

I Am Loaded 361

### **Chapter 361: A Disagreement Turned Into a Brawl**

“Damn it!”

Although Xu Xiaoshou had overestimated Aje’s combat power, he still could not help crying out in surprise in his heart after seeing this kick.

Aje’s combat power really seemed to be a mystery.

When it faced himself for the first time, it had only slapped his Master Physique until his head bled.

It had once again displayed his power when it turned into a monk’s knife and killed Zhang Xinxiong with a single slash.

In the face of Zhang Zhongmou’s Tianyuan Mist Mountain, it also rained down multiple punches. It had almost blown up that shield after its unrelenting strikes.

But...

It was to face Zhang Taiying...

Even Xu Xiaoshou could not guarantee that he would not meet his end with a punch if he stepped forward, given the terrifying muscle strength of the other party.

However, with a kick, Aje sent its instantly opponent flying.

What was this guy made of?

Was everything before just child play for it?

In other words, was it merely saying hello?

Xu Xiaoshou was horrified.

He suddenly thought of Ye Xiaotian’s loss of self-control when he learned that he took Aje out of Tianxuan Gate.

Perhaps, this guy had a scary origin that he did not know of.

Otherwise, why was such freakish combat power forced to be suppressed in Tianxuan Gate and restrained with a double seal?

If it were set free, it was no doubt that in the face of the pelting attacks from the masked man, it would be able to display its combat power.

It could even perhaps kick the masked man and send him flying.

Everyone was startled by Aje’s kick. Xin Gugu was no exception.

After discovering that Aje had snatched his opponent away, he was a little unhappy in his heart.

Under the force of this kick, that slight bit of displeasure in his heart disappeared at this moment.

Xu Xiaoshou looked at the two shocked people from Zhang Mansion and seized the moment to chuckle softly. "Do you still want to attack?"

He drew his hands behind his back. An indifferent expression was played across his face.

It was as if all this were within his expectations.

He stepped forward again. Xu Xiaoshou directly crossed Xin Gugu this time.

He stood behind Aje.

Yes, he felt very safe.

Zhang Duoyu only felt dryness in her throat.

Who were these people? It was too scary.

Even people like Zhang Taiying, a pure Physique Cultivator of the same level, could be sent flying into the air with a single kick. Was it even necessary to continue the fight?

Just as she was about to speak, a sturdy figure high in the sky fell back down.

"Hahaha!"

"Very strong!"

"You are very strong. I like it!"

Zhang Taiying's expression had thoroughly changed in the face of such a strong opponent. It had stirred the long-lost tension and oppression in his heart that he yearned.

He was different from his two comrades. When it came to Aje's combat power, not only did he experience palpitations but also excitement.

The excitement had bred a desire to fight against a powerful opponent.

Xu Xiaoshou saw his expression and felt something wrong in his heart.

Was this another one who lusted after battle?

He had severely miscalculated.

This battle could not be allowed to commence.

No matter how strong Aje was, it could only deal with one opponent at a time.

It would require Aje to be held back by Zhang Taiying, and the other two people to obstruct Xin Gugu. Xu Xiaoshou could not withstand it if the Zhang family summoned external aid.

What was more, he was aware that the Sovereign Stage could not simply attack others.

If the commotion drew strong cultivators from the City Lord Mansion, he was afraid that they could not escape freely today.

Xu Xiaoshou's original intention was to come and cause an explosion. He hoped this would hold back the strong cultivators in the Zhang family so they would not attend the banquet dinner the next night.

It was that simple.

When Zhang Taiying was left alone, his moment would come.

"How many?"

Xu Xiaoshou shouted at the restless Zhang Taiying.

When everyone's eyes were on him, he slowly said, "I have already explained why I came here today. I only want an item from the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion and don't want to harm the innocent."

"Hmph!"

Zhang Taiying snorted coldly, "Even if you want to harm us, you also have to be able to cause harm!"

"If we fight today, it is inevitable that the Sovereign Stage will come. At that time, even you will not be able to escape. Is that why you cower and dare not fight?"

Xu Xiaoshou thought in his heart that he hit the nail on the head. On the surface, he plastered a disdainful smile on his face and nonchalantly spoke.

"Escaping is not an issue. If I attack, I'm afraid you won't live to see the daylight."

"How arrogant!"

Zhang Taiying did not believe it. This was his territory. How could he tolerate other people to trigger random explosions and come and go as they pleased?

With a wave of his hand, he turned on the Zhang Mansion's array.

He planned to cover everyone with the array and prevent Xu Xiaoshou from leaving.

Xu Xiaoshou shivered inwardly.

It was no wonder that this guy was the master of the Zhang family. He was not as foolish as the old man.

If they were going to be covered or pulled into the bounded domain, the outcome would be difficult to predict.

"That is such a pity."

Xu Xiaoshou sighed regretfully and commanded, "Attack!"

At that moment, these people needed to experience suffering if they wanted an opportunity to leave the grounds.

Aje and Xu Xiaoshou were connected spiritually. The instant he gave his order, it pounced on Zhang Taiying again.

Since Zhang Taiying had suffered at its hands before, he did not dare to delay any longer.

With a sweep of his hand, he was clad in heavy armor.

He pinched a Midnight Black Pestle in his hand. With a loud bang, he met Aje's fist.

The void exploded with airwaves. Under the influence of the spiritual weapon, Zhang Taiying resisted Aje's attack solely.

There were repeated explosions. This time, not only the people at Zhang Mansion moved, but the people nearby were also alerted of the commotion. A crowd of spectators quickly formed.

Although the two in the void said they would fight and retreat, Zhang Taiying was still crushed and beaten. It still was close to Xu Xiaoshou's prediction.

Aje was delayed.

Zhang Zhongmou's eyes glinted with certainty.

When he did not want to fight, he really could not summon up his fighting spirit. However, Zhang Taiying had already started. As a member of Zhang Mansion, he had to contribute his part too.

"Attack!"

With a low bellow, he pounced directly on Xin Gugu.

Zhang Duoyu, however, turned her beautiful eyes toward the direction of Xu Xiaoshou.

"Damn it!"

Xu Xiaoshou almost wanted to retreat into Yuan Mansion.

He had suffered immensely from his encounter with Red Dog, so he had absolutely no desire to fight a Sovereign Stage right now.

"Don't worry."

Xin Gugu suddenly looked back and smiled at him comfortingly.

He ignored the old man who was flying toward him. He loosened the grip of his staff and touched his palms together.

"Hum!"

Blood energy rose from the top of his head and turned into a Blood Knife.

The Blood Knife slashed his head and cut Xin Gugu in half.

Xu Xiaoshou was speechless.

Everyone was shocked at this sight.

Was it normal to slash oneself before a fight?

In the next second, everyone doubted their earlier thoughts.

Xin Gugu, who had split in half, had turned into two pools of blood. The blood solidified and turned into two Xin Gugus.

“Two Sovereign Stages?”

A horrified look spread across Zhang Zhongmou’s wrinkled face.

Could this person be divided into two and used?

The problem was that he cut himself in this manner. In theory, it could only reduce his strength.

From his breath alone, he could not tell the difference between these two Xin Gugus.

It was unidentifiable which one was the main body.

Both were equally powerful.

“Ha-ha! Come on, fight me!”

Xin Gugu laughed gleefully. One of his bodies pounced on Zhang Zhongmou, and the other pounced on Zhang Duoyu.

With a roar, this convenient pair formed the prelude to the battle.

As ribbons of blood and spiritual source danced in the air, the night sky roared of the battle taking place. Everyone underneath raised their heads to look toward the sky, and they were all shocked.

“Six... Six Sovereign Stages?”

### **Chapter 362: Xu Xiaoshou Felt That He Should Do Something...**

The full moon hung high in the sky.

However, no one could sleep in Tiansang City.

No matter how far apart, the intermittent roar of the void still caused people to look up.

It was not long before the battle started, but the intensity of the fight was shocking.

“What is going on today? There already was a Sovereign Stage battle during the day that spread 10 miles with heavy casualties. Is there another one now?”

“Looking at this situation, it is even worse tonight than it was during the day!”

The people who were close enough to see the events unfurl had tension written on their faces. They did not witness the spectacle in amusement at all.

An occasional Sovereign Stage battle would be a source of entertainment for these guys who were usually idle.

Even if this source of entertainment was a little risky, they were more than happy to join in the fun.

However, it seemed that the Sovereign Stage could lock horns twice in a day now.

It completely went beyond the limits of entertainment.

It was a death sentence by the king of hell.

Whoever got too close to the fire would die.

How could anyone care to join in the fun when their lives were at stake?

Being able to control themselves from dragging their families away from this perilous land was a complete show of faith in the City Lord Mansion and its ability to maintain public order.

“There is no peace in Tiansang City anymore...”

Everyone sighed heavily in their hearts.

However, Xu Xiaoshou felt slightly lonely in the battle.

After he discovered that Xin Gugu alone was able to restrain everyone, he felt quite bored.

He looked down at the nervous crowd that had gathered at Zhang Mansion. Nearby, the six Sovereign Stages were already in the heat of battle.

Xu Xiaoshou nearly waved a flag behind in support.

He forced himself to resist this impulse. Knowing the scale of the commotion here, his Perception spread. It estimated that the ruckus had attracted a lot of strong cultivators.

‘I should do something.’

Xu Xiaoshou could not help but think of this.

When he conceptualized this idea, the sword energy left by the scruffy-looking man suddenly jumped above his energy center.

“Hmm?”

Xu Xiaoshou was surprised.

That energy conveyed its bloodthirsty yearning for a battle to him.

‘What the hell? This sword cognition... Does it have consciousness?’

Xu Xiaoshou widened his eyes in shock. Deep down in his heart, he felt a fiery excitement bubbling up.

If he could use the power of this sword cognition, he imagined that he could stop these people who were deeply engrossed in the fight with a single sword.

As he thought of this, Xu Xiaoshou immediately took out Hidden Bitter.

The newly reborn Hidden Bitter appeared to be revived and rejuvenated after that double cultivation.

It was originally a ninth-grade spiritual weapon. However, after experiencing countless torturous incidents under Xu Xiaoshou, it almost fell apart and deteriorated to tenth grade.

As its foundation was still there, the sword observation helped to restore it to its peak form.

Under the Sword Intent, its edges were even stronger than before.

Xu Xiaoshou no longer hesitated. He drew his full sight and immediately looked away.

Hidden Bitter trembled with a buzz. After experiencing the sweetness of double cultivation, it already knew what Xu Xiaoshou was going to do.

The sword handle tipped slightly as if it was looking at him shyly.

However, under Xu Xiaoshou's grip, the sword body of Hidden Bitter suddenly straightened. It stretched itself upright and waited for the gaze of its master to fall upon it in anticipation.

As Xu Xiaoshou initiated the Sword Observation Technique, Sword Intent formed in his eyes.

He had already experienced it before and was familiar with the process. He successfully bridged the connection between the sword and the person.

A faint white mist oozed out from Hidden Bitter.

At this moment, the heavens and earth experienced a drastic change.

In the shocking transformation of the void, it turned into countless miniature swords. The tens of thousands of small swords went rigid, and the sound of the sword cry rang through the 10-mile-long street.

“Om—”

Xu Xiaoshou raised his eyes. The sword energy swam past Hidden Bitter instantly and pierced his body.

“Oof!”

After going through a painful experience in the past, he mentally prepared himself this time. He gritted his teeth and tolerated it, enduring the horrifying sword energy that was piercing his body.

Fingertips, wrists, forearms, elbows...

Little by little, the sword cognition swam across. At every inch it penetrated, Xu Xiaoshou felt as if he was slashed open by a sword.

The remaining sword cognition energy in his body turned into an awe-inspiring Sword Intent and merged into his body after the tormenting episode.

An increasing strengthening feeling was born in that painful place.

Even after entering the stage of the Master Level Physique, Xu Xiaoshou could still clearly feel this significant change.

‘Is the Sword Observation Manual that strong?’

‘This change...’

Xu Xiaoshou suddenly thought of the broken sword body belonging to the masked man that fell into pieces.

Was it possible that if he continued to develop in this situation, he could also cultivate similar skills?

He was secretly surprised at this realization.

Not just him, but the six people in front of Xu Xiaoshou were also shocked at the drastic change. It was as contrasting as heaven and earth.

The Sword Intent in the void was awe-inspiring. Following the trembling body of Xu Xiaoshou, it manifested into rolling waves of the sword tide. The soft yet surging sword cry made everyone's hair stand on end.

'A swordsman?'

Zhang Zhongmou's pupils contracted instantly, and horror unfolded in his heart. 'Is this guy also a swordsman?'

When Tianyuan Mist Mountain had been seized earlier, and he failed to summon it back, he concluded that it was because the person before him was a Sovereign Stage Physique.

Now, tens of thousands of swords were in the void before him. It was as though they were there to shoot him down, slap him across the face, and tell him that he was wrong.

'Not only is he a swordsman, but is this guy also an ancient swordsman?'

The faint sword cognition gave Zhang Zhongmou a feeling of déjà vu.

When he was young and carefree, he traveled far across the continent and visited many associations of distinctive arts.

The Eastern Region left the heaviest impact on him when he was young and wildly ignorant.

Among the few swordsmen who defeated him, only one possessed such a similar ability.

'Sword cognition...'

Zhang Zhongmou looked nostalgic as he recalled his younger days.

At that time, this person was not famous yet. However, he had suffered tremendous defeat at the hands of this person and his sword.

Shortly after that, this person claimed half of the Eastern Region and established a terrifying Sword Dynasty...

Fringe Moon Immortal City.

After that, Zhang Zhongmou learned that the little-known guy who defeated him at that time turned out to be the only named apprentice of the Eighth Sword Deity.

Only...

'So... Is this guy from Fringe Moon Immortal City?'

Zhang Zhongmou looked at the young man in front of him who had perceived the sword. His slight fascination only lasted for a moment before Xin Gugu assailed him with a pillar of blood.

"Stop... Stop."



Xu Xiaoshou could not hold it in anymore. He forced himself to endure the pain and gradually forced the sword cognition that had made its way to his shoulder to retreat.

He originally wanted to use the Sword Observation Technique to trigger the sword cognition on his energy center. Perhaps if he were lucky, it would fly out of him in its lust for battle.

That way, the time bomb in his body could also be expelled at the same time.

He had not anticipated that the sword cognition only moved during the early stage in an apparent attempt to seduce him to cultivate.

When Xu Xiaoshou moved, it stopped and completely disappeared.

“Was I cheated?”

Xu Xiaoshou did not allow himself to think further and held Hidden Bitter in his hands. He could not hold on anymore. He was desperate to release the piercing power that had spread across his body.

Once the Sword Intent emerged, it was a majestic sight, just like the celestial phenomenon of 10,000 swords that moved with an order. Xu Xiaoshou’s words were quite formidable.

As soon as his voice fell, the 10,000 swords in the void stirred. The six people in the field stopped the fight.

Zhang Taiying narrowed his eyes. He glanced at the sword in Xu Xiaoshou’s hand with some surprise.

Could a ninth-grade sword have such power?

After realizing that this guy was not as simple as he initially thought, his anger subsided, and he calmed down.

Even if they had to fight, they should not be fighting at the doorstep of Zhang Mansion. Otherwise, the Zhang family would suffer a massive loss in the end.

“Your Excellency, what is your intention?” Zhang Taiying asked coldly.

“What is my intention...”

Xu Xiaoshou’s hand that was holding the sword could not stop shaking. His lips turned purple. Finally, he forced the sword cognition into his palm.

“I can’t expel it out. Although this sword energy is strong for me, before the Sovereign Stage, it will only expose my ability.’

‘I must put it away!’

Xu Xiaoshou’s eyes flashed as he thought of Yuan Mansion.

With a move of his hand, he was about to launch the sword cognition into Chaos Space.

Unexpectedly, the sword cognition above his energy center was suddenly alarmed.

A flicker of breath shot out and tore a bloodied path in his body. It suddenly merged with the sword cognition that Xu Xiaoshou had cultivated in his palm.

“Ah—”

Xu Xiaoshou cried out on the spot, Hidden Bitter suddenly stiffened under the bewildered gaze of everyone.

Shoo!

A silver light pierced the sky. Its brightness lit up the heavens.

As this sword struck, it seemed to have torn the galaxy apart. The sight sent everyone into shock.

Swish—

At the same time, the 10,000 swords that were floating in the void swept away neatly.

The draft from the 10,000 swords blew at Zhang Mansion silently.

The next second...

Boom!

The Hidden Scriptures Pavilion split into two, and the slanted top half and fell onto the ground.

In the next instant, the Zhang Mansion barrier exploded and filled the entire courtyard with smoke.

### **Chapter 363: I'll Take One of Your Items as Punishment**

“What the f\*ck!”

The powerful cultivators who had just entered Zhang Mansion all watched the attack from this one sword in disbelief.

It was so shockingly powerful that it was as if they had witnessed a great Buddha chop in broad daylight.

“This... This...”

“Who is this person?”

“A Sovereign swordsman? Even a Sovereign swordsman might not be this powerful, right?”

“Oh my God, look at what he is wearing... Is it a guard? Isn't he a Zhang Mansion guard? I walked past one in the morning while I was buying some biscuits, and one of them even pushed me!”

“Does this guard have issues with Zhang Mansion?”

“Are you blind? One look at this and you can tell that Zhang Mansion was attacked. What does it have to do with the guard? Even if it does, the guard was probably possessed by someone else!”

“...”

Zhang Mansion was in chaos.

Dong Qing Street surrounding the Zhang Mansion was also in an uproar.

The difference was that the Zhang Mansion was literally in chaos while the uproar in Dong Qing Street was just the crowd in disbelief.

One sword...

It was such a casual and simple-looking sword.

Even when that person raised his sword, everyone could not tell how much power was actually contained within it.

It was as if it was a sword attack by an Innate Cultivator using an ordinary grade-nine spiritual sword.

It seemed as if it was a dream.

Zhang Taiying was dumbstruck. Zhang Zhongmou was dumbstruck. Zhang Duoyu was also dumbstruck.

The scariest part was not the fact that Zhang Mansion had exploded. That was something to be expected during a battle between Sovereigns.

The younger and less powerful members of the family had already been rapidly evacuated under the care of a few family elders. Thus, there were not many casualties.

But...

The Hidden Scriptures Pavilion was gone.

That was the only area in Zhang Mansion protected by Sovereign spirit-gathering arrays.

Even if Zhang Taiying were to take out all of his belongings, they would not be worth as much as the value of that spirit-gathering array.

Now, with the unveiling of one sword, it was gone.

Six Sovereigns had just been fighting to the death, and then this person casually took out a sword and sliced.

The pavilion was gone.

There wasn't even any sound, yet the protection barrier and ancient tower were destroyed.

It contained decades of the Zhang family's decades efforts and treasures.

It held immensurable wealth and fortune, as well as countless spiritual techniques.

Both of Zhang Taiying's eyes were bloodshot.

"You..."

"You are very good!"

He growled lowly as if the beast within him had been fully released. "Today, if I, Zhang Taiying, do not kill you, then I am not a human!"

That terrifying murderous look scared Xu Xiaoshou so much that he shrunk back.

Unleashing that one sword had used up all his energy. The hand holding Hidden Bitter was bleeding.

'Is it that powerful?'

Xu Xiaoshou looked around Zhang Mansion, which was filled with holes. If the people there hadn't evacuated earlier, other than the Sovereign cultivators and those masters who were tough...

No one else would have been able to survive.

'How could it be?'

'It was just one stroke of unrefined sword cognition, and it was only a semi-finished product...'

Xu Xiaoshou's thoughts stalled.

'Yes, it was that man's sword cognition. Is his sword cognition actually this terrifying? Just a small breath of it destroyed Zhang Mansion...'

'That included the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion.'

Gulp.

Xu Xiaoshou swallowed a mouth of saliva. He felt like blacking out and almost fell down.

He was exhausted.

He didn't have a single drop of energy.

All of it had been used up.

Being able to sustain his standing position was only thanks to his Toughness.

Even so, facing the murderous intent of Zhang Taiying, Xu Xiaoshou lightly flipped Hidden Bitter over.

Swish!

A soft sound rang in the silent surroundings. The three people from Zhang Mansion were nervous again.

This guy had already proved himself to be very strong.

Even if Zhang Taiying was in his berserk mode now, he was not confident that he could take on that sword from earlier.

'Is he going to attack with his sword again?'

Everyone retreated as they looked at Xu Xiaoshou slowly and casually return the black sword in his hand back into its scabbard.

Afterward, they saw this young man lift his head.

No expression could be seen on his face, which was covered with dirt.

Yet, weakness could be seen filling his eyes.

'Hmm? Weakness?'

'It must be fake!'

Everyone was looking at Xu Xiaoshou, which caused him to feel nervous. He wanted to go faster but he couldn't.

He took a deep breath. The crowd grew more anxious.

"I..."

Boom!

Once the word left his mouth, he could not sustain the Sword of the Void. It exploded.

Stepping sounds could be heard as the three people from Zhang Mansion retreated at the same time. Their faces were full of shock.

After waiting for a long time, Xu Xiaoshou still did not raise his sword to attack. They were so angry that their faces turned red.

Xu Xiaoshou was amused.

He was only weak to the extent that he could not speak, but these people were still so afraid of him attacking again.

"You, you little fella..."

Xu Xiaoshou raised his finger. He wanted to point at Zhang Taiying but found that he couldn't even move his fingers.

He could only lift his chin and ask, "Didn't you say that if you didn't kill me, then you were not human anymore?"

"Quickly come at me. If you don't, you will not be human anymore after tonight."

Zhang Taiying's face was filled with shock as his blood pressure rose. He almost released his energy to fly toward him.

"Calm down!"

Zhang Duoyu grabbed his hand from behind just in time, barely managing to pull the impulsive guy back.

"We can't mess around!"

"Chief Elder is already old. Zhang Mansion cannot do without a master, so you must endure!"

Zhang Taiying was speechless.

Zhang Zhongmou also didn't know what to say.

Her words made a lot of sense.

Still, she could have been less direct. She didn't have to voice out the harsh reality.

The two of them were so angry that their faces darkened. But words of wisdom are words of wisdom, so Zhang Taiying still accepted them.

Xu Xiaoshou saw the three of them huddling together. He called Aje and Xin Gugu to his side by eyeing them.

With these two as protection, he regained some sense of security.

He knew that this moment was of utmost importance. If he showed some weakness or made a blunder, the three people from the Zhang Mansion would definitely come after him like hungry wolves.

He had to build his momentum to have a chance of escaping.

“That one sword...”

Xu Xiaoshou tilted his head. He paused for a moment before slowly speaking. “Punishment.”

Zhang Taiying clenched his fists so tight that there were cracking sounds. He almost jumped out immediately. Luckily, Zhang Zhongmou helped restrain him.

“Stay calm. This guy will not dare to mess around.”

“He should know that his one sword would have already alerted the City Lord Mansion. If he does not retreat now, it will probably be hard for him to do so later. Hence, he has no choice but to leave now!”

“Just wait a little longer!” Zhang Zhongmou communicated to him telepathically.

Zhang Taiying replied angrily, “Is Zhang Mansion a place where he can come and go as he pleases? How would the outside world see the Zhang family after that one sword destroyed part of our territory? How would they view me?”

Zhang Zhongmou sighed.

“Endure!”

“Endure for peace, and retreat for harmony.”

“The Hidden Scriptures Pavilion might be gone, but it can be rebuilt.”

“If you really want to fight, are you confident that you can take down those two Sovereigns, not to mention that one sword?”

Zhang Taiying was silent.

He gritted his teeth so hard that his gums started to bleed.

Xu Xiaoshou smiled casually. His eyesight had blurred, but he still managed to take out Yuan Mansion.

“As I said earlier...”

“The reason I came here was to simply retrieve an item from you Hidden Scriptures Pavilion, but you didn’t want to listen.”

Xu Xiaoshou looked at Zhang Zhongmou and said those words slowly.

He didn’t speak like that to annoy them. That was the only way he could speak due to his exhaustion.

If not for Eternal Vitality helping him hold on, he would have fainted.

Everyone looked at Xu Xiaoshou as he spoke to the air beside him. They weren't sure what he wanted to do until he unveiled the Yuan Mansion in his hands.

Accumulating the last drops of energy in him, Xu Xiaoshou's spiritual senses expanded and enveloped half of the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion that was on the ground.

The faces of the three strong cultivators from Zhang Mansion tightened as if they had simultaneously realized what was happening.

"No!"

Xu Xiaoshou shook his head slowly, squinted his eyes, and said to the air, "Too late."

After that, a flash of light shone from Yuan Mansion. Half of the multi-story Hidden Scriptures Pavilion disappeared.

"I'll take one of your items as punishment!"

### **Chapter 364: Zhang Taiying Has Given Up**

Silence...

The air was so silent that it was terrifying.

As if silenced by the Way of the Heavens, everyone looked at the half-disappeared ancient tower on the ground and collectively went silent.

Even Xin Gugu was shocked by Xu Xiaoshou's actions.

Earlier, he had obtained a spiritual pond that caused Xin Gugu to be drenched from head to toe. That one thing was fine.

Now, he had taken away half of their possessions right in front of their faces.

What kind of a person was this?

Yuan Mansion was supposed to be used to escape from the enemy, but it was now being used as a magical tool for robbery.

What if the Chaos Space in Yuan Mansion was fully developed? Was he going to take the whole world under his belt?

Suspected, Passive Points +66.

Impressed, Passive Points +222.

Not only were the Zhang Mansion people shocked but also the crowd surrounding them to watch were all equally shocked.

"I'm afraid this will be a case of bad blood that will never end."

No matter whose family inheritance was taken by half, the situation would definitely become one that could no longer be peacefully resolved.

Moreover, the half of the ancient tower that fell to the ground was the top half of the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion.

Needless to say, the top half of ancient towers were usually the most valuable and significant.

When selecting their spiritual techniques in the tower, ordinary family disciples could not even enter the second floor.

Those who struggled and managed to reach the Innate Stage could only go up to the third and fourth floors.

Now...

Looking at the remains of the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion, it only had four and a half floors left.

The ability to go up...

And choose spiritual techniques...

What the f\*ck was this?

If there was nowhere to go up, how could they choose better spiritual techniques?

The first to explode with anger was Zhang Taiying, who had been suppressing his fury for a long time.

After clearly being reminded of what the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion meant for the Zhang Family, his pupils disappeared. Magic weaves could be seen forming in his bloodshot eyes.

“Roar!”

With a loud roar, the man who had already transformed into a mini giant earlier expanded again after ingesting a drop of Sovereign blood essence.

Black fur rapidly grew on his body. Zhang Taiying now looked like a gigantic beast. He shook off his two companions, who were restraining him, and stepped out.

Boom!

The space shattered as he flew forward straight for Xu Xiaoshou.

“Go to hell!”

Zhang Duoyu immediately tried to grab him. This time, he could not catch up to Zhang Taiying’s speed and grabbed onto nothing.

“Big Elder!”

She looked to the side with great urgency only to see Zhang Zhongmou shaking his head.

“No.”

With one word, Zhang Duoyu understood.

No matter how much they wanted to avoid it, Zhang Taiying had to fight in this fight.



The inheritance could not be broken.

The young man's actions seemed simple, but they could possibly cause future generations of the Zhang family to lose their inheritance.

As a family that was still growing and developing, it would inevitably be destructive for them.

"Master..."

Zhang Duoyu mumbled and clenched her fists as she glanced at the young man, who looked so proud that it was as if he was going to start floating.

"Attack!"

The two of them followed closely behind and rushed toward Xu Xiaoshou as well.

"Come at us!"

The fighting spirit in Xin Gugu's eyes ignited as he shouted and was about to receive Zhang Taiying's blow.

Xu Xiaoshou almost fainted at the sound of his loud voice.

"Hold... Hold me."

His body swayed as he turned back and spoke.

Xin Gugu was surprised.

He looked at the back of Xu Xiaoshou's head. He hesitated a moment and said, "I'm over here."

Xu Xiaoshou did not turn back.

Even though his senses were blurred and he could not receive any information from his Perception, he still used All Things are Swords and managed to feel that murderous intent.

'Did Zhang Taiying still dare to attack?'

Still feeling shocked, he did not know that his one sword had quelled the enemy. It was his unreasonable robbery of their inheritance that led them to attack again.

There was no time for any thinking now.

"Don't attack!"

Xu Xiaoshou looked back after stopping Xin Gugu.

If they were to attack, all that he had worked for would be wasted.

Struggling to look in the direction of the murderous intent, Xu Xiaoshou smiled coldly.

He drew a Sword Aura in the air with his fingertip.

"Cross the line, and you die!"

His cold and crisp voice resonated with the wind. That bold Sword Aura caused Zhang Taiying to wake up.

It was obviously just an ordinary Sword Aura that was Innate grade.

Yet, there was a small hint of faded sword cognition on it.

It was this thing that had torn the skies like a piece of cloth earlier and destroyed a super-strong Sovereign defense spirit-gathering array.

'Can I withstand the attack?' Zhang Taiying thought.

Just when his toes were about to cross that weak Sword Aura, Zhang Taiying subconsciously stopped in his tracks.

"Move!"

"Keep moving!"

Flames of anger ignited in Zhang Taiying's heart as he looked at the frail Xu Xiaoshou. Even if he was blind, he could tell that this young man's condition was not right.

Besides, he wasn't blind.

He practically shouted at the young man standing behind the Sword Aura, "At your current state, you cannot execute that one sword attack anymore!"

Swish! Swish!

Two figures stopped behind him.

Zhang Duoyu's eyes were filled with shock.

Had the bold and fearless Zhang Taiying been stopped?

Could he still be stopped by someone's words even when he was in his berserk mode?

In the past, this was totally not possible at all.

'Afraid?'

Zhang Duoyu used to think that this word was never in Zhang Taiying's dictionary. Now, she was not so sure anymore.

Sigh!

Zhang Zhongmou looked at the scene. Despair momentarily flashed across his eyes.

Different from Zhang Duoyu, this situation of having to stand at the forefront alone for the family at the risk of his own life...

As someone who had been there before, Zhang Zhongmou could understand.

He did not speak at this point. No matter how many differing opinions he might have had with Zhang Taiying on normal days, he would not interfere regarding the decision he made now.

“My state...”

Xu Xiaoshou closed his eyes, but his unstable senses seem to completely envelop everyone.

He laughed bitterly. Without denying it, he said, “You are right. I am indeed in a weak state right now, but how hard is it to release one sword attack?”

Doubt was written on everyone’s faces, including that of Xin Gugu.

Considering Xu Xiaoshou’s state, he seemed to be bluffing.

“Ha-ha, ha-ha!”

Zhang Taiying stared furiously. He raised his head and laughed wildly. “If releasing one sword attack is not difficult, then you could have already done so. Why all the talk now?”

Xu Xiaoshou did not waver. He asked, “If you think that one sword is hard, why do you still not dare to cross the line?”

“...”

The scene was extremely silent.

Xin Gugu was shocked. At this point, he had to admit some things to himself.

In terms of thinking capabilities, even after adding up everyone’s, they would still lose to Xu Xiaoshou’s.

That would be so no matter in terms of reaction time or the ability to twist words.

“Roar!” Zhang Taiying let out a furious roar that shook the surrounding area.

He punched his chest, felt his blood boil, and almost turned insane.

His rational side stopped this impulse.

The thin veil that covered his embarrassment had been broken. Zhang Taiying felt his face turn burning red.

He had been scared, but...

But...

“Stop making excuses for yourself.”

Xu Xiaoshou calmly spoke.

Relying on Eternal Vitality’s ultra-strong recovery speed, this short span of time was sufficient for him to recover to the point that he could move.

He waved his hands and ushered Aje and Xin Gugu behind him as he dragged his weakened body to be exposed in front of the Sovereigns.

“I will give you one more chance to choose for yourself...”

“A step or a sword?”

## Chapter 365: Retreat

Xin Gugu felt like he was going mad.

His initial impression of Xu Xiaoshou was that he was a weird young man with a thought process that was different from everyone else. Thus, it made him stand out from the crowd.

Now, however, Xu Xiaoshou had completely refreshed his worldview.

Despite being at the Innate stage, he had the audacity to pretend that he was someone else in front of these powerful Sovereigns.

He may have suppressed them with the sword technique, but Xin Gugu was aware that it was his trump card.

The technique had drained Xu Xiaoshou of all the energy and mana in his body. It had used up all that was needed for the trump card.

Yet, in this weakened state such, he continued to stand in front of Xin Gugu and Aje to defend them.

He was no longer a courageous man but a complete lunatic.

There was no doubt about that.

Xin Gugu had felt a sense of curiosity arose within him. Xu Xiaoshou may have been a lunatic, but with reference to the statements he proclaimed and the impact he had made...

“Can you really not use that technique anymore, Xu Xiaoshou?”

There was no reply. Zhang Taiying remained silent as well.

One breath.

Another breath.

“I already have the answers.”

Xu Xiaoshou smiled sarcastically. He lifted his chin and looked at the others with a slightly elevated angle as if he was taking pity on the most pathetic individuals in this world.

He turned around and waved his hands.

“Let’s go!”

“Ma Ma...” Aje mumbled. His red eyes had a dull glow as he followed Xu Xiaoshou.

Watching Xu Xiaoshou’s brave and nonchalant back view, Xin Gugu felt a raging ocean of respect in his heart.

He looked back to Zhang Taiying, whose face was so dark that it could be used as writing ink.

His gaze shifted to the two great Sovereigns behind him.

Humiliation was overflowing from the eyes of the woman. As for the old man, he seemed to be the only one who maintained a normal attitude on this battlefield.

'No!'

'Those who can maintain an attitude in this time must already have been changed psychologically.'

Xin Gugu lifted his lip corners.

He wanted to control his urge to laugh, but it proved far too strong to be held back.

"Hahaha!"

The feeling was gratifying.

It was immensely gratifying.

He learned that the real battle that brought satisfaction and happiness was not finishing the opponent in one strike.

The real satisfaction of the battle came from the feeling when one could no longer attack, but the opponent remained afraid to move.

It was no longer just about the squabble during the battle. The opponent thoroughly loathed them from their body to the heart, and even to their soul.

As he looked at the constipated faces of the three people, Xin Gugu's heart felt as light as a feather like it could soar like a bird.

"Let's go!"

After all, he was a chaotic Sovereign. He had let himself be free after he had learned that the three people before him were terrified of making a move.

He swung his robe sleeve with gusto and pride before he rushed to catch up with Xu Xiaoshou.

"Amazing!"

"You know Xu Xiaoshou, I'm difficult to convince and impress. Even that hag Jiao Tangtang did not impress me much."

"But I am so impressed by you today!"

He spoke with great carefreeness as he reached out to pat Xu Xiaoshou's shoulders.

Regarding the battle, Xu Xiaoshou had made defense preparations beforehand.

Even if the enemy had seen through his devices and tactics, he knew they would forget the fact that he had other plans around him that would ruin their scheme to attack.

Upon hearing a solid hitting sound, Aje turned around.

It reached out and caught Xin Gugu's palm before his hand could land.

It postured itself as if to say, "Oh Ma Ma, do you think you can hit a ghost beast host body?"

The sudden movement caught Xin Gugu off guard. He immediately understood that he might have knocked Xu Xiaoshou to his knees with his palm. He awkwardly and silently retracted his hand.

After they had walked about a mile, the three people behind them had made no sounds or movements.

“Don’t bother looking anymore.”

Xu Xiaoshou heaved out a mouth of foul air and said, “They didn’t take the first step. Hence, they would not have the courage to take another step, even if they were not thinking straight.”

Xu Xiaoshou continued to spit out his breaths.

Xin Gugu shook his head. He was utterly impressed by Xu Xiaoshou.

The man was a complete genius in terms of applying his cognitive abilities on the battlefield.

“Say, that sword technique just now, how did you do it?”

“And the explosion in the Eastern Courtyard earlier... Did you really do that with an alchemy explosion?”

“Also, the last thing you said, can you really do the sword technique again?”

“...”

Questions were filling Xin Gugu’s mind. He was certain he would not be able to sleep that night if the questions remain unanswered.

Xu Xiaoshou’s eyelids jumped. He also wanted to keep up his strong front.

Unfortunately, after they had been out of range and clear of danger, and he could relax without worries, he found it almost impossible to regain his strength.

With a thud, he collapsed onto the ground.

Aje reacted quickly. Reaching out, it grabbed onto Xu Xiaoshou and carried him up in a bridal style.

“Is he dead?”

Xin Gugu was stunned. He lowered himself to give Xu Xiaoshou a sniff. He realized his presence was incredibly stable, so it was impossible for him to be dead. Rather, his presence seemed extremely weak.

“Is he asleep?”

His eyes widened as he felt the vigorous ripples of life force surging within Xu Xiaoshou’s body.

If the young man was not so tired that he could not keep himself awake, it would be hard to believe that this was the same young man who looked as if every strength had been taken from him.

‘Is this man a human?’

‘It looks like he didn’t burn any power at all with that sword technique. Was it all mental stress?’

‘Therefore, what he said at the end was not a lie. In fact, there was honesty in that. He can use the technique again.’

Xin Gugu was moved deeply by this discovery.

He recalled the scruffy-looking man. Xu Xiaoshou was no simple character if he had been chosen and protected by someone like him.

‘Sword...’

Truthfully, Xin Gugu did not have much knowledge about swords and their techniques.

He was born and raised in the Xu Yue Grey Palace of the Southern Region. Therefore, he did not have any correlation with anyone in the Northern Region.

He had heard about the existence of a famous entity amongst the swordsmen, the Seven Sword Deity.

There was another addition who could barely be called half a deity but had been elevated by the common man through legends and myths to the near sainthood, the Eighth Sword Deity.

‘Who was that scruffy-looking man?’

Xin Gugu did not believe that Xu Xiaoshou, who was at the Innate Stage of cultivation, would be able to execute a technique of this level. There had to be some form of external assistance from an outsider.

In terms of outsiders, the only suspect was that man.

He knew that man was strong, but he doubted he was on the same stage as the sword deities in the legends.

However, Xu Xiaoshou’s sword technique was something entirely separate from ordinary swordsmen in its conceptualization.

This technique would have proved unachievable for swordsmen of the Sovereign Stage.

‘He let this rascal execute such a frightening sword technique, but the man himself seemed rather powerless.’

The irony was clouding Xin Gugu’s mind.

In fear that there might be others tailing them, Xin Gugu could not afford to indulge in his thoughts any longer. He guided Aje toward a dark area to conceal themselves.

...

“It’s over.”

The City Lord Mansion had paid close attention to the night’s battle, along with everyone else who was looking up in respect and fear on Dong Qing Street.

Fu Xing walked with his hands behind his back. He turned to look at Liu Qing. His expression remained dignified.

“Has father not returned?”

Liu Qing nodded. “He’s still in the back garden researching his new crystals. Even when the City Lord Mansion was attacked, he didn’t budge to look.”

“Tonight’s events were unexpected. We can’t expect him to move around.”

Fu Xing felt a tinge of headache and held his hand to his forehead.

Someone at his age should have been moving around freely and enjoying his life as a bachelor of a rich and powerful household.

However, his father remained deeply embedded in his obsession with the spiritual array and neglected his duties. He had no choice but to carry a portion of the household's burdens.

He was Master Stage but required to tend to issues dealt with by a Sovereign Stage. Truth to be told, he felt that he had too much on his plate.

"What about the Holy Divine Palace? Any updates?" he asked.

A battle between the Sovereigns was a violation of the Holy Law, so the White-clothed of the Holy Divine Palace would be called upon to suppress the battle.

Liu Qing smiled lightly and replied, "I'm afraid that they no longer care about Tiansang City anymore."

"Oh?" Fu Xing was puzzled. "How so?"

Liu Qing stepped forward imposingly. Her gaze locked onto the dust in the skyline that had yet to settle.

"The uncontrolled growth of the White Cave sword will have already birthed four swords. This has confirmed the worsening situation."

"Because of that, almost everyone found it difficult to hold on or hold up. Even if the extradimensional cracks had not been opened, there were already individuals smuggling themselves in."

"The Red-clothed of the Holy Divine Palace had not been activated yet. Regarding the White-clothed, they had already sent six batches over."

Fu Xing asked in shock, "Six batches?"

The number was unthinkable under normal circumstances.

The White-clothed of the Holy Divine Palace usually moved in batches. Perhaps a better term was group. These groups ranged in size from five as the least amount and 10 on the larger end.

All of them were individuals of the Sovereign Stage.

"Yes."

Liu Qing nodded and replied with a smile, "Aside from White Cave, by sheer estimation, the Sovereigns eliminated at the present would be at least a two-digit number."

### **Chapter 366: The Horror Theme Park Project**

In the darkness, Zhang Taiying transformed into a giant and was on a crazed and relentless pursuit of Xu Xiaoshou.

He jumped and hopped between every step and got closer to Xu Xiaoshou, who was weaker than he ever had been.



The humongous body of the giant leaped into the air and landed on one arm. It summoned Ye Xiaotian's Hand of Ripping Heaven and completely squashed Xu Xiaoshou with its hands.

"Whoa!"

Xu Xiaoshou jerked awake and straightened his body on his bed.

Woosh!

Mu Zixi, who was trying to change the warm towels, stood stunned at the headboard of the bed. Before Xu Xiaoshou could move, she immediately tilted her head back in defense.

Her expectations rang true. A strong gust of wind swept across the room.

If she had moved a little slower, her forehead would have been shattered on the spot by the wind.

"Clang!"

The basin of hot water was flipped over. The hot water was sent flying out of the container.

Xin Gugu already had the experience of hot water and pond water pouring down on him. He was too familiar with this scene. With a shake of his head, he transformed into a puddle of blood water and slipped away.

"Ho—"

The air was silent.

Xu Xiaoshou was dazed.

The two before him and the scene that unfolded gave Xu Xiaoshou a moment of déjà vu.

"Xu Xiaoshou!"

Mu Zixi called out angrily with her arms on her hips. "You are trying to launch another sneak attack again, aren't you?"

Xin Gugu smiled and appeared in a human form carrying a smug expression on his face.

"Gotcha!"

Xu Xiaoshou stared silently.

He was rather speechless, but he was guilty as charged. However, the peaceful environment had warmed him up on the inside and smoothed his mood after waking up from the nightmare.

"Did you two stay up all night again?"

Xu Xiaoshou looked out the window. It was daytime. The two must have stayed within this room for the whole night again.

He was not anyone of any significance, so he wondered why they had to be so committed and concerned for him.

His thoughts wandered. He wondered if he had done something wrong that warranted this behavior from them.

He lifted his blanket and looked down.

It was a relief that his pants were still on.

He focused his vision. Something was different.

Someone had changed his pants.

Xin Gugu rubbed his eyes. "Did you see what you did last night?" He yawned and asked, "How could I leave you?"

"If someone had attacked or assassinated you while I left, what then?"

Xu Xiaoshou looked up quizzically. "Not necessarily."

Xin Gugu laughed coldly. "That's what I thought too, but you..."

He had followed along Xu Xiaoshou's journey as a form of assistance, but he never imagined he would become a bodyguard and how much pressure this would put on his mental state.

The young man was a simple person of the Innate stage, yet all of his enemies were people of the Sovereign Stage. All of his battles were with Sovereigns too.

It was a rather stressful and terrifying life to keep up with.

"How is Greedy the Cat Spirit? Is he alright?" Xin Gugu asked with worry.

Xu Xiaoshou gave Yuan Mansion a peek. The giant white cat was lying on the ground. It was unable to hold itself up.

"It's alright. It's in more comfort than you are right now, almost at the height of luxury. No, wait. It is at the height of luxury."

Xin Gugu did not get the subtle message behind Xu Xiaoshou's words, but the plain words were enough to let him heave a sigh of relief.

His greatest fear was that Xu Xiaoshou had destroyed Yuan Mansion and threatened the safety of Greedy the Cat Spirit.

Now that he knew all was well, he did not need to guard for much longer.

There were no Sovereigns who caught up and attacked them during the night. The Zhang family would have less inclination to attack during the day.

"I'm going."

He waved his hands and covered his mouth as he yawned. He was going to catch up on the sleep he had missed.

Xu Xiaoshou glanced toward Mu Zixi. Although he had not seen the girl for a few days, it felt like seasons had passed since they last met.

Her face was one he was familiar with, yet it felt so distant.

The long battles she had fought in the past two days did not seem to suit her adorable features.

“How long have I slept?” Xu Xiaoshou asked.

“Not long. It’s just one night this time. The duration of your rests are getting shorter.”

Mu Zixi’s eyes had a particular look in them.

Honestly speaking, she quite liked it when Xu Xiaoshou was injured.

The scent of his body after an injury was truly heavenly.

Any injury on the body required life force to patch up the physical form, so it was hard to let go of and be nonchalant about.

Therefore, she was never able to stay away from Xu Xiaoshou every time he had himself and continuously tended to him.

Her worries were a natural reason, but she would be lying if attraction was not one of the factors as well.

Mainly it was worry. That was the factor that motivated her the most.

Xu Xiaoshou looked at the strange expression on her face and picked up the bronze mirror on the table. His face was in good shape.

“What’s wrong?”

“Do I look extra good today?”

Mu Zixi looked at him in silence.

Cursed, Passive Points +1.

Without a word, she blushed and left the room.

“Oj!”

Xu Xiaoshou called out. He felt strange when the girl did not reply.

There was something very off about the situation, but he could not put a finger on what it was.

He thought he might have spoken less than usual this time.

Xu Xiaoshou eyed the notification banner. The Cursed notification remained amongst the banners.

‘Was my intuition wrong?’

He stroked his chin in thought. The situation was hard for him to understand.

Suddenly, a thought occurred to him. His pupils lit up.

‘Wait... Does this girl like me?’

Coming to that conclusion, Xu Xiaoshou grabbed the bronze mirror again.

‘Huh, but it’s not like I got handsome overnight...’

‘That’s impossible!’

He quietly put down the mirror and closed the compact with a wave of his hand.

‘They all left, and I wanted to share the joy with them...’

Xu Xiaoshou reached into his chest. He transformed into a bright spot of light and disappeared from the spot.

...

In Yuan Mansion...

The Chaos Space remained filled with grey and murky fog. Within them was a thick and vigorous life force that unfurled itself from the fog with unstoppable energy and force.

The newly dug spirit pond had immediately transformed overnight. The vitality spiritual energy it contained had almost doubled.

Xu Xiaoshou was in for a shock when he got closer to the pond.

The spirit fishes had jumped excitedly above the surface of the spirit pond. It was as if they had all been shot with steroids. They jumped and flopped with intense vigor.

If the fish were to keep up the pace, they would have been able to launch themselves into the sky and the moon sooner or later.

“Oh my, isn’t this a bit too much?”

He had never stayed in Yuan Mansion for a particularly long period of time.

However, he understood the moment he laid his eyes on the scene.

The overwhelming vitality spiritual energy was not necessarily a good thing. If an ordinary person stumbled across the place, that person would have exploded on the spot within a day or two.

Even worse, the person would have suffocated to their doom.

The thought sent a shiver down Xu Xiaoshou’s spine.

‘Yuan Mansion is much more dangerous than I thought.’

‘However, I can’t waste the vitality spiritual energy. I should only use it, though that sounds dangerous too. Like growing spiritual herbs...’

The money-making prospect lit Xu Xiaoshou’s eyes up.

A vitality spiritual energy of this level would accelerate the growth of spiritual herbs by more than 10 or even a hundred times in comparison to the outside world.

‘If I plant them, would they evolve to become spiritual creatures?’

Xu Xiaoshou thought hard about the decision. His eyes were locked onto the flopping and overly enthusiastic spiritual fishes.

‘Cooking Expert, piranha, dryads... or something like them?’

He was dumbstruck by the combination. He was convinced and ready to transform Yuan Mansion into a horror theme park.

In future encounters with enemy forces, he could invite them into Yuan Mansion for a fight or as a guest.

Bringing a guest into this dangerous place would make the battle easier for him.

“Heh. That girl Mu Zixi might like this place too,” Xu Xiaoshou commented with a laugh. “I should invite her over when she’s free.”

“She might like it so much that she doesn’t want to leave...”

Xu Xiaoshou was lost in his happy thoughts as he picked up the drunken white cat from Yuan Mansion.

“Wake up!”

He inhaled and sucked the excessive life force out from the cat’s body. The cat’s white eyes returned to normal.

“Meow.”

The meow was low. There was a deep-seated fear in its tone.

“Go play on your own,” Xu Xiaoshou said with a smile. “You can’t stay in Yuan Mansion forever, but you can stay here for the time being.”

“The life force in Yuan Mansion is too strong too. Use this as a transition.”

The white cat determinedly tried to prop up its body.

However, its four legs went in different directions. None of them were moving in sync under his command. The cat lose power in its legs and collapsed onto the ground.

“You got this!”

Xu Xiaoshou raised his fist encouragingly and gestured to the spirit pond. “Your reward is over there!”

Fish jumped out from the pond full of life. The cat’s eyes glimmered at the sight of them. It struggled for a while, but it remained sprawling on the ground without strength.

Xu Xiaoshou ignored the Greedy the Cat Spirit and retrieved Aje from his chest. Aje formed into a human form as he emerged.

This was his territory, so all the tricks and secrets had revealed themselves to him one by one.

“Ma Ma...”

Aje tilted its head and called out.

Waving his hand, Xu Xiaoshou turned toward the ruined remains of the four-story tower close to the spirit pond.

“Come on, let’s go treasure hunting!”

### **Chapter 367: The Devil Box and The Letter**

Without a doubt, if there was anything in this world that would bring more joy than earning Passive Points, it would be looting.

The largest loot that Xu Xiaoshou had the pleasure of pocketing came from Li Seven and Xiao Sixteen.

The former’s wealth in the form of spiritual arrays was still lying in the spatial ring.

The latter, on the other hand, had helped to transform him into a legendary multi-millionaire.

His only regret was that Red Dog was beaten up so miserably by the Raging Giant that even his spatial ring was gone.

Otherwise, he estimated that the net worth of that Sovereign Stage killer was 10 times of Xiao Sixteen’s.

“One billion...”

He would be lying if he said it was not a pity.

Xu Xiaoshou sighed regretfully. However, he also knew that he was lucky enough to survive.

A smile spread across his face as he looked at the ancient tower before him.

“Who knows, this thing might be able to top Red Dog’s. It could even be more than that!”

It was practically half the inheritance of the Zhang Mansion. Before last night, Xu Xiaoshou could not have imagined that it would fall into his hands.

After all, his original intention was only to blow it up.

Even if the Sovereign Stage fought, the moment he took out his sword, all he could think was, “I should do something...”

“Nothing is certain in this world.”

Xu Xiaoshou sighed and stopped thinking, leading Aje into the collapsed tower.

Although the barrier of the collapsed tower was intact, it had already been disengaged.

The cut was not as smooth as he imagined. Rather, it was jagged and hideous with crisscrossing ravines and deep pits.

Xu Xiaoshou knew this feeling.

He felt this way when the sword cognition of that man wandered into his body.

He stepped into the ancient tower from the battered end. There was a dark, shadowy atmosphere inside.

“Spiritual techniques!”

“All of them are spiritual techniques!”

Xu Xiaoshou felt his eyes lighting up.

His reaction was different from the past. Now, spiritual techniques were no longer useless things.

He likened them to spirit crystals and wealth, and it was not too farfetched to say that he could exchange them for priceless treasures.

For him, their existence was of little significance.

For the world, spiritual techniques were a crowd favorite.

It was only the first floor, yet before his eyes was a display of rows of jade scrolls and ancient books.

The space was not very large, and there were not many shelves with spiritual techniques. The quantity was very impressive for a single person.

Xu Xiaoshou also knew that this collapsed tower was the upper half of the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion of the Zhang Mansion. Even if it was the first level that he had entered, it was the upper-middle level of the entire Hidden Scriptures Pavilion.

The setup here was very similar to the first level of the Spiritual Library Division in the Tiansang Spirit Palace. There was nothing special about it.

The value of the contents within it was entirely different.

Xu Xiaoshou randomly flipped through a book. It was about Innate Stage Spiritual Techniques.

He flipped another book. It was the Peak of Innate Stage.

“Hiss.”

“I am guessing that everything here is Innate Stage Spiritual Techniques!”

Xu Xiaoshou was speechless. With a rough sweep of his gaze, there were no fewer than hundreds of Innate Stage Spiritual Techniques. It was indeed a considerable inheritance.

If he brought out the contents of this level, he estimated that he could open a small Spirit Palace.

“How come the quantity here feels like more than the Spirit Palace...”

Xu Xiaoshou made his way inside, getting more and more stunned as he walked in further.

The categories of spiritual techniques included were simply numerous.

Whether the spiritual techniques were for the formal path or the deviated path, they were all available. What was more, the options were abundant. The Spiritual Library Division could not live up to it.

“This is impossible. It’s only a Zhang Mansion. How can they have more things than the Tiansang Spirit Palace?”

“How many families have been robbed of their inheritance? Could it be that the Spirit Palace conceals its treasures?”

Xu Xiaoshou thought as he crossed the floor and walked up to the next level.

To him, Innate Stage Spiritual Techniques held no attraction at all.

The second level was full of jade scrolls, and the number was fewer than the first level. There were probably only dozens of them within sight.

However, Xu Xiaoshou was astounded.

Logically speaking, the sudden reduction in the number could only mean that their level had increased sharply.

“Master Stage Spiritual Techniques?”

Xu Xiaoshou was eager to touch a jade scroll. Before he could reach it, he was blocked by a light barrier.

“A barrier?”

It stunned him for a while. He reached his hand out and gave it a sharp jab, breaking open the barrier instantly.

“Is it that weak?”

In reality, the barrier was not weak. Xu Xiaoshou possessed abnormal qualities in his body.

Without thinking, he put something on his forehead, and his heart jumped wildly in his chest.

“I have struck the jackpot!”

“There are dozens of Master Stage Spiritual Techniques!”

“I have only recently attained Master Stage proficiency in my Sword Technique Expertise. If I can cultivate it, wouldn’t it be equivalent to having dozens of Passive Skills?”

Xu Xiaoshou was drooling over this thought, but he also understood that even a Spiritual Cultivator who was a genius could not learn all the spiritual techniques in this world.

Specialization was the key.

Putting down the jade scroll in his hand, Xu Xiaoshou made no further attempt at verifying the contents here. He turned his gaze to the upper level.

“If there are five levels, there are still two levels above if I exclude the top level of the tower.”

“This is already the Master Stage Spiritual Technique, and there are so many of them...”

“What could the levels above contain?”

Thinking of this, Xu Xiaoshou made a quick dash for the upper level with a swoosh.

An illuminated gate blocked his way, but the function of its existence meant nothing to Xu Xiaoshou.



Relying on the strength of Toughness, it only required a bump. Xu Xiaoshou did not have to move at all.

The illuminated gate suddenly trembled and exploded under the force of wave after wave of increasingly powerful countershocks.

“It has the strength of the Peak of Master Stage.”

Xu Xiaoshou estimated the energy of the illuminated gate. He guessed that if the collapsed tower was intact, the illuminated gate should behave the same as the array, which had the level of the Sovereign Stage.

That way, it would require some effort if he wanted to enter.

At that moment, he did not see it as an obstacle.

He took a step forward.

It was silent inside, and the space contained only one long table.

There were seven light clusters on the long table.

“Cool!”

Xu Xiaoshou sucked in cold air, only to feel dizzy in his head.

“Seven doors?”

At this moment, he wanted to point out his realization quality again. If he could comprehend the spiritual technique...

Were they Sovereign Stage Passive Skills?

“That’s a little scary!”

Suppressing the alarm in his heart, Xu Xiaoshou decided not to trigger them. He instead headed straight to the last level.

“What will it be?”

“Beyond the Sovereign Stage... Cutting Path, Higher Void?”

“Or Demi-Saint Stage?”

Xu Xiaoshou felt that his imagination went too far. If the Zhang family had such a powerful ability, they would have slashed him in half on the spot. In any case, he would not even be able to put on a show before them.

As he stepped into the fourth level, unexpectedly, no bookshelf stood before him. Instead, there was a black square table and a rocking chair.

Clearly, someone had lived here.

“Was it that old man?”

Xu Xiaoshou thought of Zhang Zhongmou. Not surprisingly, these should be the traces left behind by that old man.

He was a little disappointed. He thought that the highest level would contain the best treasure. He did not expect that he would only collect a pile of domestic garbage in the end.

“This can’t be right!”

Xu Xiaoshou allowed his gaze to wander. He suddenly settled on the square table.

On top of it were a hanging light spirit pen holder, a black inkstone, and a purple box.

There was a letter under the box.

“An unfinished letter?”

Xu Xiaoshou did not care about this as the purple box had attracted his attention.

Along the way, even the Sovereign Stage Spiritual Techniques did not trigger an emotional roller coaster in him.

But that box made Perception report an urgent warning with a dangerous throb.

This throbbing only emerged on occasion in the past. Every time it materialized, it could only signal a catastrophe or a blasphemous event.

“This... What have I collected?”

Xu Xiaoshou had a weird look in his eyes. Although he was surprised to be opening a devil box, he was full of worry.

“Forget it. When we get to the mountain, there will naturally be a way through!”

Now that he was in his Yuan Mansion, Xu Xiaoshou could not refrain from opening it.

He paced forward and moved the rocking chair. He sat on it with his hands hovering above the purple devil box.

### **Chapter 368: The Decision and Destiny**

Zhang Mansion...

In one night, its residents were unable to recover from their attacked state.

Zhang Taiying stayed up all night, but he too did not know what he was thinking.

However, the silhouette of that weak yet formidable young man was etched in his mind.

Crack!

He tightened his fist and slowly released it.

In this world, there were too many helpless situations mixed with reality. It had never occurred to Zhang Taiying in the past when Tiansang City was not so vibrant and Zhang Mansion could dominate one end of it.

Nowadays, there was a mixture of good and evil people. If they let their guard down and revealed their weakness, they would be attacked by similar folks again.

After this night, Zhang Taiying finally understood it.

Even if he was a Sovereign Stage, the limitations of this world still confined him.

He could not break free and could only witness himself sinking deeper and deeper, inch by inch.

“Is this the limit...”

The morning sun beamed on the top of his head and gradually brought his surroundings to light.

Zhang Taiying raised his head. His eyes were bloodshot. He basked in the warm feeling that radiated from his face. Only then did his heart slightly relax.

“No, no one can stop me!”

He got up and walked toward the direction of the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion.

...

The collapsed tower...

Only half of it remained.

Zhang Zhongmou stayed at the same place. Unlike Zhang Taiying, he only spent half the night recuperating from the aftermath of the battle.

“You came.”

The old man spoke quietly as he heard footsteps approaching.

Zhang Taiying marched to the door. Neither of them entered the tower. They only raised their eyes slightly to see the top level of the collapsed tower.

On regular days, they rarely lingered on that floor.

At this moment, it had become the highest floor.

Zhang Taiying’s face turned dark but soon recovered.

“Was that Xu Xiaoshou’s protector who came to seek revenge?” he asked.

Zhang Zhongmou nodded. “It should not be wrong.”

“Are the three Sovereign Stages there just to protect an Innate Stage brat?”

“Perhaps...”

When Zhang Zhongmou said this sentence out loud, even he did not believe it.

But the facts were right in front of him, and the desolation and hopelessness that this picture painted forced him to believe it.

“Infernal Heavenly Flames, sword cognition, Sovereign Stage Physique...”

“The abilities that only appeared last night are three of the most difficult techniques to cultivate in the world...”

“This...”

Zhang Zhongmou shook his head without feeling but solemnly said, “At least we know that the former Dean of Tiansang Spirit Palace, who is now the Vice Dean, has a foot in this.”

“Then he is a swordsman... But if he were a swordsman, Xiao Qixiu did not seem to follow this path.”

“That young man, on the contrary, resembles a person.”

“Who?” Zhang Taiying looked back.

Zhang Zhongmou did not offer a further explanation but only said two words. “Su family!”

Zhang Taiying felt his heart sinking. He knew who exactly Chief Elder was speaking of.

Not long ago, a terrifying event transpired in Tiansang City.

The Su family had been an unshakable giant in Tiansang City since ancient times.

The reason was naturally due to the famed sword in their possession, Epitaph of City Snow.

Each generation of the sword-bearer of the Su family had extraordinarily terrifying combat power. Even if Zhang Taiying was to face the sword-bearer alone, he had no confidence that he could safely retreat.

Yes, victory was unthinkable. The only thought that should occur to one was how to escape alive after defeat.

It was this kind of existence that drew enemies from afar.

That night, a masked man who did not even have a sword attacked the Zhang family in a killing rampage and threatened to take Epitaph of City Snow.

But how could the Su family compromise?

The Su family was a noble family of swordsmen, the type that would rather die than turn their backs on their beliefs.

Immediately, both parties were fighting to draw blood.

The ending was also very apparent. Almost no one could strike the masked man with a sword before admitting defeat.

As per the swordsmen rite, if one loses, one dies.

That night, there was a bloodbath at the Su Mansion.

Almost all the existing Sovereign Stage cultivators in the Su family died.

Even if the elder of the Su family made his final defense, he still failed miserably.

Even until the masked man killed the last person in the battle, no one would reveal the whereabouts of the famed sword.

This tragic ending was simply bone-chilling.

If one randomly asked anybody on the spot, almost everyone in Tiansang City would answer this question.

The famed sword of the Su family was in Tiansang Spirit Palace in the hands of Su Qianqian.

It was no secret.

Almost all the higher levels of the Su family paid with their lives to protect this secret. Although, this secret was not a secret at all.

“What for?”

Zhang Taiying could understand the reasoning behind it that the others could not think of, even if they cracked their heads.

However, understanding the reason did not mean that he empathized with them or was willing to follow in their footsteps.

At least when the young man arrived the previous night, he chose a different path from the Su family.

In the end, he saved a small remnant of the Zhang Mansion.

Whether the ending was good or bad, Zhang Taiying was not sure. He certainly did not regret his choice.

If he had to do it again, he would still make the same decision.

“So, do you think that young man is the same person who killed the Su family?” Zhang Taiying asked after he was silent for a while.

Zhang Zhongmou was confused, and it showed in his eyes.

He did not understand it very well. That guy looked very similar. At least, his sword was at the height that the masked man could strike.

Suspicion vaguely arose in his heart. He could not put a finger on the strange feeling he felt.

Was the person who came this time an impostor?

“I cannot tell definitely, but I am 70 or 80 percent sure!”

Zhang Zhongmou sighed and said, “Perhaps it is not the same person, but they will be from the same organization. No matter how you decide to proceed, I will respect your decision.”

Zhang Taiying glanced at the collapsed tower and closed his eyes.

“My decision has caused the Zhang Mansion half of its fortune!”

“We are lucky that it’s only half.”

Zhang Zhongmou patted him on the shoulder. “The Su family’s decision obliterated their entire clan.”

“The sword-bearer...”

Zhang Taiying murmured to himself. Sometimes he could understand Elder Su’s thoughts, but sometimes he felt that it was not worth it.

“Let it be.”

Without thinking about it too much, Zhang Taiying regained his composure and said, “Whether the misfortune of the Zhang Mansion is a blessing or a curse, it remains hard to tell.”

“Maybe this person was not completely lured over by Xu Xiaoshou.”

Zhang Taiying paused and thought seriously. “The masked man had his sights set on the famed sword. Perhaps he obtained intelligence about the Sacrificial Carving from somewhere and came to investigate the rumors.”

“The Sacrificial Carving...”

Zhang Zhongmou murmured. Suddenly, his pupils contracted, and he raised his head. He gazed at the top level of the collapsed tower.

His heart twitched with a horrifying realization, and panic appeared on his face.

Zhang Taiying did not notice his expression and continued his monolog. “Our Zhang family has spent so much effort and only then retrieved two pieces of Sacrificial Carvings from White Cave.”

“Whether or not we can soar into the sky and achieve new heights, it ultimately depends on this opportunity.”

“The City Lord Mansion definitely cannot resist this temptation. As long as we claim the White Cave quota this time, we will still have a chance to take off.”

“The mere Hidden Scriptures Pavilion... We can give it to him!”

Zhang Taiying sneered coldly. He glanced back at Zhang Zhongmou and wanted to continue talking but was frightened by the black face of the old man.

“What’s wrong?” He was puzzled.

Zhang Zhongmou whispered and said in a trembling voice, “The Sacrificial Carving is on... It’s on the ninth floor...”

“The ninth floor?”

Zhang Taiying was a little confused. When he watched Zhang Zhongmou staring in the direction of the collapsed tower, he suddenly realized that something was wrong.

“You mean...”

“That’s right.”

Zhang Zhongmou swallowed the lump in his throat and said with much difficulty, "The Sacrificial Carving that we were going to give to the City Lord Mansion, as well as the letters, are still on the ninth floor of the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion."

Zhang Taiying was speechless.

Where on earth was the ninth floor?

The highest place in sight was only four and a half floors.

### **Chapter 369: The Engraved Shard**

Yuan Mansion, the highest level of the collapsed tower...

Click!

Xu Xiaoshou applied a light force and crushed the spiritual array guarding the purple devil box. It opened with ease.

It was completely different from the Light of Buddha or the Wrath of the Devil that he had expected.

Lying in this box was an ordinary bronze shard.

"What is this?"

He was looking forward to seeing what was in the box. When he saw this broken thing, Xu Xiaoshou suddenly had black question marks on his face.

He picked up the shard and observed it with detail.

The shard was very heavy, and it was like old iron speckled in rust. No matter how hard he rubbed, no dirt came off.

There were engravings on it, but just like this shard, only a tiny part was visible. Xu Xiaoshou could not tell what they were at all.

Xu Xiaoshou guessed that even if the complete engraving was placed before him, he would still be unable to tell anything from it.

Apart from its texture, this engraved shard still had some bronze color remaining. The original color of the engraving should have been the same as it.

It was evident from the few clean spots on it.

Overall, something unidentifiable had contaminated this bronze shard. Although it was very black, it could not be wiped clean.

"Did this item trigger that dangerous warning for me?"

Xu Xiaoshou frowned. He did not believe it.

He casually tossed the item on the table. He flipped through the purple devil box again and could not find any concealed layer. There was also no hidden compartment on the top layer.

In general, this devil box was only a devil box and did not have any mechanism to transform itself into other forms.

Judging its material, it was just a rather expensive box. It was not even comparable to most of the spiritual ore in his spatial ring.

“In other words, this devil box is just an ordinary thing. Does the mystery lie on this engraved shard?”

Xu Xiaoshou set down the purple box and picked up the engraved shard again. His spiritual senses reached out toward it.

However, at the first sweep, it already provoked an incident.

The moment his spiritual senses came into contact with the engraved shard, he sensed an oppressive murderous intent.

Xu Xiaoshou felt his hair standing on end.

He had never seen such a concentrated and terrifying murderous intent.

Even the masked man, even Red Dog...

Among the strong cultivators he had encountered in the past, he never experienced a murderous intent that terrified him more than the murderous intent hidden in the depths of this engraved shard.

Suddenly, Xu Xiaoshou's eyes turned red. An unknown force transported him to a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood.

Withered bones, demented devil beings, blood flowing into rivers, corpses scattered all over the floor...

Among the endless Senluo Purgatory sight before him, there was a long, slender black sword.

The black sword was elegant, and the bronze engravings on it were shrouded in mystery. It was this very sword that was constantly hovering in the void.

With every rotation it took, blood-black Monstrous Aura seeped out from it.

One could even see such a suffocating murderous intent with the naked eye. It had caused all beings to deviate from the Great Path and launch into self-destruction.

No life force remained in the world.

“Ah—”

Xu Xiaoshou grasped his head in excruciating pain. He felt that he only needed to be here, and the Monstrous Aura would instantly infiltrate his mind and soul.

If the pain of the sword cognition wandering through his body was at level 10, then at this moment, the piercing pain that tormented his soul was at the level of hundreds of thousands.

A violent primitive desire instantly destroyed the clarity of the spiritual altar. Even if Xu Xiaoshou had realized that something was amiss, he could hardly contain his thirst for destruction.

“Argh!”



He roared in rage, and his muscles took on a golden light and swelled sharply.

At this moment, the Devil's Will of the Spiritual Universe suddenly seemed to have discovered a catharsis. It had purged all of it into an unknown place.

Xu Xiaoshou relaxed his expression, and his breath returned. Finally, he forcibly stifled the urge to transform into the Raging Giant.

"Hu!"

With a blur before his eyes, the sight of his surroundings in the collapsed tower once again greeted him.

Pen, ink, paper, inkstone, the devil box, the engraved shard, and Aje, which had its hand on his shoulder.

"Ma Ma?"

Aje tilted its head, its eyes flickering red and momentarily turned black.

Black Devil Veins snaked around Xu Xiaoshou's body and constricted him. With Aje's palm as the origin, it was all absorbed away.

"Aje?"

"Can you absorb this devilish energy?"

Xu Xiaoshou was drenched in sweat and looked terrified.

It shook off the engraved shard in its hand like a hot iron, and then it shivered.

"Cultivation deviation?"

Truthfully, it was practically impossible for Xu Xiaoshou to experience cultivation deviation since he did not need to cultivate.

This almost impossible event in the past was a reality at this moment, and it was all because of an engraved shard.

Xu Xiaoshou was in disbelief.

His spiritual power and mental strength were already terrifyingly powerful. The increase of Perception had once again elevated them.

Even at this level, he still could not hold on for a moment. He instantly experienced devil invasion.

"How horrible!"

"What the hell is this?"

"That sword..."

Hovering between heaven and earth, causing everything to lose their spiritual quality and turn into withered bones, the culprit behind the mass destruction scene was an elegant Devil Sword...

Xu Xiaoshou could not fathom it at all. However, it had vaguely reminded him of a familiar feeling.

“What’s going on?”

At this moment, the spatial ring on his chest trembled. Hidden Bitter shot out.

Xu Xiaoshou grasped at it inexplicably. As he glanced at the trembling Black Scabbard, enlightenment suddenly flashed in his eyes.

“According to previous tales, the Black Scabbard should be the scabbard of the Fourth Sword.”

“Is this engraved shard also related to the Fourth Sword?”

“Or is this a fragment that fell off that sword?”

Xu Xiaoshou was a little surprised. If this was the fragment of the Fourth Sword, then where did the Zhang family get this?

Everyone knew that White Cave had not opened yet.

“This is weird...”

Although puzzled, Xu Xiaoshou had already realized that this fragment was of no simple matter.

Sure enough, the treasure contained within the top level of the Hidden Scriptures Pavilion was not inferior.

“Perhaps this item can contribute greatly to the White Cave expedition.”

Xu Xiaoshou had no idea, but for the time being, he could only accept this item. Nonetheless, he no longer dared to extend his spiritual senses closer to it.

“That’s not right!”

Thinking of the devil invasion, Xu Xiaoshou was suddenly overjoyed.

Currently, if he wanted to take on the Raging Giant form, it seemed that he had to go through a life-threatening tribulation.

This fragment could instantly bring him into the Raging State, and Aje could restrain its devil invasion power.

Xu Xiaoshou turned his head to look at precious Aje and suddenly realized that it was a tremendous treasure.

It could easily absorb such terrifying devilish energy in this way and not be affected at all.

Was it possible that this guy had a considerably terrifying origin compared to the Fourth Sword?

Xu Xiaoshou was taken aback by his thoughts.

“It should be impossible!”

When he thought of Slaughter Cape...

“Perhaps the purpose of the Slaughter Cape in Tianxuan Gate was not to hold Aje captive, but because of Aje, it had become Slaughter Cape.”

“...”

Xu Xiaoshou was silent for a while.

When he had excessive thoughts, he could sometimes perceive the horrors of life.

The feeling of having his life dictated by fate resurfaced.

He raised his head and gazed through the ceiling of the top-level, looking toward the Chaos Heavens of Yuan Mansion.

The breath of vitality was very majestic, but the chaotic grey mist was ferocious and dancing.

It could never be predicted what shape it would take on in the next second.

Xu Xiaoshou's thoughts were all over the place, and he was a little confused.

“What is waiting for me in the front?”

### **Chapter 370: Xu Xiaoshou Ventures into Farming**

Xu Xiaoshou leaped out from the highest floor of the collapsed tower.

However, he did not leave Yuan Mansion after exiting the collapsed tower.

The fish in the spiritual pond were springing frantically.

Seeing their vigorous movements, Xu Xiaoshou fell into deep thought. They were bursting with energy.

‘Perhaps I can bring forward my planting plan for the Garden of Horror.’

‘I don't know how much these spirit fish can evolve in the end.’

On the ground, Greedy the Cat Spirit inched its way forward. It took the form of a little white cat. It was now well enough to move with some effort, but its movements were not flexible.

The lively fish greatly aroused its interest.

After all, it had been locked up by Xu Xiaoshou in Yuan Mansion for a long time.

It was inevitable that it would be slightly famished after being trapped for such a long time.

“Meow~”

It growled and pounced forward, but the spirit fish were simply too flexible. Greedy the Cat Spirit's pounce had no effect at all.

With a splash, it fell straight into the pond.

Water sprayed everywhere.

The spiritual pond, which was already active enough, became even more restless.

Although the fish could not see the existence of Greedy the Cat Spirit, they were brimming full of spiritual quality.

All the fish noticed something was wrong when an unfamiliar breath trespassed their surroundings, and they swam wildly and jumped even higher.

Pounce!

The cat caught the fish, but the fish escaped.

The entire spiritual pond was in an uproar. The commotion was louder than firecrackers.

Xu Xiaoshou was amazed at the sight.

If he indeed had realization quality, perhaps he could even realize something by looking at this scene.

But at the moment...

'Well, this cat is rather weak. If the fish evolved, could they mock it instead?'

'It has embarrassed all the ghost beasts...'

Xu Xiaoshou did not give it much thought. He even forgot Xin Gugu's instructions. The only lively scene in Yuan Mansion had enraptured him immensely.

'What else is lacking?'

He stroked his chin and observed the ground at the edge of the pool where the water had splashed out. A faint grayish-green seemed to be on the verge of popping out.

It was rather frail.

'Life?'

Xu Xiaoshou slapped his head in realization.

There were enough animals in Yuan Mansion, but plants...

It was somewhat challenging to grow it from nothing in this Chaos Space, even with a strong vitality and spiritual energy.

He estimated that it would take at least a year or half. It was certainly an uphill task.

"Hehe."

As Xu Xiaoshou thought of this, he picked out a handful of spiritual herb seeds from his spatial ring.

He also had other precious spiritual ingredients, but it would only be a waste if they could not be grown.

Since he intended to sow a new garden, it would be better to start with ordinary seeds.

After they had taken root here, perhaps they would improve the quality of the soil. He could plant high-quality elixir spiritual ingredients such as those required for the Origin Court Pill in his next harvest.

Xu Xiaoshou randomly sprinkled seeds along the edge of the spiritual pond. He watched the purple seeds tumbling and suddenly realized that something was wrong.

'Purple Snake Orchid Seed?'

The seed that he took out was one of the special spiritual ingredients in the Red Gold Pill.

This spiritual ingredient was poisonous. When used as medicine, it would be refined in the form of seeds.

If he were to use spiritual herbs to condense pills, he would require other strong spiritual herbs to suppress their poisonous quality. Otherwise, it was very likely to be condensed into a poisonous pill.

While the Fallen Star Pill used the thousand-year-old Purple Snake Orchid as a medicinal ingredient, it was a different story because it was a top seven-grade healing medicine.

To be truthful, Xu Xiaoshou did not possess many spiritual herb seeds.

Most of the spiritual ingredients given to him by Elder Sang were individual ingredients.

The ones that could appear in seeds were poisonous ingredients.

‘Uh, it shouldn’t be a big problem planting poisonous herbs...’

Theoretically, it was interesting to create a Garden of Horror. However, Xu Xiaoshou was a little fearful of reality running askew from his imagination.

To balance out the poisonous seeds he had planted, he also grabbed a handful of spiritual herbs and inserted them along the edge of the spiritual pond.

However, these low-grade spiritual herbs had not been treated when they were picked. Many of them did not have the possibility of being replanted.

Whether or not they could survive entirely depended on God’s will.

‘Well, I hope you can all thrive. Wait for me to come and harvest!’

Xu Xiaoshou was satisfied with his planting method of half poison and half spiritual herbs. Perhaps with the existence of the spiritual pond, everything could thrive.

In this case, when he next entered Yuan Mansion, he would not be greeted by the sight of a genuine Garden of Horror.

He imagined fish and cats frolicking and spiritual herbs growing bountifully.

Everything would be growing and evolving naturally. That would be a pleasing sight.

Xu Xiaoshou looked at it for a while then withdrew his gaze.

‘That’s it!’

‘What’s left is to make ample preparations for the City Lord Mansion banquet dinner.’

Xu Xiaoshou really did not care if he could obtain the White Cave quota.

It was not as if he was the leader of a large organization. He did not pay attention to these things, and he did not feel a pressing need to fight over them.

On the contrary, Elder Sang would surely send him into that dangerous place.

'My primary purpose of attending the banquet dinner is naturally to get more intelligence about the White Cave. That guy Fu Xing is a good starting point...'

'However, Zhang Taiying is also a top priority.'

Xu Xiaoshou swore that he must kill that person.

Not only was the arrest warrant of Three Incenses not withdrawn, but the existence of that person had already posed a threat to himself.

However...

'Killing a Sovereign Stage?'

The night attack at the Zhang Mansion did not cause Xu Xiaoshou's ego to swell. The strike of his sword that toppled the tower also did not make him conceited enough to think that he alone could fight against Zhang Taiying.

On the contrary, the strength that guy possessed that made him capable of surviving Aje's barrel of attacks made Xu Xiaoshou fearful.

If it were him against Aje...

Xu Xiaoshou glanced at precious Aje beside him.

He did not have the confidence to fight this guy, persevere for so long, and not lose the upper hand.

Xu Xiaoshou squinted as he thought about how to kill Zhang Taiying.

'At Zhang Mansion, I only need to ask Xin Gugu to pay them a few more visits later.'

'I don't have to do anything. The other two Sovereign Stages are unlikely to accompany Zhang Taiying out.'

It was only human nature to be afraid.

After this hardship, the Zhang family had to be panicked and worried.

If it were not for the need to attend the City Lord Mansion banquet dinner, it was unlikely that Zhang Taiying would leave the Zhang Mansion anytime soon.

'Since the number of people is now limited, Zhang Taiying is the only one left to attend the event...'

'How can I kill a Sovereign Stage in a place as heavily guarded as the City Lord Mansion?'

Xu Xiaoshou assessed his current combat power.

He had Xin Gugu and Aje on his side. However, this combination was probably not enough to kill this guy without drawing any attention.

'No, it's far from enough!'

Despite that, it was the only chance that Zhang Taiying would go out. Even though he could not be sure, that was an opportunity he could not miss.

'I need to do something...'

Xu Xiaoshou tilted his head and frowned.

Finally, he concluded his thoughts and focused his gaze on the Yuan Mansion. He glanced at the Red Interface on one end.

'The Sovereign Stage is too hard to kill. I need support!'

Xu Xiaoshou looked toward the bottom of the Information Bar.

Passive Points: 86,944.