

Battle Through the Heavens #Chapter 13: Black Metal Piece - Read Battle Through the Heavens Chapter 13: Black Metal Piece

Chapter 13:Black Metal Piece

Seeing Xun Er nod at Xiao Yan's words, Jia Lie Ao's mouth started twitching. He curled his fists and stared coldly at the calm and impassive young man before him.

Jia Lie Ao's underlings, seeing that their young master was quite angry, quickly walked forward and surrounded both, Xiao Yan and Xiao Xun. Their gazes revealing their bad intentions.

Even though it was deep within the market, there were still quite a few people around and they turned their questioning gazes towards the surrounded group. Xiao Yan and Jia Lie Ao had quite a reputation in Wu Tang City, Xiao Yan for his fall from genius to cripple and Jia Lie Ao for his less than honorable encounters with other women. Even though they were infamous, they were still well known within the city.

Looking Jia Lie Ao's group's movements, Xiao Yan's brow jumped and on his young face, a hint of confidence crept. Lightly turning his head, he whistled towards a spot within the market.

Seeing Xiao Yan's actions, everyone turned their head to the direction in which Xiao Yan whistled and saw the market's guards furiously coming over under the lead of Pei En.

With his fellow guards, Pei En rushed towards Xiao Yan and quickly, the market's guards surrounded Jia Lie Ao's underlings who were surrounding Xiao Yan and Xiao Xun.

"Third young master, anything wrong?" Walking up to Xiao Yan, Pei En swept his glance over Jia Lie Ao and then respectfully asked Xiao Yan.

Xiao Yan lightly smiles and turned to face the green-faced Jia Lie Ao. He nonchalantly said: "Jia Lie Ao young master, this market is controlled by Xiao Clan, are you sure you want to fight here?"

Jia Lie Ao's eyes revealed his fear for Pei En but he immediately sneered at Xiao Yan: "Do you only know to rely on your clan? If you are a man..."

"What you want to say is, if I am a man then I would fight you one on one. Right?" Xiao Yan waved his hand and cut Jia Lie Ao off.

Jia Lie Ao sneered again and with a hint of challenge, he said: "Yup, are you afraid?"

Looking at the arrogant face of Jia Lie Ao, Xiao Yan helplessly sighed and puts his hand up to feel his forehead. Moments later, he raised his head and shrugs his shoulder and with innocence and naivety, he asked: "Jia Lie Ao young master, I would like to ask, how old are you?"

The edge of Jia Lie Ao's mouth twitched and he doesn't respond.

"Big guy, you're already twenty one. How old am I? Fifteen! You're actually asking a kid that hasn't performed his coming of age ritual to fight you? Don't you feel that your request is over the top, don't you feel embarrassed?" Xiao Yan's innocent appearance was so realistic that Xun Er beside him couldn't help but let out a soft laugh.

"Haha..."

Hearing the young man's words, the mercenary and merchant stall owners also let out laughs. Xiao Yan was right, at his current age, Xiao Yan could only be considered a kid but Jia Lie Ao would be considered an adult. A challenge of this kind made everyone look down upon Jia Lie Ao.

The laughter of the crowd was like a bucket of cold water and helped Jia Lie Ao regain his calm. From Xiao Yan's maturity and calmness to his impassive attitude, it was extremely easy for people to forget how old he really was. Therefore, after Xiao Yan said his age, Jia Lie Ao finally remembered that the young man standing in front of him was only fifteen.

Gnashing his teeth, Jia Lie Ao looked at the leering guards behind Xiao Yan and realized that he didn't have any chance of retaliation today. He could only shake his head and coldly say: "One more year and you'll be undergoing the coming of age ritual right? Hehe, I think that someone as crippled as you, once you finish the coming of age ritual, will only be sent to some remote and poor village. At that time, you won't even have the power to enter Wu Tang City, pretty pitiful."

Xiao Yan lightly smiles and nonchalantly shrugs his shoulders.

Jia Lie Ao's eyelids flickered. He didn't know why but whenever he saw the calm face of the young man in front of him, a mysterious rage boiled within him. You're only a cripple and trying to act like you know everything...

Forcefully suppressing his anger, Jia Lie Ao let out a cold hmph and with a wave of his hand, commands his underlings to exit the crowd.

"Oh right..." His steps stopping, Jia Lie Ao seemed to have remembered something and turning back, he said: "Xiao Yan young master, I heard that your Xiao Clan had their marriage with the Nalan Clan revoked. Hehe, actually, that isn't unexpected. With your Qi talent, you just can't match the Miss Nalan. Haha..." After saying that, Jia Lie Ao left laughing.

Xiao Yan's gaze coldly followed the exit of Jia Lie Ao. Tightly holding Xun Er who was about to rush out, he quietly said: "He's just a mad dog. If he bites you, why should you bite back?"

"But he.. went too far. We can't just let him off like this?" Her eyebrows furrowing, Xun Er indignantly replied.

"There will always be an opportunity..." Xiao Yan smirked and the coldness coming from his voice made Pei En shudder. A lion's bite might not be that scary but a lion that knows patience is another story, a scary one...

"Uncle Pei En, sorry for troubling you." Xiao Yan turned back and smiled gently toward Pei En's group. The previously intense atmosphere all of a sudden changed into a lighthearted mood.

Impressed by the control over emotions that Xiao Yan exercised, Pei En's smile was reinforced by a sense of respect. Even with Xiao Yan's lack of talent, Xiao Yan's future accomplishments probably wouldn't be too shabby with his mental prowess.

"Haha, third young master's joking. This is Xiao Clan's territory, we wouldn't allow Jia Lie Clan to do as they please here." Pei En smiled and seeing that Xiao Yan started to look around, he quickly took his leave along with his men.

Looking at the exiting Pei En and his group, Xiao Yan turned around and ruffled Xun Er's hair and said slightly forcefully: "A level 1 monster core made you forget your morals? You know as well as I do what kind of person Jia Lie Ao is. The moment you take his stuff, he would definitely ask for favors."

Straightening her hair, Xun Er flipped her hands upwards: "He wanted to give it me, it was free."

Xiao Yan rolled his eyes and didn't know whether to laugh or cry: "It isn't like that's something precious, did you really need to act like that? Don't forget, you're the young genius in Xiao Clan..."

Xun Er wrinkles her nose and raised the bracelet on her wrist. She taunted: "So Xiao Yan ge-ge has also been noticing Xun Er."

Xiao Yan stayed silent and pulling on Xun Er's hand, they walked towards some stalls deeper in the market...

After walking past quite a few stalls, Xiao Yan's feet finally stopped. He bent down and stared at a green orb that still had a trace of blood on the stall and said: "I've finally found it."

Moving his hand across the stall, Xiao Yan's was about to grab the monster core when his hand stiffened. A strange foreboding struck his mind...

Licking his lips, Xiao Yan continued to pick up the monster core but his gaze, as if by accident, swept across the stall....

Moments later, his gaze landed on a piece of black metal that was displayed beside the monster core.

The Black Metal Piece seemed extremely old with many specks of rust and even a couple spots of dirt. It looked as if it had just been excavated.

"Hey, Yan Brat, buy the black metal piece, it's something good..."

Right when Xiao Yan was confused about why he felt such a strong feeling towards the seemingly worthless metal, Yao Lao's voice sounded in his mind.

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Chapter 14: Vacuum Hand

Listening to the voice inside his head, Xiao Yan blinked and secretly nodded.

Instead of immediately grabbing the black metal piece, Xiao Yan gently picked up the green monster core that was still dripping blood and looking at the shabby looking mercenary standing behind the stall, he asked cheerfully: "Which magic monster did this monster core comes from?"

"Haha, the eyes of young master are really good! This is a monster core from a first level magic monster named Swallow Wood Fox. It is a high quality core! Our Sharp Teeth Mercenary Group waited 3 days and ambushed 5 Swallow Wood Foxes before finally obtaining this magic core..." Noticing Xiao Yan's luxurious outfit, the mercenary rapidly advertised his wares.

"If this object is to young master's liking, I think 500 gold coins would be a good price. Haha, while obtaining this core, we had several brothers who got injured quite heavily..."

Xiao Yan slowly wiped the remaining blood off of the magic core, noticing they haven't completely clotted yet. He nodded slightly and glanced towards the two golden stars on the chest of the mercenary and commented: "Too expensive! Normally a level one magic core's price would only be from 400 to 450 gold coins, furthermore, even if the Swallow Wood Fox is a magic beast, its attack power isn't too high. Are your underlings not Dou Zhes?"

The corner of his mouth slightly jerking, the mercenary laughed dryly. He did not expect the youth standing in front of him to be so knowledgeable about the magic core market and replied: "470 gold coins then, no more no less, we have to live by this..."

"Hahh..." Sighing under the Mercenary's anxious eyes, Xiao Yan bent down and randomly grabbed many things from the stall, conveniently including the mysterious metal piece in the mess. Then he said: "470 gold coins for all of these..."

Looking at the goods on Xiao Yan's hands, the mercenary let out a relieved sigh since none of the items in Xiao Yan's hands were expensive...

"Alright!"

Cheerfully producing some gold coins, Xiao Yan did not waste another moment and left immediately...

"Hah! Brat, to be so cautious in a mundane task of buying things!" The elder's taunting voice sounded in Xiao Yan's head as he turned to leave the shop.

"Those bastards are all swindlers, they'll immediately increase the price if you show interest in their wares. I don't want to lose money for something stupid like that..." After answering, Xiao Yan stopped paying attention to the Elder inside his ring and leisurely exited the market and returned to the clan with Xun Er.

After parting with Xun Er, Xiao Yan impatiently ran back to his room and carefully locked the door...

Turning his head and seeing the Elder who left the ring since god-knows-when, Xiao Yan brought out the recently purchased herbs and magic core. He hastily asked: "All the required ingredients are here, what do we have to do?"

The Elder cheerfully laughed and his gaze scanned the ingredients on the table before suddenly asking: "Don't you want to know what that black metal piece is?"

"Eh?" Xiao Yan paused before realizing that the elder was referring to his "accidental" purchase. He quickly took out the Black Metal Piece and examined it from top to bottom. But after examining it, his brows furrowed and asked: "This, what does it do?"

Yao Lao took the Black Metal Piece and laughed: "There seems to be a Dou Technique inside here. And, the creator of this metal piece was probably also an alchemist because only people that have a strong soul perception can feel the power within this metal piece."

"Dou Technique?" Xiao Yan's eyes brightened and he hurriedly asked: "What level is it?"

In the Dou Qi Mainland, the importance of Dou Techniques isn't lower than Qi Methods. A strong Dou Technique would allow one to perform at a level far beyond what they are capable of. For example, a Dou Zhe being able to fight a Dou Shi even though his Dou Qi is at a disadvantage.

Dou Techniques and Qi Methods are both split into four levels of decreasing power, Tian, Di, Xuan and Huang. Normally, the Dou Techniques that are easily accessible are at most High Huang level and for higher Dou Techniques, one would have to go to a large clan or faction.

Of course, Dou Qi Mainland is huge and there are some special circumstances in which the top Dou Techniques are lost and found by some lucky individual. The black metal piece that Xiao Yan has right now was probably the lost work of some ancient person...

Yao Lao turned the metal plate around and smiled: "Vacuum Hand : Low Xuan level!"

"Low Xuan level?" Xiao Yan's face was filled with happiness; he didn't expect that the "trash" he purchased would have a Xuan level Dou Technique. In his own clan, the Xiao Clan, the highest Dou Technique was only a Middle Xuan level and only the clan leader and some elders could learn it."

"Vacuum Hand: If trained to max, it can suck up boulders that are thousands of pound. Against enemies, it can forcibly suck the blood out of their body."

"Forcibly suck blood from a body?" His face full of surprise, Xiao Yan swallowed dryly and exclaimed: "This... This is awesome! Once the blood leaves the body, they would die right?"

"Don't be happy yet. This only works if your level is higher than your opponent. If you meet someone stronger than you, they can use the chance to get close to you and the unlucky would be you..." Yao Lao carelessly threw the metal plate to the side, looks like he doesn't think too highly of the Dou Technique.

Yao Lao was of high status and naturally had high standards but for Xiao Yan, this was a high level Dou Technique! He immediately happily picked it up and laughed: "Even with that, it's better than the Dou Techniques in the clan. I'll learn this from now on..."

"Hah, with your 3rd Duan Qi, it would be amazing if you could pull up a tree branch with your Vacuum Hand and you want to suck the blood out of someone...." Shaking his head, Yao Lao heavily criticized Xiao Yan.

Rolling his eyes, Xiao Yan ignored Yao Lao and smiled while hugging the metal piece.

"Look at yourself, having a Low Xuan Dou Technique makes you this happy. You're embarrassing me ..." Helplessly shaking his head, Yao Lao grabbed the monster core on the table and ordered Xiao Yan: "Go get a huge bowl of water."

Seeing that Yao Lao was about to start refining the pill, Xiao Yan hurriedly put away the Black Metal Piece and cheerfully went to prepare...

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In the calm room, Yao Lao picked up the Purple Bluegrass with his left hand. Moments later, he lets out a deep breath and a white flame appears in his hand...

When the flame appeared, the temperature within the room rose exponentially.

Without blinking, Xiao Yan stared at the white ball of flame. Although he didn't know the process of refining pills by Alchemists, to materialize Dou Qi was an impossible task for even his father...

With a calm face, the white fire in Yao Lao's hands expanded and swallowed the Purple Bluegrass.... Within the flame, the Purple Bluegrass instantly became a green liquid ball...

Yao Lao's right hand picked up another stalk of Purple Bluegrass and threw it into the white fire...

After throwing all three stalks of Purple Bluegrass into the fire, the ball of green liquid became visibly bigger.

The green liquid slowly shriveled within the fire; the high temperature relentlessly burned the impurities within the green liquid...

With the flame, the green liquid became smaller and smaller in volume. After a few seconds, it was only about the size of a thumb...

Afterwards, Yao Lao threw the two stalks of Bone Washing Flowers into the flame and after they finished burning, the remaining liquid mixed with the original green liquid...

After that was the refinement of the monster core.

The third step took a whole hour but Yao Lao still seemed full of energy and without any signs of fatigue.

After an entire hour, the tough monster core had become a ball of green liquid. The violent energy within the monster core was softened by Yao Lao's magical formula...

On his hand, the white flame slowly disappeared.

Looking at the green ball floating on top of Yao Lao's hand, Xiao Yao rubbed his hands together. With his superior Soul Perception, he could clearly feel the bountiful energy within the energy ball...

“Teacher, do I just eat it?” Xiao Yan blinked his eyes and asked impatiently.

“If you want to die then eat it. With your Qi paths, you would become a true cripple within seconds.” Giving Xiao Yan a white eye, Yao Lao flicks the ball and it accurately flew into the bowl of water. Immediately, the bowl of clear water turned to a dark green shade.

“From now on, you should train in there. With your talent and barring any unforeseen circumstances, you should be able to get to 7 Duan Qi within a year.” Yao Lao claps the dust off of his hands and lightly smiles towards Xiao Yan.

With obvious happiness, Xiao Yan hurriedly nodded his head.

“Oh, I almost forgot. This medicine will only last for two months. Which means, you need to go buy the materials that you got today again every two months.” Yao Lao revealed a sly smile.

Xiao Yan happiness disappeared from his face and he nodded his head with reluctance.

“Dammit, only rich people can afford to use this stuff...”

Battle Through the Heavens #Chapter 15: Training - Read Battle Through the Heavens Chapter 15: Training

Chapter 15: Training

The warm sun filtered through the window and lazily sprayed into the tidy room.

Within the room, a young man with a bare upper body was sitting crossed within a wooden bowl. His two hands were knit together into a strange symbol. His two eyes were shut tightly while his breath was calm but powerful.

In the wooden bowl beneath him, a mysterious green liquid was strangely sparkling.

As he trained longer, the green liquid within the bowl began to slowly evaporate, giving off a light green stream of air. stream slowly lifted upwards and squirmed into the young man's nose with his breathing.

Once the stream was inside his body, the young man's face became shiny and smooth like White Jade.

As if he felt the ever increasing Dou Qi within his body, the young man's face revealed a light smile.

After confirming his success, the young man didn't stop there. He still had his eyes shut tight and kept his hands in the same position. He didn't even budge and maintained his maximally efficient position as he greedily sucked up the energy within the green liquid.

The green liquid sticking to the young man's body was slowly absorbed by his skin, strengthening his bones and cleaning his Qi paths...

Under the young man's restless absorbance, more and more green streams came up from the bowl and slowly, they became so dense that they covered the young man's naked body in a layer of mist.

Under the restless training, the bright sunshine that came in through the window slowly became weaker and the room became a lot cooler.

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In the wooden bowl, the young man gathered in the final wisps of green air and his eyelashes twitched before opening to reveal two pitch-black eyes.

Within the pitch black eyes, a white glow passed through but this time, it had a hint of green.

Slowly letting out a breath, the young man quickly stood up and let the cool water droplets flow off of his body. Taking a lazy stretch and feeling the abundant Dou Qi within his body, the young man muttered: "At this pace, I can probably get to the fifth Duan Qi in two months..."

After preparing everything, Xiao Yan stayed in his room for an entire half month. In the time he stayed in his room, besides eating and attending bodily functions, he had been training his Qi non-stop.

Even though training was extremely boring and tiring, it was nothing compared to the taunts and ridicules that Xiao Yan had endured for the past three years.

The three full years of taunts had taught him how important strength was in this world....

Even though the days passed tiresomely, the results of them were pleasing.

The effects of Yao Lao's bowl of elixir was much stronger than what Xiao Yan and even the creator of it, Yao Lao had thought it would have. Yao Lao had predicted that it would take at least a month for Xiao Yan to get to 4 Duan Qi, but Xiao Yan only took half that time....

At this, even Yao Lao was surprised at the speed and efficiency in which Xiao Yan trained. Even though Xiao Yan had done this before, the speed at which he was going right now, isn't a bit too incredible?

The most important and toughest part about training Dou Qi is in the basics. The 10 Duan Qi would take people 10 to even 20 years... Of course, once a person becomes a Dou Zhe then their training speed would increase exponentially. If one can only raise one Duan Qi in a year before becoming a Dou Zhe then that same person could probably go up a couple of stars in a year once after becoming a Dou Zhe....

When the training speed was slanted towards later times, Xiao Yan's performance in half a month was surprising to say the least.

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Walking out of the bowl without hesitation, Xiao Yan looked back at the lighter green liquid in the bowl. The lighter color was definitely due to his training and he helplessly shook his head while whispering: "Can this sustain for another month and a half?"

Wiping off the remaining water droplets, Xiao Yan randomly put on a fresh suit of clothing and crawled onto his soft bed. After doing so, he reached behind his pillow to take out the pitch black metal piece.

The rust on the steel piece had already been wiped off by Xiao Yan to reveal a smooth and glowing surface. It was quite mysterious.

For the past half month, Xiao Yan had been intently studying this metal piece that contained a Low Xuan level Dou technique whenever he took a break from training.

In the half month, under the instructions of Yao Lao, Xiao Yan finally had a bit of understanding of the techniques involved. But because of the lack of Dou Qi, he couldn't use it for anything useful which made Xiao Yan a little disappointed.

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Placing the metal piece between his two palms, Xiao Yan closed his eyes and used his soul perception to observe the black metal plate.

With the calming of Xiao Yao's breath, the room was once again peaceful.

Another long silence passed before Xiao Yan opened his eyes again and raised his right hand. His right hand was curved into a claw and his light Dou Qi, under Xiao Yan's insistence, quickly went through the few Qi and pressure points on his palm to become a pulling force.

"Peng..."

The ceramic vase that Xiao Yan pointed to made a few circles before falling down the tables. And with a clear crash, it shattered into countless pieces.

“Hah, even though the Dou Technique is at the Xuan level, my Dou Qi is too low and I can barely use the technique.” Seeing the destruction that he had caused, Xiao Yan whispered to himself: “Looking at the power it has right now, if I want to have enough force to vacuum a person towards me then I need to be at 7 Duan Qi.”

“Whatever, let’s go to our clan hall to find some lower level Dou Techniques. This vacuum hand, it won’t be of much use for some time. But since I can train my Dou Qi again, I don’t need to use my foolish method of training that I used before...” Sighing again, Xiao Yan climbed off of his bed and glanced at the motionless black ring before leaving the house.

Wincing his eyes and adjusting to the blazing sun, Xiao Yan carefully closed his door before lazily walking onto the stone path towards the clan’s back rooms.

To the sides of the stone path were emerald green willows. The bountiful green felt soothing and sharply contrasted with the scorching heat.

Turning onto a different path, a young girl’s laughter greeted him.

Because of the disturbed calm, Xiao Yan furrowed his brows and following the source of the laughter, he saw a couple of young girls coming towards him from another path.

Crowded by other girls, a pretty girl was laughing. The charming face that she had completely overshadowed the other girls beside her.

She was the girl that was second to Xun Er in the Dou Qi testing, Xiao Mei.

Glancing at the girl that had once stuck to his side calling countless biao-ges, a flash of unrestrained mocking went across Xiao Yan’s face. Lightly shaking his head, Xiao Yao retrieved his sight.

TL: Biao Ge is brother not in one’s direct family. This is a formal saying compared to ge-ge which is more of an familiar saying.

When Xiao Mei reached the road Xiao Yan was on, Xiao Mei’s charming laughter died out as she had seen Xiao Yan...

The sun scattered its light and made the impassive young man with his hands behind his head indescribably attractive.

A pair of pretty, large eyes stared at the young man coming closer, and trying to distinguish whether there was a light smile or ridicule hanging on the edges of his mouth, Xiao Mei mentally gravitated towards Xiao Yan. Suddenly, she felt as if she had lost something...

Three years ago, that young man, on the edge of his mouth, had that intoxicating curve.

