

Ancient ST 2431

Chapter 2431 - The Fatty's Decision, Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect, Ling Chen

With just one strike, Qing Shui had killed the man in a mere second. Miraculous Physician Pang was stunned. He saw that Qing Shui and his company of people were all young, and the former was even a Physician. Besides, given his Nine Continents Medical Sect background, the Fatty was used to being arrogant and domineering. Now he realized the issue at hand wasn't as funny anymore.

"Say, Fatty, what level is your medical skills at in Nine Continents Medical Sect? I had once believed they were really strong but now that I've seen you, I no longer think too highly of them." Qing Shui was unusually relaxed now, as though he wasn't the one who just slapped someone to their death.

"Don't be too pleased with yourself. We are miraculous physician aristocrats. Our words have weight in Nine Continents Medical Sect. Just you wait. Nine Continents Medical Sect will come after you. As soon as we say the word, there will be numerous others coming to kill you. Do you know how many people owe Nine Continents Medical Sect favors?" Miraculous Physician Pang stared at Qing Shui and said haughtily.

Qing Shui knew about it. Nine Continents Medical Sect's connections were nothing to scoff at. Qing Shui knew from before about how scary a Miraculous Physician's capabilities were, which was why Qing Shui was prepared to go back on this path when he arrived at Upper Three Regions and use it in haste. Basing himself here would be a difficult feat.

Qing Shui frowned. He believed in Miraculous Physician Pang's words and that Nine Continents Medical Sect would have this capability. No matter the Fatty's medical skills, he knew that Nine Continents Medical Sect wasn't quite as simple. The people who owed them favors were countless. As soon as they sent for someone to kill Qing Shui, they would be able to earn a survival chance with Nine Continents Medical Sect. Qing Shui anticipated that there would be many who would attempt to assassinate him.

Qing Shui watched the Fatty with a cold gaze. "You're forcing me to kill you."

The Fatty was startled, responding in surprise. "You dare to kill me?"

Qing Shui laughed. "You keep saying that you're going to get someone to kill me, so why can't I kill you? Unless you're really that foolish? In any case, since you want to get someone to kill me, I might as well kill you right now."

"Uh-hmm, I was just joking. If I wanted to kill you, would I have said it aloud? Am I that stupid? I was just scaring you." The Fatty replied in haste.

Qing Shui laughed. He had no intentions of killing the Fatty. There was no need to create conflict with Nine Continents Medical Sect. Although he had killed one of them, it didn't mean much in the grand scheme of things. After all, it was the Fatty at wrong here. They were asking for it.

"Heh, Fatty, don't say I didn't warn you. If you dare to provoke me, I would make sure you become a eunuch. Don't worry, I won't kill you." Qing Shui held a sinister gaze at the Fatty.

Goosebumps rose from Qing Shui's gaze. The Fatty felt incredibly creeped out and nodded his head quickly. "Don't worry, that won't happen..."

Fatty and his group of people left. Qing Shui couldn't guarantee that he wouldn't try anything, but he had to give others a chance. He gave the Fatty a chance this time around. Whether he knew how to treasure it was up to him.

Advancing further, there were still many people around them heading in but there were also some heading out. Those heading out were typically leaving the place.

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"Miraculous Physician Pang, are we really letting them off like this?" A wretched man spoke up beside Miraculous Physician Pang.

"What can I do otherwise? The strongest man I had with me just got killed in a second." The Fatty spoke in a bitter tone.

"You can look for Brother Chen! He is the top warrior among Ling Clan's younger generation. His spear technique was rumored to have reached the peak. He's the new generation leader of Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect. Didn't you save his life once? You can get him to kill those people and keep the women. Aren't you tempted, Miraculous Physician Pang?" The man whispered.

If it was only the front portion that was conveyed, then the Fatty wouldn't truly be tempted but at the mention of the women, he was swayed. The most striking point about him was that he was a pervert. When he laid eyes on the women around Qing Shui, the women around himself suddenly seemed too tacky. It was true that comparing yourself to others would only anger you and comparing your belongings would only result in you throwing them out.

"Can Ling Chen win against those people?" Miraculous Physician Pang's cultivation wasn't much so he asked unsurely.

"But of course. Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect is a powerful existence and Ling Chen is their top warrior among the younger generation. He could be considered as an invincible force among warriors in general as well and he was already at Nurture God Realm. There is no one else in Nine Continents who have surpassed Nurture God Realm. What do you say? Isn't Ling Chen strong? I've already mentioned that he would be the one to take over Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect." The man said, looking forward to the response.

Hearing his words, the Fatty felt a wave of happiness, but he was still in a dilemma. The appearance of those women kept floating into his mind. If he could have sexual relationships with those women then it would be worth it, even if his life was shortened.

"Alright, then let's give it a try. Coincidentally, Ling Chen is in the deep end of Divinity Mountain. Let's send someone to look for him." The Fatty decided.

The man smiled gleefully, his wretched gaze held an equally wretched glint.

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Blood Poria!

Qing Shui followed Dragon Slaying Beast and found a stalk of blood scarlet plant halfway up the mountain. It was an inch high. Among the plants, it looked like a drip of fresh blood.

Blood Poria's greatest strength was in replenishing Qi and blood. It could replenish a great amount in record time and was a miraculous herb for those who were suffering through a huge blood loss. Besides this, Blood Poria could also be used in creating blood strengthening medicinal pills. Blood Strengthening Pills were used to strengthen a demonic beast's blood, while Blood Poria could be used to make pills which can strengthen a human's blood.

Hence, Blood Poria was beyond valuable. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call it a miraculous medicine and it was extremely rare. It took a long time to mature and was guarded by a demonic beast.

Blood Thread Snake!

Qing Shui noticed the demonic beast guarding Blood Poria quickly. It was three inches long, as thick as a little finger and was blood red in color, almost seemed to be brightly lit. In the middle of it, there was a line of red which looked like blood marrow.

This was a tiny snake, but it could be considered a demonic beast and a terrifying one at that. This Blood Thread Snake belonged to the venomous type of demonic beast. There were warriors in Peak Cave Realm poisoned to death by it, falling to its toxicity.

Hiss, hiss...

Blood Thread Snake was only three inches in length and the thickness of a little finger, but its hissing sound rumbled like thunder. Even rocks began to tumble at that.

With Qing Shui's Heavenly Vision Technique, he watched Blood Thread Snake and realized a blood red pill in its body. It was very small but seemed to contain a horrifying power. Besides being venomous, its body was as tough as a boulder and had a mouth of minuscule teeth. Don't look down on these millimeters-long teeth, as they were incisive and laced with poison.

Area Dominance!

Qing Shui struck Blood Thread Snake with Area Dominance. Poison-type beasts were typically afraid of this.

However, in this case, Area Dominance seemed to be ineffective.

Speed reduction!

Qing Shui lowered speed of Blood Thread Snake and seemingly at the same time, a jet of water sprayed towards Qing Shui. It was quick, way too quick.

With a shift of his mind, Nine Continents Mountain appeared before him, blocking the jet of toxin. The poison slid down from Nine Continents Mountain and turned the earth around it into ashes. It had even corroded the rocks on the mountain and dug small a bottomless hole...

What a strong toxin. Looking at Nine Continents Mountain, Qing Shui found a small hole. This was Nine Continents Mountain, a Martial Saint Treasure. It was fortunate that Nine Continents Mountain was not only strong but it could repair itself to perfection with time.

Chapter 2432 - Blood Poria, Blood Thread Snake, An Outstanding Character

Blood Poria, Blood Thread Snake.

The Blood Thread Snake was dangerous but Qing Shui wasn't too worried. Qing Shui had something which could suppress something like that.

Dragon-Capturing Hands!

Dragon-Capturing Hands wasn't just a name. It had great suppression toward dragon- and snake-types. Furthermore, Dragon-Capturing Hands had control strategies. Its attacks would stun their targets and the effect would be amplified when used against dragon and snake-types.

There was a large silhouette of something which looked akin to Divine Dragon. The dragon head looked like a palm or a dragon's mouth which was wide open. Just like that, it grabbed onto the Blood Thread Snake, stunning it.

Seemingly at the same time, Qing Shui readied the Primordial Demon Refining Furnace and covered it.

With the move, Blood Thread Snake was swiftly captured and put into Primordial Demon Refining Furnace and suppressed. Now, Blood Thread Snake's life was in Qing Shui's hands.

Without the Blood Thread Snake, Qing Shui successfully shifted Blood Poria into Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. This was a decent item which he would have a use for in the future. It'd be even better if it could bear seedlings.

Dragon Slaying Beast was a treasure-seeking beast. Along the way, there was a glimmer in their eyes. Although it wasn't any revolutionary treasures, they still obtained a lot, mostly strange plants and such. There was also a mystical orb which Qing Shui kept in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

"Up ahead is the deep end of Divinity Mountain. Look, that's Divinity Peak. It's a door and through it, you'd reach the deep end and the dangerous land of Divinity Mountain. The peak of the mountain looks like the silhouette of a person." Nuo Lan laughed.

Qing Shui saw it too. The peak of the mountain looked like a giant statue especially from afar. It was too similar, a perfect imitation.

There were many people at Divinity Peak. There were also many who weren't planning to go in and had instead chosen to wait there. They were waiting for a chance to take advantage of someone's misfortune, such as people who had received great items inside but came out injured.

There were many people who were like that. This wasn't a big deal as these things were common in Nine Continents. There were others who got cold feet about going in and decided to train here instead as well. At the same time, they were hoping to chance upon a fight which may benefit the third party.

Qing Shui and the others went in without any hesitation. This was the deep end of a secretive mystical territory. If there was nothing to gain, they could just leave. They had reaped enough benefits anyway.

The Spiritual Qi was dense in the deepest end of Divinity Mountain. Lush vegetation and trees which reached high to the sky was a common sight here. Rare treasures and flying beasts, flowers in full bloom; everything was flourishing, as though they had just entered utopia.

"This is a decent place." Tang Xi observed their surroundings happily.

Before she could continue speaking, the reverberating sound of a beast's roar sounded from afar. It seemed to shake even the earth and it was even more astounding than a thunderclap on the ground.

"This place isn't that good." Tang Xi giggled.

The others laughed along and advanced further. There were quite a few people who entered but they began to disperse as they continued. This wasn't the only entrance to Divinity Mountain, but they all led to the same place, the Giant Spirit Divine Manor.

The Giant Spirit Divine Manor was the final stop, but Qing Shui felt as though that the Taoist Temple was the true Giant Spirit Divine Manor. It was a fleeting feeling. Besides, it wasn't much of a concern when they received the items from within.

"Look! There's a corpse of a huge demonic beast." Someone shouted from afar.

"This is the corpse of an Ancient Berserk Dragon. Who killed it? They must be strong."

"This was killed by Nine Continents Might Spear Sect's Young Master Ling Chen."

"Ling Chen? Ah, no wonder. Only Ling Chen would be able to kill such a strong demonic beast."

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"Ling Chen?" Qing Shui had never heard of them before, but he did receive some information and knew that they were from Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect. In addition, they seemed strong and this was proven true. This Ancient Berserk Dragon's strength was at Peak Cave Realm level of a warrior. After all, it was an ancient, pure-blooded beast and had the blood of Giant Dragon.

The reason why Qing Shui thought Ling Chen was strong was also that this Ancient Berserk Dragon was killed instantaneously. Whoever managed this must have been at Nurture God Realm or else it would have been impossible. Perhaps he was even further along than Nurture God Realm.

The crucial items on Ancient Berserk Dragon were gone, leaving only its flesh and bones. Many rushed forward for the blood and it was gone in a flash.

The blood of such ancient ferocious beasts could strengthen the body and bones. Its effects would be even better after adding some herbs. For many people here, the corpse of Ancient Berserk Dragon was still a treasure.

Qing Shui kept the name Ling Chen in his mind, the person from Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect.

Meanwhile, in the depths of Divinity Mountain, a handsome man held onto a letter and a drawing. The letter requested him to kill some people while the drawing illustrated their portraits. Apart from the women, he was to kill all of them.

This was a letter from Miraculous Physician Pang.

Ling Chen frowned at the drawing. Miraculous Physician Pang had saved his life once, but his character was nothing praise-worthy. However, his medical skills undeniably were good, and he was a part of the Nine Continents Medical Sect. Ling Chen owed him a favor but didn't expect it to come in such form. Anyone could tell that Miraculous Physician Pang had his sights on those women.

Ling Chen was reluctant on doing such a thing, but he owed them a favor. It wasn't possible for him not to repay and the letter informed him that his target had arrived at Divinity Peak.

Ling Chen hesitated but still instructed the people around him, "Let's go back to settle some stuff."

With that, he passed the item in his hand to the man besides him.

The man was big and strong. He had been by Ling Chen's side for over decades now. At the sight of the items, he didn't say much and had instead passed it on.

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By the time Qing Shui and his companions entered Divinity Peak, it had already been three days. It was no wonder this place was dangerous territory. They had seen almost a hundred dead human bodies over the past two days, watched as ferocious beasts and poisonous bugs traversed, and had even run into a bug tide. This was no less inferior than a beast tide, covering every inch of the area from top to bottom. Furthermore, there were even numerous poisonous bugs among them.

Qing Shui had Nine Continents and other abilities, and hence, had dodged them with ease.

However, besides the two ancient beasts they had killed, they didn't reap much from this. Not even a single stalk of a medicinal herb.

"Hm. Look, what's that?" Hao Tian's eyes sparkled as he pointed to a stone wall.

"Oh, that's Giant Spirit Divine Manor." Qing Shui read the words on it and couldn't help but feel startled.

"That's right. This is the Giant Spirit Divine Manor." A clear voice rang out before a group of people walked out from behind a mountain. Their leader was a handsome man, his body proportionate and slender, emitting a natural aura. His features seemed to have an element of unwavering determination and toughness.

This was a charming man. He was like a crane among a flock of chicken even though he was just standing, casually.

Ling Chen!

Qing Shui had never met him, but he could tell the man was Ling Chen with just one glance. Level Four Nurture God Realm. He was an outstanding character, surpassing those at his age by a great distance.

"Ling Chen?" Qing Shui smiled.

"You know me." Ling Chen wasn't surprised and had instead responded calmly.

Chapter 2433 - Formidable Ling Chen, Leader of the Troop

"You know me." Ling Chen wasn't surprised and had instead responded calmly.

As though it wasn't strange for Qing Shui to know him, he said. Still, that wasn't untrue. Ling Chen was well-known. He was the cream of the crop among the younger generation.

"I don't actually, but I saw a Berserk Dragon which was killed instantaneously on my way here, and they all claimed it's you. That's how I guessed it." Qing Shui smiled casually.

Ling Chen observed Qing Shui before continuing, "I don't like beating around the bush. I owe someone a favor and they wanted me to kill you all as repayment."

"That Fatty?" Qing Shui laughed.

"I can't tell you. You're free to make your own assumptions. To be honest, I don't like killing others for no reason, but I have to repay what I owe. I don't have a choice." Ling Chen explained begrudgingly.

"As the saying goes, don't try to keep a good reputation if you have bad intentions. Isn't that right?" Qing Shui couldn't stand the pretentiousness of the elegant man, or perhaps it was because he was too outstanding that Qing Shui felt this way. Beautiful women couldn't stand the sight of each other, and the same went for capable men.

Ling Chen was startled but wasn't angered. In fact, he laughed. "You're right. No one has ever described me in that way. Honestly, I'm not pretentious, but at least you speak the truth."

"Haha. No wonder they say that the lowly are all pretentious. I see it's true. Alright, since you don't have a choice, let us begin start. Life or death is up to destiny now," Qing Shui chuckled.

"Alright. Are you fighting solo or in a group? You decide." Ling Chen asked confidently.

"Why don't we have a fight between just the two of us? I want to see the strength of a young leader like yourself." Qing Shui replied after some thought.

Qing Shui was caught in a dilemma. It was a given that Ling Chen was strong. In addition, his identity was also another concern. He was a part of Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect and was likely the next person to lead the sect. If he used any unique abilities to kill him, it would likely incur endless troubles for them.

This was one way a person's background could affect the battle. One couldn't just see the person as they appeared but also the powers backing them up. This was why nobody dared to kill the profligate sons. The latter wouldn't be able to win against women but still, nobody would touch them and could only be bullied.

These people had even stronger people and existences backing them up. Those who were bullied only had their kins, parents, children, siblings, and such. For them, those people were the pawns they used to threaten the common folks.

It wasn't that Qing Shui didn't dare to kill Ling Chen, but he would only do it if he was left without any other choice. The timing wasn't quite there yet. In Upper Three Regions, his abilities didn't have any advantages. There were innumerable others who would be able to destroy him.

"Alright. Then, please!" Ling Chen agreed easily then leaped into mid-air.

Qing Shui didn't panic or rush. He shifted his abilities to the highest before following suit.

Ling Chen was a warrior with Level Four Nurture God Realm, an outstanding existence. Compared to Qing Shui's current abilities, the man was much stronger even if Qing Shui couldn't be sure of their true potential.

"Please." Qing Shui indicated.

“Why don’t you go first!” Ling Chen didn’t say much but his entire aura erupted alive. Even towards an opponent like Qing Shui who was clearly not his match, he still wouldn’t let himself be careless.

Qing Shui didn’t stand on ceremony either, attacking with Emperor’s Qi straight away.

He used Heavenly Vision Technique as well.

The weakening abilities of Emperor’s Qi caused Ling Chen to frown. He was weakened by 20% of all abilities. That was a significant amount but still acceptable, although a little painful.

Qing Shui didn’t use his Golden Battle Halberd, leaving his hands empty.

This move had signified that Qing Shui made the first move. With a shift of his hands, the silhouette of a long spear shot towards Qing Shui.

Mighty Spear Palm!

The spear was about ten meters long, bringing about a snow-white aura. It was like a giant dragon as it pushed towards Qing Shui, engulfing him.

How strong!

Qing Shui could feel the incomparably might and murderous intent from the spear. Reaching out his hand, he landed a fist on the spear’s silhouette. With Heavenly Vision Technique, the strike was tactful and made use of Taichi, landing a hit on the weakest point.

Even through this, Qing Shui retreated three steps with surprise painting his features. Even a casual strike from his opponent could be this strong.

Ling Chen was shocked too. He had thought that the strike was enough to injury Qing Shui, maybe even heavily so. Little did he expect his opponent to merely retreat three steps, looking as though they were hardly even hurt.

At that moment, Qing Shui used Buddha Wisdom Seal.

It was a normal attack but it could lower its target’s attack powers without their realization.

World Annihilation Swipe!

Ling Chen moved again as the silhouette of a spear formed with it. It was more substantial than the previous and swept across. The speed of it didn’t allow rest for the spectator’s eyes and in just a moment, Qing Shui was engulfed in the silhouette.

Qing Shui felt a tremble, then another followed by unceasing shaking. Its strength was enough to combat ten warriors. With the difference in their realms, any casual attack was dangerous.

Windwhisk Willow.

Qing Shui’s Heavenly Vision Technique deciphered the silhouette of the spear. It was sweeping. Hence, once he spotted the location of the spear, he struck with Taichi Repulsion.

Leveraging on the strength, they retreated by hundreds of meters in an instant.

Qing Shui didn't wish to fight force with force. His opponent was too strong and too quick.

A smile tugged at the corner of Ling Chen's lips. He observed Qing Shui. While his opponent managed to dodge two of his attacks, his own abilities far surpassed them. There was no way they could fight against him.

Qing Shui didn't know his opponent's might, but Level Four Nurture God Realm was much higher than his own Level One. Every level would increase a person's abilities significantly. Even with substantial weakening and Divine Weapon Flying Sword, their remaining powers still exceeded his own by a lot.

This was a difficult fight. His opponent was a member of Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect. Once they used a weapon, their might would increase by another level.

Art of Pursuing!

With the use of Art of Pursuing, Qing Shui relaxed a little. After all, his rival's speed wouldn't be as quick anymore.

"Your cultivation is interesting. If you cooperate with me, I can kill off quite a few of those who surpassed my abilities." Ling Chen looked at Qing Shui. He did have that thought in mind of keeping this person by his side.

Qing Shui thought, "If you knew all my abilities, your eyes might just pop!"

"Fight with your full potential. You won't be able to kill me otherwise." Qing Shui took out his Golden Battle Halberd.

Golden Battle Halberd's abilities were still decent. After he broke through Nurture God Realm, the Divine Artifact had restored its powers and increased the damage significantly. It had perhaps more than its initial damage powers now. The exact number was a blur, but it didn't exceed twice the initial. It was a great surprise.

Other weapons had its own increment, or at least the powers when in his hands increased by much. Qing Shui hadn't used a weapon before and didn't wish to change, much less throw away Golden Battle Halberd. This was a weapon from Golden Battle God Inheritance after all.

Weapons in the Nine Continents wouldn't increase in might, generally. However, some techniques required the aid of weapons to reach its full potential, just like how sword techniques couldn't be done without swords. Using hands as a substitute for such would dull its effects by a lot.

Chapter 2434 - Invincible Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique, Nurture God Realm Battle

Upon hearing Qing Shui's words, Ling Chen took out his own weapon. It was a snow-white, silver spear. It was about three meters long, the thickness of a person's wrist. There was a bright silver glow to it and Spiritual Qi whirling around. With just one look, it was clear that this wasn't any ordinary weapon.

Qing Shui was under great pressure, especially after his opponent had brought out their own weapon. Their entire aura had changed. Ling Chen's aura had gone berserk, a complete change from its serenity before.

Mighty Spear Sect, their skills were also trained to be ferocious and violent.

“Then try my spear!” Ling Chen and struck, his spear was like a dragon scouting the ocean.

Like a dragon, the spear seemed to move Heaven and Earth with it as it rose. It wasn't quick, and Qing Shui could clearly see its trace. However, Qing Shui wasn't that nervous either, seeing as there was a method in Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique which specialized in unraveling.

However, if they hadn't received Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique then unraveling this skill would have been troublesome. Now, though, he found at least three flaws.

Flaws were fatal. It was like the golden gate of vitality, a lethal point. Cultivation, potential, and techniques were all important. Good techniques would allow a person's potential to reach more than ten times its power. This was also the terrifying aspect of Divine grade battle techniques.

This was another attack which targeted one's weakness. An impenetrable person still had a common area as normal folks. That was vital and lethal points, otherwise known as flaws. Right now, that was where Qing Shui was targeting at, as though he could see it. Once he landed a hit, he would be able to dispel his opponent's techniques easily and even defeat them.

Strictly speaking, this was Qing Shui's first time using the Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique. With the foundation from before, along with the time in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, it could be considered a small success. It was extremely brilliant when used today.

Ling Chen was startled. He didn't think his attack was perfect, but he didn't expect it to be so easily suppressed either.

In Ling Chen's opinion, Qing Shui's attack was like turning something rotten into a magical being. It was stunning. The move was absolutely breath-taking.

Ding!

Qing Shui managed to tackle Ling Chen's flaw and dispel their attack. At that moment though, Ling Chen's second wave of attack came rushing.

A chain of crackling sounds rang in the air. Qing Shui's Heavenly Vision Technique along with Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique could still spot his opponent's flaws. He reduced much of Ling Chen's speed before and was able to counter his attacks due to that. Most importantly, this battle had allowed Qing Shui's actual combat capabilities to advance by leaps and bounds. Soon, he had managed to stabilize Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique's foundation.

Tyrant Spear Battle God watched with a glimmer in his eyes. He could see the state of the ongoing battle too. Qing Shui had given Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique to him and while he hadn't mastered it, his sight was still useful. He could see the Qing Shui had put it to such use and was encouraged. Perhaps one day, he would be able to do so too.

Ling Chen could obviously tell that he was much stronger than Qing Shui. However, under such circumstances, he still couldn't suppress him. He realized the terror of Qing Shui's battle techniques, leveraging force against force, weakening, and could target his weakest area. Such sight and battle technique were definitely stronger than his own.

Divine Grade Battle Technique!

Ling Chen was sure that the battle technique was Divine grade. Most importantly, this technique should be suitable for long weapons such as spears or rods. For a moment, he wondered if he should get his hands on it, but his thoughts drifted back to the Tyrant Divine Spear he had inherited. He had trained for so long that it had taken shape. Would it be worth it to spend another few decades cultivating?

Open!

The nine caves behind Ling Chen all opened at once. Out of those, five of them were silver and another three were gold. The last one was a regular cave. These caves were obscured by rolls of fog which didn't seem to be dissipating. It didn't allow a good view but there was a continuous growl coming from it.

Level Four Nurture God Realm. Only one of these caves was a normal one and it wasn't clear how much addition it had. There wasn't a tenth cave. While Ling Chen was strong, it didn't mean that he would have ten caves. Nine caves could also be an invincible force and having ten caves would essentially mean that it would be able to suppress the former. However, ten was typically still stronger than nine. Of course, if Ten Caves Realm couldn't advance to Nurture God Realm, or if they weren't as strong as their opponents, then it would be hard to tell who would be stronger.

Just because they had a higher starting point, didn't mean that their achievement would reflect as such.

Level Four Nurture God Realm could fling Level One Nurture God Realm aside, especially if there were demonic beasts or some other special existences in the caves. Even if Qing Shui had a higher starting point, other than the tenth cave, all other parts of Level One were used to increase 50% of his demonic beasts' power. The other party was at Level Four. That wasn't normal. Even if he didn't have as many caves as Qing Shui did, he still far surpassed Qing Shui's Level One. Furthermore, it wasn't clear how the increment between the levels was like.

Qing Shui didn't have any ideas now. He opened the caves behind him as well, its gold had others gasping in surprise. Ling Chen's startled gaze had a fleeting murderous intent.

Qing Shui wasn't surprised when he caught the murderous glint. It was normal.

Roar, roar...

Several demonic beasts emerged from Ling Chen's cave. The one on the forefront was a snow-white tiger, about ten meters long. Its entire body was snow-white with a halo surrounding it. There wasn't a hint of other colors or dust. It was spotless.

Qing Shui was stunned. Comparing his own Diamond White Tiger King to this creature, the former could only be considered as a mixed-breed, no longer pure. However, with that said, Qing Shui's Diamond White Tiger King was a pure-breed while Ling Chen's was a transforming type. Its bloodline surpassed Diamond White Tiger King by more than double.

It would not be wise to belittle the doubled bloodline. The white tiger opposite was an extremely valuable existence. For example, if Qing Shui had used it to refine Blood Strengthening Pill, its effects would be more than ten times better than ancient pure-blooded beasts. It was enough to explain just how strong this white tiger was.

Besides the white tiger, there were two other battle techniques. One was a peacock, and another was a Great Buddha Star Elephant.

Those two weren't common existences. Their stats were the same as Qing Shui's Primordial Golden Bear. Legend had it that there would only be two types of phoenixes left; a Golden Winged Roc, and a peacock. Phoenix was a legendary creature. There were legends in this world, just that it was one of the strongest demonic beasts and sacred. However, it wasn't the same vision that the people in the past had about mystical dragons and phoenixes.

The powers of these were not inferior to Ling Chen. After all, he was at Level Four Nurture God Realm. Nurture God Realm could let the creatures in the caves be as strong as the wielder. Hence, the number of caves was important for this factor, given that both parties were on the same level of Nurture God Realm.

Qing Shui's Primordial Golden Bear was a variable. He still had Divine Battle Puppet, Dragon Slaying Beast, Primordial Dragon Elephant, and Dragon Spider. Even so, comparing to his opponent, they were inferior.

But Qing Shui still had an ability up his sleeve.

Besides Battle God Halo and passive formations, he could also use active formations.

Ten Paramitas Sword Formation!

It was a labyrinth type of formation, belonging to a maze formation. In an instant, it was established. Watching Ling Chen opposite him, he said, "That little tiger of yours is not bad."

Chapter 2345 - Tyrannous Mountain Split, Ling Chen's Terrifying Potential

Ling Chen couldn't help the twitch of his lips when Qing Shui said his little tiger was not bad. He valued this white tiger the most. It was a pure white tiger breed, a true divine creature. Its ability was even more powerful than his own and still had space for development.

"Why don't you give it to me if you lose? I'll boil it into soup and have a drink." Qing Shui pondered and spoke again.

Ling Chen's expression turned nasty. He wasn't angered before and had a good attitude. However, at the sound of Qing Shui's words, he was starting to be infuriated even though he felt that Qing Shui didn't mean any of it. Who would bear to drink soup made from a white tiger? Or rather, who would be deserving?

"You better beat me first then." Ling Chen answered coldly.

"Alright. I'm going to start attacking now. Be careful." Once he was done, he unleashed his weakening abilities.

Divine Weapon Flying Sword engulfed everything around it, suspending around Qing Shui, ready to assist at any time.

Ling Chen started his assault without hesitation. Not just him, even the few demonic beasts had rushed towards Qing Shui imposingly. It was clear that the strength of those around Ling Chen was much stronger than Qing Shui.

Thump, thump...

The loud sound of collision rang out. Dragon Slaying Beast, Diamond White Tiger King, Dragon Spider, and Primordial Dragon Elephant's resistance were decent and had the assistance of Divine Weapon Flying Sword's weakening. However, they were still flung aside despite this.

Roar!

Even so, there were still two by Qing Shui's side which stayed unmoving. They were the Primordial Golden Bear and Divine Battle Puppet.

In fact, Primordial Golden Bear had cast Great Buddha Star Elephant aside in just a short moment and was rushing at the peacock now. These weren't real demonic beasts but an Origin Spirit Form, belonging to a form of half demonic beast and half Origin Qi.

Divine Battle Puppet wasn't weak now either. With caves and formations, as well as the reduction in damage, it was just enough to obstruct the white tiger.

This was the white tiger which had been weakened by Qing Shui. Qing Shui's focus was on their opponents. Who knew that despite this, they were still only barely counter them after using all of Emperor's Qi, Art of Pursuing, Buddha Diamond Seal, and Buddha Wisdom Seal.

Otherwise, Qing Shui did wonder if Divine Battle Puppet would have been beaten to a pulp by the white tiger. If not, would it be flung aside and to what extent?

Qing Shui used his control once more, ceaseless in using Gouging Strike, Buddha Bright Seal, and Dragon-Capturing Hands.

Pop!

Dragon-Capturing Hands caught onto a demonic beast with dragon blood and gorged blind one of its eyes.

Roar!

The hysterical growl made one's heart quiver, but Qing Shui didn't show mercy. Divine Weapon Flying Sword stabbed into the other eye socket almost simultaneously and seemed to have penetrated through the demonic beast's brain.

Its large stature struggled but was soon falling from the sky, emitting a dull thud when it landed.

Ling Chen wore a nasty expression. One of his demonic beasts had perished. Even though he had a few in excess, it still frustrated him.

A trace!

A trace of Ling Chen's silhouette flitted past and lunged towards Qing Shui. Qing Shui was well prepared in welcoming the attack but just as Ling Chen was nearing him, his shadow took a ninety-degree turn and rushed towards Diamond White Tiger King instead.

Diamond White Tiger King's defense was not bad, but it depended on who it was up against. In the face of Ling Chen, any defense could be neglected. If the hit landed its mark, it would likely be killed in an

instant. After all, Ling Chen was able to kill an Ancient Berserk Dragon instantaneously, a Peak Cave Realm creature.

Qing Shui's strongest demonic creatures were only nearing Peak Cave. Dragon Slaying Beast was a little more unique and could likely withstand it. As for the rest, even if they don't die from the hit, they would be severely injured. However, with Divine Weapon Flying Sword's ability, perhaps they could escape death but not from being wounded.

It was then when Dragon Spider spat a dense web and shielded Diamond White Tiger King with it.

Diamond White Tiger King fled with all it had as Dragon Slaying Beast rushed forward. However, the white tiger opposite mirrored the move at the same time, targeting the fleeing Diamond White Tiger King.

Qing Shui was frantic. There was no doubt that this white tiger would be capable of killing Diamond White Tiger King in just a second.

Divine Weapon Flying Sword!

Three-inch long sword shot towards the white tiger's eye.

Divine Weapon Flying Sword's speed was quick but so was the white tiger. It dodged the attack and continued its pursuit for the Diamond White Tiger King.

By then, Qing Shui had also rushed forth and kept Diamond White Tiger King into Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and Dark Phoenix, leaving Primordial Dragon Elephant, Dragon Slaying Beast, Black Ice Divine Worm, Divine Battle Puppet, and Primordial Golden Bear.

These few creatures' attack abilities were all formidable, especially the Primordial Golden Bear. It could fight against three without defeat and its Ten Caves abilities doubled when they reached Level One. This was scary. After all, the others only had a quarter of the tenth cave.

Ling Chen's Level Four Nurture Gold Realm's caves weren't even as strong as Qing Shui's Level One tenth cave.

Divine Battle Puppet restarted its obstruction against the white tiger. Divine Battle Puppet was Qing Shui's consciousness, and hence, it was still pretty decent.

This battle had kept Qing Shui busy for a moment, but his heart finally calmed down a little now. As long as there was Qing Shui's support, it would be difficult for them to lose from this position.

Ten Paramitas Sword Formation was changed into Five Elements Formation. Dragon Slaying Beast stayed by Qing Shui's side, ready to strike a fatal blow at a moment's notice.

Five Elements Formation was a defensive ability. During this time, Qing Shui had already used Buddha Wisdom Seal and had amazingly allowed his demonic beasts and him to endure and fight. After all this, it had finally closed the distance in power between both parties and almost leveled it out.

Qing Shui's Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique was obnoxious. It allowed him to spot flaws along with the help of Windwhisk Willow. Qing Shui still had Dragon Slaying Beast and Divine Weapon

Flying Sword by his side too, and hence had grown courageous the longer they fought. He began to fight as he willed the longer it went on.

Dragon Spider's webs were also proving useful. One unlucky demonic beast was wrapped like a dumpling and killed by Dragon Slaying Beast. Dragon Slaying Beast was an executioner when up against any immobilized demonic beasts. It was able to break through their skull and kill its target in an instant.

Ling Chen no longer dared to belittle Qing Shui. He realized now that his opponent was strange. While his own ability surpassed them, Qing Shui's formation was strong and must have had some unique techniques or treasures. Qing Shui was surprisingly capable of hindering their advances.

Even so, Ling Chen didn't panic. On the contrary, he was becoming excited as he held onto the silver spear. Once again, he rushed towards Qing Shui. To shoot a person, one must first target their horse. Similarly, you capture an enemy by capturing their chief.

Qing Shui was not to be outdone either. Waving the Golden Battle Halberd, he rushed forward.

Thump!

Golden Battle Halberd emitted a ray of golden light as it struck towards the snow-white, dragon-looking spear. The sound of collision and halo was piercing to the ears.

Qing Shui's body recoiled backward while Ling Chen followed relentlessly. The spear in his hand struck down once more.

Tyrannous Mountain Split!

Ling Chen knew that his might was his advantage. He had already observed the intricacies of Qing Shui's techniques and it was clear to him now. He didn't allow Qing Shui to use the techniques, just strength. Using force to break the opportunity. The thing he could count on was his strength and he was borrowing strength from the simple Tyrannous Mountain Split. It would be useless regardless of how intricate the technique was. This attack only allowed for collision or dodge. There was no weakness, making it almost impossible to pull a fast one.

As for dodging, with their current speed, there was no way Ling Chen would let Qing Shui dodge it.

Qing Shui gritted his teeth and raised his Golden Battle Halberd to the sky.

Thump!

Qing Shui was struck down as blood trailed from the corner of his lips.

What tremendous power. This was his opponent's true strength.

Chapter 2436 The Powerful Marrow Nibbling Golden Dragon Silkworm

Qing Shui could tell that Ling Chen's assaults were meant to break through his techniques with force. When Ling Chen's attacks came again, it was still the same Tyrannous Mountain Split.

However, it seemed to carry even more vigor than before.

It engulfed Qing Shui. Not only was Tyrannous Mountain Split formidable, but it was also imposing. More importantly, Qing Shui found himself out of time to dodge.

Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique's cultivation was still lacking; otherwise, it would have been able to dispel a portion of it.

Thump!

The oppressive tackle struck again, and Qing Shui spat out a mouthful of blood. It was just a minor injury which his body could slowly heal on its own. It wasn't a big deal for now, but it would grow severe at this rate. Hence, there was a need to turn the tables around.

Hidden Weapon!

Qing Shui suddenly remembered an ability which he had yet unleashed. He hadn't found himself in a situation such as this before and therefore, didn't find a chance to use it. He had always felt that this hidden weapon was like a sneak attack. In fact, hidden weapons were often used during unexpected moments and could be considered a sneak attack.

Of course, when hidden weapons reached a certain level, it no longer needed to be a sneak attack. One could let their opponents see the hidden weapon as they were attacked by it. It wouldn't be possible to dodge either; at that level, it was much like having a gun pointed at you in his past life. It was impossible to dodge.

Ling Chen's silver spear unleashed another Tyrannous Mountain Split.

At that moment, Qing Shui raised his hands as two silver needles shot toward Ling Chen's eyes. Their speed was astonishingly quick, but it wasn't Qing Shui's highest potential. He had used it in a rush, causing its performance to be discounted.

However, even so, Ling Chen was still forced to dodge them in haste. Consequently, his incomplete Tyrannous Mountain Split fell apart on its own.

Mountain Push Stance!

Just as his opponent was evading, Qing Shui used Mountain Push Stance.

The heavy and slow attack lunged forward while the spear in Ling Chen's hands struck down in frenzy.

From what Qing Shui could see, it was still the Tyrannous Mountain Split!

Boom!

Qing Shui's Mountain Push Stance was dispelled as Ling Chen retreated by three steps.

Seal of Xuantian!

A gigantic, silver stone tower fell from above Ling Chen.

Primordial Flame Dragon Drill!

Qing Shui began using Primordial assaults. As he did, he would include a few silver needles from time to time, throwing Ling Chen into confusion in a moment.

Boom!

Roar!

Primordial Dragon Elephant let out a roar. A gaping wound appeared on its body with fresh blood flowing out. White tiger had found an opportunity to do a sneak attack and inflict serious damage on Primordial Dragon Elephant's body.

Qing Shui's heart sank. Meanwhile, Ling Chen stabbed at Qing Shui.

Instant Slash!

This was one of Ling Chen's terrifying killing techniques. Its force was even stronger than Tyrannous Mountain Split, and its speed doubled. The technique was simple with an element of armor penetration and ability to ignore defense.

Many warriors had died under this Instant Slash technique of Ling Chen's.

Qing Shui squinted. At this point, he didn't have the luxury of being overly-concerned anymore.

Divine Weapon Flying Sword, Throat Lock!

Marrow Nibbling Golden Dragon Silkworm!

Stellar Transposition!

Right before Ling Chen's attack reached him, Qing Shui attacked without dodging.

There was a golden glow, the effect of Paragon Golden Armor. This attack was targeted at Qing Shui's throat, an ultimate killing technique.

At the same time, Divine Weapon Flying Sword sliced at the opponent's neck as well. Halo appeared around Ling Chen's body before Stellar Transposition struck against his skull.

Boom!

Perhaps it was the halo at work, but the attack didn't inflict severe injuries. However, Qing Shui's focus was on Marrow Nibbling Golden Dragon Silkworm and for it to enter Ling Chen's brain.

He couldn't remember the last time he had used a trump card like Marrow Nibbling Golden Dragon Silkworm, and neither did he expect to use it today. This was Qing Shui's last protective charm and his last resort to winning by a surprise move.

Ling Chen was still a fearsome character. He was strong, the cream of the crop among younger generations. The number of young men like him in Nine Continents could be counted with two hands.

If they were this strong, then how much stronger were the people backing them?

Ling Chen felt something in his brain before an immense pain overtook him. It seemed like something was eating at his brain. He calmed down then saw that it was a golden little worm feeding on his own brain.

He was scared now. This was terrifying. He attempted all ways to get rid of it but to no avail. He lifted his head and locked his gaze on Qing Shui. "There's no need for this to end in death between us. I lost. Isn't it time for you to get it out?"

Qing Shui was calm. "Why isn't it necessary for us to end it in death?"

"Nine Continents is huge with many powerful forces around. Killing me won't do you any good. I'm not a saint but I'm not evil either. Being friends would open more roads for us. We might be able to help each other in the future, what do you say?" Ling Chen tolerated the pain in his brain, but he was at Qing Shui's mercy now. He had no choice.

"How am I supposed to believe you? We've already had a grudge. If I let you go, I'll have another enemy." Qing Shui was relaxed now.

"That thing you left in my head is horrifying. Nobody in their right mind would provoke you. Didn't you want the white tiger? Why don't I give it to you?" Ling Chen couldn't think of anything else. The worm in his head was still feeding. At this rate, he'd be reduced to an idiot even if he didn't die.

"Hm, this is good. It's good to be able to reap some benefits after fighting. This little tiger must be delicious. Alright, give me the little tiger, and let's be friends," said Qing Shui seriously.

"That... Can you not eat it? Can you just take it as your pet? It has followed me for many years; it'd be a pity for it to be eaten." Ling Chen trembled.

Qing Shui could tell that the man treasured this little tiger. A noble man would not forcibly seize the treasures of others, and while Qing Shui wasn't anyone noble, he didn't have any intentions of taking the tiger. Since he wanted to be friends with Ling Chen, then he'd have to be sincere. That was why he had said those words before too; he just wanted Ling Chen to go through the process of regaining what he lost.

"Alright, since you adore the little tiger this much, then I don't want it anymore. I can't trust that you really want to be friends with me. However, I was just thinking that it'd be good to not be enemies. I have too many, and it's tiring." Qing Shui shook his head, stopping Ling Chen from canceling himself as the white tiger's master.

"Younger brother, I should be older than you. There's no need for more words. As the saying goes, you see a person's true nature with time. The worm of yours is horrifying, and it wouldn't be difficult for you to kill me. To be honest, I knew of you and wouldn't have looked for you. Although I didn't complete my deal, I've walked my round along the thin thread between life and death; I could be considered to have repaid my debt." Ling Chen sighed.

Qing Shui could feel the terror of his own Marrow Nibbling Golden Dragon Silkworm as well. He hadn't used it for a few years, and it had always been in Central Palace Blood Essence Pool. Who knew that it had grown this powerful since then. What a pleasant surprise. Ling Chen mentioned that this thing was a Divine Worm and possibly the legendary Killing God Divine Worm.

Chapter 2437 Giant Spirit Divine Manor's Treasure Map, Nine Stars Emperor City

Qing Shui retracted his Marrow Nibbling Golden Dragon Silkworm. The only thing you gained from killing someone was their head on the floor; Qing Shui hadn't wanted to kill, but these types of battle didn't allow one to hold back. The price of being merciful would be the cruelest for yourself.

Ling Chen's body was drenched in cold sweat. After all, he had just taken a trip to the gates of death. In all honesty, he didn't think Qing Shui would let him live. Under such circumstances, he wouldn't have done it if their roles were to be reversed.

Ling Chen wiped his sweat and approached Qing Shui. Any demonic beasts from before were kept, leaving an empty land around them. It was because of this that everyone took a rest.

"Young brother, to be honest, I didn't think you'd let me off." Ling Chen was happy and contented like he had just been given a new lease of life.

"Actually, I didn't have any intention of killing you. Are you still repaying Miraculous Physician Pang's favor?" Qing Shui laughed.

"I can't say. I owe him a favor, so it wouldn't be loyal to talk about it." Ling Chen spoke honorably.

"Pfft! Isn't that equivalent to you revealing it? I see you truly aren't loyal." Nuo Lan laughed.

Ling Chen stared absentmindedly at Nuo Lan. This woman was too alluring. When he snapped back to reality, he chuckled embarrassedly. "Sister, I was startled by your goddess-like beauty. I was reckless earlier, please don't take offense."

Qing Shui was stunned. Watching Ling Chen, he realized that he was still a young man...

Nuo Lan didn't seem to blame him. "Cut it off. The men who dared say those words to me didn't have a good end. Some of them aren't even men anymore. Do you want to give it a try?"

Qing Shui and Nuo Lan had been with each other for some time now without progress, just like him with Ziche Sha. Now Qing Shui could tell that Nuo Lan seemed to like Ling Chen.

"I'll pass. I've never had a woman. If I stopped being a man just like that, it'd be a lifelong regret." Ling Chen shook his head frantically.

Hao Tian burst into laughter. "You're a virgin?"

"Is that embarrassing?" Ling Chen froze as he seemed to realize he made a small mistake.

"He is. I can confirm with my physician's sight. I had wondered if you weren't allowed to lose your virginity due to cultivation, but I don't think that's the case. And it wasn't like you're incapable... Unless it's a psychological problem?" Qing Shui smiled.

"Don't, don't. I'll tell you myself. Don't speculate. I did have to remain a virgin due to my cultivation previously, but I had broken through three years ago, so that's no longer necessary..."

"So, you have never done it in three years..." Hao Tian clicked his tongue at Ling Chen.

"I didn't find anyone suitable. I'm a traditional person..."

Ling Chen's words made many of the men roll their eyes. Nuo Lan turned her attention to Qing Shui. "You're sure whatever you said before is true?"

"What did I say?" Qing Shui smiled.

Nuo Lan's expression looked rigid. "Rascal, you know what I mean. Quick."

"Alright, alright. I'm sure. Whatever I said before is true." Qing Shui retained his smile.

Everyone understood now. It turned out that Nuo Lan's preference in men was...

Nuo Lan panicked at the crowd's attention on her. "What are you looking at? I want to find a man who belongs only to me."

Ling Chen's eyes lit up. "Does that mean I can..."

Nuo Lan's gaze turned cold as she stared at Ling Chen. "Did I say anything about us?"

"No, no. Don't be angry, Miss. Anger won't do good for your health. Oh, right. This is Giant Spirit Divine Manor, why don't we take a look inside." Ling Chen wasn't a fool. He knew that Ling Chen was interested in him and was exceptionally happy.

It was then when everyone saw the words on the stone wall, Giant Spirit Divine Manor.

The words seemed decent. It wasn't their kind of gorgeous, but it might be due to the era when it was written. It was faded, but the handwriting was forceful, revealing a feeling of ferocity beyond compare.

"There's no door?" Everyone searched but couldn't find one.

"We can blast through this stone wall." Qing Shui's Heavenly Vision Technique saw that it was empty and landed a punch right after speaking.

Rumble!

Giant boulders collapsed, revealing a huge hole.

"What a paradise." Feeling the Spiritual Qi from within, Ling Chen smiled.

"Let's head in. Perhaps there are some treasures in there." Tugging the two women with him, Qing Shui said. Ling Chen shamelessly followed behind Nuo Lan at a distance, not too near or far.

The people entered the hole. It wasn't dark inside. There was a tunnel as corridor, covered in a thick layer of dust. After a few kilometers, a great palace appeared before them. It was about two hundred meters tall and a few kilometers in width and length. It had been a huge project to have built this along the walls of a mountain.

Giant Spirit Divine Manor!

The words appeared once more in the center of the great palace with a mural below it. The mural illustrated powerful giants wearing armor, holding a huge club or a spear without its head.

There was a stone table below the mural but there was nothing on top of it. This reminded Qing Shui of the Daoist Temple once more; could that have been the real Giant Spirit Divine Manor?

After searching the area, they found absolutely nothing. It was too clean, to the extent that it seemed unbelievable.

However, there was nothing for them to do but accept reality. Before they left, Qing Shui took the mural. It was a regular drawing, but Qing Shui decided to keep it. Just as he flipped it over to roll it up, he was stunned.

There was a map and a line of words. Nine Suns Domain, Nine Suns True Dragon Mountain.

Qing Shui kept the map without uttering a word. He wouldn't be able to go there now for it was the strongest domain within the Upper Three Regions. Searching for treasure there would be equivalent to seeking death. He'd revisit this place when he grew stronger.

What he found should have been a hidden treasure map.

Overall, including what they had gotten from the Daoist Temple, they gained decently from the trip. Qing Shui even had a feeling that the Daoist Temple might have been shifted from here...

.....

The group left the territory after a week and even the Ice Star Nation. Even though it was near Ice Star Nation's Emperor City, Qing Shui didn't wish to return. Nine Stars Domain had a special place which was higher than any country.

Nine Stars Emperor City. It was said that this was where the Nine Stars gathered and where it was protected by the Nine Stars. It was a huge city and the most terrifying place in the Nine Stars Domain. Nine Stars Emperor City was filled with strong warriors. Any powerful force would think of a way to get in here.

The Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect, Ling Chen's clan, was at Nine Stars Emperor City. Qing Shui hesitated but decided to head over in the end. The Demon Gate and Divine Palace there should be the strongest in Nine Stars Domain. Qing Shui would really have to properly stop there for a while; his own abilities were no longer enough to disregard other groups of superior warriors...

Chapter 2438 Thoughts, Opening Imperial Cuisine Hall in Nine Stars Emperor City

Nine Stars Emperor City!

Qing Shui and the others had reached Nine Stars Domain's legendary city. There was a strange aura which lunged over them the moment they entered Nine Stars Emperor City. This was a form of reserve strength.

"Nine Stars Emperor City has been around for a long time. It was rumored that they have been around since ancient times and was one of the weakest links within Upper Three Regions. However, even Nine Moons Domain or Nine Suns Domain wouldn't belittle Nine Stars Emperor City." Ling Chen's home was here, and he was familiar with the area.

Qing Shui refused Ling Chen's invitation politely and stayed in an inn here.

Ling Chen didn't insist either. While their relationship was decent for the past few days, everyone had their own freedom. Besides, they didn't have complete trust in each other just yet.

“Miss Nuo Lan, please gather some information about this place soon and establish a manor around this area.” Qing Shui smiled at Nuo Lan.

“That’s not a problem.” Nuo Lan smiled and headed out.

Qing Shui stood by the window of his room. He was on the sixth floor and could observe the roads below. It wasn’t too high, though, and was restricted in view.

The women walked in and Qing Shui smiled. “They’re still drinking.”

“Hm. It’s lively in the hall. I got to know quite a few people and heard some news.” Shen Huang spoke as she settled in the spot beside Qing Shui.

Qing Shui cuddled a woman on each arm and looked outside. “Nine Continents Medical Sect should be here as well. Oh, right. What do you think of Ling Chen?”

Beihuang Fan spoke up then. “Instinctively, I think he’s alright. He’s not one of those crafty and treacherous men. You said it yourself, he has never had a woman. Seems like he has principles.”

Beihuang Fan’s words mirrored his thoughts; he wouldn’t have agreed to Ling Chen dating Nuo Lan otherwise. Of course, this wasn’t to say that Qing Shui could control Nuo Lan’s relationships. But if Ling Chen was really an evil jerk, then he wouldn’t mind doing something behind their backs.

“We heard something in the hall earlier. A powerful Demon Gate Sect Leader appeared in Nine Continents Emperor City and was an unmatched beauty in her generation,” said Shen Huang gently.

Qing Shui didn’t express anything too out of the ordinary. He knew that they were talking about Tantai Lingyan and had expected her to be here. Although he didn’t think it was strange, he still felt slight agitation to the news. However, he didn’t have to show it in front of the two women, that wouldn’t be fair to them.

“We’ll see how it goes if we bump into them. This issue...” Qing Shui shook his head.

The next day, Nuo Lan informed Qing Shui about a few notable forces in Nine Stars Emperor City, such as Nine Continents Food Residence, Nine Continents Demon Gate, Nine Continents Medical Sect, Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect, Nine Continents Cloth Manor, Nine Continents Trade Association, Nine Continents Medicine Association, Nine Continents Adventurers Society and so on.

Furthermore, they had already purchased a huge manor in a decent location. Despite the official term of it being purchased, the place was actually found by Ling Chen and they didn’t spend much. It was easy for Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect to build a manor even in Nine Stars Emperor City.

The location of the manor was decent, standing along one of the best streets and at an intersection where there was a great traffic flow. Most importantly, this manor was rebuilt; it was just done but they hadn’t had a use for it.

Renovations were done as well. Qing Shui couldn’t be bothered with redoing the renovations, especially since it was already good to begin with. This would be an Imperial Cuisine Hall, and they would stop here for some time. However, Qing Shui knew that they would have to leave at some point. He was actually at a loss now.

Divine Palace and Demon Gate coexisted. Even though they were against each other, but it was like the good and evil in ancient times; there was no good without the presence of evil. Battle Gods existed for Demon Gate, and without the latter, there wouldn't be Divine Palace.

Apart from that, Demon Gate and Divine Palace were also a form of existence in Nine Continents, just like Nine Continents Food Residence and the others. Hence, Qing Shui no longer felt a need to destroy the Demon Gate. They would reappear even after being destroyed; there was no way to eliminate evil. As time went back, it would reappear in a new form and even good could turn evil. This was just nature's law.

Qing Shui had reached an epiphany about a lot of things that he didn't know before. He had never been so aware as he was now. After experiencing so much, he truly felt it. He was aware before, but he had never felt it.

Hence, the way Qing Shui was now was mostly because of Tantai Lingyan, and he had the gut feeling that if Tantai Lingyan became Nine Continent Demon Gate's strongest existence, then perhaps it wouldn't be a bad thing. For example, they could rewrite the rules. Since he wouldn't destroy them, then he could guide them. Perhaps such an ending would be for the best.

After thinking it through, Qing Shui's spirits were lifted. Imperial Cuisine Hall was also ready to open for business.

It wasn't a big deal to open a shop in Nine Stars Emperor City, but every industry had its rules, and smaller forces had their own. For example, to build some relationship, greet them in advance. This was even truer for greater forces. This was not like dealings with commerce taxation bodies in his previous life, but there was still a need to contact them. After all, there was a City Lord in Nine Stars Emperor City, and they had a few organizations under them. Payment must be made with the forces here, like taxing in previous life or protection fee.

Qing Shui's street was under the name of Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect and they had relied on Ling Chen for the opening of Imperial Cuisine Hall. No matter what, Ling Chen still had some weight among this generation.

The opening of Imperial Cuisine Hall wasn't that crowded. Moreover, there weren't many from Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect who visited as well. Ling Chen came by, naturally, and brought along a few of his siblings. Qing Shui hadn't allowed Ling Chen to make too much of a fuss over it as he didn't think it was necessary. The more people there were, the more troubles it would bring. While he wasn't afraid, he didn't want to waste too much time and energy.

Qing Shui had about twenty to thirty people here, along with the dozens of people from Ling Chen's side. Even though Ling Chen laid low, there were still several people who came for him.

It didn't reach a hundred guests originally, but the grand opening of a shop always accompanied by the sound of firecrackers which attracted a crowd of pedestrians. After all, the location was good and there were many who were curious to check the new establishment out.

"Say, Boss. What's this Imperial Cuisine Hall exactly?" yelled one of the guests out.

"Primarily for healing purposes, but we also serve foods," answered Qing Shui.

“What a novel idea. Other inns would provide free food and drinks during opening while medical halls would allow free consultation. Do you have such an activity here?” shouted another guest.

“Yes, of course! Registration is there for free consultation, and free food will be on the other side.” Qing Shui laughed.

“Alright, I’ll go register.”

“Me too. But... Is the physician here good? I’ve been suffering from an unspeakable disease for a long time, but the medical fees are simply too expensive. It’s free right?” said a limping man.

Chapter 2439 Grudge of the Nine Continents Medical Sect

“Haha, I heard that an Imperial Cuisine Hall opened up. What big words. You’re even running a medical hall. I would love to see what qualifications you have to do this.”

A clear and lively voice was brought to their ears. It was a man. People couldn’t guess his age, but he had a mild air around him. The people around all greeted him when they saw him. “Good day, Miraculous Physician Hua!”

Miraculous Physician? Qing Shui watched the man and knew that he was from the Nine Continents Medical Sect. The only grudge he had with this organization was with Miraculous Physician Pang, and he didn’t kill the fatty back then. However, the next the time he saw the Fatty, he would make the latter regret. Of course, he wouldn’t kill him, but crippling him will be fun.

Miraculous Physician Pang didn’t have many accomplishments in cultivation, but his medical skills were the real deal. But anyway Qing Shui covered the fact that he had damaged his kidneys. Although it wouldn’t affect his health, he would no longer be able to raise his ‘treasure’. Want to hit on Qing Shui’s women? This would make him suffer a fate worse than death.

Love included loving the person and those connected to them, and the same went for hatred.

Therefore, Qing Shui didn’t have a good impression of Nine Continents Medical Sect. To make it worse, this Miraculous Physician Hua came by with such insolence which deepened Qing Shui’s bad impression of them.

“Do your words even worth a fart around here? Right... Who are you anyway?” Qing Shui just smiled indifferently at him.

Qing Shui knew this was a territory of the Nine Continents Mighty Spear Sect, and the so-called Miraculous Physician Hua did not have the right to fart around like this.

However, a great medical practitioner would demand such respect anywhere they went, just like this case. The Nine Continents Medical Sect was a monstrous power in this region. Thus, no matter where he went, they’d show him respect. After all, there were too many people who owed Nine Continents Medical Sect favors which equaled a huge fortune for them.

Who could guarantee that they’d never fall sick, meet an accident, and be injured throughout their lives? Moreover, the general situation was different from his previous life. The medical practitioners here had the right to not heal you, especially so for Nine Continents Medical Sect. Most of the

formidable talents in the medical fields were controlled by them. Meaning, to offend them would result in severe consequences.

“Haha, you’re new, right? Young man, my Nine Continents Medical Sect doesn’t need any territory because we have a right to speak wherever we go. If I allow you to open your business, then you can. If not, you’ll have to obey. So, close this place down and scram!” said Miraculous Physician Hua, looking both arrogant and pretentious. In Qing Shui’s words, he was just a pretentious prick.

“Does it feel exceptionally nice to say those words?” Qing Shui wasn’t angry either. He was keenly aware of his own medical skills and wasn’t afraid of the restriction from Nine Continents Medical Sect.

“You... You... Young man, you’re ignorant about the complexity of things.” Miraculous Physician Hua huffed in anger.

“Others call you Miraculous Physician Hua. However, you can’t even cure your own illness, yet you have the audacity to claim the title. Don’t you find that hilarious?” said Qing Shui coldly.

“Nonsense. What illness do I have? That’s a load of rubbish.” Miraculous Physician Hua was shocked, but he didn’t give it away.

“I despise you even more for being cowardly. It wasn’t a big deal that a medical practitioner can’t heal themselves, yet you don’t even have the courage to admit your shortcomings. From this point alone, I’m sure that you’re the furthest thing away from being a Miraculous Physician.” Qing Shui shook his head in disdain.

Miraculous Physician Hua knew that he couldn’t trust this lad’s words, but they still provoked him. However, he had experienced much and managed to speak calmly. “Hmph, I’ve never called myself a Miraculous Physician. That’s a title others gave me!”

“If it’s given by others, then it means they’re speaking highly of you. Still, you’re unashamed of accepting it.” Qing Shui laughed.

“I didn’t accept it. I’ve never admitted that I am one,” said Miraculous Physician Hua smugly.

“That’s an attempt to retain a good reputation while having bad intentions. You claimed you didn’t admit it, but you’re as arrogant as a rooster. This is enough to show that you have accepted the title in your heart.” Qing Shui spoke the truth; Miraculous Physician Hua had long since acknowledged himself as a Miraculous Physician.

It was a great humiliation to be compared to a rooster. Miraculous Physician Hua was someone of status, and his face turned stoic at Qing Shui’s continuous rudeness. “Since you’re going to open a medical hall, then show us your abilities. If you can’t cure them, then close this place down!”

Miraculous Physician Hua had the utmost confidence regarding his medical skills, and looking for patients was an even easier feat. Since there were many who had registered for the treatment, if Qing Shui couldn’t heal them, then he’d make Qing Shui scam out of here. As for the spectators, they naturally wouldn’t come forward if they saw that Qing Shui couldn’t heal them.

Qing Shui had an ulterior motive to annoy Miraculous Physician Hua. For example, to have Nine Continents Medical Sect’s Miraculous Physician Hua advertised for him. This would have a great effect,

humiliating their organization at the same time. He believed there would be others from Nine Continents Medical Sect who would challenge him. Anyway, his reputation would soar when the time came.

The people in Nine Stars Emperor City were strong, but Qing Shui didn't think there would be an issue in protecting himself. Moreover, on his side, Ling Chen was also an outstanding expert in Nine Stars Emperor City and was one of the strongest in the younger generation.

If his medical skills became well-known, then his influence would be even greater. If only his own Nurture God Realm could break through to the next level, then he wouldn't have to worry about anyone in Nine Stars Domain, Nine Stars Emperor City.

"Doctor, I'm here to seek treatment." Qing Shui and Miraculous Physician Hua had separated for a while when a man walked over.

"Register and take a number if you want to seek treatment." Hao Tian spoke up without hesitation.

"Queue my ass. It's your honor that I'm here to seek treatment from you. Don't be shameless. Do you believe when I say that I'd tear this place down?" The man's eyes were like a venomous snake's; normal people would have had their souls leave their bodies from his stare.

"I actually don't believe it. Why don't you try?" Hao Tian replied dismissively.

"Hao Tian, you're not his match. Since you're here to seek treatment, then let's do that." Qing Shui walked over and smiled. It was time to start treatment for others anyway.

Hao Tian glared at the man.

"What are you looking at? Do you have a death wish?" The capable man spat with contempt.

"Alright, consultation session has begun. Go register and get a number!" Qing Shui just smiled.

"Lad, did you take my words from before as rubbish?" The man was furious and used the same snake eyes as he glared at Qing Shui.

"Since you mentioned it, then we'll treat it as rubbish. Don't waste our time." Qing Shui waved his hand dismissively as though he was chasing away a fly.

"You're asking to die! Hmph, then I'll teach you a lesson!" A fist from the man swung toward Qing Shui.

From this man's perspective, Qing Shui wouldn't have high cultivation level as a medical practitioner. He thought he'd be able to kill him with just one punch. It'd be best if it did, as it'd end everything once and for all. He was here to stir trouble anyway.

In the instant before his punch landed on Qing Shui, the latter breathed lightly then crossed his arms. With a twirl, a series of cracking sound could be heard. And along with it, the arm of the man was turned into chinese fried dough instantly.

Chapter 2440 Beating The Shameless Miraculous Physician Hua

Qing Shui was the most experienced at attacking weaknesses, and this strike had completely crippled the man's arm. While it was possible to heal the arm, it would still be a difficult task to heal it

completely. After all, the valuable herbs and pill medicines refined by an alchemist was stronger in Nine Continents; they even had medicine which could revive the dead.

Even so, this wasn't something that could be enjoyed by just anyone. Typically, only exceptionally strong organizations would have such medicine, but they were still very scarce. Hence, they wouldn't usually use them. Someone like this man wouldn't have the rights to use them.

Thump!

Thereafter, Qing Shui cast the man aside with a palm.

The man wasn't Qing Shui's match, but he was still stronger than Hao Tian. Such warriors already had some form of position, but the man didn't have a good reputation. He was also being used by Nine Continents Medical Sect this time around, with the intention of causing chaos in Imperial Cuisine Hall.

Miraculous Physician Hua's expression shifted once more. He was aware of the man's capabilities and thought that this man was enough to deal with Qing Shui. Who knew that he would be crippled in just one move. How strong must this young man be? However, thinking back again, they must have reserve strength to be this daring and brash in Nine Stars Emperor City, especially in front of the Nine Continents Medical Sect.

His thoughts drifted to Qing Shui's skills. Miraculous Physician Hua felt a wave of nervousness; this was how humans were like. He didn't know where Qing Shui came from. For a young man to be this skillful, would those who were backing him up be simple?

Humans loved to speculate, or rather, it was some kind of habitual thinking. It wasn't a bad thing. Qing Shui made use of his mysterious origins to keep others guessing. He had once said that he was from the Martial Saint Divine Palace, Martial Saint Palace, and even Martial Saint Sacred Land. Most importantly, all these places seemed to exist.

However, after all this time, he had never heard of them. He didn't bother about it though; people could think whatever they wished to.

Qing Shui didn't force the man to admit who was behind this. Firstly, the man would never say, and even if he did, there wouldn't be any meaning to them naming Nine Continents Medical Sect. He didn't wish for the troubles with Nine Continents Medical Sect to turn even worse. He had no intentions of starting a fight or a feud.

Hence, he didn't ask anything and neither did he care about Miraculous Physician Hua. He simply began his free treatments.

This time around, Qing Shui did everything himself. He didn't have a choice since there wasn't anyone around him who was suitable. Qing Shui knew he needed to get someone to hold the fort here, but who could he find?

As he pondered, he began his treatment, grabbing medicine where it was necessary, providing acupuncture when it was needed. The speed at which he worked was startling. Miraculous Physician Hua began to frown as he watched from the side. Even though these patients' illnesses weren't a big deal, Qing Shui's fluency, skill, speed, and effectiveness were still surprising.

What followed after was even more shocking. Among these people, there were those with an ineradicable or undisclosable disease such as the hobbling man from before. Miraculous Physician Hua would be able to cure them, but it would take time and precious herbs. Yet, Qing Shui only took fifteen minutes, a few Golden Needles, and techniques to cure them.

He was in disbelief, dazed by the scene. If it wasn't because this hobbling man had consulted him before, he would have thought that this case was just a rehearsed show.

"Come over here. Let me take a look and see if you've completely healed." Miraculous Physician Hua called out to the man.

Old Tie—the ex-hobbling man—frowned slightly when Miraculous Physician Hua called out to him. He had once approached the latter for treatment, but the cost was sky-high which caused him to forego the treatment due to his inability to afford it. There wasn't anything wrong with this, but Old Tie was uncomfortable. Miraculous Physician Hua hadn't wanted to treat him, yet he ordered him around like this.

He didn't mind letting him check if he was fully healed, but his lips spouted something else. "Forget it, I can't afford it."

"No, I won't charge. I just want to help take a look. Don't you want to know if your leg is completely healed?" Miraculous Physician Hua responded.

Qing Shui had naturally overheard the commotion but said nothing. If Miraculous Physician Hua claimed that it wasn't fully healed or that it would relapse, he wouldn't mind giving a harsh beating to his face.

Old Tie still approached Miraculous Physician Hua in the end.

Miraculous Physician Hua inspected his leg and frowned. He was surprised; this young lad's medical skill was terrifying! Even so, his words contradicted his thoughts. "Old Tie, even though your leg looks fine now, there would still be a bit of problem in the future."

"Ah, what problem?" Old Tie was surprised. After all, his leg felt fine. However, he was ill at ease about it being a problem in the future. After all, losing what you gained was worse than regaining what you lost.

"Your leg looks healed now, but it's only temporary. It would revert to its original state in half a month's time. Believe me and let me treat you. How about this, since money was the issue, I'll treat you for free," Miraculous Physician Hua said solemnly.

Qing Shui laughed. He had seen shamelessness before but never to this extent.

Old Tie wasn't a fool, but this matter concerned his own leg. When he had gone to Miraculous Physician Hua previously, the latter wouldn't even treat anyone when the price was only a little lower. Although he didn't have that kind of money, why was Miraculous Physician Hua suddenly so gracious in offering free treatment?

Miraculous Physician Hua could see Old Tie's doubts and couldn't help but stare coldly. "Alright, we'll treat it as though I've never said this. Don't come looking for me after half a month's time and say that you need help with your leg!"

“Haha, are you planning to break his leg after half a month?” Qing Shui laughed at that.

“You, you...” Miraculous Physician Hua was surprised. He did have that thought. After all, he had boasted his verdict previously, so he must cripple the man after half a month.

“Miraculous Physician Hua, right? I’ve seen shameless people, but none of whom were as shameless as you. Do you think I’m easy to pick on? Don’t you think I will know if I’ve managed to cure someone or not? Moreover, your kidneys are already half-damaged. You can’t have intercourse, right? You can’t cure it, right? This is the karma of schemes. Before this, you could claim that medical practitioners don’t treat themselves, but it’s really because your medical skills are poor. Don’t embarrass yourself here, scram.” Qing Shui aimed his words at him disdainfully.

“You, you... You’re spouting nonsense.” Miraculous Physician Hua spat back furiously.

“I’m spouting nonsense? I have a few acupuncture techniques here which can make you speak the truth. Do you want to try?” Qing Shui took out a Golden Needle and looked at Miraculous Physician Hua.

Miraculous Physician Hua’s expression changed drastically. He had heard of this acupuncture skills which would leave one almost hypnotized. Before he could stop Qing Shui, the latter had already pricked him. Toward the public, Qing Shui asked, “Anyone has any questions? He will say whatever that comes to his mind now.”

“Can you really not have intercourse with women now?”

“Yes!” Miraculous Physician Hua replied in a daze.

“Is my leg really not fully healed? Will it revert to its original state in half a month’s time?”

“Your leg is healed. It won’t revert to its original state. I lied.”

“Is the treatment fee you quoted previously overpriced?”

“Yes, about five times the price...”

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Eventually, Miraculous Physician Hua was beaten by the public and thrown to the streets. At the same time, Nine Continents Medical Sect’s reputation declined at a rapid rate and the news spread.