# Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 31 One Star Dou Zhe -

#### Chapter 31: One Star Dou Zhe

Chapter 31:One Star Dou Zhe

Looking at the green-clothed girl firmly walking forward, the training field became silent as blazing gazes focused upon her figure. From the high platform, all high class clan members stopped their chatter as they also focused on the pearl of Xiao clan.

Xiao Zhan, together with the 3 elders, all had a serious face, with a hint of curiosity. They really want to know what stage the number one person of the younger generation in Xiao Clan has achieved after one year of training.

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Here, all eyes zoomed intensively downwards at the girl who is walking towards the stone monument at a pace that was neither slow nor fast. She raised her small hand, revealing her snow-white skin as the sleeve is pulled back.

As her precious hand softly touched the stone monument, Xun Er gradually closes her eyes as her inner Dou Qi quickly strengthened.

Accepting the incoming Dou Qi, the ever silent monument shined out bright rays of light.

One Star Dou Zhe!

Looking at these four giant words shinning on the stone monument in the center of the training ground, for a moment everybody was silenced, then as if awakening, they all burst into cheers.

"Miss Xun Er, One Star Dou Zhe!"

Being surprised by the four shining yellow letters, the operator couldn't help but shake his head.

"Haha... 15 years old Dou Zhe... she truly is..."

Listening to the announcement of the examiner, Xiao Zhan took a light breath but his last words became mumbled.

The 3 elders lightly nodded as their faces showed their surprise. Although there was still a slight difference with Xiao Yan's achievement of becoming a Dou Zhe when he was 12 years old, this training speed of hers can be considered monstrous.

In the middle of the training ground, Xiao Mei who had just been admired by everyone, was also dizzied by the four shining words on the stone pillar. Staring at the monument, she felt a sense of helplessness. Only 15 years old to become a One Star Dou Zhe, that achievement blinded her who didn't expected that prowess from Xun Er.

At the end of the crowd, Xiao Yan nervously pursed his lips. He didn't expect Xun Er to enter the Dou Zhe zone and also reach one star, a whole tier above someone who just compressed his or her Qi cyclone. This speed of training can even be compared to him who's using Foundation Elixir to boost his training speed.

Xun Er ignored the other people and furrowed her brow disapprovingly as if she didn't like the attention. Then she walked back into the crowd and noticing Xiao Yan's surprise, she smiled playfully.

"Don't be so proud! With your talent, this achievement is within my expectation. If you didn't reach Dou Zhe level then I would be quite surprised." Xiao Yan shrugged and joked.

Hearing that, Xun Er's little face became sorrowful for a moment glancing at him.

Pulling Xun Er to sit down on the mat, Xiao Yan looked bored as he observed other clan members continuing the examinations.

Honestly speaking, to train one's Dou Qi to 7 Duan Qi before the age of 15 required decent talent to succeed. However, those with decent talent aren't as plentiful as one may think and even within the entire Xiao Clan, only 2 to 3 tenths people make it.

As time passed, more and more people were deemed unqualified, dulling the atmosphere of the training field. Those that didn't pass showed a long face when they were rejected but when they saw others also not pass, a slight smile would creep onto their faces.

Sitting on the ground, Xiao Yan continued to observe the examination; over a hundred of examinee but only two people were like Xiao Mei and got 8 Duan Qi and nobody achieved 9 Duan Qi let alone becoming a Dou Zhe, of course it's with Xun Er excluded.

On the field, the number of examinees slowly dwindled and finally there were only Xiao Yan and several people left.

Soon, a bleak young examinee stood up and went up even though he knew that he had no chance of qualifying.

For the last dozen or so examinees, everybody knew that these people were at the bottom of the clan and if not for fair examinations, it was probably that these people would have been disqualified without ever testing.

#### "Xiao Yan!"

Standing next to the stone pillar below, the operator announced the name with difficulty.

"Xiao Yan-ge ge, it's your turn…" Xun Er said gently, her soft small hands lightly holding Xiao Yan's hand.

Slightly raising his head, Xiao Yan opened his eyes and scanned the training field. He couldn't help but snicker when he saw the gazes filled with expectations of his failure!

Slowly standing up, Xiao Yan turned his head toward the high platform and grinned at Xiao Zhan.

Looking at his son coming forward while smiling toward him, Xiao Zhan cheerfully nodded his head while one hand brought a teacup forward and smoothly laid back on his chair.

Silently inhaling, Xiao Yan confidently walked toward the stone pillar; his eyes shined a strange light that made the laughing clan members widen their eyes.

Under complex gazes, Xiao Yan finally got to the black monument.

Looking at the black-clothed youth in front of him, the examiner sighed internally. That year, when Xiao Yan created a miracle, he was the first one to witness it but he was also the witness of the sad steps of the genius 3 years after that bright shine. If today's miracle doesn't happen, this would also be the last time this youth gets examined.

On the training ground, the intense gazes focused on Xiao Yan whose chest slowly rose as he brought his hand forward and rested it upon the cold, hard, stone pillar.

At this moment, everybody focused their gaze upon the monument. They all knew that this was the last time they would ever see the genius who once shocked all of Wu Tan City in a Dou Qi examination.

The stone monument went silent for a moment before bright light blazed out!

Upon the stone monument were bright yellow words, making all the hearts in the field stop for a moment.

"Dou Zi Li...7 Duan!"

## Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 32 Challenge -

Chapter 32: Challenge

Chapter 32:Challenge

#### Silence, a death-like silence!

Everyone in the field looked at the monument's 5 words in shock. Their facial expressions were colorful and soon, countless deep breaths resonated throughout the field!

#### "Kacha!"

On the high platform, Xiao Zhan's jade cup was crushed to dust as a mix of dust and tea trickled down his hand.

"7 Duan... Yan Er, you.... you really did it!" Xiao Zhan's eyes moistened as he watched the young man under the black monument. He knew that in order to get to 7 Duan Qi, Xiao Yan must have made an incredible effort.

The three elders next to Xiao Zhan had faces full of incredulity. To have gone from 3 Duan Qi just a year ago to 7 Duan? This speed...impossible!

"Hehe...Clan leader's Foundation Elixir.... is, is pretty good, hehe." The second elder swallowed dryly and combined his shock with his not yet gone taunt from before to make a ridiculous expression.

Xiao Zhan didn't hide his excitement when he said: "Second elder, do you really believe that a second tier Foundation Elixir has such a strong effect?"

The second elder paused before shaking his head. He was no idiot and knew that even though the Foundation Elixir could raise one's training speed, it was physically impossible to raise 4 Duan Qi within a year!

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Next to the black monument, the operator blankly stared at the words on the monument as his impassive face was now full of shock.

"Xiao Yan: Dou Zi Qi, 7 Duan, High level!"

Taking a deep breath to calm his shock, the operator tried hard to keep his voice calm but a couple of tremors could still be heard.

Hearing the operator's announcement, the originally silent field had gone deathly quiet. No one even rustled their clothing or fidgeted.

In the crowd, Xiao Mei covered her red mouth as her face was frozen in a moment of incredible shock.

To raise 4 Duan Qi in a year was like a myth, only heard of in legends! This was a speed that even the Xiao Yan three years ago, at his peak, could not have done!

But, this mythical speed, coming from a "cripple" was displayed in front of their eyes!

With complex emotions, Xiao Mei stared at the young man next to the black monument while a thought popped up in her head: His incredible talent seems to have come back!

At the edge of the training field, Xiao Ning who was ready to insult Xiao Yan was also blankly staring at the monument while whispering: "This... How is this possible?"

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Looking up to the golden words on the monument, Xiao Yan let out a light breath. Taking in the complex gazes around made him recall the glory that he had gone through three years ago.

Now that his training talent had come back, he had also gained a mature mind and stubborn persistence.

Taking a deep look at the monument that had determined his fate, not once, not twice by thrice, Xiao Yan made a slight smile. His calm and passive demeanor was a sharp contrast from his gleeful attitude three years ago.

Taking a small breath, Xiao Yan walked down under the penetrating gaze of everyone and sat down next to Xun Er.

Even though Xiao Yan had left the monument, the entire field was still silent.

"Ahem..." On the high platform Xiao Zhan happily stood up and coughed to gather the attention of everyone in the field.

"The examination has finished. Next up, those that did not make have the chance to challenge someone who has already passed. Remember, there's only one chance!" Xiao Zhan said with a smile.

Hearing that, the training field became disorderly. Those that only missed the cut off by a bit sent their hot gazes towards those that made it.

Watching the challenging gazes, the clansmen that made the cut would raise their heads in disdain. There was a huge gap between 6 Duan Qi and 7 Duan Qi and without any special occurrences, someone who's 6 Duan Qi couldn't even touch someone who's 7 Duan Qi.

The 6 Duan Qi people knew this very well but this was their last chance to stay in the inner circles of the clan. They would have to try and hope for a miracle.

With Xiao Zhan's words, the atmosphere in the training field took a weird turn. Intense gazes swept across those that made the cut and silently chose the weakest opponent.

Sitting on the ground, Xiao Yan suddenly opened his eyes in surprise. A majority of the gazes were directed at him.

"Do I look like someone who can be beat so easily?" After a brief period of shock, Xiao Yan laughed on the inside.

"Xiao Yan ge-ge jumped 4 Duan Qi in one year. Even though it's shocking, it's so shocking that many people don't believe it. Therefore, they would think that Xiao Yan is the easiest opponent." Beside him, Xun Er explained.

Carelessly shrugging his shoulders, Xiao Yan patted the dust off of his robe while saying: "They can choose to not believe it, but they will know..."

Xun Er gave a smile and nodded.

Finally, after a brief period of calm, someone couldn't stand it and stood up.

A well built young man, under everyone's gaze, quickly walked in front of Xiao Yan and loudly said: "Xiao Yan biao-di, please!"

Even though the young man was respectful, Xiao Yan, who was across from him, could see hints of disbelief flash through his eyes. In addition, his face showed an arrogant disdain. Looks like he hasn't recovered from Xiao Yan former name of being a "cripple".

# Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 33 Proof -

#### Chapter 33: Proof

Chapter 33:Proof

Watching the quick challenger, the other unqualified clansmen let out a sigh of regret. It seemed like they were all envious of the well built young man in front of Xiao Yan!

Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes as he examined the young man. Even though he didn't know all of the clansmen in the clan, he had quite an impression of the young man in front of him.

If his memory served him, the young man was called Xiao Ke and was a supporter of the first elder. Normally, he'd follow behind Xiao Ning like a small henchman and when Xiao Yan fell from "genius", Xiao Ke never showed him any kindness and instead trampled over Xiao Yan's dignity.

Recalling old memories, Xiao Yan's mouth curved to a dangerous angle.

Turning to look at the smiling Xun Er, Xiao Yan smiled while nodding, saying: "Alright, I accept."

Seeing how easily Xiao Yan answered, Xiao Ke's eyebrows twitched and a sense of fear snuck into his heart. Drily swallowing, Xiao Ke started to regret his recklessness.

Even though he was somewhat regretful, Xiao Ke couldn't back down and had to continue through.

No way, to raise 4 Duan Qi in one year is impossible. This guy must have used some method to fool everyone! I can definitely beat him! After wordlessly encouraging himself, Xiao Ke smiled: "Then I'll see how strong Xiao Yan biao-di is!"

Xiao Yan smiled and didn't say anything. Standing up, he walked to the center of the training field and motioned for Xiao Ke to follow him.

Watching the calm Xiao Yan, Xiao Ke's heart skipped a beat and he no longer felt so sure. Forcefully smiling, he walked with stiff strides into the field.

With the two people in the field, even the calculating gazes from the people who did not pass quickly moved onto the two in the field.

On the high platform, Xiao Zhan took a handkerchief that was brought up to him and cleaned his hand of residue tea while intently staring at the training field with a sense of tension in his eyes.

To be honest, no only did the younger generation have doubt about Xiao Yan's achievements, Xiao Zhan himself couldn't completely believe it either. This wasn't because of his lack of trust in Xiao Yan but rather because of how impossible of a feat it was to raise 4 Duan Qi in just 1 year. It was inhuman. Even the Xiao Yan four years ago couldn't hope to achieve it.

Because of how incredible the achievement was, nobody could believe what they were saying.

But no matter if it was fake or real, no matter if the others believed it or not, once Xiao Yan fought, his real strength would be exposed. At that time, everyone would have their thoughts confirmed or disproved!

Besides Xiao Zhan, the three elders' breathing intensified as their hands gripped deep hand marks on their respective chairs and their muddled eyes stared at the training field.

In the green rocked training field, everyone's vision was glued to the two within the training field. Once Xiao Yan fought with Xiao Ke, everything would be clear!

"It's definitely fake!" At the edge of the training field, Xiao Ning licked his dry lips and angrily whispered.

"It should be...fake right?" Within the crowd, Xiao Mei bit her lip. She couldn't believe that the young man that had been crippled three years would have such an monstrous achievement.

Under stare after stare, Xiao Yan and Xiao Ke in the training field had already finished their perfunctory ritual gestures and were about to fight!

Both of Xiao Ke's hands were tilted upwards as light Dou Qi started swirling around around his hands. Taking a deep breath, Xiao Ke stomped heavily on the ground and started to ram towards Xiao Yan.

Low level fights didn't have any complex gestures and were composed of the simplest attacks.

"Splitting Mountain Hand!"

Quickly nearing Xiao Yan, Xiao Ke's right hand quickly gathered Dou Qi as it swept over to Xiao Yan's chest.

Splitting Mountain Hand, a middle Huang Dou Technique that was only available to clan members 5 Duan Qi and higher.

With the gust incoming, the lagging hair on Xiao Yan's face blew away as a pair of dark eyes were revealed. Blinking, Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes watching the ever nearer hand.

When the hand finally reached Xiao Yan's shoulder, Xiao Yan smoothly took a step to the left. With a year's worth of body training, Xiao Yan's reactions were incredibly quick.

With only 1 step, Xiao Yan avoided Xiao Ke's attack. At the same time, Xiao Yan lightly twisted his body as his hand reached through Xiao Ke's arm and went to Xiao K'e shoulder as if he was picking a leaf from a tree.

"Shatter Rock Hand!"

Shatter Rock Hand, a low Huang Level Dou Technique that only required 3 Duan Qi to learn!

"Peng!" A dull sound occurred as Xiao Yan's hand landed firmly on Xiao Ke's shoulder, causing Xiao Ke's flush red face to pale. With a low grunt, he slowly scatter stepped backwards before finally losing strength in his legs and fell to the ground like a turtle.

The whole field was silent. Xiao Ke's defeat proved many things.

Defeating his opponent in one attack, Xiao Yan shaked his head bored. This kind of opponent wasn't even a challenge for Xiao Yan. Not mentioning Octane Blast, Xiao Yan hadn't even used half of his strength yet.

Of course, contrary to Xiao Yan's bored feeling, everyone within the field was shocked. Many of them slowly closed their eyes because Xiao Yan had to be at least 7 Duan Qi to have easily beat Xiao Ke who was a 6 Duan Qi.

Thinking about that, Xiao Yan's previous monstrous performance was proved... to be true!

To raise 4 Duan Qi in just 1 year, his result was a miracle within a miracle.

On the high platform. Xiao Zhan let out a deep breath as a weight was lifted from his heart.

"....It's true, 7 Duan Qi..."

Watching the defeated Xiao Ke, Xiao Mei's small hand covered her red lips as she couldn't help but gasp.

# **Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 34 Turning Around**

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#### Chapter 34: Turning Around

Chapter 34: Turning Around

Watching the black clothed young man with his hands behind his back, the whole field was quiet again.

On the high platform, Xiao Zhan's smile slowly widened before finally, he couldn't help but laugh out loud.

Hearing the gleeful laughter from Xiao Zhan, the three elders looked at each other and sighed. However, they didn't try to do anything else against Xiao Yan. The potential displayed by Xiao Yan gave them a sense of defeat. 4 Duan Qi in 1 year was something that would make anyone shocked, their sons and grandsons, wouldn't hope to ever have that pace.

With a light heart, Xiao Zhan clapped while announcing: "Xiao Ke zhi-er has lost. Hopefully you will continue to train hard!"

#### TL: Zhi-er is Nephew in Chinese

In the training field, the pale faced Xiao Ke heard the announcement and drooped his head in disappointment. Taking a look at the black clothed young man not far from him, he recalled about how he had insulted the very person, calling him a "cripple" just a year ago. Now one year later, the "cripple" was quite close to the top of the clan and far above him. This extreme difference made Xiao Ke recall the words he had heard in the hall just a few months before: "Thirty years east, thirty years west, don't you dare bully me because I'm poor now!"

Shaking his head with a bitter smile, Xiao Ke got up with some difficulty. Slightly bowing to Xiao Yan, Xiao Ke's voice had lost all of its arrogance from before: "Xiao Yan Biao-di, you won. Congratulations on your recovery!"

Nodding, Xiao Yan's gaze slowly swept across the training field and those that met his dark pupils all turned away their gaze with nervousness and unease.

His gaze pausing on Xiao Mei who was staring at him, Xiao Yan twisted his face to face the clansmen that didn't pass and asked with a smile: "Is there anyone else who would like to challenge me?"

Watching Xiao Yan, the clansmen that were eager to challenge Xiao Yan before Xiao Ke went up all closed their mouths and looked up at the sky as if Xiao Yan's words had nothing to do with them. None of them would go up and be the second challenger.

Watching the childish acts of pretending to be a fool, Xiao Yan lightly shrugged and walked back.

Seeing Xiao Yan sit beside her, Xun Er smiled while examining the field. Picking up a strand of her hair and twirling it, she whispered: "Xiao Yan ge-ge, three years ago, they looked at you like this..."

"Three years ago, I would have been excited by their respectful and fearful gazes but today... I don't feel anything." Xiao Yan touched his nose and laughed.

"Then Xiao Yan ge-ge has matured!" Xun Er playfully blinked her eyes.

"Not more mature than you. Sometimes I feel as if there's a thousand year monster hiding within you!" Being called mature by a girl, Xiao Yan couldn't help but laugh. Intimately rubbing Xun Er's head, he let out a smile.

Hearing that, Xun Er gave Xiao Yan an evil eye and her delicate face showed an expression of rebuke. No matter how carefree a girl was, no one ever liked being called an old monster.

Xun Er's expression of rebuke was so pretty that it attracted the stares of the young men around her and even the stares of some of the girls!

"That brat, too pompous..." Xiao Ning, like the others, was also attracted to Xun Er's expression of rebuke but looking at the intimate chatter between Xun Er and Xiao Yan, an envious flame burned within him. His jealousy covered up his reasoning as he thought that only he could match Xun Er within the entire clan but thinking back, he realized that no matter what he did, Xun Er rarely smiled. On the other hand, Xiao Yan, who was a "cripple", could always make Xun Er laugh. The difference between them made Xiao Ning crush his teeth in anger.

"Brat, I'll let you be arrogant for now but when the Coming of Age Ceremony comes, I will make you look for your fallen teeth in front of Xun Er!" Clenching his hands into fits, Xiao Ning gave a cold stare to the cross-legged Xiao Yan.

Even though Xiao Ning was also shocked by Xiao Yan's training speed in the past year, he couldn't change his haughty manner that he was used to. In addition, Xiao Ning, being the only male within the entire clan that could barely be compared to Xun Er, felt a sense of danger from Xiao Yan's sudden performance.

Before he grows strong, I'll give him a merciless beating. The best case scenario is that the beating would leave a scar and break him from his training!

While thinking his evil thoughts, the corners of Xiao Ning's mouth curved into a smile. Even though Xiao Yan was at 7 Duan Qi, Xiao Ning was still confident in his 8 Duan Qi. After all, each Duan of Qi after 7 Duan Qi had a huge difference between them!

Chatting in a low voice with Xun Er, Xiao Yan's aimlessly sight gazed around the sides of the training field and caught the smile on Xiao Ning's face. Thinking for a moment, Xiao Yan realized what the smile was about and smiled himself, thinking: Someone who can't even cover up his or her emotions can't pose to be a risk at all.

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After Xiao Ke lost to Xiao Yan, no one else dared to challenge Xiao Yan who was sitting down and those clansmen that didn't qualify set their sights on others. But after a couple rounds of challenges, only two people, relying on luck and familiar Dou Techniques, were able to beat their opponent and qualify for the Coming of Age Ceremony.

Watching the slowly calming training field, the smiling Xiao Zhan stood up and announced the results along with a couple of notices about next month's Coming of Age Ceremony.

Slowly standing up, Xiao Yan smiled towards the happy Xiao Zhan on the stage while Xiao Zhan wasn't stingy about giving his qualified son, a thumbs up.

Right after dusting off his clothes, Xiao Yan detected a perfumed scent.

Curling his brows slightly, Xiao Yan lifted his head to see Xiao Mei standing in front of him and asked: "Do you need anything?"

Seeing the impassiveness and coldness on Xiao Yan's face, Xiao Mei's courage faltered as she forced out a smiled and said: "Xiao Yan biao-di, congratulations."

"Thanks." Slightly nodding, Xiao Yan glanced at Xun Er besides him.

"Xiao Yan biao-di, my father will be personally teaching a High Huang level Dou Technique at the Dou Technique Hall tomorrow. Do you want to come with me?" Xiao Mei smiled and her combination of a female's charm and a youth's delicacy created an irresistible question.

Hearing that, Xiao Yan's brows slightly jumped.

Right when Xiao Yan was about to find an excuse to reject Xiao Mei, a pale white arm slipped through and locked with his arm.

Shocked, Xiao Yan turned around to find a smiling Xun Er.

"Really sorry Xiao Mei biao-jie, Xun Er has already invited Xiao Yan ge-ge to accompany me tomorrow to visit Wu Tan City and so he can't be going with Xiao Mei biao-jie to the Dou Technique Hall." Under stunned stares, Xun Er held on to Xiao Yan's arm while a hint of apology lingered on her delicate face.

# Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 35 Guilt -

#### Chapter 35: Guilt

Chapter 35:Guilt

Hearing Xun Er's words, Xiao Mei paused and weighed her thoughts carefully. If it was any other girl within the clan, Xiao Mei was confident that she could come out on top based on her beauty and talent, but towards Xun Er, Xiao Mei could only admit defeat.

Seeing that Xiao Yan's face was impassive, Xiao Mei gave a self deprecating smile and could only leave in defeat.

The crowd within the training field stared at Xiao Yan who was being leaned on by Xun Er and they all felt twinges of jealousy. When had Xun Er, being the brightest pearl of the entire clan, been so close with another male?

Watching Xiao Mei awkwardly walking away, Xiao Yan was stunned and turning his head to see the smiling Xun Er, he taunted: "Girl, what are you doing?"

Xun Er still hung onto Xiao Yan's arm as she glanced over at the staring crowd and innocently said: "Wasn't Xiao Yan ge-ge about to reject her anyways?"

Hearing that, Xiao Yan rolled his eyes – the excuse he had in mind was completely different from what Xun Er implied with her excuse. Remembering the awkward expression on Xiao Mei's face, Xiao Yan helplessly shook his head while thinking: Did Xun Er do that on purpose?

"It's just that Xun Er doesn't like how fast she changed. Haha, going to Dou Technique Hall to learn a Dou Technique together... she never invited you in the past three years." Xun Er dragged Xiao Yan out of the training field slowly as she ignored the gazes around her. At the same time, she muttered words that only Xiao Yan could hear, looks like she really didn't like how quickly Xiao Mei changed.

Lightly shrugging, Xiao Yan agreed with Xun Er with a bitter smile. Three years ago, Xiao Mei was quite close to him but when Xiao Yan received the title of "cripple", he was able to see how "realistic" Xiao Mei was.

Watching Xiao Yan and Xun Er leave the field, Xiao Ning's face twitched while his hands clenched so hard that bone cracking sounds could be heard. His jealousy even made his eyes slightly red.

"Brat, one month from now, I'll break all of your teeth!" Xiao Ning spat the words out as he angrily left the training field.

On the high platform, Xiao Zhan was about to leave when he saw the scene and intently stared at Xun Er and Xiao Yan while a hint of worry flashed across his eyes. Yan Er, he... does he like Xun Er? Xun Er's background... not even Nalan Yanran can compare to her. Even with genius level talent, it would be extremely difficult to be approved of by the power behind her.

After thinking for a while, Xiao Zhan let out a sigh as he slowly left.

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While walking, Xiao Yan would suddenly blank out as he recalled what had just happened.

Turning a corner, Xun Er suddenly let go of Xiao Yan's arm with a red face. Pushing out her cheeks, she stared at Xiao Yan accusingly.

Losing the momentum that was dragging him forward, Xiao Yan felt at a loss as to what to do and even sighed for no reason. His eyes moved to Xun Er as he thought about what Xun Er implied.

Feeling the blank stare of Xiao Yan, Xun Er small face flushed red as her hands instinctively raised up and she said: "Xiao Yan ge-ge, you..."

"Ahem...ahem..." Waking up from his stupor, Xiao Yan violently coughed while his face became an unhealthy red and he thought: When did I go so low, to think that towards my own sister?

Even though Xun Er and Xiao Yan didn't have an actual blood relationship, they both lived with each other for over a decade and their relationship wasn't much worse than that of a blood brother or sister. It wasn't surprising that Xiao Yan had already thought of Xun Er as his little sister and felt guilt and repulsion towards himself when he realized what he was thinking about...

With that sudden realization, the atmosphere became quite awkward.

Xun Er lowered her head and her usual elegance had been replaced with a girl's embarrassment. Occasionally, she tilted her gaze to peek at the side of Xiao Yan's face who was looking straight forward.

Under the awkward atmosphere, the not very long path felt like a great conquest that took forever to get to the end.

Of course, despite how long the conquest felt like, it had an end, where the path split in two directions. At here, Xiao Yan softly said bye and started fleeing.

"Xiao Yan ge-ge."

Watching the panicked Xiao Yan, Xun Er was stunned by the sight before she called out.

"Huh?" Stopping, Xiao Yan looked back to see Xun Er standing beneath a willow and his heart started beating quickly again.

Xun Er had a green robe with a purple belt that fluttered in the wind. She and the willow behind her made a picture that didn't seem earthly.

'Tomorrow... will you accompany Xun Er?"

Under the branches of the willow, the girl's delicate face had a red flush as her jade teeth bit her pink lips. A pair of beautiful eyes were watching Xiao Yan with a hint of anticipation...

# **Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 36 The Comical Breakthrough -**

#### Chapter 36: The Comical Breakthrough

Chapter 36: The Comical Breakthrough

It was hard to believe that the elegant Xun Er would speak such girly words; her charm made Xiao Yan's mind wander again...

Silently criticizing himself again, Xiao Yan replied in a muffled tone. Afterwards, he fled while being under the smiling gaze of Xun Er.

Watching the leaving Xiao Yan, Xun Er covered her mouth while laughing. Then, she furrowed her brows and went to a pond not too far away.

The reflection in the pond showed a pretty face with bright eyes and white teeth. With each of her gestures, there was an inexplicable charm that drew one in.

"So pretty...." Doing a twirl, a satisfied smile appeared on Xun Er's lips.

Not far away, a couple of young men that had just returned to the clan after adventures outside stopped with their mouths wide open. Their eyes showed their surprise while they foolishly watched the girl under the willow.

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Shrinking back to his room, Xiao Yan let out a big breath as he closed the door. Wiping off the cold sweat on his forehead, he bitterly smiled: This girl, when she grows up, she is probably going to be even prettier than Ya Fei at the auction...

Sitting down at his table, Xiao Yan gulped out a mouthful of tea while his mind was still full of Xun Er. Remembering how pretty Xun Er's eyes were, Xiao Yan suddenly felt a burning in his heart.

Shaking his head, Xiao Yan cursed bastard towards himself and finally calmed down.

Swinging his sore arms, Xiao Yan went to the corner of his room and took out the wood basin that was full of Foundation Elixir before quickly jumping in.

With the cool water pulsing against his skin, a moderate warmth spread through Xiao Yan's body and slowly washed away the tiredness in him.

As ripples formed, Xiao Yan lazily laid on the side of the wooden basin as his breath slowed and calmed.

Recalling the shock on everyone's face today at the training field, a smile appeared on Xiao Yan's face: Strength, the most important thing in this world!

While rubbing his temples, a cold but pretty face unexpectedly popped into his mind. It was... Nalan Yanran's.

With his eyes narrowed, Xiao Yan muttered: "2 more years? You better get ready because I will find you..."

If not for the coldness within the words, anyone would have assumed that Xiao Yan's words were to a lover and not a bitter rival.

Remembering Nalan Yanran's cavalier attitude and phrases in the main hall, Xiao Yan's hands slowly curled into fists. The shame that he experienced, was imprinted in him...

Haha, I can't even take a break. That person... even though she's arrogant, to have been taken in by the faction leader of the Faction of Misty Clouds, her talent and potential shouldn't be too shabby. Xiao Yan's lips made a cold smile.

Taking a deep breath, Xiao Yan realized that every time he thought of Nalan Yanran, he would have a new strength that would push him to his limits. He quickly dispensed his lazy position and sat up straight within the wood basin. His hands weaved to make a symbol before he slowly pushed all thoughts out of his mind to start training.

#### . . . . . .

Ever since the examination of the other day, Xiao Yan could clearly feel that the gazes the clansmen sent him were no longer full of ridicule but rather filled with respect.

To these new gazes that he had already experienced three years ago, Xiao Yan was calm and impassive without becoming full of himself because of how "respected" he was.

The day after the examination finished, Xiao Yan stayed true to his word and accompanied Xun Er to enjoy sights both in the city and in the mountains. Besides his father, Xiao Zhan, Xun Er was the closest person within the clan to Xiao Yan and therefore, Xiao Yan couldn't refuse any of her requests.

After a relaxing day, Xiao Yan's life returned to its calm and orderly state.

He would practice Dou Techniques in the back of the mountains in the morning, before returning to his room to train Dou Qi for the rest of the time and occasionally chat with Xun Er and his father; his life was simple and organized.

During this period, Xiao Yan occasionally met Xiao Mei while walking around the clan and when he heard the soft purr of "Xiao Yan biao-ge", he replied with a smile and some excuses to escape. Towards those who abandoned him in his years of hardship, Xiao Yan never went back to being close with them. He knew that those that suddenly became respectful and friendly to him because of his reborn talent would act like a cold stranger the moment he loses his talent. This kind of backstab, experiencing it once was enough.

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A month's time slowly passed and there were only 7 days left before Xiao Clan's Coming of Age Ceremony....

Even though a huge amount of time had passed, from the examination to 7 days before the Coming of Age Ceremony, Xiao Yan's wish to get to 8 Duan Qi had still not been answered which let him down.

After striving for 8 Duan Qi for two more days, Xiao Yan still didn't experience breakthrough and amidst disappointment, he relaxed his training so that he could be in top notch condition for the Coming of Age Ceremony. But, right when he thought that he didn't have any hope of making a breakthrough and jumping into 8 Duan Qi, an interesting surprise came.

During the night that was two days before the Coming of Age Ceremony, Xiao Yan who was in a deep slumber suddenly jumped up like he was dreamwalking and before he even took off his clothes, he jumped into the wood basin that barely had any Foundation Elixir left.

After struggling for half a night, Xiao Yan finally opened his eyes, still sleepy, and then... He realized that the illustrious 8 Duan that he had been fighting to reach for 2-3 months had finally, while he was still half asleep, been achieved...

Towards this baffling yet comical breakthrough, Xiao Yan, while happy and surprised, could only exclaim: "Really!"

## Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 37 Xiao Yu -

#### Chapter 37: Xiao Yu

Chapter 37:Xiao Yu

If a clan wants to be able to prosper over the years, the most important factor is the clan's "vitality". And the vitality of the clan is the clan's younger generation, the "new blood" of the clan. Only with a continuous supply of "new blood" can a clan, a huge "machine", run smoothly.

Therefore, the Coming of Age Ceremony, is a huge day for every clan, including the Xiao Clan.

As one of the top three clans in Wu Tan City, Xiao Clan's Coming of Age Ceremony attracted the attention of most forces in the city and those that had a good relationship with Xiao Clan even came to watch the ceremony.

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Accompanying Xun Er under the shade of a large true, Xiao Yan relaxingly sat.

Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes while looking at the huge platform in the middle of the training field. The platform was made of huge blocks of lumber and was specially made for the Coming of Age Ceremony that was about to happen.

Xiao Yan's gaze left the empty wooden platform and went to the people that were not part of Xiao Clan but still there to witness the Coming of Age Ceremony. With reluctance, he said: "There are quite a few people..."

Watching Xiao Yan's unhappy face, Xun Er, who knew that Xiao Yan liked serenity, gloated with laughter.

Just as her laugh sounded, Xun Er felt Xiao Yan's accusing gaze and quickly closed her mouth. Taking a look at Xiao Yan, her eyes had a hint of light gold flash across before she said: "Xiao Yan ge-ge got to 8 Duan Qi?"

Hearing that, Xiao Yan tilted his head to look at her and realized that while being around Xun Er, he couldn't keep any secrets. With a depressed heart, he feebly nodded.

"Woah... not even a month had passed and you already got to 8 Duan Qi. This speed... is quite scary." Seeing Xiao Yan nod, even with Xun Er's calm nature, she showed a face of surprise.

Giving her a white eye to Xun Er, Xiao Yan's face suddenly turned. Near the wooden platform, there was a woman that was wrapped in a red dress and was chatting with the people besides her. A circle of people surrounded her, making the spot where she was at, the most popular circle around the platform.

This red dressed woman that was attracting everyone was someone that Xiao Yan had seen before! She was the top auctioneer of the Primer Auction house, Ya Fei!

With his gaze lingering the water-snake like waist of Ya Fei, Xiao Yan gave his opinion silently: "Really pretty!"

After Xiao Yan's gaze had stayed on Ya Fei for a while, Xun Er's unhappy hump came from besides him.

"Ahem..." With his eyes blinking, Xiao Yan slowly retracted his gaze to act as if he wasn't staring at Ya Fei and smiled to the unhappy Xun Er: "Did you know that the Primer Auction House came to our clan's Coming of Age Ceremony?"

Giving an evil stare to Xiao Yan who was acting as if nothing had happened, Xun Er emotionlessly said: "Xiao Clan and the Primer Auction House have always had a good relation so why is Ya Fei coming such a big deal? In addition, this woman's communication skills are confirmed incredible by all of Wu Tan City. A couple of young masters that befriended her for her beauty have spent an incredible amount of money on her but in the end, they got nothing. If Xiao Yao ge-ge wants to try to charm her then I can only say be careful. And, Xun Er won't lend you any money for those things."

Hearing that, Xiao Yan bitterly smiled: "Even if I'm thinking about those things, it requires that she, at the very least, acknowledges me. You do realize that she's at least 7 to 8 years older than me right?"

"Don't some women like that?" Xun Er seemingly smiled while saying that.

Dryly coughing, Xiao Yan could only admit defeat and not look at that circle of people again.

"Huh, why is she back?" Seeing that Xiao Yan wasn't looking over there anymore, Xun Er stopped pursuing the point and after a brief moment of silence, she exclaimed out loud.

"Who?" After following Xun Er's gaze, Xiao Yan's brows slowly furrowed.

The gaze of the two pointed to a girl that was wearing a school uniform and was currently leaning on a tree. She had a sword equipped at her waist, was quite tall and the most striking feature were her long legs, legs that were so s\*xy that even Ya Fei's legs paled in comparison to hers.

"Xiao Ye?" While staring at the tall girl, Xiao Yan asked: "Didn't she go to Jia Nan Academy to train? Why did she come back?"

Xun Er cutely shrugged her shoulder while teasing: "Xiao Yan ge-ge, this time, you might have some trouble."

Cracking open his mouth, Xiao Yan rubbed his burning forehead while saying: "This unruly woman is so annoying. Dammit, all I did was accidentally stumble into her bathing spot in the back mountains and accidentally touch her legs. She tried killing me for the majority of a year after that!"

TL: Killing is used in joking manner, it means like severe beating in this context

"Hehe, a girl's body isn't meant to be touched carelessly." Hearing Xiao Yan's story, Xun Er covered her mouth as she giggled. Suddenly, she remembered how Xiao Yan had helped her during the night and during that time, had contact with her body, causing a red blush to appear on her face.

Xiao Yan pursed his lips while coldly smiling: "That woman is Xiao Ning's sister and they both aren't good people. That bastard's enmity towards me is partly due to her."

Far away, Xiao Yu seemed to have sensed the two talking about her and turned around to find Xiao Yan under another tree. After a slight shock, she furrowed her brows as distaste and disdain surfaced on her face.

After a pause, Xiao Yu moved her attractive long legs and started walking towards Xiao Yan.

Seeing Xiao Yu coming over, Xiao Yan's brows also furrowed as he showed his disgust and impatience.

"Ha, Xiao Yan, I never thought that I would see the day that you turn your situation around. It's really surprising." Coming closer, Xiao Yu saw Xiao Yan undisguised dislike towards her and sneered.

"None of your business."

Obviously, Xiao Yan wasn't too pleased with Xiao Yu and his normal calm had been abandoned with his vulgar words.

"Your words are still sharp and annoying as ever. Looks like the three years of abjection didn't smooth out your sharp vigor." Xiao Yu looked down upon Xiao Yan and said in a teaching tone.

This tone again... While letting out an annoyed breath in his mind, Xiao Yan looked down and closely examined this girl that he had not seen for almost an year. Moving his gaze to her legs, Xiao Yao touched his nose while asking: "Your legs are still that long. I wonder if another male touched them after that time."

Hearing that, Xiao Yu who was sneering, stopped, as her face darkened.

# **Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 38 This Brat Isnt Simple -**

Chapter 38: This Brat Isn't Simple

Chapter 38:This Brat Isn't Simple

Xiao Yan's words stabbed at Xiao Yu's weak spot and the later, in a fit, put her hand on her sword that was at her waist.

With a sneer, Xiao Yan leaned backwards and lazily said: "Do you want to fight?"

"So what!" Xiao Yu tightened her grip on her sword while trying desperately to stop her impulse to unsheathe it and start hacking Xiao Yan with it. With a sneer, she taunted: "Even if your talent has come back, why does it matter? Three years ago, I, Xiao Yu, could make you flee for your life and three years later, I can still do it."

Xiao Yan's brows jumped as he looked towards Xiao Yu's light purple school uniform where she had 3 gold stars on her chest. These stars represented Xiao Yu's strength, a three star Dou Zhe. Looks like her year in the academy wasn't wasted.

"Where are your filthy eyes looking?" Seeing where Xiao Yan was staring, Xiao Yu's already dark face become even darker.

"Aren't you wearing that so that people notice you?" Xiao Yan touched his nose. His words which were carelessly said, caused Xiao Yu to jump up in fury.

"Bastard!" Gnashing her teeth, Xiao Yu who was already at her limit finally pulled out her sword with a "Clang". Pointing her sword at Xiao Yan, she said: "Do you really think that I'm afraid to cut your tongue off?!"

Staring at the glittering steel sword in front of him, Xiao Yan didn't even blink when he said: "Why don't you try?"

While talking, Xiao Yan's right hand curled slightly as a pulsing vortex slowly formed. With 3 Xuan Level Dou Techniques, Xiao Yan wasn't too afraid of a 3-star Dou Zhe.

Watching the two who were about to come to blows, Xun Er, on the sidelines, helplessly shook her head. As she looked out into the distance, she smiled while alerting them: "Xiao shu-shu and them are coming."

Hearing Xun Er's words, Xiao Yu's brows furrowed and she turned her head to see Xiao Zhan hurrying over with an ugly face.

"Hmph, your good luck won't last."

After the cold hmph, Xiao Yu returned her sword to its scabbard and turned around. Striding forward with her long legs, Xiao Yu paused before Xun Er, saying: "Xun Er biao-mei. Your talent and beauty are both top class but you should stay away from some people or else you might be stained with some bad habits. It would be too late for regrets then." Towards Xiao Yu's tip, Xun Er smiled while saying: "Thanks for Xiao Yu biao-jie's reminder but Xun Er thinks that Xiao Yan ge-ge is great."

Hearing Xun Er's meaningful words, Xiao Yu's face changed colors as she scanned over the smiling Xun Er. Finally, Xiao Yu profoundly said: "Once you leave the clan, you'll know how big the world is. There are countless people that are much more talented than him, if you meet someone that makes your heart flutter, then..."

"Xiao Yu biao-jie, you're thinking too much. Xun Er doesn't believe that something like that will happen." Xun Er's red lips pursed as she interrupted Xiao Yu.

After being interrupted by Xun Er, Xiao Yu became embarrassed so she left after giving Xiao Yan one final evil stare.

Watching the angrily leaving Xiao Yu, Xiao Yan slowly let out a breath as his face full of disgust changed back into his normal, calm face. Sighing, he said: "I really don't like her."

Hearing that, Xun Er covered her mouth as she laughed: "Actually, I'm really curious as to why she always is going against Xiao Yan ge-ge. Even though you did accidentally stumble upon her bathing spot, she shouldn't be so against you right?"

"How should I know?" Xiao Yan innocently shrugged before looking towards Xiao Zhan and a couple more people walking towards him.

"Yan Er, are you alright? Where's Xiao Yu?" Quickly walking over and seeing the unharmed Xiao Yan, Xiao Zhan let out a breath as he asked.

Slightly shrugging, Xiao Yan laughed: "I'm fine. That woman just had blood rush to her head."

"You should avoid her a bit. That girl has a bad temper and now that's she's a 3 star Dou Zhe, if you guys fight, you'll be on the losing end. In addition, she's the first elder's granddaughter so I'm not in a good position to punish her if you guys fight." Xiao Zhan helplessly said.

Xiao Yan touched his nose as smiled without giving an answer.

"Here Yan Er, this is Primer Auction House's top auctioneer, misses Ya Fei. The Foundation Elixir from last time was brought through her." Xiao Zhan moved aside to show the red-dressed woman behind him as he introduced her.

Xiao Yan watched the beautiful woman that showed maturity with her actions and revealed a shy smile that was appropriate for his age: "Hi Ya Fei-jie."

TL: Jie means sister(can be used informal to mean some female slightly older than one)

With her attractive eyes latched on Xiao Yan, Ya Fei's beautiful face showed a smile because of his addressal. With her red lips moving, Ya Fei asked while smiling: "I heard that young master Xiao Yan raised 4 Duan Qi in just one year? Hehe, that training speed has become huge news in Wu Tan City, but is it real?"

Xiao Yan tilted his head and "shyly" said: "It's the result of father's purchase of the Foundation Elixir."

Hearing Xiao Yan's indirect admittance, even with Ya Fei's calm nature, she couldn't help but gasp. Curiosity and interest flashed across her eyes as she thought: 4 Duan Qi in just one year, that training speed, is frightening. As for that Foundation Elixir, I had personally examined it and naturally know the effects of it. It can help a bit with one's training speed but to raise 4 Duan Qi in just relying on it? Impossible!

Seeing that the two had a basic introduction, Xiao Zhan looked up into the sky and patted Xiao Yan's shoulder. With a smile, he said: "Alright, the Coming of Age Ceremony is about to start and I have prepare some things. Don't let me down later."

Xiao Yan nodded while smiling.

Following Xiao Zhan, Ya Fei took a peek at Xiao Yan before she turned around. With a couple of years at the Auction House, she could discern even the smallest details and when she looked into the young man's eyes, she realized that even though the young man in front of her appeared shy, within his pitch black eyes, no emotions escaped. It was calm, like a secluded lake.

To be able to control his emotions at such a young age… This brat isn't simple… Turning around, that thought sounded within Ya Fei's mind.

# **Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 39 Ceremonial Test**

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Chapter 39: Ceremonial Test

Chapter 39:Ceremonial Test

The Coming of Age Ceremony had so many separate steps and was so complicated that it could make one's head start hurting.

Sitting below the platform, Xiao Yan watched the young man on the platform that was being led around like a doll. He couldn't help but rub his forehead as he said to Xun Er besides him: "This Coming of Age Ceremony. It's definitely a torture."

Watching Xiao Yan's sad face, Xun Er smiled while saying: "Can't help it; these are rules that were passed down since ancient times and even Xiao shu-shu wouldn't dare change them."

Xiao Yan sighed as he weakly nodded his head. Right when he was about to fall asleep, his brows jumped as he sensed that someone was looking at him. Narrowing his eyes, he looked at the left of the platform.

There stood Xiao Ning, full of envy while watching Xun Er and Xiao Yan. When he saw the later look over, he quickly raised his fist, aggressively.

"Idiot."

Lightly saying this word, Xiao Yan's sight moved slightly to the left, to Xiao Yu who was standing beside Xiao Ning. His eyes swept boldly across her long and s\*xy legs until her face turned green, before he finally looked away with a cold smile.

From the side, Xun Er was smiling to herself while watching Xiao Yan's antics, feeling a little helpless. When it came to Xiao Yu, Xiao Yan seemed to lose his usual calmness and always provoked her until she became completely mad.

Reclining on the cool wooden chair, Xiao Yan enjoyed the sweet scent of the maiden beside him, while waiting with his eyes closed.

When the Coming of Age Ceremony had progressed to about halfway, it was at last Xiao Yan's turn.

Upon hearing a shout from the stage, everyone on the guest platform looked at Xiao Yan with either curious or suspicious eyes. For most of them, a large part of the reason as to why they were here at the Xiao Clan's coming of age ceremony was to have a look at the youth who had caused such an uproar in Wu Tan City and to see if he was as described in the rumours.

Xiao Yan slowly opened his eyes and the stares from all around made him feel like he was a monkey in the zoo, causing him to shake his head in resignation.

With a light sigh and a passive face, Xiao Yan stepped slowly onto the platform under the gazes of everyone.

The coming of age ceremony was held by the second elder Xiao Ying. Although the second elder never gave Xiao Yan any of his sympathy, he rarely went out of his way to harass Xiao Yan. In addition, ever since the day of the preliminary exam, he had mellowed quite a bit. At least, the scorn that was previously clearly presented on his face was no longer visible on the old wrinkled face.

With a complicated expression in his eyes, Xiao Ying heaved a sigh in his heart as he looked upon this youth who had overturned the tables in his life. His face shook a little as he took the materials that were needed for the ceremony before walking towards Xiao Yan.

Looking at the second elder walking towards him, Xiao Yan remembered the previous fussy and boring ceremony and had a migraine. With a bitter smile, he closed his eyes and awaited his fate.

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Under the eyes of everyone, Xiao Yan stood like an idiot for half an hour before the complex bureaucratic scene finally ended.

With a sigh of relief in his heart, Xiao Yan opened his eyes. Looking at the various spices surrounding his body, he rolled his eyes in gloom.

After all the complicated steps were over, the second elder wiped sweat off his brow and turned towards the black stone monument shouting: "Ceremonial Test!"

The Ceremonial Test was same as the previous month's test which was just an preliminary test. The motive of the previous test was to let the clan's elites be picked out, so they could take the actual coming of age ceremony on the main stage, while the rest of the 7 Duan and below clan members would only have a simpler ceremony that was somewhat shabby

The Ceremonial Test was much more accurate compared to the preliminary test since this time, the test was personally checked by the two star Dou Grandmaster, second elder of Xiao Clan. It showed how serious the Coming of Age Ceremony was taken.

TL: Dou Zhe -> Dou Master -> Dou Grandmaster

With the second elder's shout, those who had been bored out of their minds suddenly focused as they sent their attention to the platform.

On the Guests Platform, nearly all of those sitting there also stared at the black clothed young man. The purpose for their visit today was to confirm if the young man that had stirred the entire Wu Tan City four years ago will stir Wu Tan City again.

Ignoring the burning gazes around him, Xiao Yan was calm as he walked up to the black monument.

While watching the calm Xiao Yan, the second elder's dry hand touched the Black Monument as a strand of his Dou Qi was pushed into it to test it. Afterwards, he stepped to the side and joined everyone else in staring Xiao Yan. Even though he was present at the previous testing, he couldn't help but wonder: Did this kid really get to 7 Duan Qi? The shock of Xiao Yan's performance particularly impacted this second elder and he had especially asked to be in charge of the Coming of Age Ceremony so that he could make sure that he personally test Xiao Yan!

Disregarding the second elder's questioning gaze, Xiao Yan's hand slowly touched the black monument....

Watching Xiao Yan touch the monument, Xiao Yu couldn't help but furrow her brows while turning her head to whisper to Xiao Ning: "Did he really get to 7 Duan Qi?"

Because Xiao Yu had just gotten home two days ago after asking for a break from the academy, she wasn't there to witness Xiao Yan's preliminary testing and thus was still suspicious about his achievements.

Being asked by his sister, Xiao Ning bitterly nodded while saying: "Yeah. That guy must have ate something that helped him jump 4 Duan Qi in just one year."

Having her question confirmed once more, Xiao Yu pushed her lips together while stomping her legs in annoyance. While angrily staring at the young man on the platform, her beautiful face showed her stubborn attitude as she thought: Without me actually seeing it, I won't believe that that cripple has turned his situation around.

Taking a deep breath, Xiao Yu sneered while saying: "That kid must have done something last time but with second elder examining it this time, I'll be..."

Before she could finish her thought, Xiao Yu's face tightened as the rest of the words became stuck in her throat.

On the high wooden platform, the huge black monument shined brightly as golden words appeared on the monument: "Dou Zi Qi: 8 Duan!"

## **Battle Through The Heavens Chapter 40 Shock -**

#### Chapter 40: Shock

Chapter 40:Shock

Silent, everyone was silent!

All eyes were blankly focused onto the golden words reflected on the black stone tablet above.

On the Guests' platform, the sharp clear ring of shattering tea cups falling to the ground resonated. The representatives from Wu Tan City were all dumbfounded, disbelief spread across their faces.

The purpose of their visit was to confirm whether the rumors were true or not: to see with their own eyes if Xiao Yan really did jump up 4 Duan Qi in the span of a year.

However, what they had just seen not only confirmed the rumours but had completely surpassed their expectations.

4 Duan Qi in a year? Now it turned into 5 Duan Qi... This training speed, it could only be described with a single word: Frightening!

"The Xiao Clan has succeeded once more..." Everyone on the Guests' platform couldn't help but mutter under their breath. To have a clan member that jumped 5 Duan Qi in a year, the Xiao Clan's future was looking bright.

"If this rate of growth continues, then perhaps...perhaps in 10 years, the Xiao Clan will have a Dou Huang ranked member." Everyone on the Guests' platform looked at each other as their hearts felt heavy at that thought.

Dou Huang: if any clan in the Jia Ma Empire had a strong Dou Huang, their status would skyrocket within the Jia Ma Empire. Even the three largest Clans in the Jia Ma Empire, the Primer Clan, Nalan Clan and Ritter Clan, would respect that clan After all, there were only a handful of Dou Huang level Dou Zhes in the entire Jia Ma Empire. Each Dou Zhe who reached the Dou Huang rank had the power to topple over anything from the heavens to the oceans and to face ten thousands of enemies with ease. No sane empire would dare offend a Dou Huang without weighing the consequences!

Three hundred years ago, Jia Ma Empire's sole Dou Huang Dou Zhe had his family killed as a result of a war. As a result, the Dou Huang single-handedly massacred the enemy's 10,000 elite knights in a fit of rage. Both empires were shaken in awe by the bloodshed caused.

Since that moment on, no empire on the Dou Qi Continent dared to offend a Dou Huang Dou Zhe. At the same time, everyone saw how scary Dou Huangs could be.

Therefore, everyone that saw Xiao Yan's gift looked at the Xiao Clan with an extreme envy.

At the center of the high platform, even Xiao Zhan was looking at the golden words on the monument with a his eyes slightly sour. After a while, he let out a lengthy breath and viewed his black clothed son with a look of gratitude.,"The best decision in my life was to not create uneasiness between Yan Er and me..."

As Xiao Yan's father, Xiao Zhan was well aware of his son's temperament. He could still clearly remember that in Xiao Yan's childhood, not long after his birth, how indifferent his son was to him. Xiao Yan would always look at him with a cold look, as if he were looking at a stranger and not his father.

Fortunately, over the years, the cold and detached looks toward Xiao Zhan grew warm, as Xiao Zhan's care and love...

Thinking back to the time when Xiao Yan was a child, Xiao Zhan shivered. His mouth twitched while a gentle smile took over his face.

"Xiao Clan Leader, young master Xiao Yan's talent is truly mind blowing! This time the Xiao Clan will definitely have an amazingly terrifying Dou Zhe." Standing by Xiao Zhan's side, Ya Fei's beautiful eyes gazed at the very same person Xiao Zhan was looking at. Her face was still slightly red from her excitement while she said her thoughts.

Xiao Zhan laughed loudly, pride and excitement clearly showing on his face. He cupped his hands together and with a courteous look to Ya Fei, he replied, "Ya Fei, that kid's talent is sometimes a huge surprise but at other times, a huge letdown. You also know of how he fell from the spotlight three years ago and faced countless hardships. No one would have thought that he would regain his talent but here it is again...sigh!"

Ya Fei's eyebrows bent slightly with her feminine smile. Whether Xiao Yan's talent was short lived or not, she didn't know. Right now, the only thing that mattered to her was his potential, which would be enough for her.

Giving an enchanting look downwards, Ya Fei's heart had already formed a plan. In the future, she would be sure to come and do business with the Xiao Clan as much as possible!

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Beneath the ceremonial platform, Xiao Yu opened her mouth with a stiff face. She stared at the Black Monument in shock while breathing heavily. Suddenly she snapped at Xiao Ning: "Didn't you say that he was 7 Duan Qi? How is he higher?"

Xiao Ning's opened mouth a couple of times before he mumbled innocently, "Last month he was already 7 Duan.... This month, he, seems to have had a breakthrough?"

"To go from 7 Duan to 8 Duan in one month... How is that possible? Even if that brat got his old talent back, he wouldn't be able to train this fast!" Xiao Yu exclaimed. "To jump 5 Duan in a year? The little brat should die dammit! This kind of speed can rival that monster woman in Jianan Academy."

"How would I know..." Xiao Ning gave a bitter smile as he glanced at the far away Xun Er, only to see her gaze fixed on Xiao Yan below with eyes of admiration and didn't paying attention to him at all.

#### "F\*\*king bastard!"

After being ignored by the girl he favored over all others, Xiao Ning's heart blazed with the fires of jealousy. Raising his head, he threw a ferocious glare at Xiao Yan that contrasted with his youthful face.