

Ancient ST 381

Chapter 381 - Basic Sword Technique One with Heaven, Interspatial Satchet?

“There is too much helplessness in life... Qing Shui, thank you for saving little lass that time, I would never be able to repay your kindness... Our fate now ends here as there there is no point forcing it. You are a smart person, don't do anything that will make you regret in the future... There's no need to be sad; you're made for greater things. It'll be less painful as time passes, though you still have to endure it for now. You're a rational man, Qing Shui, endure more, tolerate more... be nice to yourself, I won't regret, I'll never regret everything we had...”

These words resounded in Qing Shui's mind repeatedly. Everyone could say the same words, everyone might say that there were too much vulnerability in this world, but Qing Shui knew that what he had gone through today had resulted in indescribable pain.

His fists were so tightly clenched that he was unaware of the pool of blood below his palms. Fresh blood from the corner of his mouth had stained red the front of his robe.

He had always thought that he would be able to protect people around him when his abilities were enhanced, but what happened today made Qing Shui realise how weak and small he was.

The look of inexpressible downcast reflected the fatigue in his heart. The sound of little lass' cries echoed in his ears and every plea to not leave seemed to stab his heart...

“Qing Shui, don't be like this, you can bring Mingyue back next time. She did this for your own good, for the good of the whole, you would have done the same if you were her, won't you,” Qing Yi wrapped her arms around Qing Shui and consoled him, her heart aching at the same time. She knew his vulnerability now and his personality; no one knew her son like her.

“Mother, I'm useless...so useless...”

“Qing Shui, let me tell you, it is like what Mingyue said, there are some times when we feel helpless, but we live on. Just like how Qing Qing was brought away that time, my heart was shattering, Mother knows how you feel, Mother is useless, but you, my son, is different, endure a little, endure a little...”

“Mother, I understand, I know all these, but the grievances in my heart are slashing my heart apart. Mother, half a year, at most half a year and you will be able to find the Yan Family. After that, 3 years after that I will bring Mingyue back!” Qing Shui planned to leave for Sword Tower in 3 years, and when the time comes he won't mind killing some people.

Qing Shui felt very depressed. Anyone would be, if in his shoes. He did not expect that husband of hers to come with such great abilities and high status.

He had thought that, even if he wasn't able to do as he pleased in Greencloud Continent, there would not be anyone bothering him. However, now Qing Shui discovered that he was barely near the super warriors in Greencloud Continent.

Qing Shui shook his head as he thought about when he could act freely without being controlled or threatened by anyone; the bitterness in his heart had rendered him speechless.

Qing Shui would never forget the words Mingyue Gelou whispered in his ears when she left!

“Qing Shui, he wouldn’t dare to touch me. I, Mingyue Gelou, am yours, and will belong to you Qing Shui forever. I won’t let anyone touch me except you.”

These words made it unbearable for Qing Shui, for it was the very thing that mattered most to him and was most unacceptable. After all, she was now his woman.

Today, as he watched her leave reluctantly, Qing Shui knew she did it for him. If he had stopped her, she would have ended her life there and then, because that would save Qing Shui and his family, as well as her daughter.

However if Qing Shui had made any move, everyone could have been dead today...

Time flew, and 3 months passed!

Within these 3 months, Qing Family gained another Xiantian martial!

Qing Jiang had had a breakthrough!

Old Master Qing Luo had come to Hundred Miles City thrice, each time a happy occasion that brought him smiles. Qing Family hoped for Qing Luo to remain in Hundred Miles City, but no matter how much they persuaded, Qing Luo returned to Qing Village.

In 3 months, Qing Shui’s abilities greatly improved. Possibly because of what happened to Mingyue Gelou, Qing Shui became less easily amused and quieter, which worried everyone in Qing Family.

3 months’ time was equivalent to almost 8 years in Realm of Violet Immortal. Probably because the matter with Mingyue Gelou had been gnawing at Qing Shui, it had been tougher for him during training.

Now that he had reached 130 cycles, his abilities were strengthened yet another time. Every cycle increased Qing Shui’s entire capabilities by 1%, be it strength, speed, or resistance...

Hence, as he gained more cycles, his ability enhancement would be greater. For instance, the increment gained from 130 cycles would be equivalent to 2 times of that gained from 101 cycles.

This was also the reason why it got tougher to train as one progressed in the Ancient Strengthening Technique!

In terms of Alchemy, ever since the “Wind Water Primordial Pellet”, a new medicinal pellet was discovered - “Everlasting Pellet”, 100 experience.

Looking at this great amount of experience made Qing Shui feel weak, but it was alright for now as he could cultivate “Spirit Concentrating Pill” and other pellets that require further increases in experience. Cultivating medicinal pellets like Golden Sore Ointment would be impossible for now.

Other martial techniques were also enhanced, even those that had reached great perfection stage. Qing Shui had known that the great perfection stage was not the final stage, but it would be especially difficult to gain any enhancement after that.

Peach of Immortality has ripened and was picked by Qing Shui, “Divine Feet Clearing” has also attained the pinnacle of large success stage, though the opportunity for breakthrough was yet to be discovered.

Also, Qing Shui has spent much of his time on the Ancient Strengthening Technique, Taichi Fist and Basic Sword Techniques.

Basic Sword Techniques remained in the obscure realm though Qing Shui had devoted time and energy to it. It looks like some luck was still needed for one to breakthrough and attain "One with Heaven".

Qing Shui was already quite satisfied with the huge improvement in his Ancient Strengthening Technique, but the most important part was for him to re-forged his suit of armour and Big Dipper Sword after he attains the obscure realm of Thousand Hammer Technique.

Wristlet: 30% increase in Damage, 200 increase in Strength, 100 increase in Agility, 100 increase in Endurance. Only 1 wristlet would incur damage regardless of the number donned. Additional 30% increase in Frenzied Bull Strength that takes effect only with a minimum of 3 pieces of armour and weapons of the same attribute!

Upper body armour: 30 % increase in Defence for specified area, 350 increase in Strength, 300 increase in Endurance, 150 increase in Agility! Additional 30% effect of Frenzied Bull Strength that takes effect only with a minimum of 3 pieces of armour and weapons of the same attribute!

Lower body armour: 30% increase in Defence for specified area, 350 increase in Strength, 300 increase in Endurance, 150 increase in Agility. Additional 30% effect of Frenzied Bull Strength that takes effect only with a minimum of 3 pieces of armour and weapons of the same attribute!

Helmet: 30% increase in Defence for specified area, 150 increase in Strength, 150 increase in Endurance, 150 increase in Agility, 20 increase in Energy! Additional 30% effect of Frenzied Bull Strength that takes effect only with a minimum of 3 pieces of armour and weapons of the same attribute!

War boots: 30% increase in speed, 400 increase in Strength, 200 increase in Endurance, 300 increase in Agility! Additional 30% effect of Frenzied Bull Strength that takes effect only with a minimum of 3 pieces of armour and weapons of the same attribute!

A wristlet forged through 3-color graded Art of Forging actually included effects of Frenzied Bull Strength. From what Qing Shui knew, 2-color graded wristlet did not contain attributes of the Frenzied Bull Strength.

As he wore each piece of armour, there was an instant surge of strange power from the armour which fused with the Qi of the Ancient Strengthening Technique, Frenzied Bull Strength, and Nature Energy...

When Qing Shui laid eyes on the Big Dipper Sword, he realised that there was no difference!

Big Dipper Sword: 50% increase in Attach, 500 increase in Strength, 300 increase in Endurance, 300 increase in Agility, 50 increase in Energy, with an additional State of the 7 Stars Armour.

7 Stars Armour: 1 time increase in Defence that lasts an hour each day. Cultivate the Qi of the 7 Stars to activate its use!

Qing Shui did not know why there was no change in the Big Dipper Sword this time, and guessed that the previous change could have been due to the White Tiger Stone. There probably would not have any effect if he used the 2-color graded Art of Forging, after all, even the 3-color graded Art of Forging had null effect on the Big Dipper Sword.

Qing Shui held the Big Dipper Sword. He now felt much, much more powerful than when he had broken through the 5th Wave, even stronger than how he was 3 months ago.

Qing Shui felt that his physical strength was now about 3,000,000 kg, including 40% of his Frenzied Bull Strength, 30% Frenzied Bull Strength from his armour, 30% Strength from Thunder Slash, 50% Strength from his weapons, and other cumulated attributes from his armour and weapons.

Including the martial techniques, his strength could be as much as 5,000,000kg!

And, combining the enhancements of the weapons and his armour, Qing Shui's strength have attained a fearfully enormous strength of 7,500,000kg!

Immense strength of 7,500,000kg!

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Qing Shui wore his Golden-Ringed Battle Armor that had 3 colour swirling on it and carried his simple yet majestic Big Dipper Sword, giving off an air of arrogance. That moment, he knew how it felt to look disdainfully from the corner of his eyes.

The increase in Strength was only part of it; there were also boosts in his Immovability of Mountains, Nature Energy and Speed, as the advancement in Strength was directly related to Divine Arm Clearing and Divine Feet Clearing.

Basic Sword Technique!

One pierce of the sword!

The sword stabbed through the air, and the heavens and earth became discoloured. It was as if the seemingly simple sword technique had returned to its original nature; every stab was direct and sharp, with an unsolvable secret within it.

“Basic Sword Technique One with Heaven?”

Qing Shui felt like his Basic Sword Technique had entered the realm of One with Heaven, but was unsure, though that sensation was definitely what one would have when attaining the realm of One with Heaven.

A soundless and stirless breakthrough...

It looks like days of visiting the Yan Family have neared...

Exiting the Realm of Violet Immortal, Qing Shui realised that there are visitors!

Canghai Mingyue and Huoyun Liuli!

It has almost been 3 months since they met. The two ladies have come once before Mingyue Gelous left, until now!

The 2 ladies were as beautiful as before, even more radiant than they were in the past. However, they felt uncomfortable now that they were seeing Qing Shui - even though Qing Shui was looking at them with a smile, they were pained by the look in his eyes.

An inconceivable anguish in that pair of clear eyes!

“Qing Shui, how are you, did anything happen?” Huoyun Liuli held onto Qing Shui’s arm, concerned. Her action was natural, as though she had done the same thing thousands of times before.

Huoyun Liuli was in a purple pleated dress, her shoulders looked as though they were carved by a sharp knife, appearing especially alluring as she held Qing Shui’s arms. Her sexy eyes stared at Qing Shui in concern.

Though Canghai Mingyue was quiet, that pair of beautiful, dark eyes were similarly filled with care!

“Nothing, nothing happened, have you been well at Cang Lang County!” 3 months’ time was sufficient for Qing Shui to get used to his scarred heart, though it hasn’t healed yet.

Habit is a scary thing, for things will rationalise when one is habituated. Qing Shui knew he was not actually habituated, for he had been forcing himself to get used to it and forget about it temporarily.

Qing Shui brought the 2 ladies upstairs. Ever since the incident 3 months ago, Qing Shui had moved to the lower level to avoid seeing the room Mingyue Gelou had stayed in.

There was no unfamiliarity even after 3 months, especially Huoyun Liuli, who looked dazed for a while before smiling and saying, “I’ll go home and take a look.”

Qing Shui smiled and nodded. He would have forgotten that her home was in Hundred Miles City if not for that. Qing Shui remained silent, for he was afraid that Canghai Mingyue might be reminded of any unhappiness, and only nodded.

Huoyun Liuli, similarly, thought of that and left with a grin!

Even with that, there was a flash of unnaturalness in Canghai Mingyue’s eyes. To divert her attention, Qing Shui took out from his “chest” the sachet he had picked up last time.

“Yueyue, come and see what beast hide is this sachet made of!”

“Interspatial Silk Sachet!”

That was a cry from Canghai Mingyue!

“Interspatial Silk Sachet? What’s that?” Qing Shui looked at Canghai Mingyue, baffled. He was happy that Canghai Mingyue seemed to know this item, but did that mean she also knew what the 3 ceramic bottles contained...

Chapter 382 - Moonstone Viewing Platform, Golden Pearl, Qing Shui is going to the Yan Clan?

“Interspatial silk sachet? What’s that?”

Canghai Mingyue took the sachet from Qing Shui and—as if she had seen the most beautiful thing on earth—lifted her head towards Qing Shui. “Interspatial sachet is made from special beast hides that are above the Martial Saint level. I know Martial Saint-level Demonic Beast, Ardentwind Bird is one of them.”

“Martial Saint-level Demonic Beast, Ardentwind Bird?”

“Yes, this bird is around 1 feet in length with a phoenix crest on its head. The wings, when extended, are only 2 meters in length, but it is a powerful Martial Saint level beast. Its greatest value is the fur on its wings, which can be made into sachets to contain large items. It is a magical item; there are few people that own it, and those who have it are from huge clans or aristocratic families.”

Canghai Mingyue’s words formed a thought in Qing Shui’s mind: this Interspatial Silk Sachet was the Interspatial Ring, or Interspatial Pouch, in the world of nine continents.

“This Interspatial Silk Sachet seems to have a tiny storage Interspatial.” Qing Shui recalled that it only contained a few bottles of medicinal pellets and a treasure map.

“Can I open it?” Canghai Mingyue asked cautiously.

“Of course, you can even have it if you want,” Qing Shui replied with a smile. He did not care if it was a Interspatial Silk Sachet, since it would probably not be as convenient as his Realm of Violet Immortal.

Canghai Mingyue smiled and slowly opened it. There were 3 white ceramic bottles and a piece of paper in it, but she ignored them and extended her snow white hand.

A wave of snowy white Qi of Xiantian swirled on her palm!

It eased into the Interspatial Silk Sachet!

When it appeared again, there was an item in her hand!

A golden, shining writing brush!

Qing Shui was speechless. It was true to what the legends had said about the Spatial Items, but at that instant, Qing Shui had another idea - did Martial Saint Dan Qing really die in the Ten Thousand Turtle Swamp?

Qing Shui stared at the glimmering writing brush intently. It was slightly more than a feet long. Although he did not touch it directly, Qing Shui knew the brush was definitely not made of gold, but the same material as his Gold Needles, Gold Extract Essence!

The colour of the brush was entirely golden, but Qing Shui could guess that the “Spiritual Qi” radiating from the golden hairs was similarly extracted from Martial Saint level beasts.

Such a tiny writing brush that expended such high costs, it must be the one Martial Saint Dan Qing had used before.

“Cultivate Qi of Xiantian and extend your hand in and you will know, you will see everything,” Canghai Mingyue handed over the writing brush and Interspatial Silk Sachet without batting an eyelid.

Qing Shui did not put his hand in to try, but used his Heavenly Vision immediately after receiving the sachet. One look, and Qing Shui was dazed. Other than the small surface level, there was actually another Interspatial that was grey and foggy. It was not big, only about 2 square meters, and it did not appear crystal clear.

There were many items in it, including writing brushes, paper, and inkstone, but most importantly, Qing Shui spotted a scroll painting. It was a portrait identical to Portraits of Beauty, unravelled, but Qing Shui was sure that it was a Portrait of Beauty.

Qing Shui circulated the Qi of and extended his hand into the Interspatial Silk Satchet. It was easy to retrieve the items using his psyche force and spirit energy, after which an ink slab appeared!

“Moonstone Ink Slab!”

Canghai Mingyue blurted out in shock.

“Moonstone Ink Slab?” Qing Shui realized he had little knowledge. Things that made Canghai Mingyue exclaim in surprise must be good.

“Moonstone is a valuable ore from the world of nine continents. It is said to have dropped from the moon, and it contains powerful spiritual Qi that can forge armour and weapons, as well as items that scholars love. Just like this ink slab, words or drawings created using the ink produced by it will be filled with a spiritual nature,” Canghai Mingyue stared at the ink slab in Qing Shui’s hands and explained.

Now, Qing Shui was sure that this Interspatial silk satchet belonged to Martial Saint Dan Qing. There was no need to guess whether the latter had died in Ten Thousand Turtle Swamp, since he was an ancient character and there was no significance in knowing the answer to that. Qing Shui had only been interested because of the Portraits of Beauty.

Qing Shui took out one of the 3 white ceramic bottles and passed it to Canghai Mingyue. “Yueyue, are you familiar with the items in it?”

Qing Shui now called Canghai Mingyue “Yue yue”, not to take advantage of her, but because calling her Mingyue would remind him of Mingyue Gelou. Just looking at Canghai Mingyue had subconsciously reminded him of Mingyue Gelou. If he still referred to her as Mingyue...

Canghai Mingyue had a keen eye for details and noticed how Qing Shui was calling her amorously by her nickname, although she noted the absence of any teasing in his expression.

Opening the white ceramic bottle, Canghai Mingyue glanced at it and frowned before turning back to look at Qing Shui. She had been curious about how Qing Shui had obtained the Interspatial silk satchet, especially now that she recognized the items in the ceramic bottle.

“Golden Beads!”

“These are Golden Beads from Central Continent, very expensive medicinal pellets!” Canghai Mingyue softly told him.

“Golden Beads?” Qing Shui looked at the golden round balls in the bottle. The name was apt, but what effect did they have independently and when combined with Pure Gold Mystic Turtle Core and Greencloud Up-step Pellet?

“It was said that these golden beads were valuable medicines in the Buddhist Clan of Central Continent that strengthen one’s body. Eating one per day can increase a Xiantian’s strength by 300jin. For those above Xiantian but below Martial King, one pill can increase 500jin of strength, and for those above Martial King level, 1 pill would increase 1000jin of strength. Those below Xiantian can consume up to 2

pills per year, those above Xiantian but below Martial King can consume up to 3 pills per year, and those above Martial King level can eat up to 5 pills per year forever.”

After listening to Canghai Mingyue’s words, Qing Shui was certain that these “Golden Beads” were good stuff. The main advantage was the lack of limitation, though the increment in abilities were less for those of lower levels. Nevertheless, there was a powerful aspect - the fact that one could consume the pills forever as long as he complied with the maximum amount for each year. Also, one must have a sufficient supply of these “Golden Beads”.

Qing Shui also noticed the other items within the Interspatial silk sachet. Other than the heavenly-defying pellets Qing Shui had eaten, there were the “Golden Beads”, Golden Essence Writing Brush, and the Moonstone Ink Slab.

There was also the Portrait of Beauty, but Qing Shui had already put it into the Realm of Violet Immortal when he was touching the ink slab. Thus, Qing Shui did not have much interest in them despite the fact that there were still some interesting items in the sachet.

“This is for you!” Qing Shui passed the Interspatial silk sachet and a bottle of golden beads into Canghai Mingyue’s hands. Among these items, the Interspatial silk sachet was actually the most valuable one.

“Ah, I don’t want it, it’s too precious,” Canghai Mingyue rejected hurriedly.

“These are useless to me, take it. It will be more convenient for you to have it. Liu-li is often with you, it will be good for both of you to carry some of these.” Qing Shui smiled and thrust the sachet into Canghai Mingyue’s arms.

Canghai Mingyue hesitated for a minute, recalling how Qing Shui would occasionally whip out some things and guessed that he must have something like this spatial item. She thought about everything that happened between them and stared at his pair of clear, sincere eyes.

“Thank you!”

“Do we still need those two words between us?” Qing Shui asked with a grin.

“If not for these two words, I won’t know how to express myself...”

“Let me hug you. I really feel like hugging you!” Qing Shui looked at Canghai Mingyue’s deep, beautiful eyes with his own pair of clear eyes.

It was the first time this powerful and fatally beautiful woman became flustered and avoided eye contact with Qing Shui. Canghai Mingyue felt her heart beating fast and realized that the man before her had grown and suddenly matured.

Canghai Mingyue lifted her head and looked at Qing Shui. Qing Shui had discovered that this fatally beautiful woman could also be as gentle as water.

Canghai Mingyue stood up lightly and walked to Qing Shui’s side.

Looking at the hint of sadness in Qing Shui’s crystal clear eyes, she extended her jade arms and gently wrapped them around Qing Shui’s neck, her flushed cheeks making her pretty face all the more alluring.

Qing Shui wrapped his arms around her slender waist and observed the beautiful face that only centimeters away from him. Like this moment, he felt surreal every time such a lady leaned on his chest...

“Qing Shui, are you going to the Yan Family?”

Chapter 383 - I'll follow you to the Yan Clan, Elephant Form of the Nine Animals Mimicry Technique!

“Qing Shui, is it time for you to head to the Yan Clan?”

Upon hearing Canghai Mingyue's words, Qing Shui felt a wave of gratitude. This woman had been worrying about his matter all along. He hugged her as he replied, “Yeah, I'm preparing to set off in a month or so.

Uttering this sentence caused Qing Shui to feel a strange sense of peace, as though he had let go of a burden in his heart. However, his blood surged with something akin to anger when he remembered that pitiful silhouette of his sister selling the tea leaves.

The strength Qing Shui used to hug Canghai Mingyue unconsciously increased to the point where she felt that her waist would snap apart. His eyes had already turned red as his body trembled violently, as though he was tolerating something.

“Qing Shui...”

Canghai Mingyue placed her hands tenderly on his face as she lightly call out. She could feel Qing Shui losing control.

Gradually, Qing Shui gained control of his emotions, his eyes filled with love and gratitude as he regarded Canghai Mingyue. He boldly, but gently, pressed his forehead against Canghai Mingyue, regarding her from such a close distance.

Even though Canghai Mingyue had been kissed by Qing Shui before, she had never felt so nervous ever in her life. Her heart was pounding rapidly as the somewhat musky smell of a man drifted unceasingly into her nostrils, causing her to be extremely distracted. Qing Shui was the only male that she had been so close to after the death of her father. She wasn't clear of what she was feeling right now, but she could sense that her heart was willing to walk together with this man down whatever path he chose in the future.

“Qing Shui can I come with you when you storm the Yan Clan?”

Canghai Mingyue softly spoke. The distance at this point was almost non-existent, and Qing Shui could feel the air of her breath on his face whenever she spoke.

Qing Shui lightly rejected by shaking his head, the motion causing both of their foreheads to rub together. The smoothness of her skin caused him to marvel in his heart.

“Only my mother and I will go to the Yan Clan together. Don't worry about us.” Qing Shui smiled.

Canghai Mingyue silently gaze back into Qing Shui's eyes. She didn't say anything, but it was obvious she was feeling disappointed. However, after a while, she nodded and smiled to Qing Shui, “You have to be careful okay, and... have you hugged enough?”

“No way!” Qing Shui grinned. But after grinning, Qing Shui still relinquished his hold on Canghai Mingyue. He felt that she was the woman that he could have such heart to heart talks with, this kind of emotional exchange sometimes felt better than physical sex.

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Back then after the incident with the Medicinal King Aristocratic Clan, there hadn't been any more commotion from then. Qing Shui suddenly thought about the palace mistress of the misty hall who had appeared, saving him at the moment of his life and death.

There was no way to hide a matter of such commotion from the Medicinal King Aristocratic Clan. After all, Qing Shui knew of how powerful their informant network was. That Elder from before knew that he was from the Heavenly Palace, which was why he disavowed all ties with the Medicinal King Clan before coming to seek revenge on Qing Shui. It was obvious from their actions that they were afraid of antagonising the Heavenly Palace.

From that angle of consideration, it seemed as though there wouldn't be any more trouble from them, at least temporarily. Also, the appearance of the palace mistress of misty hall had already warn them of something - Qing Shui wasn't just a nameless elder in the Heavenly Palace!

Huoyun Liu-Li went back to her residence and stayed there for three days , after which she stayed over at the Qing Clan's trading store for another three days before going to explore the Canglang Country with Canghai Mingyue.

Right after the both of them had left, Shi Qingzhuang made an appearance. The timing of her visit hinted that she had purposely waited for them to leave before showing up. Throughout this period of time, Shi Qingzhuang would visit Qing Shui once a week.

It wasn't known whether it was intentional or accidental, but Shi Qingzhuang hadn't visited during the days where Canghai Mingyue was present. Back then, when she had been at the Torrid Fragrance Valley, she was told that although her innate talent wasn't back, she wasn't suitable for the cultivation methods of the sect. In order not to hold her back, they decided to let Shi Qingzhuang return. No matter what, there was no way Shi Qingzhuang would have ever imagined that the person who helped her break through to Xiantian would be Qing Shui, the first man she ever had.

Her fiancée!

In the Hundred Miles City, it wasn't an exaggeration to say nobody was clearer than her in regards to Qing Shui's matters. She, who had never consoled anyone before, was comforting someone for the very first time.

A man that would become her husband in the future!

Qing Shui looked at the ice princess that would soon become his wife. Seeing the gentle smile on her face, Qing Shui felt warm currents flowing in his heart. Even when Shi Qingzhuang was smiling, the feeling she gave off to others still resembled a cool and aloof beauty but it was precisely such a lady that was currently consoling him.

After walking to Qing Shui's side, Shi Qingzhuang regarded him seriously before letting out a melodious laughter. Although this wasn't the first time Qing Shui had saw her like this, every time she laughed, he would involuntarily feel himself wanting to laugh together with her, like a love-muddled idiot.

"I shall eat here today." Shi Qingzhuang smiled.

"Even if you want to go, I wouldn't let you." Qing Shui laughed.

The two of them walked side by side towards the backyard. Shi Qingzhuang was only a head shorter compared to Qing Shui, and the two of them looked very compatible with each other when they stood together.

Qing Shui felt extremely satisfied having a fiancée as her. He was her first man, and she was also his first woman. Although she wasn't the more beautiful woman in Qing Shui's acquaintances, she was the most unforgettable one.

"When are you intending to leave? Are you confident? After all, the Yan Clan could be said to be the ruler of the Yanjiang Country." Shi Qingzhuang regarded Qing Shui with worry.

At this moment, her worry only added to her feminine charm, giving her a unique womanly sensation and making her even more irresistible than before.

"Soon, in about a month's time."

"Can I go with you?"

Qing Shui would never have expected Shi Qingzhuang to say such a thing as well. After all, he knew that they knew they wouldn't be much help. Moreover, from Shi Qingzhuang's and Canghai Mingyue's personalities, they wouldn't initiate such a thing.

Qing Shui smiled at Shi Qingzhuang as he shook his head.

"Only my mother and I are going" Qing Shui was trying to explain.

"The journey to the Yan Clan isn't something that can be covered in a single day. Let me go together, I can take care of Auntie Qing Yi..."

Shi Qingzhuang's words caused Qing Shui to pause as he thought about it. He realized that her words made sense, and after all, Shi Qingzhuang was already a Xiantian lifeform.

Qing Shui hesitated for a moment. After all, he had just rejected Canghai Mingyue.

"Would your clan members allow you to go?"

"My grandfather has always supported me and wanted me to go with you, however we are not strong enough to assist you in your problems..."

Seeing how despondent Shi Qingzhuang was, Qing Shui held onto her snow-white hand. "It's the thought that counts. In any case, you are my wife, and I'm happy that you care about me."

Shi Qingzhuang blushed. Her beauty at this moment was extremely dazzling. She didn't know what to reply and could only cast her eyes downwards...

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Within the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal!

Qing Shui finished practicing the various martial techniques and qi movements he needed to practice. He had been working extra hard for the past few days. The previous harrowing incidents he had faced made Qing Shui realize the importance of one's individual power.

If he was powerful enough, he wouldn't have been forced to such a dire straight by a Xiantian back then in the Heavenly River City. If he was powerful enough, he wouldn't have been forced to the point of death by that elder from the Medicinal King Aristocratic Clan. If he was powerful enough he wouldn't have easily let Mingyue Gelou being taken away...

If he was powerful enough, he wouldn't have allowed his mother to suffer her inner turmoil for such a long period of time...

After exiting his spatial realm, just when he was about to fall asleep, Qing Shui abruptly remembered that after he consumed that Greencloud Up-step Pellet, there were many things 'unlocked' in his sea of consciousness.

Qing Shui dived deep into his sea of consciousness and realized that the Elephant Form of the Nine Animals Mimicry Technique had been unlocked. Currently, out of the nine animal forms, Qing Shui had access to Deer, Ape, Tiger, Bear, Crane and now...Elephant.

The Deer Form only had a Deer Canteering Technique that increased speed. Qing Shui had long integrated the essence of it to his other movement techniques!

As for the Ape Form, even though it was unlocked, Qing Shui wasn't aware of it...hence he actually didn't learn it...

Of the six Forms, the Tiger Form was what Qing Shui was most proficient in. Although the Bear Form was also at the Great Perfection level and contained immense strength, Qing Shui felt that it was still inferior to the Tiger Form. After all, Qing Shui gained additional insights on the Tiger Form from the stone monuments.

Tiger Crouching on the Mountains, Ferocious Tiger Ascending the Mountains, Tiger Roar From the Mountains...

Even the inner state of 'Immovable as Mountains' was invariably connected to the Tiger Form technique, therefore he felt that the Bear Form was still slightly inferior compared to the Tiger Form!

The Crane Form was a kind of movement technique. The Crane Step, which further evolved into the Soaring Crane Steps, had reached the Great Perfection level which was slowly integrated during this period of time by Qing Shui into the more complicated 'Cloudmist Steps'.

Qing Shui realized that, just like what he had guessed, he had to cultivate a particular form to the Great Perfection level before the technique of the next animal form would be unlocked in his mind.

Now, he felt exceedingly speechless because he could have even forgotten the fact that he had trained in the Ape Form.....

But this was just great. He could use the time now to cultivate these two forms. It would be excellent if he could furthered increase in power before he stormed the Yan Clan.

Chapter 384 Your Son Wants To Let You Enter Yan Clan Openly and Aboveboard

This is good. Using the time he had to cultivate these two forms, it would be best if he could make new achievements before heading to Yan Clan!

It was too bad that time was up. Qing Shui simply exited his Spiritual Sense and left the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. The other time, Mingyue Gelou having been taken away not only gave Qing Shui a blow, it brought upon a heavy burden on everyone in the entire Qing Clan.

It was even worse for those in the 2nd generation, like Qing Jiang and Qing He. They still remembered what had happened with Qing Yi back then, as if it was just yesterday. Some things were easily forgotten, but there are others that would never ever be forgotten.

Seeing Qing Shui repeating his mother's path back when she was younger, they were helpless as his family; that bitter and horrible feeling was so overwhelming, they were not even able to say a word.

"I'm also a Xiantian now, but even Qing Shui might not be able to handle a Martial King..." Qing Jiang and Qing He felt a strong sense of frustration. Everything else were fleeting clouds before strong power.

Qing Clan brought out the golden pearls and gave out 2 of them to everyone in the clan. Of course, Qing Jiang and Qing He were each given 3 of them. Qing Shui himself took 5. No matter how small a mosquito, it would still be made of flesh. Moreover, a strength of 5000 jin was sufficient. In the past, the Strength-Enhancing Fruit was only able to increase 500 jin of strength and each person could only take 2 of those. However, the strength increment from the Strength-Enhancing Fruit would be as if the person had gone through hard work to obtain it, and could be included in one's pure physical strength.

But while the strength brought by the golden pearls were not able to be included in Qing Shui's physical strength of 3,000,000 jin, he could take a few of it every year. It's a pity that Qing Shui realized that they were all gone and he did not had its prescription. He could only head to the Central Continent in the future to see if he could get his hands on such medicinal pills or prescription to create them.

After lunch, before everyone took their leave, Qing Clan gritted his teeth and suddenly said, "At most half a month, or maybe it'll just be 3 to 5 days later, I'm planning to head to Yan Clan."

Qing Shui tone was very soft, but everyone in Qing Clan, especially those from the 2nd generation all froze as they looked at Qing Shui in a daze. Those from the 3rd generation basically looked at Qing Shui, puzzled. They did not know what Qing Shui meant.

Qing Yi trembled a little as she looked at Qing Shui, not even blinking. She shut her mouth tightly, not able to save even a word!

"Why go to Yan Clan?"

"What are you going to do at Yan Clan?"

"What's wrong with you guys? Why aren't you guys saying anything?"

...

Those from Qing Clan's 3rd generation did not know the story, but upon seeing their elder's grave expression, they knew that it was not simple. Someone had once asked about Qing Shui's background when he was young, about why Qing Shui did not have a father. But after he was bashed up a few times, he stopped asking.

"Let me say it!" At that moment, Qing Luo pushed the door open and came in.

"Father!"

"Grandfather!"

"Father! Why have you come?!"

...

"Qing Shui got me to come. He came to fetch me. It's the first time this old man has sat on a flying demonic beast." Qing Luo smiled happily and said.

"Grandfather, why is Qing Shui saying that he's going to Yan Clan? Grandfather, please tell us quickly!" Seeing that the Old Master had arrived, Qing Bei quickly went up, grabbed onto Qing Luo's arms and pleaded.

This was her special privilege. Being the only girl amongst the Qing Clan's 3rd generation, she would receive special treatment wherever she went.

Qing Luo was brought to the seat at the head of the table. He sat down, looked at Qing Shui, then at the pleading Qing Bei and smiled, saying, "Lass, let grandfather tell you. Don't be anxious, don't be anxious."

"Hasn't everyone been curious about Qing Shui's story? Let me tell the story to everyone today!"

After Qing Luo finished his words, Qing Bei and the others all nodded furiously, waiting for the Old Master to speak.

...

Qing Luo shared with everyone Qing Shui's story and situation. Especially when they heard the part where Yan Clan had threatened the whole Qing Clan and Qing Village, everyone from Qing Clan's 3rd generations were boiling in anger.

Humans are creatures of flesh and blood. If the same thing had happened to them, they would not feel comfortable either.

And all of them from the 3rd generation were also saying that they wanted to head to Yan Clan for that young girl who was taken away when she was just 6 months old.

"Brother Qing Shui, I want to go with you to Yan Clan." Qing You said in a low, muffled voice.

No one said a word. From the beginning to the end, Qing Yi did not say anything. But her expression was extremely complicated as she fixed her gaze on Qing Shui.

Only now did she turned to look at Qing Luo.

"Father! What should I do?" Qing Yi said to Qing Luo. At this moment, her tears were as if a broken string of pearls, trickling down.

"Yi`er, don't cry, you should be happy. Tell us what you're thinking, and we'll all discuss together. Everyone in Qing Clan are here." Qing Luo looked amiably at this daughter of his, his youngest child, who had led a hard life.

"Father, I miss Qingqing, I really miss her. I want to see if she's been leading a good life..." As Qing Yi said this, tears trickled down her face.

"Then just head to Yan Clan with Qing Shui and bring Qingqing back!" While Qing Luo was still smiling, there was something which was indescribable reflected in his amiable looking eyes, something which was like racing blood.

"I'm worried for Qing Shui. I'm afraid that something bad would befall him." Qing Yi shared her concerns!

More than anyone else, she would like to head to Yan Clan, but she was afraid that something bad may happen to Qing Shui. She was less concern about what would happen to her. After all, Yan Clan was the sovereign of a country, and Yan Jiang Country was one of the top 20 strongest countries in Greencloud Continent.

"Yi`er, there's a price to pay for everything, even for something which one has absolute confidence in. Qing Shui has grown up. Qingqing is your daughter, and my granddaughter is also Qing Shui's elder sister. Qing Shui is you child, why don't you listen to what he has to say?" Qing Luo patted Qing Yi's head and said warmly.

Qing Yi fell into a short daze, looking at Qing Shui, unable to say a word! Especially after hearing what Qing Luo had said.

"He has grown up..."

It was the first time Qing Shui had seen his mother crying so sadly in front of so many people in Qing Clan. In the past, when he was young and she thought that he did not know anything, she would only wipe away her tears and mumbled to herself. It was only after he had started to learn stuff when his mother stopped crying in front of him.

But Qing Shui knew that his mother was just hiding it from him!

"Mother!" Qing Shui smiled and called out, before he reached out his hand to wipe away her tears.

Qing Shui hugged Qing Shui, saying softly, "Qing Shui, what should mother do? I had originally gave up on all hopes and had planned to spend my life like this, just hoping that you can be safe. But now, what should I do..."

"Mother, your son has grown up. Let your son decide for you!" Qing Shui only said a very simple sentence, but it made Qing Yi felt especially empowered, and very proud of him.

The child has grown up. That's right, he was her child!

Qing Yi lifted her head and looked at Qing Shui.

"Let's go to Yan Clan. Your son wants to let you step into Yan Clan openly and aboveboard, and let them know who you are."

Qing Shui's words gave one a blood boiling feeling. Everyone felt as if their blood were lit up when they heard how Yan Clan had threatened Qing Luo and the 2nd generations.

"Mother is worried for you..."

"I know. I'm confident. Mother, do you not wish to see if Qingqing is leading a good life?"

Qing Shui knew that it was the one thing she could never put down. It was more important than that "man" from Yan Clan. 20 years was sufficient to erase his mother's feelings for that man, but the ties with one's own flesh and blood would never be diluted.

"Then how are we going?"

"These few days, mother you should rest well. Going to Yan Clan is not something which can be done immediately. We won't have many people going." After some thought, Qing Shui said.

"Mmm, then you make the plans. I'll go get some rest. My thoughts are very messed up now..."

Qing Shui smiled and sent Qing Yi off. He knew that it was perfectly normal for one to feel confused when a problem which had been weighing her down would soon be unravelled.

"Brother Qing Shui, bring me along!"

After Qing Shui returned to the hall, Qing You immediately came up and implored.

"Qing You, we're not going there for fun. You stay at home and focus on your training." Qing Shui smiled bitterly and said.

"Brother Qing Shui, I beg of you, bring me along, let me see the world outside, let me help you kill a few of those from Yan Clan as well." Qing You tugged on Qing Shui's sleeves and implored.

"Brother Shui, if Qing You is going, then you'll have to bring me along as well." Qing Bei revealed a smile that was like a fox's.

"And me..." Qing Hu suddenly joined in!

"You guys..." Qing You was furious, not able to say a single word.

Qing Shui chuckled. There was no need to say anything more. He threw a glance at Qing He and then said, "Grandfather, you and 2nd uncle should come along too!"

At night!

Qing Shui entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. While he had decided to plan to head for Yan Jiang Country as soon as possible, he could not ignore his cultivation. Once he entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, he immediately entered the state of his cultivation.

He had already broke through to the 136th cycles. After cultivating one round of it, Qing Shui then focused on his Spiritual Sense, and looked towards the Ape Form.

Till today, Qing Shui did not understand why he had not cultivated the Ape Form at the beginning. The Ape Form trained one's arms. Could it be that he had initially felt that his Solitary Rapid Fist would be able to attain a certain level and thus he had abandoned the Ape Form?

The Ape Form emphasized on one's stances and on one's arms. After taking a look, he realized that there was only a simple Ape's Burst and Divine Arm Clearing. Thinking about it, Qing Shui realized that he might have felt that the Solitary Rapid Fist seemed stronger than this "Divine Arm Clearing" and thus chose not to cultivate this.

Even now, Qing Shui did not have much interest in this. However, he might have still wished to be able to find a miracle from it!

"Ape's Burst" was very simple, but also very functional. It was a skill which allowed one to be able to move swiftly within a small area. What made Qing Shui surprised was that the Ape's Burst was very similar to the "Core Qi Method" of the "Black Armored Jumping King" inscribed on the stone monuments at the back of the mountains on the Heavenly Palace Mountain.

Qing Shui tried it out for a while, and then decided to just use that "Core Qi Method" to perform Ape's Burst. The result caused Qing Shui to be astonished. The powerful jump and the nimbleness of the Ape's Burst made Qing Shui felt that the speed at which he could move within short distances had been increased by a little.

To be able to achieve this result after training for a short while made Qing Shui held great hopes for this Ape's Burst. The introduction only mentioned that the Ape's Burst could increase one's nimbleness. The small success stage would allow one to increase one's nimbleness; the large success stage would increase the compatibility between one's body parts during movements, and the great perfection stage would allow the body to perform beyond its potential.

"This concept is too blurred."

While Qing Shui felt that it was blurred, he still hoped that it could bring him a surprise.

Divine Arm Clearing!

The Divine Arm Clearing imitated the ape's movements and unique traits. It was a typical long distance fist technique. When used to attack, one's strength would be passed through the arms, circulated, and shoots out. At the same time it also concurrently emphasized on having the strength to pass through from one's back. This was why it was given the name, "Back Connecting Fist".

Taichi focuses on "soft", the eight diagrams focuses on "movement", and the Divine Arm Clearing focuses on clearing one's arms!

The Divine Arm Clearing was a far distance fighting fist technique and was further segregated into many types and was under the category of 'White Ape's Connection'. Looking at them, Qing Shui seemed to have sensed something but was not able to grasp what it was.

Chapter 385 - Back Connecting Fist, Because I am His Daughter

Since he couldn't get the feeling, he didn't bother to search for it again. Even without searching, it would eventually come as soon as he reached the realm. The most important thing now was to cultivate the Back Connecting Fist

Cultivating the Back Connecting Fist loosened the shoulder joints, allowing the two shoulders to be flexible as a whip and hard as steel. The moves mostly included throwing, slapping, piercing, hacking, and drilling—the five basic fist techniques. The Back Connecting Fist allowed for nimble movements as well, as tremors would arise stomping on the ground with force. The technique also facilitated explosive sounds that followed every punch, something that was not present in any other fist techniques.

The Back Connecting Fist was the most representative type among the Fist Techniques: grand, fierce, and concise. The arm movements were extremely fast and all-conquering, powerful, sophisticated with wide attack range; these points precisely encompassed the characteristics of the Back Connecting Fist.

Qing Shui discovered that he could easily perform it when he was practicing Back Connecting Fist. Power flowed through his arm when he punched, as the technique was made in circular movements and allowed for direct penetration.

At the same time, this technique specifically involves power flowing through the back, which was how it got its name. The Back Connecting Fist was also referred to as "Connecting Fist" Technique as well! Qing Shui was sure that cultivating the Divine Arm Clearing Technique would definitely bring about great benefits to the Back Connecting Fist Technique.

It was powerful and complex with wide attack range, making technique grand. Although the techniques just appeared to be simple yet imposing, a killing technique was concealed within. It was Qing Shui's first time demonstrating it, yet he felt like a fish in water.

This made him particularly surprised!

Qing Shui's fist techniques were considered to be at a considerably high realm. As they said, one method could lead to ten thousand more. Qing Shui felt that his capability in comprehending the fist techniques was still decent.

On top of that, attaining the Grand Perfection Stage for his Divine Arm Clearing Technique had further strengthened Qing Shui's Divine Arm Clearing Technique. He could, more or less, perfectly perform basic things like "posture" on his first try.

The qi circulating method began from the dantian and flowed to the arm through the back. The power of this kind of fist technique was greater. The people who cultivated the Back Connecting Fist were typically tall, burly, and more heavily built. Otherwise, their arms wouldn't be able to overcome the countering force that came from the great power. Not only that, only people with great strength could bring out the true powers of the Back Connecting Fist.

As soon as Qing Shui cultivated seriously, he could easily neglect sleep and forget about food, just as he was doing now. He had been cultivating day and night within the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. With his body's physical strength, not eating and sleeping for a few days would not be a problem for Qing Shui.

He continued to cultivate and only abruptly stopped when he felt his Tianliao, Jianjing, and Naoshu acupoints heating up.

This sensation was too familiar to Qing Shui, because it could only be felt when cultivating the Divine Arm Clearing and Divine Feet Clearing Techniques. Could it be that the Back Connecting Fist Technique also had the effects of clearing acupoints?

This discovery stirred Qing Shui up. The Connecting Fist was also referred as Back Connecting Fist. Could it be that it was capable of clearing the acupoints on his arms or back?

He was excited, and at the same time, regretful about never practicing this before. Now, he had to double up on the amount of cultivation. Although he need to go to the Yan Clan soon, he had the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal, as well as some help from the "Spirit Concentrating Pills" of lesser quality that should at least have some effects.

Morning had come, and the sky outside had just turned bright by the time he exited the realm. When he walked downstairs, however, he realized that he was actually the person who woke up the latest. Seeing everyone in the family putting in so much effort made Qing Shui extremely happy.

Qing You was by himself, practicing the grand fist techniques that prioritized power. The first technique that Qing You was cultivating had a very generic name, the "Ultimate Iron Fist", which was actually one of those Clan Techniques from Qing Clan.

But for now Qing Shui, would not look down upon any cultivation art. Even the most basic cultivation art had its essence, just like the Basic Sword Technique that he had been practicing. The Clan Technique was also the simplest basic technique and had a similar position as the Basic Sword Technique of the Sword Cultivation Art.

Only after reaching the Truth Realm and returned to one's true self would one realize the importance of the fundamentals. It was unfortunate that the Truth Realm could only be attained with a solid fundamental. One would not be able to cultivate to the Truth Realm without a solid fundamental.

Sentimental attachment was a common disease of the cultivators on the world of the nine continents. No one would point it out unless they were related. On top of that, no one could enter the Xiantian realm and the Truth Realm with just sturdy fundamentals.

The "grudge" in Qing You's eyes sent a shiver down his spine, but he still walked towards him with a smile.

"You're still angry about it?" Qing Shui asked in an amused tone.

"Brother Qing Shui, I really wanted to go." He was still dwelling on the fact he wasn't allowed to go to the Yan Clan. Lately, he had been saying the same thing to Qing Shui whenever he saw him.

"Alright, why don't I teach you a fist technique. If you can satisfy me by cultivating it to the Small Success Stage, then I will let you go." Qing Shui said with a smile.

Qing You had actually idolized Qing Shui for a long time. He was excited the moment Qing Shui offered to teach him a fist technique, because he would always get a pleasant surprise whenever Qing You said he would teach him something. Thus, he would usually never request for Qing Shui to teach him

anything. He would definitely be able to practice whatever techniques that Qing Shui taught him with ease.

Qing You gave him an excited nod!

“Elder Brother Shui, I will practice too. Please allow me to go too if I can fulfill your requirements.” Qing Bei came over and pouted.

Qing Shui glanced at Qing Hu, Qing Yang, Qing San, and Qing Shi, who haven’t spoken a word. He also glanced at Qing Zi, who was walking towards them.

In the end, Qing Shui imparted the Back Connecting Fist to them. He would let those that were satisfactory to accompany him to the Yan Clan. He had given them an ambiguous answer.

“Brother Qing Shui, that’s foul play! No, you must give us a standard, like what level we have to cultivate to. Or else you can simply wave us off with the excuse of not being satisfied.” Qing You immediately caught the loophole in Qing Shui’s conditions.

“Brat, you’re pretty cautious. Aren’t you afraid that I’d pick a realm none of you can cultivate to?” Qing Shui looked at Qing You’s big head. Qing You had grown larger than Qing Zi over the past few years when he wasn’t looking, and he also had quite a lot of intentions.

“I’m not afraid. Brother Qing Shui will not strike out at us like this.” Qing You chuckled.

“All of you can come with me if you can cultivate and clear these few acupoints.” Qing Shui reached out and pointed on Qing Yu’s Tianliao, Jianjing, and Naoshu acupoints locations.

“Alright!”

Just like that, Qing Shui and the others formed an agreement since there weren’t much time left. There were, at most, three and half months left. Qing Shui hadn’t even known if it was possible to clear those three acupoints within this period of time. Actually, he wasn’t even sure about the possibility of clearing these three acupoints.

He felt that he was pushing them a little too hard in doing something that was beyond their capabilities.

But for them, Qing Shui didn’t regret doing so.

After breakfast!

“Qing Shui, come go for a walk with your mother!” Qing Yi smiled at Qing Shui.

“Sure!” Qing Shui smiled too. He realized that it had been very long since he last took a walk with his mother. He felt a little guilty when Qing Yi invited him.

Qing Shui and his mother strolled on the streets of the Hundred Miles City. He looked at his mother. The woman he called his mother still looked the same as she was in his earliest memory, aside from the traces on her face left from the past twenty years of time.

Although there weren’t any big changes in her appearance, there was a hint of exhaustion and aging on her expression. Qing Shui knew that this was the result of her heart’s exhaustion.

With the burden of twenty years weighing on her shoulders, it would still show itself no matter how hard she tried to conceal it. It was an ongoing ordeal that hadn't existed. The hopeless expectation in her heart had left her heartbroken every time.

Within the expectation she had for him, was a little bit of her missing, especially towards the little baby who was taken away from her. On top of 10 months of pregnancy, they had also lived together for half a year. By the time she was taken away from her, the little baby had already learnt how to laugh and didn't want strangers holding her. When the little baby was taken away, she was crying until she was breathless.

Qing Yi recalled her memories. She knew that the man had returned to be wed. Her daughter had been taken away, and all she wanted to know was how this daughter had been. She was worried that her daughter wouldn't recognize her as her mother, even if they were to meet.

"Mother, stop thinking so much. You'll get to the bottom of this soon. Let your son do it for you, you'll definitely be satisfied." Qing Shui knew what his mother was thinking.

"Qing Shui, you've suffered so much these past few years." Qing Yi looked at his son with a smile. He had had already become the pillar of the Qing Clan.

There was relief, affection, a little bit of guilt, and some indescribable feelings, all contained within that smile.

"I am not suffering. Not at all. It only pains me to know that my mother is suffering the most. When mother stops suffering, only then will your son will stop suffering." Qing Shui smiled.

"Qing Shui, I have already made a daughter suffer. I don't want to repeat the same mistake on you. Otherwise, I really wouldn't know how to continue living." Qing Yi gave Qing Shui a serious look.

"I know, don't worry mother."

"Look, that's Qing Shui! That's Qing Shui....."

After someone shouted, many people came over and surrounded them within a short time!

"So he's Qing Shui. So young!"

"Very young, quite manly. Just my favourite type!" A trendy looking, mature lady muttered to herself.

"Qing Shui, from now on the Hundred Miles City is under your protection. We will all support you." A man who was nearing the end of his 30's shouted.

"Qing Shui, be the representative of our city! Let the Hundred Miles City be the proudest in the continent!"

"Qing Shui, we support you!"

"Everyone will support you!"

"Support you!"

.....

Qing Shui already knew about this kind of common practice on the world of the nine continents.

If he represented the Hundred Miles City with his current strength, even the people of Hundred Miles City would gain the upper hand in conflicts or trades with people from outside of the city.

Regardless, Qing Shui was still extremely delighted to receive so much support.

“Excuse me everyone, please don’t block Qing Shui and his mother’s way. Qing Shui is one of us in the Hundred Miles City. This is a fact that will not change. He is the pride of our Hundred Miles City.” That man in his 30’s shouted.

“Excuse me, Excuse me.....”

.....

Qing Shui nodded at everyone with a smile and left. His nod had made them leave with a cheer. They only sought for an indication from Qing Shui. The power of the mass was great; news would pass quickly from mouth to mouth and Qing Shui’s strength and past achievements would also be passed along with it.

Qing Shui’s reputation was already quite well-known among the big clans and great sects of the Cang Lang Country. The position of the Hundred Miles City would definitely be raised to a decent level along with this propagation.

It was just like those people from the previous world who came from a good city, rich city, or some ancient or scenic cities..... Although they may have never gained any substantial benefits, they would still proudly tell people of their origins. This was a sense of belonging. Everyone wished for the place that they lived in to be a bit better.

“Mother, I would like to ask you about something.” Qing Shui gently said after they got away from the crowd.

“What is it? Mother will tell you anything now.”

Qing Shui looked at his mother who seemed relax now and hesitated for a while. In the end, he finally clenched his teeth and looked at Qing Yi.

“Mother, do you still have hope in him? Do you still miss him?” he felt extremely sad, and also nervous when he asked this question because he had heard from Yang Ling’er that he was already dead.

“Him?”

However Qing Yi quickly caught on who Qing Shui was talking about in his question. She looked at Qing Shui with clear eyes, ones that reflected a deep love with many hardships.

“He never come looking for me for so many years. His clan had once forced the Qing Clan to that level, and your grandfather had a knife to his throat because of his stubborn daughter. For an elderly like him to be humiliated like this, he accepted it, because I am his daughter.”

He accepted it, because I am his daughter.

His mother's tone was calm and peaceful, but Qing Shui could still hear the self blame within it. It was so deep that this remorse had even caused her to deeply hate the man whom she was once in love with.

Chapter 386 - 3-colour grade Necklace, Clearing Three acupoints again, Increasing Strength

"Your son has gotten revenge for what grandfather had endured and he has taken it back with interest."
"Qingshui laughed heartily, he had already gotten the answer from his mother's demeanor.

Time is a scary thing. In the presence of Time, everything will turn old and weak. Human emotions are also scary, twenty years are definitely enough.

When they return to the Qing Clan, it was already afternoon!

The idling Qing Shui entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal!

He summoned his Firebird!

Roar!

A clear bird call rang out in the air, the Firebird circled down from the huge Chinese Parasol Tree.

Seeing the Phoenix Crown on his Firebird's head, Qingshui realized that it was much bigger compared to the previous time. He also felt that the Firebird's strength had risen significantly. Firebirds are a Growth Type of Mutated Beast. Within Demonic Beasts, Growth types are the most valuable because it is unknown what their future growth is like. Especially for Mutated Beasts, they are a much more powerful species than Growth type Demonic Beasts.

Qingshui smiled slightly as he raised his hands to pat the Firebird. He took the necklace from its neck. Even though he was never concerned about it, he suddenly thought about how the necklace on his Firebird's neck was only 1-colour graded.

Taking off the large necklace, Qing Shui decided to reforge it. After arming his Firebird these few days, to increment in his Firebird's speed and strength was also a great help to Qing Shui.

Heaven Shaking Hammer!

Once Qing Shui held the hammer, he realized that he had a lot of do. He, himself, did not have a complete set of armor, bracer, belt, pendant...

Even the Heaven Shaking Hammer in his hand should be reforged again.

Qingshui shook his head. Following step by step, he started forging the necklace. Creating a 3 color-graded necklace was already impressive. Ever since the appearance of Frenzied Bull's Strength armor, there haven't been any other set of armor. Qing Shui felt that due to him practicing Frenzied Bill's Strength, thus imbuing Frenzied Bull Strength during forging, and a "special" seven starred armored vest, this was on the Big Dipper sword, and the name being originated from the Big Dipper Sword. Thus, Qing Shui was not certain if the once familiar armor and skills were even real.

Clash clash!

His Thousand hammer technique was even more archaic and forceful, its speed looks much slower than before, but each strike was awe-inspiring and natural.

The pinnacle of the Obscure Realm!

Clash! Clash!

Two clear sounds rang out. The crisp sound of the final clash was followed with a tri-colored light. Qing Shui could not resist showing a satisfied smile.

It is a success!

Qing Shui put down his Heaven Shaking Hammer and observed the necklace that he had reforge!

The speed attribute has increased thrice and the endurance attribute twice!

The attributes were simple but Qing Shui was very pleased. The additional attribute was of minimal help; the main point was that the triple increase in the speed attribute was the most valuable. A few hundred additional jin of defense were pretty useless for a Firebird.

The necklace had changed a lot. Originally simple and dull, its lacklustre appearance was now replaced by a faint mix of three colors, but it still did not glow.

Once again, he called for his Firebird and adorned its neck with the necklace. Upon it wearing the necklace, there was an instant glow of the tri-colours as per previously. The Firebird called out a few times joyously and flew up to the high skies of Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

When Qing Shui has decided to reforge his Heaven Shaking hammer, he realized he had always been using his Heaven Shaking hammer to forge other weapons but he had not tools to reforge his Heaven Shaking hammer as it was impossible to use a normal hammer to do this.

Qing Shui had no mood to continue forging. As he was preparing to leave, he saw some vermillion fruits. Qing Shui decided to take the opportunity to ferment some vermillion fruit to make wine. In a blink of an eye, he managed to make quite a lot of wine in the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal.

When he realized, there were only four vermillion fruit left.

Vermillion fruits can strengthen the meridian channels and Qi of Xiantian by 1% each. Furthermore, it can be made into wine though its effectiveness will be lowered. Each person can consume a maximum of 100 of these.

Qing Shui had never given any importance to vermillion fruits. 1% strengthening of the meridian channels and Qi of Xiantian... Qing Shui muttered to himself twice and paused...

The strength of meridian channels and Qi of Xiantian... Didn't that mean that every single fruit will raise his Qi of the by 1%? Eating one hundred fruit will inadvertently mean raising his full abilities by 1 fold...

Even though the increase is one fold of his full abilities, but the price was too high. One vermillion fruit only appear every once in 50 years, it will take 5000 years to get 100 fruits. 150 years in Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal is equivalent to 1 year in the real world.

Even so, in real time, it will still take 33 years...

He felt that the price is not small, but it seemed to him getting it will be better than nothing.

In such circumstances, Qing Shui didn't think too much, he just swallowed one fruit!

In a short time, Qing Shui felt warm vital energy welling up in his dantian and meridian channels and coursing continual through his body. 1% strengthening of the meridian channels and Qi of Xiantian is like adding an additional 1 jin to a person who has 100 jin of strength, it was such a small change that it should not be felt.

However, Qing Shui inherent strength is very large. If consumed by an average person, there will only be a tiny change in body constitute and a miniscule change in strength. Yet, for Qing Shui, 1% of his strength is equivalent to 30,000 jin of strength.

That's not small, not small at all.

Qing Shui consumed four vermillion fruits in a row. Qing Shui was very contented with the outcome. An additional increase of 120,000 jin of strength plus equipments with 70% Frenzied Bull Strength imbuement, 30% Heaven Thunder Slash imbuement and 50% Big Dipper Sword imbuement, it will reach about 300,000 jin...

When he exited from the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal, not much time has passed in the real world. But once he stepped out of the realm, he heard Shi Qingzhuang's voice; she was speaking to his mother.

Qing Shui went downstairs.

"Qing Shui, I heard from your mother that you will be going to the Yan Clan in a week's time," Shi Qingzhuang said softly as she saw Qing Shui.

"Yes. You can prepare what you need to bring beforehand. You don't have to bring the daily necessities." Qing Shui replied with a smile.

"Yes, I have already brought them, I will be staying here this week..."

Shi Qingzhuang speaking voice was very soft, it made Qing Yi who was standing nearby laugh softly. Qing Shui was felt a little embarrassed as he could see the slight mockery behind Qing Yi's smile.

"Alright. Have you found a room? Otherwise, I will bring you around to get one."

"No..."

"It is quite late. Qing Shui please bring Qingzhuang to find a bedroom. We can have a meal together in a bit." Qing Yi said smilingly and left.

In a blink of an eye, 5 days have passed!

Today, it was already the morning of the 6th day.

Qing Shui was currently in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and was practicing Back Connecting Fist. With arms weaving through the air, stretching out and pulling back, at first glance, it looks like caveman chopping wood. However, any expert will be able to see the difference with one look.

The fist technique which appear coarse were actually extremely refined. Every strike delivered the formidable strength of the body. The Qi from the dantian with the boost of one's back movement, delivers a steady and strong punch, almost showing vigor that could cleave mountains.

It was incomparably strong!

Qing Shui combined Frenzied Bull's Strength, Nature Energy and his impeccable breathing technique as stable as immovable mountains. He integrated this into his Back Connecting Fist. It made his Back Connecting Fist even more aggressive, domineering and sturdy; hinged on a complete opposite concept from the "soft style" of the Taichi fist.

Qing Shui has entered a state of selflessness, delivering punches after punches. It has already been four hours however he had not even paused for a sheer second during this time.

This was because Qing Shui could feel that the three acupoints: Tianliao, Jianjing and Naoshu were starting to heat up. So much so that the temperature seems even higher than fire. The difficulty with clearing acupoints lies in the fact that most people cannot endure such hardship.

Back covered in perspiration, the hair over his forehead drenched with sweat, Qing Shui closed his mouth tightly.

He was near the breakthrough point. Qing Shui could feel the three acupoints pulsating!

.....

Hur!

Qing Shui abruptly opened his mouth. A loud intense gurgling noise was emitted from his body.

PU PU PU!

Three loud sounds, as if heavenly music to Qing Shui, exploded out.

They have been cleared!

Within a week, Qing Shui had mastered Back Connecting Fist to ancestor level and he had also cleared the three acupoints that connected the back to the arm!

The instant that he cleared the three acupoints, Qing Shui felt an extraordinary strength from his back racing through the three acupoints to his arm. Suddenly, he felt his two arms come together as one body with his back and a discernibly large increase in strength into both his arms.

Qing Shui was on the verge of howling with laughter. He will be heading to the Yan Clan tomorrow and he actually managed to clear three acupoints today. Why wouldn't he be happy?!

Under normal circumstances, clearing three acupoints will not stir Qing Shui to this level of happiness.

But the reason was that these three acupoints were special. Clearing these three acupoints, "connects" Qing Shui's arms to his back. Even though there were more than three acupoints on the meridian channel connecting the back to one's arm, it was extremely important for Qing Shui to clear these acupoint. Before this, Qing Shui had not even clear a single acupoint within this area, therefore clearing three, even one acupoint would have brought great joy to Qing Shui.

Just as a small river connecting to the large sea through a small brook. As such, by using the large sea as a support, the river will be able to maximise its greatest potential.

His two arms are like two rivers; his back and dantian, the sea; and three acupoints: Tianliao, Jianjing and Naoshu were like three brooks!

Clearing the three acupoints strengthened the area between his back and his arm. Furthermore, it greatly elevated the “endurance” and “explosive force” of both his arms.

The cleared acupoints allowed Qing Shui’s to muster greater strength in his arms and even deliver some of the strength from his back.

Qing Shui slowly gathered the Qi of within his body, channel it through his back and letting it irrigate through his arms. At the same time, he threw out a punch.

BANG!

The explosive noise which hung in the air left Qing Shui laughing contentedly.

The incredible power of the Back Connecting Fist lies here. After clearing the acupoints which connect both arms to the back, Qing Shui intuitively guess that if all the acupoints in his body have been cleared - he could amalgamate the whole body into a single structure. He wondered how much energy could one deliver like this? The strength of the entire body must be abnormally huge. Will it come to a point when he could deliver his entire body’s strength in a single finger tip.....

After washing up, Qing Shui contentedly left the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. At this moment, he decided to leave for the Yan Clan. Previously, he was actually a little worried, he didn’t know why he was worried but now he was at ease.

Nobody had cleared three acupoints in three generations within the Qing family.

“ Brother Shui, I can feel recently that these three acupoints are warm.” Qing Bei told Qing Shui while touching her three acupoints.

Qing Shui was surprised, the girl’s perceptive skills were quite high. “This is the precursor sign that you can clear the three acupoints. However, you are still some way from being able to do so. More importantly, the process will extremely painful, so it is up to you whether you can overcome that.”

“I can!” Qing Bei replied with much determination.

“ I will tell you something, if you can overcome it, it will be very beneficial to you. If you do overcome it, I will bring you to another level”

Chapter 387 - In front of the cave of “Deities”, Howling Moon Silver Ape

“I will tell you this, there’s a huge benefit if you make it through. If you make it through, I will take you through another realm.”

“Brother Shui, I will make it through, I will!”

Qing Bei showed happiness and determination after she heard what Qing Shui said, .

Qing Shui smiled and rubbed her head: “Practice hard, when the time comes, Brother Shui will let you soar the entire world of nine continents, alright?”

As she listened to Qing Shui's warm and ambitious words, Qing Bei nodded her head. She is only 2 years younger than Qing Shui, but before she even know it, she started to treat herself like a little girl in front of him.....

"Brother Qing Shui, why can't I feel that same enthusiasm?" Qing You looked at Qing Shui bitterly.

"Although you were hardworking, which everyone could see, besides training diligently, you still need to use your mind. With a good mind, you can achieve good results with less effort. You need to concentrate when you train as well. Without concentration, you cannot enter the state of epiphany. If you can't enter the state of epiphany, then you won't be able to enter Xiantian." Qing Shui smiled as he looked at Qing You.

"Then what should I do to concentrate?"

"As they say, only the paranoid will survive. If you set your heart on one thing and train until you lose your mind and forget yourself, there is nothing in this world that you cannot do. Not to mention the barrier to Xiantian, which will seem like a common thing to achieve after that."

Qing You's eyes lit up from Qing Shui's words. Qing Shui knew that he had lit the hot-bloodedness in his heart. But it will all depend on whether he can find the key to achieve Xiantian.

The word "concentrate" sounds simple, but it is actually hard. If one does not fancy martial arts, then they will require a much larger source of power and motivation. Just like Qing Shui, because he knew about the existence of Yan Clan as well as harbouring the goal to annihilate the entire clan since he was young, this became his motivation.

Although hatred can blind people, it is the easiest and the simplest way to ignite their motivation. Hatred is also the best to lit one's hot-bloodedness, allowing the patience, human nature... All of it to be increased greatly. Even their personality will change considerably as well.

In a short while, Qing Yi and Shi QingZhuang walked over. They came to call them for a meal!

Every meal is now quite abundant. With Qing Shui's condiments, whatever food they make, it will always smell delicious. That is why in the end, the table that were originally full of dishes and three big bowls of soup were all eaten spotlessly by a few boorish fellow with a big appetite.

"I need to go out for a while to do something. I will be back latest by tomorrow. The day after that, we will get ready to set out." Qing Shui said after he finished his meal and thought about it.

"Qing Shui, be careful."

Shi QingZhuang lowered her head as she finished speaking, which gathered sincere smiles from the surrounding people. Qing Yi felt a sense of warmth from that. She was more happy that someone cares for her son more than herself.

Qing Shui nodded as he leaves!

He suddenly thought of the "Deity" inside that cave, where he obtained the Big Dipper Sword last time. He felt the need to go back there one more time before he head for the Yan Clan.

Qing Shui did not step out from the gate. He hopped onto Firebird's back, and with a loud shriek, they flew away.

Firebird's speed has long changed from what it used to be. Now, it is able to soar up to the sky with one flap of its wings. Qing Shui led Firebird straight to the cave from before.

Long ago, he had to ride on the Metallic bull beast just so he could travel all the way to Cang Lang Country. There were twists and turns on the road. The whole trip took about two months with about four hours of rest everyday. Sometimes delays were inevitable.

However, this time it's different. Firebird is a mutated beast of Heaven and Earth. Moreover, it has evolved to a beast with the "phoenix crown". Its speed has also increased considerably. There is a great deal of difference between the old blind man's Black Champion Monarch Falcon back then and the Firebird now.

The necklace that boost 30% of the overall speed is not a small matter. With one swoop from the fiery red wings of Firebird, it flew up the sky like a violent gale.

Qing Shui stood firmly on Firebird's back. He could feel the strong wind hitting on his face like sharp knives. They passed by the mountains and rivers below them in a flash.

Qing Shui felt refreshed from the breeze. He didn't bulge even when the strong wind cuts through him like knives. Normal people would have been sliced into pieces.

Firebird's speed is almost at the speed of sound. If the might of a passing train from his previous life could bring down a man, then the power of the wind from two intersecting trains could slice up a man.

The speed of the train is nothing compared to the Firebird's speed. Firebird is about 10 times faster than the train...

The firebird soared the sky as fast as it could with all its might. They managed to reach half of the country within half of the day. Qing Shui felt quite satisfied with Firebird's speed and endurance.

When he saw the entrance to the cave from Firebird's back, he felt excited. Before Qing Shui could let Firebird settle down on the blue rock in front of the cave, Firebird let out a piercing cry.

Most of the time Firebird would let out such a cry is when it senses danger. Qing Shui panicked for a moment. Firebird is a Martial King grade beast as well as a Champion grade beast. It will not let out such a cry even when Firebird meet with those who are a bit more powerful than itself.

What kind of power could possibly make Firebird let out an alarming cry!

Qing Shui activated his spiritual sense and extended towards the surrounding area!

At the same time, he stopped Firebird so it can hover in mid-air!

Qing Shui's spiritual sense quickly extended into the cave. Inside his spiritual sense, there was a giant figure. Qing Shui felt chills down his spine when he noticed the burly figure is about three metre tall.

This is because the figure looks like a human. A three metre tall human?

Most importantly, Qing Shui could feel that his flame of life is extremely intense. No wonder Firebird was alarmed. Qing Shui could not tell the exact power of the figure, but he knows for certain that this figure is much stronger than himself.....

Who is he? Why is this person here?

Qing Shui felt the figure moved through his spiritual sense. He felt uncomfortable by their movement as he felt the figure is no different than a human being. The only difference is the long arms extended over the knees.....

Qing Shui looked at the entrance, because he knows that the “figure” is about to come out!

When Qing Shui saw the “giant figure”, he was shocked!

It is actually a giant ape!

The giant ape is three metres tall. Its arms and legs are abnormally bulky. The only thing that is visually attractive is the coat of snow-white fur on its body. Moreover, the coat of snow-white fur has no stray hairs and remained uncontaminated. There is also a faint spiritual Qi emanating from the whole body.

It is a mutated beast of Heaven and Earth!

Howling Moon Silver Ape!

Qing Shui had forgotten where he had heard of this name, so when Qing Shui saw it just now, the name popped out from his mind.

No wonder it doesn't look like a human. If he didn't think it was too tall and abnormally large, Qing Shui would have mistaken it as a human, or an ape without its tail.

Even if it is 3 metres tall, Qing Shui initially thought it was a giant human.

“Three metres tall, about two metres wide, at least more than 2000 pounds in weight!”

Both of the bulky arms extended over the knee. Qing Shui observed the Howling Moon Silver Ape's huge head and brown large eyes. They have an indescribable quick-wittedness like it had experienced great changes in life. Moreover, Qing Shui felt that this Howling Moon Silver Ape was extremely intelligent.

Qing Shui could also feel the formidable strength emanating from the Howling Moon Silver Ape. He shifted his gaze on its long bulky arms, then he thought about the Back Connecting Fists that he had learnt earlier.

Qing Shui knew what he had learnt was “White Ape Arm Enlarging”, but what kind of technique does this enormous beast rely on?

When the Howling Moon Silver Ape met with Qing Shui's gaze, it did not feel irritated or harbour any murderous intentions. This made Qing Shui feel uncertain. He felt very hesitant. The purpose of coming here is to enter the “Deities Cave of Immortal”, but now he has to defeat this giant ape if he wants to enter it. However, can he do it?

When Qing Shui came here last time, he didn't see this Howling Moon Silver Ape. But it has been about 4 years. He didn't know what this beast could possibly be doing here.

Qing Shui commanded Firebird so that it would fly over the blue rock. After that, he jumped onto the blue rock from Firebird's back!

The blue rock wasn't that big, but wasn't that small either. It has about 30 metres in circumference. Qing Shui landed on the centre of the rock. The Howling Moon Silver Ape, on the other hand, stood right beside the entrance to the cave.

When Qing Shui landed on the blue rock, the Howling Moon Silver Ape calmly looked over the his direction.

The impact of his landing felt like a meteor hitting the ground instantaneously!

Bang!

Qing Shui had no choice but to directly engage with the silver-haired spiritual ape the moment he landed on the rock!

Taichi Single Whip!

One with Heaven Taichi Single Whip!

Because the Howling Moon Silver Ape managed to reach the bottom edge of the rock even in a slow pace when Qing Shui landed, its bulky arms flung towards Qing Shui like a whip.

The flinging arms met with Qing Shui's Taichi Single Whip and created a blasting noise!

Bang!

The vibration from the loud impact shook and crumbled the blue rocks around the area, especially the blue rock underneath Qing Shui, which is cracking bit by bit. Luckily this blue rock wasn't leaned on the wall but firmly on the ground. Otherwise the entire rock will be broken into fragments.

Qing Shui didn't hold back and used all of his energy. However, this time he has no weapons or armors to boost his power. Even so, his power is about 5.5 million units without the additional boost.

But because of the vibration, Qing Shui was distracted as he was forced to retreat a step. However, the Howling Moon Silver Ape did not bulge even the slightest!

Just then, Qing Shui could feel the might of the Howling Moon Silver Ape's arms, which harbours the essentials of the Back Connecting Fists. This is the most authentic Back Connecting Fists.

Hiss!

The Howling Moon Silver Ape is clearly angry. The bulky hind limb stomped on the ground, its enormous body became agile. The ape flung both its arms at Qing Shui, like two huge whips flinging towards him.

Qing Shui expressions changed, he retreated a step and slammed forth both his fists!

Taichi Single Whip!

As he tried to use the Taichi Single Whip again, Qing Shui automatically used the Qi concentrating technique from the Back Connecting Fists onto his own Taichi Fist.

Bang bang!

Although Qing Shui retreated two more steps, he was pleasantly surprised. This is because he discovered the Taichi Fist was able to demonstrate a formidable power under the influence of the Back Connecting Fist Qi concentrating technique. He figured that it wasn't as simple as retreating two steps back if it weren't for the might of his technique. He would definitely be pushed back many times further from the force.

Qing Shui has always thought the the essence of the Taichi Fist lies on the preemptive strike to the opponents, by conquering the unyielding with the yielding. He naturally used his One with Heaven Taichi Fist when he saw the terrifying power of the Howling Moon Silver Ape.

He thought about using the softness of the Taichi Fist to counteract the beast. But what Qing Shui had master was the Ancient Strengthening Technique. This technique mainly focuses on refining the muscles and bones of the body. He had no choice but to infuse the Qi concentrating technique of the Back Connecting Fist to his Taichi Fist as well as the Taichi Single Whip.

Bang bang bang!

After he swallowed the "Pure Gold Mystic Turtle Core" and "Greencloud Up-step Pellet", Qing Shui's strength grew abnormally powerful. It would be a borderline tie if he tries to fight the Howling Moon Silver Ape now. Although he is fighting empty-handed, Qing Shui's defense has increased by three folds. And because he had consumed the Greencloud Up-step Pellet, his power was also greatly increased due to the previous breakthrough.

If he didn't consume two of these "godly" medicinal pills, Qing Shui will not be able to withstand the next blow from the Howling Moon Silver Ape!

Bang!

Qing Shui grabbed the opportunity to land a punch on the back of the Howling Moon Silver Ape. However, this tremendous punch was only able to push forward the beast by a few steps.

"What a powerful body!"

Even if Qing Shui has gained three folds of his defense, he is still inferior to the Howling Moon Silver Ape without his "Seven Star Armored Vest". The Howling Moon Silver Ape is proud because of its strong body flesh, immense power and agile body...

Qing Shui speculated that this Howling Moon Silver Ape is a 10th Grade Martial King level. He also knew that it has not reached the peak of Martial King yet because Qing Shui could still withstand its current power.

Most importantly, the Howling Moon Silver Ape has only been using the strength of its physical body. Qing Shui is also quite skilled in this aspect. However, he felt that this isn't the real power of the Howling Moon Silver Ape.

For the next two hours, Qing Shui fought with the Howling Moon Silver Ape relentlessly. The sky is turning dark as the silhouette of the moon rises from the west side.

Qing Shui jolted as he saw the moon fully risen on the night sky because he suddenly thought of its name.

Howling Moon Silver Ape!

Qing Shui felt like he was in great danger! He felt a bit nervous, like something was amiss. Because the words 'Howling Moon' felt unsettling.

Just then, a loud "ape cry" rang out from the Howling Moon Silver Ape!

Qing Shui quickly retreated. He saw the Howling Moon Silver Ape facing the west direction of the night sky and howled intensely at the bright moon!

HOWLLL~

In an instant, the 3 metres tall bulky body grew about 4 metres. Its body was already tall and bulky, but now it has become even larger and stronger. The silver fur instantaneously glowed a faint bright light.

Qing Shui could feel the spiritual Qi of the Howling Moon Silver Ape getting stronger. Both of its eyes are becoming brighter as well. However, deep inside his heart, Qing Shui felt terrified.

Chapter 388 - 40 Steps, Yan City, I, Qing Shui, am arriving!

Qing Shui felt that the flow of spiritual Qi from the Howling Moon Silver Ape intensified! So this was the fearsome factor of Howling Moon Silver Ape!

Qing Shui did not dare to delay. He instantaneously entered the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and clad himself in his Golden-ringed battle armor. After taking his Big Dipper Sword, he came out.

But at the same time, Qing Shui has also make preparations to escape!

When Qing Shui came out from the realm, he noticed that the Howling Moon Silver Ape was still Howling to the moon in the west skies. And at that moment, the Howling Moon Silver Ape had already reached a horrifying height 5 metres. Silver light circulated around its body, and the strong presence that it emitted cause Qing Shui to have thoughts of running away immediately.

This was because Qing Shui could feel that the Howling Moon Silver Ape's strength had increased by more than one fold. He was somehow able to ward off the attacks himself previously. However, now it was getting too difficult to ward off the attacks. Unfortunately, if he was hit by a fatal blow, wouldn't he have died with a thousand regrets!

At this very point, the Howling Moon Silver Ape's stopped its long Howling, it lowered its head to look at Qing Shui. When it laid eyes on the Big Dipper Sword that Qing Shui was holding, it did an action which shocked Qing Shui.

The gigantic Howling Moon Silver Ape prostrated itself in front of Qing Shui. It looked at the Big Dipper Sword in Qing Shui's hand with unblinking eyes. Eyes that held fear and reverence!

Reverence? Fear?

Qing Shui looked at his own Big Dipper Sword with much confusion. He thought for a moment and remembered the statue of the deity, the deity that exuded a formidable pressure. He had taken his Big

Dipper Sword from right under the deity, the sword might even been one of the weapons that the deity had previously used when when he was living...

Could this be due to his Big Dipper Sword?

Qing Shui remained perplexed with the many unanswered questions as he looked at the fearful eyes of the Howling Moon Silver Ape. What puzzled him even more was the reverence. Qing Shui couldn't even imagine that the Howling Moon Silver Ape could have such an expression.

Qing Shui slowly approached the Howling Moon Silver Monkey. He only dare such a courageous feat as he did not feel any threat from the ape's eyes...

Nearing, nearing...

Qing Shui raised his hands to stroke her soft fur. It was hairy and warm to touch. The Howling Moon Silver Ape did not even movement. She just let Qing Shui stroke her large head in whichever manner he pleased.

"Are you afraid of this sword?" Qing Shui casually asked softly.

But what surprised him was that the Howling Moon Silver Ape actually gently nodded its head!

This nod really stupefied Qing Shui. Within the world of Nine of Continents, demonic beasts are highly intelligent creatures. But in terms of communication, only those from beast tamer clans, such as Luanluan, can directly communicate with demonic beasts as they possess Seven Apertures Mystical Heart.

Yiye Jiange can also communicate with beast, but her abilities are not as strong as Luanluan's as most demonic beasts, whether strong or weak, will not attack the little girl unprovoked.

This was one of the benefits of Seven Apertures Mystical Heart!

"You can understand me?" Qing Shui questioned quizzically. Ape types are primates - furthermore this Howling Moon Silver Ape had probably already lived for many years.

The Howling Moon Silver Ape nodded its head once again.

"Can it be that you can only nod your head?" Qing Shui was still doubtful.

"Can you talk?" Qing Shui realized that he asked a exceptionally idiotic question. If it could talk, it probably wouldn't just nod its head. But Qing Shui only asked this question to see if the Howling Moon Silver Ape could really understand human speech.

The Howling Moon Silver Ape shook its head!

Qing Shui could now believe that the Howling Moon Silver Ape did understand what he said. This made it quite apparent that ape types are definitely one of the most intelligent species among demonic beasts.

"So will you still fight with me?" Qing Shui asked with a mild smile.

" Then, can I take a look inside?"

.....

Qing Shui asked a lot of questions consecutively but only obtained very little information. He only knew that it had lived here for about a thousand years and that it was out hunting previously when Qing Shui came. It did not anticipate that it will take half a year to hunt down its prey. And during this time, Qing Shui and Luanluan has taken over the space and had obtain the powerful Big Dipper Sword!

Qing Shui could also tell that the Howling Moon Silver Ape grew up here and had a special relationship with that statue of the deity; it was like its father and mother. More importantly, in such a long time, no one has been able to take away the sword. So when it saw Qing Shui holding the sword, it felt a sense of exceptional familiarity.

Anyone with even a bit of connection to the deity is considered “family” to the Howling Moon Silver Ape. This was the answer that Qing Shui got!

Now, once again Qing Shui has entered the halls where the statue of the deity stood. Once he step within the halls, he felt the recognizable sense of overbearing pressure.

However, it did not felt as heavy as before. Qing Shui was aware that it was because his strength and abilities have improved considerably!

Looking at the towering statue of the deity, Qing Shui felt a sense of resonance. In any case, this was where he had gotten his Big Dipper Sword from.

Qing Shui slowly head towards the statue as the surrounding pressure increased!

This time round, he could walk much further. Previously, he could only manage 10 steps. This time round, he had already taken 20 steps and felt that he still had the strength to continue.

His breakthrough at the level of Realm of 5th Heavenly Layer had made him much stronger than before. In addition to that, his consumption of the “Pure Gold Mystic Turtle core” had enhanced the hardness and durability of his bones, veins...by three fold. There was definitely a world of difference between his current strength and what he had before, what he was before.

Qing Shui could already feel the pressure exerted on his blood, meridian channels, skeleton, dantian, muscles and internal organs. And the pressure was only getting higher.

You are molded by adversity; you grow through adversity and eventually you will get a breakthrough overcoming that adversity!

Qing Shui clenched his teeth and channelled his Qi of to its peak vehemently and edged his footsteps forward gradually.

36!

Nature Energy

Immovable as Mountains!

Frenzied Bull Strength!

Qing Shui could feel the rising density of his bones under the immense pressure and also the gradual strengthening of his meridian channels, muscles, internal organs and dantian.

In comparison with the previous pressure training, this was much more intense. Originally, the incredulous three folds increase in defense was not a very stable condition and required a long amount of time to refine. This was one of the flaws of consuming medicinal pellets.

This was one of the most important reason why Qing Shui had decided to come the Deity Cave! He wanted to use pressure in the surroundings to refine and stabilize the three fold increase in his defense and raise his overall durability at the same time.

Qing Shui could gradually sense the fascinating changes to his bones, meridian channels...as they advance towards perfection.

“The advancement of the body to perfection” mean that the body’s meridian channels, dantian, bones... has achieved a peak level of synchronization thus reaching a balance. If Qing Shui’s dantian is too strong when both his arms and legs are too weak, it is akin to starving in front of a golden mountain. The lack of balance and harmony will mean that once he exert an explosive strength, both his arms and legs will become disabled. This is because his bones and meridian channels will not be able to withstand the forces.

37!

38!

Crack!

The sounds of the cracking and mending of the tiny fractures in his bones was unpleasant. But they were melodious to Qing Shui as it meant that his body's capability had grown again.

39!

Qing Shui did not stop and lifted his left leg again. It damgled in mid air. Qing Shui’s forehead was already covered with beads of perspiration, yet he simply was unable to make this fortieth step.

Qing Shui could feel that he had already reached the limits in terms of the durability of the bones in his body. A tiny mistake will cause all the bones in his body to break, all his internal organs to disintegrate and immediate his immediate death.

He used his left hand and drew out his three Gold Needles.

The accupoinut Zhiyin, Taixi and Yangchi!

He inserted the three needles each on one point!

Dai!

Qing Shui yelled out!

40th step!

Qing Shui left leg landed heavily on the ground!

At that very second, Qing Shui felt a flow of Qi travelling from the bottom of his feet to the Baihui acupoint at the very tip of his head.

As Qing Shui felt refreshed, he also felt that his body had become soft.

It was a success!

Qing Shui slowly backed out from the hall. The distance between himself and the statue had been halved. He already manage to traverse half the distance.

“ Do you want to leave this place with me?” Qing Shui asked the Howling Moon Silver Ape before he left.

It hesitated for awhile and shook its head.

Qing Shui did not insist. He gained a lot today. He had achieved his target to push his bones, meridian channels... to their tiptop condition. It was even more fortunate that he was able to infuse Taichi Fist and Back Connecting Fist; he took it as a success just as long as there is an overall increase in its destructive force. He travelled back home overnight riding on his Firebird after feeding it an Endurance Pellet.

In the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal...

Qing Shui stood at the side of the pond, he noticed that the number of Golden Horn Firetail Fishes had somehow became six. He admired the gigantic Nine-Petal Lotus in the middle of the pond. It was also a mystical plant.

The Nine-Petal Lotus is able to speed up the growth rate of creatures within the 100 metre radius around it by 20%. Only aquatic creatures!

That applies to Golden Horn Firetail Fishes which are aquatic creatures!

The mystical “Golden Horn Firetail Fish” only give birth to two larvae every 100 years. It also takes another 100 years for each larvae to mature. They can be added to medicines, eaten raw or cooked in various methods. Eating a single fish will increase one’s strength by 100 jin. It has a more miraculous effect which gives a 1% chance of breakthrough to the next cultivation level when eaten. For example, a 5th Grade Martial Warrior will be able to elevate himself to a 6th Grade Martial Warrior. This effect is only limited to all levels below Martial King Grade.

However, it is not the right time to eat them. It was still such a pity that the effect only applies to levels below Martial King Grade. Qing Shui look around at the vermilion fruits at the side of the pond. Luckily, they were within the exposure of the Flower of Life. Unfortunately, the Nine-Petal Lotus is only effective for creatures or plants within the waters.

When Qing Shui return to the Qing Clan, it was already dawn. Wing Shui allowed his Firebird to return to the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal so that it could rest as they have journeyed quite a distance. Qing Shui was very glad. Through this, he could confirm that his Firebird was indeed powerful especially in terms of flying.

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“Brother Qing Shui, please let me go with you!”

Qing You gazed at Qing Shui once again. Qing Shui did not know what to say to that look.

“Qing Shui, why don’t you just bring him along!” his grandfather, Qing Luo suggested then.

Since his grandfather had already spoken, what more could Qing Shui say. He nodded his head with a forced smile while Qing You cheered enthusiastically.

“Brother Shui...” Qing Bei called.

“Listen to Brother Shui. Stay home and hone your skills. I’ll bring you all out next time.” Qing Shui gently advised.

Qing Bei nodded her head obediently.

Qing Shui patted Qing Bei’s little head.

He looked towards the direction of Yanjiang Country.

Yan Clan, I’m coming!

Chapter 389 - She was forced by the Yan Clan to sell tea leaves...

“Grandfather, Second Uncle, Mother, let’s go!” Qing Shui said softly, looking away from the view.

Just then, two people walked into the Qing Clan Trading Company, Yu Donghao and Yu He.

Although Qing Shui had been back for about six months, he had never once stopped by the Yu Clan. He didn’t get in touch with Yu He either. When he saw the complex look on Yu He’s face, all his feelings built up in that instant.

“Grandpa Yu, Sister Yu!”

Qing Shui smiled, greeting them both.

“I know you guys will be going on a journey soon, so I brought Little He to send you off!” Yu Donghao laughed wholeheartedly. However, Yu He just stared at Qing Shui and didn’t say a word.

“You are too kind, Grandpa Yu!”

“Little He, didn’t you have something you wanted to say to Qing Shui?” Yu Donghao smiled as he faced Yu He.

Yu He glanced at Shi QingZhuang standing beside Qing Shui, then shifted her attention towards him and smiled. “Qing Shui, take good care of yourself!”

“Thank you, Sister Yu!” Qing Shui smiled back.

As he thanked her, Qing Shui felt the distance between them grow even more.....

After receiving his courteous reply, Yu He smiled and then faced Yu Donghao and said, “Grandfather, let’s go!”

“Alright, alright!”

“Brother Qing, we shall take our leave first!” Yu Donghao said to Qing Luo, then looked at Qing He. Qing Yi just nodded her head in acknowledgement.

Qing Luo and the others saw Yu Donghao out...

But before he could step on the back of Firebird, another shrill bird cry rang out!

A large condor with golden wings flew down towards them in a flash with the speed of the wind!

Upon seeing the Golden Winged Thunder Condor, Qing Shui knew that Canghai Mingyue and Huoyun Liu-li had arrived. He also knew that this time they would join them on their journey to the Yan Clan.

He couldn't help feeling guilty, since he did tell them he would be going to Yan City with just his mother, yet now.....

“Auntie, we were supposed to arrive this morning as requested by Qing Shui. Sorry for being late.”

Huoyun Liu-li jumped down from the Golden Winged Thunder Condor and warmly hugged Qing Yi's arm as she smiled sweetly. Her saucy demeanor was less charming than usual, but it was still graceful. She seemed a little cuter as well.

“You weren't late. This kid didn't even tell me you were coming. I was wondering why he was dilly-dallying. I see now he was waiting for you two to arrive.” Qing Yi laughed quietly.

Qing Shui scratched his head. Gazing at her captivating smile, he wondered if he really did ask Huoyun Liu-li to come along. And what was all that about dilly-dallying...

“Auntie, Qingzhuang, let's ride this together!”

Huoyun Liu-li gave a sweet smile as she invited them onto the Golden Winged Thunder Condor. Her gracefulness made Qing Yi smile as she nodded her head. Qing Shui could tell from his mother's expression that she was very fond of Huoyun Liu-Li.

Firebird and Golden Winged Thunder Condor were both large beasts, so there would be no problem letting a few people ride on their backs!

“Uncle, Aunt, we'll be going now!” Qing Shui bid farewell to Qing Jiang and the others.

“Qing Shui, be careful. I believe in you, so come back as soon as you can.” Qing Jiang, Qing Hu, Qing Hai... all of them looked at Qing Shui with teary eyes.

Save for Qing Shui, Qing Luo and Qing He, the rest of the Qing Clan hopped onto the back of the Golden Winged Condor as they said their goodbyes.

After their farewells, the remaining three then leapt onto the Firebird.

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Both beasts quickly dashed to the sky and vanished at the horizon!

“Little He, if you want to cry, just cry. Don't hold it in!”

Yu Donghao looked at Yu He beside him. She was gazing at the sky with a dazed expression, her loneliness apparent.

She was still smiling even when she left the Qing Residence. Yu Donghao knew his granddaughter well. He knew she was enduring her pain with all her might.

"I told myself not to think about him anymore. I already knew I wasn't compatible with him, so I kept telling myself not to hope for something more. But it's been very hard, grandfather. What should I do..."

She pleaded weakly to Yu Donghao, trying to hold back her tears as she looked at her grandfather.

"That's love, silly. You have fallen in love with him. Love is a selfish thing..." Yu Donghao gazed bitterly at his beautiful granddaughter. Love should be bittersweet, but what his granddaughter felt was much more bitter rather than sweet.

.....

"Qing Shui, what do you plan to do when we reach Yan City?" Qing Luo asked with a smile as they sat on Firebird's back.

Qing Luo had once been slashed on the neck by a sword. As a martial warrior, it was considered a humiliation. He would never surrender even if it meant death because to persevere was a state of mind of a true martial warrior.

But for his daughter, he would endure. Because if he didn't, the Qing Clan would be no more.

He would do his best to endure, for the sake of his daughter and the Qing Clan!

He still cherished the hope that he would one day achieve Xiantian, but since he had to endure for the sake of his family, he knew how unlikely such a feat would be. Achieving Xiantian was not meant for him.

"Grandfather, let me do it. When I go into the Yan Residence, I want to enter on behalf of my mother's name," Qing Shui said softly.

"Qing Shui, they are your father's family. Do you think you can do it?" Qing Luo asked nonchalantly.

Although he said it casually, Qing Shui knew his grandfather was still concerned about the matter at hand. Qing Shui knew his father was coward, but the old man was different. In Hundred Miles City, he was a respected person who was humiliated before. Even if he were to die, he would still brood about it.

That is why the old man hoped his family members could step into Xiantian. Or perhaps even become Martial Kings...

"I am part of the Qing Clan. My surname is Qing. I have no relations to the Yan Clan whatsoever. And I will make them pay for tormenting my mother and grandfather," Qing Shui said coldly, his tone clear and resounding.

Qing Luo was burning with righteousness. He was very proud to have a nephew like him!

"Then what will you do about that person? He was your mother's past lover after all. Moreover, you are his flesh and blood..."

“That man is already dead... even before I got the chance to question his past actions... now there's only one person in the Yan Clan that I care about. There's no one else that can tie me down anymore,” Qing Shui said harshly, but he was actually hurting inside. The pain he felt was heart-wrenching, not because that man was Qing Shui's father, but because he was his mother's lover.

Qing Shui's mother had suffered for twenty years, but when the day came to finally meet the love of her life, she couldn't even see him. Although Qing Shui's mother said she would not miss him, Qing Shui knew she wasn't being honest.....

Qing Luo was momentarily shocked when he heard news of his death. He hadn't thought he would die so soon. But now, what worried him most was whether Qing Shui would try to kill the entire Yan Clan because of his father's death, because there was nothing else standing in his way besides his kidnapped sister.

“Qing Shui, are you thinking of annihilating the entire Yan Clan?” Qing Luo asked, his feelings on this subject were complex. He didn't wish to see this kind of situation unfold because no matter what, Qing Shui was still connected to the Yan Clan by blood.

Qing Shui thought about his father's death. His mother had nobody else to miss. What's more, the person they cared for the most was forced to the big streets to sell tea leaves...

The more he thought about it, the more he couldn't suppress his anger. The burning hatred drove Qing Shui to thoughts of reducing the entire Yan Clan to shambles!

“Maybe. It's been twenty years, Grandfather. It's been too long. You will know until then. And Grandfather, I did say I would give you a unique present by the end of the year.” Qing Shui smiled.

However, his smile belied intense murderous intentions.

“Qing Shui, they are still.....”

“Grandfather, he's dead. This means that he has no relation with them anymore. Do you know how he died?” Qing Shui smiled as he interrupted Qing Luo.

Qing Luo was stunned. He understood what Qing Shui meant with his last sentence. He sighed. Qing Luo wasn't getting younger after all.

“Grandfather, I couldn't bring myself to tell Mother. Do you know what Qing Qing is doing right now?”

Qing Luo was shocked once again when Qing Shui mentioned Qing Qing!

He looked at Qing Shui in confusion.

“Long ago, the Yan Clan drove her out, yet she never gained her freedom. Everyday she has to sell tea leaves by the streets in the Yan City... The only reason she's managed to hold up this long is because she believes her mother will take her away from there one day...” Qing Shui fell silent when he thought about her stick-thin figure and how desolate she had become.

Qing Luo's hands were trembling after hearing Qing Shui's words. He didn't ask Qing Shui how he knew the details, but one thing was certain, it was all true.

The speed of their flight was several times slower compared to when Qing Shui rode the Firebird to the Deity Cave of Immortal. Even with the slower speed of the Golden Winged Thunder Condor, it wasn't allowed to fly at its fullest because after all, Qing Yi Qing Luo and Qing You weren't Xiantian martial warriors and thus weren't able to withstand such a terrifying pace.

Mountain after mountain, peak after peak. Qing Shui inspected the mountain range below and felt a sudden urge to walk around their lofty peaks.

"We have been flying for quite a while now. Let's go down and eat something! We will reach Yan City in a few days anyway." Qing Shui hadn't spoken too loud, but Qing Yi and the ladies were able to hear him clearly.

Nine Peak Mountain!

This is one of the famous mountains in Cang Lang Country!

Qing Shui used to go to a college in Xi'an. But for unfortunate reasons, he wasn't able to climb up the Hua Mountain in the end. There weren't any mountains in his hometown either. So technically, Qing Shui had never climbed a mountain before.

But when he came to the World of Nine Continents, he realized that he had to climb up the Skysword Mountain to reach Skysword Sect, as well as climbing up the Heavenly Palace Mountain to reach Heavenly Palace. Even now, he felt the need to go and explore the Nine Peak Mountain for no particular reason at all.

Winter had arrived. Perhaps it had something to do with the altitude. Qing Yi had to wear thick clothing to protect herself from the cold atmosphere. Since she was not a Xiantian, she would not be able to fully withstand the harsh weather.

"I need to prepare unique clothing that can withstand the coldness of winter when I get the chance," Qing Shui muttered to himself.

"I will go look for food. Rest up for now!" Qing Shui smiled as he informed everyone.

"Brother Qing Shui, let me go look for food!" Qing You said quickly.

"Hehe, just let me do it. I want to go look at this Nine Peak Mountain!" Qing Shui laughed and ran past Qing You towards the middle part of the Nine Peak Mountain, the highest point of the mountain.

Most of the plant life was bare on top of the mountain, with some traces of greenery on some trees and bushes. It was remarkable how they were able to stand tall despite the harsh winter.

Qing Shui went along the bumpy paths towards the peak, alarming many birds and small animals along the way.

He held two cobblestones in his hands. Qing Shui wasn't interested in killing the small animals as he intended to hunt for bigger animals like a wild goat or a wild deer, or something similar.

Just then, Qing Shui saw a foot tall "small tree" branching out like the shape of a palm. The six baby leaves were pale in color at their centre, and a small white flower bloomed on the tree. Looking closely,

he didn't think it was very appealing. However, he was shocked when he realized what kind of plant it was.

Wasn't this the Immortal Fox Saliva?

It truly was the Immortal Fox Saliva!

"Who would have thought the Immortal Fox Saliva would be here?" Qing Shui was puzzled. This was the highest point of the Nine Peak Mountain. Was there an "Immortal Fox" around here?

The Immortal Fox was actually a demonic beast level fox. Foxes were cunning in nature. Although they might be clever, their natural talents are limited. It was rare for a fox to evolve into the demonic beast level.

Evolution was also not a definite part of their nature. Theoretically, any animal could evolve into any stages in a particular order. The only problem was their chances of evolution!

Qing Shui collected the Immortal Fox Saliva and went into the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal. They were not expensive, but were scarce. Moreover, the chances of making the Immortal Fox spit out its saliva onto the unique "Azure Brim" were slim to none.

Qing Shui stood on the peak of the mountain, listening to the sound of the wind while gazing at the clouds. Although he felt brave, he still felt like he was missing something. Most importantly, Qing Shui could not feel excitement, even when standing at the highest point of the mountain.

He sighed and went back down the mountain.

Perhaps he was not feeling it yet. Perhaps it wasn't an appropriate time. Or perhaps he was missing a beautiful woman by his side?

A wild boar was unlucky enough to get caught by Qing Shui to become everyone's meal.

With some condiments at hand, some of the meat was grilled, and some made into stew. In the end, only half of the boar remained, since there weren't many people to begin with. Plus, some of the women had small appetites. Qing Luo, Qing He and Qing You ate a lot.

A week later—

Qing Shui and the others finally made it to Yan City!

This would be Qing Shui's second time in the city!

Yan City was huge, even bigger than Hundred Miles City. The city lay in the heart of the Yan River. From a bird's eye view, the city resembled a golden swallow extending its wings.

They landed right within the public square in the city. The public square in Yan City could not even compare with the one in the Continent's Capital, where various types of beasts would constantly come and go. There were still many demonic beast level flying beasts around Yan City. However, when Qing Shui's Firebird and Canghai Mingyue's Golden Winged Thunder Condor landed on the ground, they garnered a lot of attention from the crowd.

"Let's look for a place to stay first." Qing Shui reminded himself.

As Qing Shui looked around, wondering where they could spend the night, he suddenly remembered his acquaintance who lived in the city.

Lai Chusong!

He was the young man who had his “erectile dysfunction” cured by Qing Shui when he last visited the Hundred Miles City. Apparently he was also the young master of the Lai Residence!

“Master, to the Lai Residence!”

Qing Shui said to the coachman after they all sat inside a large beast chariot.

The others were confused, including Qing You, who was once here before.

The chariot sped along the wide, blue-rock pathway towards the Lai Residence. Qing Shui then realized that the Lai Clan was a well-known residence in the city, based on how quickly the coachman led them to the address with just the words ‘Lai Residence’.

All the huge residential houses were situated in the most bustling part of the city—the heart of Yan City. Because of the broad, smooth pathway lined with blue rocks, the beast chariot could travel as fast as eight hundred miles per two hours!

It had taken only four hours from the public square to the gates of the Lai Residence. When Qing Shui saw the splendid mansion in front of him, he knew right then and there that the Lai Residence was definitely one of the top families in Yan City.

Chapter 390 - Yan City Lai Clan, Lai Chusong

The beast carriage stopped outside the Lai residence!

After Qing Shui paid for the trip, he looked as the beast carriage sped off into the distance.

“Qing Shui, why did we come to the Lai residence?” Qing Yi questioned as she looked at Qing Shui.

Qing Shui hesitated for a moment. He remembered Lai Chusong mentioning that if Qing Shui ever came to Yan City, he could look for him. The Lai Clan is a considerably well-to-do family in the Yanjiang Country. Since he had such “convenience”, Qing Shui decided to use it. After all, as they were foreigners in the unfamiliar Yan City, it would be more convenient to know a native.

“I have a friend from the Lai Clan. I also have something to ask of him!”

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At the wide gates of the Lai residence, there were two rows of armor-clad guards. Their abilities were barely at Martial Commander Grade. However, for door guards, that level was already sufficient.

“Visitors, please stop!”

An imposing middle-aged man with a sword stepped up and blocked Qing Shui. He spoke seriously, his voice was calm and forceful but without a shred of rudeness. Sincerity shone through his bright eyes framed by his square face.

Qing Shui nodded his head in approval. The quality of the guards are already quite good!

“I am here to see Lai Chusong. Is he in?”

“You are?” the middle aged man asked with a lifted brow.

“I am from Hundred Miles City!”

The man thought for a while and responded to Qing Shui, “Can I go to get further instructions?”

“Of course!”

The man left quickly.

“Qing Shui, do you think we should just look for an inn instead?” Qing Luo asked as a complicated gaze passed his eyes. Qing Shui looked at him and laughed, shaking his head.

Qing Shui knew that his grandfather was overthinking. His grandfather thought that since Qing Shui and the person from the Lai Clan were friends, normally their guard should be able to recognize Qing Shui. Unless the Lai Clan was unwilling to invite them in...

Qing Shui was actually uncertain. After all, some years have passed since. People change, and he might have been forgotten. He couldn't deny that he charged the man “medical fees” when he treated him previously.

Qing Shui was also taking this opportunity to test if the man was worth befriending. Whether the frailty of human nature is able to within such a test.

Within fifteen minutes, Qing Shui smiled. He could still see the faintly familiar figure of Lai Chusong pacing towards them quickly.

Before Lai Chusong reached them, his amiable voice called out, “Sir. It's really you! It's really you! Please come in everybody, come in!”

Qing Shui observed the well-dressed Lai Chusong. Not having seen him for years, his appearance was still the same. However, his mannerisms and aura have totally changed. He now even felt somewhat masculine.

“Brother Lai, no formalities, please.”

“And these people are?” Lai Chusong was now standing in front of Qing Shui.

“My maternal grandfather, my mother...”

Qing Shui introduced his family.

“How are you, old sir? How are you, madam?” Lai Chusong cordially greeted them one by one. Others may not know Qing Shui's capabilities, but Lai Chusong definitely knew.

Since he was young, Lai Chusong had kept a piece of advice close to his heart. One must never forget one's roots and one must never underestimate another.

Being from a large clan, Lai Chusong had sharp foresight and keen sense. He knew that the much younger man standing in front of him was not without talent. That man with such an exceptional god-like healing skill could easily earn fame and fortune within any city.

Qing Shui noticed that Lai Chusong's eyes brightened up when he saw the women, like Canghai Mingyue. His eyes revealed his admiration, but Chusong did not stare. He did not show any rapaciousness nor gave any disgusting looks. This added to the favorable impression that Qing Shui had.

It was only when they stepped into the Lai residence did Qing Shui realize the Lai Clan's affluence. It was no wonder the Lai Clan had some influence in Yan City. Having such a residence in the capital of Yan city was already a symbol of power.

On their way, they saw rock gardens, small lakes, greenery and pavilions...

This was what a decent clan residence looks like. In Hundred Miles City, it was impossible to find any residence this opulent. It was an eye-opening experience for Qing Luo, Qing He, Qing Yi, Qing You and the others.

The layout of the Lai residence was not inferior to the interiors of the Skysword Sect. Qing Shui was certain that the Lai family's influence must be greater than that of the Skyword Sect.

There were Martial King Grade experts in the Lai Clan, but at his level, they were nothing to him.

Making a turn at the rock garden, crossing an arched bridge, routing past a luxurious looking pavillion, they came to an isolated courtyard with many rooms.

"Brother Qing Shui, how about here? We can let your grandfather, mother and your family stay here? What are your thoughts?" Lai Chusong asked cheerily looking at Qing Shui.

"Thanks for your care, Brother Lai!"

Qing Shui informed his grandfather and said to Lai Chusong, "Brother Lai, my grandfather and the others are tired so they will be resting. Let's take a walk."

"Great! The meals, fruits, snacks and tea will arrive soon."

Qing Shui, accompanied by Lai Chusong, walked towards another building some distance away.

The two of them entered a hall. It was extremely quiet. Qing Shui used his Spiritual Sense and checked that there was nobody within a hundred meter radius.

"Brother Lai, how's everything?" Qing Shui asked.

"Thanks to you sir, everything is fine!" Lai Chusong once called Qing Shui 'sir'. Qing Shui could see his sincerity.

In the World of the Nine Continents, "sir" is an extremely polite title.

"Brother Lai, why are you unwilling to befriend me?" Qing Shui chuckled.

"Brother Qing Shui, will it be convenient for me to ask what your purpose is coming to Yan City?" Lai Chusong knew that Qing Shui had came to Yan City to settle something. However, at this point, it was difficult for him to guess why Qing Shui even brought his family.

"Brother, I will keep you guessing, but you will find out soon."

"Well, then I will wait to see!" Lai Chusong laughed heartily.

“Brother Lai, how is Lai Clan in comparison to Yan Clan? I don’t have any other intentions.” Qing Shui pondered as he asked. It is common knowledge that knowing one’s own strength and that of the enemy’s is a sure way to victory. There was no harm getting more information.

Lai Chusong was startled. He stared at Qing Shui before slowly replying , “Lai Clan is inferior to Yan Clan!”

Just with those few words, Qing Shui understood that the levels of the Martial King Grade warriors in Yan Clan must be exceedingly high and they will also have a lot of people. Yanjiang Country is in the top twenty countries in the Greencloud Continent. It cannot be compared to a bottom of the barrel country like Cang Lang Country.

Furthermore, the Yan Clan was the dominant clan in Yanjiang Country. It may not be able to compete with Heavenly Palace, Sword Tower and other large sects, but it was definitely on par with the Immortal Sword Sect in region of the Southern City.

That would mean that there were Grade 7 Martial King experts in the Yan Clan!

Qing Shui thought about how naive he was in the past. It was naive and ridiculous that he thought he could just casually step into the Yan residence.

“Brother Qing Shui, it is rumored that there are Grade 7 Martial King experts in Yan clan. However, there is a clan that is even stronger than Yan Clan!” Lai Chusong looked at Qing Shui, but could not read his thoughts.

“Which clan?” Qing Shui was quite curious. Yan Clan was the master of Yan City so logically there should not be any stronger clans. However, there would definitely be some obscure clans with extremely high abilities but with no interest in being any city custodians.

“Xiao Clan. They are relatives to Yan Clan by marriage. It is rumored that they have a Grade 8 Martial King expert overseeing the clan.” Lai Chusong watched Qing Shui as he replied.

Unfortunately, he was unable to see anything from Qing Shui’s clear eyes.

“If I want to attack the Yan Clan, will Brother Lai help me?”