

## Ancient ST 821

### Chapter 821 - Departing on the Eve

Qing Shui hugged her gently. When he had come over, he had decided to gamble even though the odds of finding her were close to zero. However, he had actually managed to chase up to her.

Di Qing hugged Qing Shui very tightly. Her alluring body was trembling faintly, and the fluctuations in her heart were very intense as she softly made sobbing noises.

“Don’t cry, sister Qing.” said Qing Shui as he gently patted her back.

This was the second or third time he had hugged her. The Nine Continents were generally laid back about things, but a large portion of women were very traditional, even down to the bone.

When Di Qing raised her head again with her tear-filled, slightly red-pupiled beautiful appearance, she looked at Qing Shui earnestly with a face without makeup that made her seem exceptionally pitiful. From the look in her eyes, she seemed to want to place Qing Shui into her heart, to the place where her soul was.

“Why did you chase after me? Qing Shui, I’d already decided not to see you again, but why did you just have to appear?” asked Di Qing softly as she looked at Qing Shui.

“I’m slightly slow when it comes to relationships...”

“You’re not slow. You’re a hard and stiff tree root.” replied Di Qing as she continued to hug Qing Shui, not letting him go.

Qing Shui was speechless for a while. Bitterly laughing, he looked towards the magnificent girl who was hugging him, “Elder sister Qing, you should know that I’ve more than one girl with me. If you follow me, I’m afraid it’d wrong you.”

“Do I look like I feel wronged? This is the first time I’ve liked someone, and also the first time I’ve confessed to someone. However I’ve been hurt and covered in wounds.”replied Di Qing dejectedly as she looked at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui felt touched. Such a girl had given up everything to be by his side. His heart was not stone. This was coupled with the fact that the two of them had been in contact with each other for quite a while. Really though, the most important reason Di Qing felt this way was due to Di Chen.

It was not that Di Chen had forbidden their relationship. Instead, she seemingly had thought of playing matchmaker for the two of them, and had even mentioned it to him. However, he had felt that this was slightly unfair for Di Chen.

If Di Chen and Di Qing weren’t sisters, there would probably have been a different ending for Di Qing now.

“Could it be that you don’t like me a single bit?” Di Qing seemed to have gathered the courage to ask this question. In addition, Qing Shui could feel that her heart was currently racing.

“There’s no one who doesn’t like beauties. However liking and loving are two separate matters. In fact, it took quite a lot of courage to reject you.” Qing Shui replied earnestly with a bitter face.

“Is that true?” Hearing Qing Shui’s reply, Di Qing felt happy, her hand hugging Qing Shui more tightly.

“That’s naturally true. Although you’re not gentle enough, you’re a super great beauty.” replied Qing Shui with a smile.

“Who say’s that I’m not gentle? I’m very gentle...” Di Qing’s face turned slightly red as she looked at Qing Shui. She did not know whether his previous sentence was praising her or something else.

“You’re very gentle right now. Okay, okay, you’re still crying your nose off at such a big age. Come on, stop rubbing your mucus on me...” said Qing Shui gently as he rubbed the tear stains off her face. When his hand made contact with that tender and lovely skin, it made both their hearts jump and skip.

Although Qing Shui had helped Di Qing stop crying before, that situation didn’t have the ambiguous flavor of this moment. This was all due to the two of them seemingly untying the knots in their hearts.

“You’re the snot-nosed one...it’s all because of you. I want you to compensate me.” said Di Qing bashfully as she wrapped her hands around his neck in a annoyed tone.

“Okay. I’ll compensate you. Tell me, what do you want as compensation?” asked Qing Shui with a smile.

“I want you to say you love me.” said Di Qing in a soft voice as she faintly lowered her head.

Qing Shui gawked before looking at the girl whose face was turning even redder. Her lovely earlobes had turned an alluring pink, giving off an aura that made people’s blood boil.

Qing Shui extend his hand and held her chin, putting her beautiful face that could lead to the downfall of countries right in front of his. The amorous feelings he had in that instant almost enraptured him.

“Are you certain that you’ll have no regrets?”

“I won’t regret it. Even if I had to jump through fire, I won’t have any regrets.” replied Di Qing in an extremely soft voice. However her firm tone was unconcealable.

“Qing’er, I love you.” said Qing Shui softly as he hugged her.

“Qing Shui, I love you too.” said Di Qing gently into Qing Shui’s ear.

This instantly made Qing Shui’s heart jump. It seemed as though his heart was touched, and unknowingly, he had already hugged her tightly. They could feel the other’s heart racing.

“Let’s go back. If you left, how would we be able to deepen our relationship?”

“Qing Shui, I really want to go back. Don’t worry about me. I really miss home. If we are in love, this short separation won’t mean anything. I’ll find you.” After thinking, Di Qing raised her head slightly and looked at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui opened his mouth and wanted to say something, however he was prevented by a kiss from Di Qing, blocking his mouth...

Gawking, he looked at her, faintly closing her eyes as her delicate body faintly shivered. Her kiss awkwardly rubbed against his mouth, but this just made Qing Shui more stimulated.

Gradually, under the guidance of Qing Shui, the two of them had come to a tacit understanding. The beautiful and wonderful feeling of those lips akin to flower petals made Qing Shui forget about time.

As Qing Shui's hands rubbed on her large mounds, Di Qing pressed down on his hands as her face burned up, "That's enough, you're not allowed to act badly."

Qing Shui looked at Di Qing's exceptionally beautiful face as his hands continued to blaspheme her. Looking at her lovely and ashamed look, it was as if his soul suffered an attack.

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"Not quite yet." He continued for at least a minute before Di Qing voiced her annoyance with a beet red face.

Reluctant to part, Qing Shui withdrew his hands before saying a sentence in Di Qing's ear, causing her to be even more ashamed and unable to show her face. At this point, her face turned an even more scarlet red, akin to fire.

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"Are you truly going to leave?" At this time, Qing Shui and Di Qing had already landed in the wilderness.

"Yes, you can come find me, or I'll come find you in the future. In any case you better not get rid of me for your entire life." said Di Qing happily.

"Take this and eat it. It'll help you." Qing Shui took out the Fate Pill he had prepared for Huoyun Liu-li and handed it to Di Qing

Looking at Qing Shui, Di Qing did not say anything else and directly swallowed it.

Qing Shui guarded her as she broke through. She was undoubtedly one of those matchless girls from the of the Portraits of Beauties, breaking through straight from Grade Two Martial Saint to Grade Four Martial Saint, increasing over 400 counties of strength. Di Qing was incomparably happy. She was an independent girl, and her breakthrough in strength was a happy thing for her. It was as if she had received two times the happiness today.

For a day, the pair spent basically all of their time on the back of the Fire Bird. Since she was going to leave, Qing Shui bluntly used this method to give her a day of his time.

Just like that, the two of them snuggled together on the back of the Fire Bird, talking about their worries. From time to time, Di Qing's seductive voice would ring out, and this continued all the way to the next day.

"Qing Shui, go back. It's already very far." said Di Qing as she looked at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui nodded his head and replied, "Close your eyes. I'll send you off for the rest of the journey.

Di Qing slowly closed her eyes.

Qing Shui kept the Firebird and hugged the already blushing Di Qing. She had assumed that he wanted to kiss her.

Laughing, Qing Shui kissed her lips as he simultaneously used the Nine Continent Steps.

In that instant, Di Qing did not know what had even happened.

Their kiss lasted at least a minute. Still unwilling, their lips separated. Di Qing mounted her Azure-eyed Silver Falcon and left, with Qing Shui waiting for her figure to disappear over the horizon before mounting the Firebird and returning.

It was already the third day when he returned home. Within these three days, Qing Shui had refined the Mysterious Fruit he had kept into Fate Pills. Perhaps due to the increase in his alchemy skills, he had unexpectedly refined four pills.

This could be considered a big breakthrough, as the price of every Fate Pill was astronomical and the pill was not a trace inferior to the Xiantian Golden Pellet.

As Qing Shui returned to the Qing Family, all the clan members felt quite relieved. Upon knowing that Di Qing had returned home safely, everyone breathed a sigh of relief. Qing Shui proceeded to hand a Fate Pill to Yiye Jiange, Huoyun Liu-li, Canghai Mingyue and Wenren Wushuang.

“Qing Shui, can this really help me breakthrough to Martial Saint Stage?” asked Huoyun Liu-li as she looked towards Qing Shui with a frown.

“Are you not happy?” asked Qing Shui with a smile.

“No, but isn’t it harder for Martial Saints to have children?” asked Huoyun Liu-li as she looked at Qing Shui.

“It’s originally like that, but nothing is absolute.” Qing Shui had never imagined that she would be perturbed over this.

“Qing Shui, I feel like waiting for a child before I consume it. Would that be alright? Recently I’ve not even dared to train, as I’m afraid of breaking through to Martial Saint.” said Huoyun Liu-li gently.

Qing Shui felt that this lass was too cute. There might be people within the World of the Nine Continents that may have the same thoughts, but those with the same absolute resoluteness would be as rare as phoenix feathers and unicorn horns.

“You can definitely do that.” replied Qing Shui with a faint smile.

“Okay!” she replied in a very low voice.

“Seductress, let us go plow the seed and give birth to a child earlier.”

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After consuming the Fate Pill, Yiye Jiange became a Grade Five Martial Saint, Canghai Mingyue became a Grade Four Martial Saint and Wenren Wu-shang became a Grade Three Martial Saint

The Fate Pill wasn't the most precious treasure in the world, but it was absolutely a powerful pill. Everyone could only consume one in their lifetime.

The strength of the others in the Qing Clan had also rapidly increased. Qing Shui had long given them all the pills and medicines that they required. That included the All Aspect Nourishment Soup and the Tiger Bone Soup, and he had even given the recipe and some spices to the members of Qing Family.

Not much time was left, and Qing Shui felt that he should head back to Flowerfruit Mountain. His Nature Energy had reached the Sixth Grade, so it should be possible for him to save the lady in the crystal coffin.

He planned to save that lady and consider their dealings even. After all, he had taken a drawing from her and a pearl from that gate keeping old turtle. If not for that pearl, he would not have been able to subdue that Spirit Snake Turtle and gain those benefits.

"Maybe I'm the only one who can help you." Qing Shui thought about that lady who had been asleep for some unknown amount of time.

A lady akin to a goddess.

The Misty Hall was now under the leadership of Yiye Jiange, with a few girls helping her. The Misty Hall had become the strongest hall of the nine halls in the Heavenly Palace. Their existence might lead to the Heavenly Palace becoming extraordinarily splendid in the future.

He was about to leave and he did not know how long it would be before he could settle down again. Hopefully, it should be quick.

## **Chapter 822 - Towards Flowerfruit Mountain**

After half a month, Qing Shui prepared to leave.

The people from the Qing Clan merely made a token attempt at stopping Qing Shui from leaving. They knew that Qing Shui had his own matters to attend to, hence they didn't excessively urge him to stay. However, he constantly carried his own children around. With both Qing Ming and Qing Yan having learned to call out father and mother. Their baby voices made him reluctant to leave.

This time round, he did not mention a specific time that he would be back as even he was unsure when that would be.

"Lass, let mommy carry you, daddy has things to do." Shi Qingzhuang smiled as she went over to carry Qing Yan who was in Qing Shui's arms.

What made Qing Shui happy was that the little lass refused to let go of him, causing Shi Qingzhuang to not know whether to laugh or cry. After a round of coaxing her, Qingzhuang at last managed to carry the little girl over.

This time, only a few of the girls sent Qing Shui off. Canghai Mingyue, Shi Qingzhuang and Mingyue Gelou didn't. Yiye Jiange, Wenren Wu-shuang and Huoyun Liu-Li stood on the back of the Fire Bird along with Qing Shui.

The place where Qing Shui wanted to go to was Flowerfruit Mountain. He decided to head there to examine the place once again and to conveniently visit the underwater palace at the bottom of the lake to see if he could help awaken the woman in the crystal coffin.

“Qing Shui, let me go with you.” Huoyun Liu-Li looked at Qing Shui.

“Wait for a while longer. Currently, I’m not strong enough to bring you guys. Very soon, as long as you wish to go, I’ll bring you guys along wherever it may be.” Qing Shui smiled as he looked at Huoyun Liu-Li.

“You always lie to us, it’s the same every time.” Huoyun Lou-Li pouted, but she wasn’t angry. She understood that things were not easy for Qing Shui. Furthermore she knew that he was fighting for survival, his own as well as that of the Qing Clan and the Heavenly Palace.

“You must be careful, we’re still counting on you. When you’re back, I’ll agree to anything you want.” Wenren Wushuang grinned as she looked at Qing Shui, her gorgeous face showing a slight blush.

“Wu-shuang can no longer endure it.” Huoyun Liu-Li looked at Wushuang with a teasing look as she revealed a cunning smile.

Yiye Jiange was silent the whole time. Her expression was tranquil to the point that even Qing Shui was unable to grasp any fluctuations in her feelings.

“Hehe, then I’ll need to come back earlier.” Qing Shui licked his lips and smiled at Wenren Wu-shuang.

Wenren Wu-shuang lowered her head, her face turning scarlet.

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“Alright, head on back. Don’t need to worry about me.” Qing Shui saw that half a day had already passed, and made them rush back to the Qing Clan before dusk.

“Qing Shui, be careful,” Huoyun Liu-Li whispered as she hugged Qing Shui.

“Alright, I know, don’t worry.” Qing Shui replied as he smiled and patted her back.

After that, Qing Shui hugged Wenren Wushuang. However, he didn’t say anything, only hugging her tightly before letting go. After a moment of hesitation, he walked up to Yiye Jiange.

“I’m leaving!”

“Alright, pay attention to your safety.” Yiye Jiange smiled gently, her beautiful eyes were filled with much concerns.

Qing Shui nodded his head and hugged her gently. He could feel both his and Yiye Jiange’s hearts beating really fast at the same time. When he realized her heart was beating fast as well, he calmed down instead.

“We’ve already been husband and wife for such a long time, yet you still feel so nervous,” Qing Shui whispered softly at her ear.

Upon hearing Qing Shui’s words, Yiye Jiange softly embraced Qing Shui and relaxed her entire body. At this moment, Qing Shui felt her body pressing tightly on his.

Qing Shui really meant what he said. After the incident with Di Qing, he recalled that in the past she did not allow him address her as master and she also didn't object to small intimate moments between them. Why would a girl like her let him take advantage of her to such an extent? Even now, the close contact they had also illustrated a problem.

At the very least, he was currently greatly superior to other men. All along, he was unable to have a clear grasp of how Yiye Jiange felt. But when they both felt nervous at the same time, that proved that the both of them really cared for each other.

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Qing Shui waved his hand and left on the Fire Bird, leaving only Yiye Jiange, Wenren Wushuang and Huoyun Liu-Li. They watched until the Fire Bird disappeared into the distance.

"Sister Jiange, he is a moron when it comes to the affections between men and women. Are you sure you want things to stay this way? At that time, I was also the one who thickened up my face and....." Huoyun Liu-Li blushed when she was asking Yiye Jiange.

"We'll let nature take its course. In the past, even though I didn't make it clear with what I said, he should still be able to understand what I meant," Yiye Jiange said with a smile.

"But it seemed like he was enlightened today."

"He is the timid type. He is lustful yet he never dares to confess it. Just like with Sister Jiange, if she doesn't make it clear to him, I doubt that he would ever confess his feelings. He feels inferior. If it had been in the past, I think he wouldn't even dare to hug her," Wenren Wu-shuang continued on with a smile.

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"That's true, no wonder Wu-shuang seduced him just now."

"Liu-Li, if you continue saying that about me, I'm going to slap your bum." Wenren Wushuang said, embarrassed.

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Qing Shui had already flown toward Flowerfruit Mountain for three days. Other than the time spent in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, he spent the rest of it hurrying on. The Fire Bird was a few times faster than before. In addition, by using the Nine Continents Steps daily, he was really fast.

He had already covered half of the journey in merely three days. Currently, he had already entered the center part of the wilderness. But normally, this place wasn't really that dangerous.

Every time Qing Shui was rushing through his journey, he would feel that the speed of his mount was really slow. The World of the Nine Continents was too large, causing him to spend almost all his time on the road. From one continent to another, the time needed to travel past a continent was immeasurable... Undeniably, the amount of expenses and energy needed to travel faraway was enormous.

Compared to before, Qing Shui felt that things were slightly better now. It was just that his Nine Continent Steps have not improved, if not, he would feel even better. That was, if the Nine Continents Steps Effect was really able to travel past a continent in one go.....

After three days.

Qing Shui looked at the boundless Flowerfruit Mountain and sensed the familiar aura. It still had the familiar powerful energy contained within it. There weren't any presence of Martial Saints in Flowerfruit Mountain. A Martial Saint expert would still be able to suppress the strength of a Peak Martial King.

Upon entering it this time, Qing Shui felt something different. When the enormous pressure approached him, some of it was blocked by his Nature Energy and he managed to recover roughly 10% of his strength.

10%?

At present, Qing Shui's strength was around three and a half stars. He tried to sense it and realized that he was actually able to execute nearly four thousand countries of strength.

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He was still a Martial Saint expert on Flowerfruit Mountain. In fact, he could be considered a highly-ranked Martial Saint expert and was a lot stronger than some Chieftain Level beasts. This made Qing Shui wonder if he would be able to break off from those limitations if his Nature Energy upgraded a few more levels.

In any case, this was a good thing. This has enabled him to become the strongest presence within Flowerfruit Mountain. Generally, he could easily kill his opponents by merely using the Emperor's Qi and Heavenly Talismans.

Because some of the Heavenly Talismans lowered the opponent's strength by using his own strength as the standard. For example, the Binding Talisman, merely one Binding Talisman was already able to make Peak Martial King Demonic Beasts slow like snails.

A Body Securing Talisman was able to lock the opponents in one place, the same thing could also be done with the Demon Binding Ropes.

Even though a lot of his methods weren't effective when facing Peak Martial Saint experts, against opponents with strength of this caliber, not only would they work perfectly, the duration of the attacks lasted would also become longer.

After rushing for a day, Qing Shui found a hilltop and took a break. He took the chance to enjoy the scenery there. When in nature, the power of scenery was huge. Beautiful scenery could attract one's attention to the point they might become obsessed with it.

The power of nature was boundless. Cold, warmth, thunder, storm, hail, volcanoes.....

Ming-ming.....



A sharp chirping noise sounded. Qing Shui lifted up his head only to see a flock of White Jade Wind Eagles in the distance. They were about ten meters long and were skilled in flying. They were Grade One Martial King demonic beasts that moved in groups and there were roughly eight hundred of them.

To a Martial Saint or Peak Martial Saint, the White Jade Wind Eagles were really fragile. However, this was Flowerfruit Mountain and there wasn't any Martial Saints present. When faced with eight hundred Grade One Martial King demonic beasts that specialized in speed, even a Peak Martial King would still choose to retreat.

Qing Shui was different, due to his Nature Energy, he could use his high-ranked Martial Saint strength. Hence, he didn't pay any attention to the White Jade Wind Eagles that were approaching him.

Ming.....

A sharp and loud chirping noise resounded. A restless White Jade Wind Eagle suddenly charged towards Qing Shui and attempted to scratch Qing Shui with its enormous claws.

"Reckless!"

Qing Shui extended his hands and immediately caught its enormous claws. After that, he pulled the eagle backwards before violently thrusting forward. This was the strength of Taichi, just that Qing Shui modified it slightly, swapping part of the gentleness with ferocity.

In just a short while, the innards of the White Jade Wind Eagle were totally destroyed. The difference in strength was too large. By merely swinging his hands, he has already killed his opponent.

Perhaps due to Qing Shui killed one of the White Jade Wind Eagles, the entire flock went mad and they haphazardly charged towards Qing Shui.

Qing Shui slowly closed his eyes. In an instant, everything in the surroundings appeared clearly in his mind.

Taichi Cloudhand!

Taichi Single Whip!

Qing Shui swiftly thrust out his palm. It was so dazzling that it would only make people gasp in amazement. Short and miserable chirping noises resounded igniting the bloody nature of the White Jade Wind Eagles, as long as they were still breathing, they would continue to attack madly.

Unfortunately, the difference in strength was too large, each time Qing Shui executed a move, he would kill one of them. Besides, Qing Shui was still able to fly even in Flowerfruit Mountain, making his body even more agile.

Eight hundred was not be a small number but when in front of an expert, it's just a piece of cake. In the end, the number of White Jade Wind Eagles that escaped was less than a hundred. Qing Shui left shortly after.

Previously, he was only focused on practicing the coordination of his Taichi Fist and mind. But now, it wasn't advisable for him to continue staying in this place. Although he wasn't afraid of running into demonic beasts and his safety was guaranteed, he didn't want to be involved in meaningless fights.

Although there wasn't any Martial Saints in Flowerfruit Mountain, yet such situations had appeared. Hence, he still felt that it was better to be more careful.

Within Flowerfruit Mountain, Qing Shui didn't summon his mount and simply used his Cloudmist Steps, treating it as practice. He swiftly moved forward and adjusted his Qi to a state where he could conserve the most energy.

This time, he managed to find Goddess Peak very easily. It still had the same appearance. The only difference compared to the previous time was that last time, he rode Fire Bird here, but he flew here by his own strength this time round.

Qing Shui stood at the side of the lake, not entering immediately. Finally, he gritted his teeth, taking out a few Water Repelling Pearls before jumping in. With much ease, he appeared at the bottom of the lake and entered the area containing the palace at the bottom of the lake.

### **Chapter 823 - Disrespect, Disparity in Strength, Life Hanging by a thread**

As Qing Shui entered the familiar area, his strength recovered completely. This place wasn't affected by the pressure of Flowerfruit Mountain. As he lifted up his head, he saw the enormous old turtle. The old turtle looked as serene as always, just like a mountain. However, upon meeting it again this time, Qing Shui felt that the previous intimacy had been eliminated.

However, what made Qing Shui panic was that with his current ability, he was still unable to feel the extent of the old turtle's ability. Nevertheless, he was certain that the old turtle was a lot stronger than him.

When Qing Shui noticed the turtle, he also happened to see that the old turtle was also looking at him. Qing Shui could tell that from its large eyes that it was elated to see him.

"Young man, you came!"

An old yet solid voice sounded in Qing Shui's mind.

This startled Qing Shui. He was aware that the voice was the old turtle communicating telepathically. Just how powerful was the turtle that it even had its own voice?

Peak Martial Saint demonic beasts were unable to achieve that, Qing Shui didn't ponder any further. The more he thought about it, the more he felt a chill down his back.

"Don't think too much, I won't harm you. You're a person who keeps his promises." The old yet solid voice sounded once again.

"I can't say that I'll definitely wake her up but I am willing to try my best." Qing Shui slowly explained to the old turtle.

"I know!" The old turtle gradually stepped aside from the palace gate. The old and solid voice echoed in Qing Shui's mind. Qing Shui could sense a hint of helplessness in its voice.

Qing Shui didn't say anything else, nodding toward the old turtle and headed in. The palace gate slowly closed once more. Other than the Portrait of Beauty which Qing Shui took, the surroundings looked the same as before.

Qing Shui stopped for a while before approaching the crystal coffin. When he looked at the woman within the coffin, he was still as stunned as before. Qing Shui felt that she was a woman that was most similar to a goddess.

Her eyes were closed and her hair in a bun. Her brows soft, her face had no makeup, but yet had a tinge of red on her fair skin. She was unbelievably beautiful and looked as though she was asleep.

Her snow white clothes could not hide the curves of her body. She had thin shoulders, the curves of her bosom made one's heart race, her waist looked incredibly slender. Her delicate body was like a jade sculpture made by God, her exposed legs had a sparkling luster.

Even as she lay in the coffin with her eyes closed, she still exuded a temperament that others dare not profane. She was the most unapproachable woman Qing Shui had ever seen, not because of her coldness but the pride and loftiness that was within her.

As Qing Shui stood in front of the crystal coffin and looked at the sealed beauty, he could feel a dangerous aura exuding out of her body. This caused Qing Shui to helplessly retreat again.

The old turtle at the gate already possessed unmeasurable strength. This woman was definitely much more stronger than the old turtle. If there were any mishaps, Qing Shui would definitely lose out.

Recalling the turtle's aged expression, it had most likely guarded this place for countless years. Since it was fate to have come upon this place, Qing Shui decided to take the risk. Besides, he might not be able to save her.

After blanking out for a moment, Qing Shui slowly grabbed the woman's hand. He immediately felt an ice-cold aura being transmitted over, but it was quickly neutralised. Qing Shui controlled his Nature Energy and assimilated it into her meridians.

Her body was like a unique space, with the Nature Energy that entered seemingly like a drop in the vast ocean. Fortunately, Qing Shui's Nature Energy didn't consume any energy, hence he did not need to worry about his body's endurance.

Qing Shui slowly calmed his mind. He intended to use the purest Nature Energy to break her seal and then suppress and neutralise the poison in her body.

A day passed. Qing Shui held one of her hands as he continuously injected Nature Energy into the woman's body. Only after a whole day did he feel a reaction from her body. Or rather, he could feel a slight movement of her body. The seal was beginning to be undone.

This was within Qing Shui's expectations. As long as there was sufficient Nature Energy, it could neutralize all forms of evil. Although his Nature Energy was only at the sixth grade now, it did not consume energy which was the most important.

Unknowingly, three days had passed. Qing Shui was amazed to discover that the Nature Energy had already roused her vitality. But simultaneously, it also awakened the poison in her body.

Furthermore, he sensed that the poison within her body was a rare type of cold poison, and there also seemed to be some pink colored component within the poison as well. This caused Qing Shui to panic.

Pink colored poisons were normally bewildering and stimulating hormones that caused people to lose control over their body. But What Qing Shui feared was that this pink colored poison was a strong stimulant. In other words, it was an aphrodisiac.

Suddenly!

The poisonous mist bursted into Qing Shui's body through his meridians. He wasn't able to react to this unforeseen event. Right at this moment, he realized that the woman had opened her eyes.

The cold and bone-chilling pupils were like a world of ice and snow. Their beauty was unparalleled, and they were pure and sacred like a ten thousand years old icicle.

The contrast in her eyes were really distinct. The pupil was as black as ink, deep and profound whereas the sclera was pure and flawless. It was a pair of emotionless yet extremely attractive eyes.

In the past, Qing Shui had felt that Duanmu Lingshuang was really cold. But when compared to this woman, she was like a child playing house...

Looking at this woman, Qing Shui was astonished by her beauty. However, he was unable to resist the cold aura she exuded. Once he noticed the woman had opened her eyes, he wanted to let go of her jade white hand. However, he realised that they were stuck and was unable to loosen his hand.

That wasn't the most terrifying matter. What frightened him was when he realized that the aphrodisiac that entered his body had begun to take effect. The Nature Energy was only able to counteract a part of it, but the amount of the tyrannical pink mist was increasing unceasingly.

He continuously transferred his Nature Energy into the woman's body. The cold poison in her body had begun to take effect, causing her to be completely immobilized. Qing Shui on the other hand was feeling panicked and nervous.

Perhaps, he might have to hand over his life today.

Although the woman was unable to move, her gaze looked toward Qing Shui after a period of blankness. Towards the man who was really close to her, she didn't have any change in expression.

When she noticed him holding her hand, she slightly knitted her brows. She seemed like she wanted to move, but she was unable to. At this moment, Qing Shui's breathing was already in disorder.

The woman looked at Qing Shui and saw that he was flushed. She then looked toward the hand he was grabbing and felt the energy he was continuously pouring into her. She seemed to understand and remember something which led to a change in her expression.

Presently, Qing Shui was giving his utmost effort to control his body. The Yin-Yang Image in his consciousness had also started rotating faster. Never could he have thought that he would encounter such a situation. Even though the tyrannical poison wasn't didn't cause him to lose his human nature, he was on the edge of losing control of his body.

Qing Shui's right hand involuntarily extended. When it was almost touching the beautiful pointed peaks, he fiercely bit his tongue. A trace of fresh blood flowed from his mouth and in exchange for temporary peace. He didn't want to take advantage of another's misfortune.

After the time it took for an incense to burn, Qing Shui once again couldn't control over himself, so much so that even his mind was starting to waver. His body had already reached a limit. He now thought that he wouldn't mind dying after he sullied her.

Gold Needle!

Qing Shui swiftly pierced it into his Lingtai Acupoint.

Nature Energy was formidable but it still wasn't strong enough. At the very least, the sixth grade Nature Energy was incapable of resisting the venom that had intruded into his body. The other thing which worried Qing Shui was the icy nature of her body. The chilliness was a lot stronger than Qing Hanye's. This reminded Qing Shui of the Extreme Yang Body.

Qing Shui didn't know if he had an Extreme Yang Body, but he felt that even an Extreme Yang Body would have difficulties contending against the chill within her body. He was afraid he would be froze to death.

Qing Shui shivered. He was distracted for a moment and by the time he opened his eyes, he realized that one of his hands was already kneading the woman's perky, plump and perfectly shaped chest.

The woman cold gaze was fixed on Qing Shui, her brows knitted, but was unable to move.

The cold he felt on his hand made his heart beat even faster. Despite his utmost effort in retracting his hands, it was in fact as difficult as ascending to heaven.

"Sorry, I couldn't control my body." At this moment, Qing Shui helplessly said to the woman.

An ice-cold chillness that seemed to have the intent of freezing his soul caused Qing Shui to quiver. When he saw the scene before him, he was stunned. Currently, the woman and himself were already "open to each other" and had already undergone a union.

The previous coldness that penetrated the soul was a feeling due to his merger with her. The woman's cold aura was constantly transferred into Qing Shui's body through their connection and the bone-piercing chilliness kept Qing Shui incomparably clear-headed yet unable to control his own actions.

The woman's perfect body was beyond compare. It was like a god's sculpture except it was too cold. If not for his strong will, he would most likely have died from the cold aura encroaching his body.

Qing Shui revealed a bitter smile. The nameless technique in his body had unknowingly started operating. The bone-piercing cold feeling was really uncomfortable. However, the visual and mental stimulation still made him feel ecstatic to his core.

The woman's cool eyes were still as cold and bone-piercing. Her meticulous snow white cheeks had a trace of blush.

Suddenly, Qing Shui shivered. It was a familiar feeling. He felt the same lively feeling when he placed the Spirited Snake Turtle into the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

At this moment, an overbearing force was transmitted from the woman's body. This caused an abrupt rise in Qing Shui's strength. But before he could celebrate, the woman below him suddenly smacked him away with her palm. While in mid-air, Qing Shui spat out fresh blood before landing a distance away.

Qing Shui revealed a bitter smile. Previously, he had already felt that the woman's strength was unfathomable. That feeling was like a human being facing the imminent crushing from a mountain.

Qing Shui took out some clothes from the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and wore them.

He wiped off the blood from the corner of his mouth. At this moment, the woman from the Crystal Coffin had already dressed neatly and was heading towards him. She was truly beautiful like a goddess. But now, she was planning to kill him, not hiding any of the killing intent emitting from her body.

Qing Shui didn't want to die. Hence, he took out the Thunder God and Big Dipper Sword. He'd rather make an attempt to resist rather than just waiting helplessly for death.

When the woman saw Qing Shui taking out his weapon, she knitted her brows again, locking onto Qing Shui with her aura. Qing Shui appallingly realised from the enormous pressure that he was unexpectedly unable to move when under his opponent's pressure.

Just how strong was she?

With a swing of her hand, Qing Shui had immediately flew upwards. Following that, Qing Shui felt his throat being strangled by a pair of hands which were slowly tightening their grip.

#### **Chapter 824 - Unwilling, Helpless, Great Boost in Strength**

At the moment, Qing Shui was feeling incomparably bitter, the woman should have been extremely furious by now. Prior to this, she couldn't move her body because of the cold poison which had intruded into her body. Similarly, he was also unable to maintain control over his. Just like this, using that kind of method, he muddle-headedly helped neutralize both her cold poison and the excessive poison which she transferred to him.

Everything that happened before was clearly carved within Qing Shui's mind. The woman slightly wrinkled her brows and during the entire process, the only noises she made were weak breathing noises. In the instant they interacted for the first time, she must still have felt excruciating pain, regardless of her cultivation level.

If she could move at that time, she would have definitely killed him without any hesitation. Now that he was at the brink of death, he was glad he had taken the opportunity to enjoy a night of joy with such a godly woman, as compensation for himself.

He refused to die but his strength all over his body was completely restrained. He was completely immobilized. On top of that, there was a pair of formless hands choking his neck.

Qing Shui gazed at the pair of cold beautiful eyes. Like before, there was no sign of change in the emotions on her face. Other than the violent gasping noises she made in the crystal coffin, all along, she didn't mutter even one word.

Qing Shui was getting more and more dizzy. He was unsure if he should regret saving the woman. But now, he was really furious. Not only did the woman not give him an opportunity to speak, she wasn't even keen on opening her mouth.

She should know about her own condition. Previously, he has also tried all sorts of methods to not violate her. In any case, it was true that he saved her. Even if she had wanted him to die, she should at

least give him an opportunity to speak. Even prisoners would get to have a great meal before their execution.

Right at the moment when his throat was about to be crushed, the woman swung her hand and immediately threw Qing Shui. Qing Shui once again crashed into the wall far away and spurted out fresh blood.

The woman maintained the same look even after throwing Qing Shui. She turned around, stood there with her back facing Qing Shui and didn't even give him another glance. She was just like a ten thousand year cold ice, very beautiful, yet unapproachable.

Qing Shui was really furious. Now, if the woman was to give him an opportunity to speak, he wouldn't mutter out even one word. He despised this kind of feeling, from the woman's action, he knew that she was giving him a chance to leave.

Qing Shui stood up and didn't shoot another glance at the lady. For now, he didn't have any good feelings for the woman, nor did he have any interest in her. He unsteadily walked towards the palace gate.

All the while, the woman just stood on the same spot without any sign of movement. She didn't shoot another glance at Qing Shui either. Her eyes started trembling slightly and bit by bit, started to turn a bit ignorant.

Qing Shui walked out of the palace gate and conveniently tossed the Water Repelling Pearls at the old turtle. After that, he walked away without even turning his head. He didn't want to have anything to do with the woman, the same also went for the old turtle.

He wanted to wipe away everything related to the woman. He didn't want to owe her anything. If they were ever to run into each other again in the future, they would just be strangers. He wouldn't think about killing this woman but he also wouldn't mind becoming an enemy with her.

He travelled as far as a million miles just to come here, yet this was all he got. When he first arrived at this place, he never thought for things to turn out this way. At the instant when he was going out, he seemingly heard the old turtle sighed.

As soon as he went out of the pond, he ignored the water on his body, immediately summoned the Fire Bird and flew away from Flowerfruit Mountain. However, the direction he flew into was towards the eastern side. Every men wouldn't feel satisfied if they encountered things like these.

Prior to this, they were still having intimate interactions. But in the blink of an eye, he got thrown away like a pair of worn out shoes or maybe even worse. Slowly, Qing Shui calmed down. Over time, he stopped feeling angry.

The two didn't really share any relations with each other. They didn't really know each other, all the things which happened between them didn't really feel all that weird either. It's always said that one should never have too much curiosity. Just like him, he almost got himself killed for being too keen on things and as a result, he didn't get to learn about anything.

Not knowing how long he has flew for, the injuries on Qing Shui's body began to stabilize. He also didn't feel as upset as before. In any case, the woman didn't have any intent of killing him. Or else, she would have been able to kill him easily.

How strong was she? Was she a legendary Martial Emperor?

Maybe because she knew that he saved her, maybe because of this and that she was aware that he didn't do it on purpose, she didn't kill her. Qing Shui was certain that it was definitely not because he was her first man.

The reason why she didn't kill him might have had to do with her pride as a warrior.

Qing Shui kept on flying and only stopped after the sky turned dark. This was a swamp zone. With one glance, the entire place was filled with mud. There was only an island-like small area of land among the mud. It had a relatively small area.

As Qing Shui spotted the biggest land among the mud, he ordered the Fire Bird to descend on the land. The land contained an area of only about ten thousand square meter. It was square shaped with its width and length about a hundred meters. As the Fire Bird opened up both its wings, it almost covered up the entire land. But at the moment it retracted back the pair of wings, the land was still relatively wide.

There were also quite a few of flying beasts among the mud, for example, the Huge Swamp Chameleon. That was an enormous demonic beast. When in the mud, it was like a fish back in water.

(Note: fish back in water means that the mud is the most suitable place for it to survive)

There were also a few Swamp Poisonous Python. It's entire body was brown colored. It was nothing inferior to the Huge Swamp Chameleon when it came to getting in and out of the mud. Added on that it had poison all over its body, it was considered an extremely dangerous demonic beast in the Swamp land.

Additionally, there were a few small and dangerous poisonous beasts, for example, the poisonous frog, poisonous snake, poisonous worm. Even though they weren't that poisonous or rather, couldn't be ranked among the most toxic poisons, it shouldn't be looked down upon.

Poison can sometimes be really terrifying, once one came into contact with it, they might end up forever incurable.

The "land" was filled with rocks. It was a bare land with no plants. Qing Shui stood in the middle. He summoned back the Fire Bird and began looking around.

Kongg!

An enormous python with mud all over its body abruptly scuttled out of the swamp. It carried along a huge curtain of mud along with its body with thickness of a water jar and threw itself at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui released his Qi Force and dissipated the mud. After that, he executed a Tiger Strike with his hands. The loud tiger roaring noise shocked the approaching huge python.

啪!



Pa!

A depressing noise resounded. The python got blown backwards from the attack. It didn't make any noises. It sunk down into pond and lost all sign of movements. It's as if it never appeared before.

The only thing left behind was an enormous and fresh trace of mud.

Qing Shui turned blank for a moment. After that, he revealed a smile like he was mocking himself. After a night of joy, he has gained such a significant boost in strength. But even so, he still didn't stand a chance when in front of her.

He tried to sense the violent strength within his body, it actually got from the original three thousand and five hundred countries worth of strength up to the current five thousand countries. His defensive strength has also gotten from the original five thousand countries up to eight thousand countries.

Under the effect of Diamond Qi, Diamond Protection and Diamond Crossing Rivers, he immediately achieved a net worth ten thousand countries of offensive strength and sixteen thousand countries of defensive strength.

Nature Energy increased raw strength by 60%, the Immovable Mountains increased by fifty whereas Frenzied Bull's Strength thirty. The Heavenly Thunder Slash provided an additional 30% of strength, the Shield Attack twenty. On the other hand, the Heavenly Talisman provided 50% boost in strength and defense whereas the Combination Sword Technique helped provide a 40% boost to offensive strength.

The Thunder God helped boost all of the abilities listed above by one fold.

At the moment when Qing Shui took up the Big Dipper Sword and Thunder God, his offensive strength would achieve almost forty eight thousand countries, which in other words, was almost five stars worth of offensive strength.

Putting on the Lunar Silk Garment on the other hand, could help boost his defensive strength up to seven stars and with the addition of the Seven Stars Armour, it would achieve a terrifying amount as much as fourteen stars.

The Nature Energy, Immovable Mountains and Frenzied Bull's Strength helped boost every aspects of the main abilities. Not only did they help boost offensive strength, they also provided additional defensive strength as well as speed whereas the Heavenly Thunder Slash ,Shield Attack and Combination Sword Technique only helped increase raw offensive strength.

In any case, Qing Shui was still amazed by his current strength. In general, that was the strength he should possess

Qing Shui took out the Big Dipper Sword and Thunder God. After that, he slowly operated the Immovable Mountain. For Diamond Qi, Diamond Protection and Diamond Crossing Rivers, they all revolved automatically on zero consumption, hence, he didn't need to purposely operate them.

Grade Six Nature Energy was just the same. That being the case, he managed to save up a bit of time.

Immovable Mountain!

Frenzied Bull's Strength!

.....

Seven Stars Armour!

Qing Shui could feel his body brimming with explosive strength and a kind of firmness. It was as if there was some sturdy substance guarding his body. It felt like his body could block any sorts of attacks.

It's just that the woman's face once again appeared on his mind. Her cold yet bone-piercing beautiful face. The pressure that she exerted on Qing Shui made him felt really helpless.

Even with his current strength, he still felt quite far away from her. Previously, he didn't move, not that he didn't want to but he was unable to.

As he thought about the previous incident, he felt aggrieved and couldn't help but executed one of the Combination Sword Technique styles.

Beng!

The formidable force sunk down the entire land below his feet and caused the mud to burst up and covered up the whole sky. The surrounding looked as if it was rocked by a major disaster. Qing Shui stepped up into the air. He summoned the Fire Bird and began to fly forward aimlessly.

He didn't want to quiet down. Standing at the back of the Fire Bird, random thoughts kept on circulating around his mind. Despite the significant power boost, the Ancient Strengthening was still yet to break through to the Seventh Heavenly Layer.

Now, Qing Shui was really thirsting for strength. It's not that Qing Shui wanted to take back his pride from the woman once he was stronger, it's just that this woman made him realized that there were a lot of people as strong as her across the World of the Nine Continents. He wanted to stand at the top, stand above everyone in the martial arts world.

Lion King's Ridge and Demon Gate... Qing Shui felt that there would certainly be people who were as strong as this woman. In other words, this had also made him realize the gap in strength between himself and those people.

The had long since achieved the pinnacle Sixth Heavenly Layer, it's just that there was no trace of it breaking through. Other than that Qing Shui's mind was fluctuating very intensely.

Progressing from the Third Heavenly Layer up to the Forth Heavenly Layer was already a really tough process. But in return, the strength boost he got was more than tenfold. Furthermore, the Godly Force in his Dantian also liquified as a result. This was the breakthrough of the from Elementary grade to Intermediate grade. Going from the Sixth Heavenly Layer to the Seventh Heavenly Layer on the other hand, was progressing from the Intermediate level up to Expert Level. Hence, Qing Shui was really looking forward to it.

Would he break through to Martial Emperor?

As Qing Shui thought about this, he felt emotionally stirred. But considering that he hadn't broken through or rather, he didn't feel anything close to breaking through even after all this time, it made him aware that it wouldn't be easy for him to break through to the Seventh Heavenly Layer.

If he didn't break through to the Seventh Heavenly Layer, his current potential for strength increase would be limited. The only things he could rely on were the boosts provided by a few supplementary techniques. For example, the boost provided by Nature Energy and Immovable Mountains or a few unexpected gains.

### **Chapter 825 - Seventh level Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal**

This time, the only thing that Qing Shui was glad about was probably his boost in strength. In any case, he still got both good and bad things out of it. It was just like the saying "the old man lost his mare but it all turned out for the best". Even though the woman had put him under a lot of pressure, it still wasn't counted as giving him a huge embarrassment. Things just didn't turn out that great. Nevertheless, he did manage to take advantage of her and considering that he got a significant strength boost, everything ended in a draw.

He was the one who woke her up and saved her, in any case, he was still considered to have saved her, it was just that the reward he got in return was a bit unique. However, it was something out of his control. Besides, the reward that he got was also already considered to be incomparably precious.

Seeing that it was almost time, Qing Shui immediately entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal along with the Fire Bird in mid-air. As soon as he entered, he was stunned by the sight in front of him. The space was so vast.

This was the first thing that Qing Shui felt. He rode on the Fire Bird and immediately circled around the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. It was approximately ten thousand meters long and wide, achieving a total distance of twenty Li.

Qing Shui was stunned. This was a space that belonged to only himself and it just got upgraded! Now, without much thought, he could tell that the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal had ascended to the seventh level.

In the past, every time it went up by a level, the length and width of the realm would be expanded by only a few times, this time it expanded tenfold! It seemed like the seventh level achieved by the realm was also a crucial point.

This time, both its length and width actually expanded tenfold, looking at the current Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, Qing Shui felt incomparably happy. This was also given to him by that woman after all, it was because of her that he managed to attain such a level.

With both the length and width achieving twenty Li, it was already enough for use. This actually caused the original area of the medicinal herb pond to seem really small.

In the future, he could randomly plant medicinal herbs anywhere he wished. As he now observed the two ponds, with their diameters achieving five hundred meters each, he could see the originally crowded sea creatures had spread out.

Even the Spirited Snake Turtle was happily swimming inside the pond splashing and creating waves. Qing Shui could feel the joy it had deep within its heart.

The Nine-Petal Lotus inside the pond seemed to have grown to twice its previous size. Even though the area it covered became a lot bigger, since the pond had similarly expanded from the original hundred meters diameter up to five hundred meters diameter, the change didn't look significant.

The large Paulownia wood far away seemed a lot thicker than before. Contrary to what one might expect, the Paulownia wood appeared to be even smaller than before because of the increase in size of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

The Hundred Blossom Tree had also grown a lot bigger. There now seemed to be very few of the huge patches of medicinal herbs from the past but one would realize that more of them had grown if they approached it. In the future, Qing Shui would need to plant more of the medicinal herbs and precious trees.

Among the medicinal herbs, Qing Shui noticed quite a few new medicinal herbs and trees. He was aware that the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal has upgraded, so these should most likely be the rewards from it. He didn't look through it thoroughly because he was planning to go have a look at the stone tablet in a while.

Qing Shui was filled with excitement. Since the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal had ascended to the seventh level, he really hoped that it would help provide him a major breakthrough. While thinking about all of this, he gradually approached the stone tablet at the corner of the pond.

The expansion of the realm has helped cause the stone tablet at the corner of the pond to grow bigger as well. Now, the stone tablet was four meters tall and two meters wide, double what it was before.

Qing Shui stood in front of the stone tablet and looked down.

Sixth Level Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, open!

Below was some description of the rewarded species. After that, Qing Shui moved his gaze to the description below.

Seventh Level Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, open!

It upgraded, this time, it really did! Even though previously, he was already certain that it had, Qing Shui only felt truly reassured when he saw the word "Open". Only after seeing the word would he truly feel at ease.

Feeling excited, Qing Shui continued to read downward. The rewards from Seventh Level Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal shouldn't be that bad, so he really looked forward to it.

He was rewarded with two Mysterious Fruit Trees. They would bear fruit every five hundred years. Upon consuming it, there was a one in a hundred chance the consumer would get an unexpected gain, for example, strength, defenses or speed multiplying, the user's techniques making a breakthrough or enabling the consumer to comprehend the five elemental secret of their techniques.

Qing Shui never expected the Mysterious Fruit Tree to be his first reward. He was even rewarded with two of them! Qing Shui might have already had one but for things like these, no one would complain about having too many, even if there were ten of them, the reason being that the success rate was only

one in a hundred. If one's luck was poor they may not gain the effects even if they consumed a hundred of the fruits.

Now that there were two more, there would automatically be two Mysterious Fruits on the tree. The reward for attaining the seventh level were quite good. Qing Shui already started off with a great beginning.

A lot of luck has to be put at stake when consuming this fruit. Alternatively, it could also be refined into Fate Pills. However, each person could only take in the Fate Pill once. Hence, the only thing he could do was to test his luck. This was a really stimulating experience, once the time was right and he really got the one in a hundred chance, there was a high probability he would reach the heaven in a single bound.

(Note: Reach heaven in a single bound means instant success, an instant boost in strength)

Everything in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal also improved by a grade as a reward. The medicinal herbs got upgraded to thousand years medicinal herbs. Additionally, the total number of herbs also doubled.

Qing Shui stunned. He turned around to look at the medicinal herbs from before that he felt hadn't increased. In fact, because of the increase in size of the realm, there appeared to be fewer medicinal herbs. Now that he was standing in front of the stone tablet, there were medicinal herbs all around him. He only noticed that it had truly doubled upon observing it again thoroughly.

There were now two Flowers of Life. Furthermore, one more flower seemed to have grown. The fifth flower had finally bloomed, upon seeing this, Qing Shui felt really excited. After all, at the time when the realm upgraded to the sixth level, the fourth flower had just bloomed. It would take more than four years in the real world for the fourth flower to bloom. Most importantly, he had used it a few times in the middle of the process, hence, it would consume a lot of time.

But now, the fifth Flower of Life had completely bloomed, meaning it had saved him more than eight years of time in real life.

Not only did the quantity multiply in number, it also improved by a grade. Even though the Flower of Life was a medicinal herb, its petals were also categorized into different levels. A petal was equivalent to a grade. However, the years needed for it to bloom varied, the next flower would always take twice as long to bloom as the previous one.

The quantity of the rest of the medicinal herbs doubled. Their medicinal age also increased by a thousand years. This has helped him save about five years of time in real life. The reward from achieving the seventh level was truly amazing.

The amount of Five Elements Fruits and things like Strength-Enhancing Fruit didn't actually increase. There was an extra Vermilion Fruit. Nothing changed with the Peach of Immortality. The same also applied for 1000-year Gloomy Wood.

Qing Shui looked far into the distance. Nothing actually happened with the Demonic Beasts, however, the amount of Jade Emperor Bees had actually doubled. As for the Jade Emperor Queen Bee, there was still only one of it. As of now, there were already eight hundred Jade Emperor Bees.

Furthermore, they all broke through by a grade from their original grade. For example, from Grade One Martial King to Grade Two Martial King, not from Martial King straight up to Martial Saint.

Qing Shui was sensing each of them now. He felt incomparably happy. The strength of both the Fire Bird and Diamond Gigantic Elephant increased by a thousand countries. It wasn't considered much, nor was it considered little.

The raw offensive strength of the Diamond Gigantic Elephant had achieved a total of eight thousand countries whereas its defense reached twelve thousand countries. Its Mighty Elephant Stomp also achieved eight stars.

Now, the strength of the Fire Bird had achieved eight thousand five hundred countries. To think that the benefits of the upgrade of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal would be so great... The Jade Emperor Bee was now at Grade Seven Martial Saint. The Ten Thousand Poison Violet Sable was now at Peak Grade Four Martial Saint. The Gold-Silver Colored Butterfly was now a Grade Five Martial Saint whereas the Thunderous Beast achieved Grade Six Martial Saint.

Other than the amount of Jade Emperor Bees doubling, the amount of both the Five-Colored Daylily Python and Five-Colored Daylily Grass also multiplied. Originally, Qing Shui thought that the Five-Colored Daylily Python would evolve to the Six-Colored grade. Unfortunately, it didn't happen but in return, its speed increased by quite a lot.

The ordinary aquatic animals in the pond all increased two times. For animals like these, there weren't really any levels. There were also no changes in the quantity of the Golden Medicinal Turtle and Thousand Years Clam. However, their ages were increased by a thousand years.

Reward: Fifty pieces each for Seven Thousand Years Indigo Heart, Snake Bone Herb, Seven Thousand Years Ginseng, Seven Thousand Years Cloud-Mist Herb and Black Ember Flower.

Qing Shui noticed the medicinal herbs needed for Ren Meridian Strengthening Pill, as soon as the word "Fifty" appeared, he looked down with high hopes.

50 Golden Bull Grass, Seven Thousand Years Starmoon Flower, Six Thousand Years Blood Coral, Six Thousand Years Five Qi Sun Grass, Seven Thousand Years Earth Essence, Eight Immortal Grass, Six Thousand Years Sunflower and Seven Thousand Years LingZhi.

Qing Shui looked through all of these with excitement. He didn't know if he should feel happy or upset, he already had all kinds of them but one, only one, the Sky Penetrating Grass was more than five thousand years.

Reward a Clear Heart Fruit Tree. It would bear a fruit every five hundred years. Purifying Fruit could help solve evil spirits residing in one's mind and help purify the soul. It would also slightly change aptitude and stabilize one's mind. It could help raise one's consciousness. The amount that could be taken depended on the consumer's body. Some people could only take one of the fruits before it lost effect. Some would be able to consume a lot of them. The time gap between taking in two Purifying Fruit had to be more than a year.

Reward a Cleansing Fruit Tree. For every five hundred years, it would bear one Cleansing Fruit. Cleansing fruit could be used for Meridian Cleansing. It would clean the impurities within the body and purify the

Qi Force within the meridians, adapting the body for even more efficient spiritual qi absorption and speed up cultivation.

“Good stuff!”

Qing Shui looked at the introduction on the stone tablet and felt really excited. Seeing that there were still quite a few things below, he quickly looked to see if there was anything which could be of use now.

Reward one Bodhi Tree. For every five hundred years, there would be ten Bodhi Seeds. They could be used to make tea, refresh one’s mind and make them achieve a state of supreme enlightenment. They could also increase the chance for a cultivator to break through.

Qing Shui stunned: “How is this possible?”

The Bodhi Seed was a great thing. Legend has it that it was also known as the Fruit of Wisdom. It tasted decent and it could be used for both children and adults to develop their intelligence.

Reward fifty Golden Carp. They tasted delicious. Legend has it that after a thousand years, the Golden Carp had a fixed chance of condensing a Golden Carp Pellet. Its effect was really mysterious and yet to be known. Apparently, it had the godly effect of providing a significant boost to the consumer’s strength. But only very few Golden Carp would be able to live up to a few thousand years.

Reward a hundred thousand Jin of Star Steel. The Star Steel was also known as the Meteorite from Heaven. It was a favorite material for refining tools.

Reward time ratio between the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and reality extended to four hundred to one.

Qing Shui finally finished reading it. He let out a huge breath. This was the reward from seventh level Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. It was already considered to be quite generous.

Next, Qing Shui picked two Mysterious fruits, one Clear Heart Fruit, Impurities Cleansing Fruit and ten Bodhi Seeds.

After that, he proceeded to look at the pond from the side. Considering that the pond was now a lot bigger, consisting of as much as five hundred meters diameter, the pond water was so clear that you could see the bottom. With one glance, he could already see the Golden Carp Pellet. It was about a meter long and its entire body was colored yellow. It could swim really flexibly inside the water.

The Nine-Petal Lotus was two times bigger than before. The growth of everything that was covered by it, within two hundred meters radius would speed up by 30%. The effect was only limited to aquatic creatures.

The Nine-Petal Lotus grew in the middle of the pond water. It had a total circumference of four hundred meters. Even though it couldn’t cover up the entire pond, it had covered at least half of it.

## **Chapter 826 - En Route To The Central Continent**

Before its current breakthrough, the Nine-Petal Lotus had been able to speed up the growth of creatures within the radius of 100 meters by 20%, but only if they lived in the waters of the pond.

After the breakthrough of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal to the seventh grade, the Nine-Petal Lotus' level had also increased, and it now affected a radius of 200 meters. The speed of growth had also been increased by 10% - now speeding up the growth of water creatures by 30%.

Despite the increase in the Nine-Petal Lotus' area of effect, it was impossible to affect every living creature in the water, as the pond had also grown larger in size. Fortunately, the Blood Coral, Golden Bull Grass, and Nine-Headed Lion Grass were within that range. A 30% increase in growing speed was a huge boon for the water creatures and organisms - of course, this was nothing compared to the improvements to the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

The Golden Buddha Aura Lotus seemed to remain the same. However, Qing Shui was happy to see that the lotus had grown back a petal. Essentially, this meant that he had gained an additional chance to avoid death. One life-saving petal was enough to be regarded as an item of high value.

Qing Shui proceeded to look around the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. The multiplicative time ratio of the realm had increased, but the time limit to remain inside the realm hadn't changed at all - it was the same six hours of time outside.

It seemed as if the time to remain inside the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal had hit its limit. Perhaps it might increase in the future. However, the possibility of that happening was slim, since it hadn't changed even after the critical breakthrough to the seventh level.

Oh!

Ice Snow Sacred Fruit!

Now there were two Ice Snow Sacred Fruit Trees inside the realm!

He thought he had mistaken about what he had seen, but not after a second look. One of the trees contained two budding fruits, and the other one contained two ripened Ice Snow Sacred Fruits.

The Ice Snow Sacred Fruit had a certain chance of advancing the cultivation base of a demonic beast to another realm once the fruit had been eaten. If not, then the demonic beast would instead gain 200 countries of strength. However, only Grade Two Martial Saint to Peak Martial Saint demonic beasts would be affected. The effects would occur up to the Grand Perfection Stage of Peak Martial Saint.

It would take 500 years for the tree to bloom the flowers of the fruit and then another 100 years to form the fruit. After that, it would take another 500 years for the fruit to ripen. Overall, each fruit would take at least 1100 years to ripen from start to finish.

Despite being a valuable item, 1100 years was a lengthy amount of time. However, 400 years in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal was equivalent to one year in the real world. In other words, the fruit would take less than three actual years to ripen. Fortunately, Qing Shui had something else that could strengthen the quality of the fruits - the Flower of Life.

Five Flowers of Life could increase the life force and quality of the plants within a radius of 500 meters by 10%.



Doing so would reduce the time needed to grow a plant by 10%. The sixth Flower of Life would soon blossom in less than a year. After all, the fifth flower had already gone through the final stage of full bloom.

With a total of six Flowers of Life, the plants within 600 meters would receive an increase of 20% to their life force, and a 20% increase to their quality. As more Flowers of Life began to bloom, the time for growth would be cut by 10% and the quality increased by 10% each time. Besides a plant's breed, its age was the next-most important factor used to measure its quality for medicine refining.

A 10% change with the Ice Snow Sacred Fruit was more or less 100 years of time in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. If he continued to wait for the sixth Flower of Life to blossom, then he could save 20% of the time, which was about 220 years. In real time, that would be a little more than half a year. By then, the Ice Snow Sacred Fruits would have left two more years before it could reach the mature stage.

Qing Shui looked at bowl-sized flowers. They were blood red in color, with a hint of vividness in them. One look at the Flowers of Life and anyone could tell that they were really uncommon and precious. The healthier a flower was, the prettier and glorious it would seem.

The sixth flower was beginning to blossom, but not quite fully yet. It would fully bloom in about a year. Qing Shui was more than happy about the sixth Flower of Life - not only would the flower improve the quality of the medicinal herbs, he could also use the flower for medicinal refining too. In the future, Qing Shui was most anticipating the blossoming of the tenth flower, which he planned to keep for Luan Luan. It could be used to increase one's lifespan by 200 years.

With the time ratio of 400:1 relative to the outside world, it would take 6500 years for the tenth Flower of Life to blossom starting from the first Flower of Life. In other words, it would be 20 years in real time. Currently, there were already five flowers, so it would take 4900 years for the tenth flower to bloom. In real time, that would be about 12 years of time.

This amount of time was still acceptable. Luan Luan's total lifespan had already been increased to about 150 years after she had consumed the Peach of Immortality, Wondrous Fruit, Vitality-Enhancing Fruit, and the Yang Pellet given by Qing Shui.

The Peach of Immortality and the Yang Pellet could increase one's lifespan by 50 years. These were the best items that Qing Shui had for increasing a human's lifespan. Medicinal pills or fruits that could increase a lifespan by 50 years were already considered extraordinary items. Although it wasn't quite at that level, the 'Wondrous Fruit' was still valuable nonetheless.

Because only one of the Flower of Life could be consumed, Qing Shui decided to leave the tenth flower for Luan Luan. After another one grew out, he would give that Flower of Life to his mother. Currently, Qing Yi's lifespan was about 500 years, so there was still time for the flower to grow out.

Qing Shui took two of the Ice Snow Sacred Fruits and stored them in his inventory. When he thought about the Wondrous Fruit, he remembered that he had picked some within the past few years. It was almost time for the fruits to ripen, so he went to their location immediately.

The Wondrous Fruit was best consumed by children under the age of 12 in order to increase their potential ability. Each child could only eat one fruit, which was enough to increase 10% of every potential ability. Moreover, their speed of cultivation would be increased by 10% as well.

Luan Luan and Yuchang had eaten them before. As for Qing Jun and his other children, they were all too young and weren't quite ready to eat the fruits. However, he did leave some of these potential-enhancing items for Canghai Mingyue, Shi Qingzhuang, and the other ladies, just in case he couldn't return in time to give them to the children. The Wondrous Fruit didn't take a long time to ripen - one fruit would fully ripen in just a year.

Beyond the Wondrous Fruits, there was a landscape of luscious vines. The Wondrous Fruit was part of a plant of vines that were as thick as an adult's waist. The coiling of the vines seemed to resemble a giant scarlet python slithering about.

There weren't any changes to the number of fruits that had been produced - there was still one fruit hanging on the vines. However, one fruit was enough for now. Since the ratio of time in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal had been increased, the vines could produce two fruits in about one year.

Right now, Qing Shui was standing in front of the Five Qi Sun Grasses to observe their growth. The Five Qi Sun Grass was a foot and a half tall and was comprised of five flowers colored red, orange, yellow, green, and blue all bunched together. Essentially, each flower of the Five Qi Sun Grass seemed to be surrounded by a faint light which looked quite magical. Qing Shui wouldn't have thought that the Five Qi Sun Grass was a miraculous medicinal herb if he hadn't seen the subtle light being emitted. The group of 50 Five Qi Sun Grasses lying together in a flowerbed seemed extremely beautiful.

Qing Shui spent the remaining time focusing on his cultivation. He needed to have a full grasp of his newfound abilities, so he decided to continue practicing the Roc Form, the Thousand Crane Slash, and the Thousand Hammer Technique.

Qing Shui decided he would also require some time to master the new alchemy recipes. Since the time ratio had increased, he had spent exactly 100 days cultivating his skills, equivalent to six hours in real time. (Author's Note: With the 400:1 ratio, Qing Shui was allowed six hours in real time = 2400 hours in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Since 24 hours = 1 day, theoretically, Qing Shui had spent exactly 100 days in total.)

With the increased time limit, Qing Shui felt that he had sufficient time to train his skills. Each day for six hours in real time, he could spend 100 days worth of time in his cultivation. In the future, Qing Shui would never need to cultivate in the real world, except for his mandatory morning exercise. He could spend his time on other activities, like searching for treasures, understanding the World of the Nine Continents, or socializing with other people so that he could benefit from their help.

The time spendable in the realm had gone from 50 days to 100 days. Even though really only a day had passed, he had spent approximately two and a half months inside the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. When he got out from the realm, he gradually forgot about the incident in the crystal palace. Immediately, Qing Shui summoned his Fire Bird and flew straight to the east.

He would be leaving the Greencloud Continent for the Central Continent or the Eastern Victory Divine Continent. His sole purpose was to find the Sky Penetrating Grass of 5,000 years or above, and he had a feeling that he could find the medicinal herb more easily in the Eastern Victory Divine Continent that was known to be filled with an abundance of Spiritual Qi.

Qing Shui felt that the search for Sky Penetrating Grass would prove to be quite difficult based on his impression of the Five Qi Sun Grass. He planned to find the 5,000 Years Sky Penetrating Grass first, and if he could not find it, he would find some suitable substitute for the ingredient. Whether it would actually work, only God would know.

Nine Continents Step!

Qing Shui continued to fly towards the east, entering the marsh area about 10,000 li ahead. Theoretically, the Nine Continents Step would be able to transport Qing Shui just outside the marsh. By midnight, the Nine Continents Step could be used again. Hopefully, Qing Shui thought, the Nine Continents Step could bypass the marsh as fast as possible.

Six hours of the outside world could be spent in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. Qing Shui would always go into the realm for three hours before midnight to train. As for the remaining three hours, he could go in anytime he wanted.

Qing Shui decided not to return home now - he hadn't spent too long outside just yet. His family already knew that he was out. If he were to go back now, he would have to leave again soon anyways.

Di Qing had already left the Qing Residence to travel back to her home. If she had promised to come back to Qing Clan back then, then he would have been going to the Central Continent with her right now.

While en route to the Central Continent, he took some time to train his skills. The days were uninteresting, but he was quite motivated to strengthen himself. Occasionally, he would think about the woman from the crystal coffin, and how he was defenseless against her attack. He hated that kind of feeling, even if he tried to ignore his emotions. Even if he were to be bitten by an ant, he would still feel the pain trickling through his skin.

Even though he was furious, he didn't exactly hate that woman. He loathed himself for being weak - if he had been stronger, he wouldn't have been so easily controlled by the poison. She had the right to treat him that way, despite Qing Shui saving her from the poison. But he had made some horrible moves on her, so if she were to kill him, he deserved it. After all, how could she stand an outsider disrespecting her like that.....

During that time, he had run away as quickly as possible without turning his head to look at her. He didn't want to die and that woman clearly didn't want to be acquainted with him, which was why he had left so quickly. He didn't want the woman to think he had other plans for her.

Still, he was furious because he had allowed the woman to wound him like an ant being kneaded by a finger.....

He was also furious because he had been inferior in her presence. Furious because he had lost his sense of self-respect.....

20 days had passed since that episode!

Everywhere he went was a barren wasteland that stretched as far as ten thousand li. If it were 20 days in the real life, eight years had passed in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

Qing Shui had conveniently achieved full control over his powers days ago. Yet, he couldn't reach a breakthrough for any of his techniques. Based on his current cultivation realm, he would require some time and the right opportunity to achieve any kind of breakthrough. Without such an opportunity, Qing Shui might not be able to reach a breakthrough even if he were given an additional 1,000 years to cultivate. The path of cultivation was a difficult road to walk on.

For Martial Saint warriors, eight years was a short amount of time compared to their lifespan of a thousand years.

The Diamond Gigantic Elephant had gained an extra 1000 countries of strength and Qing Shui had gained an extra 200 countries of strength from the progress of his cultivation. His overall ability had a slight upgrade as well.

Qing Shui could see the border of Central Continent in the horizon. It had taken about a month to finally reach the Central Continent, even with his current speed.

He had always thought he was qualified to enter the circle of powerful clans, but it turned out he was dreadfully wrong. Qing Shui's current power was still far from reaching the standard of the most powerful clans in the world, let alone that of the woman in the crystal coffin. He recalled the mysterious Tantai Clan in the Southern Viewing Continent, and that woman he had met before - Tantai Xuan. If he were to compare his powers to hers, he would lose, despite her being weaker than the woman in the crystal coffin. When he had seen Tantai Xuan last time, the World Cleansing Demonic Lotus had been nowhere to be seen.

## **Chapter 827 - The City Of Adventurers, Heavenly Beast City, Black Obsidian**

The Central Continent!

Today was the third day since he had arrived to the Central Continent, yet he still hadn't managed to visit the Qianyi Clan, the Nian Clan, the Di Clan or Duanmu Clan. He didn't want to disturb them, so he kept quiet about his arrival.

Qing Shui seemed relaxed as he continued to stroll around the Central Continent during the day and train every night in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. He had so much money that he would never run out even if he bought a lot of items.

When he had come last time, he had only seen the tip of the iceberg of the whole Central Continent. Qing Shui had already been to a number of cities since his arrival. He would take a day to visit each city and travel to the next the day after, moving from the west to the east in a straight path.

If he were on a tight schedule, it wouldn't take too long for Qing Shui to navigate an entire continent in a short amount of time. On this trip however, he had been travelling around the continent leisurely, touring scenic landscapes and sightseeing.

The Central Continent was the heart of the World of the Nine Continents, the most prosperous continent where martial warriors would gather and the flow of traffic would never stop. The flourishing scenery of the Central Continent was inconceivable.

Qing Shui had been enjoying his life these past few days. Ever since he had started training to improve his abilities, he hadn't had much time to enjoy his life - every day seemed to be a struggle to increase

cultivation as fast as possible. So when he got the chance to finally enjoy his life, he felt extremely at ease, as if life felt more substantial than before.

In his past life, Qing Shui had been born the son of a farmer. His life in that family was bearable - the hardest work he had done was a bit of farm work, which was part of the working life experience. After that, he had gone to college to further his studies, but in the end, he hadn't been able to truly enjoy his life either.

Even when he had arrived to the World of the Nine Continents, he had been rushing about constantly, which meant that he hadn't truly enjoyed his life for a second. There had been some setbacks during his cultivation, but he was able to overcome them by constantly pushing forward. As a result, resting was more or less non-existent throughout his life.

Saving one life would always be better than building a pagoda!

Good deeds could lead to the accumulation of virtue!

Qing Shui had never believed in those things, but he had no choice but to accept the truth. Everything that happened had a cause and an effect. Sometimes, occurrences would depend on a person's beliefs, which were never a bad thing to have. Evildoers would always get what they deserved in the end, and those with good hearts would always be rewarded for their good deeds.

Human beings were known to be selfish creatures - under normal circumstances, no one would willingly take on the burden of others. In actuality, it was quite difficult to differentiate between good people and bad people in this world.

For example, a group of young gang members might be hitting an old woman and a young child violently. Any passers-by would sympathize with the victims and become furious at the uncivilized youngsters. They might see the old woman and the young child as beggars trying to scavenge for necessities in the cold winter while wearing thin clothes, or they might see two disabled individuals..... In any case, most people would harbor sympathy for the old woman and the child, an example of when the good nature of human beings would show.

But sometimes, selfishness would stream into their minds, influencing them to show the bad side of human nature - some people were inherently greedy by nature.

With bad people in the world, there must exist good people to oppose them. The world was a fascinating place where anything strange could happen yet everything had a reason for its existence.

Qing Shui had done some good deeds before, and he felt quite satisfied about his accomplishments. They were the kind of experiences in life that he could consolidate into his cultivation. He had a theory that the advancement of his skills - such as the Nature Energy or State of Immovable as Mountains of invincible aura - might have a correlation to his experiences in life.

The City of Adventurers!

Heavenly Beast City!

This was the city where adventurers were known to gather - the Heavenly Beast City! Qing Shui had arrived in this city half a month ago. It was here that he found that there were some unusual organizations in the World of the Nine Continents.

These organizations didn't seem to fit into the 'sect' or the 'aristocrat clan' categories. However, some super aristocratic clans and sects seemed to have control over these organizations due to their supreme influence and power in this world.

These organizations consisted of merchant associations, guilds for adventurers, auction houses, and related groups. Even though they seemed ordinary, their influence should not be underestimated. For example, a merchant association could be formed by a number of merchants affiliated with one another. One could argue that they were more or less controlled by an alliance of family clans, but they were definitely not from the aristocratic clans.

An auction house was practically a large retail site where people could auction peculiar valuables or rare commodities to wealthy buyers. Large auction houses could organize more than one auction a day. The auction house would impose a fixed administration fee for each item placed up for auction.

The vast city had a huge population and boundless opportunities where people would support each other. Even though the owner of an item was required to pay a fixed amount of administration fee to the auction house, he would be able to receive a larger sum of money from the auctioned item regardless.

Of course, the other way to sell off valuables would be to directly sell them to the auction house. However, in most cases, the amount of money the owner would receive would be less than that from organizing a proper auction. For items of tremendous value, the auction house would normally advertise the auction event a few days prior to the actual day, one of the advantages of the large population. Doing so would bring a more positive response to the hype of the auction.

Those who could afford to open a highly profitable business such as an auction house would not be a commoner. Rather, they all had a powerful influence behind their back as support. In most circumstances, these businessmen would not consider themselves to be a part of the aristocratic clans. As with all things, there were still a few exceptions.

The Adventurer Guild, on the other hand, was started by a group of adventurers who were passionate about risking their lives for glory and wealth. Their base was the guild itself, so anyone could submit a mission requesting specific things they required, like for example a fresh set of Tiger Bones.

The requester would typically go to the market first to search for materials that they needed. If the materials were not fresh or not to their liking, they would then go to the Adventurer Guild to post their request with a promised offer of monetary reward after paying a deposit for collateral purposes. If the request could not be completed within a set amount of time, then it would be taken down automatically. The same would apply to the request that had been completed successfully, in order to create space for new requests.

If the mission was a success, the requester would go back to the guild, collect their requested items and pay the reward. After that was done, the requester would be able to take back their deposit money

from the guild. However, if the requester failed to collect the deposits in time, then the deposit money would be given to the adventurer who had completed the quest as extra compensation for their effort.

Adventurers should not be looked down upon. Most martial warriors who had reached adulthood would apply as an adventurer at their local Adventurer Guild. Every city would have at least a few adventurers, and they could take on missions as long as they had the adventurer permit or certificate. Moreover, most would not accept the missions that had been taken by other adventurers out of respect to the whole community.

Just like a quest for fresh Tiger Bones - one adventurer alone would be able to finish the quest without problems. If more than one were to take on the quest, it would only serve to complicate things.

However, in some cases, there would be a few missions that could be taken by more than one adventurer. Of course, those who could finish the mission the earliest would be able to receive the reward first. Others who failed to finish the mission early would naturally get nothing. Most importantly, the mission must state all the conditions clearly beforehand, so that adventurers would be given the time to consider before making their decision.

Adventurers were also allowed to submit the requested item to the requester if they already had it available in their inventory and receive the reward directly.

Like most guilds, adventurers would be tested on their skills and categorized by rank. The higher the rank, the more difficult their tasks would be. However, there would be an abundance of benefits for adventurers who had reached the higher ranks - for example, they would be allowed to collect a payroll from the Adventurer Guild. In a sense, those who were powerful and more highly ranked would never run out of money. Naturally, their tasks would become progressively more difficult. They would be the best choice for requesters who had quests that required someone of extraordinary power to handle them, so normal ranking adventurers would never be allowed to take them.

Advancing in rank for an adventurer was surprisingly easy. If a low ranking adventurer was able to finish a high ranking mission, then he would be allowed to change his rank based on the success of said mission.

The application for the Adventurer Ranking Certificate was easy as well. The certificate title would be associated with the adventurer's cultivation base - Houtian Adventurer, Xiantian Adventurer, Martial King Adventurer, Martial Saint Adventurer, and so forth.

Martial Saint Adventurers were rare in most cases. They would be recruited heavily as long as they showed their capability as a Martial Saint. Those who could use their skills to fight and show their ability to refine medicines would be offered a highly rewarded mission. After all, Martial Saints would be in the spotlight no matter where they went.

Of course, there would be a number of powerful warriors and private adventurers gathered in the Adventurer Guild to receive missions. One could say that they were the guild's main supporters as well.

"Those above Grade Ten Xiantian who can kill Rock Bears at Jolly Mountain, please report here. We still need three people." A burly man nearby called out for recruitments.

“Those who seek a mission to find the Eight Star Herb in the White Cloud Mountain, please come here. Rewards will be given accordingly to anyone who can find it. Only those above Xiantian are allowed to take this mission.”

.....

To be honest, this was the first time Qing Shui had stepped into an Adventurer Guild, which naturally also meant that he didn't have an Adventurer Ranking Certificate. However, he could get one through a performance appraisal from any Adventurer Guild by measuring his strength. It was the only way to prove himself in order to acquire an official certificate from the guild.

The first time he entered the hall of the Adventurer Guild, he felt astonished. The hall was wide, stretching about 100 meters from side to side. A series of giant stone pillars stood in the middle of the hall, supporting the weight of the building.

Both male and female clerks wearing guild uniforms stood behind a circular platform with desks. The hall was a mess, as there were many people lining up for each desk, while more idled around outside the lines.

Qing Shui took a closer look and noticed that the desks had signs on them - Requisition for Elementary Level Mission, Requisition for Intermediate Level Mission, Requisition for Expert Level Mission, Procurement Section..... There were too many to look at. The crowds in those lines were unbelievable.

Application for the Adventurer Ranking Certificate.

Qing Shui noticed the line for this section was quite short - there were about three to five people standing in line. He chuckled for a while before joining the queue. Behind the desk was a friendly looking middle-aged man sitting on a chair as he continued to process the applications.

“Good day. I would like to apply for the Adventurer Ranking Certificate.” Qing Shui made a polite request when it was his turn to speak at the desk.

“Please proceed inside. There will be an attendant to process that for you.” The middle-aged man smiled as he pointed towards his left. There was a hallway that he could enter by passing through the stone platform.

Qing Shui gave a polite smile and nodded as a gesture of gratitude. Then he walked inside the hallway towards a spacious area as wide as a large garden. There were a lot of facilities inside this area, with a number of rooms in each corner. Undoubtedly, there were many attendants running about to serve the needs of the applicants.

“Sir, what can I help you with?” Not long after Qing Shui entered the area, a young man walked towards him and asked in a courteous manner.

“I want to apply for the Adventurer Ranking Certificate.”

“This way, sir.”

Qing Shui followed the young male attendant, perhaps also an adventurer of the guild, through a long hallway before they arrived at a room that seemed to be yet another big hall, albeit a little bit smaller.



There was a crowd inside the hall. Some seemed new like Qing Shui, while others were already adventurers who came with the sole purpose of updating their Adventurer Ranking Certificate.

“Master, this gentleman wishes to apply for the Adventurer Ranking Certificate.” The male attendant greeted an old man with respect.

“Alright!” The old man replied as the male attendant bowed before he left.

Qing Shui observed the old man, who was wearing a grey robe. He had a pair of clear eyes and a full head of grizzled white hair that hung down from his temples. He seemed amiable and kind, especially with the gentle smile on his face.

“Young chap, come over here.” The old man smiled and gestured Qing Shui to follow him.

Qing Shui nodded and followed the old man towards a giant black rock.

The rock was about four meters tall and eight meters wide, with an asymmetrical oval shape. The surface of the rock seemed to have scars left by various kinds of weapons. There were faint marks of palmprints and footprints as well.

This was the Black Obsidian, known to be very hard and solid. Most importantly, the Black Obsidian had an ability to self-regenerate. It could also be used as a material to forge weapons and armors. However, after taking a closer look at the Black Obsidian, it seemed to be a rock of poor quality. Nonetheless, it would suffice as an alternative to assess the strength of a martial warrior. Most people would use Black Obsidian to test their abilities regardless.

“Young chap, pick a weapon from the stash over there. As long as you can leave a mark on this rock, you will officially become an adventurer.” The old man smiled as he pointed to the Black Obsidian and the pile of weapons beside the rock.

### **Chapter 828 - Cloud Adventurer Guild, Heading for Tiger Gorge Mountain**

There was a weapon’s rack filled with various weapons on the side which included the saber, spear, sword, staff, battle axe, hatchet, scythe, dagger, and hammer. There were even various gloves and even claws.

Qing Shui was aware of how the Black Obsidian could measure one’s level. If a person could leave behind a mark, it would mean that he was at Peak Houtian cultivator and if he could leave a mark that was one inch deep, he would be a Xiantian cultivator. Peak Xiantian cultivators could leave a mark that was three inch deep; elementary Martial Kings could leave a mark that was one foot deep; Peak Martial Kings could leave a mark that was three feet deep; early Martial Saints could break this Black Obsidian which was four meters tall.

Qing Shui looked at the weapons but did not head over. He merely reached out his hand to touch the Black Obsidian then exerted some strength, his entire palm sunk it, creating a hissing sound.

“Sir, is this alright?” Qing Shui smiled and said to the old man.

As he looked at Qing Shui’s state, a hint of surprise flashed in the old man’s eyes. He stared at the deep and clear palm print that was left behind. Although this was the standard for an Elementary Xiantian level, the old man was sure that this young man had not given it his all. Xiantian cultivators would not be

able to do this so easily, even if they were Peak Xiantian cultivators. Most importantly, the old man could feel a vague feeling of attraction and mysterious powers from this young man.

Although the weapons here were not the best, they were specially made and were suitable to conduct the tests but this young man didn't use them. This was also why the old man found Qing Shui mysterious. However, whether or not the adventurer displayed their full prowess was their own choice and he could not comment on anything. He merely smiled and nodded, then led Qing Shui to handle the administrative matters.

Xiantian cultivator adventurer certification!

Since the other party chose not to give their all, then it must be his choice to not reveal his abilities. Therefore, the adventurer certification that the old man had given Qing Shui was for the Xiantian level.

"Lad, have you thought of entering our Cloud Adventurer Guild?" After settling the administration for Qing Shui, the old man asked casually.

As he heard the old man's question, Qing Shui thought of the current situation across the world. Almost every city had an adventurer guild but these guilds did not have any headquarters as they were too big and no one could link them together. If it was within a city, there would still be a way to facilitate for the teamwork and join forces to deal with other adventurer guilds.

The competition between adventurer guilds were very intense and there were usually many adventurer guilds in a city, just like how it was for clans. They would continue to compete while they worked together or even asked the assistance of their friends to join forces to defeat their competitors. Adventurer guilds who were weak would be easily crushed.

"I haven't thought about it yet. If I were to join an adventurer guild one day, I'll definitely join Cloud Adventurer Guild."

Qing Shui was very certain about this, because he didn't had any plan to join an organization like an adventurer guild. Since the administration were completed, Qing Shui prepared to take his leave. The old man sent him off.

Once he stepped out the door, Qing Shui saw a silhouette from the corner of his eyes as it entered a building far away. He felt that the silhouette was very familiar but it had disappeared in a flash, thus, he did not give much thought into it.

It was a lady.

However, thinking about it, how could there be anyone that he could recognize in the Heavenly Beast City? Therefore, he didn't pay much heed and he head back towards the hall once again with a smile .

The place was very messy, with many people shouting out to look for helpers for the missions they had taken up. However, not far away, there were a few people who weren't shouting. They only held up a sign on which a few words were written.

"Looking for people to head to the Tiger Gorge Mountain!"

If he was someone new to the place, Qing Shui would definitely not know what kind of place the Tiger Gorge Mountain was. But now, he was aware and was also slightly interested in it. The Tiger Gorge

Mountain was quite far from the other cities, with wilderness on one side. However, the wilderness was the safest while the other three directions were all filled with danger.

On the north side of the Heavenly Beast City was a huge and towering Tiger Gorge Mountain with stretches of mountains that reached up into the clouds. Not just within the Heavenly Beast City but also within the entire Tiger Roar Country, the Tiger Gorge Mountain was well-known as a dangerous place, especially the deeper areas within it.

The name of Tiger Roar Country came from the Tiger Gorge Mountain. The Tiger Gorge Mountain in the north of the Heavenly Beast City was very large, which spanned out to almost millions of li. Moreover, there were plenty of ferocious beasts as well as venomous worms and snakes. Hence, people who were weak would definitely not dare to enter.

The greater the danger, the greater the returns. Therefore, there were still many people who viewed money to be more important than their lives and would take the risk to go in there. The Tiger Gorge Mountain was filled with various interesting beasts, heavenly and earthly treasures, and precious medicinal herbs that were many times more abundant than any other places. There were many people who would be willing to die for riches and thus, countless people would enter everyday. There were many who would go missing but there would also be rumors of people who became rich overnight or acquired a heavenly and earthly treasures which made their cultivation level to increase by leaps and bounds.

What Qing Shui needed now were medicinal herbs, especially a Sky Penetrating Grass which was 5,000 years old or older. Therefore, after he had arrived to the Central Continent, he would head over as long as there was a chance for it to be found in certain places.

He noticed a few people that were heading for the Tiger Gorge Mountain. As he thought of how he was unfamiliar with the area, he decided to head there with other people as he still wanted to live and experience life.

As Qing Shui headed over, he started to assess them. The group had five people, three men and two ladies. One of the men was in his middle-age while the other two appeared to be in their thirties, all of them were quite good looking. The two ladies should also be in their thirties. One of them wore a Knight attire, her beautiful long hair tied up with a red string. Her eyes were especially bright, her upright nose and slightly curled lips gave the feeling of inhibition. She was an attractive lady who was both beautiful and appeared to have a strong character, with a curvy figure and a height that matches most guys.

The other lady was different. She wore a light blue pleated dress, her long black hair draping down. She did not have any strong features but was still a beauty with a gentle and quiet disposition. However, Qing Shui felt that she was slightly inferior to the previous lady.

“Can I join?” Qing Shui went over and asked the middle-aged man.

Qing Shui did not know the reason they were heading to the Tiger Gorge Mountain, nor did he have the impulse to ask them. He just had the urge to enter the Tiger Gorge Mountain and did not have any special motives.

They had already noticed him when Qing Shui was walking over. However, after he finished his question, they were all stunned. Ordinary people would first ask what mission they were taking and assess to see if it was suitable before they ask if they could join.

The middle-aged man was stunned for a short moment. He looked at Qing Shui, as if he had some hesitation.

“Uncle Gang, I feel that this lad is quite good. Why don’t we let him join us?” The lady wearing a Knight attire smiled and said.

After the lady finished her words, the other young men looked at Qing Shui curiously before he looked back at the lady. A few others who had asked earlier were all rejected by her. One of them were even a Grade Ten Martial King. However, why did she not even ask for this guy’s cultivation level? Could it be because he was good looking?

“Since lass Lingyun has said it, then let’s go.” The middle-aged man smiled and said.

Qing Shui was stunned. He didn’t expect this to be so easy. They didn’t even ask the reason he was heading to the Tiger Gorge Mountain or ask for his cultivation level. The reason he didn’t ask any questions was because he could estimate their cultivation level, but to them, he should appear to be a Peak Xiantian cultivator.

“Lad, my name is Qi Gang.” The man took a step forward and said.

He then pointed to the lady wearing a Knight attire and said, “She is Long Lingyun, and she is Qian Mo, a summoner The other two are brothers, the elder brother is Cui Hao and the younger brother is Cui Dang.”

“Nice to meet you. I’m Qing Shui.” Qing Shui smiled and greeted them.

Qi Gang was the oldest and strongest, he was an early Martial Saint. Qing Shui had been in the Central Continent for quite a while but the only Martial Saints he had encountered were from this group. There were two of them. The other one was Long Lingyun, who was also an early Martial Saint.

The weakest among them were only at Martial King level. All of them were around Grade Five Martial King.

“Brother Qing Shui, I wonder what level you’re at. Do you mind sharing with us?” The elder brother, Cui Hao, asked.

Qing Shui took out his adventurer certification which stated that he was a Xiantian cultivator adventurer.

“So you’re a Xiantian cultivator. This time around, we’re heading slightly deeper into the Tiger Gorge Mountain to explore and train ourselves, we’ve randomly picked up a few missions which require us to collect medicinal herbs and hunt down demonic beasts. It’s very dangerous for Xiantian cultivators to enter.” The younger brother Cui Dang smiled and said. However, there was a hint of contempt in his smile.

“Haha, thank you for your concern. My battle prowess is still acceptable and so is my survival skills in the wilderness.” Qing Shui didn’t feel anything when faced with the brothers’ challenge. To him, these two were merely two jumping monkeys.

“Alright, Cui Hao, Cui Dang, let’s go on our way.” Long Lingyun interrupted the two brothers who wanted to continue.

After she said that, Long Lingyun took the lead to head out while the others followed her.

When they had reached outside, Long Lingyun called out her own demonic beast. It was a Peak Martial King Silver Horned Eagle which was about 15 to 16 meters big. Qi Gang also called out a flying beast, it was a Two-Headed Flying Wolf which was a Grade Eight Martial King.

Qi Gang and the two brothers went up the Two-Headed Flying Wolf. Just when Qing Shui waited for Qi Gang to bring him up, Long Lingyun spoke up, “There’s already three of them. You can just join elder sister.”

Qing Shui wanted to say that he would just squeeze in with them when he saw the fury in the Cui brothers’ eyes. He thanked Long Lingyun and was pulled up onto the Silver Horned Eagle.

Long Lingyun pulled Qing Shui up with one hand and Qian Mo with the other. As Qing Shui kept his abilities concealed, he could only ask the other’s help to bring him up. Only Martial Saints had the ability to fly.

Qing Shui was actually quite curious about this lady who called herself elder sister. To think that she was already an early Martial Saint at such a young age. He had come across many people in the Central Continent but this was the only time he had seen a Martial Saint.

This lady gave him the feeling that she was not an ordinary people. Although she appeared to be very young, many people’s age could not be discerned by the eyes alone.

“Do you guys go on adventures often?” Qing Shui stood on the Silver Horned Eagle and asked with a smile.

Although the sound of the wind was strong, their voices could still be clearly heard.

“We’ve only met these few days. The Cui Brothers are more familiar with the area and it’ll save us some time.” Long Lingyun said and smiled as she looked at Qing Shui.

“Those two brothers seem to like the two of you.” Qing Shui smiled and said before he stared at Long Lingyun.

### **Chapter 829 - The Weird Long Lingyun, Cui Brothers**

“Those two brothers seem to like the two of you.” Qing Shui smiled and said before looking at Long Lingyun.

He didn’t mean anything when he said this, he just wanted to do so. Now, Qing Shui wanted to live his life. Since he had hidden his cultivation level, he wanted to appreciate and live a different life. He didn’t wish to restrict himself so much. Although it was hard for him to change his character to allow him to live a different life, he was willing to give it a go.

“Oh? How do you know that they like me?” Long Lingyun smiled and asked, as she looked at Qing Shui teasingly.

“When you asked me to join you earlier, that pair of brother couldn’t help but want to kill me. Moreover, they’ve been secretly throwing glances at you, giving the expression that they couldn’t wait to devour you.” Qing Shui said, as he looked toward the other group and smiled.

“Why are you telling me this? You like me as well?” Long Lingyun smiled and said as she looked at this strange man that gave her a strange feeling when she first saw him.

She could not tell what his age was. He appeared to be very young but that pair of eyes seemed to be more weary of the world than Uncle Gang. He was very handsome but people would be easily drawn in by his charms instead. He gave out a deadly attraction that was indescribable.

Her intuition told her that this guy was not a weakling. Although she could sense that his cultivation was only at Xiantian level, she trusted her intuition more. This was the first time she was curious about a young man.

“I have someone I like.” To the lady’s teasing, Qing Shui smiled casually. Although she was clearly a beauty, he was not interested in a ‘narcissistic’ lady like her, who would ask if he likes her when they had only just met. To be honest, he was aware that she was just teasing him but he still felt that she was a bit narcissistic.

If Long Lingyun were to know what Qing Shui was thinking, she would definitely go crazy with anger.

“The ladies you like must be very beautiful!” Long Lingyun smiled and said.

Qian Mo smiled as she watched the conversation between Long Lingyun and Qing Shui. She didn’t join in but just watched them quietly from the side.

“Mmm, very beautiful!” Qing Shui smiled and said.

“More so than me?” Long Lingyun smiled and continued to ask.

“More so than you!” Qing Shui smiled and said.

“Hmph, women are very petty. Do you believe that I’ll toss you down from here?” Although Long Lingyun said this, she still said it in a happy manner.

“I believe!”

“You don’t know how to go along with the conversation, it’s no fun. Do you know who’s the most beautiful lady in the Heavenly Beast City?” Long Lingyun smiled and ask Qing Shui. However, he kept feeling that there was a hint of teasing behind that smile.

“I don’t know, neither do I wish to know.” Although he sounded stiff, he still said politely.

Women are very weird creatures. The more one wanted to ask something, the more she won’t say it but if one doesn’t wish to hear it, the more she would say it. If you were to ask her the reason, she probably wouldn’t be able to explain it either.

“This lady is from the Cloud Adventurer Guild, and her name is Yunduan . It’s a pity that she’s a lady who had led a tough life. Her grandfather is no longer around and the Cloud Adventurer Guild is facing the peril of being taken over by other adventurer guilds. In order to protect the Cloud Adventurer Guild, she chose to yield to the Tiger’s Might Adventurer Guild.” Long Lingyun sighed and said.

Qing Shui knew about the Tiger’s Might Adventurer Guild. Although his time in the Heavenly Beast City had not been long, this city was controlled by this particular guild and in the Heavenly Beast City, even aristocrat clans were not as powerful as adventurer guilds.

The Tiger’s Might Adventurer Guild was the strongest adventurer guild in the Heavenly Beast City. It was a reasonable to choose this guild. He turned around to look at Long Lingyun, confused as why this lady said these to him.

When she saw Qing Shui’s gaze, she smiled and continue, “For such a beautiful lady to give herself to an old man. She really has a tragic life.”

“Many of such things happen everyday.” Qing Shui chuckled and said.

“You really are a person without any sympathy.” Long Lingyun chided Qing Shui.

“This is her fate, her choice. She has also gotten what she had wanted. Why do I need to sympathize with her?” Qing Shui looked at her.

“You’re a guy without any sympathy. Let’s stop talking about it. Right, why are you heading to the Tiger Gorge Mountain?” Long Lingyun didn’t bother on the topic for too long.

“I’m only going there to get some experience, as well as to get some medicinal herbs.” Qing Shui had his answer ready.

.....

Very soon, they arrived at the Tiger Gorge Mountain. They flew less than 500 meters in and then landed on an empty spot.

After he had spoken with Long Lingyun, Qing Shui learnt that they were looking for a type of Landai Grass and to kill a Peak Martial King Ironback Azure Bear.

Killing the Ironback Azure Bear was the Cui Brothers’ mission but they needed Long Lingyun’s and Qi Gang’s help to kill it. The search for the Landai Grass was Long Lingyun’s, Qian Mo’s and Qi Gang’s mission but the Cui Brothers mentioned that it could be found anywhere.

The group slowly headed deeper into the Tiger Gorge Mountain, as they tried their best to be careful on the way, hoping to not come across with demonic beast groups. If they came in large numbers, it would be a pain to kill them.

The Cui Brothers carefully scouted around while they lead the way. If Long Lingyun and Qi Gang wasn’t here, they would not have accepted the mission. The Ironback Azure Bear, a Peak Martial King, was not something they could deal with now.

Another reason was that the brothers like Long Lingyun but they knew that they were not a good match for her. However, once a person was smitten, he would not care about anything and just commit the craziest act.

Wu!

Wuwuwu...

A huge roar came from the front, followed by a series of cries. Very quickly, a group of Gigantic Forest Wolves appeared, each of them were about four meters in size and had a faint blue color. They looked quite beautiful but one would rather go against a single tiger than to pit against a group of wolves.

Moreover, the level of these wolves were all at Martial King, ranging from elementary Martial King to Peak Martial King. There were at least 500 of them and the spread of blue color with shiny bright eyes bring a chill.

The group's countenances had changed, especially the Cui Brothers. It was because many of the wolves here could kill them easily. Although there were two elementary Martial Saints in their group, if they were not able to extend their help then the Cui Brothers would be in great trouble.

Just then, a flock of Corrosion Turtledoves appeared in the air, they let out piercing cries and they circled in the air as they refused to leave. This cause the group to lose any thoughts about escaping on their flying beasts.

Wolves specialized in speed and they closed in very quickly. The Cui Brothers' countenance also grew increasingly pale. However, Long Lingyun and Qi Gang showed no changes to their expressions.

"Go over there. Everyone lay against the cliff walls. At least we won't be attacked from the back." Qi Gang quickly told everyone.

No one had any objections. At that moment, no one had any better idea.

When the group arrived at the cliff walls, the group of wolves were already within a 100 meter radius. Their rampaging disposition were very powerful and a huge stench flowed toward them, which had made the group to feel dizzy. Their bright green eyes gleamed while they kept salivating with their mouths opened.

At that moment, a demonic beast appeared before Qian Mo with a wave of her hand. She then waved her hand again and called out another beast, stopping only after the third demonic beast had appeared.

One of them was a Armored Beast which was close to three meters in length and appeared to be extremely tough, as if it was wearing a silver colored armor. It was decently proportioned and should be quite agile.

Another one was a Sword Tiger which was also three meters in length but less than one meter in height. It appeared as if it was stuck to the ground, with sharp fangs and claws. It was also an agility type beast and was a Peak Martial King.

The last one was a Ice Snake which was four meters long, with a thickness that was akin to the diameter of the top of a bowl. It was dark blue in color, the lower half of its body was coiled up while the first half



of the body kept stretching out and recoiling. It gave out a hissing sound and occasionally breathed out a hint of blue colored chilly air.

“Everyone, work together and don’t panic.” Long Lingyun subconsciously stood before Qing Shui and said.

Qing Shui didn’t know what to feel. He didn’t believe that this lady likes him from just their first encounter. Could it be that he looked like her younger brother?

The Cui Brothers once again threw an aggrieved glance toward Qing Shui. They had brought along this additional burden with them today. Otherwise, with Long Lingyun’s and Qi Gang’s help, all of them would be able to leave easily.

Not only did they had hatred for Qing Shui, they also threw a look at Long Lingyun. Looking at that curvy figure, they thought to themselves, “If we can get pass this trial, I’ll make sure that I’ll get to have my way with you.”

Long Lingyun took out a thin longsword. It was very thin and at first glance, it looked just like a tree branch. Qi Gang took out a pair of huge hammers, each of them weighing about 800 jin.

Wuwu...

Suddenly, one of the wolves pounced toward Qian Mo. It was very agile, bringing about a sharp and strong wind. It leaped up over five meters, as it stretched out its limbs slightly. Suddenly, with a leap, the Armored Beast stopped the Gigantic Forest Wolves which was in mid-air. Just then, the Sword Tiger pounced over like a snake. Its weirdly shaped body contained a terrifying speed and attacked the Gigantic Forest Wolves by the waist, then it quickly retreated. The Gigantic Forest Wolves’s stomach was torn open, its waist broken and its throat was torn apart. A wolf was a creature with a head as tough as bronze, a strong tail that was like a metal and a body that was weak like tofu.

It was not a battle of an equivalent level. Moreover, they had good teamwork, with the Armored Beast who had a strong resistance while the Sword Tiger had a strong attack and the Ice Snake could reduce speed.

With one wolf taken down, the bloody nature of the pack of wolves caused them to dashed forth without any care. Even the Corrosion Turtledoves in the air would occasionally come down to pick up a wolf corpse.

Long Lingyun’s thin sword was vicious, each attack fatal as she attacked only at their throats. However, her efficiency was lowered as she had to take care of Qing Shui and Qian Mo.

The area in which the group battled was very small, therefore, they were able to fend off the wolves with just Long Lingyun and Qi Gang alone. After all, the difference between elementary Martial Saint and Martial King was very big, even if the latter was a Peak Martial King. It was only that the pack of wolves were great in numbers.

What the Cui Brothers were worried about was that Long Lingyun and Qi Gang might make any mistakes.

Boom!

Another Gigantic Forest Wolves's head was smashed. Now, the attacks from the pack of wolves was not as fierce as before. The death of just one wolf alone was able to agitate their brutality but when half of them had been killed, they would have second thoughts about attacking.

Wuwu!

Finally, a loud howl came from the back of the wolves pack and all of them turned to leave. Qing Shui could see that there was a wolf king hidden in a distance.

It was a Gargantuan Wolf that was at least twice as big than the Gigantic Forest Wolves, its blue colored fur released a pure but faint glow. The Gargantuan Wolf quickly disappeared.

A few days later, they entered 100 li into the Tiger Gorge Mountain!

Tiger Stream Valley!

"You guys take a break first, we'll go hunt for food." The Cui Brothers smiled and said to the others before they left.

For the past few days, they had been in charge of the food since their culinary skills were not bad. It was just that this time, Qing Shui felt that their footsteps and breathing were unstable. They were clearly slightly agitated.

The chinese words that form the name 'Yunduan' translates to cloud. The author had used the same characters for both the guild and the mentioned lady.

### **Chapter 830 - Bone Softening Powder, Hu Yuanqing**

Qing Shui wasn't particularly concerned when the Cui brothers left. They weren't strong enough to cause him any kind of trouble, so he didn't have anything to worry about.

Tiger Stream Valley!

This area was surrounded by steep, mountain rock walls and there was only one exit that lead to the outside world. The place seemed like a giant open-air premise but the air felt a bit suffocating in it.

The grasses on the ground were dense which filled the entire valley with a pleasant smell of fresh green grass. It had been an exhausting and speedy journey for the past few days, so this change of beautiful scenery was a good chance to sit back and relax for a while.

Qing Shui glanced at Long Lingyun and Qi Gang - they appeared to be as the same as before even after what they had been through. Just then, he wondered what kind of impressions they had on the Cui brothers but he figured that they kept the brothers around because they were still useful. The reason he was curious was because awhile ago, the brothers looked down on his abilities.

"Qing Shui, are you selling the herb you required or are you collecting it for a mission? Or maybe you are collecting the herb to refine medicine?" When Long Lingyun finally had some spare time, she sat beside Qing Shui with a smile and asked him questions.

"I am going to use the herb to refine medicine." Qing Shui told the truth. Lying was unnecessary at this point.

“So you are an alchemist.” Long Lingyun wasn’t surprised. Even though alchemists were widely respected by the public, most Xiantian alchemists wouldn’t be highly regarded in the eyes of Martial Saint warriors. However, no one would dare to underestimate them just in case a Xiantian alchemist had some secret recipes that could overlook most powerful recipes. If a Xiantian alchemist had managed to refine such medicinal pills, then the Martial Saints could benefit hugely from the alchemist’s effort.

So in most circumstances, any alchemists - including Xiantian alchemists - would be respected regardless. Alchemists were strangely known to be popular with both the public and martial warriors.

“I think so!” Qing Shui said in a flat tone as he smiled at Long Lingyun.

“What do you mean ‘I think so’? It’s either a yes or a no.” Long Lingyun chided angrily.

“It’s a yes.” Qing Shui replied.

“What kind of medicinal herb you need? Tell me, maybe I can help you find it. And if I can’t, then you can try the Cloud Auction House to ask for it. Oh right, why didn’t you go to the Cloud Auction House to post it as a mission?” Long Lingyun spoke in a moderate pace, yet with some sort of rhythm. She had a mellow voice that sounded pleasant.

“That is an option. Well, what I need is a Sky Penetrating Grass of more than 5,000 years old.” Qing Shui chuckled.

“5,000 years above.....” Long Lingyun skipped the part about the herb’s name when she heard the words ‘5,000 years’. Whatever herb it was, 5,000 years was a ridiculously long time.

Qing Shui looked at the shocked expression on Long Lingyun’s face. Even Qi Gang and Qian Mo were shocked at well. Despite not being an alchemist themselves, they still had a bit of knowledge about medicinal herbs, especially when it came down to the age of the herbs. Those 5,000 years old herbs were extremely valuable, so they knew these precious herbs were not something that a Xiantian alchemist could use to concoct a medicinal pill with.

“Can you even use a 5,000 years old herb to concoct medicinal pills?” Long Lingyun glistened with curiosity when she asked Qing Shui.

“I think I can. But I haven’t use it before.” Qing Shui replied with a smile.

Long Lingyun pouted her lips and remained silent. Qing Shui’s words had the ability to get on her nerves easily. She initially thought she had met a low-profile man of superior talent but reality wasn’t as straightforward as she had thought.

Just then, the Cui brothers came back with two musk deers that were already skinned and cleaned properly, including the inner organs. They greeted everyone and began to start a fire to roast the deer meat.

Within a few minutes, a fragrant smell of cooked meat travelled through the air. When the meat had turned to a subtle yellow color, the Cui brothers took out some condiments and salt then marinated the meat before they continued the roasting process.

After a while, the meat's fragrance became stronger and richer, which had caused everyone to salivate. However, Qing Shui could sense something odd in the fragrance. His intuition told him that there was something wrong with the roasted meat.

The Cui brothers took the roasted meat and gave them to Long Lingyun and Qian Mo first. Both the ladies picked the lower joint of the legs, while Qi Gang tore off the loin of the meat for himself.

When it was Qing Shui's turn to pick, he chose the two front legs without hesitation and began to eat. When he tasted the meat, he knew something was wrong - it was tasteless and unpalatable, as if something had disturbed its taste. Luckily, Qing Shui's Nature Energy had an extraordinary ability that could release an astonishing energy throughout his body and began to cleanse the odd substance from his system.

The Cui brothers also ate the meat but only after they saw everyone took a bite first. They seemed relieved when they had affirmed that everyone had consumed the meat.

Qing Shui could understand why the Cui brothers were able to consume the tainted meat - they must have consumed some sort of antidote beforehand. Long Lingyun and Qi Gang didn't seem to show any kind of reaction, and Qing Shui was unsure what kind of drug the Cui brothers had used, so he decided to wait patiently and observe the situation closely.

Ultimately, he wasn't worried. The 'poison' inside his body had already been countered by his self-generating Nature Energy. All he had to do now was to observe what the Cui brothers would do next.

After the time to burn an incense stick had passed, Qian Mo decided to wash her hands at a nearby lake. But when she had tried to stand up, she realized her body was devoid of energy as her bones began to feel weak. Then immediately, she dropped to the ground, unable to move her muscles.

"Ah, why do I feel so weak!?" Qian Mo shouted in panic as she laid on the ground. She was the youngest in the group, after all.

Long Lingyun and Qi Gang were startled by Qian Mo's cry and immediately stood up to help her. But they sat back down soon after that, clearly weakened by the poison in the meat. Qing Shui, on the other hand, remained motionless. This drug must be outrageous if an Elementary Martial Saint was affected as well.

"Hahaha!"

At that moment, Cui Hao let out a roaring laughter. A gloating smile was plastered openly on his face.

"Cui Hao, what did you do to us?" Qi Gang shot a furious look at Cui Hao.

All of their summoned mounts and demonic beasts had been called back instinctively. They felt powerless, unable to lift even a muscle on their body, not even an ounce of energy left to summon their demonic beast to protect them. Alas, it was as if their opponents had intended for this to happen.

Maybe they had waited for this moment to come for the past few days. Today was finally the best moment to strike.

“Do what? What do you think? The Cloud Adventurer Guild will soon unite with the Mighty Tiger Adventurer Guild. Meanwhile, the son of the Mighty Tiger Adventurer Guild’s leader has his eyes on Miss Long and Miss Qian.” said Cui Hao with a nasty smirk.

“You will die sooner or later. So why don’t you let us have some fun with you.” Cui Dang darted his perverted eyes all over Long Lingyun’s body.

“You’re from the Mighty Tiger Adventurer Guild?” Long Lingyun’s face was as pale as a ghost. She gulped down a breath as she asked with a cold tone.

“Heh heh, since it has come to this, then I will tell you. You’re right, we are from the Mighty Tiger Adventurer Guild. We have been waiting for this day to come for so long.” the Cui brothers cackled. “You all were highly vigilant when you chose your companions. Yet you chose us because we were weak and possessed a low cultivation base. That’s how we got you to be less cautious about us and even allowed us to join the group.”

“I swear I will kill you!” Qi Gang shouted on top of his lungs.

His face was red and fuming with anger as he felt extremely helpless for falling into their calculative trap. He was disappointed in himself for allowing two pathetic trickster to best him. Qi Gang felt like he could vomit a pool of blood if he continued to think about this humiliation by the Cui brothers.

“If you can stand up right now, then I will personally cut out my brain and serve it to you on a plate.” said Cui Hao in a provoking smile at Qi Gang.

Qi Gang let out a loud roar and quickly straightened his body. But as soon as he managed to perform the ‘horse stance’, he lost his energy and flopped to the ground on his butt. His eyes grew increasingly red with rage and bitterness.

“This isn’t a common Bone Softening Powder. Even a low levelled Peak Martial Saint will be weakened to an ordinary feeble person. You can forget about struggling because this effect will last for 24 hours.” Cui Hao sneered.

Clap clap clap!

Just then, Cui Dang clapped his hands three times.

“Today is a good day.” A clear voice rang out, followed by the appearance of a group of seven people.

Qing Shui cocked his head to observe the group. The leader was an evil-looking man who seemed young but his real age was uncertain. However, he should be more than 50 years old, based on Qing Shui’s intuition.

Behind this man was a handful of young men, each wore an embroidered clothing and a belt adorned with variety of jadea. These young men had a foppish aura on their appearance but they were not as simple as the profligate sons from those supreme sects. They were more snobbish and narcissistic than the ones he had met before. Despite the negative traits, they were all still regarded as a genius in terms of their cultivation. If anything, they should be considered as the real powerful profligate sons, not the other way around.

What caught Qing Shui's attention were the two old men behind the leader. They have a head full of white hair but their complexion were more energized, unlike those of a typical old man. A strange light flashed in their eyes, which seemingly locked upon Long Lingyun from the moment they had appeared with the other men.

"Young master Hu, you've arrived." The Cui brothers bowed and greeted in respect.

"You guys did great. Watch from the sidelines. After we are finished, these ladies will be yours. You do know where to go out from here, right?" Young Master Hu snided.

"Yeah, we know. Thank you Young Master Hu!" The Cui brothers gestured with deep gratitude.

Even a fool would be able to tell what they wanted to do from here.

"Back then, the old fool Yun could protect you all. Now that he's dead, I will show the Cloud Adventurer Guild what I can do and we will see how that woman Yun Duan will react. So what if she's going to marry into my family? She's only another woman for my father. The Cloud Adventurer Guild will still merge with our Mighty Tiger Adventurer Guild." said the evil-looking man as he gazed at Long Lingyun in a towering position.

"Hu Yuanqing, fight me fairly if you have the guts. What kind of man uses such despicable method on his opponents?" Long Lingyun shouted in rage. However, her breath grew short, which had caused her shout to sound slightly muffled.

"Missy, you will know soon enough what kind of man I am. Save your breath later when you scream for pleasure." said Hu Yuanqing without a shred of anger in his expression.

"Uncle Yong, Uncle Xie, I know you like them very much. Take them as a gift from me. I hope you like what you see." said Hu Yuanqing as he turned to face two old men with a smile.

Qing Shui was unsure how strong the Mighty Tiger Adventurer Guild was. The two old men behind Hu Yuanqing seemed to be Peak Martial Saints with the strength of two stars. Judging by their power, they must be basking in the glory of their influence, showered with admiration and respect by the public and members.

Moreover, this Hu Yuanqing was quite the guy. Qing Shui could see an unquenchable thirst in Hu Yuanqing's eyes when he gazed at Long Lingyun. Even so, he was willing to give her away like an item - Hu Yuanqing was a man of wild ambitions.

"How kind of you. Don't worry, we know how exceptional you are, which is why we've been very supportive of you. Since it's a gift to us, then it's impolite to refuse your kindness." The old man on the left smiled wickedly.

It was an evil smile that could send shivers down a spine, especially for women.

"Young Master Hu, we will show you how it should be done." The other old man chortled. Both of them walked towards Long Lingyun's direction and abruptly shredded their clothes into pieces within the first three steps, leaving two Interspatial Silk Sachets on the ground.

Such generosity - to show everyone their naked body.....

Qing Shui was just beside Long Lingyun, so he was able to see her face turned 50 shades paler when she saw the naked bodies of the two old men. Not a surprise, given that she was a woman after all. Startled, she quickly shut her eyes tightly as the two old men walked closer towards her.