

My Crown 1981

Chapter 1981: Releasing Mystic Beasts

Their luck couldn't be this bad, right?

Sha Gua dazedly held that number 3 stick. He checked it again closely, but still discovered that the number 3 stick was still that number 3 stick. It didn't change a bit!

Sha Gua really wanted to bawl on the spot!

What in the world was going on? Why was Heaven playing this kind of trick on him!

He didn't want to get matched up against Miss Qiao's team one bit!

What kind of sin did he commit for him to draw such a savage little lady?

Everybody couldn't help but be curious when they saw that Sha Gua looked like he was about to faint. They gave him a look-over.

An acquaintance couldn't help teasing, "Sha Gua, what's wrong? What kind of strange face are you making! Your team is quite lucky!"

After all, this Apex Academy wasn't some famed academy, nor did it rank as a strong academy.

It was naturally a piece of cake for River Horse Academy to defeat this kind of nameless academy and advance with no problem!

Yet who knew—

River Horse Academy's captain Sha Gua gazed aggrievedly at the peanut gallery and snapped, "You guys know sh*t!"

This group of ignorant bystanders was simply eager to fan the flames!

He was already anxious to death, okay?

He didn't expect their academy to get eliminated in just the third round of the semifinals during this time's competition. *It was truly too early!*

In contrast, Qiao Mu sized up River Horse Academy's captain Sha Gua curiously before skipping down the stage.

Just as she returned to the seating area, the head referee Elder Hong walked onto the stage with a smile. He announced, "Everyone, the third round of the semifinals of the much-anticipated academy ranking competition is about to commence. Before we start, a team has chosen to publicly challenge another in a battle!"

The entire arena was in an uproar. A lot of people in the audience who were unaware of the situation shouted exuberantly.

As Elder Hong finished speaking, Gu Liuli led Zhao Li and the other people in her team slowly up the stage, receiving everybody's scrutinizing gazes.

"As this battle's challenger, Catkin Academy will be carrying out a fair battle with Apex Academy!" Elder Hong performed an inviting gesture with his hand. "Will Apex Academy's students come up on stage."

While accompanied by fervent applause, Duanmu Qing nonchalantly led the other seven students of Apex Academy up on stage.

"The competition is about to begin." Elder Hong flipped over the hourglass beside him and informed with a smile, "The competition will be limited to one hour."

Catkin Academy's Zhao Li moved first, hurling his fist at Qiao Mu with air currents.

Yet Qiao Mu did not even look at him to dodge. At the same time, Duanmu Qing and Qi Xuanxuan surrounded him and each flung a surge of spiritual energy at Zhao Li's face.

Both parties had executed deadly attacks. If Duanmu and Xuanxuan were to hit their marks, the unlucky Zhao Li would lose half his life if not die.

Zhao Li roared furiously and immediately summoned his mystic beast with a stomp.

That mystic beast seemed a bit like an ox, but it didn't have horns on its head. It did have an extremely brutal appearance and promptly attempted to bite Qi Xuanxuan's forearm.

However, Qi Xuanxuan stayed calm and unfazed. She released her golden-fur lion with a wave of her hand.

The golden-fur lion was very brutal and bit Zhao Li's leg at once, tearing off a chunk of flesh on the spot. It hurt so much that Zhao Li dropped to the ground and rolled back and forth while yelling in pain.

Gu Liuli was livid, and she abruptly swung her sword at Qi Xuanxuan. "How dare you use such a murderous attack?"

Chapter 1982: This Is a One-Hit K.O.

Are you joking!?

You already issued a challenge, so of course we have to take it seriously? Who would give slack for no reason?

"What do you mean murderous attack!" Qi Xuanxuan peered at Gu Liuli and shook her head while saying, "It was your team member who first released his mystic beast. Since you want it to be a battle between beasts, fine! Is it not reasonable for the mystic beasts to duke it out between themselves?"

"You're trying to argue your way out of it!" Before Gu Liuli could finish talking, she felt a palm strike targeting her cheek.

Gu Liuli was furious and rolled on the ground to dodge that palm strike. When she looked up, she saw the little lady gaze at her frostily with an unfeeling expression.

Gu Liuli was filled with frustration, so she struck a meandering surge of wood spirit energy into the ground.

Brambles shot out from the ground toward Qiao Mu's direction, threatening to wrap her up.

"Shriek!" The cry of an ancient phoenix from above descended on the stage.

With a whoosh, a spray of flames lit the area in the center of the stage on fire!

Gu Liuli and Zhao Li's two minor mystic beasts were trapped by the flames, and they frantically covered their heads while cowering, afraid to even glance at the ancient bloodfire phoenix.

Don't be ridiculous, that was an ancient sacred beast, alright! As two minor mystic beasts, they wouldn't even make a snack for a sacred beast.

Wahhh, Master couldn't be more awesome to have actually offended an ancient sacred beast!

At this very moment, Gu Liuli was also probably dumbfounded. She was crouching motionlessly on the ground.

Qiao Mu struck the surface of the stage with a surge of wood spirit.

Subsequently, illusory man-eating flowers formed from wood spirit rapidly opened their jaws lined with serrated teeth and sped after Gu Liuli and Zhao Li.

"Roar!" A ferocious beast jumped out from behind Zhao Li and swallowed several illusory man-eating flowers in one gulp. It flung Gu Liuli and Zhao Li onto its back and sprung upwards while carrying them.

Boom! The bloodfire phoenix instantly took human form and descended from the sky straight onto that ferocious beast's back. This kick caused the unlucky fellow to crash heavily to the ground.

The phoenix's human form was extremely exquisite and handsome. He looked like a 12 to 13-year-old youth and was wearing a scarlet robe. He had red lips, pearly teeth, and sword brows, and was peering around with bright eyes. He landed beside his little master with a swish.

"Master! Do you want me to gulp down all these small fry?" These little playthings wouldn't even make a good snack.

Qiao Mu looked at him silently and did not utter a word, but she was roasting him in her mind.

Deaths probably wouldn't be much of a problem during competition, but if they were to gulp down the other party's entire team like you! That would definitely be a huge problem!

"Master, then I'll swallow that man!" The bloodfire phoenix pointed at the pale-faced Zhao Li.

The latter simply wanted to stuff himself inside a crack in the ground when he saw the bloodfire phoenix pointing at him. He was so terrified that his teeth were chattering.

The bloodfire phoenix couldn't resist snorting at his terrified state.

He suddenly transformed into his true phoenix form with a turn of his head and shrieked at Zhao Li. This promptly scared Zhao Li into scrambling backwards while covering his head and screaming.

His shameful behavior greatly amazed the audience.

“Ah, don’t kill me, don’t kill me!”

Chapter 1983: Reluctantly Admitting Defeat

Zhao Li rolled on the ground and shrunk behind the other people from Catkin Academy while screeching, “Liuli, Liuli!”

Gu Liuli hastily rushed over to block for him, and shouted at Qiao Mu, “Can this still be considered a fair competition when you’re using your sacred beast to bully others?”

Miss Qiao slowly gazed at her and declared with a nod, “Wealth is also part of a person’s ability!”

There was not a whit of untruth to this statement. Besides darkening her face, there was nothing Gu Liuli could rebut Qiao Mu with.

Although the little lady was arrogant, nothing she said was wrong.

This competition did not prohibit mystic beasts from entering battle.

It then follows that since they were able to enter battle, the strength of a mystic beast would certainly be the key factor to its master’s victory or defeat. She could only blame herself for having less favorable conditions.

If it all depended on their own abilities, she might not necessarily lose!

“Bloodfire, I’m counting on you!”

The bloodfire phoenix let out a proud shriek and flapped its wings before diving swiftly toward Zhao Li.

Upon seeing that the bloodfire phoenix was about to badly injure Zhao Li with a spray of flames, Gu Liuli flung her cape at the flames with a shout.

Everybody witnessed the fire phoenix’s flames burn that flying black cape into a crisp in a flash.

The bloodfire phoenix immediately got enraged and shrieked at Gu Liuli. It then circled around in the sky before diving down, spewing a streak of fire straight at Gu Liuli and Zhao Li.

With a whoosh, Gu Liuli and Zhao Li were trapped in a circle of flames. They stood back to back with extremely stiff expressions.

The bloodfire phoenix spread its wings in mid-air and glided for a semicircle, preparing for an attack to blast both people to death at once...

Catkin Academy’s mentor was finally unable to watch on, so he jumped up from the seating area with a scream, “Everyone stop! Our Catkin Academy admits defeat!!”

All the Catkin Academy students’ faces were green. They were practically unable to take a deep breath under the pressure of the ancient fire phoenix.

They truly didn’t expect that there would be such a monstrous student in Apex Academy who would even summon a sacred beast for the competition!

This was completely a whole 'nother level of battle, alright?

Qi Xuanxuan couldn't help but find it funny. She shook her head and remarked, "How audacious of you to randomly issue challenges to people whose abilities you are totally ignorant of?"

Pardon her for failing to do the same.

The bloodfire phoenix was chasing after the majority of the 12 Catkin Academy students. As for the remaining people, Duanmu Qing and them were able to take care of them. They didn't even need to summon their mystic beasts and just had to go up and beat them with their fists.

Only the screaming wails of Catkin Academy's students could be heard from the stage. Everybody sitting in the seating area was simply unable to look straight at them.

Was this the legendary asking to get beat up on stage?

When Catkin Academy's mentor saw that the students from Apex Academy did not stop their attacks, he couldn't resist glaring at Zhou Danjin, Wei Xu, and the other mentors. "Quickly tell your students to stop! It's only a competition. Are you sure you even want people to die?"

Zhou Danjin rolled his eyes at him. "Stop with your rambling! What's the use of admitting defeat outside the stage? Your students themselves haven't even admitted defeat yet!"

"Liuli, don't push yourself! Hurry and admit defeat!"

Gu Liuli felt a hint of repressed anger in her heart. Just because her family circumstances weren't as prominent as the other party, she had to suffer this kind of humiliation?

She was born as a commoner, so her family background would never measure up to the mid and large scale patrician families.

That girl who casually summoned an ancient bloodfire phoenix was definitely the daughter of some great patrician family!

Chapter 1984: Eating One's Own Bitter Fruit

There was practically no doubt about this matter!

Only those prominent great patrician families in the Upper Three Provinces could possibly possess a sacred beast to hold down the fort.

The little lady most certainly hailed from a family background several hundred times better than Zhao Li's. Otherwise, she wouldn't have the wealth needed to casually summon a sacred beast!

Gu Liuli was rapidly assessing in her mind as she withstood the scorching flames.

Exactly which great patrician family from the Upper Three Provinces commanded an ancient bloodfire phoenix?

She was unable to make heads or tails of it. By this time, Zhao Li's legs had gotten hit by the bloodfire phoenix's flames. He rolled back and forth on the ground while moaning in pain.

“St-Stop!!” Gu Liuli screeched, “We... Catkin Academy admits defeat!”

Gu Liuli heaved a long sigh, with the relief of safely surviving this incident.

When she thought of how she luckily didn’t issue some life-and-death challenge back then, her heart couldn’t help but pound madly.

Thankfully!

Everything was still not too late.

If she had issued a life-and-death challenge...

The results would be too horrible to conceive!

Qiao Mu didn’t plan to make things difficult for them either. When she heard Gu Liuli shout to stop the battle, she beckoned to the bloodfire phoenix.

The ancient fire phoenix gave a shriek before diving down happily next to his little master.

By the time he got to Qiao Mu, the colossal pressure characteristic of a fire phoenix had completely vanished. There was merely a small, scarlet bird that chirped while landing on Qiao Mu’s arm. He flapped his wings before hopping onto Qiao Mu’s shoulder.

Everybody from Catkin Academy was flabbergasted.

It was difficult to relate this adorkable creature to the gigantic creature that had just been shooting fireballs at their heels, tormenting them beyond belief.

The little fellow stroked the phoenix’s feathers before looking up at Gu Liuli. She swept her an indifferent glance before turning to Duanmu Qing and the others. “Let’s go.”

Since the other party had admitted defeat, there was naturally nothing else to say.

This was originally a ludicrous battle with great disparity in strength between both sides. Qiao Mu hadn’t planned on really targeting these people with fatal attacks.

It was just a quarrel to begin with. Since the other party had issued a battle challenge, they naturally had to accept or else they would be seen as cowards!

Since the matter had now concluded, Qiao Mu was unwilling to linger on the stage any longer.

They turned around and were planning to jump off the stage.

Suddenly, they heard a shout from the seating area.

Mentor Zhou yelled furiously, “How dare you brat!”

The mentors from Apex Academy were already flying toward the stage.

Qiao Mu glanced out of the corner of her eye and saw Zhao Li letting out a venomous snake from his sleeve. It stopped abruptly in mid-air before targeting her back with its fangs.

Qiao Mu sneered. She shook her left wrist, and the white snakelet, which had circled around her wrist as a bangle, shot out with a swish. Wrath burned in its round and watery eyes. Its tiny snake head abruptly transformed into a huge apparition before swallowing that hurtling venomous snake head on.

“Ah!!” Gu Liuli and company screamed.

The white snake’s titanic head had already come before the horrified Zhao Li. He simply had no time to evade.

The serpent had already bit onto Zhao Li’s upper body, and his two legs floundered outside for a moment before the two halves of his body separated for good!

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“AH!!!!” Piercing screams came from the stage.

Everybody’s sight was dyed with blood. They were all thoroughly terrorized by the bloody scene before their eyes!

Chapter 1985: Only Himself to Blame

“Ah!” Gu Liuli screamed shrilly. Her eyes were riveted in disbelief at Zhao Li’s remaining lower body that got tossed onto the stage like trash.

Brutal, barbaric, and bloody!

Her eyesight was dyed in blood, and her entire body trembled reflexively!

“Mur-murder! Y-You killed Zhao Li! Ah!”

“It’s murder. Zhao Li’s dead, you killed him.” A good many students from Catkin Academy were freaked out of their minds.

It was mainly that the scene in front of them was too horrifying!

A serpent had swallowed half of his body while he was still alive!

How awfully unlucky was this Zhao Li to end up without an intact corpse?

Would the Zhao Clan take this lying down?

Gu Liuli and company’s teeth were chattering in fear.

“Zh-Zhao Li’s dad, the family head of the Zhao Clan, won-won’t let you off!” Gu Liuli trembled all over, afraid to look straight at the remaining half of Zhao Li’s corpse.

The colossal serpent head surveyed the area before shrinking back with a swish to wrap around Qiao Mu’s left wrist motionlessly.

Gu Liuli and company traced their gazes to Qiao Mu’s wrist.

Just looking at this “white jade bangle” the little lady was wearing around her wrist, who would’ve known that it was actually a ferocious beast!

It was too horrifying!

This shook everybody to the core. The 10 thousand spectators in the vast seating area were also absolutely quiet.

Qiao Mu swept Gu Liuli an icy gaze.

Zhou Danjin, Wei Xu, and the other mentors had reached Qiao Mu by this time.

When Catkin Academy’s mentor got to the stage, he glowered at Zhou Danjin and them, reprimanding, “You! How dare your Apex Academy flagrantly kill our student on stage? You have to take full responsibility for this matter!”

“What responsibility?” Zhou Danjin rebuked grimly, “He fatally surprise attacked another person in the back, but he got killed instead because of his inferior ability. He simply deserved it!”

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“You!” Catkin Academy’s mentor turned sullen, and tried to vindicate, “How, how can this be considered a surprise attack? It was clearly... clearly Zhao Li, he!”

“Go on? Keep going! Can’t spin a tale anymore huh!” Mentor Zhou sneered, “Everybody saw this surprise attack happen with their own eyes! Let me see how you’re going to justify yourself!”

“Stop wasting your breath on them.” Mentor Hu waved him off and told Qiao Mu and the others, “Go down and rest first.”

Since the mentors were there to settle things, she naturally didn’t need to waste any more energy.

Qiao Mu nodded as a matter of course and walked down the stage with the rest of her team.

Catkin Academy’s mentor was unwilling to just let them walk off like that. Just as he shouted, “Stand right there for me,” Mentor Zhou blocked his way.

“Hey, I say, are you looking to fight?”

“No wonder your Catkin Academy students are so underhanded. It turns out that they got influenced by mentors like you!”

“Wh-Who are you saying is underhanded! Like I said, Zhao Li didn’t do a surprise attack, h-he was only, only young and aggressive, unwilling to acknowledge defeat!”

“Scram!” Mentor Zhou flicked his sleeves angrily. “He only has himself to blame for getting killed in response to his surprise attack. There is no responsibility to assume at all!”

“You! You people! You!” Catkin Academy’s mentor wanted to keep arguing, but the head referee Hong Chi had walked over and cupped his hands.

“Will this Catkin Academy mentor please resolve your personal grudge with Apex Academy off the stage.”

Chapter 1986: Poor Mental Toughness

“We still have to continue the matches!” Hong Chi gave Catkin Academy’s mentor an apathetic glance before extending his hand toward the edge of the stage.

His meaning was clear. This mentor should get off the stage and not obstruct students from competing in the next match.

Catkin Academy’s mentor flung his sleeves angrily and ordered his students to carry the remaining half of Zhao Li’s corpse.

Those two students who were carrying the corpse kept turning their heads to the side, afraid to look at Zhao Li’s gruesome remains. They couldn’t stop their hands from shaking and felt like they would probably have nightmares from this!

“Useless things!” Catkin Academy’s mentor berated, “Keep steady!”

They had to hand this remaining half of a corpse to the Zhao Clan no matter what.

As for those old scores with Apex Academy, he was unable to do anything about them as a mere mentor. The people from the Zhao Clan could deal with them on their own.

Catkin Academy’s mentor had a ruthless look.

The Zhao Clan was not some minor family clan that could be easily dismissed!

Since that Apex Academy student had killed Zhao Li and offended the Zhao Clan, there was most likely... no way to end things peacefully!

Qiao Mu had already returned to her seat by this time. She took out a small jar of peanuts from her inner world and snacked on them with her companions.

They chatted as they ate, completely heedless of how stimulating that scene of a bloody half a corpse from earlier could be. They were still eating jubilantly.

When the little fatty looked up, he saw that Gu Liuli had turned around to run out of the seating area. She had grabbed onto a column and was retching.

“What’s up with her?”

“She had probably gotten nauseated by the corpse just now.” Qi Xuanxuan had no mental burden at all and grabbed a handful of peanuts to snack on. She shook her petite hand with a disapproving expression and commented, “Her mental toughness is too poor! If she can’t even handle that child’s play, what should she do when she encounters zombies that are rotting all over!”

Ma Ta nodded. “That’s right!”

“In other words, it’s useless if a person only has strong capabilities. They also have to have strong mental toughness!”

“Otherwise, if they feel faint after getting exposed to some blood like she did, how would they be able to fight? The other party will strangle them dead in a flash.”

Qiao Mu expressionlessly looked down at her hands that were now emptied of the jar the Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal had taken away.

Mo Lian couldn't resist wanting to laugh. He turned to the little fellow and pinched her cheek. “You don't need to pay any mind to those people of no concern. Your academy's mentors look pretty idle, so just let them handle it.”

Qiao Mu gulped down the last two peanuts in her hands and looked up silently at Zhou Danjin and the other mentors who were storming back.

“That mentor from Catkin Academy is too ludicrous!” Zhou Danjin ranted, “The facts are already obvious, yet he's still quibbling persistently. I don't want to say anything to him anymore!”

Everyone nodded.

“Mentor, what did that guy say afterwards?”

“He said bullsh*t!” Mentor Zhou shook his hand and plopped down next to them. “That guy was still going on and on, so your Mentor Wei Xu went up and gave him two punches. That finally shut him up!”

Everyone: ...

Mentor Zhou smacked his armrest and lectured them with heartfelt words, “Was Mentor Wei Xu correct in solving things this way? Obviously not! When we can reason with others, don't casually get physical with them! Right?”

Chapter 1987: Instantly Faceslapped...

“Don't learn from Mentor Wei Xu. He is too hot-tempered.” Zhou Danjin sighed as he waved his hand in disapproval.

However, he saw Qi Xuanxuan and the others worshipping Wei Xu with sparkling eyes.

Zhou Danjin couldn't resist twitching his mouth. “What expressions are those?”

“I feel that Mentor Wei Xu did amazing this time.” The little fatty brandished his chubby paw and asserted, “When that guy was rambling on, I couldn't help wanting to beat him up!”

“Right, right, right. Especially when he was sycophantically trying to justify Zhao Li's innocence, I really couldn't control myself from wanting to beat him up,” Qi Xuanxuan chimed in while nodding her head.

Mentor Zhou: !

“You guys shouldn't be doing this! We should still talk reason where it requires it, right? It's only when reason doesn't work that we resort to alternate methods!” Mentor Zhou earnestly tried to persuade everyone. He also turned to look at Miss Qiao, who had been silently keeping to herself and snacking on dried fruits.

“Look! Qiaoqiao is demonstrating the truly correct attitude in resolving issues. Yeah!” Mentor Zhou pointed at Qiao Mu and nodded approvingly. “Sometimes when the other person sees you remaining reticent, right, he’ll stop bickering! We have to understand one point! Violence, is truly the most inferior way of solving problems, right?”

Duanmu Qing and the others silently looked at the little stoic.

Did Mentor Zhou neglect something?

Wasn’t it Qiaoqiao who let out the white snakelet without a second word to bite Zhao Li dead?

Qiaoqiao definitely wouldn’t bicker with other people, yeah? Why would she bicker? Wasn’t her way of solving problems directly slap the other person dead, and then the world would regain its peace and quiet?

You’re telling Qiaoqiao to go talk reason with someone else?

Hahahaha!

Everybody wanted to laugh out loud!

Wouldn’t that be a fantasy?

Could Qiaoqiao bicker with you? If she had the time to bicker with you, she would instead smack you dead so that you’ll forever be unable to make a fuss again, alright?

You don’t understand Qiaoqiao’s way of doing things!

This time, even Crown Prince Mo swept Zhou Danjin an extremely disapproving look.

The Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal sitting beside him, who had also snatched Qiaoqiao’s peanut jar, really wanted to laugh, but he held back and coughed lightly.

The little stoic turned a deaf ear to everybody’s remarks and nibbled her dried fruits unperturbed.

Boom!! A sudden tremor came from the seating area a ways from them. It made the two teams currently on stage jump in fright.

Everybody stood up, and even the currently competing teams paused their battle and peered over at the source of the sound.

They saw that a huge pit had opened up under that Catkin Academy mentor.

How could the mentor have expected his seat to suddenly cave in out of the blue?

How big of a pit was this?

The mentor’s entire body had dropped into the pit. He was totally stupefied!

Not only was the Catkin Academy mentor confounded, even those managers in charge of maintaining order in the Shenghua Battle Arena were bewildered!

Their Shenghua Battle Arena had hosted so many competitions, basically having to conduct competitions of various sizes every year!

They had never heard of someone dropping into a pit, alright?

What was this Catkin Academy mentor's tonnage to push the pitiful ground past its breaking point and make him cave in?

"Pfft!" The Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal burst out in laughter and started laughing his head off.

Everybody glanced teasingly at the embarrassed Mentor Zhou.

Chapter 1988: My Face Kinda Hurts

Does your face hurt, Mentor Zhou?

Hahahahahaha!

The little fatty and the others' guffaws formed an entirely different kind of orchestra that played the BGM for Mentor Zhou's embarrassment and his nonplussed expression...

"Cough!" Zhou Danjin coughed lightly and turned to see even Mentor Wei Xu's stern face unable to hide a smile.

He had just praised Qiaoqiao for her "correct attitude in resolving issues" when the unlucky Catkin Academy mentor was struck by disaster.

Even though Miss Qiao was keeping quiet and just gnawing on dried fruit, Zhou Danjin dared to bet with his life that this girl absolutely had something to do with the deep pit appearing under the Catkin Academy mentor's butt!

Needless to say, Zhou Danjin indeed did feel that his face was freakin' hurting!

"Xiao Qiao, what exactly did you do!" Zhou Danjin coughed again and looked exasperatedly at this worrisome student of his.

He had just been trying to elevate her image, yet who knew...

Miss Qiao glanced at Mentor Zhou out of the corner of her eye before expressionlessly turning her face away, continuing to nibble on her dried fruits.

However, Qi Xuanxuan and company couldn't stop cracking up. It was like this had tickled their funny bone, and they rocked with laughter.

Let time rewind back to 15 minutes ago.

Mentor Hu waved his hand and told them, "Go down and rest first."

Qiao Mu flicked her finger just as she turned around, and an explosion talisman veiled by an invisibility talisman stuck securely to the quibbling Catkin Academy mentor's butt!

What happened afterwards basically happened as a matter of course.

As long as Qiao Mu willed it, she could let that explosion talisman detonate whenever she wanted.

She had just glimpsed that Catkin Academy mentor pause his long-winded quibbling and drink from the teacup a student handed him...

Miss Qiao thus decisively detonated the explosion talisman on his butt!

This Catkin Academy mentor had not only ended up falling shamefully, as his butt was most likely the worst-hit area. It was a question whether it had cracked open!

"What do you guys think I did?" The little stoic swept a glance at Mentor Zhou and the others. She calmly lifted up a cup of spiritual tea, but before she could raise it to her lips, Feng Chen snatched it from next to her.

"Good tea! I can tell that it's unordinary just from smelling it."

The little stoic glanced up at him and could only take out another cup. She took a sip before questioning nonchalantly, "Do I look like someone who would do something that silly?"

You do!

Everybody gave her an affirmative without doubt!

Although they didn't know what she had done, they were very certain that she was the culprit.

By this time, the Catkin Academy mentor had already climbed out of the pit. His face had flushed bright red, and he pointed at those managers of the Shenghua Battle Arena who had come over while interrogating agitatedly, "Y-You people! Your Shenghua Battle Arena often hosts competitions, and the floor has to bear the force of people's repeated spiritual attacks! Y-You don't know how to schedule regular maintenance?"

Even though the managers were twitching their mouths, they still soothingly placated the Catkin Academy mentor and ordered people to bring him away to apply medicine and rest.

Everybody's eyebrows couldn't help jerking when they noticed the Catkin Academy's awkward walking posture.

This unlucky Catkin Academy wouldn't have... gotten hurt somewhere he shouldn't have!

Wasn't it just getting blasted in the butt by an explosion talisman? Was it to the extent to make his walking posture this awful? Qiao Mu lampooned in her mind.

Chapter 1989: Forfeiting the Match?

"Cough. Qiaoqiao, I-I didn't see you do anything!" Mentor Zhou was still curious.

He really didn't catch when Qiao Mu had done anything suspicious.

It was evident that Qiao Mu had already done something to the Catkin Academy mentor prior to that!

From the Catkin Academy's wimpy look, Miss Qiao's attack had packed a pretty powerful punch.

"So silly." A certain person refused to admit it and argued, "I couldn't care less about doing anything to him."

“What talisman did you use? It packs a lot of power,” the Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal asked.

Everybody then understood that Miss Qiao had used a talisman just now!

Strange, they didn't see her do anything, so when did the talisman stick onto him?

Qiao Mu coughed and then silently popped another dried fruit into her mouth.

Mo Lian couldn't resist muffling his laughter, and he caressed the little fellow's head. “Naughty.”

Everybody nodded in agreement. They were especially in accord with the crown prince's evaluation.

This child was indeed naughty!

Look at what she did to the Catkin Academy mentor. He had been shamed in public in utter disgrace!

The funniest thing was that Mentor Zhou had originally been praising this child with all his might, saying that silence was golden... yet he got faceslapped in less than three seconds!

This wouldn't traumatize Mentor Zhou for the rest of his life, right?

See if he was going to randomly praise Qiaoqiao in the future.

Hahahahaha!

Everybody couldn't resist wanting to dissolve into laughter when they thought of this.

Qiao Mu turned her petite face and shook her sleeve. She rescued Mentor Zhou from his embarrassment by pulling out an explosion talisman and slapping it into his hand.

“Th-This is?”

“An explosion talisman.” Miss Qiao glanced at Zhou Danjin. “Do I need to demonstrate for you?”

“Oh, n-no need.” Just the name was enough to tell that this talisman wasn't a pleasant one. It was better used against enemies.

Mentor Zhou put it away, and his mood promptly brightened.

Keep laughing, laugh your heads off!

Even though he got faceslapped instantly, which of you received the same treatment as he did? Xiao Qiao even gave him a talisman!

Qi Xuanxuan giggled while covering her mouth. “Mentor, our Qiaoqiao actually would probably never bicker with other people whenever she can use her hands...”

So please don't make that kind of joke in the future!

Mentor Zhou chuckled in embarrassment before pointing to the stage and shouting all of a sudden.

“Hey, hey. You guys should get ready now! You're about to go up on stage again! This should be considered your first true match! Work hard! For the honor of the academy.”

With Mentor Zhou's impassioned and fervent shout, the mentors and students of the nearby academies turned around to look at them.

Mentor Hu cleared his throat and covered his face while turning his head aside. He scooted his stool toward Mentor Wei Xu and muttered, "How come I don't want to know this person at all?"

Mentor Wei Xu cast his eyes elsewhere without much of an expression.

"Alright, Mentor. Here, let me treat you to a bun!" The little fatty stuffed a veggie bun into Mentor Zhou's mouth at once. He also bit onto one before walking up to the stage with Duanmu Qing and the others.

This match was Apex Academy versus River Horse Academy.

There was one thing Mentor Zhou was right about. After getting two byes in the previous rounds, this was their first true battle in the academy ranking competition.

They were very excited!

Students from River Horse Academy, you must not let us down!

We've been waiting to battle against you guys.

The eight students of Apex Academy lined up in a row on the stage. Besides the stoic face and Captain Duanmu, practically everybody else was looking toward the other side of the stage with kindly smiles, just waiting for the students from River Horse Academy.

They were still smiling two minutes later.

Chapter 1990: Luck?

Five minutes later, Qi Xuanxuan and them were unable to smile anymore...

The head referee Hong Chi walked to the center of the stage with large strides. He first looked at Qi Xuanxuan and them whose smiles had stiffened somewhat, and then at the seating area. He repeated his announcement, "Will the students of River Horse Academy please enter the stage!"

The sound of shuffling came from the seating area, and everybody looked at each other. They were all looking for traces of the students from River Horse Academy.

"Hey, what's going on? Where's River Horse Academy's Captain Sha Gua?"

"What time is it already? Why haven't they appeared yet?"

"What the hell is River Horse Academy up to! Do they think the academy ranking competition is a trifling matter?"

"That's right! What's the matter."

"Could it be that Sha Gua and them feel that they won't win against Apex Academy, so they're forfeiting the match?"

"If that's the case, they really shouldn't be."

"Even if they can't win, they still should have a go at it!"

“If they just forfeit the match like this without saying anything, then they really are too cowardly!”

“That’s right, that’s right.” People’s discussions went on nonstop, and the expressions of Qi Xuanxuan and the other students from Apex Academy started turning foul.

From their understanding of Sha Gua, even if he wasn’t going to compete, he wouldn’t vanish like this.

He would come up on stage at least and forthrightly admit defeat!

Only then would the match conclude perfectly, no?

Everybody subconsciously turned to look at the expressionless stoic face.

“Wait a bit.”

“Light the incense!” At Hong Chi’s order, someone lit a mid-length incense at the center of the stage.

“If the students of River Horse Academy do not come on stage in 15 minutes, this will be considered a forfeit. According to the rules, Apex Academy will then automatically enter the fourth round of the semifinals!”

The audience burst into an uproar.

Everybody really had no idea whether those guys from Apex Academy had saved the world in their previous life to have such d*mn good luck!

“Holy sh*t!” A senior from Shuntian Prefecture’s Celestial Light Academy couldn’t resist cursing, “Could they not have such over-the-top luck?”

“Are those two female members of Apex Academy’s team the people whom we rode the terrestrial whale with when we just arrived in Shuntian Prefecture?” An ordinary-looking female member of Celestial Light Academy’s substitute team questioned with furrowed brows.

“That’s right.” Liu Hao nodded and told that woman in a low voice, “Princess, we just have to wait and see.”

“Their luck is too good.” A pretty woman sitting next to the princess couldn’t resist pouting, “River Horse Academy is actually forfeiting the match. We never had such good luck.”

In reality, they only stood out more from the rest of the new students who had similarly just come to Shuntian Prefecture. That’s why they got the chance to come observe the ranking competition.

The chance of them truly going up to battle was basically zero.

“Shut up. Stop jabbering next to me,” the princess reprimanded.

“Big Brother Xu.” The woman pursed her lips as she looked aggrievedly at a square-jawed man beside her.

The man couldn’t help but reproach, “Liu Tiantian, how many times have I told you already. Don’t put on your princess airs here! Don’t make a fuss with Yu’er!”

Chen Hanyu smiled triumphantly. She swept a look of dominance at the livid Liu Tiantian before looking away in distaste.

Seeing that the incense on the stage was about to go out, the spectators in the seating area couldn't help but sigh.