maybe it was more accurate to say that it didn’t have any other gorgeous colours on it. But to Qing Shui,

it was the most simple and unadorned piece of work he had ever seen. He had not only realised how impressive this kind of silver gray colour could be now but also thought that it looked nice.

“Never mind, I’ll check out how to use this Demon Refining Furnace next time!” Qing Shui knew that he had the knowledge on Demon Refinery somewhere within his sea of consciousness.

.....

Countless of Talisman-shaped Beast Skins were once again scattered and piled up to a thick layer on the ground. Qing Shui was still fully focused on his drawing. The gigantic ape drawing on the Godly Force Talisman was close to completion.

Qing Shui had been refining Talisman-shaped Beast Skins in between. He was only left with less than one-fifth of the Darkgold Three-headed Python’s skins by now, but everything was worth it.

Talisman drawing was an expensive job. It required the skin and blood of demonic beasts that were at least a Xiantian specimen. One would have difficulty supporting such a great consumption if they were not from a wealthy clan.

Qing Shui’s skills in drawing the Heavenly Talisman could be considered unparalleled. Even so, Qing Shui only cultivated one type of “Godly Force Talisman”, and he had just barely managed to grasp it. A complete drawing required nearly all of the skin on a Darkgold Three-Headed Python that was about a hundred meters long and a few meters thick...

“Why can’t I get this final stroke right?”

Qing Shui had already drawn no less than a hundred talismans for this final stroke. But he always lost the feeling on this final stroke. Or to be exact, that feeling of “flowing water” strength. Qing Shui had been relying on that mysterious natural pushing force to draw talismans. If Lin Zhanhan knew Qing Shui had been using that kind of feeling to draw talisman, he’d definitely be shocked because that was the most difficult to achieve “Divine Talisman Drawing” technique!

Qing Shui deliberately refrained from using the Nature Energy or the Diamond Qi in his body when he was drawing the Godly Force Talisman; he had only used the Ancient Strengthening Technique.

“Failure!”

“Failure!”

.....

Qing Shui gradually got used to it, but he had not given up yet. Knowing that he shouldn’t try to run before he could even walk, Qing Shui put down the brush in his hand and went to take a walk in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. He went to take a look at the fishes and prawns in the pond.

The Diamond Demonic Boar was happily chomping on the black fish by the pond. Qing Shui was shocked when he caught a glimpse of its round tummy.

He discovered that the Diamond Demonic Boar appeared to have gotten a little larger. Although it was a small gain, it was obvious to his eyes. Rather than fats, it seemed more like its skeletal frame had grown.

“Keep growing. It’s my demonic beast anyway. The bigger it grows, the better for me. It’s not a problem of how much it eats. The source of food in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal will never run out.” Qing Shui laughed happily.

His mood gradually calmed down!

Qing Shui was full of hope about his own future. This was all built on top of the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal and the Ancient Strengthening Technique. Time was his only issue.

.....

Qing Shui once again walked towards the forging platform where he drew the talismans. He had always been drawing on the forging platform because it had a smooth and sleek surface and was suited for drawing on it. He was going to draw it half-heartedly this time.

This was Qing Shui’s habit. He had always used this method to make himself enter a certain state. Much like how he would run in his previous world. He’d slowly run and progressively increase his speed, and then gradually come to a halt. If he abruptly raised his speed to its limits, his heart would not be able to take it.

All the thinking he did just now had given him a strong hope towards the future, and he was also confident that he could achieve it. This kind of feeling contained passion and hope, along with a type of confident tranquillity at the same time.

All of this for the sake of strength, and Qing Shui was certain that it would be in his hands soon.

With this kind of mood, Qing Shui began to casually draw on the Talisman-shaped Beast Skins. The vigour of his stroke was bold and skillful as usual, along with some spontaneity and calmness.

With this wonderful balance of mentality, the talisman succeeded in his hand!

Through thousands of practices, he could finally truly feel the dragons and snakes transmitting through his brush this time. The lively and vigorous flourishes in his calligraphy were like flying dragons and dancing phoenixes. It was as if he was flying and leaping in his heart too.

When Qing Shui lifted his brush, the Godly Force Talisman emitted a flash of brilliant golden light. It wasn’t piercing to the eyes, but it was extremely gentle on the contrary.

“It’s a success?”

As if waking up from his deep thoughts, Qing Shui looked at the Godly Force Talisman on the forging platform in amazement. It was exuding a gentle aura, yet giving off a powerful and sturdy impression!

Qing Shui felt that everything happened too suddenly and was caught off guard. He was actually prepared to painstakingly draw for the whole day or even a few days. He didn’t really expect to succeed on the first attempt, an attempt onto which he hadn’t placed even a modicum of hope.

He looked at the final stroke on the Godly Force Talisman. It was extremely vigorous and was brimming with hope towards the future. Qing Shui thought back on his absentmindedness from earlier. He was filled with hope due to his confidence in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal and the Ancient Strengthening Technique, and it was right then that he managed to naturally pull off that final stroke.

Talisman drawing emphasized on technique, but even more on verve, because this was the essence of the talisman and its mysterious power!

He shut his eyes and pondered for moment before attempting to draw another one!

Failure!

However, a faint smile was hanging on Qing Shui's face!

He faced about another 10 consecutive failures before he saw that spectacular golden light once again.

Qing Shui finally grasped the usage of that "Strength of Hope" in the final stroke. This was the true essence of the Godly Force Talisman. He looked at the second successful Godly Force Talisman in his hands and smiled happily.

He felt that the talisman he had just learnt to draw seemed to be exuding a stronger wave of spiritual energy than the "Binding Talisman" that Lin Zhanhan drew. He thought that he could give it a try himself too.

Qing Shui picked up a piece of Godly Force Talisman. He then circulated the and slapped it on his body.

A strong wave of energy immediately poured forth from "Baihui", shocking Qing Shui.

This talisman that he had just succeeded in drawing should be a Grade 1 Talisman, yet he could feel that his strength was increased by 20%.

This was an increase of strength to Qing Shui's physical body. 20% to his physical body's strength would be no less than 800,000 jin of tremendous strength. How could Qing Shui not be shocked?

Although this kind supplement could increase the physical body's strength, it would render the additional boosts from other special techniques and cultivation arts ineffective. However, it was perverse enough with just that alone.

Now, Qing Shui was left wondering if his Godly Force Talisman was of Grade 1 or Grade 2.

Chapter 434 - Return to South City, things were the same, but people have changed, massacre!

Qing Shui was even feeling a bit ecstatic. The power he could achieve with the Golden-Ringed Battle Armor excited him, so he lifted up the Big Dipper Sword and unleashed every assisting technique that bolstered his strength at his disposal.

An additional thirty percent increase in strength to the sky thunder slash!

The Golden-Ringed Battle Armor in unison with his own frenzied bull strength alone made for an increase in strength that was no less than seventy percent!

The fifty percent increase in strength from the Big Dipper Sword.

The fifty percent increase in strength from the Mighty Elephant Stomp!

.....

And now, there was an additional twenty percent of strength!

The amount of cycles of circulated qi that Qing Shui has been breaking through recently, following the addition of Divine Arm and Divine Feet Clearing, had caused the strength of his body to already reach four million jin.

At present, if Qing Shui were to attack with all of his strength, he could most likely produce a terrifyingly colossal force of ten million jin in a single instance. With this kind of strength, Qing Shui knew he could be regarded as having fully stepped into the pinnacle of the Martial King rank.

Even though it was an overstatement, Qing Shui already felt content. After all, he would still have a lot of room for improvement provided that he had enough time.

The most important thing about a warrior was still their own body strength. Normally, techniques increasing body strength would result in hefty consumption. As for things like Qing Shui's battle armor and battle weapon, it went without saying that they were mere worldly possessions.

Any person able to reach the pinnacle of the Martial King stage in the world of the nine continents would most likely also have a few formidable battle . Hence, Qing Shui could only be considered to be at the bottom of the Martial King rank even after barely advancing up to it.

Besides, the continent had a lot of treasures that could restrict the opponent's movements. There were also a few techniques that were just like Qing Shui's Art of Pursuing. They were capable of secretly raising one's strength through limiting the strength of others.

Qing Shui then thought of the Mighty Elephant Stomp. Each and every expert would have a formidable technique that belonged to themselves. There were some of them who would even be able to display enough strength to move mountains and drain the seas by relying on the might of heaven and earth.

Following the increase in strength, Qing Shui began understand more and more. In the past, back when he still had the power of about five million jin, he already thought that he would be a challenge to the people at the pinnacle of Martial King. But merely the thought of it made him feel a little funny now.

However, after experiencing his newfound power that exceeded ten million jin, Qing Shui felt that he would only be able to barely achieve the standard criteria in terms of strength among Martial Kings even after laying all his cards to bare. Strength indeed decided one's horizons.

For a moment, Qing Shui felt quite emotionally stirred. For now, he still needed time to calm down. This was just the weakest part among the world of the nine continents, the GreenCloud Continent, and he already felt quite reluctant when it came to dealing with the warriors at the peak of Martial King stage. For those old monsters in the sword tower, they all had over a few hundred years of attainment in their own martial skills. They were capable of displaying their formidable might to a point that would absolutely give people goosebumps.

This was precisely the part that Qing Shui was the most worried about.

After that, Qing Shui continued to draw talismans. With the experience from before, Qing Shui's rate of failure began to diminish, so much so that he could basically succeed every time later on.

Qing Shui let out a sigh of relief and stopped. The Godly Force Talisman could be considered to have been completed. Through the Godly Force Talisman, Qing Shui also came to know of the formidability of

the Heavenly Talisman. At the same time, he had also began to have expectations towards the Heavenly Talisman.

Qing Shui cleaned up the abandoned Talisman-Shaped Beast Skin and once again cultivated the Mighty Elephant Storm and Back Connecting Fist techniques.

The time in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal went by in a flash. Qing Shui was also the most efficient from both his soul to his body when he was in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal.

On the second day, he continued his journey to GreenCloud Continent. But along the way, there was an extra StoneGold Rabbit King.

.....

Time flew by. The whole journey was really quiet and peaceful. Perhaps, it might have something to do with the Flying Beast that he was straddling. Other than running into a Martial King grade flying beast in the middle of the journey, there wasn't really anything dangerous.

As for the Martial King grade Flying Beast, it was scared away by Qing Shui's roar, Art of Pursuing, and Soulshake bell. This time, Qing Shui witnessed how formidable the Soulshake bell was. Even though it didn't kill the demonic beast, it was actually able to frighten it to death, causing it to run away for dear life.

After a month's time, South City was already within sight!

"Qing Shui, I feel like going home to take a look at the situation!" Canghai Mingyue said gently.

"Yeah, sure! We will go together." Qing Shui said with a smile.

He thought about the escape last time. At that time, had he been as strong as now, the Canghai couple wouldn't have died. In life, a lot of things would change. The things in the world were also unpredictable, and a lot of things wouldn't go as one wished.

Qing Shui saw that Canghai Mingyue was a bit distracted as she looked at the South City that was within sights.

Huoyun Liu-Li was also a bit absentminded. After all, she almost lost her life the last time she was here. Qing Shui was the one who had pulled her back from the brink of death. He grabbed her and never let go at the time when she needed the most help. Regardless of whether it was mentally or physically.

"He is the person that I have recognized. No matter how he turns out to be in the future, even if he becomes a bad person, I will rather accompany him to fall." Huoyun Liu-Li told herself in her heart.

Qing Shui and the two girls jumped down from the Golden Winged Thunder Condor. On their trip back to South City this time, they felt that everything had changed. At the moment, Qing Shui recalled clearly the agnoizing events of the past."

"Soon. Soon, I will not need to compromise with anyone. I don't want to let people around me be sad and I don't want to make myself regret anything even more." Qing Shui told himself secretly.

The Golden Winged Thunder Condor landed directly nearby the Canghai Clan home.

The trio didn't say anything as they advanced towards the Canghai Clan. Once again, Canghai Mingyue unconsciously burst into tears. The parents that loved her dearly had unwittingly passed away for such a long time. The kind of heartbroken feeling of once again stepping into the house entrance was still very distinct.

It would be so much better if their parents were still here.

Often, children regret not having reciprocated the love of their parents before they pass away later on.

It's just that they got stopped as they approached the house entrance of the Canghai Clan.

"Who are you? Hold on, this is Yang's Court!" A middle-aged man standing in front of the entrance said loudly. The man's eyes were really small, but his nose was really big. He spoke in a low muffled voice, and even though he was really strict, he made people feel really amused.

"Yang's Court?"

Qing Shui lifted up his head and looked. He realized that the two words that were previously "Canghai" had already been changed to "Yang's Court".

At the same time, Canghai Mingyue also lifted her head and looked above the huge door.

The sorrow in her eyes could not be concealed.

"Yeah, this is the Yang's Court. People with no fixed duties, please stand aside. Our elder isn't free to bother with you guys." The man said arrogantly with his small eyes opened. His pair of kept on glancing at the figures of the two girls without covering up any of his lecherous thoughts towards them.

"Ah!"

A miserable shriek was heard. As it turned out, it was the Stonegold Rabbit King in Huoyun Liu-Li's chest that had swiftly snatched away the man's eyes under Huoyun Liu-li's command.

"You are digging your own grave. I could already tell that you are not anything good just by looking at you." Huoyun Liu-Li said angrily.

"Ah, kill all of them!" The guy covered his face with both of his hands. The fresh blood kept on pouring out from the cracks in his fingers. He kept on rolling on the floor and howled in grief.

The other three people didn't actually move. They were frightened to the point that their face turned pale as they looked at Qing Shui and the other two. One of the men with a youthful look said while shivering: "Who are you guys? Elder Yang is the elder of the Immortal Sword Sect. In South City, no one has dared to pick on us....."

"Just by looking at your clothes, I already know that you are from Immortal Sword Sect. In South City, the thing that I hate the most is the Immortal Sword Sect. If you don't want to die, get out of the way quickly." Qing Shui said in a way that seemed like he was laughing but at the same time not.

The remaining three people quickly stepped aside. Qing Shui and the two girls stepped out and walked in. It's just that the instant Qing Shui walked into the compound, the large board that had the words "Yang Court" written on it dropped down. It hit the ground and shattered into pieces.

This place was once the place where Canghai Mingyue felt most at home. The flowers and trees and the pavilions and the kiosks had not changed one bit. However, in Canghai Mingyue's eyes, it was already so unfamiliar to her that she found it unsightly.

Canghai Mingyue began to shed tears. After that, she immediately walked towards the spot where she buried her parents. When she reached it, it made her feel as if she was struck by thunder. Almost nothing had changed in the whole Canghai Clan. However, the tombs had disappeared.

Pu-Tong!

Canghai Mingyue fell to her knees, and the tears in her eyes were just like pearls with snapped strings.

At this moment, the flame in Qing Shui's heart had already reached its peak. The dead people would be better off being buried and put at rest. Since they have dared to do this kind of thing, it seemed like there was no longer any reason for the Immortal Sword Sect to exist.

"Haha, it really is you lot. You're truly digging your own grave." An aged voice called out. Qing Shui knitted his brows and turned around. He saw three doddering old men approaching from far away. The person who was talking was precisely the old man with long eyebrows in the middle. His eyes were as sharp as swords, which undermined the traits of the gentle long brows.

As soon as Qing Shui saw these three old men, he could already recognize them as the three elderly men who once convinced Qing Hanye's grandpa, the Grand Elder of the Immortal Sword Sect, to kill off a few of his own people.

It indeed was an inevitable clash between opposing factions. Before this, Qing Shui had already felt dissatisfied with these three old people. Now, he was feeling even more angry. With his brows knitted, he asked the three men: "Does that person's surname start with Yang?"

"I am, precisely....."

"Is this where you are supposed to move?" After confirming who the person with the sharp eyes in the middle was, Qing Shui directly interrupted him.

The brows of the elderly man in the middle raised slightly. Obviously, he was incomparably mad. But after he heard Qing Shui's question and looked at the place from where Qing Shui asked. He smiled: "Yes, I am....."

"Beng!"

Ka-Cha!

In response to that, Qing Shui suddenly made his move. He was as fast as the descent of thunder. He straight away smashed the old man's mouth with one punch. Both of his legs on the other hand kicked the knees of the elderly man. That loud and ear-piercing noise indicated that the bones had disintegrated.

"Ah...Wu-wu....." Qing Shui smashed that old man so badly until he knelt on the ground and was screaming in agony with a blood-filled mouth.

The other two old people remaining on the other hand only looked at Qing Shui in dismay. This sudden change had directly made the two old men frown. A Fourth Grade Martial King expert actually didn't stand a chance?

"Where is your Grand Elder?" Qing Shui said gently.

They didn't answer anything. They only looked at each other. The flickering gazes seemed to be really struggling. Obviously, they were coming to a consensus.

But Qing Shui had also seemed to understand something.

"My grandpa has been locked up by them." A voice that sounded a bit depressive and attractive called out.

When he heard this voice, Qing Shui couldn't help but feel shocked. It was too familiar. He turned around and saw a familiar-looking girl, the girl that had the most beautiful peach blossom eyes.

As before, the way she walked was still as gentle as ever. Every step she took embodied an uncontrollably magnetic charm.

Qing Hanye!

"Elder Huo, Elder Yang, Elder Xu, you three unrespectful old men. You people didn't not only lay your hands on my grandpa, but you had even dared to get your hands on me. If it wasn't for the expert who saved me, I reckon that I would have died a long time ago. Speaking of it, have you people ever thought that a day like this would come?" Qing Hanye sauntered over slowly. Her beautiful eyes were filled with raging fire as she looked at the three.

Suddenly, both Elder Huo and Elder Xu leaped onto Qing Hanye. Their motive was clearly obvious. They wanted to capture Qing Hanye to threaten Qing Shui. So far, this was also the only way.

Chapter 435 - Massacre, Qing Hanye's injustice, Her name is Huang Qing

All of the sudden, Elder Huo and Elder Xu sprang onto Qing Hanye with the intention to use her to coerce Qing Shui. This was the only way they could possibly survive.

But Qing Shui had already anticipated their movements!

"You are dead!"

Qing Shui roared with anger as he circulated his "Core Qi Method" to the peak and reached the speed of light with his Cloudmist Step. Taking advantage of his enhanced speed, he quickly rushed in front of Qing Hanye.

"Roar!"

An earth shattering Tiger's Roar exploded in the air. The Qi of gushed out from Qing Shui's body through his back, with two arm-like forces of Qi extending towards the air akin to a pair of Storm Dragons.

The force of Qi demonstrated the most superb Taichi Single Whip he had ever performed!

It was the "One with Heaven" Taichi Single Whip!

As Elder Huo and Elder Xu observed the wavering of the arm-like force of Qi and felt Qing Shui's immense, suffocating presence, they were suddenly filled with a sense of despair. The Elders gave up on running away instantaneously.

Qing Shui did not equip himself with the Golden Ringed Battle Armor, Big Dipper Sword, and Godly Force Talisman. Instead, with just the Heavenly Thunder Slash, Frenzied Bull's Strength, and Diamond Qi, Qing Shui was able to gather his strength to a total of 8.4 million units of energy.

Qing Shui was able to unleash the essence of power to an unimaginable degree with "One with Heaven" Taichi Single Whip alone. Since his "Divine Arm Clearing" had already reached the Grand Perfection Stage, he would be able to unleash a large amount of power through both of his arms.

Bang bang!

The Elders were met with an inevitable fate as they were struck with Qing Shui's immense power. They had been defeated by the late Canghai couple before, and they were finally defeated by Qing Shui once more. The Elders died instantly, like a hot knife through a butter.

Qing Shui was clearly filled with violent rage since he didn't take a long time to kill them. He felt great respect towards the late Canghai couple since they had treated him well. Qing Shui loved them a lot, especially Canghai. After hearing of their stories from Cang Wuya and witnessing his contributions to a better world, Qing Shui held a high opinion of him.

Men would always gear towards their belief of righteousness. Qing Shui admired the fact that Canghai was able to plow through every obstacles because of his father. If it were him, he would do the same without hesitation, even if it meant his death.

The word "father" felt heavy. Even though Qing Shui had never been regarded as a real father, he was able to experience and taste how it felt like to be one!

However, in Qing Shui's opinion, the word "mother" felt even heavier than "father". The love of a father symbolized a mountain, while the love of a mother symbolized water. Throughout his life, Qing Shui was brought up by his mother alone. He felt greater respect for all mothers in the world, especially Canghai Mingyue's mother. She sacrificed her life so that Qing Shui and his mother could live.

Canghai Mingyue's mother paid the price with her life for the sake of her daughter's life!

Suddenly, Qing Shui could hear multiple footsteps running towards them. A group of Immortal Sword Sect disciples wearing a set of white clothing surrounded the area. Qing Shui had always loved the color white, but he felt unpleasant looking at the color now because it reminded him of the Immortal Sword Sect.

The surrounding people discovered that two of the Elders had died. There was another one alive, but his legs were broken and his face was covered in blood. Elder Zhang wailed in pain, but all of them did nothing except look at each other in bewilderment.

Qing Shui walked towards Elder Zhang and asked: "Where is the tomb?"

"I... don't... know..." Elder Zhang croaked painfully!

"Oof!"

Qing Shui kicked him hard in the stomach!

“Mingyue, since they made you upset, shall we eradicate the entire Immortal Sword Sect?”

The members of the Immortal Sword Sect were shocked by his words as their faces turned pale. Even Qing Hanye was staring at him with dismay in her eyes.

“Is this the same person I knew before? Is he still the man with the childlike heart?” Qing Hanye stood firmly without changing her expression. Her gaze, however, felt as if it could sever the fates of a thousand people in an instant.

“Qing Shui, do you have to do this? There are innocent people here...”

“Silence!”

Qing Shui hissed!

He didn't know why he had a sudden outburst of anger. Perhaps it was because of the pain the Immortal Sword Sect had brought upon Canghai Mingyue, or perhaps it was because Huoyun Liu-Li almost lost her life in this place.

Perhaps Qing Shui was angry because he found out that the Grand Elder of the Immortal Sword Sect was actually Qing Hanye's grandfather. Although she had once saved his life, Qing Shui could not help but feel annoyed when Qing Hanye tried to absolve the issue on behalf of Immortal Sword Sect.

She had an enchanting hourglass figure, a charming demeanor, shoulder-length silky hair, a pair of lovely eyes, and an upright nose. Although she didn't have the prettiest dainty lips, it was still quite seductive.

Qing Hanye looked at Qing Shui with a hurtful expression and tears in her eyes. She walked towards Qing Shui slowly while swaying her slender hourglass figure side to side.

“Qing Shui, I know you are mad at me right now.” Qing Hanye said in a beautiful, mellow voice that could tug at any man's heartstrings. Her expression seemed a bit flirtatious yet frightened. He felt crazy looking at how her soft lips moved.

Qing Shui evaded her gaze. He felt awful looking at how frightened she had become. If it wasn't for the Spirit Duo Cultivation with her previously, he wouldn't have developed mixed feelings for Qing Hanye.

At the same time, Qing Shui could not help but remember the words uttered by Qing Hanye's grandfather before he left the Immortal Sword Sect.

“Hanye said you can come back for her anytime when you have finally realized that you have feelings for her. She will always wait for you no matter what.”

Qing Shui stared at Qing Hanye as he reminisced his first impression of her as a “skinny bone” woman. He was able to see how kind she was after he had gotten to know her a little more. She was different from Huoyun Liu-Li in terms of mannerism. Qing Hanye was charming because of her bone structure whilst Huoyun Liu-Li was charming because of her facial expression.

“Let’s go to the Immortal Sword Sect. Wasn’t your grandfather confined there? Even though we owe nothing to each other since then, let me make it up for him this time.” Qing Shui said gently to Qing Hanye.

Huoyun Liu-Li wanted to say something, but in the end, she didn’t say a word. However, her expression showed that she was clearly in low spirits!

“Qing Shui, please don’t kill those innocent people and help rescue Hanye’s grandfather!” Canghai Mingue wiped her tears as Qing Shui lifted her up by supporting her arms.

Tears rolled down from Qing Hanye’s face as she turned around and ran.

“Why did you do that?” Canghai Mingyue asked softly.

“Let’s go to the Immortal Sword Sect and finish our business with them first.” Qing Shui forced a smile at Canghai Mingyue. He didn’t understand why he lashed out at Qing Hanye in the first place. But he couldn’t bring himself to apologize to her since he didn’t think he was wrong at all.

“Forget it, let’s not think about that for now!” Qing Shui shook his head and sorted out his thoughts.

After that, Qing Shui arrived at the Immortal Sword Sect!

The Immortal Sword Sect had already received news of their members’ deaths at Qing Shui’s hands. It was devastating to receive dire news about the deaths of their three members, especially when they were Elders. They took it as a threat and heightened their security with more guards.

“The three Elders didn’t even manage to land a blow on that kid, yet they died by his hands. What should we do now?” An elderly man with a head of white hairs paced around the Immortal Sword Sect hall as he spoke. His hairs drooped down until they reached his waist. Back then, this man was one of the four elderly men who would always stand behind the Grand Elder. He was known as Elder Xiong, the strongest martial warrior amongst the four elders. However, he has since taken over the rights of being the head of the sect.

“Elder Xiong, if we can find that person, she might be able to help you.” A middle-aged man from below piped up, frowning as he tried to think of a solution.

“Who?”

“That person from the Southern City Furniture Store!” The middle-aged man said mysteriously.

“Wang Xing, do you mean the Sword Demon Huang Qing?” Elder Xiong’s eye brightened up.

“Yes. No one else would be able to save us except Sword Demon Huang Qing from the Sword Tower.” Wang Xing said in a more serious tone.

Elder Xiong went silent. He knew that woman was a legendary Peak of Martial King warrior in the Greencloud Country who wielded a three feet long Greenedge Sword as her main weapon. She was also an official guard of the Sword Tower with status above an Elder, but she was never in Sword Tower doing her job. Instead, Huang Qing had been situated in the Southern City Furniture Store in the past recent years. No one even knew how old she was, but she was known to have a beautiful appearance.

Even though her name was Huang Qing, others had given her the title of Demon Sword. Eventually, everyone started to call her Demon Sword Huang Qing.

Moreover, no one knew why she joined Sword Tower since she had already risen to the level of the Peak of Martial King. Her origins were unknown to many, but some rumors pointed her origins back to the Central Continents, while some said she was from Eastern Victory Divine Continent.

“Wang Xing, would she come if we ask?” Elder Xiong frowned.

“I am not sure. Immortal Sword Sect has always been affiliated with Sword Tower. Since she was an official guard of Sword Tower, she should be obliged to come and help us.” Wang Xing said after he thought about Elder Xiong’s question for a while.

“Then go with Old Fu. Make haste and come back as soon as possible.” Elder Xiong stressed heavily on their swiftness to the situation.

“Yes, sir!”

Wang Xing and a quiet elderly man left quickly after that!

.....

“Qing Shui, please spare them if they stop their resistance!” Canghai Mingyue pleaded to Qing Shui.

“Don’t worry, Mingyue. There are hundreds and thousands of disciples who are unrelated to our business. I will listen to you, but I can’t promise I will have mercy on them once they start revolting. Remember, they didn’t have mercy on us when we came back then.” Qing Shui smiled.

“Alright!”

Qing Shui had already equipped the Golden-Ringed Battle Armor and the Big Dipper Sword. Canghai Mingyue and Huoyun Liu-Li had also equipped the Tricolor Battle Skirts and boots respectively.

It became more convenient for Canghai Mingyue to store items inside the Interspatial Silk Satchel that Qing Shui had given to her. She and Huoyun Liu-Li were made aware that Qing Shui was in possession of an interspatial item, but they never inquired him on it.

Qing Shui stood on the left side of Canghai Mingyue while Huoyun Liu-Li held the Demonic Stonegold Rabbit King in her arms and stood on her right side. The three of them walked towards the Southern Ancient Pass slowly.

They felt a unique feeling at this moment!

They were getting closer to the Immortal Sword Sect. They could even see a number of people wearing a white Immortal Sword Sect uniform moving about!

Hundreds of people wielding a longsword emblazoned with the Immortal Sword Sect emblem suddenly appeared in front of their path. All of them seemed to be roughly in their 30s.

Some looked nervous, and some of them looked fearless. Some scanned the area, as if they were looking for a place to escape.

It was obvious what they were here for. They weren't meant to defeat him, only obstruct him as decoys and impair his arrival to the Immortal Sword Sect. They took out their sharp swords, which refracted the light from the sun on their shiny surface, and were ready to die for their cause.

Qing Shui frowned in disapproval. He could tell that his opponents were trying to stall for time by using their weakest pawns as scapegoats.

"Do they have higher-skilled martial warriors as their backup? Or maybe they were able to call upon a skilled warrior?" Qing Shui was skeptical about the situation, or else the Immortal Sword Sect elders would not have sent their weakest warriors to defend themselves.

Either they wanted to sacrifice their men as a way to sate Qing Shui's hunger for blood, or they intended to increase his bloodlust...

Qing Shui went closer to the mass of sect disciples. He used his imposing force as a way to urge their escape to prevent any unnecessary bloodshed. These men could not stave off Qing Shui's aura, as a few of them had already "slid down the slope" and disappeared from sight.

As soon as that happened, the others quickly followed and ran away! After all, it would be insane to willingly seek one's doom when they were offered the option to live.

After they escaped, another batch of people appeared. These people were also in their 30s, but their strength felt unbalanced as a whole. They may be stronger than the previous group, but their maximum strength could only be placed at the Peak of Houtian.

Qing Shui began to cast an imposing force once more so that they would retreat. They were no match for him, which was why Qing Shui felt that it was unnecessary to even start a fight with them. From the beginning, it was destined to be a rough journey for them to travel.

Then, after about a hundred meters!

A group of Elementary stage Xiantian martial warriors appeared!

Qing Shui stopped and waved one of his hands into the air!

He summoned the Diamond Demonic Boar from the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal!

Canghai Mingyue and Huoyun Liu-Li were shocked at the sudden appearance of the beast. It was their first time seeing an actual Diamond Demonic Beast appearing in front of them. However, it was expected for them to be surprised since this was a rare sight to witness!

Qing Shui was able to let off the martial warriors below the level of Xiantian, but he could not do the same for the Xiantian martial warriors blocking his path. Although they had obtained special privileges to disregard some mediocre rules and regulations, all of their actions - whether good or bad, would have an influence against the society.

After he had taken three breaths waiting for movement, no one did anything! Qing Shui decided to make the first move and flung his hand in the air while commanding the Diamond Demonic Boar to kill the mass of people in front of him!

The Diamond Demonic Boar went on a rampage against the Xiantian martial warriors akin to “a tiger amongst a flock of sheep”. The martial warriors tried to retaliate by stabbing their swords into its body. However, the boar let out a sharp painful cry while continuing its murderous spree.

“Ahh!”

“Ahhhh!”

.....

The air was filled with endless piercing screams. Blood spilled over every inch of the ground, staining every path with corpses. It was at this time that Qing Shui experienced an uncertain change inside him.

What a bloody and messy murder!

The whole scene was a definition of a merciless massacre. He would have been one of them if he didn't meet the saviors of his life.

Qing Shui felt calmer after seeing the pool of blood on the ground!

He felt like going all the way now that he had made his decision to walk this bloody path. It would not be considered a shame to die by the blade of a sword. Their death would be tantamount to a mighty general who fought to the death in a battlefield.

After a while, everything went silent. Qing Shui knew he was getting closer to the Immortal Sword Sect as he caught a glimpse of the gate not far from where he was standing.

There were about a hundred people guarding the front of the gate. The youngest of them all was grizzled with streaks of white hair, and a few more were already covered in a full set of white hairs. Even though they looked old, they were clearly vigorous and energetic. However, they also felt quite anxious about the outcome of this fight when pitted against Qing Shui.

“Mingyue, Liu-Li!” As soon as he called out to them, Qing Shui immediately summoned Firebird from the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal.

The ladies were not taken by surprise by the summoning because they had already anticipated Qing Shui being in possession of a Beast Tamer's “Interspatial Beast King Medallion”!

Essentially, the Beast Tamer's “Interspatial Beast King Medallion” had a similar function to that of a Interspatial Silk Sachet, but instead of random non-living items, it could only keep beasts that had been tamed by its owner.

The “Interspatial Beast King Medallion” was made from the energy harnessed by a Beast Tamer, which would be imbued into a “Jade Crystal Beast Bone” to create a whole new dimension identical to the dimension inside the Interspatial Silk Sachet.

Chapter 436 - Sword Demon Huang Qing, "Strength of A Country"

"Interspatial Beast King Medallion" was a spatial item created on "Jade Crystal Beast Bones" by Beast Tamers and was similar to the interspatial silk sachet.

Qing Shui had heard about these things from YiYiye Jiange. Westeria Continent's Yiye Clan was not only one of the true Beast Tamer Clans, it was also a clan which could create such "Interspatial Beast King Medallions". It was a pity Yiye Jiange had not learnt it, or rather, had not even learn how to become a true Beast Tamer when the Lion King's Ridge had wiped out the clan.

Snow falls on Westeria Continent all year round and there are many demonic beast. Most Beast Tamer Clans are from Westeria Continent, and while Yiye Clan was a true Beast Tamer Clan, they were already in decline then.

Yiye Jiange's beauty accelerated the diminish of Yiye Clan, and according to her, many Beast Tamer Clans in Westeria Continent had been taken in by Lion King's Ridge.

She had forgotten many things, but Yiye Jiange seemed to be able to tell that Lion King's Ridge was likely to be the largest Beast Tamer Clan in Westeria Continent and had wanted to unite all of the Beast Tamers in Westeria Continent. With that, they would be able to pit against some of the Demon Refiners in Eastern Victory Divine Continent!

...

And now, Qing Shui could summon two demonic beasts now. One of them was obviously a Martial King level demonic beast while the golden-colored wild board was able to slaughter close to a hundred elementary Xiantian cultivators and even the blades of an elementary Xiantian cultivator was not able to hurt it in the very least.

To be able to summon two demonic beast did not mean that he was a Beast Tamer. If one's level of cultivation was high enough, it was perfectly normal to have two demonic beast rides, just like commoners' horses.

The prerequisite was that the owner's level of cultivation must be higher than that of his ride. That was why a Beast Tamer's criterion was to be able to tame many demonic beasts which were very much stronger than himself.

It just like how Luanluan was a true Beast Tamer. Having a Seven Apertures Mystical Heart, even if she did not learn anything, she would also be a Beast Tamer and would be able to get many demonic beasts to do her bidding. It was just that if her cultivation level was too low, demonic beasts which are too powerful would not be willing to listen to her bidding.

After the two ladies heard what Qing Shui said, they hesitated a bit before heading up the fire bird with Huoyun Liu-Li. Qing Shui was more assured about the fire bird. After all, its cultivation level was much stronger than Canghai Mingyue's Golden Winged Thunder Condor.

Looking at the people at Immortal Sword Sect's wide entrance. They were all Immortal Sword Sect's doyens, the people who made the decisions in Immortal Sword Sect. Qing Shui looked towards that majestic stone carved door, especially at the words "Immortal Sword Sect" at the top which had vigorous and forceful strokes.

Qing Shui gradually accelerated the circulation of his Ancient Strengthening Technique!

Nature Energy!

Frenzied Bull's Strength! The Golden-Ringed Battle Armor was combined with his Frenzied Bull's Strength!

Diamond Qi!

...

Mighty Elephant Stomp! The Mighty Elephant Stomp at the large success stage!

Qing Shui's earlier technique was not able to increase the powers of the Mighty Elephant Stomp, but it could increase its aura. While it was limited, it was better than having nothing at all.

Boom!

Qing Shui's body had a tremendous strength of 4 million jin, and the Mighty Elephant Stomp could allow him to perform five times this strength.

An immense strength of 20 million jin!

A gulf appeared from Qing Shui's foot all the way to the entrance of the Immortal Sword Sect!

Boom!

Boom!

Immortal Sword Sect's entrance fell!

Those group of Immortal Sword Sect's doyens quickly escaped. Those who were not able to flee in time were torn apart by that gulf. In that instance, one-third of the people had died under Qing Shui's stomp.

Smoke and dust filled up the air!

In that instance, the whole place was in ruins and a bloodied fog was spreading out!

Just then, Qing Shui who had circulated his powers to the extreme took action. He seemed like a bolt of thunder, moving across the distance of tens of meters away.

"Ahhh!"

A terrified cry rang out. It meant that Qing Shui's massacre had started.

Qing Shui's main target was that Elder Xiong. Qing Shui did not know he was Elder Xiong but knew that he was one of the four who stood behind the Grnad elder previously. Now that 3 of them had died, this person can't be spared either.

Just as Qing Shui dashed out and about to kill that elder, he suddenly felt up to a hundred streams of Qi of Xiantian was slashing towards him.

"Seven Star Armored Vest!"

Suddenly, his defences had increased by onefold.

Cloudmist Steps!

Combined together with his Ghostly Steps, Free Spirit Steps, "Core Qi Method", and Soaring Crane Steps, the Cloudmist Steps was extremely strong. It's speed was amazingly fast but yet crafty. It could even one's speed to a terrifying height for a short distance.

Very quickly, Qing Shui, who had disappeared from everyone's sight, once again appeared next to Elder Xiong. Without holding back, his Big Dipper Sword which gathered the powers of the stars, was waved out, as if a huge water curtain amidst the milky way!

Sword slash!

But at that moment, Qing Shui felt a danger!

This was a danger that came from his front. Amidst this place which was filled with smoke, Qing Shui's Spiritual Sense could only feel that there was someone behind the person he was trying to kill.

But he was left with no other way out. Qing Shui clenched his teeth, but at the same time, took out ten silver needles with his other hand!

Boom!

Ding ding!

Qing Shui only felt that his sword had met a swirling force and was reflected off!

However, since Qing Shui wanted to kill that Elder Xiong, there was no way that he would let him escape. He pierced the silver needles he had prepared earlier on that Elder's 曲池 and eyes!

And Qing Shui's sword which was reflected away slashed across Elder Xiong's throat before he could even let out a cry...

That was also when Qing Shui saw the person who had managed to reflected that attacked he had made with his full force. But when he saw the person, he fell into a daze.

"She is Protector Huang Qing!"

"She is Sword Demon Huang Qing!"

"She is Sword Tower's Sword Demon Huang Qing!"

...

At the moment, a bunch of discussion rang out from the remaining members of the Immortal Sword Sect.

"Sword Tower's Sword Demon Huang Qing?" Qing Shui frowned. The reason he did so was because they really did brought out an important character. But it was too bad that the old guy did not manage to survive.

Qing Shui casted a glance towards Elder Xiong who did not die in peace before he then looked towards the lady. She was very young, and the reason Qing Shui was shock was because she was the lady who had appeared on the 2nd Portrait of Beauty he had gotten.

Like on the Portraits of Beauty, her beautiful brows were black, her bright black eyes exuding a charming flow. her figure was tall and slender, with soft lines but yet the curves in the right places. Even though she was wearing plain clothes, she appeared to be extremely elegant. She was not a cool beauty, but had an aura which was in between that of strength and coolness. She beauty was like that of an illusion, very ethereal! But one would be akin to being possessed after one look of that intoxicating beautiful eyes. It felt that she was a woman who was extremely hard to control or dominate.

The only thing was that she was now holding a silvery-white three feet Greenedge Sword. She did not seem very astonished as she looked at Qing Shui, and her intoxicating eyes had a hint of smile in them.

She was called Sword Demon Huang Qing? He had once met her in the "sea of flowers dreams" in the Southern City Furniture Store. However, Qing Shui was astonished that she was from Sword Tower, and was a powerful martial arts cultivator.

"Hello, we meet again."

The lady looked at Qing Shui and said calmly. Her voice was so ethereal that it was hard to fathom, but it was as if there were some magical attraction. Qing Shui even had the urge to listen to more of her talking, anything. It was an indescribable feeling, it was very soothing, an enjoyment...

The lady's words were not contradicting. It was because she had already seen Qing Shui in Southern City Furniture Store back then. Moreover, that "spiritual exchange" was also considered their first time to get to know each other.

"You are from Sword Tower?" Qing Shui frowned, asking.

"Yes!"

"Must you take part in this?"

"Yes!"

"Then it seems like we'll need to battle it out." Qing Shui did not know what this feeling was. It was because Qing Shui felt that since he had gotten the Portraits of Beauty, there should not be a situation where they would need to fight.

Even if it was the Misty Hall's Palace Mistress, Qing Shui was also not able to believe that eventually, she had saved him twice when he was in his most dangerous situations.

"Seems like there's nothing more to say. We better get this over with. I still have things to settle." Saying this Qing Shui lifted up his Big Dipper Sword.

"Don't be in such a hurry to fight. It's not like we have that great a vengeance between us!" The lady obviously did not have the intention to fight.

"What's more to talk about?" Qing Shui frowned.

"I want to know why we had met under that situation." The lady frowned and looked at Qing Shui. She might be wanting to see if she could read anything from Qing Shui's expression.

"I wanted to ask you that too. I have no idea either." Qing Shui gaze did not stop on that lady, nor did he looked towards her face and some of her sensitive body parts.

"You've already killed all the important people in Immortal Sword Sect. Do you really have to be so ruthless and kill everyone? Can you just listen to me and stop here? I'll disband the Immortal Sword Sect. What do you think?" The lady looked at Qing Shui, her gaze making one felt as if she were unfathomable.

Qing Shui had not thought of killing everyone in Immortal Sword Sect right from the start. Now that the Elder Xiong was killed, he had already planned on stopping, or just killing a few more at most.

"I can promise you. But today, you'll need to have a fight with me." Qing Shui raised up his Big Dipper Sword and said.

"You'll rise up to a very high height in the future, but now, you're not my match. Your current strength is only at the "level of a country". Do you really want to compete?" The lady seemed to be very curious about Qing Shui, her intoxicating eyes not leaving him. Even Qing Shui who felt that he was quite thick-skinned could not really take it.

"My strength is roughly equivalent to the level of a "country"?" Qing Shui asked, astonished. He knew that the full display of his strength was slightly above 10 million jin. Could it be that the strength of a "country" was at 10 million jin? Qing Shui thought of an idiom from his previous life, a thousand jin hanging by a single thread . One of that 'jun' was 30 jin, but now this 'country' was 10 million jin...

"That's right. I sensed your display of strength earlier. The strength of a country is 10 million jin. Am I right?"

Qing Shui looked at this lady who was wearing plain clothes but yet had had indescribable poise and dignity to her. It also felt as if everything was within her grasp!

So at this level, strength were measured in terms of "country". Now, his level was only slightly above that of "one country". Most importantly, Qing Shui felt that only by attaining this "one country" worth of strength would he then barely be considered to have attained the pinnacle of Martial King level!

The idiom has a meaning of being in grave danger, for an extremely heavy weight to be hanging on a single thread. The 'jun' or '钧' in the idiom has the same pronunciation as '郡' which we translated as 'country.'

Chapter 437 Battling Sword Demon Huang Qing, The Disparities

Qing Shui felt that he had just barely reached the peak of Martial King right now. He recalled how this lady named Huang Qing had deflected his all-out sword attack earlier. Was she at the peak of Martial King just like the Misty Hall's Palace Mistress? Or was she from the Portrait of Beauty? Was there some kind of profound mystery behind all this?

Qing Shui thought hard with his head lowered. He remembered about Yiye Jiange, the lady who made him feel as if she wasn't as simple as she appeared to be. She was also one of the beauties from the Portraits of Beauty. She carried a vendetta as deep as the sea with her. Was she under some kind of circumstances?

The Art Maestro had said that all the ladies drawn on the Portraits of Beauty had good figures and divine bodies. They were not only perfect but also excelled in every aspect. Their beauty, intelligence, and strength in particular far exceeded ordinary people.

Unless they didn't cultivate, as long as the ladies on the Portraits of Beauty were willing to put some effort in cultivation, they could become powerful cultivators. Qing Shui looked at this lady who was no less inferior than the Misty Hall's Palace Mistress and then looked at the two equally beautiful ladies riding on the back of Fire Bird.

He was momentarily confused. Although the Huang Qing who stood before him had given him quite a shock, it wasn't as intense as the appearance of the Misty Hall's Palace Mistress. Furthermore, Qing Shui didn't have any intentions towards them right now. The amount of ladies around him had increased, yet none of them were easy to deal with, and they were not people he could touch for now.

Qing Shui didn't want to deny the fact that he was into gorgeous beauties. It was very normal for normal men to have this kind of mentality, restrained only by their morality and strength of character. Otherwise why would the rich and strong people in the World of the Nine Continents have so many wives as beautiful as flowers, whereas commoners on the lowest tier could only have one plain-looking woman.

This was reality. There was no such thing as equality. Don't covet someone else's woman, one could only blame themselves for their own incompetency. Qing Shui couldn't guarantee that he wouldn't get involved with them in the future. But for now, he had yet to have these kind of intentions, nor would he make any moves on them.

Who didn't want to have multiple wives? But they needed to have the capability to enjoy such luxury. On top of that, Qing Shui didn't want to be an animal who only knows how scatter its seed everywhere. Love was something very sacred in Qing Shui's eyes.

As long as they were women whom he had set his eyes on, Qing Shui would not divide his love for each of them. He would instead give all of his love to each and every one of them. There was no need to divide.

So the love Qing Shui had for Mingyue Gelou and Little Yuchang had no impurities in it. As for that Xiang Bao of the Xiang Clan, Qing Shui didn't want her to suffer in the future. He didn't have that kind of special feelings between a man and woman towards her. If it was only sexually, Qing Shui couldn't deny his interest. But he knew that he cannot hurt everyone who loved him.

Qing Shui should normally be surprised, show some kind of unfathomable expressions on his face or get worked up when he met this lady from the Portrait of Beauty. However, all these feelings were completely absent due to the fact that this Huang Qing was from the Sword Tower.

And this gorgeous lady who had gained her "Sword Demon" title could tell his strength. This indicated that her strength was indeed far higher than his.

Qing Shui was astonished by the fact that he was unable to sense the Misty Hall's Palace Mistress and this one's strength. So right now, Qing Shui felt like it was as if he had just opened another window. The peak of Martial King was another endless "path of hardships".

“Have you transcended the peak of Martial King?” Qing Shui, however, didn’t ask if she was a Martial Saint.

The lady named Huang Qing shook her head with a shallow smile!

“I know that I am not your match, but I still want a duel with you!” Qing Shui’s tone of voice was flat but with an extremely intense will to battle.

“Are you certain?”

“Yes I am!” Qing Shui said while looking into those deep, enchanting and mysterious eyes of Huang Qing after a moment of silence.

“In that case, the sword and blade have no eyes. I hope you will not regret this!” Huang Qing’s eyes turned cold while looking at Qing Shui. At this very moment, he felt that it was as if she had become another person. On top of that, it was as if this lady who was standing before him was not there anymore.

Qing Shui took out a piece of Godly Force Talisman and slammed it with such force that it shattered on his own body!

A wave of spiritual energy immediately covered Qing Shui’s body. Huang Qing’s eyes lit up, gleaming as bright as the constellations in the sky. She looked at Qing Shui as if she wanted to say something, but she never did.

Qing Shui slowly raised the Big Dipper Sword in his hand!

He raised all aspects of his strength to the highest limit. He knew that this immortal-like being in front of him ,who was known as the “Sword Demon”, was one of the most powerful people he had met. She was the most powerful opponent that Qing Shui had met to date.

Heavenly Thunder Slash!

.....

Diamond Qi!

Qing Shui’s current power and speed were raised to their limits. His qi aura exuded from his body in concentric rings through the air. However, the lady with unparalleled beauty across him had virtually no reaction.

At this very moment, Qing Shui knew that the power that he was best at had lost its advantage. From the brief “sword clash” he had with her just now, he knew that things wouldn’t go well for him as soon as his sword was deflected by that qi force akin to the Volution Force.

“Here I come!” Qing Shui told the lady standing across from him.

Huang Qing nodded and slowly lifted the silvery white three-feet Greenedge sword in her hands. A tranquil aura akin to an immortal, yet at the same time one demonic, flared out from her the moment she raised her sword.

Invulnerable!

That was the feeling it gave to Qing Shui. The plainly dressed lady stood there, her clothes fluttering despite it being windless. Only the three-foot Greenedge in her hands was gleaming unsympathetically and coldly.

She stood there between heaven and earth. It was almost as if she was fusing into one with them.

Qing Shui took a step forward and dashed towards Huang Qing!

The Big Dipper Sword in his hands pierced out!

This was Qing Shui's most perfect sword attack!

A piercing sword!

"One with Heaven" Piercing Sword!

This was Qing Shui's first official display of sword technique in its full glory!

The sword technique that was the most mediocre of all in the eyes of cultivators came silently yet at the same time with a force like the silent roar of the ocean!

The lady knitted her beautiful eyebrows. He actually used the Basic Sword Techniques? On top of that, it was of the "One with Heaven" realm..... It was probably impossible to find cultivators who could cultivate the Basic Sword Techniques to his level in the entire World of the Nine Continents.

Her delicate feet lightly shifted, rapidly stepping on the inch of ground beneath her feet. Her body became lighter along with her increasingly fast movements, and her speed had also picked up. It was as if she was going to soar into the sky.

Art of Pursuing!

Qing Shui finally utilised the Art of Pursuing, the Great Perfection Stage.

At the same time, the woman struck out with her sword too. Her attack was equally soundless and buoyant with an extraordinary air, as if imbued with the might of Heaven and Earth.

It was actually the "One with Heaven" of the Large Success Stage!

Qing Shui's swift and nimble attack was resisted by the lady nigh effortlessly!

Ding!

Qing Shui was sent flying. He had once again felt the volition force on that sword, and it was impossible for him to penetrate through that rotating force.

"What a formidable diversion cultivation art!"

If you were going to block a rapidly revolving drill bit piercing towards you with something, you'd definitely require an even greater opposing force to resist it.

But Qing Shui had already achieved his objective. He had slammed the qi force of his Art of Pursuing onto his opponent!

A look of surprise flashed across Huang Qing's bright eyes. To think that a single contact from earlier could actually reduce her speed so drastically. To make it worse, her body also felt a lot more heavier.

To a powerful cultivator like her, 20% of reduced speed and increased weight was definitely not a small number. This was the beauty of the Art of Pursuing.

This time, the lady took the initiative instead. The qi aura exuded by her snowy white sword became even more threateningly sharp. Her small delicate feet once again treaded lightly on the ground beneath her feet. Qing Shui observed how the path that she was stepping on was almost like a picture of a Yin Yang Fish.

"Eight Trigrams Evil Suppressing Step?"

Her sword pierced out at Qing Shui while he was distracted in his thoughts. Like a shooting star streaking across the heaven, it was piercingly bright!

Qing Shui had a feeling he would not be able to evade this attack regardless of what he did, so he had no other choice but to deal with it head-on. Qing Shui was confident in his body's strength. On top of that, the effects of the Seven Star Armored Vest had not worn off yet.

Sword of Fourth Wave!

Qing Shui delivered the Great Perfection Stage, Sword of Fourth Wave!

Ding ding ding ding!

Qing Shui was forced to retreat one step after every strike, whereas this Huang Qing girl, who had her weight increased and her speed reduced by 20%, was aggressively closing in on him step by step. It was hard to believe that she could actually still be this powerful.

Qing Shui didn't feel any injury on himself, but he did feel his internal organs being shaken up. The force was already dissipated when he was forced to back down four steps, so it didn't cause much trouble to him.

"You are truly one strange cultivator. You have a random mixture of techniques, but they are very powerful." Huang Qing looked at him, but she had stopped closing in on him.

"Are there many who can defeat you on the Greencloud Continent?" Qing Shui looked at her!

"What is wrong with you? You are ignoring my words yet demand me to give you an answer. How can you be this overbearing?" Huang Qing's beautiful eyebrows knitted together as she huffed in slight annoyance.

Qing Shui was flabbergasted. He didn't expect a woman like her would be this "petty". Furthermore the conversation between them were not going too well, too.....

"What do you want me to answer for you? Yes, I have a random mixture of techniques. As for the powerful part, I realised that I still have a long way to go compared you....."

"Do you always talk to girls like this?" Huang Qing laughed and glanced at the two ladies on the back of Fire Bird. She smiled. Although it was a very elegant smile, it could seep into the hearts of people. This

was the most refined smile that Qing Shui had ever seen. Canghai Mingyue's smile carried an air of arrogance. The Misty Hall's Palace Mistress and Yiye Jiange's smiles were more otherworldly, while Huoyun Liu-Li's smile was cunning like a sly fox yet seductive.

"You're not going to tell me?" Qing Shui seemed to be very bothered by this question.

"I don't know the specific number, but I know there are quite a lot of them!"

Qing Shui looked at the chaotic mess around them. He had basically killed those who should be killed, and the remaining ones should not be able to cause trouble again in the Southern City. He only needed to think about what to do with this Sword Demon Huang Qing who was standing before him...

"Do we still fight?"

Qing Shui stared at her speechlessly. "What fight? If you don't want to kill me, then I'm going off to rescue someone."

"Going to rescue Ye'er's grandfather?"

Qing Shui recalled Qing Hanye mentioning about being rescued by an expert. He couldn't help but fix his gaze on Huang Qing.

"You are that expert she was talking about!"

"Not really worthy of that expert title. Ye'er is already with her grandfather now. So now you have two choices. One is to dissolve the Immortal Sword Sect. The other is to let Ye'er take over the Immortal Sword Sect. Which one do you think is a better choice?"

"If I am not mistaken, are you not from the Sword Tower? Won't you get punished by the Sword Tower for doing all this?" Qing Shui was very astonished by Huang Qing's actions. After all, the Immortal Sword Sect was also affiliated with the Sword Tower. But what was he doing with her right now.....?

"Hehe, I still have a certain degree of freedom in doing things. You don't need to worry about me. Just tell me which one you want to pick. It's all up to you." In addition to the aura that Huang Qing was exuding when she spoke and her illusory beauty, she gave off an otherworldly air to people. All this made Qing Shui extremely uncomfortable.

He was really not worrying for her. He was still not capable enough to worry for a girl of her caliber!

Can you manage the Immortal Sword Sect properly after taking over? There are quite a lot of people from the Southern City eyeing it." Qing Shui was reluctant to let anything happen to Qing Hanye. Although there was nothing in between them, he still wished for her well-being.

"You don't have to worry about this. If I dare to say this, then that means I am confident enough."

Just then, two people came over. Qing Shui took a look and recognised that they were Qing Hanye and her grandfather. He knew that Huang Qing was doing this to assure him.

Qing Shui smiled wryly. Even if she didn't want to assure him, what could he do? He wasn't even her match. However, he wouldn't stand still either if she had wanted to kill him.

Qing Shui knew both of them never had the desire to kill each other since the beginning. Her reason was because of that “telepathic communication” and his reason was because she was a lady from the Portrait of Beauties.

It was difficult to destroy a beautiful flower. Those who could do so without a reason were lunatics. Even if he were to start a war with the Sword Tower in the future, and he had to face her, he had no idea if he could bring himself to do it.

“Thank you, Qing Shui. I have said it before that this Immortal Sword Sect would not be anything worth mentioning to you in the future.” the old man laughed heartily as he always did. But Qing Shui wasn’t able to overlap it with the silhouette in that Thousand Year Medicine Shop from the past.

Ever since he had once again taken up the position of the Immortal Sword Sect’s Grand Elder, he had gained the powerful aura that those in a high position should have.

“From now on, we are even. You are to choose your own path. With this expert helping you now, there’s nothing you cannot achieve on the Greencloud Continent. This has taken up quite a lot of my time, so I shall take my leave now.” Qing Shui told Qing Hanye and her grandfather, who had already walked over to Huang Qing’s side.

“You’re leaving so soon?” Huang Qing asked in surprise.

Qing Hanye’s entire delicate frame was slightly trembling. She pursed up her lips and didn’t say anything. She had already expected this outcome when Qing Shui left that time.

Qing Shui could tell that Qing Hanye had been living just as well for the past few years without him. On top of that, he didn’t have time to spare on any kind of romantic relationships.

Qing Hanye had also thought about it before. Yet she couldn’t help but to have some wild wishes when she saw Qing Shui this time. Unfortunately, fate would never let everyone have their wishes fulfilled.

“Yeah, do you need me for something else?” Qing Shui looked at Huang Qing placidly, or more like a little indifferently. Although this Huang Qing was as beautiful as the Misty Hall’s Palace Mistress, Qing Shui subconsciously didn’t want to have anything to do with her.

This is because she was part of the Sword Tower, which meant that their weapons would definitely clash against each other again for real someday.

“No!” she replied after hearing the indifference in Qing Shui’s tone.

She had been acting very abnormally today. This was her first time talking to a man like this, and she was even a little fond of him. Though not the kind of romantic fondness. But because Qing Shui was someone who had interacted with her “consciousness”, she had thought that they would be able to be friends at the very least.

Although she had again, and again, and again tried to accommodate this man, he only seemed to be treating her coldly.....

Chapter 438 Huoyun Liu-Li, Success of the Divine Shield Talisman, Doubt!

She had given in to this guy time and time again, but it seemed as if he had been giving her the cold shoulder all this time.

She was a prideful person and had every right to be so. To top it up, she was even a lady with unrivalled beauty. To think that such a person giving in to someone for the first time was returned with only a cold attitude.

The arrogance in her caused her to let out an irresistible aura!

Qing Shui felt that she was now almost exactly the same as the lady on the Portrait of Beauty, just that she had an additional three-foot Greenedge Sword in her hand.

Qing Shui gradually turned around, no longer looking towards Qing Hanye. He did not want to look at that beautiful pair of eyes that were slightly red.

"Qing Shui!"

Although Qing Shui was already taking his first step away, he stopped.

"Have a safe trip!" Qing Hanye curbed the pain in her heart as she smiled, looking at Qing Shui's back.

"Thank you!"

Summoning the Fire Bird, he retrieved the Diamond Demonic Boar and went up the fire bird! Very quickly, they became increasingly smaller.

Huang Qing's gaze, which was fixed on Qing Shui's departing silhouette, seemed to be very complicated!

...

"Mingyue, uncle's and aunt's graves have been shifted. I know where they are now, so let's go pay our respects!" Before he left, Qing Shui had went back to ask Qing Hanye's grandfather.

The three of them came to Southern City's Half-moon Slope and looked towards those evergreen trees. There were not many graves around here since not everyone could be buried here.

They quickly found the Canghai couple's tomb. Qing Shui brought out some wine from the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, making Canghai Mingyue feel grateful to him once again. After all, neither she nor Liu-Li had prepared these items.

In the world of the nine continents, the most important item when worshipping the deceased was wine. Thank goodness Qing Shui had no lack of that!

"Father, mother, Yue`er is here to see you..."

Canghai Mingyue spoke softly as a lot as tears trickled down from her eyes. Qing Shui and Huoyun Liu-Li comforted her for a long time. The pain of being separated by life and death was the most painful. That painful feeling of loss was not something everyone could experience for themselves. Her being alone without any kin caused Qing Shui to have much pity on her. To the extent that it was as if he had treated her like his wife, one whom had risen in importance equal to his own blood kin.

...

Qing Shui and the two ladies once again made their way to the Heavenly Palace. Meanwhile, the images of Huang Qing and Qing Hanye kept appearing in their minds as they wondered if they would eventually join the Sword Tower.

It seemed as though Huang Qing and Qing Hanye were on relatively good relationship, and Qing Hanye was also a person with relatively good aptitude with her Nine Yin Body. Therefore, the chances of them entering Sword Tower was high.

Qing Shui did not wish for them to become his "obstacles" for him to head for the Sword Tower when the time comes. If they really had to fight each other, would he be able to really do so...

The two ladies with Qing Shui were extremely bright. While they did not know the exact situation, they could tell that Qing Shui was very troubled.

"Do you have any worries? It'll feel better if you talk it out." Huoyun Liu-Li said softly while the Demonic Stonegold Rabbit King lied down on the back of the Fire Bird, not moving.

"It's nothing. I'm just feeling a bit tired." Qing Shui smiled and said.

"Then you should lie down and have some rest! Lie on my legs. I'll massage your head for you." Huoyun Liu-Li said softly.

Qing Shui knew that whenever Huoyun Liu-Li had such an expression, what she said was serious. If she had on an expression that was forthright and charming, most of the time, she would just be teasing him.

The three of them were seated on the back of the Firebird to begin with, so Qing Shui managed to rest on Huoyun Liu-Li's legs, or rather, thighs, by just moving a little to the side.

Qing Shui could smell a faint smell of violets while his neck could feel the softness and the spring of her thighs.

A pair of hands landed on Qing Shui's head. They were either slightly cold to the touch or slightly warm, which made him feel at ease. They made his heart beat a little faster as a faint warmth filled up his heart.

Enjoying the slender fingers massaging his head, Qing Shui fell asleep unconsciously. He even tilted his face and leaned his face against Huoyun Liu-Li's stomach.

But while Qing Shui had fallen asleep, the heat from his breath quickly made Huoyun Liu-Li blush!

After sleeping for about 15 minutes, Qing Shui woke up!

After waking up, he realized that his face was pressing against Huoyun Liu-Li's stomach. That soft feeling made Qing Shui decide to rub his face against her stomach...

"Ahhhh, you rascal..."

Huoyun Liu-Li let out a cry as she twisted Qing Shui's ears, pulling him away from her. Her beautiful face was covered in a layer of blush, and she stared at Qing Shui in annoyance.

"Cough cough, I'm sorry. I'd fallen asleep. It's really such a sin!" Qing Shui grinned.

"Bad Qing Shui, you're really bad!"

Qing Shui chuckled as he sat up, sneaking a tap on Huoyun Liu-Li's nose which was beautiful as white jade.

"Qing Shui!"

Huoyun Liu-Li called out to Qing Shui in a soft voice.

"Mmmm, what's the matter?" Qing Shui looked at Huoyun Liu-Li, puzzled by her wary expression.

"I want to ask something, but you must promise not to get angry. Or maybe I shouldn't talk about it..." Although Huoyun Liu-Li said that she would not be bringing it up, her expression was telling Qing Shui that she wanted to say it, and he was not allowed to get angry.

"Go ahead. I won't get angry no matter what you say." Qing Shui rubbed his nose. He knew what she was going to ask even by using his toes to think.

"Qing Shui's the best! Haha. Erm, do you really plan to leave it and... not talk to... that little beauty?" Huoyun Liu-Li uttered this very slowly. She had been watching Qing Shui's expression all this while. If she saw that anything was amiss, she would immediately shut up.

"Are you so willing to let her be by my side? What happens if she comes and snatches away my love for you?" Qing Shui had a his smile on his face as he looked at Huoyun Liu-Li.

"Tsk, dream on. We had never said that we'll be marrying you." Huoyun Liu-Li snapped, but her charming eyes were still looking softly at Qing Shui.

"This demoness, giving me this again..."

"We? Who are 'we'?" Qing Shui grinned at Huoyun Liu-Li, who on the contrary wanted to dig a hole and hide in it. Wearing a suit of purple-colored clothes, she appeared to be very poised and feminine, and even Canghai Mingyue was appearing to be a bit unnatural.

A clumsy denial resulting in self-exposure!

Qing Shui was overjoyed and knew the ladies' intent. Although this result was not unexpected, it still made him overjoyed.

"Qing Shui, you haven't replied to me yet." Huoyun Liu-Li grabbed onto one of Qing Shui's arms, speaking out in a coquettish tone as she narrowed her sexy long eyes.

"I don't have time to talk about love and relationships now. My head is already very big now. Moreover, it might not be a blissful thing to be with me. Without me, hasn't she been living just as well?" Qing Shui said, a bit forcefully.

Huoyun Liu-Li did not continue. She felt that she was very happy to be sharing Qing Shui with her elder sister, but despite so, she knew that it was all her wishful thinking. After all, Qing Shui still had his fiancée back in Hundred Miles City. But it was good that Qing Shui had spent the most time with her and her sister. Moreover, even her life was saved by him.

Huoyun Liu-Li thought about the things that had happened between herself and Qing Shui, uncontrollably breaking out into a smile! She cast away those troubling thoughts, telling herself that it was useless to be thinking so much.

"Qing Shui, that lady is really beautiful, on par with the Palace Mistress." Huoyun Liu-Li said a bit mischievously.

"Don't always laud other's beauty, Liu-Li, Mingyue and yourself do not lose out to any other women. Don't look down on yourself. Our Liu-Li does not lose out to anyone else. If anyone dares to say that our Liu-Li is not as pretty as some other people, I'll bash them up to let them know who's the most beautiful." Qing Shui smiled and said happily. He knew that Liu-Li was referring to Sword Demon Huang Qing.

"You're a scoundrel, a gangster, a badass!"

...

Travelling could be very boring, but it was fortunate that Qing Shui had beauties to accompany him. Moreover, he could enjoy the sceneries on the way or read some martial arts manuals. The Fire Bird flapped its wings quickly and glided across the skies. It was truly enjoyable.

In the blink of an eye, half a month had already passed!

Qing Shui had never neglected his training at night. After spending the day chatting with Huoyun Liu-Li and Canghai Mingyue, Qing Shui would spend the rest of his time reading <>.

Now, Qing Shui had already started to attempt to make Divine Shield Talismans. After the battle in Southern City, Qing Shui had understood how powerful Heavenly Talismans were. Qing Shui had initially wanted to learn "Binding Talisman" first, but eventually decided to go through them one by one. It was because he kept having the feeling that these Heavenly Talismans were likely to be progressive in nature.

After about half a month, Qing Shui finally succeeded in drawing the Divine Shield Talisman the day before being expelled. It was a pity that he was not able to test it out in time before he got kicked out of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

Qing Shui felt that this Divine Shield Talisman was a tad more difficult than the Godly Force Talisman. The time he had spent in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal so far was about one year in the real world.

He only managed to draw the "Divine Shield Talisman" after a year, but the Heavenly Talisman was only considered to be slightly above average!

The late afternoon sun was not as piercing as the one at noon. Now that spring had just arrived, all the living things were coming back to life, filling the world with the smell of vitality. Back in Southern City, Qing Shui had actually wanted to visit someone.

Hu You!

That person who looked very much like his elder brother from his previous life; the person he had imparted his Ancient Art of Forging to. Qing Shui wondered if he had been doing well. He should not have much of a problem to become a wealthy man.

At night, after entering the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, Qing Shui decided to forgo everything else and directly went to test out the effect of the Divine Shield Talisman.

Qing Shui directly slapped the Divine Shield Talisman onto himself!

And then, Qing Shui broke out into a smile!

Defense increased by 20%!

Qing Shui did not understand this situation. Was it a grade 2 Heavenly Talisman despite having just been completed? Or was it because his grade 1 Heavenly Talisman had the effect of a grade 2 Heavenly Talisman?

Once he was completely exhausted after multiple attempts at drawing talismans, he cultivated a complete cycle of the Ancient Strengthening Technique. Two days ago, he suddenly broke through to the 142th cycle, as breaking through these two cycles was relatively easier. Qing Shui knew of this situation since the increase to each additional cycle was very slow prior to the 140th cycle. It would also be relatively hard to progress up through the cycles after the 180th cycle.

But the 141th to the 179th cycles would be relatively easier to achieve. In the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, it would take about one and a half years to break through to another cycle. This would be equivalent to slightly more than half a month in the real world.

Therefore, after breaking through to the 140th cycle, Qing Shui was overjoyed for quite a while. It was because from there, even if it was tough, he would be able to hit the 180th cycle within 3 years.

Chapter 439 - Is it a bane if a woman is too beautiful? Returning to Heavenly Palace

Greencloud Continent City was already within sight. It would not take more than half a day to reach there. The three of them had already journeyed for about a month. Some time had passed since they were last in the city.

The second trip to the Heavenly Palace was very different from his first trip. The only thing that was similar was Qing Shui's frame of mind. After he met with Sword Demon Huang Qing, he knew how powerful the Peak Grade Martial King warriors of Greencloud continent were.

"Are you thinking of that woman who looks as beautiful as the Palace Mistress?" Huoyun Liu-Li teased Qing Shui mischievously for the umpteenth time.

"No!" Qing Shui smiled bitterly.

"Why? Don't tell me she is not beautiful," Huoyun Liu-li giggled as she questioned.

"She is beautiful, very beautiful," Qing Shui replied earnestly.

"Am I beautiful?" Huoyun Liu-Li narrowed her alluring eyes into beautiful crescents. This almost made Qing Shui breathless.

"You're beautiful..."

"Is she more beautiful than me?" Huoyun Liu-Li's eyes completely revealed her craftiness.

“She is not as beautiful as you!” Qing Shui would never commit such a rudimentary mistake. Qing Shui had always abided by his principles when it came to answering such questions so he sounded certain.

“Yeah, hypocrite. Everyone can see that you think that she is more beautiful. It’s okay. I can accept that. So just tell me the truth, is she more beautiful?” Huoyun Liu-Li smiled at him.

Qing Shui did not know why Huoyun Liu-Li wanted to pursue the topic further. He felt that she had a personal issue regarding the question and that she was not teasing him.

Huoyun Liu-Li felt that she was not as beautiful as Canghai Mingyue, let alone the Palace Mistress of Misty Hall. When she saw the gorgeous woman called Huang Qing, she truly felt like she could not compare.

As Qing Shui looked at the pretty woman in her graceful purple dress, he did not think that she was inferior to anyone. Qing Shui was captivated by her naturally seductive charms. He never got tired of the way she teased him each time. He felt the most relaxed, most comfortable and the most natural with her.

“Liu-Li, in my eyes, you are in no way inferior to anyone. You are the most beautiful. Beauty is not a fixed concept. Sometimes, it is more of a feeling,” Qing Shui said with exceptional sincerity.

Qing Shui could never imagine that a woman like Huoyun Liu-Li would have moments when she lost confidence in herself. However, no one could blame her. After all, Canghai Mingyue, Yiye Jiange, Di Chen and now with the addition of Huang Qing, were all beauties that seemed who were sculpted from fantasies.

Even the ladies in Hundred Miles City like Yu He, Shi Qingzhuang and Mingyue Gelou could match her beauty. This made her feel helpless even with the confidence she had in her appearance.

“Why do you say that? Tell me, how am I better than that Huang Qing woman?” Huoyun Liu-Li smiled.

“Let me put it this way. It isn’t a good thing for a woman to be as beautiful as her or the Palace Mistress.” Qing Shui laughed.

“Oh, what sort of explanation is this? Which woman doesn’t desire to look as beautiful as a goddess and which man wouldn’t like his woman to be the most beautiful?” she looked at Qing Shui with surprise.

“Every man wishes for his woman to be a living, breathing person beside him; a woman of flesh and bone; a woman with desires, love and frustrations; a woman he can touch and reach for. Not a goddess to be worshipped on a pedestal,” Qing Shui explained genuinely as he looked at Huoyun Liu-Li.

Surprise was written all over Huoyun Liu-Li’s face. “What about sister, is she a goddess?” She laughed out happily.

“She was, but I have pulled one of her legs out from the “Goddess Gateway”. If I work harder, maybe I can free her other leg as well. Why should such a good lady be a goddess? What do you think, Liu-Li?” Qing Shui looked at Canghai Mingyue; she looked slightly uncomfortable, but smiled bashfully.

“Yeah. Qing Shui, you are the only one that doesn’t like women who are like goddesses. Hehe. When I see women like Huang Qing or the Palace mistress, even I feel slightly attracted.” Huoyun Liu-Li watched Qing Shui intently.

Qing Shui touched his nose and smiled sheepishly. "Men look for women to pamper and love. Unless they are crazy, why would anyone want a goddess to worship daily..."

"You can come up with all sorts of odd reasons, but you do have point. Though do you really have not even a bit of feelings for them?" Huoyun Liu-Li smiled; the craftiness was replaced with a lightheartedness. She was just like a beautiful little fox.

"How should I put it? They are like the stars in the skies. They are too far and our paths will never intersect. Even if they do, they will be like shooting stars. It will only be resplendent for that short moment."

"What...What about me? What am I to you?" Huoyun Liu-Li asked in a quiet, nonchalant voice.

Qing Shui knew that she cared a lot about how he was going to answer her. She would only act indifferently when she really cared.

"You are my "sweet dessert". I am a hungry man. Do you think I will think about the stars in the skies or will I eat the sweet dessert I like the most?" Qing Shui laughed heartily but his gaze showed his seriousness.

"No way, I am not your sweet dessert. You are a real baddie," Huoyun Liu-Li said with slight disdain, but he knew that she was very happy from that mesmerizing smile of hers.

"We are reaching soon. Let's get down," Canghai Mingyue reminded.

"It's okay. Don't forget, I am already an Elder of the Heaven Palace." Qing Shui laughed. In the Heavenly Palace, only Elders and above had the privilege to ride up the mountains or fly without restraints around the nine halls of the Heavenly Palace on their flying beast - with the exception of a few special places.

"I've really forgotten that you are already an Elder," Huoyun Liu-li quipped.

His Firebird flew directly towards Heavenly Palace Mountain. Instinctively, it headed to Cang Wuya's abode. However, as it reached the skies above the Heaven Palace, it landed.

Qing Shui thought that it would be better to walk such a short distance!

After all, it had been some time since he came. He was surprised to find that many people in Heavenly Palace still remembered him. Apparently, Qing Shui placed himself in the spotlight the last time he was here.

"Is that Qing Shui?"

"Who is Qing Shui?" A youth asked in confusion.

"He is the youngest Elder in Heaven Palace. Now you know!"

"Is he that brash man who fought against nine people from Sword Tower himself?" the youth asked as his eyes sparkled when he saw Qing Shui.

"Yes. And he was the one who killed that monster, Xi Ri."

"He is also the youngest Elder!"

.....

Even though they discussed in hushed voices, Qing Shui could hear them clearly. He realized that the two ladies were hiding their smiles.

After they walked past stone gardens, forests and followed a gravel path, they finally reached Cang Wuya's house. They spotted him waiting for them at the gate

"Grandpa!"

"Grandpa!"

"Grandpa Cang!"

Canghai Mingyue and Huoyun Liu-Li hugged Cang Wuya as they greeted him. Qing Shui could see that the both of them were very happy, especially Canghai Mingyue.

Qing Shui grinned as his eyes met with Cang Wuya's.

"You're back! How are you all doing?" Cang Wuya asked cheerfully. Qing Shui could tell that Cang Wuya was genuinely glad.

Cang Wuya's son was dead and he did not have any other living descendants. Even though Canghai was his disciple, he treated her as well as his son and had taken care of her since she was young. He had always treated her as his own granddaughter.

"Yup, we are okay."

"Grandpa Cang, when we arrived, I think I saw many other sect members from Sword Tower and the other sects at the mountains?" Qing Shui asked Cang Wuya about what they saw.

"That's right. I wanted to discuss it with you. All of you came back at the right time. You are just in time for the Greencloud Continent Capital's Six Sects Tournament."

"Six Sects Tournament?" Qing Shui asked Cang Wuya, puzzled.

"Yes, the six largest sects in the Continent Capital are: Heavenly Palace, Sword Tower, Alchemist Sect, Demonic Beast Sect, Qin Clan and Hai Clan!" Cang Wuya listed out the names of the sects and families involved as he knew that that was what Qing Shui wanted to find out.

"Are these the strongest sects in the Greencloud continent?" Qing Shui knew about Heavenly Palace, Sword Tower and had heard of Alchemist Sect and Qin Clan. Guo Polu's father was a warrior from Qin Clan.

However, Qing Shui had never heard of Demonic Beast Sect and Hai Clan.

"On the surface, it seems that way. However, in Greencloud Continent, even just the Continent Capital, who knows if there are any hidden experts. So even if they are known to be the strongest sects, it is really only for this region."

Qing Shui agreed. Considering the vastness of the Central Continent, what was known was only a drop in the ocean. For example, who would have known that in a small city like Hundred Miles City, there was a powerful demonic beast in the Ten Thousand Turtle Swamp? Even the Art Maestro died there.

“Grandpa Cang, is the Demonic Beast Sect strong?” Qing Shui was curious about this sect with Beast Tamers.

“Demonic Beast Sect was once the strongest sects in Greencloud Continent as they had two Elders who managed to tame a Martial King level Demonic beast each. It instantly boosted their ranks to the strongest sect, but people are never satisfied. When they came to know of the location of the demonic beast “Golden eyed Ape King”, which had just reached Martial Saint level, they decided to try to tame it. Unfortunately, they did not manage to. They were badly defeated and lost many people. That battle caused their rank to drop immediately. Despite that, even if they were weakened, they are still considered strong. Who knows if they have a strong backer who has a Peak grade Martial King Demonic beast.”

After hearing Cang Wuya’s introduction, Qing Shui could not help being curious about the Demonic Beast Sect. Due to Yiye Chuge and Luanluan, he knew a bit about beast taming. After all, beast tamers have one of the most powerful professions in the world of the Nine Continents.

Qing Shui did not know how formidable Demonic Beast Sect’s beast taming techniques were, but he knew that they cannot compare to Luanluan. This was expected. However, Qing Shui felt that they were way more inferior to her. After all, how can it be so difficult to tame a demonic beast of the same level as them?

“Grandpa Cang, is it very difficult for a tamer to tame a demonic beast at the same level?”

“Yes. Under normal circumstances, beast taming is very difficult as you need to defeat the beast. This is already very difficult as a single demonic beast can defeat multiple martial warriors who are at the same level as itself,” Cang Wuya explained as they all walked towards the hall.

“How do the beast tamers of the Demonic Beast Sect tame beasts who are at their level?” Qing Shui thought of a few methods, but he was unsure if they were correct. Especially when it comes to the problem that the two Peak Grade Martial King level beast tamers were able to tame beasts of the same level.

“The most direct method of taming a beast is to defeat it. After it fears you, you can start taming it. Another is to get help from an expert to injure the demonic beast first, then go forward to tame it. Of course, the success rate of the latter is much lower but much safer. This is how seniors can help their juniors and how relationships are improved between these beast tamers. Another method is to help a badly wounded demonic beast, even if they may be strong, you might be able to tame them after that. Though, that is very dangerous.”

They sat down on the couches near the tea table. It matched his guess, however, Qing Shui did not know that people could team up for that. In Greencloud Continent, there were only Peak Grade Martial King warriors. Even with the help of one person, it would not be easy to defeat a Peak Grade Martial King Demonic beast.

“Grandpa Cang, what are the rules and purposes of the Six Sects Tournament?” Qing Shui asked. He thought about the person he met at Sword Tower previously and wondered if he could kill him if the conditions permitted it.

“Nominally, it is to exchange views and learn from each other. In fact, it is basically for resolving grudges. “

“Resolving grudges? What is that about?” Qing Shui asked as there was a glint in his eyes.

“In this continent capital and the surrounding regions, these six sects wielded the biggest power. All the other smaller sects and clans are quite insignificant. Therefore, grudges are usually kept within these six sects. Just like the relationship between Heavenly Palace and Sword Tower.”

“Is killing permitted in this tournament?” Qing Shui looked at Cang Wuya smiling.

“In the Six Sects tournament, no one can come down from the battling stage unscathed.” Cang Wuya laughed.

At this moment, Qing Shui felt his blood boil as he thought of Sword Tower. He then turned to Cang Wuya and continued asking, “ Grandpa Cang, are there any rules or limitations for this Six Sects tournament?”

“Yes. People of the same seniority can directly challenge each other. If a person of a higher seniority wants a match with someone of a lower seniority, the person with a lower seniority can decide if they want to accept the match. Anyone who has a lower seniority than the person on the battling stage can directly challenge the opponent on the stage. The rest is up to fate.” Cang Wuya summarized the rules.

“That is easy. The lives of martial arts practitioners are more fragile than the commoners.” Qing Shui sighed.

After a while, Fei Wuji came over happily. As Cang Wuya liked wines, Qing Shui took out some of the various wines he had kept in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal.

“Qing Shui. So will you be participating in the Six Sects Tournament?” Fei Wuji asked after he drank a huge gulp of aged nu’er hong (wine).

“It depends.” Qing Shui thought about that person, if he stood on the battle stage, Qing Shui would definitely go up, too.

“If you participate, Qing Shui, do remember that you can only fight with someone of the same seniority,” Fei Wuji told him seriously. There were many people vying to take this opportunity to kill a genius like Qing Shui.

“Yes, I will take note of that. Thank you, Senior Martial Uncle.” Qing Shui was thankful for Fei Wuji’s concern. In the world of Nine Continents, there were not many people who cared for him as such.

Chapter 440 - Six Sects Tournament, Xi Ri, He is Qing Shui...

“Senior Martial Uncle, will there be many people participating in such a bloodthirsty tournament?” Qing Shui believed that a tournament essentially made for people who want revenge would not have that many participants.

“The tournament will start with people who have grudges with each other, as these battles end in either death or disability, so the hatred between the two sides gradually deepens. Once this spiral of bloodlust starts, everything else becomes secondary. That’s why every single Six Sects Tournament ends in a bloodbath.” Fei Wuji laughed.

“Wouldn’t that mean that many talented people will die?” Qing Shui asked doubtfully.

“Ha ha. People who have not gone through the thunderstorms in life, who have not undergone the vicissitudes of life, cannot be considered talented people.” Fei Wuji said softly with a confident inflection.

This made Qing Shui remember a saying. Killing a single person is treated as a crime; massacring ten thousand is treated as heroism. Massacring nine million people would thus be considered the bravest of heroisms.

After killing ten thousand people, one will gain a strong aura of death; when one has killed nine million people, one will attain an incredibly murderous aura that overshadows even the ominous aura that accompanies it.

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It was already afternoon when Qing Shui returned to his own place. When he arrived, he saw a girl standing there and smiling at him.

Yan Ling’er!

“Older Brother Qing Shui...”

Qing Shui thought that he would not have any interaction with anyone from the Yan Clan after he had resolved the Yan Clan issue. However, he had forgotten about Yan Ling’er and how they were now living one floor away from each other.

“I am not your brother...” Qing Shui was speechless.

“I don’t care. I want to call you my brother.” Yan Ling’er was older than Qing Shui by only a couple days. But she was used to calling him ‘Older Brother Qing Shui’, so she did not even bother changing it.

“I no longer have any business with the Yan Clan.” Qing Shui stood his ground and replied.

“So what if you have no business with the Yan Clan. I also hate the Yan Clan. I wish I am not from a Yan, but this is not my choice.” Yan Ling’er replied dispiritedly as she looked at Qing Shui.

Right, she had no choice in this. Just like himself, he also did not have a choice. At this moment, Qing Shui did not feel good about this. Their generation all had broken families.

“Whatever.” Qing Shui said as he headed upstairs.

Yan Ling’er followed him upstairs as a faint smile appeared on her face.

When Qing Shui was about to close the door, Yan Ling’er quickly slipped in. Qing Shui was startled to a halt for a moment before he close the door. He turned to look at Yan Ling’er.

“What are you doing? I am tired, and I want to rest.”

“Oh, you are tired. Then, you can just sleep. Just ignore me. I want to just take a look around here.” Yan Ling’er blinked her pair of innocent-looking eyes twice.

Qing Shui looked at those innocent eyes. Even though he knew she was faking it, his heart softened. She was a very proud girl, so it must have taken a lot of courage for her to do this. Even he might not have the courage to do such a thing himself.

“Brother Qing Shui, I did not know that things were this way. You and auntie must have suffered all these years.” Yan Ling’er immediately knew she had made a mistake once she said that. She looked at Qing Shui anxiously.

She found that Qing Shui was not angry. Up until now, Qing Shui knew that the other branches of the Yan Clan were just helpless victims of the incident. He did not want to hold on to those grudges stubbornly, since, after all, those members of the Yan Clan were all dead.

“Fine, since you want to stay here, then go ahead. I am going to rest first!” Qing Shui said to Yan Ling’er wearily.

Yan Ling’er nodded her head cheerfully. Even though Qing Shui did not seem friendly now, she knew that things were changing and that Qing Shui’s hatred towards her had lessened.

Night came and the moonlight shone into the room. Qing Shui came out from the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. He could not fall asleep at the moment. He had reached the 143th cycle of his Ancient Strengthening Technique.

It was easier to reach a breakthrough now. He just had to accumulate enough power to reach the breakthrough. During this period of time, Qing Shui’s strength had risen unbelievably fast.

This rate of growth would only plateau at the 179th cycle, so Qing Shui needed to improve as quickly as possible and try to shorten the time required. Once he reaches the 180th cycle, the rate at which he’d achieve breakthroughs would fall again.

Qing Shui knew that once he reaches the 179th cycle, his capabilities would improve vastly. With this increase, he had a feeling more dangers would crop up ahead.

Qing Shui stood by the window while looking at the quiet and boundless starry sky. The skies were sprinkled with twinkling stars that shone gently beside the full moon.

Qing Shui had never thought of going back. When he first arrived in the World of the Nine continents, he was a little apprehensive. But when he saw Qing Yi’s hopeful gaze, he gradually got used to this world. After all, he experienced growing up here and witnessed his mother’s love. When he was a baby, instead of the blank state that all infants had, he slowly observed how great his mother’s love was.

“When the sun rises, it will be the first day of the Six Sects tournament.” The moonlight cast a reflection in Qing Shui’s eyes. Qing Shui looked at the distant skies and felt a little despondent.

“Tan Yang. You better not appear on the battle stage. Don’t let me see you.” Qing Shui closed his eyes sadly. He forced himself not to think of Mingyue Gelou and Little Yuchang.

He could feel that these repressed emotions were tearing his heart apart.

The next day, Qing Shui went to the public square for his morning practice. He found Gongsun Jianyun and a large group of people practising their Taichi Fist solemnly.

He was surprised to find that many of them had already gotten the knack for Taichi and were able to express the grace of Taichi. There are a few like Gongsun Jianyun who have already reached the master level of the technique.

Qing Shui was silently amazed by Gongsun Jianyun. He had a high natural aptitude and could be considered a genius of the Starmoon Hall before he met Qing Shui. Unfortunately, Qing Shui's prestige had totally buried his.

"Big Brother Qing Shui!" Gongsun Jianyun spotted Qing Shui and ran over in surprise.

"Big Brother Qing Shui!"

"Big Brother Qing Shui!"

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Many of them had spoken to Qing Shui before, so they came over to greet him. They looked at Qing Shui with a lot of admiration and respect.

"Since when was I so close with them?" Qing Shui gave Gongsun Jianyun a puzzled look. To not make things difficult, Qing Shui reciprocated by smiling at them in a friendly manner.

"Qing Shui, when did you come back?" Gongsun Jianyun asked unceremoniously.

Age could make someone old, and age could also make someone more mature. Qing Shui could see the apparent change in Gongsun Jianyun's demeanor. His image had totally changed, he was no longer that proud and haughty playboy.

"I came back yesterday. All of you wake up really early!" Qing Shui replied with a smile as he slowly went into the starting Taichi pose.

When they saw that Qing Shui was beginning his practice, they quietly backed off. It was indeed easy to spot an expert. They were amazed how just his starting stance seemed to hold such depth and profoundness.

In the previous generations, reaching ancestor level was already a formidable feat. Qing Shui's level in Taichi Fists were already in the "Mixed Heaven" level. Every aspect of his Taichi form expressed a profoundly simple grace; even if they had a semblance of lightness and powerlessness, the impact of each blow caused a change in the general Qi field.

Qing Shui regulated his deep breaths.

Nature Energy!

Qing Shui appeared to the others as a sturdy, powerful warrior. Interspersed with the "softness" was an undefeatable aura. His form was not beautiful but was instead natural and magnanimous.

There were many people at the public square. Some of them were not even from Heavenly Palace, but they were a minority. After all, this was the public square in Starmoon Hall.

In the past, many people did not understand why Qing Shui chose to practice such a slow fist technique every day, which led many to slander him. Once Qing Shui had defeated the nine talent disciples at Sword Tower and Xi Ri, he had become famous.

From that time, Gongsun Jianyun and the others started to practice that slow fist technique. They had to admire Gongsun Jianyun's insight.

The surrounding crowd got larger.

"Let's go. Let's hurry to Lingxiao Treasure Hall. We must find a good seat. The Six Sects Tournament is starting soon. If we are late, we won't be able to see a thing."

"That's right. We can't miss this Six Sects Tournament that only happens every few years. If we watch it this time, it could save our lives. Watch closely and try to learn as much as you can."

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Qing Shui slowly cooled down. He suddenly felt an odd presence of Qi. He turned and saw someone he did not expect.

Xi Ri!

"Are you interested in watching the tournament?" In this rare occasion, it was Xi Ri who started to talk first as he smiled at Qing Shui.

His abilities had improved significantly. This was the benefit of having a determined mentality.

"Sure!" Qing Shui replied with a smile as he looked at Gongsun Jianyun.

"Big Brother Qing Shui, it's okay. Both of you should go. I will follow in a bit."

Qing Shui nodded and headed to Lingxing Treasure Hall with Xi Ri at his side.

"You will join the sparring." Xi Ri looked to a distance as he spoke.

"You too." Qing Shui replied plainly.

"I can feel a murderous intent. I think that this isn't like you." Xi Ri laughed, revealing his set of white teeth.

The person standing in front of him had a sunny, handsome appearance. Qing Shui did not expect that he would chase after someone like the Misty Hall Mistress, but he knew that it would only leave Xi Ri full of wounds.

"I am here to kill someone, but I am not sure if he will be present." Qing Shui said with a faint smile.

Xi Ri did not continue the conversation. He knew from Qing Shui's tone what it meant and decided to keep his silence.

When they reached Lingxiao Treasure Hall, they found that there were people everywhere. Most of them were heading towards the public square. Luckily, there was still a passageway for people to enter and exit.

Just after a few steps, Qing Shui noticed that many eyes were on him. Qing Shui smiled awkwardly and looked at Xi Ri, who was beside him. Originally, Qing Shui may not be recognized that quickly, but he was beside such an eye-catching person.

“Look, Isn’t that Xi Ri?”

“Yes. He is still so handsome and stylish.” A beautiful, matured lady swooned.

“ I heard that his skills have improved tremendously.”

“I’ve heard about that too!”

“Hey, who is that person beside Xi Ri?”

“Birds of a feather flock together. That man is quite young, but he seems as charming as Xi Ri. How could I have missed a man of such flavor!”

“That is Qing Shui...”

“Qing Shui...”