"You're so sharp-witted, Master Chen. Half a year ago, I stumbled across an expert whose family was skilled in the martial arts and had a large group of followers. He was hired by our family's rival to bring us down and assassinate me. He was really formidable; more than a dozen of my professional men could not even get near him. It was almost as if he had god-like skills!"

"After that, my son and several bodyguards sacrificed their lives to keep me safe.
Although I managed to flee quite a distance, his vital energy still struck me.
His vital energy merely brushed against me, but I nearly lost my life right there and then!"

Shen Tiangang's eyes were filled with terror as he shared his experience with Chen Hao.

It was apparent that the incident was very traumatic for him.

Chen Hao nodded understandably.

It was no secret that there was a huge disparity between a person who possessed vital energy and the average

commoner.

However, there was an unwritten rule for people who possessed vital energy: they must not get overly involved in the affairs of common people.

A case like Shen Tiangang's was a first for Chen Hao.

Uncle Chen had mentioned this earlier; these Mystique Clans were not the most formidable people of all. Even if they had total control over a specific territory, they were certainly not the most powerful.

He had stumbled across true cultivators in this world who were from the same country.

Their vital energy was similar to Uncle Chen's, but they did not come from Border Realm.

Therefore, he concluded that the world was just too big.

Chen Hao no longer naively thought that this was the limit of the world, how he did in the past.

"Ever since then, Master Chen, our family business has been monopolized, and I've passed on all my hopes onto my granddaughter. This is why I beg you, Master Chen from the Dragon Temple, to accept her as your disciple, so that you can turn her into a true cultivator!" said Shen Tiangang.

"Alright, let's take things slow. Let me heal your internal injuries first!"

Chen Hao could sense that Shen Tiangang was speaking the truth.

It must have been so miserable for him.

Furthermore, he had already accepted Shen Piaopiao as his disciple; the least he could do was to give him some dignity.

At that moment, Chen Hao summoned his Golden Vision, healing Shen Tiangang of his injuries!

The Shen Family of the Ji Province used to be a reputable family in the area.

However, the tragedy half a year ago had torn the entire family apart.

Now, they were just an average family who owned a few small companies.

After sealing off the Dragon Mountain, Chen Hao and Zhu settled down in Shen's residence for the time being.

Shen Tiangang gave everything he had, and took good care of Chen Hao.

At the same time, he had sent all of his men to locate Master Ghost's whereabouts.

Chen Hao had also searched the entire Ji Province for the Master Ghost but to no avail. There was no information whatsoever on Master Ghost's location.

During his free time, Chen Hao would guide Shen Piaopiao on her cultivation journey whilst diligently cultivating himself in the yard as well.

However, Chen Hao was shocked when he realized that his body's cultivation had significantly slowed down.

There was also something else that puzzled him.

"They have already been in my body for four or five days. What is this? If Ziyan was here, she would surely know what it is!"

Chen Hao was looking inside his body.

He could see five discs of different colors circling around his Energy Centre in an orderly fashion. Though they looked colorful, it was weird seeing them appear.

Chen Hao had tried to touch them with his psychokinesis, but there was no response from the discs.

At first, Chen Hao was not very concerned about them because they were only colorful spots on his Energy Centre in the very beginning.

However, things did not seem good now. Those spots had clearly matured as they were exhibiting some regular patterns.

Although Ziyan was not there by his side, Chen Hao did not want to let things be. He started rummaging through his memories, trying to find a solution to it.

He had a feeling that these five-colored discs had something to do with his

cultivation reaching its limit yet again.

"Master, are you still in the midst of cultivating?"

At this moment, there was a knock on the door and Shen Piaopiao came in.

"What is it?"

"Grandpa said he found an important lead!"

"Oh?"

Chen Hao's eyes went wide. He knew that it must have something to do with the Master Ghost.

In an instant, he exited the room.

"Master Chen, my men brought these photographs. Have a look at it!"

Shen Tiangang handed the photographs over to Chen Hao, who took a good look at them.

The photograph showed the inside of an expensive glass cabinet.

A fly whisk was lying quietly there.

Chen Hao's eyes glistened the moment he saw the fly whisk. It was one of Master Ghost's belongings.

"This belongs to the Master!"

Zhu started to speak.

"Master Chen, you gave us a photo of Master Ghost before. When my men stumbled upon this fly whisk, they noticed that it matched the one in the photo you gave us. So, they quickly took a photo of it before coming back!" said Shen Tiangang.

"Furthermore, it appeared in the largest auction in the entire Ji Province! You mentioned earlier that the Master Ghost might be going through a tough time. Is it possible that things had been so difficult for him that he decided to auction off his fly whisk?"

Chen Hao shook his head. "How can this be possible? With a talent like Master Ghost's, he can easily make a living off of it. He would certainly not sell his fly whisk just to make ends meet! Anyway, let's go and visit the auction first. It is best if we

can find any information on the Master Ghost. This is an important lead!" Chen Hao urged.

"Alright then, I will make the arrangements promptly. The auction will begin tonight. By then, reputable figures from all over the world will gather there. If we want to find a lead on Master Ghost, this will be a good chance for us to do so!" said Shen Tiangang.

Zhu mentioned that the Master Ghost had predicted that a tragedy would fall upon him, and that it would occur in the Ji Province.

Did the discovery of this fly whisk meant that something had happened to the Master Ghost?

Truth be told, Chen Hao had a bad feeling about this.

It was soon night time.

A group of people had arrived at the venue of the auction.

"What a coincidence! Isn't this Uncle Shen? Uncle Shen has not shown up in events

like this in the Ji Province for a long time. Is the Shen Family here to turn your lives around? Is that why you have the time to come here and partake in this auction?"

When Chen Hao and the rest arrived at the entrance, a few luxurious cars happened to arrive at the same time as them.

A young master dressed in a white suit stepped off from the car, with a bodyguard following him from behind. The first person he laid eyes on was Shen Tiangang.

There was another man dressed in a black robe standing beside this young master. The man was draped in black, giving off a creepy aura to the people around him.

Chen Hao's eyelids could not help but twitch. Perhaps it was because he had been receiving so much information from people who wore black robes lately. After that, he continued to glance at the old man several more times.

What surprised Chen Hao was the vital energy flowing in this man's body.

Was he a cultivator?

Chen Hao was astonished.

Why was a formidable cultivator willing to be treated like a slave?

Shen Tiangang's eyes filled with rage as he looked at the young man.

"Duan Feng!"

Shen Tiangang was infuriated. However, when he saw the old man standing beside Duan Feng, his entire body was filled with fear.

"Grandpa!"

Shen Piaopiao walked up to her grandfather in a fit of rage, but Shen Tiangang grabbed onto her wrist swiftly, signaling her not to act recklessly!



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"Young Master Duan, I came here to broaden my horizons and pay my old friend a visit at the same time! I wouldn't dare crash your party!" replied Shen Tiangang, holding his anger in.

"Hahaha, that's good. But I heard that you've been looking for a master ever since you went bankrupt six months ago. I'm not sure if you have managed to find the person you're looking for, but truth be told, when the Shen family faced danger half a year ago, the Duan Family has been looking for the culprit behind the scenes. As soon we find out who he is, we will surely seek revenge for your family!" Duan Feng chuckled.

"Thank you for your help!"

Shen Tiangang was so furious that the corners of his lips quivered. However, he managed to pull himself together before answering Duan Feng.

"Hahaha, it's not much of a problem. This is what I should be doing anyway!"

As soon as he finished talking, Duan Feng burst into laughter before entering the hall.

The old man in the black robe, who had been following Duan Feng closely, suddenly glanced sideways at Chen Hao before heading inside.

"I did not expect to meet this scumbag here. He still acts like he's some good Samaritan!" exclaimed Shen Piaopiao furiously.

The Duan Family had been against the Shen Family ever since the start.

"Was the old man the culprit who injured you?" asked Chen Hao calmly.

"You're right, Master Chen. This person is quite invincible!" answered Shen Tiangang.

"I see, he is a cultivator!"

Chen Hao replied tartly without any further explanation.

Meanwhile, Duan Feng had entered the auction hall. He turned his head and asked the man in the black robe calmly, "Master, you were looking at the young man standing beside Shen Tiangang. What was that about? Do you guys have some sort of history?"

Duan Feng looked serious. He no longer had the jovial look on his face from a moment ago.

"Yes, the both of us have some history!" answered the man in black robe in a wavering voice.

"So, the two of you know each other?"

"Yes, we do."

"Who is he then?"

"He is only an acquaintance. Hehe, but of course, he is about to be a dead man!"

The old man sounded composed, but he had an evil tone that sent chills down people's spines.

Meanwhile, the auction was about to begin.

Chen Hao and the rest sat toward the end of the room.

According to Shen Tiangang, the organizer of this auction was the most reputable family in the Ji Province.

Even the Duan Family had to be humble on this occasion.

Initially, Shen Piaopiao was worried that Duan Feng would stir up trouble here. On the contrary, Shen Tiangang did not seem intimidated at all.

Soon after that, the auction officially began. They kicked the event off with several miscellaneous items as usual.

After some time, it was time to auction the fly whisk.

Naturally, everyone in the room could not help but gasp when the fly whisk made its debut.

"This fly whisk is an item left behind by the war; it is also a magical weapon. The starting bid is at 80 million!" shouted the host.

There was a commotion among the crowd as soon as the host announced the starting bid.

Although many of them understood the value of this fine item, they did not think that the fly whisk was worth 80 million.

The crowd started chattering among themselves but none of them dared to match the amount.

After exchanging looks with the man in the black robe, Duan Feng nodded his head before raising his hand.

"Huh? Young Master Duan bids 80 million!" exclaimed the host hastily.

"Young Master Chen?" Shen Tiangang looked at Chen Hao.

"Not to hurry, let's just wait for a moment!" Chen Hao replied casually.

"Hey, damn it! Get lost, you're blocking me from taking photos!"

At this moment, an elegantly dressed woman yelled furiously.

There were a lot of men and women in this industry.

At this very moment, the crowd—especially the women—turned their gazes toward the front row where Young Master Duan was seated; they looked as if they were falling head over heels for him.

"Ah! Our Young Master Duan is just so charming. He even started off his bid with 80 million. I must take a picture with him later!"

"You're right. Young Master Duan is undoubtedly the richest of the richest! He has already wrecked the second richest person in the Ji Province with his starting bid! I'm guessing no one else is daring to bid higher than the Young Master, right?"

The women started voicing their opinions eagerly.

It was as if they were chasing after their favorite celebrities, only having eyes for their idol. However, they were the only ones behaving like that in the auction. The rest of the onlookers stared at them as if they were fools.

"Who did you ask to get lost?"

Shen Piaopiao was infuriated after hearing them disrespect her master.

"I asked you guys to get lost, didn't you hear me? Stop interrupting us from taking photos of Young Master Duan!" A few of his female admirers hissed in an irritated

tone.

"You think you are rich? Sheesh, stop putting on a show," said one of the girls. "If you have the guts, why don't you go up against Young Master Duan for the bidding?" The girls looked at them and said sarcastically.

"You-"

Shen Piaopiao was about to burst with rage.

"It's alright, just ignore them! Mr. Shen, help me bid for a price!"

Chen Hao noticed that nobody else had called for a higher price.

Hence, he turned to Shen Tiangang and told him that he would help him out.

"Master Chen, how much do you want to raise the bid?" asked Shen Tiangang.

Chen Hao raised his hand to indicate the number 'one' to Shen Tiangang.

Shen Tiangang frowned. "Master, there's no difference if you raise the bid by a

million!"

"Hahaha, and I thought he's some big shit. He's only raising it one million higher. How pathetic!"

A few of Duan Feng's female admirers started teasing Chen Hao hysterically from behind.

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"I'm not raising it by a million!" answered Chen Hao calmly.

"Ten million? Alright, I will bid for that amount right away!"

Shen Tiangang nodded.

"No, not just ten million!" Chen Hao corrected Shen Tiangang.

Shen Tiangang was appalled.

"H-how much are you raising it?" asked Shen Tiangang, astonished.

"Let's start the bid from 100 million!" replied Chen Hao.

To be honest, Chen Hao had been baffled by something recently. Why is one the basic unit of money? It's just too troublesome. Wouldn't it be more convenient to use 100 million as the basic unit instead? Chen Hao thought to himself. For example, it would be easier to calculate if a person was spending one billion, ten billion, or even a hundred million.

Thus, the reason why Chen Hao raised his hand was because he felt that it was troublesome to top the current offer bit by bit.

"Master Chen, are you sure about this?"

Shen Tiangang's eyes went wide.

The women behind him did not dare utter a single word anymore after hearing his bid.

They shut their mouths, staring at Chen Hao with disbelief.

Immediately, Shen Tiangang yelled, "100 million!"

"Whoa, what's going on? Somebody has offered 100 million!" exclaimed the host

excitedly. He thought that Young Master Duan's offer was the highest price the fly whisk would fetch.

He had never expected this to happen, even in his wildest imagination.

This very voice also shocked the Young Master. He did not expect someone to be so daring to challenge him.

Shen Tiangang was courting death!

Fine, I'll play along if that's what you wish!

"200 million!"

Young Master Duan had lost his mind.

Even Shen Tiangang was taken aback.

Chen Hao could not help but shake his head. This money game was too boring. "One billion!" offered Chen Hao immediately.

As soon as Shen Tiangang bid the amount, there was a huge uproar among the crowd.

"Damn it, I don't believe that the Shen Family can come out with such a large

amount right now!"

Duan Feng did not see this coming at all.

Just as he was about to battle it out with the Shen family, the man in the black robe stopped him.

"That's enough, Young Master Duan. Stop raising the price. With him around, it'll be useless for you to raise the amount any higher!" The old man in the black robe explained calmly.

"Master, are we simply going to hand this magic tool right into their hands?" said Duan Feng, displeased.

"Hehe, of course not. Young Master Duan, don't forget what I told you earlier. I am acquainted with that young man. Naturally, he will be a dead man soon!"



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