

Chapter 241: Frantically Scavenging

Xu Xiaoshou used the Infernal Heavens to clean the third floor of the Spiritual Library Division. However, he could still smell the remaining odor lingering around.

He opened the window to ventilate the place. He inhaled a few breaths of fresh air and felt better.

He looked at the two people, who were gradually recovering. Xu Xiaoshou gingerly handed them the honey in a show of concern and asked, "Did you vomit too much?"

"Do you need some nourishment?"

The two of them gawked at him as one before their faces turned even paler.

: Cursed, passive points, +2.

"Shut up!"

Elder Sang said weakly, "Enough of this topic. No one is to mention it again!"

Mu Zixi looked somewhat depressed. She regretted provoking Xu Xiaoshou, and hearing the order from Elder Sang, she nodded her head repeatedly.

Xu Xiaoshou had almost laughed out. Those who had caused trouble would face the consequences!

"Okay, let's not talk about it," he responded as he retrieved the honey. "Old man, you have tasted the Red Gold liquid. What do you think of its medicinal efficacy?"

Elder Sang kept silent.

His face turned green, and he was on the verge of throwing up again.

Damn it, how the hell did we get here? It is nothing short of a very creative breakthrough!

Elder Sang glared at Mu Zixi at his side, who blinked her enormous eyes innocently. She had already plugged her ears, choosing not to hear anything at the moment.

"The medicinal efficacy is exceedingly good. It has even exceeded the magic pills of the tenth grade, and it would not be an exaggeration to claim it as a ninth-grade magic pill!"

After calming down, Elder Sang had finally circled back to the Red Gold Liquid itself and asked, "Besides this, have you developed any liquids for other magic pills?"

Xu Xiaoshou looked overjoyed when he heard what Elder Sang had said.

He had previously predicted that his spirit liquid might have the possibility of breaking through the ranks. However, he did not expect it to be true.

"Yes, there are more."

He responded in a loud voice and explained, "Boiling Soup method is a significant discovery. But I still cannot use it to make the Red Gold pills. However, I have successfully cultivated spiritual pills!"

After saying it, Xu Xiaoshou found the spiritual liquid in his space ring and took it out.

Standing right in front of him, Elder Sang and Mu Zixi stiffened at once. In the next second, they both doubled over and covered their mouths and noses.

“Wekk!”

The red-gold liquid looked golden and reddish, so they could still accept it even though it felt like sticky snot when they touched it with their fingers.

But when he brought this out...

What is this green liquid?

Elder Sang was so disgusted that his legs went soft.

He retched again. Using his ability to control his body, Elder Sang curbed the urge to vomit at that critical moment.

“Wekk!”

However, Mu Zixi could not resist her reaction to throw up.

At the sound of her throwing up, the old man with a conical hat felt like somebody had kicked him in the gut. There was no way he could control his stomach any longer.

“WEKK!”

Yellow and white fluids flushed out of his mouth again, leaving Xu Xiaoshou dumbfounded, and wondering what was going on.

He wondered why the two of them were reacting so adversely to what he showed them and he thought they were exaggerating.

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

...

It took quite some time for the duo to recover.

“The spiritual liquid is a good thing, but...”

As Elder Sang swallowed an unknown magic pill to recover, he said, “The storage method has a problem.”

“Hm.” Xu Xiaoshou nodded, listening to what Elder Sang said. He glanced at Mu Zixi, who was staring at him after she had also taken the pill from Elder Sang. “So, what is the solution, then?”

“It is not so easy.”

Elder Sang rolled his eyes up before he continued to speak. “To develop such a thing, you must have relied on the strange Boiling Soup method of yours for the task. However, I have not figured out the principles involved in your process yet.”

“Flame, fire, medicinal liquid... various factors and different elements are involved. I might find out its principle after I do a little more research on it later,” said the old man.

“After all, you have created this odd thing without using the method of condensing magic pills.”

Elder Sang sighed as he suddenly felt a headache, and said, “That is the most important part of cultivating the magic pills.”

Xu Xiaoshou appeared to assess his words and said, “In short, you do not even know how to deal with it.”

Elder Sang glared at the young man with exasperation.

: Cursed, passive point, +.

“Pooh!” Mu Zixi spewed out the magic pill from her mouth.

She looked at Xu Xiaoshou in shock. She could not believe that the guy had even dared to make fun of their master.

: Admired, passive point, +.

Xu Xiaoshou picked the magic pill with a disgusted look. It was covered in her saliva and had landed on his clothes. He shoved it back into her mouth.

Mu Zixi looked surprised.

: Resented, passive point, +.

Elder Sang simply ignored their bickering and said, “Of course, we can find a temporary solution. To preserve its medicinal properties, we can use the Purple Hidden Jade to do that.”

“The Purple Hidden Jade?” Xu Xiaoshou asked as he wiped his hand on Mu Zixi’s green dress. He was perplexed.

Elder Sang nodded stiffly and said, “Because of the method of condensing the pills, the ordinary magic pills will lose very little of their medicinal efficacy. Unless you want to keep them for many years, you can preserve them in an ordinary spiritual jade pill bottle.”

“The Purple Hidden Jade is a high-grade spiritual jade, which can preserve medicinal properties extremely well. We usually only use it only for high-grade and precious pills.”

Xu Xiaoshou’s mind was racing. He had a hand on the head of the little girl and was holding her off at arm’s length. “Is it expensive?”

“Of course.”

“To match the high-grade magic pills, it must be precious even if it is merely a spiritual jade bottle.”

After speaking, Elder Sang immediately dropped a substantial pile of purple jade pill bottles from his hands.

By a rough estimate, there were more than a thousand of them.

Xu Xiaoshou was so surprised that he was speechless.

“Didn’t you say it was expensive?”

“It is indeed expensive, but it does not mean that this old man does not have many of them.”

It surprised Xu Xiaoshou that the old man had such financial strength. He casually picked up a magic pill bottle. He found the item not only delicately carved but also of exceptionally high-quality jade.

It was also full of spirituality, warm and soft to the touch. It looked like the item Xu Xiaoshou was holding had the Innate Nurturing power.

Based on the quality alone, one could consider the jade pill bottle the best vessel for magic pills.

The magic pills placed inside the bottle could supposedly preserve their medicinal properties for many years. Besides, the bottle might make the magic pills even more powerful.

“This is good stuff!” Xu Xiaoshou exclaimed.

“Take them!” Elder Sang said while waving his hand. He was fully aware of Xu Xiaoshou’s temperament.

Looking at how Xu Xiaoshou had taken out the honey in jars, Elder Sang could tell that he must have a sizeable quantity of the liquid. So, he would need many Purple Hidden Jade bottles.

Xu Xiaoshou did not hesitate to take them all. After remaining silent for a long time, he asked, “Do you have more of them?”

Elder Sang looked dumbfounded.

He expected the guy to demand a lot. But he obviously underestimated the lad’s appetite.

“Hehe.”

Xu Xiaoshou scratched his head and said, “I am doing experiments right now. I can only continue if I have all the essential equipment! It will be a pity if I have to stop producing the magic pills using the Boiling Soup method because I lack the equipment.”

“No more!” Elder Sang said in a foul mood.

The pile in front of him was almost all of his inventory. Did the lad think that the Purple Hidden Jade could just be purchased in the streets?

It did not faze Xu Xiaoshou. He figured that Elder Sang must have some better ones in his hands since he generously offered so many to him.

Since Xu Xiaoshou was presently a magic pill technician, he felt he should have an abundant supply of magic pill bottles in stock. And they should be of better quality as well.

Xu Xiaoshou thought he should try his best to get all of Elder Sang’s bottles!

“You must have bottles better than the Purple Hidden Jade!” he said with certainty.

When he saw the color on the old man’s face change, Xu Xiaoshou hurriedly added, “Since it is not such a big deal to develop spiritual liquid, what about the Origin Court liquid, then?”

Hearing this, Elder Sang could say nothing.

The Origin Court Pill was a seven-grade pill. If they could enhance the Origin Court liquid, then it would be six-grade.

The value for it would be entirely different!

“Here you go!”

With no other choice, Elder Sang took out a small black, uncarved spiritual jade block from his ring and said, “This is the Whale Candle Jade, one of the top spiritual jades...”

“Thank you!”

Xu Xiaoshou snatched the jade before Elder Sang could let go of it. Judging by its look, the item had to be of exceptionally high quality!

Elder Sang shuddered. He wondered if this lad had already...

“By the way,” added Xu Xiaoshou. Having taken the jade, he took a step back to avoid getting caught. He slapped his thigh feigning he had just remembered something.

“I have almost developed the Origin Court Liquid. It is essential to have the Origin Court Pill. Speaking of which, I do not even have the recipe for making the Origin Court Pill yet!”

Chapter 242: The Badge

Mu Zixi looked at Xu Xiaoshou in shock. She had thought she could pick up some unique skills as long as she was with the young man.

It turned out that he could scavenge for things so shamelessly. Was it right to do so?

Xu Xiaoshou had cunningly squeezed the old man for what he wanted. Finally, he got the Whale Candle Jade. But would Elder Sang give him the recipe for making the Origin Court Pill?

Under the expectant gazes of his two disciples, the old man with the conical hat let out an inaudible sigh and handed over a jade scroll.

“He succeeded?”

Mu Zixi couldn't believe her eyes. Her master, Elder Sang, was someone as formidable as the Saint Servant.

The frightening gaze she received in the Spiritual Library Division and the telling off she got on the night of the Master and Disciple ceremony had left her in fear of the old man.

However, even such a formidable person could not avoid the fate of being exploited by Xu Xiaoshou.

She remembered what Zhou Tianshen had said—we will have meat to eat if we follow a champion!

That big, tall man turned out to be quite perceptive, she thought.

Mu Zixi could not help admiring Xu Xiaoshou. Had it been her, she wouldn't even have gotten her hands on the Purple Hidden Jade, let alone the Whale Candle Jade and the recipe for making the magic pills.

: Admired, passive point, +1.

Xu Xiaoshou happily accepted the jade scroll. After mulling over it for a while, he said, “The Origin Court Pill is a seven-grade pill, right?”

“Hm?”

Elder Sang uttered a startled cry, then shook his head in laughter. He could tell what this lad wanted just by looking at his expression. As the saying went—One can tell if a dog intends to sh*t or pee when it sticks up its tail.

“Here is the recipe for the Innate Pill, a grade!”

Xu Xiaoshou took it gladly. He thought that Elder Sang was rather sharp. There was no need to give any hints when talking to such an intelligent person.

Xu Xiaoshou put the item away, then rubbed his hands, and said, “If the Red Gold Pill is a tenth grade one, it cannot meet the need of my progress...”

Mu Zixi stared with wide-eyed disbelief.

When she saw Elder Sang take out another jade scroll, she was in such awe that she gawked as if she’d found a new continent.

“What kind of magic pill is it for?” Xu Xiaoshou asked.

“Star-Away Pill, a seventh-grade healing medicine, which is more difficult to cultivate than the Origin Court Pill.”

Elder Sang explained, “You should first practice with the Innate Pill. Although this pill is a grade, the difficulty of cultivating it is no less than making an ordinary seventh-grade pill.”

“Oh, good. What about the medicinal ingredients?”

Elder Sang handed over a new space ring.

Eventually, Mu Zixi could not help herself, and asked, “Xu Xiaoshou, do you honestly know how to cultivate the ninth-grade pills? Even if you can, is it true that it is harder for a magic pill technician to advance to a higher grade?”

“So, why?” she asked as she looked at Elder Sang. She failed to understand why the old man would give the Star-Away Pill to Xu Xiaoshou, who was not even a magic pill technician. It was the top magic pill among the seventh-grade magic pills.

Frankly, Xu Xiaoshou was a little curious himself.

Understandably, I have confidence in myself, but why does the old man have more confidence in me than I do?

Or, perhaps he is more confident of himself? Xu Xiaoshou wondered.

Elder Sang shook his head and said nothing.

He knew the potential of the young man standing in front of him better than anyone else.

Others had usually underestimated the lad, and it had always been the case whether it was his cultivation ability or his ability to make magic pills.

He had enhanced the Red Gold Pill and Spiritual Pill by himself in a matter of days and achieved several other outstanding achievements.

In Elder Sang's opinion, Xu Xiaoshou's ability to make the magic pills was even slightly better than his ability in cultivation!

"The seventh-grade pill is not as impressive as you guys think."

It is not good to be overly ambitious. But you, the young generation, should not have too much fear in your hearts when you start. You should realize that it is a struggle with Heaven and the Dao, whether it is the methods of cultivating the magic pills and spirit, or achieving the end of your goal!"

The seventh grade is only an Innate level technician. Besides having a reputable status, the person is at par with the swordsman of Master Level."

It is no big deal!"

Mu Zixi was shocked. Those words of enlightenment forced her to open her mind.

Those who had different principles indeed have a different perspective on things.

The items that a young man could get his hands on in the Spirit Palace would probably be of low grade. However, Heaven and Earth are immensely vast. Were he to step outside, he would find that those things were nothing compared to what was available outside.

Xu Xiaoshou nodded in acknowledgment of those remarks.

As far as fear was concerned, he did not have any.

The seventh-grade magic pill technician was merely a minor skill attached to the Master of Cooking after accumulating 50,000 passive points.

"Huh!" After thinking about it that way, Xu Xiaoshou suddenly felt that the seventh grade was rather mediocre.

After all, a life living on the verge of dying is not enviable!

After the troubles go away, I will find the time and opportunity to get more passive points. My strength should improve a few more levels. Xu Xiaoshou thought.

After all, there were many of his passive techniques still at the Innate level!

Seeing that his two disciples seem to understand what he had taught, Elder Sang nodded with satisfaction, and asked, "It seems neither of you has stepped out of the Spirit Palace yet, right?"

Mu Zixi's eyes lit up. It was true. She had indeed not gone out since she came to the Spirit Palace.

She was a well-known genius who had entered the Inner Yard from the Outer Yard within one year and became the personal disciple of the Vice Dean.

Who would not want to experience all kinds of fascinating events and things in the outside world?

Especially since she still had no memory of her past.

She only had recollections of her encounters with the Grey Mist Figure in the Tianxuan Gate and the blind man, Lei Shuangxing, who came to rescue Luo Leilei. Otherwise, she did not seem to have any more leads to her past.

If I am to find out more about my past, I must get out of the Spirit Palace and go on a journey, Mu Zixi thought.

Xu Xiaoshou also felt a little surprised. He thought that the old man was truly outstanding. Elder Sang always seemed to pose questions on the very thing Xu Xiaoshou wanted the most.

Since defeating Zhang Xinxiong, Xu Xiaozhu believed that the Spirit Palace was no longer integral to his cultivation.

He had already thought of a plan to get out of the Spirit Palace, and Elder Sang had now given him the opportunity.

“I do not want to!”

“I do not want to go out!” Xu Xiaoshou said firmly.

“Why?” Mu Zixi curiously asked, tilting her head. She was quite certain Xu Xiaoshou had not been out of the Spirit Palace for the past three years as well.

Xu Xiaoshou was not even aware of the reason. He frowned, feeling a sense of *déjà vu*.

What kind of feeling was it?

The fear of being orchestrated by fate!

Each time the old man appeared, Xu Xiaoshou always had the feeling that there was some manipulation in the choices he was making with his life. Was it an illusion?

The Infernal Flame Seeds of the Goose Lake, the skills of the Spiritual Library Division, the night of Master and Disciple ceremony, and now this?

As he recalled all those incidents, Xu Xiaoshou’s heart skipped a beat.

It occurred to him that every change in his life path during this journey had something to do with Elder Sang.

According to his initial plan, he would rely on the passive system to enter the Inner Yard and then get out of the Spirit Palace. It would be a gradual process.

But it did not seem to go according to plan!

Xu Xiaoshou believed in his intuition. He had foreseen events many times through his Perception and had a sensitive intuition of the soul because of his experiences in the two worlds.

In short, he felt he liked Elder Sang's suggestion, and yet he disliked it at the same time!

"Why don't you want to?" asked Elder Sang, taken back by Xu Xiaoshou's negative reaction.

"Nothing." Xu Xiaoshou calmed down and remarked, "Get out of the Spirit Palace. What for?"

"What else?" Elder Sang smiled and turned around to look out the window.

The weeds which Xu Xiaoshou had burned up outside the Spiritual Library Division had grown extremely fast under the high concentration of spiritual energy in the Inner Yard.

Other than the grass and trees, all kinds of tiny insects and animals also dwelt there.

As one looked down from above, one could see a grass snake hiding, shying away from the sunlight.

Elder Sang touched the conical hat once and said, "You have become a ninth-grade technician. In a few days, when your junior sister's condensation technique becomes more stable, the two of you will go to the Magic Pill Technician Association in Tiansang County. You will both take the exam to get the exclusive badge for the magic pill technicians."

"The badge?" asked Xu Xiaoshou, looking stunned. "That's it?"

Elder Sang turned around and asked, "What else did you think?"

Xu Xiaoshou held his head and could not speak.

Perhaps...

He had assumed too much?

Chapter 243: The Infernal Heavenly Flame – White Flame

"It is not so safe outside the Spirit Palace, unlike the Inner and Outer Yards. So be careful when you go out."

Elder Sang said to Mu Zixi. He then took out a letter and continued, "You put this letter away and keep it safe. When you arrive at the Magic Pill Technicians Association of Tiansang County, give the letter to the President of the Association."

"Oh, oh..." The little girl did not expect that she would get the task instead of her Senior Brother and felt overjoyed.

Shouldn't it be the first disciple to carry out this sort of duty? Why did Elder Sang choose me for the task? Mu Zixi wondered.

Elder Sang saw the astonished look on Mu Zixi's face. Instead, he turned to Xu Xiaoshou and said, "Before arriving at the Magic Pill Technicians Association, no one may have a peek of this letter, and that includes you."

The last part of what Elder Sang said was an indirect message to Mu Zixi, but Xu Xiaoshou felt like it was an insinuation addressed to him!

What is he saying? It was just a letter.

There's no need for him to say such a thing!

However, the letter attracted his attention even though he was not interested in it at the beginning. Suddenly, Xu Xiaoshou felt an urge to find out what it was all about.

Sullenly, Xu Xiaoshou said, "What about me? Don't you have any instructions for me?"

"You?" Elder Sang hesitated for a while and said, "After you go out, do not cause any trouble."

Xu Xiaoshou felt lost for words.

Mu Zixi could not help laughing out loud. She had finally understood what Elder Sang had meant.

It turned out that Elder Sang handed the letter to her and made that statement to prevent Xu Xiaoshou from reading it.

"By the way, there is one more thing."

Elder Sang seemed to have remembered something and looked at the two of them with a grave expression on his face. "When you are outside, no matter what happens, you must remember..."

You should kill those you have to, cut those you must, and pull the roots out. Do not have any mercy!"

Hearing those solemn words startled the two disciples at the same time. An atmosphere of impending doom filled the room.

Xu Xiaoshou suddenly realized that the trip may not be so simple after all.

"Now that you mentioned it, I have just killed Zhang Xinxiong. Is it possible that many assassins are waiting for me outside?" asked Xu Xiaoshou with an anxious expression on his face.

After he killed Wen Chong, he had lived his life in fear every day and faced endless troubles!

But after killing a prominent opponent, he thought he should stay put for a while.

Perhaps the incident would cause greater misfortune after he got out of the Spirit Palace.

"What?" Mu Zixi froze for half a second after hearing those words. She opened her eyes so wide that they looked about to pop out of their sockets. In horror, she said, "You killed Zhang Xinxiong?"

How was it possible?

Shouldn't Zhang Xinxiong be the Eldest Brother of the Inner Yard?

She had entered the Inner Yard not too long ago, and Xu Xiaoshou had not even entered the Inner Yard yet. How could he kill Zhang Xinxiong?

How reckless!

: Suspected, passive point, +1.

: Suspected, passive point, +1.

There was a moment of silence.

Xu Xiaoshou looked amused and replied, “You really haven’t gone out after arriving at the Spiritual Library Division, have you?”

“Uh-huh!” Mu Zixi nodded amiably. Didn’t you tell me it was safer to stay in the Spiritual Library Division to hide from Saint Servant? Mu Zixi thought.

Xu Xiaoshou sighed and thought to himself—here was another one who did not get online.

Elder Sang was indifferent to his concerns, as he waved his hand and said, “They will be merely little troubles. Do not deviate from your primary purpose. Remember to come back within one month after the badge examination. There is an important matter to attend to!”

“Oh?” Xu Xiaoshou’s interest had piqued, and he asked, “What important matter?”

Elder Sang smiled sheepishly and said, “An utterly important matter. If you miss it, I am afraid that you will regret it for a long time!”

The two young disciples felt a chill run down their spine. Something horrible would always happen whenever Elder Sang flashed that sheepish smile!

“Okay, I will try my best.”

Xu Xiaoshou agreed half-heartedly. He had a sudden urge to slip away, suspecting that Elder Sang might give him more bizarre tasks to complete if he stayed around any longer.

But Elder Sang had no intention to say anymore.

He had already said enough for the day. If he continued speaking, he would sound like a rambling old father figure instead of their Master.

Elder Sang handed a space ring to Mu Zixi to dispel the girl’s perception that he disregarded her because she was a girl. Then he waved his hand and said, “Both of you can go back to your places now!”

“Do not come to the Spiritual Library Division during this period. I shall also be traveling for a while.”

Xu Xiaoshou seemed relieved to hear that and slowly backed away. But Elder Sang shouted out to him. “Stop!”

“What is the matter now?” Xu Xiaoshou asked.

Swoosh!

Mu Zixi looked on enviously as another jade scroll flew out, then Elder Sang said, “It is the spiritual technique I have promised you.”

Xu Xiaoshou raised his eyebrows and wanted to hand it back. But he suddenly realized that Elder Sang seemed to know a bit about his situation.

Among the spiritual techniques he had given, none of them needed enlightenment.

When he pressed the jade scroll to his forehead and skimmed the information inside, Xu Xiaoshou froze.

“The Infernal Heavenly Flame – White Flame!”

White Flame?

He suddenly thought of the night when Elder Sang’s Dragon Melting Barrier caged the masked man and Cen Qiaofu. It completely trapped them, and they could not get out.

It was a flame that was strong enough to burn one’s soul just by glancing at it.

Even powerful swordsmen like Ye Xiaotian and Qiao Qianzhi had to use special methods to view what was happening inside the flame.

Could he learn such a spiritual technique?

“Can I learn it?” Xu Xiaoshou asked. He had doubts about his ability at that moment.

“A body of Master is sufficient,” Elder Sang answered and nodded with a smile.

“Phew.”

Xu Xiaoshou looked shocked rather than elated.

He stared at the smiling old man and said, “To cultivate the Infernal Heavens with an Innate flesh body— one could die nine times out of ten. Is this technique the same?”

“You are overthinking!”

Elder Sang retorted while pressing his conical hat, and said, “To die nine times out of ten while learning the White Flame. You have overestimated yourself!”

To die ten times out of ten! So, whether you will survive purely depends on fate!”

Xu Xiaoshou looked aghast.

He was glad to hear the first half of the sentence. But then, things often turned out unexpectedly with Elder Sang!

It was scary to think about cultivating the White Flame!

“Does it hurt?”

“What do you think?”

Whoosh!

Xu Xiaoshou threw the item back to Elder Sang without a second thought.

There was no way he was going to go through with it. He could accumulate the passive points with ease and had no intention of suffering just to cultivate the technique!

Elder Sang smiled and did not refuse the scroll back. He put the item away.

“That’s fine. You two go back to your places!”

Xu Xiaoshou looked baffled. He thought Elder Sang had not acted as he usually did and force him to accept the item. Xu Xiaoshou was not used to this.

No, something was not right!

Elder Sang could not have given up so readily. He must have made other plans!

Xu Xiaoshou looked taken aback. He pulled out the herb ring which Elder Sang had given him earlier. As expected, there was a jade scroll lying on top of it, like what had happened last time.

“...”

“Whoa!” Elder Sang smiled and said, “You are still quite alert. I thought you would go back and only find out later.”

As Xu Xiaoshou was about to take out the jade scroll, Elder Sang stopped him. “Do not be in a hurry to reject it first. This thing is not the White Flame, but the Dragon Melting Barrier!”

Xu Xiaoshou could not throw the jade scroll away this time, wondering if it was that terrifying spiritual technique.

He felt his heart pounding. He silently debated if he should cultivate it or not.

Elder Sang seemed to have read his mind. “I will not force you. But since you still cannot let go of the Dragon Melting Barrier, take the White Flame along with this jade scroll. Maybe someday you will decide to learn it when your interest is piqued.”

After saying that, he tossed the jade scroll back to Xu Xiaoshou.

Xu Xiaoshou looked dumbfounded, thinking that the scenario seemed somewhat familiar.

Mu Zixi held her forehead with a hand when she noticed a similar pattern in Elder Sang’s scheme. It was like the one that Xu Xiaoshou had employed to collect Elder Sang’s treasures earlier.

“They are indeed a pair of Master and Disciple!”

Chapter 244: A Hidden Connection

After agreeing on a ten-day deadline with Mu Zixi, Xu Xiaoshou watched the girl leave the Spiritual Library Division. He was alone with Elder Sang on the third floor.

“Is there anything else?” Elder Sang asked while looking at him.

Xu Xiaoshou nodded. He had some crucial matters that he could not get his head around yet.

Undoubtedly, the old man with the conical hat was the best encyclopedia.

He might not dare to ask others, but he had nothing to worry about with Elder Sang.

“I have a few general difficulties,” Xu Xiaoshou said.

“General?” asked Elder Sang.

A smile lifted the corners of Elder Sang's mouth. He was a little surprised that Xu Xiaoshou would ask him something other than cultivation, and said, "Go ahead."

Xu Xiaoshou took out the Hidden Bitter and unsheathed the Black Scabbard. "I met Luo Leilei in the Tianxuan Gate and lured out Saint Servant. The purpose of her trip was for this item."

Elder Sang did not express any emotions on his face. He knew the item had something to do with Saint Servant.

"I should have told you earlier. This old man will not tell you anything about Saint Servant at your current level," Elder Sang said.

"Right now, the more you know, the more dangerous your situation would be!"

Xu Xiaoshou was anxious, wondering why Elder Sang was still not willing to say anything.

The masked man had already laid his eye on him for a second time. Was it still not dangerous enough? What was Elder Sang trying to hide?

"I am not trying to ask you about Saint Servant."

The first question remained unanswered. But Xu Xiaoshou had expected it, and continued, "What I'm trying to say is that among the twelve Treasures of Suppressing Barrier in the Tianxuan Gate, they only had their eyes on this one."

And all for this scabbard, they did not hesitate to expose Luo Leilei, who laid hidden for so many years in the Spirit Palace."

In my opinion, it did not seem to be worth it!"

Xu Xiaoshou paused before he continued with a firm expression in his eyes. "But they still did it, showing that this scabbard is undeniably more complex than I had thought."

Elder Sang looked surprised at first. But soon afterward, he looked as if he had expected it.

"You are very perceptive," he said as he turned away with his hands clasped behind his back, a thoughtful expression showing on his face. "I have told you about the Sword Immortal, right?"

"Hm?" Xu Xiaoshou did not understand what he meant.

"This is the scabbard for his sword, the Fourth Sword!"

When Xu Xiaoshou heard it, the young man looked surprised. He had the Black Scabbard of the Fourth Sword, which belonged to the Sword Immortal.

He thought of his 10 Sections of the Finger Sword, the path of Pure Sword Will Combat, and the Ordinary Power of Thought.

It appeared that he might have some connection with the legendary figure.

Was it a coincidence?

"The scabbard for the Fourth Sword..."

Xu Xiaoshou narrowed his eyes, realizing he was embroiled in some dark, hidden connection in what was turning out to be an eventful season for him!

He recalled he had seen only one character representing the first name on the stone monument at the bottom of the Black Fallen Cliff.

Xu Xiaoshou had wondered then if it was the character left by the Sword Immortal, but he refuted such a hypothesis. Later, he carved a QI Snake behind that name.

It would seem that the two do have a close connection!

The Sword Immortal had once entered the Tianxuan Gate and then left the scabbard there?

Why would such a legendary figure have a connection with the Tiansang Spirit Palace?

Previously, Xu Xiaoshou had another hypothesis that he had squelched. "The masked man is..."

Elder Sang shook his head and cut him off. "As this old man said before, I will not tell you anything about Saint Servant."

"Sh*t!"

"Hm?" Elder Sang turned his head around in shock, his sparse eyebrows twitching repeatedly. He asked, "What did you say?"

"Ahem, nothing. It is nothing."

Xu Xiaoshou scratched his head in embarrassment. How negligent of him to have almost exposed his real inner displeasure in the presence of Elder Sang.

Hold back!

It is not the time yet! Xu Xiaoshou thought to himself.

Xu Xiaoshou had this idea of beating up Elder Sang after ten years of hard cultivation, but he dropped it on the very night he received a punch from Elder Sang's fist. It was too powerful even for a master body.

Xu Xiaoshou had no choice but to hold back as he could not beat Elder Sang yet!

Elder Sang sighed looking at the young man who ended up with no answers, and said, "You had better put your scabbard away. Do not reveal it if you can help it. Many people want to get their hands on it. You would be in a very precarious situation if they found you with it."

It will have a role to play in the future. So, keep it safe!"

Xu Xiaoshou's heart skipped a beat. He realized he could not carry the Black Scabbard on his back to show off.

After nodding his head to acknowledge Elder Sang's advice, he pulled out another item. It was the Sealing Stone!

The old man's eyelids twitched. He looked carefully to make sure he did not make a mistake.

"The Treasure of Suppressing Barrier, the Sealing Stone?"

“Hm.”

“How many items did you take from the Tianxuan Gate?” Elder Sang asked, immediately realizing how critical this question was.

“Four items. But it is not important. What is important is...”

“Four items!” Elder Sang looked stunned. He looked pale as he scratched his head through the conical hat, and said, “It means that it was you who destroyed the Tianxuan Gate!”

“I am responsible for half of it, but this is not important. What is important is...” Xu Xiaoshou continued, trying to finish what he was saying.

“Tell me!” yelled Elder Sang.

“Uh.” Xu Xiaoshou paused for a moment and said weakly, “Sort of...”

When he saw the color on Elder Sang’s face change, Xu Xiaoshou hurriedly said, “But the dean already knows about this. He praised me for obtaining the four treasures and showed his appreciation. He also mentioned that he would reward me for it but forgot about his promise. I am reluctant to ask for it. You can ask him for me when you have time.”

Elder Sang was at a total loss for words!

He got slightly distracted by the young man’s barrage of words. Then, he quickly regained his senses and said, “Do not beat about the bush. Tell me honestly, did you...”

“Elder Sang, do you know anything about the ghost beasts?” Xu Xiaoshou interrupted him again. He had no intention of giving Elder Sang the details.

The devil was in the details!

I have just avoided the questions from the dean, and I cannot die in the hands of the vice dean, Xu Xiaoshou thought.

What terrified Xu Xiaoshou the most was that Elder Sang might choose to carry out justice by getting rid of someone close to him. Judging by his eccentric character, it was possible Elder Sang would do it!

“The ghost beasts?”

Xu Xiaoshou successfully diverted his attention. With narrowed eyes, Elder Sang asked, “How do you know so much?”

Though he asked in a calm tone, Elder Sang was shocked beyond words.

He certainly did not tell Xu Xiaoshou much because he was afraid that the young man would get involved in the plan prematurely.

However, Elder Sang did not foresee that the lad had unexpectedly experienced so many things.

He had a slightly uncomfortable feeling that everything might go awry in the future because of Xu Xiaoshou!

“Can you tell me about the ghost beasts?” Xu Xiaoshou repeated his question.

He saw a burst of the message “Suspected” on his Information Bar and the surprised and uncertain look on Elder Sang’s face. Xu Xiaoshou had already guessed that the matter of the ghost beasts would be complex.

Therefore, he told Elder Sang about his encounters with Mo Mo and the Grey Mist Figure in the Tianxuan Gate in great detail.

But he had kept about fifteen percent of his experiences in the Tianxuan Gate from Elder Sang, most of which were his trump cards and his understanding of the ghost beasts.

His assumptions were matters that still needed to be substantiated!

Elder Sang remained silent for a long time before he spoke. “You said you resealed it into Mo Mo’s body?” Elder Sang asked.

“Yes, the limiting power of the Rules of the Small World restricted it. She was very weak and fell after only one punch.”

“Huh?” Elder Sang had a grave expression on his face and said in a gruff voice, “You should feel lucky that you are still alive!”

“Uh?” Xu Xiaoshou could not joke around this time. He looked at Elder Sang numbly and said, “Is it so serious?”

Elder Sang did not give a response. He projected his spiritual thought and then retrieved it after one breath. He then sighed and said, “Mo Mo is no longer in the Spirit Palace. She turned out to be the second spy!”

Xu Xiaoshou froze, wondering how Elder Sang could sweep the entire Spirit Palace within such a short time.

How formidable his cultivation was!

Xu Xiaoshou suddenly felt that the day of his graduation was indeed far away.

“Did you want to know about Saint Servant?” Elder Sang asked. He had gazed at the young man standing before him for a long time and finally agreed to talk about it.

Xu Xiaoshou’s eyes lit up.

Chapter 245: It’s Thought Through!

Elder Sang’s expression was extremely grave. He tapped his fingers on the windowsill rhythmically as he pondered how to put his words together.

“The ghost beasts are nothing but trouble to the world!”

The first sentence already sounded rather forbidding. Elder Sang gazed at Xu Xiaoshou and continued to speak his thoughts.

“They only exist in another dimensional space, and the probability of their existence is merely one in ten thousand. However, even though the probability is slim when calculated based on the elements of the entire continent...”

In the land of five domains, plus the endless oceans, a dimensional rift will almost occur every few minutes.”

It means there will be at least dozens or even hundreds of ghost beasts produced in a day!”

Their strength is rarely below the Throne Level!”

Xu Xiaoshou looked stunned. He had heard about the ghost beasts from Mo Mo, but obviously, the girl knew little about them.

It was the first time that he had learned about the ghost beasts so comprehensively. It was understandable how shocked he felt at the moment.

“Dozens or even hundreds of them? And all are at the Throne Level?” The young man wore an expression of disbelief on his face.

He thought of the Grey Mist Figure. If not for the limiting power of the Rules of the Small World in the Tianxuan Gate, he would be more than a Throne Level swordsman, judging by the speed of his cultivation process!

Then, he completely understood what Elder Sang had meant earlier when the old man said, “You should feel lucky that you are still alive.”

It was indeed a freaking, perverted being!

In another time and at another place, his knees would have gone weak, and he’d be kneeling on the ground!

Elder Sang nodded gently and said, “Those are only the ghost beasts that we have uncovered. But those that we have not discovered yet or have not arrived in the five domains are even more dangerous. They are the trouble of the troubles!”

The dimensional rift has been occurring for a great many years. And countless ghost beasts have been sealed or destroyed over the years. But the destruction of the ghost beasts has only made those surviving ones more terrifying.”

Imagine what it would be like if those beasts were to unite.”

The statement momentarily stunned Xu Xiaoshou.

Frankly, at his current cultivation level, it was difficult for him to visualize the implications.

“The end of the world, and human extinction?”

Elder Sang gave him a wry smirk.

“Do not exaggerate it.”

He laughed before he continued to speak.

“After all, they are like the rats on the streets that everyone wants to destroy. No matter how big and destructive they are, they are still just rats.”

There will always be some special people to govern the ghost beasts. But if the sub-dimensional rift does not stop, the disturbance in the dark will never stop.”

“Who will govern them?” Xu Xiaoshou asked.

“The Divine Hall!” Elder Sang replied.

Xu Xiaoshou immediately thought of Jiang Bianyan and said, “Rely on them to govern?”

Although the guy was not so weak but compared to the Grey Mist Figure, he is...

THWACK!

Elder Sang knocked the youth’s head with a knuckle and chided, “The Divine Hall is the number one force on the continent. What you saw is merely a tip of the iceberg or a small ice chip on the large iceberg!”

“There is a special organization in the Divine Hall responsible for sealing the ghost beasts called the Red Coat.”

“The Red Coat?” Xu Xiaoshou raised his eyebrows. He recalled that on the night the masked man had attacked for the second time, he had heard Elder Qiao mentioning The White Coat.

“What is the difference between The Red Coat and The White Coat?”

“One kills the ghost beasts, and the other kills people.”

Xu Xiaoshou was astonished to hear such a simple, though brutal, answer. But it was a straightforward answer.

Thoughtfully, he asked, “So the Divine Hall exists to kill all the ghost beasts and maintain world peace?”

Maintaining world peace? The corners of Elder Sang’s mouth curled up in a sneer, then said indifferently, “Sort of!”

“But what does this have to do with Saint Servant?” Xu Xiaoshou did not notice the strange expression on the straw-hatted old man’s face, and he repeated his question to him. He found that Elder Sang was going a bit off-topic.

“Let us get back to the earlier question,” Elder Sang continued as he glanced at Xu Xiaoshou. He sat down on the floor, patting the space beside him to invite Xu Xiaoshou to sit down beside him before continuing.

“Though each of the ghost beasts is extremely powerful individually, they rarely understand the concept of teamwork.”

But there are always exceptions to everything. What if one of those beings is born to rule the entire clan, or if someone wants to use the power of the ghost beasts to achieve a certain end?”

Xu Xiaoshou stood up from his squatting position and said in horror, "So the masked man is a ghost beast?"

Elder Sang looked lost for words.

What kind of brain has he got?

: Doubted, passive point, +1.

Elder Sang didn't need to say anything. Xu Xiaoshou had already known the answer based on his response. He calmed down and sat in the same spot and thought to himself.

Since that was not a possibility, did it mean that the goal of Saint Servant was the Ghost Beasts?

Elder Sang felt he had something to say, but he could not say it.

All he could do was nod his head reluctantly.

Xu Xiaoshou pondered on the issue and murmured, "According to you, it was apparent that the masked man came to the Spirit Palace for the ghost beasts. However, they came here to look for the Epitaph of City Snow."

And they knew nothing about Mo Mo."

Is it possible that Mo Mo is a member of the Saint Servant organization?"

Elder Sang smiled with contempt. It was a troublesome matter and there was no way a young man like him could figure it out.

He took out the wine jar and took a sip, waiting to see how much Xu Xiaoshou could unravel.

The lad knitted his eyebrows and thought for a long time. Suddenly, something dawned on him.

"No, it is not possible for Mo Mo to be the Saint Servant..."

After all, judging by what she had said in the Tianxuan Gate, the woman had nothing to do with Saint Servant. She probably did not even know of the Saint Servant's existence.

She must have acted that way because of the White Cave... She had been possessed by a ghost beast.

"The White Cave?"

Xu Xiaoshou felt he had found a clue. He looked at Elder Sang in shock and said, "I have figured it out!"

It stunned Elder Sang when he heard Xu Xiaoshou mention The White Cave and he wondered how the young lad connected the dots.

Before Elder Sang could say anything, a flash of wisdom inspired Xu Xiaoshou and inspiration flowed out like water from a spring.

"Saint Servant had a target. On the surface of things, it looked like they were looking for the famous sword. But secretly, all of their preparations were to get their hands on the Black Scabbard?"

The Black Scabbard belonged to the Sword Immortal and has nothing to do with the ghost beasts. However, since they were searching for it, the item must have some connection to the ghost beasts!"

According to Mo Mo, she is the first generation of the Possessed Body of ghost beast, and the encounter occurred close to the White Cave."

The White Cave is the place where the Saint Servant is watching a ghost beast, based on the birth rate of one in ten thousand."

In short, they were looking for Mo Mo, but they failed to find her. So, they entered the White Cave to search for clues?"

Seeing the shocked expression on Elder Sang's face, Xu Xiaoshou had a further realization.

"The opening of sub-dimensional space is certainly not very random, especially in the small world where the ghost beasts were born into."

Xu Xiaoshou paused and evaluated further. He suddenly commented, "The White Cave has an unusual movement. Will it open again?"

Elder Sang could not sit still any longer. He stood up with a horrified expression on his face.

: Suspected, passive point, +1.

"Speaking of the Black Scabbard, will the ruins of the Sword Immortal get discovered? Or will it be the Fourth Sword which will get discovered?"

Bang!

Shocked, the wine jar dropped from Elder Sang's hand and he staggered back several paces.

: Suspected, passive point, +1.

"If one got hold of the scabbard, one has an advantage. One could then touch the ass of the ghost beast... mm, to find the clues?"

Elder Sang took a deep breath. Before he could speak, Xu Xiaoshou gave him a meaningful smile.

"Old man, you told me to come back within a month. Does it have something to do with the plan for this White Cave?"

Thud!

Elder Sang coughed and dropped on his bottom right onto the floor.

"This..."

Chapter 246: Spiritual Body

"What the hell!"

"What kind of magic pill did this lad take? How could he have figured out all of this?"

“Maybe, I’ve taken it for granted and thought the plan was seamless, but in fact, anyone could see it through.”

“No, it’s impossible!”

Elder Sang’s arms, which were propped on the floor, started to tremble slightly. It was hard for him to fathom. If it was extrapolated further based on this conclusion...

How could Xu Xiaoshou come up with the answers to the questions that he couldn’t even answer?

It turned out that Mo Mo was the first generation of the possessed body of a ghost beast in the White Cave.

It turned out that the person who the Divine Hall, and even Saint Servant, couldn’t find after a long and hard search had been hiding in the Spirit Palace.

This is not something that an ordinary person could speculate. How did I not know he was so smart? Could it be that I didn’t put enough pressure on him before?”

Elder Sang collected his thoughts, brought back the wine bottle that had rolled to the side, and tilted his head up to take a drink.

He was tempted to ask, “How do you know all of this?”

If he could, he even wanted to ask, “What is your thought about whether the ghost beasts will enter the White Cave again, Xiaoshou?”

But...

As his master...

How could he ask such a question and not lose face?

“Hey, huh...”

His face twitched twice. Elder Sang laughed awkwardly. He found his shirt had become wet by the spilled wine from the bottle.

He took the opportunity to lie down on the ground and stretch his back.

“Ahhh...”

“Very comfy!”

After he rolled over and stood up again, Elder Sang put on his conical hat and nodded slightly, showing an approving expression in his eyes.

“Good analysis.”

“Commended, passive point, +.”

“Admired, passive point, +.”

“Admired, passive point, +.”

Xu Xiaoshou's cheeks puffed up twice, but he didn't dare laugh out loud. Yet, his toes had almost gouged through the soles of his shoes due to the awkwardness.

He thought, "I've clearly seen the spilled wine on the floor, and your actions made it more obvious, even though you tried to cover up your true feelings..."

"And stretching your back to cover up..."

"And moaning..."

"I..."

Xu Xiaoshou clenched his fists tightly and straightened his feet. After enduring for a long time, he had finally relaxed. He pretended to ask for instructions by asking, "Is any part of my speculation wrong?"

"Naturally!"

Elder Sang stood with his arms folded behind his back, pacing back and forth to secretly dry up the spilled wine on his body. He pointed one of his skinny fingers and shook it.

"First of all, Saint Servant was not only pretending to obtain the Tomb and City Snow but was also bound to get it!"

"As a matter of fact, that organization was ambitious enough to obtain all of the 21 famous swords!"

Xu Xiaoshou raised his eyebrows, surprised that they had such a purpose.

What could they do with the 21 famous swords?

Could they summon the divine dragon?

"What about the second part?" Xu Xiaoshou asked for advice again.

"Second..."

Elder Sang stomped his foot once, "The second... The second part..."

He turned around and stared at the youth with deep eyes wrapped with dark circles.

"This old man will not say more. It's not good for you to know too much."

Xu Xiaoshou was confused.

Did this ugly old man not really know?

He thought, "You should just tell me, but you will end up suffering to save face!"

"Do you really think that I can't figure it out?"

"Okay, that's the reason..." He said instead and nodded to show he understood. Since he couldn't say anything to upset the master, all he could do was to flatter him. "I've learned a great lesson from you!"

Elder Sang sighed.

Anyone could easily tell the irony in his words.

“Brat, are you begging for a beating?”

Xu Xiaoshou grinned and hurriedly ran away.

“Are there any more questions?”

Elder Sang obviously had the intention to drive him away. He had already talked way too much with Xu Xiaoshou that day. If he kept on talking, a major mishap might occur.

He recalled the compressed flame seed flying into his nostril.

He had been awoken by the explosion of the flame seed every night.

“There is...”

Xu Xiaoshou thought for a moment and said, “One last question.”

Elder Sang dramatically rolled his eyes. “Out with it!”

“The question is about Little Sister Mu. What is she?” Xu Xiaoshou frowned.

He had wanted to ask this question for a long time.

He wanted to know the devouring life force from the Windcloud Competition in the Outer Yard, and the move she made to solve Ye Xiaotian’s situation in the Inner Yard.

There were more and more mysteries about the little girl. He had already had a sense of danger about her.

This sense of danger was rare among his peers.

Mo Mo could be counted as one, and Yu Zhiwen was another one. The blind man was also a bit fishy.

Mu Zixi was even more dubious than the others.

Because of the close relationship between the two of them, he felt the sense of danger was even more acute.

“Your junior sister...” Elder Sang lowered his head, pondering the question.

Speaking of Mu Zixi, in addition to her Life-devouring Wood Physique, were there any other secrets?

However, Xu Xiaoshou already knew about the special physique of the girl, so why did he ask such a question now?

Something was wrong.

Had this lad found out something?

Elder Sang quit thinking more about the issue and asked, “Do you know anything about the spiritual body on the continent?”

“The spiritual body?” Xu Xiaoshou had only heard of it briefly.

Elder Sang nodded. "You should have seen it. Zhang Xinxiong carried the ancestral bloodline of the Xiong family and had the spiritual body of the ancestral Xiaong. His type of spiritual body is to increase strength. As a result, he looked different from normal people."

Xu Xiaoshou was astonished. He had thought Zhang Xinxiong was growing by taking the protein powder.

Elder Sang had an admiring expression in his eyes as he said, "Spiritual bodies are very rare. Although the type Zhang Xinxiong has can be counted as one, the quality of that type is actually not high. Your junior sister's type is truly powerful."

"Her spiritual body, even among the community of the spiritual bodies on the whole continent, is considered extremely rare, which is the Life-devouring Wood Physique."

"To grow, this physique needs to devour a large amount of life force. If the life force can't keep up in the later stages of cultivation, it is possible that it will devour its master."

Xu Xiaoshou was a little surprised and asked, "Is it okay for her to devour life force?"

His life force was sucked once in the Outer Yard, but he didn't suffer much because he had Eternal Vitality.

But others were different.

Were their life forces in danger. If it was sucked dry, would they become a dry corpse? Who could survive such devouring?

Shouldn't this have been forbidden by the world?

Elder Sang smiled and said, "It would become a problem if it were in other places. Yet, I took her as my disciple before she had fully developed the Life-devouring Wood Physique. As such, others don't dare to say anything more."

"This world has a lot of divine creatures with the life force. At least, she can survive by taking the Life Generating Pill. It's not a big deal."

It was what Xu Xiaoshou expected. He secretly admired the old man. He asked again, "But what if... What if she loses control of herself?"

Elder Sang smiled scornfully and indifferently replied, "What could happen if she lost control? She can't be more powerful than a ghost beast."

"Let's exaggerate it a bit. What could she do if she were as powerful as 10 or a hundred ghost beasts?"

"The red coat in the Divine Hall can fix it immediately."

Xu Xiaoshou was stunned. He found that it was indeed different when one looked at the issue from a different perspective.

It turned out that the elders didn't consider it a serious issue even though he had been worrying about it for a long time.

"Ahem, I'm the one who's naive."

Elder Sang shook his head. "No, your worry is still somewhat useful. Keep an eye on her. If something happens to your junior sister, I guess you won't be able to avoid it either."

Xu Xiaoshou was surprised.

Chapter 247: Either a Saint or a Servant

Elder Sang laughed heartily, thinking that it was not so easy to stump this lad. He twisted his wrists. Crackling sounds came out from his bones.

"Although Spiritual Physiques are rare, they are not infinitely strong. At least, the innate flesh can be counted as another type of the acquired Spiritual Physique."

"Even in your stage, it is a very powerful force."

"Of course, you have Master Physique now. You can mostly ignore those geniuses who have a Spiritual Physique."

Even if Xu Xiaoshou had good self-control, he still couldn't help but feel somewhat proud.

He was fully aware of how difficult it was to cultivate the flesh body after birth. It was still very hard for him to achieve the feat after he had died. As such, it would be inexcusable for those who relied on their perseverance to get a Master Physique and still not be invincible.

Seeing that the atmosphere was suitable for it, Elder Sang decided to knock down his self-confidence a little by saying, "But the Master Physique is not always invincible."

"Ah, what?" As expected, Xu Xiaoshou paused.

Elder Sang said with a smile, "I should have said that those true geniuses are all over the five domains of the continent."

"Among such people, one group is extremely special and terrifying. They have a Saint Physique at birth as if they were blessed by God!"

"Saint Physique?" Xu Xiaoshou could imagine its level as soon as he heard the name. "Is it above the Spiritual Physique?"

"That's right!"

Elder Sang said with a bitter smile, "When it comes to genius, your current level is really nothing."

"One with the Saint Physique can crush those with the Spiritual Physique with one punch!"

"Hmm..."

Xu Xiaoshou was shocked. He thought Elder Sang had said so much earlier in preparation to knock down his self-confidence.

"What about Master Physique?" he asked.

"One with Master Physique can resist a little bit," Elder Sang chuckled, "but they can only do so a little."

Xu Xiaoshou sighed. If it was true that hard work was useful, why were geniuses needed in the first place?

“Creation is not fair!”

Elder Sang found that his approach of knocking down his self-confidence had worked and started to offer some encouragement, “Luckily, such Saint Physiques are extremely rare in the world.”

“All in all, except for those great void families, and half-saint families, almost no one has appeared in the world.”

Xu Xiaoshou raised his eyebrows and intended to say something. Elder Sang held out his hand and said, “Do not ask. If you have to ask, it means that you still can’t sense such a thing yet.”

“Sh*t! Again?”

“Hmm?”

“Uh, I said... Well, well said!”

Elder Sang sighed.

Xu Xiaoshou had no intention to dwell on those nebulous and future matters either. He returned to the original topic.

“In addition to the matter of Junior Sister Mu’s body, there is another rather mysterious thing.”

“Before the opening of the Tianxuan Gate, Master Dean was controlled by that blind man with an illusion or something like that, but a look from Junior Sister Mu unlocked it.”

“What is this principle of this? Can the Life-devouring Wood Physique achieve that?”

Elder Sang was stunned for a moment and then replied, “The Life-devouring Wood Physique can’t achieve this since it isn’t omnipotent.”

“That is to say, you don’t even know anything.” Xu Xiaoshou felt disappointed.

“Hoh...” Elder Sang grew gloomy. “Do you really think I’m an all-knowing God?”

“But she is your disciple!”

“She’s also your junior sister!”

Xu Xiaoshou, “Uh...”

Elder Sang was quite pleased that he had made the lad speechless. He vaguely experienced the pleasure Xu Xiaoshou gained from doing so.

As the corners of his mouth lifted, the old man leaned over and said, “Speaking of which, your physique is also a bit odd. The surging life force in your body doesn’t seem to be weaker than your junior sister’s.”

“Uh...”

Xu Xiaoshou was dumbfounded. The old man always returned to the issue about him in the end. He thought, "Is it a joke?"

"What can I say?"

"I have something to take care of. I must leave now!" He made loud stepping sounds as he away from the Spiritual Library Division.

Elder Sang was amused. He didn't try and stop him. He merely shouted at his back, "Brat, the enemy's secret should be revealed, but some secrets should be let come to the surface by themselves!"

Xu Xiaoshou was taken aback by those ambiguous words.

It was true. Everybody had some secrets.

"Don't worry, she is my junior sister! I won't do anything to her!" Xu Xiaoshou shouted through the door crack.

Elder Sang pressed his conical hat once and said with a serious expression, "What I meant is that if she accidentally becomes your enemy in the future, you shouldn't deal with her mercifully."

Dang!

Xu Xiaoshou fell to the ground. He turned around to look at the old man. It was as if three question marks were popping out from his face.

"Are you serious?"

Elder Sang did not reply. He waved his hand without looking at him and said, "Go."

...

"What the hell?"

Xu Xiaoshou frowned and walked down from the third floor of the Spiritual Library Division while holding the stair railings.

He often felt that this old man with the conical hat was sometimes normal and sometimes abnormal.

Whenever he thought that the old man was normal, Elder Sang would always say something unexpected.

"What does he mean by saying that I shouldn't deal with her mercifully when she becomes the enemy..."

"Those are not the proper words her master should say."

He shook his head a few times in an attempt to get rid of the disturbing thoughts. Soon after, Xu Xiaoshou no longer thought about it.

After all, Elder Sang was an enigmatic old man. It was really difficult to figure him out.

Passing through the second-floor doorway, Xu Xiaoshou glanced at the slightly familiar white light cloud before he came to the first floor.

The bookcases and desks that were accidentally burned that day had mostly been mended. All of them had been protected by the array. It was obviously an effort to prevent more accidents from happening within.

When he recalled the scene in which he risked his own life to put out the fire, Xu Xiaoshou couldn't help but smile. His mood improved quite a bit.

He resumed walking forward. He held the door of the Spiritual Library Division with his hand and was about to push it open.

"Are you going out?"

In his thoughts, a voice that didn't belong to him suddenly rang out. However, the meaning of the question was obvious.

Xu Xiaoshou stiffened his body and turned his head to the side.

In the corner of the doorway of the first floor was a wooden platform. Behind it, a man with a disheveled face and hair could be seen.

The man was staying in the dark spot, so it was impossible to see his face clearly. The only thing that could be detected was the nonstop hand movements of carving wood.

It was apparent that he was holding a carving knife. His head was lowered even when he was asking the question.

Xu Xiaoshou had the perception, so he could see things more clearly than others. Yet, when he tried to pay attention to this person, the picture he obtained was a blur.

Under such circumstances, he could still tell that the thumbs on both of the man's hands were broken.

However, he didn't stop the movement of his hands for half a second. The wood chips were flying away from his hands. The purple board in his hands looked more and more lively.

"Yes, Sir."

Xu Xiaoshou bowed with a slight stiffness.

The last time he saw this man, he had come there to register after obtaining the Infernal Heavens. However, the man didn't say a word back then.

At that time, he thought the man was merely a guard or a servant of Elder Sang.

After he had come to the Spiritual Library Division many times, Xu Xiaoshou realized that he was wrong about the man.

This man was definitely not simple.

A man like him, who had been hiding in the Spiritual Library Division and never showed his face outside, had to be a very powerful swordsman like those monks who swept the leaves on the ground in the temples.

He hadn't seen the man even once when Saint Servant came twice before.

The man acted like he was an outsider and would never interfere in the world's affairs.

Now, he had taken the initiative to speak.

It was rather strange. Xu Xiaoshou wondered, "Did he try and let me know of his existence?"

"Do you have any orders for me, Sir?" Xu Xiaoshou reviewed his question carefully and still couldn't wrap his head around it.

The carving knife was making cracking sounds as the man worked on the purple command token.

It was deadly silent for dozens of seconds before the thought, the explicit and symbolic meaning of which couldn't be fathomed, appeared in Xu Xiaoshou's mind again.

"Where to?"

The corners of Xu Xiaoshou's mouth twitched, thinking that he had come up with such two words after pondering about it for so long.

"To the outside." He pointed to the door of the Spiritual Library Division, indicating that he would like to leave the place.

Even if this man was an important figure, the man had nothing to do with him. Xu Xiaoshou didn't expect that the man would offer him some significant instructions or gifts after having a good impression of him.

There was no need for it. He might turn out to be a source of trouble.

He had waited for a long time again without any answer. Xu Xiaoshou felt a chill created by the cold sweat on his back.

He wondered, "Is it possible that I replied to him in the wrong manner?"

As expected, the important figures always treated their words like gold and didn't say much, letting others guess.

Xu Xiaoshou had no choice but to think about the man's two questions.

"Are you going out?"

"Where to?"

It was obvious that he was going to leave the Spiritual Library Division. It was really redundant to ask the questions.

But, the man didn't ask about the immediate departure.

Rather, he asked about the agreement of meeting Mu Zixi in 10 days, as requested by Elder Sang.

Xu Xiaoshou was a bit shocked and waited again for a long time. He decided the man still had no intention to speak, so he added, "I'll go out to Tiansang County."

The man's hand holding the carving knife paused for a moment before he resumed carving.

“Go ahead.” The two simple and short words came out in the form of thought.

Xu Xiaoshou instantly felt annoyed.

Judging by the situation, this man had obviously forgotten about him earlier.

This man seemed to be mentally sick. The man had stopped him for nothing and then forgot about him after asking two nonsensical questions.

“I...”

Xu Xiaoshou felt like complaining with nasty words. Fortunately, he stopped himself from doing so at a critical moment.

He stared at the man’s fingers, trying to see what he was carving. Yet, the scene he wanted to see was a blur.

He couldn’t even see it through his perception.

“Is he really an important figure?” he wondered.

He moved his line of sight upward and landed on the man’s neck. Xu Xiaoshou fell silent.

He saw a hideous huge wound on the man’s neck through the blur, which was right on the aorta.

Even though it had healed, the scar was still quite shocking to see.

Based on this scar that covered almost half of the neck, one could tell how much suffering he had experienced.

Judging by the severity of the injury, his neck was almost broken. How could he recover from it?

“He must be dangerous. I can’t complain in front of him, and I’d better stay away from him!”

Thinking of all this, Xu Xiaoshou swallowed his testy words and said while clasping his hands, “Farewell, Sir.”

Having said that, he pushed open the door and walked out while facing the sunshine.

...

Pah!

The wooden door didn’t shut completely. A moving conical hat appeared in the shadow.

Elder Sang leaned against the door with a dark and expressionless face. He had watched the man carving for a long while before saying, “Didn’t this old man tell you to leave?”

“Phew!”

The man stopped his hand movements and blew at the purple command token. He didn’t lift his head until he blew away the wood chips.

He had a pair of muddy eyes that were completely blended with the gloomy and blurry environment.

He cracked a smile and said in a hoarse voice, "I have to see what my half-disciple looks like after he settles down."

Elder Sang burst out in anger and growled, "That is this old man's disciple, and he has nothing to do with you!"

Whoosh!

The man did not speak a word. He pierced a hole on the top of the command token with his finger like a sword.

The moment the hole appeared, the command token gave out a purple light. It shone on the faces of the two men, who had different expressions.

Elder Sang remained silent for a long while looking at the sword finger. He then mockingly said, "It's useless to carve this thing. Do you think you will be respected by others like it was decades ago?"

"It will always come in handy." The man smiled and didn't retort. All he did was to set the purple command token face down on the table.

Dang!

The glowing purple light provided some brightness to this gloomy corner of the room.

Elder Sang lowered his line of sight and saw the pattern on it.

It was a vividly carved naked woman with a graceful body and charming form.

Anyone would have felt pity for her, especially when they saw the woman sobbing while holding her knees with her head lowered.

Anyone would generate an eerie feeling about the picture when they saw the heavy shackles chained to her limbs.

The chains extended and disappeared at the borders of the token as if they were rooted from the bottom of the earth, incarcerating human beings as their nature.

There was a long silence. Even the sound of breathing in this environment appeared noisy.

Finally, the man pushed the door open and walked out, letting out a hoarse sigh to break through the darkness.

"I'm also leaving. You'd better think about it carefully. Coming back or not, it's still the same answer..."

"Either a saint or a servant for the rest of life!"

Chapter 248: Getting out of the Mountain

Ten days later...

Tiansang Spirit Palace, main entrance to the Outer Yard...

It was the end of summer, but autumn could strongly be felt. When the morning sun shone, dew could be seen in the pits and holes everywhere. The dew was rolling down the grass, plants, flowers, and stones like tears.

A flowing green was harmoniously mingled with everything of the world.

Mu Zixi still wore light green clothes, but more beaded hairpins and hanging ornaments could be seen on her. She had also applied some pink powder to her cheeks, which were already tender and pretty. In so doing, she looked more mature, even though she still appeared small and delicate.

Like the fruit on the top of the branches, though they looked tender at the moment, they could, according to the trend of their development, be imagined to be delicious and juicy in late autumn.

Mu Zixi, who had dressed up carefully, became impatient to wait. She paced back and forth. It was imaginable how irritated she felt.

“The damned Xu Xiaoshou. You said that we would get down the mountain during the moonlight so that we could watch the sunrise the next morning. It’s been two hours already, and he is nowhere to be found!”

She looked to the horizon and found that the morning sun had risen in the east. The purple energy had also headed west.

If the two of them could watch the sunrise together, they would be able to experience the joy of the last moment no matter how long she had waited.

But one person...

After feeling overjoyed to see the rising sun for a moment, she felt lonely for the rest of the day, as well as extreme annoyance afterward.

“Abominable, abominable, abominable... He dared to stand me up. He is a dumb melon, a dumb melon. I curse you to lose feet in heaven, lose strength on Earth, choke on water in the sea, fall on your face when walking, choke on food when eating, vomit when drinking...”

“Mu Zixi!”

A deep, gruff voice rang out behind her. Mu Zixi paused drawing circles on the ground while squatting. She popped up from the ground, her twin ponytails bouncing up and down.

“Argh! What? Why do you speak so loudly? I’m not deaf!” She crossed her arms and pouted, showing an arrogant expression on her face.

It was the other party’s fault to be late, so the little girl was justified to be angry and upset.

Xu Xiaoshou walked over with a gloomy face. He checked the curses in the information bar and felt unable to complain.

It turned out that he was being cursed in this way daily.

She must have thought that she could throw any kind of curse at him since she felt free to do so.

“Where have you been?” Mu Zixi asked.

“I didn’t sleep in, that is for sure.” Xu Xiaoshou excluded the option that was most likely to drive anyone crazy first.

“Hmph, I think it is the case!”

“I dealt with an important matter, which couldn’t be delayed. Let’s go now.”

Xu Xiaoshou didn’t give further explanation. He waved his hand and flew down the mountain.

Mu Zixi hastened to follow up.

“What was the important matter?”

“The important matter was something that I can’t tell you. On the other hand, even if I told you, you wouldn’t be able to understand it.”

“If you don’t tell me, how can I understand it?”

“The Yuan mansion, do you understand?”

“What is the Yuan mansion?”

“Ha-ha, I told you that you wouldn’t understand it!”

“Ugh...”

Mu Zixi was very angry. Following behind him, she irately said, “Xu Xiaoshou, you must be lying to me.”

Dang!

Xu Xiaoshou turned around and suddenly held down the little girl’s head. He stared at her face while commenting, “You are kind of good-looking today.”

Mu Zixi was surprised at the unexpected compliment. Did he see it?

The little girl’s pretty face turned red as she murmured, “Oh, are... Are you sure?”

“Yeah, I’m sure!”

Xu Xiaoshou nodded. Seeing the reddening cheeks on his junior sister’s face, he hastened to explain, “Do not misunderstand me. I’ve only responded to your last remark.”

“The last remark?” Mu Zixi was baffled.

“Yeah, didn’t you ask me if I was lying to you?” Xu Xiaoshou paused for a moment and said, “Yes, I was lying to you.”

Mu Zixi was confused.

“Cursed, passive points, +1, +1, +1, +1...”

Xu Xiaoshou hastened to keep some distance from her while glancing at the silent and repressed girl, who might explode in anger in the next moment.

He slowly pulled out the Hidden Bitter.

“Come on, draw your sword. Don’t hold it in. Let your anger out.” He pondered for a moment and added, “You can’t beat me anyway.”

Ka!

The little girl clenched her pink fists tightly and gritted her teeth so much so that one could hear the rattles. Her eyelids twitched uncontrollably. It seemed that she was on the verge of losing control of the raw force in her body.

Boom!

The entire mountain forest trembled, including the grass and plants. Xu Xiaoshou was astonished.

“Damn, I forgot this is a mountain forest...”

Seeing the forest growing insanely fast, Xu Xiaoshou turned around and ran away as fast as his legs could carry him, shouting miserably, “Joking! I was just joking. Don’t get excited!”

“You look good. You look good every day! Stop! Stop doing it!”

Mu Zixi clapped her small hands emotionlessly. Her indifferent voice rang out, “Little trees, burst!”

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

The explosions occurred in the early morning, which had almost made the disciples of the Outer Yard who woke up early to cultivate go mad. They turned their heads one after the other to look at the horizon. Confusion was on their faces.

“Could it be that the senior brother and junior sister are practicing martial arts?”

...

Inner Yard...

Ye Xiaotian was filled with joy as he retrieved the Heavenly Moving Mirror.

“He’s gone. That lad is finally gone.”

“Old Man Sang, I admit that this is the best decision you’ve ever made in your life!”

Elder Sang held his conical hat while looking to the horizon, saying expressionlessly, “I’ll be gone for a while as well.”

“Hmm?” Ye Xiaotian’s smile stalled. “Where to?”

“I’ll go to many places.” Elder Sang turned his head around and said while looking at him, “Don’t worry. It’s impossible for Saint Servant to come back in a short time.”

“What if he comes back?”

“It’s not going to happen because there is nothing in the Spirit Palace that is worth his coming back.”

Ye Xiaotian, "Hmm..."

He wondered, "How come he also speaks in such a manner? Who did he learn it from? He has learned to retort others more effectively."

"There is one more thing." Elder Sang had suddenly remembered something before he was about to leave. "We want two quotas for the White Cave."

"Two?" Ye Xiaotian's eyes immediately widened. "But that will be the battle of Tiansang County, including dozens of the surrounding cities and the foreign forces that had heard of the event. Do you really want to send two newbies in it?"

Elder Sang smiled disdainfully before he flew up while holding the conical hat.

"No matter how many people come, Xu Xiaoshou will make a great fuss in the White Cave if I let him in."

Boom! Boom!

Two earth-shattering booms resonated in the distance. Ye Xiaotian fell silent.

What Elder Sang said made sense.

...

Spiritual Law Division...

In front of a cluster of flat and long, black buildings was a hideous beast lying on a table. A long sword with dripping blood was hanging in its mouth.

A murderous aura could be sensed everywhere. The birds and beasts didn't dare stop by.

A woman in a black skirt stepped into the front door. The disciples guarding the gate on both sides retreated in fear.

Her skirt and hair were black. Even her nails were dyed black.

Yet, the woman had a pretty white face and red lips. Otherwise, she was covered in black.

The endless blackness and a little bright color exuded an extreme pressure on the disciples on both sides so much that they had a hard time breathing.

It wasn't until the woman disappeared behind the door that the two disciples could breathe again. They were drenched in sweat and panting.

"Who is she? Am I mistaken? Is she Lan Xianzi?"

"My God, I didn't see here delicate shoulders. My youth is over..."

"You are sick! What the hell are you focusing on? Can't you see that she has changed her temperament?"

"Temperament? Only the temperament? Did you notice her cultivation?"

"What?"

“Master level!”

“Crap... Whoa!”

Before the disciple could utter “Crap,” the two of them were dragged to their guarding positions. They bowed their heads and remained silent.

Ta!

Ta!

The woman in black moved her forward gently, leaving a footprint with each step.

Her skirt was long enough to cover her ankles. The white spots on her black boots could only be seen when she took a step.

She walked out of the Spiritual Law Division emotionlessly. The narrow black lines around her eyes and the flat eyebrows made her eyes look morose and deadly. Her pupils were motionless.

“Hiss.”

An extremely enjoyable and perverted hissing rang out in the rear, followed by a dry voice.

“How nice. The smell of sunlight.”

The disciples on both sides couldn’t help but steal a peek.

Following behind the woman was a man with hair covering his face and shoulders. His eyes looked like stars, and his eyebrows were like swords. Even though his face was dirty, it was still apparent that he was handsome.

His arrogant sword will was unreservedly rampant, greedily absorbing the long-missed sunshine. The man frowned when he heard the tearing sound of two disciples’ clothes rupturing.

He retrieved the Sword Will, picked up the longsword, and put it on his shoulder.

The man wore a tattered blood-stained white prison uniform and walked by casually.

It wasn’t until the woman and man were far away that the disciples on both sides swallowed their saliva with difficulty and breathed deeply.

“Is he the Madman He?”

“Well, it should be him, but his sword will seems to be a bit too powerful. I feel that it’s even more powerful than Su Qianqian’s...”

“Have more confidence in yourself. You don’t have to feel it!”

“But didn’t Su Qianqian break through the sword will of master level that night?”

“Hmm...”

After a moment of silence, one voice finally rang out. “Speaking of Madman He, how long has it been since you’ve seen him strike?”

“Uh, I forget.”

“Have you heard of the legend of Madman He?”

“Uh, no... What legend?”

The disciple who asked the question looked retrospectively for a long time. His body shivered suddenly before he started speaking.

“According to the legend, the No. 1 swordsman in the previous Inner Yard was the only person in the entire Spirit Palace who was not afraid of the torture platform. Whenever he felt bored, he would make troubles on the spur of the moment...”

“What for?”

“To get into the torture platform to cultivate!”

“Huh?”

The listening disciple was dumbfounded. He asked in shock, “Is that where his nickname Madman came from?”

“That’s right!”

“Oh, my God. The torture platform... Such a ruthless person has been replaced by Su Qianqian for the title of No. 1 swordsman of the Inner Yard.”

The other disciple shook his head and sighed. “Some people do not need to pursue the goal you aspire to.”

...

He Yuxing carried his sword on his shoulder. He tied his disheveled hair with a borrowed bond, recovering some of his former elegant aura.

However, the hideous wounds and dried blood on his body couldn’t be erased by the bond.

He followed the woman in black closely behind, his eyes showing an immense amount of tenderness.

Although her dressing style had changed, as well as her overall physique and temperament, she was still the same girl in his eyes. She would make a fuss for no reason.

“Did Zhang Xinxiong bully you again?”

A dangerous beam suddenly flashed in his eyes. No one in the Inner Yard but Zhang Xinxiong could make Lan Xinzi change so much.

“No.” Lan Xinzi shook her head. Her voice was cold.

He Yuxing didn’t doubt her. If Lan Xinzi said that she was not bullied, then it was certainly not the case.

However, if it was not him, who would be the wrongdoer?

Since the woman in front of him had no intention to say more, he didn't want to ask more questions. All he needed to do was follow her.

After they had come out from the Inner Yard and passed Goose Lake, the man couldn't help himself any longer.

"It seems that this is not the way back to the spirit site."

"We're descending the mountain."

"Where to?"

"To the Zhang family!"

He Yuixing paused his footsteps, wondering why they were headed to the Zhang family.

It seemed that this was the first time Lan Xinzi wanted to get out of the Spirit Palace in seven years.

What had happened?

He wanted to ask some questions, but he held back his doubts when he saw the speechless Lan Xinzi.

After taking a glance at the bloodstained prison uniform he was wearing, He Yuxing looked around. A hesitant expression showed in his eyes.

"I haven't cleaned..."

"There's no need. You look pretty good this way."

Bang!

The long sword dropped to the ground. He Yuxing was stiffened. A sense of ecstasy showed in his cold eyes.

"Look good?"

"Mm."

With a booming sound, the master's Sword Will exploded. Many big, fat geese in Goose Lake fainted instantly, rolling their eyes upward.

He Yuxing pulled out the sword and coldly spoke.

"Go to the Zhang family! I'll help you kill them all!"

Chapter 249: Three Swordsmen

Tiansang County...

There were many cities in a county. Apart from those inhabited by ordinary people, the most famous one within Tiansang County was no more than the center point of the county, Tiansang City.

It was an important city that could accommodate millions or even tens of millions of people and was a significant trading center for the spiritual cultivators in Tiansang County.

The cost for an ordinary person to live there was dozens of times higher than in other cities.

To simply enter the city gate, one had to pay with spirit crystals, which were extremely expensive and divine objects that people had only heard about in the legends.

The situation was different for spiritual cultivators.

Xu Xiaoshou stopped at the city gate along with his junior sister. He stretched his neck forward and asked while looking at the gatekeeper in front of him, "What did you say?"

"Residential permit!"

"What's a residential permit? Is it true that the spiritual cultivators can enter the city?"

"Uh, are the two of you are spiritual cultivators? Can you show me your IDs?"

ID?

Xu Xiaoshou stretched out his hand and wanted to burn a flame, but he remembered that his fire was invisible and colorless.

He wanted to prove how strong he was, but if he punched this man, he was afraid that he would be instantly killed.

"To wield a sword?"

Xu Xiaoshou hesitantly pulled out the Hidden Bitter. Mu Zixi was startled to see him do so.

"No need, no need for that!"

This place was not like the Tiansang Spirit Palace. Most of the residents were normal people. If he wielded his sword there, it would cause a great fuss.

Thinking of that, Mu Zixi hastened to pull on the corner of Xu Xiaoshou's clothes. She made some crackling sounds with her small hands and handed over two spirit crystals as the vines fluttered.

The doorkeeper was so scared that he bowed and let the two enter.

"This way please, this way please!"

In the eyes of ordinary people, the spiritual cultivators were regarded as semi-gods.

Even though it was Tiansang City, most of the residents were ordinary people. The visitors they received regularly were not at this level.

Looking at the two disappearing into the distance, the gatekeepers looked at each other in shock.

"Is it true that the spiritual cultivators who can transform into wood are usually floating in the air?"

"Aren't they also received by those in the sky? Why are they walking on the ground?"

"Well, I have no idea. I guess special people always have a quirk!"

"Bah, shut up. This is not something you can discuss. You should be aware of the fact that someone might be eavesdropping."

“Oh, oh.”

Xu Xiaoshou lifted his head and saw another roadblock in the sky, which was guarded by a few guys at the Origin Court Level.

“Ahem, so that’s it.”

He believed that it was useless to think too much about it. He walked with his eyes staring straight ahead.

What he saw after coming to the streets was totally different from the scenes in the Spirit Palace.

All kinds of tall houses and pavilions were lined up along the streets. The vendors yelled one after the other, and one was louder than the other. It was a scene of ordinary people living their everyday lives that Xu Xiaoshou hadn’t experienced for a long time.

Xu Xiaoshou shook his head in an attempt to shake off the noises because he had a headache. It was in such a situation that the pain of perception could be felt clearly.

The shabby passive technique couldn’t be shut down without the cancel button. All kinds of miscellaneous information gathered in his mind at once. He felt like his brain could explode at any moment.

“Disturbed, passive point, 1.”

“Disturbed, passive point, 1.”

“Disturbed, passive point, 1.”

“Hmm...”

The information bar was frantically filled up. Xu Xiaoshou was somewhat joyful. When he discovered that the overall increase in passive points seemed to have not risen very fast, he was perplexed.

He thought, “What’s going on? Based on the range of my current perception coverage, I should be able to see tens of thousands of people at the same time!”

“But only a few dozen or a few hundred points have been added at a time.”

“Could it be that the mood fluctuations of these ordinary people can’t give me any passive points?”

Xu Xiaoshou thought it was quite possible to be the case. Otherwise, he would have been invincible. After he stayed among the ordinary people for a month, he could use that bug to earn the passive points.

It was truly a pity.

Even if that was the case, hundreds of passive points at a time had still increased Xu Xiaoshou’s inventory.

The passive points had increased from the original sixteen thousand to more than twenty thousand in a short time.

The rate of increase decreased again. Xu Xiaoshou figured that the decrease was probably because he had gradually gotten used to the noisy environment. He glanced at the bottom of the information bar.

“Passive points: 23,333.”

He decided to forget it and not even think about it.

Although it was joyful to look at, the kind of value that grew in passive form was purely a waste of time and meaningless.

Xu Xiaoshou walked up to the front of a commercial shop and stopped in his tracks.

Mu Zixi bumped into him and was nearly knocked away flying.

However, she kept holding onto the corner of his clothes with her small hand. She used her other hand to rub her head.

Raising her head, she looked at the plaque above.

Plenty Gold Company.

“Xu Xiaoshou, aren’t we supposed to go to the Magic Pill Technicians Association?”

Xu Xiaoshou lowered his head and looked at her small hand holding the corner of his clothes. He mumbled twice and pondered for a long time before he asked, “How old are you now?”

Mu Zixi’s small face turned red, but she didn’t reply.

“Are you afraid of strangers?”

Xu Xiaoshou raised an eyebrow, “Have you never seen so many people?”

Seeing the odd expression on the face of the little girl, Xu Xiaoshou froze, wondering if he had guessed it right.

But it couldn’t be true.

Although she looked small, she had lived for at least more than 10 years. It was impossible that she had never seen so many people.

Was she a nerdy girl who had been staying at home for more than a decade?

Was this her first time coming to a city?

The expression on Mu Zixi’s face was elusive. As a matter of fact, it was the first time she had seen so many people according to her memory.

It was normal to feel a bit nervous.

“You still haven’t answered my question...” She brought down the hand that was rubbing her painful forehead. She paused suddenly halfway through the sentence.

Looking at the crimson blood on her hand, the young girl was baffled. “Xu Xiaoshou, why am I bleeding?”

“Suspected, passive point, 1.”

Xu Xiaoshou, “Hmm...”

He shrugged and expressionlessly replied, “How do I know? Maybe you were attacked by someone hiding in the dark.”

Seeing the young girl getting cranky, the youth lectured first. “We are outside the Spirit Palace. You shouldn’t trust me so much. Protect yourself with the body protection of spiritual energy!”

“In the Spirit Palace, I haven’t seen you act in such a careless manner. How can you remove this thing?”

One couldn’t remove the body protection of spiritual energy.

Once removed, a tender and delicate body had no chance to resist an attack.

Even if one could withstand the recoil, one may not be able to resist the sharpness.

Life-devouring Wood Physique was not the same as the innate flesh body.

Mu Zixi’s big eyes fluttered. She suddenly picked up Xu Xiaoshou’s hand and scratched his fingertip.

Puff!

Her finger was bleeding.

“What is this?” The little girl was shocked, wondering if he was a human-shaped kitchen knife.

Xu Xiaoshou drew back his finger calmly and said, “It’s called the 10 Sections of the Finger Sword.”

Mu Zixi, “Huh?”

She didn’t believe what he said. She thought she had found Xu Xiaoshou’s secret and tried to scratch Xu Xiaoshou’s arm.

Snap!

Xu Xiaoshou grabbed her hand and sternly said, “It is not desirable to hurt yourself.”

“What kind of spiritual technique is this?” Mu Zixi was greatly amazed.

The youth took a deep breath and said, “I told you, it’s the 10 Sections of the Finger Sword.”

“Suspected, passive point, 1.”

“Don’t you believe me?”

Xu Xiaoshou pointed a finger upward and attached regular willpower to it. The finger instantly turned bright, which hurt the eyes by just looking at it.

Mu Zixi rolled her eyes up. “But your body can do it as well.”

“It’s the 10 Sections of the Finger Sword body!”

“Suspected, passive point, 1.”

“Okay!” Xu Xiaoshou gave up and said, “It’s the sharpness, which is my passive technique, called the sharpness!”

“Suspected, passive point, 1.”

Snap!

The youth held down the girl’s head and frustratingly asked, “What do you want? You don’t believe me when I tell lies, and you don’t believe me when I tell the truth. What the hell is this little head of yours thinking?”

Mu Zixi, “Umm...”

“Cursed, passive points, 1, 1, 1, 1.”

“Get in!”

Xu Xiaoshou turned around impatiently and walked toward the Plenty Gold Company.

“The Magic Pill Technicians Association!” Mu Zixi stood on the same spot.

Xu Xiaoshou clapped his hands and asked, “Are you stupid or what?”

“Elder Sang told you to go back in a month. He didn’t ask you to run back and forth within a day.”

“How long does it take to pass the exam and get a badge? Maybe a few minutes at most. It’s not as important as shopping!”

Mu Zixi was taken aback, wondering if what he said was sensible.

She thought, “Yet, it would prove that I’m stupid if I follow you around.”

“The Magic Pill Technicians Association,” she stubbornly said.

“Okay, you go there by yourself.” Xu Xiaoshou walked away while waving his hand. “Let’s go our separate ways. You go there first, and I’ll catch up.”

Mu Zixi, “Umm...”

She took a look at the surging tide of people behind her. She wrinkled her nose before she caught up with him.

“Xu Xiaoshou, what are we going to the commercial shop for?”

“To buy clothes.”

“Hmm? Really? Buy clothes for me? Why didn’t you tell me earlier?”

“You must be dreaming. It’s not for you. It’s for a baby.”

“A baby? Whose baby?”

“Mine.”

“Xu Xiaohu! When did you have a baby?” Mu Zixi looked horrified.

Xu Xiaoshou, "Oh..."

"Oh, it's not the kind of baby you're thinking of!"

"What kind of baby is it then?"

"Well, a small child."

A small child?

Mu Zixi was confused.

"Cursed, passive points, 1, 1, 1, 1."

The city gate...

Three swordsmen were coming over.

One of them was holding a sword. One was carrying a sword wheel with nine swords inserted in it. One had no sword.

Seeing the three swordsmen wearing strange clothes, the gatekeeper couldn't help but ask, "The spiritual cultivators?"

The swordsman in the green robe, who had no sword with him, replied, "We are not spiritual cultivators but swordsmen. We are the swordsmen who practice ancient sword arts."

"If you are not spiritual cultivators, show us the residential permits."

"Residential permit? What is that?"

The doorkeepers looked at each other, thinking that the same question was asked again. They then realized that something was wrong. They wondered why they had met these people who didn't know anything about the rules lately.

Were they all coming for the first time?

"Can you fly?" Another gatekeeper asked for the sake of security.

"Yes!" The swordless swordsman in green robe shook once and flew straight up.

He turned out to be a spiritual cultivator.

The gatekeeper became respectful and pointed upward. "Spiritual cultivator goes up to register. If you don't want to register, please pay a spirit crystal."

Before he could finish his sentence, the white-clothed swordsman, who had been silent, raised his eyebrows while fixing his eyes. "Sword thought?"

The black-clothed Swordsman standing second in line also had his eyes fixed and his eyebrows raised. "Sword thought?"

No sooner had the words been spoken than the swordless swordsman in green robe also fixed his eyes and raised his eyebrows. "Sword thought?"

The gatekeepers were dumbfounded to see the acts, wondering if the three of them were performing the art of copycat.

The expressions on their faces were the same, but they were obviously not triplets judging by their different looks.

Having said that, the green-robed swordless swordsman turned his head around immediately and said while claspng his fists, "You two are indeed the big and second brothers. You are more alert than this junior brother."

The swordsman with nine swords said, "You are indeed the big brother, and you are more alert than this junior brother."

He turned around and patted the shoulder of the other swordless swordsman, commenting, "Little brother is also doing well. You've made some progress."

The swordsman holding the sword in his arms opened his mouth slightly and said harshly after his face twitched twice, "As I said, don't learn from my expression and speech. You can never imitate the essence of my sword will in such a rude manner!"

"So that's how it is. This second brother has learned a lesson." It dawned on the swordsman with nine swords.

"So that's how it is. This junior brother has also learned a lesson." It dawned on the swordless swordsman as well.

The swordsman holding the sword looked irritated.

The gatekeepers were confused.

"What the hell is this? There are three psychopaths here!"

Before the gatekeepers could finish complaining inwardly, they heard the swordsman in the front yell in a low voice, "Let's go and find the sword thought!"

The three of them disappeared.

"What?"

"Where are they?"

"Damn, the spirit crystals haven't been paid yet. Three crystals!"

"Come back!"

Chapter 250: Perceptive Dragon and Cat

"Welcome, dear customers!"

Xu Xiaoshou was startled by the warm greeting. Before he could speak, a receptionist approached him with a smiling face.

“Plenty Gold Company is ranked in the top 10 on the continent. The service and the quality of treasures are the best.”

“This is the Tiansang branch of Plenty Gold Company. There are nine floors. The lower six floors are the service area for the general public, and the upper three floors are the service area for the Spiritual Cultivators. May I ask what level of service you require?”

Xu Xiaoshou’s face twitched once. He had the urge to turn around and leave.

No matter what level of service he wanted, this place looked very expensive. All he wanted to do was buy some clothes.

After all, he promised to have some fun.

This was the first time he had left the Spirit Palace. He had heard of Plenty Gold Company. As such, Xu Xiaoshou couldn’t help but stop in his tracks before the shop.

Since he was there, he thought he’d check out the prices in the outside world. Anyway, he still had a lot of stolen goods, which were all treasures he hadn’t gotten rid of.

“Spiritual Cultivator.”

“Okay, I’ll get a Spiritual Cultivator to serve you.” The receptionist smiled more broadly and stayed in the same spot for two more seconds before emitting a burst of energy.

Innate Level Physique...

Innate Origin Court Level...

Xu Xiaoshou was dumbfounded, wondering why the receptionist needed to get another cultivator.

Mu Zixi was stunned as well, thinking that a random receptionist had Innate cultivation.

This Plenty Gold Company really was something.

“Please follow me.”

The receptionist led the way while smiling. The two of them followed behind while looking at each other in shock.

The seventh floor...

Unlike the spacious six floors underneath, this floor, a service area for the Spiritual Cultivators, was even more spacious.

The building’s structure seemed to employ a spatial array because the size of it was not different from the six floors below, judging from the outside looks of the floors.

Yet, the size of this seventh floor was definitely abnormal.

Seeing through the perception, Xu Xiaoshou found that this floor’s area was as big as the sum of the six floors below.

It was truly amazing.

Xu Xiaoshou thought that a random branch of the Plenty Gold Company in the outside world was so amazing that its headquarters would expectedly be much more marvelous.

This company was probably not even the top business.

“It seems that most of your business here is done for the Spiritual Cultivators,” Xu Xiaoshou said as he walked along.

“That’s true.” The receptionist bowed his head respectfully and said, “After all, to support us employees, it is impossible to rely on the business of ordinary people alone.”

Xu Xiaoshou nodded. He checked out the receptionist and said with surprise, “You seem to be rather young.”

The receptionist smiled, “You can regard Plenty Gold Company as a sect. We merely cultivate and behave differently. I’m currently just an outer disciple.”

It was a sect that had business across the entire continent.

Xu Xiaoshou was stunned and thought that the company was more than amazing.

Such a young person had such a cultivation level. If he were in the Spirit Palace, he would be an Inner Yard disciple, but he was only a receptionist here.

Xu Xiaoshou thought, “Well, you can’t think of it that way. The receptionist is merely a superficial identity. In the end, one’s cultivation level will depend on their unique cultivation style.”

“Is it the rumored Show Method?”

Xu Xiaoshou walked while thinking. He suddenly stopped in his tracks.

The seventh floor was full of treasures of various kinds and colors, different showcases, and special tables displaying them.

The floor was divided into many zones like the magic pill zone, the spiritual artifact zone...

The three of them were apparently in the miscellaneous items area.

Xu Xiaoshou was staring at a purple crystal ball on the display table. To be precise, he was attracted to a small and delicate cat on the crystal ball.

“Spiritual beast?” he wondered.

This snow-white spiritual cat was only the size of two fists. It stood on the purple crystal ball like a sculpture.

Using his perception, Xu Xiaoshou discovered that the crystal ball and the cat were not one entity because the peculiar purple eyes of the white cat were following his movements.

“What is this?”

Xu Xiaoshou pointed at the item curiously.

He wondered how the spiritual beasts were not placed in the spiritual beast zone.

Although the white cat seemed unable to attack, what if it hurt people accidentally in the miscellaneous area?

The receptionist looked in the direction he was pointing. He pulled up the corners of his mouth, came before the display table, and picked up the purple crystal ball.

“You are very observant. This is an extremely rare treasure in our store called the Perceptive Dragon.”

“This is a life spiritual artifact containing an extremely majestic life force. However, its cultivator is quite radical and cultivated this life spiritual artifact based on the principle of fortune coming from the extreme misfortune and into a fifth-grade master spiritual artifact capable of perceiving the nearby killing intent.”

“Don’t be fooled by the ordinary look of this purple crystal ball. After instilling it with the spiritual power, it will reveal the beautiful Perceptive Dragon inside.”

Having said that, the receptionist instilled it with a spiritual source. The purple crystal ball instantly shattered and created a starry sky.

A lifelike white dragon was flying inside it, which was truly exquisite.

Mu Zixi was mesmerized by the scene.

Though she didn’t care so much about the white dragon, she was really interested in this life spiritual artifact.

Among all the treasures she had seen, it seemed that only Xu Xiaoshou’s Life Spiritual Seal was a bit superior to it. If she could get her hands on it, she would not have to take the Life Generating Pill so often.

However...

It was a fifth-grade Master spiritual artifact.

The beam in the young girl’s eyes dimmed as she thought that she couldn’t afford it even by selling herself.

Xu Xiaoshou was dazed as well, yet he was amazed by the white cat still standing in the purple starry sky.

Even with its head turned away, the little beast was still staring at Xu Xiaoshou with its purple eyes. When he approached the cat, he could see the saliva on the floor drooling from its mouth.

“What the hell? Can others not see this except me?”

Xu Xiaoshou was startled. He felt like this situation had occurred before.

When he was in the Tianxuan Gate, the Gray Fog Man slapped at Mu Zixi, and it seemed that the little girl couldn’t perceive it.

Thinking of it, Xu Xiaoshou hastened to sweep it with his spiritual thought. His heart skipped a beat.

The naked eyes couldn't see it, and the spiritual thought couldn't see it. He could only see it through his perception.

"A ghost beast?" he wondered.

Xu Xiaoshou's pupils dilated. Seeing the white cat hesitant to strike, he jeered inwardly.

It was clearly a special spiritual beast interested in the life force. Though he didn't know what abilities it had, it was definitely attracted by the purple crystal ball.

If this little beast liked the life force, it should have been fascinated when it saw Mu Zixi. However, it had also seen him standing by Mu Zixi...

The beast should have been even more interested.

Judging by the behavior of his own junior sister, the Eternal Vitality must have had a great attraction for the beast.

He was bewildered when he thought of the ghost beast.

"How can a creature that is supposed to exist only in the sub-dimensional space appear here? And it's also so weak."

Seeing the two of them being attracted to the crystal ball, the receptionist was rejoiced, thinking that this idle item had finally found its owner.

He continued to explain, "The function of this Perceptive Dragon is to perceive the killing intent of people nearby. It can detect even a slight intent, so it's very useful."

"When the killing intent is present, the Perceptive Dragon will turn red. The more killing intent, the darker the red color. The Perceptive Dragon will also become more irritable and restless."