

## **Battle Through the Heavens #Chapter 241: Obtaining The Map Fragment, Hiring A Bodyguard - Read Battle Through the Heavens Chapter 241: Obtaining The Map Fragment, Hiring A Bodyguard**

### **Chapter 241: Obtaining The Map Fragment, Hiring A Bodyguard**

The two gazes intertwined in midair with both of them emitting some indecipherable meaning. A faint chill was formed in midair and the atmosphere suddenly became somewhat tense.

A pair of dark black eyes calmly watched Hai Bo Dong in midair, who appeared to have become more fierce and overbearing following the recovery of his strength. Xiao Yan's body bent slightly backward and leaned against the back of the chair. His ten fingers were placed in front of his body. His calm expression similar did not change even the slightest bit because of the fierce Dou Huang Qi he was feeling in the underground room.

In midair, Hai Bo Dong's gaze carried a little aggression as he stared intently at the black-clothed young man below. A faint force of cold air hovered over his palm. Following the recovery of his strength, the emotions that had been suppressed in Hai Bo Dong for decades had finally once again began to be released in a slow and soothing manner. The Ice Emperor back then was cold and overbearing. There had never been anyone who dared to take anything from his hand. Xiao Yan, however, had broken this taboo.

In the past, Hai Bo Dong did not reveal any enmity because he could not see through Xiao Yan's strength due to the seal. However, now that the seal had been broken, the extremely powerful Ice Emperor back then had finally and completely returned. The sudden skyrocketing strength had also caused Hai Bo Dong's heart to quietly start thinking of ways of taking back the map fragments that were Xiao Yan's hands.

Although Hai Bo Dong did not know what use the map fragments had, he was still able to realize that the secret hidden within the map fragment would definitely not be small. After all, this map fragment was something that had attracted a strong person around Queen Medusa's level to travel a great distance to chase after him with the intention to kill.

With his body floating in midair, an icy cold air shrouded Hai Bo Dong's body as his eyes stared at Xiao Yan who had a calm filled face. The young man's quiet and inscrutable posture finally caused Hai Bo Dong, whose confidence had inflated greatly, to become a little sober.

Narrowing his eyes to tiny slits, Hai Bo Dong recalled the big fight with Xiao Yan a few months ago. His face became grave. When the image of the young man controlling the strange thick white flame back then flashed in his mind, a chill suddenly surfaced in Hai Bo Dong's heart without warning. Back then, after being in contact with the thick white flame, Hai Bo Dong had a deep understanding of its terror.

As the chill in Hai Bo Dong's heart rose, his body also shivered slightly. The coldness on his face also gradually disappeared. A smile that seemed gentle was hung on that slightly stiff old face.

After repeated deep thoughts, Hai Bo Dong's confidence, that had surged excessively because of his soaring strength, was finally suppressed by his rationality and gradually disappeared. He roughly calculated a little and after a few palpitations he realized that even though he had gradually recovered his strength from before, he was still unable to see through this young man's true strength.

Sensing Xiao Yan's Qi, it was clearly only that of a Dou Shi. However, after having once fought with him, Hai Bo Dong knew that if anyone really treated the young man in front of him as a Dou Shi and tried to deal with him, he would likely receive a bloody lesson...

"Temporarily it is inappropriate to be enemies with him."

As this thought flashed in his heart, a gentle smile surfaced on Hai Bo Dong's old face. He faced Xiao Yan and gave a seemingly friendly smile as he nodded. The cold air shrouding him also gradually withdrew into his body.

With a mocking glint in his eyes, Xiao Yan eyed Hai Bo Dong who, after a deep thought in midair, suddenly took the initiative to withdraw his fierce and imposing manner and began to express kind intentions. Xiao Yan played with the ring on his finger as he smiled playfully and said, "Old Mister Hai, I thought that after recovering your strength, you were planning on eating your words and attacking me... Your manner just now, really could make someone afraid."

"Ke ke, Little Brother Xiao Yan, what are you saying. How could old me forget the help you have given me? That kind of ungrateful thing is not something that I, Hai Bo Dong, would be able to do." Hai Bo Dong hurriedly waved his hand and gradually descended. He faced Xiao Yan and explained, "I'm really sorry. Just now, I had temporary difficulty controlling my strength because I suddenly recovered it, startling Little Brother."

Xiao Yan smiled as he was seated on the chair. His long hand patted his sleeves as he smiled and said in a soft and somewhat regretful manner, "It really is a pity. The little me had originally planned to experience the true strength of Ice Emperor who had once shook the entire Jia Ma Empire. Looking at things now, it looks like I won't have this kind of chance. How regretful..."

Hearing this, the corner of Hai Bo Dong's eyebrows twitched slightly without anyone noticing. His sharp gaze stared stubbornly at the face of Xiao Yan who did not appear to be joking. A moment later, he let out a laugh and swiftly shifted his gaze away. At the same time, he quietly rejoiced in his heart. Looking at Xiao Yan's display, it seemed that Xiao Yan did not possess much fear for the him who had recovered his strength... Luckily, he had not turned against this guy just now. Otherwise, if they were to really fight, it would be difficult to say just who would win or lose. Moreover, offending an alchemist who could refine a tier six medicinal pill was obviously an extremely foolish thing to do. If Hai Bo Dong possessed the ability to kill Xiao Yan on the spot, that choice could still have been considered, but once he allowed Xiao Yan to escape, then the troubles in his future would persist continuously. The well informed Hai Bo Dong was even more aware than Xiao Yan about how terrifying a high tier alchemist's ability to gather people was.

"Ke ke, what is Little Brother Xiao Yan saying. These old bones of mine do not have the vigor of you young people." Hai Bo Dong laughed dryly as he waved his hand.

Xiao Yan was noncommittal as he smiled. He slowly stood up from the chair, extended his palm and stared intently at the old person in front of him. With a faint smile, he said, "Old Sir. The seal has already been broken and my task can be considered to have been completed. The map fragment..."

Once the two words 'map fragment' entered his ears, the shriveled face of Hai Bo Dong twitched slightly. However, this time around, he did not find any other excuses. This was because he could clearly sense that during the short time he was silent, the Dou Qi in the young man's body had already begun to flow turbulently. Within those dark black eyes, an icy cold feeling was also gradually hovering over them. Clearly, if he said anything to postpone things, the young man in front of him might well immediately turn against him and attack.

Hai Bo Dong smiled bitterly and sighed. His finger rubbed on a storage ring and a small piece of yellow skin parchment, which appeared extremely old, appeared in his palm. He was extremely sad to give it up as he stroked this ancient map fragment while he sighed, "I have made maps for decades, but have never seen a map that was as complicated as this. Not long after I obtained it, I attempted to make a copy of this map fragment. However, the map that I finally made was strangely very different from the original map. After experiencing this a few times, I could only give up this idea. Perhaps this had something to do with the map being only a fragment."

Xiao Yan's gaze focused intently on the piece of map fragment and then glanced at the expression of Hai Bo Dong. Although he vaguely knew some reason for it, he did not open his mouth to answer his doubt. Back then after obtaining the first map fragment at the Magical Beast Mountain Range, Yao Lao found that there was an extremely large Spiritual Energy hidden within these map fragments. This kind of spiritual energy was extremely obscured. Unless one was an alchemist, a job where one's Spiritual Strength exceeded ordinary people, it was very difficult for other people to sense it. These

Spiritual Energies would not directly cause any harm to people but if anyone wanted to copy the routes and lines on the map, these Spiritual Energies would unknowingly erode one's sanity, causing the map that you finally reproduced to be completely different from the original one!

Hai Bo Dong rubbed the map fragment for a long while, unwilling to part with it. Finally, he shook his head despondently and handed it to Xiao Yan. He smiled bitterly and said, "Ugh, take it. Looking at it from my experience, these map fragments should have been divided into a few portions. It is not very useful having only this one portion in my hand. Moreover, wanting to find the other map fragments in this vast continent is undoubtedly harder than finding a needle in the sea."

Xiao Yan smiled, extended his hand and received this extremely smooth map fragment. He sized it up as a faint vicissitude and ancient flavor rushed at him. It appeared that the time this map fragment had undergone was not likely to be short.

As he held this small map fragment, Xiao Yan took out the other small map fragment that he obtained from Hai Bo Dong the last time from the storage ring. After which, he put them together. When he saw that the points where the two came into contact did not have the slightest gap, he sighed in relief.

"Hee hee, Little Brother Xiao Yan, you seem to be extremely interested in these map fragment?" Seeing Xiao Yan's manner, Hai Bo Dong's eyes rotated as he asked with a laugh.

"I have quite a great interest in all these strange and unique things." Xiao Yan smiled slightly and gave a very vague reply.

"Little Brother, the map fragments in my hand have all entered into your pocket. Hee hee... I wonder if you can tell me what exactly is the use of this thing? Once you put all the map fragments together, what will you be able to obtain?" Hai Bo Dong rubbed his hands together. He was unable to contain the curiosity in his heart as he asked with an awkward smile.

"Old Mister Hai, I have already told you that other than seeing this kind of map fragment once during that auction, this is the first time that I have obtained a map fragment. Therefore, I am also not too certain what kind of things it is hiding." Xiao Yan waved his hand and replied with a smile.

Hearing this, the corner of Hai Bo Dong's mouth parted. He laughed along twice but he mumbled in his heart, "You don't know? It would be strange if you didn't know. Only a fool would risk his life to enter the desert for a piece of a map fragment which he does not know the details of. Seeing your shrewd manner, do you look like a fool?"

After hearing Xiao Yan's words, Hai Bo Dong also understood in his heart that the former did not wish to share the secret of the map fragments. At the moment, he could

only shake his head helplessly. After all, the map fragments had recently fallen into Xiao Yan's hand. Attempting to snatch it forcefully was not possible. Therefore, he could only forcefully extinguish the curiosity in his heart.

After carefully placing the map fragment into an exquisite box and storing them into the storage ring, Xiao Yan let out a relief sigh in his heart. This thing had finally reached his hands after a few twist and turns.

"Old Mister Hai, now that you have already recovered your strength, I don't think that you will continue to stay here to be a shop owner, will you?" Xiao Yan inserted his hands into his sleeves as he suddenly asked with a smile directed toward Hai Bo Dong.

"Back then the main reason for me staying here was to study the map fragments and to search for a method to break the seal. Now that the seal has been broken, there is naturally no reason for me to continue staying here." Hai Bo Dong nodded his head, glanced at the smiling Xiao Yan and involuntarily asked, "Do you have something?"

"Haha, I indeed have something that I would like to request Old Mister Hai's help." The ten fingers in Xiao Yan's sleeves gently flicked as he laughed softly.

"Hee hee, you are going to use a favor from a Dou Huang so soon?" Hai Bo Dong laughed, "I have said before. You have helped me once so I owe you a favor. However, if you want me to help you now, this favor... will be gone."

"I believe that Old Mister Hai might well owe me even more favors in the future. Not for any other reason, but just because I am an alchemist and an alchemist who can refine a tier six medicinal pill." Xiao Yan smiled faintly as he replied.

"Ah, although your words are a little arrogant, they are true. An alchemist who can refine a tier six medicinal pill is someone whom even a Dou Huang would be willing to befriend. Of course, I am no exception." Hai Bo Dong sighed and nodded his head while sharing the same feeling. No matter how one put it, an alchemist, especially a high tier alchemist, will forever be a companion or a friend that every strong person would like to have in this continent.

"Tell me, what do you want me to do? As long as it is within my capabilities, I will not refuse." Hai Bo Dong stroked the short beard on his chin as he smiled and asked.

"Two months later, I will head to the Misty Cloud Sect. When that time comes, I might have some conflict with them. All Old Mister Hai needs to do is to show your face when that time comes." Xiao Yan let out a gentle sigh and was silent for a while before saying.

"Misty Cloud Sect? What did you provoke them for? That's a really big player." Hearing this, Hai Bo Dong was at a momentary loss before he immediately replied in surprise.

"I am only going to settle some scores." Xiao Yan carelessly said without explaining any details. After all, it was not something overtly glorious.

"The Misty Cloud Sect is very strong. There are many strong people in it. It looks like this request of yours is quite difficult." Hai Bo Dong fondled his chin and said with some hesitation.

Seeing that Hai Bo Dong was a little hesitant, Xiao Yan smiled and said, "Old Mister Hai, you can be rest assured that I am not asking you to be enemies with the Misty Cloud Sect. If they use their large numbers to bully me or use their strength to bully the weak, Old Mister Hai just needs to show your face.

"Use their strength to bully the weak? You are really humorous. With your strength, other than the Misty Cloud Sect Leader, who else can contend with you?"

"Due to some reason, I do not wish to reveal my strength. When that time comes, I will only use my strength on the surface." Xiao Yan waved his hand and replied with a smile.

"Huh? What a baffling decision." Hearing this, Hai Bo Dong was at a loss. He mused for a moment before nodding his head and helplessly saying, "Alright, I do owe you a favor. I will accompany you to the Misty Cloud Sect. Although I dare not say that I can turn the Misty Cloud Sect upside down now but if it is only to ensure your safety, it should not be too difficult."

Seeing that Hai Bo Dong nodded his head, Xiao Yan laughed softly. With a Dou Huang bodyguard, some of those antiquated and stubborn fellows at the Misty Cloud Sect should know how to exercise restraint.

## **Chapter 242: The Change in Rock Desert City**

As he did not want to continue to live in the Desert City as the owner of a shop selling maps, Hai Bo Dong followed Xiao Yan and left the city the next day after their discussion had been completed.

None of the things in the small shop where he had stayed were brought along by Hai Bo Dong. According to what he said, there might be a day in the future where he who was tired of disputes would return back to this place and be at complete ease as he spent the remainder of his days.

Standing on a towering sand dune, Hai Bo Dong took one last glance at the huge city that stood connecting the edge of the desert and the edge of plain land. He sighed softly and his expression was slightly desolate. Having lived in seclusion for a few decades, some feelings toward this place grew in his heart despite his indifferent character.

Slowly turning around, Hai Bo Dong eyed the black clothed young man by his side and asked, "Where do we go next?"

"I wish to first make a trip to Rock Desert City. My two elder brothers are there." Xiao Yan turned his gaze towards the north-western direction. That was where the Rock Desert City was located. He smiled and said, "The last time I left in a rush and had not settled some things properly. Now that I have two months of free time remaining, I wish to settle the things appropriately. What about you?"

"As you wish. I don't have anywhere to go to during this period of time, so I will first wander around with you." Hai Bo Dong thought quietly for a while before he immediately replied and smiled.

"Hehe, that is naturally good." Hearing this, Xiao Yan grinned and nodded. He would naturally not reject to having a free Dou Huang level fighter by his side.

"Then let's go. With our speed, I think that we should be able to rush to Rock Desert City within a day." Hai Bo Dong smiled as a faint cold fog was emitted from his body. Finally, the fog agglomerated into a clear crystal icy pair of wings.

"Okay." Xiao Yan nodded his head. His back trembled slightly and the Purple Cloud Wings that were pasted on his back like a blob of dark black tattoos, gradually stretched and opened. A moment later, they transformed into a pair of wings with a size that was slightly larger than Hai Bo Dong's icy pair of wings.

With his gaze containing some strangeness, Hai Bo Dong swept across the purple colored wings on Xiao Yan's back. Even though Hai Bo Dong had seen it once in the past, he was still unable to resist clicking his tongue and praising, "I Flying Dou Technique, this kind of thing is something that even I have only heard about and never seen it. You are really lucky to actually get hold of one."

"Ke ke, the speed of this is inferior compared to the icy wings of Old Sir. What is there to be envious of?" Xiao Yan smiled and shook his head. He patted the huge Heavy Xuan Ruler on his back and suddenly flapped his pair of wings. His body instantly rose into the air.

"Let's go. It's time to leave!" Xiao Yan softly cried as he swiftly flapped his wings. With the help of the lift created, his feet stepped on empty air. His body turned into a flowing light and shot toward the distant horizon.

Seeing Xiao Yan flying in front of him, Hai Bo Dong smiled. He also flapped his Dou Qi wings and swiftly chased after him.

Xiao Yan and Hai Bo Dong's flying speed was naturally something that walking or riding could not compare with. Back then, when he was training, Xiao Yan had nearly taken

ten days to travel. With the two of them rushing to cover the distance without stopping, it only took a day before they gradually arrived at their destination.

When the hot sun in the sky gradually set, the outline of a city that was smaller than the Desert City by a few times finally and slowly appeared at the edge of their sight.

Looking at the yellow mud city that stood within a sandstorm in the distance, Xiao Yan let out a sigh of relief. He gestured to Hai Bo Dong behind him and their speed suddenly soared.

The two flowing lights were like two meteors that flew directly toward the sky of the Rock Desert City.

On a towering building in the Rock Desert City, two human figures suddenly appeared as they condescendingly overlooked the city, which was full of the flavor of the desert.

Standing on the top of a dam wall, Xiao Yan gently patted the yellow dust off his clothes. Although the entire journey was dusty, there was a joyful expression on his face. After this long period of rushing through their journey, Xiao Yan finally and precisely felt the benefits an evolved Qi Method brought him. If this was in the past, he would not only need to make frequent stops to rest during the flight from the Desert City to the Rock Desert City but would also need to occasionally consume 'Energy Recovery Pills' in order to successfully arrive at the Rock Desert City...

However now, with his evolved 'Flame Mantra', other than panting during the flight journey, the Dou Qi in his body did not show any feeling of deficiency. This condition of having a surplus caused Xiao Yan to be extremely delighted in his heart.

"A Xuan Class Qi Method and a Huang Class Qi Method are indeed two things belonging to different classes..." Xiao Yan sighed emotionally on the difference between the two types of Qi Method. At the same time, the desire for a high class Qi Method once again rose in his heart. A Xuan Class Qi Method was already so strong. What about Di Class? Tian Class? When that time comes, he might well possess the ability to destroy the skies and lands.

"Ke ke, let's go Old Mister Hai." After sighing emotionally in his heart, Xiao Yan smiled at Hai Bo Dong behind him, still carrying the huge Heavy Xuan Ruler on his back he leaped down from this towering building. He led Hai Bo Dong as they passed through a few streets before they slowly walked toward the city corner that belonged to the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company.

Walking in the desert, Xiao Yan's gaze swept across this street that should have many mercenaries gathering. He frowned slightly. Without a reason, he felt that the street had currently become more desolate...



The mercenaries that were walking up and down had decreased tremendously and most of the mercenaries wore the same kind of badge on their chest. Having stayed in the Rock Desert City for a period of time, Xiao Yan naturally knew that this badge belonged to the 'Sand Mercenary Company'.

"There is something wrong... when has the number of members of the 'Sand Mercenary Company' increased to this many?" Xiao Yan muttered softly as he narrowed his eyes. He slowly passed through this street, raised his chin and eyed the huge compound located at the end of the street. This place was the headquarters of the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company'. In the past, this place was noisy and crowded, bustling with activity. However, now the street was in chaos and the stores around seemed to have closed a long time ago. A gentle breeze blew over, carrying a desolate feeling.

"Has something happened?"

With his palm gently fondling the side of his face, Xiao Yan suddenly laughed softly. The killing intent that was contained in the laughter caused Hai Bo Dong behind him to give him a sidelong glance. Since he had known Xiao Yan, this was the first time he saw this young man, who had remained indifferent even after being fooled around by him a couple of times, reveal this kind of stance. Looks like these elder brothers of his possessed quite a high position in his heart.

Xiao Yan's hand gently rubbed the heavy ruler behind him as he slowly walked to the end of the street without any expression. A long while later, he arrived just outside the door of the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company'. He tilted his head slightly. Outside the main door, the tall fluttering banner of the mercenary troop had already weakly fallen to the ground. On top of the banner were countless obvious footprints, piercing painful into Xiao Yan's eyes.

Inhaling a deep breath, Xiao Yan suddenly tilted his head and quickly walked towards the main door. His palm slowly pushed open the main door. A 'Ka Cha' sound gradually sounded. Following which, the door gap also widened. When the door was nearly halfway opened, a long spear that was covered with fresh blood suddenly shot out from behind the door and violently pierced at Xiao Yan's throat.

The sudden attack did not cause Xiao Yan's expression to have any change. His gaze coldly eyed the swiftly enlarging tip of a spear. His body did not even move.

When the sharp long lance had reached about half a foot from Xiao Yan's body, the tip of the lance began to strangely melt. In an instant, that long lance had turned into a pile of hot metal slurry.

With a gloomy expression, a green colored flame instantly emerged out from Xiao Yan's right fist. He violently smashed it at the thick door. Instantly, a soft muffled noise sounded and a hole the size of a human head swiftly appeared. Xiao Yan's fist was extended into it. He opened his fist and grabbed forward in a lightning like manner.

Immediately, a human figure was violently pulled out. His head, which was covered with fresh blood, just fit the hole that Xiao Yan had just created.

“Young Master Xiao Yan?” The human figure who was caught had a face that was vicious and fierce. However, when his gaze swept across Xiao Yan’s indifferent expression, he suddenly stilled momentarily and immediately let out an involuntary cry that was filled with unrestrained joy.

The sharp cry by the human figure stopped Xiao Yan’s action which was about to smash the former’s head into pieces. The cold glint in his eyes gradually withdrew as he lowered his head and eyed this person whose face was covered with fresh blood. He frowned and asked, “Are you a member of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’?”

“\*Cough\*, \*Cough\*, Young Master Xiao Yan, I am the group leader of one of the eight groups in the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’, Fei Li. The last time, the Company Leader even ordered us to help check out the underground cavern in the desert...” After coughing intensely for a few times, fresh blood flowed out from the man’s mouth. He parted his mouth and revealed the white teeth stained by fresh blood as he laughed in a silly manner.

With his gaze gradually becoming gentle, Xiao Yan carefully pulled the man out from the hole and swiftly stuffed a healing medicinal pill into his mouth. Xiao Yan’s eyes swept the body that was completely covered in wounds and was about to help him apply medicine when he was stopped by the latter.

“Young Master Xiao Yan, you should hurry to the training ground. I’m afraid Company Leader and the others won’t be able to withstand any longer. There are far too many ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ members that have come this time around.” After consuming the healing medicine, Fei Li’s expression was much better. He pointed at the direction of the training ground in the troop and said with a hoarse voice.

“‘Sand Mercenary Company? That bastard Luo Bu is really bold!” Hearing this, the jade bottle containing healing medicine that he held in his hand was suddenly molded into powder in his anger. His thick voice contained a killing intention that was difficult to hide.

“For some reason, the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ began to suddenly clear up all the rest of the mercenary companies in the Rock Desert City some time ago. Luo Bu relied on his strength as a Da Dou Shi and quickly recruited up some of the small mercenary companies. Originally, with our ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ strength, we needed not fear them. After all, we may not have a Da Dou Shi but the number of Dou Shis we have far exceeded the ‘Desert Mercenary Company’...” Fei Li appeared to worry that there was not enough time, thus his tone was fast and hurried, “But during the last few days, the number of Dou Shis within the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ suddenly increased by seven or eight. Moreover, another Da Dou Shi also appeared! With their strength surging to this point, the other middle sized Mercenary Companies in the ‘Rock Desert City’ seemed to have been completely cleared up within a few days. And today

is the day which the ultimatum they gave our 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' expires."

"An increase in seven or eight Dou Shis and a Da Dou Shi?" Hearing this, Xiao Yan was stunned. He frowned and said, "The 'Sand Mercenary Company' should not possess this kind of great strength!"

"Where's Qing Lin? Isn't she in possession of a Dou Ling level pet?" Xiao Yan suddenly remembered that little girl who possessed the Triple Jade-Green Flower Pupils and hurriedly asked.

"Some time ago, before the 'Sand Mercenary Company's' roundup, Qing Lin didn't return after venturing out once. When the Company Leader sent someone to check it out, it seems that Qing Lin was captured by someone..." Fei Li smiled bitterly and answered.

The corner of Xiao Yan's eyes swiftly twitched as he slowly exhaled a breath. He did not expect that in the three months since he left, so many things would have happened here.

Patting Fei Li's shoulders, Xiao Yan softly said, "Alright. Leave everything to me next. With me around, the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' will be alright..."

Fei Li nodded his head heavily. Being influenced by the two company leaders, he also possessed a confidence of unknown origin toward this mysterious young man.

Xiao Yan slowly stood up and pursed up his lips. A savageness flashed across his face...

On the spacious training ground, the black mess of a human heads was divided into two clusters. The gazes that they shot at each other were filled with a killing intent that was difficult to hide.

In the battleground, two human figures were fighting a desperate battle. The attacks by the two people were extremely aggressive. Any slight negligence would lead one to receive a fatal attack.

One of the human figures was entirely covered in lightning. Tiny silver snakes were leaping around his body. When the long lance in his hand slashed and pierced, rolling thunder would repeatedly sound out. Despite his fierce attacks, however, it did not appear to pose much of an obstruction to his opponent. Each time his attack was about to reach the other person's body, the latter would easily be able to dodge the sweeps and pierces of the silver colored long lance.

Looking at this person easily dodging, it was clear that the the class of the two people were not on the same level. However, the yellow colored human figure did not choose to swiftly end the fight. This playful manner of his was like a cat toying with a mouse.

On the side of the empty space, a large group of 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' members were staring at the fight in the battleground with furious eyes. They clearly knew that that the action of the yellow colored figure meant that he was making fun of and ridiculing them.

Among these people, Xiao Ding stood expressionlessly. However, a mad fury shrouded his eyes.

"Company Leader. The back door has also been surrounded by them. We have nowhere to escape." A mercenary in a somewhat dire state squeezed in from the back and softly said.

"As expected... they've really left no room for us!" Xiao Ding tightened his fist and inhaled a deep breath of icy air. He did his best to ensure that his rational would not be swallowed by his fury as he said blandly, "Since we cannot flee, then let us fight to the death. If they want to remove our 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company', how can we not let them pay the price with their blood?"

With a dark and cold laughter, Xiao Ding suddenly turned around and said, "Oh yes, the thing that I asked you to hide. Is it done?"

"Yes, it's done!"

"That's good. Even if our 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' was to be destroyed today. As long as Xiao-Yan-Zi comes here in the future, he will definitely find those things. After which, he would help us begin a wild revenge. Ke ke..." Xiao Ding laughed softly. In his smile, there was a dark viciousness that had frequently appeared on Xiao Ding's face.

"Second Brother is about to lose. Although his lightning type Dou Qi attacks are very strong, it's just that the opponent is after all a Da Dou Shi..." Lifting his head to watch the fight in the battleground that was fast approaching the end, Xiao Ding's body trembled slightly. The fury in his heart was gradually eroding into his reasoning.

"Triple Lightning Arc Dance."

On the battleground, the silver colored human figure suddenly let out a soft cry. Heavy electric arcs leaped strangely from the long lance in his hands. After which, they madly shot toward the yellow colored human figure.

"Ha ha, trash is just trash. What nonsense 'Triple Lightning Arc Dance'. In front of absolute strength, it doesn't matter if it is the lightning type Dou Qi that is renowned for

having the strongest offensive strength. All of you just go and die!” Facing the lightning arc that shot forward, the yellow colored human figure laughed unrestrainedly with disdain. His huge fist abruptly tightened and yellow colored Dou Qi wildly agglomerated on it. An instant later, it actually formed a fist glove that was created from the agglomeration of energy.

The tightened fist abruptly shot out. An intense wind that was accompanied by a ferocious force smashed together with the electric arc.

As the two clashed against each other, the fist of the yellow colored human figure destroyed the three electric arc with great ease. After destroying it, its strength was not reduced as it heavily smashed into Xiao Li’s chest.

“Grug.”

Receiving the heavy blow, Xiao Li’s face became white as a mouthful of blood was thrown up. His body was dragged across the ground and was thrown back for over ten meters before he heavily knocked into a huge rock at the edge of the training ground.

“Ha ha. With such little strength, you dare to be arrogant to me?” The middle aged man whose entire body was shrouded with a yellow colored Dou Qi coldly laughed. His feet stepped on the ground and his body, like a tank on a rampage shot toward Xiao Li, who had lost his fighting strength. On his fist, there was an unmatched ferocious force that was swiftly gathering. Looking at his stance, it was clear that he had no intention of leaving anyone alive.

“Ha ha, die!” Eyeing Xiao Li who was in his immediate vicinity, a cruelty surfaced on the middle aged man. His fist violently smashed forward.

“Clang!”

Just as the pair of huge fist was not even a meter from Xiao Li, a black shadow appeared in front of Xiao Li in a lightning like manner. The huge black ruler in his hand was inserted into the ground and those pair of fists delivering a critical strike were heavily knocked into the black ruler. Immediately, a clear noise rang throughout the battleground.

With his feet fixed onto the ground, the middle aged man was quickly forced back by a few steps due to the enormous force. With a dark face, he eyed the huge black ruler and coldly called, “Who is it?”

The black ruler shook slightly and was immediately lifted up. The black clothed young man’s skinny body appeared in front of everyone’s eyes.

Carrying the black ruler on his shoulders, Xiao Yan lifted his head slightly and watched the middle aged man in front of him indifferently. The black ruler was suddenly pointed

towards the latter as an icy bone piercing thick voice resounded continuously within the open ground.

“I will take your life today...”

### **Chapter 243: Killing a Da Dou Shi!**

On the spacious battleground, the young man’s icy calm voice slowly resounded, causing countless of people to glance over.

“Xiao-Yan-Zi?” Eyeing the black clothed young man who had suddenly appeared, Xiao Ding, who was on the other side of the open space, was at a momentary loss. Immediately, a wild joy surfaced on his somewhat dark and vicious face. His palms heavily clapped together. “This guy has really come at a perfect moment.”

“Ke ke, looks like our ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ has not reached its end.” The fist that he held tightly slowly stretched and opened. Xiao Ding inhaled a deep breath and slowly suppressed the unrestrained joy in his heart. He tilted his head and said those words with a smile to the company members. Although Xiao Yan was young, Xiao Ding had an extremely great confidence in this somewhat mysterious younger brother of his. The previous incident when Xiao Yan managed to frighten the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ by himself until not one of them dared to leave the city also caused this confidence of Xiao Ding’s to become even richer.

Seeing that Xiao Ding was full of smiles, everyone also sighed in relief, but many of them did not know why this young man could let the two Company Leaders possess such confidence all of a sudden. They had all witnessed the practice match between Xiao Yan and Xiao Li. However, now even Xiao Li was no match for this Da Dou Shi. Xiao Yan may...

The hearts of the members of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’s’ were quite perturbed. However after following Xiao Ding for so many years, they at least understood that this Company Leader who was cool-headed when doing things, would definitely not randomly boast in this kind of situation.

Everyone exchanged glances with each other. Their eyes immediately revealed a smile and the expectation of being able to survive from a near-death situation. They hoped that this Young Master Xiao Yan would really be able to help the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ find a solution for today’s annihilation crisis.

“Second Brother, are you alright?” Holding the heavy ruler in his hand, Xiao Yan turned his head around and eyed the blood covered Xiao Li. His dark black eyes surfaced a killing intent that was difficult to hide. He took out a bottle of healing pills and threw it toward Xiao Li’s chest as he inquired softly.

“\*Cough\*, \*Cough\*...” After intensely coughing out some mouthfuls of blood, Xiao Li carelessly rubbed the blood traces from the corner of his mouth. After which, he consumed the medicinal pills, lifted his head and watched the young man, whose body was tall and straight, standing in front of him. A glow surfaced on his pale white face. He parted his mouth and his tensed up body also quietly relaxed.

Leaning on the huge rock behind him, Xiao Li’s voice was somewhat hoarse as he laughed, “Little Fellow, you have finally returned. If you had arrived a little later, you might well have had to go to the grave in order to chat with Second Brother.”

“I’m sorry, I’m late.” Xiao Yan said softly. He suddenly smiled. In the smile, there was a savageness and viciousness similar to that of a hungry wolf. He exchanged glances with Xiao Li and the gentle slight smile was filled with awe. “Be rest assured, Second Brother. I will help you take that guy’s life.”

“\*Cough\*. That guy’s name is Mo Ran, a one star Da Dou Shi. His Qi Method is of the ground affinity. This kind of affinity specializes in having a large amount of Dou Qi, which makes it most suitable for long fights. Moreover, the numbing effect that my lightning Dou Qi possesses does not have much of an impact on him. Otherwise, I would be able to endure for some time. However, it is a pity that there is too big a gap between our classes. Therefore, during this period of time, he did not display any Dou Techniques, so I am also not sure what class the Dou Techniques he possesses belong to. When fighting with him, you should be careful.” Xiao Li smiled and nodded his head. He once again coughed out a mouthful of blood and panted for breath as he slowly said.

“A one star Da Dou Shi?” With a dense smile, Xiao Yan nodded towards Xiao Li. He immediately turned around slowly. The delicate and handsome face that carried some smiles had suddenly become as savage as a demon’s. His gaze, which was as cold as the deepest underground ice, caused the skin on the head of the opposite yellow clothed middle aged man to numb.

“Who are you?” The yellow clothed middle aged man swung his slightly numb arm that was the result of his rebounded force. His face darkened at Xiao Yan as he demanded.

Ignoring his demand, Xiao Yan closed his eyes and threads of green colored Dou Qi flowed out from within the vortex and swiftly flowed around his body. Immediately, a faint green colored Dou Qi cloak slowly rose from the surface of Xiao Yan’s body.

Eyeing the slightly strange Dou Qi cloak on Xiao Yan’s body, the middle aged man’s face changed slightly. This was the first time he saw an real solid flame Dou Qi appearing. His face appeared grave as he harshly cried out, “Little Fellow, I advise you to not meddle in the affair of other or get yourself burned in the process!”

“You should be well aware that with just this ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’, it is insufficient to match us as enemies.” Mo Ran’s finger pointed at the large cluster of

people on the other side of the empty space as he coldly laughed, "Thus, you should not do such fruitless things."

"You are really full of nonsense." Xiao Yan opened his eyes and shook his head slightly. His hand that held the Heavy Xuan Ruler tightly and his feet violently stepped on the ground. Following an energy explosion sound, a pothole appeared on the hard rock surface where his feet had previously been.

The explosion had just sounded when Xiao Yan's body seemed to have transformed into a black violent line that shot toward this middle aged man called Mo Ran. His speed caused the surrounding people to emit shocked gasps.

Seeing Xiao Yan's swift and violent speed, Mo Ran's expression grew darker. He let out a cold laugh and rubbed the storage ring on his hand. A pair of dark black gloves that were completely covered with sharp spikes appeared.

After swiftly putting on the pair of gloves, a ferocious wind fiercely emerged in front of him. As Mo Ran tightened his fist, yellow colored Dou Qi began to swiftly agglomerate over the gloves. The forceful energy released a faint energy ripple in the air.

The middle aged man did not cower when faced with Xiao Yan's heavy ruler attack. He appeared to specialize in this kind of head-on battle. Therefore, he did not dodge. Taking a step forward, his sharp black metal gloves carried a powerful force as they violently met the black colored heavy ruler being smashed forward by the dark black shadow.

"Clang!"

A clear sound of metal on metal came rippling out from the point where the two weapons met. Following the sound waves being emitted, a circle of ferocious energy force also surged out from between the black ruler and the gloves. Instantly, the ground under Xiao Yan's and the middle aged man's feet quietly cracked open and formed crevices.

In this fierce exchange, Xiao Yan held his heavy ruler and hurriedly drew back by a few steps. On the other hand, the Mo Ran merely took half a step back before he managed to stabilize his body.

"Oh, you are but only slightly stronger than the guy just now by a little. You actually dare to act unruly in front of me." As he took a step back, Mo Ran eyed Xiao Yan who was forced back a few steps. Having come into contact earlier, he had roughly gauged Xiao Yan's strength. He immediately skimmed his lips together and laughed with disdain.

Ignoring those words, Xiao Yan's retreating steps suddenly stomped. His body once again shot out explosively like a sharp arrow. The dark black huge ruler in his hand whirled around, releasing waves of pressurizing wind sound.



When his body was about to enter the range of Mo Ran's attack, Xiao Yan abruptly stepped off the ground and his body strangely shifted horizontally to Mo Ran's left. His hand tightened and the black ruler swung and smashed down toward Mo Ran's head.

After their earlier exchange, Xiao Yan had also roughly understood the opponent's foundation. Although the ground type Dou Qi was suitable for long battles, the thick Dou Qi caused Mo Ran's speed to be extremely slow. Therefore, Xiao Yan could use his swift speed to start a wild and vicious attack on Mo Ran.

Mo Ran was also very clear about his own weakness. Thus, he did not do any of those useless dodging actions. The black metal gloves in his hand danced around as nothing was able to penetrate through them. Any attack that was in front of his body's surface would be violently repelled by his even stronger attack.

"Clang, clang."

As these two people's dazzling attack and defense continued, the clear sound of metal being exchanged sounded throughout the wide open space, the ringing of metal lingered in the air above the open space and did not disappear for a long time.

Following the increasingly fiery fight that went on in the battleground, Mo Ran, who had felt some disdain at Xiao Yan having only the strength of a Dou Shi level, became somewhat startled. He was most proud of his endurance in a fight. However, the young man in front of him had chosen to fight him in a head-on battle from the very start. A Dou Shi and a Da Dou Shi fighting head-on? Moreover, Xiao Yan was able to endure this prolonged confrontation without the slightest injury.

"This guy, it appears that the Qi Method he practices is not of a low class. Otherwise, he would definitely not be able to squander Dou Qi when fighting with me!" Mo Ran said gravely in his heart as his gaze stared intently at the black clothed young man swiftly attacking him.

"I should end the fight quickly. If the other people in the clan knew that I was dragged into such a long fight by a Dou Shi, I would likely become the target of their ridicule." With this thought swiftly flashing in his heart, the middle aged man's expression gradually became vicious.

"Clang!" The fist once again smashed the heavy ruler aside, however the sharp spikes on the gloves had already become much more blunt.

"Brat, it's over!"

After blocking Xiao Yan's attack, the middle aged man suddenly took a step toward his side and coincidentally blocked Xiao Yan's dodging route. In a thick deep voice he cried, "Big Dipper Exploding Ground!"

Following the middle aged man's deep cry, a ferocious yellow colored Dou Qi began to wildly agglomerate on his fist. A moment later, a yellow sand vortex seemed to have been formed on top of his fist. In the middle of it was a swarthy blackhole. A ferocious force was swiftly gathering within it.

"Die! Brat!" The middle aged man parted his mouth with a grin. A savage expression appeared on his face as his hand abruptly struck out heavily. As his hand was thrown forward, a circle of deep yellow colored ferocious energy ripples moved along his hand and surged out.

The yellow sand vortex on his fist suddenly paused at that moment. In the dark black hole, a substance that looked like yellow colored energy clusters, carrying a ferocious wind, violently smashed onto Xiao Yan's black ruler. At the point of contact, the yellow colored energy cluster surged, immediately and violently exploding like a bomb.

"Bang, clang!"

This sudden and unexpected sound of metal in contact with another metal violently exploded in the open field like a thunderclap. The intense sound waves caused the surrounding audience to involuntarily cover their ears as they eyed the battleground with stunned faces.

When the black ruler was struck by the cluster of ferocious energy, Xiao Yan's face changed slightly. His footsteps quickly retreated back. Each step that fell down would leave a footprint embedded on the tough rock surface.

After taking over ten steps back, the heavy ruler in Xiao Yan's hand suddenly trembled and forcefully left his palm. It flew and landed sideways in an empty space nearby.

"Boo..." The moment the heavy ruler left Xiao Yan's hand, the members of the 'Sand Mercenary Company' immediately let out a disdainful booing sound. The mocking laughter reverberated throughout the empty space.

On the other side, the members of the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' sighed in dejection upon seeing this scene. Disappointment flashed across their faces.

"Ke ke, what is there to sigh in despair? Do you remember what happened in the fight between Xiao-Yan-Zi and the Second Company Leader?" Xiao Ding inserted into his sleeves. His gaze stared at Xiao Yan in the battleground as he muttered with a smile, "Xiao-Yan-Zi without that strange black ruler is at his strongest condition!"

Leaning on the huge rock, Xiao Li's breath had already become much more steady. He lifted his head to watch Xiao Yan in the battleground who had his weapon thrown off his hand and helplessly shook his head. He said with a smile, "This guy. He should be starting to fight seriously now."

The swiftly retreating footsteps of Xiao Yan slowly came to a stop. As he stood firmly, the corner of his eyes glanced at the Heavy Xuan Ruler a short distance away. He gently flicked his almost numb hand and exhaled a long turbid breath, expelling the oppressive feeling in his chest that was caused by the opponent's attack.

“\*Cough\*...” Xiao Yan let out a soft cough and gently rubbed his somewhat swollen chest. His heart slowly calculated the difference in both parties' strength.

Although Yao Lao had said that Xiao Yan's actual strength was that of a four star Dou Shi, during this period of time, perhaps due to the 'Green Lotus Core Flame', Xiao Yan could sense that his actual level was around a five star Dou Shi!

As for his Qi Method, it had already evolved to the Xuan Class Middle Level after swallowing the 'Heavenly Flame'. However, with its unique special effect, its actual strength would not be weaker when compared to a Xuan Class High Level Qi Method.

Therefore, if one converted it, Xiao Yan, who had the fighting strength of someone who had practiced a Xuan Class High Level Qi Method, should be able to have the strength of an ordinary seven star Dou Shi. Adding this to the 'Octane Blast' that Xiao Yan had practiced and the tough body he possessed after being calcined and strengthened by the 'Green Lotus Core Flame', Xiao Yan believed that he would be able to contend with a nine star Dou Shi if he were to meet one.

Of course, from the view of a one star Da Dou Shi, a nine star Dou Shi naturally had an extremely big gap with him. However, for Xiao Yan who had the 'Green Lotus Core Flame' and a Di Class Dou Technique: Flame Splitting Tsunami, these two killing moves, this level of difference was not something that could not be overcome!

Therefore, even though this was the first time that he relied on his strength to face a Da Dou Shi, Xiao Yan did not show the slightest sign of being afraid. Instead, he was filled with a heated desire to fight.

“Brat, now do you know what the result of meddling in someone else's business is? Hehe, but you have already lost your opportunity to leave. Therefore, you should obediently leave your little life here!” Mo Ran stretched his neck. The turbulent yellow colored Dou Qi on his body had become much richer. He lifted his head to watch Xiao Yan who had lost his weapon and laughed sinisterly.

Xiao Yan lifted his eyes but continued to ignore this noisy fellow. His body trembled slightly and was quiet for a moment before the Dou Qi cloak on his body soared by nearly half a meter. The green colored Dou Qi was like a cluster of green colored flame, wrapping all of Xiao Yan's body completely within it. Threads of hot air shrouded his body. From where his feet stood, numerous tiny crack lines began to slowly spread.

The turbulent Dou Qi flame from Xiao Yan's cloak rose steadily. A powerful Qi also surged from within Xiao Yan's body at this moment in time. Under this Qi, the ridicule

that the surrounding 'Sand Mercenary Company' members gradually softened. A moment later, it finally completely disappeared.

Seeing that the Qi on Xiao Yan's body continued to climb, Mo Ran pressed his eyebrows together. Shock flashed across his eyes. He eyed this Qi that could be compared with a seven or eight star Dou Shi and thought, "Had this guy been hiding his strength just now?"

"Hmm. Brat, I don't care how you struggle today. You will only die!" A fury suddenly rose in Mo Ran's heart as he said thickly.

In the battleground, Xiao Yan's climbing Qi slowly came to a stop after reaching a certain level. Under the green colored Dou Qi, the dark black eyes of his were also shrouded by a faint green colored flame.

"Bang!"

Xiao Yan lifted his leg slowly and abruptly stomped down. An intense energy explosion sounded, following which, Xiao Yan's body suddenly turned into a tiny light thread. In the time taken to inhale and exhale, he was already close to the middle aged man.

Eyeing Xiao Yan, whose speed had risen by a few multiples in an instant, the middle aged man's expression changed. His eyes narrowed as he stared intently at the black colored light thread that was gradually expanding in his eyes.

Seeming to have sensed the ferocious force that was approaching from the front, the light figure which was like lightning, suddenly shook. The body instantly shifted horizontally and a human figure strangely appeared behind the middle aged person. The figure's body rotated slightly and a force shrouded the tightly clenched fist. The fist was heavily swung forward and at that instant, an exploding sound was emitted from the air.

"Bang!"

Following a soft deep muffled noise, Xiao Yan's fist violently smashed on the back vest of middle aged man. The deep muffled sound caused the minds of the surrounding people to tremble.

"Ka Cha!" Where Xiao Yan's feet landed, a few crack lines swiftly spread out. From this clash, it could be known just how strong the strength of this attack was.

"What a fast speed! However, brat, do you really think that the defense of a Da Dou Shi is so easy to break?" After being struck by Xiao Yan, Mo Ran's body intensely shook. He was quiet for a moment before his left foot abruptly kicked viciously behind him. At the same time, a chilling laugh was emitted from his mouth.

At the moment when Xiao Yan's fist struck the target, he frowned slightly. From his senses, the thing that he struck did not feel like a human body. Instead, it was like a layer of hard armor.

Xiao Yan's body was like a loach as it moved weirdly. Mo Ran's foot, which was carrying a ferocious force, narrowly passed his waist as it flew past. The sharp wind still caused Xiao Yan's skin to swell slightly despite being covered by his Dou Qi cloak.

After dodging Mo Ran's attack, Xiao Yan suddenly moved into close proximity. He used his loach like dodging ability and fast speed to repeatedly flashed around the former's body like a flea. Each time he appeared, the fist that contained a ferocious force would violently stamp on the opponent's body.

Under Xiao Yan's nearly unceasing attacks, numerous 'bang bang' deep muffled sounds came continuously one after another in the battleground.

"Brat, ha ha, I have already said that with your strength, it is impossible to break the defence of a Da Dou Shi!" Mo Ran laughed wildly. His body stood without moving, allowing Xiao Yan to wildly attack him. He only acted to block occasionally when the attack targeted vital spots. As for the rest, he simply allowed them to land on his body.

"Bang!"

Another deep muffled noise sounded. The clothes of Mo Ran, that had received more than ten attacks by Xiao Yan, finally burst apart. When the clothes burst apart, Xiao Yan's eyes abruptly narrowed. He saw that under Mo Ran's clothes, a layer of ground yellow colored chestplate emitting a faint glow had wrapped the latter's upper body within it. On the chestplate, one could see some faint punch marks. Clearly, they were traces left behind by Xiao Yan just awhile ago.

"Hei, brat, this is the Dou Qi armor that only a Da Dou Shi can agglomerate. Its is the evolution of the Dou Shi's Dou Qi Cloak. Unfortunately, I have only entered the class of Da Dou Shi not long ago. Otherwise, I would be able to cover my entire body. However, even with just this, your attacks will not be able to break it!" Lowering his head to glance as the yellow colored chestplate that was emitting a dense glow, Mo Ran first let out a regretful sigh. After which, he immediately gave Xiao Yan a slanted glance and laughed.

"Dou Qi armor? No wonder." Seeing the dense yellow glow of the substantive like chest plate, Xiao Yan knit his eyebrows together and laughed coldly, "I don't believe that this tortoise shell of yours cannot be broken!"

Once again, Xiao Yan pushed his feet off the ground and charged directly at Mo Ran. His body rotated strangely and he dodged Mo Ran's pair of sharp gloves. He twisted his feet and took advantage of his motion to charge toward Mo Ran's chest with his back. Xiao Yan then twisted his body into a strange angle and his elbow abruptly smashed heavily onto the latter's chest.

“Octane Blast!” A low cry fell in Xiao Yan’s heart and the force of Xiao Yan’s body suddenly became as sharp as a precious sword that was unsheathed. At his elbow, an incomparable ferocious force suddenly created numerous sharp explosive sounds.

Sensing the extremely terrifying force that had suddenly appeared at Xiao Yan’s elbow, the wild smiling face of Mo Ran changed slightly. He did not expect that Xiao Yan would actually be able to unleash a strong attack of this level. His Dou Qi immediately flowed quickly in his body and the glow above the armor on his chest instantly became brighter.

“Bang!”

The elbow was imprinted firmly onto the chest plate. A circle of shapeless force surged from the point of contact. Instantly, crack lines covered the surrounding rock surfaces as a ‘Ka Cha, ka cha’ sounds were emitted.

“Very good brat. I did not expect that you would actually know such an advanced Dou Technique. Looks like I have really underestimated you!” With a cold face, Mo Ran eyed the Dou Qi armor which was covered in crack lines caused by this attack of Xiao Yan. Fury filled his eyes as he tightened his fist. He was just about to send a violent blow towards Xiao Yan when two muffled explosions suddenly sounded in his body.

When the muffled noise sounded, Mo Ran’s body suddenly trembled intensely. His face changed between green and white as a thread of blood flowed out from the corner of his mouth.

“Hidden force?” Wiping off the trickle of blood, Mo Ran’s furious face was like a tiger ready to bite someone, appearing extremely frightening. He did not expect that his slight negligence had allowed Xiao Yan in front of him to turn him into such a terrible state.

Tightening his fist that was repeatedly trembling in anger, Mo Ran lifted his head and released a roar. The roar was carried by Dou Qi, suppressing all the voices within the yard.

“Little Bastard, today, you must die!”

Mo Ran had a sinister face as he let out an angry howl. His left hand suddenly extended and stubbornly grabbed Xiao Yan’s wrist before the latter could pull back. On Mo Ran’s right hand, yellow colored Dou Qi was swiftly being gathered. An instant later, it brewed into a terrifying force that caused Xiao Yan’s expression to change drastically as the fist viciously smashed toward Xiao Yan’s chest. Looking at its momentum, if one were to be struck, one would likely suffer a serious injury and lose their strength to fight if not, death.

The intense pressurizing wind caused Xiao Yan to have difficulty breathing. He clenched his teeth tightly and used all his strength to pull at his hand. However, his opponent seemed to have made up his mind to get rid of Xiao Yan in one blow.

Therefore, regardless of how Xiao Yan pulled, the large hand stayed like a claw that held him firmly.

After another futile struggle, a stormy anger finally surged in Xiao Yan's heart. A dark viciousness flashed across his face. His right hand shook slightly and green colored Dou Qi hovered over it. After which, it targeted the crack line in the armor created by the 'Octane Blast' from before and smashed at it.

The two arms which were of different sizes rubbed passed each others shoulders. The force that they carried caused the other party to feel somewhat awed in their hearts.

TL: I think by shoulders, the author is meaning the left shoulder

Xiao Yan did not block his opponent's attack. Clearly, he adopted a vicious attitude of risking his life to take his opponent's life.

As he coldly watched Xiao Yan's vicious attitude, a hideous and cruel smile appeared on the middle aged man's face. Competing with a Da Dou Shi on their resistance to being struck, had this guy's head been beaten until he was stupid?

Surrounding the open ground, everyone could not resist letting out some hissing sounds as they eyed the fight that had already turned into a mess without any tactics. Xiao Yan's stance of going head-on against a Da Dou Shi made many people think that perhaps he had entered a stage where he had lost his reasoning.

Under the full view of everyone, Xiao Yan's and Mo Ran's fists finally carried sharp ear piercing breaking wind sound as they made contact with each other's body.

At this moment, everyone involuntarily held their breath. Their eyes were wide open as they stared intently at the two people in the battleground. Everyone had a premonition that during this exchange of blows, there would definitely be one person who would be defeated and fall out.

Perhaps this would be the strong Da Dou Shi, but of course, the greater possibility was the black clothed skinny youth.

This was because everyone had difficulty believing that the skinny body would be able to conceal a strength that could contend with a Da Dou Shi.

Just before Xiao Yan's fist was about to make contact with Mo Ran's body, it suddenly and strangely shook a few times. Following the trembling of the fist, a wisp of green colored flame suddenly curled upward and surfaced, finally wrapping Xiao Yan's fist within it.

When the humble looking wisp of green colored flame appeared, the space surrounding Xiao Yan immediately began to become distorted. It appeared that the air had become extremely hot at this very moment.

The sudden change in air was also sensed by Mo Ran. He immediately lowered his head and saw that writhing flame. A perplexity flashed in his eyes. Instantly, his eyes shrunk to the size of a pin-hole. A frightened expression covered his entire face, causing it to appear extremely ugly and terrifying.

“Bang!” Two fists that carried their own terrifying energy finally and violently smashed on the other person’s body in the next instance. Immediately, the expressions of the two people became pale white.

At this instance, the two people who were originally like rioting thunder, appeared to have become still at the same time. Where their feet stood, a strong energy wave turned the surrounding hard rock surface into something like tip soil which had been ploughed by a bull.

Around the battleground, everyone became quiet at this moment. One by one, everyone’s gaze stared intently at the the two unmoving people.

A faint pressurizing atmosphere shrouded the training ground, oppressing the surrounding group of people until their breathing became hurried. However, they did not dare to exhale with a wide mouth. Many people were choked with their faces slightly red.

After the silence persisted for a few minutes, Mo Ran’s body was the first to shake slightly. Following his trembling body, a flushing red suddenly surged on the face of Xiao Yan opposite him and a mouthful of fresh blood was spat out with a ‘grug’ sound.

Eyeing Xiao Yan who had suddenly spat out blood, the feelings of everyone in the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ sunk. Instantly, a bone chilling iciness that did not disappear for a long time shrouded their bodies despite the hot sun hanging in the air.

“Has he failed?” A member of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ sighed softly. He smiled bitterly and shook his head. Disappointment flashed in his eyes.

Everyone around had a dejected expression as they maintained their silence. A dusky depressing atmosphere wrapped around everyone after having their hope crushed.

The oppressive atmosphere was like a huge rock that hung in everyone’s heart.

The hands in Xiao Ding’s sleeves were tightly clenched. With unblinking eyes, he stared at the face of the young man in the battleground. His body also shivered slightly as he muttered with his heart feeling lost, “Has he really failed?”



However, just then, Xiao Ding's entire body shivered intensely. A smile immediately swarmed onto his face. Just a moment ago, he had definitely saw the young man in the battleground part his lips and grin at him.

Under the clear view of everyone, that Xiao Yan who seemed like he ought to have been defeated in everyone's heart suddenly let out a few violent coughs. He actually slowly turned his body around, walked to the side and slowly picked up the Heavy Xuan Ruler. After which, he supported it on his back as he slowly walked toward Xiao Ding and the others.

When Xiao Yan turned around, Mo Ran's body, that had remained in an immobile state, leaned slightly back and fell heavily. His face, which was still covered with a frightened pale white expression, appeared under everyone's observation.

Numerous shocked gazes swept over Mo Ran's body and finally stopped at his chest. There, his chest, which was originally been covered by a thick Dou Qi armor had, at the moment, completely turned into a cluster of charred black. At his chest, there was a dark black large hole. As one's gaze drifted over, one would notice that everything within that hole had been turned into nothingness.

"Ssss..." Eyeing Mo Ran's whose death was extremely miserable, the skin on the heads of the surrounding people became numb. Their faces were covered with shock. They took in a deep breath of cold air before their terrified gazes shifted towards Xiao Yan's body at the side. None of them had expected that this young man who appeared extremely harmless would actually be so vicious when he attacked.

TL: Sss sound = air sucked through teeth

"Gu Lu..." Eyeing Xiao Yan, who was walking over, the members of the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Companys' involuntarily took a small step back. Clearly, the manner in which Mo Ran died caused a fear toward Xiao Yan to rise in their hearts.

TL: Gu Lu = Gulping sound

Xiao Ding stood at the same spot. He did not step back, but instead grinned at Xiao Yan as he took two quick steps forward. Patting the latter's back, he softly laughed, "Little boy, are you alright?"

Xiao Yan gave a smile. His hand covered his mouth as he coughed violently for a few times. Some fresh blood was splattered onto his palm. He randomly glanced around and then unconcernedly wiped it on his sleeves. He gently pulled open his outer garment and pointed to the inner vest that Yun Zhi had left for him back then in the Magical Beast Mountain Range. He smiled and said, "Luckily I have this. Otherwise, I'm afraid that I would really suffer a serious injury."

“Tsk tsk, what a really outstanding fellow. You have actually slaughtered a Da Dou Shi.” Glancing at Mo Ran’s corpse in the distance, Xiao Ding involuntarily sighed in amazement. This was the first time he had seen Xiao Yan reveal his true strength.

Xiao Yan took out an ‘Energy Recovery Pill’ from within the storage ring and swallowed it. He then smoothed out a long breath. Honestly speaking, his victory in this fight was undoubtedly because he was lucky. He may have left some hidden cards untouched, but that Mo Ran had merely used one Dou Technique.

If that guy had not been careless and underestimated his opponent because of his class, the difficulty of this fight would have rose by at least two or three times. Moreover, he was far too confident about his own Dou Qi armor. This resulted in him losing his resistance when Xiao Yan summoned out the ‘Heavenly Flame’. It can be imagined just how weak the Dou Qi armor with a tough appearance was when faced with the ‘Green Lotus Core Flame’, a naturally wondrous object that even Queen Medusa was extremely afraid of.

Therefore, the fist that was covered by the ‘Heavenly Flame’ managed to easily pass through Mo Ran’s defensive layer. Since Xiao Yan was extremely unfamiliar with controlling the ‘Heavenly Flame’, when it entered Mo Ran’s body, the abruptly soaring flame incinerated all of Mo Ran’s internal organs into ashes in an instant. This caused Mo Ran’s mournful death appearance. Speaking of it, it was done unintentionally by Xiao Yan.

“Slaughter all these people too.” Xiao Yan smiled gently at Xiao Ding before turning around and smiling brilliantly at the large group of ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ mercenaries on the other side of the training ground.

The current Xiao Yan had exceeded everyone’s expectation by killing the Da Dou Shi. Mo Ran. By borrowing the shock created from this action, his imposing manner was extremely aggressive. Thus, when those members of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ saw him glance over, they hurriedly took a few steps back. As they pushed and shouted, their momentum was totally lost.

Suddenly drawing the heavy ruler from his back, Xiao Yan pretended to rush at the members of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’. Seeing his action, the mercenaries who had already lost all moral after losing their leader, immediately emitted waves of terrified shouts. After which, they began fleeing from the headquarters of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ in an extremely terrible manner.

“Che...” Seeing that the members of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ were so flustered that they did not even choose their routes, Xiao Yan skimmed his lips. He shook his somewhat giddy head before lowering it to eye the fresh blood on his hand only to laugh softly. In all these years, this was the first time that he had faced an opponent which he had defeated after great difficulty. In addition, he had persisted in using his own strength and the result was his success!

“Ke ke, Little Fellow, you have done well. I had originally thought that this time around you would have asked me to take action. Yet you managed to rely on your own strength. Perhaps you might not have sensed it, but relying on yourself and believing in your own strength is a faith that only a strong person can possess.” In Xiao Yan’s heart, Yao Lao’s warm laughter, which had been silent, suddenly and slowly sounded while carrying some gratification.

“The current you is progressively becoming a truly strong person.”

### **Chapter 244: Charging In**

Xiao Yan and a few others were seated in a spacious hall. The rest of the members of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ began to busily clear up their headquarters, which had become a mess. Occasionally, when some mercenaries passed by the parlor, they would throw a respectful gaze at the young man seated beside the table who was smiling warmly as he gently sipped his tea.

The terrified feeling that they had because of Xiao Yan’s vicious action had been sustained for awhile before it slowly disappeared from these mercenaries’ hearts. They were all people who frequently licked the blood from their blades. The extent of toughness of their minds was naturally far greater than that of ordinary people’s. Moreover, since Mo Ran was the enemy of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’, it was not worthwhile for anyone to show the slightest pity for him. This was because they clearly understood that if Xiao Yan had not arrived in time today, then Mo Ran would not have shown any mercy when killing their brothers.

(TL: The brothers here does not refer to blood brothers. Rather, it refers to people extremely close to one another)

Carrying the warm tea cup, Xiao Yan glanced at the mercenaries who were busy outside. On the chair beside him was Hai Bo Dong whose face had remained indifferent. This person who was once the Ice Emperor did not show any friendly smile because of the relationship Xiao Ding and Xiao Li had with Xiao Yan.

“Old Mister Hai is my friend. His temper may be somewhat temperamental, ha ha, but he is a truly strong person.” Eyeing Hai Bo Dong who had remained quiet ever since he entered the room, Xiao Yan could only helplessly shake his head and tell Xiao Ding and Xiao Li on the opposite side with a smile.

Xiao Ding smiled and nodded his head. The corner of his gaze swept across Hai Bo Dong. His senses vaguely told him that under the skinny and hunched body of this indifferent old man, there was a terrifying energy.

“Ke ke, the strong naturally have the temperament of the strong. Otherwise, how can he demonstrate his individuality?” Xiao Ding laughed softly and joked.

Xiao Yan also laughed. He then inquired after Xiao Li's injuries before he frowned slightly and asked, "Can you tell me what exactly has happened? Why did the 'Sand Mercenary Company' suddenly have so many more strong people. Also, what has happened to that little girl Qing Lin?"

Hearing Xiao Yan's questions, the smile on Xiao Ding's face slowly disappeared. He laughed bitterly and sighed before musing for awhile, seeming to be arranging his words. A long while later, he finally said slowly, "Half a month ago, Qing Lin never returned after going out once. After our investigation, she seems to have been captured by someone. At the place where she disappeared, we found traces of an intense battle. That place also had many snake scales that were covered with fresh blood, which I think have been peeled off from the Two-Headed Flame Spirit Serpent of Qing Lin."

"Being able to defeat the Two-Headed Flame Spirit Serpent and capturing Qin Lin, the other party must at least be a Dou Ling." Xiao Yan's finger gently knocked against the table's surface as he knit his eyebrows tightly together. He asked uncertainly, "But who would act against Qing Lin? She is but a little girl. Which Dou Ling would actually lower himself and target her?"

"We are also not too certain." Xiao Ding smiled bitterly and shook his head. He continued, "It is also the second day after Qing Lin disappeared when the 'Sand Mercenary Company' suddenly began to swallow or clean-up the other strengths in the city. With the strength of the 'Sand Mercenary Company' in the Rock Desert City, other than us and two or three other mercenary Companies, it was impossible for the remaining strengths to contend with them. Therefore, in less than five days, the other weak strengths within the city were completely cleared up by them in a lightning like manner."

"At this point in time, the mercenary companies with stronger strengths finally realized their intentions. We immediately formed an alliance to fight with the 'Sand Mercenary Company'. According to our calculation, even if the 'Sand Mercenary Company' had Luo Bu, who is a Da Dou Shi, it was impossible for the company to easily defeat our alliance. However, in the next few days that followed, a Da Dou Shi and quite a number of Dou Shis suddenly appeared within the 'Sand Mercenary Company'."

"Under such a large increase in the opponent's strength, we began to panic internally. After all, it was a loose alliance formed at the last moment. Therefore, it did not have much binding strength. As a result, under the situation of fighting among themselves, the other three mercenary companies ended up with one being destroyed, one surrendered and one which chose to leave this city after giving the 'Sand Mercenary Company' a huge payment to beg for peace."

"As for us, since the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' was the most difficult bone to swallow for them, we were left for the last. Explaining what happened today. If you had come a little later, I'm afraid that the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' would have been annihilated." Xiao Ding sighed.

“Do you know about the background of those people who suddenly joined the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’?” Xiao Yan slowly stroked the warm tea cup as he softly asked.

“We are not sure.” Xiao Ding shook his head. An expression of deep thought appeared on his face and a moment later, hesitatingly said, “I seem to feel that Qing Lin’s disappearance had some relation to the strong people who suddenly joined the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’. After all, the timing of these two events seemed to be a little too coincidental.”

“That Flame Spirit Serpent that Qing Lin owns should only be known by very few people. Then why would they choose to attack her?” Xiao Yan frowned and the finger that was knocking the table suddenly paused. He muttered in his heart, “Don’t tell it is because of the Triple Jade-Green Snake Flower Pupils?”

“We also don’t know what’s happening.” Xiao Ding and Xiao Li exchanged glances. Their faces were filled with bitter smiles.

“You may not know, but I think that Luo Bu that guy should know.” Xiao Yan sat up and smiled. He said, “I will go and find him and see exactly where his courage came from at the same time.”

“Uh. We will go and gather some people. Let’s go together. They have many people.” Xiao Ding voiced his thoughts.

“Do what you want.” Regarding this, Xiao Yan was noncommittal as he nodded his head. He stood up and headed out of the door. When he passed by Hai Bo Dong, he smiled and said, “Old Mister Hai, do you intend to follow along?”

“I’m also bored of staying here, so I’ll follow you to watch the fun. But don’t think of asking me to act. The price for me doing anything is very expensive.” Hai Bo Dong laughed faintly.

Xiao Yan smiled and nodded before opening his stride and exiting the hall. Behind him, Hai Bo Dong lazily followed. Further behind, Xiao Ding and Xiao Li swiftly gathered over fifty highly capable members and the entire group of people aggressively charged out of the headquarters. Their faces were filled with killing intent as they headed directly towards the territory of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’, preparing to kill.

On the main road, when the surrounding passersby saw this group of fierce faced mercenaries who had suddenly leaped out, they hurriedly made way. Immediately, their bizarre gazes eyed this group of men. Soft whispers rang out among themselves.

“What, aren’t they the members of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’? Why do they dare to come out during this time? Aren’t they afraid of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’?”

“Chi, I had just heard from a member of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ that their mission this time around had failed. Their Da Dou Shi also died in the hands of the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’. Right now, it’s likely that these guys intend to go and find trouble.”

“What? That Da Dou Shi of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ is dead? When did a strong person who could contend with a Da Dou Shi appear in the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’?”

“Yeah, it’s that young man in black clothes leading the group. Hee hee, are you very shocked? But that Da Dou Shi called Mo Ran was really killed by him under the clear view of everyone.” A passerby who seemed to know some insider information eyed the skinny looking young man in front of the group of large mercenaries with a respectful gaze as he said with a laugh.

“Damn. How can it be? I’m afraid that that young man isn’t even twenty years old. How can he defeat a Da Dou Shi?” The people surrounding the passerby were all stunned and had faces filled with disbelief.

“Che, wait and see. This time around, I think that the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ is going to have extremely bad luck. Who asked them to be so arrogant during this period of time. Hee hee.” The passerby laughed in a gloating manner.

Under the watch of numerous gazes in the city, Xiao Yan’s group passed through a few streets and after ten minutes, the tightly guarded ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ headquarters that was like a metal pail, appeared in everyone’s sight.

Currently, the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ had obviously received the information about Mo Ran being killed. Therefore, the entrance had a large number of mercenaries carrying shiny weapons patrolling. Their tensed faces were extremely grave. When they noticed the large group of ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ appear at the end of the street, a panic immediate swarmed onto their faces. A few mercenaries used both their hands and legs to claw into the huge door and rushed to report the matter.

Watching those ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ mercenaries whose bodies were trembling slightly as they carried their weapons and gathered at the large door, Xiao Yan’s group slowly came to a stop just outside the entrance.

“This is the territory of the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’. What are all of you here for?” Seeing the group of large men with ferocious faces and fierce eyes blocking the front door, a bony mercenary company roared with a brave exterior while feeling weak inside.

“Call Luo Bu to get his a\*s out.” Xiao Yan picked away at his finger nail before raising his head and told the guy with a smile.

Silence. Eyeing the young man in black clothes standing right at the front, all of the mercenaries at the door maintained silence. From the mouths of those people who had returned from the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' just now, they already knew that the Da Dou Shi had died in an extremely miserable condition in this warmly smiling young man's hands.

"Forget it, I will just go in and look for him myself." Seeing the silent mercenaries, Xiao Yan helplessly smiled and slowly took a step forward.

"Hua hua." As Xiao Yan took a step forward, the mercenaries at the door immediately hurriedly took a step back with panicked faces. Their orderly footsteps were quite funny to hear.

"The Company leader issued an order. Kill them at all cost! Whoever kills this black clothed person will be rewarded with fifty thousand gold coins!" In the midst of the silence, a loud shout suddenly sounded from behind the large door.

As the shout fell, the eyes of the mercenaries at the door immediately brightened. The gazes that they eyed Xiao Yan had less terror and more greed.

Clearly sensing the change in these people, Xiao Yan gently shook his head. He was too lazy to say any nonsense. After waving his hand to block those 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' members behind him who were preparing to draw their blades, he once again took a step forward.

"Kill him!" Under that enormous reward, there was finally a mercenary who could not resist the temptation. He tightly held his sharp weapon and charged at Xiao Yan with a ferocious face, intending to kill him.

His action undoubtedly created a chain effect. Immediately, the mercenaries behind him wore fierce faces as they held their weapons tightly and charged at Xiao Yan.

Eyeing the tens of mercenaries charging over, Xiao Yan gently exhaled a breath. His hands rotated slightly and was abruptly pushed forward. "Fire Palm!"

As Xiao Yan's palm was pushed forward, an incomparable ferocious force suddenly surfaced. After which, it carried a wind, that had the power to overturn a huge rock, and smashed the chests of the tens of mercenaries.

"Grug, grug."

When the wind smashed on their bodies, it was like they had been struck by a thousand catty (500kg) huge rock. The faces of the tens of mercenaries which were filled with killing intent immediately turned white. Instantly, they began vomiting mouthful after mouthful of blood, as though it had started to rain blood.

Clapping his palms gently, Xiao Yan glanced at the large door which had become empty in an instant. He turned around and said with a smile to the 'Desert Metal Mercenaries' who had completely stunned faces, "Let's go."

Having said that, he took the lead and stepped through the doorway. His blatant manner made it appear as if he was entering his own home.

Eyeing the back of the young man in front of them, everyone exchanged glances as they felt speechless. Knocking aside tens of ordinary mercenaries with one palm. Wasn't this person a little too abnormal?

"Ugh, what an abnormal guy." Xiao Li sighed. He exchanged glances with Xiao Ding and the both of them shook their heads helplessly before opening their strides and followed.

The 'Sand Mercenary Company' was indeed the most powerful strength in the Rock Desert City. They had just entered the courtyard when over a hundred mercenaries carrying shining weapons immediately surrounded them. Although they had a weaker killing atmosphere compared to the 'Desert Metal' mercenaries, they did have some momentum after having so many people gathered together.

Eyeing the large group of mercenaries blocking his front, Xiao Yan's footsteps did not pause even the slightest bit. As his palm pushed forward, ferocious forces came from all directions and were extremely overbearing as they surged out. Under the attack of this force, any mercenary below the strength of a five star Dou Zhe would throw up blood and fall back. Only some who had a slightly greater strength were able to block this wide range attacking by Xiao Yan. However, before they had time to rejoice at overcoming Xiao Yan's driving air attack, the ghost like figure would flash in front of them. A fist that did not appear to be using much power would cause a mercenary to faint from serious injury each time it was weightlessly thrown forward.

All the way in, as he eyed those 'Sand Mercenary Company' mercenaries collapsing on the two sides of the small path repeatedly rolling and groaning, Xiao Yan finally once again experienced the strength of a Xuan Class Qi Method. If this happened in the past, he would only be able to use the 'Flame Palm' Dou Technique five times before the Dou Qi in his body announced that it was exhausted. However, the Xuan Class Qi Method he currently had was able to support his random squandering. The difference between them was like that of the earth and sky!

Going on a rampage throughout the walk, Xiao Yan seemed to have attacked until he formed an addiction. His body turned into a black shadow and shuttled through the mercenary group whose strength was only that of an ordinary Dou Zhe. The places where he flashed by had blood dancing all over the sky and human figures being shot backward.



Following behind Xiao Yan, Xiao Ding and the rest were speechless as they eyed the mercenaries in front who were repeatedly throwing up blood or thrown backward. Since they had entered the door until now, they did not even have a single chance to attack. The black clothed young man in front of them seemed to have an inexhaustible vigor and Dou Qi. This squandering without any pity caused the people at the side to feel a little heartache.

Stepping over some fainted mercenaries' bodies with agile footsteps, their gazes looked around the extremely messy courtyard and sighed gently. This guy could well terminate the entire 'Sand Mercenary Company' on his own.

In the large hall which had its door tightly shut, tens of people were walking about uneasily. As they heard the blood-curling screams that sounded not far outside the door, their faces were completely filled with alarm. A panicked atmosphere covered the interior of the entire hall.

On the leader's seat in the hall, Luo Bu's face was a little pale as he sat on it. The tea cup which he held in his hand trembled slightly. He lifted his head to eye the hall before turning it toward the few people not far from him. These people did not wear the uniform of the 'Sand Mercenary Company' Their chests also did not have the badge for the 'Sand Mercenary Company'.

"I have already told the few of you that Xiao Ding and Xiao Li of the 'Desert Mercenary Company' have a younger brother with a terrifying strength. Yet you all still insisted on destroying them. Look at things now. That guy has returned. Now they have even attacked. How can we resist them?" Luo Bu's voice appeared somewhat sharp because of his anger.

"Company Leader Luo Bu, you need not worry too much. That person's strength is indeed a little strong, but from the situation of his fight with Elder Mo Ran, it is far from the possibility of being a Dou Wang as you have said. Although he finally defeated Elder Mo Ran, he was also slightly injured. Therefore, I guess that his strength is at most a two star or a three star Da Dou Shi. However, Company Leader Luo Bu, you are a four star Da Dou Shi. Why do you need to fear him? Moreover, as long as you endure for this period of time, we will transmit the news and our clan's First Elder will hurry over. When that time comes, with the elder's Dou Ling strength, would he be afraid of this lightweight?" The man in his prime who was probably the leader of the group laughed.

"I don't know whether or not he conserved his strength in his fight with Mo Ran but back then, he had come to my room in a bizarre manner. I dare say that the kind of speed is something that even a normal Dou Ling would not be able to possess." Luo Bu's face was gloomy as he replied.

"Back then did Company Leader Luo Bu exchange blows with him?" The man asked with a smile.

“No.”

“Ke ke, that’s right. Perhaps his speed may be very fast, but in a fight between the strong, speed is not the most important thing. Perhaps that guy only has fast speed.”

Hearing this, hesitation flashed across Luo Bu’s face. His heart gradually began to think it over. He nodded his head slightly. Back then, because of Xiao Yan’s bizarre appearance, he was shaken until he had somewhat panicked and jumpy. Now that he thought about it, how could a young man that was not even twenty be a Dou Wang? Even if he ate all sorts of natural treasures everyday and high tier medicinal pills, that was definitely impossible.

Thinking in this manner, the gloominess on Luo Bu’s face gradually disappeared. He clenched his fist tightly and swallowed a mouthful of saliva with a ‘Pei’ sound. He viciously said, “Just as well. This time, let me take a look at just how strong this guy actually this. I really don’t believe that he alone can knock aside the ten plus Dou Shis in here!”

Seeing the imposing manner of Luo Bu gradually returning, everyone in the hall who had a tensed expression quietly heaved a sigh of relief. At this moment, if even the leader did not possess any intention to fight, it would really be hopeless.

“Bang!”

As everyone’s heart gradually became heated up, a bang sounded. The tightly closed door was convulsed into countless broken pieces which shot in all directions.

In the doorway, the sawdust gradually scattered and a black garment slowly appeared in everyone’s sight.

“Everyone, is it very fun to hide in here?” A faint joking laughter floated into the hall.

### **Chapter 245: Frighten**

As that faint laughter floated in, the heart of everyone in the hall tensed slightly. They lifted their eyes and looked over. In the doorway, a young man in black clothes was carelessly standing there with a smile. A thread of inclined sunlight had just happened to shine into the hall. At one glance, it was as warm as the smile on the young man’s face.

Their gazes swept across the smiling delicate and handsome face before stopping on the pair of dark black eyes. There, his eyes did not hold the slightest smile in there. Instead, they were indifferent and icy.

Seeing Xiao Yan's figure, everyone in the big hall hurriedly took a few steps back and swarmed to Luo Bu's side. Even the few people of unknown origin by the side also acted in this manner.

Xiao Yan's gaze swept once around the interior of the hall before slowly walking in. Behind him, Xiao Ding and the rest also filed into the room and stared at the group of people opposite with ill intentions.

"Company Leader Luo Bu, your means are quite vicious."

After sweeping his sight over the few people whose clothes were quite different from the members of the 'Sand Mercenary Company', Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes and immediately shifted them toward Luo Bu who was seated on a chair. He smiled and said, "It seems that letting you live the last time was a mistake."

Being stared at by Xiao Yan's cold pair of eyes, Luo Bu's body felt somewhat cold. He twisted his body uneasily, tilted his head and eyed his subordinates that had swarmed behind him. The corner of his eyes twitched slightly while the tea cup in his hand was molded into powder with a 'bang'.

"Are you the one who is called Xiao Yan?" The tea mixed with the powder as it followed his hand and dripped down. However, Luo Bu did his best to make his expression a little more indifferent as he asked.

"I don't know what exactly your background is and I don't wish to know. However, shouldn't you give me an explanation for swaggering and breaking into my 'Sand Mercenary Company' today?" Luo Bu said with a cold smile.

"Ke ke, I'm sorry. There isn't an explanation!" Xiao Yan scratched his head and said with a brilliant smile, "If you insist on having one, then it is that I want to smash this mercenary company of yours."

Luo Bu's face twitched a couple of times. Xiao Yan's impertinent expression always caused Luo Bu to be filled with anger. Moreover, under this anger, there was an internal struggle from Luo Bu of not being able to clearly see the actual power of the opponent. Luo Bu clenched his teeth and violently smashed his hand on the table in front of him. Immediately, the tough table surface was turned into broken pieces all over the floor with a 'Ka Cha' sound.

"Alright, today, I really want to see on what basis are you going to break the 'Sand Mercenary Company' with!" With an angry cry, powerful Dou Qi swiftly agglomerated on the surface of Luo Bu's body. An instant later, that thick Dou Qi Armor covered the top of his body.

"Since all of you have delivered yourself to my door, it saves me some trouble. Today, all of you can remain here!" The powerful Dou Qi that had begun surging within his body

also caused Luo Bu's confidence to gradually strengthen. When he waved his large hand, a Da Dou Shi level pressure immediately filled the interior of the hall.

Sensing this strong pressuring Qi, the expressions of Xiao Ding and the others changed. Their footsteps involuntarily took a step back.

Xiao Yan calmly watched the gradually thickening force on Luo Bu's body. He then closed his eyes slowly. The Qi all over his body was completely kept into his body. If one did not sense carefully, one would really have treated the young man in front of them as an ordinary person who did not know Dou Qi.

Seeing Xiao Yan's strange action, Xiao Ding and the others beside him were at a loss. However, they did not open their mouths to interrupt as they quietly stood behind Xiao Yan.

After Xiao Yan closed his eyes for a moment, a surprise suddenly flashed across the indifferent old face of Hai Bo Dong at the side. He tilted his head over and watched Xiao Yan intently. Under his senses, the Qi of the young man in front had suddenly become extremely foreign and terrifying. He frowned and muttered uncertainly in his heart, "It's this Qi! What strength! Even the current me still cannot compare to it. This guy, what exactly is happening? One minute he has only the strength of a Dou Shi, the next he has become this terrifying monster. What a mysterious freak!"

Hai Bo Dong's strength far exceeded everyone present, thus he could sense the Qi in Xiao Yan was gradually becoming more and more terrifying. However, the rest of the people did not have this kind of feeling. They could only see that the current Xiao Yan appeared to be closing his eyes and resting.

Luo Bu knitted his eyebrows as he eyed this strange action of Xiao Yan. An uneasiness gradually rose in his hear. Waving his hand, he said deeply, "Kill all of them!"

Hearing Luo Bu's order, the ten plus 'Sand Mercenary Company' elite members behind him exchanged looks with one another. Immediately, they clenched their teeth and drew the sharp weapons from their waist. The few Dou Shis swiftly summoned their Dou Qi cloaks and in quite an imposing manner, charged toward Xiao Yan.

Seeing the other side's action, Xiao Ding's expression became cold. He waved his hand and was about to lead the people to rush forward when Hai Bo Dong at the side suddenly told them in a bland voice, "There is no need to act, all you need to do is observe!"

Hearing this, Xiao Ding stilled slightly. He turned his head around and exchanged glances with Xiao Li. Immediately he nodded his head. Although they were unfamiliar with Hai Bo Dong, someone who was able to be referred to as a strong person by Xiao Yan would definitely not be too weak. He could naturally see further and deeper compared to Xiao Ding and the rest.

After stopping the people behind him, Xiao Ding's gaze stared intently at the members of the 'Sand Mercenary Company' who were charging over. Some perspiration surfaced on his tightly clenched palm.

When the members of the 'Sand Mercenary Company' were about to reach attacking range, the tightly closed-eyed Xiao Yan finally opened once again. The black eyes had less of the vitality of a young man and instead had a vicissitude from having experienced the world.

Xiao Yan's gaze indifferently eyed these mercenaries whose ferocious face could almost be clearly seen. He slowly lifted his palm and a thick white colored flame flashed and disappeared at the tip of his long finger.

The moment the thick white flame flashed and disappeared, the bodies of the ten plus mercenaries charging over suddenly paused. After which, a clean white icy layer suddenly spread from their feet in front of numerous shocked gazes. In only a short two to three seconds, the ten plus human figures had completely turned into pure white smooth ice rod sculptures!

"Hiss!" Eyeing the mercenaries that had been solidified into ice rods, the skin on Hai Bo Dong's face, suddenly and quickly twitched a couple of times. He violently inhaled a mouthful of cold air in his heart. Others might think that the ice layers were agglomerated from cold air but to a person who had played with ice for most of his life, the rods were not formed from a kind of cold icy energy.

In Hai Bo Dong's senses, the moment that the ten plus mercenaries were covered by the ice layer, they were instantly turned into nothingness. That was a true kind of nothingness. Even the ashes were not left over!

Although this kind of white colored crystal forming body was extremely similar to cold ice, Hai Bo Dong was very certain that this was not cold ice. This was because within the crystal body, there was a high temperature that was close to being terrifyingly withering.

"This action of this fellow is really far too horrifying! Is this his true strength?" Hai Bo Dong's throat rolled slightly. Once again, he rejoiced at not choosing to turn against Xiao Yan on the spot when he had once again recovered his strength back then.

The sudden appearance of the ten plus human ice rods in the hall caused the place to descend into a lifeless silence. Everyone's faces were filled with fright as they stared at the human shaped ice sculptures that appeared without any warning. All over their bodies, they suddenly had an ice-cold feeling that was suddenly emitted from their hearts.

Beside Luo Bu, the few Dou Shis who did not belong to the 'Sand Mercenary Company' also eyed the ten plus ice sculptures with dull faces. An uneasiness gradually rose

within their hearts. They currently had a slight feeling that Luo Bu's perception back then seemed to be right.

"This time, it's going to be troublesome." The man who was the leader muttered in his heart.

Titling his head slightly, Xiao Yan indifferently eyed the stunned Luo Bu seated on a chair. His footsteps slowly passed between the ten plus ice sculptures. As he rubbed passed them, those human shaped ice sculptures emitted a 'Ka Cha' sound and burst apart. When the ice sculptures burst apart, there was not even the slightest trace of blood or flesh inside. This supernatural scene caused the skin on the heads of everyone to become numb.

Xiao Yan's footsteps slowly walked into the hall. A moment later, under the clear view of numerous gazes, he stood in front of Luo Bu. He lowered his head slightly and pulled at the corner of his mouth, seemingly revealing a smile. In a soft voice, he said, "The last time I already gave you a warning. Why are you still so stupid?"

"Gu!" Luo Bu's throat rolled as he swallowed a mouthful of saliva. From his forehead, cold sweat moved along his face and dripped down. He raised his head and eyed the delicate and handsome face of the young man which carried a faint smile. A bone cutting chilliness that was difficult to control began permeate from his feet, causing him to feel as though he was in an icehouse.

At this moment, Luo Bu sensed the breath of death as well as the terror that swarmed over him just before facing death.

Luo Bu's teeth clenched his teeth tightly together, seemingly unwilling to lose without a fight. He used all his might to push the Dou Qi in his body. Immediately, the layer of Dou Qi Armor on the surface of his body became even tougher.

Carrying some ridicule in his gaze, Xiao Yan stared at Luo Bu who was defiant even when he was about to die. He smiled gently and his long white hand was slowly lifted. After which it floated gently towards where Luo Bu's neck was.

Luo Bu stared intently at the increasingly large hand. He wanted to dodge only to suddenly realised that at the moment, his own body completely did not listen to his orders. It was as though the owner of the body had changed.

The fair and long hand that was like a female's gently landed on the thick layer of Dou Qi Armor on Luo Bu's neck. Xiao Yan smiled slightly. Then that layer of Dou Qi Armor began to automatically melt.

With his eyes shrinking to the size of a pin-hole at the moment, Luo Bu could sense that the Dou Qi Armor was swiftly melting. After which, he did not even have the time to say a word when an icy cold palm was gently placed on his throat. At this moment, all the

pores on Luo Bu had instantly and abruptly become vertical. A faint shadow of death was stubbornly entangled in his heart.

“S...Sir! Have mercy!”

During the exchange this time around, Luo Bu finally and precisely sensed the other party’s terrifying strength. His body sat stiffly on the seat, afraid that with any slight movement of his, that death god’s hand would suddenly nip... nip away his little life. His face was as pale as a zombie’s and cold sweat was seeping out all over his body. In only just a moment, it was as though his clothes had been soaked in water.

“Do you know of any news of Qing Lin?” Xiao Yan tilted his head slightly, smiled suddenly and asked in a gentle voice.

Hearing this, Luo Bu was slightly startled. During the instant when he was quiet, the palm on his neck suddenly became much icier. A bone piercing coldness caused him to instantly shiver from the cold. He raised his head and eyed that pair of eyes which were as black as ink and as indifferent as ice. He did not have the slightest doubt that if he hesitated for another moment, the other party would immediately freeze him into an ice rod. Immediately, his head hurriedly nodded. His voice was somewhat rushed and sharp because of his fear, “Sir, I know!”

“Congratulations, your life has temporarily returned to your hands.”

Xiao Yan laughed softly and slowly withdrew his hand. Although his smile filled face was as warm as the hot sun, it still caused Luo Bu and the others to feel a chill in their bodies.

### **Chapter 246: Mo Clan**

Under the numerous dull gazes in the hall, Xiao Yan randomly drew a chair and sat down with a big action. He glanced at the pale faced Luo Bu, gently picked at his fingernail and said indifferently, “Tell me. What happened to you recently? With your character, you don’t appear to have the boldness to sweep away all the strengths in Rock Desert City.”

Hearing Xiao Yan’s slightly belittling words, Luo Bu could only smile awkwardly. He was quiet for a moment before laughing bitterly, “Indeed, I have never thought of dominating the territory of Rock Desert City. Moreover, the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ does not possess the strength to remove all the other groups within the Rock Desert City.”

“All of this may have started because of the little girl called Qing Lin from the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’.” Luo Bu’s expression was somewhat regretful.

“Luo Bu, you better be careful about what you are saying! Our clan can help you dominate the Rock Desert City, but it can also destroy all of you instantly!” Just as Luo

Bu was preparing to reveal everything, the man who was the leader of the few people at the side suddenly warned.

Hearing this warning, Luo Bu's expression changed. A moment later, he viciously turned around and angrily said to the man, "Dammit, were it not for all of you, I would not have today's ending."

"Who are they?" Xiao Yan tilted his head, stared at the few men who were not from the 'Sand Mercenary Company' and asked softly.

Seeing Xiao Yan glancing over, the few men hurriedly took a few steps back. The Dou Qi in their bodies swiftly circulated and their faces were filled with fear. Their eyes could not help but glance at their feet, worried that the weird ice layer would suddenly appear and rise from beneath their feet. Clearly, the actions of Xiao Yan just now had already caused terror to rise within these people's hearts.

"They are members of the Mo clan. The little girl called Qing Lin was captured personally by their First Elder. Not long after they captured her, the Mo clan contacted us the 'Sand Mercenary Company', telling us that they can lend us some people and help us dominate the Rock Desert City. However, their condition was that we must kill off all the people in the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company'!" Luo Bu's gaze swept over Xiao Ding and the others behind Xiao Yan as he talked.

"Mo clan?" Hearing this, Xiao Ding's expression changed as he cried out involuntarily.

"What is their background?" Xiao Yan tilted his head over, eyeing Xiao Ding's somewhat ugly expression and asked.

"The Mo clan is one of the four large clans in the north-eastern province of the Jia Ma Empire. Although their strength cannot be compared with the huge fellows like the Nalan clan, they cannot be underestimated. Having been entrenched in the north-east for a long time, they can be said to be deeply ingrained there. They act just like a lord of the land and there are very few people who dare to offend them. How unexpected. This time they actually want to act against us." Xiao Ding frowned tightly and said.

"Mo clan! What is their strength like?" Xiao Yan gently knocked against the table and asked softly.

"The strongest in the Mo clan is that First Elder that they had mentioned earlier. I have heard of his name. He should be called Mo Cheng? His name is quite renowned in the eastern region of the empire. Back then, he alone killed off everyone in the most rampant and vicious 'Black Rotary Bandit Troop'. It should be known that the strength of the 'Black Rotary Bandit Troop' cannot be underestimated. Within it, there were three Da Dou Shi and over ten Dou Shi. Adding this on top of their naturally vicious characters, there was little progress made during the few times that the empire sent troops to siege them. Instead, the empire ended up losing quite a number of people.



That Mo Cheng massacre can be said to have formed rivers of blood. Therefore, it created his nickname, Executioner Mo!" Xiao Ding said in a deep voice.

"He seems like another vicious person!" Xiao Yan laughed softly.

"Of course, although he is only a Dou Ling, his strength is indeed very great. However, the main reason which helped the Mo Cheng to possess today's reputation and position is his other identity." When he said till this point, Xiao Ding's expression became slightly strange.

"What identity?"

"When that guy was young, he had once joined the Misty Cloud Sect. After that, he left the Misty Cloud Sect in order to manage the matters in the clan. However, that guy can be considered to be intelligent. Although he had left the Misty Cloud Sect, each year, he would pay an extremely large tribute to the Misty Cloud Sect. Additionally, each time the Misty Cloud Sect's upper echelons had some joyous occasions etc, he would personally go and congratulate them. His personality is extremely sleek. According to rumors, when the Misty Cloud Sect Leader accepted a disciple over ten plus years ago, that guy was also invited. After returning from the Misty Cloud Sect, that guy had continued to talk about it, flaunting it everywhere. Of course, being able to participate in the Misty Cloud Sect Leader accepting disciple ceremony is indeed something that others would be envious about!" Although he tried to be as neutral as possible, Xiao Ding still shook his head gently. His heart was in contempt of the character of Mo Cheng.

"Oh, that's right! The Leader of the Misty Cloud Sect has only accepted a female disciple after so many years. You should know who she is!" Xiao Ding waved his hand and said.

"Yes." Xiao Yan smiled faintly and nodded. Other than Nalan Yanran, who else could the female disciple be?

"Therefore, although this guy had left the Misty Cloud Sect, not only was he not chased after by the enforcement team of the Misty Cloud Sect, but also managed to obtain an 'External Deacon' title. In all these years, the reason why no one had come into conflict with him while many strong people come to this north-eastern region, was because they feared the Misty Cloud Sect behind them! Ha ha, after all, that is really a truly enormous monster." Xiao Ding sighed as he said with a smile.

"Brat, since you know the Misty Cloud Sect is the one supporting our Mo clan, you better be sensible and obediently follow us back to the Mo clan. If that..." Hearing Xiao Ding explanation, the face of a man who was slightly younger amongst the group could not help but become a little proud. Looking at the degree of proficiency he had for the expression, it was clear that it was not the first time he had swaggered around. However, before he could complete his prideful words, Xiao Yan who was seated on the chair randomly waved his hand. An ice layer instantly spread out from the man's feet

and wrapped him within it. At the same time, it also stifled the words that had yet to be completely said.

“Today, even if the leader of the Misty Cloud Sect were to come, she would not be able to bring all of you away. Therefore, don’t say these moronic words. If anyone says another word, there will be another ice sculpture.” Xiao Yan did not even look at the ice sculpture as he said indifferently.

Hearing these arrogant words of Xiao Yan, a fury swarmed onto the remaining four people’s faces. However, with the ice sculpture beside them standing guard, they could only violently clench their teeth. None of them dared to open their mouths.

“But these guys are really strange. After capturing one of our people, they still want to turn around and kill all of us? Are they ill? Or are they afraid that we know something?” Xiao Ding knit his eyebrows together and muttered doubtfully.

“Do you know the reason for them capturing Qing Lin?” Xiao Yan eyed Luo Bu and inquired.

“This, I don’t know.” The corner of Luo Bu eye glanced at the additional ice sculpture that appeared and swallowed his saliva. He shook his head awkwardly. Seeming to be afraid that Xiao Yan did not believe him, he quickly and hurriedly added, “I barely have any contact with them. The highest ranking person that I have seen from the Mo clan is that Mo Ran.”

Xiao Yan stared intently at Luo Bu in front of him. After a long while, he then nodded his head. His finger pointed at the few men of unknown origin and said, “These people should be members of the Mo clan, right?”

“Yes.” Luo Bu hurriedly nodded his head.

With a smile, Xiao Yan shifted his gaze towards the few men whose expressions had become ugly and said with a smile, “Why don’t the few of you tell me what is the intention behind capturing Qing Lin?”

The man who was standing at the leader’s position shivered slightly as his gaze swept across the ice sculpture that was standing by his side. His throat rolled a little and spoke with a quivering voice, “We are only following orders and are ignorant of the details.”

Xiao Yan’s eyes narrowed. He flicked his finger and the monstrous and strange ice layer once again spread upwards from the bottom of the man’s leg. In an instant, it transformed that man into a human shaped ice rod.

“I want to hear the truth!” Xiao Yan smiling manner was as terrifying as a devil in the eyes of the few members of the Mo clan.

"We really don't know!" The bottom of a man's feet trembled slightly as his face became somewhat green from the fear. His voice had also become slightly hoarse as a result.

Hearing this, Xiao Yan's face remained indifferent. He was about to wave his hand again when Hai Bo Dong by the side suddenly said, "Stop asking them. They really don't know anything. The Mo clan is extremely strict when keeping their secrets. They would never tell them some of the important information."

With his palm paused, Xiao Yan turned his head around and eyed Hai Bo Dong. He smiled and said, "You do know something, don't you?"

Hai Bo Dong's gaze looked directly at the dark black ink like eyes. A long while later, he took the initiative to shift it away and voiced his thoughts, "Back then, I had been in contact with the Mo clan so I do know some secrets! Among the Mo clan ancestors, there was once an alchemist. However, he did not have much interest in orthodox refining of medicine. Instead, he focused on studying some strange and mysterious things. For example, taking strong claws or bones etc from some Magic Beast and transplanting them onto the human body."

"That's quite perverted." Xiao Yan said softly.

"Hee hee, indeed it is very perverted. However, that guy did indeed have some ability. Later on, he actually began to fiddle some products. Back then, many people in the Mo Clan had these things transplanted. Although their strength had become much greater, they had made themselves into neither humans nor ghosts! After researching on the Magic Beast, the alchemist shifted his attention onto some humans which possessed strange organs! You should also know that there are some people who possess things that are unique. This Mo clan ancestor thought of all ways to capture these people and extract these unique organs from their bodies before finally transplanting them onto his people, allowing their strength to rise greatly." Disgust flashed over Hai Bo Dong's face after saying everything up to this point. Clearly, he was not interested in these perverted things.

"I think that little girl called Qing Lin should have something that is unique, no? Otherwise, I cannot think of any reason for them to spend so much effort to capture a little girl."

Hearing Hai Bo Dong's words, Xiao Yan's expression became extremely ugly. Naturally, he knew what kind of unique things Qing Lin had on her. Those 'Triple Jade-Green Snake Flower Pupils' were something that even Yao Lao gave a high evaluation of. If those people of the Mo clan discovered Qing Lin's secret, they would naturally think of every way to capture her given their perverted characters.

"Dammit. These bastards were actually targeting Qing Lin's eyes!" Xiao Yan's expression was dark and deep like water. He clenched his fist tensely and abruptly waved his sleeves. A thick white flame surged out and other than the person who

replied just now, the remainder of the Mo clan males by the side were incinerated into nothingness before they even had time to let out cries

Beside him, Hai Bo Dong stilled slightly when he saw Xiao Yan suddenly become furious. Immediately, he made sense of the situation in his heart and muttered, "Looks like that little girl called Qing Lin has really been targeted by the Mo clan because of this reason."

### **Chapter 247: Annex**

As the few Mo clan members in the hall were incinerated into nothingness, the atmosphere in the hall was suddenly one in which silence reigned.

With cold sweat slowly dripping down from his forehead, Luo Bu sat on the chair, not daring to make even the slightest movement. He stealthily glanced at the gloomy face of the young man in black clothes, and his body was once again shrouded by that thick coldness.

The body of the only man from the Mo clan stood on the spot with a stiffened body. At this moment, his face had abruptly become pale white. His mouth trembled and his eyes was filled with fear. Just now, if that white colored flame had shifted over a little more, the current him might not even leave behind ashes.

"You, you are provoking our Mo clan!" With a trembling voice, the man cried with a brave front despite feeling weak inside.

"Not only will I provoke it, I will also smash the worthless Mo clan!" Xiao Yan coldly laughed.

"Don't be so arrogant, behind our Mo clan is the Misty Cloud Sect!" The man angrily said. His voice grew louder as though he was trying to cheer himself.

"Bring me to the Mo clan, or you can be like your companions from before. Two choices. Choose for yourself." Xiao Yan crossed his ten fingers and placed them in front of him. He then glanced at the trembling man and said blandly.

"The Mo clan doesn't have any trai..." The man suppressed the fear in his heart, and his mouth remained tough. However, this time around, Xiao Yan seemed to have lost his patience. He gently waved his hand, and a wisp of thing white flame seedling sprang out from the tip of his finger in a lightning like manner, incinerating the man into nothingness while the latter was wearing a completely startled expression.

"The Mo clan headquarters is located at Yan City in the eastern part of the empire. That is also the largest city in the eastern region of the empire." Xiao Ding said softly behind Xiao Yan, "If one were to walk from the Rock Desert City to Yan City, one would need around eight days. If one were to fly, one should be able to reach it in a day."

Xiao Yan nodded slightly and turned his head around. His gaze was focused on Luo Bu as he said with a smile, "Company Leader Luo Bu. next we should have a discussion about the problem between us. Regardless of whether you were ordered by someone, the very significant damage that you have done to our 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' is a fact."

Hearing this, cold sweat began flowing down Luo Bu's face. Without realizing it, his face was like the color of the ground as he said in a trembling voice, "The 'Sand Mercenary Company' is willing to compensate your Company with one hundred thousand gold coins. Will this do?"

Xiao Yan smiled and shook his head.

"What about two hundred thousand?"

"Three hundred thousand?" Seeing that Xiao Yan still shook his head and that the smile on his face was growing icier, Luo Bu finally wailed, "Sir, Xiao Yan, what exactly do you want. Why don't you tell me. With your strength, our 'Sand Mercenary Company' does not even have the slightest chance of resisting."

At this moment, Luo Bu had completely given up. With Xiao Yan's terrifying strength, the 'Sand Mercenary Company' did not have the right to speak of conditions with him.

"Let the 'Sand Mercenary Company' merge into the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company'. Give the low-grade members some money and remove them. Members who are seven star Dou Zhes and above can remain. If he is a Dou Shi, he can retain his current position." Xiao Yan's finger gently knocked the back of his hand as he slowly spoke.

Hearing Xiao Yan's words, everyone in the hall was at a loss. Immediately, their expressions became interesting to watch. Xiao Ding and Xiao Lu exchanged glances with one another and felt their hearts slightly move. If the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' really swallowed up the 'Sand Mercenary Company', then not just in the Rock Desert City, even the strengths in the cities nearby would have difficulty contending with them. When that time came, the development of the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' would definitely rise swiftly!

Although this measure had quite a great benefit, its drawbacks were also extremely obvious. The 'Sand Mercenary Company' was stronger than the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company'. If they were to merge over, there was a hidden danger of them taking over the leadership. When that time came, the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' might end up becoming a great mess internally. If that were to be the case, then the losses would be greater than the gains.

While Xiao Ding and Xiao Li were considering the advantages and disadvantages, Luo Bu's face became bitter. Although he did not have any great ambition to dominate, he also did not want to obey orders under someone else. Moreover, his strength far

surpassed Xiao Ding and Xiao Li's. His heart naturally felt uncomfortable if he had to listen to the orders of the two of them.

"The 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' was created by us three brothers. I can also be considered a Company leader of the Desert Metal. I don't think you would cheapen yourself by working under me, do you?" Appearing to be clear of the discomfort in Luo Bu's heart, Xiao Yan said with a smile.

By putting it this way, Xiao Yan caused Luo Bu and the few Dou Shi nearby to have a nicer expression. Working under someone who was perhaps a Dou Wang level would not cheapen themselves. Instead, they would feel extremely honored.

"Company Leader Luo Bu, do you want to merge, or do you want me to clean up? How do you wish to choose, you can decide for yourself." Talking until this point, Xiao Yan paused and while smiling added, "I hope you will not disappoint me."

Being stared at by that pair of dark black eyes, the corner of Luo Bu's mouth twitched a few times involuntarily. He took in a deep breath as his expression repeatedly and swiftly changed.

Following Luo Bu's silence, the interior of the hall once again fell into silence. The quiet atmosphere only had the slight sound of Xiao Yan gently knocking on the table's surface.

The silence persisted for a long while. Just as the smile on Xiao Yan's face was gradually being withdrawn, Luo Bu finally smiled bitterly and sighed. He raised his head and said to Xiao Yan, "Today, if I did not agree, I'm afraid that the 'Sand Mercenary Company' would immediately be disbanded."

Xiao Yan simply smiled and was noncommittal.

"Then do you think I even have a choice?" Luo Bu's face was filled with bitterness as he asked.

"It seems like you don't." Xiao Yan said with a smile. After looking at the bitter smile on Luo Bu's face and knowing his choice, Xiao Yan shrugged his shoulders. He flipped his palm and a small jade bottle appeared in his hand. His gaze swept at Luo Bu and the three Dou Shi behind him. The jade bottle slanted slightly and four red colored medicinal pills were poured out. He flicked his finger and the four medicinal pills shot into the hands of the four stunned people.

"Don't say that I don't trust you. Of course, even if I tell you all now that I trust you, I'm afraid that you would also not believe me." After saying a mouthful words, Xiao Yan smiled and said, "These things cannot be considered a potent poison. However, if the poison were to erupt, I believe that other than Company Leader Luo Bu who should be able to endure for a while, I'm afraid that the remaining three would die on the spot."

Tilting his head to Luo Bu, Xiao Yan added, "Remember, I said endure a little longer and not that you can withstand the poison."

Seeing Luo Bu and the three others' stiffened expressions, Xiao Yan said with a smile, "This is only some precautions that I have taken. After all, it is impossible for me to completely trust all of you. I will hand the antidote in stages to my eldest brother. As long as you don't try anything funny, you will naturally be alright. When you have obtained true trust in the future, I will help you all remove the poison."

"It seems that we have no choice but to eat?" Holding the red colored pill in his hand, Luo Bu was quiet for a moment before sighing. He was clear in his heart that if he did not consume the medicinal pellet, Xiao Yan would definitely not believe that they would willingly merge.

Xiao Yan nodded his head slightly and softly said, "Company Leader Luo Bu is an intelligent person. You naturally understand that I am doing this as an insurance."

After bitterly laughing, Luo Bu lifted his head and stared at Xiao Yan. Although that face still carried a smile, within the pair of dark black eyes there was the usual iciness and indifferentness. Being looked at by the icy gaze, Luo Bu shuddered coldly in his heart. He believed that if he and the others refused to consume these pills, their ending would not be much different from the few people from the Mo clan earlier.

Sighing again, Luo Bu turned to the three subordinates and exchanged glances. They smiled bitterly and shook their heads before helplessly swallowing the red colored medicinal pellet. Regardless of the situation, their lives today had at least been preserved.

Eyeing the four people who consumed the pills, Xiao Yan nodded his head. He slowly stood up and said, "You should first prepare the matter about the merger. Some of the worms in the Company should be cleaned up. Remember, the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' doesn't want any garbage who only know how to bully others by exploiting the company's power."

After saying this, Xiao Yan turned around and walked out of the hall. Xiao Ding glanced at the despondent looking Luo Bu before following closely behind Xiao Yan.

Following behind Xiao Yan, the group of members of the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company' eyed the skinny figure in front of them. Their minds felt somewhat giddy. In only half a day, the largest strength in the Rock Desert City had actually been forcefully merged into the 'Desert Metal Mercenary Company'? This comedic scene really caused everyone to feel as though they were dreaming.

Seated dispiritedly on the chair, Luo Bu eyed the group of people who left in a single file and sighed. He weakly waved his hand and said, "Prepare to clear up all the useless people."

“Company Leader, are we just going to be included into the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ like that?” Behind him, a Dou Shi smiled bitterly and said.

“If we don’t do this, then what else can we do? Xiao Yan’s strength is something that you have clearly seen. If he really wanted to annihilate our ‘Sand Mercenary Company’, it is something that can be done with just a flip of his hand. Moreover, following a mercenary company who had a Dou Wang as an umbrella would be somewhat safer than in the past.” Luo Bu rubbed his forehead and said.

Hearing this, the three Dou Shi could only smile bitterly at each other, feeling dejected and speechless.

Walking out of the hall, Xiao Yan’s group slowly headed toward the outside. They turned at a corner on the street before Xiao Yan’s footsteps slowed. Turning his head towards Xiao Ding and Xiao Li, he said with a smile, “Although forcefully merging the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’ into the ‘Desert Metal Mercenary Company’ has some dangers with Big Brother and Second Brother’s abilities, I think that you two should be able to settle them perfectly.

“It is indeed slightly troublesome. However, with your actions just now, I believe that Luo Bu has been suppressed so much that he will dare not do anything reckless. As for the mercenaries that have been transferred from the ‘Sand Mercenary Company’, there is no need to be overly worried. I have a plan to handle them.” Xiao Ding said with a grin.

“That’s good.” Seeing that Xiao Ding did not hesitate, Xiao Yan sighed in relief. He then said, “Next, I will go to the city where the Mo clan is at. The matters here will have to be dealt with by you all.”

“Going to the Mo clan?” Hearing this, Xiao Ding by the side frowned. A long while later, he finally nodded and reminded, “Be careful. The Mo clan is after all the overlord of the Yan City. Moreover, their relationship with the Misty Cloud Sect is quite good.”

“Ok.”

Xiao Yan smiled slightly and nodded his head. He waved toward Hai Bo Dong by the side. After which, his back trembled slightly and the Purple Cloud Wings were extended. He rose slowly into the air, waved his hand with a smile at the stunned Xiao Ding’s group below before rising into midair with Hai Bo Dong. As they flapped their wings, their bodies transformed into two rays of light and swiftly disappeared into the horizon.

## **Chapter 248: Yan City**

The two faint rays of light flew past the skyline like falling stars. In an instant, they disappeared over the horizon.



Flying by Xiao Yan's side, Hai Bo Dong tilted his head and used the moonlight to eye the young man. At the moment, the foreign terrifying Qi in his body had already completely disappeared. Replacing it was still that Dou Shi level Qi.

Sizing Xiao Yan's two drastic changes up with turbid old eyes, Hai Bo Dong mused for a long time with his eyebrows pressed together. A moment later, he suddenly said, "Little Brother Xiao Yan, that foreign Qi that can be compared to a Dou Huang is not really emitted by you, no?"

Hai Bo Dong's sudden words caused Xiao Yan's flying speed to be slightly reduced. The latter turned around, eyed Hai Bo Dong and said with a faint smile, "Old Mister Hai, why would you say this?"

"Although I do not deny Little Brother Xiao Yan's outstanding training talent, honestly speaking, after roaming around for so many years, I have seen people with similar training talent as you, but they at most possess a Dou Shi or a Da Dou Shi strength at your age. As for Dou Huang, that's definitely impossible." Hai Bo Dong replied with a smile, "Therefore, after sensing the foreign Qi in your body, I think that you have activated something that no one knows about. Ke ke, in other words, that strength does not actually belong to you."

Xiao Yan's eyebrows raised slightly. He glanced at Hai Bo Dong, and a moment later, he responded with a smile, "Old Mister Hai really lives up to his reputation as a Dou Huang. Your eyes are indeed sharp."

Regarding this point, Xiao Yan did not directly deny anything. He clearly understood that the strong people at the Dou Huang class would already be able to sense the difference between his own Qi and Yao Lao's Qi. However, it was fortunate that Hai Bo Dong was not an alchemist. Otherwise, with the enormous strong Spiritual Perception of a Dou Huang class alchemist, Yao Lao's spirit would have nowhere to hide and would be discovered by the person. This was also the reason why Yao Lao had adopted a careful silence back in the desert when Pill-King Gu He appeared. Although Gu He may not be able to completely sense Yao Lao's existence, but by relying on his enormously strong Spiritual Perception, he would be able to know that the strength was definitely not owned by Xiao Yan.

Hearing that Xiao Yan had no intention of denying what he said, shock clearly flashed over Hai Bo Dong's face. However, he knew better than to continue inquiring.

"Ke ke, that strength may indeed not belong to me, but Old Mister Hai just needs to know that I am able to control it to contend with a Dou Huang." Xiao Yan smiled and said with a deep meaning.

Hai Bo Dong smiled and nodded his head. Indeed, regardless of the origin of that strength, Xiao Yan was at least able to control it. In that case, he was a strong person

who could contend with a Dou Huang. As long as one's hand held strength, all doubt and provocations would collapse on themselves without a need to attack.

Seeing that Hai Bo Dong did not say anything else, Xiao Yan smiled slightly. The other party was a smart person. He knew that something like strength was not divided by origin. Whoever possessed it would have the right to speak.

"Let's go. We shall try to hurry to Yan City before daylight. However, I am not very certain about the path to Yan City. Therefore, I will have to rely on Old Mister Hai." Xiao Yan said with a smile.

"Ke ke, although I have stayed in Desert City for decades, I have been manufacturing maps everyday. I am extremely familiar with these routes. Follow me." Hai Bo Dong smiled and flapped his pair of icy cold wings. His speed soared.

Eyeing Hai Bo Dong who had suddenly raised his speed, Xiao Yan nodded his head. His Purple Cloud Wings flapped, and he hurried to catch up.

In the night sky, two rays of light flashed by. The silver moon high in the sky gradually descended.

Yan City was seated on the eastern region of the Jia Ma Empire. The spacious large roads that led to and from it caused it to become a place one must pass through in order to head to the eastern region of the empire from its central region. The position that it occupied was quite fortunate. Therefore, this city that was known as the largest one in the eastern region of the Jia Ma Empire was heavily guarded by the empire all year round.

Within Yan City, other than the empire's strengths, the strongest one was naturally the destination of Xiao Yan's and Hai Bo Dong's journey, the Mo clan!

Due to the overbearing monopoly of the Mo clan, nearly sixty percent of the property in Yan City belonged to the Mo clan. The profits from each year, even after deducting the large wealth needed to pay the necessary taxes and those needed to ease relationships, were enough to make the Mo Clan increasingly fat.

A large tree was prone to the wind but with the backing of the enormous monster called Misty Cloud Sect, even the Jia Ma Empire royalty would not easily find trouble with the Mo clan. Therefore, by developing on like this without any worries, the strength known as the Mo clan seemed to have become the overlord of Yan City. Were it not for the three other large clans in the eastern region keeping it in check, the strength of the Mo clan would have expanded to the other big cities.

Even with the other three clans hindering its development, these few years, the Mo clan had been able begin to steadily suppress the other three large clans relying on its strong backing, just like an overlord being at the top.

After a day of non-stop hurrying through their journey, Xiao Yan and Hai Bo Dong gradually approached the territory of Yan City. When the silver moon in the sky changed into a hot sun, the outline of a large city emitting a tread of ferociousness finally appeared at the edge of their vision. Under the sunlight from the sky, the distant huge city was like an ancient fierce beast that was creeping on the ground.

Xiao Yan and Hai Bo Dong landed a few hundred meters from Yan City. They rested for a moment before they each put on a huge long black colored cloaks. The spacious long cloaks completely covered the two people's bodies within them. A black cloth that was lowered from the top of their heads prevented people from clearly seeing their faces.

Although Xiao Yan did not fear the Mo clan, being able settle the matter perfectly while concealing his identity was naturally for the best. Moreover, Hai Bo Dong had also said that he did not want to overtly offend the Misty Cloud Sect. Clearly this enormous monster that had dominated the Jia Ma Empire was something that even this person once known as the Ice Emperor feared.

After changing their attire, the two people followed along the spacious main road and walked slowly toward the towering huge city that was not far away.

As they neared the city gate, Xiao Yan was somewhat stunned to see tens of fully armed soldiers at the city's entrance. They stood at the two sides of the city wall and their sharp gazes continued to sweep across the passersby coming and going.

Seeing the seemingly tight security, Xiao Yan's eyebrows were pressed slightly together. This place could be considered to be quite far from the Jia Ma Empire border. Why was the defence here even tighter than that of Desert City?

Shaking their heads somewhat doubtfully, Xiao Yan and Hai Bo Dong exchanged glances. They pulled aside the black colored 'Doupeng' and quietly queued behind, following the queue as they slowly headed into the interior of the city.

TL: Doupeng - a conical straw hat with a long cloth fixed on the tip. The cloth hides the person face - it's like a cloak.

"Ugh, what grandeur. The Mo clan is indeed the largest clan in Yan City." While they were queuing, the few men wearing mercenary uniforms in front of Xiao Yan began to converse amongst themselves, perhaps as a result as of boredom.

"Hee hee, today appears to be the birthday of the First Elder of the Mo clan, Mo Cheng. I heard that not only did the many strengths in this eastern region hurry over to congratulate him, but the Misty Cloud Sect had also sent someone over."

"Oh? The Misty Cloud Sect has also sent someone over? This Mo Cheng has great prestige."

“Qi, the Mo clan may be large but in the eyes of the Misty Cloud Sect, what are they? If it were not for the Mo clan paying that large tribute to the Misty Cloud Sect every year, the Misty Cloud Sect with their horizon would never lower themselves to be in contact with the Mo clan.” One of the mercenaries skimmed his mouth in disdain as he talked.

“Hee hee, that’s also true.” Those few mercenaries did not seem to have a good liking toward Mo Clan, and they all echoed with soft laughter.

Standing behind that group, Xiao Yan heard the few mercenaries’ conversation and narrowed his eyes. He laughed softly, “We have really arrived at such a fashionable time. That old bastard is actually celebrating his birthday.”

“Since so many strengths have arrived, it looks like it will not be easy for us to take action.” Hai Bo Dong frowned and said with some hesitation.

“Ke ke, Old Mister Hai, with our combined strength, forget about the Mo clan, we need not fear even the Misty Cloud Sect. Moreover, do you really think that the leader of the Misty Cloud Sect would personally come to congratulate him?” Xiao Yan laughed blandly.

“If that were the case, they would be overly flattering Mo Cheng.” Hai Bo Dong smiled and shook his head. As the leader of the Misty Cloud Sect, an extremely strong person for this huge being, how many people in the Jia Ma Empire had the qualifications to let her personally come to congratulate them?”

“Uh, I don’t think I have promised to act together with you?” After laughing for a while. Hai Bo Dong suddenly stilled and suddenly said.

“Hee hee, Old Mister Hai, when that time comes and I need you, just act. I know it is very expensive to get you to act, but I think I should be able to afford it.” Xiao Yan smiled and replied.

“An alchemist who can refine a tier six medicinal pill. I really hope that you would owe me a favor.” Hai Bo Dong patted Xiao Yan’s shoulders and said softly.

With a smile, Xiao Yan raised his head and watched the queue which was about to reach him. He was about to walk forward when waves of horse trotting sounds were emitted not far behind him. He turned his head over and saw that a short distance away, a few men and women riding on horses were galloping over. The dust that they lifted along the way infuriated everyone in the queue. However, when their furious gazes eyed the leading human figure who was riding a horse, the anger in their hearts was immediately forcefully swallowed.

The leader who was riding a horse was a young lady. The lady was wearing tight red colored clothes which thoroughly wrapped her exquisite figure. Her face was very beautiful, and she wore a small crystal ornament on her clean and bright forehead. As

she swayed slightly, that face which carried some aura of being spoiled had some extra cleverness.

The red dressed lady's sight did not pause because of the trouble her riding had brought to the people queuing up. She merely glanced back once and rode on, leading the group of people to recklessly rush into the city under the helpless gazes of the soldiers guarding the city.

The trotting horses' footsteps gradually became distant. Only then did some dissatisfied scolding sound from the people queuing.

"Dammit. All she relies on is her identity as the second young lady of the Mo clan. Arrogant my a\*s. Your Mo clan has been like a pet to the Misty Cloud Sect in order to have today's position. Any moment they don't like your service, they will sooner or later kick your Mo clan out."

Hearing the soft curses sounding behind him, Xiao Yan smiled faintly. His narrowed gaze was shifted to the dark city gate pathway. After which, he rearranged his black robe and slowly walked in under the observation of the surrounding soldiers.

### **Chapter 249: Nalan!**

After passing through the somewhat deep and dark tunnel under the city wall, a piercing sunlight suddenly shined down, causing Xiao Yan to squint.

A moment later, when his eyes adjusted to the sunlight, Xiao Yan's eyes widened. Bustling and seething sounds also began to fill his ears.

Once he had widened his eyes, the enormous interior of the city suddenly appeared in his sight. Standing at the exit of the city wall, Xiao Yan lifted his head and eyed the packed and luxurious looking shops by the two sides of the streets, as well as the flow of people coming and going. He could not help but praise the size of the city. This city was worthy of being the largest city in the eastern region of the Jia Ma Empire. This kind of crowd numbers and the extent of luxury could be compared to the numbers of the Black Rock City that Xiao Yan had previously visited.

Standing on the street, Xiao Yan rubbed his ears, which had swollen painfully because of the sudden explosion of noise. A tiredness that was difficult to hide rose in his eyes. He rubbed his temples, turned his head around and said with a smile to Hai Bo Dong at his side, "We have continuously rushed toward here for nearly two days. Shall we first find a place to rest for a while and inquire about information on the Mo clan?"

"Ok, it's just as well." Hearing this, Hai Bo Dong nodded his head slightly. Although his ability to withstand tiredness far exceeded ordinary people after he had entered the realm of a Dou Huang, the two days of non-stop flying had largely exhausted his Dou Qi. He would naturally not disagree with being able to rest for a moment.

Seeing Hai Bo Dong nodding his head, Xiao Yan smiled and led the way into the streets. After which, they followed the flow of people and slowly walked forward.

Along the way, the complicated shops around Xiao Yan that caused people to be dazzled only caused Xiao Yan to feel a little surprised. After walking to the end of a street, Xiao Yan smacked his lips with a 'tsk tsk' sound. He laughed softly, "I have been observing. This street has a total of a hundred and three shops. Among which, seventy four of them had a 'Mo' word written on the plaque on top of the shop. People have been saying that the Mo clan is the lord of this Yan city. Looking at this, it is indeed true."

"Now, this Mo clan is indeed becoming better the more they muddle along. Back then, when I came here, there were quite a number of strengths in this Yan city who could contend with the Mo clan." Hai Bo Dong's gaze took a look at his surroundings before nodding his head and saying.

"Does the Misty Cloud Sect really have such great capability? A clan that was not very strong in the past could actually burgeon in this manner by relying on them." Xiao Yan fondled his chin and asked, frowning.

"The strength on the surface of the Misty Cloud Sect is not very frightening. However, its hidden strength is extremely terrifying. You need to know that during these many years, there have been an unknown number of strong people who have walked out from the Misty Cloud Sect. These strong people are scattered all over the Jia Ma Empire. Some of them even extended out of the empire. Most of the strength that they have created for themselves is tied in some way to the Misty Cloud Sect. You can even use the analogy of them being a branch strength of the Misty Cloud Sect... Just imagine for a moment what would happen if one day the Misty Cloud Sect gathered all these strong people, or the strengths that they have created; just how terrifying would this enormously entity be? When that time comes, I think that even with that old ancestor of the Jia Ma Empire royalty staying guard, the royalty might well have to stand to one side." A seriousness that was seldom seen surfaced on Hai Bo Dong's face as he said blandly.

"It really is quite terrifying." Hearing this, Xiao Yan gently sighed and muttered.

"I don't know what kind of feud you have with the Misty Cloud Sect, but seeing that you can be considered to be an acquaintance of mine, I should give you some advice. If you can't avoid provoking them, then try your best to provoke them as little as possible. A hornet's nest cannot be randomly touched." Hai Bo Dong mused for a moment before returning to silence.

Xiao Yan twisted his head gently and his palm patted his sleeves lightly. A long while later, his footsteps gradually started forward again. After some time, he turned his head around, smiled and said, "Perhaps what you have said is reasonable but there are some things that I must do. Even if I finally end up stabbing through the hornet's nest, I will not change!"

Hearing Xiao Yan's words, Hai Bo Dong could only helplessly shake his head. He did not know why this young man who had a limitless future would insist on stubbornly provoking the Misty Cloud Sect. Did he not know that this kind of action was a little foolish?

"Moreover, if they really intend to act like hornets in the future and desperately come to me to find trouble, then, I will let them know that I, Xiao Yan, am not some soft clay. If they dare to come, I dare to kill. I am still young, with a large amount of time to squander. With just the strength of a Dou Huang, I may not be able to knock down the Misty Cloud Sect. In this case, I will work hard toward Dou Zhong. If Dou Zhong is insufficient, then Dou Sheng..., even Dou Di!" The faint words that Xiao Yan who had suddenly turned around and said, caused Hai Bo Dong's footsteps to pause slightly. His face was stunned as he eyed that delicate and handsome face which was tightly pursing up his lips and appearing extremely stubborn and vicious. A long while later, a thought that caused him to helplessly smile bitterly suddenly appeared in his heart, "Maybe, the Misty Cloud Sect has really provoked a hornet, one which is somewhat insane."

"Oh, right. Who is the Jia Ma Empire's old ancestor that Old Mister Hai spoke about?" Xiao Yan suddenly asked doubtfully.

"An old monster. You can go and get to know this Old Monster yourself when you have the opportunity to go to the capital in the future. That Old Thing is the protector of the Jia Ma Empire's royalty. His strength is frighteningly strong. After having not seen him for so long, I wonder how much his strength has increased by?" Hai Bo Dong stroked his beard. The expression on his face was somewhat fearful. A long while later, he laughed, "Back then, he had also fought with Queen Medusa. However, he was better than me and actually managed to come to a draw with Queen Medusa. He also managed to withdraw without any serious injuries."

Hearing this, shock swarmed over Xiao Yan's face. Queen Medusa was a strong person standing at the peak of the Dou Huang. Being able to fight with her without losing, this Old Monster was likely at least a six star Dou Huang or greater.

Xiao Yan exclaimed and shook his head. His footsteps came to a slow stop and his gaze swept towards a luxurious inn at the side of the street named 'Mo Suo Garden'. He faced Hai Bo Dong and asked, "Shall we temporary rest here?"

"Ok." Hai Bo Dong nodded his head.

The two of them walked into this luxurious inn and swept their gaze over the interior. They were slightly surprised to realize that the hall of this inn actually had quite a number of people seated. After raising their ears and hearing the conversation of these people, Xiao Yan learned that these people were actually those who had rushed over from other places preparing to celebrate the birthday of the First Elder of the Mo clan.

Xiao Yan shook his head slightly and walked to the counter. When he said that he wanted two rooms, the female servant who was slightly beautiful sized them up and sweetly said, "Sir, may I inquire if you have the Mo clan's invitation card?"

"Invitation card?" Xiao Yan was at a loss. He frowned and shook his head, "No. Must we actually have an invitation from the Mo clan in order to come to Yan City?"

"I'm sorry sir. For these few days, all of the inns in Yan city have been booked by the Mo clan. These inns will only receive the Mo clan's guest." The female servant's smile was extremely courteous as she replied.

"Chi, it seems that the Mo clan is rather overbearing?" Xiao Yan laughed softly. He then played with an ornament on the counter as he lazily said.

Hearing this, the female servant's expression stiffened. This was the first time that she had heard someone who dared to say something bad about the Mo clan in Yan City. At the moment, she could neither smile nor not smile. Her face was extremely embarrassed.

"Pa!"

Seeing the female servant's embarrassed face, Xiao Yan felt bored. He turned around intending to leave. However, a black shadow suddenly swung over viciously and smashed on the huge counter with a 'Pa' sound.

"Where has this country bumpkin come from? How dare you reprove my Mo clan for being overbearing in Yan City?" Behind the black shadow, the female's cold laughter quickly sounded from Xiao Yan's left side.

Hearing this tone that obviously belonged to the unruly female from before, an impatientness flashed in Xiao Yan's eyes. He turned around and eyed the group of people a short distance away.

This group of approaching people was clearly quite young. The leader was wearing a tight red dress. Her bountiful figure protruded where it ought to and sunk in where it ought to, appearing quite attractive. On her lower body, a skin tight skirt that gathered at her thighs exposed her naked long snow white legs to the air. In the hall, there were numerous men's gazes who would occasionally sweep across this pair of beautiful legs. A yearning flashed across their eyes.

After sweeping his eyes over this red clothed lady holding a long whip, Xiao Yan recognized her. She was the one called the Second Young Lady of the Mo clan who had rode the bolting horse at the city entrance earlier.

Xiao Yan's gaze indifferently glanced at this arrogant lady once before he completely lost interest. He shook his head, turned his body around and headed out.



“Brat! You are asking to die!” Seeing Xiao Yan’s disregarding manner, the red clothed lady who had always been held previously in everyone’s palm like a treasure immediately lifted her eyebrows vertically. With a ‘Chi’ sound from the long whip in her hand, it transformed into a black shadow and violently flung toward Xiao Yan.

When the long whip was about to reach Xiao Yan’s body, a green colored flame suddenly and strangely surfaced. Not only did the hot temperature incinerate the long whip into nothingness, but a faint green colored flame also suddenly shot toward the red clothed lady.

When the green colored flame appeared, the temperature in the hall suddenly rose.

There were a number of people who were well informed in the hall. When they saw the green colored flame, they involuntarily cried out in dismay, “Heavenly Flame?”

The wisp of tiny green colored flame was shot straight at the red clothed lady’s head under everyone’s dismayed voice. In the event that she was struck, even if she was lucky to escape with her life, her beautiful face would become scrap.

Shock surfaced in her beautiful eyes. The red clothed lady was startled as she eyed the green colored flame that was unceasingly becoming bigger in her eyes. She wanted to dodge but with her strength, how would she be able to avoid it? At that moment, she could only foolishly stand on the spot and allow that green colored flame to shoot over as it pleased.

Just as the green colored flame was about to hit that red clothed lady, a shadow abruptly flashed in from outside. It grabbed the lady and quickly shot aside, dodging the green colored flame.

The green colored flame attack missed. Having lost its target, it coincidentally knock against a green colored rock carving behind the spot where the red clothed lady was standing. Immediately, the tough rock carving turned into drops of liquid in an instant under everyone’s eyes.

“Hiss.” Seeing that the wisp of flame was actually terrifying to this extent, everyone in the hall inhaled a cold breath of air. Immediately they turned their shocked gazes toward the blacked clothed young man by the counter who had an indifferent expression.

“This Little Brother, please stop!” From a spot in the hall, a middle-aged man hurriedly walked out. Behind him was that pale white pretty face lady in the red dress. Clearly, the one who saved her earlier was this middle-aged man.

Watching the middle-aged man who was standing a distance away and not willing to take another step forward, Xiao Yan tilted his head slightly. His long hand was slowly extended from under the black robe. A wisp of green colored flame once again naughtily shuttled onto the tip of his finger.

“Little Brother, just now, Ling Lin was too impulsive. On the account of the Mo clan, can you please not lower yourself to her level.” The middle-aged man eyed the green colored flame on the tip of Xiao Yan’s finger with numb skin on his head as he cupped his fist together and courteously asked.

“Chi, Mo clan?” The corner of Xiao Yan’s mouth pulled slightly. He glanced at this middle-aged man whose strength was at the Dou Shi class and coldly laughed, “Discipline the people in your clan properly. Don’t think that the Mo clan need not worry about anything just because of the Misty Cloud Sect’s support. You never know if one day you end up offending someone whom you should not offend. Even the Misty Cloud Sect would not be able to protect you.”

The cold laughter of the young man reverberated in the hall. Everyone was shaken by these somewhat presumptuous words. Their gazes glanced at the terrifying green colored flame on Xiao Yan’s fingertip. After which, they glanced at the indifferent faced and totally silent Hai Bo Dong behind Xiao Yan. They were all extremely wise to remain quiet. Being able to possess such a terrifying green colored flame at such a young age, definitely no one would believe that there was no extremely strong person helping behind him. If there really is a strong person of such a level behind the young man’s back, then the words that he said earlier could not be considered as presumptuous words.

“Ke ke, Little Brother is correct. After I return today, I will definitely ask the clan leader to punish Ling Lin properly.” This middle-aged man was clearly not a fool. Therefore, he did not immediately become furious because of the words. Instead, he laughed along.

After glancing at the middle-aged man, Xiao Yan’s gaze shifted towards the pretty red dressed lady. Seeming to have sensed Xiao Yan’s gaze sweeping over her, this lady who was acting arrogantly a moment ago immediately hid her pale white face behind the back of the middle-aged man, afraid that the wisp of frightening green colored flame would once again launch a surprise attack. Her timid manner did not have the slightest arrogant or despotic feeling.

Xiao Yan’s palm slowly withdrew into the black robe. He was just about to turn around when that middle-aged man hurriedly took a step forward and courteously said, “Two sirs, during these few days, all the inns have been booked by the Mo clan. Therefore, even if the two of you were to walk through the entire Yan city, you would not be able to find a resting place. Ke ke, how about this. As an apology to the two of you, I will order this place to immediately prepare two of the most luxurious rooms, May I know if you are willing to accept our Mo clan’s apology?”

Xiao Yan’s footsteps paused. He turned his head around and eyed the middle-aged man who was extremely sleek in the way he did things. After exchanging glances with Hai Bo Dong, he did not have any courteous words. He turned around, walked toward the staircase and said faintly, “Lead the way!”

“Uh.” Eyeing Xiao Yan and Hai Bo Dong’s decisive manner, the middle aged man was at a loss. Immediately, he hurriedly recovered his senses. He pacified the lady in the red dress behind him and hurriedly caught up.

Eyeing Xiao Yan that slowly disappeared at the end of the staircase, the tense atmosphere in the hall gradually eased a little. Soft private whispers began to be heard. It appeared that they were all guessing the background of this mysterious old man and mysterious young man.

Some rosiness slowly surfaced on the pale white pretty face of the red dressed lady after Xiao Yan disappeared. The back of her hand rubbed the fog in her beautiful eyes. This was the first time she had received such a treatment after all these years.

Beside the young lady, the young men who had been stunned by the events hurriedly began to say comforting words.

The red dressed lady’s character may be spoiled, but she was at least a child of a prominent family. After some time, she managed to stabilize her emotion. The spoiled attitude of the current her had clearly weakened. Although her smile was still somewhat forceful, a beauty was always a beauty. No matter what happened, those surrounding males would flatter her greatly.

“Ling Lin, that guy from before is really too abominable. You can rest assured. Tomorrow, I will definitely find some people to help you take revenge.” The young men who were mere frozen statues before had at this moment hurriedly and enthusiastically displayed their courage and determination in front of this beauty.

“Ke ke, Ling Lin mei-mei, why are you crying so pitifully? Don’t tell me that there’s someone who dares to bully you in this Yan City?” As the young men were displaying their courage in front of the lady in the red dress, a clear laughter that was like an ethereal old bell suddenly transmitted from outside the door.

A soft laughter that was as ethereal as the deep mountains was transmitted into the hall, causing everyone’s hearts to quiver. Immediately, numerous gazes hurriedly turned toward the entrance.

Not long after the faint laughter of a lady sounded, an elegant moon white colored dress slowly appeared in front of everyone’s sight.

With gazes watched the lady elegantly walking into the main door, within the hall, all the men’s breathing was stagnant. Those eyes where curiosity originally surfaced were immediately filled with amazement.

The lady was wearing a broad sleeved, tight body moon white long robe. Her extremely huggable waist was tied with a silver colored belt which exactly and perfectly revealed her narrow waist.

The lady's hands were extremely soft. Her skin was creamy and her small eyebrows revealed a faint otherworldly elegance as she smiled artfully. The smile was seemingly gentle but it had an indifference seeping out that held everyone far away.

A pair of green colored jade earrings hung on the lady's delicate earlobes. The soft 'clink' sound as the jade earrings swayed was like moving music created by the performance of the mountain springs and reefs.

The white dressed lady who had suddenly appeared had a temperament and a beauty that was far from what the red dressed lady could compare with. When the two of them stood together, it caused people to feel somewhat humbled.

In the hall, numerous heated gazes moved on the lady's perfect and exquisite pretty body. However, when their gazes abruptly shifted to the cloud shaped silver colored long sword drawn on the lady's spacious sleeves, the heat in their eyes was suddenly drenched by a pot of cold water. As their gazes scattered away, they faintly held a reverence.

The red dressed lady's pretty face was dumbfounded as she eyed the smiling noble-like woman who walked into the main door. After being shocked for a moment, she hurriedly leaped over and let loose happy laughter filled with love, "Sister Nalan, why have you come?"

### **Chapter 250: Rest**

Eyeing the lady who was leaping over with a face filled with joy, the moon robed lady laughed softly. Her smile was reserved, holding a hidden nobility. It did not cause people to feel that it was cold but rather, it possessed an aloofness that gave people a superficial feeling. Regardless of everything, the three years had caused the immature young lady to become much more mature.

Everyone in the hall swept their eyes over the smile that had surfaced on the moon robed lady's beautiful face. All of them could not help but be dazzled.

After the moon robed woman entered, an old man in the same clothes also walked in, smiling. He stood behind the young lady. As his old eyes opened and closed, there would occasionally be a brilliant light flashing past. The shrivelled hand that was stretched outside his sleeves wiggled without any rhythm, much like sharp eagle claws.

Once Ling Lin had greeted the moon robed lady, she smiled and said sweetly to the old man behind, "Old Mister Ge Ye."

"Ke ke, after not seeing you for a few years, Ling Lin is really becoming more and more beautiful." The old man who was addressed as Ge Ye laughed and nodded.

A crimson color surfaced on her pretty face as the red dressed lady, called Ling Lin, affectionately pulled the moon robed lady's warm jade like white delicate hand. She was pleasantly surprised as she said, "Sister Nalan, I didn't expect that you would personally come down from the Misty Cloud Mountain. If father and the others knew about it, they would definitely be very happy."

"I am only carrying out teacher's instruction. Moreover, it just so happens that I need to return home during this period. Therefore, I stopped by along the way." The moon robed lady said in a gentle voice. Her bright eyes rotated and swept through the hall before jokingly said, "Seeing Sister Ling Lin's aggrieved manner a moment ago, did someone bully you?"

Being reminded of this question by the moon robed lady, an awkward smile surfaced on Ling Lin's pretty face. Although she was spoiled, she was not a fool. From the actions of the elder who had saved her just now, she knew in her heart that this young man who appeared slightly younger than her was definitely not someone she should easily provoke. Therefore, she did not say everything in detail in order to avoid creating any unnecessary trouble.

"It's nothing. I have merely met an interesting person." Ling Lin waved her hand. The corner of her eyes could not help but glance at the rock carving that had turned into liquid by the side. Her pretty face involuntarily became a little paler. That young man whose appearance seemed delicate and handsome did not show the slightest tenderness toward women when he attacked.

After three years of training, the moon robed lady was clearly no longer the immature girl who had dared to run to other people's home to cancel the marriage agreement just because she was unwilling. Therefore, the change on Ling Lin's face did not escape her notice. Her gaze followed the side and drew over, finally stopping at the rock liquid that was still emitting some heat. She was briefly at a loss. Immediately, a seriousness surfaced on her ever-changing pretty face.

Tilting her head over, she exchanged glances with Ge Ye by the side. The both of them saw shock in each others eyes.

"This is a strong person who is well versed in fire type Dou Qi." As they exchanged glances, this thought swiftly flashed across both their hearts. After which, the shock on their faces was quickly withdrawn.

The paleness on Ling Lin's face only lasted for a moment before it disappeared. She turned around and eyed the group of young people who had originally clustered around her, wanting to get into her good books. At the moment, however, they were eyeing the moon robed lady behind her with faces filled with yearning. The face of one of them, who had a weaker mental strength, was flushed red and his eyes were filled with passion.

Eyeing these people's humiliating expression, Ling Lin frowned slightly. She quietly muttered in her heart, "A group of people who overestimates their own abilities. The little strength that your clans have is merely some crushed stones under one's feet when compared to her."

Shaking her head, Ling Lin no longer bothered about these young dandies. She smiled and said to the moon robed lady, "Sister Nalan, night is approaching soon. Why don't you rest here for the night. This place has a specialized room to entertain someone of Sister Nalan's status."

"Okay. I will trouble Sister Ling Lin." The moon robed lady smiled and nodded. Her gaze once again swept over the pile of liquid rock. With a deeper meaning behind her words, she smiled slightly and said, "Before I descended from the mountain, teacher had told me that this Dou Qi continent is incomparably large with uncountable number of unique people and mysterious events. I did not expect that I have broadened my horizon after only having left a short time ago."

Hearing this, Ling Lin smiled awkwardly, but did not say anything. Instead, she focused on showing the way in front, leading the moon robed lady and the old man up the stairs.

Eyeing the few people that had disappeared at the edge of the staircase, numerous whispers appeared in the hall, sounding like houseflies.

"Tsk tsk, how unexpected. Even the personal disciple of the Leader of the Misty Cloud Sect personally came here to celebrate Mo Cheng's birthday. This Mo clan's prestige has definitely grown."

"That's right. She had such peerless elegance despite being so young. Moreover even with our strength, we are actually unable to see through her foundation. She really deserves to be called the personal disciple of the Leader of the Misty Cloud Sect."

"Hee hee, what a beautiful girl. Whoever marries her will have picked up a big bargain. The future Leader of the Misty Cloud Sect, the princess of the Nalan clan. Who in this Jia Ma Empire can compare after adding these two strengths together?"

"Uh, by chance, I seemed to have heard some rumors the last time that the Third Young Master of the Xiao clan in Wu Tan City seemed to be her fiancee."

"Che, when did you obtain this news? Three years ago, Lady Nalan aggressively charged into the Xiao clan and forcefully got the head of the Xiao clan to terminate the engagement."

"Ah? Wouldn't the Xiao clan lose all of its face?"

"So what if they lose all their face? Can that Xiao clan contend with the Nalan clan or the Misty Cloud Sect? Even after taking such a great humiliation, they could only

swallow it into their stomach. Moreover, the Third Young Master of the Xiao clan back then was a renowned cripple. How could he be comparable with Lady Nalan with her outstanding talent?”

“Qie. You don’t know anything yet you dare to spread your lack of information around.” A man seated in the corner curled up his lips in disdain at the two people who were speaking loudly. When he saw their angry eyes glaring at him, he lazily said, “Lady Nalan did indeed go to the Xiao clan to end the engagement. However, she did not get the contract to end the engagement. Instead, she received... a divorce letter. That’s right... that Young Master of the Xiao clan directly divorced this person whose identity could directly be compared to the empire’s princess...”

“Divorce?” When this word was said, everyone in the hall became dull. They opened their mouths while feeling stunned. Who could believe that a young master, who was a useless being back then, would actually dare to take the initiative to divorce this fiancée whose position was extremely noble?

“Dammit. This guy’s too awesome...” Although most of the people in the hall did not really believe that these words were true, there were a few people who muttered with a shocked face.

In order to be able to divorce a fiancée who not only had such a noble status but also such an outstanding appearance, one really needed some courage. At the very least, many people here realized that they did not have this boldness after reviewing themselves.

...

Standing at the entrance, Xiao Yan’s gaze saw off the middle-aged man from the Mo clan before slowly closed the room’s door. He turned around and a tiredness was finally revealed on the indifferent face he had maintained. He rubbed the slightly blackened rim of his eyes and helplessly spread his hand out at Hai Bo Dong.

“I dare to say that after the guy returns home, the first thing he will do is to investigate our background.” Hai Bo Dong lifted the tea cup on the table, took a sip and told Xiao Yan.

“Yes.” Xiao Yan nodded his head slightly. He said, “But let him do what he wants. His Mo clan doesn’t have that great of an ability to discover our background. Now, we should adjust our condition properly. Rushing through the desert these last few days has really caused me to almost reach my limit... Hmm, after we adjust our condition, we will enter the Mo clan’s home tomorrow to search for Qing Lin.” Xiao Yan stretched his lazy waist and walked into his room while he spoke.

Eyeing Xiao Yan’s back, Hai Bo Dong nodded his head and also walked toward another room. These few days of hurried travel had also caused his spirit to feel somewhat tired.

After walking into the room, Xiao Yan opened his somewhat heavy eyelids. He forcefully resisted the impulse to just fall asleep. As he stroked his storage ring gently with his finger, a green glow slowly rose and finally turned into the Green Lotus Seat that floated in midair.

The tip of his feet pressed on the ground gently before Xiao Yan steadily sat on the Green Lotus Seat. Threads of warm energy were emitted from the points where his skin made contact, slowly expelling the tiredness hidden within Xiao Yan's body.

Xiao Yan inhaled a long, fresh and cool breath. He extended his hand and a thread of green colored flame began to move in an unpracticed manner on the tip of his finger. A long while later, he shook his head slightly and helplessly said in a soft voice, "With the terrifying strength in it, it is not as easy to control as I had thought."

After training his control over the green flame in his palm for awhile, Xiao Yan slowly closed his eyes and entered the training mode.

As Xiao Yan entered the training mode, the surrounding energy began to fluctuate. Following which, threads of energy visible to the naked eye agglomerated into strips of mottled energy. This kind of absorbing speed far surpassed what it was in the past. Clearly, after the evolution of the Qi Method, the benefits that it wrought were already beginning to gradually be displayed.

The slightly mottled energy swiftly passed through the Green Lotus light cover blockade. After going through an initial purification, it poured into Xiao Yan's body.

The interior of Xiao Yan's body was shrouded by bits of green colored glowing energy that swiftly flowed along his Qi Paths. The Qi Path walls were squirming like cells. As the Qi Paths squirmed, the mottled energy was also swiftly becoming purer. A large amount of impure energy was absorbed by the Qi Path walls, swallowed and quietly expelled from within his body with the help of the pores on his skin.

When the energy flowed through the cumbersome Qi Paths and completed a complete cycle, the mottled energy had already achieved a high purity. At this moment, it passed through the calcining of the 'Green Lotus Core Flame'. Immediately, waves of large energy shrank at a rate that was visible to the naked eye. A long while later, the energy completely disappeared. Replacing it was a droplet of green colored energy liquid that held an unusual flickering glow. This droplet was slowly dropped into the vortex.

When Xiao Yan entered the training state that caused him to forget himself, Ling Lin was leading that elegant and beautiful moon robed lady and walking the corridor outside the room. Coincidentally, she stopped just opposite this room of Xiao Yan and Hai Bo Dong, opened the door and slowly walked in.