

# Nine Star Hegemon Body Arts

## - Chapter 41 Long Chen's Fury -

*Chapter 41 Long Chen's Fury*

Translator: BornToBe

“Long Chen!”

“Long Chen!”

“Long Chen!”

Long Chen glanced at Huang Chang and then at the distant Xia Changfeng. How could he not understand what was going on? With a cold laugh, he beckoned with a hand.

Long Chen's hand motion immediately made the crowd silent as they waited to hear what he would say. But Long Chen only threw out a single sentence. “I have no interest in battling with a declining dog who has aged prematurely.”

The entire crowd was completely stunned; Long Chen had actually declined.

“This is Phoenix Cry's number one junior generation? What a worthless person. I'm really disappointed.” Huang Chang shook his head.

Long Chen coldly smiled. He had already jumped into one trap today, so did they expect him to jump into a second one? There wasn't even any bait this time. Did they think he was stupid?

“Let's leave now. Don't bother with that dog.”

Following his shout to the crowd, Long Chen walked away. He urgently wished to refine the beast flame and didn't have time to waste on this.

“You actually want to obtain the third princess with such conduct? I'd advise you about the toad who wanted to try eating the swan's meat. Or should I call you trash?” Huang Chang coldly laughed when he saw Long Chen wanted to leave.

Long Chen suddenly turned stiff. This Huang Chang had truly infuriated him now. He didn't know when it had happened, but at some point, Chu Yao had already become an extremely important part of his heart which he absolutely could not let other people trample on.

But despite his fury, Long Chen still didn't want to fight with this Huang Chang. He didn't have enough assurance, so he continued to walk away.

"I'll accompany you." Suddenly, Shi Feng shouted and jumped atop the martial arena.

Long Chen was greatly alarmed and quickly went to grab Shi Feng. But Shi Feng had gone too fast and Long Chen wasn't able to stop him before he had already jumped atop the stage.

"Huang Chang, clean your mouth. Long Chen isn't someone you can disgrace." Shi Feng coldly pointed at Huang Chang.

Seeing Shi Feng come onto the stage, Huang Chang's eyes brightened. He cruelly smiled, "Although you might be the number one junior warrior, you won't last ten exchanges with me. You should go down and try not to lose face."

"Too arrogant!"

"Disgusting!"

"Wreck him, Shi Feng!"

Shi Feng had just obtained the title of number one junior warrior. His strength just now was admired by countless people. For this person from the Grand Xia to insult Shi Feng was insulting the entire younger generation of the Phoenix Cry Empire.

"Shi Feng, get down!" Long Chen had already rushed over beside the stage and sternly ordered him.

"See, he told you to get down. He's afraid you'll get hurt. You should go down." Huang Chang also indifferently persuaded him. But his words were even more infuriating than if he had cursed him.

"Long Chen, I want to test him," said Shi Feng.

"This is a trap! If you fight with him, you won't be my brother anymore!" Long Chen angrily roared.

"He can insult me, but he cannot insult you. No matter what, I have to fight him. I can't listen to you today." Shi Feng glared at Huang Chang. "Come."

Huang Chang glanced at him and nodded. "I hadn't noticed that you are more mature than him. Due to your courage, I will concede if you can receive ten of my blows."

"Arrogance!" Shi Feng roared and all of his body's energy erupted. Stamping on the stage, he rushed at Huang Chang with a punch.

This punch contained all of Shi Feng's power. The wind whistled and even space was tore open. Even people dozens of meters away could clearly feel it.

"Good!"

Seeing Shi Feng's imposing punch, everyone let out a burst of cheering. But Long Chen was extremely anxious.

BANG!

Shi Feng's fist which had seemed completely unstoppable was stiffly blocked. Huang Chang used merely a single hand to stop it. In fact, Shi Feng's entire body's momentum had disappeared the moment he had collided with that hand.

"What?!"

Everyone was shocked; Shi Feng's punch was extremely powerful, but it was unable to shake Huang Chang at all. Their hearts jumped wildly.

"Just this little power?" Huang Chang shook his head disdainfully.

Shi Feng's astonishment immediately became a raging fury. He sent a kick viciously towards Huang Chang's stomach, and at the same time, used his right hand to lock Huang Chang's throat.

This was a double attack; the kick was sent first so Huang Chang would try to avoid it while his other hand could lock his throat. It was a very clever move.

But what Shi Feng hadn't expected was that Huang Chang didn't even avoid it. He actually sent out another kick in response, and his speed was shocking; despite being the second to move, his kick landed first.

BANG!

Huang Chang's kick landed on Shi Feng's knee. Shi Feng felt the burst of pain there, before suddenly also feeling a punch land on his stomach.

He was sent back three steps and found his right knee was broken. But before he could recover, Huang Chang had already pressed his advantage.

"He really is strong. If Shi Feng can't continue, then he should concede."

Huang Chang's movement was not slow at all. A hand shot out directly for Shi Feng's throat.

Shi Feng quickly sent a punch to block that claw.

Bang!

Shi Feng's punch was only just sent out before it was latched onto by Huang Chang's hand, and suddenly, a powerful force came from it.

Crack!

One of Shi Feng's arms broke.

"Ah, my bad. It seems I used a bit too much strength."

Huang Chang smiled apologetically, but his hands didn't stop and another one came at him.

One of Shi Feng's knees was unable to move anymore, so there was no way for him to retreat. This time, Huang Chang's palm landed on his shoulder.

A bizarre force came from it, and Shi Feng felt his stomach become suppressed as if it were being crushed by a huge boulder. It became difficult to breathe.

Now, he finally realized the power difference between them was too great. He wanted to open his mouth, but he found that he was unable to speak.

"Shi Feng, if you can't continue, then you can concede at any time." Huang Chang smiled slightly, but his eyes were extremely sinister. Another palm was sent towards Shi Feng's stomach.

BANG!

Shi Feng was sent flying and spat out a mouthful of blood. The force was so great that he was sent flying off the stage.

Long Chen lightly jumped and caught Shi Feng. Long Chen examined him and found Shi Feng's knee was broken, his arm was broken, and the last blow had split his meridians, almost turning him into a cripple.

The entire plaza was deathly silent. No one had thought that the bold and powerful Shi Feng, who was unequalled just a short moment ago, would be defeated so quickly and miserably.

"Brother Shi Feng really is too stubborn. He actually decided to take that palm without conceding... My apologies." Huang Chang was helplessly looking at Long Chen and the others from atop the stage.

But Long Chen could see his ridicule and contempt deep within his gaze.

“Fists have no eyes. If you have to blame someone, you can only blame him for trying to show off without any ability. Not killing him is already not bad.” Wei Cang shook his head.

“Shut the hell up you old stick!”

Long Chen’s sudden furious shout rang out, and a powerful killing intent soared, causing everyone to tremble.

Even those noblemen, who saw battle all year round, felt their hearts’ jump and were shocked.

Long Chen fed Shi Feng a healing pill and slowly walked up the martial stage. Looking at Huang Chang, his words were like ice shards.

“You’re trying to force me to fight you right? I guess you’re satisfied now.”

The current Long Chen was releasing a surging killing intent. What he didn’t know was that while he was consumed by his fury, the FengFu Star at the bottom of his foot had begun to quickly circulate.

Before it was just a primal ball of energy, but now, it was gradually becoming clear. However, with the passing of time, it seemed as if it were lacking some kind of energy and slowly dimmed back down to its original state.

Long Chen turned to Xia Changfeng and pointed at his nose. “Xia Changfeng, you cuckold bastard, just wait for me!”

He then continued, “Empress Dowager, I demand a life and death battle with Huang Chang.”

That final sentence of his was said to the Empress Dowager. For a moment, the entire plaza became still.

“Long Chen...” Chu Yao was panicked as she looked at the infuriated Long Chen. She had never seen him so angry before, and her heart couldn’t help being pained for him.

“Empress Dowager, life and death battles are grand and heroic. It’s the very essence of what it means to be a man. I feel that the only right choice is to support it.” Seeing Long Chen furiously demand a life and death battle with Huang Chang, Wei Cang became joyous. He would be able to take back his beast flame if this continued.

That was because the loser would have his spoils taken away by the victor in a life and death battle.

The Empress Dowager was in a difficult position. She looked at grandmaster Yun Qi who was also gravely looking at Long Chen.

“Please help me, grandmaster.” Long Chen nodded to him.

Yun Qi sighed, “Empress Dowager can decide this. Since this is Long Chen’s challenge, the guild has no right to interfere.”

“Then, I permit it.”

Following her proclamation, no one cheered in the slightest. This was already not a martial competition, but a bloody battle to the death.

Xia Changfeng had just been cursed by Long Chen, but he wasn’t the slightest bit angry now. It was not worthwhile to get angry with a dead man.

Their trap was going great; originally, they were planning on Huang Chang accidentally making a mistake and killing Long Chen, but now, they could kill him openly and resolve all their hatred.

Chu Yao, on the other hand, was extremely worried. Huang Chang had defeated Shi Feng as if he were playing with a child and was obviously an extremely powerful and frightening opponent.

The people below the stage who had wanted Long Chen to accept the fight at the beginning all despaired now. They were astonished that Long Chen would now propose a life and death battle.

Some of the women were covering their mouths, their eyes filled with admiration. Long Chen’s coarse and wild side had aroused their heartstrings.

Huang Chang contemptuously looked at Long Chen. “If you had come earlier, your friend would’ve been fine. How low of you.”

Long Chen didn’t reply. Calmly standing there, frightening killing intent soared off his body.

“I feel like your gaze is extremely dislikable. I think I’ll first dig out your eyes.” Huang Chang suddenly stamped on the ground and appeared beside Long Chen like a ghost. His speed was shocking and even faster than when he had fought with Shi Feng.

“Fuck off!” His shout was like thunder, shaking the world. All people could see was a figure flying back after this shout.

People looked at the stage. Long Chen was standing there motionlessly with his fist thrown forward. Huang Chang was fifteen feet away, his face shocked.

“What’s going on?”

“I didn’t see.”

“It looks like Long Chen punched Huang Chang flying.”

Amongst the people who were discussing what was happening, fatty Yu and the others took the lead and started cheering, causing others to also join in.

Long Chen didn’t pay the slightest attention to those cheers. He coldly looked at Huang Chang. “If you manage to leave alive today, then I wouldn’t be Long Chen.”

BOOM!

Suddenly, the aura around Long Chen’s body exploded and caused the space to tremble. His terrifying aura caused everyone’s expression to immediately change.

*Chapter 42 Anger Shakes the Nine Heavens*

Translator: BornToBe

BOOM!

Long Chen’s aura suddenly exploded out.

“What?”

Even the nobles weren’t able to control themselves. After Long Chen’s explosion, seven cyclones vaguely appeared behind his body.

“He’s actually only at the seventh Heavenstage of Qi Condensation?”

Even after so many battles, Long Chen had never revealed his true cultivation base. Many people speculated that he had already reached the Blood Condensation realm but was just hiding it.

But now that he had released his aura, it was clearly just of the seventh Heavenstage of Qi Condensation.

“But why is his seventh Heavenstage Qi Condensation aura so powerful?”

Some people were the first to realize that something was wrong. That aura was too terrifying; it definitely didn’t seem to be of Qi Condensation.

Wei Cang, Xia Changfeng, and the others were also very startled. This was the first time they had seen or heard of such a thing.

BANG!

Long Chen stamped on the stage, causing it to tremble. He charged towards Huang Chang.

His fist was like a huge hammer smashing down, creating gales that filled the air.

Huang Chang coldly snorted; his body shook and the energy from his body surged out, causing the space around him to twist. He also sent out a punch to receive him.

An earthshaking explosion rang out when their two fists collided. Qi waves surged out, engulfing everything.

Long Chen's fist was heavy as a mountain, yet as wild as a tempest. He consecutively rained down three blows. Huang Chang's expression changed and he roared, using his full power to block them.

BANG! The huge martial arena that was over three hundred meters long was unable to bear the force of their power. It shattered into pieces that flew out everywhere, causing everyone to scream.

With another explosion, the two of them reappeared atop the crumbled martial arena, grimly glaring at each other.

"I really never expected you to have this much ability." Huang Chang wiped some bloodstains from his mouth.

The current Long Chen was practically a Magical Beast in human form. His great power shocked everyone. Huang Chang had been caught off-guard and actually received a slight injury.

"There are many things you'd have never expected. You shouldn't have used Chu Yao or my brother to infuriate me. You've made me angry; even I'm afraid of myself when I'm angry," said Long Chen coldly.

"Hahaha, how boastful. Do you really think I only have this little capability? Today I'll show a little frog like you what true strength is." Huang Chang's aura steadily climbed. Originally, his aura was only at the fourth Heavenstage of Blood Condensation. But that quickly rose.

"Fifth Heavenstage."

"Sixth Heavenstage."

“Seventh Heavenstage!”

Grandmaster Yun Qi’s expression changed; he had never thought this Huang Chang had actually hidden his cultivation base and was actually a late Blood Condensation expert.

The difference between the third and fourth Heavenstages was extremely great; the same was true for the sixth and seventh Heavenstages.

When those huge barriers were overcome, one’s battle power would increase greatly. That was the reason why the Blood Condensation and other realms after that were split into early, mid, and late stages to determine strength.

Now that Huang Chang had released his seventh Heavenstage Blood Condensation aura, energy surged all over his body, stifling people’s hearts.

“Now do you get it, kid? Your death has arrived.”

With a sinister expression, a large fist smashed down at Long Chen before he even finished speaking.

Long Chen’s heart shivered. His intuition really had been correct; Huang Chang had been concealing his cultivation base. This was his true strength.

Originally, Long Chen hadn’t wanted to fight with Huang Chang now. But he had already gone mad with anger, and if he hadn’t met him in battle, then he would have been unable to accept the pain in his heart.

Seeing Huang Chang coming at him with a disdainful smile as if he were just an insect, Long Chen’s fury burst out again, and the seven cyclones in his Dantian were pushed to their max as he also sent a fist to meet him.

With another huge explosion, Long Chen felt a huge force pass through him. It felt as if a charging bull had run into him, immediately sending him flying.

He smashed into one of the pieces of rubble from the martial arena. He actually shot straight through a piece of wood at least over a foot thick and kept going for several meters before landing on the ground.

“What power! Is the difference between the mid and late stages so great?” Long Chen stood back up, shocked. The first time he had met Huang Chang, Huang Chang had only revealed a cultivation base at the fourth Heavenstage of Blood Condensation.

Even at that time, Long Chen had sensed that he was completely unable to block him. He had been amazed at the difference between the early and mid stages then.

When he had fought the man with the long eyebrows at the Heroic Assembly House, the long-eyebrowed man had not been able to fight back against him at all despite being someone at the early stage of Blood Condensation.

Now, Long Chen had fully condensed his FengFu Star and seven cyclones. His combat ability was several times greater than back then, but he was still completely overwhelmed by the late-stage Huang Chang.

"A trash like you actually dares to brazenly challenge me? How do you even have the face to show yourself? Does a toad like you really dare to eat swan meat? Don't make me laugh." Huang Chang was slowly walking toward Long Chen, smiling with contempt. "A person like you isn't suitable to live in the same world as me. Let me end you."

"NO!" cried Chu Yao. She was about to charge forward.

"Don't be impudent; no one can interfere in a life and death battle." The Empress Dowager's face sunk and she sternly warned her.

At the same time, a dozen guards appeared beside Chu Yao. Those guards were all experts that Chu Yao would definitely be unable to pass through.

"Child, sit. You can't stop it," said Grandmaster Yun Qi gently.

"Grandmaster, please. Save Long Chen!" Chu Yao tearfully begged.

"Don't worry. Even if I have to lose all my face, I'll definitely go save Long Chen," Grandmaster Yun Qi quietly whispered to her with a smile.

Hearing his promise, Chu Yao was filled with relief. Grandmaster Yun Qi continued, "Let's first observe for a while. Long Chen isn't a normal person, and he definitely has his own trump cards."

Chu Yao nodded. Although they hadn't known each other for long, her impression of him was that he was an extremely reliable person. She didn't know why, but for some reason, he caused her heart to be extremely muddled.

Thinking about what she had just done and how others had seen it, her face immediately turned beet red.

Xia Changfeng had calmed down because he knew Long Chen was a dead man. But he immediately became furious when he saw Chu Yao care about Long Chen like that.

He immediately shouted, "Huang Chang, stop wasting time. Finish it!"

Huang Chang had already arrived in front of Long Chen when he heard those orders. He sighed, "Kid, let me give you some advice right before you die. In the next life, be aware of your own strength. You can't provoke some people."

He coldly laughed and sent a punch smashing towards Long Chen. However, this punch was completely silent. A yellow dirt color appeared over, clearly marking it as a high class Battle Skill.

Everyone was stunned; he was a late Blood Condensation expert, and Long Chen was already being completely dominated without any Battle Skills. Now, that he had used one, Long Chen's death was doubtless.

Some of the maidens had already closed their eyes tightly, not wanting to see the scene of Long Chen's blood flying.

But Long Chen wasn't the slightest bit panicked. He indifferently said, "People really do give good advice right before dying. You're right, be aware of your own strength. You really can't provoke some people."

Long Chen met Huang Chang's fist with his own fist. Just before they collided, the FengFu Star at the bottom of his foot rapidly circulated and a strand of energy was sent into his Dantian.

His slowly circulating cyclones immediately grew ten times larger and began to wildly spin.

An endless ocean of energy filled his entire body.

BOOM! Qi waves surged out, shaking every direction, causing the entire plaza to shake. Shocking energy swept throughout the arena.

Tempests of wind wildly surged, almost blowing people away. Everyone retreated, filled with shock and terror.

Such a terrifying battle was something they had never seen or imagined before. Was this really the power which humans were capable of?

When the dust slowly settled, the original form of the stage could no longer be seen. It was in complete ruins.

In the middle was an empty space that had originally held a very stable stone slab. Now, it was covered in spiderweb cracks.

There, two people were staring at each other, their fists still connected. Long Chen's eyes were like lightning as he unwaveringly glared at Huang Chang.

Currently, Huang Chang was completely shocked. Just now, he had used his full strength but was actually unable to move Long Chen in the slightest.

He sensed that behind Long Chen's fist was an unending stream of energy that flowed out like endless raging waves.

Huang Chang had already erupted with all his power. But was unable to kill Long Chen! It felt as if Long Chen had an endless pit of energy, causing him to feel the slightest trace of fear for the first time.

Xia Changfeng and Wei Cang quickly stood up, filled with amazement. Long Chen's combat ability had completely exceeded their expectations.

"How is this possible?" Xia Changfeng's expression was ugly. How could a brat at the seventh Heavenstage of Qi Condensation explode with such terrifying strength? He was actually an equal for a late Blood Condensation expert!

Everyone present was speechless like wooden statues. Even the always calm grandmaster Yun Qi was astonished.

Chu Yao was filled with both surprise and delight. A soft feeling arose in her beautiful eyes as she looked at that figure which appeared like a heavenly deity.

Fatty Yu and the others were trembling with excitement. They had been reluctant to say anything just now; after all, that was a late Blood Condensation expert. They had really thought that Long Chen might die today.

With the assistance of Long Chen's medicinal pill, Shi Feng had already awoken. But many of his bones were broken, and he was unable to move. He could only rely on Shou Hou's support.

Seeing Long Chen overflowing with killing intent and appearing like a bloodthirsty divinity, his heart shook and he felt completely ashamed.

This had been a trap for Long Chen. They had used him in order to force Long Chen into a meticulously arranged snare.

And Long Chen had clearly known that this was a trap which could easily kill him, yet he had still jumped in because of him. That caused Shi Feng who was an unshakeable, stoic man to tear up.

**BANG!**

Long Chen roared and an unstoppable force surged out of him, pushing Huang Chang back.

“Huang Chang, if I can’t make your blood dye this ground red, then I, Long Chen, will not see tomorrow’s sunrise!”

Long Chen’s voice sounded as if it had come from the depths of the underworld, his killing intent not the slightest bit concealed. It caused even the wind and clouds to tremble and people’s hearts to shake.

“Hmph, although you might be powerful, killing people doesn’t just rely on strength.” Huang Chang coldly smiled. “However, you did say one thing right. You definitely won’t be seeing the sunrise tomorrow, because tonight, I’ll definitely kill you!”

Huang Chang’s words finally caused some people to realize that this battle of theirs wasn’t some coincidence, but a clear trap for Long Chen.

Long Chen took a deep breath. He slowly raised his fist. No wind moved around his body, but his robes began to float up, his black hair dancing. It was as if a war god had possessed his body.

“Then, let’s see just which one of us won’t see tomorrow’s sunrise!”

*Chapter 43 Beast Cultivation*

Translator: BornToBe

“Let’s see just which one us won’t see tomorrow’s sunset!”

Following Long Chen’s shout, green light appeared over his fist. As soon as that light appeared, a terrifying wind shot out and even the air groaned beneath that fist.

Seeing that, a gentle feeling arose within Chu Yao. That was one of the high Mortal class Battles Skills she had taught Long Chen.

But when Long Chen was the one using it, it had completely changed. Its might was capable of swallowing mountains and rivers, and even from dozens of meters away, it caused people to feel an enormous pressure.

“Breaking Wind Fist!”

It was as if thunder had shaken the heavens. A tempest surged around his fist, as if it wished to destroy the very earth.

Startled cries rang out throughout the crowd. The power Long Chen had revealed had already surpassed their imagination. Long Chen was a complete freak to them.

And to Huang Chang, Long Chen seemed more like a Magical Beast that wanted his life than a human. His fist seemed to expand to fill all of heaven and earth, completely locking him down.

This completely shocked him. He had originally thought that Long Chen had just had a lucky encounter which had caused his physical body to become much stronger.

Huang Chang was someone who had been secretly groomed by Xia Changfeng to be a martial weapon. In his youth, he had already fought life and death struggles, surviving all of them.

He had a terrifying amount of battle experience, so Long Chen's previous strength hadn't been overly frightening to him. By relying on his rich fighting experience, he could effortlessly suppress Long Chen.

But this fist of Long Chen's had actually locked him in place so that he was completely unable to dodge it. He could only receive it head-on.

Locking someone in place like this was an extremely powerful mental skill. By using one's powerful mental force and adding it on to their attack, it would make it impossible for someone to dodge.

Such a power would only appear from extremely powerful cultivators, or perhaps people like Huang Chang who had managed to crawl out from a mountain of corpses. Only they could perhaps control a trace of that power.

But now Long Chen who was only at the seventh Heavenstage of Qi Condensation had actually done so. This situation made no sense to him.

Long Chen didn't give him much time to think it over. His fist brought with it a tempest that broke through the space to smash right towards him.

At this point, Huang Chang couldn't hold anything back. With a loud roar, a red layer of light appeared all over his body and terrifying energy exploded out. He also sent out a fist with all his strength.

**BOOM!**

Everyone felt the entire plaza shake. Then, a figure was sent flying into a huge boulder.

That boulder was over ten meters thick and immediately crumbled. People looked at Long Chen who was remaining in his original position and then to that collapsed boulder. The entire plaza was deathly silent.

Xia Changfeng's expression changed greatly. He had never expected Long Chen to have hidden his terrifying strength so well. This was completely out of any of his expectations.

It wasn't just Xia Changfeng. Wei Cang was also filled with shock, and viciousness appeared in his eyes.

If Long Chen's battle capabilities were revealed to the outside world's sects, they would definitely accept him. After all, Long Chen was still extremely young.

With a sect's support, who knew just how powerful he would grow to be? That was completely unacceptable. They could not let him leave here alive!

Wei Cang already hated Long Chen and wished him dead. Long Chen had caused him to lose much of his face, and the two were now like water and fire.

If he let Long Chen grow further, would he still be able to live?

Suddenly, the boulder blew apart and a figure slowly walked out from there, immediately causing startled cries.

The current Huang Chang was an extremely sorry figure. Most of his robes had been torn apart, and his hair was completely disheveled.

Through his messy hair, the crowd could see his bloody face. More blood continued to slowly drip to the ground.

"Excellent, you really do amaze me." Although Huang Chang was injured, his voice was completely undisturbed.

"I'm also amazed by you." A bad feeling arose in Long Chen, but he absolutely couldn't allow himself to be oppressed by him in terms of imposingness.

Huang Chang smiled. But that smile was absolutely eerie and sinister on his blood-covered face.

Glancing at the distant Xia Changfeng and seeing him nod slightly towards him, Huang Chang suddenly began to laugh.

"Long Chen, your power has exceeded my expectations, but you will not be able to escape death today. Now, I'll let you see just what true strength is!"

Huang Chang suddenly let out a howl like a wild beast, and following it, his clothes began to burst apart.

The people watching in the distance all let out startled screams. Huang Chang's arms had at least doubled in size and were now covered in yellow fur.

The most shocking part was that his face had become even more twisted. Fur covered it and tusks had appeared on his mouth. His hands had become deformed. His fingernails grew to become steel claws, and a cold, threatening air came from his body

The current Huang Chang was no longer human; he was more like a freak in a humanoid shape. His whole body emitted a berserk aura.

Grandmaster Yun Qi finally changed expressions when he saw this. With his experience, he had managed to recognize just how terrifying this move was.

Beside him was Chu Yao who had noticed Yun Qi's change in expression. She hastily asked, "Grandmaster, what's going on? Is Huang Chang a human or a beast?"

Grandmaster Yun Qi's expression was grave as he replied, "That Huang Chang's origin most likely isn't simple. He's a beast cultivator. Although he only has a superficial understanding of this technique, such a beast transformation will cause a person's combat ability to increase by a frightening amount."

Originally, this so-called beast cultivation was a kind of extremely powerful inheritance. Beast cultivators would refine a Magical Beast's essence blood, allowing them to control a portion of that Magical Beast's might.

Such cultivation would only allow the cultivator to control an extremely small portion of the Magical Beast's powerful physical body. Although it was an extremely small portion, a Magical Beast's physical body was too powerful and even such a small fraction was extremely frightening.

Huang Chang was very confident now. Ever since he had refined the Magical Beast's essence blood, he had never met someone who could exchange more than ten blows with him in the same cultivation level.

In the last two years, he had followed beside Xia Changfeng and handled his affairs in a low-key manner. He had never revealed his true strength.

Today, he hadn't expected to have to erupt with it all, and yet still be unable to handle this youth. He was completely furious.

When he saw Xia Changfeng's nod, he no longer had any misgivings and revealed his unique trump card - beast transformation.

"Seeing the color of his fur, he most likely refined the peak second rank Yellow-Faced Devil Wolf's essence blood. You don't need to worry; as soon as Long Chen is unable to handle it, I'll go. Hmph, I really want to see what he has up his sleeve." Seeing Chu

Yao so worried, grandmaster Yun Qi said a couple of comforting words. Looking at the pleased Wei Cang, he coldly smiled.

Currently, the entire crowd was filled with fright as they looked at Huang Chang. They couldn't help but retreat from him. Only once they were far away from him could they feel a bit safer.

Long Chen was also filled with shock when he looked at Huang Chang. This was the first time he felt the air of death, and it was extremely strong.

After fusing with a Pill God's soul, his ability to sense danger had become much more perceptive. For him to have such a feeling meant that the current Huang Chang definitely posed a grave danger to him.

Huang Chang looked at his own claws, testing them out a bit. Then, he turned to Long Chen, his voice so ugly it sounded like iron scratching, "Do you have any last words?"

Long Chen suppressed his own fear. Such fear had no use at all and would only cause him to sink into despair. He had to conquer it.

All of Huang Chang's muscles were bulging out. With his yellow fur standing on end and his three inch long tusks, he looked nothing more than a monster.

"I want to ask you a question," said Long Chen.

"Fine, it'll count as your last wish before death," Huang Chang said, playing with his nails.

"I want to ask, were your mother and father human or beast? How'd they end up giving birth to a weirdo like you? Or are you a human-beast hybrid?" Long Chen asked puzzled.

The response for Long Chen was five iron claws cutting through the air. By the time he sensed them, they had already reached his chest.

Long Chen was startled, and almost instinctively drew back his chest and quickly retreated.

Long Chen's reaction was quick, but the clothing around his chest had been shorn and five points of blood appeared over his skin.

He was absolutely astonished by this speed. That attack had been so sharp that if he had taken just one step too late, he would have died.

The exchange had occurred so lightning-fast that the crowd hadn't even reacted before it ended.

"Your mouth really is loathsome. As the punishment, I'll tear you to pieces." Huang Chang slowly put his claw-like fingernails to his mouth and licked them. A bit of Long Chen's blood still stained them.

Taking a deep breath, Long Chen focused all his attention. His divine sense was pushed to its max. Due to his carelessness just now, his stomach had almost been cut open.

Just one such mistake was enough; if it happened again, he would most definitely become a corpse. This was the first time Long Chen felt such fear, but at the same time, for some reason, he also felt a bit of excitement. The blood in his body was heating up.

What he didn't know was that the moment he had felt the threat of death, the FengFu Star at the bottom of his foot had started to circulate without any urging or control from Long Chen. It was currently transforming in some unknown way.

But Long Chen didn't sense that since he was completely focused on the battle. All his attention was on the outside world, on Huang Chang. That demonic beast form of his was something he could not be the slightest bit careless of.

"A dog like you wants to tear me to pieces? Can a man who isn't even a man do that? I don't believe it." Long Chen glanced sideways at Huang Chang, his expression contemptuous. But as he spoke, he was also circulating his divine sense to its limit, using it as a substitute to watching over his moments.

"Die!"

As he expected, the beast transformed Huang Chang was even easier to infuriate. A crazed yellow gale charged at Long Chen.

#### *Chapter 44 Deathbed Struggle*

Translator: BornToBe

Huang Chang's attack was something Long Chen was already expecting. Although he didn't understand beast cultivation, he could assume that using a Magical Beast's strength to increase one's own combat strength would definitely cause a person to become more berserk and have less control.

Although that berserk strength was frightening, such a person could only fight instinctively. Long Chen believed that a wild bull was definitely a bit easier to deal with than a cunning fox.

This time, Long Chen was prepared and he also moved just as soon as Huang Chang. A leg kicked out right towards Huang Chang's stomach.

Bang!

Long Chen's kick landed right on his stomach, forcing him back. The berserk Huang Chang was just like a wild beast and hadn't even been slightly prepared for Long Chen's attack.

But seeing the berserk Huang Chang's speed, Long Chen coldly sweated. When Long Chen's kick had landed on Huang Chang's stomach, Huang Chang's claw had almost reached Long Chen's throat.

Were it not for Long Chen being prepared and making his move first, he definitely would not have been able to react fast enough. This was the terror of beast cultivation. After the beast transformation, one's strength, speed, and defense would sharply rise as if becoming a new person.

"ROAR!!"

Being forced back by Long Chen, Huang Chang emitted a bestial roar. His eyes became completely red, as his claws once more reached towards Long Chen.

"Breaking Wind Fist!"

Long Chen shouted loudly and punched out.

BOOM! Long Chen's fist smashed into both of his claws, and the two were shaken back several meters.

"What strength..." Long Chen grumbled inside, not expecting Huang Chang to have such a terrifying trump card. This bastard really had hidden himself deeply.

The Breaking Wind Fist Long Chen had used before this had sent Huang Chang flying without the slightest resistance. But Huang Chang who had undergone the beast transformation could no longer even be harmed by Long Chen's fist.

Huang Chang was just like a furious Magical Beast. As soon as he was forced back, he once more charged forward, wildly brandishing his claws towards Long Chen.

Long Chen grit his teeth and the FengFu Star on the bottom of his foot circulated once more. The seven cyclones within his Dantian quickly whirled, his entire body's energy surging out. Two fists punched out, directly confronting Huang Chang.

Explosive ringing shook the heavens and gale winds blew everywhere. Terrifying energy waves jolted back all the people watching.

“Heavens, what kind of battle is this?”

“It’s too terrifying!”

Those people had never seen such a berserk battle. Their faces were white and their legs were trembling from fear.

Even those experienced veterans were filled with shock. None of them had ever expected Huang Chang to be a beast cultivator and have such a terrifying combat ability.

And what was even more shocking was Long Chen, who once had a reputation of being the capital’s number one trash noble heir. Now, he was actually able to battle a monster like Huang Chang.

Claw afterimages filled the sky and the wind howled, shaking the heavens. The most shocked people were definitely Xia Changfeng and Wei Cang.

They could have never imagined that a small Qi Condensation newbie like Long Chen could explode with enough power to contend with Huang Chang who had undergone beast transformation.

After all, Huang Chang was a martial weapon who had been secretly groomed. Out of a thousand participants, he had been one out of a dozen who had survived a hellish training.

And Huang Chang was the most powerful amongst those remaining people. That was why Xia Changfeng viewed him so importantly and had spent great effort to groom him.

It could be said that Huang Chang was a slaughter machine who had been trained with an immeasurable amount of resources. If it weren’t for Long Chen infuriating Xia Changfeng and Wei Cang, they would definitely not have revealed such a secret martial weapon.

But while they were shocked by Long Chen’s strength, they now saw that although Long Chen was capable of defending, he was already starting to fall into a disadvantageous position under Huang Chang’s violent berserk attacks.

Currently, Long Chen’s cultivation base was only at the seventh Heavenstage of Qi Condensation, and he had only established a single star. The amount of spiritual qi that he could control was a far cry from Huang Chang.

He could only survive thanks to his powerful physical body. Any other person would have long since been destroyed.

Long Chen's arm was once more slashed by Huang Chang's claw. Although he did his best to dodge, his clothing was torn and blood dripped down from his wounds.

At this time, Long Chen's body was covered by many bloody scars, and the blood stained most of his clothing. Chu Yao's heart clenched tightly at the sight.

"Continuing like this won't do. The current Huang Chang is no different than a Magical Beast in a humanoid form. His strength is endless, and the sharpness and hardness of his claws would not lose out to the steel." Long Chen was astonished. Without the soul of a Pill God and the superficial battle experience that had come with it, he would have already been unable to endure.

"Grandmaster Yun Qi, please save Long Chen." Chu Yao couldn't help begging grandmaster Yun Qi.

"Wait a bit." Grandmaster Yun Qi only continued to look at Long Chen. He had yet to make a move. That was because he was very conflicted inside. Long Chen's accomplishments in alchemy were something he admired greatly.

He had once advised Long Chen to focus his energy on the pill path. With his talent, he would definitely walk far on that path.

But the battle strength Long Chen revealed today was completely astonishing. As a Pill Master, he was unable to deny that if Long Chen focused all his attention on the martial path, he might go even further than on the pill path.

That was why he had yet to make a move. He wanted to see what Long Chen's limit was, and also to have this life and death trial temper him.

Through such tempering, it didn't matter whether Long Chen cultivated the martial path or the pill path; either would have inestimable benefits for him.

Blood splattered again as Long Chen's chest was slashed by a claw. A few more bloody scars appeared upon him.

"Long Chen, I won't let you die easily. I've already said that I'll tear you apart piece by piece!" After this prolonged exchange, the originally berserk Huang Chang had calmed down by quite a bit and now coldly laughed.

Long Chen had no reply for him. He found that the current Huang Chang had openings all over, but his defensive ability was too shocking.

He had landed a kick on one of his vital points in their exchanges just now, but shockingly, Huang Chang had merely stumbled slightly before completely recovering without the slightest hesitation.

After battling for the time it took for an incense stick to burn, Long Chen had already come to an understanding about Huang Chang's current state. His physical strength and endurance could no longer be judged by human standards. He would have no chance of victory if he continued on like this.

He had to try something!

Long Chen suddenly shouted and sent a fist right at Huang Chang's claw. But it was he who was blown back ten meters from the exchange.

Huang Chang didn't immediately chase after him, and instead indifferently looked at Long Chen. He was just like a tiger examining his prey.

The crowd was completely silent. The intense pressure coming from that battle was hard to bear. But now they had a slight breather.

Those berserk exchanges had caused their hearts to leap into their throats. That was especially the case for those maidens who were tightly clutching their hands to their chests. They were afraid that if Long Chen revealed the slightest opening, his blood would splatter throughout.

"Do you have to continue this deathbed struggle?" Huang Chang waved his hands, his long claws covered with Long Chen's blood.

Currently, Long Chen's clothes were completely torn and dozens of bloody scars slowly continued to flow, making his appearance extremely frightening.

"Deathbed struggle? It hasn't reached such a point." Long Chen shook his head. Although he was covered in wounds, they were all superficial. They appeared frightening, but they didn't affect him too much.

Long Chen had known that the battle today would be very difficult. It was the most difficult battle ever since he was born, but it would definitely not be the last.

As long as he defied fate, the battles he would face in the future would only become fiercer. He needed that feeling of being close to death to increase his will to live.

To become a true martial cultivator, you had to experience the threat of walking the line between life and death. Only by surviving the terror of death could you walk further along your path. This was something all experts had to experience.

The battle just now had been fought over the brink of life and death for him. It was true that he had fused with a Pill God's soul and had merged with some of his battle experience.

But just one mistake would have turned him into a corpse. He was only able to fight like this because of his firm resolve.

He also had his own difficulties. If he was unable to handle even such pressure, how would he face his future enemies? How could he save himself from his own plight? How could he repay the enmity of stealing his blood, plundering his bone, and destroying his root?

After experiencing the feeling of being on the edge of death just now, his intuition had become increasingly sharper and his heart clearer. Now that he had achieved this goal, it was time for the true death battle.

“But if you say it was a deathbed struggle, then sure. Take a look at what my ‘deathbed struggle’ is.”

Long Chen clasped his hands, and a flame soared out from them. Heat waves spread everywhere, and in the end, his entire body was covered in a pale yellow flame.

“What?!”

Wei Cang was so shocked that he stood up, his face filled with disbelief. He pointed at Long Chen and said in disbelief, “Pill Flame armor! How is that possible?!”

Other than Wei Cang, the other most shocked person would have to be grandmaster Yun Qi. So, Long Chen could actually spread his Pill Flame all over his body.

Using Pill Flame to protect the body was something only Pill Masters like Yun Qi and Wei Cang were capable of doing.

This not only required a powerful Pill Flame and a forceful spiritual qi, but it also required an extremely powerful Spiritual Strength as support.

Only the most powerful of Pill Masters could use Pill Flame to protect the body. It was commonly known for them that Pill Masters had to reach the Tendon Transformation realm before having enough spiritual energy and Spiritual Strength to just barely use Pill Flame to protect the body.

Although according to rank, Long Chen could already be counted as a Pill Adept, his cultivation base was only at the seventh Heavenstage of Qi Condensation.

Under normal situations, pill cultivation and martial cultivation weren't necessarily equal, but they were definitely related.

To become a Pill Apprentice required one to at least reach Qi Condensation. That was because only then could one agglomerate a Pill Flame.

But just agglomerating Pill Flame didn't make you a Pill Apprentice. Only by refining a medicinal pill that met the standards could you obtain the qualifications to become a Pill Apprentice.

And the majority of Pill Apprentices had already reached the Blood Condensation realm; otherwise, they wouldn't have enough spiritual qi to refine medicinal pills.

Only extremely talented pill cultivators could become Pill Apprentices in the Qi Condensation realm. People like Long Chen and Xia Baichi, who could refine the second tier medicinal pills at the Qi Condensation realm and thus, have the qualification to be Pill Adepts, could already be considered geniuses.

But no matter how much of a genius you were, you definitely couldn't condense a Pill Flame to protect your body at just the Qi Condensation realm. This undermined everything the two of them knew.

Long Chen was now completely wrapped in a yellow flame. His hair drifted in the air, and his eyes were like stars, just as if a domineering flame god had descended upon the earth.

"I'm coming."

*Chapter 45 Defeating a Powerful Enemy*

Translator: BornToBe

"I'm coming."

With a cold shout and his body encased in flames, Long Chen suddenly rose up. The air several meters around him had already reached a terrifyingly high temperature.

Long Chen punched out, the high temperature around his fist causing space to warp, its power shocking as it smashed towards Huang Chang.

Huang Chang was extremely startled as he felt an indescribable fear from the flame around Long Chen's fist. Seeing his attack, he quickly retreated back to avoid the punch.

But just as he dodged this punch, he suddenly saw Long Chen's cold smile. An enormous sense of danger immediately filled him.

"Crap!"

Long Chen's shocking punch had actually just been a feint! The actual attack was a silent kick; by the time he sensed it, Long Chen's foot had already viciously landed itself upon his stomach.

Huang Chang screamed miserably. This kick didn't cause him any heavy injuries, but the flame ignited the fur around his body.

"Animals really do hate fire." Long Chen was gratified inside. Huang Chang's beast transformation might bring with it a Magical Beast's might, but it also brought with it a few of their weaknesses.

Furred Magical Beasts had an inherent fear of fire, so his Pill Flame had a powerful suppression over Huang Chang.

Long Chen's kick had been covered with flame and ignited Huang Chang's body. A strong roasting smell filled the air.

Despite doing his best to pat away the flames, it still took a long time for them to extinguish. A great portion of his yellow fur had been burnt black at this point. He appeared extremely miserable, like a rat that had dug its way out of a stove.

Seeing this, Yun Qi relaxed inside. For Long Chen to find Huang Chang's weak spot so quickly was very exceptional.

And most importantly, even if others knew of that weakness, only Long Chen, who could condense the Pill Flame to this level, could take advantage of that fatal weak point.

Huang Chang's skin was now black, and all his fur had been burnt away. Although he wasn't heavily injured, he couldn't suppress the innate fear he had towards fire.

At this time, it was obvious that Long Chen's Pill Flame had completely suppressed him.

Just as Huang Chang was howling in anger, Long Chen charged at him with his fists flying, appearing just like a human-shaped blazing flame.

Long Chen was extremely quick, consecutively landing three blows. Huang Chang knew he would be unable to avoid them, so he could only grit his teeth and take them head on.

Although he wasn't afraid of Long Chen's physical strength, each time Long Chen landed a blow, his claws seemed to shrink as if they had just come out from a furnace.

After these three blows, Huang Chang felt as if his hands weren't his own anymore. He could even smell a faint scent of roasted meat coming from them.

Just a moment ago, it was Long Chen who was forced to dodge and run. Now the situation had completely reversed itself. In front of Long Chen's Pill Flame, Huang Chang could only cower and didn't have the strength to retaliate.

Fatty Yu and the others all celebrated when they saw this. As long as Long Chen could persevere, victory would definitely be his.

"Kill him, Huang Chang!" Xia Changfeng stood up and shouted. Long Chen's strength had far exceeded his expectations.

It had already reached a point where even he was feeling some fear. A Pill Adept with endless potential who was also a genius martial cultivator was not someone he could take lightly.

That kind of person had to either become a loyal subordinate or be completely eliminated. Currently, his relationship with Long Chen was like that of water and fire, so the first possibility no longer existed. Therefore, it didn't matter what the price was; he must kill Long Chen or he would never be able to feel at peace.

Huang Chang hatefully glared at the blazing Long Chen. He had never thought that someone he had been toying with in battle would evolve to such a level.

"Die, Long Chen!"

Now that he had received the order from Xia Changfeng, Huang Chang let out a bestial roar and suddenly, his blood and qi soared into the sky. His entire body seemed as if it were completely engulfed in blood and become entirely red.

"What?!"

"He can use the Great Blood Explosion Technique?!"

"That's insane!"

Those noblemen of the Phoenix Cry Empire all cried out in alarm as they all recognized this technique.

The Great Blood Explosion Technique was an extremely terrifying secret art. It would be used if and only if a Blood Condensation expert met with foes that they absolutely could not defeat and were pushed to the breaking point. Only then would they make such a ruthless decision and use it.

The Great Blood Explosion Technique ignited the entire body's blood and qi as the price for temporarily increasing one's battle strength. It would let the user double in strength temporarily.

But the price was extremely terrible. Once used, the blood essence you had condensed would be completely burnt away. Even if you lived, your cultivation base would freeze, and you would never be able to progress any further for the rest of your life.

This kind of situation was rarely seen. Unless it was an absolute last resort, no one would use it. But now Huang Chang had actually used it.

Grandmaster Yun Qi noticed those stunned noblemen and couldn't help but sigh. The Phoenix Cry Empire truly was hopeless. Despite such a genius appearing, none of them went to help Long Chen.

No matter what, he was the son of the Border Suppression Marquis who had great accomplishments and had made huge contributions to the empire.

The Border Suppression Marquis had been fighting along the border for over ten years now, fighting back the savages of the barbarian tribes and letting the Phoenix Cry Empire enjoy an era of peace.

If his son were to just die like this in the capital, would the imperial family not be afraid of retaliation? But when Yun Qi looked at the fourth prince and the Empress Dowager, he couldn't help but sigh with sorrow. He leaned forward slightly and prepared to go save Long Chen.

Long Chen's display today had already far exceeded his expectations. There was no way he would let anything happen to him.

After using the Great Blood Explosion Technique, Huang Chang had essentially become a bloodthirsty beast and his eyes had turned completely red.

Letting out a bellow, all his energy that was flowing out of his body suddenly stopped and flowed back, all of it gathering around his right hand.

His right hand immediately thickened to the size of his thigh and his muscles throbbed, releasing a terrifying pressure as he grabbed at Long Chen.

“Devil Wolf Claw!”

Just as Huang Chang used that killing blow, grandmaster Yun Qi also stood up and charged over.

“Yun Qi, don't meddle.”

Even as grandmaster Yun Qi moved, Wei Cang, who had already been prepared, also charged out and blocked him, punching out.

Yun Qi snorted and also punched out, wanting to send Wei Cang flying.

After they collided, Wei Cang flew back, but he had managed to block Yun Qi.

Grandmaster Yun Qi's expression changed greatly when their fists collided. He suddenly felt his hand tremble and immediately turn black.

"My Yin Fiend Palm feels pretty good, right Yun Qi? Don't even think about going over with me here. That kid will definitely die!" Wei Cang coldly laughed.

Yun Qi was shocked inside. He and Wei Cang had fought for dozens of years, but he hadn't expected that Wei Cang would have advanced so much in the past few years. He would definitely not be able to break through his blockade in a short time.

"You old lecher, it's you who will definitely die!" A ridiculing insult came from Long Chen's mouth.

Seeing Huang Chang's fist coming, Long Chen took a deep breath and pushed his cultivation base to its max. He no longer held his Pill Flame back at all, and it erupted like a volcano.

"Flamecloud Palm!"

The blaze around his body disappeared, all of it condensing into the middle of his palm. The originally faint yellow flame had already given birth to a slight red color due to the high temperature.

In front of everyone's stunned gazes, Long Chen's palm collided directly with Huang Chang's sharp claws. An explosion shook the heavens as the flames danced. Surging qi waves soared into the air.

Even Yun Qi and Wei Cang stopped their fight to watch in shock. When the dust settled and their vision cleared, the first thing they saw was a three meter wide crater.

On opposite sides of the hole, dozens of meters away, were two figures lying on the ground. The entire plaza was in complete silence.

A light sound rang out as one of those figures slowly started to move. They saw that the one who slowly stood up was a bloodstained Long Chen.

Although he was a complete mess, his clothing torn and gasping for breath, the current Long Chen still appeared as valiant as ever.

Going around the crater, Long Chen slowly walked to Huang Chang. Huang Chang looked even more wretched, his body burnt black and looking like nothing more than a dried up corpse. There were also quite a few pieces of bones sticking out of his body.

After using the Great Blood Explosion Technique, his defense had sharply declined. That was why in their final exchange he had suffered worse wounds than Long Chen.

“As I’ve already said, I won’t let you see tomorrow’s sunrise,” said Long Chen coldly in front of Huang Chang’s body.

Huang Chang wanted to speak, but his stomach had sunk and was squeezing his abdomen, making it so he was unable to speak.

“The feeling of not being able to speak doesn’t feel so good, does it? Retribution really does come quickly. You made it so others couldn’t speak out, and now, you can’t say anything at all.” A mocking smile appeared on Long Chen’s mouth.

In order to infuriate Long Chen, he had used despicable techniques to intentionally injure Shi Feng heavily and seal his breathing so that he was unable to admit defeat. All of that had been completely captured in Long Chen’s eyes.

Seeing Long Chen’s icy cold eyes, terror appeared in Huang Chang’s eyes. He wanted to say something, anything, but he was unable to.

If it had been a couple of years ago, he would never have felt any terror from dying as he had only undergone dark and sinister training. But after a few years of working under Xia Changfeng, he had grown attached to the world again and didn’t wish to die.

“If you want to beg, then don’t bother. Someone like you doesn’t deserve pity.” Long Chen shook his head and slowly raised his foot.

Everyone present was just quietly watching, unable to say a single thing. This unrestrained battle between giants had been full of ups and downs, completely astonishing them.

“Long Chen, let Huang Chang go. I will compensate you.” Xia Changfeng was, of course, unwilling to see his most powerful subordinate die like this, so he thickened his skin and spoke out.

“Oh? Do you have anything that I want?” Long Chen asked, interested.

Seeing there was a chance, Xia Changfeng couldn’t help but rejoice. “Just ask for whatever you want. If I have it, I definitely won’t hold it back.”

Long Chen nodded and stuck out his thumb. “You really are loyal. Then, I’ll give you a chance: give me your life and I’ll let him go.”

Xia Changfeng who had been rejoicing immediately felt as if someone had given him a slap to the face. He glared at Long Chen. "You were playing me?"

"Playing you wasn't my goal. The goal is to play you to death." A sinister smile appeared on his face.

Saying this, Long Chen raised his foot, and the whole plaza was filled with alarmed cries, as he viciously stamped it down on Huang Chang.

Just as Long Chen's foot was about to hit Huang Chang's stomach, Long Chen suddenly felt his scalp turn numb. At the same time, he heard Yun Qi's angry roar and without even thinking, he quickly threw himself to the side.

An arrow landed right where Long Chen had just been.

*Chapter 46 End of the Lantern Festival*

Translator: BornToBe

The arrow shot right past Long Chen's waist. If he had been slightly slower, he would definitely have been skewered.

Long Chen rolled several times before looking up at the arrow. Having missed Long Chen, it had ended up piercing Huang Chang's thigh.

Huang Chang's mouth was wide open; his eyes had lost any spirit, looking just like a dead fish as he silently stared into the sky.

A strong fishy smell came from his thigh, and despite holding his breath at the very first moment, Long Chen still became light-headed and nauseous.

"What a powerful poison..."

Long Chen was horrified. That arrow was obviously coated with an incredibly powerful toxin. Although he was unable to determine what it was exactly just from breathing it, but from its strong toxicity, it was definitely a poison extracted from a Magical Beast that was at least at the third rank. Anyone at or below the Blood Condensation realm would die immediately from it.

"How shameless!"

Yun Qi cried out angrily and extended his hand, sending out a three meter flame spear towards Wei Cang.

Wei Cang couldn't help being surprised that Long Chen had dodged his attack. Seeing Yun Qi attacking him, he hastily put away the crossbow in his hand. That poisonous arrow had come from him just now.

Wei Cang also extended his hand and summoned a blazing fire sword. Yun Qi's spear continuously collided with it, emitting explosive sounds as flames shot everywhere and heat waves surged.

Long Chen was the closest person around at only thirty something meters away. He was completely exhausted and weak now, so he was sent flying from their waves of qi.

Just when Long Chen thought he would be smashed to pulp by the aftershocks of their battle, a gentle fragrance suddenly entered his nose, and a soft body caught onto him.

"Chu Yao..." Long Chen turned his head to see Chu Yao deeply concerned with him. He rested himself into her embrace.

"Long Chen... I'm sorry, I've hurt you." As if a pearl necklace had been cut open, her tears began to flow down one by one. She knew that the reason Long Chen had entered such a state was mostly all because of her.

If she hadn't performed her brazen display today, perhaps Long Chen wouldn't have ended up like this. He had almost lost his life multiple times just now. Her heart was filled with pain when she thought of that.

"What are you saying? That scoundrel Xia Changfeng already hated me, so it has nothing to do with you," consoled Long Chen.

He wanted to stand up, but he did not have even the slightest bit of energy within him. Leaning against Chu Yao's chest, Long Chen's heart started to wildly jump.

"Thank you, Long Chen." Chu Yao knew Long Chen was trying to comfort her. Her heart was moved once more and she felt ashamed.

Boom!

With another explosion, the warmth that was building within Long Chen's heart was interrupted and he quickly looked over.

At this time, grandmaster Yun Qi had a long spear in his hand that had been condensed from Pill Flame. His entire body was covered in red flames. Scorching qi waves came from him, his might overflowing the heavens.

That was an ability that could only be used after reaching Pill Master - Pill Flame taking shape. Alchemists didn't like to battle, but it didn't mean that they were weak.

Alchemists focused all their cultivation on the Pill Flame. Not only could it be used to refine pills, but it could also be used for battle and easily overpower people in the same realm.

Wei Cang's expression was extremely grave. Long Chen could tell that although Wei Cang was also a Pill Master and his Pill Flame was strong, in terms of purity, it was definitely quite a bit weaker than grandmaster Yun Qi's Pill Flame.

Long Chen wanted to say a couple of ridiculing insults to Wei Cang, but he was too weak after the battle. That last attack had used up basically all his energy, and he didn't even have the strength to shout.

Yun Qi and Wei Cang's blazing weapons let out explosive bursts when they collided. Even the ground was shaking along with them, and the surging qi waves caused everyone to retreat.

Both of them were the chairmen of their respective alchemy guilds and had exalted statuses. Even the noblemen had never seen such a battle, let alone the youth. They were carefully focused on examining their every move.

"Wei Cang, you've lived so long but have yet to make much progress. I think you should get lost now - Flame Dragon Stab!"

Yun Qi shouted and the spear in his hand stabbed forward. It tore through space and destroyed the land. A dragon-shaped flame burst forth.

Wei Cang also shouted and the flame sword in his hand transformed into a huge shield, firmly blocking the attack.

**BANG!**

Dust and flames surged. The world shook and it was as if the very air were set on fire, making it so people were unable to even scream.

"Yun Qi, just wait for me!"

Suddenly, a figure flew out of the flames, appearing very miserable as he rushed out. That person was Wei Cang, and after saying that, he disappeared into the night.

As if he had long since anticipated this result, grandmaster Yun Qi simply coldly looked on as Wei Cang rushed away. He slowly turned and went back to his seat.

The entire plaza was silent. People looked from Long Chen who was being embraced by Chu Yao, and then to the ashen-faced Xia Changfeng. Nobody knew what to say.

The Empress Dowager's expression was also ugly. Today's affairs had completely exceeded what she had anticipated. She, who held all the power in the Phoenix Cry Empire, was actually reduced to a minor role.

"Long Chen wins! This year's Lantern Festival is now over!"

The Empress Dowager had no choice but to announce this result. As soon as her words rang out, the entire plaza became impassioned. The maidens were like a tide as they charged towards Long Chen.

Long Chen's heart jumped in fear. Before he even understood what was happening, a maiden placed a flower loop around Long Chen's head.

Just as he was about to say something, ten other maidens surged forward. No matter whether Long Chen wanted it or not, they all placed their personally-made flower loops over his head.

Chu Yao laughed to the side as she watched. She didn't say anything and filled with mirth instead of jealousy. Furthermore, there was also a kind of pride on her face.

Long Chen ended up covered in flower loops to the point there was no more space for any more. Just as he was prepared to tell this group of enthusiastic girls about this, the sky suddenly darkened as if it was filled with flower loops.

Some of the maidens had seen that there were too many competitors in front of them, and they were unable to squeeze in. They had just anxiously directly thrown their flower loops in front of Long Chen.

With one person taking the lead, the others all understood the same thing, and in an instant, there were hundreds of flower loops flying over. By the time the girls scattered, Long Chen had already disappeared, buried beneath a pile of flower loops.

Martial arts were extremely popular in the Phoenix Cry Empire. And your skill in martial arts had a direct correlation with women's attraction to you. Even though Long Chen had already displayed feelings for Chu Yao, that didn't have any effect on their feelings for him.

He was a handsome and powerful man, who for love and his brother dared to fight a bloody battle with a Blood Condensation expert. He even seemed to look down on death. Just what kind of courage was that? Long Chen's display had moved the majority of the undecided women's hearts.

By the time Long Chen managed to dig his way out of the flower loops, the crowd around him had dispersed, and Chu Yao had also disappeared. Only fatty Yu and the others were left, and they helped pull him up.

“Brother Long, you really are my idol,” fatty Yu said excitedly.

The others were also pretty much the same. Long Chen’s display had awed everyone. He was practically a reincarnation of a battle god, causing his friends to be extremely proud of him.

Long Chen smiled and looked around. He noticed the Empress Dowager, the noblemen, the chancellors, the princes, and grandmaster Yun Qi had already left. Even Chu Yao was out of sight.

“Brother Long, while you were buried just now, the third princess was called over by the Empress Dowager. From the face she made, I’d guess that the third princess won’t be having such a good time in the future.” Shou Hou was somewhat nervous.

During normal times, they wouldn’t dare rashly discuss the imperial family, but now with Long Chen’s display, it had greatly raised their aspirations, and they no longer worried so much.

The Grand Xia’s prince, Xia Changfeng, had come to the Phoenix Cry Empire mostly for the purpose of proposing to the third princess. Although a public declaration hadn’t gone out, it was said that the Empress Dowager had already agreed to it.

For the third princess to publicly declare her affection for Long Chen during the Lantern Festival was equivalent to slapping the faces of the Empress Dowager and Xia Changfeng. Naturally, the Empress Dowager was irritated.

This time, they had fortunately had grandmaster Yun Qi’s support. But as someone from the alchemist guild, he had to maintain a neutral position. He definitely couldn’t interfere in the empire’s affairs, especially not something like the imperial family’s marriages.

That was why Shou Hou and them were nervous. Hearing this, most of the joy Long Chen felt from his victory faded.

But he still didn’t regret it. Even if he died, he couldn’t let someone like Chu Yao down.

Most of the people in the plaza had left by now, and only a few soldiers remained to clear out the decorations and trash. Huang Chang’s body had long since been hauled away.

“Let’s go. We’ll talk about it more later. Shi Feng, how are your injuries?” Long Chen managed to stand up with Shou Hou’s support.

“I’m fine. Long Chen, I…” Shi Feng was ashamed of himself. If it weren’t for him, Long Chen wouldn’t have had to fight and almost lose his life today.

“Brothers don’t need to say unnecessary words to each other. Since we’re brothers, just heal your injuries and raise your cultivation base so you can take your revenge later.” Long Chen waved his hand.

“Revenge? Didn’t Huang Chang die?” Fatty Yu was a bit puzzled.

Long Chen smiled and didn’t say anything more. The others were all startled; what was he thinking of…?

“Okay, just help me and Shi Feng back to our homes. We have to recuperate a bit. Honestly, I feel like even my bones are about to fall apart from exhaustion,” laughed Long Chen.

The others quickly went to support Long Chen. In truth, his injuries weren’t very severe. The problem was that he was simply too exhausted and didn’t have the slightest energy.

They slowly walked away from the plaza. In the shadows, a figure slowly appeared, watching Long Chen and them leave.

He muttered, “I really didn’t think Long Chen had grown to such an extent. Could it be that he had been hiding this since the start?”

That person was the fourth prince. Long Chen’s display today had also exceeded his expectations.

“If that’s true, this kid truly does plan deeply.” The fourth prince sighed.

“Master, should we eliminate him in the dark?”

Behind the fourth prince was a figure that stayed in the dark. If he hadn’t spoken, others wouldn’t even have noticed him.

“Let’s not be hasty for now. Although he startled me today, his weak points were also displayed. No matter how powerful someone is, as long as they have weak points, there is nothing to be afraid of. There were a couple of unforeseen accidents, but this isn’t necessarily a bad thing. If we can take advantage of this, we can definitely get an unimaginable profit.” A faint smile appeared on the fourth prince’s lips.

Long Chen didn’t return home that day. Instead, he told Shou Hou to send word to his estate that he was staying at the alchemist guild to study with grandmaster Yun Qi.

A lot had happened today, and he didn’t want to confront his mother about it for now. Plus, his mother would be worried over his many wounds.

Long Chen went to Shi Feng's house. Shi Feng only had several broken bones; as for his internal injuries, they were no longer much of a problem after he had consumed Long Chen's medicinal pill.

He just had to rest a couple of days to fix those broken bones. Although Shi Feng had suffered a crushing defeat this time, it would definitely be helpful in letting him mature. Experts needed to be tempered.

Shi Feng's father set up a quiet room for Long Chen. By the time they arrived, Long Chen had recovered a bit of his energy.

The others all said their goodbyes. After that, Long Chen slowly took out a jade bottle from his storage ring that had a burning fluctuation inside.

"Hehe, I can't wait till tomorrow for this!"

#### *Chapter 47 Refining the Beast Flame*

Translator: BornToBe

Long Chen examined the jade bottle in his hand. Inside was a ball of liquid, yet it released a scorching heat.

He knew that this ball of warm liquid was the beast flame. That was the essence of a Magical Beast's flame.

Beast flames were exceptionally precious. A beast flame was equivalent to a Magical Beast's life, and only second rank or higher Magical Beasts had the ability to nourish a beast flame.

Long Chen used his divine sense to examine the beast flame. The flame element inside was extremely dense, and according to Long Chen's memories, this beast flame was probably from a peak second rank Magical Beast. It was no wonder Wei Cang's expression had been so extremely ugly when he had handed over the beast flame.

His Pill Flame spread and enveloped his whole body. Opening the jade bottle, he swallowed the ball of beast flame essence.

**BOOM!**

When Long Chen swallowed it, its original appearance of a ball of liquid changed. It went from being as gentle as a rabbit to a berserk beast.

A beast flame was a Magical Beast's life essence. It contained the berserk nature of the Magical Beast, and for a normal pill cultivator to force it to surrender required a great deal of time to grind down the berserk willpower.

Only when that berserk willpower was ground down could you use your Pill Flame to join with the beast flame and slowly make it give up its resistance, gradually refining it one step at a time.

But Long Chen wasn't the same. The battle today had made him disclose every single one of his hidden trump cards in order to come out on top. He needed some stronger ones to protect his life.

Xia Changfeng had lost his most trusted lieutenant, and Wei Cang had lost his beast flame. They wouldn't take that lying down.

The only person who Long Chen could rely on in the imperial capital was grandmaster Yun Qi, but as the chairman of the alchemist guild, he couldn't interfere directly with the empire's struggles.

Unless Long Chen completely gave himself to the guild and no longer participated in the empire's affairs, Yun Qi wouldn't be able to do anything. But after being repressed for so many years, how could Long Chen be willing to give up on finding out who was the villain hiding the shadows that had tormented him for so long?

And how could he possibly abandon Chu Yao? Chu Yao had also endured such bitter experiences, making him think of his own troubles. Was the person who had secretly schemed against Chu Yao also the one who had stolen his Spirit Root?

Before everything became clear, Long Chen couldn't give her or his own enmity up. He couldn't just swallow this hatred. So, his time was extremely limited, and he could only use the most violent and direct method to refine the beast flame.

BOOM! Another explosion came from within Long Chen's body. After the beast flame entered his stomach, it transformed into the shape of a vicious leopard's head that was fighting as hard as it could. A terrifyingly high temperature almost burnt Long Chen to a crisp.

When beast flames were extracted, they shouldn't be suppressed. Doing so would weaken them, causing their quality to decline.

Long Chen was now basically facing a peak second rank Magical Beast flame's roasting. The berserk energy caused Long Chen to spit out blood.

As soon as that blood was spat out, it turned to vapor. Long Chen's body had already been turned into a burning stove.

"Hmph, a small second rank Magical Beast also dares to resist me?"

Long Chen snorted and his FengFu Star activated; the seven cyclones revolved wildly, and his entire flame energy was like a giant net that forcefully enveloped the ball of beast flame.

That beast flame now entered its most violent state, but Long Chen's Pill Flame ended up becoming incomparably firm and forceful with the support of the FengFu Star and the larger seven cyclones.

In the beginning, that beast flame was capable of dashing around, but in just a few breaths' time, it became just like a captured beast, and no matter how it struggled, it was useless.

After all, that ball of beast flame didn't have any further energy as support. Under Long Chen's full effort, its violent aura was gradually eroded and it slowly calmed down.

Although Long Chen had already anticipated this result, he still sighed a breath of relief. His clothes were now drenched with sweat.

At this time, he felt as if his personality was split. Part of him was filled with contempt for this beast flame; the other part of him greatly looked forward to it. One side was happy, while the other felt disdain.

Long Chen bitterly laughed. He knew that he had fused with a Pill God's soul, and naturally, that Pill God looked down on such a beast flame.

But it was what he needed urgently. This beast flame was the first step of his pill path.

Under Long Chen's continuous refining, the beast flame gradually became completely calm, as calm as a ball of water. It was extremely docile now that it was completely purified, its berserk nature all refined away.

An ordinary pill cultivator's first flame was actually created by using the Dantian's spiritual qi to follow specific paths and be released outside as a high temperature.

Such a flame was more accurately a kind of hot gas. Only those who could form this gas had the potential to be pill cultivators.

Less than one in a thousand people could do this, so pill cultivators were extremely rare. But some people had a special Dantian that already possessed a trace of flame energy. Through training, it could be condensed into Pill Flame. That was a true Pill Flame.

But such people weren't one in a thousand, but less than one in a million. So amongst pill cultivators, most of them were like Long Chen, and for them to advance, it required refining a beast flame as a start.

Even so, beast flames were extremely precious and could not be measured in terms of just gold coins. Perhaps in all of Phoenix Cry, only Yun Qi possessed a beast flame.

Slowly withdrawing his flames back into his body, Long Chen examined the ball of beast flame that was now docile in his body and couldn't help but feel a bit embarrassed.

When most pill cultivators finished refining a beast flame, they would let it merge into their Dantian and use the beast flame as their only cultivation path.

But Long Chen couldn't do so. For one thing, the main source of his spiritual qi was not in his Dantian but his FengFu Star.

Furthermore, he cultivated in the Nine Star Hegemon Body Art, and this technique was extremely mysterious and powerful. It allowed him to fight people several levels above him. There was no way he could give it up to only follow pill cultivation.

"I got it!" Long Chen suddenly thought of an idea and placed the beast flame into his Dantian, using the seven cyclones to slowly envelop it.

"Let's try it out."

Taking a deep breath, he started a very audacious test. He used his cyclones to slowly absorb the beast flame.

That beast flame didn't have any resistance to the absorption. Following Long Chen's orders, it dissolved into the meridians all around his body.

This was merging the flame; dissolve the beast flame, and send it throughout the entire body. This was the best way for him to become familiar with the beast flame and gain greater control.

Since it had already been completely refined, this process occurred extremely easily. Just like that, the beast flame dispersed throughout his meridians.

This method of his had definitely never been used before. Even in his Pill God memories, there was no mention of such a thing.

After dissolving the beast flame throughout his meridians, Long Chen was pleasantly surprised to find that his meridians had actually become a bit wider.

That additional widening could not be underestimated. Each meridian was like a canal. The wider the canal was, the greater the amount of spiritual qi it could support during battle, allowing you to explode with greater power.

The Dantian could be likened to a lake while the meridians would be the channels. During a battle, you needed to draw the lake's water throughout the channels before converging them back together. This was also how Battle Skills could be so explosive.

But the more powerful the Battle Skill, the greater the amount of energy required. If the channels' capacities were insufficient, they would burst. Without even harming your enemy, your meridians would break down.

That was also why he was still unable to use Split the Heavens despite having figured out how to. It was because his meridians weren't wide enough.

His test today almost made him jump with excitement. He now used his own meridians as carriers to nourish the beast flame, the two of them complementing and assisting each other.

As he cultivated and became stronger, his meridians would be constantly enlarged by the beast flame. Long Chen had truly profited this time.

Although other pill cultivators who brought the beast flame to the Dantian would be able to cultivate quicker, that wasn't even comparable to the benefit of having wider meridians.

"Okay, I still have to see whether this is all good or bad."

Taking a deep breath and praying inside, he slowly collected the beast flame that had merged into his meridians back into his Dantian.

A flame appeared in the middle of his palm. It had a light red color, and as soon as it appeared, it caused the air around it to twist.

He nodded pleased. It already had this much strength just after refining it. It truly was worthy of being a beast flame; it was many times stronger than his original flame.

Hesitating for a moment, he gritted his teeth and slowly circulated a small strand of spiritual qi from his FengFu Star to his cyclones.

The slowly revolving cyclones immediately grew larger and began to wildly spin.

"I wonder if this will work..."

Long Chen was worriedly looking at the flame in his hand. He was extremely nervous about this experiment.

But he still decided to carry it out. He sent those seven cyclones' energy to the ball of flame that he had condensed.

Long Chen felt his body jolt as if it were about to explode. The blaze in his hand that was originally one foot long immediately grew to ten feet.

“Crap!”

Alarmed, Long Chen hastily took back the flame.

That eruption of his Pill Flame immediately scorched the roof.

Flapping his hand, he created a wind to put out the flame. But although the flame was extinguished, the entire roof was also sent flying.

Looking up at the three-sixty panoramic view he had of the starry sky, Long Chen felt the urge to cry. Almost as soon as he had come to a friend's house, he had ended up not burning the house down, but actually tearing it apart! That wasn't good...

As expected, footsteps came running as the people from the Shi household were all alarmed. Even someone deaf would have been awoken from the clamor.

Seeing Long Chen's embarrassed face, Shi Feng's father covered up his shock and smiled. Without saying anything to him, he told someone to prepare a new room for him.

Long Chen wanted to say something, but Shi Feng's father just patted him on the shoulder and laughed, “You and Shi Feng are brothers, so just treat this place like your own home.”

After a new room was arranged for him, Long Chen didn't dare further experiment with anything he didn't understand. Sitting on the bed, he started to use his cyclones to absorb the world's spiritual qi, sending it into his FengFu Star.

The next day before the sun had even arisen, Long Chen's body suddenly emitted an explosive sound.

Long Chen slowly opened his eyes happily. After his battle with Huang Chang, the next bottleneck had slackened, allowing him now to reach the eighth Heavenstage of Qi Condensation.

He ate breakfast and examined Shi Feng. He saw that Shi Feng didn't have any serious sequelae and left two medicinal pills for him. After that, Long Chen left the Shi household and went directly to the alchemist guild.

*Chapter 48 The Story of Yun Qi*

Translator: BornToBe

BANG!

Xia Changfeng slammed his hand onto a table, completely shattering it. His expression was extremely malevolent now as he ground his teeth.

“Long Chen, Long Chen, if I don’t tear your body into a thousand pieces, then I wouldn’t be Xia Changfeng!”

The Lantern Festival had been a complete and utter failure for him. He had lost a powerful subordinate in Huang Chang, making him incessantly furious.

It had turned out completely different from what he had planned. Not only had he failed to kill Long Chen, but he had also lost Huang Chang, and Wei Cang had had to hand over his precious beast flame.

This competition’s greatest winner had actually been Long Chen. Xia Changfeng’s lungs were about to burst from anger.

Within the same room as him was a young man in his twenties. Acting as if he didn’t even notice Xia Changfeng’s anger, he leisurely drank a cup of tea to the side.

Xia Changfeng’s anger had been mostly vented after breaking the table, and he gradually calmed down. He respectfully said to that person, “Brother Luo, Long Chen is too overbearing. I hope that brother Luo can help me relieve some of my anger.”

That white-robed man who had been called brother Luo lightly put down his cup and indifferently said, “Changfeng, you really have disappointed me. Just a woman has caused you to lose your calm. That Long Chen is just an ant. You have to remember why we’ve come to Phoenix Cry this time. If such a small trivial matter ends up delaying the major event, don’t even think about escaping your punishment. Do you understand?”

After saying this, his expression sunk, showing how displeased he was with Xia Changfeng’s performance.

Being reminded about their goal in coming here, sweat rolled down Xia Changfeng’s forehead.

“Many thanks for the reminder brother Luo. Changfeng understands his wrong.” Xia Changfeng hastily bowed.

Seeing Xia Changfeng’s apology, the white-robed man smiled slightly. “Before we accomplish that matter, waiting patiently is the most important thing. Must you squabble over temporary losses? Moreover, we’ve already spent many years preparing. In the end, that third princess will be yours. Think about it; seeing that kid Long Chen work bitterly for a long time just to still fail at the end, wouldn’t that be the most refreshing?”

Xia Changfeng's eyes brightened, and his anger was immediately relieved. "It really is brother Luo whose vision is far-reaching. I am ashamed."

"You mixed up your priorities. Although, to tell the truth, that Chu Yao really is as beautiful as a goddess and irresistible. Chu Yao's maidenhood will be yours. But once you obtain that beautiful woman, can you also let your big brother have a taste?" The white-robed man looked at Xia Changfeng and smiled.

Xia Changfeng's expression changed slightly, but he immediately covered it up and did his absolute best to be indifferent. He smiled, "Changfeng doesn't really care about such a beauty. Once the matter is over, brother Luo will, of course, have his share."

"Changfeng, you aren't feeling unwell inside, are you?" The white-robed man lifted his teacup and blew on it.

"How could that be possible? Brother Luo is from the sect, and this little brother is still hoping to have brother Luo's guidance in the future," said Xia Changfeng hastily.

"Good, that is how a man should act. Take what comes magnanimously. Otherwise, how will you ever accomplish big things? Don't worry; as long as this matter is handled properly, you will definitely be able to become an outer disciple."

"Then, many thanks brother Luo." Xia Changfeng was ecstatic at that. That unhappiness he had felt just now vanished into smoke.

The white-robed man nodded. "But you must handle this with utmost care. If even the slightest whiff of it comes out, not only will the benefits fly away, but the punishment we'll get is not something either of us can survive."

"Don't worry brother Luo, I've been extremely focused on it and will definitely handle it properly." Xia Changfeng patted his chest.

"Then, that's good. My identity can't be found out, so you can only call me out at the end. Proceed with the plan faster and set up everything as early as possible. The less movements you make, the better. And it would be best for it to be handled without spilling any blood."

"Most of the plan has already been set in order. The entire Phoenix Cry Empire is basically within our control. There's just one big problem: the Border Suppression Marquis, Long Tianxiao. He still won't surrender and is unmoved by force or persuasion. It really is a headache. He controls almost a third of the forces within the empire, and if we can't resolve this problem, it might have an effect on our plan," said Xia Changfeng.

"Long Tianxiao? Long Chen? How are they related?"

"They're father and son."

“Idiot, he’s the Border Suppression Marquis’s son? Then just treat him as a kind of trump card, a trump card that controls the Border Suppression Marquis! And you actually wanted to kill him?” The white-robed man abruptly became furious.

Xia Changfeng was at a loss. He also knew that Long Chen could be a kind of trump card for them, but he was unable to bear Long Chen’s flirtation with Chu Yao.

“You almost ruined things! Don’t touch Long Chen for now. Go find all the information about him and his family for me.”

“Yes.”

Xia Changfeng left. Once he left, the white-robed man coldly spat out, “What an idiot.”

...

When Long Chen arrived at the alchemist guild, the alchemists who previously were unfamiliar with him all respectfully bowed.

Long Chen’s display of alchemy yesterday had already become common knowledge within the capital. Despite his opponent essentially cheating, he still managed to win a complete victory, awing them.

He was but sixteen years old when he acquired the rank of a Pill Apprentice, and now he was essentially a Pill Adept. His future would be limitless. Even if they couldn’t curry favor with him, they still couldn’t leave him a bad impression.

Long Chen was still a bit unused to his sudden rise. Making some inquiries, he learned that Yun Qi was currently in his own room, and he went straight there.

“Enter.”

Just as he was about to knock, Yun Qi’s old voice rang out.

Entering, he saw Yun Qi sitting lotus-style. In front of him was a bowl of water, but the water was as black as ink and even emitted a fishy odor.

“Wei Cang’s Yin Fiend Palm has become much more powerful. But it is a heretical technique and is unable to become a great technique.” Yun Qi disdainfully looked at the bowl of black water.

“Grandmaster, is your hand okay?”

Yun Qi had received Wei Cang’s palm that day, and that palm had contained a Yin Fiend’s poison.

“After a night’s work, it’s basically fine now,” smiled Yun Qi.

“It took a whole night?” Long Chen was startled. Grandmaster Yun Qi had profound skill and power. Even with his powerful Pill Flame, he had needed a whole night to purify it?

“You don’t need to be surprised. Wei Cang’s Yin Fiend Palm is extremely sinister and has a resistance to Pill Flame. Although it took a night to purify the poison, Wei Cang will require a whole month to once more accumulate that level of toxicity again, and that is why I said it was a heretic technique that couldn’t become a great technique,” explained grandmaster Yun Qi.

Only now did Long Chen realize that Wei Cang probably had a limited accomplishment with his Pill Flame compared to other Pill Masters, so he had cultivated a sinister poison Battle Skill like the Yin Fiend Palm, using it to restrain other Pill Masters.

For a Pill Master like him to not focus on his own body’s flame and instead go cultivate a poisonous palm, it was no wonder grandmaster Yun Qi turned his nose up at him.

“Your wounds have healed?” Grandmaster Yun Qi was slightly surprised.

“Hehe, this kid’s skin is tough and the meat is thick. Just one night’s rest and I’m fine,” laughed Long Chen.

Grandmaster Yun Qi looked him up and down and sighed, “Originally, I had hoped that you could focus wholeheartedly on pills. With your spiritual talent, you will be able to walk ever further than me on the pill path. But after yesterday’s battle, I’ve changed my thinking. A martial genius who can battle those in higher realms than him is too rare. It really is a mess.”

“Hehe, don’t worry, grandmaster. I won’t give up either path.” Long Chen truly was speaking the truth.

That was because his Nine Star Hegemon Body Art was complemented by his accomplishments in alchemy. Without his alchemy, he wouldn’t have even been able to condense his FengFu Star, let alone cultivate.

As for the second star, third star, and so on, they all required medicinal pills to condense. Even just the simplest FengFu Star had used up countless medicinal pills.

According to his memories, each following star’s condensation would require an even greater amount of resources than the last. It was a number that was simply impossible to calculate.

Although he didn’t know the exact number, he knew that to condense his FengFu Star, he had consumed hundreds of medicinal pills.

But although the cost was high, the benefits were also correspondingly high. Otherwise, a trash like him who didn't even have a Spirit Root couldn't even dream of standing out, let alone battle across realms.

"Dual pill martial cultivation isn't completely unheard of, but usually, the gains are not worth the losses. Splitting your attention into two paths requires twice the effort for half the gains. Historically, dual pill martial cultivators all wasted their time and in the end, accomplished nothing, filling them with regret in their final days." Yun Qi shook his head.

Grandmaster Yun Qi wasn't wrong. No matter how talented you were, without one hundred percent of your effort focused, you would just end up living a mediocre life.

As for dual pill martial cultivation, it split your time and energy. Countless people had left bitter lessons to later generations, saying that it was a failed path they couldn't return from.

But Long Chen had displayed great talent whether it was in terms of the pill path or the martial path. His talent was absolutely shocking, and even Pill Master Yun Qi didn't feel that Long Chen should give up on the martial path.

If you chose pill cultivation, all your spiritual qi would be transformed to flame, and you would only be able to use one attribute of Battle Skills.

Although they had great power, if they met someone with the subduing water-attribute Battle Skills, they basically could only run.

But Pill Masters were extremely respected, so why would they go battle with others? Others would all want to get a favor from them, so how many would offend them?

Although Pill Masters didn't necessarily have a frightening battle power, you couldn't forget that each Pill Master had an extremely large support. All sects needed to form good relations with pill cultivators so they could obtain the medicinal pills they needed.

If a pill cultivator went out, even if he was only a Pill Apprentice, there would be countless powers fighting over that person.

That was why grandmaster Yun Qi had said 'it was a mess'. But Long Chen wasn't at a loss at all; he had already planned to advance forward on both.

"I come over today to thank grandmaster for his assistance yesterday." Long Chen was actually very grateful for his assistance and support.

"Haha, that's just a small matter. You also let me relieve quite a bit of anger yesterday, so I should be the one thanking you."

Grandmaster Yun Qi laughed and gave Long Chen a praying mat. Letting him sit on it, he said, "Do you want to know why Wei Cang and I are like fire and water to each other?"

*Chapter 49 Pill Valley*

Translator: BornToBe

"Do you want to know why Wei Cang and I are like fire and water?"

Long Chen was startled; he actually had wanted to know this; however, such a thing was too embarrassing to ask about. But now that Yun Qi had brought it up, it naturally evoked his curiosity.

Yun Qi began to tell him a story. From it, Long Chen learned that Yun Qi and Wei Cang had actually been fellow apprentices. Their master had taken three apprentices in his lifetime.

Other than Yun Qi and Wei Cang, there was a third, female apprentice. That person had been Yun Qi's wife, the woman in the drawing he had shown Long Chen who looked just like Xia Baichi.

Their master was a reclused expert, and only in his final years did he take three apprentices and pass down his refining techniques.

Those three had been extremely talented in refining pills, especially Yun Qi. He had been the best amongst the three, and their master did everything to teach him.

But jealousy was a constant part of human nature, especially for Wei Cang who had been born in a humble background. He had felt extremely bitter and cynical about his master's preferential treatment of Yun Qi.

He had always suppressed those feelings and never displayed them until there finally came a day when their master had reached an extremely great age and his life was about to end. He had called Yun Qi to his side and given him a tablet.

"Haha, my enmity with Wei Cang all stemmed from this tablet."

Grandmaster Yun Qi sighed, and a bronze tablet appeared in his hand. The entire room became warmer when that tablet appeared.

Carved on the tablet was a delicate pill cauldron with thousands of rays of light coming from it, appearing extremely lifelike.

The other side had a scenic picture on it. There were mountains and water, and between them was a valley. Immortal qi hazily curled around its surroundings, and just looking at it caused Long Chen's mind to become much brighter.

"This is what my master left me. Because of it, us fellow apprentices ended up quarreling, and my loving wife was implicated and died."

Yun Qi rubbed the tablet with a complicated expression. There was both a trace of regret and a trace of mourning.

Long Chen didn't know what to say. Eventually, Yun Qi put aside those feelings and continued.

Originally, their master had given it to Yun Qi secretly, and only the two of them had known of it. But somehow Wei Cang had learned of its existence and began to demand it from Yun Qi.

Yun Qi refused no matter how Wei Cang wheedled him. Seeing that his attempts produced no result and since he wasn't a match for Yun Qi, Wei Cang finally turned a sinister hand towards their junior apprentice-sister.

Their junior apprentice-sister had already expressed her affection for Yun Qi in secret, and Wei Cang had hatched a plot around her, using her life to extort Yun Qi.

But no one had expected that their usually gentle junior apprentice-sister was actually extremely resolute and upright inside. She had killed herself rather than to bring Yun Qi down.

This panicked Wei Cang; Yun Qi's killing intent had exploded, shaking the heavens. He had wanted to tear Wei Cang into a thousand pieces as revenge for his junior apprentice-sister.

But although Wei Cang was much weaker than Yun Qi when it came to refining pills, in terms of combat ability, he was only slightly weaker.

Knowing he couldn't beat Yun Qi, Wei Cang had fled. Yun Qi had chased him for thousands of miles but Wei Cang still escaped in the end. Over the next thirty years, Yun Qi had never stopped inquiring news about Wei Cang, always wanting to get revenge for his junior apprentice-sister.

But Wei Cang was extremely crafty and never revealed himself. He even occasionally requested experts to go kill Yun Qi, and over that time, Yun Qi was attacked several times and almost died.

Finally, Yun Qi awoke from his hatred. If it continued on like this, then he would not only be unable to get his revenge, he would even lose his life.

By using his powerful pill refining arts, he had entered the alchemist guild and become a guild chairman, temporarily laying down his vengeance.

But just a couple of years ago, Wei Cang had appeared again, and he had also become an alchemist guild's chairman.

Although over thirty years had passed, that hatred hadn't lessened in the slightest and the two of them had fought many times.

Wei Cang had honed the Yin Fiend Poison Palm over those years. In their battles, Yun Qi always came out slightly ahead, but he was never able to end him, so Wei Cang always managed to flee.

Now, the number of their battles had lessened in the past two years. That was because both of them had found out all the other person's trump cards, and so there was no need to waste energy. Unless they could find a way to finish the other off in one blow, neither wished to go do battle again.

"Are you curious about what this tablet is, for us fellow disciples to fight over it like this?" After narrating until here, grandmaster Yun Qi suddenly asked a question.

Long Chen nodded; he truly was curious. Just what was the background of this tablet for Wei Cang to become so crazy?

A mocking sneer appeared on grandmaster Yun Qi's face. "Wei Cang actually doesn't even know what it is. He originally thought that master had become biased and gave me a secret art. But in reality, it is just a normal tablet."

"A normal tablet?" Long Chen couldn't help being shocked. For just a tablet, he ended up causing the death of a fellow apprentice?

"Yes, it's just a normal tablet. It has no use, but at the time, master commanded me to take care of it, so I couldn't refuse. Originally, I was actually starting to become unable to ignore Wei Cang's wheedling and was preparing to give it to him to take care of, but then he actually stretched his sinister hand at junior apprentice-sister..." Anger and killing intent soared from him.

At the same time, Long Chen saw remorse and self-blame on his face. For a useless piece of trash, he had implicated his lover. If that happened to Long Chen, then he might go crazy.

"This tablet is actually a proof of study." Yun Qi took a deep breath and calmed himself.

"Proof of study?" Long Chen was confused.

“Yes, this is proof of study from the holy land of pill cultivation, Pill Valley. As for Pill Valley... Well, it’s still a bit early to talk about it. You just have to know that it is viewed as the highest, holy existence in the world of pill cultivators. In an uncivilized place like this, no one knows of it. I’ve carried this thing for dozens of years. Now, I’ll give it to you.” He handed the tablet to Long Chen.

“Grandmaster, this is completely unacceptable! This was given to you by your master, and this little one definitely can’t accept it.” Long Chen hastily waved his hand.

“This wasn’t left for me. Master wanted me to find someone to give it to. I’m giving it to you, but even so, it might not have any use for you.” Yun Qi smiled slightly.

“What?”

“This tablet can be considered a way to step to fortune, but without power, you won’t be able to take that step, let alone gain a fortune.” Yun Qi bitterly smiled. “I told you just now that the Pill Valley is a holy land in the eyes of pill cultivators. How could it be so easy to enter? Even with this tablet, you need a matching strength to use it, or it will continue to be useless.”

“What kind of strength?” asked Long Chen.

“If you become a Pill King before twenty, then you can use this tablet to register there.” Grandmaster Yun Qi sighed.

Long Chen’s mouth dropped. Pill King? Before twenty? Was he kidding?

A person like grandmaster Yun Qi had trained for almost a hundred years and had only reached the peak of Pill Master. Wasn’t a twenty-year-old Pill King just a crazy joke?

No wonder grandmaster Yun Qi had had such a strange expression. For such a thing, he had his wife’s life implicated. Anyone would go crazy.

Long Chen suddenly realized that Yun Qi had kept this a secret for so long, all in order to get revenge on Wei Cang.

He had kept this ‘treasure’ to constantly draw Wei Cang’s attention. Wei Cang longed for it deeply since he didn’t know the truth.

Xia Baichi had also appeared most likely just to obtain it. When Long Chen had then popped up later, Yun Qi’s treatment of him had caused them to panic.

That was why they wanted Long Chen to die. They wanted Yun Qi to have no more successors. If he, Wei Cang, was unable to obtain it, then let it die in Yun Qi’s hands.

Long Chen didn't know whether to laugh or cry; what had it all been for? The heavens truly did play jokes on man.

"Although you are extremely talented, you were unfortunately born in an uncivilized place like this. There are no powerful schools' inheritances for you here, and so the chance of you being able to use this tablet is low. But even a slight chance is something. When my master gave me this, he told me to find someone to pass it on to. One of his ancestors had managed to enter Pill Valley, and this tablet was a sign of their honor. That is why I hoped there would one day come a genius who could take this tablet and once more join Pill Valley. I've invested so much time for master's inheritance. Now, I will pass it on to you. It is also a load off my shoulders." Yun Qi had an extremely complicated expression.

This tablet had changed the course of his entire life. But that change had been a complete tragedy.

Who was he supposed to hate? His master? Wei Cang? Himself? Or perhaps the heavens themselves?

Fate seemed to have been bored and decided to play a huge joke on him. However, he was unable to laugh at such a joke.

Long Chen reached out to take the tablet. Becoming a Pill King before twenty... others might not have any hope of that, but Long Chen was not like others.

"Many thanks, grandmaster," Long Chen said respectfully.

"If one of us should be thanking the other, then it should be me. By handing this tablet to you, I have completed my master's task and I can finally be free to do a couple of things." Yun Qi smiled slightly.

Long Chen was alarmed. "Grandmaster... you..."

As if seeing through what Long Chen was thinking, Yun Qi laughed, "Don't worry, I'm not thinking anything bad. I won't go sacrificing myself to bring down Wei Cang. Wouldn't that mean that I lost?"

That relieved Long Chen. If after receiving the tablet from him, Yun Qi decided to go fight Wei Cang in a battle of mutual destruction, he definitely would feel horrible about it.

If a great person like Yun Qi ended up dying along with that old pervert, it would be an absolute shame, like using a porcelain vase to smash a rat.

“Child, I can’t teach you much at all. But you are the person I have the greatest hope for. You must work hard.” Although Yun Qi didn’t want to go on and on, he couldn’t help nagging him a bit more.

If Long Chen could enter the Pill Valley, in terms of pill cultivation, it would be like ascending to become an immortal.

“Don’t worry, grandmaster. This disciple will continue working his hardest.”

Although grandmaster Yun Qi hadn’t taken Long Chen in as his apprentice, that was only because he didn’t want to draw any attention to Long Chen. After all, Wei Cang was watching him like a tiger watches his prey.

However, Long Chen’s current state of affairs with Wei Cang was something everyone knew about. He had beaten his apprentice and expressed his thoughts about the man.

Before letting him leave, grandmaster Yun Qi warned Long Chen once more to be cautious. If the enemy was pressed too hard, then they might make a desperate move. Long Chen nodded his assent.

He went directly home. Now, he had become much more powerful so he was confident in being able to walk through the city without being killed.

But when he turned around the corner and saw the gate to his home, his eyes opened widely.

“What’s going on?”

*Chapter 50 Busy as a Marketplace*

Translator: BornToBe

Turning the corner, Long Chen stopped, stunned at what he was seeing.

The entrance to his noble estate, which used to be always deserted, now had a long queue in front of it; all of them were married women in their forties or fifties.

He looked around and had to confirm again that this was his house. Only then did he walk over.

At this time, Bao-er was laughing happily as she received them. “Don’t worry everyone, take it slow. Register the name, status, measurements, a picture, and any other particulars clearly for me.”

“Miss, can you tell us what the Madam likes in a daughter-in-law?” one of the wives smiled charmingly.

“Hehe, as long as they conduct themselves properly and aren’t ugly, then anything is fine. But the Madam did say she liked those with big hips the best. She said that the wider the hips, the easier she’ll give birth. Let me tell you, my Madam has actually long since desired to hold a grandson... Haha, young master, you’ve returned.” Bao-er was enthusiastically talking to them when she suddenly saw the gloomy Long Chen.

“Greetings young master.” Those wives all quickly greeted him.

Long Chen nodded to them and then pulled Bao-er into the courtyard. Pointing to the wives, he angrily whispered, “What are you doing?”

“Young master, yesterday you boldly defeated an opponent from the Grand Xia and basically obtained the title of number one junior warrior in the Phoenix Cry capital. You’ve become an idol for countless maidens, and they’re all here to make familial ties.” Bao-er covered up her smile.

“I knew you would make trouble. Where’s mom?”

“Madam is inside. Aiya, I actually forgot, she told me she wanted to see you as soon as you came home.” Bao-er clapped her forehead.

“Good, I’ll go right now. You, hurry up and find a way to get rid of them. What kind of place is this? This isn’t a marketplace.” Long Chen wasn’t in a good mood.

“Hehe, I can’t do that. Madam sent me to receive all of them. I better go.”

Who would have thought that the always cute and obedient Bao-er would actually not listen to Long Chen and run back to those wives with delight?

Long Chen rolled his eyes and went to see his mother. His mind was constantly spinning along the way, trying to find a way to describe the events that had occurred yesterday without making his mother worried.

But as soon as he entered her room, before he could even say anything, his mother angrily said, “This annoying kid, hurry up and enter.”

Ah, perhaps there was no way for him to explain himself. No matter how he thought about it, he couldn’t come up with a good excuse.

But what he had not expected was for his mother to pull him over to a table covered in pictures of beautiful women.

“Chen-er, look, these nineteen ladies were carefully selected by me out of over a hundred. Whether it is in terms of beauty, etiquette, or status, they are all very suitable for you. Quickly look, do any attract your interest?”

Seeing that Long Chen was in a daze, Mrs. Long urged, "What are you waiting for? Hurry up and check them out."

"Uh... okay, I'll look."

Only now did Long Chen realize that his mother had already completely forgotten the danger he had been in yesterday.

But when he looked at those portraits, Long Chen's expression became a bit strange.

Mrs. Long said complacently, "Look at how beautiful they are Chen-er. Especially their waists and hips; they definitely are suited for birthing. If you marry a couple of them, I'm sure there'll definitely be some babies growing in just a few months."

Mrs. Long was unable to contain her own joy. It seemed as if she could already see the scene of herself holding a bunch of her grandchildren.

A bead of sweat rolled down Long Chen's face, dripping onto the portraits. It ended up landing on a girls' buttocks, following along the ink and making that part seem even larger...

"Mom, I feel like this should" Long Chen started to make an excuse.

"Stop delaying. Before, your mom thought you wouldn't be able to find a suitable wife, and now that so many candidates have come today, don't you dare waste this chance. I won't make it hard for you. Pick out three for me today and later on, you can pick some more. In any case, if you don't choose at least ten of them, don't even think of going away."

Long Chen's face turned green. Was this supposed to be like breeding livestock? But looking at how strict she was, it seemed she was extremely serious about this matter.

Just as he was at a loss on how to reply, a rough voice rang out. "Brother Long."

A huge figure rushed in and embraced Long Chen. "Brother Long, I heard you fought with someone yesterday. Why didn't you bring me?"

Long Chen saw that it was Wilde who had rushed in. Inside, he cheered; this brother of his had truly come at the perfect time.

"Mom, I still have some stuff to do and have to talk to Wilde. You just slowly do some selections. Once you finish those, I'll come to look again."

"Kid, you"

Just as she was beginning to speak, Long Chen had already quickly pulled Wilde far away.

“That rascal.”

She quietly scolded, but when she turned back to look at the portraits of those ample girls, she quickly became gratified.

“Brother Long, did you get injured yesterday?” Wilde asked Long Chen in concern.

“No, I’m fine. Your brother Long will now have to fight more and more. Speaking of which, have you learned how to use that technique of using spiritual qi that I taught you?” asked Long Chen.

He had taught Wilde how to circulate his spiritual qi throughout his meridians. But his comprehension skills were extremely low.

If it weren’t for how powerful Long Chen’s Spiritual Strength was and that he could teach him by actually guiding him from within, it would have been impossible for anyone to teach him.

When Long Chen brought up cultivation, Wilde became extremely proud. “Brother Long, I can already use that technique you taught me.”

“Really?” Long Chen was delighted.

Long Chen brought Wilde to an empty area behind the estate. Pointing towards a stone the rough size of a human, he said, “Crush this just with the wind generated from your fist.”

“Yes.” Wilde agreed and punched out a single fist.

Wind rushed over the stone, causing it to tremble slightly.

“I didn’t do it right this time. Again.” Wilde was a bit embarrassed.

Another fist shot out, and the wind still only caused the stone to tremble slightly.

“Strange. Again!”

He tried three more times, but the stone remained the same as ever. Long Chen’s face darkened.

“Wilde, this is what you’ve learned?”

“Yes. Normally, I can succeed in three out of ten punches. It’s just not working today...”  
Wilde was distressed.

Hearing that, Long Chen almost stumbled. When fighting with others, could you really rely on chance?

Long Chen felt a headache. Wilde was basically a treasure trove, but the difficulty in unlocking that treasure trove was incredibly great.

Placing a hand on Wilde’s back, Long Chen said, “Try again.”

“Okay.”

Wilde once more punched out, but this time, there was not the least bit of energy behind it.

“Before you punch, you have to prepare! First, urge your Dantian into motion, and then punch out. Remember that it is the Dantian that drives the fist, and not the fist that urges the Dantian.”

While he was in contact with Wilde’s body, he could sense that Wilde was first punching out and then using his meridians in an attempt to spur the Dantian.

That kind of technique could work, but when it came to Wilde, it would be a matter of luck. Experienced cultivators would have no problem doing it like that, but it would be too difficult for Wilde to do that.

“Try again. Don’t rush your punch. Circulate your Dantian. Okay, your Dantian is operating. Punch.”

**BOOM!**

A huge boom rang out and that man-sized stone was crushed into complete rubble.

“Brother Long, I succeeded!” happily shouted Wilde.

Long Chen nodded. He appeared calm on the outside, but inside, he was filled with endless shock. Wilde had once more become much stronger.

That last punch had had enough power to crush the late stage Blood Condensation Huang Chang.

Although he wouldn’t be able to compare to Huang Chang once he used his beast transformation, Wilde was probably even better than him in terms of power. However, his movements had far too many flaws.

But at this point, he had only managed to use a strand of energy from his Dantian and wasn't able to use his full power. That meant Wilde's potential was truly frightening.

"Good, now do it again," encouraged Long Chen.

Wilde once more punched out, but this fist was empty like his previous ones.

For a moment, it was just Long Chen looking at Wilde, and Wilde looking at Long Chen. Long Chen was completely silent for over ten minutes.

Finally, Wilde patted his head. "Brother Long, is it that I'm too dumb?"

"I really want to tell you that you're not dumb, but since I hear liars will be struck by lightning, I don't dare say it." Long Chen looked at the sky worriedly.

"Then, what should I do?" Wilde was completely dejected.

"From tomorrow onwards, you won't stay at the estate. Go back to the pasture."

"Brother Long... do you not want me anymore?" Wilde was completely startled and filled with fright.

Long Chen laughed involuntarily, patting Wilde's thick shoulder. "Don't joke around. We're life and death brothers."

"Then, why do you want me to go to the pasture?"

"From tomorrow onwards, all your food will have to be handled by yourself. If you want beef, then you have to kill the cow yourself. However, the condition is that you must use your attack containing spiritual qi to kill the cow. Otherwise, you'll just have to live with an empty stomach. Go."

Wilde promised him and walked away. Watching Wilde's back as he left, Long Chen couldn't help but feel a bit helpless.

Wilde's comprehension skill was too worrying. Sometimes, he worried about whether he should keep Wilde by his side. With his intelligence, he really was a bit too dangerous.

He was an honest person, honest to the point where his head couldn't even comprehend tricks. That was also why he would never goof off on what Long Chen told him to do.

Long Chen's instructions were to make him accustomed to using spiritual qi. Otherwise, when he fought with others, each of his attacks would only have a chance of working. That was no different than sending him to death.

In any case, Wilde's appetite was growing every day, and each day, he ate over a hundred cows. That was enough for him to train.

If he unlocked his full power and became accustomed to using his spiritual qi, Wilde's strength would reach a level that would terrify even Long Chen himself.

After properly arranging Wilde's matters, Long Chen returned to his own room. On the way, he saw that line of wives and the happily busy Bao-er. Sweat once more began to roll off his forehead.

He sent instructions that he was entering seclusion and not to bother him unless something huge happened.

He was at the eighth Heavenstage of Qi Condensation. One more advancement would let him reach the ninth Heavenstage, and from there, he could directly step into Blood Condensation.

Only once he reached the Blood Condensation realm could he truly be able to guarantee his survival. He was extremely irritated that nothing was under his control.

"Just wait. Time for me to see the true faces of the people who have constantly been scheming against me."