

## My Crown 1651

### Chapter 1651: Persevere

The closer it got to the deadline, the more unbearable it would get! How would their bodies endure it then? How would they get through it? That was an impossible deed.

Unless your body's resilience was so great that you had already morphed from a mortal skeleton into a mystic skeleton.

Otherwise, normal people's bodies were simply unable to withstand this trial.

This was not an ordinary environment in which cultivators were able to go more than a week without eating or drinking. As long as they entered a closed-door environment to cultivate, they could endure the hunger.

In contrast, this scorching environment right now depleted one's strength exponentially.

Ma Ta couldn't help but smile as he winked at Qi Xuanxuan. "Fine, fine. Senior Brother had originally wanted to show off but didn't expect that you would see through it."

"Actually, I had secretly stashed away a small bottle of water then. I persisted to the end by relying on that single bottle of water."

"Every time I looked at that small bottle of water, I would think to myself that I had already taken a sip, I had already drank from it! And then I don't know how it happened, but I pulled through!" Ma Ta related with a bitter smile, "I've gotta say, ever since going through this trial in the Lava Mountain Range, I really cherish every drop of water."

"I didn't know how I had persevered. I would only wet my lips each time I opened the bottle, drinking only one or two drops..." Upon recalling that miserable experience, Ma Ta felt that he had fallen into despair at that time!

Everybody couldn't help but look at him with sympathy upon hearing this senior brother's past hardships.

Ma Ta couldn't resist scratching his nose when he noticed his junior sisters' gazes. "That's why I totally didn't need the mentor's reminder before entering the Lava Mountain Range this time. I took out all the water I had stocked up in my inner world!"

Ma Ta tore off his jacket, revealing more water bottles hanging from his waist than the little fatty's.

Everybody involuntarily twitched their mouths.

"You really have made ample preparations!" Qi Xuanxuan was at a loss for words.

"Hehe." Ma Ta chuckled. "But of course! You've gotta admit that water is our life in the Lava Mountain Range. Starving for two days is whatever for people at our cultivation, but lacking water truly is unbearable!"

Qiao Mu looked at them speechlessly. She then said to the little fatty, "Drink, don't die from thirst!"

Even so, the little fatty shook his head vigorously. "No way, no way. I can't drink. It's been less than four hours on the first day. I will endure!"

Qiao Mu: ...

Actually, you all don't have to be so frugal!

"Don't worry! Just drink if you want to. Don't hurt yourself by holding back!" Qiao Mu advised.

Qi Xuanxuan also said with a nod, "We'll cross that bridge when we get there! Who knows, we might complete our mission within two or three days."

Everyone looked at Qi Xuanxuan with an expression that said "you're dreaming, right."

Qi Xuanxuan scratched her nose. "I agree with what Qiaoqiao said. We'll go on our way once we finish drinking, eating, and resting! As long as we defeat ten level-two spiritual beasts as soon as possible, won't we be done? Then, we can summon a mentor to bring us back!"

After some contemplation, the little fatty was in agreement. If he held back from drinking water now, he would still be the one suffering at that time.

If he messed up and became dehydrated because of this, he might even drag down his teammates.

The little fatty thought about it and took out a water bottle, guzzling down half in one go.

Afterwards, he looked toward Qiao Mu with a sigh. "Sigh. After drinking water, I feel more hungry now!"

Qiao Mu looked at him expressionlessly. "Didn't you bring several mantous!"

Chapter 1652: Grubbing and Scrabbling...

"Eat two then," Qiao Mu deadpanned.

In order to carry as many water sacks as possible when they set out, they had brought less food in comparison.

The little fatty took out a bag of white mantou without filling from his bundle and grubbed out two.

He gave one to Qiao Mu and Qi Xuanxuan. As for the other one, he planned to split it into thirds for him, Duanmu Qing, and Ma Ta to eat!

Qiao Mu: ...

Why was she unable to look straight at this sight?

That small mantou was only the size of one's palm. It was barely enough for two girls to split, let alone three grown men!

Qiao Mu could not help but be at a loss for words.

But, for the time being, she did not plan to take out food and water from Paradise Planet.

After all, they had come to take a trial in the Lava Mountain Range, not take a vacation! Unless it was absolutely necessary, it was better to persevere and temper their will as Ma Ta said!

The little fatty ate his third of a mantou with relish.

Qiao Mu temporarily gave up thoughts of furtively adding to their meals.

From the little fatty's miserly behavior of splitting a single mantou between three people...

He was probably thinking of splitting that bit of food into who knew how many portions...

But speaking of which, if the little fatty didn't hold back from eating, he would be able to finish that paltry bag of mantou in one day.

Yet he was planning to make that measly bit of food last seven days!

Qi Xuanxuan had not prepared anything beforehand. She had only taken out her normal bottle of water and a bag of pastries from her inner world to carry on herself.

She couldn't help but feel sympathy seeing three adult men pitifully sharing a single mantou.

She tilted her head in contemplation, after which she grubbed out two pastries from her bag.

After handing one piece to the three men, she and Qiao Mu split the other piece.

Qiao Mu simply didn't know what else to say watching the little fatty and Qi Xuanxuan's identical miserly manner.

After recharging with food and water, the group of five planned to set out to find level-two spiritual beasts.

Inside this Lava Mountain Range, all one could basically see were only red boulders.

"Today is the first day! Our strength is most abundant at this time." Duanmu Qing analyzed, "I think that our target today should be to hunt at least three level-two spiritual beasts."

Ma Ta and the others all nodded.

Yet the little fatty gave a guileless chuckle, "But right now our biggest question is, where can we find those level-two spiritual beasts? If we just aimlessly wander around the Lava Mountain Range, we'll deplete our own strength first instead!"

Qiao Mu blinked before she spoke up with a light cough, "Actually, I have a permanent solution. But, even though the method is good, the actual process may be a bit dangerous. It just depends if you are willing to take on this risk?"

Duanmu Qing was stunned. He turned to look at Qiao Mu and asked uncontrollably, "What plan do you have? If you tell us, we can all discuss it together."

Qiao Mu looked at him and then said with a nod, "Well, I can concoct a kind of medicinal powder to attract mystic beasts. But the amount needs to be controlled. The thing is that even I am not sure as to the suitable amount to use."

“Because, cough, cough.. If too much medicinal powder gets scattered, it might attract all the mystic beasts in this area. I’m afraid we won’t be able to handle it at that time!”

Chapter 1653: Little Medicinal Cauldron

Qi Xuanxuan and the little fatty couldn’t help but widen their eyes in surprise when they heard this.

“You? You actually have such an uncanny way of attracting mystic beasts!” Qi Xuanxuan gaped.

The little fatty also exclaimed, “Then isn’t that just perfect! You should concoct this medicinal powder. We will then be able to preserve our strength for those mystic beasts that come knocking at our door!”

“Right! At that time, we’ll just kill whatever comes our way! Who knows, we might be able to complete our mission on the first day and leave this hellhole!” Qi Xuanxuan also added with a chuckle.

Everyone looked at Qi Xuanxuan with an “indescribable” expression: Girl, you are so optimistic!

Qiao Mu explained while shaking her head. “I can’t quite control how much medicinal powder gets scattered. If it’s too little, it’ll perhaps only attract several mystic beasts over. But if it’s too much, then we’ll be beset by mystic beasts and have to fight them off in droves. It might even wear us down to our deaths.”

Of course, that situation definitely would not happen. When it truly came to that moment, Qiao Mu could have the sapling drag them into Paradise Planet.

However...

That would defeat the purpose of this training.

“Then how about you first make this medicinal powder, and we scatter a bit first to try. If it works, we’ll use more,” Duanmu Qing suggested.

Qiao Mu nodded. “Then we’ll have to test it more than once.”

They had to test it multiple times in order to figure out the right amount. Qiao Mu pursed her petite lips.

Duanmu Qing looked at her and asked, “Then how long will you need to make this medicinal powder?”

Qiao Mu gave a wave, and the Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron instantly appeared in her hands.

Everyone saw the small copper cauldron resting in her palms expand after several seconds and land on the russet ground.

At the same time, Qiao Mu gripped several medicinal materials in her hands.

“I’ll need about five minutes to concoct this medicinal powder.”

She only needed five minutes to concoct a medicinal powder that could attract mystic beasts? Everyone looked at her in astonishment.

This girl’s pill-refining technique looked rather haphazard, as if she was just offhandedly tossing several kinds of medicinal materials into the Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron.

In reality, however, she was precisely controlling the amounts.

Everyone was unable to tear their eyes away.

They saw Qiao Mu pat the cauldron lid, and a cluster of scarlet flames automatically sprouted inside the cauldron.

The copper cauldron instantly became as dazzling as colored crystals.

The medicinal cauldron gradually rotated, and two of the nine stars on the cauldron lit up.

This was the peculiar thing about the Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron.

Qiao Mu had already gotten rather familiar with the Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron from refining pills with it a while ago.

These nine stars had profound significance.

Ever since the second star on the Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron also lit up, she discovered that the little cauldron's speed at refining pills had clearly doubled.

That was why she suspected that each star on this Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron had an extraordinary implication.

Unfortunately though, this little cauldron had a huge appetite.

In order to make each of these nine stars light up, she needed to feed this little cauldron large amounts of rare ores.

Last time when she fed this little cauldron lots of mid and high-rank forging materials, she watched on unblinkingly as the cauldron fire smelted these materials into a "tonic" for absorption.

Yet even feeding it several large meals of these high-rank forging materials was unable to satisfy the Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron's "huge appetite.."

Chapter 1654: Seems a Bit Dodgy

At last, she had used two small grains of glacial star sand to complete its upgrade, making the second of the nine stars light up.

Concocting some medicinal powder to attract mystic beasts was simply a piece of cake for the current Nine Stars Mirroring the Moon Cauldron.

Hence, the medicinal powder quickly took form inside the medicinal cauldron.

The instant Qiao Mu swatted the cauldron lid open, everyone huddled over to peer inside. They saw that the walls and the bottom of the cauldron were covered with a thick layer of white powder.

Qiao Mu gave a pat, causing that powder to get sucked into a porcelain bottle in her palm.

Seeing this, Qi Xuanxuan blinked and asked curiously, "It's finished just like that?"

Qiao Mu nodded and tilted the porcelain bottle, shaking some of the medicinal powder out. She then flicked her sleeve, making the powder scatter in the breeze.

“Let’s first hide and see!”

Qiao Mu was naturally unwilling to stand here as a target.

Afterwards, they all hid behind rocks to watch what would happen next.

Because Qiao Mu was temporarily unable to control the amount, she only scattered a tiny bit into the air this time.

They hid behind the rocks and waited. Soon, they saw three level-12 mystic beasts running over.

Qiao Mu jumped out from behind a boulder and swung her petite arm.

The remaining four people also jumped out with her, and they wordlessly worked together to blast those three unlucky mystic beasts to death in no time at all.

Qiao Mu poked at the mystic beasts for cores and only found a small piece. Afterwards, she turned around and gestured for them to hide again.

Following this, Qiao Mu looked down, once again digging out the small bottle containing the powder that attracted mystic beasts from her sleeve before pouring some out.

However, just as she was about to put away the small bottle, she heard a woman’s giggles coming from close by.

These giggles made her hair stand on end!

Qiao Mu’s petite hand shook uncontrollably, causing the amount of medicinal powder she poured out to inevitably more than double.

By the time she realized something had gone wrong and plugged the porcelain bottle, that medicinal powder had long since dispersed into the surroundings with the breeze.

Qiao Mu felt a bit guilty and immediately grabbed on to Qi Xuanxuan, who was peeking out from the rocks. She made a hand gesture at Duanmu Qing and the rest, and they swiftly found a place to hide themselves.

Just as they finished hiding, they heard disorderly footsteps coming from afar.

They heard the woman who had been the one giggling say, “Fire-bellied snakes have always been something that can only be found by chance. This kind of small creature likes torrid environments the most. I reckon that the Lava Mountain Range must have them.”

“It’s just that...” The woman paused before saying with a smile, “Fire-bellied snakes move very rapidly, their bodies extremely short and slippery. It’ll probably be very difficult to catch one alive.”

“The mission Fairy Huanghe issued this time is to obtain three live fire-bellied snakes.” A cold voice interrupted that woman. “Otherwise, the mission will be deemed a failure. The fairy does not have any obligation to pay a single spirit currency.”

The young woman in the center was like the moon being surrounded by a myriad of stars. She looked to be about 27 or 28 and had charming features.

This person was the Fairy Huanghe who was as equally famous as Fairy Liren of Passionless Palace? She was one of the current Prefecture Lord Madam's five most able subordinates.

Chapter 1655: Beast Drones Are Attacking...

The Lava Mountain Range was not closed off, so other people could also venture inside to procure snake galls and other medicinal materials.

This time, Fairy Huanghe had issued a mission to search for fire-bellied snakes.

As the snake gall of fire-bellied snakes was a crucial ingredient in refining fire spirit pills, Fairy Huanghe's purpose was basically evident.

After all, she was an extremely well-known pill alchemist in the Shuntian Prefecture. Fairy Huanghe wanted to refine a black-rank fire spirit pill that augmented one's fire spirit energy.

Their team had wandered about this area of the Lava Mountain Range's Zone One for five days already, but unfortunately, they had nearly depleted their water and food before even seeing a trace of a fire-bellied snake!

Fairy Huanghe creased her brows and examined her ten or so teammates' fatigued conditions. "How about we discuss what we do next. Should we first withdraw from the Lava Mountain Range and replenish our supplies nearby, or continue searching here until the mission is complete?"

A female member in the team immediately raised her hand and spoke up, "I think we should first withdraw and recharge! Otherwise if we force ourselves to stay inside this Lava Mountain Range, our lives will basically have been worn away before we even find a fire-bellied snake."

Fairy Huanghe was startled when she heard this. After a moment, she sighed and concurred with a nod, "Fine then, let's first leave this Lava Mountain Range..."

"A fire-bellied snake?" Suddenly, one of the male team members shouted and pointed at a small red snake that had squeezed out from a crack in the rocks.

Hey, speak of the fire-bellied snake, and they really did find it!

Previously, they had been troubled since they had been unable to see this rarely-seen fire-bellied snake even after wandering about the Lava Mountain Range for so long. Perhaps there really weren't any fire-bellied snakes in this mountain range?

Who knew that a fire-bellied snake would slither out from the rock cracks without warning just as they were discussing it.

Hahaha, they really found it when they least expected to after searching high and low for it!

One, two, three... When Fairy Huanghe saw more than a hundred fire-bellied snakes slithering over, her originally happy expression turned jet-black.

"Don't, don't let these fire-bellied snakes surround us!"

“Prepare for battle! Prepare for battle!!” Another person shouted, his expression changing dramatically.

You’ve got to be kidding. If they really got encircled by these fire-bellied snakes, they weren’t even enough for the snakes to swarm and devour.

Although these fire-bellied snakes were rarely seen, they were extremely hard to deal with once they gathered together.

You didn’t need to fear them when it was just one or two. Just attack and be done with it.

But right now...

What the f\*ck was this nest of fire-bellied snakes supposed to mean?

Fairy Huanghe and her group of fatigued teammates were drawn into battle.

Qiao Mu and the rest shadily hid behind boulders and watched from afar as that group of poor devils got embroiled in a heated fight with the nest of snakes.

Fairy Huanghe generated a fireball the size of her palm and blasted it at the nest of snakes, promptly annihilating ten or so of the fire-bellied snakes squirming all over the ground.

Fairy Huanghe held back the urge to vomit and shouted while creasing her brows, “Everyone make a push! We cannot fail here! Once we deal with this batch of fire-bellied snakes and obtain three snake galls, our mission will be considered complete.”

“This time I will compensate everyone appropriately!”

Fairy Huanghe’s words did stir up everybody’s zeal again. In any case, brave men will come forward when a high reward is offered.. Some of the people started fighting with their lives on the line on account of the spirit currency.

Chapter 1656: Qiaoqiao, You Really Have Screwed Them Over!

The little fatty and Qi Xuanxuan squatted beside Qiao Mu, watching that group of people engaged in a heated battle with the nest of snakes. They lowered their voices and asked, “Qiaoqiao, when will these snakes go away?”

“These aren’t spiritual beasts either! They’re not our targets.”

Qiao Mu deadpanned while watching the fierce battle, “How would I know.”

This kind of medicinal powder that attracted mystic beasts emitted a scent that could remain in the air for at least four hours. Although unnoticeable to humans, mystic beasts would naturally charge over if they smelled it.

It looked like she had scattered too much when her hand shook just now...

Yet there was nothing she could do about it!



She couldn't gather back what she had scattered, so she could only say that Fairy Huanghe and them were unlucky!

Whose fault was it that they appeared while giggling when she was scattering the medicinal powder...

Qiao Mu yanked Qi Xuanxuan back to hide their heads.

While they were whispering, they suddenly heard the roars of tigers and the howls of wolves, as well as the trumpeting of wild elephants.

Qiao Mu pushed Qi Xuanxuan's head down as she probed her own out from the rock.

A glimpse was all it took for her to quickly pull her head back. When she met the others' inquisitive gazes, Qiao Mu cleared her throat and said, "It's, it's fine! Mhm."

From your expression, it doesn't seem like it's fine. The other four people did not believe her.

Qi Xuanxuan couldn't control herself and probed her head out from the boulder. If Qiao Mu hadn't covered her mouth quickly, then Qi Xuanxuan would have probably yelped in surprise from this glance!

Oh my f\*cking god, how many beast droves were out there!?

There were all sorts of dangerous animals, and even a lot of wild elephants. Their stubby legs thundered across the red earth as they chased after a team of people in a tussled state. The entire party was charging over in Fairy Huanghe's direction.

Che Ruman and Li Qian felt like they had never been so unlucky in their lifetimes!

Their team had clearly been minding their own business hunting a level-15 mystic beast before this, yet suddenly, a group of mystic beasts charged out of nowhere and started attacking them without warning.

Was there still any justice?

These idiotic beasts all seemed to have been triggered somehow and chased after them without caring for their lives.

What kind of absolutely irreconcilable enmity did they have for them to attack them in droves?

Che Ruman, Li Qian, and their team could not figure out why everything started veering toward an abnormal development just as they started.

The mystic beasts in the area had all congregated here by themselves and started attacking them. Could it be that there was someone pulling the strings behind the scenes with this kind of bizarre situation?

Che Ruman punched a hole on the head of a beast with a fistful of fire spiritual energy, which directly caused its neck to cave in.

In passing, she also kicked away a gray wolf that had pounced over.

That hefty kick sent that gray wolf flying horizontally, also hitting an advancing tiger in the face.

Even so, the tiger mister did not think twice about tearing that unlucky gray wolf in half with its claw. It then gave a roar and pounced toward Che Ruman.

Che Ruman jolted in fright and hastily turned the ring on her finger, activating her defensive barrier first thing.

In the blink of an eye, the tiger had already reached Che Ruman and clawed forward, yet it got blocked by the resilient defensive barrier.

Chapter 1657: Spiritual Beasts Have Come

Che Ruman broke out in a cold sweat. When she saw the tiger clawing toward her just now, she really thought that her delicate face was going to get torn apart!

Luckily nothing happened to her face!

Che Ruman reflexively touched her face and let out a long sigh of relief.

Mhm, everything was alright since her face was fine!

Che Ruman brushed her fingers over her tender skin and mused: She could not let anything happen to her beautiful face at all!

Afterwards, Che Ruman ducked behind Li Qian with her defensive barrier's protection. She also scrunched her shoulders as she crouched behind Li Qian, whispering, "What should we do now?"

They were in a rather dangerous situation right now.

More than a thousand mystic beasts had gathered in the surrounding area in a mere few minutes.

The speed at which these mystic beasts assembled was simply frightening.

Che Ruman's gaze flickered. She was already calculating how she should escape right now.

No matter what, she had to escape even if she had to abandon her teammates.

After all, she was just 18 years old, the age when girls were just like budding flowers. She could not die in such a backwards place.

Che Ruman's team of five and Fairy Huanghe's team of ten or so people were bitterly fighting off the mystic beasts.

In the meantime, Qiao Mu's group of five were crouching a distance away. They scanned the beast droves for level-two spiritual beasts with sharp eyes.

"Found it!" The little fatty nearly shouted jubilantly. Afterwards, he thought of something and hastily covered his mouth to muffle his voice.

Right now, they were preparing to profit from somebody else's misfortune, so they had best not speak up at the moment.

Qiao Mu naturally also caught a glimpse of that spiritual beast among the mystic beast droves. Precisely speaking, it was a level-two spiritual beast.

Looks like that medicinal powder was starting to take effect!

Qiao Mu's eyes lit up. She stood up while sticking on an invisibility talisman as she stated nonchalantly, "I'll go lead that level-three spiritual beast over!"

Everyone: "..."

Qi Xuanxuan gave the confused little fatty a smug look and said with a mischievous laugh, "I forgot to tell you guys something. Our Qiaoqiao is a rarely seen great—talisman—practitioner!"

Are you thrilled? Shocked? However, when Qi Xuanxuan saw that the little fatty did not move for a long time after showing a look of surprise, she couldn't help but frown. "Little Fatty, aren't you shocked?"

The little fatty shook his head vigorously before commenting, "I won't be shocked no matter what you say."

After saying this, he thumped his chest. "Even if you tell me right now that Qiaoqiao can actually ascend the heavens, I would believe it!"

Qi Xuanxuan couldn't help but twitch her mouth when she heard this, looking at the little fatty weirdly. "Where are your principles!"

While they were chatting quietly, Qiao Mu had long dashed over to the beast droves while under the invisibility talisman's effect and flashed past that level-three spiritual beast.

Suddenly, she produced a row of ice spikes between her fingers and stabbed them into that level-three spiritual beast's... butt!

The level-three spiritual beast abruptly howled in fury, and it smacked a man from Fairy Huanghe's team flying.

That man had already flown up into the sky without realizing what had happened.

The level-three spiritual beast charged through the beast droves, chasing after the scent of the person that had stabbed its butt.

Qiao Mu thus led this large fellow in a circle around the beast droves before bounding over to Duanmu Qing and the others. "Hurry and attack!"

Chapter 1658: Spiritual Beast Core

Without needing Qiao Mu to say anything, the other four teamed up to teach this level-three spiritual beast a lesson about morality and justice.

Ganging up it was!

Kou Hongwen's grade-eight earth spirit erupted, erecting a sturdy earthen prison around the spiritual beast.

At the same time, Qi Xuanxuan waved her petite hand, and a bolt of spiritual thunder landed on the level-three spiritual beast's head.

Next to them, Duanmu Qing and Ma Ta each struck out with their swords. They truly finished off this level-three spiritual beast in less than a minute.

Finally, Qiao Mu bent down to dig out the core inside the level-three spiritual beast's brain.

Unlike the red mystic beast cores, this level-three spiritual beast's core was pure silver. When she held the tiny core in her palm, she could sense a dense spiritual energy pressure emanating from within.

While pocketing the level-three spiritual beast core, Qiao Mu also pulled out an empty storage talisman and put the beast carcass inside.

The little fatty looked at her in astonishment. "Qiaoqiao? You, you!"

"Oh, this is a storage talisman. It can store the spiritual beasts' remains and prove that we indeed killed ten spiritual beasts."

"Bu-But... showing the spiritual beasts' cores can prove that."

Qi Xuanxuan's glare made the little fatty swallow his words.

"Are you an idiot?" Qi Xuanxuan jabbed the fatty's forehead without holding back. "It's not like every spiritual beast has a core inside its brain. The mentor told us to kill ten spiritual beasts, but what if none of them had a single core? How are you going to prove it!"

"You couldn't be thinking of dragging around ten spiritual beast carcasses to report back to the mentor," Qiao Mu deadpanned.

"Oh yea, yeah." Hm? This didn't seem to be what he wanted to ask about just now.

The little fatty completely forgot about asking Qiao Mu about the storage talisman after Qi Xuanxuan and Qiao Mu disrupted his train of thought.

Ma Ta reminded the little fatty in amusement, "The storage talisman!"

"No, not that! Ah, right! The storage talisman!" The little fatty stammered, "Sin-Since this storage talisman does-doesn't need to be o-opened with your mystic conscious, th-then your wa-water? Food?"

The little fatty was practically sputtering.

He suddenly felt like Qiaoqiao had just been toying around with them?

Since Qiaoqiao had such a high-level item as a storage talisman, then was it possible for her to lack water and food?

Then why did they have to split one mantou between three people just now!

Qiao Mu turned around to observe the little fatty. She shook her head and said, "We have come here for practical training! It's better to be feeling hungry!"

"Right, practical training, you got it? We're not here for you to go on a scenic tour!" Qi Xuanxuan reprimanded him, "You have to feel the hunger and the pressure. Don't become reliant on the storage talisman! The most important thing is, don't cheat! Yeah?"

Ma Ta turned his head aside, simply unable to glance at the little fatty's stupid-looking expression!

"Then, then? Does the storage talisman, have any food inside?" The little fatty asked slow-wittedly.

"There's winter fruit. You want?"

Immediately, the little fatty bobbed his head like he was pounding garlic. Yes, yes, yes, of course he wanted it! Don't be kidding, he had only eaten a third of a white mantou and a third of a pastry earlier. He hadn't eaten his fill at all!

Qiao Mu thought about it before taking ten winter fruits from the storage talisman. She gave each person two and told them sternly, "Don't let that nitpicky mentor find out!"

Everyone nodded in earnest.

"If you're hungry later, we can roast that level-three spiritual beast to eat."

### **Chapter 1659: Getting Caught in the Crossfire...**

Qiao Mu had already thought it out. That level-three spiritual beast was quite large.

Even though spiritual beast meat was really tough and unpalatable, it was food that they had procured themselves in any case.

Most importantly, that Wei Xu just kept targeting them. On the off chance he learned about the storage talisman, he just might say that they were cheating and disqualify them.

Qiao Mu was feeling whatever about attending this academy.

But when she saw Qi Xuanxuan's expectant expression, she didn't want to see the latter disappointed.

If they subsisted on spiritual beast meat, that nitpicky mentor could say nothing about it even if he found out.

The spiritual beast was their kill, so what if they ate half of it?

The other four people exchanged glances silently. Every cultivator knew that mystic beasts and spiritual beasts were unpalatable. Unless there was no other choice, not a single cultivator would consume that tough and dry meat...

Qi Xuanxuan and the little fatty nibbled the winter fruit in their hands. It was crunchy, fragrant, and juicy. It couldn't be any more tasty.

The little fatty finished off both winter fruits at once. He sighed with emotion as he remarked, "Qiaoqiao, why do these winter fruits of yours taste so much better than the ones we buy outside?"

"Mhm, mhm. I think so too." Winter fruits were sold everywhere. Even if the market price was much higher than in the past, people could buy them as long as they had money.

That's why everyone had basically eaten winter fruits before and knew what they tasted like.

In contrast to normal fruit, most of these fist-sized winter fruits had a mushy texture. Most importantly, there was no water content at all!

How could they be compared to these two that they were eating right now.

Qiao Mu turned around and saw that Qi Xuanxuan had also made short work of both winter fruits. She couldn't resist raising an eyebrow.

*When did winter fruits, a mere street stall fruit, become so delicious?*

When she saw their anticipating gazes, Qiao Mu sighed and stuffed her own winter fruits into the little fatty and Qi Xuanxuan's hands. "When we leave here, I'll treat you until you're satisfied!"

"Right now, focus on dealing with the spiritual beasts...?" Qiao Mu peeked out from behind a rock before quickly ducking back. She then looked at the little fatty and Qi Xuanxuan queerly.

"What's wrong?" They all asked in unison.

"Four to five more teams have come over there. The mystic beasts have them all surrounded."

Qi Xuanxuan and the little fatty hastily peeked out for a glance, and their jaws nearly dropped to the ground upon looking.

*Heavens!*

*Were these mystic beasts not blotting the sky and covering the earth?*

Mystic beast droves encircled the seven teams at the center in a dense mass as they rushed madly to be the first to attack.

Che Ruman and the others in the encirclement were incredibly despondent.

Che Ruman hadn't had a chance to catch her breath ever since they had to fight off the mystic beasts in waves. She had originally planned to find an opportunity to slip away alone.

Who would've thought that she would lose her chance because of a slight hesitation.

Right now, she was unable to slip away even if she wanted to!

"Qiaoqiao, what should we do now?"

"I'll go see if there are any spiritual beasts." Qiao Mu's face had darkened in displeasure.

*These droves of mystic beasts couldn't be crazy right!*

*Just a few were fine! Yet several thousand had come...*

*Wouldn't this fanfare alarm that divine beast in Zone Two?*

Qiao Mu couldn't help but knit her brows when she thought of that..

### **Chapter 1660: A Ghost-Like Girl**

*What if that divine beast also ran over later because it was bored and had nothing to do?*

*Then how should she deal with that?*

*Should she summon all her beasts to gang up on it, or gang up on it?*

*But divine beasts weren't easy to deal with.*

Qiao Mu subconsciously rubbed her chin before gesturing with her eyes for them to wait.

She applied another invisibility talisman to herself before darting back to the mystic beast droves.

As she flashed past the mystic beasts, she mused how unreliable this medicinal powder of hers was. *How come only mystic beasts were attracted over?*

When she finally found a spiritual beast among the mystic beast droves after much difficulty, that spiritual beast was cocking its head in vigilance. Its small eyeballs were shifting back and forth, as if sensing something dangerous closing in.

Qiao Mu quickly squeezed past the mystic beasts. She planned to replicate her last masterpiece of targeting its butt!

Suddenly, that spiritual beast roared angrily at where she was. Although she was invisible, ten or so mystic beasts promptly clawed toward her face.

*Ah!* Qiao Mu was dumbfounded, but she reacted swiftly and bolted away from the mystic beasts' claws. She flashed the ice spike in her hand, slitting a good many mystic beasts' throats in return.

In the blink of an eye, she had already appeared before the spiritual beast.

"Roar!" This spiritual beast had rather keen senses.

It didn't even see her, yet it was able to pinpoint her position ahead of time and attack.

Which went to show that this spiritual beast was not ordinary.

Moreover, this fellow likely feared death very much. It instinctually hid among the mystic beasts and commanded them to protect it.

Qiao Mu nearly got knocked flying by the mystic beast droves again and again. She started getting a bit cranky.

She stomped her foot and landed on a mystic beast rhino's back. Following this, she kicked it heavily with both feet, forcing that big rhino to charge through the mystic beast droves ahead.

Fairy Huanghe and company who were currently embroiled in battle saw a big rhino barging toward the beast pack when they turned their heads.

When Fairy Huanghe looked closer, she saw a girl dressed in pale-colored clothes riding on the big rhino's back.

She involuntarily rubbed her eyes in astonishment.

She didn't see wrong. It was indeed a girl dressed in pale-colored clothing who had abruptly appeared out of nowhere within the beast pack like a ghost.

She simply didn't see this person before this.

"Who are you??" Fairy Huanghe screamed in agitation.

Qiao Mu cursed on the inside. *Seems like this woman's cultivation was much higher than hers. That's why the other party was able to see through her invisibility talisman at once.*

However, Fairy Huanghe's dumb teammates evidently did not have her eye of discernment.

No one was able to see Qiao Mu's existence.

Instead, they all stared at Fairy Huanghe weirdly.

One of the women giggled uncontrollably while covering her mouth. "Fairy Huanghe, is your eyesight getting blurry from age? Where is there a person in this beast pack."

Qiao Mu couldn't resist gritting her teeth when she heard that woman's high-pitched laughter.

*It was her. She was the one whose giggle earlier had made her hand tremble and pour out too much medicinal powder to attract mystic beasts.*

"All of you don't see her??" Fairy Huanghe screeched in bewilderment, and she turned to Che Ruman, whose wrists were shaking from exhaustion.

"You don't see that girl either??"

Che Ruman was nearly going mad from fighting the mystic beasts. She didn't have any spare time to be turning around.. Even though she heard Fairy Huanghe's question, she simply didn't have time to pay her any attention!