

Chapter 16: Great Darkness Calamity Fist

3

The judge couldn't do anything about the strange candidate at his feet. All he could do was wave his hand and say, "Battle, start!"

1

Liu Zhen raised his fists and charged toward the judge, much to the shock of Xu Xiaoshou.

Xu Xiaoshou immediately let go of the judge's leg. He'd be breaking the rules if he was still messing with the judge after the battle started.

He collected himself. He had to be more cautious when facing a Level Ten fighter.

Liu Zhen wasn't as weak as the other candidates in the group-stage competition. Level Ten was already half a step into the Innate Stage, so he couldn't afford to take this battle lightly.

However, even though Xu Xiaoshou hurriedly retaliated against the black-colored fists that rained a flurry of punches down on him, he wasn't able to defend himself against a single punch and was reduced to being a human sandbag once again.

Boom, boom...

The familiar sounds rang out again. The people in the spectator seats couldn't sit still.

"He's appeared! Sandbag Xu!"

3

"He must be sick in the head. He insists on having a brawl every time, but when it's time to fight, he takes his opponent's punches to the face."

"It doesn't look like that Xu Xiaoshou really knows any fist techniques. Liu Zhen is more powerful than him!"

Xu Xiaoshou secretly thought that things weren't looking good. Liu Zhen had dropped all of his pretenses at this time. As he repeatedly got punched, he felt that his body wouldn't be able to hold out much longer.

"What kind of fist technique is this?" he thought.

"It's capable of causing an Innate-stage physical body this much pain?"

Xu Xiaoshou could only guard his vital areas as he was blasted back by Liu Zhen one step at a time.

"Got attacked. Passive Points +2."

"Got attacked. Passive Points +2."

“Got attacked. Passive Points +2.”

“What’s going on?” he thought.

“I’m only getting two Passive Points for every punch I take? That doesn’t make sense!”

7

Xu Xiaoshou became more startled the more he was hit. The notification panel never made mistakes. Not only was Liu Zhen’s fist technique never-ending, but his every punch inflicted double the damage.

He closely examined his body, and sure enough, he found that each of Liu Zhen’s punches had secretly left a trace of black energy in his body.

What a sneaky fist technique!

He didn’t know what the energy could do. However, it must have some hidden effect if Liu Zhen was secretly leaving it in his body.

Xu Xiaoshou became anxious when he saw that he was about to be blasted out of the arena.

He’d been careless this time!

He should have immediately pulled out his sword. Then he might’ve had a fighting chance. Now that he was being bombarded with punches, he couldn’t even take out his sword from within his ring.

“Liu Zhen, give me a chance!” Xu Xiaoshou said sincerely.

However, Liu Zhen didn’t say anything, instead punching Xu Xiaoshou more fiercely. He knew that Xu Xiaoshou had many sneaky techniques up his sleeves, as he’d watched Xu Xiaoshou become the champion of the group-stage competition, so how could he give Xu Xiaoshou a chance?

“Don’t force me!” Xu Xiaoshou said fiercely.

There were just a few steps left before he’d be forced off the arena!

Liu Zhen disregarded his words. His punches ripped through the air, causing the air to crackle.

Xu Xiaoshou couldn’t take it any longer. He effortfully extended his hand amidst the flurry of punches, then gathered his spiritual power and stabbed his hand forward.

“Sharpness!” he thought.

“I’ll stab you to death!

“Even though I can’t hit you while you’re hitting me, you’ll definitely bleed if you keep punching me.”

“Ah!”

Sure enough, Liu Zhen let out a startled shock the next second and put some distance between them.

It was inevitable that at least one punch out of the flurry Liu Zhen rained down on Xu Xiaoshou would land on Xu Xiaoshou’s dagger-like fingers. Liu Zhen wasn’t on the defensive and was caught off guard. His fist felt like it were about to explode it was so painful.

Fortunately, he had trained his body in the past. Even though his body wasn't at the Innate Stage, it was still much stronger than that of an average person. If it wasn't, his fingers would've been torn off from Xu Xiaoshou's attack.

"How could this happen?"

Liu Zhen's eyes were filled with shock. He knew that Xu Xiaoshou didn't know any fist techniques, so how had he taken out a dagger and injured him under his flurry of punches?

The next second, he saw that Xu Xiaoshou's twisted right finger was covered in blood.

His Great Darkness Calamity Fist inflicted double damage with dark energy. There was no way that Xu Xiaoshou was bleeding from one of his attacks, which meant that the blood on Xu Xiaoshou's finger was his.

"So that lad countered my Great Darkness Calamity Fist with his finger?" he thought to himself.

"How is that possible?"

"What technique was that?" Liu Zhen asked. His desire to know what had countered his attack won out over his will to revenge.

Xu Xiaoshou had been blasted to the edge of the arena by Liu Zhen's punches and had almost broken his finger. Fortunately, he'd managed to avoid the crisis.

He forcefully twisted his finger back to its original position and hissed, "Sharpness."

"Got doubted. Passive Points +1."

Xu Xiaoshou was speechless.

"Why did you ask if you weren't going to believe me anyway?"

"You might as well not have asked at all!"

Many of the people in the spectator seats stood up. All of them were in disbelief...

"How did he get out of that tricky situation? I don't get it. Why did Liu Zhen suddenly stop?"

"Look at Xu Xiaoshou's hand. It's bleeding. Is that Liu Zhen's blood?"

"Are you joking? Can't you see Liu Zhen's spiritual technique? That's the Innate-stage Great Darkness Calamity Fist! How could it have been countered by Xu Xiaoshou's finger?"

"What? An Innate-stage spiritual technique?"

Someone had managed to identify Liu Zhen's spiritual technique. Everyone was immediately stunned.

An Innate-stage spiritual technique was something that an individual had to be lucky enough to come across. How could an outer yard disciple have had the opportunity to obtain an Innate-stage spiritual technique?

Even if he had obtained it, how had Liu Zhen managed to master it?

Xu Xiaoshou had deduced that Liu Zhen's fist technique was a high-level technique. It couldn't have inflicted that much damage on him otherwise.

Liu Zhen's series of punches had hurt him several times more than all of the attacks he'd gotten hit with during the group-stage competition.

That wasn't even counting the black-colored energy in his body.

Xu Xiaoshou was a little flustered. He couldn't expel the energy from his body. He guessed that the energy would trip him up at the critical moment. Fortunately for him, he had his notification panel. Otherwise, he wouldn't have known how he'd gotten defeated.

He quickly changed his style when he saw Liu Zhen charge over again. He moved as he took out his wooden sword and said, "A gentleman fights with words, not his fists. Let's not use our fists anymore. Why don't we spar with wooden swords?"

5

"We'll just lightly spar. Don't be rash."

His body wouldn't be able to take it if he had to earn Passive Points from being beaten by Liu Zhen's fists. Xu Xiaoshou decided to admit that he was weaker.

The judge was shocked. What happened to what you said last time during the previous battle? Did you eat your words?

The spectators roared with laughter. All of them slapped their thighs.

"I can't take it anymore. That Xu Xiaoshou is too funny!"

"Did he forget that he said that a gentleman uses his fists rather than swords during his last battle? So why did he admit that he's weaker now when they really got into it with their fists?"

"Hahaha, Xu Xiaoshou is so naive! I can't take it anymore!"

With a thud, a rush of spiritual power erupted from the ground and blasted Liu Zhen forward. A flurry of fists immediately rained down upon Xu Xiaoshou.

"F***, you're still coming!"

3

Xu Xiaoshou immediately tucked away his wooden sword and whipped out Hiding Pain. He could no longer hide it. He would definitely be blasted off the arena if Liu Zhen used his technique on him again!

"Fortunately, I have a trump card."

"Fleeting White Cloud!"

He sliced his sword horizontally through the air, and all of the dust in the surroundings was sent flying into the air from the powerful momentum. Even the people in the spectator seats couldn't help but kneel. They looked on without blinking.

“Dark Calamity, activate!”

2

Liu Zhen knew without thinking that Xu Xiaoshou was going to use his ace in the hole, so he made a forceful hand gesture while in the air and ignited the thousands of strokes of dark energy he had left within Xu Xiaoshou’s body with his punches just now.

Boom!

Xu Xiaoshou spat out a mouthful of blood. His eyeballs nearly fell out of their sockets, and all the veins all over his body popped out. One could only imagine how much pain Xu Xiaoshou was in.

He knew that his opponent also had a trump card. However, he didn’t expect that trump card to be this powerful!

Xu Xiaoshou clenched his teeth hard. He was pouting like a toad and was just short of vomiting blood.

Everyone in the spectator seats were shocked. They didn’t expect events to take such a drastic turn for the worse. This battle was incredibly brutal. This was too cruel!

“Xu Xiaoshou... Hang in there!”

All of them cheered for Xu Xiaoshou from the bottom of their hearts. After all, even though Xu Xiaoshou was unconventional and made people hate him, he was the one being beaten to a pulp in this battle.

A Level Six being beaten up by a Level Ten would draw pity from anyone!

The judge arched his feet and immediately charged over. He couldn’t allow Xu Xiaoshou to be hit by Liu Zhen’s next punch. He would die.

He knew just how powerful the Great Darkness Calamity Fist was. The dark energy inflicted by the technique became more terrifying as more and more punches rained down on the opponent. Xu Xiaoshou had taken the brunt of a few thousand punches. The dark energy in his body was enough to cause an Innate-stage expert to explode!

Fortunately, Xu Xiaoshou had an Innate-stage physical body. The judge rejoiced.

Just as he was about to get close to Xu Xiaoshou, who was forcefully trying to hold back from vomiting blood, Xu Xiaoshou suddenly secretly give him a hand signal.

He doesn’t need me?

The judge’s heart thumped wildly. Logic told him that he should stop the battle. However, for some reason, he chose to believe in Xu Xiaoshou at this moment, and stopped in his tracks.

1

Everyone had their hearts in their mouths. Liu Zhen’s fist shot upward, straight toward Xu Xiaoshou’s chin.

“Puu!”

At the critical moment, Xu Xiaoshou spat out a large mouthful of blood he'd saved in his mouth and instantly covered Liu Zhen's face with it, blurring his vision.

2

But what could that accomplish?

Everyone in the spectator seats could see the situation clearly. Xu Xiaoshou could no longer avoid the attack. The dark energy had robbed him of the ability to move.

"Get out!" Liu Zhen roared furiously.

With a thud, his punch landed on Xu Xiaoshou's forehead and sent him flying.

1

The next second, he felt himself being taken up into the air. What was going on?

He rubbed off the blood that was obstructing his vision and realized that Xu Xiaoshou had grabbed onto him with his legs and was bringing him up into the air along with him.

There was blood on Xu Xiaoshou's forehead. However, his legs were wrapped tightly around Liu Zhen's waist like a pincer. They were flying out of the arena together!

The sight of the two candidates entangled in the air was rather strange. It felt like time had stopped.

He was taking Liu Zhen down with him?

Everyone in the spectator seats was shocked. However, they saw Xu Xiaoshou how had actively stepped forward toward Liu Zhen while his forehead was being punched and then took advantage of Liu Zhen being blinded to grab onto him with his legs.

He'd first used his blood to blur Liu Zhen's vision and had then grabbed onto Liu Zhen by wrapping his legs around his waist. Was this a tactic that he had come up with on the fly while he was being punched?

Unbelievable!

"Release me!"

The two of them fell straight down. Liu Zhen wanted to punch him again. If he didn't take action now, he would fall from three meters up in the air. His head was facing the ground. He would definitely be knocked out if he fell!

He didn't have Xu Xiaoshou's body.

Xu Xiaoshou chuckled. He maneuvered around Liu Zhen's body and spun their bodies around, not allowing Liu Zhen to punch him.

4

During their high-speed revolution, Xu Xiaoshou propped his head against Liu Zhen's feet and grabbed his ankles. He then released his legs from around Liu Zhen's waist and made use of the momentum to gain higher ground and threw him fiercely onto the ground.

1

Boom!

Dust flew everywhere. Liu Zhen was the first to hit the ground. He was devastated by the impact.

Boom!

Dust was sent flying everywhere again, and Xu Xiaoshou fell elegantly on top of Liu Zhen, who was lying on the ground.

He spat out a mouthful of blood, then waved to the shocked and speechless spectators as he whispered:

"Liu Zhen, you sure are impressive!

"Liu Zhen, what fist technique was that?"

"Liu Zhen, you've taught me never to be careless. I'll always remember that!"

All of Xu Xiaoshou's sarcastic remarks finally made Liu Zhen come back to his senses. He gave up on his "silence is golden" principle and said, unhappy that he'd been beaten:

"Get off of me, darn it!"

Chapter 17: Constitution

Clap, clap, clap!

Thunderous applause came from the spectator seats. Without a doubt, this battle had been extremely exciting and full of twists and turns!

2

They'd thought that Xu Xiaoshou wouldn't be able to last against the continuous barrage of punches from Liu Zhen's Great Darkness Calamity Fist. They didn't expect him to counter that technique with just one finger and turn the tide of the battle.

They'd thought that Xu Xiaoshou wouldn't be able to turn the situation around after being severely injured by Great Darkness Calamity Fist. However, he'd unexpectedly taken advantage of his injury to seize the initiative and blur Liu Zhen's vision with his blood.

3

More importantly, the two of them had circled in the air at high speeds. Not only had Xui Xiaoshou's spin made Liu Zhen doubt for his life, but the technique he used in the end had allowed him to maneuver around Liu Zhen and slam him into the ground, showing the full extent of his powerful brawling skills.

Xu Xiaoshou, who had initiated this insane battle, had stated that he would've been done in if he didn't have Strengthen.

The dark energy of the Great Darkness Calamity Fist was terrifying. Even though he had managed to turn defeat into victory, he had now lost all ability to battle.

The judge ran over. "Do you need to rest?"

"Yes." Xu Xiaoshou nodded.

The judge took a deep breath, then pointed at Liu Zhen, who was being crushed under Xu Xiaoshou's weight. "He needs to rest too."

Liu Zhen had already fainted. He didn't know if Liu Zhen had fainted because of his fall or because of his anger.

1

Xu Xiaoshou awkwardly stood up, finally releasing the candidate Liu Zhen. Attendants immediately rushed forward to carry Liu Zhen away.

"Aren't you going to go into the barrier to recover?" the judge asked.

Xu Xiaoshou stole a glance at the applauding crowd. "What a joke," he thought. "How could I possibly go into the barrier?"

He shook his head and turned his attention inward.

"Got encouraged. Passive Points +242."

"Got praised. Passive Points +366."

His notification panel constantly updated. Within half an hour, his Passive Points had surpassed what he'd earned during his past two battles.

Xu Xiaoshou couldn't help but glance at the lower section of the interface.

"Passive Points: 7225."

Tsk tsk!

Not counting the few points that Di Xin'er had given him, just Liu Zhen alone had given him more than 2000 Passive Points.

He had earned the rest of the points from the insane crowd during the time between his battles.

This number was still constantly rising.

Xu Xiaoshou no longer paid attention to his Passive Points. Instead, he started examining his body.

He had been severely injured from the explosion of dark energy. It could be said that he did what he did after the explosion using sheer willpower alone.

The tension left his body, and with it the ability to move. It felt painful to even lift his fingers.

However, there was still another round left in the preliminaries!

Xu Xiaoshou clenched his teeth and sat down on the Chuyun Platform with his back facing the crowd.

1

He took out a pill bottle. Inside was the tenth-grade recovery spiritual pill that Elder Qiao had given him after the group-stage battle—the Red Gold Pill.

“I’ll go all out!” he thought.

Xu Xiaoshou seemed as though he were prepared to die. He picked up a Red Gold Pill but didn’t dare to take a big whiff of it. Instead, he took a gentle whiff.

In that instant, he felt as though he’d been struck by lightning. His eyes rolled back into his head and he started to tremble violently.

4

“Uhhhh...”

Everyone in the spectator seats was watching Xu Xiaoshou. At that moment, they saw Xu Xiaoshou suddenly tremble, his back facing them. All of them craned their necks, incredibly curious.

“Wha’s he doing?”

“He’s taking pills? What kind of pill is that? Why are its effects so strong?”

“That must be a poisonous pill. It’s so terrifying!”

Everyone saw Xu Xiaoshou, who was seated, suddenly fall backward. His body formed a star-like shape on the Chuyun Platform. He looked like a twitching pile of mud.

“What did he eat? Why is he shivering like that?”

“That guy must be the trembling type...”

5

Everyone instantly became confused. Xu Xiaoshou harvested another large wave of doubt while he was unconscious.

Even the judge was scared silly. “What is this?” he thought. “We just sent Liu Zhen away, and now you’ve collapsed too?”

“How old are you? Why do you have to make a judge like me worry so much for you!”

He quickly ran over with the medical team. They felt for Xu Xiaoshou’s pulse while applying pressure on his philtrum.

“Uhhh... I’m, I’m fine...” Xu Xiaoshou foamed at the mouth.

2

“Do you look like you’re fine?” the judge nearly cursed.

1

“You have to tell me if you can’t hold on, and I’ll take you to heal your wounds!” The judge tried to press on Xu Xiaoshou’s chest to stop him from trembling.

Xu Xiaoshou’s eyes rolled back as he struggled to sit up. However, he had no strength left in his body. He howled weakly.

“Don’t, don’t touch me!”

“Currently, I have a... sensitive constitution. Uhhh...”

The judge was speechless.

He silently withdrew his hands from Xu Xiaoshou. “Perhaps he doesn’t need me...” he thought.

The spectators were all wondering what was going on. Because Xu Xiaoshou was lying down on the ground, they could see his face, and a few of the spectators who could read lips interpreted the conversation.

The spectators were in an uproar.

“He must have taken an aphrodisiac!”

3

“Taking those things before a competition... I have to hand it to him!”

“Someone drag him off somewhere and cool him off!”

“I strongly request for a drug test. That Xu Xiaoshou must have consumed a banned drug!”

2

All of these interpretations of the situation gave Xu Xiaoshou countless Passive Points. There was doubt, respect, mockery...

The medical personnel who’d taken Xu Xiaoshou’s pulse released his hand from around his wrist and said in shock, “He seems to be fine?”

“What?” The judge was confused.

“I don’t know what medication he took, but its effects are really powerful. His body is recovering at a rapid rate. He’s almost fully healed.”

“Hehe!”

“He’s almost fully healed?”

The judge pointed at Xu Xiaoshou’s convulsing body. “Then what’s that?”

2

The medical personnel stammered and said, not too sure himself, “Pleasure?”

10

The judge's expression darkened. "Pleasure, my foot!" he thought.

2

"You're useless!"

He thought for a moment, then pried open Xu Xiaoshou's hand and saw the Red Gold Pill.

"Just this?"

He raised an eyebrow, then took the pill and popped it into his mouth. The medical personnel almost jumped when he saw him do this. "You can't eat that!"

3

"It's fine. It isn't poisonous. If it was, Xu Xiaoshou wouldn't have dared to consume one, and he wouldn't be experiencing the effect you described. By taking it, I'll immediately be able to detect if he consumed banned drugs before the competition or not."

The judge sat down cross-legged. He circulated the spiritual source in his body, and the pill immediately dissolved into his system.

He opened his eyes. "What's going on?" he thought.

"Is this really a Red Gold Pill?"

1

He looked at Xu Xiaoshou, who couldn't stop trembling, and lapsed into deep thought. "Did we eat the same thing?" he thought.

"Or could it be that he really does have a sensitive constitution?"

The judge trembled when he thought about that. The medical personnel was startled.

On the ground off to the side, Xu Xiaoshou continued trembling for a while before gradually regaining composure. Because of his experience with the Spiritual Cultivation Pill the previous time, he was actually much better off this time around.

1

Furthermore, the Red Gold Pill was ultimately a medicine used to treat injuries. The high only came in one wave. It came on fast, but it quickly went away.

2

He had to admit that while the side effects of the Breathing Technique were great, the effects of the technique were even greater!

"I seem to have mostly recovered. I still feel a little pain..." Xu Xiaoshou thought to himself.

The explosion of the dark energy left by the Great Darkness Calamity Fist was no laughing matter. His scalp still crawled when he thought about it. He didn't how he'd been so brave enough to hang on during that battle.

1

"Yes, there was nothing I could do besides try my best to hang on during that battle I think..." he thought.

Xu Xiaoshou flailed his arms and legs, forcefully trying to reenergize himself. He still had one more battle. He couldn't cool down.

The judge watched Xu Xiaoshou jump about and occasionally twitch. There was a doubtful look on his face.

1

"So that's the end of the matter?" he thought to himself.

Xu Xiaoshou leapt about and looked back, then waved his hands and thanked the spectators that loved him. He expressed his gratitude for their concern before returning to the notification panel in his mind.

1

"Passive Points: 10220."

Tsk tsk, it increased by over 3000 points!

"This is true love!" Xu Xiaoshou exclaimed as he walked into the barrier once again with trembling legs.

He had reached his quota for today. He might've even exceeded it.

The judge followed behind him like his personal bodyguard. "Are you ready for your next battle?" he asked nonchalantly.

"There's no rush. Let me rest for a while more. Give me some time, all right!"

Xu Xiaoshou took out a Spirit Crystal and whiffed it from time to time, trying his best to stay at peak condition.

4

Even though he had just gone through a rough battle and recovered from a severe injury, he could still use 60 to 70 percent of his powers, which was decent.

"All right!" the judge chuckled. "Then let's start. There's no time left anyway."

Xu Xiaoshou looked at the judge in shock. "You're a dog! Why did you even ask me if I wanted to start if we're out of time? Do you have to toy with people like that?"

1

The judge happily infused an array token with his spiritual source and activated the screen, a victorious smirk on his face at having achieved a small victory against Xu Xiaoshou.

1

The screen shimmered, and a name was selected.

“Wen Chong!”

Xu Xiaoshou looked at the judge, dumbfounded. “Wen Chong?” he thought. “You must be messing with me!”

The judge put his hands up as if to say that he had nothing to do with the matter, an innocent look on his face.

At the same time, the spectators immediately got into an uproar. The atmosphere had immediately become fired up by that name.

“My God, Wen Chong?!”

“This must’ve been rigged. That Xu Xiaoshou is so pitiful. Someone must’ve pulled this on him!”

“That’s right. He’s just gone through a battle of life and death, but in the end, he won’t even have the chance to rest before he has to face a boss who’s supposed to be the champion of an arena.”

“Champion of an arena?” Some people were excited, while others didn’t understand why everyone had suddenly gotten into an uproar. “Tell me quickly. What’s going on?”

“Do you know arena number two? Boss Wen was unlucky and was grouped with Zhao Qingteng during the group-stage competition. He got dominated. Zhao Qingteng became champion while he got second place.”

“Tsk, so what? Xu Xiaoshou is also a champion!”

“Zhao Qingteng is ranked second, an Innate-stage expert!”

“Boss Wen is ranked second and is half a step into the Innate Stage!”

“Sss! He’s that strong?”

“Hehe, do you think that’s all there is to it? No, no, no... That guy is the mortal enemy of Xu Xiaoshou!”

The person speaking was beating around the bush and whetting the appetite of the people around him.

“Stop beating around the bush. Tell us quickly!” the people off to the side said, impatient.

“Do you know Liu Zhen? The Level Ten who nearly made Xu Xiaoshou explode?!”

“Yes, yes!” Everyone nodded.

“He’s Wen Chong’s lackey!”

“Ssss!” The crowd gasped.

“That’s not all!” The speaker had a proud expression as he continued, “You know Di Xin’er, right? The girl who got hit on the head twice by Xu Xiaoshou with his wooden sword!”

1

“Yes, yes!”

He revealed the shocking news. “Wen Chong’s goddess!”

4

“Oh s***!”

“Intense!”

“Then Xu Xiaoshou is done for, darn it!”

Chapter 18: Surprise Attack

Thud! Thud!

There was the sound of heavy footsteps as a young man approached the arena.

He had a slender, well-proportioned body, and had thick brows and thin lips. He looked cunning and sinister.

He was the person ranked seventh on the Windcloud Scoreboard. The people of the outer yard called him Boss Wen. It was Wen Chong!

Xu Xiaoshou felt a powerful aura press against his fist. He knew that Wen Chong had a technique that required charging up. He might not be able to last one move against him if he allowed him to charge up his technique.

He took a whiff of the Spirit Crystal in his hand and chuckled slightly. “Hello, Junior!”

Wen Chong staggered he was so furious, and the pressure from his aura dissipated without Xu Xiaoshou having to do anything.

Even though his aura was powerful and extraordinary, he was still a junior who had entered the outer yard one year later than Xu Xiaoshou.

The crowd had been worried about how Xu Xiaoshou would be able to hold his own against Wen Chong’s powerful aura. They didn’t expect the lad to have an arsenal of devious techniques, each of them marvelously effective.

“I’m going to die laughing. I have to hand it to Xu Xiaoshou!”

2

“My God, he dares to speak like this in front of Boss Wen. My legs would’ve given out from under me if I were in that situation.”

“Haha, how do you think he’s managed to survive until now? Xu Xiaoshou is also rather powerful.”

In the arena, Wen Chong stared at Xu Xiaoshou with hawk-like eyes. “Xu Xiaoshou, you’re quite impressive. You dared to touch my person. You must be mentally prepared to die.”

2

Xu Xiaoshou knew who he was talking about. It was Liu Zhen. Everyone knew that!

He was secretly lamenting the situation. Why was he so unlucky? He just defeated the lackey, and now the boss had come without giving him time to recover first!

2

He couldn't help himself from turning around and shooting daggers at the judge.

Angry, the judge waved his hand and said furiously, "Battle, start!"

Xu Xiaoshou immediately put distance between them. Wen Chong's most powerful technique wasn't his aura. Instead, it was a spiritual technique by the name of "Shadow-Splitting Spiritual Technique."

2

The technique could conjure up to seven clones at once. This coupled with Wen Chong's dagger techniques meant that Xu Xiaoshou wouldn't be able to escape if he was caught in one of his attacks.

2

Even though the Shadow-Splitting Spiritual Technique was an Acquired-stage technique, its practicality could rival Innate-stage techniques.

A cold smile appeared on Wen Chong's face when he saw Xu Xiaoshou retreat. That was exactly what he wanted him to do.

The longer he charged up the Shadow-Splitting Spiritual Technique, the more clones he could conjure at one time. Since Xu Xiaoshou wanted to put more distance between them, he could use this opportunity to stall for time.

1

Wen Chong laughed coldly after he made a forceful hand gesture. Xu Xiaoshou would definitely die when he summoned his seven clones!

The candidates in the arena had still been rather noisy before the battle started. However, now they were deathly silent. It was a different story for the spectators in the spectator seats. They'd never stopped being noisy.

"Has Xu Xiaoshou gone insane? Doesn't he know that Boss Wen's Shadow-Splitting Spiritual Technique can also be charged? Is he putting distance between them to stall his death?"

"I heard that he only knows the White Cloud Sword Technique. Maybe he really doesn't know about Boss Wen's technique?"

"It's over, it's over. That lad will be torn into shreds after Boss Wen and his seven clones charge forward at the same time."

"That's right. He's not the only one with a ninth-grade spiritual weapon. Other people have one too! Like Boss Wen's pair of purple daggers. Tsk, tsk. Those are terrifying!"

“Look, Xu Xiaoshou’s still holding the wooden sword. F***, he, he closed his eyes?”

Liu Zhen had woken up after being cared for by the medical personnel. The moment he arrived at his spectator seats, he saw that the battle between the two candidates was about to break out.

His pupils dilated, not because of Wen Chong’s Shadow-Splitting Spiritual Technique, but because he saw the familiar sight of Xu Xiaoshou closing his eyes.

“That is... the sword technique that he didn’t manage to use at the final moments of the last battle?” he thought to himself.

“Both parties are going to reveal their trump cards at the start of the battle? Do they really need to be this restless?”

Xu Xiaoshou intended to do just that. His body was no longer capable of engaging in a drawn-out battle. Since both the Shadow-Splitting Spiritual Technique and the Fleeting White Cloud needed to be charged, then he was going to decide the battle with one attack!

However, to not injure his opponent, Xu Xiaoshou was using the wooden sword!

8

He was a caring candidate, always thinking about his opponent.

2

He had tested the wooden sword out yesterday. It had decent offensive capabilities. At the least, it could slice through the bark of a tree.

In reality, the strength of Fleeting White Cloud didn’t lie within the weapon but in the Sword Will!

On the other side, many illusory figures appeared around Wen Chong. No one dared to breathe. They knew that the battle would be decided in an instant.

The judge crouched down. Truth be told, people in this line of work feared these kinds of head-on battles the most.

But he wouldn’t be able to determine a winner if he didn’t allow the candidates to duke it out. However, someone might die if he allowed them to cross swords.

“Whoosh!”

The judge looked at Xu Xiaoshou and became immensely flustered when he saw his wooden sword, closed eyes, and his gradually fading aura.

“Try a little harder!” he thought.

“Don’t you have a ninth-grade spiritual sword? Take it out and use it!”

“I’ll be able to save you if you last against Wen Chong’s first charged attack!”

“Buzz!”

The crisp hum of a sword rang. Everyone grew tense as they looked at Xu Xiaoshou’s sword.

Hm, a wooden sword?

Were they hearing things?

Could it be Wen Chong's dagger that was trembling?

Everyone looked back in unison and saw the glimmer in Wen Chong's eyes as he charged forward, his body turning into a blur as he shifted and changed position, weaving between his clones to slice his dagger at Xu Xiaoshou.

He closed the distance...

Half the arena!

One meter!

Xu Xiaoshou... still had his eyes closed!

Everyone was cursing internally. He was about to die, yet he still hadn't opened his eyes. His eyes might stay shut forever if he didn't do something!

The judge instantly darted forward. Xu Xiaoshou must've gone mad. He was heavily injured and must have given up on the competition!

However, just as the two candidates were within inches of each other, Xu Xiaoshou suddenly opened his eyes. No one knew when he had moved the sword in his right hand!

This attack was extremely slow, like a fleeting white cloud, and instantly calmed down the restless spectators.

"Buzz!"

Another hum of a sword was heard. This time, everyone saw what happened. It was Xu Xiaoshou's wooden sword that was dancing with joy, not Wen Chong's dagger.

"A wooden sword?"

"What's happening?"

Everyone in the spectator seats was waiting for a reaction. However, they didn't expect themselves to be hit by the attack.

"Clang..."

This sound caused everyone's sword to tremble, as if the swords had been drawn by the Sword Will and connected as one.

This scene was incredibly familiar. All of the swordsmen at the scene involuntarily thought back to the unknown hum of a sword that had spread throughout the outer yard two days ago.

Could that have been caused by Xu Xiaoshou?

"This... How is this possible?"

“Am I seeing things?”

In the air, Xiao Qixiu’s eyes widened, and he grabbed onto his sword in shock.

Acquired-stage Sword Will?!

Was that really from Xu Xiaoshou?!

In the arena, after the buzzing sounded, Wen Chong immediately changed his plan of attack. He retreated while he was right under Xu Xiaoshou’s nose, then immediately got his seven clones to guard his front.

Clang, clang, clang...

The sword glow collided with the purple daggers, and the sound of metal against metal endlessly rang out.

Wen Chong was immensely shocked. That lad’s strike had created several hundred sword glows. It was a net of blades that looked extremely slow, but it blocked his opponent’s path of attack and forced him to retreat time after time.

“How could it be?”

“Didn’t that lad train his body? How could he have such a terrifying sword technique?”

Creak, creak, creak!

Wen Chong’s clones got diced one after the other, and thin sword marks had appeared on Wen Chong’s body. Fresh blood oozed out of his wounds!

Outside the arena, Liu Zhen was shocked. This sword technique...

He remembered that Xu Xiaoshou had been holding Hiding Pain during their battle. If he hadn’t activated the dark energy explosion to interrupt Xu Xiaoshou’s attack, he would’ve turned into mincemeat.

Sure enough, this lad was hiding his true strength, just like he’d expected!

In the arena, Wen Chong was forced back to his original position by the sword glows, and was close to being pushed out of the arena.

He put away his dagger and brought his arms in front of his chest. A barrier of spiritual energy shot out from within his body and instantly repelled all of the sword glows.

“Spirit Surge Barrier!”

The spiritual energy scattered, and Wen Chong’s pupils dilated.

Xu Xiaoshou’s fringe was swept upward with his forward momentum, and his wooden sword landed on Wen Chong’s throat.

“You lose.”

Gulp!

Wen Chong involuntarily swallowed. As his Adam's Apple bobbed, a bit of blood oozed from the wound left behind by the sword energy of the wooden sword.

His face was covered in blood, but they were all superficial wounds. He was still in peak condition. But he had lost.

One sword. One sentence.

The person ranked seventh on the Windcloud Scoreboard had been defeated!

The wind swept past the arena. It was silent in the spectator seats. The judge turned his head around in a daze.

Xu Xiaoshou withdrew his sword and turned around. He had to head back and recover. That sword technique had exhausted all of his spiritual power.

His legs were trembling...

"Tolerate it," he told himself. "You cannot fall. So many people are watching. You have to finish the act!"

3

Wen Chong's eyes were filled with indignance. Aside from the time they'd spent charging up their attacks, the battle only lasted a few seconds, yet he was defeated?

6

The person ranked seventh on the Windcloud Scoreboard, Boss Wen of the outer yard, had been defeated!

He didn't look back. Even though he was in the barrier, he still felt like he could hear the crowd's unfeeling laughter.

Even Liu Zhen was able to beat up Xu Xiaoshou in his battle, yet Boss Wen had been defeated in one move!

This Xu Xiaoshou had dared to tease Di Xin'er with a wooden sword, yet Boss Wen hadn't been able to do anything about it when he entered the field.

A fierce expression passed over Wen Chong's face!

The purple dagger that he'd tucked within his sleeves radiated a mysterious aura, and Wen Chong's turned into a blur once again as he charged toward Xu Xiaoshou!

3

"Careful!"

"Stop it, Wen Chong!"

"The battle has ended! It's ended!" the judge roared as he pounced forward. He didn't expect such an outcome to occur just because he'd been late in announcing the end of the match.

Anyone could see that Xu Xiaoshou had won. To think that Wen Chong would take action and launch a surprise attack!

He wouldn't be able to stop Wen Chong's attack in time!

"Got ambushed. Passive Points +1."

Xu Xiaoshou was greedy for Passive Points and was thus always paying some attention to the notification panel. When he saw this notification, he abruptly turned around to retaliate.

Creak!

Wen Chong's ninth-grade spiritual dagger fiercely pierced Xu Xiaoshou's shoulder, and blood sprayed everywhere.

Creak!

Xu Xiaoshou's right hand pierced through Wen Chong's chest straight to his heart!

20

Chapter 19: Murderous Intentions at Goose Lake

Xu Xiaoshou froze in shock!

1

The judge also froze in shock!

All of the rowdy, shouting spectators also froze in shock!

Even Xiao Qixiu, who was standing in the air, was a little stunned. He had shifted his attention to the other arenas when the battle ended, not expecting to see such a serious turn of events when he turned around again.

He remembered the words that he'd said before the competition started: "there are times when even the judges aren't paying attention." Had his words come true?

Everyone in the arena froze!

The corner of Wen Chong's lips twitched. He seemed to want to say something, but fresh blood flowed out of his mouth, and his eyes bulged. He froze and couldn't say anything for the longest time.

The ferocity in his eyes had disappeared, completely replaced with disbelief.

He lowered his head and looked at Xu Xiaoshou's arm, which had plunged straight through his chest to his heart. He was only able to see the elbow, which was dyed a stark red by his blood, as the rest was inside his chest.

1

"His hand?" he thought.

“Pierced through my chest?”

“How is that possible...”

The veins in the corner of Wen Chong’s eyes popped out from the intense pain.

1

He looked at Xu Xiaoshou with a quizzical look in his eyes, as if he wanted an answer.

Xu Xiaoshou could feel a squeezing sensation around his forearm. Thump thump, thump thump...

“Save him!” he roared. He didn’t know whether to pull his hand out or not at the moment.

8

Why had it come to this?

Xu Xiaoshou was flustered. He’d never killed anyone before. But he also hadn’t expected Wen Chong to charge forward and launch a surprise attack.

He had instinctually turned around because he trusted the hint given to him by the Passive System. He didn’t expect Wen Chong to run into the tip of his spear because he wanted to kill him.

“Why must you do this!” Xu Xiaoshou roared with fury. He took out a Red Gold Pill and stuffed it into Wen Chong’s mouth. Wen Chong seemed to be shaking his head, but it was so slight that it was almost indiscernible.

4

His lips were slightly parted. He never once closed them.

“Eat it!”

Xu Xiaoshou closed Wen Chong’s mouth with his left hand, trying to get Wen Chong to eat it and absorb the medicine so its effects would kick in. In the end, the pill fell out of Wen Chong’s mouth and onto the ground the moment he took his hand away.

Thud, thud...

He saw the red and gold-colored pill roll silently away and noticed that something had been lost along with the pill.

The judge walked over and pulled Xu Xiaoshou’s hand out of Wen Chong’s chest. “It’s useless,” he said calmly. “He’s dead!”

Xu Xiaoshou trembled. Dead?

Was even a Spiritual Cultivator’s life this fragile? They’d die from just one stab?

The judge couldn’t help but sigh when he saw the state Xu Xiaoshou was in, and he patted his shoulder, seemingly trying to console him.

“This is your first time killing someone?”

“Get used to it!”

3

He pulled out the dagger Wen Chong had left in Xu Xiaoshou’s shoulder and handed him a pill bottle as compensation for the Red Gold Pill he’d eaten of his earlier.

“Don’t worry. This isn’t your fault. He was wrong for initiating a surprise attack. If someone’s to blame, it’s me for being negligent.

“You’ll be all right. Go back and rest. Leave the rest to me.”

Xu Xiaoshou was in a daze. He looked at Wen Chong, who was now in the judge’s arms, and silently walked out of the arena, clutching his shoulders.

5

The spectators saw the melancholic, lost expression on his face, and didn’t dare to cause a loud commotion at the moment.

“He’s really dead?”

“I think this is the first death in the outer yard in a decade.”

“That’s right. The judges and candidates all knew when to stop during previous competitions. I really didn’t expect that this time... Boss Wen was too impulsive!”

“Xu Xiaoshou... My God, I really feel bad for him...”

Some people supported Xu Xiaoshou, but they made up the minority. Most of the other spectators were opposed to what he’d done.

“I can’t take it anymore. That Xu Xiaoshou still has such an indignant look after killing someone.”

“Boss Wen died such an indignant death! The judge didn’t call the match, so Boss Wen attacked within the parameters of the rules. How could Xu Xiaoshou dare to deal such a lethal blow?”

1

“I strongly suggest disqualifying Xu Xiaoshou from the competition. Disgusting!”

“That’s right. For him to deal such a lethal blow during a battle between members of the same faction. He’s a beast!”

Off to the side, the people who supported Xu Xiaoshou immediately became infuriated and stood up. “Nonsense!” they retorted.

“Anyone with eyes could see that Wen Chong lost. How would Wen Chong have been able to deal with Xu Xiaoshou if Xu Xiaoshou had been using his spiritual sword? Xu Xiaoshou had already held back!”

1

“Wen Chong’s sneak attack failed and he got stabbed by Xu Xiaoshou instead. Xu Xiaoshou even tried to give him medicine. Did you guys not see Xu Xiaoshou’s rare show of character?”

The people supporting Wen Chong laughed coldly and said, "The judge didn't announce the end of the match, so Wen Chong's attack was within the parameters of the rules. On the other hand, what Xu Xiaoshou did was completely unconscionable!"

"Unconscionable my foot, you bootlicker. Come over here!"

"Why? Bite me if you dare!"

"Argh!"

"Oh f***, loosen your jaw... Loosen your jaw, darn it!"

18

...

Goose Lake.

The clear waters reflected the sky, and plump geese played on the clouds reflected in the water.

This was a place with splendid scenery in the outer yard of the Tiansang Spirit Palace. The area was surrounded by hanging willows, and the lake was encircled by white railings that made a heart shape. The water of the lake was wonderfully clear and speckled with spiritual energy.

1

The creatures swimming around in the lake were spiritual geese that Elder Qiao reared. Their meat was plump and delicious. Xu Xiaoshou had been lucky enough to try them a few times.

On an average day, many people came to Goose Lake to train. However, because of the recent Windcloud Competition, there weren't many people there, and the area was exceptionally serene.

Xu Xiaoshou stood by the railings, his eyes full of despair.

1

Instead of returning to his yard, he'd gone to the place where he usually practiced his sword techniques.

This was the first time he couldn't feel excited after winning a battle. He didn't even bother to look at his Passive Points.

6

He had walked out of the arena and left the Chuyun Platform in a daze, wandering around before arriving at this place.

The sun was setting. Xu Xiaoshou had been here for a long time.

He tossed a stone into Goose Lake, and the surface of the lake rippled before becoming calm again.

"Perhaps this world is also the same. Life is like a stone. No matter how large it is, it doesn't create much of a ripple after it sinks into Goose Lake!"

2

Xu Xiaoshou exhaled and touched his right forearm, as if he could once again feel Wen Chong's final heartbeats.

Regret?

No!

Xu Xiaoshou didn't feel a tinge of regret even though he'd accidentally killed Wen Chong. Perhaps a better way to put it was that he'd been prepared for it.

Killing another person would become his new normal now that he'd arrived in this world.

6

Perhaps in the Tiansang Spirit Palace this wasn't so obvious, but Xu Xiaoshou wasn't that naive. This was merely the beginning.

The reason he was overcome with emotion and felt down was because of his compassion and thoughts about how fragile life was.

13

Perhaps life wasn't worth mentioning to the people on this continent. Perhaps he would hold the same view after today.

However, the current Xu Xiaoshou couldn't calm himself down for the longest time.

He'd been endlessly tortured in a white patient ward in his previous life. He still harbored the hope to live. It could be said that Xu Xiaoshou saw human life as much more precious than an average person in this world.

4

But now, he had personally destroyed one of those precious lives.

1

It was true that he had mentally prepared himself. But who wouldn't have been shaken at that turn in events?

That precious life was Boss Wen. However, in Xu Xiaoshou's eyes, he was just a brother who had some talent and was a little arrogant.

5

Even though Wen Chong had launched a surprise attack, it was possible that he'd had no intention of killing him.

5

"In the end, didn't he only pierce his dagger into my shoulder?"

1

“Perhaps...”

“I shouldn’t have killed him?”

Xu Xiaoshou shook his head and tossed this ridiculous thought out of his mind.

Since Wen Chon had dared to take action, he should have been prepared to face the consequences, even if those consequences were unbearable!

These words were intended for the dead Wen Chong, but they were also a word of caution for his future self.

1

Far away, the setting sun was devoured by the mountains on the horizon, and the sky turned dark. Everything became silent again.

There was a sudden ripple of spiritual energy at Goose Lake. It shocked all of the plump geese and caused the hanging willows to sway slightly.

Xu Xiaoshou breathed heavily. He had unknowingly broken through to Spiritual Cultivation Level Seven.

“Hah!”

He suddenly grabbed a rock and, with murderous intentions, tossed the rock at the flock of plump geese as if he were venting his frustrations.

A wave of water flew in all directions when the rock hit the lake, but it didn’t hit any of the geese.

Xu Xiaoshou sighed a sad sigh.

Ultimately, he’d still killed someone!

6

Chapter 20: Eating A Seed

7

Xu Xiaoshou stood next to Goose Lake the entire night.

The lake was always surrounded by insects during summer. Right now, a few of the insects that didn’t know their place wanted to use their meager powers to give Xu Xiaoshou some Passive Points.

However, their weak stingers could no longer pierce through Xu Xiaoshou’s body like before, as he’d since passed into the Innate-stage.

It was very cold at dawn. Xu Xiaoshou pulled his robes closer around himself. He had mostly calmed down and was going to leave the place.

He turned around and saw a withered face staring at him.

1

Xu Xiaoshou was startled.

This old man looked fine in every regard except the two scary dark circles under his eyes.

“You’re from the outer yard?”

The lips of the old man twitched into a smile as he said, “Young lad, aren’t you going to watch the Windcloud Competition?”

1

Xu Xiaoshou staggered backward a few steps, putting some distance between them. He felt that the old man’s voice was rather familiar.

“You are...”

Xu Xiaoshou tried to identify the old man. Wasn’t he the old man he’d come across during his arduous journey on his wobbly legs to the group-stage competition?

Was fate pushing them together?

The old man chuckled. He placed the straw hat in his hands onto his head, and Xu Xiaoshou instantly recognized him.

“Elder, you are...”

Xu Xiaoshou was doubtful. He could attribute one encounter to chance, but two encounters were too much of a coincidence.

Had this old man intentionally come looking for him?

The old man wearing the straw hat placed his hands behind his back and said, “You’re missing out. I heard that there are many talents in the recent Windcloud Competition.

“There was a young lad yesterday. I think his name was Xiaoshou?”

“He even killed someone. Tsk tsk. These young people sure are brazen!”

Xu Xiaoshou’s expression darkened. “Why did you have to go and mention that?” he thought. “The killer is standing right in front of you!”

However, the old man didn’t seem to recognize him. “That’s all right though,” he continued. “I’m not here to find him. I’m here to find you!”

“I am...” Xu Xiaoshou started to say, but the old man reached a hand out to stop him.

“I know you!”

“Old Xiao and Old Qiao told me that another swordsman who mastered the Acquired-stage Sword Will appeared in the outer yard two days ago.

“But I like you the most!”

Xu Xiaoshou couldn't take it anymore. "You're talking a bunch of nonsense!" he thought. "You mentioned four people, two of whom are me!"

"I am..."

"Hey!" The old man glared at him, signaling for a young man like him to not be that impatient and allow him to finish saying his piece.

"Hey hey, you have an Innate-stage physical body. I'm not wrong, am I!"

"I've been searching for you for a few days now. I looked all around the outer yard but didn't expect you to be admiring the geese here. You sure live up to the admiration I hold for you..."

"You know how to have fun!"

Xu Xiaoshou secretly rolled his eyes. "How is that fun? I was thinking about life, not admiring the geese.

"What's there to admire about these plump geese? They make for better eating."

"I came here last night and watched you!"

The old man's words shocked Xu Xiaoshou. "Last night?" he thought. "I didn't notice you!"

He secretly observed the old man and realized that he couldn't see his aura. It was as though a normal old man was standing in front of him.

But how was that possible?

An ordinary old man in the Tiansang Spirit Palace?

This person was definitely a boss!

He secretly pondered the situation. He didn't know why such an important person would come looking for him. Was it because of his Innate-stage physical body?

Fun, body, secretly observing...

3

Xu Xiaoshou shivered. Why did he feel that something was wrong?

2

The old man didn't notice Xu Xiaoshou acting strangely and continued talking with his hands behind his back. "I observed you for an entire night. Good lad, you have great resolve!"

"You didn't move an inch even after being bitten by insects and hearing the sinister, eerie howls in the area. You didn't even look back."

1

"I have to admit that you're a lot like me when I was young!"

2

Xu Xiaoshou staggered backward. He remembered that he'd frequently felt a chill on his neck during the night, as if someone were breathing behind him....

A person really had been breathing behind him?

He suddenly felt scared. He'd felt tired after thinking about life and coming to a critical realization, and he'd dozed off while he was standing. How did he not notice this old man?

1

Now that he thought about it, his notification panel also hadn't indicated that there was anything like a surprise attack or a threat. It had failed in its job!

"This can't do. I honestly have to go back to my yard to sleep in the future.

"I shouldn't stand around outside in the future. Otherwise, I might die without even knowing how!"

The old man couldn't help but nod with satisfaction. He observed Xu Xiaoshou from head to toe, then suddenly asked, "I've talked for so long. Do you have anything you want to say?"

Xu Xiaoshou was confused.

He said with a steely-green expression, "Weren't you the one who stopped me from speaking?"

"Did I?"

"Didn't you?"

"Think about it again. Did I?"

Xu Xiaoshou wanted to retort but suddenly thought back to their interaction. The old man only stopped him with his gaze and his hand. He hadn't said anything.

He said in frustration, "I've disappointed you, elder!"

"The brazen young murderer that you talked about is me. The one who mastered the Sword Will is also me. The person with the Innate-stage physical body... Yes, that's also me!"

"Also, my name is Xu Xiaoshou!"

He paused for a moment, then continued, "I have to attend the Windcloud Competition now, not as a spectator. Goodbye!"

Even though he didn't know why the old man had come, it was best not to offend him. It was best for him to run.

"Wait!"

The old man grabbed him. He had immense power, and his grip made Xu Xiaoshou's wrist hurt.

"Elder, let me go! I wouldn't taste good! I didn't even take a shower last night!"

2

The old man's eyes twitched. "Why are you talking about eating? Aren't pills delicious enough to eat? Why would I eat you?"

"Good grief!"

He once again looked Xu Xiaoshou up and down. "Are you really a genius?"

Xu Xiaoshou glanced at the notification panel and saw that he hadn't been doubted. He said with a nasal tone, "You've already believed me, so why are you asking me that question?"

"Good lad!"

The old man cracked a smile. "You have such a confident tone. You're like me. I bet I wouldn't be wrong if I picked you to win the Windcloud Competition!"

He took out a red seed-like item from his pocket and handed it over to Xu Xiaoshou, "Eat it!"

2

Xu Xiaoshou almost peed his pants. What was that!

"This messed-up old man must be sick in the head," he thought. "He caused such a fuss when he suddenly appeared and now he wants me to eat a seed?"

"I swear, I, Xu Xiaoshou, will never loiter out here in the future!"

Must I have a wretched life! Must I lose my innocence because of a dead Wen Chong?

"Eat it!" the old man said authoritatively when he saw Xu Xiaoshou's pleading gaze. "It'll be fine. It might be a little painful, but with your Innate-stage physical body, it'll be over after you bear with it for a while."

2

"I'm begging you to stop talking!" he thought, and almost kneeled. "It was fine when you didn't say anything about it, but now that you've said this, even the flame of hope in my heart has gone cold!"

1

He was forced to take the red-colored seed that was about the size of a fingernail, and found that it was unexpectedly hot in his hand.

Xu Xiaoshou was shocked. He had an Innate-stage physical body. Wouldn't the seed have dissolved and fallen through an ordinary person's hand?

He glanced at the old man in the straw hat again and noticed that he was looking at him rather expectantly. "Eat it! It's delicious!"

2

He was definitely an important person, so there was no need for him to use poison or aphrodisiacs to toy around with him...

Hm?

Xu Xiaoshou felt bitter. Even though he was handsome, he wasn't so handsome that someone would fall head over heels for him and do anything within their means to get him.

1

"I'll go all out!" he thought.

"Gulp!"

Xu Xiaoshou felt as though he were consuming poison. He swallowed the seed with a look of despair, then looked to the old man. "What's next?"

"Next?" he asked.

"There is no next!"

The old man let out a wretched laugh, then vanished without a trace.

F***!

Xu Xiaoshou was about to explode with anger. "What is this?"

"You give me an unknown item, ask me to eat it, and then leave after I eat it..."

"You left!"

"You really left!"

Xu Xiaoshou was manic. He swore that he would immediately use his Fleeting White Cloud if he ever saw the old man again. He would teach him what the words "there's no next" really meant!

2

The next second, Xu Xiaoshou felt his entire face turn red, and his entire body became hot.

Even his face was trembling.

"I'm finished!"

"My body, my body feels strange..."

"What kind of strange sensation is this!?"

Xu Xiaoshou was shocked. "Did that old man leave to call someone over!?"

7

"Help!"

"I'm not worth it! Help!"