I Am Loaded 231

Chapter 231: Go Get Him, Xu Xiaoshou!

Two figures were flying through the sky. One of them tall and the other short; like a father with his son.

“This is too much! It is too damn much!”

Ye Xiaotian’s silver hair billowed as he flew, somewhat unsteadily the whole way.

“Well, he is not a spy. So why bother being picking on him? I’d say being able to cart away that many treasures only shows he’s something to be reckoned with, wouldn’t it?”

Qiao Qianzhi held onto the fuming Ye Xiaotian for fear that the young-looking man would crash into something while in flight.

After steadying the young man, he spread his hands and continued to speak.

“Think about it. Having one such exceptional disciple in the Spirit Palace means that the Spirit Palace is getting prosperous and heading for greater growth, right?”

It is just four world-stabilizing treasures. What is the big deal, eh?”

When the White Cave opens again, we will only need to fight with the other Spirit Palace, and we will certainly get back what has been lost.”

“Do not say that number, four, to my face!” Ye Xiaotian shouted, unable to contain his rage.

Four world-stabilizing treasures, g*dd*mn*t!

It meant Xu Xiaoshou had removed one-third of what was sustaining the world of Tianxuan Gate, and digging those treasures out had messed up the training grounds as well. Few could accept what Xu Xiaoshou had done.

“Xu Xiaoshou,” Ye Xiaotian mumbled under his breath, then continued in an icy tone, “We must have someone keep a close eye on him and not let him mess anything up anymore.”

“Yes, we should.”

Qiao Qianzhi patted the fuming silver-haired kid by his side, calming the “boy” down.

He picked up a few fat geese that flew past them when they got above the Goose Lake.

“Come on, let us have some roasted goose.”

Ye Xiaotian was in no mood for food. He was feeling rather dazed, with his head still throbbing.

“This cannot do. I have to think of a way to get him out of the Spirit Palace. Not even Elder Sang can stop me!”

“There is no need to do that.”

Qiao Qianzhi waved his hand dismissively as he spoke. Then, a man dressed in black came before the two of them when he was about to say something.

“Dean Ye, Elder Qiao!”

Ye Xiaotian regained his composure in an instant and asked with an impassive expression on his face. “What is the matter?”

Huff!

“Xu Xiaoshou…” muttered the panting man in black, who had made his way to them in a rush. He was out of breath, which kept him from finishing a sentence in one breath.

“What is with Xu Xiaoshou?”

Ye Xiaotian’s heart sank.

No!

Just how long had he left the place? What was it this time?

“Xu Xiaoshou… he, he is going to fight Zhang Xinxiong in the Ring of Life and Death!”

The message felt like a bolt of lightning, striking them both and charring them inside out.

Ye Xiaotian was momentarily stunned, and it took a little while before he questioned what he had just heard.

His hair billowed wildly the very next second, and he became infuriated.

“What did you just say?”

…

[Ring of Life and Death]

The ring took up an extraordinarily enormous volume of space. The area was so vast that its size was more than double the space of the arena where the Wind and Cloud Contest in the Outer Yard had taken place.

That was the only ring found in the entire Inner Yard.

It was a ring where contestants could not surrender once they got into it to fight.

One party had to die.

There was quite a crowd gathering around the ring. There were not all that many disciples in the Inner Yard. Perhaps a little over a hundred, and almost all of them showed up at the place.

“Man, this is the show of the year! The Big Brother of the Outer Yard versus the Big Brother of the Inner Yard. What more can you ask for!”

“This Xu Xiaoshou has guts. I thought he was just saying it for whatever reasons. I never expected him to take it to the ring, and he sure looks like he knows what he is doing.”

“I bet his legs are already wobbling so bad that he can hardly stand. He is just faking it now.”

“Hmph, what the hell do you know, eh? Do you even dare to get up there in the first place? He has earned my respect from just that one act alone.”

“Huh? Zhou Tianshen? Are you not a friend of Xu Xiaoshou? Why aren’t you telling him not to do this?”

“…”

The one-armed Zhou Tianshen was holding his blade as his newly cut short hair billowed in the wind.

He had awakened from Xu Xiaoshou’s talk about his death match and was very clear of mind at the moment.

Zhou Tianshen looked at the young man standing in the ring with his robes flapping in the wind. When he had heard what those around him had said, he could not help staying silent on the question.

Zhang Xinxiong could throw his weight around with just his intimidating presence alone. Zhou Tianshen never gave in to him, even with his knees were shaking and his feet stuck to the ground. He had made a vow after the incident.

He was determined to strengthen himself as much as he could within a year and then cut Zhang Xinxiong down.

It was what led him to the Slaughter Cape in the Tianxuan Gate, with no concern for the consequences. He wanted to hone his body to the maximum.

However, at that moment, in less than one-tenth of the period that Zhou Tianshen had given himself to improve, Xu Xiaoshou was already standing opposite Zhang Xinxiong.

Regardless of whether Xu Xiaoshou ended up winning or losing, the unyielding nature and martial bearing of Xu Xiaoshou had awed Zhou Tianshen. So much so that he had developed quite an affection—oops, respect for the man.

Stay alive, Xu Xiaoshou! Zhou Tianshen cheered inwardly for the underdog.

“Hey, why aren’t you saying anything?” Someone by his side nudged him a little. “Get up there and tell him to calm down and he might just be able to evade what is coming to him.”

Huh!

Zhou Tianshen snorted. What, tell him to back off?

Is it even possible?

He recalled the time he had fought against Xu Xiaoshou and felt his heart racing and blood boiling. In a sudden rush of inspiration, Zhou Tianshen shouted out at the top of his lungs.

“Fearing an enemy before a fight is taboo in the face of a foe. Running without fighting brings shame to the identity of a spirit cultivator. Surrendering is the disgrace of one’s life!”

“Xu Xiaoshou, go get him!”

The shout had almost snuffed out all the chatter below the ring. Even Xu Xiaoshou, who was facing up against Zhang Xinxiong, looked startled.

He turned around and saw Zhou Tianshen taking into the air as his short hair billowed.

The stout man pounded on his chest with his right hand and pointed at Xu Xiaoshou, giving him a look and gesture as if to say, ” I’ve got your back.”

Xu Xiaoshou looked rather stunned.

“Man, this is just so childish.”

But Xu Xiaoshou got riled up all the same.

He quickly spun around, fearing that he would get affected by Zhou Tianshen.

He needed to fight the battle with no distractions.

Zhang Xinxiong was anything but ordinary. He made a breakthrough to Master level three years ago and it meant that Xu Xiaoshou could not afford to judge his opponent by the level of his powers alone.

“Are you both ready?”

Zhao Xidong looked at the two of them, and his eyes fell on Xu Xiaoshou’s face. He moved his lips and was about to talk Xu Xiaoshou out of the duel at the last minute.

But then, Xu Xiaoshou posed a challenge to his opponent in a very excited voice. “Zhang Xinxiong, have you prepared to meet your doom?”

Damn!

Zhao Xidong hesitated and eventually decided against talking Xu Xiaoshou out of it.

Zhang Xinxiong shot a look at the man standing across from him. Then he glanced at Zhou Tianshen before smirking and muttering under his breath, “Two damned lunatics.”

“Begin!”

Zhao Xidong waved and immediately backed away.

There was no need for a referee in the duel.

Hah!

Xu Xiaoshou behaved as if he was possessed, and instantly charged at Zhang Xinxiong with his fist clenched without saying a word.

“He is trying to fight Zhang Xinxiong physically? Is he nuts?”

Some spectators seated below the ring looked positively stunned. They thought Xu Xiaoshou would have at least done his homework if he dared to fight Zhang Xinxiong.

However, judging by the looks of things, that did not seem to be the case.

To the spectators, Xu Xiaoshou looked like he got into the ring because he got too excited about the idea of fighting.

“Oh sh*t, he is a goner!”

“While Xu Xiaoshou has Innate Level Physique, Zhang Xinxiong has the backing of the exceptionally rare Ancestral Bear Bloodline! His physical prowess alone would be more than a match for Xu Xiaoshou.”

“If he were to activate his bloodline powers, the fight would end straight away!”

Zhang Xinxiong glared haughtily as Xu Xiaoshou charged at him.

“Fool!”

After he ridiculed his opponent, Zhang Xinxiong slowly raised his arm to remove his cape. The specter of a black bear appeared right behind him.

The specter was remarkably tall and measured over a dozen meters in height. It began roaring at the Heavens.

To see such a gigantic bear standing behind Zhang Xinxiong, already a giant himself, was undoubtedly a daunting sight. It was so intimidating that the spectators backed away in fear.

Zhang Xinxiong clenched his fist as Xu Xiaoshou reached the halfway mark. The black bear behind him roared mightily.

ROARRR!

The ring shook. Pieces started falling apart, and huge rocks were sent flying all over the place.

Chapter 232: Young Master Zhang was Knocked Away?

“Oh, my goodness!”

Xu Xiaoshou looked startled.

This place was not the Chuyun Platform, that was enveloped by a barrier. Here, Xu Xiaoshou could still receive real-time feedback from the spectators at the bottom of the ring.

As a result, he had heard the talk about the Ancestral Bloodline of the Xiong Family.

To everyone’s astonishment, even facing the formidable Zhang Xinxiong, the young man, who looked weak in comparison, displayed neither hesitation nor timidness. Xu Xiaoshou was moving forward courageously!

A real man never retreated!

BANG!

When the two fists clashed, flashes of lightning seemed to flash from the two striking fists, making the vast space shake.

The next moment, the crowd could hear the ring of explosions in their ears, as if they had problems with their ears.

BOOM!

At the point where the two fists clashed, a horrific surge of shock waves gradually expanded in the shape of a ball. It was as if a bomb had detonated on the spot.

Along with the sound of the blast, a deep crater was formed in the competition platform under the feet of the two competitors.

As the shock wave billowed outward, the spectators below the competition platform fell to the ground.

Zhou Tianshen, who was hovering in the air, was the first one swept away by the shock wave!

He finally stabilized his body after tumbling through a dozen somersaults in the air. It was then that he looked down in shock.

The two competitors stood separated on the platform. However, the scene differed somewhat from what he had imagined.

Xu Xiaoshou had only staggered back a few steps, but Zhang Xinxiong flew back more than several dozens of feet!

Zhou Tianshen was stunned by what he saw.

“What is this?”

He was not the only one who had such thoughts. The spectators below the platform were just as astonished by the outcome of the colliding fists as well.

“What? Has Young Master Zhang been knocked back?”

“My goodness. Just how far has Xu Xiaoshou cultivated his Innate Level body? How on earth did he even blow away someone like Young Master Zhang?”

“Look, guys! Young Master Zhang’s hand is bleeding!”

The crowd strained to look when they heard this. Everyone saw that Zhang Xinxiong had steadied himself after landing on the competition platform. A long furrow was gouged along the floor where his body had slid from the impact.

His right hand, which he used to smash into Xu Xiaoshou’s fist, was not only bleeding but the wrist was dislocated.

It appeared his fingers had been fractured from the impact of the strike! They looked twisted as blood dripped from them.

Hiss!

Everyone felt chills running down their spines. They turned to look at Xu Xiaoshou and saw that he was still looked excited and raring to go.

When Xu Xiaoshou noticed the spectators turning their attention to him, he quickly got a hold of himself. He put on a stony expression on his face.

Suddenly, he waved the sleeve of his robe and turned his thumb up at his opponent, and wiggled it.

“Zhang Xinxiong, you fought very well!”

The spectators became more excited when they witnessed the underdog fighter making such a provocative gesture.

From the outcome of the clash, everyone suddenly realized that perhaps Xu Xiaoshou had a trump card hidden in his sleeve. Or else, why would he have dared to take on Zhang Xinxiong.

Zhang Xinxiong had a grave expression on his face.

“The body of a Master?”

Though he still could not believe it, he thought that the horrific blow he had received earlier was not a punch someone with the Innate Level body should have been able to deliver.

Importantly, he noted that the ordinary fist punch executed by Xu Xiaoshou had an abnormally strong Recoil force.

It was a remarkably profound spiritual skill!

It is a technique at the Master Level, at least!

“Xu Xiaoshou,” Zhang Xinxiong growled as he narrowed his eyes. He had to admit that he had been careless in the first exchange of strikes.

He could not treat the lad as an ordinary Outer Yard disciple. The lad was someone who could hold off him just by using his physical strength alone!

He was a wolf in sheep’s clothing. A wolf of wolves!

“It turns out that you are someone who tries to eat a tiger by disguising as a pig. I guess no one in this Spirit Palace has noticed your disguise yet!” shouted Zhang Xinxiong as he stood up again. His eyes glared at his opponent with dread.

Xu Xiaoshou shook his head. With a serious expression on his face, he replied, “No, you are wrong.”

“First, there are many people in the Spirit Palace who can recognize talents at first glance. You are nothing but an arrogant man who sits at the bottom of a well, watching the sky.”

“Second, I am not pretending to be a pig. However, you are a cat pretending to act like a tiger!”

The crowd stood aghast when they heard his mocking words. Many rubbed their eyes to check if they were actually looking at the person they knew to be Xu Xiaoshou. They realized what they were witnessing right then was the true nature of the man.

No way! Was this guy the real Xu Xiaoshou?

Why was he so short-tempered? He even dared to belittle Zhang Xinxiong repeatedly… Is he high on drugs?

“Very good!”

Even if Zhang Xinxiong knew it was a scheme, his pride still made it difficult for him to control his anger.

He hunched his back, and the enormous specter of the black bear behind him entered his body with a swooshing sound.

Soon after, Zhang Xinxiong's body and muscles expanded and he grew much broader and taller.

"Ancestral Bloodline of the Xiong Family, open up!"

Everyone was rather surprised to see Zhang Xinxiong summoning the Ancestral Bloodline of the Xiong Family after just one clash. It showed that he thought highly of Xu Xiaoshou.

But was Xu Xiaoshou that strong an opponent?

It was a fact that it was never easy for people to look beyond the stereotype of Xu Xiaoshou as a weakling.

Even after everyone had witnessed Xu Xiaoshou knocking down his opponent with a single punch, they did not believe that someone with a mere Innate body deserved such respect from Zhang Xinxiong.

The two fighters on the platform had no such thoughts at all. Both of them were trying their best to kill each other.

As he saw the change in Zhang Xinxiong's body, Xu Xiaoshou told himself that it was not a good sign.

Xu Xiaoshou finally mobilized the surging spiritual energy in his body. The compressed spiritual energy immediately burst as he lowered his eyebrows.

"Infernal Heavens!"

He could not achieve the result of burning the sky and boiling the sea in the way Elder Sang could do. However, the impact of his execution cracked the Life and Death platform. The stone slabs started cracking and the platform burst apart from the intense heat.

Puff! Puff!

As soon as Zhang Xinxiong had finished transforming his shape, he felt a sharp pain in his body. He detected a waft of burnt flesh, and he felt a burning sensation deep into his lungs and throughout his entire body.

He hurriedly employed his spiritual source to resist, but his spiritual energy was instantly incinerated!

"What the hell is this? The Ancestral Body of the Xiong Family cannot even resist it."

Zhang Xinxiong could not even see clearly at that moment. He glared at Xu Xiaoshou and realized he could not delay things any further.

Swoosh!

He sped away so swiftly that his figure became an illusory image and gradually faded away.

Before the crowd knew what was happening, Zhang Xinxiong had already appeared above Xu Xiaoshou's head!

"Such tremendous speed!"

Everyone dropped their jaws and was amazed by the speed that had surpassed the Innate level. It could easily match someone at the Master level in the least!

While the crowd could not keep up with the speed of Zhang Xinxiong's movements, Xu Xiaoshou was keeping track of every one of his moves.

He watched as the enormous body sped toward him, reminding him of Yuan Tou. Xu Xiaoshou did not back away. Instead, he approached the oncoming body with his fist.

Zhang Xinxiong sneered when he saw what Xu Xiaoshou intended to do. The physical impact was what he was aiming for!

How was possible that the body of the Xiong Family could not be weaker than Xu Xiaoshou?

The two fists clashed again. Upon impact, the layer of spiritual source wrapping around Zhang Xinxiong's fist broke open, exposing the violent black energy inside.

The concentrated power on the fist was like a black snake encircling it. The explosive energy it contained did not belong to Xu Xiaoshou's Seeds on All Five Fingers at all!

The Master Spiritual Technique!

"The Heavenly Black Explosion!"

"What nonsense!" Xu Xiaoshou did not panic. He immediately inhaled deeply, dissipating the black energy on the fist of his opponent.

Zhang Xinxiong looked confused.

What the hell was this devilish technique?

He looked dumbfounded. Suddenly, Zhang Xinxiong felt the strange overpowering spiritual energy within his body and rushed to suppress it. It was then that he saw Xu Xiaoshou giving a gentle puff to the fist.

BOOM!

With the body of a Master and full strength of the thrusting fist behind it, the Recoil force had smashed the platform under Xu Xiaoshou's feet into smithereens!

A spiraling shock wave shot up into the sky. As Zhang Xinxiong dropped from the sky from that force, he only remained for less than a second in front of Xu Xiaoshou before he got thrown back into the air once again.

"Urgh!"

Blood spurted out and bones cracked audibly. The sight and sound of the assault left everyone awed and dumbfounded.

Did an ant knock the giant out?

Zhao Xidong looked stunned and could not believe his eyes. He had planned to protect Xu Xiaoshou at the end of the duel.

The last thing he expected was that the fight would be lopsided.

From beginning to end, Zhang Xinxiong was on the losing side!

What the hell!

Snap!

Before Zhao Xidong could finish his thoughts, he saw Xu Xiaoshou turn around, smile slightly at the crowd, and then snap his fingers.

: Suspected, passive points, 78.

With the crowd still abuzz after what they saw happen, Zhang Xinxiong was still soaring up in the air, when he started trembling uncontrollably. His legs suddenly tensed up as his body went into spasms.

Suddenly, several loud explosions echoed above them.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Chapter 233: The Broadsword Beheads Xiong

“Holy sh*t!”

Everybody looked astonished when they saw a mist of blood in the sky and the occasional pieces of flesh falling to the ground.

The giant Zhang Xinxiong met the fate of being punished by Xu Xiaoshou’s Infernal Heavenly Flames.

Everyone there could not help recalling the night when Chao Su died. If they were to compare the scenes, it was like a display of fireworks during the night being more appealing than one during the day.

But the one in the sky was different this time, and the shock the crowd felt was indescribable!

Everyone felt a sudden tightness in their chests as they watched Xu Xiaoshou smiling slightly on the competition platform.

He was a demon!

He had used the Heavenly flames on someone after a minor argument. They wondered if they could still enjoy watching the full moon without thinking of the incident.

“Hm?”

Then, Xu Xiaoshou, who was still on the platform, suddenly wiggled his ears. He heard a suppressed groan.

In a split second, he disappeared from the platform after shaking his body once, leaving a vague image of his figure on the spot where he had stood.

The speed at which he executed the move was not in the least inferior to how swiftly Zhang Xinxiong had moved earlier.

The people under the platform realized the situation had changed. After scanning the place with their spiritual thoughts, they sensed a long-haired monster standing on the spot where Zhang Xinxiong's body had fallen.

The giant Zhang Xinxiong in his original form was already quite terrifying, and presently, his body had transformed again.

Along with the coarse and thick black hair that had grown, the size of his body was now even more massive. The unusual clothes he had worn on his body cracked open as if the shadow of the black bear they had seen earlier suddenly materialized.

"He has swallowed the blood?"

Xu Xiaoshou narrowed his eyes as he recalled the drop of divine blood which Yuan Tou had swallowed back then.

Could it be that Zhang Xinxiong had provided the item? His body transformed after he swallowed it.

It was probably the case. Through Perception, Xu Xiaoshou had seen Zhang Xinxiong blown into pieces.

Taking another look at Zhang Xinxiong, Xu Xiaoshou could see that his opponent had undergone a complete resurrection. Other than the divine blood, nothing else could achieve this.

Xu Xiaoshou appeared in front of the red-eyed monster who stood on the platform and thrust his fist toward it.

In size comparison, Xu Xiaoshou's body was merely the same as an arm of his opponent. However, he had the body of a Master, and that was hard to combat.

BANG!

Hearing a muffled sound coming from the rear, the giant black bear turned his head and grabbed Xu Xiaoshou. The blood and pink flesh on his palm seemed to have remarkable power, and it could diffuse Xu Xiaoshou's force.

Xu Xiaoshou was a little shocked by the outcome.

"Bear… The bear palm?"

Poof! Although it was a little inappropriate at that moment, many people in the arena laughed aloud.

Zhang Xinxiong's palm had lost human form, and it now looked like a pink and tender palm of a bear's paw.

Suddenly, the laughter stopped. Zhang Xinxiong forcefully thrust with his palm, and Xu Xiaoshou, whose fist was in his grasp, was blasted away like a cannonball.

BANG!

As his body sailed back, a mist of blood burst from Xu Xiaoshou's body, demonstrating just how horrifying the force of the throw was.

"As expected, it is indeed the Ancestral Bloodline of the Xiong Family!"

Xu Xiaoshou's heart skipped a beat. He wondered if the power of his Master body had somehow been suppressed.

The guy's physique was now altered!

But only a little!

The injuries on his body were not serious. They were quickly neutralized by his passive techniques and healed quickly.

Zhang Xinxiong had intended to emulate Xu Xiaoshou and wanted to launch a series of strikes. Instead, he found himself in a predicament after his forceful strike.

He was knocked back through the air!

But he flew in the opposite direction toward a pit in the earth!

"What the hell is this spiritual skill?" Zhang Xinxiong yelled in astonishment. Although he was in a red-eyed state, he still had his human senses with him.

The present situation was the worst he had ever encountered. When Xu Xiaoshou struck him, Xu did it effortlessly. But when he attacked Xu, the kid resisted him all the time.

It was most annoying!

The Recoil force on his body finally subsided. Zhang Xinxiong bent his legs and launched himself out of the dark pit. He wanted to pummel Xu Xiaoshou to death.

Unexpectedly, before he could move, he saw five beans streaking with violent energy toward his face.

Zhang Xinxiong was frozen in shock.

He almost went mad at that point.

What technique was it this time?

Although he got hammered by the Recoil, his powerful strike should have at least inflicted some injuries on Xu Xiaoshou. Should he not lose his ability to retaliate?

How could someone, who was merely in the early stage of Origin Court, repeatedly launched such terrifying explosive flame seeds?

Did he get his spiritual energy for free?

This is not freaking fair!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The ear-splitting explosions had drowned out his thoughts. It was not until all the five compressed flame seeds had exploded that the crowd could feel their terrifying power.

Like being at the epicenter of an earthquake, they felt the ground shake violently, and a thousand crevasses appeared in the dark pit.

The Life and Death Platform could not withstand the force, and it blew up.

The spectators were in a worse condition. They were falling on one another in their haste to get airborne.

The effects of the earthquake gradually subsided. Those from the Outer Yard and far away from the epicenter were vaguely aware of the tremors or that something had gone wrong in the Spirit Palace that day.

Xu Xiaoshou stood with his brows furrowed.

He saw through his Perception the merging of flesh and blood as his opponent's recovery process was going on at a frantic pace. The skill did not appear to be inferior to his Eternal Vitality.

"Isn't this annoying?"

Xu Xiaoshou finally experienced the feeling of helplessness that his opponents had when facing him. Zhang Xinxiong's recovery was so swift that Xu Xiaoshou figured his small fireball technique was not effective enough to kill his opponent at all!

"He is far more powerful and skilled than Yuan Tou."

Xu Xiaoshou remembered Yuan Tou. However, the two of them were undoubtedly not at the same level.

It looked like Zhang Xinxiong became stronger each time he recovered. It seemed his body could adapt as soon as he reached a new threshold of punishment.

Even if the Infernal Heavenly Flame had burned uninterruptedly, Xu Xiaoshou would still have difficulty combating such a quick rate of recovery.

"I cannot let the fight go on for too long!"

Xu Xiaoshou decided he had to end the duel quickly. The five compressed flame seeds were the most severe damage he could inflict. His other techniques were not as powerful.

If here were to use those techniques, he would merely allow his opponent time to recuperate!

He watched Zhang Xinxiong stand up with hatred on his face. Xu Xiaoshou lowered his body slightly and put his hand on his bosom.

"Zhang Xinxiong, let us have a showdown!"

Zhang Xinxiong felt so mortified that he had almost lost his temper. He paid no attention to Xu Xiaoshou and took a deep breath. His aura of Master had risen at that moment.

The outcome of the fighting had made him go mad. None of his techniques had been adequate throughout the duel, and he was repeatedly stymied.

He had not experienced such a level of embarrassment for many years.

He felt the urge to pull the people floating in the air down to the ground. His frustration drove him crazy.

The barrier for cultivation could no longer hold. It snapped open suddenly. Zhang Xinxiong's energy, like the flood breaking through a dam, was rising nonstop.

The outflow of his dark force spread like dark clouds over the sky, and as it gradually descended, it forced the spectators down. Everyone looked stunned.

"Is it the Master level?"

Xu Xiaoshou felt a chill running down his back.

Xu Xiaoshou might claim that he was invincible at the Innate Level. But it was difficult to predict his fate if his opponent had broken through the Master Level.

"Ma Ma."

Jie was becoming impatient. Xu Xiaoshou immediately pulled him from his robe and threw him into the air.

"Go ahead, Pika Jie. Chop him up for me!"

"What the hell is that?" The crowd started droning, feeling a little petrified at what other tricks Xu Xiaoshou had hidden up his sleeves.

While facing Zhang Xinxiong, who had progressed into the Tiansang Level of Master, all Xu Xiaoshou did was throw out an iron ball?

Is the guy desperate?

Is he trying to attack a bear with a stone?

Zhang Xinxiong had mockery in his eyes. He thought his opponent had merely thrown out an iron block!

He felt a surge of relief throughout his body the moment he entered the Master level. Then he attuned his anguish to the Heavenly Dao into a roar that resonated throughout the sky.

ROARRR!

The spectators were all shocked by the noise and staggered backward. But the black iron ball was unaffected and came straight down.

The speed of the descending ball was neither fast nor slow.

Zhang Xinxiong did not even bother to look at it. He fixed his eyes on the person in the air, the hatred in his eyes growing.

He had to unseal the cultivation level, which he had concealed for three years. He did it ahead of time because of Xu Xiaoshou.

It was destiny that he would have nothing to do with the Eastern Heavenly King City.

Zhang Xinxiong gritted his teeth and then slapped the ground with his palm. His entire body launched into the air.

"Xu Xiaoshou, your time to die has come!"

Kah!

The black iron ball floating between the big black bear and Xu Xiaoshou quivered once, and the obscure markings on it lit up.

Suddenly, the iron ball transformed into a massive ten-feet long broadsword!

Zhang Xinxiong looked startled.

The thing had turned out to be a broadsword!

After a fleeting moment of soaring through the air, blood sprayed as if a bloody flower had bloomed in mid-air. The broadsword sliced through the air and hewed Zhang Xinxiong in two. His head and body fell separately from the sky.

“Ma Ma.”

Chapter 234: Let’s Go See Fireworks When We Have Time

Ta!

Ta!

Ta!

After Xu Xiaoshou regained his grip on the large broadsword into which Jie had transformed, he watched the crimson blood dripping from its blade in shock and awe.

“A broadsword?”

Isn’t Ah Jie just a baby?

So, Jie could attack in other forms besides his fists!

Perhaps Jie was merely one of his thousands of forms, and he could transform into any shape depending on the circumstance?

That sudden realization surprised Xu Xiaoshou.

If it were true, this treasure he found from the suppressing barrier of the Killing Field would be a formidable killing weapon!

No wonder!

Elder Qiao and Dean Ye had appeared surprised when they saw the other treasures. But they looked positively shocked to see Ah Jie.

Using his spiritual thought to make a command, the super-long broadsword in Xu Xiaoshou’s hand instantly shrunk, turning back into an iron ball. Xu Xiaoshou put Jie back into his bosom.

He looked at Zhang Xinxiong, whose head and body had fallen in different locations.

Even with the remarkably effective recovery skill he possessed, there was no way that Zhang Xinxiong could recover from the extensive damage caused by the decapitation of his body.

The enormous head rolled around on the ground a few times. Except for the wide-eyed look of shock on it, there was nothing remarkable about the head.

It was the case of dying without closing one's eyes!

"What the hell!" Zhao Xidong muttered as he froze on the spot.

Although it was a duel to the death, Zhao Xidong, being the referee, would have liked to prevent a killing if he had the slightest chance.

The broadsword was beyond everyone's expectations.

With just a smite, a fatal result was determined. So just how could Zhao Xidong prevent it?

Zhao Xidong guessed Zhang Xinxiong most likely did not expect he would die in such a way!

"A Master?"

"It seems Xu Xiaoshou has broken through to Master level. But what is the origin of the broadsword? A famous sword? Or a famous broadsword?"

Zhao Xidong could see Xu Xiaoshou standing silently after the battle ended. His emotion seemed to affect Zhao Xidong as he kept silent as well.

After a moment of silence, the entire place went abuzz with chatter as the spectators collectively energized.

"Was it a joke?"

"What the hell kind of duel is this? Zhang Xinxiong got wiped out so easily? Did his ancestral bloodline get diluted or something, or else why could he not defend himself from the assault?"

"Could not defend himself? No, it was the broadsword! The broadsword is too terrifying!"

"But I still do not believe that Zhang Xinxiong was killed just like this. I do not know why Xu Xiaoshou was the stronger of the two. It's difficult to tell!"

Everyone kept their thoughts to themselves upon hearing it.

Yeah, what was Xu Xiaoshou's advantage?

In terms of cultivation level and physical body, Zhang Xinxiong was not inferior to him in any way.

And as for the broadsword, though it appeared to be a unique treasure, everyone knew that Zhang Xinxiong had something similar. The only difference was that Zhang Xinxiong did not have any opportunity to draw it out in time.

The outcome was unexpected.

Zhang Xinxiong was dead!

The duel to the death the crowd saw as a foregone conclusion turned out to be just that in the end. One fighter would get so overwhelmed by his opponent that he would be dead before he could even execute any strikes of his own.

But the only difference was that the roles of the fighters they had in mind were reversed!

…

: Suspected, passive points, +65.

: Admired, passive points, +33.

: Feared, passive points, +21.

"…"

"Wow!"

Xu Xiaoshou slowly walked off the competition platform. He was getting used to the rules of this world, and he did not feel the slightest discomfort.

Xu Xiaoshou believed that the way Zhang Xinxiong had died was not excessive. This was after all a person who had the intention of killing him in the first place.

It was just a pity that he did not kill Zhang Xinxiong with his own hands.

Ta!

Xu Xiaoshou halted in his step. Everyone was a little alarmed. Suddenly, Xu Xiaoshou turned his head around and said, "This is a life and death duel. So, it is perfectly alright for me to kill someone!"

Zhao Xidong was immediately jolted back to his senses, and he declared, "Xu Xiaoshou, won!"

"Mm…"

"I need to collect something. Thank you." Xu Xiaoshou muttered and ran back to the platform. He went straight to the spot where the blood had spilled and pulled out a ring.

"I almost forgot about it."

Zhao Xidong stared in silent surprise.

The life and death duel between two fighters meant that one competitor could take the life of the other. So, any treasures on the defeated person would belong to the winner.

Having retrieved the space ring that had presently changed ownership, Xu Xiaoshou jumped off the competition platform with no hesitation and walked off.

Although Zhang Xinxiong was strong, Xu Xiaoshou knew Zhang was no match for him. He had known it since the day he had a breakthrough in the Tianxuan Gate.

As for those remarkable passive techniques, Xu Xiaoshou felt very satisfied with them.

Those were ordinary innate and master spiritual skills if used on their own. However, it was a different story when one deployed combinations of those techniques.

Mm, it looks like I'm invincible with opponents of the same level!

Even his more powerful opponent, who had a breakthrough during the battle, got taken down by the powerful Jie.

It meant that, in the future, Xu Xiaoshou could kill those at the Master level!

He walked on, and the crowd parted to let him through. The lad suddenly stopped halfway.

When she saw the youth with a smile on his face, Lan Xinzi felt a weakness in her legs and dropped to the ground.

The crowd hurriedly dispersed and encircled the two of them.

Was there going to be another exciting showdown?

Will there be another duel coming up in the life and death competition ring?

Messages such as Feared, Expected, and so forth flashed on his Information Bar. Xu Xiaoshou could not help laughing out loud as he read them. There were eager onlookers everywhere!

Lan Xinzi turned pale and could not speak at all. Xu Xiaoshou realized that the woman had given up completely.

He did not wish to stay around any longer. He bent down and patted the head of Lan Xinzi. Then he spoke with a smile.

“Do not be afraid. Let us watch the fireworks together sometime.”

After saying that, he lifted his head and walked away.

“Ahhh!”

A deranged and mournful scream rang out behind him.

From his Perception, he could see a group of astonished onlookers crowning around and staring at a madwoman sitting on the ground. She looked weak and forlorn.

: Feared, passive points, +76.

…

[High in the sky]

Ye Xiaotian’s face turned purple with rage as he stared at the aged man with the conical hat standing in front of him.

“Why are you stopping me?”

Elder Sang smiled and said, “It is a matter for the younger generation. So let them solve it by themselves. Your hair is already so white. If you keep on worrying so much, I am afraid that you will lose all of your hair soon.”

“Zhang Xinxiong cannot die! The Zhang family is not like the Wen family or the Chao family. They are a renowned family with ambitions to dominate Tiansang County, and they…”

“We cannot mess with them?” Elder Sang teased.

Ye Xiaotian was at a loss for words.

Ye Xiaotian checked himself before he sighed and continued, “It is not that we cannot mess with them, but it is just unnecessary to do so. It is something that can easily be resolved through dialogue.”

“Your way of seeing things is somewhat naïve,” Elder Sang replied and shrugged his shoulders.

“Perhaps you believe these things are too complex!”

“No, it is you who is too naïve!”

Ye Xiaotian turned his head away and did not intend to continue arguing. He remained silent briefly, then said, “The way you teach Xu Xiaoshou will eventually harm him.”

Elder Sang shook his head as he caressed the conical hat in his hands. He fixed his gaze on an unnamed piece of land in the distance.

“Not even enough!”

It is not enough. The blade of the sword has not been sharpened yet. How could Xu Xiaoshou kill anyone?”

Kill someone? Ye Xiaotian narrowed his eyes, wondering who Elder Sang intended to kill and why he would want to kill them.

From the way Elder Sang had said it, it seemed the killing would not be any ordinary assassination. Was it the type Ye Xiaotian was thinking?

“What the hell do you have planned?”

Ye Xiaotian asked directly. He had realized a long time ago that Elder Sang was not a person who would decide to take on disciples on a whim.

It seemed the old man had no intention of training Xu Xiaoshou toward the right path. Instead, he was trying his best to guide Xu Xiaoshou toward a path of evil so that Xu could do evil deeds for him.

Elder Sang was doing the same to Xu’s mind. He was gradually training Xu to become a cold-blooded killer.

It was Chao Su back then, and today it was Zhang Xinxiong.

It was like pulling up the seedlings to help them grow, and the losses would outweigh the gains!

Ye Xiaotian looked at Elder Sang, but Elder Sang did not turn his head around. After Xu Xiaoshou disappeared from his sight, Elder Sang pressed down the conical hat.

“Someone is looking for me. I have to take leave now.”

Chapter 235: Zhao Xidong’s Guess

“You have come.”

Ye Xiaotian pushed open the door of the thatched hut and stepped in angrily. He kicked the door shut behind him.

Dust fell from the ceiling of the thatched hut as if an earthquake tremor had occurred.

Xiao Qixiu hurriedly used his spiritual source to cover the food on the table to prevent the dust from falling into it.

Qiao Qianzhi, wearing an apron, carried a pot of goose boiled in brine and sat down at the table. Then, he laughingly remarked, “You take it easy. Do not break down the hut with your temper.”

He picked a blade of grass off the chunk of ham, turned his head around, and asked, “Where is Elder Sang?”

“He is not available.”

Ye Xiaotian was so angry that he kept on drinking by himself.

“What is wrong?”

Xiao Qixiu and Qiao Qianzhi looked at each other, raised their wine glasses, and clinked the one held by the Master Dean. They were trying to help Dean Ye calm down.

So if Elder Sang could not come, then what was the big deal? The three of them would have more to share among themselves. There was no reason to be angry. He should be happy instead!

“Xu Xiaoshou has just killed Zhang Xinxiong,” said Ye Xiaotian, fuming.

Poof! Poof!

Qiao Qianzhi and Xiao Qixiu were in the middle of drinking their wine when they heard what Dean Ye said. They eyed each other before they spat the rest of the wine in their mouths into each other’s faces.

“You did that on purpose!” Xiao Qixiu yelled out, and he could smell the wine all over his face. Some wine had even got into his eyes, clouding his eyesight.

“Spit!”

“You have sprayed it on the face as well!” Qiao Qianzhi said as he opened his eyes wide.

But the two of them did not dwell too much on such a minor issue. The two men turned their heads in unison to look at Ye Xiaotian and asked, “Are you serious?”

Has Xu Xiaoshou killed Zhang Xinxiong?

But the opposite should be more accurate. Did Dean Ye say it in reverse?

“You guys heard it right,” Ye Xiaotian continued. He nodded with a serious expression on his face as he filled up the wine glasses for the two of them. Then he drank directly from the wine jar.

Qiao Qianzhi could not help grabbing a freshly baked goose leg. As he licked it, he said, “So you met old man Sang. He blocked your way there, and you failed to stop the fight.”

The two of them had gone their separate ways after hearing the report from the man in black. Qiao Qianzhi did not bother dealing with such trivial matters, and Ye Xiaotian rushed to the scene alone.

Unexpectedly, it now turned out to be a big issue.

Xu Xiaoshou…

When did he become so strong?

Though the news had surprised Xiao Qixiu, the results were no surprise to him.

He thought of the night when the lad had fought fervently against the masked man.

Xu Xiaoshou could not be judged like an ordinary man. He had improved so fast!

Ye Xiaotian gulped down the wine in the jar and burped, before he said, “I am not in the least angry at being stopped. And it is not a big deal that Zhang Xinxiong had died either. I am angry with that Old Man Sang!”

Suddenly, he looked directly at the two men and said, “Do you think he has changed?”

Click!

His two companions dropped their jaws, and a strange expression flashed in their eyes.

Ye Xiaotian saw the expressions in their eyes and realized that those two had misunderstood him. “What are you thinking? I meant he seems to have changed since he returned from his travels around the world!”

“Has he changed? I do not think so!” Qiao Qianzhi answered. He tore off a handful of meat and turned to look at Xiao Qixiu. While he was chewing, he asked, “Has he changed?”

“I see nothing different about him. He is just the same as when he was in the Divine Palace, a shabby guy…”

Before Xiao Qixiu could finish the sentence, Ye Xiaotian interrupted and said, “His temperament is the same, but he acts differently now!”

The two men pondered briefly over what Ye Xiaotian had said and still could not think of anything wrong with Elder Sang. They shook their heads.

“Am I overthinking it?”

Ye Xiaotian’s look of expectation slowly changed to one of frustration. He lowered his head and resumed drinking his wine.

Knock! Knock!

Hearing the knocks on the door, Xiao Qixiu reached out his hand to open the door.

“Zhao Xidong?” Qiao Qianzhi looked surprised to see him.

“I called him,” Xiao Qixiu explained.

After all, the juniors could not visit the hut when there was nothing important happening.

Although the place was rather shabby, it still was the birthplace of the Tiansang Spirit Palace.

The four men had left the Divine Palace and built a thatched hut there. They had promised to open the Heavenly Gate again, and that was the beginning of the Tiansang Spirit Palace.

They could have renovated the hut, but they wanted to leave it as a memorial.

The facial expressions of the other two seniors showed they understood Xiao Qixiu's actions. However, the move had surprised them. They did not know what he was trying to do.

Zhao Xidong came in nervously and sat down. Although it was his second time there, he was still quite nervous because he was fully aware of the legend.

Furthermore, something had happened that day.

"Speak your mind. The three people you want to see are all here," Xiao Qixiu said. He looked at the young man sitting at his side.

Zhao Xidong sat with his back straight. The minute he arrived, he had lost his courage to speak about his hypothesis.

"It is okay to speak your mind."

Ye Xiaotian urged. He and Qiao Qianzhi were a little perplexed, not knowing what was going on.

Frankly, even Xiao Qixiu did not know what was going on either. He had a similar baffled expression on his face as well.

Phew!

Zhao Xidong took a deep breath before he said, "The thing is that I just want to ask the three seniors a question."

"What is the relationship between Elder Sang and Xu Xiaoshou?"

The three seniors looked startled that Zhao Xidong only wanted to know such a simple thing.

"Master and disciple!" Xiao Qixiu replied indifferently.

"Um, then I understand," Zhao Xidong replied. He gave the impression that he had known all along. Then he clenched both his fists and continued to speak.

"I have a bold assumption. I hope I will not be dead after I say my piece."

The three elders looked puzzled.

"What is it then? Tell us," Ye Xiaotian snapped, feeling irritated. The man acted as if he was begging to be put to death.

Zhao Xidong calmed down and finally spoke nervously after giving it a long thought. "It is only an assumption of mine."

“If you have to fart, just let it out quickly!” Xiao Qixiu said impatiently. His eyes held a dangerous expression.

“Is Elder Sang related to Saint Servant?” Zhao Xidong asked his question with his eyes closed and gritted his teeth.

The place fell into a sudden lull, and you could cut the air with a knife. No one felt like answering the question.

Zhao Xidong discreetly opened one of his eyes and saw that the three seniors were all somewhat shocked. However, they did not react in anger or beat him up.

Didn’t they have a close relationship?

Was Zhao Xidong allowed to ask the question?

“I am only guessing,” Zhao Xidong said weakly. After posing the question, he immediately regretted it.

‘Why can’t I live peacefully? Why do I always try to verify this and verify that?’ Zhao Xidong was asking himself.

If they could not verify it, then he thought that would be the ideal outcome. However, if the seniors could verify his assumption…

And the consequence was unimaginable!

Ye Xiaotian tilted his head back and drank another mouthful of wine. He did not get angry. In a muffled voice, he said, “Why don’t you tell us what you think?”

Was he really stunned?

The thing was Zhao Xidong’s question came right after Ye Xiaotian had asked the other two a question about Elder Sang. He had no choice but to think about it more seriously.

It turned out that he was not the only one who felt there was something wrong with Elder Sang.

But yet, the other two next to him had noticed nothing.

Was it a case where they were so close to Elder Sang that they noticed nothing going on?

Qiao Qianzhi and Xiao Qixiu glanced at each other and saw the shock in each other’s eyes.

Ye Xiaotian had mentioned that something was wrong with Elder Sang earlier on. Then, Zhao Xidong asked such a question.

All three seniors looked at Zhao Xidong, making him feel a great deal of pressure.

Since he had already spoken out, Zhao Xidong had no choice but to continue speaking, even though he felt very uncomfortable. “I heard Boss Xiao say that Elder Sang was a key part of the last two entrapment schemes.”

Upon hearing that, Xiao Qixiu narrowed his eyes as he recalled Elder Sang had arrived late that day. “You are right,” he replied.

“If it turned out as I have analyzed,” continued Zhao Xidong, whose voice trembled a bit. “If Elder Sang arrived late to the scene, then he did not protect Su Qianqian that day.”

Xiao Qixiu narrowed his eyes again, thinking that Zhao Xidong had guessed it right!

But if he was not mistaken, Zhao Xidong was not in charge of the case. How did he know so much?

“What are you trying to say?”

Zhao Xidong did not reply. He looked at Ye Xiaotian and asked, “Did Luo Leilei and the person who came to save her die later?”

Ye Xiaotian looked startled. He had thought those two had escaped, but the spatial shattering flow…

No, that can’t be right!

What Zhao Xidong meant was that Elder Sang went over to save them.

“Impossible!” Ye Xiaotian immediately shook his head. Even though the timing was correct, what could such a weak hypothesis prove?

“What evidence do you have?”

Zhao Xidong shook his head. He had no way to provide any substantial evidence. All he wanted to achieve by meeting the seniors was to warn them.

“My intuition!”

Chapter 236: A Dumb Treasure of Aje

Thud!

With no warning, Zhao Xidong got a slap from Xiao Qixiu and fell to the ground.

He got up while scratching his head, feeling misunderstood, and with teary eyes, he said, “It’s just an assumption! I already said it was just an assumption!”

“Huh!” Xiao Qixiu sneered and continued, “Put your shoddy guesswork away. Who is Elder Sang? He is the Vice Dean of the Tiansang Spirit Palace. How can he be the Saint Servant?”

“Do you know that sometimes just by thinking like that, you can bring calamity to the Spirit Palace?”

“How many times have I said that the Spiritual Law Division will only enforce the law with sufficient evidence?”

He poked at the head of the young man standing next to him and asked, “Do you want to be put on the punishment platform?”

Zhao Xidong reared back instantly and shut his mouth tight. He did not even dare speak a word.

“Eat!” Xiao Qixiu scowled as he slapped the table angrily with his palm, then added, “Hurry and eat! Then get lost after you have finished!”

He was furious. Xiao Qixiu thought it was excusable had Zhao Xidong suspected someone else in the palace. Instead, he had placed suspicion on none other than Elder Sang.

If he said that Elder Sang was a mole from the Divine Hall, they could verify that later.

But his suspicion was on something else.

Saint Servant?

It was impossible for Elder Sang to a member of the opposition. Not only did the old guys present not detect it at all, but Elder Sang had been constantly fighting against that vile organization for so many years!

“You don’t know sh*t, yet you keep on gibbering here…” Xiao Qixiu scolded in a low voice. He grabbed a wine jug and then slammed it down.

He had mistakenly taken the wrong one!

Zhao Xidong shuddered in response and quickly pushed over a glass of water to Elder Xiao and said, “Take it easy, alright?”

After saying that, Zhao Xidong grabbed a goose leg from the table and gobbled it up in a few bites. Then he quickly stood up.

“I am already full!”

He wanted to leave as soon as he could.

The place was too scary for him and he did not want to sit around with the Elders any longer than he had to.

Besides, Elder Xiao seemed somewhat upset at the moment. Nothing usually frightened Zhao Xidong, but at present, he felt uneasy.

He could not help it. He had received scoldings for so many years and had developed a psychological aversion to such situations.

“Wait, a minute!”

He had only taken two steps before Zhao Xidong heard Ye Xiaotian’s voice come from behind him. Zhao Xidong turned his head around.

The white-haired Daoist boy lowered his head, tapping his fingers lightly on the table. He seemed to ponder over something.

Xiao Qixiu looked surprised and roared, “You believe this lad’s bullsh*t?”

Qiao Qianzhi looked at Ye Xiaotian with the same incredulous expression, but he saw the latter shake his head slightly.

“I do not believe it!”

The statement was loud and clear. It showed the level of trust on account of the many years of relationship Ye Xiaotian had with Elder Sang.

However, in the next second, Ye Xiaotian seemed to look deflated.

“But he has taught me to trust no one in this world except for myself!”

With a sigh, a look of determination flashed in Ye Xiaotian’s eyes. Then he turned to Zhao Xidong and spoke solemnly to him.

“Go find out where Elder Sang has gone to in the last few years, what he has done, and the people he has killed.”

“I especially want all the information related to the Saint Servant!”

After recovering from a daze, Zhao Xidong’s eyes glinted with excitement.

To investigate the Vice Dean! He had never even dared to think about it before!

“Yes, Dean!”

Ye Xiaotian looked at the two old fellows, who looked somewhat shocked. He shook his head slightly and picked up his chopsticks, ready to eat.

“I have to check it out. Even if it is only the slightest of possibilities, we still have to check it out!”

“There is something else,” added Ye Xiaotian.

Zhao Xidong bowed and was ready to leave. Then, Ye Xiaotian seemed to have remembered something and spoke with a painful expression, as if a headache were coming on. He was rubbing his temples with the chopsticks.

“Keep a close eye on Xu Xiaoshou. Make sure he does not give us any more trouble. I cannot stand him any longer!”

…

…

“Xu Xiaoshou, wait up for me!”

The shout caught the attention of Xu Xiaoshou, who was the focus of the crowd.

: Requested, passive point, +1.

Xu Xiaoshou stopped, feeling a headache about to come on. He turned around and looked at the huge, tall man with one arm. Distressed, Xu Xiaoshou said, “How many times have I said that it is not a broadsword but an iron block?”

“And besides, I know nothing about the broadsword technique at all!”

Zhou Tianshen did not believe a word Xu Xiaoshou said.

If it was not a broadsword, and if Xu Xiaoshou did not know any broadsword techniques, so what was it he saw earlier?

After a broadsword measuring some ten feet long appeared and slashed through the air, Zhang Xinxiong's head was separated from his body!

Such a formidable broadsword was even more lethal than the golden yellow broadsword on his back!

Yes, much more lethal!

"I only want to take a look and touch it. I do not want your broadsword," Zhou Tianshen pleaded.

"Swallow your saliva right now!" Xu Xiaoshou said.

Xu Xiaoshou found Zhou Tianshen extremely annoying and the man had been bothering him all the way. Xu Xiaoshou did not wish to continue the conversation and suddenly said, "Do you remember the last scene in the Tianxuan Gate?"

Zhou Tianshen froze for a moment as he tried to recall the last thing he saw there.

He recalled he had knocked into a child when he was flying back then.

"Yes, that's it!"

Xu Xiaoshou pulled out the iron ball from his bosom. Zhou Tianshen's eyes instantly lit up.

It was indeed the thing. Everyone got fooled by Ah Jie's appearance. So did Zhang Xinxiong.

Jie had unexpectedly transformed into a broadsword, and it shocked everybody present at the ring!

"Transform it!"

"Transform it into a broadsword!" Zhou Tianshen said excitedly.

"Do you want to see it?" Xu Xiaoshou asked seriously.

Zhou Tianshen did not notice the annoyed expression in the young man's eyes. He nodded repeatedly as he kept swallowing his saliva.

Xu Xiaoshou sighed and tossed the iron ball up in the air. The iron ball transformed into a puppet child instantly.

"Jie, do not hit too hard."

As soon as Zhou Tianshen heard him say that, he realized that something was wrong. He immediately looked up and found a fist closing into his face rapidly.

"Huh?"

BANG!

He saw nothing but the color black before he passed out!

"Phew, finally some peace and quiet."

Xu Xiaoshou let out a sigh of relief. He caught the huge, tall man before he dropped to the ground and put him over his shoulder.

The guy had been too noisy. He stalked Xu Xiaoshou from the life and death platform and never ceased to ask him about the Tianxuan Gate mutation and the broadsword. Xu Xiaoshou simply did not have the patience to tell him so much.

If he wanted to explain, it would probably take half a day to do so!

Xu Xiaoshou still had not found the answers to his questions yet. It was much easier to knock him out and solve his problem once and for all.

After taking care of Zhou Tianshen, he turned to Ah Jie.

The guy was still the same—an underdeveloped child. But he looked a little different this time.

“Since you can transform into a broadsword, can you transform into a sword?” Xu Xiaoshou asked.

“Ma Ma,” Jie murmured, a red beam glowing in his eyes.

“…”

Xu Xiaoshou was a little curious, wondering if the child was not obedient because they were not in a dangerous situation.

Or was it because he did not have a close enough relationship with Ah Jie? And it meant that he could not control it yet?

He tried several more times and found that he could not get any reaction from Jie except to hear him say Ma Ma.

“Tsk, this is not good!”

Xu Xiaoshou stroked his chin and deliberated over the iron ball, the puppet child, and the broadsword.

Exactly what was Ah Jie? Other than the three forms, did he have any other manifestations and functions?

“There must be more!”

“But I do not know how to trigger them.”

Xu Xiaoshou got a headache trying to figure out what to do.

I intrigued him when he recalled how Zhang Xinxiong, who was at master level, got killed by the broadsword.

Xu Xiaoshou felt rather disheartened when he held such a treasure in his hands but did not know how to control it effectively!

Poof!

He casually cut his finger and dripped a drop of blood onto Jie’s head.

Xu Xiaoshou observed closely as the drop of blood flowing down from Jie's head. The blood flowed past Ah Jie's eye and nose, then entered the corner of his mouth.

Buzz!

There was a flash of a red beam in the eyes of the puppet child. The puppet child reacted with heightened emotion.

"It is working?"

Xu Xiaoshou looked overjoyed and shouted, "Transform to a sword!"

"Ma Ma," Jie whispered.

The puppet child tilted his head and stared dumbly at the young man in front of him.

Xu Xiaoshou was at a loss for words.

My god, how could the treasure I own be such a dumb one, he thought.

Unconsciously, his thoughts went to the Hidden Bitter he owned, that was bent on devouring its master. And now he had a dumb Ah Jie, the puppet child.

"Damn it!"

Chapter 237: You Saw Nothing Today

"Does drinking blood make you slightly excited?"

After having pondered for a long time, Xu Xiaoshou reluctantly came to such a conclusion.

Since Xu Xiaoshou had found Ah Jie in the "killing field," he must have developed a bloodlust because of that environment. Thus, it was understandable why he had such a bloodthirsty personality.

Hm, if I found a bucket of dragon blood and poured it on his head, would he go berserk on the spot, and would his fighting mettle soar?

Xu Xiaoshou pondered this and thought that the plan to collect high-quality blood could be added to the agenda now.

Well, there is no harm in being prepared…

The blood essence taken from Zhang Xinxiong and Yuan Tou would be the most ideal, he thought.

"Well, let's do that then," he muttered to himself.

He reaffirmed his idea with a nod of his head, then thought further about it.

Putting aside the fact that Ah Jie could very well go berserk, Xu Xiaoshou was quite convinced that if he could control Ah Jie's fighting abilities, he would undoubtedly improve his fighting strength exponentially.

"Could it be that its power has something to do with triggering spells?"

Another idea flashed through his mind. Xu Xiaoshou recalled how he had shouted to Ah Jie when he threw him at Zhang Xinxiong during the duel. He suddenly felt quite encouraged.

“Pika Jie, transform into a sword!” Xu Xiaoshou yelled in a stern voice.

“Ma Ma,” Ah Jie murmured weakly.

Two pairs of eyes gazed into each other, and a deathly silence filled the air. The only noticeable thing was the massive frame of Zhou Tiansen that Xu Xiaoshou had slung over his shoulder, with his two legs swaying from side to side.

“…”

Xu Xiaoshou rolled his eyes upwards and moaned, “Why is it still not working?”

Xu Xiaoshou was about to grumble again when he suddenly remembered the words he hollered to Ah Jie at the end of the duel. Xu Xiaoshou then decided he would reenact the scene.

“Get smaller!”

With a whooshing sound, Ah Jie responded by transforming into a lump of iron instantly.

Ah Jie was now not in his combative form anymore, and it appeared this was the only command he could only understand.

Xu Xiaoshou then chuckled as he prepared to put his theory to the test. He grabbed the iron ball and threw it at a boulder by the roadside.

“Go ahead, Pika Je. Chop it up for me!”

With a whooshing sound, the iron ball shot out. Before it approached the stone, the iron ball hummed a little and several markings appeared on its surface. Lo and behold! It then transformed into a broadsword of ten feet long.

BANG!

The boulder shattered with a resounding boom, exploding into countless small fragments. The force of the broadsword’s blow even left a huge furrow in the ground.

The devastation didn’t dampen Xu Xiaoshou’s spirit in the slightest. On the contrary, his eyes glinted with excitement.

“It has really worked!”

“Over there, one more slash!”

He pointed casually at a spiritual tree on the other side. The broadsword swept across the air and slashed with a flash of black light.

CHOP! CHOP! CHOP!

Anything the black light touched was instantly cut in half. In this way, hundreds of spiritual trees fell to the ground with heavy thuds, causing smoke and dust to fill the sky.

Xu Xiaoshou was stunned by what he had just witnessed at the scene.

“There is a black light… And its power is simply incredible!”

That was to say, Xu Xiaoshou could not only give a command to this broadsword when attacking at a distance, but he could also catch the enemy off guard when engaged in close-quarter combat, or when forced to retreat.

“Wonderful!”

Xu Xiaoshou slapped his thigh in excitement. For even if this broadsword was not his original weapon, it was still extremely lethal when used in a surprise counter-attack during a retreat.

“This way!”

He turned around, pointed at the back of another bush, and yelled, “Go! Pika Jie, pierce it for me!”

When I said “chop”, it transformed into a broadsword; but if I were to say “pierce,” would it become a sword?

Xu Xiaoshou thought it was worth a try. Instead, the broadsword flew back to his side and quivered, not heeding his command at all.

“…”

“Could it be that the order of how I commanded it was incorrect? Should I transform it into the iron ball first before I throw it out again?”

Xu Xiaoshou didn’t think it was absurd, as he recalled a familiar scenario where the “Hidden Bitter” tried to devour its master. Ah Jie’s situation was rather similar to the “Hidden Bitter” and he had trained repeatedly this way.

“Why not? I don’t think it’s the wrong way to handle it!”

He focused his mind, then commanded the broadsword to return to its original size. He then hurled at it another large rock.

“Go on! Pika Jie, pierce it for me!”

It was rather exciting to give the command the first time, but Xu Xiaoshou felt a little embarrassed giving out the same command repeatedly.

But it was the only way to turn Ah Jie into a sword.

Luckily, no one was around to witness his failure!

As the iron ball was streaking through the air, Xu Xiaoshou was full of expectations.

But the iron ball did not follow his command at all. It smashed the boulder and cracked it open, but it remained in the form of a ball!

“You are pissing me off. You’re exactly like your senior partner, the ‘Hidden Bitter’!”

Xu Xiaoshou pointed at it angrily and snarled, “Come on, strike me, then. I don’t believe you’ll dare to devour your master!”

BUZZ!

At the sound of a familiar drone, the iron ball quivered, and the markings on its surface lit up. The iron ball suddenly shot into the air with a swoosh and hovered above him ominously!

Xu Xiaoshou opened his eyes wide at once.

“No way…”

As Xu Xiaoshou tried to grab it by making use of his Body of Master, unexpectedly, the iron ball transformed into a large iron rod twice the size of the broadsword!

BOOM!

This time Xu Xiaoshou could not resist.

Even the fist of the puppet child could knock him to the ground easily, so the large iron rod easily knocked him away and sent him flying without the slightest pause. It felt like being in a bell that was struck by its knocking rod as his hand came into contact with the iron rod.

With a resounding blast, Xu Xiaoshou once again sent flying into the distance, with his body doubled over and made to look like a human shrimp. He got back control of his body only after smashing through hundreds of spiritual trees.

“Damn it!”

Xu Xiaoshou was in a daze.

Ah Jie was becoming a problem now. Yet he hadn’t been with the Hidden Bitter. So where did he learn to be so obnoxious?

Damn, what is the problem with this guy?

Xu Xiaoshou was so angry that he took out the Hidden Bitter from his bosom and pulled it out of the scabbard. He flicked it with his fingers fiercely!

Hmph, if I can’t punish Ah Jie, then I can certainly punish you—the leader of the rebellion!

DANG!

The Hidden Bitter only bent a little and didn’t dare to straighten up.

Xu Xiaoshou was appalled.

After having calmed down, he had no choice but to resolve all this himself.

He straightened the black sword in frustration. Then, he dashed over to Ah Jie and commanded him back into the iron ball before picking it up. After that, he squatted down on the same spot and pondered hard, with a frown on his face.

Could it be that it will only transform willingly when I give a command during a fierce battle?

But what if the command does not work?

Ah! this is truly frustrating…

“Xu Xiaoshou?” Suddenly, an exasperated voice called out from behind him. “What did you do?”

“Huh?” Xu Xiaoshou glanced up and saw a man dressed entirely in black.

He was not Zhao Xidong, but someone who looked familiar. He believed he had seen him before, but couldn’t remember his name.

“Why?” Xu Xiaoshou asked.

“Why…?” The man in black was more amused than feeling angered. Pointing his finger at the surrounding spiritual bushes, he said, “Why? Look at these bushes. There is nothing we can do now!”

Xu Xiaoshou followed his finger and looked around…

The spiritual trees on the left side were shorn by half by the black light of the broadsword and now allowed more sunlight to pour onto the forest path.

While Xu Xiaoshou uprooted the spiritual trees on the right side himself and now had opened up a new path.

“This…”

After realizing that he had gotten into trouble again, Xu Xiaoshou felt a chill in his heart.

He hastened to run over to retrieve Zhou Tiansen, who was earlier knocked out cold by the iron rod. He pushed Zhou into the arms of the man in black.

“Quick, go save him!”

“If you rush to the Spiritual Medicine Division right now, he might just be saved!” Xu Xiaoshou showed an anxious expression on his face.

The man in black was dumbfounded, wondering if he had done this to Zhou.

“No! I didn’t do it.”

Xu Xiaoshou could tell what he was thinking with a mere glance, and said, “You must have come here recently. Say nothing if you have seen nothing. I am testing a big move, but I still have some minor issues with it. Well, it’s not important.”

“Minor issues…”

The man in black was troubled when he heard this, and growled, “These are undoubtedly not the minor issues. You wait here while I go get the dean!”

He had seen Xu Xiaoshou behead Zhang Xinxiong, and knew that he couldn’t even fight with the youth who just fought with one arm using only his body strength.

Yet, if I can’t punish him, the dean certainly can!

“Stop right there!” Xu Xiaoshou shouted.

The man in black turned around and found that the youth had pulled out a black and red order token. Xu Xiaoshou had blocked his way while shoving the order token into his face.

“By the order of Elder Sang, you must immediately go to the Spiritual Medicine Division to save him!”

“You saw nothing today!”

The man in black was astounded.

Chapter 238: The Ninth Grade Xu

“I am lucky that it was not the guy named Zhao who came over. It’s much easier to fool this chap.”

Xu Xiaoshou watched the man in black leave with the huge, tall man in his arms. He instantly felt relieved. Then he looked back at the disaster site he created.

Well, the area of destruction was indeed quite extensive, but I did not do it on purpose, he thought.

Feeling responsible for the deed, he had offered some of his spiritual crystals to rebuild the area. Under the authority of Elder Sang’s command token, the man in black took on the bulk of the restoration work.

“He is truly a good man.”

Xu Xiaoshou sighed and thought no more of it. Then he put the invaluable command token away.

This thing is so handy!

As Elder Sang did not have the command token for disciples of the Inner Yard, he gave Xu Xiaoshou this particular token for selecting the spirit site. However, he did not know that Xu Xiaoshou would use it for such a purpose.

Certainly, Elder Sang did not know that he had unwittingly helped his precious disciple fix problems the lad had gotten himself into several times.

Xu Xiaoshou turned his attention back to the iron ball once again and had almost given up on studying it further.

It was already pretty good that he could command Jie to transform into a broadsword. But he still could not figure out how to get Jie to transform into other forms. So be it for now!

At least the broadsword had lethal power, which was good enough for him at this stage.

When the time came, and when his relationship with Jie grew closer, he was sure he would discover more about him.

“Okay, let’s go to the Spiritual Library Division to see what is going on there!”

Xu Xiaoshou suddenly remembered the initial purpose of making the trip. It was merely coincidental that he had killed Zhang Xinxiong. Finding that old man with the conical hat was more important.

I do not know why Elder Sang doesn’t enjoy staying at the Spiritual Library Division by himself. There must be something important since he asked me to go over there, Xu Xiaoshou thought.

“Well, this time, I have to get more recipes for making the magic pills!”

Before he entered the Tianxuan Gate, Xu Xiaoshou had already mastered the art of making the Red Gold Pill and the Spiritual Pill. He had even developed some new spiritual liquids.

He found that as his strength increased rapidly, those two pills and the spiritual liquids were no longer potent for him.

Though he had the Origin Court magic pills, he did not have them in large quantities. He only possessed a hundred or so.

If he could master the making of the Origin Court magic pill, or if he could develop a new Origin Court Liquid, then he could become extremely wealthy!

And why did he need to be wealthy?

Xu Xiaoshou looked toward the horizon and suddenly realized that he had not once left the Spirit Palace since he came to this world a long time ago!

…

[Spiritual Library Division, the third floor]

Though the stove fire was burning intensely, Mu Zixi could not tell. She had no choice but to use her spiritual thought to gauge.

She admired the invisible flame. It was not only helpful for making the magic pills but was also a powerful weapon in combat!

Ever since she saw Xu Xiaoshou burn a large area of the Moro Secret Forest with the Infernal Heavens, she became somewhat fascinated by it.

Elder Sang showed her the technique of solidifying the pills. As he handed over the freshly manufactured red gold pills, he said, “See what I mean?”

Mu Zixi nodded dumbly. However, she wasn’t focusing her attention on the magic pill, and instead asked, “The flame…”

“Do not even think about it. The Infernal Heavens is not something a little girl like you can cultivate,” Elder Sang said, cutting her off.

He could tell what Mu Zixi was thinking at a glance. The girl had already mentioned more than once that she wanted to learn about the Infernal Heavens.

But it was not so easy to master it!

Just the prerequisite of the Innate Flesh Body would deter the girl from acquiring the technique. And he was not even considering the other attributes required to attain the skill.

Even with a body of natural raw wood, she could probably achieve a lower level of the technique. But Elder Sang still would not dare to let her cultivate the skill.

Xu Xiaoshou had succeeded because he was special–one out of ten thousand. Though his chance of success was very slight, at least he had a slim chance.

But as for Mu Zixi?

She probably could not even resist the first wave of attack from the flame seeds of the Infernal Heavens!

“But why?” Mu Zixi asked. She did not quite understand the reason for his refusal. Even though she did not have the Innate Flesh Body, Mu Zixi thought she could neutralize any injuries as long as she had enough vitality.

Elder Sang shook his head again. The little girl must have thought that it was an easy skill to achieve.

“The reason is that your willpower is not strong enough,” he answered without mincing his words.

Mu Zixi felt a blow hit her, and she protested, “If Xu Xiaoshou can, I can as well!”

“You cannot.”

“I can!”

“You can!”

“I cannot!” Mu Zixi argued with determination. But she froze after she last answered.

Damn, it was a trick!

The voice had come from her back.

As soon as she turned around, Xu Xiaoshou held down her little head with his big hand.

“Look, you have just said that you cannot. Right? So stop protesting and accept your fate!”

“There are times we have to recognize the reality. You could get yourself killed by pretending to be brave.”

What Xu Xiaoshou had said was not a lie this time.

He could resist the burning of the flame seeds of the Infernal Heavens because he had Spiritual Strength and the Eternal Vitality. Besides, he had his stupendous willpower.

And even then, if any of those three elements failed him, he would die without a burial ground.

The Infernal Heavens was so horrifying that he would not use it if he had any choice.

Unfortunately, he met the ruthless Elder Sang.

Mu Zixi had a red face from holding her breath. She had no chance to get away from the vice-like grip of Xu Xiaoshou’s large hands. She was even having difficulty straightening her body.

Why was he so strong, she thought.

As she grumbled inwardly, she found that the force above her head had lessened. The little girl immediately stood up, ready to yell out.

Xu Xiaoshou pinched her fleshy cheeks with two of his fingers. Her mouth took the shape of an “O” as she pouted.

“Little girl, it’s a good thing that you do not have to learn the technique. Why are you so stubborn and asking for trouble?”

“You tricked me!”

Mu Zixi’s face turned red with anger. She swung her arms around, but she found she could not hit Xu Xiaoshou at all!

She tried to kick.

Xu Xiaoshou pulled his stomach back.

Mu Zixi was speechless.

: Cursed, passive points, +1, +1, +1, +1.

“Why are you so cranky? You always want to kick and punch me whenever we meet!” Xu Xiaoshou muttered. Then, he diverted his attention from the little girl and turned his head toward Elder Sang.

“Is there something important going on? Are you looking for me?” Xu Xiaoshou asked with anticipation written on his face.

Instead of answering him, Elder Sang asked, “How are you getting on with producing the magic pills?”

Xu Xiaoshou grabbed the opportunity to get what he wanted and said, “Speaking about that, I already know how to make the Red Gold Pill and the Spiritual Pill. Old man, do you have any more advanced recipes for making magic pills?”

“Such as the Origin Court Pill, the Throne Pill, or something like those?”

“The Throne Pill…?” Elder Sang said, and the corners of his mouth twitched twice.

He did not intend to answer Xu Xiaoshou’s questions. His attention was on the first half of the young man’s sentence. Elder Sang asked, “Have you learned how to make the Pill Condensation Technique using the Infernal Heavens?”

Xu Xiaoshou nodded and replied, “The method has some flaws. So, I have improved it a little and have come up with a new magic pill manufacturing technique called the Boiling Soup method. I will show you later.”

Elder Sang looked surprised and kept silent.

What the heck was a Boiling Soup method? Did he think he was cooking dishes instead of making the magic pills?

Well, Xu Xiaoshou, it seems you have done well in the past few days. And you’ve even learned how to utter nonsense since the last time I saw you several days ago, Elder Sang thought.

Even though you were not modest before, at least you were not so bold.

So, you think you have already reached the highest level after having killed a few people?

The old man let out an enormous sigh before he spoke in a deep voice. “Did you say you have mastered the techniques of making the Red Gold Pill and the Spiritual Pill?”

“Mm-hm!” Xu Xiaoshou nodded his head once again.

Was it so surprising?

Could it be that the rate of his mastery of making the magic pills, like his cultivation rate, was also unprecedented?

Judging by the grim and disbelieving expression on Elder Sang’s face, Xu Xiaoshou guessed what was on his mind.

“Impossible!”

Before the old man with a conical hat could say anything, Mu Zixi had already broken free from Xu Xiaoshou’s grip.

She did not break away by herself, of course. Xu Xiaoshou hurriedly released her when he saw the formidable tiger teeth of hers exposed.

He was afraid of being bitten again because of the painful experience he had previously!

“Why is it impossible?” asked Xu Xiaoshou as he looked at her.

Mu Zixi snorted angrily and responded, “I am barely considered a genius even after I cultivated the medicinal liquid in three days. Are you dreaming right now? Do you think you can achieve anything you wish for on a whim?”

Previously. she had thought that Xu Xiaoshou had been a disciple of Elder Sang for a long time. She was shocked when she finally found out that he had only become his disciple not too long ago.

Elder Sang had merely given him the second lesson when Xu Xiaoshou gave her the explanation of stewing ham.

How could the guy know how to make the magic pills only after two lessons?

Xu Xiaoshou laughed after he heard her claim. He glared at Mu Zixi while asking, “Did you only cultivate the medicinal liquid in three days?”

Mu Zixi had obviously failed to notice the emphasis on the keyword in Xu Xiaoshou’s question—only!

She pouted her mouth and said proudly, “You are correct!”

Xu Xiaoshou looked amused and answered, “Little sister, it is not good at all. It took you three days to come up with such an achievement. But, I, your Senior Brother, have already become a ninth-grade magic pill technician in that time!”

Chapter 239: A Moment of Feeling Good

“The ninth-grade magic pill technician?”

Don't mention Mu Zixi, even Elder Sang had a hard time standing still after hearing this announcement.

"I'm aware the school of the Infernal Heavens is formidable, but your progress is a little too fast. Do you think you're taking a flying boat?"

"You don't believe me?" Xu Xiaoshou retorted.

He raised his eyebrows because he knew that each time he told the truth, no one believed him.

But this time, he had lied indeed.

He didn't become a ninth-grade magic pill technician in three days—he did it in one day!

He had mostly been improving the magic pills in the last two days before he had entered the Tianxuan Gate!

"Hehehe." Mu Zixi responded with a chuckle. She found it hard to believe him, especially after Elder Sang had praised her speed of cultivating the magic pills.

Xu Xiaoshou looked at Elder Sang and found that the old man had the same skeptical expression on his face. Seeing his opportunity, he said, "Let's do this, then. If I succeed in cultivating the magic pills, you'll give me some more recipes for making the magic pills."

Elder Sang smiled wryly and scoffed, "If you can cultivate the magic pills, not only will I give you the recipes for making more magic pills, I'll teach you another spiritual skill!"

The spiritual skills… Xu Xiaoshou was not interested in this stuff, but since Elder Sang said so, he believed he could certainly get some more recipes for making the magic pills from Elder Sang later.

"Let's make a bet?" He turned to the little girl on his side.

"What kind of bet?" Seeing the confident expression on Xu Xiaoshou's face, Mu Zixi couldn't help but waver.

"Whoa, looks like you believed me!" Xu Xiaoshou quipped.

"Let's make the bet then!"

It was apparent that it riled the little girl up. She wrung her small hand and said, "If you lose, then you'll give the 'Life Spiritual Seal' back to me!"

"Give it back?" Xu Xiaoshou held her head down. "Since when did this treasure become yours?"

"Ha!"

Mu Zixi lifted her leg to kick him, but she found she still couldn't hit him. She was so angry that she was about to open her mouth.

Xu Xiaoshou pushed her jaw up to close her mouth, saying disgustingly, "Fine, fine. I make the bet with you! If you lose, then you'll have to listen to what I say all the time in the future!"

"I have to listen to you all the time?" Mu Zixi froze as she held her skirt tightly, and said, "No, that's asking a little too much!"

Xu Xiaoshou, "…"

He gave her the once-over a couple of times before he laughed out loud. "What are you thinking? All I want is for you not to use your hands and feet to hurt me whenever I tell you to stop in the future! At times, you can be so reckless."

"Reckless?" Mu Zixi was rather offended when she heard this, for it was Xu Xiaoshou who offended her as soon as he entered the room.

Besides, he was always the one to make the first move.

"Cursed, passive point, +1."

"Suspected, passive points, +2."

Xu Xiaoshou had no intention of paying her more attention, but he couldn't resist adding, "And no more biting!"

"Hmph, okay," Mu Zixi muttered, then said, "It's not like I ever bite a human being…"

Dong!

Xu Xiaoshou slapped her with his hand right away, knocking the little girl down.

"Cursed, passive points, +1, +1, +1, +1…"

Elder Sang's face twitched as he witnessed the scene. As he was about to speak, Xu Xiaoshou said, "How dare you hurt your senior brother with your fists and mouth. Will you then bully your master and offend your ancestors when you accumulate enough qualifications?"

"You deserve such a lesson!"

He looked at Elder Sang with a smiling face and said, "Right?"

Elder Sang, "…"

: Admired, passive point, +1.

: Cursed, passive points, +1, +1, +1, +1…

"Come on." Xu Xiaoshou pulled over the enormous bathtub and squatted down next to it.

He had been interested in the item for a long time since he knew this thing was an excellent treasure.

No sooner had Mu Zixi gotten up than she saw a small bathtub flying toward her. She hastened to catch it and place it on the ground.

Having looked at it for several moments and then comparing the two bathtubs, she was so angry that her twin ponytails were sticking up.

"Why do I get the smaller one?"

Xu Xiaoshou glanced at her, pondered for a moment, and said, "It's more fitting that way."

Mu Zixi scowled at his response.

: Cursed, passive points, +1, +1, +1, +1…

She took a deep breath and finally calmed down. Then, she inclined her head toward Elder Sang and asked, “Xu Xiaoshou will get a reward for winning. Do I get any reward if I win?”

“Pfft!” Xu Xiaozhu burst out laughing. “Do you think you can win?”

The little girl’s twin ponytails suddenly shot upward, and then her braids dropped limply.

“Xu Xiaoshou, you’ve gone too far!”

: Requested, passive point, +1.

“Oh, why do you say I’ve gone too far? I’m just telling the truth.” Xu Xiaoshou was checking the screen as he continued bantering with her. He found the messages in the information bar rather amusing.

“You shut up!”

“Whoa, whoa, whoa. You are getting upset. And you can’t say anything sensible now.”

“I…”

“Xu Xiaoshou, I’ll kill you!”

“Hey, don’t be such a demon!”

Instantly, the young girl found herself being held down to the ground again, with an expression of indignation and resignation on her face.

“Master, help me…”

…

The sunshine shone on the ground outside the window. Elder Sang curled up the corners of his mouth unconsciously as he silently watched the bantering unfolding in front of him. He chose not to intervene at all.

Sometimes, life was just full of surprises.

Out of nowhere, a family demolition beast had turned up in his life.

And as a protective measure, another family member suddenly came to the Spiritual Library Division.

“Family members…”

“If only it could always be this way, it seems…”

…

“Master, help me!”

The alarming cry interrupted Elder Sang’s thoughts. It startled him, and his smile had immediately vanished as he eyed the two youngsters grappling and rolling along the ground.

With a stern expression on his face, Elder Sang reprimanded the two. “Get up immediately. It’s so indecent!”

The two of them immediately separated from each other. Xu Xiaoshou looked unscathed, but Mu Zixi’s face was swollen and red after being pinched hard.

She slapped the small bathtub with her hand angrily and snarled, “You’ll lose for sure!”

Wasting no more time, she threw the herbs into the small bathtub.

There was nothing else she could do, for she found she could in no way defeat Xu Xiaoshou in a fight anymore!

After this scuffle, Mu Zixi had finally realized that she couldn’t beat Xu Xiaozhu in cultivation, no matter what goal she intended to achieve.

She had no choice but to pin her hope of defeating him in the making of magic pills.

She wondered how the guy had been cultivating and why he had improved so fast, even though she had never seen him cultivate.

Compared to Xu Xiaozhu, her dazzling breakthrough from the early stage of the Origin Court to the peak in the Tianxuan Gate was nothing.

Her cultivation speed that the others should have praised and envied suddenly became insignificant!

Damn…

The little girl clenched her fist and threw the herbs into the bathtub with a vengeance.

Xu Xiaoshou called over to remind her. “It’s very important to maintain peace of mind while making the magic pills. You might blow up the stove the way you’re doing it!”

Mu Zixi grabbed some herbs and plugged her ears with them, then hissed, “Shut up. You shut up right now!”

“It should be you who should shut up!” Xu Xiaoshou observed her progress and threw a sizeable amount of herbs into the bathtub. He suddenly saw a tooth mark on his hand and stopped briefly.

When did she bite me?

The corners of his mouth twitched. Speaking aloud to himself, he said, “Not only does she have to shut up, but she also has to keep her mouth closed at all times. When she is asleep, I will pull her teeth out…”

Mu Zixi: ???

: Cursed, passive points, +1, +1, +1, +1…

“Are those the teeth of Master level? This is…” Xu Xiaoshou remarked, touching the bite mark and feeling slight pain. “I wonder if it’s poisonous…”

“…”

BOOM!

With a blast coming from the small bathtub, Mu Zixi's entire head and face were covered in dust.

"Xu Xiaoshou…"

"Holy smoke, I already said you need peace of mind when you're making the magic pills. You have just blown up the bathtub!" Xu Xiaoshou exclaimed as he looked over at her and asked, "Is everything okay?"

Mu Zixi paused, feeling perplexed.

Since when did Xu Xiaoshou care about other people?

The next second, she heard the youth speak again.

"I'm asking about the small bathtub… You should take it easy because that's a treasure weapon that I can use to smash people with!"

: Cursed, passive points, +1, +1, +1, +1…

Chapter 240: Snot

Gurgle…

Bloop, bloop…

The medicinal soup inside Xu Xiaoshou's enormous bathtub continued to bubble and condense as he casually glanced at the young girl to his side.

Mu Zixi was a little anxious. It was already the fourth stove she used for making the red gold pills. It now seemed like the art of condensing pills was not so easy to learn.

Even though she was gifted and had an excellent understanding of the medicinal properties of herbs and plants, she had failed three times already.

The reason…?

"Xu Xiaoshou, are you boiling a soup?" Mu Zixi couldn't help but ask when she glanced at his bathtub where the liquid kept on simmering.

Had she been in a different situation, she wouldn't have been so easily discouraged even after thirty times or even three hundred times, let alone merely three failures.

But this time, it was Xu Xiaoshou who was cultivating the magic pills against her. And the way he went about his preparation vastly differed from her.

It appeared he did not need to even look after the stove. He let the infernal heavens burn under the stove while staring at her with one of his hands supporting his chin.

Damn, is the flame so powerful?

Mu Zixi felt envious!

She also wanted to make the magic pills the way he did, instead of getting covered in soot and dust. Worst of all, she had no choice but to continue being high-spirited.

Xu Xiaoshou smiled when he heard the question. He dropped the hand supporting his chin and said, “You are right. I’ve invented this method of boiling soup to make the magic pills. Old man, do you want to have a look as well?”

Elder Sang remained silent as he continued to observe with care.

At first, he was not sure what the lad was up to, thinking he was just fooling around. Yet, after studying his method for a while…

The medicinal soup was being reduced as it kept on flowing back and forth, and there appeared to be very little loss of medicinal properties.

This method of making the magic pills—if it would succeed—would be a historic breakthrough in the history of cultivating magic pills!

“Boiling soup…”

Thinking of its name, Elder Sang felt like rolling his eyes upward.

However, even though the names given by Xu Xiaoshou sounded ridiculous—like the names of the large bathtub and small bathtub—those names were rather appropriate for those items!

It was simply impossible not to agree with him!

Since Elder Sang had said nothing, Xu Xiaoshou paid no more attention to him. He knew that the finished product was more important.

So far, all the major spiritual liquids he had made preserved their high quality with minimal loss of efficacy.

Of course, losing medicinal properties was taken a little more seriously than the production process of the magic pills.

Whether there is a better way to preserve the medicinal properties depends on how Elder Sang ultimately judged his finished product later.

All three of them were silent. Mu Zixi began to put more effort in her process discreetly.

Noticing that Xu Xiaoshou had spent so much time on one stove of magic pills, she couldn’t help feeling she had an advantage over him.

While the way he cultivated the magic pills was effortless, it was a rather time-consuming process.

For even if Xu Xiaoshou succeeded in making the magic pills, he was still going to lose if the medicinal power of his pills could not offset the time wasted.

“I have a chance to win!”

After calming herself down, Mu Zixi lived up to her reputation as a genius in cultivating magic pills. She learned from her two previous failures and finally succeeded in producing the pills.

Several black pills slipped out of the small bathtub. Mu Zixi didn’t even bother checking all of them. She picked out the only bright one among them.

Though it was one size smaller and looked withered, the medicinal fragrance it emitted showed that it was indeed a red gold pill!

“I’ve succeeded!”

The little girl looked excited, fiddling with the small bean in her hand affectionately.

Xu Xiaoshou was a little surprised and asked, “How many stoves?”

“I’ve succeeded with the ninth stove!” Mu Zixi said excitedly.

“That’s pretty good!”

Xu Xiaoshou gave her a heartfelt compliment. He remembered he had failed more than a hundred times when he first made the magic pills!

And he had always failed when he tried using the method of the infernal heavens to make the magic pills. Well, a failure is a failure, so he didn’t feel like dwelling on it any further.

Besides, it was quite normal to waste a thousand stoves attempting to cultivate the magic pills.

He thought it was quite a feat that this little girl can make the magic pills within ten stoves!

Mu Zixi handed the malnourished-looking red gold pill to Elder Sang, hoping to get praise from him. Having examined it, Elder Sang couldn’t help but show a smile on his old face.

“Not bad!”

Although it was smaller by one size, it was not too bad to get this kind of result after the first trial. It was indeed pretty good.

After being praised, the little girl couldn’t stay in her seat any longer. She walked around Xu Xiaoshou as she held her twin ponytails in her hands.

“Xiaoshou, your speed is not good. Even if you can cultivate the magic pills in the end, the time you used up making them is enough for others to make ten stoves of the magic pills. How can you compete with them?”

Xu Xiaoshou cocked an eyebrow, thinking to himself, ‘Isn’t this little girl becoming a little arrogant now?’

“The raisin-sized pills you’ve cultivated are not such a big deal. Forget the ten stoves, even a hundred stoves won’t impress me. Do you intend to fill your stomach with them?” he retorted.

Mu Zixi wrinkled her nose and was infuriated.

Raisins?

Fill my stomach?

“Ahh!”

She shrieked into Xu Xiaoshou’s ear, and it even startled Elder Sang.

But Xu Xiaoshou did not react, for he was aware of what she was doing behind his back. It was impossible to interrupt his process of cultivating the magic pills.

With the last drop of medicinal liquid flowing back into the bathtub, the “red gold liquid” finally took shape. As Xu Xiaoshou extended his hand to guide it, a golden-red jelly the size of a fingernail flew out.

When that happened, the two onlookers were astonished.

“What is it?”

Mu Zixi puffed up her cheeks twice and finally burst out laughing, holding her belly with her hands.

“Xu Xiaoshou, are you kidding me? Having boiled the soup for so long, I thought you should be able to produce a magic pill. But in the end, you only produced…”

“Snot?”

Xu Xiaoshou glared at her and snapped, “Your snot looks like this?”

“Haha, haha…”

: Ridiculed, passive point, +

Elder Sang, however, picked up the snot and licked it. His facial expression changed instantly, thinking that Xu Xiaoshou was indeed an extraordinary person.

“You’ve invented it yourself?”

“Mm.”

After getting an affirmative answer, Elder Sang couldn’t remain still.

He paced back and forth and licked the snot one more time. It seemed to have a familiar taste. In the end, he could only lift his conical hat and scratch his head.

Xu Xiaoshou gave Elder Sang a quizzical stare.

What was the meaning of this reaction?

Mu Zixi’s heart skipped a beat when she witnessed the scene, and she asked, “This snot of yours, can it…?”

“Red gold liquid!” Xu Xiaoshou glared at her. “It has a name!”

“Oh, okay. So this red gold liquid of yours, can it really be eaten?”

“What nonsense!” Xu Xiaoshou responded in exasperation.

Then, he took out a jar of honey from his ring and said, “Do you want to have a taste of it?”

Mu Zixi felt disgusted. Yet the thing looked rather familiar.

She was shocked and suddenly pulled out a jar of honey from her ring and asked, “Is this the same stuff?”

It stunned Xu Xiaoshou when he saw the half-emptied jar of honey, wondering why she had the same item.

Mu Zixi's face turned white.

This was the only item she found in the ring that Xu Xiaoshou swapped with her for the sealing ring in the Tianxuan Gate.

The problem was she had already eaten half of it as she couldn't help herself!

Does this mean that the snot…

"Vomit."

Xu Xiaoshou found it amusing and said, "What happened to the other half of the jar? It turns out that you have already eaten the snot a while ago. Don't tell me you picked it off!"

"Shut up!"

"Well, are you still going to call it snot?"

"Shut up!"

"No, I'm not going to. Snot, snot, snot, snot…"

"Vomit."

The retching sound from the rear interrupted the duo's bickering, and they were surprised to hear it.

Xu Xiaoshou turned around in shock and found that a puddle of yellow and white stuff appeared in front of Elder Sang.

As Xu Xiaoshou moved his eyes upward, he saw a trace of crystal liquid drooling from the corner of Elder Sang's mouth. And his face had turned green from anger.

"This…"

Elder Sang thought he could no longer look straight at this sticky droplet on his hand. He wiped the corner of his mouth and growled, "You two, stop…"

"Vomit!"

But the moment Mu Zi Shi saw the bile in front of Elder Sang, she couldn't hold back any longer and vomited as well.

Just as Elder Sang was about to chide the kids for quarreling, he choked on his words. He threw up again.

Xu Xiaoshou jumped aside as quickly as he could, watching the two of them facing each other and puking in turn.

"Vomit."

"Vomit."

“...”