## "Ah!!"

Zhou Nuo hugged herself in fear and ran to hide behind Chen Hao hastily.

None of them had noticed that there was a sword floating above the pond, and a faint figure was drifting above the sword.

To be precise, it was a blurry black figure.

"Who are you?" Zhou Nuo asked in fear.

"My name is Sword Soul," at this moment, the black figure replied in a faint robotic voice.

"H-How can you be so sordid to peek at my..." Zhou Nuo felt it too embarrassing to say it aloud.

"Miss, you've misunderstood. I'm blind, so how can I peek at you? I appeared because I sensed a presence; the presence of my master."

The figure of Sword Soul gradually substantialized.

At last, it turned into a soldier with long hair wearing a black armor and appeared

in front of them.

"Your master?" Zhou Nuo was surprised.

"Master, is that you? Master, it has been a few ten thousand years. Are you finally back?"

The voice of Sword Soul was hoarse due to excitement.

Upon hearing that, Chen Hao furrowed his eyebrows and asked, "Is your master named Lingxiao, the Celestial War God?"

"Yes! Master, it's really you. I recognized your voice as soon as I heard you speak. How have you been all these years?"

With a thump, Sword Soul kneeled before Chen Hao.

"Huh?" Zhou Nuo was startled.

"I think you've misunderstood. To be honest, Lingxiao and I indeed share deep connections, and I learned all my skills from him. However, I'm not Lingxiao. My name is Chen Hao!" Chen Hao said.

"But your voice and the aura you are

exuding are exactly the same as Lingxiao. I can't be wrong!" Sword Soul said.

"Lingxiao passed away a few ten thousand years ago, and his remains are with me. I came back to Border Realm this time to find out the whereabouts of Ziyan. Then, I can bury the remains of Lingxiao so that he can revert to his origins."

Chen Hao did not expect that Lingxiao was the master of this Sword Soul that appeared.

Upon listening to Chen Hao's explanation, Sword Soul was grief-stricken.

"It's the League of the Sun. They must have killed my master. During the great war that year, they were the one who ambushed my master!" Sword Soul clenched his fists and grounded his teeth.

"League of the Sun?"

This was the first time Chen Hao came in contact with the name 'League of the Sun' since he came back to Border Realm.

On Earth, there were countless things that were caused by the League of the Sun.

Unexpectedly, the League of the Sun was really the one who ambushed Ziyan and Lingxiao that year.

No wonder Ziyan always said that it was still not the time to tell him about the League of the Sun every time he asked her about it.

Now he finally understood why his master, Uncle Qin, and Ziyan refused to tell him anything about the League of the Sun.

Lingxiao's ability was extraordinary, but he still fell victim to the League of the Sun, not to mention Chen Hao himself at that time.

"I understand now!" Sword Soul seemed to have seen the light at this moment too.

"What have you understood?" Chen Hao could not help but ask.

"I think you must be the ninth reincarnation of my master. May I know if you look exactly like my master?" Sword Soul asked in excitement.

Although Chen Hao had been denying that he was the reincarnation of Lingxiao all

this while, he nodded seriously this time.

"Yes. Indeed, I look exactly like Lingxiao!"

"That's it. That must be right. You are indeed the ninth reincarnation of my master!"

"That year, Border Realm was in a turmoil. The three greatest Sun God of the League of the Sun joined forces to attack my master. Initially, my master could contend with them, but he fell into the trap of the Ye family. Struck by a concerted attack from both inside and outside, my master was defeated. At last, he fled from Border Realm with Miss Ziyan!"

"I was left here by my master that year. I did not expect that I could reunite with my master's reincarnation after so many years. This is Heaven's will. It's all Heaven's will!" Sword Soul heaved a long sigh at the sky.

"Master, please allow me to return to your side!" Sword Soul pleaded in tears with a kowtow.

"Well..."

Chen Hao hesitated before he replied, "Frankly speaking, I'm not sure if I'm the reincarnation of Lingxiao. However, I think we share the same objective, which is locating Ziyan for Lingxiao, then burying his remains!"

Chen Hao continued, "If so, we will have company throughout the journey, and that would be great!"

"Really? Thank you for taking me in, Master!" Sword Soul kowtowed again immediately.

"Sword Soul, although I've arrived at Border Realm for more than a month, I still haven't figured out many things. I can see that despite being a ghost, you have a cultivation of the Ninth Tier of the King of Kings. What about the cultivation of Lingxiao at his pinnacle, and also the three greatest Sun God of the League of the Sun?" Chen Hao asked.

"My master's cultivation when he was alive reached the legendary Stage of True Immortals, and he became a God. The three greatest Sun God have similar cultivation as my master, and they are terrifyingly powerful True Immortals. Other than that, there is another legend in Border Realm which says that the Beggar God has also reached the Stage of True Immortals. So, there are a total of five of them who were True Immortals!"

"These five people ruled Border Realm. However, the League of the Sun has been dominating Border Realm because the three greatest Sun God joined forces. Due to their ruthless method of cultivating, where they extract Yang energy from people with the body of Heaven essence from Earth, my master has always been at odds with them when he was alive!" Sword Soul explained.

"I see..."

Chen Hao finally understood the whole matter.

No wonder the legend of the League of the Sun had been circulating on Earth for the past ten thousand years or more. It turned out that they abducted people from Earth just to extract the Heaven essence from those people.

Including his second uncle and Tongxin. They were all their targets. "What about the Ye family you mentioned just now? Who are they, and how much do you understand about the Qin family of the Border Realm?"

His sister, Chen Xiao, was captured by the Qin family of the Border Realm, and her whereabouts was still unknown to this day.

On top of that, the Qin family even crippled his parents and brothers.

Every time he mentioned this, his eyes would burn with wrath.

"The Qin family is one of the great families who are the appendages of the League of the Sun. They have always been a tyrant in the Border Realm just because an expert who has reached the Stage of Earth God appeared in the Qin family 800 years ago. He's just slightly weaker than True Immortals, so the Qin family has been holding great power across the three worlds."

"Speaking of the Ye family, although it's mortifying to say, they were your family in the past life. Your name was Ye Lingxiao, and your title in Border Realm was Celestial War God!" "But the Ye family was extremely despicable because of the woman named Meng Yao. Before my master fell in love with Miss Ziyan, she was the lover of my master."

"But she was vicious. In order to take over Heavenly King Palace and the Ye family which were established by my master when he was alive, she schemed and plotted, and even colluded with the League of the Sun. If my master hadn't been tricked into trusting her, allowing her to poison him, my master wouldn't have been humiliated and defeated by the three greatest Sun God during the great battle a few ten thousand years ago. My master also wouldn't have had to flee from one place to another after being rescued by Miss Ziyan. Unexpectedly, my master still failed to escape from that b\*tch's scheme in the end. After that, my master's family members were all killed by the League of the Sun and Meng Yao in collaboration." While Sword Soul was relating, he felt bitter hatred in his heart.

"Meng Yao took over the Ye family and Heavenly King Palace, and she was honored with the title of Lord Yao by the League of the Sun. Now, she has become one of the greatest forces in Border Realm!"

"And I, Sword Soul, was one of the ten mightiest protectors of Heavenly King Palace. In addition, I had reached the cultivation of Immortality. After my death, my true essence remained. As for the other protectors, they were targeted by Lord Yao, that b\*tch, and all of them either died or fled," said Sword Soul.

"In retrospect, Lingxiao's life was full of challenges. Before he died, his lover deceived and schemed against him. Then, after finding true love, he wasn't able to spend his lifetime loving her, and was even entrapped by his own family!"

"Lingxiao, you died a tragic death!"

For some reason, Chen Hao was simmering with anger when he heard these stories, as if all these incidents had happened to him.





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"Master, may I ask if you have other reasons to be here? Did you just mention that Miss Ziyan still exists in this world?" asked the Sword Soul while kowtowing.

"Yes, Ziyan still exists in this world, but she has been reduced to the state of a mere soul. It's too bad I was weak back then, to the point that I could not even protect myself. At that time, Ziyan was pursued by the King of Nine Doors. I've gotten no news of her even after I've searched every corner of the world. Therefore, I suspect that Ziyan might have already returned to the Border Realm!"

"As for the purpose of my visit to the Underground Capital, one of which is to settle the matter regarding Ziyan and the Celestial War God, I'm here because my sister has been abducted by the Qin family from the Border Realm and she is suffering right now. In order to rescue her, I have to look for the Origin Herb and make a breakthrough to the state of Immortality."

Chen Hao concealed nothing from the Sword Soul.

After he finished saying that, he let out a

sigh calmly. "Unfortunately, I am now stuck in the state of Eighth Tier of the King of Kings. No matter how hard I try, I am unable to achieve the Ninth Tier. In this case, having the Origin Herb would be pointless. It seems very unlikely that I could achieve the state of Immortality!"

Recently, Chen Hao felt troubled and worried because of that.

It had slowly developed into a psychological barrier.

"Master, please don't worry. Cultivation is a process against the natural order, and the Ninth Tier is an extremely advanced level in cultivation. Therefore, it is natural that it is hard. Some have even spent a hundred years before making a breakthrough!"

"So, Master, you should stay calm and patient as well as focus all your attention on cultivating!" advised the Sword Soul anxiously.

"Yes!"

Chen Hao nodded. In fact, he knew that well too. He might be able to endure the wait of a hundred years, but could his

#### sister afford the wait?

What was more, it was not guaranteed he could even achieve the state of Immortality after a hundred years.

He got increasingly uptight and anxious.

"Master, the Origin Herb is indeed the key to the breakthrough to the state of Immortality. I know the location of it and I can bring you there! Also, there's a pond called the Icy Pond inside this valley which has been around for ten thousand years. That place is a perfect place for cultivation. Master, you should go and have a try! You are gifted with the Essence of Nine Cycles, and once it is triggered, you are closer to reaching the state of Immortality!" said the Sword Soul.

"Great! Thanks, Sword Soul!"

Chen Hao was delighted to hear that. At the moment, he cupped his hands to show his respect.

In the blink of an eye, a month had passed.

At the entrance to the Phantom Valley.

"Master, he is just a nobody. When he comes out, we will blow him into a million pieces under our besiege! Then, we will bring his body back immediately so you don't need to tire yourself to wait on him!"

Men from the Ma family had surrounded the entire Phantom Valley.

As for Ma Yongxin, he was guarding the entrance to the valley.

He was overwhelmed with fury, the intensity of which had not reduced even by a bit although a month had passed.

As he was tricked by Chen Hao two times in a row, Ma Yongxin was greatly humiliated.

Last time, he was nearly killed by the Flying Spirit.

Therefore, he pledged to murder that young man with his own hands.

"You guys are too naive. This youthful man is blessed with a very prominent gift. Even though he is young, the extent of his cultivation is terrifying. I can't afford any mishaps, and I have to kill him myself!" "All of you could never fight him!" exclaimed Ma Yongxin angrily.

"I must admit that this young man has really great patience. He actually hid in the valley without coming out for one whole month!" said one of Ma Yongxin's underlings apprehensively.

"Humph, I'm sure he has already found the Origin Herb and is recovering from injuries right now. Don't worry, the entire Phantom Valley is full of poisonous stuff and this is the only exit. As long as we guard the exit well, he will never be able to escape even if he could fly!" Ma Yongxin sneered.

Right after he said that, his eyelids could not help but twitch slightly.

He caught sight of the sudden emergence of a figure who was walking toward him.

After Ma Yongxin saw him clearly, he could not help but throw his head back and laugh. "Haha, scumbag, I thought you've already died inside!"

When he was sure that the man was Chen Hao, he got very excited.

"Do you really wish so fervently for me to die?" asked Chen Hao with a smile.

"Scumbag, how dare you make your entrance in such an arrogant manner?" Ma Yongxinn scoffed.

But the next moment, his eyes could not help but twitch a little.

"Great, it seems like my judgement has been accurate. The gifts you have in you are really impressive. After barely a month, your skills have already improved by leaps and bounds!" Ma Yongsin was very surprised.

"If I don't kill you today, I might turn out to be the weaker party on our next encounter!"

Just as he finished speaking, a loud bang was heard.

Fallen leaves in the surrounding area gathered in front of his chest and formed a large ball at a rapid rate.

Ma Yongxin gave it a push right after.

Bam!

Following an illuminating glow, explosions occurred in the surrounding area.

The gigantic ball blasted toward Chen Hao.

The Xuanyang Sword!

Chen Hao fingers smoothed along the blade of the sword and with a flick, a ray of light emitted from the sword which immediately hit the gigantic ball.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The gigantic ball was split into two.

An intense wave of air emerged following the percussion.

Everyone in the area took several steps back at the same time before coming to a halt slowly.

All of them were deeply shaken by the might of the attack.

"What?"

Ma Yongxin was stunned. Chen Hao could actually handle his best attack in such a

calm manner.

"Have you achieved the Ninth Tier of the King of Kings already? How is that possible? When did you make the breakthrough?" asked Ma Yongxin in disbelief.

"I think it might be yesterday. I've been stuck in the Eighth Tier for several years already. I've successfully made the breakthrough to the Ninth Tier yesterday!"

Chen Hao displayed a subtle grin.

"Without sufficient support from external forces, you would never be able to do that!" said Ma Yongxin incredulously.

Indeed, Chen Hao had successfully achieved the Ninth Tier of the King of Kings because of the power from the Icy Pond.

With the help of the Icy Pond together with the abundant Vital Spirit in the Border Realm, he made the breakthrough without a hitch.

Even Chen Hao himself was taken aback by such an outcome.

At the sight of the number of men from the Ma family, Chen Hao was unwilling to have any prolonged interactions with Ma Yongxin.

"Ma Yongxin, it's hard to distinguish the winner and loser between the two of us today. Also, I've to attend to some important matters. I promise to pay you a visit next time! I've got to go now!"

After he finished saying that, his entire body transformed into a shadow.

Soon, he disappeared from their visions.

"Go after him!" urged the men from the Ma family.

"No need!" Ma Yongxin lifted his hand to stop them.

"Master, why not? Didn't you pledge to kill him today?" asked some of the men.

"Humph, if he were alone today, I wouldn't have let him go. However, someone extremely prominent is helping the scoundrel. Although you guys can't see him, I can sense his presence. Currently, we're facing two highly-skilled fighters in the Ninth Tier of the King of Kings. We can't fight them at all!" answered Ma Yongxin begrudgingly.

At the moment, he clenched his fists tightly.

Right now, at the Qin family's place in the White Emperor City in Border Realm.

### Smack!

The whipping sound of a leather whip could be heard.

"Act fast and finish all these as soon as possible. Otherwise, I will not go easy on you!"

A lady was washing vegetables in the kitchen. Just because her actions were slower, she was whipped by a middle-aged man who was wearing a tiny moustache. He seemed to be a butler.

The rest of the maids who caught sight of it were too terrified to make any comments even though they were indignant.

The lady was none other than Chen Hao's

Chapter 808 His Sister, Chen Xiao
sister, Chen Xiao
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Ever since Chen Xiao was captured by the Qin family of Border Realm, there was not a day she passed without suffering, and it was unbearable.

However, she was strong, and she believed that one day, her brother Chen Hao would come to her rescue.

Before that day arrived, she had to keep going.

Little did she know that this day was approaching.

Chen Hao had arrived at Border Realm.

The reason he did not waste his time on Ma Yongxin was because he had more urgent matters to tend to, which was rescuing his sister, Chen Xiao.

By now, Chen Hao had achieved the Ninth Tier of the King of Kings, which meant that he had almost possessed the ability of Immortality.

Therefore, he was not afraid of fighting against the Qin family at all and was determined to rescue his sister. In White Emperor City, Chen Hao was walking on the city street alone in a robe.

The street was packed with bustling crowds, and people dressing in luxurious clothes were a common sight here. It showed that the people at Border Realm were living in plenty.

"Hey, have you heard? The eldest young master of the Qin family is having a birthday party at Feather Pavilion!"

"Really? Hurry, let's go there to have a look then!"

Just at this moment, Chen Hao overheard a conversation that aroused his interest when he passed by a pair of young wealthy dandies.

The eldest young master was holding a birthday party!

This was great news for Chen Hao.

Initially, his objective here was to pay a visit to the Qin family. Now that he had encountered such a coincidence, he might as well let the eldest young master introduce him to the Qin family. It suited him because he could take this opportunity to give the Qin family a present for their first meeting.

Thinking of that, Chen Hao followed the pair of wealthy dandies to Feather Pavilion.

Feather Pavilion was the most luxurious venue in White Emperor City. Only wealthy dandies and prominent figures with great power and position could enter Feather Pavilion.

But obviously, getting into Feather Pavilion was not a challenge for Chen Hao.

From the back door, Chen Hao sneaked into Feather Pavilion with a leap. Then, he carefully walked into the hall silently and arrived at the banquet hall without anyone noticing.

At this moment, the banquet hall was crowded with guests.

Those who were present were all wealthy dandies from White Emperor City or some eminent people holding power and position. "Qin Yufei, also known as Young Master Qin, has arrived!" At this moment, a resounding voice rang.

As soon as the voice faded, the guest mentioned appeared.

A young man with sunglasses in a white brocade attire walked out from behind the curtain.

He was the eldest young master of the Qin family in White Emperor City–Qin Yufei.

Two dark-skinned men were guarding beside Qin Yufei, and they had a cold and fierce look with a tall and sturdy physique. Anyone who looked at them would sense that they had extraordinary abilities.

Looking at them, Chen Hao felt that the two dark-skinned men must be the bodyguards of Qin Yufei, and that they had achieved at least the Fourth Tier of the King of Kings.

Border Realm was different compared to other places.

There were plenty of experts in this place, and it was not an exaggeration to say that this place was flooded with highly-skilled people. Even strong cultivators of the King of Kings were not a rare sight.

This was also the reason why Border Realm was a mysterious yet invincible existence.

Qin Yufei, who was in front of him, was a Ninth Tier Cultivator who had yet to achieve the cultivation stage of the King of Kings.

However, in Chen Hao's eyes, all these people were just going to become cold corpses sooner or later.

The arrival of Qin Yufei caused the entire banquet hall to sink into an abrupt silence. No one dared to make a sound, and they just stared unflinchingly at Qin Yufei.

The appearance of Young Master Qin was imposing. After all, no one wanted to offend the Qin family.

"Everyone, welcome to my birthday party. Today, everything will be on me. Please enjoy yourself to the fullest!" Qin Yufei shouted in an extravagant manner to the guests below. At once, the guests on the floor burst into loud cheers.

On the other hand, Chen Hao stayed in a dark corner, quietly observing this scene.

For him, today was not Qin Yufei's birthday celebration, but his memorial ceremony.

The party had officially begun, and everyone was indulging in sensual pleasures joyously. Even Qin Yufei did not sense that his doom's day had approached.

As the saying went, after meals and drinks, it would be the time to discuss the real deal.

At this moment, a stealthy figure leaped down from the ceiling of the banquet hall in a flash and landed steadily on a wine table.

### Boom!

Instantly, the wine table was split into halves, and the guests sitting at a side fled in fright.

This thunderous noise shattered the

amiable and cheerful atmosphere of the party instantly, and the atmosphere became highly-charged.

"Who are you? How dare you destroy my birthday party? Do you have a death wish?" chided Qin Yufei after he stood up at once, glaring at Chen Hao with fierce eyes full of killing intent.

"Pfft!"

Chen Hao let out a sneer. Then, he slowly removed his hood and exposed his true face.

"How ostentatious you are, Young Master Qin. You clearly know how to enjoy yourself!"

"Who are you exactly?" Qin Yufei glared at Chen Hao and asked again.

"Chen Hao!"

Chen Hao announced his name straightforwardly.

Swoosh!

At once, Qin Yufei's expression changed

instantly. He looked surprised and shocked, but he looked disdainful most of all.

He did not expect the person in front of him to be Chen Hao, the lowly man who had abducted his sister, Su Tongxin.

"So it's you, the barbarian who abducted my sister. It's truly unexpected that you have the guts to come to Border Realm alone. You must be yearning to die!" Qin Yufei sneered as he mocked Chen Hao.

"Young Master Qin, it only shows that the Qin family is nothing to me since I dare to come alone. I'll give you a chance. Tell your men to bring my sister here and free her. Then, I might consider sparing your life and let you live the latter half of your life crippled. Otherwise, I'll drench the entire Qin family in blood!"

Upon listening to Qin Yufei's words, Chen Hao was not enraged. Instead, he laughed heartily at the sky, but the next second, his face sank into darkness. On top of that, with every word that he spoke, it felt like a knife was stabbing Qin Yufei's heart because they were all filled with murderous intent. Chen Hao was not joking. After all, the Qin family was the culprit that blinded his brother, broke his parents' legs, and even captured his sister. Therefore, this kind of grudge could not be easily let go of.

The Qin family must die!

And this was why Chen Hao came to Border Realm.

"What an arrogant brat! You've got quite the nerve. Are you sure that we are nothing to you? The Qin family can kill you as easily as killing a chicken!" Qin Yufei shouted in violent rage as he felt that Chen Hao was very arrogant.

"Really? Killing a chicken? We'll see who is the one being killed!" Chen Hao gave a cold snort and pursed his mouth contemptuously.

As soon as Chen Hao finished his sentence, he released his own overwhelming killing intent and vital energy violently.

At once, Qin Yufei paled with shock as he felt that his heart was under great pressure and compression, causing him to have difficulties in breathing.

Pop! Pop! Pop!

Many of the surrounding people's blood vessels ruptured and died, unable to withstand Chen Hao's vital energy.

After all, the energy of a Ninth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings was unbearable to common people.

"Wh-What are you waiting for? Attack!" Qin Yufei turned to the two dark-skinned bodyguards beside him and commanded loudly, suppressing the torment he felt in his heart.

Upon receiving his command, the two bodyguards sprung forward and charged at Chen Hao.

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# Boom!

Chen Hao attacked with a palm, and an overwhelming gust of vital energy instantly blasted off the two bodyguards, leaving them dead on the spot.

A single blow!

With just only a single blow!

Witnessing this scene, Qin Yufei was overtaken by fear because he realized that Chen Hao, who was in front of him, had a terrifying ability, and he was not a match for him at all.

"D-Don't come near me. I warn you, if you dare to harm me, the Qin family will never let you go!" At this moment, Qin Yufei trembled while taking a few steps back continuously, glaring at Chen Hao as he said in fear.

Even on the verge of his death, Qin Yufei was still using the Qin family to threaten Chen Hao.

This just showed that he was indeed reckless.

If Chen Hao was afraid of the Qin family, would he have come here alone?

Extreme stupidity was the most suitable phrase to describe Qin Yufei.

Step by step, Chen Hao approached Qin Yufei, and every step he took signified that Qin Yufei was closer to death.

"Young Master!" Just when Chen Hao was a step away from Qin Yufei, an angry bellow rang from the entrance.

Chen Hao instantly sensed the killing intent from behind while a middle-aged man in black martial arts attire charged toward Chen Hao at lightning's speed.

Upon noticing that, Chen Hao moved to a side in a composed and relaxed manner, dodging the man's attack easily.

"Dragon Claw of the Star!"

Recognizing the attack movement launched by the middle-aged man, Chen Hao forced the name of the movement out of his mouth indifferently.

Dragon Claw of the Star was the Star

Temple's most famous movement, and it had countless forms. Chen Hao did not expect that this man would use this movement.

"Humph! Brat, it's surprising that you can recognize Dragon Claw of the Star. Nonetheless, if you dare to disrespect Young Master Qin, don't blame me for getting rid of you!"

The middle-aged man snorted coldly with squinted eyes while cold and bonepiercing killing intent emitted from him.

"Uncle Chou, kill him. He is Chen Hao!" shouted Qin Yufei at the middle-aged man, desperately hoping to be saved.

This middle-aged man was Chou Ming, and he was the Qin family's protector. He was born in Star Temple and had mastered the Dragon Claw of the Star. With the ability of a Sixth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings, he could be considered as one of the strongest people in the Qin family.

"What? That's Chen Hao?!"

Upon listening to Qin Yufei's words, Chou Ming was shocked. He did not expect that the enemy of the Qin family, Chen Hao, would be standing right in front of him.

"Chen Hao, you are truly digging your own grave by coming to Border Realm alone!" said Chou Ming in a frosty tone, his eyes locking on Chen Hao.

"Pfft!"

Listening to that, Chen Hao chortled.

"Why not? I came this time just to massacre the Qin family!" Chen Hao said firmly as he was not afraid of Chou Ming at all, who was standing in front of him.

He was just a Sixth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings. Thus, he was a nonentity in Chen Hao's eyes and was not qualified to be paid attention to.

"Massacre the Qin family? Chen Hao, what an arrogant remark to make. Over my dead body!" bellowed Chou Ming angrily with clenched fists, green veins surfacing on his arms.

Right after he finished speaking, Chou Ming dashed forward, leaving a shadow on the spot.
# "Emerging Dragon from the Sea!"

Chou Ming made a claw with his hand and clawed at Chen Hao with power from the bottom to the top exactly like a dragon that was emerging from the sea.

"Raising Head of Dragon!"

Chen Hao gave a cold glance while saying this.

Boom!

Similarly, it was a single movement.

Chen Hao also made a claw with his hand and clutched Chou Ming's throat, lifting him above the ground and tossing him away.

At once, a blood scratch appeared on Chou Ming's throat.

"Y-You also know the D-Dragon Claw of the St..." using his last breath, Chou Ming said to Chen Hao while staring at him in disbelief with widened eyes as he knelt on the floor, red blood gushing out from his mouth unceasingly. Before he could utter his last word, he stopped breathing and died in the puddle of blood helplessly.

Even during the last few seconds of his life, Chou Ming could not believe that Chen Hao had mastered the Dragon Claw of the Star. He had died from his proudest movement, and it was an utterly humiliating death.

At a side, Qin Yufei was paralysed with fear, and he was crouching on the floor while trembling.

If even the protector of the Qin family who had achieved the Sixth Tier of the King of Kings was not a match for Chen Hao, who else could save him?

Then, Chen Hao averted his eyes to Qin Yufei.

"Young Master Qin, who else is able to save you now?" mocked Chen Hao while staring unflinchingly at Qin Yufei.

"Young Master Chen, please, I admit that I was wrong. I shouldn't have messed with you. You're broad-minded, so please let me off. I'll definitely bring your sister to you if you let me go!" implored Qin Yufei as he crawled toward Chen Hao's feet. He knew that he had no choice now, so he could only resort to begging for mercy.

As long as he could leave this place, he could return to the Qin family and call for reinforcements to get rid of Chen Hao.

However, Chen Hao saw through Qin Yufei.

Was he kidding? It was impossible that he would let Qin Yufei leave when he already had him in his grasp.

After all, he could use Qin Yufei to force the Qin family to return his sister to him.

### Smack!

Chen Hao ignored Qin Yufei's plea and just slapped him hard on his face, causing him to stagger. Even a few teeth were broken from the slap, and blood dripped down continuously.

At this moment, Qin Yufei had lost all his composure and appearance as the young master of the Qin family. He was no different from a street rat. The surrounding people had fled from Feather Pavilion. Even some of the staff in Feather Pavilion did not dare to approach them.

Despite that, there was still someone sensible who had rushed to the Qin family to inform them.

It was not an insignificant incident that the young master of the Qin family had been beaten up mercilessly, and it was enough to cause a great stir in the entire White Emperor City.

"I'll be here waiting for the Qin family to arrive. You better pray that your family is bringing my sister. Otherwise, I guarantee that you will die in front of the so-called Qin family!" Chen Hao stepped on Qin Yufei's face, pinning him firmly to the ground while warning him coldly.

Qin Yufei could only hope that his family was bringing Chen Xiao here. Otherwise, he truly would be killed by Chen Hao. He knew that Chen Hao was definitely not joking with him, and he would definitely end his life.

After around ten or more minutes, a

commotion could be heard outside Feather Pavilion.

Needless to think, Chen Hao was sure that the large troop of the Qin family had arrived.

The leader was the master of the Qin family of Border Realm, Qin Heng. He had already achieved Immortality and was indeed a terrifying existence.

When he knew that his son was brutally beaten up by Chen Hao, he flew into rage, swearing that he would tear Chen Hao into pieces. What surprised him was, Chen Hao had really dared to come to the Qin family of Border Realm alone.

"Yufei!" shouted Qin Heng as soon as he stepped into Feather Pavilion.

"Father, s-save me!" Qin Yufei, who was being stepped on by Chen Hao, cried out involuntarily to his father, Qin Heng.

Seeing that his son was under Chen Hao's foot, Qin Heng's blood boiled at once, and there was a great spike of vital energy. He was dying to charge at Chen Hao and kill him. "Chen Hao, let my son go. Otherwise, I will rip you into pieces!" Qin Heng pointed at Chen Hao and threatened angrily.

"Are you threatening me?" said Chen Hao coldly through gritted teeth after glancing at Qin Heng.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



## Snap!

In the next second, the clear sound of a bone breaking could be heard.

# "Ah!"

Following closely after was Qin Yufei's agonized yell.

Qin Yufei's expression showed that he was in immense pain, as the feeling of having someone break your bones while being conscious was extremely painful.

Chen Hao had immediately broken one of Qin Yufei's arms.

## "You!"

Qin Heng was furious, and his eyes were burning with a wrath that could torch someone to death as he glared at Chen Hao.

"Old man, your son is now in my hands. If you want him back alive, then give me my sister back. If not, I can't guarantee that your son will keep his life."

Chen Hao was not about to start

discussing any more terms and conditions with Qin Heng. He straight away gave him an offer he couldn't refuse: Qin Yufei in exchange for his sister, Chen Xiao. Qin Heng would certainly accept this deal unless he no longer wanted his son.

"I'm warning you. If my son dies in your hands, both you and your sister will not leave Border Realm alive!" Qin Heng was still pointing at Chen Hao's face as he threatened him.

This old thing really couldn't read the situation.

Chen Hao was the least afraid of getting threatened. The more he was threatened, the more excited he got.

Crack!

The sound of bones breaking could be heard again.

"Ah! Dad, please, s-save me. P-Please agree! I don't want to die!" Qin Yufei yelled as he cried in agony, pleading with his father as he screamed.

As Qin Heng watched his own son get

tortured, he couldn't do anything except agree to Chen Hao's terms. After all, his son was in Chen Hao's hands.

"Alright, I'll do it!"

After a pause, Qin Heng gritted his teeth and agreed to Chen Hao's request.

He had to save his son first before anything else.

"Go and bring Chen Xiao here!" After that, Qin Heng instructed one of his servants behind him.

Upon receiving his orders, the servant quickly left Feather Pavilion and returned to the Qin family home.

"Old man, you had better not mess with me. If my sister has even a scratch on her, I swear, the blood of your Qin family will run like rivers in the streets!" Chen Hao warned Qin Heng coldly once more.

After Qin Heng heard that, he didn't answer Chen Hao. However, he felt furious, and flames of rage burned on in him.

As the master of the Qin family of Border

Realm, he was actually being threatened by a youngster. This was embarrassing enough even if it wasn't spread around.

However, Qin Heng wasn't too worried. Once his son was away from danger, he would instantly kill Chen Hao and his sister. He would never let them leave White Emperor City alive.

After about ten minutes, Chen Xiao was brought to Feather Pavilion by two servants.

"Chen Hao!"

The moment Chen Xiao caught sight of Chen Hao, she immediately started tearing up and cried out his name.

She had always known that her brother, Chen Hao, would come to save her.

"Chen Xiao, don't be afraid. I will save you and get you out of here!"

Chen Hao comforted Chen Xiao. When he saw his own sister looking so beat up, her body covered in scars, Chen Hao couldn't help but be filled with rage. He felt an urge to instantly rip and shred everyone in the Qin family to pieces.

However, he knew that rescuing his sister was the most important thing now. He could not let anymore harm befall her.

When she heard Chen Hao's words, Chen Xiao nodded slightly. She believed that he could do it.

"Chen Hao, I already held up my end of the deal. I brought your sister here, so let my son go now!" Qin Heng said immediately to Chen Hao, not wanting to see such a sappy brother-sister reunion.

"Hehe! Old man, what's the rush? Let my sister go first. Once she returns to my side, I will let your son go!" Chen Hao scoffed coldly as he spoke to Qin Heng, glaring at him.

"You... I'm warning you, don't try to pull any tricks. Your sister is still in my hands!" Qin Heng raged coldly at Chen Hao before grabbing Chen Xiao by the neck.

"Old man, just try even laying a finger on my sister. I will instantly kill your son. Don't believe me? Just try and see!" Chen Hao was not about to bow down to Qin Heng. He immediately lifted Qin Yufei by the neck as well with one hand.

Qin Yufei's face instantly became red and his eyes started rolling back in his head.

When Qin Heng saw this, he knew that he couldn't threaten Chen Hao at all.

"Fine, then let's make the exchange at the same time!" Qin Heng suggested to Chen Hao as he let go of Chen Xiao.

After hearing this, Chen Hao didn't argue and released Qin Yufei.

After the two of them had come to an agreement, they pulled Chen Xiao and Qin Yufei toward their respective directions.

Very quickly, Qin Heng and Chen Hao let go at the same time, exchanging Qin Yufei and Chen Xiao.

Qin Yufei and Chen Xiao passed each other.

However, right at that moment, Qin Heng suddenly attacked, and he blasted out a palm full of vital energy toward Chen Xiao. Of course, Chen Hao had long since predicted Qin Heng's plan, so he grabbed Chen Xiao over with extremely fast reflexes before attacking him with the same method.

### Boom!

A deafening sound caused the whole Feather Pavilion to shake as smoke and dust filled the place.

Chen Hao took this opportunity to leap and bring Chen Xiao away, successfully leaving Feather Pavilion.

By the time Qin Heng finally came to his senses, Chen Hao and Chen Xiao had long since disappeared. He realized that he had fallen into his trap.

"Young Master, Young Master!"

At that moment, the servants by one side were calling out as they knelt around Qin Yufei who was lying in a pool of blood.

"Master, Young Master is... is dead!"

One of the servants quickly shouted to Qin Heng.

Qin Heng immediately felt as if he had been struck by lightning.

"Yufei!" Qin Heng yelled, quickly kneeling down and picking up Qin Yufei in his arms.

However, Qin Yufei's throat had been adorned with a bright bloody incision. Blood was pouring out from it, and he had long since lost his pulse and breath. He was dead.

In that one second, Chen Hao had abruptly attacked him by asking the Sword Soul in his body to slice Qin Yufei's throat open. That was how he had done it without anyone knowing.

"Chen Hao, I will peel your skin from your bones, rip apart all your muscles, and feast on your blood!" Qin Heng yelled toward the sky.

At that moment, Chen Hao was bringing Chen Xiao out of the city quickly.

"Chen Hao, they're not going to chase after us, right?" Chen Xiao leaned on Chen Hao's back as she asked him worriedly.

"Chen Xiao, don't worry. I will protect you!"

Chen Hao comforted Chen Xiao as he already had a plan in mind.

Very soon, Chen Hao reached the entrance of the Phantom Valley from before with his sister.

A figure with graceful poise was sitting under a big tree at the entrance of the valley, waiting anxiously.

That figure was Zhou Nuo. After meeting the Sword Soul in Phantom Valley and getting the Origin Herb, Chen Hao had parted ways with Zhou Nuo and told her to wait for him here as he would need her help later on.

"Chen Hao!"

When Zhou Nuo saw that Chen Hao had returned safely, she quickly stood up and called out to him.

Chen Hao brought Chen Xiao to Zhou Nuo and passed Chen Xiao to her.

"Zhou Nuo, please take my sister away from here quickly and watch over her from now on. I need to go take care of those people. This is a Sound Transmission Amulet. After I take care of those things, I will contact you both and come meet you all!" Chen Hao quickly told Zhou Nuo. He took a talisman out of his pocket and passed it to her.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Chen Hao, you have to be careful! Come back safely!" Before they parted ways, Chen Xiao reminded Chen Hao.

She knew that her brother had barely managed to rescue her, but she also didn't want anything to happen to Chen Hao because of herself. If something happened to him, she would really blame herself for the rest of her life.

"Don't worry, Chen Xiao!"

Chen Hao smiled sincerely toward Chen Xiao before turning to leave.

Zhou Nuo brought Chen Xiao and ran away hurriedly.

At that very moment, Qin Heng was bringing his people in pursuit of Chen Hao. As an Immortal, the speed at which he could chase people was unimaginably fast.

However, once Qin Heng and the others reached Phantom Valley, they only found Chen Hao standing all alone, waiting calmly for their arrival.

"Chen Hao, you will die today!" Qin Heng

roared angrily at Chen Hao.

Right after he spoke, a few highly-skilled fighters of the Qin family flew out from behind him.

These highly-skilled fighters were anywhere between an Eighth Tier Cultivator and a Ninth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings.

If this happened before, Chen Hao would not have been their match. However, things were different now. Chen Hao was also a Ninth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings, and he was in the last stages of cultivation. He felt no fear facing all these fighters alone.

Besides, Chen Hao also had the Sword Soul who was a top Ninth Tier Cultivator King of Kings inside him.

That meant that Chen Hao wasn't actually alone.

The next second, a shadow shot out from within Chen Hao's body, and there was a beam of a sword.

Chink!

The moment the Sword Soul was released, many heads fell.

The highly-skilled fighters who Qin Heng had sent to attack him were instantly beheaded, and their heads fell and rolled on the floor like bowling balls, detached from their bodies.

When he saw this, Qin Heng couldn't help but be slightly shocked. He had never imagined that Chen Hao would be so powerful that he could easily kill off the Eighth Tier and Ninth Tier Cultivators of the King of Kings under him.

"Humph! Chen Hao, who would have thought that you were already a Ninth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings? It looks like I've really underestimated you! However, it's useless because I've been an Immortal for a long time now. A small difference in the Cultivation World is substantial, so I can easily shatter your skull!" Qin Heng snorted coldly in an extremely arrogant manner while glaring at Chen Hao.

Chen Hao was extremely talented for becoming a Ninth Tier Cultivator King of Kings at his age. Sadly, he was Qin Heng's enemy. If he weren't, Qin Heng would have been really unwilling to kill him.

"Really? Why don't you find out for yourself, old man?"

Chen Hao did not show the slightest bit of fear when he faced Qin Heng. He wasn't an Immortal yet, but that didn't mean that he was afraid of Qin Heng. He did not think that Qin Heng could kill him.

"What an arrogant child!" Qin Heng roared angrily once again.

Right after he spoke, Qin Heng sped toward Chen Hao at a high speed. As expected, this was the power of an Immortal.

In the blink of an eye, he had reached Chen Hao, and his palm shot out to hit Chen Hao's chest.

Chen Hao wasn't about to sit and wait for his death. He allowed Qin Heng to attack him, but at the same time, he also retaliated with a palm of his own toward Qin Heng.

Boom!

Their palms met.

The ground under their feet collapsed at the same time, and the land around them started exploding. Dust and sand was thrown into the air around them.

"Hm?"

Qin Heng couldn't help but be taken aback. He did not expect that Chen Hao would be able to fight against him.

The matter of the fact was that if it were truly just Chen Hao facing Qin Heng alone, he would not be powerful enough. However, Chen Hao wasn't alone now since he had another person hiding within him: the Sword Soul.

The power of two Ninth Tier Cultivators of the King of Kings at their peaks was certainly enough to compete with Qin Heng.

Except Qin Heng had no idea about any of this.

"So you can block my first move. Let's see if you can block my second move! God's Palm of Burning Skies!" Qin Heng was still full of disdain and gave a snort. He took two steps back and moved his hands around in front of him before he attacked with a palm full of deadly fire.

"Ninth Tier Barrier!"

Chen Hao didn't hesitate to instantly form a shield in front of him.

"Haha! That's useless. There's no way you can block this!" Qin Heng scoffed coldly at the sight of this.

Boom!

With a deafening boom, the glare of flames lit up the sky, and raging fires enveloped Chen Hao.

Chen Hao, who was under all those flames, was feeling the burning pain of the fire. He did not expect this God's Palm of Burning Skies to be so powerful. If it weren't for the fact that he was brimming with vital energy, he would have been roasted to a crisp.

The flames only retreated after ten or more seconds.

The clothes on Chen Hao's body had already been mostly burnt off, and only strings of burnt fabric were left hanging on him.

"Huh? How is this possible?" Qin Heng exclaimed in shock, his eyes wide open. He didn't dare to believe what he was currently seeing. He couldn't believe that Chen Hao still hadn't been burnt alive.

"Old man, what else do you have? Just take it all out and show me!" Chen Hao mocked Qin Heng with a cold stare as he stood there, smiling disdainfully.

Qin Heng couldn't take it any longer and decided to use all of the power he could possibly muster to defeat Chen Hao once and for all.

After speaking, Qin Heng jumped heavily on the ground. In an instant, all of the mountains around them cracked and collapsed, and Qin Heng himself was surrounded in a wall of flames.

"This move is going to get rid of you once and for all!" Qin Heng said confidently and smugly to Chen Hao as he glared at him. After that, Qin Heng spread open his hands and pushed them forward. In the next second, many fiery dragons emerged from within his body and sped toward Chen Hao.

"Master, this is bad! That's the Five Ferocious Dragon Skills, and you won't be able to shield yourself from them!" The Sword Soul in Chen Hao's body quickly told him one he noticed what was going on.

The Five Ferocious Dragon Skills was a fire technique from the Border Realm. Once this move was used, the five fire dragons would each be stronger than the last, and there was almost nobody in the same Tier who could handle it.

Of course, Chen Hao didn't believe it since he had the Essence of Nine Cycles in him.

The five fire dragons rushed toward Chen Hao one after the other.

Chen Hao used his fastest speed to dodge all of the dragons flying toward him.

He managed to dodge the first one successfully, and the dragon crashed into

a tree behind him. Instantly, that tree became a pile of ashes.

After that, Chen Hao leaped into the air and dodged the second dragon. The dragon flew into the stone wall behind him, and sparks flew everywhere as shattered rocks fell from the stone wall.

Chen Hao easily dodged both the third and fourth dragons.

However, Chen Hao did not manage to dodge the last one. The fifth fire dragon was as powerful as all of the four dragons before it combined.

#### Boom!

The fifth dragon instantly crashed onto Chen Hao's body.

Chen Hao flew off like a kite with a broken string, his body's trajectory forming a beautiful arch in the air before landing at the bottom of Phantom Valley.

When Qin Heng saw Chen Hao fall into the valley, only then did he finally breathe a sigh of relief. He had finally gotten revenge for his son, and he knew that with this

move, Chen Hao was definitely dead for sure.

Qin Heng looked into the Phantom Valley deeply before leaving without looking back.

After a long time, the fingers of a figure laying at the bottom of Phantom Valley on a grassy field started to twitch a little.

That was right. The figure was Chen Hao.

Chen Hao had fallen into the bottom of Phantom Valley, but he hadn't died. Instead, he had gotten heavily injured and fainted on the grassy ground.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Master..."

"Master, wake up!"

At this moment, Sword Soul flew out from Chen Hao's body and sat quietly beside him. He then called out to him.

Chen Hao was covered in wounds at this moment, and he was very weak. Even the wall of vital energy he had cultivated in his body was shattered due to the hit.

Fortunately, he had the power of the Essence of Nine Cycles in his body. Otherwise, he would have been dead by now.

Right at this moment, several tree branches suddenly extended out from the surroundings and wrapped Chen Hao directly in them. Then, Chen Hao was pulled into a tree hollow.

A day later, Chen Hao finally regained consciousness, and he opened his eyes slowly.

"Cough cough..."

As soon as Chen Hao woke up, he

coughed vigorously.

"Young man, don't move too much. Your injuries have not recovered, so it's better if you recuperate by laying down!" Suddenly, a voice rang in the tree hollow. It sounded sonorous and powerful, like it had the presence of Heaven and Earth.

Subconsciously, Chen Hao looked around vigilantly but failed to find anyone.

"Wh-Who's there?" Chen Hao asked with a slight frown.

"I am the Tree Spirit Practitioner of this Phantom Valley. You are now in my body, which is the tree hollow. I saved you!" explained the Tree Spirit Practitioner to Chen Hao after a slight chuckle upon listening to his question.

Chen Hao understood after hearing his replies.

"Thank you for saving me, senior.Cough cough!"

After expressing his gratitude to the Tree Spirit Practitioner, he was immediately cut off by vigorous coughing, and blood spurted out from his mouth.

"You are severely injured, so you should lay down and stop moving around. The wall of vital energy in your body is still recovering slowly. It needs some time," the Tree Spirit Practitioner urged Chen Hao.

Left with no choice, Chen Hao could only take his advice and lay down again. He did not expect that Qin Heng's Five Ferocious Dragons Skill would have such strong power. It seemed like he would not be able to get rid of Qin Heng relying solely on his ability as a Ninth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings. He would have to achieve Immortality.

"Young man, since you have nowhere to go, can you tell me why are you severely injured?"

To make the atmosphere amiable, the Tree Spirit Practitioner started to chat casually with Chen Hao.

"I fought with Qin Heng, the master of the Qin family of White Emperor City, on the mountain of Phantom Valley. I was struck by his Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, which was why I fell into the bottom of this abyss," Chen Hao replied embarrassingly.

It was indeed embarrassing to say that he, a Ninth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings, was severely injured by someone's attack and fell into the abyss.

"Five Ferocious Dragons Skill? Hahahaha..."

Upon listening to Chen Hao's replies, the Tree Spirit Practitioner burst out laughing at once, and his laughter reverberated in the entire tree hollow for a long time.

Chen Hao could not help but frown, looking unhappy. He did not expect that this old practitioner would laugh at him.

"Senior, are you laughing at me?" Chen Hao asked boldly.

"No. I'm not laughing at you, but Qin Heng of the Qin family!" the Tree Spirit Practitioner denied immediately.

"Why?" Chen Hao asked incredulously.

"Actually, Qin Heng of the Qin family has yet to master the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill. He hasn't completed the last stage. The reason you were severely injured was not because of the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, but the cultivation of Qin Heng's Immortality."

"Don't forget that there's a saying in the Cultivation World which states that the difference of a stage is equivalent to the difference between Heaven and Earth. Although you have achieved the Peak of Ninth Tier of the King of Kings, there is still a gap between your current stage and Immortality. Therefore..." the Tree Spirit Practitioner explained to Chen Hao patiently.

"Do you mean that I was severely injured by Qin Heng because of the difference in abilities and not the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill?" Chen Hao was quick-witted and replied immediately.

"Correct. If you were injured by Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, you would be a heap of ashes by now and not here with your body intact!" the Tree Spirit Practitioner continued to explain.

"Senior, how do you know so much about the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill and Qin Heng? Who are you exactly?" Obviously, Chen Hao realized that it was odd, so he asked the Tree Spirit Practitioner immediately.

He did not expect that an old Tree Spirit Practitioner living in the abyss would know so much about the matters outside.

"Because Qin Heng is my junior, and we are disciples of the same master!" The next second, the Tree Spirit Practitioner said something that shocked Chen Hao

"What?! Qin Heng is your junior? Aren't you..."

Chen Hao was speechless from great astonishment, and he was utterly dumbfounded.

"You must have thought that I was just a Tree Spirit, didn't you?"

"In the past, I, too, fought with Qin Heng in Phantom Valley. If I hadn't been careless and fallen prey to his sneak attacks, it would have been impossible for me to fall to the bottom of this abyss. My soul has integrated with this tree spirit at the bottom of this valley, so I have stayed here ever since. However, I have never once forgotten the grudge I hold against Qin Heng!" The Tree Spirit Practitioner related his past experiences to Chen Hao.

The deep resentment he had for Qin Heng could easily be heard from his words.

"Both of you are disciples of the same master, so why did you fight each other? What did Qin Heng want from you? Could it be..."

Several ideas churned rapidly in Chen Hao's mind, and he finally figured it out.

"Young man, you are very intelligent. Indeed. Qin Heng had his eye on my special individual skill, the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill. This skill was passed on from my master to me, but Qin Heng had always been jealous of that. Therefore, he yearned to get the secret scroll of Five Ferocious Dragons Skill from me to practice it."

"Humph! Luckily, I didn't give everything away and hid the final movement of Five Ferocious Dragons Skill in my body very early on. Therefore, Qin Heng only got the incomplete scroll which didn't contain the ultimate and final movement!" After the Tree Spirit Practitioner commended Chen Hao, he continued to relate his story with a cold snort.

Now, Chen Hao finally understood. No wonder this Tree Spirit Practitioner knew so much about Qin Heng and the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill. It turned out that he was the actual sole heir of the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill.

"Before he masters Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, he can only rely on his own ability to attack. That was why I said that you were not injured by Five Ferocious Dragons Skill at all!"

"May I know your reputed name, senior?"

Chen Hao knew that Tree Spirit Practitioner was not his real name, so he wanted to know his real name.

"Feng Ruchen!"

The Tree Spirit Practitioner blurted out his real name.

"Ruchen, I am Chen Hao!" Chen Hao introduced himself to Feng Ruchen in return. "Chen Hao, since fate brought us together, I'll pass on the complete Five Ferocious Dragons Skill to you. But you have to promise me one thing!" said Feng Ruchen to Chen Hao after smiling faintly.

"Ruchen, please state your condition. I will surely spare no effort in completing it!"

Upon listening to that, Chen Hao was elated and agreed immediately. Why wouldn't he? If he learned the complete Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, he could kill Qin Heng in just a second. Besides, he had to repay the debt of gratitude to Feng Ruchen for saving his life, so of course he would not reject his condition or request.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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After half a day...

Chen Hao had fully recovered from his injuries with Feng Ruchen's help after half a day's time.

On top of that, Feng Ruchen had passed on the Five Ferocious Dragon Skills which he had spent almost all of his life trying to master to Chen Hao together with other skills that he had learnt, all subject to only one condition.

That condition coincided with what Chen Hao had in mind-killing Qin Heng.

It was not necessary for Chen Hao to learn the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill step by step as he had naturally absorbed all the key points of the skill when it was transferred to him from Feng Ruchen. In short, he had digested all of Feng Ruchen's skills.

"Chen Hao, I've passed on everything to you now. I have accomplished what I set out to do and can finally rest. I'm counting on you!" After passing on all of his skills, Feng Ruchen left a sentence in the tree hollow before turning still.
He vanished and blended into the dust particles in the air. He could finally rest in peace.

But before that, Chen Hao had to finish off Qin Heng in order to fulfill Feng Ruchen's final wish.

"Feng Ruchen, I promise I will not let you down!" pledged Chen Hao in a determined tone as he stood outside the tree hollow, looking sternly up at the towering tree right in front of him.

With that, Chen Hao bowed deeply to the lofty tree before leaving.

"Congratulations, Master! You've finally entered the state of Immortality!" said the Sword Soul inside Chen Hao's body after he left.

The Essence of Nine Cycles in Chen Hao's body was given a great boost after receiving the skills from Feng Ruchen. As his power had increased substantially in an instant, he finally managed to enter the state of Immortality.

Once he had achieved the state of Immortality, he could make leaps onto roofs and walls that were of great height effortlessly.

He took a leap and moved rapidly as he stepped on the rocks that were scattered over the stone cliff.

This time, he had to kill Qin Heng by all means.

Before that, he had to meet up with Zhou Nuo and his sister, Chen Xiao.

According to pre-arranged plans, Zhou Nuo had brought Chen Xiao to a town located a stone's throw away from the Phantom Valley for a brief rest as they awaited the return of Chen Hao.

He arrived in the town several minutes after.

At the sight of Chen Hao's safe return, Zhou Nuo and Chen Xiao were finally relieved.

They fretted as Chen Hao did not return even though they had waited for almost one whole day.

"Chen Hao, it's great to see you safe and

sound!" said Chen Xiao as she pulled him into a tight embrace.

He gently patted the back of Chen Xiao and said soothingly, "Sister, don't you know how good of a fighter I am? Don't worry about me. Nothing bad could happen to me!"

"No way. If anything happened to you, how do I even explain to our parents?" countered Chen Xiao as she shook her head and pouted her lips in a child-like manner.

If anything happened to her brother, she would have no reason to stay alive.

"Zhou Nuo, thanks for taking care of my sister!" said Chen Hao gratefully, looking at Zhou Nuo with a knowing smile.

"How are you going to repay my effort?" teased Zhou Nuo as she shot him an amused smile after winking.

Chen Hao went stupefied out of awkwardness for a brief while. He would not be physically attracted to other women as he was already a married man. He was already blessed with an extremely gorgeous wife, Su Tongxin, who was waiting for him at home. Therefore, he would stay unruffled by other women.

"I owe you one. Go and think about how you want me to repay you. I will fulfil one request!" suggested Chen Hao as he swayed the topic of the conversation into a different direction.

"I'll take it. You're not allowed to go back on your words!"

Zhou Nuo agreed to his suggestion promptly as if she had finally located his soft spot. The last thing she wanted was for Chen Hao to regret what he had just said.

"Hmm... don't worry. I am a man of my words. Whoever goes back on his/her word is a scumbag!" assured Chen Hao with a firm expression.

"Well, girls, there's one more thing I have to handle, and we can leave this place after I've settled it. Before that, please wait for my return here and don't go out for unimportant purposes. If anything happens, contact me via the Sound Transmission Amulet and I will be right back!" advised Chen Hao sternly again.

"Chen Hao, are you heading off again?" asked Chen Xiao in a slightly worried tone as her brother was leaving once more after they had just reunited.

"Sister, please don't worry. I will return safe and sound. There are some matters that I must settle!" said Chen Hao as he stared at his sister intently.

After listening to him, Chen Xiao nodded. She knew she had no means to stop her brother from going. The only thing she could do was wish for him to make a safe return.

After bidding farewell to them, Chen Hao made a leap and flew in the direction of White Emperor City at high speed.

Tonight was a night destined to be filled with blood and violence as the entire Qin family would be assassinated and eradicated from White Emperor City.

Currently, at the Qin family home in White Emperor City.

The inside of the house was brightly

illuminated. White banners were hung everywhere and floral wreaths were seen at every corner of the house. The members of the Qin family were holding a funeral for Qin Yufei.

"Yufei, I have already avenged your death by killing Chen Hao. You can finally rest in peace!" said Qin Heng, his face streaked with tears. His head was wrapped in white cloth as he stood in front of Qin Yufei's spirit tablet.

Behind him stood the rest of the family members who were all crying in misery.

Funerals held by elders for the younger ones in the family would always be the saddest things in life.

Unfortunately, Qin Heng as well as the entire Qin family were all going to keep Qin Yufei company in a very short time.

"Old man, you can forget about giving your son a peaceful rest. Let me send you off to keep your son company!"

At that juncture, Chen Hao's voice was heard from all corners of the house. Thereafter, they saw Chen Hao appearing on top of the roof. He was standing in a very leisurely manner with both of his hands crossed in front of his chest.

### Whoosh!

Qin Heng's face took a dramatic change, and it was filled with both anger and shock.

He didn't expect Chen Hao to actually still be alive. How could Chen Hao have suffered no harm at all after being hit by his Five Ferocious Dragons Skill?

"Y-you're still alive?" challenged Qin Heng, his eyes glued to Chen Hao.

"Humph!" Chen Hao let out a sneer and made a belittling noise.

"Qin Heng, you were too confident. Did you really think that your barely-mastered Five Ferocious Dragons Skill could kill me?"

A furrow was formed in the middle of Qin Heng's brows as his face turned extremely dark.

"How did you know?" inquired Qin Heng in an icy tone. It had never occurred to him that Chen Hao would learn about the fact that he had never truly mastered the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill. It was only known to him alone.

"You don't have to know that as you're going to die soon. As I've said, the Qin family has to be destroyed!" Chen Hao said this sentence sternly and didn't answer Qin Heng.

"Is that so? If I can defeat you the first time, I can definitely defeat you the second time. Stop talking nonsense. Your life is mine!" taunted Qin Heng disdainfully as he didn't take Chen Hao seriously at all. Letting out a howl, he took a leap and charged toward Chen Hao rapidly.

Unfortunately, Qin Heng had indeed underestimated Chen Hao's skills this time.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!

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"The first movement of Absolute Sword Technique—Obliviate!" Seeing that Qin Heng was charging at him, Chen Hao was not the least bit panicked and just shouted this sentence.

Right after that, the Sword Soul inside him transformed into a sword and appeared in Chen Hao's hand.

Once the sword was taken out of its sheath, a white beam cut through the air horizontally, and noises of air tearing apart could be heard.

Witnessing that, Qin Heng went pale with fright immediately and hastily shot a shield of vital energy to block the attack.

Boom!

Although Qin Heng managed to block it, he was hurled away by the remaining impact.

Smashing onto the floor, Qin Heng spurted a mouthful of blood.

"H-How...Cough cough... How do you know the Absolute Sword Technique?!" Coughing vigorously, Qin Heng stared at Chen Hao in disbelief and exclaimed in astonishment. As far as he knew, only one person had mastered Absolute Sword Technique, and it was none other than his previous senior brother—Feng Ruchen.

Absolute Sword Technique was Feng Ruchen's proudest sword technique other than his Five Ferocious Dragons Skill. It was also a sword technique that he created, and it encompassed three movements.

The first movement was Obliviate.

The second movement was Star Dust.

The third movement was Absolute.

Most importantly, ever since his senior brother, Feng Ruchen, was thrown into the Phantom Valley by him and disappeared, Absolute Sword Technique had vanished from the world and had never reappeared since then. Therefore, Qin Heng thought that Feng Ruchen had died at the bottom of the Phantom Valley's deepest abyss.

But now that the Absolute Sword Technique had reappeared, Qin Heng was utterly shocked.

"Pfft! Qin Heng, you've done countless evil deeds in your life. You didn't even spare your senior brother. Today, I'll punish you according to the rules of your sect on behalf of your senior brother, Feng Ruchen!" said Chen Hao in a cold tone with a contemptuous sneer while pointing the sword at Qin Heng who was standing below.

Looking at Chen Hao, Qin Heng could faintly recognize the shadow and figure of his senior brother on him.

"Ruchen, I didn't think that you were still alive, and you even taught everything to this brat. However, don't forget that I have grown out of the old Qin Heng!" said Qin Heng in a cold tone right after he stood up.

As soon as he finished his sentence, Qin Heng spread his arms and roaring fire covered his body as a fire dragon wound around him.

Qin Heng was launching the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill.

"Qin Heng, don't forget that you haven't

mastered Five Ferocious Dragons Skill!" noticing that Qin Heng was launching the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, Chen Hao pretended to be kind and reminded him.

"Humph! So what if I haven't mastered Five Ferocious Dragons Skill? I hold the only secret scroll of Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, and I'll still be able to defeat you with just a snap of my finger!" Qin Heng snorted coldly in arrogance, having no idea that Chen Hao had actually learned the Five Ferocious Dragons Skill and even mastered it.

"Since you are obstinately adhering to your foolish ways, I'll offer you death to enlighten you!"

Chen Hao did not waste his time speaking to Qin Heng anymore.

After that, he made the same gesture as Qin Heng, and his body was raging with fire at once. Gold light emanated from the fire, and two dragons, one a fire dragon while the other a golden dragon, wound around his body. It was even more dazzling and astonishing than Qin Heng's dragon. Chen Hao's skill was the actual complete Five Ferocious Dragons Skill!

"What?!"

Qin Heng was utterly shocked and his eyes almost popped out of his head.

"Qin Heng, open your eyes and take a good look! This is the actual complete Five Ferocious Dragons Skill!" Chen Hao bellowed at Qin Heng who was beneath him.

Along with his bellows, Chen Hao launched five fire dragons at the same time, each of the fire dragons beaming with golden light.

At last, the five golden fire dragons combined to form a glaring flame and charged at Qin Heng.

Boom!

The flame devoured Qin Heng, burning him into ashes in just a blink of an eye.

At once, the entire Qin family home was engulfed in flames, burning the other members of the Qin family into ashes. This was the power of the complete Five Ferocious Dragons Skill, where it could destroy everything within a radius of around ten meters.

The Qin family of Border Realm was exterminated!

Looking at the Qin family that was devoured in flames, a weight was finally lifted off Chen Hao's shoulder and he felt at ease. On top of that, he had finally fulfilled the final wish of Feng Ruchen.

After getting rid of the Qin family, Chen Hao proceeded to leave White Emperor City without delay.

He believed that the death of the Qin family of White Emperor City would spread like wildfire throughout Border Realm soon, and it would be another great stir by that time.

Although the Qin family was exterminated, the forces behind Qin family would definitely demand justice for them. Therefore, Chen Hao must make the best use of his time and bring his sister away from Border Realm before anything else. Even though Chen Hao had achieved Immortality, there were still countless experts in Border Realm, so troubles would definitely find him if he stayed any longer.

The next morning, Chen Hao left Border Realm with Chen Xiao while Zhou Nuo returned to Underground Capital alone.

Before Zhou Nuo left, she even reminded Chen Hao that he still owed her a debt of gratitude, and she would surely claim it some day.

Right after Chen Hao and Chen Xiao left, Border Realm fell into a turmoil.

The news of the extermination of Qin family swept through Border Realm like a storm, alarming all the other forces and families.

The Qin family of White Emperor City held a great reputation in Border Realm, and it had enormous ability. Therefore, it was beyond shocking that it had been wiped out overnight by someone.

In God Palace of Border Realm, a man wrapped in a robe adorned with phoenixes, wearing a gold crown and holding a golden scepter with dragon carvings was sitting on the throne in the palace.

This man was the God King of the God Palace in Border Realm. His name was Aphro, and he had achieved the Seventh Tier Soul Cultivation of Immortality. Most importantly, he was the ruler of the entire Border Realm.

"God King, the Qin family has been exterminated. I'm afraid that some forces in Border Realm will be itching to make trouble, contending to take a bite of the cake that was the Qin family!" a man in a black cloak standing beneath the throne reported to Aphro reverently.

He was the follower of God King, also known as Black Goblin, and he had achieved the Second Tier Soul Cultivation of Immortality.

"Hmm... Do you know who did that?" Aphro gave a brief response in a low tone before asking slowly. One could sense a gush of intense aura just by listening to his tone.

"It was a young man named Chen Hao. I heard that he's an earthling from outside of Border Realm," Black Goblin replied to

# Aphro immediately

"An earthling... Black Goblin, pay a visit to him personally and check out his ability. Then, come back and report to me!" Aphro snorted and commanded Black Goblin with closed eyes.

"Yes, God King!" Black Goblin responded immediately and retreated out of the palace after making an obeisance by cupping his hands before his chest.

From the beginning to the end, Aphro had never once opened his eyes, seemingly uninterested in Chen Hao.

But soon, the zone of Qin family's influence was all divided up by the various forces and families of Border Realm. This meant that the Qin family had completely vanished from Border Realm.

On the other side, Chen Hao had brought Chen Xiao back to the Earth, reuniting with their parents and brother.

When they saw that Chen Xiao was back, Chen Hao's parents were overwhelmed with emotions and elated. Finally, the whole family was reunited. However, this matter had yet to come to a complete end for Chen Hao. The Qin family of Border Realm was indeed exterminated, but the Qin family of Song City on the other side was still alive. These two families shared the same root, and this matter was actually stirred up by the Qin family of Song City. On top of that, it was them who had sent his sister to the Qin family of Border Realm. Therefore, the Qin family of Song City needed to be destroyed as well.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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At night, at a hidden villa somewhere in South Yue.

Chen Hao and his family sat inside the villa, all of them brimming with joy while chatting and eating in a pleasant atmosphere.

Huang Yonghao snuggled up to Chen Hao's mother, Zhang Suhong. He looked extremely obedient, and his face was glowing with a long-lost smile.

This was a reunion day that had been longawaited.

But Chen Hao could not feel truly happy.

His brother had lost both his eyes and tongue, his parents had lost both their legs, and his sister had suffered great pain and torture. He was devoured by guilt and remorse, and seeing them like this made him extremely upset.

He had not been able to protect his family, causing them to suffer such torments.

Also, his brother could have lived a happy life like a normal person, but because he had demanded justice for him and the Chen family, he fell into this dire state. Therefore, he felt deeply remorseful toward him.

But before that, Chen Hao had to exterminate the Qin family of Song City first. Only then could his family's grudges be truly resolved.

"Chen Hao, why are you so quiet" Zhang Suhong asked Chen Hao with a smile.

"Indeed. Chen Hao, we are finally reunited, so we should celebrate it to the fullest and be happy!" suggested Chen Jindong as he looked at him, echoing Zhang Suhong.

Chen Hao quickly came to respond and pretended that everything was fine, faking a smile while looking at his family.

"Father, mother, Yonghao and Chen Xiao, from now on, I will never let anybody hurt an inch of you again. I promise to protect all of you!" assured Chen Hao while looking determinedly at his family.

"We trust you, Chen Hao!" replied Chen Jindong to Chen Hao with a smile and nod. Soon, they ended this long-lost reunion in cheers and laughter.

Chen Hao's parents had brought Huang Yonghao to rest while Chen Xiao and him were sitting in the garden outside to continue their chat.

"Chen Hao, do you remember when you had just gotten to know that you were the son of a wealthy family?" Chen Xiao sat beside Chen Hao, looking up to the sky and gazing at the twinkling stars while asking him with a smile.

Chen Hao gave a faint smile and replied, "Of course I remember. Chen Xiao, I'm impressed at your skill of keeping secrets. All of you managed to keep the truth from me for so long. Do you have any idea what I've gone through in school?"

"Haha. Chen Hao, but you gained more and learned more, didn't you? Those are the experiences you accumulated in your life. Our only wish was to make you stronger that time so that you would be able to bear the hope of the entire family!"

"Look at you now. Didn't you grow into a strong man? In the past, father was the

pillar of our family. Now, you have taken over the responsibility and have become everything we depend on. I actually don't wish for you to accomplish a great deal in this world. I only wish that we can stay together happily as a family."

Chen Xiao looked at Chen Hao and poured the words from her heart in all sincerity.

It had been an extremely long time ever since the pair of siblings had sat down and enjoyed a good chat like today.

"Chen Xiao, you must have suffered a lot in the Qin family. I'm so sorry. It's all because of my inability that I couldn't protect you, our parents and brother. I caused all of you to be in this state!" Chen Hao bowed his head and blamed himself, drowning in guilt.

Chen Xiao reached her hand out and placed it on Chen Hao's head, stroking him gently and affectionately while comforting, "Chen Hao, we don't blame you because nobody knew that these things would happen. In the past, we were the ones who protected you. Now that you've grown up, it's time for you to protect us. We have reunited as a family now, and this is the most important and happiest thing. Let the past be the past!"

"Alright!" Chen Hao nodded and replied.

At this moment, a black figure flew past the forest outside the villa in a flash.

Its speed was extraordinarily fast, and it had only appeared for a split of second before it vanished, but Chen Hao still managed to capture its presence.

Chen Hao's heart could not help but sink as he sensed the presence of an ill-intent.

"Chen Xiao, it's getting late. You should go and rest now!" Chen Hao immediately said to Chen Xiao. He did not want to let Chen Xiao and his parents be aware of this situation so that they would not feel alarmed or panicked.

"Alright. Chen Hao, you should rest early too!" Chen Xiao replied with a warm smile. Then, she turned back to enter the house.

After Chen Xiao's figure vanished into the house, only then did Chen Hao leap out and rush out of the villa, pursuing in the direction where the black figure had vanished. At the same time, he let out his spiritual sense to search for it.

"Show yourself. I know you're near!" Chen Hao stopped his pace and stood still in place while saying this sentence to the forest calmly.

Rustle!

After a rustling of leaves, a black figure shuttled out in a flash. Then, his beaming sword stabbed at Chen Hao.

With a swift response, Chen Hao stepped aside and dodged the attack. At the same time, he launched a palm of attack decisively.

Both of them only exchanged one attack and did not injure each other.

"Who are you?" Chen Hao asked coldly.

"It seems like it's not surprising that the Qin family was exterminated by you. Turns out that you have also achieved Immortality and possess great abilities. Achieving such a high stage of cultivation at such a young age is a great feat, and you have boundless prospects!" in a gloomy tone, the figure said indifferently. Although he was slightly surprised at Chen Hao's ability, he was not overly shocked.

Squinting his eyes, Chen Hao stared at this man in a black robe.

"Who are you exactly? Don't hide your identity. If you have the ability, reveal your identity honestly and declare what you are here for!"

"Ha ha. You have yet to reach the ability to know my identity. All I can tell you is, I'm here under God King's order!" The man in the black robe gave a light chortle and answered Chen Hao's question.

After that, without giving a chance for Chen Hao to respond, the man in black robe left in a flash and disappeared into the night.

"Master, he's strong, and his ability is at least at the Second Tier Soul Cultivation of Immortality!" At this moment, Sword Soul, who was in Chen Hao's body, spoke to remind Chen Hao.

"Sword Soul, do you know the God King that he mentioned? Who is he?" Chen Hao asked Sword Soul in perplexity.

"I'm not sure, but I can sense that he is definitely from the Border Realm from his presence," Sword Soul replied to Chen Hao immediately.

It was someone from the Border Realm again. As expected by Chen Hao, the extermination of the Qin family had caused a huge splash in Border Realm and was bringing him even more trouble.

"But Master, this person did not want to fight you. I think he came here just to check out your ability!" Sword Soul continued to explain the reason behind this person's visit to Chen Hao.

Chen Hao had noticed that the man had not gone all out on him as well and was just testing him. Fortunately, Chen Hao had not displayed all his ability either, so the man had not grasped how strong he was.

"It seems like I should find a person to ask about the God King!" said Chen Hao in a flat tone after taking another profound glance in the direction where the man in the black robe had disappeared.



Meanwhile, in the Qin family home far away at Song City.

## Crash!

The master of the Qin family, Qin Zhen, smashed the cup in his hands onto the floor angrily.

At once, the cup shattered into countless pieces.

None of the people standing around him dared to make a sound, and they just bowed their head. They did not even dare to look at Qin Zhen, afraid that he would vent his anger on them.

"B\*stard! I swear I'll rip Chen Hao into pieces!" Qin Zhen bellowed angrily, his face filled with intense hatred toward Chen Hao.

The Qin family of Border Realm was exterminated, and it shocked the Qin family in Song City. Qin Zhen truly did not expect that Chen Hao would have the guts to destroy the Qin family of Border Realm.

"Father, what should we do now?" a middle-aged man walked up and asked Qin Zhen carefully.

This was the eldest son of Qin Zhen–Qin Song.

"Humph! What should we do? We must make Chen Hao pay a bitter price!" a cold beam flashed across Qin Zhen's eyes as he snorted and spoke in a frosty tone. At the same time, he had already thought of a plan to get rid of Chen Hao.

In the still of the night, three elderlies in gray robes sat in the hall of Qin Mansion and discussed matters with Qin Zhen.

"Elderly Yan, it's an extremely serious matter that the Qin family of Border Realm was exterminated. That's why I have no choice but to invite you to take up this task to avenge the Qin family!" Qin Zhen said in a deep tone while looking respectfully at the elderly who was sitting the nearest to him.

This elderly was named Yan Xun, and he came from Spirit Mountain Pavilion of Border Realm. In addition, he had the ability of Second Tier Soul Cultivation of Immortality and was the second elder of Spirit Mountain Pavilion. He was also the force behind the Qin family of Border Realm, and they greatly protected the family.

"Master Qin, the Qin family of Border Realm is the protected family of Spirit Mountain Pavilion in Border Realm, so I will definitely go all out!" Yan Xun said in a flat tone. Although his tone was weak, it encompassed a strong aura.

"With the help of all three elders, that brat will definitely die an ignominious death!" said Qin Zhen while displaying a complacent smile, thinking that Chen Hao would surely die this time.

The other two were the protectors of Spirit Mountain Pavilion, Yu Xiu and Cao Jin. They both had the ability of First Tier Soul Cultivation of Immortality.

Under the attacks of one Immortal with Second Tier Soul Cultivation, and two Immortals with First Tier Soul Cultivation, Qin Zhen believed that Chen Hao's death was confirmed.

Then, Qin Zhen informed Yan Xun and the other two about Chen Hao's whereabouts. Upon knowing that, three of them leaped

up immediately at the same time and headed out to find Chen Hao to seek revenge for the Qin family.

The next morning, Chen Hao got up early and meditated in the garden.

Sitting in meditation every day was a good habit that Chen Hao had taken up. This could help him in continuously condensing the Essence of Nine Cycles in his body into a denser form.

However, in just a short moment after he sat down, he sensed an aura of killing intent enveloping him from all directions.

This killing intent was surging toward him at bullet's speed, and its power was not to be belittled.

The next second, a sword flew toward him from a short distance away.

Chen Hao opened his eyes abruptly and launched a palm full of vital energy. At once, the sword that was flying toward him stopped and suspended in mid-air.

Clank!

Exerting some force, the sword broke into half and fell to the ground.

#### Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

At this moment, three figures leaped into the villa from the outside and landed steadily in front of Chen Hao. They were none other than Yan Xun and the two others.

Chen Hao stared at these three people with deeply furrowed eyebrows and a darkened face.

"Let me guess, you must be sent here by the Qin family of Song City!" Chen Hao spoke in a flat tone after a pause.

"Humph!" Yan Xun snorted coldly.

"Young brat, you wiped out the Qin family of Border Realm. Even if the Qin family of Song City did not come to us, we would have came to you. You will undoubtedly die today. I will kill you and offer you as a sacrifice to the Qin family!" bellowed Yan Xun in a cold tone while emitting all his aura at Chen Hao in an intimidating manner. "Just by the three of you?" scoffed Chen Hao after glancing at Yan Xun and the rest.

"You will find that we're more than enough to kill you. Brat, surrender your life to me!" Yan Xun bellowed angrily and moved after sneering with overwhelming killing intent.

With just a move, Yan Xun had teleported to the front of Chen Hao and stopped half a meter's distance away from him. This showed the terrifying speed of Immortality.

However, Chen Hao had also achieved Immortality, so naturally, he would not be caught by Yan Xun this easily.

In order to prevent Yan Xun from hurting his family, he knew that he must lead Yan Xun and the others away from the villa to an open space to settle their business.

"Humph! Old man, we'll see about that, if you can even catch up to me!"

After Chen Hao snorted in contempt, he dashed out the villa with a leap.

Seeing that, Yan Xun immediately led the two protectors and chased after Chen Hao

at once. There was no way that they would allow him to escape.

While leaping, Chen Hao glanced backward continuously. When he saw that Yan Xun and the others were pursuing him, he felt at ease because now, his family would not be implicated.

Soon, Chen Hao arrived at a spacious ground.

Fortunately, there were no residents in this place which Chen Hao had picked. Therefore, they would not be easily spotted by people, and there was no concern of hurting other people.

"Brat, you can't escape us. After all, I have achieved the Second Tier Soul Cultivation of Immortality!" said Yan Xun as he stared coldly at Chen Hao after the three of them had caught up to him and surrounded him.

"Hahaha!" Chen Hao burst into laughter.

"Did I say that I was running away? I just don't want you to smash my house. Otherwise, who's going to pay for my damages and losses after all of you die?" mocked Chen Hao after taking an indifferent glance at Yan Xun, his words revealing a deep sense of contempt for Yan Xun and the others.

"How arrogant!" After Yan Xun chided Chen Hao, he focused all his ability from all over his body.

"I'll crush your bones!"

While reproaching, Yan Xun charged at Chen Hao, planning to kill him quickly.

"Old man, do you think you can defeat me? I'll shatter your skeleton instead!" Chen Hao reproached Yan Xun too, refusing to be outdone.

Upon listening to Chen Hao's words, Yan Xun almost spurted blood out of extreme anger.

Boom!

The next second, Yan Xun was directly kicked down from mid-air by Chen Hao and landed heavily on the ground.

# Crack!

The moment he crashed onto the ground,

a crisp sound of fractured bones could be heard.

Every bone in Yan Xun's body was broken, and he was lying on the ground feeling as if his whole body had fallen apart. He was hanging onto his life with his last breath.

"Old man, how did you have the guts to seek revenge with me with such a lousy ability? How hilarious!" Chen Hao taunted Yan Xun in disdain again while pointing at him.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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After taking care of Yan Xun and the others, Chen Hao fell into deep thought.

He knew that he had to hurry off to Song City next.

The Qin family of Song City had to die.

After thinking for a while, Chen Hao took out his phone and called Yun Haotian of the Dragon Squad, informing him to bring people over so that they could take care of the three dead bodies.

Of course, Yun Haotian had no objections to anything Chen Hao said and immediately agreed.

Very quickly, in less than half an hour, Yun Haotian had sent people over to get rid of Yan Xun and the others' corpses.

Chen Hao was pretty ticked off that his nice, early morning had been ruined by Yan Xun and the others.

However, luckily, his own family hadn't been injured. They didn't know that this had happened either, and Chen Hao managed to calm down. Back at the villa.

Chen Hao's family had already all woken up.

It wasn't like they needed to do anything themselves as they had specialized servants who would tend to their every need.

Chen Hao walked into his parents' room, wanting to discuss something with them.

"Dad, mom, Chen Xiao and Yonghao, there's something I need to discuss with you. I need your opinions," Chen Hao said as he looked at his family.

Chen Jindong smiled and replied, "Chen Hao, we're family. Just say it."

"Um... it's about this. I want you all to move to Xuanyang Palace. Su Tongxin is there too, and she can take good care of you all. It's not very safe here."

Then, Chen Hao told them his thoughts.

Even though this place was already pretty secluded, with the arrival of Yan Xun and the others as well as the person in the black robe from last night, Chen Hao couldn't help but feel worried. He had to move his family somewhere safer.

At least he would not be worried by leaving them in Xuanyang Palace because it was quite safe. Besides, Su Tongxin was there. She could take care of Chen Jindong and the others well.

The other four people had no objections to Chen Hao's suggestion.

"Chen Hao, we'll listen to you!" Chen Jindong said as he looked at Chen Hao.

They had no way of walking now, and this equated them to being disabled. That was why they had to follow Chen Hao's suggestions, and whatever Chen Hao decided for them, they would follow. As long as the Chen family were together, anything was fine for them.

"Okay, then I'll send you all to Xuanyang Palace in a bit!" Chen Hao nodded as he said.

In the afternoon, Chen Hao drove his own family back to Xuanyang Palace.

Master Ghost and a small team from the Dragon Squad were in Xuanyang Palace, and that meant that his family would be perfectly safe there. As long as no Immortals came to attack them, they were basically safe and unthreatened.

Besides, Chen Hao didn't believe that there would really be people who dared to infiltrate his own base camp.

When Su Tongxin saw Chen Hao return, she was happier than ever and immediately ran into his embrace.

Every time Chen Hao left, Su Tongxin would become anxious. She was always praying that Chen Hao would return safely.

"Tongxin, please watch over dad, mom and Yonghao. I still have some business to take care of. It might be awhile before I can actually return, so if you have anything to tell me, let me know with these Sound Transmission Amulets." Before he left, Chen Hao passed some Sound Transmission Amulets to Su Tongxin along with a reminder.

Su Tongxin nodded obediently. She knew very well that Chen Hao held a lot of

responsibilities, and that was why she just had to handle the things happening behind the scenes. She had to be the strongest woman backing Chen Hao up, and she certainly couldn't be a burden to him.

After he left some reminders, Chen Hao left once more and headed directly to Border Realm.

On this trip to Border Realm, Chen Hao had two things to complete.

The first thing he had to do was find out who the God King that the man in black robe had been talking about that day was.

The second thing Chen Hao had to do was to buy some Mystique Talismans.

In the Border Realm, Mystique Talismans were very common, but the price of these talismans were not cheap. Besides, the kind of Talisman that Chen Hao was looking for was the best of the best.

If it were possible, Chen Hao wanted to learn how to create talismans. This way, he could make his own talismans and didn't need to spend money buying them. However, making talismans was an extremely hard thing to learn, and right now Chen Hao knew that he wouldn't have the time or energy to do it.

After an hour or more of flying, Chen Hao finally reached the Border Realm.

Since this was not his first time coming to the Border Realm, Chen Hao didn't feel as much of a stranger as before. On the contrary, he was already pretty familiar with the place.

The Border Realm, the Underground Capital.

Chen Hao had arrived at Zhou Mansion.

The person he was looking for was Zhou Nuo, of course.

Supporting Zhou Nuo was the whole Zhou family of the Underground Capital of the Border Realm. The Zhou family was one of the well-known families in the Underground Capital. Besides, Chen Hao only knew one person in the whole of Border Realm, and that was Zhou Nuo. If he didn't find her, who else was he going to go to? "Hello, who are you looking for?"

The moment he arrived at the Zhou family gates, Chen Hao was held back by two guards of the Zhou family and was interrogated.

"Ah, I'm a friend of your family's Miss Zhou. I'm looking for her, is she at home? If it's possible, can you please go in and let her know that a person called Chen Hao is looking for her?"

Chen Hao reported himself at the door and looked at the two guards with a smiling face as he spoke.

"Apologies. Miss Zhou has gone out, and she's not at home right now," one of the guards replied instantly once he heard Chen Hao's request.

"Gone out? Do you know where she went?"

Chen Hao was extremely curious.

"We aren't sure. We're just guards, so we have no right to bother about Miss Zhou's business."

After hearing this, Chen Hao understood

that these two guards were not lying to him. After all, they had no need for it.

Since things were this way, Chen Hao couldn't do anything but go into the city in the Underground Capital to try his luck and see if he could bump into Zhou Nuo.

This girl, really. He had traveled a long way to find her, but she wasn't at home.

After that, Chen Hao started walking around in the busy streets of the Underground Capital's city.

Compared to Earth, the Border Realm was much more extravagant. This was also why the Border Realm was much more well-off than Earth.

"Zhou Nuo, please say yes. I really do love you!"

At that moment, a young man dressed in a white suit walked out of a grand hotel. As he walked, he was begging the girl next to him.

The girl didn't care about what the young man was saying. Her expression remained icy cold, treating the young man with little to zero interest.

Chen Hao glanced over. That girl was no one else but Zhou Nuo, who Chen Hao just happened to be looking for. To think that he would meet her here! Apart from that, Zhou Nuo seemed to be in some mild trouble.

"Zhou Nuo!"

After some consideration, Chen Hao still decided to open his mouth and call Zhou Nuo's name.

When Zhou Nuo heard him, she turned around and her eyes instantly lit up, happiness blooming on her face.

"Chen Hao!"

Zhou Nuo seemed to be taken by surprise as she yelled his name before walking toward Chen Hao with quick steps. Once she reached him, she immediately threw herself onto him and hugged him tight.

This made Chen Hao feel a bit confused. How would he have known that Zhou Nuo would suddenly behave like this toward him? He was a married man!





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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chen Hao let go of Zhou Nuo.

"Why are you here? Why didn't you let me know beforehand?" Zhou Nuo said in surprise as she looked at Chen Hao.

"I went to your house before this, but the guards at your door told me that you went out. That's why I came here to try my luck and see if I could bump into you!" Chen Hao explained simply to Zhou Nuo.

When Zhou Nuo heard Chen Hao say this, she was extremely happy.

Ever since she had parted ways with Chen Hao last time, Zhou Nuo had been feeling very bored and she really missed Chen Hao.

"Zhou Nuo, who is this?"

When the young man in the white suit saw Zhou Nuo acting so affectionately with Chen Hao, he was instantly furious and walked toward them in a rage, interrogating Zhou Nuo.

Zhou Nuo glanced sideways at the young man before saying coldly, "This is my boyfriend. Lin Zijie, you had better stop annoying me. If not, watch out! My boyfriend's going to teach you a lesson!"

When Chen Hao heard this, his brow furrowed at once.

Zhou Nuo, that girl. She really knew how to use people as shields.

"Er... I'm actually not her boyfriend!" Chen Hao wasn't about to let Zhou Nuo take advantage of him like that, and he instantly opened his mouth to deny it.

Zhou Nuo glared at Chen Hao fiercely. Why was he so bad at reading the room? She was obviously looking for an excuse to get rid of Lin Zijie.

The young man in the white suit was named Lin Zijie, and he was the Young Master of the Lin family of the Underground Capital of Border Realm. He had been chasing after Zhou Nuo for a while now, but no matter what, Zhou Nuo would not return his affections. She didn't even bother to glance at him directly. This made Lin Zijie feel unhappy, and he was dead set on gaining Zhou Nuo's fancy.

"Zhou Nuo, I think you had better take care

of your own problems first. After you're done with this, we'll find somewhere to talk, okay?" In order to not cause any further misunderstandings, Chen Hao gave a reminder to Zhou Nuo.

After he spoke, he turned to leave.

When she saw that Chen Hao was about to leave, Zhou Nuo started to panic. Was this a joke? Chen Hao had finally come to meet her on his own accord, so Zhou Nuo wasn't going to let him leave that easily. Besides, Chen Hao still owed Zhou Nuo a favor.

Zhou Nuo quickly reached out a hand to hold onto Chen Hao's arm, her body leaning forward and sticking closely to Chen Hao's own, causing him to feel softness on him.

"Chen Hao, don't forget that you still owe me a favor. To be honest with you, this guy is really annoying! Just pretend to be my boyfriend first and help me get rid of him. Then, I'll count it as you returning your favor!" Zhou Nuo leaned in closer to Chen Hao's ear and muttered softly.

Chen Hao wasn't someone who would go

back on his words, and since Zhou Nuo wanted him to repay her in this way, Chen Hao couldn't do anything but agree.

When she saw that Chen Hao had stopped talking, Zhou Nuo knew that his silence was a form of agreement.

"Lin Zijie, I have something to do with my boyfriend. Don't annoy me any longer! We will never be together. Goodbye!" Zhou Nuo turned around again as she warned Lin Zijie with a serious expression.

As the Young Master of the Lin family, Lin Zijie could not take such humiliation. His beloved woman had been snatched away by someone else, and it made him feel extremely embarrassed.

"What's your name? I want to challenge you one-on-one!"

After a second, Lin Zijie roared angrily as he pointed at Chen Hao.

Chen Hao frowned. He felt as if this Lin Zijie was really way too dim. Zhou Nuo had been very clear, yet he still wasn't willing to let things go. "Lin Zijie, what right do you have to challenge my boyfriend one-on-one? With your ability? My boyfriend can kill you with one pinch!" Zhou Nuo scoffed disdainfully as she mocked Lin Zijie with a glare. She tore him down and left him no room to retaliate.

Lin Zijie was extremely angry and felt that Zhou Nuo shouldn't have looked down on him. After all, he was still a Ninth Tier Cultivator of the King of Kings.

"Brat, if you don't fight me one-on-one today, I promise that you will not leave this place alive!" Lin Zijie didn't care about what Zhou Nuo had to say anymore and turned his attention to Chen Hao as he threatened him.

Originally, Chen Hao didn't want to get all tangled up with a young master like him.

However, Lin Zijie had started to threaten himself. That meant Chen Hao had no choice but to really teach him a lesson.

What an ignorant, foolish and stubborn guy.

"Are you sure you want to fight me alone?"

Chen Hao glanced at Lin Zijie coldly as he asked indifferently.

"Bullsh\*t! I'm warning you. If you lose, you have to crawl the f\*ck out of Underground Capital!" Lin Zijie suggested as he glared unflinchingly at Chen Hao.

"Well, what if you lose?" asked Chen Hao, the corner of his lips curling into a sinister smile.

"Humph! How could I possibly lose to someone like you?!?" Lin Zijie mocked cockily. It was clear that he did not take Chen Hao seriously at all and thought that Chen Hao was absolutely not his match.

"What about this. If you lose, you pay me 100 million. Deal?" Chen Hao suggested to Lin Zijie after some thinking.

The reason why Chen Hao's bet was to ask 100 million from Lin Zijie was because Chen Hao wanted to use this money to buy talismans.

Rather than spending his own money, he might as well spend others', right? Didn't it feel better when one spent someone else's money? "Okay, then we'll go with that!" Lin Zijie agreed without even thinking.

100 million was not a large number to Lin Zijie since his Lin family was extremely wealthy.

Zhou Nuo stood by one side, not saying anything to stop him. She knew how skilled Chen Hao was, so she was confident that Lin Zijie would lose. That 100 million was definitely going to be Chen Hao's.

Very quickly, Lin Zijie found an empty space. He took off his jacket and started to stretch his neck as he warmed up.

Chen Hao stood where he was, calmly staring at Lin Zijie who was in front of him.

Someone was giving him free money, so he was certainly going to accept it graciously.

"How much longer do you want to warm up for? I don't have so much time to waste on you!" Chen Hao asked Lin Zijie impatiently.

Lin Zijie's heart sank and his eyes filled

with raging flames. He wanted so badly to immediately smash Chen Hao to a pulp.

"Watch me defeat you with just one punch!" Lin Zijie roared in anger before leaping off the tip of his toes and up into the air, speedily aiming a punch at Chen Hao.

Chen Hao remained where he was, having no intention to dodge his attack. In his eyes, Lin Zijie was way too slow.

## Boom!

Without waiting for Lin Zijie to even come near him, Chen Hao quickly lifted his legs and attacked.

Lin Zijie's body connected with Chen Hao's feet in midair and he flew out immediately, falling in a graceful arch before landing heavily on the ground, causing it to crack slightly and a groove to form.

Chen Hao had only used up to 30% of his abilities for this kick, but Lin Zijie couldn't even handle this. He was struggling to even get up from the ground.

Dealing with someone like this, Chen Hao

Chapter 819 Faking It

could end the battle with just one simple move.

Lin Zijie looked terrified. He didn't think that Chen Hao was actually this powerful, and that he was able to win him with just one move. He couldn't help but start to feel intense fear.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Chen Hao walked up to Lin Zijie slowly.

"Young Master Lin, you've lost. Pay up a hundred million!" Chen Hao kneeled down and reached his hand out as he spoke to Lin Zijie, who was lying on the ground.

Lin Zijie thought that Chen Hao was coming here to teach him a lesson. He had wanted to just close his eyes and accept his fate, but at Chen Hao's words, he let out a sigh of relief.

If one agreed to make a bet, one must be prepared to lose. Helplessly, Lin Zijie passed 100 million to Chen Hao.

Money was merely a worldly possession. Besides, this amount of money wasn't a big matter to Lin Zijie, so he was willing to lose it.

However, Lin Zijie did not just lose money. He had also lost his dignity, and his dignity as the Young Master of the Lin family. This was something Lin Zijie simply could not accept.

Chen Hao took the 100 million and brought Zhou Nuo away at once, leaving the collapsed Lin Zijie on the ground. He no longer cared if Lin Zijie was dead or alive.

After very long, Lin Zijie finally managed to crawl up from the ground and limped away.

However, this wasn't over yet.

On the other side, Chen Hao had brought Zhou Nuo to a cafe, and the two of them sat down.

"Chen Hao, why did you suddenly come to find me? Did you miss me?" The moment they sat down, Zhou Nuo immediately started talking while looking at Chen Hao with a face full of expectation.

Chen Hao glanced at Zhou Nuo and thought,Has this little girl really developed a crush on me? How could she ask something like this?

"I'm here for an important matter!" Chen Hao answered seriously.

"Humph! You're so unemotional! You can't even pretend to answer my question... Humph, What a bore!"

When she heard Chen Hao's words, Zhou

Nuo grumbled and humphed coquettishly with pursed lips, looking extremely adorable.

It wasn't that Chen Hao didn't want to reply. It was because he already had someone who he loved at home, and of course, he couldn't do anything that would betray Su Tongxin. He had to know his own limits. Chen Hao had already made an exception by acting as Zhou Nuo's boyfriend just now.

If he wasn't together with Su Tongxin, then Chen Hao might have had some sort of feelings toward Zhou Nuo. However, that was a big if.

"Zhou Nuo, do you know who the God King is?" After that, Chen Hao asked Zhou Nuo.

"No, I don't!"

Zhou Nuo turned her head to one side, her tone slightly angry as she replied to him abruptly.

When Chen Hao saw this, he felt helpless. Were all girls so hard to deal with nowadays? "Alright. Since you don't know, then I won't bother you further. I'm leaving now!" Chen Hao wasn't interested in playing along. He immediately stood up to leave after speaking to Zhou Nuo.

This caused Zhou Nuo to panic. If Chen Hao really left, then purposefully doing this no longer had any meaning.

Chen Hao didn't want to play along with Zhou Nuo, and besides, Chen Hao knew that she wasn't actually angry and was just pretending to be so to make a point. She just wanted him to placate her.

However, Chen Hao wasn't a doormat, and he wasn't about to do things that a doormat would.

"Okay, okay. I'll stop fooling around, alright? You really are no fun!" Zhou Nuo quickly held Chen Hao back and answered him.

Only then did Chen Hao sit down once more and looked at Zhou Nuo, waiting for her response.

"The God King is our Border Realm's highest authority. His real name is Aphro, and he lives in the God Palace!" After that, Zhou Nuo finally explained who the God King was to Chen Hao in the simplest terms.

At this, Chen Hao realized that he had caught the attention of the highest authority figure in Border Realm.

"What's wrong? Why did you suddenly ask that? I'm telling you, Chen Hao, the God King isn't who you think he is. I've heard that the God King is an Immortal who has achieved the Seventh Tier of Soul Cultivation. He is a terrifying presence!" Zhou Nuo was suspicious of Chen Hao's intentions, so she asked him curiously and gave him a friendly reminder as well. She didn't want Chen Hao to go off and anger the God King, Aphro.

An Immortal who has achieved the Seventh Tier of Soul Cultivation?

Chen Hao was secretly shocked as God King's power was truly terrifying.

Now, he was but an Immortal in the Second Tier of Soul Cultivation. The gap between him and this God King was way too big. If he really were to bump into Aphro, he would have no way of defending himself. He might even be killed in the blink of an eye.

"Then do you know about the man in black robe who is one of God King's underlings?" Chen Hao asked Zhou Nuo again.

Zhou Nuo took a moment to think about it before replying, "I remember now. Yes, there is someone like that. I think his name is Black... Black Goblin! He's the God King's right hand man and he helps the God King deal with things in the Border Realm. The God King rarely shows his face, and it's usually Black Goblin who shows up instead."

After Chen Hao heard this, he understood everything.

It seemed like the man who had gone over to find him the other day was none other than Black Goblin.

However, judging by the fact that it was Black Goblin who had shown up, the God King probably did not have any other intentions toward him and just wanted to test him. "Chen Hao, you didn't offend the God King, did you?" Zhou Nuo asked worriedly after seeing Chen Hao's expression.

Chen Hao shook his head and explained, "Don't worry, I'm not that dumb. I wouldn't just go and offend an Immortal who has reached the Seventh Tier of Soul Cultivation!"

When she heard this, Zhou Nuo relaxed.

"Oh, right. Why did you need to get so much money from Lin Zijie? Are you in a tight spot?" Zhou Nuo suddenly thought about that and asked Chen Hao.

A hundred million wasn't a large sum to Zhou Nuo, but to any other normal person, it was enough to spend for a lifetime.

"Hehe. Rather than using my own money to buy things, wouldn't it better to use someone else's?" Chen Hao snickered as he explained to Zhou Nuo.

"Zhou Nuo, I've heard that the Border Realm produces the best Mystical Talismans. Can you take me there? I want to buy some talismans!" Chen Hao continued speaking to Zhou Nuo. Only then did Zhou Nuo finally understand Chen Hao's true reason for coming here, and why he wanted so much money from Lin Zijie: he wanted to buy the Mystical Talismans.

"Sure, no problem. However, are you sure that 100 million is enough?" Zhou Nuo answered and asked Chen Hao in doubt.

In the Border Realm, Mystical Talismans were extremely rare. Apart from that, they were not cheap. A regular Mystical Talisman was anywhere between a few thousand to even tens of thousands or more, let alone a high-grade Mystical Talisman.

"Don't worry, it should be enough. If it's not, I can chip in some of my money. Let's go take a look before deciding!" Chen Hao smiled lightly. He thought to himself,*Money isn't a problem to me. I don't* have to worry about being short on cash.

Very quickly, the two of them finished the coffee in front of them and left the cafe at the same time, heading toward the largest seller of Mystical Talismans in the Border Realm, the Talisman Palace. All of the Mystical Talismans in Border Realm came from the Talisman Palace. They were single-handedly made by the best talisman maker, Bo Xier, and were put on display in the Talisman Palace to be sold or auctioned off.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The Talisman Palace was a large and grand palace-like building, and it was gilded on the outside. There was a large stone slab outside the doorway.

The stone slab was made to look like a Mystical Talisman, which was the symbol of the Talisman Palace.

However, there weren't a lot of people coming to the Talisman Palace. Only a few extravagantly-dressed people were seen going in.

This place was even more high-class than those high-end shopping districts.

Zhou Nuo brought Chen Hao to the doorway of the Talisman Palace.

There was a man standing at the doorway who was dressed in something akin to a robe.

This man specialized in watching the door of the Talisman Palace and managing who entered.

It was not easy to enter the Talisman Palace. In fact, there were conditions that one must meet if one wanted to enter the Talisman Palace.

Zhou Nuo took a card out from inside her jacket and passed it to the doorman.

The doorman took it and looked at it. His eyes instantly lit up and he immediately smiled respectfully.

"Miss Zhou! Please enter!"

This card was Zhou Nuo's IC, which was proof that she was a citizen of the Border Realm. Also, Zhou Nuo was the daughter of the Zhou family, who was extremely famous in the whole of the Border Realm. Of course, Zhou Nuo wasn't just any regular citizen, and the doorman certainly knew this.

"He's my friend. It's not going to be a problem if he comes in with me, right?" Zhou Nuo asked mildly while glancing at the doorman.

The doorman quickly shook his head and replied, "Of course not. Please come in!"

After that, the doorman opened the doors to the Talisman Palace respectfully and made a gesturing motion, indicating for Zhou Nuo and Chen Hao to enter.

"Thank you!" Zhou Nuo thanked him politely and led Chen Hao into Talisman Palace.

The moment they entered Talisman Palace, Chen Hao was stunned by everything he saw before him. The whole hall was filled from floor to ceiling with different kinds of intricate Mystical Talismans.

"These Mystical Talismans in the great hall are all individually unique. There is only one of every kind, and they are extremely rare. That's why they are the treasure of the Talisman Palace, and they don't sell or auction these to anyone outside. These are considered Perfect Tier Mystical Talismans!" Zhou Nuo pointed to a few talismans lined up in a row and started explaining to Chen Hao.

"The so-called Mystical Talismans are divided into six tiers: the Basic Tier, the Regular Tier, the Medium Tier, the High Tier, the Extraordinary Tier, and the Perfect Tier. However, these few Perfect Tier talismans that are right here are the only ones in this world!" Zhou Nuo explained thoroughly, bringing Chen Hao around the Talisman Palace like a tour guide.

"Can the best talisman maker in the Border Realm create any Perfect Tier talismans?" Chen Hao asked Zhou Nuo curiously.

Zhou Nuo shook her head lightly and smiled bitterly as she said, "Bo Xier may be the best talisman maker in the Border Realm, but he can only make Extraordinary Tier talismans at most. There is no way of even brushing on the making of a Perfect Tier talisman. These Perfect Tier talismans on the wall over here were left behind by the first person to ever create Mystical Talismans, Master Kaiji. Ever since ancient times, no one has ever surpassed Master Kaiji, and we still don't know how he managed to create Perfect Tier talismans."

After hearing this, Chen Hao was even more interested in learning about the Mystical Talismans.

"Would it be possible for me to learn how to make Mystical Talismans?" Chen Hao asked Zhou Nuo an important question.

"Of course you can. However, in order to

start learning how to make Mystical Talismans, you must first join the Talisman Guild. Apart from that, you need a professional coach who is willing to teach you. Otherwise, it's impossible to learn how to make Mystical Talismans." Zhou Nuo had brought up another important point. In order to learn how to make talismans, one must have a coach who was willing to teach you.

Chen Hao was in a dilemma. He only knew Zhou Nuo in the Border Realm, and he didn't even know any teachers, let alone a coach. This way, learning how to make Mystical Talismans was going to be very hard for him.

"Why? Chen Hao, are you interested in learning how to make Mystical Talismans?" Zhou Nuo instantly saw Chen Hao's true intentions behind the question and smiled as she asked, looking at Chen Hao.

Chen Hao didn't say no and nodded slightly.

"If you're really interested, I can direct you to someone. He's a Second Tier coach in the Talisman Guild. His name is He Cheng, and he's an old friend of my father's," Zhou Nuo suggested to Chen Hao as she looked at him.

"Can I really? But I'm not someone from the Border Realm. Do I have the right to learn how to make Mystical Talismans?" When Chen Hao heard this, he was pleasantly surprised but also a bit worried.

After all, Chen Hao wasn't from the Border Realm, but from Earth. Those two identities were too different, and people from the Border Realm still held grudges against people from Earth.

"Relax, you won't encounter much trouble. Master He Cheng is pretty nice, and my father doesn't shun people from Earth!" Zhou Nuo explained to Chen Hao, indicating that Chen Hao didn't need to worry about this.

"Alright. However, I don't have any time to learn about Mystical Talismans right now. After I take care of some things, I'll come back and find you, and then I'll go and learn!" Chen Hao agreed as he explained to Zhou Nuo.

"Alright, no problem!" Zhou Nuo replied,

having no objections.

When they were done talking, the two of them had already arrived at the hall where the Mystical Talismans were sold.

The person who greeted them was the store clerk who was in charge of selling the talismans.

"Hello! How can I help you two today?" the store clerk walked up to them quickly and asked Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo respectfully, smiling.

"My friend wants to buy some talismans!" Zhou Nuo said immediately.

People who could enter the Talisman Palace were never just regular citizens, so obviously, they had to be treated with the best attitude.

"This way, please. I'll show you the newest Mystical Talismans that Master Bo Xier has created!" The store clerk quickly brought Zhou Nuo and Chen Hao to a display stand nearby, the exterior of which was wound with gold thread.

There was a row of Mystical Talismans in

the gold-threaded display case.

"These are our newest Extraordinary Tier talismans. There are Attacking Mystiques, Defense Mystiques, Scheming Mystiques, and Transportation Mystiques," the store clerk explained thoroughly and patiently.

Chen Hao looked at all of the Mystical Talismans in the display case and felt extremely overwhelmed.

However, these Extraordinary Talismans were not cheap. The price of every talisman was indicated underneath the talisman.

All of the talismans were priced at no less than tens of millions.

Chen Hao was taken aback. No wonder Zhou Nuo had asked him if he had enough money before they arrived. It seemed like the 100 million that he had gotten from Lin Zijie was not enough to buy even two Mystical Talismans.

Zhou Nuo could tell what Chen Hao was thinking. She knew that Chen Hao's 100 million was definitely not enough.
"Chen Hao, are there any that you like?" Zhou Nuo shuffled closer to Chen Hao and asked him softly.

"Are there any other Mystical Talismans apart from these?" Chen Hao didn't answer Zhou Nuo. Instead, he turned and asked the store clerk. A place this big wouldn't only have such few Mystical Talismans, right? There had to be cheap ones.





Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Yes, please follow me!" the attendant immediately replied.

The attendant then brought Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo over to the hall on the other side.

There were several kinds of Mystique Talismans hanging around the large hall, all of different types and tiers.

It was an extraordinary selection, with strings of talismans stretching as far as the eye can see.

Chen Hao immediately started choosing some of the talismans in the hall.

The prices of the Mystique Talismans were much fairer in this great hall, ranging from a few thousand to a millions.

After an hour and more of picking and choosing, Chen Hao was finished with his selection.

Chen Hao bought a few hundred Medium Path talismans, a few hundred Spiritual talismans, as well as some Precious talismans. He spent a total of 130 million, with Chen Hao having invested an extra 30 million of his own. Clearly, the Mystical Talismans were extremely expensive.

The reason he bought so many Mystical Talismans was because Chen Hao wanted to use them as an emergency defense for himself.

In addition to them being very portable, these Mystical Talismans had different abilities and uses and were also easy to use.

After buying the Talismans, Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo left the Talisman Palace.

"Chen Hao, what are you planning to do next?" Zhou Nuo asked, wanting to know what his next step was.

"I need to go to Song City, which is on Earth!" Chen Hao didn't hide anything and told Zhou Nuo the next step of his plan.

Zhou Nuo paused for a second before asking curiously, "Song City? What are you going there for?"

"There are still some members of the

Border Realm's Qin family that I haven't gotten rid of yet. The Qin family in Song City are descended from the Border Realm's Qin family!" Chen Hao casually explained.

After Zhou Nuo heard that, she immediately understood that Chen Hao was also going to dispose of the Qin family of Song City.

If such loose ends weren't taken care of, it would be a burden to Chen Hao, despite him not taking the Qin family of Song City very seriously at all.

"Okay then, you have to be more careful, okay? If you need help, just contact me. I'll do everything in my power to help you!" Zhou Nuo reminded Chen Hao.

"Okay!" Chen Hao smiled sincerely to Zhou Nuo before he hurriedly left in one giant leap.

Gazing at Chen Hao's retreating figure, Zhou Nuo felt a strange emotion that she couldn't describe. She told herself that one day, she would make Chen Hao accept her.

At the Border Realms, the Lin family.

Lin Zijie hobbled back home. His hair in a mess, he looked destroyed and was covered in ash and soot. He did not even have an ounce of the aura of 'Young Master Lin' left in him. In fact, he looked no different from a beggar.

"Hm? Lin Zijie, what happened to you? How did you become like this?"

At that moment, a young man who bore a strong resemblance to Lin Zijie walked out and looked at Lin Zijie in shock.

"Lin Ziang... I got beaten up," Lin Zijie whined to his older brother, Lin Ziang, with an expression full of self-pity.

This was Lin Zijie's eldest brother, Lin Ziang. He was a Second Tier Immortal and was one of the members of the Disha Group of the Border Realm.

The Disha Group was an underground force that consisted of many killers and powerful individuals. They specialized in carrying out special requests.

"What? Who dared to beat you up? Tell me, who was it? I'll go make them pay!" When Lin Ziang heard that, he was instantly

## enraged and asked Lin Zijie.

"I don't know! I only know that that punk is pretty close to Zhou Nuo. He might even be Zhou Nuo's boyfriend!" Lin Zijie answered bitterly. The moment he thought of Chen Hao, he felt both fury and pain.

As the Young Master of the Lin family, he had actually been beaten up by some random punk? This was an embarrassment to the Lin family.

"Alright, the Zhou family, huh? Looks like the Zhou family is becoming more and more daring. How dare they make enemies of us?!" Lin Ziang seethed, his expression cold and terrifying.

To compare, the Zhou family was on pretty much the same level as the Lin family. Neither family could defeat the other hence this was exactly why the Zhou family and the Lin family had never crossed the line.

However, it seemed like the two families would be against each other just because of Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo.

"Zijie, I will take care of this for you and

personally inform Father about this. I want to see just how far we can take this with the Lin family!" Lin Ziang said coldly with narrowed eyes.

After he finished speaking, Lin Ziang helped Lin Zijie back to his room to rest.

Night fell.

At Song City.

The Qin family mansion was brightly lit and their guards stood at attention.

Qin Zhen stood in the hall and gazed at the crowd in front of him. His emotions were all over the place, both anxious and worried.

The three Yan Xun elders had already been gone for a whole day, yet they had not reported back even once. This really worried Qin Zhen.

"Dad, don't worry. Our three elders possess immense power! They can definitely get rid of that little punk, Chen Hao!" his eldest son, Qin Song comforted him.

"Let's hope that is the case!" Qin Zhen

forced out while frowning deeply.

"Why don't you think about how exactly you're going to let the Qin family of the Border Realm know about this?"

Right after Qin Zhen had expressed his worries, Chen Hao's voice immediately echoed through the Qin family mansion.

Immediately, Qin Zhen and the Qin family members fell into panic after hearing Chen Hao's voice. They started looking around wildly, trying to find Chen Hao.

At the next second, Chen Hao appeared behind Qin Zhen and hoisted him up with one hand.

"Qin Zhen, you old thing. You really aren't giving up, huh? You just had to make me come to Song City personally!"

Chen Hao gripped Qin Zhen's neck tightly and smiled sinisterly, all while speaking with an icy tone.

Unable to escape from Chen Hao's grasp, Qin Zhen's face turned extremely red and he started to suffocate. "Chen Hao, let go of my father!" Qin Song yelled at Chen Hao angrily.

"All of you, kneel down immediately!" Chen Hao barked harshly.

When they heard Chen Hao's words, the Qin family members glanced at each other. No one was willing to kneel down.

"Okay then. Since none of you are willing to do so, death is your only option!"

Chen Hao hated saying the same thing twice. A steely glint flashed in his eyes before he closed his fist.

With a loud*crack*, Chen Hao broke Qin Zhen's neck, killing Qin Zhen on the spot.

"Dad!"

"Master!"

Witnessing the death of Qin Zhen before their very eyes, Qin Song and the rest of the Qin family members roared in despair.

"\*sshole, I've had enough of you!"

Qin Song couldn't hold back any longer

and rushed toward Chen Hao furiously.

Sadly, this was all for naught. Chen Hao came in order to annihilate the entire Qin family of Song City. he was going to rip the family up by its roots and would not let even one person go.

If he showed mercy to his enemies, they would surely come back to haunt him. This was something Chen Hao understood deeply.

In a flash, Chen Hao had killed everyone in the Qin family of Song City. Apart from that, he had also set fire to the Qin family mansion and burnt it to the ground.

The Qin family had finally been eradicated, no longer existing in the Border Realm and Song City.

Finishing what he came to do, Chen Hao immediately left Song City and returned to the Border Realm. Chapter 822 Returning to the Border Realm



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Morning the next day, at the Zhou family of the Border Realm.

There were many expensive limousines parked in front of the Zhou family mansion. All of their license plates had the surname 'Lin' on them.

At one look, anyone could tell that these cars belonged to the Lin family.

After Lin Zijie had been beaten up by Chen Hao yesterday, his eldest brother, Lin Ziang, had returned to make a report to his father, Lin Ao, the master of the Lin family.

After Lin Ao heard the news that his second son had been injured, he was livid.

Originally, he was someone who was fiercely protective of his children. Of course, he wouldn't just sit around and watch his precious son get injured.

That was why he immediately went after the Zhou family to make sure they would atone for their crimes.

"Master Zhou, my son, Lin Zijie, was injured by your daughter's boyfriend. How are you going to solve this situation? You must give me a reasonable answer by today!" Lin Ao demanded angrily. He crossed his legs as he sat in their hall, glaring at the master of the Zhou family, Zhou Yunshan.

"Your son was the one who kept annoying me! That was why my boyfriend taught him a lesson. Your son deserved everything that happened to him!" Without waiting for Zhou Yunshan to open his mouth, Zhou Nuo, who had been standing by one side, immediately spoke up.

"Zhou Nuo, be quiet!" Zhou Yunshan snapped at Zhou Nuo.

Zhuo Nuo immediately quietened down and stood obediently by one side, no longer daring to speak.

Lin Ao's expression was already very dark. His eldest son, Lin Ziang, who was standing beside him wore a similarly dark expression. Both of them radiated an extremely strong aura.

Zhou Yunshan glanced at Lin Ziang. He knew that the eldest son of the Lin family was very skilled; he was certainly not a good enemy to have. "Master Lin, I believe both sides have to take responsibility for this matter. I apologize to your son on my daughter's behalf. However, since this happened because of your son, I hope your son will no longer pester my daughter after this!" After a pause, Zhou Yunshan suggested this to Lin Ao in a calm tone.

As the leader of the Zhou family, of course Zhou Yunshan would not give in to Lin Ao.

Lin Ao also had quite the temper. He slammed the table as he threatened, "Zhou Yunshan, don't give me that nonsense! I'm warning you. Today, your daughter will apologize to my son. If not, we will destroy your family!"

At that moment, Zhou Yunshan's brows furrowed and his expression turned stormy. He never imagined that Lin Ao would be so wild. How dare he say that he would destroy the Zhou family? What disrespect!

"Master Lin, you're being much too reckless with your words! The fact that my family could establish our roots in the Border Realm already shows that we aren't to be messed with!" Zhou Yunshan's tone turned icy as he replied.

"Hmph! Is that so? I would like to test that theory!" Lin Ao said disdainfully.

Right after he finished speaking, Lin Ao waved his hand. Instantly, several strongly built black-clothed men rushed in.

Seeing this, the family members of the Zhou family were all taken aback.

Zhou Nuo could not hold herself back anymore. She yelled at Lin Ao and the others as she came forward. "How dare you! This is our turf! Do you think this is some place where you can act willy-nilly?!"

Lin Ziang walked over and stood in front of Zhou Nuo. He stared sharply at her.

"Zhou Nuo, I know my younger brother has always liked you. If you are willing to accompany my brother for one day, I could consider letting your family off the hook. If you don't, I will make you all pay," Lin Ziang threatened.

"What if I say no?" Zhou Nuo retorted with a steely glare. She wasn't some pushover, either. "Is that a no? Then, don't blame me for what happens next!" Lin Ziang yelled as he immediately unleashed his power.

"If you dare to touch a single strand of her hair, I promise that you will not leave this place alive!" The moment Lin Ziang finished speaking, Chen Hao's voice rang from the door of the Zhou family mansion.

"Chen Hao!" Zhou Nuo yelled in disbelief when she heard him.

As she yelled his name, Chen Hao emerged from the doorway and slowly walked in with his hands in his pockets.

Zhou Nuo was delighted at Chen Hao's arrival.

However, Lin Ziang and Li Ao's face turned red with anger.

"You were the one who injured my son?" Lin Ao glared at Chen Hao as he asked.

Chen Hao glanced at Lin Ao and snorted. "That's me. Your son was the one who didn't know his own strength. He was the one who wanted to challenge me one-onone. What, now he's asking others to get revenge for him after he lost? Is he that pathetic?"

Hearing Chen Hao's words, Lin Ao was so angry he almost choked on his own blood.

This was especially when each one of his words hit the nail right on the head, with every word hitting its mark.

Indeed, his own son had lost in a one-onone fight and had gone home to ask others to seek revenge for him. If word got out, it really would ruin their reputation.

"Hmph! You injured my brother! I'm not going to just let this go. I want to challenge you to a duel now!" Lin Ziang demanded as he walked to face Chen Hao, glaring at him the entire time.

"Your brother wasn't even my match, so what makes you think you will be?" Chen Hao asked Lin Ziang condescendingly.

Lin Ziang clenched his fists as the veins on his arm popped up. He couldn't wait to tear Chen Hao to shreds.

"What? Are you scared?" Lin Ziang purposely taunted Chen Hao.

Chen Hao could care less about Lin Ziang trying to provoke him. If he wanted to die, Chen Hao would grant his wish.

"Alright. However, I have my conditions. If you lose, you must take your family with you and get lost. Also, your younger brother is forbidden from bothering Zhou Nuo ever again. How's that?" Chen Hao immediately agreed but added his own terms.

"Fine. What if you lose?" Lin Ziang retorted.

"If I lose, then you can do whatever you want with me!" Chen Hao said promptly, looking completely nonplussed.

In Chen Hao's eyes, Lin Ziang was not his match at all.

After that, Chen Hao and Lin Ziang walked to the door. The crowd followed them outside and stood by the doorway to watch the two of them duel.

Zhou Nuo walked to Chen Hao's side and whispered, "Chen Hao, Lin Zijie's brother, Lin Ziang, is not a pushover. Are you sure about this?" Chen Hao smiled lightly to Zhou Nuo. "Don't worry. He isn't my match at all."

When she saw Chen Hao's confident smile and expression, Zhou Nuo relaxed. She knew that Chen Hao would not have said such a thing unless he was truly confident.

"Little punk, I'll break all your bones!" Lin Ziang glared at Chen Hao as he spoke.

"Hah. You're just all talk but no action!" Chen Hao scoffed and retorted.

To be honest, Lin Ziang wasn't taking Chen Hao seriously at all. Since his younger brother's capabilities were far from his own, that meant that Chen Hao wasn't his match in the slightest.

"Come at me!" Lin Ziang roared angrily before he set off. Unleashing his power, he ran at full speed toward Chen Hao. Chapter 823 Showing Up at the Doorstep



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Lin Ziang's first punch was directed right at Chen Hao's head.

If he had gotten hit, his skull would have split apart, splattering his brains all over the place.

However, Chen Hao wasn't about to give Lin Ziang this chance. He immediately spinned to one side and dodged Lin Ziang's punch.

Lin Ziang's punch swept past Chen Hao's eyes, letting him get a feel of just how strong that punch was going to be.

As a First Tier Immortal, Lin Ziang was actually quite strong.

Sadly, his opponent was Chen Hao.

Even if you were a First Tier Immortal, it was impossible to beat Chen Hao.

When his first move failed to hit him, Lin Ziang was slightly taken aback. He hadn't expected Chen Hao to be so swift.

However, he didn't give up. He instantly reacted with another fierce kick to Chen Hao's front. Every move he used was intended to kill as he wanted to dispose of Chen Hao straight away.

Chen Hao simply stepped back and casually dodged it.

Anyone involved in the cultivation world could immediately tell how big of a difference the two of them had between them.

Speed was of the essence. Lin Ziang was fast, but Chen Hao was much faster. That was exactly why he did not manage to hit Chen Hao even once.

The result of this fight was obvious.

However, Lin Ziang wasn't about to surrender. He had to beat Chen Hao and get revenge for his little brother.

"Hmph! Do you only know how to dodge?" Lin Ziang scoffed disdainfully as he sneered at Chen Hao.

Chen Hao had just been dodging all of his attacks. This belittled his ego as it felt as if Chen Hao was just teasing him.

Actually, Lin Ziang was already wary about

the fact that Chen Hao was in no way weaker than himself. If that were the case, he would already have landed a blow on Chen Hao by now.

"I'm afraid that once I attack you, you'll immediately collapse!" Chen Hao snorted when he heard Lin Ziang's taunt.

This sent Lin Ziang's blood boiling and the fire in his heart burned hotter. He did not take him seriously at all!

"How dare you?!" Lin Ziang roared angrily.

This time, without holding back, he unleashed all of his power to attack Chen Hao.

Chen Hao was not the least bit worried and stood where he was calmly.

Since Lin Ziang wanted to attack him, of course Chen Hao was going to give him that pleasure.

## Boom!

At the next second, Chen Hao moved and immediately sent Lin Ziang flying with one kick. Chen Hao was extremely fast, giving Lin Ziang no time to react at all.

Lin Ziang crashed heavily on the ground. A streak of blood leaked out of the corner of his mouth.

That kick from Chen Hao wasn't something that Lin Ziang could handle.

Lin Ao, who was standing by one side, was dumbstruck when he saw this. To think that his son would actually lose to Chen Hao!

"You lost!" Chen Hao casually said as he looked at Lin Ziang.

Lin Ziang was reluctant to surrender. However, he certainly did lose so his only option was to admit his defeat. If not, he would become a laughing stock if word of this got out.

Right after that, Lin Ao brought Lin Ziang to the car and immediately left the Zhou mansion.

"Yeah!"

The moment she saw the Lin family

Chapter 824 Attack

members leave, Zhou Nuo started cheering.

"Chen Hao, you're amazing! Not even Lin Ziang was your match!" Zhou Nuo complimented Chen Hao as she looked at him in excitement. Zhou Yunshan as well as the other Zhou family members were also stunned.

"Dad, this is Chen Hao! I've talked about him with you before!" After that, Zhou Nuo hurriedly introduced Chen Hao to her father, Zhou Yunshan.

Zhou Yunshan nodded slightly. He indicated for Zhou Nuo and Chen Hao to follow him back to the hall.

"Greetings, Master Zhou!" Chen Hao took the initiative and greeted Zhou Yunshan the moment they sat in the hall.

"I've heard from Zhou Nuo early on that you're very powerful. After today, I can see that she was not lying!" Zhou Yunshan said to Chen Hao, satisfied.

"Master Zhou, you flatter me. I'm good friends with Zhou Nuo, which means that her problems are my problems as well. Besides, this also happened because I was too reckless. I'm sorry for bringing you such trouble!" Chen Hao apologized guiltily to Zhou Yunshan.

If it wasn't for him teaching Lin Zijie a lesson, the other Lin family members wouldn't have come to find the Zhou family.

"Chen Hao, how could you ever be blamed for this? This has nothing to do with you. I should blame myself as I shouldn't have used you as my shield!" When she heard Chen Hao's explanation, Zhou Nuo came forward and hurriedly explained to Chen Hao.

"Alright, alright, enough. Stop blaming yourselves, the two of you. I never liked that little punk from the Lin family. I've always heard about him annoying Zhou Nuo. Chen Hao, you did well. At least Lin Zijie knows that there are people in this world who aren't scared of him. So what if he's from the Lin family? The Lin family hasn't managed to show up the Zhou family yet!" Zhou Yunshan said.

Zhou Yunshan wasn't afraid of the Lin family at all. However, if they really were to start fighting, both sides would get severely hurt. However, for his daughter, Zhou Yunshan would do anything to protect her.

"Dad, you're old friends with He Cheng of the Talisman Union, right? I have a favor to ask of you!" Zhou Nuo seemed to remember something and immediately brought it up to Zhou Yunshan.

"What is it? Do you want to join the Talisman Union?" Zhou Yunshan asked curiously.

"Huh? Of course not! I'm asking for Chen Hao. Chen Hao wants to learn how to make Mystical Talismans," Zhou Nuo clarified after she shook her head. As she spoke, she glanced at Chen Hao.

Zhou Yunshan immediately understood that his daughter was interested in Chen Hao. Even though she had said he was her shield, she had actually already started harboring romantic feelings for Chen Hao.

"Master Zhou, I did have that idea. If you can help me with this, I will forever be grateful. If there's anything troubling you about my request, please don't hesitate to let me know!" Chen Hao smiled respectfully as he explained to Zhou Yunshan, trying his best to sound reasonable.

Zhou Yunshan looked at Chen Hao. His impression of Chen Hao was not bad. Furthermore, Chen Hao was already so strong at such a young age and was also close to his own daughter. Of course Zhou Yunshan wasn't about to disagree.

"There's no trouble. However, I just have something to add. What about this? I'll personally contact He Cheng and ask him to come to the Lin family mansion so that you two can meet. If he is willing to take you in as a student, that would be great. Of course, if he doesn't want to take you in, it wouldn't do any good for me to force him. Are you alright with this, Chen Hao?" Zhou Yunshan suggested. He thought that this was the most seamless plan.

"Of course! I'll heed your wishes, Master Zhou. Thank you so much! I owe you one!" Chen Hao didn't think twice before he immediately agreed. Actually, the fact that Zhou Yunshan was willing to help him was already quite shocking to Chen Hao as he didn't even know Zhou Yunshan that well. Chapter 824 Attack

This was only possible because of Zhou Nuo.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Soon, an old man clad in a long robe with a gold brooch pinned on his front walked through the Zhou mansion doorway.

This person was the Second Tier Talisman Master of the Talisman Union, Master He Cheng.

"He Cheng, you're here!" When he saw He Cheng arrive, Zhou Yunshan quickly came forward to greet him.

"Yunshan, what did you need me for?" He Cheng promptly asked Zhou Yunshan.

The two of them were old friends, so it wasn't necessary to make any small talk.

"I wanted to introduce someone to you. He's extremely interested in learning about how to make Mystical Talismans, so I asked you to come here and meet him. Just do it as a favor on my part!" Zhou Yunshan smiled serenely as he explained to He Cheng.

When He Cheng heard this, he was taken aback.

"You're not about to ask me to take your darling daughter in as a student, are you?"

He Cheng instantly joked with Zhou Yunshan.

"Hahaha!" When he heard this, Zhou Yunshan burst out in laughter.

"If it really was her, I would be happy, too! However, Zhou Nuo has her own plans; that's why she doesn't want to learn about the creation of Mystical Talismans. This is actually the person I wanted to introduce to you!" as Zhou Yunshan explained to He Cheng, he pointed to Chen Hao who was standing at one side.

He Cheng glanced over at Chen Hao.

"Chen Hao, this is the Second Tier Talisman Master of the Talisman Union, Master He Cheng!" Zhou Yunshan introduced him to Chen Hao.

Right after Chen Hao heard this, he immediately greeted He Cheng respectfully. "Hello, Master He Cheng. My name is Chen Hao. I've long since heard of your expertise in creating Mystical Talismans. That's why I would love to have you as my master and learn how to make Mystical Talismans!" When he heard Chen Hao's words, He Cheng frowned.

"Zhou Yunhan, you know me. I don't just take in students willy-nilly," He Cheng said to Zhou Yunshan.

To be honest, He Cheng wasn't very interested in Chen Hao.

If it was Zhou Nuo who wanted to learn about how to make Mystical Talismans, then He Cheng would agree wholeheartedly. After all, she was Zhou Yunshan's daughter. Of course he would agree.

But this person was a stranger so He Cheng was a little reluctant.

"He Cheng, I know where you're coming from. However, he's not just any average guy. He's pretty talented and is of a rather high cultivation tier. He's also close friends with Zhou Nuo, so I hope you'll think about it," Zhou Yunshan nodded in understanding before he elaborated to He Cheng.

"I know what you mean, Zhou Yunshan. You want me to break my own rules and take him in as a student, right? How about this. I'll give him a test. If he passes, I'll accept him as my student. How's that?"

He Cheng naturally understood his old friend's thoughts. He couldn't just refuse since it was his old friend who was personally asking him. That was why he thought of another solution.

Zhou Yunshan looked at Chen Hao, trying to ask for his opinion.

"No problem! I'll do it. If I don't pass the test, I will never trouble you, Master He Cheng, ever again!" Chen Hao instantly agreed.

After that, He Cheng waved his hand. Instantly, a brush and an empty talisman appeared in front of their eyes.

"My test is very simple. If you really are talented, then follow exactly what I draw and recreate it on your own talisman. If it meets my standards, I'll take you in as a student!" He Cheng explained simply to Chen Hao.

After he spoke, He Cheng held the pen and quickly started drawing on the talisman.

After a few seconds, He Cheng finished and threw the completed talisman into midair. Instantly, it transformed into a golden phoenix before flying away to the sky.

"This Mystical Talisman is called, 'Golden Phoenix Spreads its Wings'!" He Cheng introduced before he gestured at Chen Hao to begin.

Chen Hao tried to collect his thoughts and shut his eyes tightly, recalling the strokes that He Cheng had made on the talisman just now.

When he saw Chen Hao stood there for quite a while without touching the brush, He Cheng remarked, "If you can't do it, just admit defeat!"

Admit defeat?

These two words made Chen Hao annoyed.

When had he, Chen Hao, ever admitted defeat? These words didn't even exist in his dictionary.

In the next second, Chen Hao's eyes shot

open and he held onto the brush. His brush moved swiftly like the coursing rivers on the talisman before he completed the talisman in one go.

As he stared at Chen Hao drawing, He Cheng's expression changed from disdain to slight shock.

He couldn't help but admit that Chen Hao did have the skill to learn about the creation of Mystical Talismans.

In a very short time, Chen Hao had actually managed to mimic every single stroke that He Chen drew and remembered them all clearly. Indeed, he managed to draw the 'Golden Phoenix Spreads its Wings' talisman almost flawlessly.

However, the speed at which he completed the sketch was not as fast as his own. Of course, this was to be expected as this was Chen Hao's first time drawing Mystical Talismans. To have this sort of results was already quite impressive.

After ten or so seconds, Chen Hao was done drawing so he threw the completed talisman into the air.

## Chirp!

A faint sound of a phoenix sounded.

A dazzling golden phoenix suddenly appeared in the air.

Chen Hao had succeeded!

Clap! Clap! Clap!

At that moment, He Cheng clapped.

"Not bad! You certainly are talented. I will take you in as my student!"

Satisfied, He Cheng smiled as he told Chen Hao. He was willing to take Chen Hao in as his student.

"Thank you, master!" Chen Hao instantly thanked He Cheng respectfully.

When they saw this, Zhou Nuo and Zhou Yunshan also looked happy.

Zhou Nuo was even happier for Chen Hao. She didn't know that Chen Hao was this powerful! How could he replicate the brushstrokes of Master He Cheng's Mystical Talisman just like that?
"However, Chen Hao, as my student, I have two rules that you must follow!" He Cheng looked at Chen Hao and told him seriously.

"Yes, master, please tell me. I will obey your every word!"

"One, don't use the Mystical Talismans of your own accord in the Border Realm. Two, do not teach the ways of the Mystical Talismans to any outsider!"

He Cheng immediately told him the two rules. These were the rules of the Talisman Union that were set-in-stone. No one could break these two rules lest they would be kicked out from the Talisman Union and lose their membership

After Chen Hao heard this, he instantly memorized those rules.

However, the first rule was rather confusing to Chen Hao. Why couldn't he use Mystical Talismans of his own accord in the Border Realm? That meant that he could use Mystical Talismans when he returned to Earth, but just not in the Border Realm.

"Alright. I am going to take you to the

Talisman Union so that you can register. After registering, you will be an official member of the Talisman Union from then onward. You will also be the first student that I have ever taken in!"

After telling him about all the rules, He Cheng also informed Chen Hao about how hard making Mystical Talismans was and how complicated the process was. Apart from that, he told him that the Talisman Union was well-known in the Border Realms and was of a very prestigious background.

Right after that, Chen Hao left the Lin mansion and followed He Cheng, where they headed toward the Talisman Union.

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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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He Cheng brought Chen Hao into the Talisman Guild's premise. Upon entering the lobby, they saw a man dressed in the same attire as He Cheng coming their way, who was accompanied by a young man next to him.

"Master He Cheng, it seems you have finally taken an apprentice as well," said the man as he greeted He Cheng with a grin.

This man was Gao Lie, a Second-Level Talisman Master of the Talisman Guild like He Cheng. Although both of them learned talisman crafting in the guild at about the same time, Gao Lie had taken in an apprentice much earlier than He Cheng.

"Hehe, where are you going, Master Gao Lie?" asked He Cheng with a faint smile.

"Master He Cheng, My apprentice has crafted Medium Tier Talismans successfully. I am taking him to see Grandmaster to grant my apprentice the title of First-Level Talisman Maker!" explained Gao Lie while staring complacently at He Cheng.

The Talisman Guild's members were

ranked into four classes according to their skills: Talisman Maker, Talisman Artist, Talisman Master, and the Grandmaster. One must gain his mentor's approval to attain the title of Talisman Maker, which would establish his membership as well as standing in the Talisman Guild.

Gao Lie was so excited and proud of himself for this reason. He had taken an apprentice a long time ago, whereas He Cheng, who had not found an ideal apprentice, lagged far behind him. Now his apprentice was going to complete his apprenticeship with the title of Talisman Maker, whereas He Cheng had just taken an apprentice very recently. Because of that, Gao Lie looked down on He Cheng; he thought He Cheng was inferior to him.

"Congratulations to you then, Master Gao Lie, but my apprentice will soon attain the title of First-Level Talisman Maker as well!" replied He Cheng, his firm voice full of confidence in Chen Hao, who was standing beside him. He Cheng refused to show the white feather, for he considered Chen Hao to be more talented than Gao Lie's apprentice and thus, would surely be able to outdo the latter. "Great then! I shall be looking forward to that day. Let's have a competition and see whose apprentice is greater by then!" Gao Lie challenged He Cheng in advance.

"Sure!" said He Cheng in agreement as he accepted Gao Lie's challenge without a flinch.

Gao Lie then left with his apprentice.

After Gao Lie had left, Chen Hao asked He Cheng curiously, "Master, why are you so confident in me?"

He Cheng gave him a smile of understanding before he explained, "That is because I am sure that you can do it. You will be a great Talisman Master with your incredible talent."

His unreserved compliment made Chen Hao slightly embarrassed.

He Cheng was having great expectations and confidence in him even before he began his apprenticeship. Therefore, he must work hard and never let He Cheng down, or else He Cheng would lose face in the Talisman Guild because of him. Chen Hao made up his mind to outdo Gao Lie's apprentice as well, for he did not want to bring shame upon He Cheng.

After that, He Cheng helped Chen Hao register as a member of the Talisman Guild and pinned the membership badge on Chen Hao's chest himself.

Upon seeing the glittering badge on his chest, Chen Hao was overwhelmed with emotions. At last, he was a member of Talisman Guild, as well as He Cheng's apprentice; he could now begin learning how to craft Mystique Talismans!

"Chen Hao, you'll be staying in my place for the next few days while I start by teaching you the basic principles and calligraphy techniques for crafting Mystique Talismans," instructed He Cheng earnestly while staring at Chen Hao. Then, he advised sincerely, "Although you possess great talent, some knowledge has to be acquired. Talent is only a starting point, and you still have a lot to learn. Do not be complacent, alright?"

"Sure, I understand that, Master He Cheng. I will follow your teachings diligently and work hard to learn crafting Mystique Talismans so that you'll be proud of me!" answered Chen Hao with a determined expression and a nod to He Cheng.

He would certainly not disappoint He Cheng because the latter was expecting a lot from him.

After that, He Cheng took Chen Hao back to his residence and began teaching Chen Hao how to craft Mystique Talismans.

A few days had gone by in the blink of an eye as time flew.

Over the past few days when Chen Hao was staying in He Cheng's residence, Zhou Nuo had called on him several times to check on his well-being.

On this day, Chen Hao was sitting alone practising in the garden.

After a few days of learning, Chen Hao had mastered completely the basic principles and calligraphy techniques for crafting Mystique Talismans.

His performance amazed He Cheng, who felt he indeed had chosen the right apprentice. Chen Hao was incredibly talented, for it took him just a few days to be capable of crafting Medium Tier Talismans of high quality with ease, which astonished He Cheng greatly.

Come to think of it, he never had such talent as Chen Hao's back when he was learning how to craft Mystique Talismans, for he did not progress any further than crafting Medium Tier Talismans of average quality at the time.

It was true that talents could be nurtured, while the genius could only be created. Chen Hao was a real genius; it took only a little teaching for him to grasp the gist instinctively and come up with some wonderful surprises.

Now Chen Hao was drawing quickly on the talisman paper in front of him using an ink brush. He was drawing the pattern of a golden dragon, which he found in an ancient book on Mystique Talismans and decided to give it a try as he found the pattern mysterious as well as challenging.

The ancient book was given to him by He Cheng for learning purposes. Chen Hao had mastered most of the patterns in the book except for the ones of Perfect Tier, with the golden dragon pattern being one

## of them.

Chen Hao had heard since a long time ago that crafting the Perfect Tier Mystique Talismans was the hardest, for the skills and calligraphy technique required were extremely fine and unusual. Because of that, no one was able to craft any Perfect Tier Mystique Talismans even now.

However, Chen Hao did not believe in such nonsense, for he believed that every challenge in this world could be overcome as long as one found the solution to it.

## Ding!

At the end of the first attempt, Chen Hao threw the completed Mystique Talisman with the golden dragon pattern in his hand into the air.

The talisman instantly dissolved into a golden glow before vanishing into the distance. With that, his first attempt failed.

But, Chen Hao wasn't discouraged. "That shouldn't be the result. My calligraphy technique must be wrong. Let's try it again!" He immediately analyzed the problem and started drawing again. After a few minutes, the drawing was done, and he threw the talisman into the air again.

This time, the talisman dissolved into a golden glow before disappearing as well, but the golden glow had a hint of silver in it, which was a significant improvement than the first time.

The result made Chen Hao grow in confidence, as he felt he was improving constantly and would surely succeed as long as he kept trying. With that thought in mind, he began drawing the pattern for the third time.

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For his third attempt, Chen Hao switched his calligraphy technique again.

In fact, he found the calligraphy of the golden dragon pattern baffling, for the Perfect Tier Mystique Talisman must be drawn with precise technique and order, and any other approaches to drawing the pattern would yield extremely diverse results.

It took him another few minutes to draw the third talisman.

He improved a lot this time; a silver dragon, enveloped in a golden luster, gushed out of the talisman and circled around him. Although he had not succeeded in drawing a Perfect Tier Mystique Talisman yet, he managed to draw an Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman.

It was precisely at this moment that He Cheng returned home from his duties. Upon entering the back garden, he asked, "How are you doing with your practice, Chen Hao?"

Just a second later, his eyes had widened at the sight of the scene and his

expression was filled with awe that was quickly overpowered by astonishment.

Staring at the silver dragon, he quickly stepped forward and exclaimed, "That's a Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman!"

With that, the silver dragon disappeared before Chen Hao and his eyes, as the Mystique Talisman had reached its time limit.

The effects of each Mystique Talisman would last for only about dozens of seconds to one or two minutes at most. As soon as the time was up, the talisman's effects would disappear.

It took a long while before He Cheng eventually recovered himself. He stared at Chen Hao and asked, "That… Chen Hao, did you craft that talisman on your own?"

Chen Hao answered with a slight nod, "You are right, Master. I made that myself."

"How did you manage to draw an Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman? Did you happen to know the calligraphy techniques for crafting Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talismans?" He Cheng asked Chen Hao in surprise and bewilderment.

It was impossible for beginners to master the calligraphy technique for drawing Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talismans in such a short time, let alone crafting it successfully; one would have to master each preceding step before doing so. Yet now, Chen Hao had directly crafted an Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman. What an astonishing feat!

"Master, all I did was to practise constantly and alter my calligraphy technique again and again before I succeeded," explained Chen Hao to He Cheng modestly.

He Cheng glanced at the used talisman papers all over the ground and realized Chen Hao was indeed telling the truth. These used talisman papers and the Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman just now were clearly the result of Chen Hao's hard work.

He Cheng could no longer contain his excitement. "Come, follow me to the Hall of Grandmasters. I must take you to see the Grandmaster now!" he said while grabbing Chen Hao's arm immediately and pulled him toward the direction of the Hall of Grandmasters.

The Hall of Grandmasters was where Gu Chou, the president of the Talisman Guild as well as the Grandmaster of the Hall of Talismans, resided. He Cheng couldn't wait to share this incredible news with Grandmaster Gu Chou so that the latter would grant Chen Hao the title of First-Level Talisman Maker!

Soon, He Cheng led Chen Hao to the entrance to the Hall of Grandmasters, where they ran into Gao Lie and his apprentice, Jiang Nan.

"Hey, Master He Cheng! Are you also here to look for Grandmaster?" asked Gao Lie with a snicker upon seeing He Cheng.

"What brings you here as well, Master Gao Lie? Hasn't your apprentice already gotten the title of First-Level Talisman Maker?" asked He Cheng flatly while wondering why he would run into this guy wherever he went.

He Cheng found Gao Lie a troublesome presence whenever the latter was around, because Gao Lie always liked opposing him. Besides, Gao Lie often mocked him while blowing his own trumpet, which was extremely annoying.

"My apprentice hasn't gotten his title yet because the Grandmaster has been cultivating in seclusion in the past few days. That's why I hurried here after hearing that Grandmaster has ended his seclusion today," explained Gao Lie to He Cheng. Then, he asked He Cheng doubtfully, "Master He Cheng, are you bringing your apprentice here to obtain a title as well?"

"That's right. My apprentice is incredibly talented and has made rapid progress, so I brought him here to obtain a title," said He Cheng confidently to Gao Lie in response.

His reply instantly took Gao Lie by surprise. It was only a few days since He Cheng had taken in his apprentice, yet now his apprentice was going to attain a title? Wouldn't that be too fast? Gao Lie couldn't believe He Cheng's words, for his own apprentice took over a month to be eligible to receive his title.

"Master He Cheng, obtaining a title is not a trivial matter to be joked about. Are you sure your apprentice is eligible for that?" reminded Gao Lie while staring at He Cheng suspiciously.

He Cheng could tell the hidden meaning behind Gao Lie's words. Obviously, Gao Lie refused to believe him.

He thought to himself, *It would be a joke to say Chen Hao is ineligible for a title. After all, he had taught himself in crafting a Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman successfully without anyone teaching him. How could he be ineligible for a title with such talent and ability?* 

But, of course, He Cheng would not disclose Chen Hao's true progress.

"Hehe, of course I know that, but I'm sure my apprentice won't let me down!" replied He Cheng to Gao Lie with a chuckle.

Gao Lie couldn't help sneering and mocking inwardly at He Cheng's words. In that case, he would be interested in seeing how He Cheng would make a fool out of himself later on, since he couldn't believe He Cheng's apprentice could be eligible for a title in such a short period.

After a while, the door to the Hall of

Grandmasters opened, and He Cheng and Gao Lie brought their apprentices into the hall.

Inside the hall sat an elder who was wearing a dragon robe with gold embroidery—he was Gu Chou, the Grandmaster of the Hall of Talismans.

"He Cheng, Gao Lie, what brings both of you here?" asked Gu Chou slowly upon seeing He Cheng and Gao Lie coming.

"Grandmaster, I've brought my apprentice here to report to you on his progress as well as to obtain the title of First-Level Talisman Maker for him," Gao Lie answered Gu Chou first before He Cheng could even open his mouth.

"Oh? In that case, of what quality is the Mystique Talismans that your apprentice has made?" asked Gu Chou again.

One must gain Grandmaster Gu Chou's approval to attain the title of First-Level Talisman Maker.

"Grandmaster, my apprentice, Jiang Nan, is now capable of crafting Medium Tier Mystique Talismans of high quality!" answered Gao Lie immediately with unconcealed pride written all over his face.

"Hmm. Medium Tier Talismans of high quality? That's not bad. Your apprentice indeed possesses some talent. Alright, I shall grant your apprentice the title of First-Level Talisman Maker. You may go to the Hall of Talismans to register the title yourself," said Gu Chou with a nod of satisfaction upon hearing Gao Lie's words.

In fact, Medium Tier Mystique Talismans of high quality were the best achievements that a First-Level Talisman Maker could make.

"Thank you, Grandmaster!" Gao Lie immediately led his apprentice, Jiang Nan, to thank Grandmaster Gu Chou.

Then, Gu Chou turned to He Cheng, who was standing aside, and asked, "How about you, He Cheng? Are you bringing your apprentice here to obtain a title for him as well?"

"Yes, Grandmaster. My apprentice is Chen Hao, and he can now craft High Tier Mystique Talismans!" said He Cheng to Gu Chou immediately. Chapter 827 The Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman

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Gao Lie and Jiang Nan, who were about to leave, stopped at once upon hearing He Cheng's words.

Gao Lie immediately turned around and stared at He Cheng in disbelief. Unwilling to believe He Cheng's words, he asked the latter suspiciously, "What did you say? Did you say that your apprentice could craft a High Tier Mystique Talisman?"

How could He Cheng's apprentice be capable of crafting High Tier Mystique Talisman after having been learning for just a few days? Gao Lie could not believe that was possible, for his apprentice took a whole month to succeed in crafting Medium Tier Mystique Talismans.

However, Gao Lie's apprentice's lack of capability did not mean that Chen Hao was incapable as well.

"He Cheng, how long has your apprentice been learning from you?" Gu Chou asked He Cheng.

"Five days, Grandmaster," answered He Cheng honestly.

"That's impossible!" Gao Lie snapped

before Gu Chou could speak. He refused to believe He Cheng's words at all as he shouted at Gu Chou angrily, "That's absolutely impossible, Grandmaster. He Cheng must be lying! How could his apprentice be capable of crafting High Tier Mystique Talismans after having been learning for just five days?"

He Cheng couldn't help knitting his brows; he turned to look at Gao Lie with a grim face. "Master Gao Lie, your apprentice's incapability doesn't mean that my apprentice is incapable as well. Didn't I tell you that my apprentice has incredible talent?"

He Cheng would never allow Gao Lie to question Chen Hao's capability, for that would be equal to questioning his own capability as well. Besides, Chen Hao indeed possessed the capability, since he had seen that himself. Otherwise, why on Earth would he come all the way here to see Grandmaster?

"Shut up for now, Gao Lie!" commanded Gu Chou with a grim face.

Gao Lie dared not speak again at Gu Chou's words; he shut up and went silent. Gu Chou then reminded He Cheng, "He Cheng, do you know the consequences awaiting you if you lie?" He hoped He Cheng would think carefully before making the decision, for some matters weren't to be joked about and there was still a chance to take back what he had said.

"Grandmaster, I, He Cheng, never lied. My apprentice indeed possesses the talent!" He Cheng answered Gu Chou steadfastly.

"Alright then. In that case, I shall test your apprentice's capability myself. If he is indeed talented as you said, then I can grant him the title of First-Level Talisman Master!"

Then, Gu Chou suggested a test method to He Cheng.

Upon listening to Gu Chou's suggestion, He Cheng turned to look at Chen Hao, who was standing calmly behind him without any sign of nervousness.

"Are you ready, Chen Hao?" asked He Cheng while looking at Chen Hao.

Chen Hao nodded and agreed to take the test.

Upon seeing Chen Hao's response, He Cheng felt reassured; he believed that Chen Hao would absolutely pass the test.

Then, he stepped back to the side along with Gao Lie and Jiang Nan, whereas Gu Chou prepared talisman papers and an ink brush before putting them down in front of Chen Hao.

"My test is simple. You will pass the test if you can draw a High Tier Mystique Talisman at will," said Gu Chou as he explained to Chen Hao the rules of the test. Then, he reminded Chen Hao, "If you can't do that, I'll take it that your master is lying, and both of you will be stripped of your memberships and be banished from the Talisman Guild!"

"I understand that, Grandmaster. I will prove it to you!" said Chen Hao in agreement without any hesitation.

"Alright. You can begin now," said Gu Chou while signaling Chen Hao to begin with a nod.

With that, Chen Hao immediately took the ink brush before him and started drawing on the talisman paper.

Chen Hao tried to recreate the pattern from his memory. He was determined to give Gu Chou, as well as Gao Lie and his apprentice, a huge slap in the face while making his master, He Cheng, proud in front of them.

Therefore, Chen Hao was not drawing a High Tier Mystique Talisman. Instead, he was drawing the golden dragon pattern that he had successfully drawn today—an Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman that was a level higher than that of the High Tier ones.

However, he was uncertain if he could draw the talisman successfully again, for he only succeeded in drawing the pattern by chance after multiple tries. So, Chen Hao knew he must take the plunge this time.

In fact, crafting a High Tier Mystique Talisman was a snap for Chen Hao, since he could draw it with ease. But, he knew he couldn't prove it in an easy way; he must astonish the others if he wanted to prove his capability.

After a few minutes, Chen Hao finished drawing the Mystique Talisman. He threw

the talisman in his hand into the air, but it instantly turned into a golden glow and vanished.

He failed!

He Cheng was dumbfounded at the scene.

Gu Chou frowned slightly as well, and his face turned grim.

Gao Lie immediately took the opportunity to rub it in. "I told you so, Grandmaster. He Cheng and his apprentice must have been exaggerating!" he shouted at Gu Chou as he stepped forward.

Chen Hao's face was extremely grave, for he knew the consequences awaiting him and He Cheng if he did not succeed.

He immediately pleaded with Gu Chou, "Grandmaster, please give me another chance! I made a mistake while drawing just now because I was too nervous."

"No means no! There's no use even if you're given another chance," said Gao Lie angrily to Chen Hao upon hearing the latter's words. Then, he suggested to Gu Chou, "Grandmaster, you must punish He Cheng and his apprentice severely!"

Gu Chou was absorbed in deep thought. In fact, he had a rough idea about the pattern and the calligraphy that Chen Hao wanted to draw just now. Besides, that golden glow just now looked somewhat extraordinary to him.

After a long silence, he agreed to give Chen Hao another chance, saying, "Alright, I will give you another chance."

Chen Hao and He Cheng were delighted at his words. Gao Lie, though, was infuriated; he could not understand why Gu Chou would make such a decision.

Chen Hao began drawing again after that.

He knew he must make it this time, or else both He Cheng and him would be done for.

This time, he did not hurry to set his brush. Instead, he kept his eyes shut while recalling from his memory every detail of the calligraphy pattern he had drawn on this day.

"Forget it if you can't. Don't waste our time!" mocked Gao Lie with a snort when Chapter 828 The Test

he saw Chen Hao not moving his brush for a long time.

Just then, Chen Hao suddenly opened his eyes and began drawing quickly on the talisman paper.

The calligraphy of his brush strokes seemed extremely unworldly. Just then, Gu Chou, who was sitting above Chen Hao and the rest, saw Chen Hao's calligraphy and looked surprised.

A thought occurred to Gu Chou, as the calligraphy and the pattern Chen Hao was drawing looked familiar to him.*Could this be...* 

In the next second, Chen Hao finished drawing the talisman; he instantly put his brush down and threw the talisman out.

In an instant, a dazzling golden beam emanated from the talisman and brightened the entire Hall of Grandmasters. Then, a golden dragon gushed out of the golden beam and circled around Chen Hao!





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"The Perfect Tier Mystique Talisman!" exclaimed He Cheng immediately upon witnessing the scene.

The scene before their eyes was extraordinarily breathtaking—like a propitious omen, a beam of golden light emanated from the golden dragon, followed by a thin veil of white mist that circled around it.

Chen Hao had succeeded in crafting a Perfect Tier Mystique Talisman!

"How... How could this be?!" shouted Gao Lie, who was standing aside with his eyes widened. He could not believe what he saw.

However, it wouldn't make any difference even if he refused to believe it, for the truth now stood before him.

Gu Chou was greatly astonished as well. He never expected Chen Hao to be capable of crafting a Perfect Tier Mystique Talisman, since even he himself was incapable of crafting such a Mystique Talisman at all!

"H-How did you do that?" he immediately

asked Chen Hao.

"Grandmaster, all I did was to keep practicing and learning from trials and errors. I had successfully crafted an Extraordinary Tier Mystique Talisman with a golden dragon pattern before I came," answered Chen Hao to Gu Chou immediately.

Gu Chou nodded his head in satisfaction upon hearing Chen Hao's answer. Then, he praised He Cheng, "He Cheng, your apprentice is indeed incredibly talented. I hereby declare him a First-Level Talisman Master of the Hall of Talismans from now onward!" With that, he granted Chen Hao the title of First-Level Talisman Master, which meant that Chen Hao was now eligible to be a mentor and take apprentices. Such an honor was extremely valuable, for a First-Level Talisman Master of the Hall of Talismans was an identity that symbolized high standing within the entire Border Realm.

Gu Chou's announcement, however, was of course met with an outright rebuff from Gao Lie, who immediately stepped forward as he said, "Grandmaster! How could y—" Gu Chou, though, knew Gao Lie's intentions from the start; he stopped Gao Lie before the latter could finish his sentence. "Gao Lie, I know what you intend to say, but the matter has been decided. Alright, all of you may leave now, since I have something else to attend to!"

His words left no room for argument. Having no other choice, Gao Lie could only give up and leave with Jiang Nan while keeping his resentment burning deep within.

His response filled both He Cheng and Chen Hao with immense joy, for they thought Gao Lie overplayed his hand and ended up shooting himself in the foot.

As soon as they left the Hall of Talismans, He Cheng praised Chen Hao with a smile and said, "Chen Hao, now that you have become a mentor of the Hall of Talismans, you'll have to walk your own path from now."

"Master, you are always my master even if I have become a mentor myself," said Chen Hao while looking at He Cheng steadily. He found the saying 'even if someone is your teacher for only a day, you should regard him like your father for the rest of your life' especially true; he would never gain such an achievement if it weren't for He Cheng taking him in as an apprentice.

Upon hearing Chen Hao's words, He Cheng was touched beyond words. His heart was filled with warmth, knowing he indeed had taken in a good apprentice.

Soon, He Cheng led Chen Hao to the Hall of Talismans to register his title and get the membership badge for First-Level Talisman Master. With that, Chen Hao's status as a mentor of the Hall of Talismans was established.

Chen Hao paid a visit to the Zhou Family after that.

He wondered what Zhou Nuo was doing these days, as he had never seen her since the last time she called on him.

Since he was now a frequent guest of the Zhou Family, no one stopped him anymore from entering the Zhou Family residence.

As soon as he entered the main house, he saw Zhou Yunshan and his butler seated

inside in the midst of a conversation.

He entered and greeted Zhou Yunshan respectfully by saying, "Good evening, Master Zhou."

Zhou Yunshan instantly cracked a cheerful smile upon seeing Chen Hao. "Hey, it's you, Chen Hao! Come and have a seat. How are you doing with your apprenticeship under Master He Cheng?" he asked Chen Hao caringly.

Before Chen Hao could answer, he noticed the badge for the First-Level Talisman Master on Chen Hao's chest. He immediately exclaimed, "Wow, that's the badge for a First-Level Talisman Master! Are you a mentor now?"

Zhou Yunshan could surely recognize the badge, since He Cheng wore the badge for Second-Level Talisman Master himself.

"That's right, Master Zhou. Anyway, I have to thank you for giving me such a great chance to become Master He Cheng's apprentice. Otherwise, I wouldn't be able to achieve what I have achieved today," said Chen Hao as he thanked Zhou Yunshan since he was always a grateful person. "Haha! It's no bother at all since you've achieved such a result through your own hard work," said Zhou Yunshan with a laugh and a wave of his hand. Even so, he was truly happy upon seeing Chen Hao gaining such an achievement, for it at least made him feel he had indeed helped the right person.

Then, Chen Hao asked Zhou Yunshan curiously, "By the way, Master Zhou, why isn't Zhou Nuo around?"

Zhou Nuo was always accompanying Zhou Yunshan, but she was absent today, which made Chen Hao curious.

"Nuo? She has been out these few days. She said she's joining an expedition to look for the Thousand Years Ginseng at the Border Realm's Spiritual Mountain," explained Zhou Yunshan immediately to answer Chen Hao's question.

"Thousand Years Ginseng? What is that?" Chen Hao sounded doubtful.

"It's a precious ancient herb that is even more valuable than ginseng because it grows only once in a thousand years," explained Zhou Yunshan. His answer piqued Chen Hao's curiosity, though Chen Hao still wondered why Zhou Nuo would be interested in an ancient herb while not telling him a word about it. Could there be a hidden secret behind it?

Just then, a servant entered the main house hastily from the entrance and cried out to Zhou Yunshan, "Master, Master!"

"What's the matter? Why are you so anxious?" asked Zhou Yunshan with a slight frown.

The servant immediately told Zhou Yunshan what he had just heard as he stuttered, "Miss... Miss and the others are in danger at the Spiritual Mountain! I just heard outside that a massive avalanche happened at the Spiritual Mountain. Many ice blocks had rolled down the mountain, and they are in imminent danger!"

Zhou Yunshan was thunderstruck at the servant's words. "You... You mustn't talk nonsense!" he said to the servant in disbelief. It was only reasonable for him to refuse to take in this bad news at once, since his daughter had just left for no more than two days. The moment he said that, a group of armored soldiers walked through the entrance of the Zhou Family's residence and entered the residence immediately. They were headed by a man in a black military uniform.

"Good evening, Master Zhou. I am Wang Peng, the chief of the Border Realm's Guards. I am here today for the accident that befell your daughter and the expedition team at the Spiritual Mountain," said Wang Peng while looking at Zhou Yunshan with a solemn expression as he walked toward the latter.

Only then did Zhou Yunshan know the servant was telling the truth about his daughter meeting an accident. He nearly collapsed at once; had his butler and his servant not supported him in time, he would have passed out instantly.

Chen Hao, who was looking on, also put on an extremely grave expression. He immediately turned around and left the Zhou Family residence, since he knew he must go to the Spiritual Mountain to rescue Zhou Nuo himself.

As soon as he left the Zhou Family
residence, he headed toward the downtown of the Underground Capital. Of course he needed to buy some equipment and supplies before leaving for the Spiritual Mountain; otherwise, going there alone and unprepared would only spell a certain death for him.



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After an hour's worth or so of preparations, Chen Hao was ready to go. When he returned to the Zhou family, Zhou Yunshan was already preparing to leave with Wang Peng and the others for the nearest campsite from Spiritual Mountain. Zhou Yunshan seemed surprised to see Chen Hao coming back, since he assumed that Chen Hao was washing his hands of the whole matter. Now that he saw Chen Hao packed and ready to go, he understood that Chen Hao had actually left to make preparations.

"Master Zhou, allow me to come and rescue Zhou Nuo too!" Chen Hao said firmly as he looked Zhou Yunshan in the eye. He may not be in a romantic relationship with Zhou Nuo, but he still considered her a good friend and now that she was in danger, of course Chen Hao would personally go and rescue her instead of standing by.

"Chen Hao—"

"Master Zhou, Zhou Nuo is my good friend and I won't leave her like this!" Chen Hao interrupted just when Zhou Yunshan was about to say something in reply. Zhou Yunshan was touched by Chen Hao's words and thought that his daughter had chosen the right friend. Since Chen Hao was clearly determined to go, Zhou Yunshan let him.

"Team Leader Wang, can he join us for this rescue mission?" Zhou Yunshan asked Wang Peng.

Wang Peng took one look at Chen Hao, hesitated for a while, then nodded. "Alright!"

"Thank you, Team Leader Wang!" Chen Hao immediately thanked him. He'd expected Wang Peng to reject him, but that did not seem to be the case. Before long, all of them had arrived at the makeshift campsite they set up several miles away from Spiritual Mountain. Since Spiritual Mountain had bad weather and environment, the rescue team was unable to climb it and had to set up a campsite further away for safety reasons.

At the campsite, a team of people were crowded around a table as they discussed rescue strategies. "Come, let me introduce you. This is the expert polar explorer, Ling Qun!" "This is our medical expert, Wu Ke!"

"And this is our geology expert, Lu Ming!" Wang Peng introduced Chen Hao to all of them one by one.

"This is Chen Hao. He'll be coming with us on the rescue team too!" Wang Peng introduced the rest to Chen Hao, who then interacted with the others for a bit.

"May I ask what skills you have, Chen Hao? Climbing up the Spiritual Mountain will be a difficult journey, after all," Ling Qun asked Chen Hao immediately.

"Nothing at all!" Chen Hao answered casually, causing the others to frown and become displeased.

"Mr. Chen, if you don't know anything, then I suggest you back out of this rescue mission. We have neither the manpower nor the energy to watch your back!" Ling Qun immediately told Chen Hao in a condescending tone. Most of the people on this rescue team were professionals, so naturally, they didn't want someone with no skill sets joining.

Chen Hao couldn't help but frown at Ling

Qun's words, since he didn't expect them to look down on him so much. "Relax. I'll watch my own back. You guys watch yours!" Chen Hao shot back without hesitation, then turned to walk out and sit on a patch of deserted land to check his equipment.

Ling Qun and the others didn't pay any more attention to him. Now that he'd reassured them he'd be fine, they didn't have to waste time on him anymore. With Spiritual Mountain's height of several thousand feet tall, ever-decreasing air pressure and hostile environment with heavy snowfall, the journey would be dangerous. In fact, it was no exaggeration to call their rescue mission a suicide mission.

"Everyone, the winds on Spiritual Mountain will reach Class 6 speeds tonight and there'll be a snowstorm, so we'll have to leave at 7 am tomorrow. I hope you all can get some rest and save your energy for tomorrow!" Wang Peng quickly instructed. However, this night seemed to be one of those sleepless nights and as the night went on, Chen Hao could only take cat naps while resting his head against his backpack. Just then, a small noise reached Chen Hao's ears and he immediately opened his eyes to look at Ling Qun's tent. Two figures were sneaking out of it and by the looks of it, they were trying not to get caught. Despite the darkness, Chen Hao could see their faces and those two were none other than Wu Ke and Lu Ming.

At the sight of this, Chen Hao couldn't help but snort. These two were criticizing him in the afternoon, but now they were trying to chicken out themselves? This is hilarious. After some thought, Chen Hao got up and silently approached them. Next thing they knew, Chen Hao was right beside them as he interrogated, "Where are you two going?"

Chen Hao's appearance almost scared the wits out of them and they fell to the ground in surprise. "W-Why are you out of bed and scaring us like this in the middle of the night?" Wu Ke asked shakily and angrily.

"Ha! And how would I have noticed the two of you escaping if I were asleep?" Chen Hao scoffed, then smiled mockingly.

"Y-You better watch your mouth! We're just

out here to observe the weather!" Lu Ming and Wu Ke exchanged worried glances before they retorted; it was a textbook case of lying through the skin of their teeth.

Just then, the lights around them came on with a loud smack and Wang Peng emerged from the tent with Ling Qun and the others, clearly startled awake by Chen Hao's squabbling with the others. "What's going on here?" Wang Peng demanded from the three of them when he walked toward them.

"Team Leader Wang, it seems that you failed to post some guards around here. These two were about to chicken out when I caught them red-handed!" Chen Hao said amusedly without holding back, causing Wang Peng's face to fall immediately.

Suddenly, a figure charged forth and seized Wu Ke and Lu Ming by their collars. It was Ling Qun and he was glaring at them furiously. "You cowards! How dare you desert the team? You two are in for it now!" he roared. He was just about to hit them when Wang Peng and the others managed to stop him in time, otherwise Ling Qun would have torn them to shreds for doing so; no one could expect what Ling Qun would have done next.

"Be honest, you two. What's going on?" Wang Peng stopped Ling Qun, then coldly demanded answers from Wu Ke and Lu Ming.



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"Team Leader Wang, w-we're just two commoners, we're scared of death too..." Wu Ke lowered his head and stuttered softly, unable to look Wang Peng in the eye.

"Why, you!" Ling Qun raged upon hearing the reply.

"Then should I sympathize with you two for deserting the team just because you fear death?" Chen Hao added fuel to the fire because to be honest, he did not like the two of them at all. Hearing Chen Hao's words, the duo became even more ashamed and bowed their heads with red faces.

"Team Leader Wang, we should arrest people like them!" Ling Qun suggested to Wang Peng angrily.

Wang Peng took one look at Ling Qun and said simply, "Forget it. They're just scared of death. That doesn't make them criminals!" Since Lu Ming and Wu Ke didn't commit any crimes, there was no need or reason to arrest them.

"Alright, if you two are so scared of dying, then leave!" Wang Peng said coldly, not wanting to force them. Then, he left Wu Ke and Lu Ming behind as the others followed him. He chose to let them go because it was easier to let them leave, rather than let them become cowardly burdens to the team. This way, they wouldn't slow the team down unnecessarily.

"Thank you, Team Leader Wang. Thank you!" The two deserters immediately knelt down and kowtowed when they realized they were being dismissed. Ling Qun shot them a glare, scoffed and turned to go back inside the tent. Similarly, Chen Hao paid no attention to them and followed Ling Qun inside after taking his own backpack.

"I didn't think they'd be so cowardly. God, I'm so frustrated!" Ling Qun started raging when Chen Hao entered.

Chen Hao chuckled in response. "Heh, I actually know how they feel. They're inexperienced explorers, after all, so it's only natural that they feel afraid of such a risky mission," he explained to Ling Qun.

"Oh? Then what about you? Shouldn't you be like them?" Ling Qun asked Chen Hao confusedly because the way he saw it, Chen Hao was just like Wu Ke and Lu Ming. Sadly, his assumptions were wrong.

"I'm not like them. I'm a cultivator!" Chen Hao told Ling Qun his identity with confidence.

"You're a cultivator?!" Ling Qun immediately looked Chen Hao up and down with surprise.

"Yeap. One of the members in that exploration team is a good friend of mine, so I'm saving her even if it's the last thing I do!" Chen Hao said with a determined gaze.

Ling Qun nodded with satisfaction, then stuck out a hand. "I apologize for my previously bad attitude. I do hope we can cooperate with each other during this mission!" Ling Qun took the initiative and apologized. Chen Hao was not the type to hold a grudge and he thought that Ling Qun was a good man with courage and a daring soul—all befitting a professional explorer.

"Let's do a formal introduction, then. I'm Chen Hao!" Chen Hao shook Ling Qun's hand with a smile. "And I'm Ling Qun!" Ling Qun also replied with a smile. After that, the two of them laid down and started chatting cheerfully, only drifting off to sleep at around 3 am.

The next day, the whole team assembled at 7 am and headed for Spiritual Mountain.

The team consisted of 15 members, with Ling Qun walking up front as the leader and Chen Hao following closely behind, while Wang Peng and the others brought up the rear. Along the way, the weather seemed fine around Spiritual Mountain and wasn't particularly bad, so the team made good progress. However, as they made their ascent, the temperature dropped and the air pressure decreased. So, Wang Peng and his team had to take out their oxygen masks and hand one to Chen Hao.

"Thanks but no thanks, Team Leader Wang!" Chen Hao politely refused and did not put on the oxygen mask; this sort of air pressure was nothing to him. Ling Qun was similarly unaffected, since the latter was experienced enough in exploring that he was used to low atmospheric pressures. As such, neither of them needed the masks to breathe. "Chen Hao, are you sure you don't want a mask? The air pressure will only go down the higher we go, and I'm not sure if you can handle the air getting thinner!" Ling Qun turned to look at Chen Hao, then reminded him worriedly.

Chen Hao shook his head and replied, "I'm alright, don't worry!" Truth be told, it was true that Chen Hao didn't need a mask because his vital energy was constantly helping his body compensate, so Chen Hao was immune to the cold in addition to being able to breathe.

Upon hearing that, Ling Qun did not probe any further. Instead, he gained more respect for Chen Hao and felt that he was a unique man. Before long, the rescue team reached their designated rest stop after three hours of climbing. "We're now approximately 900-meter above sea level on Spiritual Mountain and according to our calculations, the exploration team disappeared around the 3000-meter level. So we've still got about two-thirds of the way to go!" After a short break, Wang Peng relayed their location to the team.

"Team Leader Wang, we must get there before the weather gets worse. Once that happens, we won't be able to move forward at all and that's assuming the weather doesn't get worse than we thought!" Ling Qun reminded Wang Peng. With 2100 meters to go, the distance was actually further than it looked since it took three whole hours for them to advance 900 meters, and they weren't even halfway there. As if things weren't bad enough, Spiritual Mountain's terrain only became rougher at taller heights, and there would be more steep cliffs that could be fatal if anyone accidentally fell off.

After a short break, the team set off once more. A while later, they bumped into an obstacle when the path ended—this meant that they had to scale the steep cliff in front of them. As Chen Hao gazed into the hundred-meter abyss below, he was truly terrified. However, the cliff was their only way forward, and they had no other choice since turning back to look for another way would waste too much time and energy.

Luckily, this sort of cliff was easy to climb for a seasoned explorer like Ling Qun, so he simply took out a grappling hook and tossed it upward before snagging it firmly on a rock and climbing up effortlessly.



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To Chen Hao, the cliff was no problem either and he simply leapt several meters to the top of the cliff. The others were shocked by the sight of it, since they knew Chen Hao was a cultivator but did not expect him to be such a good jumper. Meanwhile, Wang Peng and the rest had no choice but to climb up using Ling Qun's rope.

Just then, there was the sound of loud rumbling thunder and after that, the skies clouded over as quickly as the thunder came—this was a sure sign of Spirit Mountain's weather changing for the worse.

"Everyone, quickly!" Wang Peng shouted hastily, since he was the last one to climb up. After everyone reached the top, Wang Peng was the only one left and he climbed with everything he got. Unfortunately, disaster often strikes where it was least expected and the rope snapped due to friction, sending Wang Peng tumbling into the depths of the abyss.

"Team Leader Wang!" the team shouted. Upon noticing the situation, Chen Hao immediately took his own rope and tossed it downward, sending it toward Wang Peng and wrapping it around his body tightly.

"Help him!" Immediately, Ling Qun realized what Chen Hao was trying to do and rushed to his side. Together, the team grabbed the rope and pulled Wang Peng up. Wang Peng had been this close to falling to his death and he only got lucky because of Chen Hao's quick reflexes. Otherwise, the consequences would have been deadly.

"Whew!" Wang Peng slumped onto a rock and let out several relieved breaths, his back already drenched in cold sweat. He had been scared half to death, thinking that he was well and truly dead meat.

"Are you alright, Team Leader Wang?" Chen Hao squatted beside Wang Peng and asked concernedly.

Wang Peng shook his head and answered shakily, "I'm alright. Thank you, Chen Hao. I'd have died in there without you."

"Don't thank me. As your teammate, this is my duty!" Chen Hao smiled at him and answered modestly. At this point, it had started snowing heavily around them and a bone-chilling wind was howling loudly. "Oh no, we'd better find shelter first!" Ling Qun took one look at the weather and hastily reminded Chen Hao and the others. Once the weather changed on Spirit Mountain, they'd be unable to advance any further, so their only option was to find shelter and wait for the storm to pass first. Otherwise, it'd be a suicide mission. Since none of them were ready to take such risks, they had to find a suitable place to wait out the storm. And so, the team resumed their journey.

Shortly after, Ling Qun found a cliff with a large sheltered space underneath, then hollered for Chen Hao and Wang Peng seconds after he entered, "Look, there are signs that someone has been here!" As Chen Hao and Wang Peng entered, they could see a pile of burnt charcoal, which was a sure sign that someone had previously started a fire here.

"The explorer team must have stopped here before to seek shelter from the snow!" Wang Peng said after he stooped down to inspect the charcoal.

Then, he spoke up again upon closer inspection, "This charcoal is still new, so it can't be more than two days old!" Upon hearing this, Chen Hao and Ling Qun exchanged glances. This was a good sign because it meant the explorer's team did not get in trouble, but that was an assumption that needed more proof than a simple guess.

"Alright, we'll stop here and wait the storm out before we continue!" Ling Qun suggested, then put down his backpack. However, Chen Hao did not rest and started inspecting the walls around them.

After a while, Chen Hao called for Ling Qun and Wang Peng before pointing at the scuff marks he saw and presenting his analysis. "Mr. Ling, Team Leader Wang, I inspected our surroundings and it looks like there are no paths, so the only way out of here is up. See there? There are scuff marks here, so it looks like the explorer's team used a hook here and climbed up!"

After hearing Chen Hao's analysis, the two men nodded in agreement. "Then what's your plan, Chen Hao?" Wang Peng asked.

"I'm thinking of going up there with Mr. Ling to look around, while you stay here with the team and wait for updates. If we find the explorer's team, we'll turn back immediately to meet up with you!" Chen Hao immediately told them what he was thinking. After all, this place was not only steep but more than 10 meters high, so he was worried that the previous situation with Wang Peng would repeat itself.

"What do you think, Mr. Ling?" Wang Peng asked after hearing the plan.

"I agree with Chen Hao. Let the two of us head up!" Ling Qun naturally agreed with Chen Hao.

"Alright, since you agree, then let's do this!" Wang Peng agreed.

Immediately, Chen Hao and Ling Qun began preparing and met up at the wall after packing their things. "How are we going to get up there when it's so high?" Ling Qun took one look at the wall's height and turned to Chen Hao confusedly. After all, it would be difficult to scale a wall that was over 10 meters high, especially without any objects to boost their jump.

It might prove to be a problem to Ling Qun, but it wasn't a difficult thing for Chen Hao at all, so the latter smiled confidently and said, "Watch me, Mr. Ling!" With that, Chen Hao took out a talisman paper and a brush.

"You know how to make Mystique Talismans?" Wang Peng exclaimed the moment Chen Hao took out those two items. As someone who came from the Border Realm, of course he recognized what they were for.

Chen Hao did not reply. Instead, he started scribbling on the paper and tossed it out after a few seconds, which formed a golden ladder. "After you, Mr. Ling!" Chen Hao gestured to the ladder.

Ling Qun hastily recovered from his shock and climbed up the ladder. Meanwhile, Wang Peng and the others had already gone wide-eyed with surprise. They didn't expect Chen Hao to be a Talisman Master, much less one that knew how to make Mystique Talismans, and that only made them respect him even more. Wang Peng also finally understood why Chen Hao had joined the rescue team so confidently. In fact, it should have been their honor to have Chen Hao on the team because otherwise, they'd have ran into a lot more trouble.



After Ling Qun climbed up, Chen Hao followed suit and both of them said their goodbyes to Wang Peng and the others before they headed up Spirit Mountain. Although it was storming outside, Chen Hao and Ling Qun were shielded by the same wall they were scaling so they were unaffected by the storm at all. "What do you think are the chances of the explorer's team surviving, Chen Hao?" Ling Qun asked Chen Hao on their way up.

"I don't know, but I have a feeling they're still alive. It's just that they're trapped somewhere on Spirit Mountain!" Chen Hao said hopefully. He didn't want Zhou Nuo or her teammates to die, so of course he'd hope they were alive. "How far along are we, Mr. Ling?" Chen Hao asked.

"We're at the 2300-meter level, so that leaves us with 700 meters. At our current pace, it'll take at least two hours!" Ling Qun shouted after glancing at the location display on his watch. To them, 700 meters seemed so close, yet so far.

Just then, a loud boom resonated throughout the mountain and the earth itself started shaking.

"Oh no, it's an avalanche!" Ling Qun yelled, recognizing the signs instantly from experience. Chen Hao started looking around, but noticed they were in big trouble as they were surrounded by stone walls, and there weren't any places around to provide them shelter from the avalanche. This completely exposed them to the avalanche's impact, which would likely send them falling into the abyss and to their deaths.

"What do we do, Chen Hao? Isn't there anywhere we can hide?" Ling Qun asked worriedly. Even with his experience in risky adventures, he was still afraid of such a dangerous situation.

"Fear not, I have an idea!" Chen Hao reassured Ling Qun, then took out his talisman paper and brush again before hastily scribbling something on it and tossing the paper out. Instantly, a golden light enveloped the two of them just in time. In the blink of an eye, the avalanche turned their surroundings to darkness and buried them within seconds. Thanks to Chen Hao's Mystique Talisman, which had summoned a shield of golden light to protect them, they were spared from the avalanche. After waiting a while to make sure everything was quiet outside, Chen Hao dug them both out of the snow.

"Whew!" Ling Qun stuck his head out and breathed a sigh of relief. "Thank goodness you're here, Chen Hao. We'd have been done for otherwise!" he said a little shakily. Chen Hao simply replied with a smile, then followed Ling Qun up Spirit Mountain without a second word.

After another 30 minutes, the two of them arrived at the 3000-meter location a full half hour ahead of schedule. As they stood at the summit and looked down at the mountain from above, they could only see the mist that obscured everything below; there were no signs of the explorer's team around them either. "No sign of them. Do you think they ran into trouble here?" Ling Qun walked to Chen Hao's side, frowning.

Right then and there, Chen Hao closed his eyes and stood there while his godly senses started scanning the summit. However, his senses could only detect stuff within a range of a few dozen meters, 100 at best, and unfortunately, he found nothing within that range, let alone the presence of the exploration team. "Chen Hao, do you think the team moved on from here and headed up?" Ling Qun suddenly made a bold suggestion to Chen Hao, who turned to look at him and thought that it wasn't a far-fetched conclusion. If there was no sign of the team here, then surely it meant they had left?

"You're right, that's possible. Let's keep looking as we head upward!" Chen Hao immediately suggested to Ling Qun, who naturally followed Chen Hao's suggestion and kept moving upward. At this point, Ling Qun trusted him completely and felt that he would be safe so long as Chen Hao was around, considering he'd saved his life twice in a row now.

As the two trudged on through the wind and snow, they reached a cave that was pitch black inside at the 3500-meter mark, which immediately caught their attention. "How is there a cave here?" Ling Qun stood at the cave entrance, asking with a confused look.

"Why don't we go inside and find out?" Chen Hao took one look at Ling Qun and replied, then strode into the cave while Ling Qun followed. Both of them lit their path with torches in their hands, then advanced through the damp and eerily silent cave where only the sound of dripping water could be heard. After a while, Chen Hao and Ling Qun stopped in their tracks when they saw a grayishyellow light in the distance; not only did it seem to come from a fire, they could also see figures moving around.

Chen Hao and Ling Qun exchanged a look with each other, thinking they'd finally found the explorer's team, then quickly strode into the deep end to see a group of people leaning against the stone walls or lying on the floor, asleep from exhaustion. Yes, these people were the explorer's they'd been searching for and after scanning the group, Chen Hao saw a familiar face in the corner—Zhou Nuo's. "Zhou Nuo!" Chen Hao called out.

With that call, everyone on the team woke up and Zhou Nuo immediately turned around with tears in her eyes. "Chen Hao!" she called out, then practically ran into Chen Hao's arms. "What are you doing here?" she asked with surprised joy, clearly caught off guard by his presence.

"I heard your explorer's team went missing,

so I came here to look for you all on the rescue team!" Chen Hao explained simply.

"Did you come just for me?" Zhou Nuo looked deeply into Chen Hao's eyes and asked expectantly. Upon hearing that, Chen Hao smiled gently and gave a clear nod.



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Chen Hao's reply made Zhou Nuo's heart soar. She hadn't expected him to come save her at all, especially considering she never told him about her hike up Spiritual Mountain. Now that he was standing before her, she was quite emotional since this proved Chen Hao still cared about her. "How did you know?" Zhou Nuo asked him curiously.

"I went to your place and your father told me!" Chen Hao answered.

"But if you're here, then what about Master He Cheng? Wouldn't your Mystique Talisman studies be interrupted?" Zhou Nuo asked worriedly. Chen Hao had gone through so much trouble to become Master He Cheng's disciple, so she didn't want Chen Hao to lose his shot because of her.

"Hehe!" Chen Hao chuckled, then touched Zhou Nuo's head. "Relax. I've already graduated! See?" Chen Hao reassured her, then showed her the First Level Talisman Master's badge in his clothes.

"A First Level Talisman Master's badge! You became a Talisman Master this quickly? That's so cool!" Zhou Nuo exclaimed, her eyes lighting up when she saw the badge. In less than two weeks, Chen Hao had secured this badge and that in itself was a praiseworthy achievement.

"Oh, yeah. Your father said you were looking for some ancient medical herb called the Thousand Years Ginseng?" Chen Hao asked Zhou Nuo curiously.

Zhou Nuo nodded. "Yep. The Thousand Years Ginseng is something that only grows once a few thousand years on the Spiritual Mountain. We came here because we heard it'd grow around this time! We didn't find it, though. We even got unlucky enough to run into an avalanche, so it seems like fate itself doesn't want us to find the Ginseng!" She then sighed with resignation.

"Safety first!' Chen Hao pointedly reminded Zhou Nuo. "But do you know what the Ginseng looks like?" Chen Hao asked, as if he'd just remembered something.

"Of course I do!" Zhou Nuo answered immediately and quickly fished out a photo from her backpack before giving it to Chen Hao. It depicted a white, crystalline flower that seemed flawless and gave off the impression of extreme rarity; no wonder Zhou Nuo and the others were searching for it.

"What's this herb for?" Chen Hao asked. There must be a special effect of some sort beyond its rarity, because rarity in itself did not make it more valuable than the others. After all, everything has its use and innate value; it would be impossible for an item to gain such high value without having some sort of practical usage to it.

"Legend says that the Ginseng can be used to produce a pill called the Resurrection Pill that is capable of bringing people back from the dead!" Zhou Nuo whispered into Chen Hao's ear.

"Really?" Chen Hao said skeptically. He may be a cultivator now and the world was filled with all sorts of mysteries, but a pill with resurrection properties was still a bit hard to believe since even cultivators lacked the ability to do that. Meanwhile, Zhou Nuo simply shrugged as an indication that what she heard was merely a rumor, and that she wasn't sure whether it was true or not.

At that moment, Ling Qun walked over to

them and reported to Chen Hao, "I've checked everyone, Chen Hao. Aside from some minor injuries, they're alright. We can leave once we're packed!"

"Good, then let's get out of here!" Chen Hao naturally agreed without any objections.

Now that they found the team, their top priority was to turn back and meet up with Wang Peng's group before they all descended the mountain together. Yes, the Thousand Years Ginseng intrigued Chen Hao but he wasn't about to risk anyone's life for a herb with unknown effects.

Shortly afterward, with the help of Chen Hao and Ling Qun, the explorer's team rallied and left the cave with plans to follow the trail back to Wang Peng and the others. As the saying went, 'going up a hill is harder than going down', the entire group took only half an hour to make half the journey. They were only 10 minutes away from meeting up with Wang Peng and the others when several white wolves charged at them from behind.

"Wolves!"

"Wolves!" several explorers screamed at the sight of the wolves and began panicking, running down the hill in a mad dash.

Chen Hao shouted to Ling Qun, "Ling Qun, get them out of here! I'll take care of the wolves!"

In response, Ling Qun shouted back, "Alright, but be careful and come back safely!" He'd just finished shouting when the wolves charged toward Chen Hao and sent them all tumbling into the valley.

"Chen Hao!" Zhou Nuo screamed at the edge of the cliff. The sight of Chen Hao plunging into the valley with the wolves hurt her immensely, but Ling Qun had no idea how to express his sympathy other than dragging Zhou Nuo back to the place he'd climbed up with Chen Hao. Then, he got the whole team to climb down one by one.

"No, I have to go back and look for Chen Hao!" Zhou Nuo told Ling Qun. She was about to go back for Chen Hao when Ling Qun, who clearly could not allow that, tied up her hands and gently lowered her down with the rope. "Let me go! I have to go back to look for him! He must still be alive!" Zhou Nuo screamed as she struggled to break free, tears spilling from her eyes and onto her devastated face.

"What's going on? Where's Chen Hao?" Wang Peng asked hastily when he noticed that Ling Qun and the others had returned without him.

Ling Qun lowered his head, and it took him a few seconds to finally say, "We ran into some white wolves on the way down. Chen Hao fought them alone to cover for us and... the wolves knocked him down into the valley."

"What?!" Wang Peng was shocked into silence when he heard the news, and rightfully so because it was too shocking. Who could have anticipated such a thing? But now, at least the explorer's team had been successfully rescued and their mission was complete.

"We'll go down the mountain first and put together another rescue team for Chen Hao!" Wang Peng instructed the group, who listened to him without any objections. They knew that the situation was dangerous and called for more manpower than they had. So, with no way to turn back and look for Chen Hao, the only thing they could do was send the explorers safely back to the campsite first and then make further decisions later.

As for Chen Hao, no one knew if he was dead or alive...

Meanwhile, deep within a patch of forest on the Spiritual Mountain, Chen Hao laid peacefully on the ground.



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Meanwhile, the dead bodies lying around Chen Hao were the corpses of the white wolves.

They had plunged to their deaths after falling off the cliff.

On the other hand, Chen Hao was uninjured because of his tough physique.

After a while, Chen Hao regained his consciousness. As he opened his eyes, he was delighted to see himself unharmed.

Chen Hao walked out of the forest immediately. He took a cutting knife out to skive a chunk of flesh off one of the white wolves as a meal for himself.

After walking around for a bit, Chen Hao was startled by the sight in front of him.

Lo and behold, there was a Xanadu.

It was the first time that Chen Hao had seen such a beautiful place. It looked as if the outside world was not even in presence.

As he walked into it, Chen Hao felt like he was walking into a paradise-like place.
## "Who are you, intruder?"

It was at that moment when a soft, feminine voice came from the surroundings. As soon as she finished her question, the person made her appearance.

A woman dressed in white dress jumped out from the woods light-footedly, landing right in front of Chen Hao. Then, she pointed the long sword in her hand toward him.

Chen Hao was slightly stunned as he did not expect anyone to be in this sort of place.

The beautiful woman in front of him, who looked flawless and had a refined temperament, then started dancing gracefully.

"I had accidentally fallen from the cliffs of Spiritual Mountain, and I got lost in this place!" Chen Hao paused for a while before explaining to the woman.

After listening to Chen Hao's explanation, the woman knitted her brows while staring at him doubtfully. "You weren't injured after falling from the cliffs of Spiritual Mountain?" she asked.

The woman was suspicious of Chen Hao after looking at his body, which did not have a single scratch on it.

"I am a cultivator. The height was not an issue for me. Thus, I wasn't injured!" Chen Hao explained to her by revealing his identity.

"You're a cultivator?" asked the woman, wanting to reaffirm what she had just heard.

Chen Hao nodded with an adamant look on his face.

As the woman stared at Chen Hao, she felt like he was not lying. She decided to believe his words and kept her sword away.

"May I know who you are? What are you doing here? What is this place?" Chen Hao promptly asked her three questions when he noticed the woman lowering her guard down.

It was unusual for such a paradise-like

place to exist in the Spiritual Mountain; in such a precarious place like this, there must be great secrets hidden within it.

"I am Ling Zhu, and I am the guardian of this place called the Spirit Paradise!" answered the woman softly, revealing her identity and the name of the place.

"Spirit Paradise?" Chen Hao was astonished.

He had never thought that such a place would exist in the Border Realm. Indeed, the Border Realm was a mysterious place where lots of secrets had yet to be discovered.

After that, Ling Zhu left the place together with Chen Hao, flying to an extremely secluded house.

"This is where I live; you should stay the night. I'll bring you out of here first thing tomorrow!" said Ling Zhu to Chen Hao.

"Ling Zhu, how long have you been living here?" asked Chen Hao curiously, having thought that Ling Zhu was not someone from the real world. Instead, she looked like a celestial being from the ancient days.

"2,000 years!" Ling Chu blurted out the figure in seconds.

Chen Hao's eyes went wide. He thought that he had misheard her.

2,000 years... That figure terrified Chen Hao. The Ling Zhu right in front of his eyes had been living for 2,000 years, yet she still looked as youthful as a young lady.

What kind of being was Ling Zhu, and how did she live in this place for 2,000 years?

More so, this place had never been discovered by anyone else during the last 2,000 years.

If Chen Hao had not fallen from the cliff by accident, this place would still remain undiscovered.

"What are you doing here in Spiritual Mountain?" It was Ling Zhu's turn to question Chen Hao after he was done probing her.

"I am looking for an ancient herb called the Thousand Years Ginseng!" Chen Hao answered Ling Zhu's question by telling her the purpose of Zhou Nuo and her men's quest.

"The Thousand Years Ginseng? What do you need it for? Is it for the Resurrection Pill?" Ling Zhu could not help but furrow her brows after hearing Chen Hao's answer. Hence, she looked at Chen Hao and asked once more.

"You know about it?" Judging from Ling Zhu's response, Chen Hao knew that she was aware of the Thousand Years Ginseng.

"The Thousand Years Ginseng is a precious herb from my Spirit Paradise. It only blooms once in a thousand years. Coincidentally, it is flowering as of now!" Ling Zhu explained.

Chen Hao was in utter disbelief after hearing that. He did not expect the Thousand Years Ginseng, which Zhou Nuo had been painstakingly searching for, to exist in Spirit Paradise. It was no wonder why they could not find it on the Spiritual Mountain.

"To be honest, I am not familiar with the

Thousand Years Ginseng. I came here to look for my friend; she had encountered some danger on the Spiritual Mountain. However, I did not expect to end up here by accident!"

Chen Hao quickly explained his situation to Ling Zhu because he did not want her to misunderstand his intentions, thinking that he was here for the Thousand Years Ginseng instead.

On the surface, Chen Hao could feel that Zhu Ling was not particularly powerful. She was merely on par with the First Tier of Soul Cultivation in the human world. Thus, it would be impossible for Ling Zhu to attack Chen Hao.

However, Chen Hao was not an evil person. He would surely not hurt Ling Zhu for the sake of obtaining the Thousand Years Ginseng.

"Follow me!" Ling Zhu instructed Chen Hao after gazing at him intently.

As soon as she finished talking, Ling Zhu led Chen Hao to a huge garden. Within the garden was a piece of land planted full of crystal-like flowers. It was no doubt that these were the Thousand Years Ginseng.

"Here are the Thousand Years Ginseng!" Ling Zhu pointed at the herbs in front of her, introducing them to Chen Hao.

Chen Hao glanced at the Thousand Years Ginseng. As expected, it looked like the ones in the photo which Zhou Nuo had shown him earlier.

"May I ask what is the specific use of the Thousand Years Ginseng? Why are they so precious?" asked Chen Hao as he raised his head, gazing at Ling Zhu like a student.

"Hmm, its specific use... Well, the Thousand Years Ginseng can be used to concoct the Resurrection Pill, which can be used to revive the dead! So, do you think it's precious now?" Ling Zhu put on a faint smile, explaining it patiently to Chen Hao.

After listening to Ling Zhu's explanation, Chen Hao was finally enlightened. It seemed like what Zhou Nuo had told him earlier was true. The Resurrection Pill was not just a legend; it really did exist. It just needed the Thousand Years Ginseng in order to produce it!

"Has the Resurrection Pill appeared before in the past?" Chen Hao asked Ling Zhu again.

Ling Zhu did not answer Chen Hao. Instead, she took a scroll out from her sleeves before handing it to Chen Hao.

Chen Hao had a puzzled look on his face as he took the scroll from her and opened it.

After skimming through its contents, Chen Hao's expression gradually became inconceivable. The look of shock on his face got more intense over time.

The scroll recorded everything about the appearance of the Resurrection Pill, including the number of times it had appeared and where it had been used. Since ancient times, the Resurrection Pill had appeared a total of three times; each time it appeared, the pill had caused catastrophes. It could be only described as an ominous item.





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It was only then Chen Hao finally understood the reason behind it.

All this while, Ling Zhu had been guarding the Thousand Years Ginseng. No wonder it had been hidden from the world all this time, making it hard to find.

"The Thousand Years Ginseng must not emerge in the mortal realm. Its existence there will undoubtedly trigger a catastrophe. You should know what I'm trying to imply, right?" Ling Zhu asked Chen Hao earnestly.

After comprehending the consequences, Chen Hao nodded and replied, "I understand. Don't worry, I will not take the Thousand Years Ginseng away."

"Alright. It would be better to keep things this way. However, as a sign of gratitude, I will give you something!"

As soon as Ling Zhu finished talking, she swayed her hand nimbly before a small, squarish gem box appeared in her palm.

Ling Zhu handed the gem box over to Chen Hao.

Chen Hao took the gem box with utmost curiosity, wondering what Ling Zhu would be giving to him.

Out of curiosity, Chen Hao opened the gem box. There was a small medicinal pill lying in it.

"What is this?"

Chen Hao lifted his gaze, directing his question toward Ling Zhu.

"This is the Resurrection Pill. I have been keeping the only one with me all this while. I know that your skills are superb, and you have an immense amount of energy in your body. Perhaps this might be useful to you!" Ling Zhu glanced at Chen Hao while explaining it to him.

After listening to Ling Zhu, Chen Hao was slightly startled. He did not expect Ling Zhu to give him the one and only Resurrection Pill so willingly. This was such a precious gift!

"Thank you for giving me such a precious gift. How should I repay you?" asked Chen Hao, feeling that he should not blatantly accept her gift. "I don't need you to repay me!" Ling Zhu answered casually.

After their exchange, Ling Zhu led Chen Hao out of the garden, returning to the house.

By that time, it was already late and the sky had gotten dark.

Meanwhile, there was a temporary campsite just outside of the Spiritual Mountain. It was brightly-lit.

Ling Qun and his men had returned to the campsite safely, but every one of them looked like they were in despair.

Due to Chen Hao's mishap, they were absent-minded and feeling extremely sorrowful.

Zhou Nuo sat outside by herself, staring toward the direction of Spiritual Mountain. She strongly wished for Chen Hao to appear before her, returning from Spiritual Mountain in one piece.

"Zhou Nuo! Zhou Nuo!"

At this moment, she suddenly heard Zhou

Yunshan's voice.

Zhou Yunshan sprinted hastily toward his daughter, Zhou Nuo.

Seeing that his daughter was safe, Zhou Yunshan felt a sense of relief.

"Dad... C-Chen Hao fell off the cliff!"

Zhou Nuo buried her head in Zhou Yunshan's arms, immediately bursting into tears.

Zhou Yunshan's whole body shivered upon hearing this news.

"What did you say? Chen Hao slipped off the cliff? What happened?" asked Zhou Yunshan, gaping at Zhou Nuo in disbelief.

If Chen Hao was really dead, how was he going to explain it to He Cheng and Talisman Guild?

Chen Hao had just become a First-Level Talisman Master in the Talisman Guild. People would surely be taken aback when they learned about his sudden death from the accident. After that, Zhou Nuo explained the situation that happened on Spiritual Mountain to Zhou Yunshan.

Zhou Yunshan was still in disbelief after hearing his daughter's explanation.

As it turned out, Chen Hao had wanted to save the expedition team and decided to single-handedly face those white wolves. It was a very heroic act indeed.

"Don't worry, Zhou Nuo. Chen Hao will surely be fine. He will return safely!"

Zhou Yunshan reassured his daughter by patting her back.

Zhou Nuo nodded her head firmly. She hoped that things would turn out that way as well, wishing for Chen Hao's safe return.

Meanwhile, Chen Hao was busy dining and chatting with Ling Zhu in Spirit Paradise. He had no clue of the situation outside, nor did he know that Zhou Nuo and the rest of them were waiting anxiously for his return.

"Ling Zhu, have you never gone out before? Were you guarding this place the entire

## time?"

Chen Hao took a sip of tea in front of him before asking Ling Zhu.

Ling Zhu shook her head and replied, "It's not that I don't want to go out; I just simply can't!"

"How is that so?" asked Chen Hao curiously.

"There is a seal here which I can't break out of. Hence, I can only stand guard here at Spirit Paradise. People are able to enter this place, but I can't go out!" Ling Zhu explained dejectedly.

It was already agonizing enough for one to be locked up in a place and not being able to interact with the outside world. Moreover, Ling Zhu had been locked up here alone for thousands of years.

Chen Hao could not imagine how Ling Zhu was feeling, but he could sense that Ling Zhu longed to see the outside world.

Nonetheless, Chen Hao did not wish for Ling Zhu to enter the outside world, for it was far more dangerous compared to Spirit Paradise. Furthermore, Chen Hao did not want people to discover this paradiselike place.

In addition to that, if an outsider discovered the Thousand Years Ginseng here, it would surely trigger a catastrophe, causing an endless scene of chaos.

Rather than trying to destroy it, there were some things that would be best if they remained untouched.

It was midnight when Chen Hao finally fell asleep lying in the chair.

He had a very good night's sleep—the most comfortable sleep he had for quite some time as he slept until the next morning.

"You're awake?"

The first thing he saw when he woke up was Ling Zhu, who was sitting right in front of him.

"Yes, you're up so early as well!" replied Chen Hao, who was slightly surprised.

"Alright, since you're awake, I'll bring you

## out of this place!"

Seeing that Chen Hao had already woken up, Ling Zhu suggested bringing him out.

Chen Hao had no objection to it. He was certain that Zhou Nuo and the rest of them were worried to the bone since he did not return last night.

As soon as she finished talking, Ling Zhu reached her hands out, grabbing onto Chen Hao's arms. With a leap, she flew away from the place with Chen Hao.

Ling Zhu brought Chen Hao to a shady street under a grove of trees.

"Just follow this path and you will find your way out!" Ling Zhu instructed Chen Hao, pointing to the shady street.

"Thank you for your hospitality yesterday!"

Chen Hao thanked Ling Zhu before marching along the shady street.

In an instant, the view in front of Chen Hao transformed tremendously. He realized that he was no longer in Spirit Paradise; instead, he found himself in a forest at the foot of Spiritual Mountain.

Chen Hao was amazed by it, but he knew that this was a secret that he should keep to himself. He must not tell anyone about it.

After walking for a short distance, Chen Hao managed to exit the forest, and the temporary campsite was right in front of him. He did not expect the exit to be located just in front of the temporary campsite.

As Chen Hao returned to the campsite, he saw Ling Qun and the rest of the group in the middle of a serious discussion in the tent. Not a single person noticed his return at all.

After a while, Zhou Nuo turned to look outside of the tent all of a sudden. She was immediately stunned and dumbstruck to see Chen Hao standing in front of her, unscathed.



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