

# Ghost Doctor 2581

## Chapter 2580: Can Be Released

“You want me to break his slavery contract? I see, so the City Lord already knows that he is already my slave.” Feng Jiu glanced at the City Lord with a half smile.

Upon hearing this, the City Lord glanced at his son whose head was lowered, and said to Feng Jiu: “Today’s matter was absurd on my child’s part. I ask Young Master Feng to not dispute this with him over this. After all, he is my son, if he becomes Young Master’s slave and it spread outside, wouldn’t that be a mockery of me? Therefore, I ask Young Master Feng to be the bigger person and as long as Young Master Feng is willing to release him from the contract, I will definitely compensate Young Master Feng.”

Feng Jiu smiled lightly: “How can I believe that the City Lord won’t have me killed after I release him from the contract?”

Upon hearing this, the City Lord’s expression changed slightly. He gave Feng Jiu a deep look and said: “Young Master Feng, rest assured, as long as my child’s slavery contract is broken, I am in charge and the matter will end here. I will definitely not make things difficult for Young Master Feng.”

Feng Jiu smiled and shook her head: “No, that’s not enough. I don’t dare to break his contract just like that.” She smiled and stood up and said: “This place has the Rules of Heaven and Earth. If you want me to break his contract, it’s not impossible. I can break the contract if the City Lord promises that you won’t cause me any problems.”

She paused slightly, then she glanced at Ling Tianyu on the other side and said to the City Lord: “However, before that, I have something I would like to ask the City Lord and hope that he will tell me what he knows.”

Upon hearing this, the City Lord frowned slightly. He looked at Feng Jiu for a while, then he finally asked: “What does Young Master Feng want to know? Do ask me.”

Feng Jiu stood up and walked over slowly and came in front of him: “I want to know where the Immortal Ascension Ladder in Peng Lai Immortal Island is.”

The City Lord was startled, his expression was dumbstruck: “What? Immortal Ascension Ladder?”

His eyes moved slightly and he stared at Feng Jiu for a long time before asking: “Why does Young Master Feng want to find the Immortal Ascension Ladder?”

“City Lord only needs to tell me where I can find the Immortal Ascension Ladder.” She replied slowly.

Upon hearing this, the City Lord smiled and said: “Actually, the Immortal Ascension Ladder is said to be in Peng Lai Immortal Island, but almost no one here has seen it.”

He paused and smiled: “It is said that the Immortal Ascension Ladder is a bridge leading to another world. It is also a place to verify a person’s strength. But I have been here so long and I have never seen

the Immortal Ascension Ladder, let alone know where the Immortal Ascension Ladder is on Peng Lai Immortal Island.”

“Even the City Lord doesn’t know where the Immortal Ascension Ladder is?” She was a little unconvinced.

“Hehe, it’s not that I don’t want to tell Young Master Feng, but I really don’t know. I’ve only heard that the Immortal Ascension Ladder can lead to another world. I also know that there are many tests on the Immortal Ascension Ladder, if you’re a little careless at all, your cultivation will become invalid.”

He looked at Feng Jiu with an inexplicable meaning in his eyes: “I heard that Young Master Feng has only just arrived in the city. How do you know that Peng Lai Immortal Island has the Immortal Ascension Ladder? Could you have been guided by an expert? If that is the case, then did that expert not tell Young Master Feng where the Immortal Ascension Ladder is?”

When she saw that his expression wasn’t fake, Feng Jiu couldn’t help but think: Could it be that he doesn’t even know where the Immortal Ascension Ladder is? If the City Lord doesn’t even know, how did Old Man Tianji know about it? And he had asked her to come all the way here to find the Immortal Ascension Ladder. Now that she had asked around, no one seemed to know where it was located. How was she going to find it?

#### **Chapter 2581: Guest**

She was silent for a while and sat still frowning.

“Young Master Feng? Young Master Feng?”

Upon seeing Feng Jiu sitting quietly, the City Lord called out twice. When he saw that Feng Jiu had returned to her senses, he said: “I wonder if there is anything else Young Master Feng would like to ask me? If I know the answer, I will definitely tell you.”

Feng Jiu glanced at him when she heard this and said: “In that case, I would like to ask the City Lord if I may check the information at the library at the City Lord Manor.”

Upon hearing this, City Lord Ling paused: “Well...”

He looked at Feng Jiu with some hesitation, then he looked at his son, and finally he said: “As long as Young Master Feng agrees to release my son from the contract, then I will let Young Master Feng stay in the library or our manor for three days. But after three days, whether or not Young Master Feng has found the information you want, you must leave.”

Ling Tianyu who was beside him saw that his father had agreed to this condition for him, so he couldn’t help but move his mouth involuntarily, wanting to speak but unsure of what to say. Was he going to refuse his request? Then he would be slave to Feng Jiu?

When he thought about this, he gritted his teeth and stared at Feng Jiu with an unkind look. He snorted coldly and turned his head away.

Feng Jiu didn’t pay any attention to Ling Tianyu, but after she heard the City Lord’s words, her lips curled into a smile: “Alright, I agree.”

So, the City Lord and Ling Tianyu made an oath in front of Feng Jiu and promised that as long as Feng Jiu released him from the slavery contract, they would not pursue it and would not send someone to assassinate him or cause trouble for him.

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In the end, Feng Jiu erased the salve mark between Ling Tianyu's eyebrows and released the contract between the two of them.

Upon seeing this, the City Lord breathed a sigh of relief and smiled: "Young Master Feng, rest here tonight! Tomorrow morning, I will send someone to take you to the library."

"In that case, thank you for your troubles." Feng Jiu bowed to the City Lord.

"It's not trouble." The City Lord smiled and called the steward to take Feng Jiu to rest.

After Feng Jiu left, Ling Tianyu came to his father's side and asked in a muffled voice: "Father, are we just letting this matter go?"

The City Lord glanced at him, his face dark and sullen with anger: "If you didn't cause trouble all the time, why would I, a dignified City Lord, have to speak so politely and request a favour from others? And even allow him to read books in the library for three days? This is all because of the trouble you have caused. Now that we have even agreed that we won't cause any more trouble for him, are you regretting it?"

He stared at him with a sullen face and said in a deep voice: "I warn you, use this period of time to cultivate at home. If I find out that you have gone out and caused trouble again, I will break your legs!" After he had warned him, the City Lord flung his sleeves and walked out, leaving Ling Tianyu standing alone in the main hall.

After Feng Jiu had settled in a courtyard in the City Lord Manor, she lived like a regular guest would. However, everyone in the City Lord Manor knew that their Young City Lord had lost to him, that's why the City Lord had invited him to his home.

If it hadn't been for the City Lord, the Young City Lord would no doubt become his slave. When they thought about the young man in red clothes who was so strong at such a young age, everyone in the City Lord Manor, whether in the open or hidden, looked at him secretly.

Especially the young maids in the City Lord Manor, when they saw his handsome faze and outstanding temperament, they couldn't help but wonder what the origin of this red-clothed young man was. To make their Young City Lord get into deep trouble, and yet be treated like a guest by their City Lord, his approach was really incredible.

### **Chapter 2582: This Person Is Extraordinary**

During her stay at the City Lord Manor, Feng Jiu made herself at home. She had ordered the maid to go to the kitchen and cook some dishes and bring some wine which she enjoyed in the courtyard.

At this time, Ling Tianyu walked in from outside. When he saw that she was living at ease in their manor and made herself at home, he couldn't help but snorted coldly: "You've made yourself so comfortable, almost as if you're treating my house like yours!"

Feng Jiu glanced at him: "What? Does the Young City Lord want to join me for a drink?"

Ling Tianyu's face was dark, his eyes were fixed on Feng Jiu, and he asked in a calm voice: "Feng Jiu! Who are you? Why are you looking for the Immortal Ascension Ladder?"

Upon hearing this, Feng Jiu smiled lightly. She played with the wine cup in her hand and watched the wine swirling in the cup as she swayed it gently. She smiled and said: "Don't you know who I am? As for why I am looking for the Immortal Ascension Ladder, that's my business and it doesn't have anything to do with you, am I right?"

She paused and her eyes fell on him, then she smiled: "Also, now that you have been released from your contract, why are you still here shaking in front of me?"

"Shaking in front of you?" His voice was slightly raised, like a little beast whose tail had been stepped on. He retorted immediately: "It's you that's living in my house, not me shaking in front of you!"

"Now that I'm the Manor's guest, should you be treating your guests like this as the Young City Lord?" She raised her eyebrows and looked at him: "I wonder if the City Lord knows that the Young City Lord has come to me."

Ling Tianyu froze slightly when he heard this. He glared viciously at Feng Jiu, then he snorted coldly and turned around and left with a flick of his sleeves.

Upon seeing this, Feng Jiu's lips curled into a smile and she ignored him. After she had finished eating, she walked around the courtyard for a while, then she ordered someone to prepare a bath for her. After she had taken her bath, she retired early to rest.

That night, in the City Lord Manor.

The City Lord went to the back of the mountain alone. After he had crossed through the boundary barriers and arrays, he entered a cave dwelling. Once inside, he bowed respectfully: "Father."

"Come in." Inside a stone room in the cave dwelling, an old man was sitting cross-legged practising. He opened his eyes and looked outside.

When he heard the voice, the City Lord walked inside and entered. He came in front of the old man: "Father, I hope Father will forgive me for disturbing you so late at night."

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"Is something wrong?" The old man asked in a deep voice.

"Yu'er did something stupid outside today..." City Lord Ling briefly explained the matter, and finally, he said: "The main thing is that I was surprised when I heard Feng Jiu actually mentioned the Immortal Ascension Ladder."

He paused, then said: "I remember Father said once before that the Immortal Ascension Ladder leads to another world, and only those who have the strength to reach the level of Immortal Emperor would be qualified to climb the Immortal Ascension Ladder. I still remember that Father once said that there are ninety nine thousand nine hundred and ninety nine steps in the Immortal Ascension Ladder and that each step is dangerous and unpredictable."

Upon hearing this, the old man stroked his beard and asked: "Who is this Feng Jiu? How did he know about the Immortal Ascension Ladder?"

The City Lord pondered, then said: "This person is dressed in red with a handsome face. He looks to be around the age of twenty. Although he has hidden his breath, I can still detect his superior strength. We only know that this person is unfathomable and extraordinary, but we don't know anything about his origins."

Upon hearing this, a dim light flashed across the old man's wise eyes, and he asked slowly: "So, tomorrow he will go to the library?"

### **Chapter 2583: Immortal Ascension Ladder Cloud Translations**

"Yes, son has agreed to let him go into the library and read the books for three days." He added: "There are more than ten thousand books in our library, it will be impossible for him to read all the books in three lets, let alone find the information on the Immortal Ascension Ladder."

"I see. You may go back first. We will talk more after I meet him tomorrow." He waved his hand and gestured for him to leave.

"Yes." City Lord Ling responded. He bowed, then retreated.

The cave dwelling was quiet again. But the old man who was sitting cross-legged came out with his hands behind his back. He looked around outside and whispered: "Feng Jiu?"

The next morning, at dawn, Feng Jiu got up. After she had taken a shower, she ate something simple, then went out and ordered the maid to take her to the library.

After passing through many courtyards, she came to the strictly guarded library. She dismissed the maid and stepped forward by herself. The guard who was standing guard outside seemed to have been given instructions about this matter already. He didn't stop her when he saw her coming forward. Instead, he opened the door and let her in.

When the door closed with a creaking sound, her eyes fell on the collection of books inside. Unexpectedly, when she came in, she saw that the layers of books had been arranged neatly and she was surprised by the large number of books there were.

"I didn't expect there to be so many books in this library." She murmured softly, then she heard a voice.

"This is the collection from generations of the Ling Family. There are tens of thousands of books here, all of which are rare treasures outside." An old man's hoarse voice spoke.

Feng Jiu turned her head slightly and saw an old man in grey clothes standing on a chair wiping books on a bookshelf. There was an old man here? She didn't even notice earlier. If he hadn't spoken, she wouldn't have sensed that someone was inside.

Was this old man's cultivation base too high? Or was she just careless?

"Is Elder the caretaker of the library? How many years have you been in the library?" She looked at the old man and asked.

The old man, who was also the old predecessor of the Ling Family, stopped his movements and looked at Feng Jiu, who was standing there wearing a red robe. When his eyes fell on her, his eyes moved slightly and a hint of surprised crossed his heart.

He had hidden his strength so well that even someone as shrewd as Feng Jiu didn't notice it.

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He retracted his gaze and put down the cloth in his hand, then he picked up the feather duster on the side of the bookshelf and started dusting the books that were out of reach. His old voice came out slowly: "It's been many years. As for how many years, I can't remember."

When Feng Jiu heard this, she stepped forward and asked again: "Then I wonder if Elder has come across a book in here that records the information on the Immortal Ascension Ladder?"

"Immortal Ascension Ladder?"

The old man glanced at Feng Jiu and said meaningfully: "That is not a place that ordinary cultivators can go to. You are so young, why do you want to find the Immortal Ascension Ladder?"

"Elder knows about the Immortal Ascension Ladder?"

"Yes." The old man came down from the chair and said: "In Peng Lai Immortal Island, as long as you are an elderly cultivator, you will know something about it."

He walked out and muttered softly: "Immortal Ascension Ladder, Immortal Ascension Ladder, climb the Immortal Ascension Ladder step by step, the immortal road is beyond the sky, how many years have you been living under the ladder..."

As she listened to the old man's soft whispers, she watched him walk out slowly. Feng Jiu only returned to her senses when he disappeared in front of her eyes.

### **Chapter 2584: See Through**

What did that mean?

What did the words the old man said mean? Why did it sound so mysterious?

She pondered in her heart, but for a while, she still couldn't understand what those words meant. When she remembered that the old man had left, she realised that she didn't even get a chance to ask him more about the Immortal Ascension Ladder.

With a sigh in her heart, she gathered her thoughts and focused her attention on the library in front of her. Would she be able to find the records about the Immortal Ascension Ladder within the tens of thousands of books in three days?

She calmed her thoughts and picked up the books on the bookshelf beside her and read them, then she picked out a few other books from each shelf on a nearby bookshelf. She read books from each shelf and gradually realised that the books here were arranged categorically.

Therefore, she looked at the books according to their classification. However, there were three floors in this library, and it wasn't easy to find information over three floors in three days!

She shook her head and sighed softly, only then did she realise why the City Lord had agreed to her request to enter the library for a look. With no one to guide her, it would be difficult to even find a book on exercise, let alone a book with the records of Peng Lai Immortal Island's Immortal Ascension Ladder!

Inside, she was looking through the books while outside, the old man had returned to his cave dwelling after he left the library. There, the City Lord had been waiting for him for a long time. When he saw him coming back, he went up to meet him.

"Father."

The old man looked at him and said: "Come in!" Having said that, he walked towards the cave dwelling.

The City Lord went in behind him and he saw him sitting down, he poured him a cup of tea, then he asked: "Father, how was it?"

The old man picked up the teacup and took a sip of tea before he replied: "This Feng Jiu is a woman."

"What? She is a woman?" City Lord Ling was slightly stunned, he couldn't help but raise his voice. After he saw his father's gaze, his heart froze. He suppressed the shock in his heart quickly and tried his best to keep his voice calm, then he asked: "Father, is Feng Jiu really a woman?"

How could a woman not have the slightest hint of feminine gestures? Instead, she was carefree and did as she pleased like a man? Could he be wrong?

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However, he only dared to murmur those words in his heart, he didn't dare to ask his Father.

"Not only is she a woman, she also possesses a Mystical Spirit-Gathering body that is rarely seen once in a thousand years."

The old man stroked his beard and said slowly: "Her cultivation level has already reached the peak stage of the Immortal Emperor level. No wonder Tianyu is not her opponent. Moreover, unlike the Tianyu's advancement that had been obtained through taking pills, Feng Jiu's cultivation base is very solid. It can be seen that her strength has been improved step by step, even a cultivator who is at the same level as her is probably not her opponent."

Upon hearing his Father's words, City Lord Ling only felt a loud bang in his mind. The red-clothed handsome Feng Jiu was actually a woman? And she possessed the Mystical Spirit-Gathering Body that was rarely seen in a thousand years? Her cultivation level had already reached the peak stage of Immortal Emperor level?

Sss!

Was this a joke? Otherwise, with her bone age, how could she have improved her strength to the level of Immortal Emperor? There were many Immortal Sacred cultivators on Peng Lai Immortal Island, most of them had achieved their cultivation through strange fruits or medicinal herbs, they were different from the cultivators who had improved their strength step by step.

But now, his Father actually said that Feng Jiu's strength had reached the peak stage of Immortal Emperor, how could this not shock him?

## Chapter 2585: Cannot Offend

“We can only become good friends with people like her, we cannot offend her.” The old man pondered, then he glanced at him and said: “You have to tell Tianyu to stop messing around. Such a person has a limitless future and cannot be offended.”

Upon hearing this, the City Lord swallowed and responded hurriedly: “Yes Father, I understand.”

“Ugh!”

The old man sighed: “If Tianyu hadn’t had a conflict with her first, we could have tried to get Tianyu to pursue her and see if we can turn her into a member of our Ling Family. That will definitely be a big help to our Ling Family, but unfortunately...” He shook his head with a look of regret.

When the City Lord heard this, his heart moved slightly. He thought about his son nearly becoming Feng Jiu’s slave, even if he was willing to pursue her now, Feng Jiu would probably look down on him.

It was a pity. There were not many people whom his Father would praise like that, but unfortunately, the opportunity had slipped away.

The City Lord thought for a while, then asked: “Father, then when she leaves the library in three days, do we want to keep her for a while longer? Try to have a better relationship with her?”

“Since she is looking for the Immortal Ascension Ladder, why would she stay here for a long time? When she comes out of the library, I assume she will bid goodbye directly.” The old man spoke slowly. He paused, then he said: “As long as you are not forceful about anything and don’t offend her, that will be fine.”

“Then the Immortal Ascension Ladder...” He glanced at his father cautiously and asked: “Should we tell her where the Immortal Ascension Ladder is located?”

Upon hearing those words, the old man’s eyes moved slightly and he said: “If she is fated with the Immortal Ascension Ladder, she will find it. What’s more, I couldn’t climb the Immortal Ascension Ladder back then, given her young age, so what if she were to find it?”

“Yes, son understands. Son will go back first.” The City Lord bowed before he retreated.

After watching him leave, the old man turned around and went back inside and continued cultivating.

As for the City Lord, who had come out from the back mountain, he walked to the main courtyard and met his son halfway there. When he saw him standing there, he said solemnly: “Didn’t I tell you to cultivate? Why have you run out again?”

“Father, have you gone to see Grandfather? Why did you go to see Grandfather? Was it to do with Feng Jiu?” Ling Tianyu looked at him and asked, as soon as he had opened his mouth, he had struck straight to the point.

The City Lord glanced at him and said: “Yes, I went to see your Grandfather and I told him about the trouble you have created recently. I was just about to go to your courtyard, but since you are here, I’ll tell you that your Grandfather has ordered you not to offend Feng Jiu again. She is not someone you want to offend.”



Upon hearing this, Ling Tianyu frowned: “Why? Could it be that Father and Grandfather are afraid of a mere kid?”

“You only need to do as you have been instructed by your elders. You should know that we won’t harm you!” He said in a calm voice: “Go back! Remember what I said to you” As soon as he had spoken, he walked away.

As he watched his father walk away with his hands behind his back, Ling Tianyu’s eyes were filled with doubt. His heart moved slightly and he thought to himself: What the hell was going on with that kid? It would have been fine if it had only his Father who had told him that, but why would his Grandfather have said that too?

Feng Jiu was in the library, and his Father had specific orders to leave her alone, so he went back to his courtyard first.

In the library of the City Lord’s Manor, Feng Jiu was searching for information, and a day passed just like this...

### **Chapter 2586: Books**

The City Lord sent a servant to ask if she wanted to come out for a meal, but she declined.

In fact, immortal cultivators like them could go anywhere from 10 days to a month without eating. If they entered a phase of deep cultivation, they would not wither away even if they went without food or water for several years.

In addition, Feng Jiu had an abundance of food in her space, so she did not need to go out for meals at this time.

She spent the entire day searching for and reading books. In the silence of the night, pale moonlight seeped in through the upper window, and the light was so dim that she could not help but feel drowsy.

She yawned, stretched, and strolled slowly through the library, which was lit on all sides by night pearls except for the bookshelves in the back.

She walked slowly up to the second floor and wandered about there while picking up various books and examining them. She discovered that some high-level martial arts books were sealed and could not be opened.

“I see. Some books are prohibited, so even if I want to read them, I won’t be able to see the contents.”

She chuckled, not at all surprised. After all, if it weren’t for the prohibition seal, wouldn’t she have free access to all of the higher-level martial arts books?

She returned the forbidden book and went up to the third floor to take a look around. It was similar to the second floor. She could easily flip through some of the books, but others couldn’t be read.

After going around, she returned to the first floor. She hadn’t yet completed reading the books on the first floor; could she truly find a clue to the immortal ascension ladder in three days?

When she reached the stairway leading to the first level and sat down, she closed her eyes, and the words of the old man from earlier in the day came back to her.

“Immortal Ascension Ladder, Immortal Ascension Ladder, climb the Immortal Ascension Ladder step by step, the immortal road is beyond the sky, how many years have you been living under the ladder...What does it all mean?” Mumbling softly, she peered up towards the first floor and her eyes flashed when they landed on a particular location.

She immediately got up and went to the first floor, to the back rows of bookshelves where the chairs were placed, and looked at the chair where the old man had stood during the day. She stood up and looked up at the bookshelf above it.

“Is there nothing? Am I overthinking things?” She was perplexed. Looking up, her gaze was drawn to the top shelf. She removed all of the topmost books, placed them on the floor, and sat in the chair, perusing each one.

“Whoa?”

The book she was holding was sealed. When she read the words on it, her eyes could not help but sparkle.

“The Peng Lai Miscellany? This book contains various records pertaining to Peng Lai Immortal Island. Is there a chance that it contains information on Immortal Ascension Ladder?” She spoke to herself while smiling and examining the book’s seal.

She had no difficulty breaking a seal, a boundary, or a formation. Such a seal, she would simply break it and reseal the book after reading it.

Immediately, she clutched the book in one hand while condensing spirit energy breath with the other and reciting the seal-breaking technique. The spirit energy breath in her palm brushed over the book like a streak of fire, and the seal vanished like a water ripple.

When she opened the book and turned the pages, she saw that it detailed events on Peng Lai Immortal Island as well as the formation of the four great cities...

### **Chapter 2587: Presumptuous**

She sat beside the bookshelf and turned the pages of the book using the night pearl as lighting. As time passed and the night grew darker, the book in her hand reached its final pages.

“Immortal Ascension Ladder? It is indeed in this place!”

Her face was beaming because she had found the information she was looking for. Even though it was quite late at night, she did not feel sleepy at all.

“Immortal Ascension Ladder is also known as Heaven Ascension Ladder. There are 99,999 rungs on this ladder, and the other end may lead to a mysterious new realm. However, in order to climb the Immortal Ascension Ladder, cultivators must first achieve the rank of Immortal Emperor. Those who have not attained this rank will be unable to touch the steps, and their divine sense will be harmed by the restrictions it imposes. In less severe circumstances, a person’s cultivation will be completely abolished, and in the most severe cases, they will die on the spot.”

The further she read, the more astonished she became. "Only Immortal Emperors can go up the ladder? Could it be that Old Man Tianji told me to come here only when he saw I had attained the rank of Immortal Emperor? I wonder if Old Man Tianji has previously gone up the Immortal Ascension Ladder."

When she turned to the next page, she discovered that it recorded the location of the Immortal Ascension Ladder as well as a simple map.

"The heart of Peng Lai Immortal Island? This map..." She traced her finger across it slowly. She deduced the location of the four cities from the mark above and discovered that they were on the edge of Peng Lai Immortal Island.

"So, this is where the heart of the island is?"

She stopped at the location marked with a circle in the middle, took careful note of the map, and then went back to view the names of those who had ascended the Immortal Ascension Ladder on the last page.

She closed the book in her palm, drew on it with her spirit energy, resealed it, and put it back in place with the others.

She did not anticipate finding it within a day. She would not have considered reading the books on the shelf if she hadn't recalled the old man standing on the chair and wiping the books.

However, with so many valuable books in this library, it would be a shame not to take advantage of this opportunity.

She went up to the second floor, picked up the sealed martial arts skill books, and looked through them...

Three days flew by in the blink of an eye. Feng Jiu emerged from the library early in the morning, while the City Lord and Ling Tianyu waited outside. City Lord Ling smiled and moved forward when he saw her come out.

"Feng...Young Master Feng, I wonder if you have found the information?" City Lord Ling almost addressed her as Miss Feng, but since she had not stated that she was a woman, he continued to address her as Young Master.

Feng Jiu returned his greeting with a brief look. "I found some information." After glancing at Ling Tianyu, she said to the City Lord, "I have caused you so much trouble these days, so I will say my goodbyes first."

The City Lord hastily stated, "Young Master Feng rarely pays us a visit. Why don't you stay in the mansion for a few more days now that you've found some information? Allow us to properly host you."

Hearing this, Ling Tianyu's expression went unpleasant as he glared at Feng Jiu and then spoke to his father: "Father, he is leaving, so why should you retain him? In addition, I dislike this man quite a bit. He might as well be out of sight and out of mind."

"Presumptuous!"

The City Lord yelled and scowled at him. "Go home to cultivate!"

## Chapter 2588: Being followed

Feng Jiu smiled nonchalantly. "City Lord has no reason to be upset. It is time for me to leave." She cupped her fists to salute him and walked out.

"Hey! Young Master Feng! Young Master Feng, please wait. I'll see you off." The City Lord glared at his son and followed her quickly.

Ling Tianyu was perplexed by his father's actions. He couldn't understand how his father, who had always thought everyone else was beneath him, could see such a kid and treat him as a guest of honour, even allowing him to enter the library.

Outside the gate of the City Lord Mansion, Feng Jiu turned around and smiled, "City Lord, please do not send me any further. Goodbye."

"Alright. If possible, I would want to invite Young Master Feng to visit and stay for a few days in the future." The City Lord stated.

Feng Jiu smiled and responded, "Sure." Immediately after saying this, she turned around and left.

He watched her leave until she faded from view. He sighed, shook his head, and turned to leave. Unexpectedly, when he turned around, he discovered his son standing behind him and staring at him.

"Father, why are you so courteous toward that kid? What do you see in him?" Ling Tianyu inquired with his eyes glued to his father's face, not letting any expressions escape.

When his son asked him out of the blue, the City Lord became irate. "Do you think I am you, gathering all the good-looking young men you see around you and order them about? I treat her differently for a reason. All you have to do now is remember what I said and try not to worry about anything else."

When Ling Tianyu saw his father getting ready to walk inside, he grabbed him, gave him a stern look, and said, "I know you're keeping something from me, Father. If you don't tell me, I'll have to go find out from this kid."

When City Lord heard this, he was taken aback and stared at him. "Don't even think about it!"

"Do you think I'm afraid, Father? As you say, I've done worse in my time, and I don't mind doing it again." He said it calmly as if he didn't care.

"You, you!"

The City Lord was so irate that he stared at him without saying anything. He exhaled softly, suppressed his anger, and said calmly, "Come with me to the study!"

Ling Tianyu followed him inside after hearing his command.

Feng Jiu walked around the street after leaving City Lord Mansion, buying some items, eating a simple meal at a street corner, and eventually arriving at an inn.

However, when she reached the inn's entrance, she stopped, gazed back briefly, and entered.

Someone began following her as soon as she left the mansion. She sensed that when she initially arrived in this city, she had no grudges against anyone except Ling Tianyu. Could the person who followed her have been dispatched by Ling Tianyu?

Based on the attitude and words of the City Lord, he would not have dispatched people to follow her. Then it was likely Ling Tianyu, the son of the City Lord.

The corners of her lips curled into a smile. Without her intervention, the rules of the world would automatically punish someone who had taken the Heaven and Earth oath.

So, she was unconcerned about what the man who had been following her in the dark would do to her.

“Innkeeper, give me a superior room.” Feng Jiu, who entered the inn, told the innkeeper.

### **Chapter 2589: Found!**

“Young Master, you may only go upstairs after you have paid half of the room fees.” With a smile, the Innkeeper said to Feng Jiu.

“How much?”

The Innkeeper smiled and waved as Feng Jiu took out gold coins. “Not gold coins, but rock crystals. Only rock crystals can be used here. Gold coins can only be utilised outside of Peng Lai Immortal Island. Here, only rock crystals are accepted.”

Rock crystals were considerably more valuable than gold coins. In addition, they carried spirit energy breath to aid in cultivation. She was surprised that everything required rock crystals and no one wanted gold coins.

She smiled, retrieved some rock crystals, and handed them to the Innkeeper. “Are these enough?”

“Hehe, that’s enough, Young Master, please follow me.” The Innkeeper, who was also an Immortal Sacred cultivator, personally took Feng Jiu to the second floor.

As she walked upstairs, Feng Jiu noticed that all of the people on the first floor of the inn were Celestials and Immortal Sacred cultivators. When she recalled the written account of this place, she understood that these people had relied on mutant fruits and medicine to reach this level of strength, and they would be unable to advance further for the rest of their lives.

“This is your room, Young Master. You can call the waiter if you require anything.” The Innkeeper stated. After giving a salute, he retreated.

After entering the room, Feng Jiu closed and locked the door before retiring to the bed in the inner room. She had spent the past three days reading in the library of the City Lord Manor without a wink of sleep, and all she wanted was a decent night’s rest.

However, knowing that someone was watching her from outside, she summoned Cloud Devouring Beast from the space in order to rest comfortably.

“Cloud Devouring Beast, just lie down by the bed and watch. I’ll get some rest to recharge my spirits.” She said while stroking Cloud Devouring Beast’s head.

“Mm, please be at ease, Master! You may sleep while I stand guard.” Cloud Devouring Beast responded by reclining beside the bed and observing the bustle outside.

Feng Jiu gradually relaxed, grew drowsy, and fell asleep as she lay in bed. She slept soundly because she was relieved to have Cloud Devouring Beast here.

She had no idea that after hearing his father’s words, Ling Tianyu’s head was pounding and he was filled with disbelief.

“A woman? Feng Jiu was actually a woman?”

He murmured, suddenly humiliated and perplexed by the news. He was the City Lord Manor’s Young City Lord. It was fine to lose to that kid, but he was now informed that the kid was actually a woman. He was defeated by a woman?

His strength returned. He had promised his father that he would not leave the Manor, but now he felt compelled to go outside and see where Feng Jiu had gone.

So, he took his confidant Zuo Yi with him and left the Manor.

He went from inn to inn, but he couldn’t find where Feng Jiu was staying. He couldn’t help but wonder, “Would she have left by now?” But after some consideration, it appeared impossible, so he told Zuo Yi, “Go ahead and inquire at the inn in front. I’ll have a cup of tea first.”

He motioned to Zuo Yi to go to the inn in front of him and inquire about Feng Jiu’s whereabouts, while he sat at the roadside stall and requested that the old stall owner bring him a cup of tea.

He sipped tea while his mind wandered. How could someone so unrestrained and free be a woman? Such a handsome person with a devilish charm should have been a man. How could he possibly be a woman?

“Master, I’ve found it!”

### **Chapter 2590: Open the Door!**

Zuo Yi, dressed in a guard outfit, hurriedly returned and reported to Ling Tianyu who was sipping tea. “Master, the Innkeeper of the inn in front claimed that a handsome man in red was staying inside, and he had not emerged since entering the inn.”

Ling Tianyu paused slightly and looked forward while holding the teacup. The inn in front? What was he going to do now that he’d found her? Inquire as to why she was born a woman? Fight with her again?

He was unaware that the other party was a woman, but now he knows. How could he, as a grown man, fight with a woman?

He had forgotten that such a grown man could not defeat this young woman!

When he noticed his master holding the teacup and looking absorbed, he inquired, “Master, do you want to go in and look for him?”

“For what?” Ling Tianyu coldly scoffed, “My father instructed me to stop bothering him. Since he’s staying at the inn, forget about it!”

Zuo Yi was stunned for a moment, not understanding what his master meant.

He left the mansion, searched the streets, and went into one inn after another to inquire, but when he found the person, he didn't go in. He assumed his master was looking for Feng Jiu for some reason. But, from the looks of things, it appeared...

"Master, are we going back? The City Lord warned us not to stay out too long." He couldn't help but bow his head as his master's piercing gaze swept toward him as soon as he said these words.

Ling Tianyu sat here, sipping tea, but his gaze was drawn to the inn's door. However, as time passed, he still did not see Feng Jiu leave the inn, even though it was already noon.

It was just that as he was about to leave, he looked around the inn again, only to notice that several people, like him, had been sitting here since the morning, occasionally staring at the inn.

His heart moved slightly as he calmly observed the people. He saw that all of these people were at the level of Immortal Sacred. There was one among them whose strength he could not fathom.

As an Immortal Sacred Peak cultivator, the people whose strengths he could not discern were those stronger than him. In addition, he had never seen these people before, so he couldn't help but be wary.

"Zuo Yi," Ling Tianyi called, whispering a few words into his ear.

Zuo Yi was taken aback after hearing his words. He followed Ling Tianyi's gaze to a specific location before nodding: "Yes, Subordinate will do it right away."

Originally about to leave, he ordered another pot of tea and continued drinking. While observing the inn's entrance, he did not neglect to watch the cultivators until Zuo Yi returned.

"Master." Zuo Yi approached him and whispered, "According to the guard at the city gate, those people entered the city yesterday morning and inquired everywhere about Feng Jiu."

Ling Tianyu frowned and set down the teacup in his hand when he heard this. He stood up and stated in a low tone, "Settle the bill." He then headed towards the inn.

After paying with one piece of rock crystal, Zuo Yi hurriedly followed Ling Tianyi and entered the inn with him.

"In which room is Feng Jiu?" Ling Tianyu asked Zuo Yi.

"On the second floor, the first room on the left." He noticed his master was already walking upstairs after he gave this response.

Ling Tianyu patted the door of the first room on the left of the second floor and called, "Feng Jiu, open the door."

### **Chapter 2591: Ingrate**

Cloud Devouring Beast, who had been laying on its stomach in the room, rose to its feet and patted Feng Jiu on the bed with its paw. "Someone outside is calling you, Master."

When she heard the noise outside, Feng Jiu awoke, opened her eyes, and yawned as she got out of bed. After placing Cloud Devouring Beast in the space, tidied her clothes and walked out.

Ling Tianyu's face greeted her as she opened the door. "What are you here for?" she asked, glancing at him with sleepy eyes. She leaned against the door with her arms folded in a languid manner.

Ling Tianyu's eyes blinked when he saw her beautiful face, which still had her drowsy expression and languid demeanour. For a brief moment, he became foolish and speechless.

Upon observing his master lose his wits after watching a man's face, Zuo Yi reached out and muttered "Master" while gently tugging his robe.

"What!" Ling Tianyu glared at him with displeasure. As he observed he motion towards Feng Jiu, he gradually regained his composure.

"Ahem!"

He coughed softly and looked at Feng Jiu, who was standing by the door but didn't seem to invite him in. "I have something to tell you," he said. With this, he prepared to enter, but Feng Jiu reached out to stop him.

"Speak up here if you have anything to say."

Ling Tianyu was irritated. "I'll let you know after I enter!"

Feng Jiu took a step back and reached out to close the door, but, Ling Tianyu hastily extended his hand to block and retorted angrily. "Don't be ungrateful! I'm here to tell you something! "

"Go ahead!"

When Ling Tianyu saw her blocking the door, he took a deep breath and said calmly, "I've come to tell you that you're being watched. For an entire day, several cultivators stood guard outside. One of them possesses a strength that even I cannot see."

He paused and took a glance at her. When he noticed her frown, he said, "Don't overthink it. I still dislike you, but my father has told me not to bother you anymore. I'm here to inform you that those are not my men, so you don't suspect me later."

"Oh? It turns out that they're not the people you sent!" She nodded with a sudden realisation.

He looked at her with humiliation. "You already know? Did you think I did it?"

Feng Jiu smiled slightly at the corner of her lips as she replied "When I left your manor, I knew I was being followed. I didn't offend anyone here. Of course, I suspected you first. There's nothing wrong with that!"

She smiled and said, "But now that I know you didn't send someone to keep an eye on me, I must consider who else will be after me. Alright, that's it!"

She slammed the door in Ling Tianyu's face as soon as she said this.



Ling Tianyu was livid as he stared at the slammed door. He shook his hands, swallowed his rage, exhaled deeply, and swore quietly. "Ingrate!"

Seeing his master turn around and leave in a rage, Zuo Yi hurriedly followed him. Even after rushing around all day, he had no idea what his master was up to. Even if someone was watching Feng Jiu, it was none of his concern!

In the room, Feng Jiu poured herself a glass of water to drink while contemplating Ling Tianyu's words...

### **Chapter 2592: Swapping identities**

He didn't send them? Who sent them, then?

She mused in her heart and a suspect came to mind. The one who came for the Blue Lotus? However, didn't Peng Lai Immortal Island only appear in that sea once every two weeks? If it were them, how did they get here? Or did they come from this area?

After drinking two glasses of water, she opened the door and said, "Waiter, please come up!"

"Alright!" The waiter downstairs responded and hurried to Feng Jiu's room. "What is your order, Young Master?"

"Prepare a meal for me. If you see any famous foods around here, please buy some for me." She handed him some rock crystals as she spoke.

"Yes, I'll get right on it." The waiter smiled as he went downstairs after receiving the rock crystals. He notified the shopkeeper, asked the kitchen staff to prepare some food, and then went outside to purchase those items.

After the kitchen sent several dishes to the second floor, the waiter who had gone shopping returned as well. As he approached the table upon entering the room, he smiled broadly. "Young Master, here are the barbecued suckling pig and roasted chicken from Hundred Flavours Inn, as well as rainbow cakes from the Fragrant Cloud Inn and fried radish cakes from East End Alley..."

He laid out everything he bought from the space ring on the table and presented it to Feng Jiu until the table was full, then said, "Young Master, there are still two rock crystals left." He returned them to Feng Jiu.

Feng Jiu smiled as he saw this. "Those are your rewards. You can leave now. Don't come up without my order."

"Yes. Thank you very much, Young Master." The waiter responded with a smile, then exited and shut the door.

Looking at the items on the table, she took what she could and left something to eat. She had had enough to drink and eat when she opened a small crack in the back window and noticed that someone was watching her, so she summoned the waiter once more.

"What else can I do for you, Young Master?"

Feng Jiu smiled and said to the waiter in front of her, "Nothing, I only need to borrow your clothing."

Then she touched his acupuncture points with her finger. In front of the shocked and terrified waiter, she removed his clothing and donned them. After a short process, she told the petrified waiter, "I placed the remainder of the room's fare on the table. Later, give them to the innkeeper. In four hours, the acupuncture points on your body will be untied."

The waiter stood there, unable to move or open his mouth. Watching the young master in red put on his clothes and leave, he breathed a sigh of relief.

Thankfully, only his clothes were taken. He thought this man wanted to kill him or rob him of his belongings.

When the waiter walked out of the room four hours later with a depressed expression on his face, the cultivators outside suddenly stood up.

Several men strode over, one grabbed the waiter, and another went upstairs to check.

"Hey, what are you doing? Let go, let go!" The waiter panicked and yelled, "Innkeeper, Innkeeper, help me!"

"Shut up!" The cultivator who had grabbed the waiter's lapel shouted gloomily. "Where is the man in the room?" he asked, pulling the waiter's lapel and lifting him off the ground.

The waiter's face turned pale, and his eyes were filled with fear. "He took my clothes and fled."

### **Chapter 2593: An encounter on the road**

?

Hearing this, the cultivators remembered the figure dressed as a waiter who had passed under their noses four hours before.

"Damn it!"

The man threw the waiter down to the first floor. With a pained cry, the waiter scrambled to his feet and hid behind the Innkeeper.

Two tables on the first floor were smashed. The Innkeeper didn't dare to look any further because he saw these people had murderous looks on their faces. He just stood there protecting the waiter and watching them walk away. He didn't turn around to ask the waiter what had happened until they were gone.

The cultivators gathered after leaving the inn, and there were more than a dozen of them. Ling Tianyu only saw a few people outside at the time, and he had no idea there were people in the back of the inn and on the first floor.

"Since she left four hours ago, she must have gone a long way. Where do you intend to find her?" A cultivator inquired with his eyes on the leader.

The leader was glum and spoke in a frigid tone as he observed the busy street. "We finally found out that she came here, but there's no clue as to where she is now. We must return and await news."

Feng Jiu was walking on the mountain road after leaving the city. She had no idea those people had already stopped pursuing her. She was still dressed in the waiter's garb. Her beautiful face had transformed into the unremarkable appearance she had adopted in the past. She restrained her breath and appeared simple-minded. People who did not know her might assume she was a young man from a rural location or someplace like that.

However, very few young men would walk at night, especially in the mountains where there was neither a village nor a store.

From the mountain path came the sound of pounding horse hooves. Feng Jiu stopped to look and noticed two carriages approaching with their lights shining. It did not resemble a lamp, but rather like a night pearl or something.

She moved to the side of the mountain road when she noticed this, allowing the carriages to pass. The carriages must be travelling on the road at night for an urgent reason! At night, most people would sleep, and only a few carriages would travel.

Despite the distance, there was no one else on the road, so laughter could be heard faintly from the carriages, as if there were both elderly and young people present.

"Eh? Look, there's a young man outside." Seeing the young man standing on the roadside in the middle of the night, a girl's charming voice came out with a smile and curiosity.

Feng Jiu looked up and noticed a girl in a pink dress sticking her head out the carriage window and blinking her limpid eyes with interest.

"What is so peculiar about it? After all, not everyone can have a horse-drawn carriage like us." The voice of a young man came with a hint of pride in his words.

"Grandfather, the young man sat down and relaxed in the grass by the roadside. We did not have much rest during the trip. Why don't we get out of the carriage and take a walk? I am exhausted from riding in the carriage all day. The night sky outside is filled with stars, I'd like to go down and take a look." The girl's delicate voice came from the carriage and faintly reached Feng Jiu's ears.

Feng Jiu, who sat on one side of the grassy slope, took a small tent from the space and set it up, then rushed in, shielding herself from the howling night wind outside.

She simply did not anticipate that the horse-drawn carriage that had passed her for a distance would stop.

#### **Chapter 2594: Bold**

She took out some cakes and ate them while sitting cross-legged in the small tent and gazing at the night sky. The stars twinkled brilliantly. When she looked up at the moon and stars in the sky, she remembered her people in Hundred Rivers City.

She was alone now, and she had no idea when she would return or how they were doing. Her initially cheerful mood was gradually fading.

She regained her composure, however, when a figure approached her in small steps while waving to her. She looked up at the pretty girl in the pink dress.

“Hey, why are you here by yourself? Are you not afraid? My grandfather told me that there are beasts in this area. How could you be so bold as to rest here alone?”

The girl asked curiously. When she tried to get closer, she was restrained by the young man behind her.

“Little Sister, why are you moving so close? You don’t know where this man comes from. He’s all dirty. Don’t get too close.” The young man wore a brocade robe and a jade belt, and he appeared to be a noble young master. However, at this moment he was looking with disgust at Feng Jiu, who was sitting in the tent.

Feng Jiu ate the cakes. After looking at them, she turned her gaze to the night sky and gave them no further attention.

They were just two kids. It’s no fun talking to them.

“You two, don’t go too far away.” A gentle female voice came, attracting Feng Jiu’s attention.

She noticed a beautiful woman dressed simply but elegantly in a crescent white gown standing by the carriage and smiling at this side, while beside her stood an imposing middle-aged man. When the middle-aged man heard the beautiful woman’s words, he yelled to the girl and the young man, “Didn’t your mother warn you not to go too far? Come back quickly.”

The girl dashed back, affectionately taking the beautiful woman’s hand. “Mother, there’s a young man about the same age as Brother over there. He put up a tent to rest in. Why isn’t he afraid of being captured by the beasts?”

Hearing this, the beautiful woman smiled at the middle-aged man, who replied with mirth in his voice. “All I know is that if you were here alone, you would be captured by the wild beasts.”

“Father.” The girl called out petulantly.

An elderly man emerged from the carriage in front. He stroked his beard and gazed up at the night sky. “It’s really nice weather tonight,” he commented, smiling. “The moonlight illuminated the road and a cool breeze blew. If you are not in a hurry to return to the ancestral house, you can spend the night here.”

“Grandfather, can we spend the night here? We have been continuously rushing on the journey. We’re exhausted, too!” The girl stated while pouting.

“Hehe, it’s alright to take a short break. We lost a lot of time on the road. We can’t make those at the ancestral house waiting for us. We’d better avoid upsetting some members of the clan.”

But I don’t want to return too soon. If we’re back so soon, the clan will order Father to go to the heart of the island. Brother said that the location is extremely dangerous.”

“Little girl, don’t repeat this the second time. In particular, avoid mentioning it to those at the ancestral house.” The elderly gentleman cautioned.

The little girl stuck out her tongue, grimaced, and led her mother to the small tent. “Come on, Mother, let’s go talk to that little brother and ask him why he is so bold as to be alone in the wilderness.”

The girl dragged her mother to Feng Jiu. The middle-aged man followed after a brief hesitation.

### **Chapter 2595: A Mute**

Feng Jiu sat in the tent, munching on cakes. When she heard the girl's words, her eyes flashed. The heart of the island? Was it the centre of Peng Lai Immortal Island?

With her interest piqued, her speed of eating cakes slowed.

The beautiful woman was pulled towards the small tent by her daughter. She was astonished to see the thin figure seated in the small tent. Her daughter said that it was a young man, but she did not anticipate him to be so thin. After noticing that the boy was roughly the same age as her children, her maternal instincts surged.

"Why are you here by yourself? Will your family be at ease if you travel alone?" The beautiful woman inquired softly, her gentle gaze falling on Feng Jiu's face.

Feng Jiu bit the cake and blinked her eyes. There was an aura of naivety between her eyebrows. She looked at the woman with her head slightly tilted and without speaking.

"My mother asked you a question! Why aren't you speaking up? Are you a mute?" The young man on the other side yelled and cast an impatient glance at Feng Jiu.

The others were taken aback as soon as he spoke. Mute?

The beautiful woman looked at her husband before turning to face Feng Jiu and asked, "Are you unable to speak?"

Feng Jiu paused for a moment, nodded, took the cake in both hands, and continued to bite, acting like a child who had been starving for a long time.

"Husband, look at this child." The beautiful woman looked at her husband and hesitated to speak.

"Madam, you don't intend to keep her with you, do you? This is not a small animal, but a human." With a helpless expression on his face, the man shook his head and smiled.

"No, I believe our carriage still has a seat. If the child is heading in the same direction as us, we might as well take him for a ride so he is not alone on the road." The beautiful woman said warmly.

Seeing this, the middle-aged man only stared at Feng Jiu in silence.

"Would you like to join us? We have a carriage. We can give you a ride. Anyway, it is a long journey! You are welcome to join us." The girl crouched in front of Feng Jiu and smiled at her.

Feng Jiu was somewhat astonished. She blinked a set of bright and pure eyes and looked at the people in front of her. Finally, after some thought, she nodded. She simultaneously extended her hand and handed the girl the cake to express her friendship.

"Hee hee, are you giving me something to eat? What kind of cake is this?" The girl was unguarded in front of others. She picked up the cake that Feng Jiu had handed her and was about to eat it. However, the middle-aged man coughed softly.

“Have you forgotten what Father told you again, Little Shi? When you go out, avoid eating anything given to you by strangers.” The middle-aged gentleman stated calmly.

As soon as she heard the words, she turned around and smiled. “He ate it himself, Father! What’s more, he does not know us and will not poison us in any way. There is nothing to worry about.” She took a bite of the cake as she spoke.

“Mm, it’s delicious.”

She gave her parents a big smile and told Feng Jiu, “Thank you! My name is Xie Shisi. Shi means poetry and Si means missing. My family calls me Little Shi. What about you? What’s your name?”

“Simply call him Mute. What else are you going to call him?” The young man over there snorted as he kicked the soil on the ground. He looked at Feng Jiu with disdain.

He could not comprehend. Why should they bring this beggar-looking boy along?

### **Chapter 2596: The Xie Clan**

Feng Jiu emerged from the tent and put away the small tent, while the girl next to her continued to chatter...

When the elderly man beside the carriage saw the couple approaching, he asked, “Are you going to take the young man with you?” As he observed the figure folding the small tent.

The middle-aged man turned around and remarked, “The young man appeared rather ordinary. His appearance shows he is simple and honest. I can see that he is merely a commoner child with a little cultivation. He is also mute and unable to speak. Also, Little Shi is quite fond of him. I figured I would take him with us in the journey, have him sit outside with the coachman, and let him leave once we reached the city.”

The kid did not appear to represent any danger to them. Given that his wife and daughter wished to help him, he would consent.

The elderly man nodded his head. “Tell them to board the carriage!” Upon saying this, he entered the carriage first.

The beautiful woman and the middle-aged man sat in the back carriage, while the elderly man and the siblings sat in the front carriage. Feng Jiu stopped before deciding which carriage to take when she saw the girl sticking out her head and waving to her.

“Sit here, come on, come up quickly.”

After a slight pause, she approached the carriage and sat next to the coachman. However, immediately after taking her seat, she was pulled into the carriage by the girl.

“Little Sister, why did you bring him in? He looks filthy all over.” The young man grimaced and moved to the side. He did not want to approach Feng Jiu.

“Yutang, how can you talk like that!”

Hearing that, the elderly man, who had his eyes closed abruptly opened them. Looking at his grandson with a slight frown, the elderly man's voice radiated with vital energy as he spoke. "Although strength is revered in our world, words and acts are also extremely significant. Currently, you are a descendent of the Xie Clan, thus your rank is noble. However, what if you were not a member of the Xie family, but instead a commoner?"

When the young man was reprimanded by the older man, his cheeks became flushed and his head lowered. "Grandfather, I, I..."

"Grandfather's intent is not to scold you but to teach you how to behave. You're still young, but if your words and actions remain the same in a few years, people will look down on you. You must remember that if you want others to respect you, you must first respect others." The old man spoke in a deep voice. At the same time, his gaze was drawn to Feng Jiu.

Feng Jiu's heart was filled with wonder as she listened to the elderly man's words. In a world where the strong were revered, it was extremely unusual for this elderly man to teach his children and grandchildren in this manner. Also, regardless of one's cultivation level, one must have good thoughts or else commit evil and fail to distinguish between right and wrong.

Furthermore, if one's lips kept spouting disdain, contempt, and despise for others, how could such a person be respected by others?

"Mm-hmm, indeed, indeed. Big Brother, you should listen to Grandfather. Grandfather's words are the most reasonable." The girl said with a smile.

"Are you unable to speak? Are you born that way or is it acquired afterwards?" The elderly man asked Feng Jiu.

When she caught the elderly man's gaze, Feng Jiu took a brief pause. She noticed a small tea table in the middle of the carriage with a pot of tea on it, so she touched some of the tea with her hand, scribbled some words on the table, and told him she couldn't speak since she had recently wounded her throat and would be fine in a few days.

Seeing this, the elderly man nodded, then added, "Since this meeting is fated, please keep these two company!"

Feng Jiu glanced at the two siblings and nodded.

"You still haven't given me your name!"

### **Chapter 2597: In Trouble**

With blinking eyes and a smile on her lips, the girl asked Feng Jiu.

Only then did Feng Jiu scribble the word Feng Jiu on the table.

"Feng Jiu? Your name is very simple, but I've never heard of Feng's surname." Looking at the elderly man, the girl asked, "Grandfather, have you ever heard of Feng's surname?"

"The Feng surname is uncommon." The elderly man looked at Feng Jiu. "Where are you from? What is your destination?"

Feng Jiu scribbled on the table: A wandering loose cultivator.

“A person like you is a loose cultivator? Hmph, weaker than me.” Xie Yutang cast a glance at Feng Jiu and murmured, “What wandering, that’s a homeless man. It’s no surprise you sleep in a small tent by the roadside.”

During the course of question-and-answer exchanges, Feng Jiu, who was seated next to them in the carriage, began to nod off. She sat in the corner of the carriage and fell asleep, with her entire body sideways.

The pair of brother and sister likewise fell asleep as the night grew darker, but only the elderly man opened his eyes, his farsighted and wise gaze landed upon Feng Jiu.

After considerable talk and observation, he concluded that the young man was unremarkable. As he posed no threat to them, he did not pay him any further attention and fell asleep against the carriage.

Feng Jiu closed her eyes and breathed deeply, but she didn’t fall asleep. She was thinking about something. Firstly, she was a stranger in this foreign land. It may not be so simple to locate the heart of the island.

Secondly, she met the Xie family by chance and it appeared that they were travelling to the heart of the island. Instead of searching for it independently, it was preferable to follow them and then find an opportunity to leave.

In particular, the Immortal Ascension Ladder was so mysterious that she wanted to take advantage of this period of time to ask about it and learn about this place called Peng Lai Immortal Island, so she felt that following the Xie family was a good choice.

More importantly, she felt at ease with the Xie family.

The clatter of the carriage’s spirit beasts’ hooves was like a lullaby in the night, and the passengers in the carriage fell asleep to the sound of their hooves.

The night passed, still silent, but as dawn approached, the carriage was unexpectedly struck by something. The carriage abruptly came to a halt and the passengers slid outward due to the carriage’s inertia.

“Ah! What’s the problem?” Xie Shisi exclaimed, steadying herself, and peering out the window.

However, as Feng Jiu raised her eyes to look, she noticed the reflections of a cold glint. She quickly reached out and grabbed her.

“Look out!”

The old man yelled weakly, his heart palpitating, and he couldn’t stop sweating as he saw the scene of the sword drawn from outside the window.

If Feng Jiu hadn’t intervened, his granddaughter’s head might have been chopped off.

Xie Shisi, who had fallen on the carriage seat, became pale. “What is going on? It was as if my body had been imprisoned and I was unable to move.” With trepidation, she patted herself on the chest.



Xie Yutang had also regained his wits. "Listen, it seems that there is a fight outside," he remarked.

He drew back the curtain and looked out. He noticed the coachman leaning aside on the carriage, and in front of the carriage, a group of people in black were dealing with the Xie Clan's dark guards who had emerged from the darkness.

### **Chapter 2598: Rescue**

"Grandfather, the coachman was killed!" Xie Yutang's expression darkened. He sprang to his feet and leapt from the carriage to join the fight.

"Come back! Don't run around!" The elderly man shouted with dread on his face. Seeing that his grandson had already left the carriage, he immediately pulled Xie Shisi from the carriage.

Feng Jiu, who was still inside the carriage, followed them out and swept her gaze around. She observed the twenty or so men in black who had attacked the Xie family, as well as the ten or so dark guards who had followed them secretly to protect them.

Their strengths may be comparable, but their opponents were more numerous, so the situation was dire.

Apart from the dark guards, the elderly man and the middle-aged man were the only ones with strengths in the two carriages. The elderly man was now responsible for protecting his two grandchildren, while the middle-aged man was responsible for protecting his wife, who was weak and lacked fighting skills.

The beautiful woman hid beside the middle-aged man, obviously terrified and dumbstruck. Feng Jiu could not help but wonder how the Xie family, which seemed to be a large influential clan, could marry a woman with no cultivation. That is odd.

"Hiss, aah!"

Xie Yutang was unable to dodge. The long sword in the hand of a man in black pierced his arm with its sword intent. His blood spurted instantly, causing him to scream and wobble backwards, but the man in black's blade shot straight up, aimed for his life, and appeared prepared to end him with a single thrust.

"Yutang!"

"Yutang, be careful!"

The elderly man was unable to come forward because he was protecting his granddaughter, while the middle-aged man was unable to leave because he was protecting the beautiful woman. Seeing that Xie Yutang was about to be killed, the two men's eyes were red with rage, their killing intent was palpable, and their swords struck more viciously than before. Both men wished they could rush over to help him.

However, Feng Jiu, who was standing beside the carriage, moved at this precise moment. She charged forward, grabbing Xie Yutang's collar and pulled him behind her.

The sword was also stabbed at them at the same time. The fierce sword intent roared past, startling Xie Yutang to the point where his face turned pale and his movement stiffened.

The Xie family breathed a sigh of relief as they saw him avoid the fatal blow and tried to huddle together to protect the weak behind them.

Feng Jiu pulled Xie Yutang to avoid the attack. However, because he was terrified and his reaction time slowed, the two were separated by a short distance when the blade wielded by a man in black thrust between them.

Feng Jiu's eyes flashed when she saw two men in black attacking from behind.

She could easily dodge the blows and even kill the two men in black if she used her true strength. It would, however, reveal her strength and might make it difficult to approach the Xie family.

Her emotions were shaken by the thought. She hastened to take Xie Yutang in her arms and roll down towards the elderly man when she spotted the two men in black coming to attack.

Just as the two rolled away, Feng Jiu noticed the reflection of a cold blade. She was about to avoid it instinctively, but when it got close, she changed her mind and raised a hand to block it.

The sword intent slashed her arm, leaving behind a bloodstain. Xie Yutang was taken aback when he saw the shed blood. He looked at Feng Jiu, stunned. He couldn't believe this little mute stranger was injured in order to save him...

### **Chapter 2599: Injury**

Feng Jiu stood up and endured the pain while holding the wound in her hand. At this moment, the old man pushed Xie Shisi to her side, then flashed and swept out quickly to kill the two men in black.

With their deaths, the number of men in black decreased, and the few who remained were forced to evacuate as soon as they realised the situation was dire. Those people's escape restored calm in the area, but the bodies on the ground and the stench of blood in the air could not be ignored...

"Tang'er, how are you? Are you hurt?" The beautiful woman helped her son to get up from the ground and examined him closely.

"The blade only scratched Big Brother's arm, Mother. It's not serious." Looking at Feng Jiu, Xie Shisi said. "Feng Jiu appears to be badly injured. The wound is bleeding!"

The beautiful woman rushed over. "Here, I'll give you some medicine and then bandage the wound." She took out the medicine and applied it to Feng Jiu's wound right away while thanking her. "Just now, if it's not me, my Tang'er might lose his life. Thank you so much for saving him. You're his benefactor."

"Come on, Big Brother, I'll give you some medicine for your wound." Xie Shisi arrived at her brother's side, examined his injured arm, cleaned it, sprinkled it with medicine, and then bandaged it.

When the old man and the middle-aged man saw that the situation had calmed down, they stood together and whispered something to each other while the dark guards cleaned up the bodies on the ground.

"The journey was fine; it was quiet and uneventful. I wasn't expecting to be ambushed here. I'm afraid we wouldn't be able to cope if there were more opponents." The middle-aged man spoke calmly, his gaze fixed on his family and the injured young man.

“It was all thanks to him. If he hadn’t pulled Yu Tang, I’m sure he’d be dead now.” The middle-aged man sighed softly. “He was injured to save Yu Tang.”

The old man looked at Feng Jiu with wariness in his eyes. “His footwork just now looked strange to me. The way he moved his feet made his figure sweep out in an instant with lightning speed. It’s inconsistent with his strength.”

The middle-aged man cast a glance at Feng Jiu before he looked at his wife and children surrounding the young man, his face solemn. “Father, trouble has already occurred before we arrive at the ancestral house. Will this happen frequently if we get there? They aren’t very good at scheming, as you know. I’m worried that they’ll provoke trouble in the ancestral house.”

“Do not make such irresponsible remarks.” The elderly man stated quietly. “There is no evidence that it was done by people in the ancestral house, so we can’t suspect rashly.”

“Can there be anyone else but them?” These things would not have happened to us on the way if they hadn’t ordered us to move to the ancestral house.”

“Fine, we’ll talk again later. First, take a look at that young man.” The elderly man said, walking towards Feng Jiu.

“How is it? Are you seriously hurt?” The elderly man inquired, observing the young man’s expression as he endured the pain.

“He is badly hurt, but he’s already been treated with medicine. But, it would take several days for him to get better.” Looking at the young man’s bandaged arm, the beautiful woman exhaled a sigh of relief.

“Yutang, what are you doing there? Come and say thank you to Little Jiu. You would have died if it hadn’t been for him.”

Hearing this, Xie Yutang paused for a moment before moving his steps toward Feng Jiu...

### **Chapter 2600: Stay with us**

“Thank you.” Xie Yutang murmured somewhat awkwardly in a low voice and dashed to his mother’s side.

Feng Jiu smiled and looked down at the bandaged wound.

“Burn our people’s corpses and return their ashes to their families.” The old man ordered the dark guards and sighed as he looked at the dead bodies.

Fire rose in the night sky, illuminating half of the sky. A gust of wind blew and there was a foul odour in the air...

The guards carried out his orders and burned the corpses, collecting the ashes and storing them in the jars taken from their cosmos sacks.

She could tell they were skilled and well-prepared. This was obviously not the first time they had done something similar. When several of their dark guards were killed previously, it appeared that this was how they dealt with the corpses.

Indeed, burning the bodies appeared to be a better way to avoid future problems than burying them. After all, no one would know if any beast would dig up and gnaw on the buried bodies. The bodies were burned and the ashes were returned to their loved ones so that they could be enshrined after death.

“Let’s go! Leave first and we’ll talk again later.” The elderly man said, signalling that they should all board the carriage. The dark guards who had been hiding in the dark appeared beside the carriage, and the party continued on the journey.

As the sky cleared and the carriage approached the next town, the elderly man looked at Feng Jiu and asked with a slight frown. “Little Jiu, what are you going to do next? Do you have any relatives in town?”

Feng Jiu shook her head.

When the elderly man saw this, he mused, his gaze fell on her injured arm. After some thoughts, he said, “We’re returning to the ancestral house and we will settle down where Patriarch Xie resides. If one more person, you, is added, I’m afraid....”

Xie Yutang looked at Feng Jiu, who sat with her head bent, and remarked, “Grandfather, why don’t you just let him put on the dark guard uniform and pretend to be our manor’s dark guard? Otherwise, let him serve as my personal attendant.”

Feng Jiu raised her head and looked at him with surprise.

“What are you looking at? I just don’t want to owe you a favour. You have nowhere to go, don’t you? In that case, you can serve as my close attendant. I cannot guarantee anything else, but I am certain there will be three meals.”

The elderly man thought for a moment before looking at Feng Jiu. “If you really have nowhere to go, then follow Yutang! The young man appeared more composed than Yutang and his nature as seen seemed to be innocent and simple. Judging from his ability in reading people, the young man was not a person with an evil heart.

Feng Jiu smiled, nodded, and scribbled the word “thank you” with water on the table upon hearing the old man’s statement.

“Great! You can play with me later on.” Xie Shisi expressed her joy.

“Let me tell you a little bit about our Xie family. You will stay with Yutang after arriving at the Xie family. Don’t act rashly when dealing with people. After all, we are not from the family’s direct descendants, so it is difficult to get our words heard.”

Feng Jiu nodded and listened to the old man explain to the three of them what they should look out for once they arrived at the Xie family.

After hearing those words and so many rules, Xie Yutang expressed his displeasure. “Grandfather, why do we have to live in the ancestral home? We were fine in our own home.”