

## Refining 281

### Chapter 281 - Request

The big fellow was the first to quote a price. "Qin Yu, I will give you 1000 points for the fire kirin!"

The beast hunters who were drawn here all sucked in a deep breath, envy in their eyes.

Heavens, 1000 points! One had to hunt down and kill 50 Nascent Soul level monster beasts to obtain that many points.

This amount was already astonishing!

Yang Baizhan sneered. "You want to obtain the fire kirin with 1000 points? I will bid 1500 points! Qin Yu, I will not try to deceive you. To pay this amount of points to purchase the fire kirin, you will absolutely not experience a loss!"

The big fellow was so angered that his eyes almost popped out. Just a while ago he had exchanged for a secret body training technique and the 1000 points he offered were borrowed. He couldn't increase the amount even if he wanted.

He clenched his teeth and said, "Qin Yu, if you give me the fire kirin, not only will I give you 1000 points but I will even give you a group membership and allow you to join my team. Not only will you be far safer, but you can join a squad to hunt and kill monster beasts in the future, obtaining steady streams of points!"

Yang Baizhan frowned. A group membership was extremely costly. After all, only hunters with a rich level of experience could join their beast hunter teams and there was also a high requirement in terms of strength.

But at this time, before he could even speak, the last Divine Soul real cultivator who arrived spoke up. He smiled and said, "Qin Yu, joining a high level beast hunter team might allow you to obtain more points, but at the same time you will need to experience various dangers. With your cultivation I'm afraid the dangers will be too deadly. So, I suggest you don't accept the offer of that seemingly generous condition."

Wang Yuanan's eyes brightened. This person was truly worthy of being his uncle's advisor. His words had broken apart Yang Baizhan and that other man's largest advantage. As long as he continued to offer more benefits, why would Qin Yu not agree?

And indeed, the man's smile relaxed. He continued, "I can give you 3000 points; that is almost the equivalent of a monster king rank monster beast. That is absolutely a great profit. What do you think? Can you sell the fire kirin to me?"

Qin Yu was well aware that there must be some situation concerning the fire kirin that he wasn't aware of. Otherwise, even though this was a high level monster beast, how could it possibly attract bidding from so many powerhouses? His instincts told him not to sell the fire kirin, but with three Divine Soul realm powerhouses waiting for him on all sides, if he really refused them then he feared there would be great troubles waiting.

For a time, he couldn't think of a reason he could give to refuse. He could only stand there with a thoughtful face, as if he were deep in contemplation. He hoped that if he dragged things on for a little longer, a favorable turn would appear. In the worst case situation if he really needed to sell the fire kirin, the more he dragged things out, the more powerhouses would arrive and the greater the chances that he could sell it for a higher price.

Yang Baizhan shouted out, "Qin Yu, I will give you 2000 points and also a team membership! You should know that if you miss out on this chance, it will take at least two years until you can join a high level beast hunter squad!"

The big fellow's eyes hardened. "I need the fire kirin to cultivate. If you can help me, I will surely look after you in the battalion." There was a deeper meaning behind these words. In simpler terms, if Qin Yu refused him, he had best watch his back in the future.

It was an open threat!

"Humph! Chen Taien, this is the Beast Hunting Battalion, a place of rules and regulations! Don't push things too far!" The last Divine Soul realm cultivator said in a low voice, "Qin Yu, just make your choice. I want to see just who dares to move against you."

These words were very persuasive and charismatic, but in truth there wasn't any practicality behind them. They were completely hollow words.

Qin Yu revealed a bitter expression, as if he were nervous and frightened. At the same time, he was rapidly thinking over which person to choose. At this point, a voice sounded from outside the tent. "Captains, it looks like you're all having fun right now."

The complexions of the three captains changed, all of them revealing shocked looks. Then they hurriedly turned and cupped their hands together, "Greetings, Counselor Xu."

Within the army, there was the position of advisor. However, these advisors were usually of low status and were normally dependent on other people. In reality this Mister Xu Jiao was also an advisor. But, the one he served was the person with the highest status within Beast Hunting Battalion, the Lord Commander, and he was also highly regarded by him. Thus, he had considerable status and was politely referred to as Counselor Xu.

Xu Jiao cupped his hands together. "I came here by order of the commander to look for the one who killed the fire kirin, Qin Yu. I am here to ask whether or not he is prepared to go to the Beast Hunting Station to complete the delivery."

Wang Yuanan's complexion paled. He never imagined that at such a critical moment, the Lord Commander would intervene. He glanced at his uncle's subordinate, but that Divine Soul realm cultivator kept his eyes lowered as if he didn't see anything at all. This almost caused his lungs to explode in rage.

The big fellow completely changed his previously aggressive posture. He laughed and warmly smiled, "Since this is what the commander wishes, then I will certainly step back. I was a bit rash before, so I hope Counselor Xu can explain things for me."

Yang Baizhan nodded repeatedly, "I agree."

Xu Jiao faintly smiled. "The actions of the fellow captains are reasonable, so I'm sure the Lord Commander will understand." As he spoke, he cupped his hands together, "May I ask, are you Qin Yu?"

Qin Yu respectfully bowed. "Greetings, Counselor Xu."

Xu Jiao glanced around, revealing a brief look of surprise before he composed himself. "Qin Yu, the Lord Commander has sent out an announcement on the Beast Hunter Station, stating that as long as someone hunts down and kills the fire kirin, they can obtain 800 points as well as the rights to make one request of the Lord Commander. Of course, this request has to be within reasonable limits. The reason I came here today is to ask you on the behest of the commander, whether or not you would like to exchange the fire kirin's corpse and receive the rewards from the station."

The surrounding people all revealed looks of awe and envy. Wang Yuanan's eyes popped wide open, as if he wished he could dismember Qin Yu with his glare!

Qin Yu's heart skipped a beat. He finally understood why so many people had taken a liking to his fire kirin. The most essential point here was that reasonable request.

This request was only limited to being within a 'reasonable range', meaning there was a great amount of leeway. Compared to 1000, 2000, or even 3000 points, it was far more valuable. If one considered this, then those three Divine Soul realm masters had taken him as a fool with their suggested price tags. However, with the vast disparity of strength between them, this was also normal.

Qin Yu thought for a moment and then after a period of silence, he bowed. "I am willing to exchange the fire kirin!" This was a certainty. This could free him from his current predicament and also allow him to obtain the greatest advantages. Yang Baizhan and the others all knew that if Qin Yu wasn't an idiot, he would definitely agree. Still, they couldn't conceal their disappointment.

Qin Yu continued to say, "It's just that I need some time to consider what request to make."

Xu Jiao smiled. "Mm, this chance is precious, so you indeed need time to think about it." He thought for a moment and said, "How about this. You can stay at the inn tonight. I'll give you a night to rest and think about what you want. Tomorrow, the Lord Commander will call you in for an interview."

Qin Yu hurriedly nodded. As he looked around from the corners of his eyes, he discovered that the envy in everyone's eyes had become even thicker.

Inn...wasn't that just a place to live? Was there a need to be like that?

When Qin Yu was led to the place, he finally understood why those beast hunters were all looking at him with eyes filled with envy so thick it was almost hate.

The inn was a place to live, but it was more than just pure lodgings.

Sitting beneath dim waning lights there was a bevy of beauties wreathed in mist, all of them wrapped in a mysterious and seductive aura. Their eyes seemed to possess countless tiny hooks, making it difficult for one to keep their composure.

The soldier who led him here had a voice thick with envy. "Counselor Xu has already made all arrangements for you. If you have any demands, feel free to ask." He turned and left.

Qin Yu was immediately warmly brought into the inn. But, what left the beautiful madam disappointed was that this fierce, dragon-like man who was also fresh and so delicious, actually didn't reveal any change in his complexion. He refused the banquet and young ladies she had arranged for him and only asked for a room with absolute silence.

He opened the door and entered. After dismissing the servant, Qin Yu closed the door, blocking out all the noise and chaos of the outside. He sat down and began to ponder on just what sort of request he could make that would be the most beneficial for him.

Time slowly passed and the door remained tightly shut. Madam Mulberry, who had been observing all this time, revealed a look of astonishment before her eyes flashed with a bit of admiration.

Her place was known as the grotto of ecstasy that could slowly grind away even the hardest of needles. And, things weren't as simple as they seemed. Whether it was in the arrangements that were made, the atmosphere, or even the aphrodisiacs that constantly scented the air, everything here was meant to provoke and tantalize the desires of men to their limits.

If someone could withstand all of this without being moved, this person definitely wasn't simple.

Madam Mulberry waved her hand. She called the servant over and spoke some words to him. Then, the servant bowed and left in a hurry.

Soon after, Mister Xu Jiao received the news while reading through books. Following a moment of silence, he smiled.

This junior was actually quite smart.

The next day, things continued as scheduled.

Within the room, Qin Yu opened his eyes, a sharp light flashing within them. A light smile lit up his face.

He had finally decided on what request to make of the Lord Commander.

There was a knock on the door. It opened to reveal the soldier who had brought him here yesterday. The man had a strange look on his face as he stared at Qin Yu for several moments and then said, "Please follow me."

He first met with Xu Jiao. Then, he had to wait for a long time for work to be finished before he could meet with the Lord Commander. However, Qin Yu didn't have any opinion of this. This person possessed the highest level of authority within the Beast Hunting Battalion. To be able to meet with him already far surpassed Qin Yu's expectations.

The security was strict and stern. The door was pushed open and Qin Yu entered. He saw the rumored Lord Commander. He was a delicate and even pretty man who looked to be in his thirties, and who possessed an elegant bearing to him.

"Brother Xu, this is the Qin Yu who killed the fire kirin?"

Xu Jiao was warm and gentle to others, but the reality was that he was incredibly prideful and arrogant to the bones. However, right now he bowed and his voice was completely respectful. "Reporting to the commander, he is Qin Yu."

Qin Yu hurriedly bowed, "Greetings, Lord Commander!"

His heart shook.

This Lord Commander appeared average at first glance, but after sensing things a bit more carefully, he was actually horrifyingly scary. He was like a vast sea, completely unnoticeable when it was calm and balmy. But, once enraged, he would be like a wild storm with dreadful waves crashing about, capable of destroying all.

Blue Sea realm!

Moreover, this wasn't an ordinary Blue Sea realm.

Qin Yu didn't know how strong this Lord Commander was, but there was one thing he was sure of. This commander was the most formidable powerhouse he had seen in his life so far!

A light gleamed in the commander's eyes. Qin Yu froze, feeling as if his entire body was seen through. "Mm, not bad, no wonder you were able to kill the fire kirin."

It was clear he had realized something.

Qin Yu tensed and his breathing came to a halt.

### **Chapter 282 – Everything Ready**

The commander smiled. "Alright, there's no need to be so nervous. The reason I called you here today is to ask you, what sort of request do you want to make? I promise that as long as it is within reason, I may agree."

Xu Jiao's eyes flashed with surprise. After a moment of thought, he said with a voice thick with meaning, "Qin Yu, you have clearly heard the Lord Commander's words. Consider it carefully."

Qin Yu nodded. "Thank you for the reminder, Counselor Xu." He bowed and earnestly said, "Lord Commander, I hope that I can obtain your permission to not join any hunting squad."

The commander's expression didn't change. "You're saying you wish for the right to move independently?"

Qin Yu respectfully nodded.

Then, the Lord Commander revealed a look of astonishment.

Xu Xiao furrowed his eyebrows. He said, "Qin Yu, do you know that everyone within the Beast Hunting Battalion has a bare minimum they need to accomplish each month?"

"I knew before I came."

"Then, do you know that monster beasts run rampant in the wilderness, and the number of formidable monster beasts is incalculable? A single mistake and you will have stepped beyond redemption!"

Qin Yu bowed deeply. "I understand."

This reply indicated his stance.

Xu Jiao's frown tightened and he didn't speak further.

The Lord Commander slowly said, "Good, I will agree with your request. But, if you don't accomplish the minimum amount every month, you must accept punishment and your special privilege will be revoked. You will have to join a beast hunter squad then."

Qin Yu bowed, "Thank you, Lord Commander!"

The commander waved his hand. Qin Yu took several steps back and left.

Xu Jiao didn't send him away. He waited for Qin Yu to leave and then asked, "Lord Commander, do you know why he put forth such a request?"

The commander smiled. He lightly said, "Perhaps he doesn't have a sense of security...you should also be aware of Yuan Jingzhe's meddling and some reasons why."

Xu Jiao said, "Commander is wise. If so, then this Qin Yu must have some treasure in hand that he isn't willing to let others know about."

The commander helplessly shook his head, "You actually farted out this sort of poor flattery. Your methods have declined so much." He narrowed his eyes, a light smile on his lips.

Demon Body...if he was worth cultivating, then he might be worth some more attention in the future.

Qin Yu left the commander's office. Then, led by a specialized person, he exchanged the fire kirin's corpse and obtained 900 points, as well as some necessary items for beast hunters.

Handphone points card, monster beast distribution map, as well as a long set of black robes designed for beast hunters. Disregarding everything else, just these beast hunter robes were of extraordinarily high quality and they also possessed a function of restraining one's aura. If he were to walk through the wilderness with these robes, they might save his life.

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "May I ask how I can exchange points for items?"

A cultivator from the logistics department said, "There is a pre-installed application in your handphone. As long as you open it and bind your points card to it, you can exchange your points."

Qin Yu lowered his head and fiddled with the handphone. He smiled. Sure enough, it was convenient and fast. He cupped his hands and bid his farewells.

Because he obtained special permission to operate alone, Qin Yu's residence was an independent one. This was already treatment reserved for high level beast hunters.

So, within his neighborhood, there was also that Yang Baizhan.

When he saw Qin Yu admitted here, his eyes widened. He recalled the interference of the Lord Commander and seemed to guess something

This Qin Yu, his status didn't seem ordinary at all.

The residence was strengthened by a powerful array formation. After opening it, one could isolate the outside from the inside, without any interference between. Qin Yu took out his handphone and then opened up the exchange application. He input the characters, 'Alchemy Text', and started searching.

In the blink of an eye, countless lines of detailed information appeared on the screen.

[A Long Explanation of Alchemy] – 3000 years ago, the author was an alchemist immortal teacher of the Bluecloud Sect, one of the largest alchemy sects of all the nations. He recorded his attainments and experiences in detail from when he was first refining pills. Although there were parts that were glossed over or murky, this was still a rare and ancient alchemy text, worth 1000 points.

[Little Circle of Energy] – This was an ancient alchemy text with an inheritance surpassing 5000 years. It was unknown who the exact author was. This ancient text created a strange new path and explained how to use the flesh and blood of monster beasts to supplement pills, giving them an added effect of strengthening the body. It was marked at 800 points.

alchemy techniques and was worth 600 points.

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[Primary Pill Collection] – Daoist Dongpo spent a hundred years of time and effort to compile 800 alchemy recipes. It also recorded alchemy pills in detail and how to refine them. The price was 700 points.

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. There was indeed what he wanted!

He chose to exchange for it without hesitation. After tapping the screen several times, there was a beep and his points card only showed around 200 points left. There was an immediate incoming call. He answered it and heard a pleasant woman's voice speaking to him, "Respected beast hunter Qin Yu, your exchange has been accepted. In one hour, the [Primary Pill Collection] will be delivered to you. I wish you a happy life."

It was an hour – no more, no less. A sword light fell down outside his door. Qin Yu opened the courtyard doors to find a sword cultivator waiting, a metal box in his hands. "Beast hunter Qin Yu, this is the item you exchanged for. Please give me your confirmation code."

Qin Yu thought of the information he received on his handphone. He opened it to find a complex and disorderly line of characters. The sword cultivator pressed a button on the metal box. A beam of light projected outwards, falling onto the confirmation code on the screen in Qin Yu's hand, and then with a light sound, the box opened.

A single sealed text appeared.

Once Qin Yu took the text, the sword cultivator cupped his hands across his chest. "The exchange has been completed. Goodbye!"

Whoosh –

His figure shot into the skies.

Qin Yu couldn't help but sigh. Even the sword cultivator responsible for delivering items had a Divine Soul realm cultivation. He closed the courtyard doors and walked back in.

He ripped open the seal and the text within revealed its true appearance. The yellow pages carried with them a thick scent of the years. It was clear it had existed in this world for a long time.

On the front page, the characters [Primary Pill Collection] had a faintly ethereal atmosphere to them.

Qin Yu opened the text and a bright light immediately emitted from it. The characters flew up, flying into the point between his eyebrows. A moment later, the light dispersed. The text in Qin Yu's hand trembled before collapsing into dust.

He opened his eyes, a bright light flashing through them. Qin Yu smiled. The entire contents of the [Primary Pill Collection] had been branded into his mind. The numerous pill recipes contained within were truly exquisite.

With these pill recipes in hand, Qin Yu could gather spirit plants throughout the wilderness. Then, he could use the little blue lamp to speed up their growth and eventually refine them into pills that he could swallow to rapidly increase his cultivation. In the land of exiles, the Nascent Soul realm existed at the peak of the world. But in the land of Divinity and Demons, they could barely be called masters. Comparatively speaking, they were worse off than Golden Cores in the land of exiles.

Improving his talent was a key aspect in his future achievements. But, Qin Yu had to guarantee that he had enough strength to live until then. Only by living could he pursue a better future. It was because of this that he used up his precious request to obtain permission to operate independently.

Of course, when Xu Jiao said the wilderness was filled with dangers, Qin Yu also knew that. But, he believed that with his concealing methods and aura-restraining techniques, he would be fine as long as he was a bit more careful.

This was because he didn't care how many monster beasts he hunted as long as he met the bare monthly minimum. The majority of his time and energy would be spent on searching for spirit plants, refining pills, and increasing his cultivation.

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There was no more hope for the fire kirin, and because of this, Wang Yuanan's hate towards Qin Yu had reached the extreme. If it wasn't for his uncle guaranteeing that he would help him via other means, Wang Yuanan would have probably rushed over and tried to kill him.

Although he knew he couldn't do anything within the boundaries of the Beast Hunting Battalion, he still sent people to tightly monitor Qin Yu. So, he soon learned of Qin Yu's actions.

He had wasted his precious request for the right to hunt monster beasts alone...and of the 900 points he obtained, most of them had been used to exchange for the [Primary Pill Collection]...

This brat must have been kicked in the head!

If all of that was given to him, then by this time he might have already obtained the First Grade Lotus. This bastard Qin Yu, he deserved to be torn to pieces!



“Young master, it looks like Qin Yu is worried that we will harm him, so he made such a request towards the commander to hunt monster beasts alone.” Zhang Chen sneered. “However, it seems he doesn’t understand how terrifying the wilderness is. With his mere Nascent Soul cultivation, entering the wilderness alone is no different from suicide!”

“No, that’s wrong. Although Qin Yu is only a Nascent Soul, when we surrounded him to kill him, he erupted with strength that was only a bit off from a Divine Soul. If he did his best to survive, then even though the wilderness is dangerous, there might not necessarily be problems for him.” Another subordinate said.

“Young master, I suspect that this Qin Yu is an alchemist. Otherwise, why would he spend points on a useless Primary Pill Collection?”

Wang Yuanan’s eyes shined. “Are you saying that Qin Yu wants to use alchemy to establish his own status and then gradually increase his strength?”

“That’s right. With his strength that is close to Divine Soul, as long as he only tries to complete the bare minimum and doesn’t want to hunt down monster beasts for points, then there shouldn’t be any problems with his safety. Then, he could refine pills in the battalion and slowly gather benefits.”

Wang Yuanan coldly sneered. “What a great plan of his, but he never asked me whether or not I agree to it! Immediately tell uncle that I want Qin Yu to not be able to make any alchemy transactions within the battalion! There cannot be any way for him to increase his cultivation! Once I make a breakthrough and raise my status, I can find a reason to kill Qin Yu off. At that time, the worst punishment I’ll receive is a penalty!”

“Young master is right. I will immediately go!”

When Qin Yu was mulling over the new pill recipes, he didn’t know that someone had already guessed his ‘true intent’ and had responded to him.

The Primary Pill Collection had a total of 800 pill recipes. But, the majority of them were useless to Qin Yu.

Right now, what he lacked were Nascent Soul realm cultivation pills. After screening out the possibilities, he finally settled on the potential pills he wanted.

Sunmoon Pill, Overwhelming Pill, Singular Essence Restoring Pill, Mountains and Rivers Pill – these four types of pills could strengthen his magic power.

Essence Juncture Pill, Soul Renewal Pill, Halcyon Pill, Origin Balancing Pill – these four kinds of pills could enhance the soul.

Crouching Tiger Pill, Dragon Origin Pill, Blood Spirit Pill – these three types of pills could toughen the mortal body.

These 11 types of pills were considered ordinary pills. Although their effects were average, in terms of gathering materials and refining, they were more convenient.

Even if the effects weren't too good, he could overcome this with pure numbers. Moreover, there was also the purifying effect of the little blue lamp. As long as the refinement process was simple, nothing else should be a problem.

Now, everything was ready. All he needed to do was wait until he entered the wilderness and searched for alchemy materials.

Qin Yu wasn't too worried about this. Within the Land of Divinity and Demons, the spiritual strength in the atmosphere was incredibly rich, and thus there were many heavenly materials all around, so many that it was hard to imagine. Especially now. The deeper he went, the rarer cultivators were and the more spirit plants there were. While he was rushing over here he hadn't had any thoughts of picking them, but he had seen a tremendous quantity of spirit plants along the way.

Two days later, after ensuring his condition was fine and all his minor inner injuries were healed, he quietly left the courtyard through a transmission array and departed from the Beast Hunting Battalion.

Shua –

Light flashed. His figure appeared somewhere in the middle of the mountains below. It seemed that this was the docking point for the transmission array.

### **Chapter 283 – Spiritual Strength Upsurge**

In the Beast Hunting Battalion, there were extremely severe punishments for plotting to murder one's own companions. But, driven by powerful competition for benefits, tragic events still occurred. To avoid unnecessary deaths as much as possible, every hunting squad within the Beast Hunting Battalion had their own independent transmission array, each one anchored to a different location.

Qin Yu hunted alone and had his own separate residence, so he naturally enjoyed the benefits given to other squads with similar qualifications. Stepping off the transmission array, he first carefully checked his surroundings. There was a thick layer of dust on the ground, indicating that no one had been here for a long time. After looking around, he walked out. He was like rolling leaves in the autumn wind, quietly flying outwards.

Almost immediately, a horrendous stench filled his nose and mouth. His complexion didn't change but his movements became gentler.

Not long after, a group of pitch black monster beasts that lived not too far away from the mountain's entrance arrived in front of him. A look of understanding crossed Qin Yu's face. He finally understood why this transmission array hadn't been discovered by other monster beasts even though it had existed here for so long.

Stinky fox. These monster beasts were appropriately named. Below their pitch black fur, they had developed numerous sweat glands. These secreted liquids that would dissipate when they encountered the air beneath the sunlight, turning into the stench that Qin Yu just smelled.

Human cultivators might be able to endure this stench. But, to monster beasts who had developed extremely keen olfactory senses, this sort of odor represented devastating damage.

The transmission array was constructed deep within the habitat of the stinky foxes. The person who could come up with such a plan was certainly a genius. And, did anyone wonder why the stinky foxes didn't venture deep into the mountain? One reason was their extremely lazy dispositions, and the second reason was sunlight. Only beneath the sunlight could the liquid secreted from their sweat glands vaporize. With this ability, no creature dared to offend Sir Stink Fox!

Of course, these were all needless details. Right now, what Qin Yu needed to do was leave the mountain without alarming them.

The stinky foxes could be said to have almost no natural enemies, because there were no other creatures that were interested in them. Over the endless years, almost all of their faculties had degenerated. The only things left remaining on their round and pudgy bodies were their two furry and greasy giant ears that preserved their keen sense of hearing. Not even the slightest rustle of the grass could be hidden from them.

When sleeping stinky foxes were awakened, they would immediately spray out a massive amount of sweat and that rich stench would nearly condense into essence. Qin Yu didn't hope he would suffer such a terrifying baptism.

When he was in the sea region, after swallowing up the strange tumor Qin Yu had obtained an amazing aura-restraining method. He could tighten his flesh and blood and bone, nearly blocking in all of his aura. He was like a shadow, quietly floating forwards, fluttering past the den of deeply slumbering stinky foxes.

Pa –

Around 800 meters away, a monster beast that was gnawing away at a severed head suddenly shook its ears. Its fierce, bloodstained face revealed a look of surprise. Just what sort of monster beast was this? It had actually never encountered it before. There was a hint of a water vapor feeling to it, similar to the sea monster beasts located deep in its inherited bloodline memory.

But this was the wilderness, located on the mainland. How could a sea monster beast possibly appear here? It flung back its head, sending blood and meat scattering everywhere. Its strong and thick hind legs moved and its sleek body rushed forwards like an arrow, soaring directly towards that aura.

However, when this monster beast ran through a dense bush of thorns, a pair of arms suddenly reached out and grabbed its neck.

Kacha –

With a crisp cracking sound, a figure tumbled onto the ground with the monster beast.

Qin Yu happily smiled. With a flick of his sleeves, the monster beast's corpse was put away. 30 points appeared in his points card with it.

He was only 20 points away from reaching the lowest monthly minimum. As long as he hunted a monster beast of similar strength, he would complete it.

As he thought, this wasn't difficult at all.

Hu –

With a flash of light, Qin Yu's figure vanished from sight.

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In the astral winds above the nine heavens, on the floating mountain where the Beast Hunting Battalion was located, the Lord Commander was sitting with a dark expression, sifting through the jade slip in his hand. After a moment he placed down the jade slip and slowly said, "Brother Xu, immediately inform everyone that all operations within the Beast Hunting Battalion will come to a stop for three days."

Xu Jiao's complexion changed. "Commander, is there a real eruption?"

"Mm. Go as quickly as you can. We must prevent as much damage as possible."

Xu Jiao nodded and hurried away.

Soon, from the signal tower at the summit, news spread through every corner of the floating mountain.

"Emergency notification – due to recent anomalies in heaven and earth spiritual energy, all beast hunter squads are restricted from hunting for the next three days.

"Fellow beast hunters, there may be some confusion concerning the upsurge of spiritual strength, so we will once more explain it to you today. When there is an upsurge in heaven and earth spiritual strength, countless spirit treasures will be born in a short period of time. Moreover, a massive number of monster beasts will be drawn into the scope of the spiritual strength upsurge, causing the danger level of the wilderness to increase by a drastic degree.

"All previous spiritual strength upsurges have resulted in massive casualties. All beast hunting squads outside must return as soon as possible to avoid potential deaths.

"To my Beast Hunting Battalion, this will be a great period of tempering. Every time a spiritual strength upsurge occurs, several king-step monster beasts will be born, their strength terrifying to the extreme."

By the time Xu Jiao returned to the commander's office, two hours had passed. "The news has been passed out. All of the hunter squads outside are hurrying back. We discovered this upsurge of spiritual strength promptly this time so there shouldn't be any problems."

The commander nodded and wearily rubbed his temples. "Although you say that, after the upsurge of spiritual strength, the new king-level monster beasts will be a great enough headache."

Xu Jiao said, "With our strength, it is impossible to hunt down a large number of king-step monster beasts. At the appropriate time, you will need to make a request to the army for assistance."

The commander fell silent for several breaths of time. He slowly nodded and furrowed his eyebrows, "Have you informed Qin Yu?"

Xu Jiao's face stiffened. "He...although he has the right to hunt alone, he doesn't have the qualifications to apply to use a satellite handphone, so he wasn't directly notified. However, Qin Yu just arrived at the battalion so he should be spending this time adapting. As long as he is on the mountain, he will naturally learn of the spiritual strength upsurge and he won't recklessly move about."

The commander nodded. "Go and warn him. Tell him the upsurge of spiritual strength is no minor matter and he must not go out hunting no matter the reason."

Xu Jiao nodded respectfully and turned to leave. As he did, a dignified light shined in his eyes. It seemed that Qin Yu had something that made the commander value him, otherwise there was no way he would pay attention to a mere Nascent Soul.

As he was thinking this, he moved faster. In order to become the adviser that was highly regarded by the commander and also closest to him, his strength and intelligence were without question. Moreover, his ability to consider situations for the commander and also reliably manage things was also important.

But soon, Xu Jiao's complexion darkened!

Qin Yu's residence had a log of his transmission records. It showed that he had entered the wilderness before the warning of the spiritual strength upsurge occurred. Xu Jiao bitterly smiled. Although this wasn't his fault, since Qin Yu was a person that the commander valued; if something were to happen to him then he would inevitably be implicated.

He didn't dare to delay. Xu Jiao hurriedly returned. After the commander received his explanation, he fell silent with furrowed eyebrows. Xu Jiao probingly asked, "Commander, should I send people to look for him?"

The commander shook his head. "As the commander, I cannot risk the lives of others for Qin Yu. Perhaps this might be a tribulation he must pass in his life. Everything will depend on his good fortune."

Xu Jiao's eyes flashed with regret. Since Qin Yu was valued by the commander, this meant he would surely have great achievements in the future. But what a pity, his luck was too poor. He actually entered the wilderness at a time when the spiritual strength upsurge occurred.

This tribulation might not be one he could pass!

Wang Yuanan was pleasantly surprised. "What did you say? Qin Yu entered the wilderness? Is this news reliable?"

The subordinate smiled. "Originally, we shouldn't be able to overhear such things, but Commander Xu ordered a review of Qin Yu's transmission records and it was found that he had indeed entered the wilderness just recently."

"Haha! Wonderful, that's too wonderful!" Wang Yuanan's smile spread from ear to ear. "Qin Yu, Qin Yu, you brought this upon yourself. I hope you die in agonizing pain!"

Bang –

With a loud collision, Qin Yu stormed backwards. His chest had been torn by sharp claws and thick red blood quickly gushed out, moistening his robes. He panted for breath. He didn't give a thought to gathering the corpse of the monster beast that had just fallen, and instead quickly ran away.

Several breaths of time after Qin Yu left, four great wolves appeared on the scene of battle. They lowered their heads and sniffed the corpse of their companion. Then, all of them howled in anger. Their sturdy hind legs violently pushed into the ground and they leapt towards the direction Qin Yu went in, chasing after him. Their strong bodies crashed into ancient trees, directly smashing them apart.

Rumble rumble –

From the air, it looked as if earth dragons were racing across the ground, roaring into the distance.

Qin Yu lifted a hand and the Five Element Swords flew out. They spun in a vortex, cutting into a stone wall ahead and immediately digging out a deep hole. With a flick of his sleeves he took out the giant chunk of stone and then used a sword to cut off a section. Then, he used his magic power to shatter the rest into powder. Qin Yu snuck into the hole and covered the entrance with the remaining section of stone.

Hu –

He let out a deep breath. His aura rapidly disappeared, making him seem as if he merged together with the mountain stone around him.

Soon, the stone wall gently trembled. The four howling great wolves came to a halt outside. They roared in rage and restlessness. After dashing about for a long time, they finally left.

In the darkness, Qin Yu's tense mind finally relaxed a little. He forced out a smile. It seemed that he had underestimated how dangerous the wilderness was.

Two hours later, his injuries had gradually healed. Qin Yu reached out a hand, thrusting out magic power and quietly breaking the stone in front of him. He stepped out.

He took a breath and his complexion changed. There was an additional light mist in the world. This wasn't mist made from water, but was mist condensed from pure spiritual strength. What happened recently that would cause the heaven and earth spiritual strength here to become so rich in such a short period of time?

Before he could think of an answer, his eyes paused. Not too far away, there was an ancient tree wrapped in a vine. The vine was mostly withered away, but there were some flowers that bloomed bright on it, emitting a light fragrance in the wind.

The withered vine's flowers were one of the items required to refine the Singular Essence Restoring Pill. Because there were a number of harsh conditions required for it to be born, there was only a very small quantity of it and it was considered one of the more precious spirit plants.

He never thought that his luck would be so good. Was this what people meant when they said that good fortune awaited those that survived great disaster?

The Primary Pill Collection contained not only pill recipes, but there was also an extremely detailed section on spirit plants.

Qin Yu carefully picked off the withered vine's flowers. When he turned around and took several steps out, he discovered that his luck was far better than he expected!

### **Chapter 284 – The Veiled Female Cultivator**

Thousandchance grass, one of the core components of the Sunmoon Pill.

Sunside flower, an important material for the Halcyon Pill.

Red lingzhi, a vital spirit plant for the Blood Spirit Pill.

....

Almost every several hundred meters there was a spirit plant. Moreover, they were of extremely high quality and their value wasn't low either.

Qin Yu was overjoyed as well as startled. He knew that the Land of Divinity and Demons had an extremely rich atmosphere of heaven and earth spiritual strength, leading to numerous heavenly materials being born. But, it absolutely shouldn't reach such a ridiculous rate. The sudden increase in spiritual strength caused a drastic rise in the number of spirit plants. However, although everything seemed wonderful and sublime, there was actually an eerie strangeness to it.

Suddenly, Qin Yu came to a stop. Midway through the action of picking a blueheart fruit, his body suddenly tensed and a potent strength erupted from him. His entire body shot back several meters, dodging the shadow that burst forwards.

Pa –

The shadow landed. It was a strange black-scaled snake with a horn atop its head. It rose up into the air, stubbornly glaring at Qin Yu, its eyes icy cold.

Qin Yu felt a tingle across his scalp and hairs rose up all over his body. He didn't doubt that if he hadn't drawn back in time and was bitten by this strange snake, the result would have been deadly. Without hesitation, Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and sword light howled out, chopping the strange snake in two.

He relaxed a little. Although this strange snake had astonishing speed, it wasn't that strong at all. When facing the Five Element Swords, it was incomparably fragile. But in the next moment Qin Yu's complexion darkened and shock rose up in his eyes.

On the ground, the two parts of the severed strange snake hadn't died. Rather, they violently twisted about. The broken ends of flesh and blood wriggled and crawled, and in several blinks of an eye, they completely regenerated.

Thus, two completely identical strange snakes appeared in front of Qin Yu. Four ice cold eyes stared out, causing a cold chill to rise from the depths of one's heart.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

The strange snakes coiled down and then threw themselves forwards. Qin Yu drew backwards, light cutting through space, hacking them apart once more. Then, the scene from before happened once again; four strange snakes swung their tails about as they locked onto Qin Yu.

"Just what kind of monster is this!?" Qin Yu paled. He began to realize that if this continued any longer, it would only lead to greater troubles. His feet moved and he stormed backwards. The four strange snakes didn't let him go. They raced forward with amazing speed, chasing after Qin Yu. Their bodies twisted and leapt out like bolts of black light. They opened their mouths, the stench from their maws stunning the mind.

Pa –

With a dull ring, the strange snakes blew up in midair as if they had been struck by a sledgehammer. Their bodies burst out in pieces of flesh and blood. Qin Yu's pupils shrank. To his shock, he saw these pieces of flesh and blood wildly grow in the air, turning into incomplete snakes as they fell on the ground. Moreover, he knew that these strange snakes would soon grow back to their full size and form!

Bang –

Blood red flames ignited and the Blood Escape Art was activated. Qin Yu's speed rose ten times over and he was like a scarlet meteor as he dove deep into the distance! He could no longer hesitate, otherwise once the number of strange snakes surpassed the limit he could deal with, there was a chance he would experience their dreadful bite.

Hiss –

Hiss –

The strange snakes cried out in unwillingness. Their hisses spread out from the distance and they erupted with an even faster speed. But in the face of the Blood Escape Art, they were only thrown back further and further until their cries gradually faded away.

However, before Qin Yu could even relax, he forced out a bitter smile. In order to escape the pursuit of those strange snakes, he had to use the Blood Escape Art, and in doing so he recklessly exposed his aura as a cultivator. Within the wilderness, he was like a blazing bonfire in the dark of night, drawing the attention of a massive number of monster beasts. He swept his divine sense around and discovered many tyrannical auras dashing towards him.

There was just no time for him to catch his breath. Qin Yu violently changed direction in midair, barely breaking through a narrow point between the encirclement of two monster beasts. But as more time passed, more and more monster beasts were alarmed, and the encirclement that Qin Yu faced became increasingly tight and impenetrable! Even though the Blood Escape Art was incredibly fast, he was still placed in distress several times. There were even a few moments where he had to escape from between the sharp claws and fangs of the monster beasts.

Qin Yu's heart raced with anxiousness. If things continued like this, he would eventually be unable to dodge in time. Moreover, the Blood Escape Art was dependent on his blood energy for activation. Even though he had a potent mortal body, it was impossible for him to maintain it forever.

What to do?

What to do?

At this time, Qin Yu suddenly felt a powerful fluctuation of auras coming from afar, as if two powerful beings were in battle.

At this critical moment, he simply couldn't consider things further. His body subconsciously moved, making his decision for him.

Bang –



The blood red flames around his body became even richer. After adjusting his direction, he soared directly towards the source of that fluctuating aura.

Qin Yu's divine sense erupted in its entirety, shrouding all of his surroundings. He kept a close watch on the movement and patterns of the monster beasts around him.

Suddenly, he frowned. He found that he could no longer break through the encirclement without suffering losses.

At his 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock directions, there were two monster beasts. He was sure to collide with one of them.

Without any time to consider, Qin Yu lifted his hands and thrust forwards. The Five Element Swords appeared, their spinning vortex emitting endless sword light, their rumbling like a tide.

Roar –

The monster beast at his 11 o'clock direction emitted roars of pain. Its body was submerged in that sword light and innumerable wounds opened across its body, causing blood to gush out from all over. However, it didn't fear death and created a similar danger to Qin Yu. Its claws clashed with the sword light, causing an acidic sound to ring out and sparks to fly. Then, the attack fell onto Qin Yu's chest. The robes issued by the Beast Hunting Battalion caused the sharp claws to pause for a moment before they were sliced open to reveal a second set of robes beneath.

The powerful defensive capabilities of the Demon God Armor showed themselves once more. Although fresh blood leaked out, his wounds rapidly regenerated due to his powerful self-recovery abilities.

Qin Yu's complexion paled. He ran out of the monster beast encirclement. Several ancient trees in front of him were suddenly uprooted by an enormous strength and then crushed to powder in midair. Qin Yu squinted his eyes, rolled himself up into a ball, and then dove right into it like a stone into water!

It was like placing himself in the depths of an underground river. The wild impact and collision caused Qin Yu's face to pale even further. Before blood could even flow from his mouth, he was shaken and sent flying away.

Pa –

As he landed, he fiercely looked up. He finally saw the situation occurring in front of him.

There was a large leopard with two blood red wings unfurling from its back. Its icy cold gaze swept over and Qin Yu stiffened where he was. He could clearly feel the arrogance and disdain in its eyes. And, what was fighting with it was unexpectedly a female human cultivator. Although her face was covered with a veil, her tall and slender figure still emitted an aura that stole one's breath and stirred the heart.

At this time, the eyebrows behind that veil slightly wrinkled together. She flicked her sleeves and great waves suddenly rose up in the void. These were genuine waves that could be seen with the naked eye. They swept outwards, rolling out in all directions.

Qin Yu's pupils shrank. He didn't doubt that if these void waves even touched his body, he would be ground to pieces in the blink of an eye. From behind him, the monster beasts that were in pursuit all

howled out in panic and alarm. However, none of them could evade these waves that crashed into them.

Bang –

Bang –

Monster beast after monster beast, whether they had massive bodies or incredibly sturdy bodies, all of them blew up in midair, as if numerous blood red flowers were blooming in the skies.

The might of a single flick of the sleeves was actually this terrifying!

And at this time, a severe light flashed in the eyes of that blood-red winged leopard. Its wings flapped and it turned into a beam of light that soared towards the woman. The woman lifted her hands and thrust them out once more. Although her movements didn't seem quick, she actually blocked the blitz of the large leopard in a split second. There was a heaven-shocking bang and wild shockwaves of strength burst outwards. Massive crevices were torn into the ground, spreading outwards like a terrifyingly large spider web.

“If you don't want to die, then hurry and leave!”

The ice cold voice entered Qin Yu's ears. He felt a stuffy feeling in his chest and then spat out a mouthful of blood as he was struck by the shockwaves. He staggered onto the ground and before he even caught his breath, his feet moved and he raced into the distance.

Endless rumbles sounded out from behind him, causing the earth to shake beneath his feet. It was clear that both sides were engaged in a brutal life or death battle. The winged great leopard and veiled female cultivator both had at least peak Divine Soul realm cultivations. Their horrifying strength wasn't something that Qin Yu could hope to deal with. If he didn't run away now and he was drawn into their battle, his life might be in danger within the time needed to take a single breath.

After a moment, that terrifying slaughter aura gradually vanished. Qin Yu came to a halt, taking advantage of this time to control his breathing and mind. He had already discovered the changes occurring within the wilderness. As the spiritual strength around him became thicker, more and more monster beasts appeared.

And, this wasn't just a few more.

Damn it all. What in the world was going on!?

At this time, Qin Yu's eyelids twitched. He looked up to see the crowns of several ancient trees being broken apart. Then, a pair of sparkling cold claws grasped towards him.

Hum –

The Five Element Swords reappeared, their dazzling sword lights protecting Qin Yu. In the next moment, the sharp claws ruthlessly smashed into the layer of sword lights. The surface instantly sunk down, but the revolving speed of the sword lights only increased as they withstood the attack and didn't break. Even so, the might behind those claws still damaged Qin Yu. He was already injured. Now, he spat out a mouthful of blood and his field of vision darkened.

With an angry screech, the golden eagle circled back into the air. It unfurled its wings that spread over 10 meters wide, casting a large shadow on the ground. Its sharp eyes were locked onto Qin Yu, burning heat, greed, and anger within them.

Human cultivators hunted down monster beasts for their fur, bones, flesh, and blood, all in order to refine pills or forge magic tools or for a wide variety of other reasons. Similarly speaking, to monster beasts, the massive amount of heaven and earth spiritual strength within human cultivators was an incredibly nourishing tonic.

This was particularly true for Qin Yu. With his powerful Demon Body, his blood energy was incomparably rich, and he also had the Five Element Nascent Souls within his dantian. All of this together drew in that formidable golden eagle.

The golden eagle didn't seem to care too much just now. But, it didn't think that a weak human cultivator would actually be able to avoid its attack.

Bang –

The golden eagle's aura drastically rose up. It drew in its wings and shot towards Qin Yu like an arrow. Before it arrived, its tyrannical aura seemed like the arriving prestige of the world, destroying several nearby ancient trees and causing the ground to crack.

Qin Yu's complexion turned white. It was impossible to block this attack with the Five Element Swords. He bit through the tip of a finger to maintain consciousness and clarity of mind. Then, he lifted a finger into the skies.

With a finger, winds and clouds surged. With a finger, the Boundless Blue moved!

The first of the Blue Fingers, Boundless Blue Finger!

Bang –

The world seemed to collapse around him. A wild strength broke into his body. Qin Yu vomited several mouthfuls of blood and then turned and fled.

The golden eagle screamed in rage. Several golden feathers scattered down from the skies. Then, its massive shadow howled out in pursuit!

### **Chapter 285 – Stealing Good Fortune**

The massive majestic body of the golden eagle simply didn't match up with its personality. In short, it was a narrow-minded and vengeful being that would always retaliate if it suffered a loss. Moreover, Qin Yu's aura was still an incomparable temptation, so how could it possibly let him go? Thus, the consequence of this was a wolf chasing down a pig, with Qin Yu fleeing in distress.

As Qin Yu was chased down by the golden eagle, he didn't have time to consider where to flee in his flustered state. So, the further he ran, the deeper and deeper he went into the wilderness. He didn't notice that his injuries were regenerating at a slightly faster pace because the spiritual strength in the atmosphere had reached a mind-boggling degree.

He avoided a fatal strike from the sharp claws of the golden eagle once more. However, his back was still left bruised and lacerated, with blood dripping from wounds. He fell down and tumbled into a mass of vines. However, once those seemingly withered vines were stained with blood, they began to wake up from a deep slumber.

The dry and frail vines suddenly tightened. They were like bars of twisting metal, twining around Qin Yu's body. At the same time, the surface of the vines bulged and tiny thorns shot out, ruthlessly digging into Qin Yu.

Gulp –

Gulp –

The loud swallowing sounds caused a tingle to creep across one's scalp, making them feel as if they had fallen into an icy lake! The vine instantly turned clear and lush, with green light circulating around it. It emitted a boundless vitality, a beautiful sight to the eyes.

The formidable golden eagle screeched in rage. It violently beat its wings and strong winds condensed into blue saber points that slashed at the clear vine. At the same time, the light of the Five Element Swords light erupted like a volcano, twisting apart the sharp thorns that dug into Qin Yu's body. Qin Yu fell onto the ground and shot forth like an arrow.

Countless vines emitted sharp screams. As the sound entered into one's ears, they were like iron needles stabbing into the mind. Qin Yu staggered but continued to run. The golden eagle plummeted to the earth but its consciousness was immediately restored and it whipped its wings out, attempting to fly back up. However, at this time, the vines shot up into the skies and entangled the golden eagle with a vicious sound.

The bloodthirsty vine felt incomparable hatred towards this golden eagle that had harmed it and caused it to lose the prey it had in its grasp. Naturally, it wouldn't let the golden eagle flee so easily.

Sharp screeches filled the air. The eagle's golden feathers sprinkled to the ground like snowflakes. Fragments of vines splashed to the ground, accumulating in a thick layer.

Buzz –

Golden light radiated outwards like the sun rising up across the horizon. Tens of thousands of arrows formed from golden light shot out, slicing the countless vines entangling it!

The golden eagle broke free. It looked extremely distressed and its dazzling golden feathers had darkened a great deal. It savagely flapped its wings and raced towards Qin Yu's direction. As a narrow-minded and vengeful monster beast, how could it let Qin Yu go after suffering such a great loss?

And it was certain that it could make up for these losses by eating that human cultivator!

The chase continued. Qin Yu had no way to escape this golden eagle that pursued him. This monster beast seemed to possess some special ability to lock onto his aura. No matter where he hid, the golden eagle would be able to find him.

Suddenly, Qin Yu heard the sound of trickling water in his ears. The sound wasn't loud, but it seemed to carry with it a power that drew in the heart and mind, making one look over unconsciously.

Like this, a deep pool of spring water appeared in front of Qin Yu. Moreover, what was most surprising was that this water seeped out from a large stone on the ground and it didn't flow back down, but instead remained suspended in midair where it surged and tumbled about.

The verdant spring water seemed to flow with the purest jade-like nature in the world. Within his dantian sea, the Five Element Nascent Souls all started to shine...with just a glance, a feeling of intense hope and desire instinctually rose within him.

He could sense this with his soul. Just how was this water? It was clearly inexhaustible amounts of heaven and earth spiritual strength gathered together and fused into a liquid state. This was a genuine flowing spirit spring. Every drop of it contained a potent spiritual strength.

The surrounding ancient trees bent over and strong winds woke Qin Yu from his stupor. He looked up to see a scene that nearly caused his soul to freeze.

The golden eagle arrived, threatening and fierce. Its two wings beat in the air, causing blue wind blades to appear, flooding every corner of the world. It was enough to turn everything around it into ruins. But as soon as this attack came, it suddenly froze in midair. Then, those endless blue wind blades all shattered! The golden eagle screamed in horror and panic and its feathers erupted with divine light, as if it had ignited in flames. But it only had enough time to raise its wings before its chest was instantly pierced through with a bone spike. Golden lava-like blood dripped out from its wound, sprinkling onto the ground and burning. At this time, a scream finally arrived and filled the air. It pierced through the ears, causing endless fear to rise in the depths of one's soul.

Qin Yu didn't know what sort of existence had managed to kill the terrifying golden eagle from such a long distance, but there was one point he was crystal clear about – this other party had the power to utterly erase him.

Rumble rumble –

There was a low roar, as if thunder was arriving from afar. Even though it was a great distance away, one could still feel the dreadful strength it contained. The fallen leaves on the ground and the great trees that reached to the skies, and even the entire earth, began to gently tremble. Qin Yu looked up and saw a shadow howling towards his direction from the distant horizon.

His complexion paled and his body froze like a log. He stared helplessly on as that shadow rolled towards him, stirring up wind and pushing away clouds as it did so. The wilderness fell deathly silent around him. Monster beasts looked up with eyes wide with panic as they fell to the ground, their bodies shaking.

Qin Yu bit down on the tip of his tongue, forcefully breaking free from the paralyzing horror. His feet moved and he was like a stone as he crashed into the spring water above the large rock.

Puff –

Qin Yu's figure vanished from sight.

Several breaths of time later, ancient sky-reaching trees started to tremble and disintegrate into powder. They were pulled out and pushed away by a powerful strength, sent flying in all directions. The earth shook and split open, countless cracks reaching into the distance. Looking from above, they seemed to extend into eternity.

Dark red flesh and blood. It seemed as if it didn't have any skin at all, and it was flipped inside out instead. Its thick and sturdy blood vessels bulged out on the surface and one could see the blood rapidly flowing within. Starting from its neck and extending down its spine, it had 12 thick bone spikes puncturing out from its flesh. Their pale white color seemed to linger with countless evil spirits. Just from glancing at it, one could hear the howls of countless sorrowful souls ringing out in their mind. If Qin Yu were here, he would understand how the golden eagle had been killed and by whom. Because on the back of this creature, there was a freshly broken bone spike.

This strange and formidable monster beast looked at the spirit spring and revealed a taunting expression. This humble and pathetic, weak and lowly human cultivator, actually dared to try obtaining a strength that belonged to itself. This human cultivator was simply overreaching. The human cultivator was now likely withstanding an unimaginable pain as his mortal body slowly broke apart and the spiritual strength contained within him was integrated into the spirit spring. Finally, the human cultivator would simply serve as a blood sacrifice and enhance the spirit spring.

All of this was more perfect than it could have imagined.

Time slowly passed and a look of amazement flashed in the monster beast's eyes. It could sense that the fragile ant-like cultivator had yet to die. It seemed that his strength was a bit more formidable than it had imagined. Even so, this only meant that he would suffer more pain. The final outcome would not change.

One minute.

Two minutes.

Three minutes.

The monster beast stood in place, its tail restlessly sweeping around.

Four minutes.

Five minutes.

Six minutes.

The monster beast took a deep breath. Its powerful inhalation caused the wind to whistle.

Seven minutes.

Eight minutes.

Nine minutes.

The monster beast stretched out its tongue, licking the crimson corners of its mouth. Its eyes were so cold they nearly froze.

Ten minutes...

Roar –

With a loud roar, it tore apart the peaceful wilderness. The monster beast's thick red veins stuck out and its tail lashed forwards like a bolt of light, stabbing in the spirit spring. Then, with a heaven-shaking bang, space twisted and the monster beast's massive body was sent flying away with a pained cry. It crashed into the ground, plowing a terrifying ravine!

Its eyes widened and it stared at the spirit spring stubbornly. Even though it was furious all this time, it still couldn't believe what it was seeing. A mere human, a human so weak and small that it could kill him with a single claw, had actually obtained the approval of the spirit spring and had stolen the good fortune of transformation that should have belonged to it.

It told itself countless times that this was impossible. But, it opened its eyes, closed its eyes, and opened them again, and the spirit spring was still in front of it without any changes at all.

The monster beast reared its head back and roared. Its cruel aura swept out like a tide for the surrounding tens of thousands of feet! Within this scope, everything was destroyed. The terrifying strength turned everything into powder!

It closely watched the spirit spring. After an unknown period of time, it finally accepted the situation occurring in front of it. However, this didn't mean that it would give up on this turning point for its destiny that it had captured only by wading through endless slaughter and battles.

This human cultivator had used some dirty and lowly trick to obtain the approval of the spirit spring. But, with his cultivation, just how many advantages could he obtain? Once this human came out, it would swallow him up and then absorb the rest of the spirit spring. With that, it could still transform into a monster king!

However, as it thought about how it would inevitably lose a portion of the spiritual strength, the monster beast's heart shivered with rage and it gnashed its teeth!

Bang –

Its massive figure lay on the ground and tensed up. As long as that human cultivator emerged from the spirit spring, it would welcome him with its all-encompassing anger.

This great and noble Lord Aelous would make this low and pathetic human understand just how grave and stupid of a mistake it was to anger it!

When strange fluctuations started to appear in the flow of heaven and earth spiritual strength, the upsurge of spiritual strength was one of the greatest lucky chances worth celebrating in the lives of monster beasts. The rich heaven and earth spiritual energy and the massive amount of heavenly materials that appeared with it could cause their strength to drastically rise in a short period of time.

And the most precious of lucky chances were the spirit springs, whether they were large or small.

To monster beasts, spirit springs represented infinite good fortune. As long as they could withstand the terrifying spiritual strength contained within, they could evolve and be reborn in a short period of time! And out of these spirit springs, the most precious ones were called monster king spirit springs; they were the highest level of spirit spring. Only the most formidable existences amongst the monster beasts had the qualifications to swallow them up and use their strength to aid their final transformation to become an omnipotent monster king who commanded all!

For instance, the spirit spring that Qin Yu had dove into!

Originally, with the aptitude of a human, it was simply impossible for them to withstand the impact from a monster king spirit spring. The moment they touched it, they would blow up and die.

Because of this, the powerful monster beast that was only a step away from becoming a monster king had ignored this human that was only an incomparably small and weak ant in its eyes.

But, it didn't know that this small and weak ant was named Qin Yu. And although Qin Yu might not be considered powerful, he actually possessed all sorts of inconceivable methods.

For instance, the Demon Body.

For instance, the Five Element Nascent Souls.

For instance, the little blue lamp which had settled in his great dao base.

Thus, it was destined to suffer a loss, a great, great loss!

Within the spirit spring, Qin Yu's eyes were shut tight. He was huddled up in a fetal position, gently shaking about. Surging spiritual strength rolled around him, wildly drilling into his body from every pore.

A part of it was absorbed by his mortal body. It caused every inch of his flesh and blood to become increasingly tenacious and potent.

A part of it gathered into his dantian sea, where it divided into five sections and flowed into his Five Element Nascent Souls.

Around his great dao base, the little blue lamp flashed with traces of dim blue light. Even now, it revealed no interest in the incredible amounts of spiritual strength. But, it actually played the most critical role of stabilization. It set a defined limit for the amount of spiritual strength that could enter Qin Yu's body.

Qin Yu could feel that he was dreaming an incomparably long, sad, and also joyful dream.

Within this dream, he seemed to have fallen into a deep sea. He was wrapped in a dark undercurrent and sent through the ice dark. Flames seemed to burn within his body.

His consciousness was faint and blurry. Thus, he had no idea that he had unintentionally stolen a heaven-defying stroke of good fortune.

The monster beast standing guard outside originally had a dark and gloomy heart. So when it discovered another human rushing over, its dreadful rage exploded.

What? You think I'm this easy to bully? One wasn't enough, and now another one comes!?

With a loud roar, countless blood red marks appeared on the surface of the monster beast. They shined with a bright red light, instantly condensing into a set of armor. The originally fierce and grotesque monster beast instantly transformed into the most terrifying killing machine in the world.

Bang –



The ground violently trembled and collapsed, a large gulf appearing immediately. The monster beast's massive figure flew upwards like a mountain flying into the skies before it came falling down just as dangerously.

A fair and delicate white hand reached out. Beneath the massive shadow, it seemed as frail as a flower. But, this hand actually resisted the monster beast's violent attack.

The figure fluttered backwards and spat out blood, dyeing their veil red. The female cultivator fell on the ground and stumbled back, each step leaving deep footprints and causing tiny cracks to spread out.

The monster beast was shaken. It stabilized its blurry vision and focused on the female cultivator in front of it. It believed more and more that this human woman was associated with the boy who came before. Normally, when there was an upsurge of spiritual strength in the wilderness, the human cultivators didn't even have enough time to flee. So how could there be such a great coincidence like now when two humans would leap out in front of it, especially with one of them being such a fierce master!

Did it want to rescue that damned scoundrel? Dream on!

The monster beast opened its jaws. Blood red flames gushed out like a broken dam, all of it rushing outwards.

The earth was instantly melted by these flames, turned into something similar to glass. The temperature within the world rose at a dramatic speed.

Behind her veil, the female cultivator's eyes brightened, as if they were the most radiant stars in the cold night of winter. She lifted her hand and her aura suddenly changed. It was faint and ethereal, and even though she existed in this world, it was impossible to sense.

In the next moment, this faint and ethereal temperament disappeared. Then, an incomparably powerful aura erupted from within her, as if countless mountains and rivers were contained within.

She lifted her pale hands and thrust forwards.

This strike contained all of the veiled woman's power and the potential of those seemingly endless mountains and rivers within her. With a loud heaven-startling rumble, it seemed that the heavens and earth was flipped over.

The flames that the monster beast emitted were forcefully broken apart. Shock filled its eyes. Then, its gaze towards the woman began to fill with burning heat.

It discovered that perhaps losing the spirit spring might not be a disaster. Rather, it might bring it even more opportunities.

For instance, this human female cultivator in front of it.

Deep within the mind of the monster beast, some ancient inherited bloodline memory started to slowly awaken. Although it wasn't sure what sort of strength she possessed, its instincts told it that...if it could swallow this woman, it could also ascend to the monster king realm!

## **Chapter 286 – Monster Beast Curse**

The roaring crimson flames were like blood, destroying everything they burned. Everyone on the surrounding earth was scorched to nothingness. The veiled cultivator's eyes were even brighter than before, but within that dazzling radiance, there was actually a trace of deep weariness...she originally didn't control such a powerful cultivation. She had forcefully unsealed it, and the strength she erupted with had caused her to suffer a backlash. If she didn't stop now then after another several moments, the monster beast wouldn't even need to do anything because her soul would be unable to withstand the burden and would collapse on itself, dying out from existence. But if she stopped now, then this burning heaven of karmic flames would instantly turn her into ashes.

Deep within the veiled cultivator's eyes, there was a flash of resolve. Since she couldn't escape today's calamity, then she would force this monster beast in front of her to accompany her to the yellow springs! Dao patterns began to slowly appear between her eyebrows. Although they were extremely faint, as soon as they appeared, it was like a grand invisible mountain arriving in the world. Endless pressure swept out, flooding every inch and corner.

The monster beast's eyes revealed startled anger. It roared out loud, and the armor formed from red light began to thicken at a speed visible to the naked eye. Its massive figure lay on the ground and in an instant it turned into a giant blood red stone. Blood red runes on the surface of the stone wove together into the shape of a net.

The veiled cultivator lifted a fair and delicate finger, and lightly tapped between her eyebrows. It was like a door had been opened. Pure white light flowed out like water, gathering onto her fingertip. Faintly, one could see countless tiny runes within this white light, dancing up and down as if they had a mind of their own. They constantly combined and separated, as if there were as many variations as the clouds above the sea, possessing infinite change and infinite possibility.

The thin finger pointed out. The pure white light condensed into a beam that pierced through the burning heaven of karmic flames, extinguishing it, and then falling onto the monster beast's body. The giant blood red stone on the ground trembled and countless small cracks appeared on it. They covered the surface of the stone like a web and then began invading inwards. With light rustling sounds, the stone became smaller and smaller. Gradually, the main body of the monster beast was revealed. On the surface of its body there were numerous wounds, all of them dripping with blood.

Roar –

The monster beast roared in pain. A vicious bone spike suddenly exploded outwards from the spine that stretched down its back, as if it were releasing the annihilating strength ravaging its body. The injuries growing in its body began to slow down a little.

But this clearly wasn't enough.

Then, a second and third bone spike exploded off its back. The monster beast was exhausted and its aura was dim and gloomy, far weaker than before. It had managed to resist the horrifying killing blow of that pure white light by blowing out three of its bone spikes, but it had also paid a grievous price for this!

However, when comparing this price and the harvests obtained, it was well worth it. The markings between the veiled cultivator's eyes disappeared and she seemed to have lost her final reserves of vital energy. She slumped to the ground.

Hu –

Hu –

The monster beast gasped for breath. It fixed its eyes on her and greedily licked its lips. Without accident, if it could eat her up then it would be able to take advantage of her bloodline's strength to break through that final step to the monster king realm! Unfortunately, this monster beast's luck was atrocious today.

When it opened its great mouth, the spirit spring behind it began to fluctuate. Then, a strength erupted from within it, causing invisible waves to spread through space. The monster beast roared in grief and indignation as it was sent bouncing backwards like a giant ball. It wanted to know just what it had done wrong today to experience so many wrongs. It turned its head and as it saw the vanishing spirit spring and the figure that appeared within it, unspeakable killing intent erupted in its eyes.

Damned human junior!

Bang –

The ground collapsed and the monster beast pounced forwards, its sharp claws shining with a cold brilliance. However, the monster beast hadn't lost its rationality just because it was angered. When it swallowed that woman's powerful bloodline, it could not allow any outside disturbances while it was digesting it. Since this human brat jumped out at this time, he had to die first.

Shua –

Qin Yu's eyes open, divine light flashing in them. He lifted his hand and produced a bronze mirror. A light beam shot out from the bronze mirror, striking the monster beast. Its body suddenly came to a halt and shock filled its eyes. But no matter how much it struggled, it couldn't move at all.

To speak of it, this monster beast's luck was so bad that it was actually worth pitying. When Qin Yu obtained this bronze mirror spirit treasure from the ruins of a Nascent Soul many years ago, he had never been able to truly obtain its approval. But today, after stepping into the spirit spring, he had finally awoken the spirit of the bronze mirror with the endless amounts of heaven and earth spiritual energy, and unleashed its might as a true spirit treasure.

The light it shot out was called the Soul God Light. It was aimed at the soul, and after successfully striking, it would freeze the soul. No matter how transcendent one's magic powers were, they wouldn't be able to display even a bit of them. Moreover, the most tyrannical aspect of the Soul God Light was that it completely ignored one's cultivation. As long as it hit, it would freeze the soul. Of course, there were differences in how strong and weak souls were, and the duration that the Soul God Light could freeze someone for differed with it.

Qin Yu didn't hesitate for even a second. The moment that the monster beast froze, he shot forwards. Then, a blood red light bloomed in the void. A terrifying piercing wound appeared on the monster beast's chest. Qin Yu seemed to sense something and reached in his hand. With some effort, he pulled

out a crystalline object. This thing was oval-like and the size of an egg. It was red all over and seemed to burn with flames within.

Roar –

The monster beast roared with pain. Its eyeballs were wide open, filled with unwillingness and disbelief. It never imagined that it would die to the hands of such a small and weak ant-like human.

An incomparably cruel aura erupted from the corpse of the monster beast like a raging volcano. Qin Yu's complexion changed and he stormed backwards. He grabbed the veiled female cultivator and used the Blood Escape Art without hesitation, shooting away like a bolt of red lightning.

After several breaths of time, there was an earthshaking rumble. From behind Qin Yu, there was a terrifying explosion so powerful that it was hard to imagine. It immediately swept out in all directions.

Vines, forests, stones, even space itself was thoroughly destroyed by this strength. A gaping chasm appeared in the ground. Qin Yu held tightly onto the female cultivator in his arms and covered her up. His body shook and he spat out blood that wetted her veil. He staggered for a moment and continued to flee.

But in this moment, a feeling of fear rose in his mind. He fiercely turned his head to see that in the skies above that terrifying explosion, a grotesque blood-colored beast had appeared, its 13 fangs shining in the light. It stubbornly eyed Qin Yu and the female cultivator in his arms.

It seemed to only be an illusion. The beast phantom trembled and then vanished from sight. However, Qin Yu's fear didn't abate. Rather, he was filled with an even greater sense of urgency.

"Cough...cough...that's the monster beast curse..." The female cultivator in his chest spoke with difficulty. She seemed tired of the bloodstained veiled that covered her and pulled it down, revealing a beautiful face that was pallid white at the moment. Right now, her complexion was filled with weariness. Her lips were slightly curled at this time, revealing her helplessness.

Qin Yu asked, "What is the monster beast curse?"

The female cultivator glanced at him. After a moment of surprise, she said, "So you were just an unripe melon boy who didn't know anything. No wonder you dared to rush this deep into the wilderness at such a time."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed with impatience. What was the point of chatting at this moment? It was simply absurd.

The female cultivator seemed to sense his discontent. She snorted and said, "The monster beast curse can only be triggered by a high level monster beast after it dies in an extremely painful and unwilling manner. It is an incomparably terrifying and strong curse. With the region where the curse appears as the center, all monster beasts within a thousand miles will have to comply with its dying will. All those monster beasts will chase down the being that killed it, disregarding everything else to do so."

Qin Yu paled.

The ordinary wilderness was already exceptionally perilous, much less now.

If all monster beasts within a thousand miles were to chase him down...

It was impossible to escape!

Suddenly, within his divine sense, he sensed the aura of a monster beast rapidly approaching.

His feet swiveled and he changed directions, avoiding this monster beast and continuing to flee.

This monster beast wasn't strong and he was confident that he could slay it. But, it would inevitably cost him time.

Even if it were only several breaths of time, Qin Yu didn't want to waste it. Because once he stopped for even a moment, there was a chance they would fall into an encirclement of a massive number of monster beasts.

Run!

Run!

The blood red flames on his body burned brighter and higher as he pushed the Blood Escape Art to its limits. However, he soon realized the terrors of the monster beast curse. Within his divine sense, all he could sense were the auras of monster beasts. And several of those monster beasts were so strong that even he would have difficulty dealing with them. Even with the Blood Escape Art, it was impossible to get away from them.

He bitterly smiled. He had no idea that killing that monster beast would lead to this sort of problem. Moreover, the key point was that he had never planned on killing it to begin with. He had only casually reached in and pulled out a crystal; it wasn't like he had touched its inner core or anything! Was it so ferocious that it decided to blow itself up? And even use this monster beast curse!?

The female cultivator said, "The crystal you stole is the source of its burning heaven karmic flames. Once that bloodthirsty monster beast lost the crystal, the burning heaven karmic flames within its body would erupt. When it self-detonated its body, there was still a chance that it could drag you to its death with it. That is always better than being burned to death by its own burning heaven karmic flames. As for the monster beast curse...who can blame that monster beast for having such a poor personality?"

In this desperate situation when life and death hung on a single thread, it was really grating to hear words spoken in such a casual tone! Qin Yu lowered his head, angrily staring at this woman. He thought that if she continued to spout such nonsense, he would toss her away and she could run herself.

The female cultivator coldly sneered. "If you throw me away you won't be able to escape either!" She looked around and then pointed out somewhere. "Go in that direction; we're not too far away from my transmission array. As long as we can break through to there then we will be able to return to the battalion alive."

Indeed, she was someone from the Beast Hunting Battalion. Moreover, she was an extremely shrewd and fierce woman. But right now, Qin Yu didn't have time to worry about these things. Light burst out from his eyes.

Transmission array...

This woman, why didn't she say anything before!? If he ran in the wrong direction, wasn't that just killing himself!? Complaints filled his heart and mind but he took a deep breath and suppressed them all. His feet struck the ground and he shot forwards.

After avoiding several monster beasts in front of him, Qin Yu's gaze turned dignified. This was because from here on out, he could only forcefully rush his way through.

Roar –

With loud howls, a corrupt wind wolf appeared. This was a common monster beast found in the wilderness and wasn't considered too strong. However, it was a monster beast that no beast hunter desired to encounter. This was because they never acted alone. If one appeared, there was bound to be a pack of wolves nearby. That would be a terrifying encounter.

And as he thought, in Qin Yu's gloomy eyes, a second and third corrupt wind wolf sprang out from the forest. Roughly counting, there were around 30 of the monster beasts.

The female cultivator chuckled, "Indeed, its personality is really too bad."

Pa –

There was a light sound and the woman's complexion stiffened. She suddenly moved about, baring her teeth. "You bastard, you dare to hit this old lady's butt! You're done for!"

Pa –

This strike was even heavier than the last. Qin Yu clenched his teeth. "Shut up for me!" He lifted his hands and placed the woman on his back. "Hold tight! If you fall off, I won't be saving you!"

Without waiting for the woman to answer, Qin Yu raced forwards and collided with the wolves.

Roar –

Roar –

The wolves howled in pain and anger. Blood drenched the floor and the stench of it filled the air.

On his back, the female cultivator revealed a look of surprise.

### **Chapter 287 – Live Together**

In a short period of time, this fellow's strength had actually risen to such an astonishing level? It seemed that he had considerable harvests from the spirit spring. But as the female cultivator thought of this, the look in her eyes became even stranger. When did the spirit springs exclusively used by monster beasts become something that human cultivators could step into?

Qin Yu's fist came smashing out, sending the corrupt wind wolf leaping towards him crashing away. Although another wound appeared on Qin Yu's body, he actually saved himself a breath of time.

He landed on the ground and continued racing forwards. Terrifying strength rumbled all around him, breaking apart everything that blocked his way. With the monster beast curse cast on them, he and the

female cultivator were like blazing bonfires in the night. It was simply impossible to hide from the monster beasts, so they might as well just haphazardly break through.

Another monster beast appeared. It was an even more formidable black bear. The ground trembled in its wake and it didn't stop at all, choosing to directly collide with Qin Yu.

Kacha –

Qin Yu's chest was depressed inward, numerous bones broken. The black bear's claw had struck him and only after spitting out a mouthful of blood did his chest feel a little better. Of course, his large opponent was even worse off. That black bear's vigorous head had twisted back at a comical angle, its neck completely crushed. Its massive body crashed to the ground.

"Hah, what a waste, how many points is that..." A voice behind Qin Yu sighed.

Qin Yu's lips twitched. The hand that was holding onto her legs moved for a moment, but in the end he didn't slap her.

The female cultivator raised an eyebrow. "What, you've taken advantage of me enough?"

Qin Yu had a helpless expression. "Big sister, aren't you afraid of dying?"

The female cultivator's face stiffened. "What did you call me?"

Qin Yu forced a smile but chose not to answer her anymore. He continued howling forwards.

The female cultivator fell silent. She looked down at Qin Yu's bloodstained body and her eyes softened a little. This fellow, although he was a little lascivious and a little rascally, at least he had some semblance of conscience. He knew that this old lady didn't like being hurt, so he didn't add more wounds to her.

But even if she wasn't injured, she also couldn't last much longer. Rather than maintaining a feeble existence for a short period of time, she could display the last flickering light of a candle before she died out and take several monster beasts with her to the grave.

Humph humph, this old lady wasn't moved and nor did she want to go all out to rescue this bastard's life!

"In a moment rush straight forwards. Ignore how many monster beasts there are; I'll take care of however many come." The female cultivator lightly said. Her tone had finally changed, no longer irritating.

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. Before he could even turn and say something, a hand slapped the top of his head. "Don't waste time. Hurry up and rush forwards. Giddy up!"

Are you riding a horse big sister...?

One of Qin Yu's feet weakened and he nearly stumbled to the ground. He took a deep breath and his heart started to beat vigorously.

Bang –

Dirt splashed out in all directions. Every time he took a step forwards, a deep footprint was left behind with cracks spreading out from it.

Qin Yu was like a massive boulder bouncing forwards, crashing past everything.

Roar –

The loud and cruel roars of monster beasts echoed in his heart. He could smell a horrific stench around him. Qin Yu lowered his head and ignored everything occurring around him. He only ran forwards, running, running, running!

Of course, he didn't trust her just because of a few words she said. Rather, he believed his own eyes. This woman who had fought with two formidable monster beasts couldn't be simple at all!

And reality proved that Qin Yu's judgment was correct. The woman on his back straightened her body. Her chest tensed, revealing a heart-stirring arc.

She looked down at Qin Yu, a helpless smile on her face. What a lascivious young man. But at this time, it was no longer worth haggling over him about this.

She looked up and that faint helplessness vanished without a trace. All that remained was a calm tranquility, an aura that was noble and honorable started to flow out. It was like everything in her eyes was within her hands, destruction and prosperity her decision to make.

She raised a hand and brushed it across her eyes, gently and lightly pulling back her hair. Without any sign, without any spark, a monster beast with short black wool-like hair suddenly came to a stop in the air, like a fish frozen in ice. Then, in the next moment, this invisible ice quietly shattered.

Crash –

The fragments of the corpse fell to the ground, not a single drop of blood flowing out. The sections were broken off as clearly as a mirror, and the blood seemed as if it had become like jade. It was as if this extremely fierce monster beast was made of some sort of crystal.

Of course, this wasn't the only monster beast that died. With loud crashing sounds all around, Qin Yu raced forwards without stopping as a hail of frozen flesh and blood rained down around him.

Even the monster beasts driven here by the power of the curse began to feel fear. The savagery in their eyes started to abate and fill with awe instead.

Strength was respected. Strength was revered. In the world of monster beasts, there was no truer fact than this.

A fierce tiger monster turned to flee before it emitted a sudden cry of pain. Its over 20 foot long body was sent flying away, a massive gaping wound in its chest and belly. Blood mixed with organs flew out and it crashed into the ground, soon about to die.

A large demon ape's sharp claws were stained with blood. It glared at the surrounding monster beasts, forcing them to retreat in fear, and then rushed towards Qin Yu.



The female cultivator's eyes fell upon the demon ape. Although there was a faint shimmer in her eyes, there was no alarm or fear. Rather, there was a bit of interest and even recognition. This marvelous gaze caused the demon ape, a creature known for its brutality and bloodthirstiness, to feel a cold chill rise in its heart. Then, it really did feel a chilling cold.

The demon ape tensed its body. Without surprise, in the next moment its giant body would erupt with a strength that could tear apart all. But at this time, the demon ape's body gently trembled, as if it was shivering beneath an arctic wind. Then its tensed body shattered into countless crystal-like blocks, without a single trace of blood flowing out.

The female cultivator coughed several times. Her originally pale face now seemed to lack any bit of blood at all, as if her skin was formed from snow and ice. However, this only lent her an even more soul-stirring sense of beauty and nobility. It was unknown what method she had used to kill that horrifyingly strong demon ape, but it was clear she had paid a great price. However, she was actually laughing. On her pale and bloodless face, there was a bright, bright smile. There was a hint of insanity in it, but also something that moved the heart.

Qin Yu revealed a helpless expression, but his mindset only became more dignified. He saw with his eyes as the woman killed two formidable monster beasts in a row and received heavy injuries in doing so. For her to utilize such a horrifying strength now, she surely had to pay an equally horrifying price. As he heard her laugh out loud, Qin Yu's heart became heavier. But he didn't turn around. Instead, he lowered his body and his legs erupted with a greater strength.

This strength surpassed the bearing limits of the Demon Body. Sounds started to ring out from his flesh and blood, accompanied by a tearing pain. But, Qin Yu remained silent, as if this agonizing pain wasn't being inflicted upon his body.

The female cultivator's eyebrows rose up. She looked at Qin Yu, her eyes widening. This fellow really did have a conscience. Since she was about to die soon and had never suffered a loss herself, she might as well let him take a bit of an advantage from her. Consider it a rare act of benevolence before this old lady died.

She lay on Qin Yu's back, her chest pressed up against his broad and strong back. She frowned as she swayed uncomfortably from side to side a few times. She thought that this smelly man really wasn't good to use; where was his soft and tender side? But this roughness, in this sort of environment, actually left her feeling calmer.

She let loose a deep breath and closed her eyes. Like this, she lay flat on Qin Yu's back, as if she had fallen asleep. However, the monster beasts that approached and were then torn into pieces served as a constant reminder that this seemingly sleeping woman could release a terrifying strength at any given moment.

His feet trudged forwards. Stones broke apart, along with Qin Yu's calf bone. However, his speed didn't slow down at all, nor did he pause. He rushed through layers of vines and underbrush, listening to the weak and faint instructions of the woman on his back. She should be exhausted, because when she spoke she seemed out of breath. Thus, she moved her mouth close to Qin Yu and he could feel her warm breath itching on his ears.

Qin Yu pursed his lips. He tore through another layer of vines and finally heard the woman confirm, "It's here." What the vines covered was a deep black hole. Wind whistled out from it. With a single glance, one could sense that it was unfathomably deep.

Qin Yu leapt in without hesitation. The sound of wind rose in his ears and then....that was it. This was completely beyond his expectations. He didn't prepare for such a short landing, so his incomparably stable figure staggered and nearly fell down. The woman on his back wildly laughed. She really didn't fear death. Even at this time she had thoughts of playing such games.

In a corner of the cave, faint traces of light revolved. Although he couldn't clearly see it because of the dark, Qin Yu's wouldn't mistake that aura. This was a transmission array.

They really reached the transmission array!

The woman on his back stopped laughing. "Put me down. During the transmission process, there cannot be any outside interference at all." There was already the howl of monster beasts echoing from the cave opening. It was clear that the pitch black entrance wouldn't frighten them for long.

Qin Yu fell silent.

The woman lightly said, "What is there to hesitate about? It's better for one person to live than for two people to die. If you really feel guilty, then come pay your respects to me here in the future and kill off a few thousand monster beasts while you're at it. Consider it as taking revenge for me."

Qin Yu wryly smiled. "I don't have that sort of strength."

The woman was angered, "Even if you don't, it's better for you to just promise me first so I feel gratified towards you! Aren't you afraid that I'll be mad and make you stay behind so we both die together!"

Qin Yu smiled. "I thought you weren't scared of death, but after hearing you speak so much drivel, I finally discover that you are. Well, then don't die. We can live on together."

The woman coldly sneered. "You speak so eloquently. But there are many things you don't know. I'm going to die, and there's nothing you can do about it."

Qin Yu shook his head. "That might not be true." He flicked his sleeve and with a flash of light the Skythunder Bamboo appeared. Its roots drilled into the ground with a mind of their own, and then every branch and leaf erupted with dazzling arcs of lightning, forming a net that blocked out the cave opening.

The monster beasts' roars were mixed in with additional anger and pain. It was clear that they suffered the taste of thunder after nearing the cave opening.

Qin Yu turned, a faint smile on his lips. "Now, let's live on together."

The female cultivator's pale face revealed a complex look. She gently sighed, "Then let's live a bit longer."

After several breaths of time, the transmission array erupted with light. Space twisted and the figures of the two people vanished from sight.

In the next moment, the power of thunder contained within the Skythunder Bamboo thoroughly erupted. With a loud explosion, the transmission array was destroyed.

### **Chapter 288 – Nine Mystic Heavens Pill**

The two sides of a transmission array were connected together, forming a single body. Thus, when one end of the transmission array was destroyed, the array formation could no longer survive either. The dazzling light around Qin Yu had yet to completely dissipate when he heard a shattering sound. Then, what appeared in his field of vision was a shocked maid with reddish eyes and cheeks like steamed buns.

“Miss!” She rushed forwards, but in the next moment she froze in place, all of the joy and excitement rapidly fading from her face.

A hot liquid dripped onto Qin Yu’s neck, winding downwards. Qin Yu could feel the sticky liquid and the light smell of blood. He looked up to the frozen maid and said, “Hurry and call someone.”

“Ah....ah...help, hurry and help!”

He watched as the panicked maid almost tripped on herself as she ran out the door, howling and shouting. Qin Yu coughed, “This maid of yours, at least she is loyal.”

The female cultivator wiped the blood from her lips and lightly humphed. “Stupid is stupid, you don’t have to mention it.”

Qin Yu bitterly smiled. “I didn’t mean that.”

“Humph, do you think I would believe that?”

“The truth is the truth, the innocent are innocent.”

“Like an old sexual pervert like you? Peh!”

“Big sister, please control yourself!”

There was the sound of many footsteps from outside the door. With so many people arriving with just a few words, it seemed this woman’s status was no trifling matter.

Hualala –

A crowd of whispering women surged through the door. The woman drew in a deep breath of the fragrance and then smiled, “Everyone’s here, eh?”

“What are you all doing? Hurry and lift off Wei Ye!”

Before Qin Yu could respond, the woman was taken off his back and then carried out the entrance. From beginning to end, no one noticed Qin Yu and no one said a single word to him, as if he were nothing more than empty air.

Master Wei....tsk tsk, this woman actually had such an aggressive nickname for herself. Qin Yu lowered his head and looked at his tattered and bloodstained clothes. He bitterly smiled and walked out.

He passed through a long winding corridor and an elegant courtyard, and then his surroundings widened. Qin Yu could sense a familiar taste to this construction style. He looked at up at the beautiful

red lamps that hung up high and the enchanting fragrance that lingered on one's senses. He finally realized where he was.

The inn.

This was the inn that Xu Jiao had arranged for him to stay at in the past, the grotto of desires. If it wasn't for his powerful soul and self-control, he would have lost himself here. He naturally had a deep impression of this place.

That woman actually lived here. Just who was she? Qin Yu wasn't so stupid to think that someone as powerful as her would work a side-job here as a courtesan.

Cough cough, of course, even if she was willing to do so, he didn't think that there would be anyone brave enough to take on her business.

The inn today was cold and desolate. Looking around, he couldn't see the shadow of a single person. If it weren't for the screens playing their usual drama series, Qin Yu would have almost thought that there had been some sort of accident in the Beast Hunting Battalion.

He stood around for a moment. When no one came out, he finally thought that it was time for him to leave. But, how were that woman's injuries? He hoped she would be alright.

He shook his head. Then, according to his memories, he started walking out.

However, he had clearly underestimated just how large the inn was and how complex the internal layout was.

Due to his injuries, his thoughts were a bit hazy and disoriented and he actually lost his way. He walked for a long time but wasn't able to find his way out. He looked up at all directions and thought that they all looked the same to him. As he was ridiculing himself, he suddenly heard some sobs. Moreover, the voice was that of a woman. Qin Yu thought for a moment. While it might be a bit disrespectful to approach a woman in such a situation, he couldn't allow himself to continue meandering about like a headless fly.

He took several steps forwards and arrived at a garden, outside a rock garden sculpture. Qin Yu lightly coughed and the weeping sounds stopped. After several times, a bun-faced girl with reddened eyes warily appeared.

Yo, it was unexpectedly an acquaintance.

The bun-faced maid's eyes widened. "Why are you here!"

Qin Yu rubbed his nose. He decided not to say that he lost his way; that was just too disgraceful. "Oh, I was just taking a stroll around. I think I'm getting a bit tired, so I wanted to bid my farewells."

The bun-faced maid was crying in sorrow so her thoughts were a mess. Even so, she still thought these words sounded a bit strange, especially with Qin Yu's blood-stained clothes. However, she didn't comment on it. She stood up and bowed, revealing her good upbringing. "Have a good day."

Qin Yu was stunned. This was it? Shouldn't you be sending me out right now? Hey, little girl, how could you be so blind? What kind of maid are you!

As his head hurt, a beautifully dressed woman ran over. "Congcong, the miss wants to see that man. Has he left yet?"

As she turned across the rock garden sculpture, the woman caught sight of Qin Yu and was overjoyed. She grasped his arm and said, "Come, come, come, the miss wants to see you!"

Qin Yu allowed himself to be pulled over. Since that woman wanted to see him, there should be some vital matter.

The bun-faced maid followed close behind.

As he was pulled along, his wounds started to hurt ache. It was clear that some of them were reopening. Qin Yu darkly chuckled but didn't say much, because it seemed that things were a bit urgent.

Outside a room, numerous women stood. All of them were incomparably beautiful and their eyes were reddened at this moment lending them a certain charm that enthralled the heart.

Madam Mulberry saw Qin Yu and paused for a moment, obviously recognizing him. But, she wasn't in the mood to say much. She nodded, "Please enter...Master Wei's body is weak right now, don't make her speak too much."

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He nodded and entered.

The rich scent of raw medicinal materials filled the room. The woman had changed into white clothes and was lying comfortably on a set of warm bedding. When she heard the door opening she didn't even open her eyes. She lazily said, "For better or worse we overcame a disaster together. I never asked for your name."

"Qin Yu."

"Average, sloppy, there's no momentum behind it at all." The woman curled her lips. "You can call me Master Wei."

Qin Yu fell silent for several moments. "Your wounds..."

The woman said, "I can live on a bit longer." A trace of smug satisfaction appeared on her lips. "I told you that I would die. This isn't something you can control."

She seemed as if she had won the game or something.

Qin Yu frowned, unsure what to say.

The woman curled her lips. "I'm the one dying, so if anyone should be said, it's me. Stop trying to ruin my good mood in my final moments. I called you here because I wanted to give you an explanation. After I die, tell things exactly how they were. Don't hide anything and you won't be implicated in anything."

She finally opened her eyes. After lazily looking at Qin Yu for several breaths of time, she dismissively waved her hand. "Leave, leave, I want to rest."

Qin Yu smiled. "Alright. I'll come and visit you later." He turned and left.

The woman was stunned for a moment before she sighed and closed her eyes.

Madam Mulberry said, "We are all women here, so we shouldn't keep a visitor around. Congcong, send him out."

Qin Yu waved his hand. "Is there any hope for her?"

Madam Mulberry frowned. "We will manage Master Wei's injuries. There is no need for this visitor to worry."

The young maid that walked over couldn't suppress her sobbing. Tears flowed down her cheeks.

Qin Yu thought for a moment and said, "I might not have known Master Wei for a long time, but we've overcome a life or death disaster together. If there is any need, perhaps I can help."

Madam Mulberry's complexion softened, but she still didn't speak much. She shook her head. Just before she was about to turn and leave, the young maid suddenly cried out, "Madam, perhaps there is some way. I don't want miss to die, I don't!"

The crowd of women all started to cry in unison, their sobbing wrenching the heart. Madam Mulberry wanted to scold them, but when she opened her mouth nothing came out.

The young maid bowed, "Dear guest, my family's miss suffered a backlash from her bloodline and now she can't even move. But in the battalion there isn't any way to treat her injuries. If things continue on like this, the miss, she...she won't be able to last past this day...."

Qin Yu's complexion darkened. This woman....he recalled the overwhelming and tyrannical strength she revealed in the wilderness and sighed inwardly. No matter how he looked at it, he owed her a life.

His thoughts raced. Qin Yu said, "Is there a solution?"

Madam Mulberry's voice sank. "Miss's injuries can only be healed if she returns home. But, the key problem is that her body cannot withstand any transmission right now. The only possible method right now is to stabilize her injuries so she can be moved out, but unfortunately, within this battalion there is no way to accomplish that."

"Those alchemists that brag all day long in the battalion are all useless! They can't even refine a Nine Mystic Heavens Pill!"

"Big sister, that is a Nine Mystic Heavens Pill, a top level pill. Not even ordinary alchemy grandmasters are confident they can refine one."

"I don't care! In short, they're all garbage!"

"And everyone outside is garbage too! They've operated for so many years and yet they can't even find a single Nine Mystic Heavens Pill!"

Madam Mulberry's complexion darkened. "That's enough. All of you shut up!" Her eyes swept around and the last woman to speak revealed a look of fear and alarm, quickly lowering her head.

“Qin Yu, Master Wei’s current situation can only be saved with a Nine Mystic Heavens Pill. If there’s nothing you can do, you should leave as soon as possible.” In other words, leave now so you don’t get in the way.

Qin Yu had a thoughtful look. “Nine Mystic Heavens Pill...”

Madam Mulberry’s eyes widened. “Do you happen to have one? Or do you know where one is?”

The bun-faced maid and the surrounding women all looked at him.

Qin Yu shook his head, “I don’t.”

This was just exasperating. If you don’t have one then why make such an expression!? It’s just so annoying!

Madam Mulberry drew in a deep breath. “Congcong, see our guest out.”

Qin Yu lifted a hand. “Hold on. I don’t have a Nine Mystic Heavens Pill on me and I don’t know where to find one, but if you have the materials I can try to...refine one.”

The bun-faced maid’s eyes widened. What did you say? Did I misunderstand? The Nine Mystic Heavens Pill, that was the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill! Although she was of humble origins, she had followed the miss since she was young and had been influenced by her throughout the years. So, her field of vision wasn’t too low and she also had some understandings of the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill.

This was a top level pill! No matter how serious one’s injuries were, after swallowing one they could ensure they would be fine for the next seven days.

When they just said that ordinary alchemy grandmasters didn’t have full confidence they could refine one, in truth that wasn’t completely correct. To be more accurate, an alchemy grandmaster had a sub 10% chance of successfully refining one. Only those extremely strong grandmasters amongst grandmasters with incredible skills would have a 30-50% chance of refining one.

Now, with Qin Yu saying that he could attempt refining one...this joke was taking things too far! Madam Mulberry’s face darkened. “Qin Yu, I’ve been treating you as Master Wei’s guest, so I’ve been tolerating you. Please leave now!”

Qin Yu’s finger cut through space, leaving behind a trail of dazzling flames. “I am an alchemist; this I am not joking about. If you want, I can attempt. Otherwise, with this I will have tried my best, and if this woman dies I won’t feel as if I owe her anything.”

Everyone fell silent.

Madam Mulberry had a dignified expression. The fire he drew through the void just now might be required skill for all alchemists, but when Qin Yu displayed it, it seemed as smooth as flowing water and passing clouds. With that, she could determine that he was an alchemist. Could he really be confident in refining the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill?

Logic told her that this was absolutely impossible. But with Master Wei’s life on the line, she couldn’t miss out on this thread of hope, no matter how small it was.

Madam Mulberry clenched her teeth. “We only have three sets of materials for the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill!”

Qin Yu thought for a moment and nodded. “That should be enough.”

Madame Mulberry’s heart relaxed a little. Qin Yu’s decisiveness and calmness gave her a bit of confidence. But, his following words almost sent her into a rage.

“I will also have to trouble you to give me the pill recipe and refining method of the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill.”

What do you mean? Just what do you mean? You don’t even know the pill recipe and yet you dare say you can refine the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill!?

Madam Mulberry’s complexion almost turned pitch black. She clenched her teeth, “Give it to him! Just give it to him!”

### **Chapter 289 – Lose All Hope**

The inn’s speed was much faster than Qin Yu expected. In one hour, the pill recipe and three sets of materials were delivered to him in sealed metal boxes.

Carefully looking over the pill recipe and reviewing the detailed refinement steps and techniques required, Qin Yu finally had some understanding of the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill.

No wonder those women had given him an eerie suspicious look when he said he could refine this pill.

He silently calculated. Even if he used all of his strength and every skill at his disposal, his chances of successfully refining the pill were less than one out of dozens. It could even be lower than that. If he also added in the time it would take to adapt to the refining steps and the fact that the materials for all three attempts would turn to waste, it would be impossible to even see a hint of the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill’s shadow.

Luckily, when he refined pills he had never relied on just himself. If he counted on the little blue lamp, there should be some hopes of success.

He opened the first metal box. Qin Yu saw this type of box when he exchanged for the Primary Pill Collection, so it could be imagined how precious the materials inside were. Of course, with how valuable and rare the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill was, even an idiot could tell that the materials needed to refine something like that were bound to be extremely costly!

There were seven main materials and 13 supplementary materials. To ignite the fire, transfer the materials, and condense the pill, there were 18 other types of materials for a total of 38. After opening the metal box, a rich spiritual strength gushed out. Just by taking a breath, one felt refreshed and inspired.

He sifted through the box. After making sure that all the materials were present, Qin Yu took a deep breath and said, “I will now begin refining the pill. During this time, no matter what happens, do not disturb me.”



The bun-faced maid watched as Qin Yu closed the door behind him. Her pale face was so sad that she nearly burst into tears. This person didn't even know the pill recipe and had only glanced over it for a moment before beginning to refine the pill. Since when did something like this ever happen? For better or worse he could have looked over it for a bit longer to give her some more confidence.

The small trace of hope that hid within the maid's heart was now completely extinguished.

She turned and looked towards the back of the inn. The Madam was already coming up with every possible solution she could to help treat the miss. How was she doing now? At this time, not only was she not by the side of the miss taking care of her, but she had run over to see Qin Yu attempt to refine a pill. She was just so stupid!

Within his chambers, Qin Yu swept his divine sense around. After not sensing anything wrong, he flicked his sleeve and took out the Fleeting Flame Furnace. This was originally Cang Mangzi's pill furnace and even now Qin Yu didn't completely understand what rank it was. But, it shouldn't be too low. In addition, Qin Yu had used this furnace for the longest time and was most familiar with it. Right now it was his best choice for refining the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill.

Even with the little blue lamp in hand, Qin Yu didn't dare to be the least bit careless. This was his first time refining such a high level pill and he needed to mobilize every shred of skill he had.

His finger cut through the air and flames ignited, falling into the pill furnace. The furnace's array formation was activated, and heaven and earth spiritual strength was drawn in, transforming into flickering flames.

Qin Yu opened the metal box and took out the first material. With a shake of his hand, he tossed it into the Fleeting Flame Furnace. If other alchemists knew that Qin Yu had started refining this pill not long after he read through the pill recipe, they would likely stamp their feet in anger!

This was what had left the bun-faced maid wallowing in despair. If one's own alchemy skill level far surpassed the pill's difficulty level, then one could rely on their mastery and experience to directly begin refining it. But, if the difficulty level of that pill corresponded to an alchemist's skill level or even surpassed it, then even if one didn't consider the success rate, they still needed to practice simulating the refinement process steps repeatedly before they would dare to begin. And this was doubly so when it came to something so valuable like the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill!

It wasn't as if Qin Yu didn't know about this. Rather, the key point right now was that he lacked time. The woman had suffered a backlash and might not live through the day. Even if he knew that there was almost no chance of success if he hastily attempted to refine the pill, he still needed to try.

Because only by truly beginning the refinement process would he be able to familiarize himself with it in the shortest time possible.

Qin Yu was expressionless. His heart was as steady as a still lake, without a single wave. His hands formed law formulas and he controlled the heat and the amount of heaven and earth spiritual strength flowing in.

Soon, the first main material completely dissolved. Qin Yu flicked his sleeve and added in the second material; this was an auxiliary spirit plant. The refinement process was simple; all he needed to do was fuse them together.

The refinement continued smoothly. Through his divine sense, Qin Yu could clearly sense that the two materials had started to fuse. He grabbed the third material. The moment the fusion completed, he would toss it into the Fleeting Flame Furnace.

But at this time, there was a dull explosion. Qin Yu's fingers stiffened and his complexion paled. He took back the law formula and the pill furnace's flames were extinguished. He opened the top of the furnace and faint traces of black smoke wafted out, accompanied by a burning smell.

The refinement failed.

It wasn't at the pill forming phase and it wasn't at the material connecting phase. In fact, he hadn't even completed the step of refining the materials.

He failed at the second step of materials.

Although he knew that refining the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill wouldn't be easy, he hadn't expected to fail so soon. This failure was especially heavy since he had believed there weren't any problems at all and that everything was in his control.

He furrowed his eyebrows and fell into contemplation for a moment. He took out the blackened waste materials and cautiously placed them to the side. For other cultivators, the materials produced from a failed refinement were completely useless. But, with the little blue lamp in hand, he had a chance to reuse them.

He continued to refine.

He took out the second material and soon arrived at the second step he reached before. Qin Yu's divine sense erupted and he carefully discerned every change occurring within the furnace.

And as he thought, as the materials started to fuse, faint traces of extremely weak rejection started to appear between them. This reaction wasn't because the properties of the materials didn't align, but rather because...the fusion was too quick.

The first two materials used in refining the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill was one main material and one supplementary material; these were the foundation for forming the pill. Thus, the properties of these two spirit plants were completely conformed to each other. So once mixed together, they would fuse in the shortest time possible.

However, this sort of hasty fusion would cause the properties of the two spirit plants to be unable to thoroughly join together. Instead, there would be a growing repulsion until it finally failed.

Qin Yu realized this. He formed different law formulas with his fingers, slowing the perfusion of heaven and earth spiritual strength and reducing the fusion speed of the two materials. After slowing it down for a moment, he finally managed to perfectly fuse them together.

There was good reason that the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill was so difficult to refine. Just fusing in the second material placed a very high requirement on an alchemist's divine sense. Otherwise, they simply

wouldn't even have sensed the reason why they failed and would have only continued to fail again and again.

There was no time to be happy. He needed to add the third material, and there were also 35 more after that.

Qin Yu's expression became even more dignified. He was only at the third material and he only had a day to complete the pill refinement. His original confidence faded by a great deal.

The bun-faced maid placed her chin over her hands, a blank look on her face. Qin Yu had already been in there for over six hours. How was he doing now? Perhaps him not coming out would be the best result.

The day gradually darkened. Today's night was incomparably dark and heavy, as if it were formed of ink. Just by glancing through the sky, one felt an inexplicable chill in the air.

The bun-faced maid shivered and she hurriedly lowered her head. She always thought the night wasn't too auspicious so she didn't want to look at it anymore. The miss would be alright, she would definitely be alright. She prayed in her heart again and again.

She felt her mind turn fuzzy and hazy. After what seemed like mere moments, she suddenly heard the sounds of birds chirping in her ears. It was Big Sister Endive's pet thrush. This little colored bird had recently entered its mating period. Every morning before the sun dawned it would fly up into the skies and let loose its throaty song, annoying everyone to death.

Once she got up, she would certainly need to inform the miss and have her tell Big Sister Endive to gag that loud bird!

Miss...

The bun-faced maid was startled. She violently straightened herself and looked up. The sky was beginning to brighten. She pinched her round cheeks and felt a sharp pain.

This wasn't a dream, this was the true dawn!

The bun-faced maid's face twisted and she nearly cried. She had fallen asleep, she had actually fallen asleep! When the miss was unconscious, on the verge of death, she was sleeping! She wished that she could kill herself right now. She hurriedly stood up and ran to the door.

The aura of spells spread out from inside. It was clear that Qin Yu hadn't stepped out yet.

The bun-faced maid's heart sank and she immediately began to panic. How come he hadn't come out after all this time?

At this moment, from the back of the inn, there were the sounds of weeping. Because it was so far away, one could only vaguely hear it.

The bun-faced maid paled. "Miss!"

Shua –

Tears immediately fell.

She raced over.

As for Qin Yu...

She should never have believed him. Because of him, she had lost the last night to accompany the miss!

Miss, you must hold on. Wait for me to come...no, no, no, miss, you can't die!

All sorts of scattered thoughts were raging in her mind. The maid's sobbing cries only grew louder as she ran over.

She arrived at the miss' courtyard. The cries really were coming from within. The maid's feet softened and she almost dropped to the floor.

"Miss!"

She crashed into the room, sobbing all the while. When she saw the miss lying in bed, smiling and chatting with a ruddy face, she was stunned for a moment before being overcome with joy. "Miss, you're alright! This is wonderful! This is too wonderful!"

She turned and bowed again and again. "Thank you Madam, thank you big sisters, for saving my family's miss!"

Madam Mulberry and the crowd of heartbroken women around her all stiffened and revealed intolerant expressions.

The woman smiled and scolded, "What great eyesight! If you hadn't waited on me since you were a child, I would have already replaced you!" She beckoned with her hand, pulling the stunned maid closer. "Aunty Hong, I will have to ask you to look after Congcong later. She is stupid, lazy, and greedy. You will need to spend a bit more effort to find her a rich family with a good temper, otherwise I'm scared she will starve to death."

Aunty Hong, the one otherwise known as Madam Mulberry, squeezed out a smile, her eyes red. "Master Wei, don't worry. I will take Congcong as my daughter in the future."

"Master Wei, we will also look after Congcong."

"Don't worry."

"Master Wei, I'm not giving up on you!"

The maid's face drained of blood and her pitiful eyes widened. "M-m-miss..."

The woman slapped her in the end. She laughed, "Miss your head. My chest is already so big, if you say I'm missing anything, are you mocking me?" A trace of sadness filled her eyes. She pursed her lips.

"Listen to Aunty Hong from now and don't run all over the place. Okay?"

The maid shook her head, tears raining down.

## **Chapter 290 - Cooperation**

With a light creaking sound, the door opened from within. Qin Yu walked out, his weary face etched with exhaustion and the blood vessels visible in his eyes.

The bun-faced maid was no longer here. He could faintly hear sounds of crying from afar. Qin Yu took a deep breath, "Don't die yet..."

Bang –

The ground trembled and Qin Yu shot into the skies. He was like a tautly drawn arrow, soaring straight towards the source of that crying.

In a far off courtyard, a group of women stared with wide eyes. They looked up into the air at the kaleidoscope of colors that had been triggered in the skies. Was there someone who couldn't stand it and wanted to die along with Master Wei?

Eh? From their direction, it looked as if they were flying over here...

The door was pushed open and Aunt Hong walked out, her face dark. "Who dares to intrude into my inn's rear court! Insolent!" Her voice was billowing and loud, rumbling out like an invisible tide. This beautiful Madam Mulberry actually had such a potent cultivation.

In the skies above the courtyard, the rainbow-hued lights of the spell shattered and then Qin Yu fell to the ground. He staggered and spat out a mouthful of blood.

Aunt Hong had already learned of the hopeless pill refining from Congcong. She naturally lost the patience she previously had with Qin Yu and her complexion became uglier. She coldly said, "Qin Yu, since you have shown graciousness to Master Wei before, I won't argue with you over intruding into the inn's rear court. Leave immediately!"

Qin Yu wiped the corners of his lips and nodded. "I do need to rest. Give this pill to that woman. I hope there is enough time." He opened his hand to reveal a pill in his palm. It was as bright as the morning light and shined with iridescent radiance.

Aunt Hong lost her composure. "Nine Mystic Heavens Pill!" Her eyes widened in shock and speechlessness.

Qin Yu coughed. "Hurry up, otherwise that woman is really going to die."

"Peh! You can die but this old lady won't!" A hand reached out and grabbed the pill. Then opening her mouth, the woman swallowed it down. She frowned, sensing it in her body. As everyone looked on with a tense expression, she curled her lips and commented, "Mediocre at best. The medicinal efficacy isn't as good as what I had before."

It wasn't as good as before? Did that mean this Nine Mystic Heavens Pill was really effective?

Aunt Hong's eyes widened like full moons, surprise written all over her face.

The bun-faced maid who followed close behind suddenly gasped. Her eyes tilted back into her head and before she could breathe, she toppled to the ground.

Qin Yu coldly sneered. "If it's not good enough, spit it back out. I don't want to let you eat it."

The woman looked him over. "If you didn't want me to eat it, then why would you have run here so quickly? Luckily Aunt Hong wasn't watching over the spells today, or you would have already died!" Her

taunting expression was filled with satisfaction. Then, a trace of caution flashed in her eyes. "Qin Yu, you cannot have any improper thoughts towards this old lady! It's impossible for us to be together!"

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and walked away. "You think too much nonsense!"

The woman behind him stamped her feet.

In the end, Qin Yu wasn't able to leave. His current condition was much worse than when he arrived. All he could see were multiple images of people in his field of vision. The only reason he hadn't fainted earlier was because he had been stubbornly holding on.

However, he could only stubbornly hold on for so long. So when he turned and saw a section of soft grass, he sat down there and sighed comfortably. When his face dropped down and his head landed on the soft grass, he had already fallen asleep.

A moment later, after Aunt Hong sent the miss away, she turned and saw the deeply breathing Qin Yu. Her eyes warmed and she waved her hand, "Bring Mister Qin to a room so he can rest well."

A gaggle of women worked together to lift up Qin Yu. Their fingers inadvertently touched his body and their eyes brightened. It was hard to see, but even though this boy was thin, his body was thickly muscled and sturdy.

Aunt Hong walked in front and coughed. "Alright, everyone mind their manners. Once Mister Qin awakes, if he wishes, you will all have a chance to serve him in his bedchambers."

When Qin Yu woke up, he was lying on warm and soft bedding. When he breathed in, a faint fragrance entered his nose. This scent was strange but actually quite nice-smelling, so he couldn't help but take a few more deep breaths before he opened his eyes.

Not long after, the door was pushed open and the bun-faced maid marched in, a basin of hot water in her hands. "Mister Qin, you're awake!"

Qin Yu smiled. "How is your family's miss?"

The maid put down the washbasin and knelt to the ground. "Reporting to mister, the miss has already returned home to recover." She paused and then earnestly said, "This servant Congcong wishes to thank Mister Qin for saving the life of my family's miss. If you ever have any wishes in the future, I will do my best to serve."

A charming laugh echoed out from the other side of the door. "Congcong, you little lovestruck tomboy, big sister here already knew you couldn't be trusted. We haven't even had a taste and yet you've already started."

A woman walked in. She had an enchanting figure and an enthralling face. As she stepped in, her limpid eyes were like waves of flowing water, tempting the mind.

The maid blushed hot red. "Big Sister Peony, you can't just say that! I wasn't thinking that!"

"You say you weren't thinking that, but you said that you were willing to serve him, no matter what he desired. Isn't that sort of suggestion obvious enough?" Peony continued to tease. Seeing the maid redden further and nearly sob, she finally stopped. She turned and bowed, "Peony greets Mister Qin."

Qin Yu bowed in return. "Miss Peony, how do you do. Is this...the inn?"

Peony smiled and nodded. "In order to save Master Wei, Mister Qin has spent a considerable amount of mental strength. You have already slept for three days and three nights. If you didn't wake up soon, Aunty Hong would have asked for a doctor to visit."

Qin Yu shook his head. "I'm okay now." He turned over and stood up from the bed. "There are some matters I must attend to, so I will bid my farewells here."

Peony hurriedly said, "Mister Qin, please hold on a moment."

Qin Yu's eyebrows furrowed together.

Peony respectfully said, "Aunty Hong said that after Mister Qin awakens, she must personally express her gratitude to you. And, there are some matters that she hopes she can discuss face-to-face with Mister Qin. Aunty Hong said that this will also be beneficial to Mister Qin."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. "I see. Alright, then I'll wash up first."

Peony covered her mouth and giggled. "Congcong, isn't it time for you to help Mister Qin freshen up?" She bowed, "I will be waiting outside for Mister Qin."

Congcong lowered her head, nearly turning into an ostrich. But, this only made her chest thrust out, seeming even larger. Qin Yu coughed several times and turned his head, allowing her to tidy everything up.

He pushed open the door and walked out. Peony bowed and led the way. They soon arrived at a quiet and peaceful courtyard. Aunty Hong was waiting outside.

"Greetings, Mister Qin."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "Aunty Hong is too polite."

"Please."

After entering the courtyard, Peony poured some tea and then left. It was only the two of them in there.

Aunty Hong faintly smiled. "Mister Qin is intelligent and wise, so I won't circle around the subject. I will get straight to the point."

Qin Yu nodded. "Aunty Hong, feel free to speak."

Aunty Hong had a serious expression. "The inn hopes to reach cooperation with Mister Qin. We will provide the materials and you will refine the pills. Of course, since mister saved Master Wei, you are now an honored guest of my inn. We will certainly repay you generously."

This actually was a bit out of Qin Yu's expectations. He had thought that the reason Aunty Hong wanted to speak to him was because she hoped that he could help refine some more pills for them. After all, the success of the Nine Mystic Heavens Pill was sufficient proof of his powerful alchemy 'strength'. But now, it seemed his thoughts had been too simple. This Aunty Hong and the inn around him didn't seem simple at all!

To speak the truth, Aunt Hong's proposition impeccably matched Qin Yu's current needs. But, he wasn't in a hurry to answer. He thought over things and said, "I am actually a bit confused by Aunt Hong's words."

Aunt Hong was a shrewd person. She could tell from his words that Qin Yu didn't have the intention of refusing. Her smile immediately brightened. "It was my mistake for not explaining things clearly. Our inn is a brothel, but in fact, we also engage in all sorts of pill material businesses. Throughout the entire Beast Hunting Battalion, most of the materials that are found by the beast hunters are purchased and managed by us."

Everything else was unimportant. Just these words alone proved how strong the inn was.

What sort of place was the Beast Hunting Battalion?

It was a bunch of people who hunted monster beasts day and night and lived their lives on the edge of the blade. Did anyone expect them to be nice or approachable?

If this place could purchase a massive amount of materials from them and also have other moneyless businesses, one could imagine how fierce the inn actually was.

Qin Yu didn't consider things for too long before he nodded. The compensation offered to him by the inn was simply too good, and there was nowhere he could haggle. As long as he could start refining pills in bulk again, then with the assistance of the little blue lamp, Qin Yu's cultivation would soon rise dramatically.

Aunt Hong was all smiles. "Then I'll have to trouble Mister Qin from now on."

The inn came to an agreement with Qin Yu. The overall success rate of pills was to be around 40%. This rate wasn't considered low, and with Qin Yu's alchemy skills that 'surpassed' those of a grandmaster, it was to be expected. There would be a considerable amount of income and materials left for him. After all, the amount of materials that the inn handled was mind-boggling.

Unfortunately, Aunt Hong didn't know that Qin Yu had the little blue lamp in hand and could thus reuse the materials of waste pills. Because of that, the success rate of his pills would actually far surpass anyone's imaginations!

It could be said that Aunt Hong wasn't asking for Qin Yu to help mass refine pills at all. After all, the inn's chain management had attracted the services of many alchemists throughout the years. What she truly valued was Qin Yu's alchemy skills. As long as both sides could work happily together, then asking him to refine some relatively difficult high-level pills in the future might be possible.

Moreover, with a peak alchemy master joining them, this would have an astonishing effect for the inn in gathering its hidden income from its various other operations.

Of course, from Aunt Hong's perspective the inn would also give Qin Yu extra compensation; they couldn't ask him to help them in vain. For instance, some benefits of the inn could be freely used by Mister Qin.

Such as this:



As Qin Yu was bathing, the door was pushed open. Two beautiful young women walked in, their bodies covered in gauzy veils. Their slender and curvy bodies and all their hidden places were partly visible beneath the gauze that draped over them. The enticement was through the roof.

“We are here to help mister bath.” They said together, bowing and then walking towards his bathtub.

Qin Yu jumped in fright. He quickly waved his hands, “No need, no need, I’m fine by myself!”

The two young women stopped, a bit of bitterness hidden in their faces. “Does mister not like us sisters?” Upon closer inspection, he discovered that the two were completely identical in appearance. The only difference was that the one on the left had a larger chest.

As for why he could see...

What nonsense! Such a thin level of gauze was no different from not wearing any clothes at all. Even a blind person could see through that!

Qin Yu turned back, “It’s not that you two aren’t good, but it’s only that I am wounded right now. If there isn’t anything else, please return.”

The twin sisters glanced at each other. They said, “Then we sisters will be waiting outside. If mister has any need of us, feel free to call on us at any time.”

These words were clearly giving him a chance to change his mind. Just in case he had refused them because of a moment of embarrassment, he could call them back. These words were like little cat claws latching onto the heart. Just by moving a little, there was an unbearable need to scratch that itch.

Hearing the door close, Qin Yu let out a long breath and bitterly smiled. He didn’t even need to think it over to know that this was absolutely the methods of that Aunty Hong. She was even using the old beautiful women trick, and the legendary identical twin sisters at that...cough cough, but in truth, this actually proved just how highly she valued their cooperation.

Good, this was good. As long as everyone cooperated with sincerity then everyone could obtain what they needed. As long as he could obtain pills to cultivate with, he certainly wouldn’t cause the inn to suffer a loss.

He focused on these proper matters so that his brain would forget those improper matters. However, no matter how much he concentrated, he couldn’t completely rid himself of those two shaking drapes of gauze.

After a long time, Qin Yu heaved a deep sigh. He stepped out of the bathtub and turned on the cold water valve.

In a luxurious hall, a white-dressed woman leaned against a window. The sunlight sprinkled down on her and her skirt rustled in the wind. It seemed as if she would fly away at any moment. However, a hateful veil covered most of her face, making it so that one could only imagine her beauty.

A maid walked in with light steps and a lowered head. “Miss, a message jade slip from the Southern Overwatch Pass has arrived.”

The white-dressed woman put down her book and picked up the jade slip. She searched it with her divine sense. Several breaths of time later, she faintly frowned. Her fingers moved and the jade slip in her palm was crushed to powder. Her expression returned to tranquility as she let the powder blow away into the wind. She picked her book back up and continued reading, as if nothing happened at all.