

Dragon King 141

Dragon King's Son-In-Law Chapter 141

: Touched the Immortal Essence...

The bus slowly began to move. Hao Ren opened the window, and the warm breeze blew in from outside.

Many students inside the bus kept on glancing at them. Now that the two gorgeous girls always followed him around, Hao Ren couldn't be low key even if he wanted to.

Feeling the warm breeze, Hao Ren took out his cell phone and dialed Zhao Yanzi's cell phone number.

"Are you at the airport?" Hao Ren asked her.

No matter what, Zhao Yanzi was still his little fiancée in the future. It's necessary to care about her.

"Still have half an hour until boarding," Zhao Yanzi replied over the phone.

"The weather forecast said that there'd be light rain in Beijing these two days. It's a bit chilly. Remember to dress warm," Hao Ren said.

"Hypocrite!" Zhao Yanzi shouted on the phone. However, she was bored in the waiting lounge, and there wasn't much to text about with Ling anymore. She felt slightly moved when Hao Ren suddenly called and was concerned about her.

"Fine, I'm being fake," Hao Ren was a bit helpless, "Are you coming back on Sunday?"

“Um, the plane leaves in the evening.”

“Remember to come back and do your assignments,” Hao Ren said.

“So annoying. Cut it out!” Zhao Yanzi hung up the phone angrily.

“Uh...” Hao Ren put down his cell phone. “What did I say wrong?”

The bus moved up stop by stop. Hao Ren used the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Technique secretly to absorb the five elements.

He absorbed water elements without any obstacles, but it was difficult for him to sense the other elements and absorb them.

The more anxious he was, the more chaotic his mood became. Soon, the five elements mingled around him, and he couldn't even tell where the water-elements were.

“Gongzi, you can't be anxious when you cultivate,” Lu Linlin said when she saw Hao Ren frown as if he was obsessed.

Hao Ren opened his eyes and smiled. “This earth element is indeed hard to feel.”

Lu Lili, who was beside him, covered her mouth and laughed, “Gongzi is so simple. To sense the earth element, it obviously will be best to be standing on the ground. You're sitting on a metal chair and trying to sense the energy of the earth. How could you make progress focusing on the wrong thing?”

That's it! Hao Ren understood completely. When he cultivated the Spirit Concentration Scroll, he absorbed pure but mixed energy of five elements with more water within. If he wanted to absorb a single elemental essence, he had to go to the specific places to cultivate.

“Gongzi’s amber is a water-elemental accessory. It can help you sense the water element, and that’s why the water element is the most abundant element inside Gongzi’s body,” Lu Lili looked at Hao Ren’s chest and said.

Hao Ren touched the little accessory that Zhao Yanzi gave him and nodded.

“Gongzi, there seems to be a fluctuation of array formation,” Lu Linlin suddenly said.

“Fluctuation of array formation?” Hao Ren was confused.

“Um, it seems like some people are fighting here!” Lu Linlin nodded.

Hao Ren looked in the direction they were pointing but saw nothing.

“Hehe, we forgot that Gongzi isn’t at Kan-level yet.” Lu Linlin grabbed Hao Ren’s palm, and pure energy of the five elements entered into Hao Ren’s body from his arm.

Pa! Hao Ren suddenly felt he had broken through to the Kan-level and his body became light.

His gaze followed the direction that Lu Linlin pointed towards and saw two people inside a dark red sphere in the sky; blue lights could be seen on them.

He couldn’t hear the sounds but could see icy rain flash and a white sword swing inside the dark red sphere. It seemed to be very intense.

“Two juniors of Zhen-level are fooling around,” Lu Lili watched for a while and said.

“Yeah,” Lu Linlin let go of Hao Ren’s palm, “Elder Lu mentioned that in the regulations of the Dragon Tribe, a dark red zone means a practice battle, and a white zone symbolizes a battle of life and death.”

As the pure energy exited, Hao Ren's head felt dizzy. He looked up again at the sky and saw the blue sky and white clouds and the sunny weather as if everything was normal.

"After a while will be the little Zhumu's birthday. It seems like some seniors already brought playful juniors and arrived early in East Ocean City," Lu Lili said.

After they chatted for a while, they suddenly noticed Hao Ren's confused look. Then, Lu Linlin said in a hurry, "Ah! I'm sorry, Gongzi. I suddenly took away the five elemental essences and forgot that you're not used to it."

"It's fine..." Hao Ren waved. Lu Linlin saying "I forgot that Gongzi isn't at the Kan-level yet" struck him hard.

After all, he would still be a mortal without reaching the Kan-level. After stepping into the Kan-level, he would really enter the door of cultivation, and the world he sees would be totally different.

"In fact, my younger sister and I can give you the five elemental essences and make Gongzi break through to the Kan Level. However, the realm won't be stable if you don't cultivate it on your own," Lu Linlin said, comfortingly.

"I believe that Gongzi will be very strong in the future!" Lu Lili also said with comfort.

Hao Ren smiled. Having two followers of top-grade Kun-level gave him quite a bit of pressure.

"Gongzi, you actually have your own merits, like English, Advanced Mathematics, university physics, um, you also play basketball too!" Lu Lili said again immediately.

"Alright, alright, you don't have to comfort me. I'll work hard in cultivating," Hao Ren used his hands to block their small mouths and said.

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili covered their mouth and smiled sweetly like two flowers.

They didn't know why they felt happy when they followed Hao Ren around. It might be because of their curiosity or interest. In their minds, Hao Ren had a temperament that was hard to describe. Most of the time he had a gentle character that tolerated everything, but sometimes he had the courage that was sharp enough to cut everything off.

Mortals could also be this interesting.

It was still sunny outside as the bus traveled at a moderate speed.

The bus stopped at the bus stop near the beach resorts in Seafont District.

Hao Ren carried his bag and walked to the small villa near the sea. Lu Linlin and Lu Lili followed Hao Ren under the scorching sun. This part of the road would take half an hour to walk. However, the Lu sisters weren't as weak as they seemed. Their stamina was better than Hao Ren.

When they arrived at the house, Hao Ren opened the door and didn't know how to explain things to grandma. All of a sudden, he heard a girl's voice inside the house.

"Ah?" They were both surprised when they saw each other.

Hao Ren saw Xie Yujia wearing a white apron and was carrying a fish in her hands. Xie Yujia saw Hao Ren carrying his bag home with two beautiful girls.

"Why... are you here?" Hao Ren asked foolishly.

"You're back, Ren?" Hao Zhonghua walked out of his room when he heard Hao Ren's voice, "Yujia was a bit drunk yesterday, so she slept over at our house and didn't go to school today either... Hmm? Who are they?"

"Oh, my classmates, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili. They wanted to visit my house," Hao Ren answered.

"Hello, Uncle!" Lu Linlin and Lu Lili said sweetly to Hao Zhonghua.

Hao Zhonghua was slightly dazed. Then seeing Xie Yujia was carrying a fish, he said, "Oh, you finished killing the fish? Steam it then. Grandma likes to eat steamed fish."

"Yes, Uncle." Xie Yujia nodded, brought the fish and walked into the kitchen without looking at Hao Ren.

She looked like a great wife and wise mother when she tied her hair up and wore an apron.

Yue Yang walked out of the kitchen wearing sleevelets. She saw the two pretty girls standing beside Hao Ren, and her facial expression changed. "Why did you bring more girls back home?"

"Hello, Auntie!" Lu Linlin and Lu Lili called Yue Yang sweetly again.

Yue Yang was originally going to pull a face, but seeing them being so polite, she couldn't be too mean to them as an elder either. Her tone softened. "Nevermind. Since you guys are here, let's eat together."

Xie Yujia drank quite a bit of alcohol last night and spoke some gibberish at the end. Yue Yang felt sorry for her and had her stay over. She also made Xie Yujia stay at her place to comfort her. Who knew Hao Ren would bring two girls home?

Yet, she wasn't the type of evil mother who would kick guests out of the house. Even though she had some complaints in mind, she didn't want to show it on the outside.

"Have your classmates sit down. Lunch will be ready soon," Yue Yang turned after she finished speaking and went to help Xie Yujia in the kitchen.

Xie Yujia was the main cook today and was going to make something delicious. As an elder, Yue Yang was only an assistant.

Hao Ren got snubbed and felt his mind was in a turmoil because he didn't expect Xie Yujia to be at home. He pointed at the sofa in the living room, "Linlin, Lili, find a place to sit."

“Yes, Gongzi!” Lu Linlin and Lu Lili nodded and found a spot to sit in the living room.

Hao Ren put down his bag and walked into the smoky kitchen.

Xie Yujia, who wore a white apron, was steaming the fish. Her hair was pulled up, and it revealed her fair skin in the warm kitchen. There were a few drops of sweats by her ears. It was obvious that she had worked very hard and it was a pretty difficult task as well.

She didn’t say anything when she saw Hao Ren squeeze in. She lowered her head to look at the braised pork in another pot. The heat was steaming; her face was red and formed an apparent contrast with her pale white neck.

Hao Ren got snubbed and could only ask Yue Yang, “Mom, did the Class President live at our house yesterday?”

“What Class President, call her Yujia!” Yue Yang scolded him.

“Alright... mom, did Yujia live at our house yesterday?” Hao Ren could only repeat the question.

“Yeah, Uncle Xie and her both slept at our house yesterday. Yujia stayed over in your room, and I slept with your grandma,” Yue Yang said.

“The Class President stayed over in my bedroom...” Hao Ren felt weird.

“Yujia seemed to be a bit drunk yesterday. She felt dizzy this morning, so I didn’t let her go to school,” Yue Yang said. “She said you’re coming back at noon and wanted to make a delicious meal for you...”

“Auntie!” Xie Yujia, who seemed to be concentrating on cooking the braised pork, suddenly interrupted Yue Yang and corrected her, “I’m cooking for you guys, not just for him.”

“Okay okay okay...” Yue Yang nodded continuously and looked at Hao Ren. “Anyhow, why don’t you thank Yujia?”

“Thank you very much class president...” Hao Ren yelled out but halfway through felt it sounded wrong and decided to rephrase it. “Thank you very much Yujia...”

After he finished saying this, he thought it felt slightly awkward again and shut his mouth. Changing from calling her ‘Class President’ to the intimate ‘Yujia’ was something he was still not used to it. Yet, they used to be childhood sweethearts a long time ago. There didn’t seem to be anything wrong addressing her this way either.

Seeing Hao Ren act awkward, Xie Yujia smiled. “Alright, it’s nothing. Just thanking your parents for treating us. There isn’t any special meaning to this.”

When she smiled, she looked like a secretly blooming flower. She wasn’t as beautiful as the Lu sisters, but she was more charming.

“Well... thank you anyway,” Hao Ren backed off and exited the hot kitchen. He found himself sweating all over his forehead and realized cooking wasn’t an easy task.

He returned to the living room and found that grandmother had appeared magically, grabbed the Lu sisters’ hands magically, and was chitchatting with them magically...

Grandma actually won’t say no to anyone... Hao Ren’s sweat fell down. He walked over. “Grandma, they are Lu Linlin and Lu Lili. They came to the beach to play today.”

“Um, I saw them yesterday. Such delicate girls,” grandma smiled and said at the same time.

As she talked, she also pinched their smooth faces as if she was pinching two dolls.

Hao Ren couldn’t stand his grandmother. “As long as they are beautiful girls, she would take them all. What kind of attitude was this...”

The Lu sisters and grandmother seemed to get along well. They could chat about all kinds of strange anecdotes, all sorts of local customs, and all types of legends of the gods and monsters. Hao Ren couldn't help but admire their knowledge.

"Ren, these two little girls, Linlin and Lili, are so nice. After chatting with them for a while, I feel a lot better," grandmother stood up and said.

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili looked at each other and smiled secretly. When grandmother grabbed their soft hands, they also used the energy of the five elements to adjust grandma's body and eliminated the remaining illnesses. It would be weird if she still had no energy.

This result was way more effective than Zhao Hongyu's way of utilizing ingredients, elixirs, and pills.

Not everybody could touch their bodies. If one could touch their hands, it must be a profound fortune. If grandma knew about their identities, in her concept, she would know that she touched the immortal essence.

"You little girls are great and know so much more than little Zi. Visit here often during the weekends from now on," grandmother looked at them pleasantly and said.

"Sure!" They promised before Hao Ren had a chance to interrupt. Visiting here every weekend to talk to grandma while nursing her body at the same time would count as repaying Hao Ren for saving their lives.

Hao Ren could only sigh when he saw Grandma, Linlin, and Lili smiling at each other. "Whatever, grandma is at this age already. As long as she's happy, she can do whatever she wants."

"Lunch time!" Yue Yang carried the dishes out from the kitchen.

Xie Yujia also followed her from the kitchen. She already took off the apron and let her hair down. This made her look tranquil and gentle.

"Come come come, Yujia, come and sit beside me!" grandma waved at Yujia as an act of intimacy.

The table was set with lots of dishes, and every single one seemed to be delicious in its color, flavor, and taste. It was obvious Xie Yujia put lots of effort into cooking this lunch.

Hao Ren didn't expect that the normally hard-working Xie Yujia, who also studied when she was at home, would be so good at cooking. At a young age, her cooking skills were on par with Zhao Hongyu's.

Xie Ming and Hao Zhonghua, who were talking about national affairs, came to the living room when they smelled the aroma. Hao Zhonghua laughed brightly. "Haha, Yujia is our big hero today!"

"Uncle! It's what I should do!" Xie Yujia smiled refreshingly and elegantly.

"Would you stay with us this weekend, Yujia?" Grandmother asked in a tone of inquiry. In grandmother's mind, Yujia was pretty, considerate, and also cooked well. Her personality was also gentle and was an excellent candidate for granddaughter-in-law.

However, she also had little Zi in mind. That's why she was indecisive.

"There's no need. I'll be heading back after lunch," Xie Yujia glanced at Hao Ren, glanced again at the two "unexpected guest", Lu Linlin and Lu Lili, and said.

"I have turned my heart to the moon, but the moon shines upon the ditch 1."

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: 'Data' Cultivation Method

After lunch, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili were very interested in touring Hao Ren's bedroom. Yue Yang wasn't fond of these sisters, but she didn't say anything because Grandma liked them.

Hao Ren couldn't stand the harassment of the Lu sisters and could only bring them to his bedroom. Xie Yujia also followed them because she still had some things left in Hao Ren's bedroom.

The bedroom window faced the sea, and the view was great. The first thing people saw when they opened the door was a big glass jar filled with shells resting by the bedside.

Every time Hao Ren entered, he would see this jar. Little Carrot collected the shells inside the jar.

Seeing these shells would remind him of the things that happened in the past. Little Carrot used to chase Little Older Brother on the beach, and sometimes Little Carrot would trip, tumble on the ground, and cry. Little Older Brother, who pretended to be a grown-up, would scold her yet help her to get up. Then..... Two beautiful shells would appear in his hands.

The moment the group walked into the room, Hao Ren's and Xie Yujia's eyes landed on the glass jar. Hao Ren suddenly discovered that the shells were moved from their original positions; he guessed that when Xie Yujia stayed over in this bedroom last night, she opened the jar, poured the shells out, and counted them one by one.

Every single shell symbolized a small piece of memory.

"I wore your mom's clothes today. I'm just going to grab my clothes from here." Xie Yujia walked to the bedside and picked up a plain-looking white t-shirt.

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili set up a small invisible Five Elemental Array Formation while Hao Ren and Xie Yujia were talking. This array formation could help Hao Ren sense and absorb the five elements.

"Finished touring? There isn't anything special, right?" Hao Ren looked at the twins and said.

"It is very normal," Lu Linlin stuck her tongue out.

Hao Ren glanced at her, didn't say anything, and exited the room. Xie Yujia, who held her clothes in her hand, felt terrible when she saw that the cute Lu sisters were already so close and so intimate with Hao Ren in just a few days.

“Why don’t Yujia and Ren go to the beach and reminisce about your childhoods?” Grandma didn’t want Xie Yujia to go back so early, so she made a suggestion.

“Grandma, I still have to visit my relatives with my dad. I’ll find another time to come and visit you,” Xie Yujia smile at Grandma and said.

“That’s true. Your dad rarely comes back, and you guys haven’t visited relatives yet. Fine, spend some time with your dad first! We’re a family from now on. Grandma will always think about you, Little Carrot!” Grandma said.

“Mom, I’ll drop them off back in the city,” Hao Zhonghua said.

“Also bring Linlin and Lili to the city,” Hao Ren said right away.

“If I don’t send them back, who knows if they will stay here or not?” he thought.

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili looked at Hao Ren sadly. “We wanted to utilize this weekend and help Gongzi to break through..... We also want to play by the beach too...” they thought.

Seeing Hao Zhonghua’s white Ford driving away, Hao Ren went back inside the house. Yue Yang stood at the door, faced Grandma, and tried to advise her, “Mom, you shouldn’t treat every girl so nicely. Ren won’t know where to stand.”

Grandma stopped smiling. “Aren’t you and Zhonghua going to Beijing for some Academic Conferences?” she asked.

“Um..... This time, it might take a month. It’s a big project for the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and it involves many subjects,” Yue Yang said in an apologetic tone.

“That’s right! If an old woman like me doesn’t find a few companions, won’t I be bored to death?” Grandma walked inside the house and said again, “These two young girls, Linlin and Lili, are pretty nice. Besides, their parents aren’t with them, and they usually stay with their grandpa. Isn’t that pitiful?”

Yue Yang felt like Grandma was actually hinting at Hao Ren even though Grandma mentioned the Lu sisters. She knew it was her fault and could only save her opinions for later.

It was a calm and tranquil weekend, and it passed by promptly. Hao Ren had been going for walks on the beach every morning and every evening for the past two days. Yue Yang and Hao Zhonghua thought that something might be bothering him, and they didn't ask since they didn't want to make him feel more anxious.

They didn't know that Hao Ren was trying to feel the earth elements and increase the earth element ratio in his body.

Only when all five elements reach the absolute equilibrium of precisely 20% could the foundation be successfully built. It would be the first step in cultivating the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll as well as leveling up to the realm of Kan-level.

It was even difficult for a master like Su Han to achieve this. For example, adding one type of drink into a cup was easy, but adding five types of drink into a cup with the exact same ratio would be difficult.

Yet, these weren't problems to Hao Ren. Currently, he had Lu Linlin and Lu Lili as two 'automatic detectors' since they could precisely measure the five elements in his body. He only needed to adjust constantly, and then he could reach perfect equilibrium.

This was just the same as mathematics' 'interval algorithm'. By continually measuring and valuing, one could reach the most precise value.

Cultivating using data was pretty much his original creation.

Carrying a bag full of snacks and returning to the dorm, it was already eight o'clock on Sunday night. Hao Ren sent Zhao Yanzi a text message to make sure she arrived in East Ocean City. Then, he urged her to do her homework and most certainly got a reply of "stop nagging".

“Sigh, how come kids these days don’t like studying,” Hao Ren thought as he gave the big pack of snacks from his Grandma to the surrounding dorm rooms. However, he instantly got attacked by many guys. “Hand us the cell phone numbers of the twin sisters!”

“Old-fashioned! Why do you need cell phones to contact the twin sisters? They will appear immediately in front of me if I shake the bell and think about them,” Hao Ren thought.

“Qin Shaoyang...”

Suddenly, shouts came from the other Dorm Buildings.

“Those crazy women are yelling again!” Cao Ronghua opened up the snacks and said in dissatisfaction.

Zhao Jiayi walked over and closed the balcony door as he sighed. Over the weekend, he had been at the school participating in training and didn’t go home. Every night, he endured the torturing shouts coming from the girls.

“What does this Qin Shaoyang look like...” Hao Ren was busy cultivating during the weekend and completely forgot to look his picture up online.

The moon fell, and the sun rose.

Half a day’s classes were over.

As promised, Hao Ren went to Su Han’s office to cultivate.

As he opened the door, he heard Su Han yell, “Get out!”

Soon after, Hao Ren felt tremendous pressure coming at him!

Hao Ren grabbed the wall, barely able to stand on the ground. Then, he found Su Han standing beside the window. She was holding a sword single-handedly as she pointed it at another person in the office!

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: Nothing Good Is Coming!

Su Han was pointing at a man in a grey shirt with her sword when Hao Ren rushed into her office.

That man whipped a ray of golden light out at Hao Ren without thinking.

Dang!

Suddenly, a blue ripple appeared in front of Hao Ren's chest. At that moment, Hao Ren felt a sharp pain as the necklace Su Han gave him suddenly cracked.

"How dare you!" Su Han got furious. The white sword in her hand turned into a dash of white light and struck towards that man's chest.

However, this man took called back the golden light and waved it casually to block Su Han's white sword.

Tink!

The sharp noise gave Hao Ren a headache.

Hao Ren circulated the Spirit Concentration Scroll to calm his mind down. After he took a second look at this man's weapon, he realized that it was a golden weaving shuttle.

He looked out of the window at the passing students, and he saw that they were chatting and laughing; no one realized that a fight was going on in Su Han's office.

After missing, Su Han slashed the sword out single-handedly again and aimed it at this man's waist.

However, this man in grey lowered the golden weaving shuttle lightly and blocked Su Han's sword once again.

Dang!

Su Han used her full strength this time, and the noises from the battle even shook the array formation of the office.

"If you keep on going, this little guy may not make it," that man said to Su Han.

"Humph!" Su Han was unwilling to submit. She chopped down at that man's head, but it got easily blocked once again. Then, she took a few steps back, and the sword vanished from her hand.

Even though Hao Ren was standing close by, the man in grey paid no attention to him. He kept staring at Su Han with a smile. "Hehe, Han, you are still the most attractive when you are mad."

Su Han frowned to show that he was not welcomed at all.

"After just two years, you have advanced to mid-tier Qian-level, half a tier higher than me. How hardworking have you been?" he continued.

Su Han stood quietly by the window.

"But it's useless to level up in Cultivation Realms without improving your techniques. Your sword technique is bad as usual. How do you expect to defeat me with that?" this man smiled at Su Han and said.

“Get lost!” Su Han wasn’t friendly at all.

That man laughed and finally turned to Hao Ren to look at him.

“You even gave the body-protection necklace to him, and he could come into your office without authorization. Is he your disciple?” that man turned to Su Han and asked.

Su Han kept quiet.

He turned back to Hao Ren. “The five elements in his body are messed up, and he has no future. You have really gotten a great disciple, little Han.”

“I will say it one last time... Get Lost!” cold lights flashed in Su Han’s eyes.

“It’s no use cultivating that hard if you can’t become a Heavenly Dragon. Do you really think that your hard work can get you to the Heavenly Realm? It would be a better choice to enjoy your life with me for a couple of hundred years!” that man said.

Without saying anything, Su Han’s white sword appeared in her palm again. This time, it was surrounded by chilling lights and icy energy.

“Alright, I’ll go.” That man finally got intimidated a little and backed himself to the door.

Even Hao Ren could tell that Su Han was furious this time. She would be using her ultimate technique if this man stuck around longer.

Just when this man turned around and was ready to leave, Hao Ren noticed that the color of his pupils was gold!

The dark red room became normal all of a sudden, and the sunlight shot right into the room through the window. Hao Ren could hear the birds chirping and smell the aroma of flowers again.

The sword vanished from Su Hao's hand, and she glimpsed at Hao Ren. "Sit down and cultivate."

Hao Ren rubbed his chest and sat opposite to Su Han.

"Although the technique I'm cultivating is different from yours, the basic concepts are the same. Since you picked the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll, it is important to comprehend all five elements at the same time. Your Dragon Core is Zi's, so it has more water element. Therefore, you should be cultivating a water elemental technique," Su Han slowly calmed down and said to Hao Ren. She was cultivating both metal and water elements at the same time and was a mid-tier Qian-level cultivator. Her information was beneficial to Hao Ren.

As for Lu Linlin and Lu Lili, although they were mighty, their cultivation method was different from Hao Ren's and Su Han's. They were on the level of top-tier Kun-level, but that was only a conversion to the cultivation levels of the Dragon Tribe. Therefore, they could offer Hao Ren some help and information, but they wouldn't be able to give him too much instruction on cultivation.

Two hours went by quickly, and the sandalwood incense had burned down as well.

Hao Ren didn't want to bother Su Han's cultivation too much since it was already six o'clock. He stood up and said, "Let's call it a day, Su Han."

She nodded and took a little golden pearl off her bracelet. "This is a Dharma Golden Pearl and is a precious treasure. It functions the same as the water elemental amber Zi gave you. However, this would help you with the collection of metal elements."

She threw the pearl at Hao Ren, and he hastily caught it.

Seeing his hesitation, Su Han said coldly, "Don't worry, there is no trick about this pearl."

Hao Ren unhooked his necklace and added the pearl on it. He now had Zi's amber and Su Han's golden pearl, if he could collect wood, earth, and fire elemental pendants, this necklace would be complete with all five elements.

“I used this pearl with my cultivation before, and I’m giving it to you because I hope it could help you advance into Kan-level soon,” Su Han continued.

Hao Ren nodded. Although Su Han was always cold, she had shown extreme patience to him.

“Also, your necklace had been attacked by that jerk just now, and some of the array formations in it are damaged. It can only defend one more attack of the same level at most. I don’t have much time to restore the necklace for you now, so you have to be careful,” Su Han said.

Hao Ren was going to ask about that guy, but he stopped himself after some consideration. He turned around and left the office.

The priority for him was to reach Kan-level as soon as possible, so he didn’t want to stick his hands into other random things.

As he walked outside, Hao Ren felt the weight of the golden pearl on the necklace. It was still warm since Su Han was wearing it just now.

Hao Ren realized that this pearl had just intimately touched Su Han’s skin, and his body temperature raised a little as well.

Su Han was a beauty who would make people excited just by thinking about her. If Zhou Liren and the guys were to find out that Hao Ren received a pendant from Su Han, one which she was wearing before, they would be jealous to death.

When Hao Ren was walking towards the Dorm Building in the south, he passed by the library and saw that it was still open.

The billboard for the ‘Qin Shaoyang’s Personal Art Exhibition’ was still on the door. Hao Ren thought for a bit and went inside.

This 'Qin Shaoyang's Personal Art Exhibition' was held in the lobby of the first floor. The showing would be on Wednesday, two days from now. However, everywhere but the elevator to the second floor was covered up by tall whiteboards.

It seemed like although the paintings weren't hang up yet, the whole place has already been decorated.

Hao Ren scanned the place and was about to leave when Qin Shaoyang, who was in a grey striped shirt, secretly sneaked behind him.

Chapter 144: Out of Seclusion Cultivation

Hao Ren suddenly felt intense pressure on his chest.

He sensed that something was wrong and turned back immediately. It was the man who was in Su Han's office earlier standing behind him, sneering.

This man lifted a finger and flicked it at Hao Ren.

Boom!

Hao Ren felt like a giant hammer smashed him, and it forced him to pounce out of the library!

Thankfully, there were a few stairs at the door. Hao Ren stepped on them as he struggled to stand still.

Splash...

The necklace Su Han gave him suddenly broke open, and the amber from Zi and the golden pearl from Su Han both fell to the ground.

This 'genius artist' who was popular in the media only flicked his finger casually as if he was flicking off a speck of dust from his shirt.

He was in a pair of light-colored pants, a grey shirt, and black shoes. He looked like he was in his late twenties, and his handsome face was impeccable. His temperament showed what a gentleman he was as well.

“Don’t get near Su Han in the future,” he said lightly as Hao Ren finally stood straight.

He looked at Hao Ren condescendingly. If Huang Xujie’s attitude was out of jealousy, Qin Shaoyang’s was entirely out of spite.

Shoo! Shoo!

There went two rays of green light!

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili appeared by Qin Shaoyang’s sides!

Since the library was about to close, there was no student nearby. The sisters started attacking Qin Shaoyang without a word.

They both aimed at Qin Shaoyang’s handsome face!

He raised his hands to block the attacks, but Lu Linlin and Lu Lili suddenly changed the direction of their hands!

Pa! Pa! Qin Shaoyang got two hard slaps on his face.

He stepped back to defend as the sisters stepped forward.

Pa! Pa! Their hands went back to their original positions and gave him two more slaps.

Qin Shaoyang tried to block it with both of his hands up and his head down. However, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili changed their moves and went through Qin Shaoyang's defense.

Pa! Pa! Two more hard slaps!

"Stop it!" Hao Ren shouted.

Shoo! Shoo! Lu Linlin and Lu Lili turned into two rays of green lights and appeared by Hao Ren's sides.

Qin Shaoyang looked up in panic. There were six clear hand prints on his handsome face.

If it weren't for Hao Ren's call, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili would have kept going until his entire face was swollen!

"This is what's going to happen if you bully Gongzi again!" Lu Linlin said angrily to Qin Shaoyang with her eyes wide open.

"Are you alright, Gongzi? My sister and I sensed that you were under attack, so we came over immediately," Lu Lili asked Hao Ren softly, full of worries.

Qin Shaoyang felt the intense burning pain in his cheeks, and he was both shocked and furious. He was surprised at how these two girls broke through his invisible shield easily and mad at being slapped six times in a row; no one had ever hit him in the face before! If it weren't for Hao Ren, he might have got slapped more!

Pa! Pa! Pa! Pa! Pa! Pa! The sound of the six slaps was still echoing in his head.

After making sure that the twins of unknown background wouldn't attack again, Qin Shaoyang raised his arms and pointed at Hao Ren.

"Attacking an Inspector. I am writing that down on my list!"

Hao Ren bent over to pick up the broken necklace and the precious accessories. Then, he left without a word.

He had written this incident down on his list as well!

Since he hasn't reached Kan-level, he wasn't able to use the first-level techniques of Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll. Therefore, he had to wait until later to deal with this Inspector who was at least on the Kun-level.

Those six slaps could be the temporary punishment for now. After all, Lu Linlin's and Lu Lili's help couldn't be counted as his own.

Qin Shaoyang who was on the stairs suddenly remembered something when he saw the twin sisters leave with Hao Ren.

"Could he be that half-human-half-dragon Hao Ren? Humph... I don't think they will be protecting you every single day!"

In just a second, a wave of extremely strong power streamed down from above. Then, Qin Shaoyang heard a roar, "How dare you bully members of our East Ocean?!"

Boom! An icicle landed precisely in front of him. It rubbed across his nose and ripped a large cut in his grey shirt at the same time.

Qin Shaoyang who was a mid-tier Kun-level Master looked up at the sky in panic, "East Ocean Zhao Kuo!"

"Hahahaha... I finally came out of the seclusion cultivation! The hell with the Heavenly Tribulation! Zi's birthday is the most important thing right now!" Zhao Kuo's loud voice came through the sky.

Hao Ren was already at the school gate, so he had no idea that Zhao Kuo's appearance was scaring Qin Shaoyang to death. Hao Ren said to the sisters, "You guys can go back now. I still need to go to Zi's house."

“Gongzi, take care on the way there.” The twin sisters were reluctant to say goodbye.

Hao Ren simply smiled at them.

Lu Lili suddenly grabbed his wrist when he was boarding the bus. “Gongzi, the necklace is fixed, but it is no longer a Dharma treasure since it doesn’t have the array formation anymore.”

“Thank you very much.” Hao Ren took the necklace as he suddenly realized how careful and thoughtful Lu Lili was.

The Lu sisters watched Hao Ren as he got on the bus. Afterward, they looked into each other’s eyes and went back to the school hand in hand. They were going to find Lu Qing and go home together.

The bus took Hao Ren to Zhao Yanzi’s house, and it was her who opened the door in her blue school uniform. She must have just gotten back since she hadn’t gotten changed yet.

Hao Ren was confused at how quiet the house was.

“Where are your parents?”

“My dad has a lot of things to deal with, and my mom is working overtime at her office.”

Zhao Yanzi went to the kitchen and came out with a bowl of instant noodles in her hands.

“That’s what you’re having for dinner?” Hao Ren asked.

“It’s none of your business,” Zhao Yanzi didn’t realize Hao Ren was worried about her and continued, “This is the only pack left.”

Zhao Yanzi misunderstood Hao Ren while he was still looking at her. She threw another pair of chopsticks at him and said in annoyance, "Fine, fine. You can have some too! It's too much for me anyways!"

Hao Ren was worried that the instant noodle was not good for Zhao Yanzi since she was at her growing and developing age. However, the pair of chopsticks she threw him made him want some noodles.

She was too lazy to get another bowl to split the noodles. Therefore, the two of them ate from the same bowl with their heads close to each other. They had fun fighting over the noodles with two pairs of chopsticks in that one bowl.

Since Hao Ren was starving and the instant noodle appeared to be very delicious at the moment, he wasn't really in the position to criticize Zhao Yanzi for eating something as unhealthy as this.

Pa! The last string of noodle was bitten in half by them.

They were fighting over the noodles like little kids, and the last string of noodle was the last thing to fight for. Each of them put one end in their mouth, and their noses almost touched.

"Um-hum..."

They were both embarrassed when they realize that, so they coughed a bit to cover up the flush on their faces.

"Alright! Now go do the dishes!" Zhao Yanzi threw her chopsticks into the bowl and shouted at Hao Ren.

Hao Ren saw her blush and knew that her heartbeat was probably really fast. He quickly went into the kitchen, poured the noodle soup out of the bowl, and washed it with their chopsticks.

When he got out of the kitchen, Zhao Yanzi had already changed into a white T-shirt, a floral print vest, and a black belt.

“Come on, I, the big sister, will take you to the Art District!” she said to Hao Ren as she pretended to be sophisticated and mature.

Dragon King’s Son-In-Law Chapter 145

: The Frustrated No.1 Master in the Mortal World

Of course, Hao Ren knew what was on her mind; she was just trying to escape from the tutoring session and her homework.

“Come on! Stop dawdling!” Seeing Hao Ren remaining where he was, Zhao Yanzi urged him impatiently.

“Where are we going?” Hao Ren asked. Eager to advance to Kan-level, he had planned to cultivate in the attic after the tutoring session. It would be a waste of time if he went out with her.

“To Mom’s office, and we will come home with her!” Zhao Yanzi said in high spirit.

Hao Ren had no choice but to go with her.

They took a taxi and went to 1825 Art District in East Ocean City.

Zhao Yanzi was all dressed up, but her little girl habits exasperated Hao Ren. She was too lazy to fetch a bowl and share the noodles, but she would change into a new outfit just for a small outing.

1825 Art District was situated in the southern suburbs of East Ocean City. It had been a zone of factories, but the factories had been moved or closed due to the city’s industry adjustment program and environmental regulations. Therefore, a lot of warehouses and factory buildings were left behind.

East Ocean City copied Beijing’s method of making the buildings into an Art District. Since then, the area had its own unique characteristics.

Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi arrived at the Art District and saw large chimneys and old woven wire fences everywhere. However, as they went inside, tastefully displayed art galleries and shops greeted them.

Familiar with this area, Zhao Yanzi led Hao Ren to Zhao Hongyu's studio. The iron and steel steps on the stairs banged loudly under their feet while they walked up to the second floor of a red house. Zhou Hongyu's architectural studio was situated there.

"Mom!" Zhao Yanzi pushed open the door and entered the studio. She immediately spotted Zhao Hongyu who was giving instructions to her employees.

"Zi! Why are you here?" Zhao Hongyu was surprised to see her.

"Uncle... Ugh, Hao Ren and I came together." Zhao Yanzi pointed at Hao Ren behind her.

"Auntie," Hao Ren greeted her modestly. It was the first time that he visited Zhao Hongyu's studio. The exquisite interior design and the little decorations showed the artistic taste of the studio.

"Little Zi is even more beautiful than before!" The staff members were happy to see Zhao Yanzi.

Zhao Yanzi was dressed beautifully today, and her big cute eyes dazzled the young employees.

"Mom, when will you get off work?" Zhao Yanzi asked.

"Probably in a couple of hours," Zhao Hongyu said.

"Hao Ren and I will wait for you. I'll show him around."

Then, she pulled Hao Ren out of the studio.

She wanted to play in the Art District, but she made Hao Ren go with her. Zhao Hongyu looked at them leave and shook her head. She then turned back to the young architects and resumed explaining the key points of the design.

Walking out of the red house, Zhao Yanzi led Hao Ren downstairs and said, "There are many architectural studios in here, but Mom's is the best!"

Looking back at the red house, Hao Ren guessed that it must have been the office building of a former factory since it had the best view and ventilation. The fact that Zhao Hongyu could rent this house showed her value and capabilities.

"There are many interesting things around here, and many artists with moderate reputations come here to exhibit their works." Zhao Yanzi explained while pulling Hao Ren toward another big factory building.

Knowing nothing about arts, Hao Ren could only tell if a piece of art was good to look; he wasn't able to describe the reasons behind his judgments.

However, Zhao Yanzi was different. Under the training of Zhao Hongyu, she was a natural with arts. Seeing Hao Ren's confusion, she took the opportunity to show off her knowledge of arts.

"What are you talking about? This painting has nothing to do with Vincent Willem van Gogh! It's an imitation painting of Manet's The Picnic. Do you know Manet? No? Dumb! You don't even know him! Manet is the founder of Impressionism, but this painting comes under the category of realism!"

"And this is van Gogh's style, Idiot! Do you think he could only paint sunflowers? Look at the use of bright paint which is the symbol of van Gogh's style!"

"This is performance art. I don't like it! Come on! Let's go to the other side!"

"You..... Pervert! You just love staring at this kind of oil paintings!"

"They are arts..." Hao Ren finally found a chance to retort.

Being dragged along by Zhao Yanzi in the Art District, Hao Ren listened to her explanations and reprimands. However, he admired her strong memories of arts; she could tell him the history of anything he pointed at. Of course, Hao Ren didn't know if she was making up stuff to cover up the things she didn't know. In short, with his little knowledge of arts, Hao Ren wouldn't tell the difference if she was making things up.

Besides the exhibitions, they also sold stuff. Zhao Yanzi chose a pile of expensive and useless trinkets and made Hao Ren pay for them.

Walking around holding her little hand, Hao Ren was tired but also felt a little happy.

The rundown factory buildings, dim illumination, vibrant arts, and brilliant artistic talents dazzled his brain with their drastic and powerful contrasts.

The huge palm trees lined up on both sides of the wide road, and the swaying trees' shadows and the gusty wind seemed even more enjoyable to him compared with the ones on the university campus.

"Do you know that we have a fine arts exhibition this Wednesday at our school?" Hao Ren asked.

"Yes. It's Qin Shaoyang. But you probably don't know his true identity..." Zhao Yanzi raised her head and said.

"What identity?" Hao Ren asked her.

"Inspector," Zhao Yanzi answered.

"I know, and he even got his face slapped by Lu Linlin and Lu Lili," Hao Ren thought.

"Different from Sister Su who is stationed here, he is a Patrolling Inspector. In general, Inspectors are troublesome, but with our great influence here. East Ocean is not afraid of him," Zhao Yanzi continued.

Hao Ren nodded. His experience told him that the East Ocean Dragon Clan was like a kingdom here and had great power. That was why it was cautious about but not afraid of the Patrolling Inspectors.

“Will you come this Wednesday?” Hao Ren asked her again.

“Do you want me to go?” Zhao Yanzi asked back.

“No,” Hao Ren said.

“Bah! Then I will go!” Zhao Yanzi was contradictory.

Hao Ren grinned, knowing that she would say that.

“By the way, which level are you on with the so-called Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll?” Zhao Yanzi asked.

“Hey! I haven’t checked your homework yet, and now you are checking my cultivation progress?” Hao Ren thought.

A black car suddenly stopped in front of them.

Zhao Kuo stuck his head out of the window.

“Zi! Haha! Third Uncle is back!”

“Oh, Third Uncle! Aren’t you in seclusion cultivation?” Zhao Yanzi yelled in surprise at the sight of her Third Uncle.

“Seclusion, seclusion! My butt was going to crack!” Zhao Kuo opened the car door and got out. His gaze turned weird when he saw them holding hands.

Zhao Yanzi blushed. Fortunately, the light here was dim, and Hao Ren didn't notice it.

Quickly, she withdrew her hand and stammered.

"Ugh, Third Uncle, how do you know I am here?"

"Who is Third Uncle? I can find anyone if I want to."

Zhao Kuo smiled proudly, though the grin didn't look good on his dark-skinned face.

"You are here just in time. I ran out of pocket money." Zhao Yanzi reached her hand out to Zhao Kuo.

"Well, well." Zhao Kuo sighed as if he was being robbed. Obediently, he took out his wallet and drew out several 100-yuan bills, placing them onto Zhao Yanzi's palm.

Who would believe that the No.1 Master in the Mortal World would look so vulnerable before Zhao Yanzi?

Putting away the money, Zhao Yanzi smiled cheerfully.

"Third Uncle, you got out of seclusion early. Aren't you worried that you can't pass the Heavenly Tribulation next month?"

"Do you think one could pass the Heavenly Tribulation by being in seclusion?" Zhao Kuo looked at Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi as he said, "It seems that West Ocean is restless recently. You'd better not come out by yourself."

"Who dares to touch me with Third Uncle around?" Zhao Yanzi poked Zhao Kuo's chest with her finger.

“Right! I’ll skin anyone who dares to bully you!” Zhao Kuo said viciously before turning to look at Hao Ren.

Hao Ren inhaled deeply, feeling like he was an outsider here.

“Kid, is it true that you chose the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll?” Sure enough, Zhao Kuo didn’t want to make it easy for him.

“Yeah.” Hao Ren didn’t like Zhao Kuo, but he forced himself to answer him. This Third Uncle was not a reasonable man and was not nice to people he didn’t like.

“A rubbish technique! I once tried it and made no progress in three months. You shouldn’t have chosen this scroll!” Zhao Kuo scolded him immediately.

“Maybe I can make it work,” Hao Ren said.

“If you can make it work, I will crawl backward before you!” Zhao Kuo retorted viciously.

Alarmed by the direction of the conversation, Zhao Yanzi said immediately, “Third Uncle, why are you so upset with him?” She pushed Zhao Kuo away and said, “You go back now, and I’ll visit you some other day!”

“Don’t you want me to drive you home?” Zhao Kuo changed his expression to a smile before asking.

“No! No! Stop bothering me!” Zhao Yanzi waved her arm impatiently. The

No.1 Master in the Mortal World looked wronged. He had gotten out of seclusion cultivation early to visit his cute little niece, and he didn’t expect that he would be driven away by her.

Seeing Zhao Kuo driving away, Zhao Yanzi heaved a sigh of relief.

After a moment of consideration, she declared, "I held your hand because I was afraid that you would get lost in this unfamiliar place. There was nothing in it....."

"Ok. I got it." Hao Ren sighed heavily. It seemed like it was hard to win this girl's heart. She built layers of defense around her which were more complicated than the most advanced array formation.

"Did you have a good time in Beijing?" Hao Ren asked her.

"It was ok. Nothing special." Zhao Yanzi kicked at the pebbles at her feet.

Then, silence fell.

The streetlights shone on them and left two shadows on the road, one longer than the other.

It suddenly occurred to Hao Ren that when he was in the Eighth Grade, she was only in the Third Grade. It was a remarkable sense of distance.....

They walked along the quiet factory road and returned to Zhao Hongyu's studio, finding the latter was already waiting for them with the car key.

Hao Ren suddenly remembered that Zhao Hongyu drove a Ferrari and didn't have back seats.

"Auntie, you can take Zi home. It's time for me to return to school," Hao Ren said.

"Ok. Thanks for keeping Zi company." Zhao Hongyu smiled.

"No problem!" Hao Ren waved his hand cheerfully before walking out of the studio with them.

After saying goodbye to them, Hao Ren took a bus back to school.

Sitting in the back of the quiet bus, Hao Ren began to cultivate the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll silently.

He must spend any free time he had on cultivation since the breakthrough could happen at any moment, usually without warning.

The unbalanced five elements circulated in his body. Hao Ren was releasing the inner essence with the third level of the Spirit Concentration Scroll when suddenly a dash of white sword energy shot out from his finger!

Chapter 146: Condense into Sword

The sword energy was weak, and it hit the back of the seat before Hao Ren and vanished.

However, it was a still wonderful surprise to Hao Ren.

He almost forgot that even though the Spirit Concentration Scroll was the most basic technique, all the advanced cultivation techniques were built on it.

It worked the same way as math; even the most advanced math equations were based on the basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

After being stuck for days, he finally got a feel of it.

Hao Ren tried to condense the five elements into his palm with the Spirit Concentration Scroll before circulating Nature Essence using the Splitting Light Sword Shadow Scroll. A cloud of grey energy that vaguely looked like a sword appeared in his palm.

“Shoot!” Hao Ren yelled in his mind while pushing his palm toward the outside of the window. The sword energy flew several meters before the nightly wind blew it apart.

Hao Ren condensed and released again. The sword energy looked barely like a sword, and there wasn't any power in it.

From the rear-view mirror, the Bus Driver saw Hao Ren who was swinging his palm toward the window repeated, and he thought with a sigh, "It's a pity that such a fine young man is mentally disabled."

The bus stopped at the university, and Hao Ren jumped off, returning to his dorm to rest. The cultivation on the bus tired his body, but his spirit was high.

He felt like he had just solved a math problem that had puzzled him for a long time. A sense of achievement and relaxation made him dizzy.

Su Han had hoped that Hao Ren could progress steadily, and that was why she had only taught him how to absorb the five elements but not the method of using them. However, Hao Ren thought through the whole thing and learned how to do it himself; he was one step ahead of his teacher.

It was what the top students did; always one step ahead of the teacher's curriculum!

Now, he could release the vague sword energy at will, though it would consume the Nature Essence he stored in his body. Hao Ren practiced while walking, and he only stopped practicing after he was proficient at it. After all, he didn't want to consume all of the precious five elemental essences stored in his body.

He decided that he would ask Su Han tomorrow about how to accelerate his cultivation with the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll and reach Kan-level earlier.

In the night, Qin Shaoyang, who was in an elegant black shirt, stood on top of a building and watched Hao Ren who was happily playing with a dash of sword energy in his palm while walking into the dorm area. After a light snort, this man vanished.

On the second day, Hao Ren replenished the Nature Essence in his body with the Spirit Concentration Scroll in class, feeling like his 108 acupoints were full of Essence again.

The bell rang, and Hao Ren carried a stack of books to return to the library. He had been so busy recently that the books were due before he could finish them.

He was about to enter the library when someone called out to him.

He turned and saw the pink-faced Xie Yujia, who also had a stack of books in her arms, rushing toward him.

“Are you returning books too?” Hao Ren asked with a stiff smile.

“Why are you looking at me like that? I won’t eat you.” Xie Yujia smiled lightly and bumped him with her elbow before walking with him into the library.

Today, she was wearing a loose striped dress. Just like her usual clothes, it was simple but refreshing.

“Why did you avoid me these two days? Did you do something wrong?” Xie Yujia asked while walking.

“No. It’s because of... That thing.”

Hao Ren stammered, knowing that Xie Yujia would understand what he was referring to.

“In the beginning, I was indeed astonished. But now after some thinking, it is what it is,” Xie Yujia said.

The hall on the first floor of the library was divided into several sections by whiteboards; it was being prepared for tomorrow’s art exhibition.

Hao Ren stood beside Xie Yujia on the escalator that was moving up slowly. He asked, “What do you mean by ‘it is what it is’?”

“Then, what do you mean by ‘because of that thing’?” Xie Yujia returned the question.

Secretly admitting defeat, Hao Ren said with resignation, "I mean I'm your Little Older Brother."

"And 'it is what it is' is also referring to the fact that you are my Little Older Brother," Xie Yujia said lightly.

Knowing that the Class President was too smart for him, Hao Ren changed the subject by asking, "Did your dad go back?"

"Yeah, a little later than he had planned. I saw him off last night at the airport," Xie Yujia answered.

Hao Ren thought for a moment and said, "I should have seen him off as well."

His childhood memories were vague, but he still remembered that Xie Yujia's dad had been kind to him.

"It's ok," Xie Yujia replied as she shook her head while holding the books in her arms.

The atmosphere suddenly became awkward.

Standing together on the moving escalator, they looked like one of the student couples commonly seen on campus.

"Oh, the little girl, Zhao Yanzi, pulled you to aside and talked to you last time. What did she say?" Hao Ren asked abruptly.

"Nothing serious. She just asked me if I like you," Xie Yujia arched her eyebrows slightly and said breezily.

Hao Ren's heart lurched, not daring to ask what her answer was.

“In fact, I was astonished when I found out that you are my Little Older Brother. I feel dumb thinking back to the words that I said to you,” Xie Yujia said as she bit her lip with her white teeth. Then, she pursed her lips and turned to Hao Ren abruptly, reaching out her soft white hand to him while holding the books against her belly with the other.

“Very nice to meet you,” she said.

“Huh?” Hao Ren froze.

“This is the scene that I had in mind about the meeting with my Little Older Brother,” Xie Yujia reached out her hand and said, “It is nice to meet you again, Little Older Brother. From now on, everything would restart from the beginning.”

“Restart from the beginning...” The words hit Hao Ren’s heart as all the memories he had with her re-emerged in his head.

Hao Ren reached out and shook her hand with his.

“You are supposed to say, ‘Nice to meet you, Little Carrot’,” Xie Yujia said with a smile.

While the escalator moved up slowly, the students on the first and second floor all looked at the beautiful girl who was holding a plain-looking guy’s hand.

Some of them were baffled, some were jealous, but none of them knew the backstory that covered a time span of more than ten years.

The escalator got to the top, and Xie Yujia released Hao Ren’s hand and exhaled deeply as if she was finally free from the pressure and the burden that had accumulated over the past ten years.

“Although the beginning is a bit different from what I had imagined, now everything is in its rightful place. We met each other again, and we can start again.” Xie Yujia looked at Hao Ren and smiled faintly as the wisps of black hair around her ears fluttered slightly.

“You are Little Older Brother in the second year, and I am Little Carrot in the second year.”

Like a clock that had readjusted to the correct time, Hao Ren’s messy thoughts and feelings began to clear with this simple hand-shake.

“I have two questions,” Hao Ren gritted his teeth and asked, “You waited for your Little Older Brother because you wanted to give him and yourself a chance, right?”

“Yes.” Xie Yujia nodded. She had wished for a reunion just like this. Although there might be no result, she had something to hope for.

“What if he doesn’t show up?” Hao Ren continued to ask.

“Then, I would probably leave the chance to a guy named Hao Ren, but that would be in the third year,” Xie Yujia said lightly before walking into the Borrowing Section with books in her arms.

Chapter 147: The Metal Elemental Is the Strongest?!

Hao Ren followed her into the Borrowing Section.

After returning the books that she borrowed last time, Xie Yujia walked to the science and technology shelves while Hao Ren went toward the culture and art shelves.

“I saw Qin Shaoyang yesterday. Wow! He is so handsome!”

“It’s said that he has golden pupils. Is that true?”

“My view wasn’t clear. I just had a distant glimpse of him directing the arrangements in the exhibition area. He was so dashing in his grey shirt!”

“What are you guys talking about? Qin Shaoyang? I saw him yesterday when he walked past the entrance of the library! His pupils are golden in the sunshine. He’s gorgeous!”

The girls’ gossips floated through the bookshelves and reached Hao Ren who was standing in the area.

“Golden pupils...” Hao Ren clenched his fists as he had a bad feeling about Qin Shaoyang’s intentions.

A Patrolling Inspector had suddenly appeared in East Ocean City just before Zhao Yanzi’s birthday party; his purpose was obvious.

Except for Qin Shaoyang, who had revealed his identity, Hao Ren wondered how many disguised Inspectors were secretly coming here. Zhao Yanzi’s birthday party was a disguised competition of power between East Ocean and the West Ocean; saying that it was a display of strength before the war was an accurate representation. Zhao Guang invited seniors and hermits to join his side while the West Ocean was also preparing their forces. Meanwhile, the Inspectors would come to the party to see if they should intervene.

While the girls were still gossiping, Hao Ren found the books he wanted and went to the exit to check them out.

Xie Yujia had also found the books she needed and walked out from another section.

“You have a broad range of interests,” standing in the line behind Hao Ren, Xie Yujia couldn’t help but comment when she saw books such as [Eight Extraordinary Meridians], [Ying Yang and the Five Elements], and [Taoism Classic Scriptures] in his hands

“Well, they are just for casual readings,” Hao Ren replied before turning his head and glancing at the books in Xie Yujia’s hands.

“Class President, you are the hardworking one. They are all academic books.”

“The mid-term exams are close. I have to find study material on the topics that were not clearly taught in class. I need to study these books together with our textbooks to fully understand everything,” Xie Yujia said.

Hao Ren smiled at the Class President who had a serious attitude towards studying. He thought for a moment before asking, “Can I borrow your notes and make a copy of them?”

“You just don’t listen in class...” Xie Yujia cast him a ‘disdainful’ glance before saying “You may come and take them before the mid-term exams.”

Hao Ren was thrilled. Xie Yujia had the best and the most detailed notes in class; they were like exam guides with all the key points emphasized. With her notes, it would take him less time to cram for the exams.

However, Hao Ren felt guilty just stealing her half a semester worth of hard work.

“After the exams, I’ll treat you to a meal!” he offered.

“You want to bribe me with just a meal...” Xie Yujia murmured but didn’t object to it.

After walking out of the Borrowing Section, they took the escalator to the first floor together.

The marble hall on the first floor was now entirely divided into several sections by whiteboards. Viewed from the above, it looked like a maze.

“It seems like Qin Shaoyang is quite famous,” Xie Yujia said.

“Class President, are you one of his fans, too?” Hao Ren said.

“My idol is Hao...” Xie Yujia blurted out. However, she caught herself and said instead, “Qin Shaoyang is said to be quite handsome, but I have no interest in him.”

Hao Ren wasn't surprised. Xie Yujia was a fan of science, and her idols were famous scientists; she didn't have a lot of interest in artists.

"But you seem to be interested in the culture and art?" Xie Yujia asked while glancing at the books in Hao Ren's hands.

In the stack of books in Hao Ren's hands, there were [Chinese and Foreign Art Illustrations], [The Most Famous 100 Artists in History], and [Introduction to Contemporary Arts] beside the Daoism books.

"Ugh, just a bit." Hao Ren rearranged the stack of books in his arms as he replied.

He was teased mercilessly by Zhao Yanzi yesterday when they visited the 1825 Art District. He felt like an illiterate man in the so-called art world, and that was why he borrowed the books; he wanted to familiarize himself with the art world.

The escalator moved down to the hall on the first floor, and they walked along the pathway in the middle of the exhibition area. They were about to step out of the library when Qin Shaoyang who was in a thin grey windbreaker walked toward them.

Under the admiring gazes of the girls by the entrance, he rested his gaze on Hao Ren before stepping into the library.

"Does he know you?" Xie Yujia asked in surprise.

"Not really. I just met him once," Hao Ren said lightly.

Xie Yujia felt like something was not right, but she didn't want to interfere with Hao Ren's business too much. After waving at Hao Ren, she walked toward her bike.

The moment they left, Qin Shaoyang, who had walked into the library, slowly turned his head and glanced in Xie Yujia's direction.

...

The moment that Hao Ren returned to the dorm with his books, he was surrounded by guys.

“Ren! It’s too much!”

“You are the common enemy of all guys! You must treat us to a meal!”

“Hand out the QQ 1 numbers of the two beauties, or you will die!”

Hao Ren looked at them in bafflement.

“What’s the matter?” he asked.

“Don’t play dumb!” Huang Jianfeng got even more indignant.

“The twin beauties just came to our dorm building and brought you a chocolate cake they baked!” he shouted.

“It’s too much! We should sentence Ren to a death penalty!” the guys yelled.

The single guys were furious at Hao Ren for receiving a cake baked by the twin beauties.

Exasperated, Hao Ren had to admit that Lu Linlin and Lu Lili had a broad range of interests. In their free time when they were not cultivating, they probably fell in love with baking.

“Where is the cake?” Hao Ren asked as he walked into the dorm.

“We all ate it! Nothing is left!” Yu Rong yelled.

Hao Ren rolled his eyes but didn't say anything after considering their burning jealousy. He wondered what elixirs Lu Linlin and Lu Lili had put into the cake they baked and what they would do to the guys.

"Oh, no..." Gu Jiadong who had the weakest stomach among them suddenly put his palms on his belly and yelled in pain.

Right after him, Cao Ronghua's face turned livid too before he dashed toward the public bathroom on the third floor.

One after another, they all rushed into the bathroom.

Even Zhao Jiayi, the fittest one of them all, couldn't bear it. He also held his belly and rushed into the bathroom since he had eaten three pieces of the cake, three times Cao Ronghua's consumption.

Immediately, the public bathroom on the third floor was engulfed in a stinky smell. Hao Ren shook his head in exasperation and thought, "Well, at least the cake is helping them to eliminate the impurities in their bodies, and I guess they won't be vulnerable to any diseases in a couple of years."

Several minutes later, Cao Ronghua walked out of the bathroom with one hand covering his nose and the other one rubbing his butt. However, the moment he reached the door of their dorm room, his face changed, and he rushed back to the bathroom.

Hao Ren couldn't bear the stinkiness, so he got out of the dorm building to escape from it.

Coming out of the building with him were guys who were on the first, second and fourth floors. No one could bear the permeating stinky smell in the building.

Hao Ren walked further away before shaking the little bell on his wrist.

Half a minute later, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili walked out of the southern gate of the campus and towards the dorm area.

“Gongzi, did you like the cake?” they walked to Hao Ren before asking cheerfully while holding each other’s hand.

“I didn’t eat it; my dormmates ate it. Now they are all... Having internal cleansings in the bathroom. What on earth did you put in the cake?” Hao Ren asked them helplessly.

“Really? How?” Lu Lili widened her adorable big eyes and put her fingers on her mouth, looking innocent.

“Gongzi, knowing that you are fatigued with cultivation recently, we got six Essence Replenishing Pills from Elder Lu and grounded them into powder before putting them into the cake,” Lu Linlin answered.

“It won’t do them harm, will it?” Hao Ren asked with a sigh.

“They are all mortal beings who are not toughened by cultivation. The elixirs are too much for them to hold inside, and that is why they have the runs. However, they won’t be harmed. Instead, it will help them eliminate any impurities and improve their health,” Lu Linlin said.

Relaxed, Hao Ren thought, “It’s a blessing in disguise for these greedy guys. After all, they had a taste of elixirs that are not accessible to any mortal beings.”

“But we are the cause of their trouble. Shall we go up and apologize to them?” Worriedly, Lu Lili asked Lu Linlin.

“We told them repeatedly that the cake for Gongzi and they still ate it...” Lu Linlin was exasperated. She was a little angry at the fact that the guys had eaten the cake that she and her sister spent half a night baking.

“Oh, I have another thing to tell you.” Hao Ren opened his palm and revealed a vague grey sword energy.

“Sword condensed with essence!” Lu Lili exclaimed before crooning with a blush, “Gongzi, you are awesome!”

“Ugh...” Hao Ren was embarrassed at Lu Lili’s response. Her exclamation was so naive that he felt like a kindergarten kid who was praised by the teacher when he solved the math problem of one plus one.

“How do I use it?” Hao Ren asked. Although Su Han could teach him the basics, she had not cultivated the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll. Lu Linlin and Lu Lili were more familiar with the details of this technique.

“You can release it through the center of your palm, or you can shoot the sword energy with your fingertips,” Lu Lili said.

“[Six Pulses Godly Sword 2]?” Hao Ren brightened immediately.

“Right now, since your five elements are unbalanced, the sword energy contains no power. Otherwise, when you release the sword energy, it would essentially be a dash of lightning since it combines all five elements. It would break other elemental techniques,” Lu Linlin continued.

“It sounds awesome...” Hao Ren withdrew the grey sword energy and asked, “Did Qin Shaoyang cause trouble for you lately?”

“No. When we fought him yesterday, I felt like he should be in mid-tier Kun-level. My sister and I are beyond the realm of the five elements, and that was why he couldn’t defend against us no matter how powerful his metal-elemental technique was,” Lu Linlin said.

“Oh? He is cultivating a metal-elemental technique?” Hao Ren asked.

“The metal-elemental techniques have the strongest offensive ability, and that’s why his combat power is on par with Su Han’s even though his cultivation realm is lower. If we don’t have the special body type which could resist the five elements in nature, we probably would be no match for him as well!” Lu Linlin said.

Chapter 148: Small Lightning Cloud Tribulation!

“The Dragon Tribe is divided into five groups according to the different elemental power they cultivate. Both East Ocean and West Ocean belong to the Water Elemental Dragons Clan. The Metal Elemental Dragon Clan is the most unique out of the five elemental Dragon Clans since they are the most talented, have the greatest combat strength, and live up to unparalleled pride. They rarely participate in the Dragon Tribe’s business and usually keep to themselves. Qin Shaoyang is one of the rare ones who travel in the mortal world,” Lu Linlin explained.

Hao Ren never knew that the dragons were divided according to their elements. If he had not chosen to cultivate the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll which required the cultivator to gather the five elements simultaneously, he would have been a member of the Water Elemental Dragon Clan after reaching Kan-level.

“Linlin, Lili, I have an idea,” Hao Ren said abruptly.

“We are listening,” they looked at him and said.

“Well.” Hao Ren’s face turned serious. “Last time when you measured the elemental composition of the Nature Essence in my body, my earth element was 7%, the lowest. However, the basic requirement of the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll is to have a balance of the five elements. If I lower the amount of the other elements to that of the earth element, will it count as an equilibrium?”

“Gongzi, it’s a…” Lu Linlin thought for a while and said, “demolition of your current cultivation progress.”

“Can I try it?” Hao Ren asked. He knew that he could eventually gather enough Nature Essence one day, but it would take a long time. After all, Zhao Yanzi’s birthday was next week.

He had been thinking about this method for days. If he couldn’t gain a balance with a lot of Nature Essence, he could obtain one with less. It was like a chess game; you lost some pieces on purpose in order to increase the chance of winning the game.

“It’s harder to gather Nature Essence than dispel it. Are you certain about this, Gongzi?” Lu Linlin asked.

“Yes!” Hao Ren nodded.

“Then, I will teach you the Dharma Spell that could dispel some of the other elemental essences in your body,” Lu Linlin leaned toward Hao Ren’s ear and whispered to him.

The warm fragrance floated into Hao Ren’s ear, and her position seemed a bit too close for casual friends.

After memorizing the Dharma Spell, Hao Ren gently pushed Lu Linlin off him and said, “Got it; you guys can go now.”

“Farewell, Gongzi!” The Lu sisters smiled before turning around and leaving hand in hand. Their long braids of hair swayed across their slim figures.

“Sister, do you think Gongzi will be in danger when he tries it?” Lu Lili asked Lu Linlin in concern as they walked out of the dorm area.

“There is no guarantee of safety in cultivation. However, the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll is the safest technique, and I think he will be fine.” Lu Linlin raised her head, and her eyes sparkled. “Well, our Gongzi is an extraordinary guy. Cultivators usually put the most importance on their Nature Essence, but Gongzi dares to dispel it to gain a better chance at advancing. It’s quite possible that he will become influential one day.”

“Indeed. What Gongzi is planning to do follows the natural law of giving and taking. What he does is always within reason; no wonder I feel so comfortable around him,” Lu Lili said.

“You are such a blatant flatterer!” Lu Linlin reached out and pinched Lu Lili’s cute nose.

“I’m not! I’m just stating the truth...” Lu Lili tried to grab Lu Linlin’s slim arm.

They had been walking hand in hand, but now they began to play with each other, attracting the attention of the nearby students who thought that it was the most beautiful scene on campus.

Meanwhile, Hao Ren stood where he was and silently recited the Dharma Spell, that Lu Linlin had taught him, three times. Then, he checked his watch, walked out of the dorm area, and headed toward Su Han's office.

On both sides of the roads, there were banners promoting the art exhibition. The fact that the school lent the entire first floor of the library to Qin Shaoyang showed its considerable support for Qin Shaoyang's first personal art exhibition in China.

The Arts Faculty within East Ocean University had been an independent college that enjoyed a certain degree of reputation in China a few years before, but it was merged into East Ocean University recently. The Arts Faculty's directors were all famous people in the art circle, and the faculty had maintained its strong academic strength.

However, the Arts Faculty had a building of its own and rarely crossed paths with other programs and faculties. It was more like an independent group.

Hearing that Qin Shaoyang would be holding a one-person exhibition, the girls in the Arts Faculty were all excited, and the school hoped to further expand the influence of the Arts Faculty through this exhibition.

After crossing the plaza in front of the library, Hao Ren entered Su Han's office in the Administrative Building.

Su Han was cultivating with her eyes closed, and she remained silent after sensing Hao Ren's arrival.

Not wanting to disturb her cultivation, Hao Ren sat down across from her. In the past, he came here to cultivate Nature Essence and increase his strength. However, he came to dispel some of the Nature Essence today. If Su Han had known about his purpose, she would have been astonished.

The Nature Essence slowly circulated in Hao Ren's body while he began to activate the five elements one by one with the Dharma Spell taught by Lu Linlin.

He placed the elements into spheres and displayed them in mid-air half a meter away from his chest. From left to right, they were metal, wood, water, fire, and earth.

The amount of earth element was the lowest at only 7%. Hao Ren cautiously dispelled the extra wood element through his fingertips bit by bit. Right now, it was at 11%.

He focused all of his attention on the process, knowing that it would be hard for him to replenish it if he accidentally released too much of it. If he released too much, he had to lower the amount of the other elements further accordingly.

Hao Ren stopped releasing wood element when he felt the amount was right. Then, he began to adjust the amount of the metal element which was at 12%. By now, his face was covered in sweat, very different from his relaxed state in the past cultivation sessions.

When the metal element was adjusted, Hao Ren turned to the fire element and water element; the latter had the highest percentage and thus took a longer time than the others.

Feeling that the amount of water element in his body dropped from the original 54% to the insubstantial level of the earth element, Hao Ren felt a bit regretful.

After all, that was the majority of his strength, and he had accumulated it through intensive cultivation.

Sweat flowed down Hao Ren's chin and dropped onto his knees. Feeling that the five elements before his chest had almost reached the same level, Hao Ren began to make some minor adjustments cautiously.

Just like a water reservoir, it was hard to obtain water but quite easy to release it. Hao Ren released the Nature Essence in his body back into nature, and it would be hard for him to get them back into his body.

After a long period of time, Su Han opened her eyes slightly and saw that Hao Ren was soaked in sweat. For a moment, she thought that he had gotten into a mad and chaotic state. After she sensed no strange energy surge on him, she relaxed.

Dashes of dim red, blue, white, and green light were released from Hao Ren's body.

“What is this guy doing?” Su Han was puzzled.

“Done!” Hao Ren who was sitting cross-legged opened his eyes suddenly.

With the balance of the five elements, his body experienced a fantastic sense of freedom!

At this moment, layers of cloud gathered in the sky above the Administrative Building.

“Ugh? Is he breaking through to Kan-level? He’s so fast...” Alarmed, Su Han looked at Hao Ren.

After detecting what was in the sky, even Su Han who usually maintained a calm composure was stunned.

Small Lightning Cloud Tribulation!

Chapter 149: Don’t Underestimate Your Enemy

Almost immediately, the pure white clouds above East Ocean University turned dark.

“Damn! What’s the matter recently? Are there demons lurking around our school? How come the weather here is so abnormal?”

“The clouds are weird, and none of the meteorologists came out with an explanation!”

“Is it possible that someone is ascending into the heavens?”

Within East Ocean University, the students were talking animatedly among themselves under the black clouds.

Boom!

A dash of lightning flashed in the clouds followed by a dull thunder.

There were no bright lightning bolts, but sparks of silver light in the clouds transformed into light arrows that were unnoticeable to the mortal beings and shot into Su Han's office.

"Here they are!" Su Han raised her hands in a hurry and spread out her array formation.

However, the lightning arrows pierced through the five elemental defense array formation and shot toward Hao Ren.

With Hao Ren's current strength, he absolutely couldn't see the source of the lightning arrows. Like an ordinary mortal being, he couldn't even detect them!

Su Han drew her long sword and activated Ice Frost Scroll to block them.

Clap! Clap!

The lightning traveled along her sword and numbed her arms a little.

Boom! The scattered lightning in the room combined into a thick lightning bolt before crashing onto Hao Ren's head.

Hao Ren felt as if countless electrical currents entered his body.

The first level of the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll: Five Elemental Array!

Hao Ren sat upright while the scattered five elemental essences in his body turned into five elemental pillars.

The 24 vertebrae on his spine corresponded with the 24 Qi; the 12 sections of the trachea corresponded with the 12 Chonglou, and the 18 coils of small intestines corresponded with 18 level of hell.

The heart was referred to as Jiangong; the lungs were referred to as Huagai; the tongue was referred to as Huachi, and the feet were referred to as Yongquan!

(TL: Most of these are Chinese Daoist and Traditional Medicine Jargons)

Cultivate using lightning!

The balanced five elements were able to take on the lightning directly!

The lightning entered Hao Ren's body and remained silent.

Meanwhile, the dark clouds scattered, and the sky was clear again.

Looking at Hao Ren in astonishment, Su Han put away her long sword and rubbed her numb arm.

"Is it the legendary Lightning Cultivation?" she thought, "Strengthening the body with Heavenly Lightning and drawing power from Earthly Lightning! Stand beyond the five elements, dominate them, and use them with ease! The Lightning Technique that could break any elemental techniques! The Lightning Cultivation that would allow the cultivator to advance in levels and realms through Lightning Tribulations!"

Astonished, Su Han looked at Hao Ren who was still regulating his breath with his eyes closed.

"Is it possible that the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll is not at all a Five Elemental Technique nor a Sword Cultivation Technique but a Lightning Cultivation Technique? The Lightning Cultivation Technique that could attract the lightning in nature with the aid of the five elements?"

A moment later, Hao Ren opened his eyes. A light appeared in his eyes before returning to the depth of his body.

“Su Han, did I make a breakthrough?” Hao Ren asked.

“Let me see...” Su Han forced a calm expression onto her face before walking over and taking Hao Ren’s arm in her hand.

The five elements were evenly placed in his body, pure and clean. Although the Nature Essence was still weak, he had laid a solid foundation for future cultivations.

After the initial strengthening by the Heavenly Lightning, the five elements in his body were no longer chaotic but well organized.

The more Su Han checked, the more surprised she was. She was so shocked that she forgot to let go of Hao Ren’s arm.

“How is it?” Seeing that Su Han didn’t let go his arm, Hao Ren asked anxiously.

“Oh. You’re ok,” Su Han responded and released his arm.

Her fingers were smooth and soft as if they were boneless.

Anxious about his cultivation progress, Hao Ren didn’t seize the opportunity to savor the feeling of being held by her.

If it had been another man, he would have been beside himself while Su Han held his arm for so long.

“Just ok?” Hao Ren was disappointed. He had focused all of his attention onto directing the lightning in his body and worked hard to keep the aggressive energy under control. However, Su Han’s words made it sound insignificant.

Of course, if Su Han hadn't warned him, Hao Ren wouldn't have prepared himself and would probably have his meridians destroyed by the Heavenly Lightning.

"The Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll is different from the technique that I cultivate. However, I can feel that your strength is still weak, and you've just reached Half Kan-level," Su Han explained.

"Half Kan-level?" Hao Ren froze for a moment.

"Your body has improved, but your Nature Essence is not strong enough for you to be considered a Kan-level Cultivator. Your essence is very pure, but it is so weak that it's barely noticeable!" Su Han didn't sugarcoat her words.

With his spirits dampened, Hao Ren sighed.

"It seems that the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll is a Lightning Cultivation Technique that is very powerful, but you must be tested by the Heavenly Lightning each time you advance your realm. The Heavenly Lightning will get stronger each time. If you can't defend it, you will be turned into ashes!" Su Han continued.

"Turned into ashes?"

Hao Ren, who had been pleased with the elevation of his realm, suddenly felt like his heart was breaking.

"And no one can help you block the Lightning Tribulation, including the Lu sisters. The Light Splitting Sword Light Shadow Scroll is a five elemental cultivation technique, and you will be fine if you progress slowly. However, you must take risks if you want to elevate your realms," Su Han said.

Hao Ren did some calculations and thought, "Since just lowering the five elements to 7% had triggered a Lightning Tribulation, then..."

“Besides, the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll requires you to cultivate the five elements simultaneously. After you reach Zhen-level, if you want to continue, you’ll need to find a Mystic Crystal. However, it’s challenging to find a five elemental Mystic Crystal nowadays,” Su Han said.

Su Han’s words reminded him of the trouble he might encounter in the future. He had not considered the Mystic Crystal when he chose the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll.

“Anyway, you are still far from it. Maybe you’ll never need to worry about it,” Su Han said lightly.

On the one hand, she wanted to give more warnings to Hao Ren. On the other hand, she felt like Hao Ren wouldn’t be able to reach a high realm. She knew that her thoughts were contradictory, but she felt like it was her responsibility to warn him.

Hao Ren’s moods rose and fell with her words.

He checked his watch before standing up and saying, “Time is almost up. I should go now.”

“Ok.” Su Han nodded.

Hao Ren was striding to the door when Su Han said, “You don’t have to worry about Qin Shaoyang. As long as you are wearing the necklace I gave you, he would know that you are under my supervision and won’t dare to touch you. Of course, things will get tricky after you reach Kan-level.”

“I haven’t broken through to Kan-level yet, have I?” Hao Ren turned his head and asked her.

“If I said you haven’t, then you haven’t,” Su Han threw the words at him as she stood beside the desk with her head turned facing the window.

Thinking of Lu Linlin’s words, Hao Ren was silent for a moment before taking his leave.

Su Han was one level higher than Qin Shaoyang in terms of realms. However, Su Han, who was a diligent cultivator but an inexperienced fighter, probably was no match for Qin Shaoyang in terms of combat strength.

Anyway, it was a fight between the Inspectors, and it was not his place to interfere. He just thought that Su Han sometimes looked lonely.

Sighing slightly, Hao Ren walked out of the Administrative Building.

Since he left all the tutoring materials at Zhao Yanzi's home yesterday before he went to the Art District with her, he went to her house today empty-handed.

Like before, he arrived at Zhao Yanzi's home around half past six, and he could smell the mouth-watering aroma of dishes.

The people, who Hao Ren admired and appreciated the most, were those who had excellent cooking skills, and Zhao Hongyu was undoubtedly one of them.

However, when he pushed open the door and entered, he found that the house was crowded.

Besides Zhao Yanzi and her parents, there was Zhao Yanzi's Third Uncle, white-haired and amiable-looking Lu Qing, short Elder Sun in traditional attire, and many others.

In addition, a large group of bodyguards in black suits were standing around the sofa.

Lu Qing nodded at Hao Ren when he saw him come in, and his frown indicated that he was deep in thought.

"Ren, you can go and have dinner with Zi. We are in the middle of a discussion," Zhao Hongyu said to Hao Ren.

“Ok...” Hao Ren answered before walking to the dinner table. Zhao Yanzi was already at the table, eating silently by herself.

Hao Ren walked over and sat beside her before filling his bowl with rice. Zhao Yanzi didn't look at him; her ears pricked up as she listened attentively to the conversation in the living room.

“This time, West Ocean is well prepared. It's said that Oldman Zeng, who has not come out of seclusion cultivation for hundreds of years, will appear. I think they won't go back empty-handed,” an Elder, whom Hao Ren was not familiar with, said.

“If they want to fight, then we will fight! We are not afraid of them!” Zhao Kuo yelled.

“Elder Zhao, be quiet!” A female Elder in simple indigo-colored clothing glared at him with her eyes. Zhao Kuo shut up immediately, though only temporarily.

“I think we can agree to everything they have asked for except the one thing related to Zi,” short Elder Sun looked up as he sat on the sofa and said to the people in the room.

“But this time, the Dragon King went in person and invited Elder Mu who has not come out for more than 300 years. Whatever the West Ocean wants, they will have to consider the force of the Wood Elemental Dragon Clan and won't be daring enough to engage in a fight,” a younger Elder said.

“Elder Mu is alone and doesn't represent the Wood Elemental Dragon Clan; the most he can do is to surprise them at the birthday party. However, he will return to the mountains eventually. The Wood Elemental Dragon Clan loves to hide in the mountains and forests and doesn't want to involve themselves in our conflicts.”

“I don't think the thing relating to Ms. Zi will cause a large-scale battle, but the conflicts regarding territory is unavoidable. They have had their eyes on Hexi City for a long time, and they hope to take over Dongting Lake as well...”

“They are fighting for territory...” Hao Ren began to sweat as he listened to their conversation. If he didn't know that they were immortal dragons, their discussions and the black-clothed men who were wearing dark sunglasses behind them would have made him believe that they were a part of a mafia.

“Ok!” Seeing that the Elders were about to argue with each other, Zhao Guang raised his hand and said, “I’ve decided. I will not back down on the issue of Zi. As to the territory divisions, they are issues that we can negotiate on. After all, strength speaks loudest on these issues, and we need to consider the opinions of the local Dragon King as well.”

Zhao Guang looked around at the Elders and said, “Elder Sun, you continue keeping an eye on the situations in East Ocean City. Elder Liu, you travel to Dongting Lake and Hexi City and befriend the local Dragon Kings. Elder Lu, your responsibility right now is to take good care of Linlin and Lili who will be strong enforcement in case we have to fight with West Ocean. Elder Xu, you take charge of the internal affairs of the Dragon Palace...”

Zhao Guang issued the instructions in an organized way; he was a real leader.

The Elders were listening to the instructions with their heads lowered when a series of knocks sounded.

“Who is it?” Alert, Zhao Hongyu asked.

“Zhao Yanzi’s Class Advisor. I’m here for a follow-up visit!” a voice replied.

Chapter 150: Bad Kid

“Ah!” Zhao Hongyu tapped her head, “I forgot about it!?”

She quickly turned to the Elders and said, “Elder Lu, Elder Sun, please stay behind. The rest can leave!”

“Will do, Dragon Queen!” the Elders all gently bowed at Zhao Hongyu and flew out the back window, lighting up the entire room with many different colored lights.

“Coming, coming!” Zhao Hongyu rushed toward the door. She opened the door and said, “Ah! Ms. Luo, what brings you here?”

“A routine visit after midterm exams. I notified you last week.” Luo Ying walked in with her backpack and was shocked to see two guests sitting on the sofa with eight men in black suits and sunglasses standing behind them.

“These are my husband’s business partners. Ms. Luo, please have a seat.” Zhao Hongyu warmly welcomed Luo Ying to the other end of the sofa.

Luo Ying carefully looked at the interior of the house before looking at Elder Lu and Elder Sun.

Lu Qing was dressed in a modern suit, but Elder Sun was dressed in a brown traditional tang suit. One was full of white hair, and the other was hale and hearty. The two of them sitting together made Luo Ying feel wry and uneasy, and the eight strong men in black suits who were standing behind them made her uncomfortable. Luo Ying had dealt with students and parents before, but never situations like this. She was so nervous that she didn’t know what to say.

“Mr. Zhao, we are leaving now since you have a guest here. Our business discussion can continue some other days,” Elder Sun stood up and said to Zhao Guang.

“Let me walk you out,” Zhao Guang said.

“There is no need.” Elder Sun waved his hand and walked out the door with the men in black suits. Lu Qing followed and left at the same time.

These young men in black suits were the junior disciples of Elder Sun. They helped taking care of the businesses in East Ocean City and helped run errands sometimes; they usually started off as bodyguards and security guards.

Because their skills weren’t developed yet, they couldn’t dash and fly away at lightning speed like the Elders. Therefore, when Luo Ying suddenly appeared for a routine visit, they could only follow Elder Lu and Elder Sun and walk out of the house.

Luo Ying looked at the emotionless men in black suits shockingly and asked Zhao Hongyu cautiously, “Is there something wrong with the business?”

“They are only our partners in business,” Zhao Hongyu answered vaguely and gave Luo Ying a cup of tea, “Ms. Luo, you must be tired. It’s very late already, and you still have to finish the routine visits.”

“I couldn’t visit during the day since both of you are working,” Luo Ying said as she looked at the interior of the house once again. She realized that Zhao Yanzi’s home wasn’t as luxurious as the other houses she visited and thought that Zhao Yanzi’s family was just a well-to-do family.

“However, it seems like Zhao Yanzi’s father’s business must be facing some difficult times. Those men in black suits might be here to collect their debt... Ah, maybe that’s why Zhao Yanzi hasn’t been studying well. Family issues do affect the children...” she thought.

“Zi, your class advisor is here for the routine visit. Come over here!” Zhao Hongyu waved her hand at the dining table.

“Oh...” Zhao Yanzi put down her chopsticks and walked over slowly.

Hao Ren hesitated for a bit and decided to follow her.

Luo Ying has met Hao Ren before, and she had a poor impression of him since Hao Ren wasn’t able to concentrate during the Parent-Teacher Meeting at all.

“Hi, Ms. Luo,” Zhao Yanzi said.

“Huh.” Luo Ying nodded.

“Is Zi doing fine in school?” Zhao Guang walked towards them while holding a cup of tea.

He was frowning a little since he was worried about Zi’s birthday party, but Luo Ying, who was very observant, thought that he was concerned because of the business failures and debts.

“You guys didn’t attend the Parent-Teacher Meeting last time, and I have been wanting to talk about this since then,” Luo Ying said.

“But she did quite well on the exams, didn’t she?” Zhao Guang sat down and asked.

Zhao Yanzi and Hao Ren also sat down shoulder to shoulder on the sofa in the middle of the room.

“This visit isn’t about grades. It is about the problem of early relationships,” Luo Ying said.

“Early relationships?” Zhao Hongyu and Zhao Guang asked together, confused.

“I knew that he didn’t tell you anything about this,” Luo Ying looked at Hao Ren before turning to the married couple and saying, “Zhao Yanzi is quite famous in school and many boys like her. Recently, many boys have given her gifts since it’s almost her birthday.”

After hearing the Class Advisor speak, Zhao Yanzi pouted her lips and looked at Hao Ren as if she was asking him why he still hasn’t gotten her a gift.

All those birthday gifts, cards, and love letters she got from the boys at the school had been thrown into the garbage bin already.

“I’ve even heard rumors that she was meeting a guy who isn’t from our school. That guy climbed over the wall to see her,” Luo Ying continued.

“Oh?” Zhao Hongyu and Zhao Guang started to get serious.

“That boy’s name is Hao Ren, and he is from City North First High School. I heard that he is handsome and good at basketball. You think your teachers don’t know anything, but we actually know everything!” The latter portion of Luo Ying’s sentence was directed at Zhao Yanzi.

“Hao Ren?” Zhao Guang and Zhao Hongyu looked at Hao Ren and felt relieved.

However, Zhao Yanzi's face revealed her embarrassment. She kept saying that she didn't like Hao Ren, but Luo Ying made it sound like she was in love with Hao Ren.

After Luo Ying saw Zhao Guang's and Zhao Hongyu's reactions, she said seriously, "The problem of puppy love cannot be ignored. And about this guy named Hao Ren, I suggest you cooperate with the school and check it out."

Zhao Hongyu glanced at Zhao Yanzi, and Zhao Yanzi's face turned red instantly.

"Right now, studying is really important. Puppy love should not be allowed. Zhao Yanzi's grades are starting to get better, and as parents, you shouldn't just focus on your business and ignore your kid's education..." Luo Ying looked at Zhao Yanzi and her parents as she continued to speak.

"What... What about being engaged?" Zhao Hongyu suddenly asked as she interrupted.

"Being engaged?" Luo Ying's mind went blank as she said, "Is this a joke? Zhao Yanzi is only in the Eighth Grade! What do you mean by being engaged? What are you thinking as parents?"

"Alright, Ms. Luo. We understand," Zhao Guang raised his hand calmly and asked, "Does Zi have any other bad behaviors at school?"

"Other bad behaviors... Well, she doesn't listen to the lectures, she likes to chat in class, read comics in class, and even skip classes sometimes to go out and play. She even brought her friend, Xue Ling, along with her. Also, she always gets into arguments with the boys during PE classes. Once, while she was having lunch, she purposely spilled soup onto the clothes of the girl from other class..."

Luo Ying continued to list out Zhao Yanzi's bad behaviors, and that made her look bad.

Hao Ren turned his head slightly towards Zhao Yanzi. "Wow, so Zhao Yanzi behaves this badly at school!" he thought.

Zhao Yanzi's face turned from pale to red, then from red to black, and then from black to green.

Finally, she couldn't help but stand up and yell, "Ms. Luo! That's because they came at me first! Alright? Should I just let them bully me and do nothing?"

"Oh yes, and one more thing. She talks back to the teachers a lot," Luo Ying said slowly.

Bam! Zhao Yanzi threw the small folding fan onto the sofa and walked towards the stairs.

Hao Ren stood up quickly without waiting for Zhao Hongyu's signal and went up the stairs as well.

Bang!

Zhao Yanzi went to the second floor and slammed the door intentionally.

Zhao Hongyu, who was in the living room downstairs, smiled awkwardly and said, "Ms. Luo, please don't mind her."

Hao Ren went to the second floor and walked to the door that had a piglet door sign on it. He tried to turn the door handle and found that it was locked.

"Zi!" Hao Ren yelled from the outside of the room, but Zhao Yanzi remained quiet inside.

"Five Elemental Essences, absorb!"

Hao Ren put his hand on the metal door handle and used the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll as he absorbed some of the metal elements and loosen the door lock's mechanics.

The door opened.

Hao Ren saw Zhao Yanzi lying on her bed, and her eyes were red.

“What’s wrong? Are you crying?” Hao Ren closed the door and asked before walking towards the bed.

“None of your business!” Zhao Yanzi threw a pillow towards Hao Ren and said in a weepy tone.

How harmful could a pillow be? Hao Ren caught the pillow with ease and threw it aside as he continued to walk towards her.

“I will stop talking to you if you take one more step!” Zhao Yanzi suddenly sat up straight from the bed and said to Hao Ren angrily.

Hao Ren was threatened, and all he could do was to raise his arms and stand still as if he surrendered.

Zhao Yanzi turned around and lay on the bed once again, leaving Hao Ren with a slight thin view of her back.

“I was a bad student as well...” Hao Ren stood in place while he spoke to her softly.

“Yeah, sure! Who would believe that! You must have been a good student! Or else why are you so good at studying!” Zhao Yanzi growled as she was still facing the wall.

“No! Seriously! My grades were fine, but I never listened to my teachers. I always gave them headaches. If you don’t believe me, you can go to City North First High School and ask.”

“Huh! Who cares about your past!” Zhao Yanzi continued to yell.

The conversation stalled.

“Am I a bad student?” Zhao Yanzi stopped for a moment and asked suddenly.

“No! You are smart, kind, and cute.” By now, Hao Ren had no choice but to say good things.

“I am not a good student; I hate good students!” Zhao Yanzi yelled.

“Ah... I had a 50% chance, and I picked the wrong one,” Hao Ren thought.

“I know you like good students!” Zhao Yanzi suddenly said indignantly.

“Oh, why?” Hao Ren asked. He couldn’t keep up with Zhao Yanzi’s train of thoughts.

“That Class President! Isn’t she a good student! Smart, Kind, and Cute!” Zhao Yanzi said angrily.

“Well... What’s with the jealousy.” Hao Ren didn’t know whether to laugh or cry.

“Ah? How did you come in?” Zhao Yanzi suddenly turned around and asked.

Whoosh! A grey sword energy appeared in Hao Ren’s palm.

Zhao Yanzi eyes widened, and all the tears were gone as if they evaporated. “You... You have reached Kan-level already?”