

My Crown 91

Chapter 91: Confusion

“Woo... Master, Qiuqiu is very useful. Qiuqiu’s leaves not only allow people to sense mystic energy and increase their mystic energy, but when normal people eat it, they can also strengthen their body and health and prolong their life. Woowoo, also, also, Qiuqiu can blossom and produce fruits later. If Master eats the divine fruit, your cultivation can raise at least two levels!”

Sensing the distaste from its master, the sapling was weeping with its tree body shaking back and forth in conjunction, looking incredibly pitiful.

Qiao Mu was rendered speechless. She looked at the barren sapling and asked, “Where are your leaves then?”

“My leaves had all been picked away by Master to feed two foodies, woowoowo.” As it said this, Qiuqiu felt extremely saddened. This heartless master—as soon as she saw that its leaves were grown, she would leaf-nap it all away...

Qiao Mu’s lips twitched, and seeing how pitifully it cried, she could not resist saying, “I definitely didn’t pluck it. Even if it was me who plucked the leaves, I wouldn’t have plucked it all. I would have at least left you two leaves to keep your modesty.”

“Although the cold-blooded action that you described does sound like something I would do, I know full well that I did not do it!” Qiao Mu scoffed.

“It was you, it was you, it was you! Master, don’t be so stubborn! Whether you plucked it or not, who would know better than me?”

“Also, who is a foodie?” Qiao Mu irritably glanced at the sapling. *“Scram, how am I a foodie?”* Qiao Mu, who evidently did not hear what the sapling said clearly, thought that the sapling was insulting her.

“Although my inner world has a lot of meat buns buried, I haven’t eaten a single one yet! How am I a foodie? I absolutely won’t admit it!”

“Alright, stay here quietly. I have business.” Qiao Mu was too lazy to continue jabbering with the sapling. She would ask about the matter of the mystic domain next time. Right now, she was in a rush to find a doctor.

“Master... why are you looking for a doctor? You can treat him yourself! Also, how could those bumpkin doctors be capable of treating this lad’s internal injuries.”

Although this cheeky sapling said it like it was true, Qiao Mu was well aware that she did not learn any medicine, whether it was in the previous life or this life! Treat, treat, treat! Treat your ass!

“Master, how about I try and see if I can extract a healing pill from the Star Domain. It was a supreme-grade pill produced by your godly doctor, Venerable Master! It can guarantee a cure for all illnesses!” Who would need to find some village doctor!

Lunatic! Qiao Mu could not resist rolling her eyes. Why didn't she remember that she had acknowledged a godly doctor as her master? She did not want to speak with this sapling filled with crazy drive any longer.

"Master, wait." Seeing that its master obviously did not believe it, the sapling filled with urgency. Its entire body chaotically shook all over, as though it was spasming.

"I shake, I shake, I shake shake shake..."

The sapling madly shook its branches like it was wildly dancing. If it could take on a human form, it would probably have tears streaking down its face at this point.

So difficult! Merely extracting a healing pill consumed such a large amount of strength, how painful and pitiful it was. When did it ever require so much effort before?

Qiao Mu's patience was just about to be completely exhausted when she saw a blinding gold light appear above the sapling, dispersing in a flash.

A round scarlet red pill hopped down its tree trunk. Qiao Mu was somewhat dumbfounded and subconsciously reached out to catch the pill.

"Little Master, I'm very tired." The sapling's voice was noticeably weaker, and it did not have its previous excitable tone either. "I... I need to rest a bit. I-I won't be able to see Master in the following days. Also, don't steal the paradise star. I-I need it to recover..."

The sapling's voice disappeared, and Qiao Mu looked inside restlessly. The sapling was drooping down its barren tree branches in exhaustion, the bright green light that was encased on its body also dimmed a lot.

Qiao Mu turned her eyes away and looked down at the pill—which had a faint medicinal fragrance wafting from it—in her hand with confusion brimming from her eyes.

Chapter 92: Hoarding Habit

The pill melted as soon as it entered Qiao Hu's mouth, and within 15 minutes, Qiao Hu's ghostly pale face had gradually reddened.

Qiao Mu was sitting beside him on the bed as company, blankly staring into the distance as she got lost in her thoughts.

In her previous life, her mystic meridians triggered at age 16. This life, her mystic meridians triggered at age seven.

In her previous life, the apparition of her mystic conscious did not materialize until near her death. This life, her apparition popped up now.

In her previous life, her inner world was completely empty when it first opened. This life, her inner world was piled with treasures that would make people salivate.

In her previous life, her dantian was merely a dantian, and her mystic domain was situated in the center of her dantian. This life, her dantian was akin to a dark, starry night, and a sapling not only started growing in it, but her mystic domain was also eliminated.

In her previous life, she had never seen the secret record, Golden Talisman Jade Tome, and she had never studied the talisman method either. This life, it was like she hit the jackpot when she inexplicably obtained the Golden Talisman Jade Tome and also learned how to draw talismans.

There were, mysteriously and inexorably, so many peculiar changes. No matter how obtuse she was, even she would have noticed by now. It almost seemed as if... she was missing a chunk of significant memories.

Could that be possible?

How come she remembered all the events in her past life clearly but had zero impression of this odd tree?

What the heck was Star Domain?

This tree had to know something right?

Qiao Mu could not resist looking inside again to see if the sapling was better. Unfortunately, after it gave her the pill, it looked like it had wilted and its branches were motionlessly sagging to the ground.

Qiao Mu thought, if it could take on human form right now, she reckoned it would plop on its back motionlessly like her signature lifeless position.

“Qiaoqiao.” Mother’s call drifted from outside the courtyard.

Qiao Mu moved and looked up, happening to catch Qiao Hu opening his eyes and dazedly looking at her.

“Younger Sis.” Qiao Hu’s memories were still frozen at the scene by the entrance. Nervous, he wanted to sit up. “Where’s that barbaric granny?”

“It’s fine now, Brother Xiao Hu.” Qiao Mu grasped Qiao Hu’s hand. “Rest a little more. My mother has returned. I will go out to take a look.”

Qiao Hu’s awakening eased Qiao Mu’s mood a lot. She sprinted out of the door but was startled when she reached the courtyard.

Wei Ziqin walked up with resignation on her face and pointed at her daughter’s nose. “Who would buy so much food? That girl, Shaoyao, would like nothing more than to move the whole market home.”

The worker who delivered the vegetables joyously accepted Shaoyao’s tip of a few copper coins and cheerfully left while pushing the handcart.

Qiao Mu was dumbstruck as she stared at the 40-50 baskets of vegetables and livestock before speechlessly looking at the little girl in cyan clothes.

“Miss, this servant knows that Little Lord has a hobby for hoarding supplies, so I bought everything that I could from the market. I have 15 taels of silver and 300 copper coins left over.”

Qiao Mu's lips twitched and waved her hand as she said, "Keep it."

This girl truly was clever and quick-witted, able to work out her wishes so accurately...

The tiny gold ingot that she gave Shaoyao earlier was one tael each. At the current market rate, 1 tael of gold was about 10 taels of silver, and 1 tael of silver exchanged for 1000 copper coins. Shaoyao nearly emptied the entire market, but she did not spend more than five taels of silver.

Qiao Mu's mood improved. From the looks of it, the 400 taels of gold that she gave Second Uncle should be enough to purchase a lot of food.

Speaking of which, Second Uncle should be returning in the next two days.

Chapter 93: Storage Talisman

On the other hand, as Wei Ziqin surveyed the 50 or so baskets, she looked a bit fretful.

It was true that mystic cultivators had an inner world, but could her daughter's tiny inner world really fit all of this? Wei Ziqin might be a normal person, but she still knew how big a mystic cultivator's inner world was.

"Qiaoqiao, where are the items from the carriages earlier?" Wei Ziqin suddenly realized that compared to these 50 baskets of food, the 10-20 carriages of goods that arrived this morning were more of a threat. The clothes alone occupied at least 100 or so boxes, so how could a tiny inner world fit it all?

Qiao Mu tilted her head in thought before pulling out four storage talismans and waving her hand at them. "Mother, Shaoyao, help me divide this food first."

Fifteen minutes later, Wei Ziqin and Shaoyao finished helping Qiao Mu sort out the contents of the baskets into several piles, depending on whether they were vegetables, livestock, etc., which covered the ground.

"Look, this is called a storage talisman." Qiao Mu flashed the yellow talismans toward them. Then, she ran two fingers over one of the talismans.

After the faint yellow light faded, all the vegetables laid on the floor were stored inside the storage talisman by Qiao Mu.

Afterward, she put away the full storage talisman and did the same thing with the other talisman, storing all of the livestock and eggs into this talisman.

She then proceeded to sigh in relief and said, "This type of talisman is only one cubic meter in size, so the storage space is limited, and you can store and extract things 100 times each. Hence, we don't need to put these baskets that will take up space inside."

Qiao Hu, who had come out in response to the commotion, had his mouth wide open in shock like a bumpkin, and he was looking at his elder younger sis like she was an immortal.

Wei Ziqin had not heard of storage talismans, let alone Qiao Hu. However, Shaoyao was somewhat familiar with the rarity of storage talismans, so her eyes were sparkling as she looked at her Little Lord.

“Time essentially stands still inside a storage talisman, so unless something out of the ordinary occurs, the items stored inside will remain unchanged.” After saying this, Qiao Mu stuffed one yellow talisman and one blue talisman into her mother’s hand. “Mother, drip two drops of blood on these two talismans, and you can see the size of the storage space inside.”

As though she caught a hot potato, Wei Ziqin quickly waved her hands wildly. “Mother doesn’t want it. Mother is only a normal person. What need do I have for these treasures used by mystic cultivators?”

Qiao Mu remained expressionless. “Mother.”

She grasped her mother’s hand, walked to a wooden stool, and sat down. “Actually, there was something I didn’t tell Mother about from when I was kidnapped by human traffickers after school that day.”

Wei Ziqin felt like her heart was about to leap out of her chest. Seeing her daughter’s emotionless face, she anxiously held her hand and asked, “What’s wrong?”

“In truth, the person who took me that day is a member of the evil faction. They saw that I became a mystic cultivator at such a young age, so they thought I would be useful and wanted to turn me into a puppet demon, to be at their disposal and controlled as they pleased,” Qiao Mu fabricated without a tinge of red on her face or a skip of beat in her heart.

However, Wei Ziqin immediately turned ashen. Although she did not understand what puppet demons were, the mere sound of it was terrifying, alright! Her Qiaoqiao actually experienced such a deadly event! Wei Ziqin tightly grasped her daughter’s hand and urged, “And then?”

“And then that youth rescued me and gave me several of these storage talismans,” Qiao Mu continued lying without blinking an eye, her face stoic. “The youth said that this place is unsuitable to stay in continuously. The people of the evil faction have noticed me, so we must leave Qiaotou Village.”

Chapter 94: Father and Daughter at Odds

As she said this, her stoic face tried its best to put on a deeply worried expression. She imitated the crown prince’s tone and sighed, “If we don’t leave here as quickly as possible, our future is bleak.”

Shaoyao nearly laughed out loud at this scene. Little Miss’s face was truly unsuited for such an odd expression. The deep worry was not apparent; instead, it looked more like a stoic face suddenly crumbling into a ball, giving people an inexplicable comical feeling.

“Eldest Aunt, we can’t allow those bad people to capture Elder Younger Sis,” Qiao Hu injected in a hurry. Besides the paleness on his face, he appeared mostly recovered.

This child was not someone who could stay stationary. He had just gotten better, and he already wanted to leave the bed. Thankfully, the life-saving pill was quite good, so Qiao Mu was not worried.

Wei Ziqin could not tell in the slightest that Qiao Hu had serious internal injuries just now or that he had nearly stepped into the jaws of death.

Qiao Hu kept urging noisily, “Eldest Aunt, why don’t we pack up now and immediately leave?”

Hearing this, Wei Ziqin almost automatically nodded in agreement. On the side, Qiao Mu could not resist rolling her eyes. What need was there to be in such a hurry?

“Mother, it’s not that urgent. Plus, we can’t leave so impromptu. We still need to clean and pack the things at home and wait for Second Uncle to return.”

“Oh, right! Father is still outside!” Only then did Qiao Hu remember his father...

“But will those people from the evil faction...?”

“They shouldn’t.” Qiao Mu continued to beguile without missing a beat, “Those people were sent running by the Crown Prince, so they shouldn’t be returning in these next few days. We still have time.”

As she said that, she stuffed the two storage talismans into Wei Ziqin’s hand. “Mother, these two storage talismans are for you to pack up the house – pack up what you can. Take all the living equipment and farm tools, we might need it in the future.”

Wei Ziqin nodded continuously, no longer declining the storage talisman. As her daughter instructed, she bit her finger and dripped a few drops of blood onto the talisman, causing a yellow and blue light to flicker.

Qiao Mu explained some of the differences between the yellow talisman and the blue talisman, and she also taught her mother how to store and extract items. When Wei Ziqin heard that there was a limit to storing and extracting items with the talisman, she instantly regretted wasting a few chances while learning it. She then hurriedly stored the talismans somewhere safe, treating them like treasures. Qiao Mu’s eyes twitched as she watched this.

In truth, as long as your daughter had enough blank talisman papers, she could draw more without a thought. They really were not that valuable...

Around evening, Qiao Zhongbang dragged his tired self home and sat in front of the dining table without a word.

Qiao Hu held his bowl and stuffed his mouth full. His face was rosy, and all traces of his previous injury were completely gone.

Wei Ziqin used her chopsticks to pick up the food for her two daughters, and mother and daughters conversed and laughed without paying attention to the man whose face resembled a burnt piece of bread.

Qiao Zhongbang could not hold back anymore and placed his bowl on the table, a light clang ringing. He glanced at his eldest daughter with complicated feelings in his eyes. “Your grandmother is ill. Tomorrow, you and your sister should go and visit your grandmother...”

“I understand,” Qiao Mu dryly responded.

Qiao Zhongbang held back for a moment before his next words broke loose, “In truth, our family had long since moved out of the Qiao Family’s main compound and spent our lives on our own. We are technically considered separated from the family already, so it was a completely superfluous move to establish this family division document. You even angered your grandmother to death.”

Qiao Mu indifferently glanced at the man before calmly saying, "Isn't it good to establish this document? This is the clan's rule, dividing it distinctly and officially so as to avoid any confusion and controversy later. Even blood brothers should keep separate accounts, don't you think so?"

None of the dregs from the Qiao Clan should even think about sullyng any of her supplies!

Instantly, Qiao Zhongbang felt stifled with anger and was at a loss for words.

Chapter 95: The Acting Is Truly Brilliant

The next day, Qiao Mu headed to Elderly Lady Qiao's estate with a round little bun, Qiao Lin, in tow.

These past few days, Qiao Mu had fed her sister quite a bit of food, so the weight of the little bun in her hand had gotten heavier.

Little Qiao Lin was led in a gallop by her sister. Every now and then, she would clap her hands and jump twice while softly calling, "Sister, sister."

Based on her giddy expression, one could tell she wanted her sister to run even faster, wishing for nothing more than to fly there.

Currently, the sky was still dimly lit. Qiao Mu had purposefully dragged her younger sister and ran to the Qiao Compound at first light, pounding on the door with loud bangs upon their arrival.

The doorkeeper drowsily came to open the door and was at a loss when he saw the two little girls in front of him.

He naturally recognized them as the daughters of the eldest branch. However, they have never been favored by Elderly Lady Qiao, so he donned on an impolite attitude upon seeing them coming here to disturb their dreams so early in the morning.

"Father had my sister and me come to visit Grandmother." Qiao Mu's face was cold, and she was about to step through the entrance with the little bun in tow.

The doorkeeper hastily blocked them and exclaimed with a face of impatience, "Hold on, I must have someone go and announce you!"

Qiao Mu shook the little bun in her hand, and Miss Qiao Lin immediately recalled what her sister told her on the way here.

"Lin'er, when we arrive at Grandmother's home, simply cry and don't say anything. We will cry our way back, and after we're done crying, Sister will give you meat buns to eat when we get home!"

The thought of meat buns caused Qiao Lin to drool. She blinked. She blinked again. Then, her wails erupted, her cries piercing and tears flowing from her eyes.

"Grandmother! Grandmother!!!" the small child cried at the top of her lungs again and again, the tearful note in her voice heart-wrenchingly pitiful.

Qiao Mu suddenly felt like her sister was truly talented in acting. Look at this act! Tears on demand—that was quite amazing.

Currently, although the sky was not entirely lit yet, some of the villagers who were in a rush to head to their fields had already woken up. When they passed by, their eyes curiously drifted to the entrance of the Qiao Compound.

The doorkeeper was a bit stunned. He did not expect this child to start crying just like that, and his hand, which was blocking the two children, froze in mid-air.

“Granddaughter learned that Grandmother was sick, so we came to visit. Since Grandmother doesn’t like it and won’t let us enter, then Granddaughter will come and visit another day,” Qiao Mu icily recited her lines before picking up the ceaselessly sobbing Xiao Lin’er, turning around, and dashing off.

The doorkeeper was dumbstruck on the spot.

“Hey, Little Ancestor, can’t you allow me to send someone inside to notify them?”

Entrusted with her sister’s order, Little Qiao Lin really cried the whole way home. Qiao Mu had known long ago that the little bun might have a petite figure, but her lungs were not petite at all. Her wailing was truly the center of everyone’s attention on their journey back. Her little face was miserable and pitiful from the sobbing, causing the villagers to all ask each other.

Upon learning that the sisters had visited Elderly Lady Qiao to give her their regards out of goodwill but ended up being sent back, their faces were astounded and bewildered.

It appears the rumors that arose when Qiao Mu’s family was divided off were really true, this elderly lady from the Qiao Family was very spiteful indeed.

Qiao Mu returned home with the ceaselessly sobbing Qiao Lin and ran into Qiao Zhongbang, who was about to leave on time. Wei Ziqin had also just finished washing the stove. When she saw her younger daughter crying so hard, she hastily walked up to pacify her.

When Qiao Zhongbang asked for the reason, embarrassment pervaded his face.

“I’m afraid we can’t enter Grandmother’s home from now on,” Qiao Mu calmly stated. “Do we still need to visit and pay our respects to Grandmother from time to time?”

Chapter 96: Second Uncle Has Returned

Qiao Zhongbang knew that he was in the wrong and felt very embarrassed. It took him a moment before he could say, “You... how could you let your sister cry the whole way back?”

By letting Xiao Lin’er wail the whole way back, everyone in the village now knew that his mother barred his young daughters from entering the Qiao Compound.

He was the one who sent his two daughters to give their regards to their grandmother. Who knew they would not be able to even walk through the doors? Qiao Zhongbang felt his face burning red.

Qiao Mu dryly glanced at him. “When Younger Sis cries, even Mother can’t stop her.”

In other words, I'm merely a child, so how should I calm my sister to make her stop crying? I truly don't have that skill.

Our dear Qiao Mu donned on a "Do it yourself if you can" expression, stuffing Qiao Zhongbang's chest full of sullen feelings. His lips trembled, wanting to speak but unable to squeeze out a single word. Hence, he could merely sigh and sit to the side, no plans to head out to visit his mother.

The village was only so big, so by evening, the gossip about how Elderly Lady Qiao was spiteful and barred her young granddaughters from entering drifted into her ears. This time, Elderly Lady Qiao was truly innocent. She had no idea Qiao Mu had come so early in the morning and then left, so another bout of anger sent her back into the arms of sickness.

After this happened, Qiao Zhongbang finally stopped and did not say things like "Go visit your grandmother" again. Qiao Mu passed her days in bliss and relaxation, and she would concentrate on cultivating her mystic energy inside the house whenever she had time, except for when she was interrupted by a foodie knocking on her door on the clock.

Ever since Qiao Mu went through great effort to use her mystic conscious to transport a chubby meat bun from her inner world for the little foodie, the little foodie started pining after it and begged for it again and again.

She had no idea how the little foodie learned the art of thigh hugging, practically acting like unshakable baggage...

The present was one of those times. The little foodie had started craving the meat buns again and was latching onto her sister's arms, not letting go no matter what. She harped on and on about her meat buns, a demonic chant piercing people's ears.

Wei Ziqin was both amused and exasperated and went to pick her younger daughter up, pacifying, "How about Mother makes some meat buns for you?"

"Sister has meat buns! Sister has meat buns!"

It appears she looked down on her mother's meat buns. Wei Ziqin was helpless.

Wei Ziqin merely thought that Qiao Mu had bought some meat buns for this almighty foodie to eat when she was not home. "Qiaoqiao, where did you buy your meat buns? It appears it's very tasty. Look at how your sister longs for it every single day. How about we go buy a few more?"

Qiao Mu was speechless... In truth, she had not eaten the buns herself! How would she know whether it tasted good or not!

"Sister has it! Sister has it! Sister can pull it out in a flash!" little foodie noisily protested while Wei Ziqin and Qiao Mu stared at each other blankly.

Qiao Mu wanted to cry. If she could take it out, she would have taken it out a long time ago to stuff this little foodie's noisy mouth!

However, after she used her mystic conscious to dig out a meat bun with great effort last time, the door of her inner world tightly slammed shut and did not allow her mystic conscious to enter anymore. Who else had such a prideful inner world? She was the only one, okay!

As mother and daughters conversed, a peal of bright laughter came from outside the courtyard. "Eldest Brother, Eldest Sister-in-Law, Qiaoqiao."

"Your second uncle is back!"

"Second Uncle." Qiao Mu hopped down the chair with a swing of her legs. Seeing that the little foodie had a death grip on her arm, unwilling to let go, she simply ran out with a clinging foodie and negotiated with the little foodie, "Sister has peaches. If you behave, I will give you some tonight. If you don't, you won't get any."

Hearing that there were peaches, the little foodie perked up and immediately stopped making a fuss, nodding furiously. "Sister, I'll be good."

"Then no talking allowed."

The little foodie immediately extended her two chubby hands and covered her mouth.

Chapter 97: Best Strategy

"Second Uncle!" Qiao Zhongxing, to Qiao Mu's great anticipation, finally returned, so how could she be anything but happy?

With a little bun in tow, Qiao Mu walked out and was met with a muscular man whose face was dark from the sun standing at the entrance and looking at her with a grin.

"Second Uncle, thank you for your hard work." Second Uncle looked quite fatigued from running around outside during this period of time.

Thankfully, Second Uncle was there to help her purchase supplies. Otherwise, at her young age of seven, her hands would truly be tied for some things.

"Second Brother is back, hurry, come in and sit down. Your eldest brother is inside the house." Wei Ziqin came out and welcomed with a smile.

"No need, Eldest Sister-in-Law. I will rest after business is over." Qiao Zhongxing shook his head with a smile and turned to Qiao Mu, making a hand gesture. "Qiaoqiao, let's go. There were too many things, so they couldn't be pulled inside the village. Second Uncle had the caravan gather at the base of Hulan Mountain. Let's head over to take a look now."

"Alright." Qiao Mu nodded and secretly complimented Second Uncle. *"It's good that it's pulled to Hulan Mountain. After dismissing the other people, I can organize the supplies without worry that the villagers will become green with envy and attract greedy folks like Madam née Li and Qiao Yingchun."*

Seeing that Qiao Lin was about to ditch her and run off on her own, Qiao Lin's large eyes blinked and turned glossy, tears nearly falling down.

Qiao Mu poked the baby fat on her cheeks. "No crying. If you cry, Sister won't give you good food. When Sister comes back, she will give you a giant, incredibly delicious peach. You will only get to eat it if you behave!"

Qiao Lin's little face immediately cleared its rain and turned sunny, nodding with a bright smile. This caused Wei Ziqin, who had picked her up to gently pat her, to be both amused and exasperated.

After Qiao Mu finished pacifying her sister, she followed Second Uncle's footsteps and swiftly walked toward the base of Hulan Mountain.

The area around Hulan Mountain was very desolate, so Qiao Zhongxing was not worried about villagers stumbling into the site and seeing the large amount of supplies. As he rapidly walked, he told Qiao Mu with a smile, "Qiaoqiao, Second Uncle did not fail your expectations and managed to purchase nearly everything that you requested. Can Qiaoqiao tell me why you bought so many things now?"

Qiao Mu nodded and pulled out the story she gave her mother again to deceive Second Uncle.

After hearing this, Qiao Zhongxing's expression turned solemn. "Then, we should leave Qiaotou Village as soon as possible, how about we move to Fang Clan Village..."

Qiao Mu shook her head in haste. "Second Uncle, Fang Clan Village is too near here. There is no guarantee that the enemies of the evil factions won't find us. For our safety, the best strategy is to move to Xijiu City immediately. Xijiu City has city guards, so even if the evil factions catch up to us, they will weigh the consequences before acting. This way, they naturally won't attack us brazenly."

Qiao Zhongxing nodded along as he listened to her, inwardly marveling at his niece's consideration. It was a wonder how she thoroughly took care of everything at her young age; it truly left many adults in the dust.

"Alright, then let's depart as soon as possible after we collect all the supplies."

No wonder they were father and son. Second Uncle was just like Xiao Hu, another one quick to action. Qiao Mu was somewhat exasperated. With Second Uncle leading, they reached the gathering spot for the caravan, and a glance revealed that there were at least 25 carriages.

Qiao Mu was delighted, thinking that Second Uncle probably spent all of the money before returning.

Spending money is good! In a few days, money will be worth nothing. At that time, even if you went out with an armful of gold and jewelry, there might not be anyone who would be willing to trade a bun with you.

"Come, Qiaoqiao, let Second Uncle tell you about these supplies." At the mention of the purchased items, Second Uncle immediately became full of zest.

Chapter 98: Confidence

"Since we have to go up against the people from the evil faction, then Second Uncle bought the right things this time. Didn't you say you needed 800 arrows? Second Uncle bought 3000 arrows for you this time, as well as 30 bows and 100 swords. They are all stored in the first three carriages, which belong to us too."

Qiao Mu's eyes brightened, and she happily nodded. As expected, Second Uncle was quite reliable with his entrusted tasks.

The child was delighted on the inside, but not a single emotion could be seen on her face. Qiao Zhongxing had gotten used to his niece's stoic face already and did not expect any expression from her. He pulled her hand and led her toward the 20 or so carriages in the back without prompt.

There were quite a number of workers currently unloading the goods, so they were nearly done. The goods were piled next to the carriages, the piles of boxes dazzling to the eyes. Qiao Mu's gaze settled on the 100 jugs of liquor, and her lips twitched.

It must be mentioned that Second Uncle's mind was quite keen, even preparing ample liquor.

"Qiaoqiao, I tell you, the food and beverage here will be more than enough for the six of us to eat unbidden for at least half a year, let alone three months." After saying this, he gleefully picked up a jug of liquor and weighed it in his hand. "This is superior grade bamboo leaf brew. The owner saw that I wanted a lot, so he gave me a discount of 100 copper coins per jug. One jug will last your father and me four to five days."

He gave Qiao Mu a mischievous laugh. "Qiaoqiao, I spent 10 taels of silver on this much liquor. You won't blame Second Uncle for buying this, right?"

Qiao Mu shook her head. "Isn't Second Uncle being a stranger with me by saying that?"

"That's true." Qiao Zhongxing brightly laughed and continued pulling Qiao Mu forward by her shoulders, introducing the goods that he purchased in high spirits.

Second Uncle's round of purchases was full of variety. Just the abundance in each kind of vegetable and livestock would leave people speechless with wonder. As Qiao Mu followed the trail, she silently understood what Second Uncle meant by being able to eat unbidden for at least half a year without a problem.

What was more laudable was that Second Uncle purchased 5 boxes of spices and condiments, nearly 20 boxes of medicine, and 2 carriages of all sorts of fruits.

Upon seeing all the goods that were unloaded, Qiao Mu finally felt her heart ease. With these basic resources, her family would not need to be afraid no matter where they drifted. She was confident that they could live just fine even in an apocalypse.

"Thank you, Second Uncle." Qiao Mu tightly grasped Qiao Zhongxing's rough hands, her faint voice traveling to his ears.

Qiao Zhongxing started briefly before smiling and patting Qiao Mu's head. "Silly child, why are you being polite with Second Uncle. Moreover, Second Uncle didn't go on this trip for nothing. Didn't I gain these 100 jugs of liquor?"

Qiao Mu smiled.

Then, Qiao Zhongxing pulled her to the side of the final carriage. There sat 100 or so different-sized cotton sacks.

Qiao Zhongxing picked up a bag and opened it for Qiao Mu to look over. "These are seeds. Second Uncle bought these from stalls without a deep look. Some were several copper coins for a bag, some were several hundred. Second Uncle blindly bought a bunch. See if it's useful, Qiaoqiao."

Qiao Mu accepted the bag and grabbed a few seeds to examine it in her palm. After leaning forward to sniff it, she automatically nodded and said, "These are seeds for a hemostatic herb that can make the most basic hemostatic ointment."

Qiao Zhongxing promptly laughed. "Then it's useful! That peddler really didn't lie to me. However, Qiaoqiao, Second Uncle didn't expect you to know something about seeds of herbs at your young age."

Qiao Mu involuntarily started, and her hand holding the seed froze as well. A question rising in her mind: *"That's right! How did she know these were seeds for a hemostatic herb?"*

Chapter 99: A Very Pleasant Mood

"Second Uncle, bring these people away first." Qiao Mu sent a look at her uncle, and Qiao Zhongxing immediately understood. He nodded and instructed the workers to leave with the 20 or so carriages.

Qiaoqiao must have her own reason for dismissing these people. Qiao Zhongxing did not inquire into it.

"Ao Ye," Qiao Mu lightly called as she watched the carriages leave one after the other.

The youth in black appeared near her back like a shadow and cupped his hands in salute. "Little Lord."

Qiao Mu nodded. "Scan the surroundings with your mystic conscious, see if there's someone spying on us nearby."

This time, she was cautious. She knew her senses as a level three mystic cultivator were not as good as Ao Ye's. Otherwise, she would not have attracted people of the Ghost Sect last time.

Ao Ye nodded in response and silently released his mystic conscious to sense the surroundings. A while later, he stated, "Little Lord, store it without worry. There is no one present in a 5000-meter radius."

Qiao Mu lightly nodded before turning her sight to her dantian. She saw that the sapling was still drooping down, sickly looking, and there were no changes. However, a few of its branches still had a death grip on the Heart of Paradise and barely moved.

Qiao Mu sighed. If the storage talismans could fit these things, she would be too lazy to snatch the Heart of Paradise.

A strand of mystic energy wrapped around the Heart of Paradise and pulled, but the sapling did not relax its tight hold at all. After several tries, Qiao Mu was helpless and had no choice but to speak to the sapling in a negotiating tone, "Hey, Qiuqiu."

For some reason, she could clearly sense the sapling in her dantian quiver due to her call, two of its bare branches trembling.

"Qiuqiu, let me borrow your Heart of Paradise for a bit. 15 minutes! No, I will return it to you in 8 minutes, alright? Look at how many things are out here, I need to pack it away!" How frustrating! Qiao

Mu wished for nothing more than to shed tears of sympathy for herself. She had never seen an owner living this frustrated! The Heart of Paradise was clearly a mystic domain condensed by her, okay? Yet, why did she have to gain this darn tree's permission in order to use it every single time!

Her inner world was a pit, but so was this paradise! Qiao Mu quietly shed some tears for herself, thinking to herself, *"When you rely on a tree, it topples over. When you rely on a human, they run off. No matter what, I can only rely on myself to draw talismans. Next time, if I can get some blank talisman paper, I must draw at least 80-100 storage talismans and use them unrestrictedly!"*

In the center of the dantian, the originally drooping sapling appeared to have understood her words and truly relaxed its tight hold on the Heart of Paradise.

Qiao Mu sighed in relief and hastily took out the Heart of Paradise, storing all the items on the floor inside in their separate categories. She temporarily placed them in the large empty space behind the peach forest. The space was so spacious that all the supplies barely even took up half of the space after they were stored inside.

Qiao Mu then untied the reins of the horses from the carriages and put the two carriages brimming with fruit inside as well. Only then did she nearly fill up the space behind the peach forest completely.

Qiao Mu relaxed. Her face remained stoic but inside, she was wild with joy, becoming more elated as she continued looking at the overflowing piles of supplies. Since she could not place living things inside the paradise, Qiao Mu could only tie the horse's reins to a tree nearby to lead it away after Second Uncle returned.

Recalling how she promised to give some peaches to the little foodie, Qiao Mu concentrated and looked toward the half-transparent valley in the air.

She remembered that there was a flourishing peach tree in the center of the peach forest that seemed to have bore fruit. She only took a cursory glance back then, but after a meticulous search today, she discovered it.

There were three peaches pettily dangling from the tip of the branches on the tree. However, each peach was twice the size of a human fist and had a fresh and delicious appearance, causing Qiao Mu herself to want to eat it as well.

Chapter 100: Bandit Tree

After thinking it over, Qiao Mu decisively took out all three peaches, temporarily storing the peach for Xiao Lin'er into a yellow storage talisman before putting it away securely.

This talisman was a demonstration talisman gifted by the Golden Talisman Jade Tome. As for the four storage talismans that she drew, she had filled two of them completely with items while the other two were given to her mother to pack the living essentials and tools. It appeared that the most important task on their agenda right now was to hurry to Xijiu City. There must be places that sell blank talisman papers there.

When Qiao Zhongxing returned, he came back to find the little girl crouching next to a tree with a mouthwatering peach in both of her hands, cheerfully nibbling it with juices everywhere.

Qiao Zhongxing could not help but grin. Only now did Qiaoqiao resemble a kid. Normally, she donned on the appearance of a little adult and looked especially solemn, as different from a carefree child as day and night.

“Second Uncle, eat a peach.” Qiao Mu handed a peach to him before returning to her own. It deserved to be called a product of paradise. Not only was it extremely delicious, but the peach meat also melted as soon as it entered the mouth. The peach juice was sweet but not sickly sweet, leaving a rich aftertaste in her mouth.

Qiao Mu wiped her hands and unexpectedly felt a burst of hot energy rushing through her mystic meridians.

The child was startled but promptly sat down in a rush. The flowing stream of hot energy quickly turned into mystic energy and swam a circle through her mystic meridians in fragments, before finally returning to her dantian.

Qiao Mu was carefully watching her dantian and managed to see it clearly this time.

The feeble tree’s roots suddenly revealed a mystic domain the size of an olive pit. With a flash, it absorbed some of the fragmented but rich mystic energy into it. However! At least two-thirds of the mystic energy was absorbed by the roots of the sapling.

It turned out her mystic domain did not disappear. It merely got absorbed into the roots of the sapling! Qiao Mu wished for nothing more than to jump up and howl.

As she thought, this tree was peculiar and abnormal! It really was absorbing her mystic energy! Her mystic energy!!!

She had accumulated a wee bit of mystic energy just now, and it uneasily circulated through her mystic meridians once, but it ended up being devoured by that sapling with a life of its own! Why! Why can it eat meat while she is left with nothing but the soup! Qiao Mu was unimaginably depressed.

Thankfully, due to the flood of hot energy just now, her mystic meridians appeared to be a tiny, tiny bit thicker than previously.

Level-four mystic cultivator!

Qiao Mu’s eyes brightened slightly. She leveled up unconsciously! What happened? Could it be related to that peach? Although the quantity of mystic energy just now was not a lot, the quality was very rich. Every drop of mystic energy could nearly be comparable to the faint mystic energy stored inside her body.

Could the advancing of her cultivation be closely related to the intensity of the mystic energy being cultivated inside her mystic meridians?

Qiao Mu carefully considered it with her hand supporting her chin. That cheeky sapling appeared to only be interested in the rich mystic energy in the outside world. For example, just now. Another example was when she absorbed the mystic energy of the entire paradise in the mystic realm earlier. She

reckoned she did not even get to taste the meaty soup of the energy before it had all entered the sapling's stomach.

As for the daily cultivation of her mystic meridians, because the mystic energy that she cultivated herself was extremely weak and faint, it probably did not meet that cheeky sapling's standards, so it was uninterested in stealing it!

After realizing this, Qiao Mu could not help but chuckle ironically. However, there was nothing she could do. It was not like she could win against that tree! So what was the use in crying about it?

When Qiao Mu turned her head, Second Uncle's eyes shot open, and he jumped up with ecstasy. "Qiaoqiao, Second Uncle discovered that his body cultivation broke through to level three after eating this peach! Second Uncle had been stuck at this level for a very long time. Second Uncle didn't expect... didn't expect..."

Second Uncle was so excited that he could not finish speaking.