

# Forty Millenniums of Cultivation

## Chapter 26: Someone Fiercer Arrives

Geoffrey\_, Lacent

Wei Tie saw the crystal tube counter continue to tick away a string of digits, causing him to swallow a mouthful of spittle with great difficulty.

Cold sweat formed on his forehead, back, and between his waist. His body was as if it had just been scooped out of a body of water.

Wei Tie, also known as the Iron Beast, did not dare to even make a single move to wipe off his sweat. His mind was filled with a scene of those 30 explosive fists bombarding upon his body.

He would absolutely... be beaten to death!

"You must be Older Brother Tie of the third years. What business do you with me?" Li said as he recognized that this was the school's infamously fierce Iron Beast.

Wei Tie's lips trembled, not knowing how to respond.

Li Yao was likewise extremely surprised and blinked his eyes few times. He had heard long ago that Wei Tie was notorious for being a ruthless person. However, everyone minded their own business in the past. Wei Tie and Li Yao had not crossed paths before. Today was the first day they exchanged words. Why did it seem like this guy... was a bit retarded?

"Li. Fellow student Li Yao. I came looking for you since I have something I need your help with," answered Wei Tie in a stammer.

"What is it?" Laughed Li Yao in reply.

"It's— It's like this. When I punch out with power, I feel that there's something not quite right. I don't know if fellow student Li Yao has some time to give me some pointers? As the martial arts teacher would say, I should be able to punch out with 50% more force with my strength, but the power of my punches always fails to reach that lever of power!" said Wei Tie with the utmost sincerity.

Li Yao was stunned. It took quite a while before he responded by going through the motions, "Sure thing~ As fellow students, we ought to learn from one another. The thing is... I'm all booked for today. How about we exchange pointers next time when I have time?"

“Sure! Sure! So it turns out that Older Brother Yao has matters to tend to. Then let’s exchange pointers next time. I’m going to go now! Older Brother Yao go ahead and tend to your stuff! Go ahead!”

Wei Tie left. Or it can be said... that he broke into a run.

This sight would have been unbelievable if not personally seen with one’s own eyes. It would have been very hard to believe that the 210 cm tall and over 300 lb buff giant would be able to utilize the Spirit Serpent Footwork Technique to the degree of moving like the floating clouds and flowing water. He left without a trace, exercising caution to avoid calamity.

The hundreds of students in the gymnasium were left feeling stupefied, dumbstruck, and shocked. All of them watched with eyes that stared rigidly at Li Yao, feeling as if they had fallen into an illusion. They stared at him as if he was the king of the demon beasts wearing the skin of a human.

“What the hell is going on? Why did the Iron Beast run in such a panicked manner after saying a few sentence? What did they say in the end?”

“Loud thunder can be accompanied by small raindrops. This is probably the Iron Beast’s style. I had thought that he would break all of Li Yao’s ribs!”

“What kind of cultivation technique did Li Yao use? Could it be that he stashed a high quality ‘Hypnosis Glyph’ on his body? Hypnotizing the Iron Beast?”

The students discussed earnestly within themselves. They were extremely astonished.

Bro for life Meng Jiang massaged his stomach. He managed to nudge to Li Yao’s side with great difficulty. Unable to deal with the pain, he said urgently, “Little Devil, is there anything wrong? In the end, what did the Iron Beast want?”

Li Yao rubbed his skull. Shaking his head he said, “I don’t know man. It’s a complete mystery. He said he wanted to find some time to study punching techniques together. Give a few pointers to each other.”

Meng Jian jumped in astonishment as he shouted bewildered, “What? The Iron Beast wants to study punching techniques with you? Don’t you know that the last person who ‘studied punching techniques’ with the Iron Beast had their right leg broken into three pieces while he was still conscious?! But — but why did he go and leave?”

“I said I still had matters to attend to today, that I didn’t have time, and that we can do it next time. He went ‘Oh’ and then walked away! Huh? Did you just vomit?” Li Yao circled around his bro for life. When he discovered the imprint of a shoe on his bro for life, his pupils suddenly contracted and his irises gave off a cold glow.

He understood now.

“I know roughly why Wei Tie was looking for me. Damn! I should have made him stay just then... Small Jiang. It would be better for you to keep some distance from me for the next few days,” said Li Yao with utter seriousness.

Meng Jian stared at him and asked, “Why?”

Li Yao creased his nose and said, “Didn’t you just say that some poor unfortunate student of our Common Class had provoked Helian Lie? That he will suffer a misery incomparable for vengeance? That poor unfortunate student... seems to be me.”

“Wha?”

Meng Jian jumped with shock, ejecting over three meters away subconsciously as if Li Yao was the demon of pestilence. When he came to, he felt a bit ashamed. With a bitter face, he said, “Little Devil, we are all good brothers. Needless to say, my code of honor isn’t lacking. Let’s see, which hospital’s intensive care unit would you like to stay at? I will help you reserve a bed right now!”

.....

Wei Tie ran in a small sprint the entire time. He scuttled out of the Ninth Gymnasium and had just turned around the corner when he saw someone standing by the flowers and bushes. A tall skinny youngster with a malicious expression on his face.

The youngster’s hips were quite high on his body. His pair of legs were at least 102 cm long. The pants of the school uniform were wrapped tightly around his muscular legs; originally the pants were designed to be loose, but on him, it was like they were skin-tight pants.

“Really? This fast? Are you sure you broke 10 of his bones? You’ve recorded the whole ordeal right? I’ll send it via e-crane link for Senior Helian to watch!”

Wei Tie did not dare to be bossy in front of this malicious youngster, adopting a well-behaved attitude.

It’s because this youngster with the name Zhao Liang was a student of the Important Class.

Although he was the lowest ranking student, ranked 41st, of the Important Class, he had an elite Spirit Actualization Quotient of 60%. Zhao Liang was not someone Wei Tie could confront.

“Older Brother Liang. When I walked in the gym just now, I felt some pain in my stomach. It’s probably my appendicitis flaring up again. I need to go see the doctor

asap!" Wei Tie's eyeballs turned about and he clenched his teeth. His face was scrunched up into a ball. His enormous body even began to shiver and his forehead began to sweat once more.

"Appendicitis? Did you make a mistake!?" Zhao Liang was unable to restrain his rage. He wished very much to slap Wei Tie across the face. He said in a low roar, "At first, I thought that you had a bit of potential. I even put in a few good words for you with Senior Helian Lie to help you move up Senior Helian Lie's ladder and receive some good benefits later on. I never thought you were actually a pile of shit. How could you not withhold your end in this key moment!"

"Right, right. It's exactly as Older Brother Liang says. My appendicitis flared at the worst moment. Oh man, it hurts! It hurts! What if it's infected!" Wei Tie covered his mouth. The pain was enough to squeeze a few tears out of his eyes. He squinted his eyes, peaking at Zhao Liang. He tested the waters by asking, "Older Brother Liang. How about I first go to the infirmary to get it checked out and to take a bit of a rest. If it's not too bad of a hindrance, I can come back to teach a lesson to this kid?"

"Fuck off! Fuck off! Senior Helian wants to see the kid beaten the sh\*t out of as soon as possible. Who has the patience to wait for a pile of shit like you to get checked by a doctor? In the end, I have no option but to do the job myself. How annoying!" Zhao Liang was ruthless. A leg kicked over that was like rapid bolt of lightning whipping onto Wei Tie's body, creating a "Bang" of explosion.

Wei Tie was grimacing in pain, but his eyebrows indicated that he was happy beyond delight. He said repeatedly, "Expert Brother Liang, it's a given that you will beat this kid so badly that even his parents won't be able to recognize him! Ok! Let's not talk about this anymore. I'm going to go ahead and see the doctor. I'll come back again to give Elder Brother Liang an apology!"

His neck shrunk and he slipped into a small run. Soon Wei Tie ran away without a trace.

"This kid, why is he acting kind of strange today? As if he's hiding something like a thief?" Zhao Liang did not understand so he rubbed his head. He faintly felt that there was something not quite right. But then he recalled Helian Lie's appearance when he's in his towering rage. He quickly broke out in a cold shiver and headed to gymnasium number 9.

"Which one of you is Li Yao? Get the fuck out here!"

Chapter 27: Actually, He's the Fiercest

Geoffrey\_, Lacent

The voice was both sharp and piercing, like the cry of a bird of prey. It ripped through the just-congealed atmosphere within the gymnasium.

The students had just recovered with great difficulty back from their stunned state when they became seriously frightened once more.

No one expected that a person even more fierce and malicious than the Iron Beast would come the instant the Iron Beast had just left. Zhao Liang was a student of the Important Class. With an Actualization Quotient surpassing 60%, he was a cultivation genius. He was in a completely different world of existence when comparing the skies of the Important Class to the earth of the Common Class.

“This Li Yao, just which person did he offend? To cause Wei Tie and Zhao Liang to come bulldozing over searching for him?”

“We don’t know what methods he used to drive Wei Tie away just now. What’s going to happen this time when he faces Zhao Liang?”

“You guys don’t even know. Man, last night Li Yao offended Helian Lie!”

“What? He’s the unfortunate bastard who offended Helian Lie? Then he’s done for!”

Whispering rose and fell like waves in the group of people. Everybody looked at Li Yao with expressions full of pity, as if he were a sick patient with his body fully cast in plaster.

While numerous students were making lamenting sounds, Li Yao walked very slowly over. He walked with great hesitation. From time to time, he would put a hand on a piece of training equipment to support himself. It seemed that he was somewhat scared to advance onward.

“So you are that Li Yao. You’re nothing special!” Zhao Liang observed Li Yao from head to toe for a long time. A cruel smile emerged on his malicious face. He said softly, “I have a combat technique problem that I don’t quite understand. I wish to exchange pointers with fellow student Li Yao. Come then!”

“So they’re actually going to duel!” Everyone tilted their heads and took a deep cold breath.

In Cultivation Era 40,000, Demon Beasts ran rampant. The flames of war burnt on. Humanity had adopted a culture of valiance. They held the philosophy of “Survival of the Fittest where the Weak are Prey to the Strong” in extreme reverence. Private schools, such as Crimson Nimbus Second, followed this philosophy particularly closely and had the goal of producing cultivation geniuses. They did not prohibit students from dueling each other.

Besides, the schools had perfect medical treatment facilities that contained miracle cures that could bring people back from various near-death situations, and the students were even overseen by several of the greatest medical researchers. As long as someone didn't die on the spot, they would quickly be restored back to be as good as before.

So, when hot-blooded youngsters full of vigor had some beef with each other, they would often exchange the words "exchanging some pointers" as the preamble to conducting a duel.

However, typically duels were conducted between two students with similar strength. A duel issued between Zhao Liang, an elite of the Important Class, and Li Yao, this riffraff of the Common Class, would be a great loss of reputation for Zhao Liang.

Zhao Liang would not have gone forward in this manner that would reduce his reputation were it not for the raging fury of Helian Lie. Helian Lie wanted to absolutely see Li Yao be beaten black and blue by the end of today, and Wei Yei had unexpectedly backed out at the key moment.

Therefore, Li Yao adopted a meek attitude. He said softly under his breath, "You are a great expert of the Important Class. I'm no match for you. I forfeit!" These words were felt by all the students of the Common Class and Zhao Liang to be an expected matter and a natural course of action. These words weren't surprising at all.

A riffraff student of the Common Class under the provocation of an elite student of the Important Class could only surrender and beg for forgiveness. How could there ever be a second option?

Zhao Liang yawned and said somewhat impatiently, "So it turns out you're this sensible. I'm also disinclined to take care of your sort of trash. Be good, go kneel down and let me break 10 of your bones. Then this matter will..."

The last word "will" had just been half spoken when Zhao Liang felt his tail bone turn cold. A chill rushed to his scalp. The only thing he felt was a strong gale assaulting his senses. He reached his hand out subconsciously to block it and heard only a "Bang." A white mist had exploded in front of him. Countless dust-like pellets stabbed into his eyes. The scene in front of him suddenly turned snow white. The pain was incomparable. He could not see a damn thing!

"AHH!" Every student of the Common Class let out cries of surprise. They did not dare to believe in the scene they had just witnessed.

It was when Li Yao was cowering his head in forgiveness; his right hand had suddenly awakened and within his palm was gym chalk that was commonly used to increase friction for strength training which he grabbed at an unknown time. That chalk was now right in Zhao Liang's eyes!

Zhao Liang lost his vision for an instant.

Li Yao used the opportunity to lift a 30 lb dumbbell with his foot. He smashed the dumbbell onto Zhao Liang's skull!

"Boom!"

Zhao Liang was worthy of being an elite student with an Actualization Quotient of 60%. When the gym chalk entered his eyes, when he temporarily lost his vision for a moment, he was still able to maintain a high state of vigilance. He responded to Li Yao's attack by using only the sound of the wind, crossing his two arms to block the dumbbell attack firmly!

But he had not expected that Li Yao would reach such a terrifying degree in strength. Even more than that, he had not foreseen that Li Yao would be so shameless and despicable as to use a dumbbell to attack. Under the bombardment of the great powerful energy, his pair of arms were smashed completely and snapped. The force was strong enough to even send his entire body flying dozens of meters away!

The numerous students of the Common Class went into states of astonishment once again. Only a small minority of students, the ones who were proficient in martial skill, had been able to see how much Zhao Liang wanted to use a soaring stylish method to dispel Li Yao's offense and give birth to an exaggerated scene.

However, it did not matter what Zhao Liang's intentions were. In the end, Li Yao sent Zhao Liang flying. Just this sole move was enough to send all of Crimson Nimbus Second into an uproar!

"\*SPLAT!"

From over a dozen meters away, Zhao Liang spat a mouthful of blood. A flaming hot rage twined around his body. He knew that what had transpired today was like a large ship being capsized by force of a mere small steam. Things should have gone smoothly today, but everything had gone completely wrong instead. At this point, even if he beat this kid to the ground, he would still remain the laughingstock of the Important Class.

"Way too despicable! Way too shameless! You actually used gym powder and a dumbbell! But I'm afraid trash like you wouldn't know that my greatest weapon is not actually my arms but my legs!"

Zhao Liang laughed hideously. He spread his fingers into a pair of pitchforks and stabbed his own eyes fiercely. Large drops of tears flowed from his eyes immediately, causing the gym chalk to be washed out of his eyes. Once again, a blurry image came into view before his eyes. His eyes locked in Li Yao's direction.

"I'LL SLAUGHTER YOU!"



With a shriek, Zhao Liang's pair of legs turned into a pair of bizarre serpents. He devoured a dozen meters of distance with only a single leap. His left leg stamped hard, producing wood splinters and fragments, and the power of his right knee was like a fierce tiger taking off like lightning!

The Thirteen Forces of the War Beasts technique with the greatest power was unleashed...Treading Tiger Strike!

It took no more than half-a-second to execute the leap and the knee strike. Li Yao simply wasn't able to react in the least and wasn't even able to adopt a defensive stance. Zhao Liang's knee struck directly onto Li Yao's sternum.

"AH!"

Quite a few female students let out cries of alarm and subconsciously closed their eyes. They could not bear to see the tragedy that was about to occur.

... When Zhao Liang was crying out tears to wash out gym chalk a dozen seconds ago, Li Yao had leisurely grabbed a 35 lb plate and stuffed it down his clothes to protect his chest. Everyone else had witnessed this scene very clearly.

"\*CLANG!"

A sound like the ring of a monastery bell came from Li Yao's sternum.

A stabbing pain of pins and needles could be felt around Zhao Liang's kneecap.

Even though Zhao Liang's kneecap was very hard, the hardness could not be compared to metal. The knee strike had been performed using his entire strength, resulting in his right knee shattering completely! Being smashed into fracturing!

A strong and experienced military soldier could've perhaps withstood this splintered knee fracture, bear through the pain, and still be able to maintain their combat strength. But no matter how vicious and fierce Zhao Liang was, he was still an ordinary high school student. A broken knee would cause him to lose his combat strength completely.

Zhao Liang screamed miserably over and over. He fell to the floor in shock. The pain caused him to start twitching.

Li Yao ripped open his school uniform, took out the iron plate, and discovered that there was a small crater in the center of the iron plate. It appeared that if he had not donned the iron plate guarding his chest, his sternum would have been completely shattered.

"This 'Treading Tiger Strike' move really is overpowering!" Li Yao raised his eyebrows as he praised his opponent. He sized up his opponent from left to right. He headed towards a barbell rack.



Li Yao stuck his left hand into his pocket. His right hand casually picked up plates and loaded both sides of a barbell with a great amount of weight. The barbell now weighed over a hundred pounds. He tried brandishing the barbell for a bit. "Whoosh whoosh" sounds permeated through the air, causing people's scalps to turn numb.

Li Yao walked towards Zhao Liang dragging the barbell.

The half-bit of malice remaining on Zhao Liang's face flew away and scattered from fear. Even his miserable shrieking was stiffly stifled in his throat, turning into sharp thin pleading words for forgiveness, "You. What are you up to? DON'T GET ANY CLOSER!"

"Little, Little devil. Calm down a bit! No need to create a big mess out of this!" Everyone was stunned and dumbstruck. Their scalps were numb. Only his bro for life Meng Jiang was able to eek out of the state of shock and alarm, dissuading Li Yao with stammers.

Li Yao was silent for a period of time. He turned around and returned the barbell back to the rack, "Okay. After all, we are all fellow students. I also do not wish to be too excessive..."

"That's the right thing to do... You! what are you doing!" Meng Jiang had just let out a breath of relief when he suddenly saw Li Yao lift a somewhat lighter but at least 75 lb barbell. The lips Meng Jiang had just sealed had opened up once again. But this time, he did not know what he should say.

And this time Li Yao didn't give him that chance to talk. He walked directly to the left side of Zhao Liang and raised the barbell up high, aiming at Zhao Liang's undamaged left knee.

"You — you, don't you know!? Senior Helian was the one who sent me here!" Zhao Liang let out cries of fear, curling his entire body, looking like a giant dying shrimp.

"And that matters how?" asked Li Yao.

The barbell tore through the air, exploding out with a strong gale of wind, ferociously smashing downwards.

"\*SNAP!"

Zhao Liang's pair of legs were bent in an unnatural position. He was in so much pain that he was frothing at the mouth and his eyeballs went completely white. He had gone completely into shock.

## Chapter 28: Of Course He Needs to be Aggressive

Geoffrey\_, Lacent

Five minutes later, doctors from the school infirmary came bustling through the ninth gym's entrance.

Zhao Liang's pair of legs were in an extremely critical condition. There was no way to carry him to the infirmary, so the doctors directly came on-site for treatment.

For the medics who had mastered the latest cultivation technology in the Federation, fixing a shattered bone fracture would be a trivial matter with an expected recovery within a few days. At most, there would be a little bit of... pain in the process.

"AHHHHHHHHHHH!" Zhao Liang's miserable shrieks echoed throughout the gymnasium in large waves and waves. All those who heard the shrieks had their scalps turned numb. The stabbing pain in his knee was incomparably painful.

And Li Yao, together with his bro for life Meng Jiang, squatted by the flowers and shrubs outside of the gym. An incorporeal air seemed to have curled around both of their bodies, causing all the other students of the Common Class to avoid them and keep their distance. They did not dare to get close to Li Yao and Meng Jiang.

Meng Jiang's face was knotted in a state of loss. He wanted to say something, but he was hesitating.

Li Yao glanced at his bro for life. "What do you want to know? Come on, ask. Ask before a teacher takes me away!"

Meng Jiang spat out a dirty air. With a bitter laugh, he said, "My mind is a chaotic mess right now. I still haven't processed all this yet. You little devilish monster. When did you become so strong?"

Li Yao thought for a bit and said, "I was on the breach of a breakthrough in a cultivation technique. Before practicing this technique, my strength was weak and feeble, just like that of the average person. But as soon as I succeeded in my training, my strength exploded into sky soaring heights! The reason why I didn't come to school yesterday was because I was at a critical point in my training yesterday. Right now, I have already succeeded with the first step of this technique!"

"So it's that amazing!" Meng Jiang's eyes brightened and he did not inquire any further.

The Federation had an unwritten rule. It was the greatest taboo to investigate the roots of the combat skills and technique origins of other people. Even cultivators with power overflowing the heavens could not ask other people of their secret family techniques.

Without this rule, the consequences could be dire... Today, a cultivator might randomly interrogate the weak for the source of their combat skills. Tomorrow, the Federation could call up an army of millions to encircle a cultivation guild's base and force them to give up their deepest secret extermination miracle techniques.

In every world, there was the most basic of rules — to protect the weak from the tyranny of the strong. People have fought for the basic right of not being taken advantage of.

It was because there were these rules that society was able to be established, that the strong and the weak could be united!

The Star Glory Federation relied on precisely these sets of rules to reach unity between cultivators and the common folk, to face-off jointly against the Fiend Beasts and those that walk the Demonic path. The Federation would have long perished if these rules weren't in place. Cultivators and commoners would be hostile enemies towards each other, and the state of the Federation would sink into volatility, like a sheet of scattered sand. How could they possibly hope to fight against the Demon Beasts and Demonic Cultivators if this were the case?

And so, Li Yao thought of this pretext to explain his own sudden increase in strength. He wasn't worried about being exposed by others. Even if people discovered that he was lying, his secrets would not be exposed... In the world of cultivation, who doesn't have a few hidden secrets?

Meng Jiang nodded his head as he accepted the fact that his bro for life had suddenly increased his strength. However, he wrinkled his brow as he asked, "But, is there a need for you to be this excessively vicious? You had already sent Zhao Liang to the ground, yet you still pulverized his left knee. Isn't that too extreme? You don't know how scary you looked when you lifted that barbell up. You basically looked like... a blood-thirsty monster!"

"I had to do it," Li Yao explained, "You told me this morning the enormous power Helian Lie holds in this school and how he has many henchmen. Since I've already offended him, his underlings will certainly come searching for trouble. Zhao Liang is only the first of them!"

He paused for a moment, before continuing, "Zhao Liang is the lowest ranked student of the Important Class; he's in last place. If I only knock him to the ground, do you think other people would be scared? Wouldn't they continue coming one after another to cause me trouble? No matter how I fight, I would fall before a revolving wheel of war! But now, when Helian Lie's gang sees Zhao Liang's pair of knees and hear his painful shrieks, they would reconsider a little bit before looking for me. The vast majority of them might even shrink back."

Meng Jiang fixed into a blank stare. He did not think that far. He had only felt that Li Yao's actions were too excessive.

Li Yao patted the shoulder of his bro for life and said seriously, "Small Jiang, you know my background. You know that since I was a kid, I lived and grew up in the trash heap. In the world I grew up in, people could get in blood feuds over even a half-rotten banana. One time, I even saw two groups of people have a brawl over half a bag of cold meat buns. In the end, two people died. Two people died over half a bag of meat buns! Trust me. I grew up in this kind of environment, so I know how to deal with threats and trouble!"

"But, but..." Meng Jiang's mind was a huge mess. All this time, he had never witnessed this other face of his bro for life.

Perhaps, this was Li Yao's most genuine face.

Li Yao said flatly, "The experience of a dozen years of life in the waste treatment facility had taught me... When it comes to facing the threats of other people, it's not that thing's can't be reasoned and that a compromise can't be found. It's that first, the opposition must be beaten to such a state that even their parents would not recognize them, then negotiations and compromise can proceed. Otherwise, things can't be reasoned out and compromises can't be made. Instead, you place yourself in a pot for others boil or steam! As for what happened today... When Zhao Liang first arrived, he wanted me to kneel before him. And he wanted to break 10 of my bones. I was already determined not to kneel, and I also did not want to have 10 of my bones broken. What other choice did I have besides to fight him to the bloody end?"

Meng Jiang had a blank expression for quite a while, "I heard you say before that you had a nickname in the garbage dump. The Vulture. When I heard that I had my doubts. I thought you were just talking big. I believe you now."

With a laugh, Li Yao said, "Yea man~. The me back then was ten times more vicious and a hundred times more crazy than the me now. I had no choice. I was just a kid who couldn't even hold a knife steady. If I weren't a bit vicious and crazy, how could I have fought for food from the mouths of the grownups? Later, I met my Old Man. He taught me many things, including social standards and rules. When I assimilated into ordinary society, I lost a bit of my edge. Anyway, my Old Man is long dead. When I encounter this sort of situation, I can act only in accordance to the instincts of the 'Vulture' in order to settle things~."

Meng Jiang let out a sigh, "I understand now after hearing you, Little Devil. You had no other option. But other than me, people would take you as a kid tooting his horn and that you are being too aggressive."

"Aggressive? Of course, I have to be aggressive!" Li Yao's nostrils flared. He spoke, objecting, "We who live in the Artifact Grave must work to eat as scavengers. We live in the now, not the future, for who knows what type of priceless treasure we may salvage in the next minute... only to have, the minute after, it's spiritual energy explode so greatly that nothing remains! So for us scavengers, as soon we have power, we must

immediately act with aggression. I won't wait till the next second to be aggressive if I can be aggressive now. I won't act with 90% aggression if I can act with 100% aggression! If I don't be aggressive when I have this strength, if I continue laying low... What if I dropped dead in the next second? Wouldn't it all have been a waste? It's like winning 5 million credits in the lottery. Say you don't spend it to live a life of luxury. You would rather stick it in the bank. What if right after you deposited your money, you get hit by a flying shuttle and die!? You've been wronged even as a ghost!"

Meng Jiang conceded saying, "Okay okay, since you're this confident, you can act aggressively. But did the thought of Helian Lie using his family's influence to make you quit school ever cross your mind? What will you do then?"

"I don't have to remain here, there are other places I can be. Crimson Nimbus Second is not the only school under the skies. At worst, I will just switch schools. Even if I don't go to school, the Federation still lets citizens enter privately in the university examinations. The procedure is just a little bit more troublesome! If Helian Lie applies pressure for me to quit school, I'll just let him fulfill that wish. After all, why not? There's a long future ahead. He and I will still have our beautiful youthfulness!" Li Yao's eyes produced a vicious aura as he spoke nonchalantly.

While these two were talking, a short, thin, weak figure tottered towards them.

"It's a teacher!" Meng Jiang said in light voice and pulled Li Yao to stand up, jumping off of a short wall by the bushes.

"Isn't that Old Sun, the school's warehouse logistics manager? What did he come here for?" Li Yao stared confused.

## Chapter 29: Fiend Blade Forger

Geoffrey\_, Lancelot

The old fogey who walked over had a thinning head of white hair, ashen white seemingly-cataract eyes, a hunchbacked posture, and a shortness of breath. A gust of wind could practically topple him.

Li Yao remembered that when school started, he and his fellow students had gone to the warehouse to get their uniforms. He had met this old fogey once before at that time.

"Even though he's only a warehouse manager, I've heard that over 70 years ago, this old fogey 'Sun Biao' was the school's Combat Skills Teacher and was a tremendous and extraordinary expert. His foresight for talent was extremely fierce. He found quite a few cultivation geniuses and was the one who discovered Fiend Blade Peng Hai from the slums, recognizing that the boy at the time was out of the ordinary. He was the one

who had Peng Hai specially admitted! Even though he's already over 150 years old and is practically retired having quit teaching 10 years ago, he felt too restless at home, so he continues working at this school as he's done for all his life. This time as the warehouse logistics manager to kill time. At first glance, he looks completely ordinary with his emancipated figure, but his reputation holds great influence in this school. Even Headmaster Baldy Zhao has to show him a bit of face!" Meng Jiang was the school's king of gossip and rumors, letting out a flood of words to explain to Li Yao.

"The man who unearthed Fiend Blade Peng Hai!" said Li Yao with deep veneration.

"I never thought Old Sun would appear. It seems that things may have changed for the better. Remember, he's an old man so if you're a bit clever about it, you may be able to get off scot-free and avert disaster. Go on, hurry!" Meng Jiang pushed Li Yao hard, but suddenly said, "Wait wait!"

"Huh?" Li Yao stood and stopped.

"Little Devil, you said just a moment ago that when facing the threats of opponents, one must first fight to the bloody end. Then one can negotiate and reach compromise. Your words sounded very grand.... But, what if you and your opponent can't come to peace with each other?" Meng Jiang was pondering over Li Yao's words all this time. The more he thought, the more he felt the words were cool, awesome, and domineering, but he felt something was a bit off somewhere in those words. And now, he had realized what it was.

"If you can't make peace, then just run. If you can't lose them by running, then stall. If you can't halt by stalling, then you can always just die~!" Li Yao rolled his eyes at his bro for life and walked towards warehouse manager Sun Biao.

He was taller than Sun Biao by a full head. When he stood right in front of Sun Biao, all he could see was the sparse hair on the top of a head. The top of the head was covered in liver spots and looked normal with nothing out of the ordinary.

Actually, Li Yao was at the peak of nervousness with his heart beating wildly... The man who unearthed Fiend Blade Peng Hai was in front of him!

Sun Biao tilted his neck. It seemed that his neck muscles weren't too good for he used some effort to slant his head. Sun Biao sized up Li Yao carefully and attentively for a long time.

The expression in his eyes was like that of a feverish gourmet eyeing a fresh, tender juicy piece of veal. He stared at Li Yao until Li Yao's scalp was turning numb and Li Yao's back had chills before he slowly said, "Not bad, scattering that gym chalk!"



Li Yao was caught off-guard and stared blankly. He couldn't help but reveal a smile. He also felt that using the gym chalk was a good move; it allowed him to seize the advantage and secure a narrow victory.

Otherwise, in a fair fight against Zhao Liang with his Actualization Quotient of 60%, the outcome of which one of them would be beaten into a pig's head would not be certain!

"However..." Sun Biao took the conversation for a turn and reached out two dried up fingers of his. "If it was me, I wouldn't have used gym chalk, but rather the iron shavings in the sandbags. As long as enough strength is applied, if there is a direct collision with the retina, it would cause the opponent to lose his vision completely! Then I would scatter iron nails all over the floor. And since my opponent wouldn't be able to see, he would step all over them and have his foot be absolutely pierced! Of course, this wouldn't result in death. But when it comes to these sorts of good darling babies who've grown in a sheltered environment, their greatest fear is pain. This would certainly cause them to lose all mobility! With the loss of both vision and mobility, all I would need is two seconds to get rid of him!"

Li Yao was dumbstruck hearing Sun Biao. It took a long time before awakening from his stupor. He couldn't help debating, "But the circumstances were dire. It's already not bad of me to be able to sneakily grab a handful of gym chalk. How can there be time to break open a sand bag to get the iron shavings inside? The iron nails are even more ridiculous. Where in the gymnasium are there great quantities of iron nails for me to scatter?"

Sun Biao laughed two evil "ha ha's", saying, "As a fighting expert, one must take every second of the 24 hour day to make preparations for battle. Iron shavings, iron nails, and other miscellaneous oddities should absolutely already be carried on your person. Even if you're taking a shower, you still need to have an iron nail wedged in your ass. You lack even this most fundamental of preparations, and you still dare to come out and fight with others at this school!?"

Li Yao was speechless for a time. He felt all of a sudden that this old fogey was more despicable and shameful than himself by a hundredfold.

Sun Biao gave a cold snort. He continued by saying, "However nowadays, the number of youngsters who can truly fight are dwindling~ I see that you have some potential I suppose. Walk. Let's go to my place. Chat and keep this old fogey company!"

After all was said, he turned around. With two hands held behind his back, he walked to the warehouse.

Li Yao hesitated for a moment and followed obediently behind the old fogey.

Then he discovered something strange... Sun Biao looked to be unsteady and wavering, shifting with small steps. A single sneezed seemed to be able to topple him.



But his speed was not the least bit slow. And, it seemed that he had eyes on the back of his head, for he adjusted his speed according to Li Yao's. He maintained a distance of 5 meters in front of Li Yao from beginning to end.

Li Yao could not believe he couldn't catch up to Sun Biao. He clenched his teeth and directly used the Spirit Serpent Footwork Technique, running into a small sprint.

As always, Sun Biao had his pair of hands clasped behind his back and walked with unsteady steps.

But no matter how much Li Yao increased his speed, even to the point of causing his head to sweat in steam, he was completely incapable of cutting the distance by even a hair!

"Is it a high-level footwork technique? Or is it a kind of spatial warping cultivator technique?" Li Yao was astonished down to his core.

To the side, a few students slowly walked at a snail's pace across them. It was only then did Li Yao suddenly realize. It wasn't that Sun Biao was walking very fast, but rather he was moving extremely slow!

He was clearly using the Spirit Serpent Technique to its peak hurricane like speed, but he hadn't even ran 10 meters after running for a long time. All that time, before the other students crossed paths with him, he did not have the slightest clue that something was wrong.

"Could it be an illusionary mental attack?" Li Yao's scalp turned numb. He finally understood just how unfathomable Sun Biao was. He stopped his technique and followed obediently behind Sun Biao with his tail in between his legs, not daring to act carelessly or rashly.

Something strange happened when he stopped using the footwork technique. The speed of the two had inconceivably sped up. There were over a thousand meters of distance between the ninth gym and the warehouse, but they were able to see the big door of the warehouse after only a minute of walking.

The warehouse was a small building filled and piled with dust. Peeling paint was on quite a few places on the walls, exposing the yellowish brown bricks inside. Overall, the appearance was a bit ugly.

The building did not appear to be big, but a whole universe seemed to be contained inside. At the 7th turn and 8th detour, after passing by piles of goods and items, a shocking sight appeared in front of Li Yao's eyes — a standard stadium-sized essence Cultivation Field.

Dumbbells, barbells, pec fly machines, squat machines, strength tester machines, crystal clay gel humanoid training dummies... It contained all sorts of cultivation equipment that one could ever need.

However, the majority of the equipment were dozen-year-old models. The finish was coarse, black, and full of rusted spots. They let out a rough and doughty air.

Dust covered every cultivation equipment entirely. It seemed that it had been a long time since they were last used.

They walked to the center of the cultivation field. Sun Biao turned around and did something that Li Yao would have never expected no matter how much he guessed.

This retired old teacher was 150 years old. He unearthed Fiend Blade Peng Hai. He was a person of great reputation and prestige. Yet unexpectedly he faced Li Yao and bowed solemnly. His voice turned incomparably serious as he said, "First and foremost. Student Li Yao, please accept my apologies."

### Chapter 30: You Are So Arrogant~

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"Sun, Teacher Sun. Sir, what are you doing?" Li Yao was confused and flustered. He stepped forward, intending to help Sun Biao up. But he never thought that this old fogey would be as immovable as casted metal that continued to maintain its bowed form. No matter how much Li Yao tried, Sun Biao would not move.

Sun Biao was still bending over when he said seriously, "This school is meant for discovering talent and is a place where talented people are fostered. Your overall combat strength isn't too outstanding, but you possess the combat awareness like that of a keen beast, and you have an abundance of combat experience as well. Indeed, you are a sapling that's worth nurturing. However, our school was unable to unearth you from the Common Class a bit earlier, wasting and harming a great amount of your youth. This was a neglect of duty by all members of our teaching faculty and staff. So, I can only represent our school in giving you an apology. Student Li Yao, I am truly sorry."

Li Yao's mouth was gaping open. He truly did not how to respond. He was indescribably touched from the depths of his heart.

"Is this the mettle of a true 'teacher'?"

Li Yao had never met a teacher like Sun Biao. No wonder Sun Biao was the man who was able to unearth Fiend Blade Peng Hai!

“Then...” Sun Biao finally rose and once again a frivolous expression appeared on his face. A fanatical flame burned in the depths of his eyes. “Kid, have you heard of the Federation’s Youth Limit Challenge?”

Li Yao’s pupils suddenly shrunk back and he subconsciously nodded his head. His heart rate sped up abruptly.

Of course, he had heard of it before. The Federation’s Youth Limit Challenge Competition was held jointly between the Federal Army and the Nine Elite Universities. It was a large-scale competition that was meant to unearth cultivation geniuses. The competition was held every year around two months before the university exams, with a scope that encompassed the whole nation. It was comprised of several hundred competition arenas that ran simultaneously. This Youth Cultivation Competition was the Federation’s oldest tradition.

It’s said that each competition arena was like an isolated island, built in such a way that no one could escape. The military would set loose countless savage Demon Beasts on the island, and the competitors would have to find a way to survive for five days on the island in unarmed and defenseless circumstances. Besides facing the Demon Beasts, competitors must also complete a series of utterly difficult missions. These missions were known as the “100% Complete Simulation of True Combat”. The difficulty level was set at an absolutely hellish standard.

Competitors were required to push their physical bodies and mental capabilities to the limit. Only then would they be able to distinguish themselves from the many other young geniuses.

Scouts from the Nine Elite Universities were very likely to keep an eye out for those who succeeded and would directly recruit them into the Nine Elite Universities on the spot. There wouldn’t be a need to take the University Entrance Exams.

Even if your performance wasn’t that outstanding, as long as one demonstrated a type of special strength, there was still a huge possibility that one would get on the Nine Elite Universities’ Preferential Score Admittance List. If one was able to get their required entrance score reduced by 10~20 points, they would be able to simply eliminate thousands upon thousands of competitors!

These benefits caused all the third year exam takers to rush madly to compete in the Limit Challenge Competition. They sharpened their mental capabilities to prepare to compete, and Li Yao was no exception.

However, this was an important competition. No average Joe Shmoe could willy-nilly take part in it.

Every year, the competition organizers would send out invitations to every major high school in the Federation. The number of “admission tickets” they sent for each high school was determined by the high school’s ranking and strength.

This year, Crimson Nimbus Second received 10 of these tickets!

The competition would start in about 40 days. Crimson Nimbus Second was assigned to competition arena #0571. This area would contain three thousand elite students of Floating Spear City and thirteen neighboring cities. All of these students would be gathered under one roof, to go head to head against each other!

In a month, Crimson Nimbus Second would hold a fighting competition in which all of the third year students were qualified to participate. This was the fairest method to decide which students would get these 10 tickets!

Sun Biao saw Li Yao’s heart racing and infatuated expression and said, “Kid, I know you stirred up some trouble in this school. However, there is a way to get off scot-free! All you need to do is to prove your strength by seizing one of these tickets in the fighting competition. Then Helian Lie can’t do a thing to you!”

Li Yao thought it over and asked, “Over a thousand students make up the third years and there are only 10 admission tickets. In other words, my strength must reach the top 10?”

Sun Biao shook his head saying, “There will certainly be luck involved when the entire grade fights in the competition. Following what happened in the previous years, those whose strength were in the top 20 were able to seize the hope that is the admission ticket.”

Li Yao thought back to his memories. The top 20 in the grade seemed to be composed of cultivation geniuses with an Actualization Quotient of at least 65%.

His Actualization Quotient was only 58%. He could not even achieve an absolute victory just then against the person who was ranked last in the important class, Zhao Liang with his Actualization Quotient of 60%. Li Yao had to rely on underhanded means for victory.

Videos of the fight between him and Zhao Liang would certainly be spread across the entire campus instantly. Everyone would be on their guard. They wouldn’t give him opportunities to prevail.

After a month, would he be able to face directly and prevail against those experts with Actualization Quotients exceeding 65%?

His heart was filled with hesitation, and this hesitation was written all over his face. Sun Biao laughed lightly and said, “Kid, based on your current strength, don’t even think

about being top 20 in the whole school. You might not even count as top 50! But, if you receive my special training for a month at my place, then things may change!”

“What?” Li Yao’s pair of eyes flickered and glowed. He jumped from excitement and asked enthusiastically, “Teacher Sun, you’d be willing to teach me personally?”

The man standing across from him was the super amazing man who unearthed Fiend Blade Peng Hai. Yet, this man was willing to carry out special training for him! Tsk tsk tsk tsk. As long as he could cultivate to the strength of Peng Hai’s pinky finger, it would be enough for him to strut arrogantly at Crimson Nimbus Second!

Sun Biao laughed heartily, exposing a big mouth that was missing a few teeth. “This old geezer has been working in this stuffy warehouse for many years. The bones in my entire body are practically rusted. It was rare enough to discover this interesting toy. Free time is still free time. I can play as I wish! However, it’s a bit too soon to be celebrating. This old geezer’s special training program can’t be endured by any average schmuck. Come, kid. Look at this old geezer’s hellish special strength training program.”

Sun Biao’s arm flickered causing a micro crystal processor to project a hologram that was densely packed with words describing cultivation training programs.

“Day one, at 4 am. Run 20,000 meters at a variable speed as a warm up.”

“At 5 am, 10 sets of 10 reps of 500 kg squats. To be done in half an hour.”

“6 am. Breakfast while studying the military applications of the Thirteen Forces of the War Beasts. Only that cultivated by the special forces of the military. It removes all the fanciness and reduces it down to its principles, raising the killing potential of the Thirteen Forces of the War Beasts. It’s completely different than the simplified version cultivated by high school students.”

“7 am. Frog jumping 5km while bearing 100 kg of weight.”

“8 am.....”

“9 pm, the first day of special training is done!”

“Day 2.....”

Sun Biao grinned nastily and said, “Whats wrong? If you can’t handle this, then speak up now! Don’t be embarrassed. Back in the day, countless cultivation geniuses were trained into dying dogs under this old geezer’s special training program. They had no choice but to give up. Over the course of 90 years, only a few people were able to make it through an entire month!”

Li Yao read through the program rapidly. He finished reading at rapid speed. He asked somewhat baffled, "It looks to be nothing special. Completely average with nothing weird. There's nothing particular about it..."

In the dream of grandeur, he had assumed the identity of a low-level worker at the Hundred Smelting Guild. He bore through training that was a hundredfold more painful and bitter. That was true persecution and ruin that could easily break a trainee completely. Then the trainee had been kneaded back together, and broken again, then kneaded back together. Only after this happened over and over for several hundred times did he rise from a low-level worker to a forge worker.

Sun Biao's special training program was, in the end, at the high school level. In the eyes of Li Yao, there was nothing excessive about it.

"Student Li Yao, you sure are arrogant!"

This special training program was formed from 90 years of Sun Biao's heart and blood. An unknown number of cultivation geniuses had shown shock and horror when faced with this special training program. Yet today, Li Yao had devalued the program to being worthless. And, according to the calm and composed expression on Li Yao's face, Li Yao really didn't think this training program was serious.

A prickling glow was unable to be held back by Sun Biao and was let out immediately from the depths of his eyes. Sun Biao's entire face was wrinkled and bunched together. In an instant, his expression had suddenly changed to an incomparable malevolence.