

Chapter 371: Rage (2)

Though Ni Shang was still young, she was almost a fully-grown girl with a pretty face. She was quite attractive among the attendant girls.

Before Ni Shang was assigned to Ye Qingtang, some inner sect disciples would flirt with her. She did not dare to resist, and she was still young.

The situation was better after she was assigned to Ye Qingtang.

However, after Ye Qingtang left, the three disciples who liked to flirt with her came again with Song Junqiu.

The four inner sect disciples broke into Ye Qingtang's yard and kidnapped Ni Shang. Fei Ying wanted to stop them, but he was not strong enough to fight against them. He was beaten heavily until he fainted but still could not stop them.

"Young Lady, I'm aware that we are just servants and that our lives worth nothing. But Ni Shang is always loyal. Please save her..." Fei Ying begged Ye Qingtang constantly and kneeled onto the floor again. He ignored his injuries and knocked his head heavily onto the ground. The blood on his forehead was transferred onto the stone ground.

Ye Qingtang took a heavy breath and asked, "Besides Song Junqiu, who are the other three people?"

Fei Ying then said the names of the other three people.

Ye Qingtang felt her brain almost explode after hearing the names.

The names that Fei Ying said were the three inner sect disciples that he killed in her previous life.

That was the reason why she did not hear of Ni Shang's name in her previous life. Ni Shang in her previous life most likely did not survive the incident and was tortured to death by the three disciples. Fei Ying was stimulated by Ni Shang's death, and his potential was discovered. He worked hard and became an inner sect disciple. He then tortured the three disciples to death.

Everything now overlapped with the information from her previous life. Just this time, there was a Song Junqiu.

"Young Lady, please... please save her. As long as you are willing to save her, I will serve you for the rest of my life." Fei Ying continued begging. He was slightly younger than Ni Shang, and she always took care of him. He always treated Ni Shang as his sister.

He hated himself the most when Ni Shang was humiliated. He hated his weakness and inability. He hated that he did not have the ability to protect her.

He also knew that they were inferior compared to the disciples. Even though Ye Qingtang was their Young Lady, she did not have the duty to provoke other disciples for them. However...

He had no other way.

"I understand now," Ye Qingtang narrowed her eyes and said slowly. She frowned heavily as her sight landed on Fei Ying who was kneeling in front of her.

"Follow me." Ye Qingtang then walked out of the yard.

Fei Ying was stunned and raised his head. His face was full of confusion.

"You better hurry up if you want to save her." Ye Qingtang's voice was cold but anxious.

She did not know when Ni Shang was killed in her previous life. According to Fei Ying, Ni Shang was kidnapped three days ago. If they did not save her on time, she might...

Fei Ying then realized what Ye Qingtang was going to do. He wiped off his tears and got up from the floor and caught up with Ye Qingtang.

The Blood Moon Sect Elder who just left his yard suddenly saw Ye Qingtang. He wanted to escape instinctively, but...

Ye Qingtang was covered by a murderous look.

Chapter 372: Rage (3)

The Blood Moon Sect Elder was shocked.

What was going on?

Why was she so fierce?!

Was she going to eat someone alive?!

The Blood Moon Sect Elder then followed them to figure out what was going on.

Outside the Practice Hall, Song Junqiu was with the three disciples. Their faces were very pleasant.

"That girl's growth is not bad at her age."

"She will be nicer after a few years."

"After a few years? I think her innocence now is just right. It is so satisfying to watch her begging me." The three disciples laughed, and their faces were full of contentment.

Song Junqiu sneered as he saw how filthy the people were. He did not care about the girl at all. He was involved just because Ni Shang was Ye Qingtang's servant.

Song Junqiu resented her so much every time he recalled how Ye Qingtang framed him and how he lost so many bottles of Song Junqiu to Feng Moli. Now Ye Qingtang was not in the sect, there was no issue for inner sect disciples to punish her attendant girl.

When the three people were discussing, Song Junqiu noticed a person approaching. He narrowed his eyes and exchanged glances with the three people. The three of them stopped their discussion and looked towards the person.

All three of them laughed.

“Isn’t this our Junior Sister Ye? What happened to your sword boy? How come he is injured? It’s a bit too harsh for you to treat your servant like this...” One of the disciples smiled and said. His arrogant face appeared so disgusting.

Fei Ying, who followed Ye Qingtang, wanted to go forward when he saw Song Junqiu and the three people, but he was stopped by Ye Qingtang.

“Junior Sister Ye, what are you so angry for?” Song Junqiu smiled, but his scornful sight glanced at Ye Qingtang.

“Where is Ni Shang?” Fei Ying stared at them and asked.

Song Junqiu took a glance at Fei Ying and sneered. His eyes were full of disdain. He looked at Ye Qingtang and said, “Junior Sister Ye, where are your servant’s manners? A mere sword boy dares to challenge inner sect disciples?”

Ye Qingtang squinted her eyes and pulled Fei Ying back. She scanned through their faces, and... she suddenly smiled.

“I had entered the inner sect for a month now. I heard that inner sect disciples could compete among ourselves. Senior Brothers, are you willing to compete against me in the Life and Death Ring?” Ye Qingtang asked.

“Life and Death Ring?” Song Junqiu and the rest were stunned.

The sect did not allow private fighting among the disciples, but there were always conflicts between disciples. To ban private fighting, there was a Life and Death Ring in the inner sect.

On the Life and Death Ring, death was determined by destiny. Even if one were to die on the Ring, no one would receive any punishment.

However, fighting on the Life and Death Ring needed to be approved by the inner sect wardens. Both parties had to sign the Life and Death agreement.

Ye Qingtang just entered the sect for a month, and she dared to challenge them?!

Song Junqiu and the rest laughed when they realized what she was talking about.

“Junior Sister Ye, you want to go onto the Life and Death Ring against four of us? Are you joking?”

Chapter 373: Life And Death Ring (1)

A new disciple who just entered the sect for month challenged four people to fight on the Life and Death Ring. Was she trying to commit suicide?

Song Junqiu sneered. He realized that she was trying to take revenge for Ni Shang.

However...

Did she not know her own abilities?

How did she dare to be so arrogant?

She was going to commit suicide.

Fei Ying was stunned as well. He heard of the Life and Death Ring as he spent quite a long time in the inner sect. He hated these four people, but he did not expect Ye Qingtang to want to fight against them on the Life and Death Ring for Ni Shang.

Fei Ying was a little bewildered. He held Ye Qingtang's sleeves, and he was very nervous.

"Miss..."

The Martial Qi Level One had four Heavens. Every Heaven consisted of three stages. They had been in the inner sect for a few years. The three disciples were at the second stage of the First Heaven of Martial Qi Level One, and Song Junqiu was at the third stage.

Ye Qingtang had only entered the inner sect for a month, and she just reached the First Heaven of the Martial Qi level One. She was at the first stage of the First Heaven. There was a great difference in ability between her and the three disciples and a greater difference with Song Junqiu.

With every stage difference of the Marital Qi, the difference of the ability was immense. It was suicide for Ye Qingtang to challenge the four people on the Life and Death Ring alone.

"I'm not joking. Do you dare to accept my challenge?" Ye Qingtang looked at the four people seriously.

They suddenly laughed.

"Of course we accept. Why not? Since you are so brave, we have to accept your challenge." Song Junqiu smiled.

"Invite the warden over now. Since Junior Sister Ye has met the requirements, we must accept as her Senior Brothers," Song Junqiu said to one of the disciples.

The disciple immediately invited the warden over.

The warden was surprised as he heard that Ye Qingtang wanted to challenge the four people at the same time on the Life and Death Ring.

"The five of you, are you sure about it?" The warden asked cautiously. He revealed a complex look as he turned towards Ye Qingtang.

The Life and Death Ring was a dangerous ring in the inner sect. There were some disciples who challenged others on the ring. But Ye Qingtang, as a new disciple, wanted to challenge four people at the same time?! What nonsense!

"Yes." Ye Qingtang replied firmly.

“Then the five of you have to sign the Life and Death Agreement. Whether you live or die on the ring will depend on your destiny,” the warden said after seeing that his persuasion was not working.

The five of them did not object and signed the agreement in front of the warden.

Song Junqiu was the last to sign. He sneered as he saw Ye Qingtang’s name on the agreement.

He wanted to teach Ye Qingtang a lesson, but she was rushing to commit suicide. Even if they were to beat her to death on the ring, no one would say anything about them.

“The challenge will be ten days later. You shall go to the Life and Death Ring.” The warden kept away the agreement and left a reminder.

Song Junqiu stared at Ye Qingtang in an evil way after the warden left.

“Junior Sister Ye, I shall wait for you at the Life and Death Ring ten days later.”

Ye Qingtang narrow her eyes.

“Wait,” she suddenly said as Song Junqiu and the rest were about to leave.

Chapter 374: Life And Death Ring (2)

Song Junqiu slowed down his path and turned to look at Ye Qingtang. “Do you regret your choice now, Junior Sister Ye?”

Ye Qingtang sneered. “Where is Ni Shang?”

Song Junqiu lifted his eyebrows and took a glance at Ye Qingtang. “Ni Shang?”

He then appeared to suddenly remember something and smiled. “Are you talking about your servant girl? Don’t be so nervous. We saw the potential of that girl, and that’s why we brought her away to teach her. If you are concerned, I’ll ask someone to send her back later.”

The other three disciples’ faces changed.

They had yet tasted the girl. How could she be returned to Ye Qingtang so soon?

They were about to speak when Song Junqiu glanced at them, and they had to remain silent.

“Thank you, Senior Brother Song,” Ye Qingtang said.

“You’re welcome.” Song Junqiu replied.

From the start, Song Junqiu was involved because of the grudge between them. Now that Ye Qingtang would face her destiny soon once she stepped onto the Life and Death Ring, Ni Shang was useless to him.

Furthermore, even though some disciples would punish their attendant girls and sword boys in the inner sect, this could not be discussed openly. If the wardens or the Elders found out about that, those disciples would be punished.

They kidnapped Ni Shang previously as Ye Qingtang was not back yet, and Fei Ying would not be able to see the wardens and the Elders as a sword boy. That was why they dared to kidnap her. However, Ye Qingtang was back now. If they still held Ni Shang, she might report the case to the wardens and the Elders. They would face the consequence then.

“Do you have any other things, Junior Sister Ye?” Song Junqiu smiled and asked.

“Nope.”

Song Junqiu smiled and left with the other three disciples.

Fei Ying gritted his teeth as the four people walked away arrogantly.

“Young Lady, you do not need to fight against them on the Life and Death Ring. If we report to the wardens and the Elders that they kidnapped Ni Shang, they will be punished.” Fei Ying felt gracious towards Ye Qingtang for rescuing them, but he was also worried for Ye Qingtang’s safety.

However, Ye Qingtang shook her head insistently.

Ni Shang was just an attendant girl. If they reported the case, Song Junqiu and the rest would only receive light punishments. Furthermore, Song Junqiu had some connections with one of the wardens in the inner sect.

This was not the revenge that Ye Qingtang wanted.

“I will take revenge with my own hands,” Ye Qingtang said and squinted her eyes. How could she let the people who dared to touch her people go?

Fei Ying was in a complex mood as he stared at Ye Qingtang’s face.

The Blood Moon Sect Elder had witnessed the whole situation and figured out the whole story. Based on his understanding of Ye Qingtang, she would use her life to protect her people.

“Their abilities are above yours. Are you sure you are going to fight against them together on the Life and Death Ring?” the Blood Moon Sect Elder said.

Ye Qingtang now was still weaker than the weakest person in the four of them. How could she win?

“You don’t need to worry about this.” Ye Qingtang replied.

The Blood Moon Sect Elder was stunned.

“I would have never cared for you if you did not bribe me with the Bonded Soul Pill. I wish you die as soon as possible.’

Ye Qingtang headed back after signing the Life and Death Agreement.

Not long after Ye Qingtang and Fei Ying returned to their home, Ni Shang was sent back by Song Junqiu’s people.

Chapter 375: Life And Death Ring (3)

But when Ye Qingtang saw Ni Shang's current appearance, it was as though a huge rock was pressed on her chest, causing her to be so stifled that breathing was difficult.

The usually petite and pretty girl was laying on bed breathlessly. Her tiny body was covered with bruises, and her clothes were already badly torn. Her fair face was discolored from the bruises, and there was a huge cut on her forehead of which blood flowed along her temples and stained the pillow under her head completely red.

"Ni Shang!" Fei Ying saw Ni Shang's tragic appearance and broke down on the floor immediately.

Ye Qingtang narrowed her eyes at Ni Shang's situation, and her breathing deepened.

"Get out." Ye Qingtang ordered coldly.

Ni Shang sustained too many injuries, and if not treated immediately, she would be completely crippled even if she kept her life.

Looking at Ye Qingtang's cold side profile, Fei Ying did not dare to hesitate and immediately left the room. He shut the door tight and collapsed against it. He clasped his hands tightly and placed it against his forehead as he prayed repeatedly.

He was too useless and thus caused Ni Shang to suffer such torture.

He must become stronger!

No matter what price he had to pay, he must obtain more power and never ever allow... the people around him to suffer again.

In the room, Ye Qingtang took out many elixirs from her space ring and swiftly checked Ni Shang's injuries.

Ni Shang had countless internal and external injuries. Just looking at those hideous wounds, she did not dare to imagine what kind of torture and humiliation she suffered in these three days.

Looking at Ni Shang's current appearance, Ye Qingtang could not help but recall the young girl's shy smile when she nervously called her "Miss" on the first day they met.

Ye Qingtang took a deep breath and forcefully suppressed the murderous intent in her heart.

Song Junqiu, just you wait!

I will definitely return this a hundredfold!!

Ye Qingtang forced herself to calm down and used the spirit energy in her body to heal her injuries. She poured large amounts of elixirs into Ni Shang's mouth without finding it a shame, all to ensure that Ni Shang kept on to her last breath.

After encountering this incident right after she returned, she was fully occupied from day to late night.

Ni Shang's condition finally stabilized a little. As her breathing gradually stabilized, her tightly shut eyes opened with difficulty.

When her clear eyes were opened, terror and despair were written in her eyes as she let out a shrill cry.

“Don’t... Don’t touch me!!” Ni Shang crawled up in fear. Trembling, she clutched on the blanket tightly and curled up in the corner of the bed.

Her struggle caused the wound that had yet to heal to rip open once again, and gushes of blood stained the pure white bandage.

“Ni Shang, it’s me. Don’t be afraid.” Upon seeing Ni Shang’s terrified behavior, Ye Qingtang did her best to gently comfort Ni Shang.

Ni Shang could not stop trembling in fear. After seeing that the person before her was Ye Qingtang, it was as though her body broke down entirely as her purpled lips quivered and parted slightly.

“Mi... Miss...” Large teardrops slid out from her eyes silently. Looking at Ye Qingtang who was like the last straw to clutch at, she fell into Ye Qingtang’s arms in despair.

“Miss... You’re back... You’re finally back...” A heart-wrenching voice escaped Ni Shang’s mouth.

Chapter 376: Life And Death Ring (4)

Ye Qingtang lightly hugged the tiny frame that never stopped trembling, and her brows furrowed.

“It’s all over. I am back already. No one can ever harm you again.”

Ni Shang clutched onto Ye Qingtang’s clothes tightly and choked in between sobs. No one could imagine what kind of suffering she went through in these few days.

Ye Qingtang’s heart ached as she pacified the young girl. Rage gradually flamed up within her as she felt a warm sensation on her blouse due to Ni Shang’s tears.

In the room, Ni Shang’s cries traveled out from the cracks of the door. Upon hearing Ni Shang’s heartbreaking cries, Fei Ying, who was sitting outside the door, felt as if a knife was pierced in his heart. He clenched his teeth and punched the hard rock ground. Even though his knuckles were bleeding badly, it never suppressed the excruciating pain in his heart.

Ni Shang cried for a long time. With her age, how difficult must it have been for her to go through those three days of torture?

She mumbled the torture she experienced in these few days in choppy sentences.

The more Ye Qingtang listened, the more the murderous feeling in her intensified.

In her previous life, Ni Shang did not meet Ye Qingtang and did not have the slightest ability to protect herself, thus ending up being tortured to death.

But this time, the only lucky thing was that Ni Shang was never really humiliated by those three bastards. Before this, the cultivation techniques that Ye Qingtang taught Ni Shang protected Ni Shang’s last thread of dignity. While she was unable to escape, she resisted desperately and never allowed the three disciples to have their way, though the number of beatings she suffered from the resistance was not little.

Ni Shang was exhausted from crying, and her originally frail body could not support itself. Between sobs, she eventually fell into a deep slumber in Ye Qingtang's arms.

However, there no longer was neither pain nor despair on Ni Shang's face this time.

She knew that Miss was back, and she was finally safe.

Ye Qingtang gently settled Ni Shang in bed and left the room.

There was a faint smell of blood outside. There were no emotions on her face when she saw Fei Ying, who collapsed outside the door, and his badly battered fists, which left a trail of blood on the ground

"Do you hate it?" Ye Qingtang asked with a low voice.

Fei Ying looked down and nodded firmly.

"Become stronger then. Strong enough to protect the people around you and never let them suffer again. Otherwise, even if you kill yourself from the hatred, it would only be a joke to those people," Ye Qingtang said coldly.

Fei Ying suddenly looked up. In the dark night, his bright yet sharp eyes were like knives from which the innocence belonging to a young teen was completely absent.

"Miss, I wish to become stronger!"

Ye Qingtang chuckled and nodded.

"I will teach you after the Life and Death Ring. Before that, you must take good care of Ni Shang. Do you hear me?"

"Yes!" Fei Ying gave a firm nod, but worry suddenly emerged in his heart. "Miss, that Life and Death Ring..."

"I know my limits." Afterward, Ye Qingtang returned to her own room.

Ni Shang's injuries weighed heavily on Ye Qingtang's heart. She was clearly aware that her current skills were not considered the top amongst the inner sect disciples, but she must avenge Ni Shang without a doubt!

There were still ten days left...

She must make a breakthrough in these ten days. Otherwise, even if she went on the Life and Death Ring, she would be the one who died.

In her room, her eyes narrowed as she thought of the Life and Death Ring that was going to happen ten days later.

Ten days...

Chapter 377: Ice and Fire (1)

Ye Qingtang was only at the first stage of the First Heaven in the Martial Qi Level One realm while Song Junqiu was already at the third stage of the First Heaven and was only a step away from entering the Second Heaven.

To win against Song Junqiu and the rest on the Life and Death Ring, the only option for her was to break through to the Second Heaven state in these ten days!

However, to advance an entire realm in such a short span of time was easier said than done.

Ye Qingtang was able to achieve remarkable improvements on the eve of the inner sect assessment back then by relying on the effects that the upgrade of her spirit root brought.

Ye Qingtang realized that every time her spirit root was improved, her abilities would increase by leaps and bounds. Currently, she was already an orange spirit root, and while the inner sect was rich in spirit energy, she could clearly feel that the advancement of her spirit root was gradually slowing.

The higher the spirit root was, the harder it was to nourish it. The reason she came to Xuanling Sect was for the Black Heaven Water in Xuanling Sect's mystic realm, which the Palace Lord of the Antiquity Palace talked about the other day. Only the Black Heaven Water could allow her spirit root to improve at a faster speed.

It was just that there were still months to the start of the mystic realm, and only highly-ranked disciples in the inner sect have the qualifications to enter. Given Ye Qingtang's current position in the inner sect, she would probably not have the qualification to enter even if the mystic realm opened.

She only had ten days worth of time then.

Ye Qingtang narrowed her eyes as she pondered over the methods which could increase her skills rapidly. Her eyes swept across the room but realized a familiar figure was missing.

"Xiao Guai?"

Astonished, Ye Qingtang stood up and searched around her courtyard to no avail, with only the little lightning dragon laying on the bed dejectedly.

She only found out from Fei Ying that the silver wolf disappeared unknowingly after she left, and they could not find it despite days of searching.

"What is going on exactly?" Ye Qingtang's brows were furrowed tightly. When she was in the outer sect, she had entrusted the silver wolf under Qin Huan's care as well when she went out on a mission, but when she returned, Qin Huan said the silver wolf disappeared.

It was just that Ye Qingtang thought Qin Huan was blabbering nonsense when she saw the silver wolf.

Yet, unexpectedly...

The silver wolf actually disappeared again?

Ye Qingtang found it strange but could not see any traces of the silver wolf. The Life and Death Ring was going to happen ten days later, and she could not be distracted to search for it right now. Furthermore, Fei Ying had to take care of Ni Shang. Thus, she could only suppress the matter for the moment.

She did not know whether it was an illusion or not, but she was not the slightest anxious although she knew the silver wolf was nowhere to be found, as though she had a premonition somehow.

The disappearance of the silver wolf was not because of any external factors but its own decision.

Leaving the disappearance case aside, Ye Qingtang focused on the matter at hand.

With her usual cultivation, breaking through from stage one of the First Heaven to the Second Heaven in ten days was almost impossible. Time was limited, and Ye Qingtang could only take another route.

The next morning, Ye Qingtang dragged the drowsy Blood Moon Sect Elder up.

“How many Xuanming points do you still have?” Ye Qingtang suddenly asked.

The Blood Moon Sect Elder was still half-asleep as he looked at the number on his bracelet.

“About two thousand.”

A large portion of the Xuanming points was left by Zhou Qu. Since the Blood Moon Sect Elder did not find a use for anything, he had never touched it at all and even earned quite an amount from the mission with Ye Qingtang before.

“Give it to me,” Ye Qingtang said straightforwardly.

“What?” The Blood Moon Sect Elder was slightly stunned.

Ye Qingtang could not be bothered to explain anything and took out a bottle of the Summoning Soul Pills. “Exchange or not?”

Chapter 378: Ice and Fire (2)

“Exchange exchange exchange!” The Blood Moon Sect Elder’s eyes flickered after seeing the Summoning Soul Pill.

Xuanming points were only a string of numbers to him without any use, but the Summoning Soul Pill was a baby.

Then, the Blood Moon Sect Elder slid all his Xuanming points to Ye Qingtang’s bracelet and hugged that bottle of Summoning Soul Pills with a blissful smile.

With the two thousand Xuanming points from the Blood Moon Sect Elder and the few thousands she had, Ye Qingtang had nearly six thousand Xuanming points. Subsequently, she sprinted to the Xuanming Pavilion with the curious Blood Moon Sect Elder following right after.

Ye Qingtang’s arrival in the pavilion immediately drew the attention of many disciples.

“Ye Qingtang? I heard that she issued a challenge on the Life and Death Ring to Song Junqiu and his three followers yesterday. Is it true?”

“Can it not be? The Life and Death Agreement was already signed. In my opinion, she is simply seeking death. She just entered the inner sect for a month yet dared to issue a challenge to four people. If that isn’t seeking death, then what is?”

“Why do I remember that Ye Qingtang is a red spirit root? It was already pretty strange when she entered the inner sect previously. Why is she stirring up trouble now?”

“She is the only red spirit root in the inner sect, which is rather amazing if I were to say. However, she is a little overboard on this matter. What is her skill level now? She’s at most stage one of the First Heaven in Martial Qi Level One, but she actually dared to challenge them?”

“Fighting against four people at one go. Is she really tired of living?”

“Just an inflated ego.”

There was a clamor of discussion amongst the disciples. The news of Ye Qingtang challenging Song Junqiu’s clique had already circulated widely in the inner sect, provoking much noise. It could be said to be the biggest joke in the inner sect recently.

Ye Qingtang walked into the Xuanming Pavilion without bothering about the discussions.

“I want to exchange for the Quenching Flame Pill,” Ye Qingtang said to the Xuanming Pavilion warden.

The Quenching Flame Pill was a type of pill that could stimulate spirit energy and allow the spirit energy in one’s body to reach a peak in a short span of time.

The disciples watched Ye Qingtang in curiosity and reckoned that the Quenching Flame Pill that she exchanged for was to be used on the Life and Death Ring.

However, while the Quenching Flame Pill could boost one’s skills in a short time, the duration of the peak state was extremely short. Moreover, it could stimulate the spirit energy to the maximum because it forcefully catalyzed the effect of the spirit energy in the body. Once the effect wore off, the user would fall into a frail condition very quickly.

Even if Ye Qingtang consumed the Quenching Flame Pill and displayed her peak abilities, it would still be difficult for her to deal with Song Junqiu and the rest on the Life and Death Ring. After all, she had not reached the realm of those four disciples, and the difference of a stage was enough to produce a landslide victory.

The warden looked at Ye Qingtang and said, “One hundred Xuanming points for one pill. How many pills do you want?”

After making an estimation, Ye Qingtang finally replied. “Twenty.”

“...”

Ye Qingtang words caused the onlooking disciples to be dumbfounded.

Twenty pills?

Is she treating the Quenching Flame Pill as a mud ball?

Disciples would only prepare at most one pill on usual days. Who would buy twenty pills at once?

Is she insane?

If she swallowed all of them in a go, wouldn't she explode and die?

The warden clearly did not expect Ye Qingtang to ask for so many as well and only returned to his senses after a while.

"You want twenty pills?"

"Yes." Ye Qingtang nodded.

The warden looked at Ye Qingtang strangely and really could not figure out what she wanted those for. However, since she wanted to exchange for the items, he naturally did not have any reason to stop her.

Chapter 379: Ice and Fire (3)

The warden took out twenty Quenching Flame Pills and slid away two thousand Xuanming points from Ye Qingtang.

To inner sect disciples, two thousand Xuanming points were not considered to be a huge pinch in their hearts, but it was not a small amount either. When the disciples saw Ye Qingtang wasting two thousand Xuanming points just like that, they could not help but mumble that she was a fool.

Ye Qingtang kept the Quenching Flame Pills but did not leave. She calculated her remaining Xuanming points and subsequently said, "I still wish to exchange for Ice Skin Powder."

"Ice Skin Powder?" The warden raised a brow as he looked at Ye Qingtang with an even stranger expression.

If the Quenching Flame Pill was to stimulate spirit energy, then the Ice Skin Powder was a medicinal powder which could completely seal the spirit energy in the body. It was often smeared over one's body during hunting as it could conceal the air released by the spirit energy. However, it would also suppress the use of spirit energy, and hence, most would wipe off the Ice Skin Powder cleanly in a real fight.

The two items that Ye Qingtang asked for consecutively were conflicting in nature, and the warden was even more confused as to what Ye Qingtang had up her sleeves.

The surrounding disciples were all the more at a loss.

Could it be that Ye Qingtang still intended to use the Ice Skin Powder as a secret weapon and scatter it all over Song Junqiu and the rest on the Life and Death Ring?

Just the thought of that caused them to be unable to stifle their laughter.

There was not much use for the Ice Skin Powder, and thus, the Xuanming points required were not much. However, Ye Qingtang used all her remaining three thousand Xuanming points to exchange for two whole buckets of Ice Skin Powder.

Without a single Xuanming point left, Ye Qingtang finally returned to her residence.

As the disciples watched Ye Qingtang leave with two buckets of Ice Skin Powder without saying anything, laughter played in the eyes of the disciples in the Xuanming Pavilion.

“Near six thousand Xuanming points were spent just like that? How extravagant...”

“If I were to say, wouldn’t it be better to cultivate a few hours in the Spirit Consonance River with those Xuanming points? What can she do with a pile of Quenching Flame Pills and Ice Skin Powder? Could she swallow all twenty Quenching Flame Pills in a go on the Life and Death Ring?”

“Swallow all? Don’t kid me. If she consumed so many of it in a short time, Ye Qingtang would just die on the ring without Song Junqiu and the rest laying a finger.”

Watching Ye Qingtang’s slowly departing back view, the disciples could not stop snickering as they felt that Ye Qingtang was walking further down the path of death. They were afraid that she would have an ugly death ten days later.

After leaving Xuanming Pavilion, Ye Qingtang returned to her residence straight away.

Fei Ying was still looking after Ni Shang. Thus, Ye Qingtang got herself a bathtub of hot water. She shut her door tightly and laid the Quenching Flame Pills and the Ice Skin Powder aside.

Her eyes were narrowed as she looked at the room that was lingering with mist. After testing the temperature of the water, she immediately poured half a bucket of Ice Skin Powder into the bathtub.

The Ice Skin Powder, which gave off a cold air, dissolved in the water. Immediately, the water that was initially producing steam lost all its heat and was faintly emitting a slight tinge of cold air.

Seeing that the Ice Skin Powder was completely dissolved, Ye Qingtang subsequently took off her outer cloak and entered the bathtub.

The ice cold water brimmed over her in an instant. The effect of half a bucket of Ice Skin Powder caused the water in the bathtub to drop to a piercingly cold temperature.

In just a moment, Ye Qingtang’s complexion turned pale from the cold. However, she took a deep breath and forced herself to bear the bitter cold. She sat in the bathtub cross-legged, trying with all her might to ignore the prickling cold on her skin

Chapter 380: Ice and Fire (4)

Ye Qingtang took a deep breath and swallowed a Quenching Flame Pill.

The Quenching Flame Pill dissolved the moment it entered her mouth, with its bitterness mixed with a burning sensation traveling down from her throat to her abdomen.

Instantly, a blazing-like burn spread throughout Ye Qingtang’s abdomen. The boiling hot sensation in her body and the piercing cold on her skin formed a distinct contrast.

Under the catalysis of the Quenching Flame Pill, the spirit energy in Ye Qingtang’s body began to surge continuously throughout her entire body and reached a peak. That surging spirit energy desperately wanted to escape the body in search of a place to be released, but the water that was mixed with large

quantities of Ice Skin Powder, which her body was submerged in, sealed that wild energy in her body with not a tiny bit being leaked out.

To advance one realm in ten days was absolutely not what an ordinary person could achieve and definitely impossible for even a rare genius of a century.

To win the Life and Death Ring ten days later, she had to take another route. What she did today was an extreme method which stimulated her potential.

She used the medicinal effect of the Quenching Flame Pill to stimulate her spirit energy to a peak in a short span of time and then used the Ice Skin powder to seal all the spirit energy in the body.

This type of cultivation method was only discovered a hundred years later in her previous life, and obviously, no one was aware of it currently.

As long as Ye Qingtang could withstand the torture of the two extremes of ice and fire, she could continue to be at her ultimate limit; cultivating under this extreme condition could allow the improvement in her cultivation to be maximized. However, there was a drawback to this cultivation method.

Forcefully sealing the surging spirit energy in her body would be an extremely great burden to the spirit root. If the spirit energy surged too much, the spirit root might even be damaged and ruined.

Hence, in her previous life, although many knew of this method which could increase their skills rapidly, only a few dared to use it.

However... Ye Qingtang knew a method which could avoid the spirit root from being ruined.

Ye Qingtang slowly raised the Floating Pagoda that was held in her hand for a long time. She placed her hands together and positioned the Floating Pagoda in her palm. In the interlacing of ice and fire, she calmed her heart and catalyzed the Floating Pagoda, guiding its energy into her body bit by bit.

These Floating Pagodas were obtained back in the Treasure Pavilion in Lin Town. All this while, she had always used the Floating Pagoda to nourish her spirit root.

Floating Pagodas were rather effective in nourishing the spirit root, and in this extreme cultivation method, it could protect the spirit root from suffering any damage.

Ye Qingtang still had a few Floating Pagodas in her hands, which should be enough for ten days of cultivation.

With the Floating Pagoda's protection of the spirit root which isolated the damage from the Quenching Flame Pill, Ye Qingtang calmed her heart and regulated her breathing, completely absorbed in her cultivation. In the torment of the extremities, she directed the spirit energy in her body to her eight extraordinary meridians. With the flow of the spirit energy, Ye Qingtang could clearly feel that the spirit energy in her body was increasing sharply along with time.

Delight filled her, but she did not dare to move around. In just an instant, she calmed down and continued cultivating.

Because the spirit energy was always sealed in the body, the effect of the Quenching Flame Pill did not disappear completely, and this extreme cultivation could be sustained. Ye Qingtang calculated the duration of the effect that each Quenching Flame Pill could last, which was roughly at most eight hours. She required at least two pills a day, which was why she bought twenty of them.