

Noble Ruler 1321

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Fangzhou City was beside Ling Xiao Academy, and it gathered the countless cultivators that wanted to enter the academy. For many people, Fangzhou City was the transit stop for Ling Xiao Academy.

In actual fact, it was far beyond this. As it wasn't under the jurisdiction of any authorities, Fangzhou City gathered people from all walks of life. But as they were fearful of Ling Xiao Academy, everyone was more polite and honest in the city.

But if one stayed in Fangzhou City for a long time and understood it better, they would realize that the amazement this place brought was far beyond one's imagination.

Even for Ling Xiao Academy students, Fangzhou City was also a place filled with temptations.

Some students would frequently enter the city. Some would buy things, while others would duel with other people or just do whatever they wanted.

They had a lot of freedom, and with the academy elders around, many students from Ling Xiao Academy liked to go to Fangzhou City.

Chu Liuyue originally wanted to reject them, but seeing that they had invited her enthusiastically, she didn't have the heart to reject them. Thus, she nodded. "Sure."

Too many things have happened during this period of time, so I can also relax my mind and improve my mood.

After some discussion, the trio immediately took action and went straight for the barrier.

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On the way there, Chu Liuyue saw that quite a few people were heading in the same direction as them. They clearly wanted to go out too.

This showed just how precious these three days were to the students.

Inside the academy, many people were under extreme stress, and they would inevitably be tired after a long time. As they only had these three days to go out and tour around leisurely, everyone would definitely be very willing to do so.

Reaching the academy's entrance, Chu Liuyue saw two elders guarding it at first glance.

The students who wanted to go out had also formed a queue.

Chu Liuyue's group of three obediently stood at the end of the queue.

Luckily, the elders were very efficient. The students only had to produce their black jade plaques and place them on the barrier; then, the elders would rapidly react, opening the barrier for them.

Very quickly, it was the turn of Chu Liuyue's group of three.

Luo Yanming and Zhuo Sheng both successfully passed through it one after another, and now, it was Chu Liuyue's turn.

"Chu Yue?" The two elders looked up and recognized Chu Yue at the same time. Then, they rapidly became alert as they walked forward and blocked Chu Liuyue's path at the same time. "What do you want to do?!"

Seeing the two elders' exaggerated formation, Chu Liuyue sweated a little and immediately took out her black jade plaque. "Elders, don't misunderstand. I just want to shop around this time. I didn't think of doing anything else."

As she spoke, she passed the black jade plaque over.

The two elders exchanged a glance suspiciously.

One of them took the black jade plaque and placed it on the barrier. A ray of light then flashed across the barrier and quickly disappeared.

It seems like it really is so... The two elders then felt slightly more at ease. They sized Chu Liuyue up a few times before letting her in. "Go over then!"

Chu Liuyue could then step through the barrier and meet with the two people in front.

"Hahaha! Chu Yue, even the elders are scared of you now!" Zhuo Sheng laughed out loud mercilessly. "Who asked you to cause all that trouble previously!? Now you know what you've done, right? You can't even leave through the academy's entrance now!"

Chu Liuyue rubbed her nose. According to my frequency of causing trouble, it seems rather normal for the elders to guard against me.

"It's rare that we get to come out. Let's not waste any time here." Chu Liuyue looked forward. She could vaguely see a city lake, which was traditional and magnificent.

It looked very lively.

It was Fangzhou City!

"Go!"

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This was Chu Liuyue's second time in Fangzhou City. The last time she had been here was quite a few months ago, and she was preparing to enroll in Ling Xiao Academy at that time.

She didn't expect such a long time to have passed since then.

Walking on the bustling streets, Chu Liuyue suddenly had the hallucination of being isolated from the world. During this period of time, she basically stayed inside the academy and was close to forgetting what the outside world looked like.

With one glance, she could see many young cultivators. It seemed like most of them were preparing to enter Ling Xiao Academy.

Chu Liuyue's group of three walked on the streets and attracted quite a few people's gazes. Even though they came out in a hurry and were dressed casually, their auras were there, and they attracted many people's attention.

Luo Yanming and Zhuo Sheng were truly from a top-tier aristocratic family, and their every move had the aura of a well-established family.

As for Chu Liuyue... Although her appearance could only be considered decent, she was clean and pure. Standing beside the two of them, she wasn't overshadowed at all.

It was quite normal for the three of them to attract these gazes when they took action. But luckily, the three of them didn't really care much about this as they pretended that they couldn't see it and went their own way.

There were quite a few vendors that had set up their own stalls on both sides of the street. Some sold herbs, some sold Xuan formations, and others sold legendary weapons.

Even though most of them didn't catch the trio's eyes, there were still quite a few interesting items.

The group of three walked for about an hour on the long street before they reached the end.

"Actually, the items placed here can only be considered average in Fangzhou City. If we really want to get something nice, we should go to another street!" Zhuo Sheng raised his chin. "Do you want to go?"

Chu Liuyue saw his expectant look and couldn't help but laugh. "Why do you seem like you know this place very well? You came here before?"

"Nope! But I asked the senior brothers and senior sisters for quite a bit of advice in this area, so I know a little here and there. If I'm like the two of you and came out without knowing anything, won't I miss out on a lot of good items?" Zhuo Sheng looked delighted. "Let's go! Today, I'll bring you around Fangzhou City!"

Chu Liuyue and Luo Yanming knew that their friend was elated after leaving the academy. They laughed and agreed to follow him.

"Then, it's a deal. When we get there, you have to treat us to a meal if there's nothing we like." Luo Yanming made a bet.

"Hehe! No problem!" Zhuo Sheng agreed excitedly.

Chu Liuyue followed him from behind and couldn't help but laugh and shake her head.

Suddenly, her gaze focused, and her feet were nailed to the ground as she stared at something in the stall beside her.

"Hm? Chu Yue, why are you not leaving?" The two of them took a few steps forward and realized that Chu Liuyue didn't follow them, so they walked back. "What are you looking at?"

Chu Liuyue didn't speak and directly walked over, picking up a wooden plaque from the ground.

On the wooden plaque, a familiar totem was engraved on it!

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Perhaps it had been too long, so this totem was quite damaged. If one didn't look closely, they would just think that it was a few simple lines, and they wouldn't expect it to be a certain totem. It was also because Chu Liuyue was so familiar with this totem that she could recognize it immediately.

Chu Liuyue stared at the vendor behind the stall closely.

It was a man in his thirties wearing a washed-out gray sweater. He had a muscular build and stubble on his chin.

He seemed like a normal vendor in Fangzhou City.

"How much is this?" asked Chu Liuyue.

That man glanced at her hand and broke into a smile. "Young Master, you really have good eyesight! This item is a rare sea-buckthorn wood—it's a superior herb! If you bring it along with you, it can calm your nerves and boost your spirits! It's very useful for cultivation! If you really want it... This price!"

He showed three fingers.

Chu Liuyue touched the wooden plaque. "Even though sea-buckthorn wood is good, it can't be considered any top or precious treasure. The price you're asking for is too much, right? Where did you get this item from?"

When the vendor heard it, he chuckled. "Even if it's not expensive, isn't it a treasure since you took a fancy to it? As for where this thing came from... Heh, I don't remember! Look, I have so many items. How can I remember where each and every one of them came from? If you genuinely want it, I'll give you a discount. How about that?"

"Do you really think we're fools? This item isn't even worth half the price you mentioned!" At the side, Zhuo Sheng couldn't help but walk over and laugh in contempt. "Chu Yue, if you want this sea-buckthorn wood, the aca—we have a lot of it back home. Why must you waste the money?"

What does Ling Xiao Academy not have? I really don't understand why Chu Yue is interested in this item.

Chu Liuyue smiled. "It's rare to see something I like. It's not too bad to buy it and play with it."

Then, she said to the vendor, "I'll have it at half the price."

Once the vendor heard it, he immediately looked elated. "Okay! Young Master, you're really generous!"

Zhuo Sheng wanted to convince her further, but seeing that Chu Liuyue's mind was already made, he could only let her be.

Chu Liuyue took out a money pouch and passed it over.

That vendor took it happily. "Young Master, if you like anything else, just take your pick!"

Chu Liuyue shook her head. "No need. I just want this."

Then, she looked at Zhuo Sheng. "Didn't you say that you wanted to bring us to an even more crowded place? Let's go."

"Yes, yes! Let's go! It's right over there!" Then, Zhuo Sheng walked forward first.

Chu Liuyue and Luo Yanming followed him closely.

The trio's figures quickly disappeared around the corner.

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"Chu Yue, isn't that a wooden plaque made with sea-buckthorn wood? What's so good about it? I think that you have too much money and nowhere to spend it!" On the way, Zhuo Sheng was still thinking about Chu Liuyue buying the wooden plaque. As a Ling Xiao Academy student, especially a heavenly doctor like Chu Yue, what good things has he not seen? He came to Fangzhou City and actually bought that item. If word gets out, he will definitely be a laughingstock.

Luo Yanming smiled faintly and said, "Zhuo Sheng, if he wants to buy it, let him do it. He didn't spend your money, so why are you thinking so much?"

"Am I not just—hey, Chu Yue, why aren't you walking?" Zhuo Sheng was still talking when he saw that Chu Liuyue suddenly stood still. She was sizing up the wooden plaque in her hands before she turned around and walked back.

Her two friends were dazed and thought that she was angry, so they hurriedly chased after her.

"Hey! Chu Yue, what's the matter?" Zhuo Sheng scratched his head in embarrassment. "Did I talk too much and make you upset?"

Chu Liuyue shook her head. "No, I just realized that the wooden plaque seems to be fake. You guys can go shop around; I'll find that person and ask for a refund. I'll meet with you in a while."

"Fake?" Zhuo Sheng and Luo Yanming were rather shocked, but seeing Chu Liuyue's genuine expression, they believed their friend.

"He actually sold fake goods! We must teach him a lesson! We're brothers; we'll go with you!" As Zhuo Sheng spoke, he rolled up his sleeves and looked like he was about to start a fight.

Chu Liuyue couldn't hold in her laughter and glanced at him. "I think it's better if the two of you don't go. If not, what should we do if the matter is made big? Don't forget that this is Fangzhou City. If anything happens, the academy will find out instantly."

Zhuo Sheng curtly put his sleeves back down. "Then, can you do it alone?"

What if they don't want to admit it?

Chu Liuyue laughed lightly. "If I really can't handle it, there are still the academy elders in Fangzhou City guarding us."

If something happened to the students, they would appear instantly.

"Therefore, you don't have to worry. I'll be right back."

Zhuo Sheng and Luo Yanming glanced at each other and could only agree. "Okay then."

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Chu Liuyue went back the way she came on her own and quickly returned to the street she was previously at. She didn't go forward and just stood at a corner as she glanced at the street.

That vendor had already disappeared without a trace.

There is something wrong! Chu Liuyue squinted her eyes slightly. She had left a special marking on her coin pouch. As long as the other party was within a 30-yard radius, she would be able to detect his tracks.

She turned the Cosmic Ring on her hand, surveyed her surroundings, and rushed in a certain direction.

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All the streets in Fangzhou City were very crowded.

Chu Liuyue journeyed through them and looked normal, no different from the others. But in actual fact, she had been keeping a certain distance from the other party.

After walking down three streets, Chu Liuyue finally realized that something was amiss. The other party's direction... He seems to be planning to leave the city!

She paused in her tracks. The other party is either planning to leave directly or... purposely attracting me out of the city!

Inside Fangzhou City were quite a few Ling Xiao Academy elders and students, so it wasn't very convenient. Once they were out of the city, it would be much easier to do things.

Chu Liuyue clutched the wooden plaque in her hands tightly, and she could clearly feel the totem engraved on its surface.

She only hesitated for a moment before she followed him!

Very quickly, she arrived at the city gate. There was nobody standing guard here, so many people were coming in and out.

Chu Liuyue took a look and didn't see that vendor's figure. This meant that he had already gone out!

Chu Liuyue put away the wooden plaque and walked toward the city gate.

When Chu Liuyue passed through the barrier near the city gate, she even purposely controlled her strength.

Her dantian was quiet.

She then heaved a sigh of relief and looked forward.

Outside Fangzhou City was an endless deserted space.

The sky was dark as if it were about to rain. A blurred area connected the sky and ground, and one couldn't see it clearly.

In the deserted land, people came and went. But there were much fewer people compared to the city.

Chu Liuyue looked over and finally saw a familiar figure—it was the previous vendor!

She took a deep breath in and rapidly chased him.

The further one was from Fangzhou City, the fewer people there were. Gradually, there was nobody else in the surroundings.

"You purposely brought me out. Can we have a good talk now?" Chu Liuyue spoke clearly.

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That man stood still and turned around. "You're still as smart as usual."

At this point, the kind and flattering smile from before had disappeared, and it was replaced with a faint smile that sent chills down one's spine.

His voice became lower and much hoarser. He was gloomy in an uneasy manner.

Chu Liuyue suddenly felt that his voice was rather familiar, as if she had heard it before. She knitted her brows slightly and stared at the other party closely. "It seems like we've met before."

I'm currently wearing a mask, and the other party might be doing so as well.

"You dare to follow me out directly. It seems like you're rather confident in your abilities." That man laughed, but there was no smiling intent in his eyes.

His eyes were ice-cold as he stared at Chu Liuyue. It was as if he were looking at meat on the chopping board.

It was as if victory was in his hands.

Chu Liuyue became alert, and an idea suddenly popped up in her head. "You're... the person from Black Demon Hole!"

She had only heard such a dark and sinister voice from one person—the soul that lived in Shangguan Wan's body back then!

On the day of Shangguan Wan's wedding, Chu Liuyue wanted to kill him, but he escaped in the end. The key was that he seemed to be eyeing the water droplet in her body all along!

"Sh..." The man opposite her suddenly stuck his thumb out and laughed sinisterly. "That's not right. Although the wooden plaque is engraved with Black Demon Hole's totem... To be more accurate, I'm no longer from there, so you don't have to associate me with them."

"You should know very clearly why I'm here today." As that man spoke, he raised his hand with his palm facing upward—as if he were tempting her—and commanded her, "Give me that item."

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"Pfft." After a temporary silence, Chu Liuyue mercilessly chuckled.

She seemed to completely ignore the threat in the other party's words. She raised her brows slightly and stared at him in a seemingly smiling manner as if she were watching some sort of joke. "I have to give it just because you want it? Nobody in the world has such a right with me. You think too highly of yourself."

Hearing Chu Liuyue's sarcasm, that man wasn't angry. "What a pity... Originally, I thought that everyone could be happy. You give me the item, and I spare your life. How wonderful... It's a pity you don't seem to cherish your life very much."

Once he said that, a dark-green ball of fire suddenly appeared in his palms! At the same time, his surrounding aura crazily strengthened!

"You really never go away..." said Chu Liuyue coldly. Previously, I always regretted that I couldn't stop and kill him in the Tianling Dynasty. I didn't expect him to send himself to me today. This has saved me quite a bit of trouble.

The force in her body rapidly circulated and surged toward her hands!

A brilliant light appeared in Chu Liuyue's palm!

At this point, the man suddenly pressed his hand down!

Instantly, Chu Liuyue's water droplet suddenly started turning crazily, and it even had the signs of struggling free and rushing out!

Chu Liuyue forcefully suppressed it as she guided the holy force out and inserted it into her palms!

Very quickly, dark clouds in the sky gathered in this area, and the winds howled.

The Heaven and Earth Force kept rushing toward Chu Liuyue continuously!

The wind blew her long hair, and her sleeves floated with the wind. However, that man seemed to look down on Chu Liuyue as he laughed lightly with a face filled with contempt. "You don't know your limits!"

He closed his eyes, and the surrounding space started freezing inch by inch.

He was a true legendary warrior!

Very quickly, with the duo in the center, the surrounding large space was controlled by this man!

Chu Liuyue's force started circulating in her body at a slower rate, and her movements became slower as well. However, she still took action with much difficulty.

"Jingshen Fist!" Chu Liuyue sent a punch flying out!

A fist figure that shone with a brilliant light instantly pressed forward!

Wherever it went, the air shattered! Very quickly, a large black crack in space appeared!

Chu Liuyue had already broken through to become a stage-eight warrior. Together with the holy force within this fist, its suppression wasn't to be underestimated!

She previously couldn't retaliate when facing the other party's attacks, but after a mere half a year, Chu Liuyue could already take him on!

"What?!" This scene clearly caused that man to be taken aback. I have already unleashed my God Realm. Logically speaking, Chu Liuyue should be unable to retaliate. The strength that can smash the God Realm... naturally has to be a holy force!

He previously did expect Chu Liuyue to improve after entering Ling Xiao Academy, but he didn't expect her to reach such a shocking stage!

The Jingshen Fist seemed to have entered no man's land as it went straight for that person's face!

At this point, that man finally realized that he had underestimated Chu Liuyue. The next moment, his expression turned cold as he rushed toward Chu Liuyue!

But the Jingshen Fist had already detected his movement and immediately changed its direction!

"F*ck!" That man exploded with vulgarities and increased his speed once again.

However, the Jingshen Fist's strength wasn't reduced at all—he couldn't shake it off.

The man never thought that it would take so much effort to deal with a stage-eight warrior! This was clearly his own God Realm, but he was being chased around and beaten up!

Finally, he chose to face it head-on!

A dark-green fire rapidly gathered and later smashed against that fist harshly!

Rumble!

At that moment, the violent force exploded from within and spread toward the surroundings crazily!

That man's God Realm felt the impact and actually started to break slowly!

The suppression around Chu Liuyue was reduced.

Without hesitation, she immediately summoned the Chi Xiao Sword! She then swung it down!

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A ray of sword light cut through the air! The harsh sword aura was swift and decisive as it went straight for that man's skull!

The Chi Xiao Sword was a rare supreme Yuan instrument in the world. It had an extremely good advantage—it could rapidly form its force and give the other party a fatal blow!

When Chu Liuyue executed the Jingshen Fist, she needed some time to prepare and use it. However, she didn't need to do this at all when she used the Chi Xiao Sword!

The sword moved wherever she wanted, and it slew things right ahead!

In just one moment, the Chi Xiao Sword could gather shocking force and easily slash forward! It was even more so at this point!

"Supreme Yuan instrument?!" That man moved a few steps back due to the impact of the violent force. Before he could even stand stably, he felt an even harsher aura coming toward him!

He looked up, and shock flashed across his eyes.

Chu Liuyue's eyes were filled with intense murderous intent.

Other than some elders in the academy, almost nobody knew that she had the supreme Yuan instrument. Due to various reasons, the academy elders wouldn't tell the public about this, but others might.

Chu Liuyue knew too clearly what the news of her having a supreme Yuan instrument would attract. Hence... This man has to die today!

Thinking of this, she went on her toes, flew forward, and struck a second time!

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Inside Fangzhou City.

After Chu Liuyue left, Zhuo Sheng and Luo Yanming went to a relatively nearby restaurant, wanting to wait for her to come back before they toured around together. But after much waiting, as the duo's teas became cold and were changed, Chu Liuyue still hadn't come back.

"It won't take that long to return that item, right?" Zhuo Sheng looked down from the window on the second floor.

There were many people walking on the streets, and it was bustling, but they didn't see that familiar figure.

"Could it be that the person refused to return the item, and the two of them quarreled?"

Luo Yanming thought about it and shook his head. "I don't think so. That wooden plaque isn't something important, so there's no reason to argue over this. The man is originally in the wrong for selling fake goods. If a commotion is made, he won't be able to do his business."

Zhuo Sheng thought about it and agreed.

Fangzhou City had a unique location. Normally, nobody would dare to cause trouble here, so she would come back in a while.

The two of them waited for a while again, but nobody came.

"No, we should just go and look!" Then, the two of them hurriedly returned to the previous street.

That vendor had long disappeared and even put away the stall.

Chu Liuyue had also disappeared.

After searching around, the two of them then realized that something had gone wrong!

"What happened? How did the two of them disappear?" Zhuo Sheng looked anxious. "The other vendors are clearly still here... That man definitely is amiss! Could it be that he brought Chu Yue away?"

Luo Yanming thought for a moment. "It doesn't seem like it. Back then, Chu Yue said that the item was fake and that he wanted to return it... But as a heavenly doctor, how could he recognize it wrongly?"

They previously didn't think of this, but now that they thought about it, the incident was filled with doubts! Chu Yue seems to have gone back on purpose!

"Then, why didn't Chu Yue tell us about it?" Zhuo Sheng was a little annoyed. "Could it be that he's afraid of us knowing something?!"

If there really is danger... With the two of us around, we might be able to help! Now, we don't even know where he has gone!

"Fangzhou City is too big. That man seemed to have come prepared. I'm afraid the two of us alone aren't enough," said Luo Yanming as he turned and walked in a certain direction.

"Hey! Yanming, where are you going?" Zhuo Sheng hurriedly followed him.

Luo Yanming said calmly, "Going into the city to find the elders on duty. Everything that happens in Fangzhou City is in their control. With their help, we'll definitely be able to find Chu Yue as soon as possible."

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On the other side, after experiencing a harsh and long journey, the group from the academy had finally arrived at the Flood-Desert Northern Region.

Elder Bo Yan looked in front and boomed, "The place in front is the Flood-Desert Northern Region. The environment is very extreme, and it's really dangerous. Everyone, you must be well-prepared!"

Behind him, the students answered in unison, "Yes!"

Many of the elders had stern expressions. Being influenced by them, the entire atmosphere was rather suppressed.

But even so, quite a few students still couldn't contain the excitement and curiosity in their eyes.

Perhaps they were young and knew no fear. Anyway, they all clearly had desires to become stronger and hoped that they could improve their skills through this experience. They even wished to have some fateful encounter and rise all the way up!

The surroundings fell silent once again. But underneath this seemingly peaceful surface, there were secret waves crashing.

Everyone set up a barrier around themselves, and some even directly held Yuan instruments in their hands as if they were ready for battle at any time.

Elder Bo Yan exchanged glances with the other elders and nodded. "Activate!"

With his command, the elders raised their hands together! An extremely complicated Xuan formation suddenly appeared in the dark front!

Everyone was stunned.

That was the transportation formation's exit! As long as they exited from there, it would be the legendary Flood-Desert Northern Region!

Very quickly, with all the elders' hard work, a crack appeared in the middle of the Xuan formation.

A ray of bright light shot out from within!

Elder Bo Yan squinted his eyes and increased his strength.

The Xuan formation was totally split into two portions as they faded away toward their own sides, and the transportation formation's exit finally opened slowly!

"Let's go!" Elder Bo Yan moved and rushed out first!

The dozen-plus elders followed him closely behind!

Everyone started moving out slowly.

Elder Bo Yan was the first to come out. With his feet on hard ground, he finally felt a sense of stability.

Elder Bo Yan looked up and looked forward.

It was a vast snow land. The sky was pencil-gray and dark as large snowflakes fell.

Other than this, there was nothing else in sight.

This... Elder Bo Yan was slightly dazed. "This is the Flood-Desert Northern Region?"

Behind him, Elder Wen Xi came over and was also taken aback when he saw this scene.

It was all their first time here. Although they had heard quite a few rumors about it before, they still felt rather stunned when they saw it personally.

Behind, more and more people came out of the transportation formation.

"Will that thing really descend here?" Elder Wen Xi couldn't help but mutter. Suddenly, his gaze focused as he pointed to the front. "What's that?!"

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The cold winds howled harshly and picked up the scarce snow.

The sky and earth were white.

Far away, something suddenly dug out from the flat snowy ground—it was a fiend around the size of an adult's fist. It looked like a fox, but its ears and nose didn't look like those of a fox, especially with its protruding mouth. It revealed two especially sharp teeth, causing it to look extra ferocious.

As it was totally white and only its face was grayish brown, it was very easy for it to camouflage in this snowy land.

"That's a ninth-grade gray-faced fox. Although it's very small, it's agile and cunning. It regularly swallows other souls' skeletons to survive, so many people hate it. I didn't expect this to be the first fiend we would meet after coming to the Flood-Desert Northern Region," explained Elder Bo Yan.

However, Elder Wen Xi didn't relax at all. He naturally recognized what fiend it was, and that was exactly why he was especially shocked. "This place is icy cold and filled with snow. It's deserted, and there's nobody here. How... did it survive here?"

Elder Bo Yan was dazed and then knitted his brows. This is true. Gray-faced foxes aren't fiends that like cold places, so there is no reason for it to be here. And this one looks like... it is in decent spirits.

As if detecting their gazes, the gray-faced fox looked over and then rapidly dug into the pile of snow.

The snow flew everywhere, and the fiend quickly disappeared without a trace. From the outside, other than a hole appearing in the middle of a pile of snow, everything else looked the same.

Elder Bo Yan and Elder Wen Xi exchanged glances and saw the uneasiness in each other's eyes. This gray-faced fox is so agile and energetic. It doesn't look like it is being tortured or like it has suffered at all. Clearly, it has had a good time here. Then... Doesn't this mean that there is a lot of food that they can 'enjoy' here?

The ground was covered with thick snow. With one foot down, it would go up to one's thighs.

Nobody knew what was hidden beneath the snow layer.

Elder Bo Yan faintly felt uneasy.

"Bo Yan, our people are all out. Where should we go next?" another elder walked over and asked.

Elder Bo Yan turned around to take a look. The remaining students and elders were indeed all out.

He thought for a while and said, "We're all here in the Flood-Desert Northern Region now, but this place is huge. Nobody knows where the Heavenly Square Cauldron will descend, so for the next few days, everyone must be separated. Two elders will be in a team, and they will be in charge of looking after 60 students. But there's one point: Everyone must stay in contact at all times. Once there are any problems, you must retreat immediately. Your life is the top priority, do you understand?"

"Yes!"

Elder Bo Yan waved his hands. "Go!"

...

At this moment, at Red Valley Beach outside the Flood-Desert Northern Region, countless cultivators had come here.

The people who came were all from top-tier aristocratic families in the God Residence Realm. They were very ambitious, and they all wanted to fight for the Heavenly Square Cauldron that was about to descend!

The Flood-Desert Northern Region—which was sunken for a few thousands of years—silently became crowded.

The fight was about to begin!

...

Outside Fangzhou City.

The intense battle finally stopped!

A muscular man lay on the floor, and the clothes in front of his chest were already dyed red by blood.

The bright longsword pierced through his chest and nailed him to the ground directly.

He breathed heavily and struggled to get up, but it was to no avail. His face rapidly turned white, and his breathing was weak.

"Y-you..." He opened his mouth but couldn't say anything as he stared at the figure not far away from him with eyes filled with anger and vengeance.

The ground below was quickly covered by fresh blood, and he looked miserable.

Chu Liuyue stared at him coldly and slowly walked over.

She stepped on that man's chest, suppressing it and causing quite a lot of blood to ooze out. At the same time, a hand held the sword hilt and turned slowly.

She held the Chi Xiao Sword that was as light as a feather, but to other people, it weighed a ton.

She turned it lightly and almost minced all of that man's muscles, blood, and bones.

"Ah!!!" That man's expression changed, and he let out a cry at the top of his lungs.

Chu Liuyue raised her brows slightly and seemed to be very satisfied with his reaction. Back then, Shangguan Wan collaborated with Jiang Yucheng to harm me, and this person had instigated them a lot from behind. Therefore this is also taking revenge for back then.

Chu Liuyue tilted her head. After admiring his painful struggle, she slowly asked, "There's something I don't quite understand. We have no grudges at all, and I don't even know who you are at this point in time. But why does it seem like you have planned on killing me since a very long time ago? Is it because of that thing in my body?"

As Chu Liuyue talked, she squinted her eyes dangerously. That water droplet only appeared in my body after I was reborn. Back then, there was a period of time I thought that this belonged to the original owner. But if this person has planned this for a long time and wanted to kill me for the water droplet, does this not prove that I already had it when I had yet to be set up in my previous life? However, I don't have this portion of my memory. Also, if I really had this water droplet back then, why did it stay quiet until I died?

Hearing Chu Liuyue's question, that man's painful moans died down. He suddenly laughed in mockery, spat out a mouthful of blood, and refused to answer.

Chu Liuyue withdrew the Chi Xiao Sword, and blood flowed everywhere!

"Oof!" That man knitted his brows in pain.

An ice-cold feeling came from his neck—the cold blade was already stuck to his neck!

He had no doubts that Chu Liuyue would kill him at any moment!

"Since you think so highly of this item, why don't... we talk about how much you know about this thing?"

That man swiftly closed his eyes, clearly not wanting to talk to Chu Liuyue further. Then, a strange pattern appeared on his forehead.

Chu Liuyue was shocked and hurriedly moved back!

Peng!

The body started exploding!

There was something that took the chance to escape quickly! It was still the trick from the previous time!

Chu Liuyue's gaze turned cold as she raised her hand and produced a ball of transparent fire!

That fire quickly set up a barrier in the surroundings!

Crack!

The barrier cracked, but at the same time, that aura became much weaker!

Chu Liuyue clenched her silver teeth. He escaped last time, but it is impossible this time!

A thought surfaced in her mind as a transparent cauldron appeared in her palms. She then lightly pushed her palm, and the Heavenly Square Cauldron rapidly flew out!

The quickly escaping soul seemed to be affected by a great suction force as it slowed down at an observable speed.

But just when Chu Liuyue thought that the Heavenly Square Cauldron was about to suppress it, she saw that the soul actually started burning for no reason!

Her heart sank.

The next moment, that soul completely disappeared without a trace!

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Tsing!

Chu Liuyue slammed the Chi Xiao Sword into the ground. "He escaped again!"

"Don't worry. This soul is destroyed. Even if he hasn't died, he will be greatly affected," Shangguan Jing comforted. "Now that you've managed to retaliate once, you have at least taken a bit of revenge."

Chu Liuyue calmed herself down, summoned the Heavenly Square Cauldron, paused, and said, "Thank you Ancestor. I understand this as well."

In actual fact, it was already very hard for her to win today's battle.

The other party was much stronger than her, but it was a pity that he didn't have a physical body and could only live in other people's bodies. This greatly affected his skills.

Besides, the thing inside that physical body wasn't his complete soul.

"It seems like this person is very meticulous, and he has tested you multiple times. He does have great patience!"

Chu Liuyue sneered. "But it's not bad if he keeps doing this. If he comes a few more times, I'll definitely be able to completely destroy him bit by bit."

Shangguan Jing knew that she was frustrated. Whoever met with this incident wouldn't be able to tolerate it either. "Girlie, ignore all of that first. You also used up quite a bit of your energy during your fight just now. It won't be late if you rest properly and think of another way to solve this when you go back later."

Chu Liuyue nodded. I have left Fangzhou City for a while. Zhuo Sheng and the others might already be looking for me. Although I had the upper hand just now, I have used up quite a bit of my force. If they see my current state, it would be even harder to explain it.

Chu Liuyue put away the Chi Xiao Sword, swallowed two pills, and sat down cross-legged on the spot.

After about 15 minutes, she recovered a bit of her strength, and her face didn't look that pale anymore.

After that, she got up, thought of something, and walked to the corpse. She then took out a jade bottle and poured something out.

Transparent liquid flowed out and landed on that man.

That man's physical body quickly turned into a puddle of blood water before it rapidly seeped into the ground and disappeared without a trace.

Other than messy bloodstains on the ground, nobody could see anything else. And as the floor was a dark-brown color... If one didn't take a closer look, those bloodstains were rather hard to discover.

In the deserted land of the God Residence Realm, all kinds of battles would happen anywhere.

This bit of bloodstain wouldn't attract anyone's attention.

But after some thought, Chu Liuyue still waved her bare hands and burned the remaining bloodstains cleanly.

She took out that wooden plaque and was about to crush it when she suddenly stopped in her actions and kept it properly. "Ancestor, you know where Black Demon Hole is, right?"

Shangguan Jing paused for a moment before giving an affirmative answer. "I know the rough location, but it has been a thousand years. Now that such a long time has passed, I don't know if they're still there."

"This is simple. We can't just ask around." Chu Liuyue was nonchalant about it. Now that she was also at the God Residence Realm, it wasn't that hard to find Black Demon Hole.

Shangguan Jing said hesitantly, "Yue'er, it's fine if you want to go there, but with your current abilities... I'm afraid—"

"Ancestor, don't worry. Without absolute confidence, I won't act rashly. Besides... didn't that person say that he's no longer part of Black Demon Hole? Perhaps I might be able to find some clues through other means in the future."

Seeing that Chu Liuyue's thought process was clear and that she was calm, Shangguan Jing then relaxed. "As long as you know what you're doing."

Chu Liuyue then turned around to leave.

...

After a while, Chu Liuyue went back to the city alone as if nothing had happened, walking toward the place she agreed to meet Zhuo Sheng and the rest.

Just as she turned around a street corner, she heard a familiar voice coming from the front. "Chu Yue?!"

She looked over and saw that it was Luo Yanming.

"Chu Yue, where did you go just now?" Luo Yanming hurriedly rushed over and sized Chu Liuyue up nervously.

Chu Liuyue laughed bitterly and helplessly. "It's a long story."

Seeing that Chu Liuyue looked exhausted, Luo Yanming swallowed his mouthful of words. "Go back with me first. I'll tell the elders and Zhuo Sheng about the news."

Chu Liuyue's heart skipped a beat. "Elders?"

"Yeah! After we realized you were gone earlier, Zhuo Sheng and I looked around the city to find you for quite some time but couldn't. We panicked, so we decided to ask the elders for help. Now, they're looking for you everywhere."

Chu Liuyue revealed an apologetic look. "I'm really sorry for causing all this trouble. Nobody else knows about this, right?"

"No. Other than Zhuo Sheng and I, only the two elders on duty currently know about this. Originally, we were still thinking of asking more people to look for you if you hadn't come back by dark."

There were quite a few Ling Xiao Academy students in Fangzhou City. As long as the elders gave a command, they would take action immediately.

Chu Liuyue heaved a sigh of relief. "That's great, that's great... If I troubled so many people, I would feel even more apologetic. Where are the elders now? I'll go over and apologize to them personally."

Luo Yanming didn't doubt anything else as he brought Chu Liuyue to find Zhuo Sheng and the rest.

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Luo Yanming initially had a lot of questions, but there were many people coming to and fro, so he didn't ask much. He just kept looking toward Chu Liuyue from time to time.

His eyes had hints of shock, curiosity, intrigue, and confusion.

Chu Liuyue could only pretend not to notice it first.

Luckily, not long later, they bumped into Zhuo Sheng and the elders who were anxiously looking for her.

Seeing Chu Liuyue come back, they were first surprised before they had many questions.

The few of them swiftly returned to the house that the elders on duty were staying at.

After entering the room, Zhuo Sheng couldn't hold himself back and asked first, "Chu Yue, what exactly is going on?"

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The people in the room all looked at Chu Liuyue, clearly waiting for her to give them an answer.

Chu Liuyue pondered for a moment before saying, "Actually, I lied to you earlier. I said the wooden plaque was fake because I actually wanted to look for that person. But after I went back, I realized that he was already gone. I followed him all the way and went out of Fangzhou City."

Other than the elders present, Zhuo Sheng and Luo Yanming were taken aback. "You went out of the city?"

Chu Liuyue nodded. "Back then, I just thought of chasing him, so I didn't think too much about it."

Meeting the few people's shocked and doubtful gazes, Chu Liuyue explained, "I already knew him beforehand, and... We had some conflicts between us. After meeting him this time, I wanted to go teach him a lesson, but I felt that this was a private matter and that it wouldn't be good for me to get you guys involved. Thus, I thought of a reason to lie to you."

Zhuo Sheng then looked more normal. So they are old enemies. No wonder Chu Yue cared about him so much. Chu Yue's explanation does make sense. Though we are his friends, it is normal if he doesn't want other people to intervene in his private matters.

"But Chu Yue, this was too dangerous. If that man was a lot stronger than you, or he had other people hiding around to ambush you, then—" Luo Yanming seemed to disapprove of it greatly.

"Exactly! You mustn't do this again in the future! The two of us still thought that something happened—" Zhuo Sheng had spoken halfway when he hurriedly stopped himself and almost bit his tongue. "Now that you're back, what about that guy then?"

Chu Liuyue raised her brows slightly. "We fought one round, and he ran away, so I came back."

Seeing that Chu Liuyue was fine, the few of them believed her words and didn't ask further.

After a few reminders from the elders, they finally decided to let them go back to the academy first.

After this incident, Zhuo Sheng and Luo Yanming weren't in much of a mood to continue staying around, so they agreed with the elders' suggestion. Chu Liuyue naturally had no opinions.

Hence, after resting here for a night, Chu Liuyue's group of three returned to Ling Xiao Academy the next morning.

However, nobody knew about what happened outside the city. Everything passed by calmly.

...

After returning to the academy, Chu Liuyue went back to Jiuheng Peak alone.

Rong Xiu still hadn't returned yet. The weird thing was that Dugu Mobao hadn't shown up either.

Looking at the empty room, Chu Liuyue slowly knitted her brows. According to Dugu Mobao's personality, he definitely won't sit around and do nothing if he knew about what happened in Fangzhou City. However, he still hasn't appeared.

Chu Liuyue couldn't help but suspect that he had actually already left Ling Xiao Academy.

Thinking of the news about the so-called Heavenly Square Cauldron descending at the Flood-Desert Northern Region, Chu Liuyue vaguely felt that something was about to happen. Hence, after much thought, she still decided to make a trip to the Flood-Desert Northern Region.

Even though that place was very dangerous, she still had quite a few trump cards and could protect herself. Besides, the real Heavenly Square Cauldron was with her.

If something really happened to Elder Bo Yan and the rest... she might be able to help them a little.

Of course, she hoped that such a situation would never happen.

However, these were just her thoughts. It was actually very difficult for her to actually execute it. This was because none of the elders in the academy would agree to let her go over on her own.

Ling Xiao Academy had a transportation formation that directly led to the Flood-Desert Northern Region. But if one wanted to activate this transportation formation, they needed many elders to work together.

Just with Chu Liuyue's current strength alone, it was definitely impossible.

Chu Liuyue also didn't have much hope in secretly going over, especially when there were people standing guard by the side of the transportation formation.

After thinking for a long while in the house, Chu Liuyue still couldn't think of anything useful. Thus, she decided to go to the transportation formation and take a look around.

...

This special transportation formation was in the Xuan Master region.

Chu Liuyue first went to look for Elder Hua Feng.

Seeing Chu Liuyue come over, Elder Hua Feng was very surprised. "Kid, why did you have the time to come over today?"

He looked at Chu Liuyue and was filled with expectations. "Did you think it through and decide to cultivate as a Xuan Master?"

Chu Liuyue was caught between laughter and tears. It has already been so long, but Elder Hua Feng is still harping on the issue.

Suddenly, her heart flickered as she swallowed the words that were about to escape from her mouth. She then smiled brightly and nodded. "Yeah! Didn't you previously keep saying that you wanted me to come over and take a look? These two days are a holiday for the academy, and everyone has gone out. I had nothing to do, so I thought of coming over to ask for your guidance."

This time, Elder Hua Feng was over the moon. "Really?"

Chu Liuyue blinked. "Of course. If not, why would I come here to look for you? Do you agree?"

Elder Hua Feng stroked his beard and chuckled. Does this kid finally have a conscience? Or is it because of that red-gold heavenly phoenix—he wanted to confirm if I had abided by our agreement and kept it a secret?

Thinking of this, Elder Hua Feng gave Chu Liuyue a look. "Heh, don't worry! I will definitely do as I said!"

Chu Liuyue was dazed for a moment before she reacted and realized what he was talking about. She couldn't help but laugh. "Elder Hua Feng, you've misunderstood. I really came here to seek your guidance today. I had a Xuan formation that I couldn't solve recently, so I was wondering if you would be able to give me some advice."

Hearing her say this, Elder Hua Feng instantly felt happier. "Great, great! Since you're here today, I'll teach you properly!"

If I perform well, perhaps this kid might be willing to learn and cultivate with me?

Chu Liuyue raised her hand and quickly drew a ninth-grade Xuan formation. "It's this. Kindly take a look."

A ninth-grade Xuan formation was a token to Elder Hua Feng.

He very quickly identified a few minor errors in the Xuan formation Chu Liuyue drew, but he still admired Chu Liuyue in his heart. He could draw out a ninth-grade Xuan formation so easily... He's only sixteen years old!

"Chu Yue, it's really a pity if you don't become a Xuan Master with your talent!" Elder Hua Feng sighed.

As if she suddenly thought of something, Chu Liuyue tried to ask, "Elder Hua Feng, I heard that you have been in charge of maintaining the Xuan formation that directly connects the academy and the Flood-Desert Northern Region for the past few years?"

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She looked at Elder Hua Feng sincerely. "That must be because Elder Hua Feng is the most amazing one, right?"

Elder Hua Feng couldn't hide his happiness and stroked his beard. "Hehe, no, no! There are many hidden experts in the academy and countless amazing elders. To be more accurate, one person can't maintain that Xuan formation alone, so it can only work with a few elders working together. I'm just one of them—it's not worth a mention!"

Even though he said this, anyone who saw his overjoyed expression would know that Chu Liuyue had hit the right spot.

As this Xuan formation was very special, those in charge of maintaining it had to be very strong and reliable. There were quite a few Xuan Master elders in the entire academy, and one could just imagine how competitive it was.

It was normal for Elder Hua Feng to be proud of this.

Chu Liuyue revealed a look of admiration. "I heard that the first director personally built it himself back then, and there's only this one transportation formation in the entire God Residence Realm that directly connects to the Flood-Desert Northern Region. If only I had the chance to see it personally."

As she spoke, momentary regret flashed across her face.

Elder Hua Feng knew that she was supposed to go initially, but as she fell sick, she didn't make it. She was young after all, and it was inevitable she would find this a pity.

"Actually, it's nothing much. Look, it's been so many years, and this is also the first time that Xuan formation has been activated, right? Many elders who have stayed in the academy for hundreds of years didn't even get to experience it! Such a chance can't be controlled. Chu Yue, don't take it to heart."

As Elder Hua Feng spoke, he gave Chu Liuyue a look. "Why don't you consider whether you should learn Xuan formations from me?"

Seemingly jokingly, Chu Liuyue replied, "Then, if I accept you as my mentor, would you bring me to take a look at that transportation formation?"

Elder Hua Feng just thought that she was being playful and patted his chest. "How difficult is that? When you break through to a certain stage, you might even be able to—"

Whoosh!

An air-piercing sound was heard.

Elder Hua Feng's voice suddenly trailed off, and he rapidly looked up.

Chu Liuyue also turned around to take a look.

It was a familiar elder.

"Hua Feng!" That elder was very fast and reached the two of them in the blink of an eye. His face was rosy, and his eyes were bright, looking very emotional.

"Hua Feng! Flood-Desert Northern Region—" He was about to say something when he saw Chu Liuyue standing at the side from the corner of his eye. Then, he immediately stopped.

Chu Liuyue silently raised her brows.

"Long Ze, what are you so happy about?" Elder Hua Feng laughed and asked.

Elder Long Ze was hesitant in his words.

Chu Liuyue immediately left sensibly. "Elders, you can slowly talk. I'll take my leave first."

Originally, Elder Hua Feng didn't mind that Chu Liuyue stayed here. However, Long Ze's expression made it seem like it was something serious, so he didn't stop her.

But he was worried that Chu Liuyue would leave just like that, and he didn't know when she would come again, so he hurriedly said, "Chu Yue, don't go back first. Wait over there. After I'm done with Long Ze, we can continue talking about you."

Chu Liuyue smiled and nodded. "Okay."

Then, she left obediently.

After Chu Liuyue's figure disappeared before their eyes, Elder Hua Feng then turned around to look at Elder Long Ze. "Say it! What's so mysterious?"

Elder Long Ze took a deep breath in and still couldn't conceal his excitement. He clenched his fists tightly and said emotionally, "The team in the Flood-Desert Northern Region sent news back—the Heavenly Square Cauldron has appeared!"

Elder Hua Feng was shocked and hurriedly asked, "Really?"

"Of course, Bo Yan's news is true! I was just standing guard by the transportation formation previously, and I immediately rushed over to tell you when I received the news!"

Elder Hua Feng was also over the moon as he walked two steps back. "That's great! Previously, I was still quite worried. I didn't expect them to meet with the Heavenly Square Cauldron appearing so quickly! Oh yes, what else did Bo Yan say?"

Elder Long Ze nodded. "He said that the situation there is rather urgent and that he needs us to send a few more people over to support them. Thus, I rushed over to discuss with you and see how to select the people."

"He wants to send more people over?" Hearing this, Elder Hua Feng was stunned. "We had previously already sent quite a few people over, right?"

More than 30 elders and roughly 300 students definitely still had an advantage even when compared to those aristocratic families.

"Yeah! In the beginning, I also found it weird, but that was indeed Bo Yan's message. And think about it. It's the Heavenly Square Cauldron—one of the top ten holy weapons in the God Residence Realm! Many parties are vying for it, and the competition is intense. Even if we don't go for that item, we still have to protect ourselves, right?"

Elder Hua Feng thought for a moment. "Did Bo Yan say how many people he needed?"

"He didn't specify, but I think... at least seven or eight elders from the academy?"

This number sounded low, but it was already a lot when counted with those who had already gone over. After all, the entire academy only had a hundred-plus elders, and most of them still had to be stationed here.

Elder Hua Feng nodded. "We can still find seven or eight people. How about this? You can go back and continue guarding the transportation formation while I go and find other people."

"Okay!" Elder Long Ze quickly left.

Elder Hua Feng thought in his heart for a while and rapidly drafted a list.

His position in the academy wasn't low, so it wasn't a problem for him to send elders over.

Right at this moment, Chu Liuyue—who saw Elder Long Ze leave—finally walked in.

When Elder Hua Feng saw her, he then recalled that he had just said that he wanted to accept her as his disciple. However, this was clearly not a good time to continue discussing this. Hence, he said rather embarrassedly, "Chu Yue, I have some urgent matters to handle now. I'm afraid we have to push back on you becoming my disciple."

Actually, Chu Liuyue had already expected this. Judging by Elder Long Ze's behavior, something should've happened in the Flood-Desert Northern Region.

She smiled. "You can go on and do your things first. My side isn't urgent!"

Elder Hua Feng glanced at her in comfort. Although this kid regularly gets into trouble, he mostly still knows what to do at the right time.

Seeing that he seemed to be preparing to leave, Chu Liuyue's eyes flickered as she seemingly asked unintentionally, "Elder Hua Feng, did... something happen at the Flood-Desert Northern Region?"

Elder Hua Feng thought for a moment and felt that he wouldn't be able to hide this later on, so he nodded. "We need to pick a few more elders to go over."

He didn't state the reason, but Chu Liuyue immediately felt that this was the crux of the matter. So many of them have already gone previously. Why do they still need more now?

Her brows knitted undetectably as she tried to ask, "I have a special request—may I know if you'll agree?"

"Go ahead and say it." Elder Hua Feng waved his hands.

Chu Liuyue paused for a moment. "Could you... bring me along this time?"

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"What did you say?" Elder Hua Feng instinctively asked in return.

As if mustering her courage, Chu Liuyue looked at him anxiously and expectantly. "If you don't mind, I would like to offer myself and go with the elders to the Flood-Desert Northern Region."

"No." Elder Hua Feng's first reaction was to reject her. Chu Yue wants to go too? Is he joking?

"I had already passed the test previously—"

"That was previously. Now is now." Elder Hua Feng's attitude was persistent. "How can that be the same?!"

At the very beginning, the academy had formed a large team that went together. It was fine if Chu Yue followed them at that time. But now, Bo Yan was the one who sent a message requesting support. I can choose a few elders, but what is with bringing Chu Yue along?

Chu Liuyue looked down slightly.

From where Elder Hua Feng was standing, he could coincidentally see the young man's lashes that trembled slightly and his slightly pale lips that were tightly pressed against each other.

Anyone who saw this could sense the disappointment and regret in his heart.

Elder Hua Feng instantly felt conflicted. This child clearly didn't say much, but why do I feel so bad for him? Both logically and emotionally, I can't let Chu Yue go over!

Elder Hua Feng rubbed his temples and advised, "Chu Yue, you're still young. You have many opportunities in the future! Why harp on this one time, right?"

Chu Liuyue looked up at him. "But didn't you just say that some elders have stayed in the academy for more than a hundred years, yet they didn't even get the chance to see the Xuan formation... Won't I have even less hope?"

"..."

It's all because of your wretched mouth! Elder Hua Feng instantly wanted to retract whatever he had said previously. "T-this is just an exception. It can't represent everything—"

"All the students who previously passed the assessment should've gone over, except for me..." Chu Liuyue sighed in loneliness. She forced a smile, but she looked even uglier than if she were crying.

"Forget it. You're right, Elder. I shouldn't be focused on what's in front of me. I couldn't go the previous time, and I can't go now, but I might have chances in the future!"

When Elder Hua Feng heard this, his eyelids twitched! Why does this sound so awkward?! I really didn't consider bringing Chu Yue alone. After all, it is really rather strange for a few elders to bring a student along. However, Chu Yue was indeed the only one who couldn't go with those people back then...

Actually, which student in the academy didn't want to go?

Even though the Flood-Desert Northern Region was famous in the God Residence Realm for being very dangerous, with so many people going together, it would still be much safer overall.

Even if one didn't have a fateful encounter, they could still use this chance to strengthen their abilities! It was understandable that Chu Yue felt awful for not being able to go.

Elder Hua Feng walked over. "There's no room for discussion about this. Go back!"

Chu Liuyue sighed. "It seems like I really don't have this luck. In the future, I'll just obediently stay at Jiuhe Peak and produce my pills..."

Elder Hua Feng paused in his tracks and was so angry that his teeth felt itchy. He turned around and rapidly walked to Chu Liuyue, giving her a slap on the back of her head immediately. "This kid—you even dare to threaten me?!"

"Hiss... It hurts, elder! Pain!" Chu Liuyue immediately held the back of her head and took a step back.

"How could it hurt? I didn't even use any force!" Elder Hua Feng literally wanted to press the person in front of him down and beat him up. The moment he raised his hand, he saw Chu Liuyue staring at him pitifully.

Her pair of black, gem-like eyes were clear and bright, looking like they had rays of light circulating in them, and they were as bright as stars.

Elder Hua Feng paused in his actions and suddenly couldn't hit him. This gaze... is so familiar!

"Elder—" Chu Liuyue blinked and called him. Then, she smiled and curved her eyes up. "Elder, just agree to me this once! I promise I won't be a burden! Not to mention others, but I do have the ability to protect myself!"

Let's not forget that her fiend was a red-gold heavenly phoenix, one of the two ancient legendary fiends!

Elder Hua Feng looked at her, and his expression suddenly became complicated. That hand trembled slightly but finally got retracted as he turned around to leave.

Chu Liuyue was dazed for a moment and was rather confused. W-what does that mean?

"Aren't you going to come over!?" Elder Hua Feng—who had walked for a distance—turned back to glance at her. "Why are you still standing over there?!"

Chu Liuyue smiled in surprise. "I'm coming!"

...

In this manner, Elder Hua Feng brought Chu Liuyue along and continuously went to invite a few elders.

In the beginning, he didn't state the specific reason and just said that some problems had arisen in the Flood-Desert Northern Region, so Elder Bo Yan wanted to send more people over.

The few elders didn't doubt anything else, and all agreed. After handling the matters in their hands quickly, they followed Elder Hua Feng to where the transportation formation was.

Of course, Chu Liuyue followed him the entire way.

Although the few elders found it strange, they didn't ask further.

The position of this special transportation formation wasn't hidden, but as there were many layers of barriers outside that covered a huge area, it was hard to get close to it. Even if people knew that it was here, an average person wouldn't even be able to get close to it, let alone enter.

Chu Liuyue's gaze swept across the few layers of barriers, and she was secretly shocked. Ling Xiao Academy is indeed very careful in regards to this Xuan formation.

"Hua Feng, you guys are here!" Elder Long Ze—who had waited for quite some time—immediately welcomed him. When he saw Chu Liuyue, he couldn't help but be dazed and gazed at Elder Hua Feng questioningly. "Hua Feng, why did this kid follow too?"

Elder Hua Feng coughed. "Oh, this! He's coming with us!"

Once he said this, the entire venue instantly fell into dead silence.

[Chapter 1330](#)

"Hua Feng?" Elder Long Ze had a look of disbelief. Didn't I already clearly say that it was enough for a few elders to go over under such circumstances? How could he add an additional student? It's fine if it is someone like Rong Xiu, but Chu Yue has only been enrolled at the academy for a few months. How could he go?

"You're kidding, right?!"

Elder Hua Feng also felt embarrassed, but he had already said it. How could he go back on his words?

Besides... He was originally rather open-minded about this matter.

On the one hand, Chu Yue did have the right to go over previously but didn't make it on time. On the other hand, his legendary fiend was too formidable, and he shouldn't become a burden. He might even be able to help at critical moments.

He still clearly recalled the scene of all the fiends kneeling toward Chu Yue that night.

Other than this, there was another point. It seemed hard for him to reject Chu Yue's request. Anyway, for some reason, he just really liked this kid and doted on him a lot.

Even if he knew that other people would object to this, he still did it. It was just because he didn't want to see that pair of eyes show sadness or grievances.

Even he could not clearly state what kind of feeling this was. He wasn't even this nice to his own disciples!

"Ahem. Actually, Chu Yue should've gone over previously, but he suddenly fell ill on the day itself, so he missed the chance. He has already recovered now, so he wants to follow us and take a look. I-I thought about it and agreed." Saying this, Elder Hua Feng hurriedly added, "But don't worry. This child is very sensible; he won't cause you any trouble!"

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The few elders kept quiet and didn't speak. They had stern expressions and clearly disagreed with it.

Elder Hua Feng patted Chu Liuyue's shoulders. "Don't worry. If something really happens, I, Hua Feng, will be fully responsible!"

Chu Liuyue's heart tingled, and she couldn't help but turn around to look at him.

He seemed very determined as if he had already made up his mind to protect her till the end.

There seemed to be something coursing through Chu Liuyue's chest. She looked down and hid the ripples in her eyes.

"Hua Feng, this isn't child's play. Have you thought about this clearly?" Elder Long Ze asked with a low voice.

Elder Hua Feng nodded again. "Long Ze, I know what I'm doing."

The two of them exchanged a glance and kept quiet for quite some time. They were silently exchanging blows!

Finally, Elder Long Ze was the first to look away, and his sharp gaze scanned Chu Liuyue's body. "Kid, you are a little capable. Since Hua Feng is bent on vouching for you, then we'll allow you to come with us. But if anything happens... you must be fully responsible for the outcome yourself!"

What kind of place was the Flood-Desert Northern Region?

Those people in front were safer because they had gone together. But these few people were heading there to support them. Nobody could guarantee that they wouldn't run into trouble.

Chu Yue was really a sore thumb sticking out in the middle of all these elders.

Chu Liuyue seriously said, "I understand."

Elder Long Ze furrowed his brows, glanced at Elder Hua Feng, and helplessly shook his head. Forget it. Let them try it out on their own, and they'll know how dangerous it is!

...

Receiving permission, Chu Liuyue could finally go forward and saw the transportation formation clearly.

It was just a circular-shaped transportation formation with a copper body that seemed traditional and thick. In the middle was an engraving of Ling Xiao Academy's totem.

It wasn't very large, but it was made meticulously.

Standing at the side, Chu Liuyue could faintly feel the shocking suppression coming from it.

Elder Long Ze and the rest stood around the transportation formation, and each took out their own green jade plaques.

Countless rays of light flew out from the green jade plaques floating in mid-air before they gathered above the transportation formation.

The sparkling yet not bright rays of light instantly flew out in all directions, wrapping the entire Xuan formation. Then, a holy and heavy aura spread out from within!

Chu Liuyue unwittingly straightened her back and stared at that transportation formation closely. At this moment, she could confirm that this transportation formation was of the highest grade out of all the other ones she had seen in her life!

Elder Hua Feng and the rest were also stern as they hurriedly walked up the transportation formation.

Chu Liuyue took a deep breath in and followed them.

As force kept accumulating in it, the transportation formation was finally activated slowly.

Whoosh!

A ray of light sparkled, and the few people's figures instantly disappeared from the spot.

Elder Long Ze looked at the empty transportation formation and shook his head. Now, I can only hope that everything will be smooth-sailing...

...

After entering the transportation formation, the surrounding turbulence was instantly separated. Everything was stable in the surroundings, but it was too quiet.

Chu Liuyue naturally knew that it was because of her, so she quietly stood at the side and tried her best to minimize her existence.

After a moment, an elder finally spoke. "Hua Feng, you refused to say it earlier, but you can now tell us why exactly we're going there, right?"

Once he said this, the other people all glanced at Hua Feng.

Even Chu Liuyue had her ears pricked up. She was also very curious as to what Elder Long Ze had told Elder Hua Feng previously.

Elder Hua Feng nodded. "Just now, I didn't tell you guys clearly because the matter was too important."

His voice became much lower, and it seemed irregularly distant and intimate at the same time. This caused the few people present to be slightly nervous as well.

Then, they heard Elder Hua Feng explain, "Bo Yan wants us to go over this time because... the Heavenly Square Cauldron has already appeared in the Flood-Desert Northern Region!"

Chu Liuyue suddenly opened her eyes, and shock flashed across them! Luckily, everyone's attention was attracted by Elder Hua Feng's one sentence at this moment, so nobody saw the change in her expression at this point.

"Really?" An elder first said in surprise, "It appeared so quickly? If Bo Yan wants us to go over, then does it mean that... they're currently fighting for the Heavenly Square Cauldron and even have hope?"

Elder Hua Feng shook his head. "I can't confirm that now, but I'm sure that the Flood-Desert Northern Region is in chaos. After we reach, I'm afraid there will be more than one intense battle."

Even if one thought with their feet, they would know that many, many people would be going down this time! If one wanted to stand out amongst all these people and snatch the Heavenly Square Cauldron back, it would be as hard as ascending the skies.

However, this news still hyped the elders up. As long as we have a ray of hope, we must fight till the end.

Chu Liuyue hesitated for a moment and finally couldn't help but ask, "Elder Hua Feng, did... Elder Bo Yan really send this message back?"