

## Battle Through the Heavens #Chapter 81: Detection - Read Battle Through the Heavens Chapter 81: Detection

### Chapter 81:Detection

The appearance of the Blood Clotting Powder, like a thunderbolt, swiftly ate up over half of the market share for healing medication and allowed the Xiao Clan's marketplaces to not only recover their popularity, but to surpass it within two days.

Two days after the debut of the "Blood Clotting Powder", the Jia Lie Clan had gradually reduced the price of the "Return the Spring Powder" back to what it was initially. However, the profiteering practice of the Jia Lie Clan just days before had repulsed many mercenaries, resulting in their marketplaces failing to return to the bustling places they once were.

Since Wu Tang City was close to the edge of the Magical Beast Mountain Range, the scale of mercenaries the city needed was very large. Moreover, the Magical Beast Mountain Range was filled with danger, stimulating an extremely great demand for healing medicine. Hence, despite the Xiao Clan snatching over half the market share for healing medicine, the Jia Lie Clan continued to remain profitable. Yet, when compared to the past, the profit has shrunk to half of what it was...

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The furious sales of the healing medicine had far outstripped the expectations of the Xiao Clan which was venturing into this profession for the very first time. Every day, the market's "Blood Clotting Powder" would be quickly purchased in the morning by the mercenaries who had been waiting beforehand. By the afternoon, all of the healing medicine would have been sold out. At this time, the mercenaries who had failed to buy any "Blood Clotting Powder" had little choice but to go to the Jie Lie Clan's marketplace to purchase the slightly inferior "Return of Spring Powder."

With the indirect help from the overwhelming demand of healing medicine from the mercenaries, the Jia Lie Clan barely managed to survive the fierce retaliation of the Xiao Clan. However, their respective futures would ultimately hinge on who had a greater stock of medicine.

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Sitting in the Meeting Room, Xiao Yan helplessly watched Xiao Zhan, who could not stop grinning. Shifting his gaze slightly, he found that the three elders were also full of smiles. Silly laughter also continuously penetrated the hall. The cause of all of this was the stock of "Blood Clotting Powder" that Xiao Yan had delivered that morning under the disguise of the black robed man.

“Ha Ha! The sales of the “Blood Clotting Powder” was simply too crazy. Had the esteemed elder not delivered another batch, I’m afraid that our warehouse would be empty by now.” Xiao Zhan smiled as he held a green bottle with both hands in a manner that suggested he was holding a treasure.

“True. In only a few days, our marketplace’s popularity had more than doubled what it was at our peak. The losses we previously suffered have slowly been recovered. Hehe, adding the sales from the healing medicine... The profit from the last few days already amounts to about two months of our previous income.” The usually quiet first elder was unable to control himself and became talkative in the face of such a huge gain; the wrinkles on his aged face were like a blooming chrysanthemum.

Xiao Zhan smiled and nodded. Turning his head to face the seated and slightly bored Xiao Yan, he could not help but reprimand: “You little rascal, you always disappear when the esteemed elder is here. Why can’t you be less active and stay put at home?”

Being wrongfully scolded, Xiao Yan rolled his eyes while helplessly thinking, *“If I did not move around, where would you get the healing medicine from?”*

“Ai, the esteemed elder is too generous. Luckily, I managed to inquire about the ingredients needed. Moving forward, we will be responsible for the ingredients. The Xiao Clan has already obtained so much from him. If we are too greedy, I’m afraid that it will do us more harm than good.” Xiao Zhan muttered as he took out a piece of paper from his pocket.

“Yes.” The three elders quickly nodded at Xiao Zhan’s words. Had Xiao Zhan not been meticulous, they would have forgotten about this matter.

“Heh. Knowing where to draw the line in the face of such a large profit.. not bad. It’s little wonder why your father could become the head of a clan.” Yao Lao’s praise was heard in Xiao Yan’s heart.

Nodding his head and smiling, Xiao Yan gained some peace of mind. Although he could temporarily help the Xiao Clan materially, the ultimate success of the clan depended upon the leader’s ability. If the leader was someone with horrible character, regardless of how great Xiao Yan’s ability was, he could not help the useless succeed. Yet, from the looks of things, it seemed that Xiao Zhan was capable of being a great leader.

“Clan Leader, elders, Miss Ya Fei from the Primer Auction House is waiting outside,” A clan member hurried into the hall and spoke just as Xiao Yan was praising his father.

“Ya Fei?” Hearing the clan member’s words, Xiao Zhan was silent for a moment before hastily speaking: “Quickly, invite her in.”

Not long after the clan member went to relay the order, a graceful and lovely woman slowly appeared in their field of vision. Her mumbling laughter also began spreading

and lingering in the hall. “Ha Ha. Clan Leader Xiao seems to take pride in his Clan’s recent success . “

Leaning his head back on the cold chair, Xiao Yan turned his gaze towards the main entrance and was slightly stunned as his eyes were filled with a breathtaking sight.

Beside the main entrance stood a smiling, mature woman wrapped in a red robe. The tight, red dress thoroughly hugged her exquisite body. Her curvy waist swayed so radiantly and gracefully from side to side that it caused others to covet it. From the bottom of the dress came a straight cut that came upwards to her thigh, both revealing and hiding her dazzling leg beneath.

“Vixen...” Watching the aura of matureness that the lady instantly emits, the young, middle-aged and three elderly men in the hall involuntarily voiced their misgivings.

“Ahem.” Coughing dryly, Xiao Zhan smilingly stood up and began with the pleasantries: “Ya Fei Xiao-Jie, the Xiao Clan’s annual profit cannot compare with even a branch of your Primer Auction House. What right do we have to be pleased?”

“Ke Ke. Clan Leader Xiao is really eloquent. Recently, the popularity of the Xiao marketplace has far surpassed that of our auction house. This truth is something all of us have witnessed with our own eyes.” Ya Fei faced the three elders in the hall and greeted them respectfully. Blinking her bright eyes, her gaze slowly shifted to Xiao Yan, only to be shocked. In a slightly stunned voice, she said, “Looking at young master Xiao current state, it seems he is stronger than when I last saw him.”

“Ya Fei Xiao-Jie , please drop the honorifics and simply address me by my name. This young master is frightened of hearing them.” Xiao Yan gave a seemingly pure smile as he spoke. The form of address has caused him great uneasiness.

Hearing this, Ya Fei could not help but smile.

“Is there a matter that brings you to the Xiao Clan?” Asked Xiao Zhan with a smile.

Ya Fei nodded while smiling. She sat down on the empty chair beside Xiao Yan, licked her red lips and cut to the chase. “Clan Leader Xiao, Primer Auction House has stopped supplying the Jia Lie Clan with their medicinal ingredients.”

Once these words were out, a significant amount of tea from Xiao Zhan’s cup was spilled onto the table. His pupils secretly skipped over his extreme happiness as he wiped off the tea, leaving no evidence. Shifting his gaze to the three elders, the radiance in their eyes was also apparent.

The big hall slowly became silent. Xiao Zhan emptied the tea in his tea cup in one gulp before asking hesitantly. “For what reason? Hasn’t the Premier Auction House always adopted a neutral position?”

Ya Fei smiled without answering.

Clenching his teeth, Xiao Zhan asked softly: "What price do you expect us to pay for this?"

"Nothing," Ya Fei continued to smile as she spoke.

"Eh?" Being surprised once again, Xiao Zhan watched the smiling Ya Fei doubtfully. He did not believe that the Primer Auction House would help them hurt Jie Lie Clan without a price. Touching his chin, Xiao Zhan abruptly moved. In a whisper, he sounded her out: "Is... this that esteemed elder's doing?"

Licking her red lips, Yan Fei nodded slightly and replied with a grin: "The esteemed elder has already paid our reward, so there isn't any need for Clan Leader Xiao to worry that we will demand something from the Xiao Clan. From now on, we are fighting alongside each other."

Hearing this, his face finally displayed extreme happiness as he faced upwards and laughed. His laughter sent faint tremors throughout the clan.

Gradually restraining his laughter, Xiao Zhan suddenly realized that his behavior suggested that his head was overwhelmed by success. He lowered his head and realized that three elders were curling their mouths in helplessness.

Smiling embarrassingly, Xiao Zhan watched Xiao Yan who was covering his mouth and secretly laughing. He could not refrain from flying off the handle and scolding, "Little rascal, why are you laughing? Where are your manners? Go and serve tea to Ya Fei Xiao."

(ED. < Xiao is an honorific > )

Rolling his eyes helplessly, Xiao Yan reached over to the table beside him and picked up a cup of warm tea and rushed over to serve Ya Fei with both hands.

Giving Xiao Yan a gentle smile, Ya Fei received the cup of tea from Xiao Yan. Abruptly, her pretty face changed. The pair of beautiful eyes focused on Xiao Yan's pair of fair hands.. or rather, the black ring on his right hand.

Following Ya Fei's line of sight, Xiao Yan's gaze slightly froze. Without leaving any trace of avoidance, he retrieved his hands. With his back facing his father and the others, he squinted his eyes and stared at the beautiful lady before him.

Being openly stared at, Ya Fei's heart slightly tightened. Following which, she sensibly lowered her head and sipped her tea. The expression on her face was also well-hidden.

Seeing the beauty's obedient behavior, Xiao Yan relaxed and rubbed his nose. He lazily walked back to his seat while frowning as though he was deep in thought.

## **Chapter 82: Coming Clean**

After making idle chat with Xiao Zhan and the others, Ya Fei decided to take her leave. Beside her, Xiao Yan, who had remained silent, displayed his duty as a host and escorted Ya Fei out under the approving gaze of Xiao Zhan.

After leaving the main entrance, Xiao Yan did not show any intention of returning home. With his hands behind his head and his eyes narrowing, he followed Ya Fei closely. No one could tell what he was pondering.

Walking beside Xiao Yan, Ya Fei became slightly anxious. Her clenched fists were already covered in perspiration. Since she was young, she had an extremely good memory and by chance, she had seen the hands of the mysterious black cloaked alchemist the last time they met at the auction house. The fair complexion and vitality appeared to be that of a young man and moreover, on the fair hand was a black ring that was exactly the same as the one worn by Xiao Yan. Having this coincidence as the starting point and thinking back on why the Xiao Clan was in the good grace of the alchemist, the key to the riddle seemed to be about to burst forth.

Biting her red lips, Ya Fei secretly measured the young man beside her from the corner of her eyes. The young man, dressed in inexpensive black clothes, had a tall and vigorous body. His hands were cupping his head, emitting a lazy feeling. While his dedicated face had the tenderness of a young man, the angle that appeared and disappeared from the corner of his mouth did not appear to belong to an inexperienced and naive young man.

Despite having carefully sized-up Xiao Yan, Ya Fei still had trouble believing that the person that forced both herself and Gu Ni into obedience at the auction house was actually a young man of about seventeen years of age.

"Seen enough?" Just as Ya Fei could not help but smile bitterly, the young man beside her finally spoke in an indifferent voice.

Slowing down her footsteps, Ya Fei sighed: "You... Should I address you as the esteemed elder or Xiao Yan Di-di?"

TL: Di-di = younger brother

Xiao Yan raised his eyebrows before abruptly raising his chin towards one corner. "Go in."

Ya Fei followed his gaze and walked over. Her cheeks involuntarily reddened. The place where Xiao Yan had indicated was Wu Tang City's famous meeting place for lovers.

Following a brief hesitation, Ya Fei had initially wanted to weakly suggest changing the venue. However, Xiao Yan had already swaggered over and had sat down on a stone chair under a dark green willow tree.

Faced with Xiao Yan's overbearing manner that was the total opposite of his respectful manner back in the Xiao Clan, Ya Fei could only helplessly shake her head. Isn't this change in personality a little too quick?

Slowly stepping forward, Ya Fei sat face to face with Xiao Yan. A pair of long narrow beautiful eyes sparkled, gauging the young man in front of her.

"Have you recognised me?" Xiao Yan vaguely asked as he reached out to pluck a willow leaf to chew.

Ya Fei pushed her fallen hair back and her expression caused a man just a short distance away to widen his eyes. Licking her lips, she laughed bitterly: "I was actually hoping that my guess was wrong."

Hearing those words, Xiao Yan's eyes narrowed and his teeth ruthlessly bit at the bitter leaf.

"You are not intending to kill me, are you?" Seeing Xiao Yan's attitude, Ya Fei momentarily asked in a timid voice. Nonetheless, a brief smile flashed in her eyes.

"I intend to do much more and then dispose of your corpse," Said Xiao Yan evilly.

Hearing such crude and inappropriate words, Ya Fei's face reddened, her coquettish eyes stared at him and scolded: "Where has this child learned to pick up such bad things?"

Xiao Yan curled his lips and stretched lazily. Since his identity was already revealed, there was no longer a need to beat around the bush. "The black cloaked man who had done business with you was indeed me."

"But the one who makes the medicine is a different person, right?" Ya Fei laughed as her gaze wandered around. She was not stupid. The extent of Xiao Yan's ability was something that she was very certain of. Even if he was an alchemist, with his current strength, it was impossible for him to refine high quality medicine like the Qi Gathering Pill.

"If a lady is too smart, no man will like her." Xiao Yan curled his lips and said as he glanced at Ya Fei, who had already correctly guessed most of the truth.

“That is just the thinking of some vulgar men,” Ya Fei raised her eyebrow and said disdainfully.

Xiao Yan rolled his eyes. He did not have the time to discuss such unimportant matters. Chewing the bitter leaf that had spread in his mouth, Xiao Yan indifferently said: “You should know the reason I have come to find you. Please do your utmost to keep my identity a secret. This will be to the benefit of everyone.”

Licking his lips, Xiao Yan threw a glance at the lovely beauty in front of him: “Naturally, do not treat this as something you can threaten me with. Otherwise, you will lose more than you will gain.”

“Do I look like a brainless, large woman?” Ya Fei innocently opened her hands.

Xiao Yan watched the surging billow on her chest seriously for a while before nodding his head. “They are indeed very large. As for whether you have brains, it will depend on your behavior from now on.”

“....”

Being taken advantage of by a young man a few years younger than her, Ya Fei shook her head, not knowing whether to laugh or cry. Even if his double identity was put aside, with just his handsome appearance alone, it was difficult to arouse anyone’s ill will.

“What about our collaboration?” Ya Fei anxiously stared at Xiao Yan. This was the question that she really wanted to ask.

“There will be no change. You will continue to refuse supplying the Jia Lie clan any medicinal ingredients and I will pay you with five Qi Gathering Pills.” Xiao Yan shrugged his shoulders. His indifferent voice allowed Ya Fei to heave a sigh of relief.

“Haha, I look forward to working with you.” Ya Fei said with a beautiful smile as she extended her hand in a natural and generous manner.

Lazily nodding his head, Xiao Yan shook the dedicate hand. Contrary to Ya Fei’s expectations, only a brief contact was made.

Looking at the young man whose actions were unpredictable, Ya Fei sighed uncontrollably: “It really causes one to suspect whether you are really only seventeen. I’ve only realized now that you have been leading me by the nose.”

Disregarding such a topic, Xiao Yan waved his hand. He stood up and began leaving. As he walked he said: “When we meet again, you should use the same attitude as before lest anyone should find something amiss.”

Nodding with a smile, Ya Fei softly said: "If you have time, could you invite the alchemist behind you to the Primer Auction house? He will always be welcomed."

Slowing his footsteps, Xiao Yan rubbed his nose and vaguely replied: "We will consider it when we have time." After turning around and waving once more, Xiao Yan left decisively.

Watching as the young man's figure disappeared into the distance while standing on the same spot, Ya Fei smiled bitterly and shook her head. In a low voice, she said: "What a little devil. I cannot understand why the girl from the Na Lan clan would cancel her engagement with him. In the future, I'm afraid that Na Lan Su will vomit blood in regret."

### **Chapter 83: Young Head of the Marketplace**

Less than a month after the release of the Blood Clotting Powder, the Xiao Clan won seventy percent of Wu Tang City's healing medicine market. The huge profit filled the Xiao Clan with joy. The courtyard and doorway, which were rarely used recently, were now used constantly and were now as lively as a market.

Compared to the Xiao Clan, the Jia Lie Clan was filled with gloominess. Due to their recent profiteering ways, they had aroused the dislike of the majority of the mercenaries. Moreover, the Xiao Clan's Blood Clotting Powder was more potent than the Return the Spring Powder. Hence, the Jia Lie Clan's healing medicine business continued to be suppressed by the Xiao Clan's business. Had it not been for the Xiao Clan's daily limit on the sale of their healing medicine, the Jia Lie Clan would not have had any business at all.

While their market share in the healing medicine industry had shrunk, there was still a tidy profit to be made. The main headache for the Jia Lie Clan lied in the large amount of medical ingredients needed for them to make their medicines.

The largest resource warehouse in the city, the Primer Auction House, had already rejected having any further cooperation with them. Facing this embargo on medical ingredients, the Jia Lie Clan was filled with fury. Despite their anger, however, they did not dare use any force against the Primer Auction House. Supporting the Primer Auction House was a force that could rank amongst the most powerful of the entire Jia Ma Empire. A small family clan in Wu Tang City like them did not have the ability to provoke them.

Unable to procure goods from the Auction House, the desperate Jia Lie Clan could only purchase all the stocks of the medical ingredients shops in Wu Tang City at a price several times higher than their market value. Nevertheless, this was only a temporary measure. The medical ingredient shops did not have the ability to meet such a large demand in the long-term.

More importantly, everyone in Wu Tang City had recognized the anger and killing intent between the Xiao Clan and Jia Lie clan. Helping the Jia Lie clan now would undoubtedly offend the Xiao clan, which was getting stronger each day. Therefore, after their first sales of medicinal ingredients to the Jia Lie Clan, many medicine shops did not dare to sell to them in bulk again. This restriction had also worsened the predicament of the Jia Lie Clan.

With this, the Jia Lie Clan's source of medicinal ingredients from Wu Tang City was cut by nearly eighty percent. The remaining sources were far too insufficient to meet the demand from the manufacturing of their healing medicine. Due to this, the utterly helpless Jia Lie Clan could only use high prices to purchase medicinal ingredients from other cities, barely managing to overcome the crisis caused by the shortage of medicinal ingredients. By doing this, however, the Jia Lie Clan's profit once again shrank. If it was not for the profit from the healing medicine, the Jia Lie Clan would have faced bankruptcy already.

Currently in Wu Tang City, the Xiao clan's position was rising with the help from their healing medicine and was even faintly showing the momentum to surpass the other two large clans.

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Xiao Yan was sluggishly walking on a street within the rowdy marketplace. Behind him, seven to eight tall and sturdy, large men were adorned with the Xiao Clan's guard uniform. On all of the chests of these large men, there would be four or more golden stars. Clearly, all of these large men had the strength of at least a four star Dou Zhe.

On the street where the flow of people was rather large, many fierce and tough mercenaries that were emitting the scent of blood all gave a friendly smile upon seeing a young man walking lazily with his hands behind his head. Occasionally, those who were more familiar would laughingly ask: "Young head, have you come to patrol the marketplace again?"

Each time he was faced with such a form of address, Xiao Yan would helplessly pull his mouth before letting out a soft sigh. Half a month ago, Xiao Zhan had suddenly placed him in charge of this marketplace in the name of training him. Regarding Xiao Zhan's action, the Xiao Clan had an argument. Having someone manage a marketplace in his teens was unheard of in the Xiao Clan. However, after considering Xiao Yan's much elevated position in the clan, some eventually agreed. Thus, Xiao Yan, who was originally resting at home, was placed in charge of this marketplace.

Although the marketplace was huge, the management of it was not very tiring. Which was something that comforted Xiao Yan. Xiao Yan threw the miscellaneous matters regarding the division of the streets and the discussion of the rental rates of the shops in the prime locations to the old housekeeper that his father had specially assigned to him. Each day, he would occasionally bring a group of large men to patrol the streets and

manage the security issues of the marketplace, spending his days in a calm, yet unrestrained manner.

On the surface, Xiao Yan appeared to be mild and indifferent. However, he loved to gather with the mercenaries and discuss the stimulating and dangerous experiences they had during missions, the strange monsters and the Qi Methods that are left behind in caves. These discussions increased Xiao Yan's thirst for risk-taking and adventure. He desired to enter those remote mountains that had almost no traces of people to search for those secretive, yet strong Dou Techniques and Qi Methods.

Xiao Yan's young age and his delicate face already made it difficult for others to have ill feelings. On top of this, each time the discussion became exciting, he would retrieve the limited healing medicine from his breast pocket and pass them around for free. This caused those straightforward mercenaries to have a good impression of him. Over time, the marketplace managed by Xiao Yan had the highest number of customers returning amongst the Xiao Clan's marketplaces.

Recalling the events over the last half a month, Xiao Yan emotionally smiled. Such days were numbered. At most, after another half a month, he would have to leave with Yao Lao on a training journey and it would be at least another one or two years before he would return.

Throwing away his melancholy, Xiao Yan raised his head. A wretched and skinny image from the crowd came rushing at him abruptly.

Pausing his steps and looking at the ordinarily dressed small man, Xiao Yan's eyebrows creased as he spoke indifferently: "Ke Lu, why are you here instead of being out there making your fortune?"

The dreadful looking small man, Ke Lu, in front of him was the marketplace's well known pickpocket, gold finger. When faced with this kind of shady occupation, Xiao Yan did not unrealistically attempt to eliminate them. He knew only too well that if there is a front side, there will be a back side. Although such an occupation is looked down upon, they are extremely well informed. Regardless of whatever happened anywhere in Wu Tan City, they would have some information on it.

"Hehe, young master," Facing Xiao Yan with a flattering smile, the skinny small man called Ke Lu said with a smile: "This lowly person is here to inform you that I have information from my subordinate saying that Xun Er Xiao-jie was verbally insulted by a man of unknown origin just outside the marketplace. I came here after hearing about it."

"Oh right, Jia Lie Ao of the Jia Lie clan was also amongst present. It seems like he is acquainted with the man wearing funeral clothes and talking to Xun Er Xiao-Jie. Quite a few people were also accompanying them."

Narrowing his eyes, Xiao Yan indifferent face gradually became cold. Slightly slanting his head, he softly said: "Xiao Li, call the others. As long as they are alive, they need to be here."

"Understood!" A large man respectfully replied before hurriedly turning around and running towards the interior of the marketplace.

"Lead the way," Said Xiao Yan indifferently as he turned around and raised his chin.

Looking at the sudden coldness on Xiao Yan's face, Ke Lu hurriedly nodded. Not daring to utter any unnecessary words, he immediately began leading the way.

"This bastard dares to come to the Xiao Clan's territory to molest a member of the Xiao Clan. If I, Xiao Yan, allow you to leave the marketplace unharmed, I will abandon my post as the head of the marketplace!" Licking his lips, Xiao Yan's ghastly voice caused Ke Lu, who was at the front leading the way, to tremble and pick up his pace.

### **Chapter 84: To Cripple**

Liu Xi was currently very excited. The source of his excitement was the pretty lady clad in green standing a short distance away.

The young lady's clothes were elegant and her exquisite small face was devoid of any cosmetics, displaying an image of natural beauty and innocence. Her sleek black hair, which was randomly restricted by a short green cloth, gathered at her waist. When the wind blew, her drifting hair stirred one's heart.

On the young lady's unbearably small waist that one felt compelled to hug, a pale purple belt thoroughly outlined her graceful curves in a manner that even the eyes of a passerby could not help but peep at her waist. In his heart, Liu Xi secretly thought: *'If I could embrace such a small waist, how enjoyable would it be?'*

As his red-hot face watched the young lady, Liu Xi's palms trembled due to excitement. The graceful young lady in front of him was totally different from all the others that he has had fun with. Adding her refined temperament, which was much like a lotus flower, the lustrous Liu Xi could not help but feel the desire to immediately have her.

Glancing at Xiao Ning who had just been driven to the ground with one strike, Liu Xi laughed, "Protecting ladies requires real ability which you do not have."

Xiao Ning's face turned red and furiously clenched his teeth angrily as he was mocked by Liu Xi.

"Xiao Ning, come back. You are no match for him," Xiao Yu softly hooted as she stepped forward. Her face was slightly icy.

Xiao Ning clenched his teeth. He weighed both sides' strength in his mind and could only unwillingly retreat. Having lost face in front of the girl he liked, Xiao Ning was utterly embarrassed.

After scanning Xiao Yu's body with his eyes, Liu Xi's gaze finally landed on her sexy and long legs and felt compelled to praise her, "Another lady of the highest grade. It seems my luck is quite good today."

"Haha, Liu Xi Da-ge, they are members of the Xiao Clan. This woman's name is Xiao Yu. Her temper is short and men without some ability would not be able to conquer her." Jia Lie Ao, who was accompanied by a group of burly large men, walked forward with a smile and laughed dreadfully.

TL: Da Ge – big brother

"Keke, the spicier ... the more delectable." Liu Xi gaze once again turned to the silent young lady clad in green, his eyes released a greenish light. "Who is this lady?"

Seeing that his beloved person had caught the attention of Liu Xi, Jia Lie Ao's mouth twitched slightly. He silently but ferociously cursed this bastard with worms in his head and in his heart before helplessly replied. "She is Xiao Xun Er."

"A good name." Laughing while nodding his head, Liu Xi stopped wasting his breath on Jia Lie Ao. He took two steps forward and acted like a gentleman as he spoke, "My name is Liu Xi. May I invite you ladies to join me in looking around the marketplace? Haha, if there is anything in the marketplace that you ladies are interested in, feel free to put it on my tab." As he spoke, Liu Xi's arms slowly widened, boastfully exposing the badge on his chest that revealed his occupation.

On the badge was a simple medicinal cauldron. On the surface of the medicinal cauldron was a silver ripple that reflected a peculiar radiance upon receiving the rays of the sun.

"A first tier alchemist?" Seeing the badge on Liu Xi's chest, the surrounding crowd of people immediately choked; Liu Xi's smile widened at these choked voices.

Hearing the words "first tier alchemist", Xiao Yu's face slightly changed. However, with her personality, she would not go shopping with a shifty-eyed person simply because of his occupation. Without pausing, she spoke: "We're not free. You can find someone else." After she spoke, she grabbed Xun Er's hands and turned around to leave.

Just as she was turning around, a few large men stepped out from the crowd of people. They smiled licentiously as they blocked the way out.

Seeing the large men blocking their path, Xiao Yu's face sunk. She turned around and spoke coldly to Jia Lie Ao. "This is the Xiao Clan's territory. Aren't you being a little too arrogant?"

"Keke, the Xiao Clan? Are they very strong? All they did was gain a little popularity with the help of the Blood Clotting Powder. If I wished to, I could easily destroy the Xiao Clan. The Spring Reviving Powder is but a healing medicine that I randomly made." Liu Xi stroked his snow white sleeves as he said proudly.

Hearing these words, Xiao Yu became furious, but she remained quiet. Deep in her heart, she knew the ability of an alchemist and did not dare to speak too bristly to avoid bringing any unnecessary trouble to the Xiao Clan.

Although Xiao Yu may care about such details, Xun Er was not concerned with such worries. She now understood that this human shaped garbage was delaying her meeting with Xiao Yan.

Lightly raising her eyes and watching the arrogant Liu Xi, Xun Er's small lips opened slightly. The words that her ethereal voice spoke, however, caused everyone to be in a daze. "Garbage will always be garbage. Even after wearing the skin of an alchemist, he will still be garbage. Someone like you who goes around flaunting your little bit of ability.. using Xiao Yan Ge-ge's words..stupid."

The street became quiet. Many people were stunned. The young lady who appeared so elegant was as good as anyone else when it came to scolding people.

Xiao Yu was similarly stunned while watching the Xun Er beside her. A long while later, she helplessly curled her lips and said, "I have said that you would be corrupted by that little bastard..."

Having been publicly ridiculed in an unrestrained manner by Xun Er, the smile on the narrow minded Liu Xi's face diminished. He said gloomily, "In all these years, you are the first person who dared speak to me in such a manner."

"Really. What foolish words."

As her small hands rubbed her bright and clean forehead, Xun Er was now almost certain that the person in front of her was either an idiot or was overly arrogant.

"Jia Lie Ao, do it! Originally, I wanted to use legitimate means. It's too bad that she is ungrateful." The gloomy faced Liu Xi waved his hand and ordered coldly.

"Eh..." Jia Lie Ao was startled. He rubbed his head while suffering a headache. With a wary smile, he thought, "What is this guy thinking? Father was right. Other than alchemy, he knows nothing. How can such a person be an alchemist?"

Sighing, Jia Lie Ao could only say with a smile, "Liu Xi Da-ge, currently our Jia Lie clan cannot afford to offend the Xiao clan."

"The Xiao Clan?" Laughing coldly, Liu Xi said disdainfully, "If I can have her, I will help you ruin the Xiao Clan. Besides the Return of Spring Powder, I am able to make two to three other types of medication. Once I refine them, I assure you that the Xiao Clan will return to the sorry state it was in before."

Listening to the assurance, Jia Lie Ao was once again stunned. He had not expected that this person would so easily reveal all the cards in his hands. Besides being secretly delighted, he once again sighed. Does this mean that the greater the stupidity, the greater the probability of one becoming an alchemist? Jia Lie Ao waved his hand and ordered, "Capture them!"

Hearing Jia Lie Ao orders, over ten huge men behind him immediately wore fierce and tough faces as they approached and surrounded Xun Yan Er's group.

Seeing the arrogance of the other party, Xiao Yu became extremely furious. Accompanied by a sneer, Xiao Yu retrieved a long green whip from her waist and mercilessly whipped the bulky man that was rushing towards her. "Pa". In the blink of an eye, a long bloodstain appeared on the man's face.

Although Xiao Yu was a three star Dou Zhe, against over ten people with strength similar to a Dou Zhe, she fell into a disadvantaged position after beating off two to three of the big men. She ended up being forced to dodge causing her to be embarrassed.

After causing another big man to cough up blood and retreat, a pale faced Xiao Yu was forced to take a few steps back. Turning her head, she ordered Xiao Ning, "Take Xun Er away. Go and call that rascal here!"

Xiao Ning hurriedly nodded. His face abruptly changed as he quickly warned, "Sister, be careful!"

Hearing Xiao Ning's warning, Xiao Yu swiftly turned around and found the man whom she had whipped earlier raising his iron fist sinisterly and then viciously threw a punch towards her chest.

Seeing such an unexpected and dirty attack that focused on such a position on a woman's body, Xiao Yu was livid with rage; Dou Qi gathered on her palm. Just as it was about to be furiously released, a black figure speedily appeared by her side. A fierce wind smashed into the huge man. The enormous strength directly caused the man to roll a couple of meters with his face covered in blood before gradually stopping.

"Cripple everyone who attacked."

A young man carrying a steel rod glanced coldly at Liu Xi and Jia Lie Ao standing on the other side. The soft sound emitted by his lips was a little frightening.

Hearing the young man's command, tens of huge men carrying the same steel rod and wearing evil smiles came charging out at once.

### **Chapter 85:Acceptance**

Facing dozens of four star Dou Zhe level practitioners wielding steel rods, the squad of over ten people that had been flaunting their power suddenly froze. Before they had the chance to escape, those black metal rods ruthlessly rained down on every part of their bodies. In an instant, horrible shrills echoed through the entire street.

After throwing a cold glance at the ashen faced Jia Lie Ao, Xiao Yan tilted his head and faced the furious, red-faced Xiao Yu and asked in a gentle voice: "Are you alright? You should have informed me that you were coming over. Recently, this bunch of bastards from the Jia Lie Clan have been looking to stir up some trouble."

Being suddenly treated so gently by Xiao Yan for the first time, Xiao Yu was obviously shocked. The redness on her face grew a shade darker. At a loss, she randomly shifted her gaze and spoke: "I met Xun Er when I left the house. She said that she wanted to come and see you so I decided to accompany her. How was I supposed to know that I would encounter these bastards?"

Xiao Yan couldn't help but shake his head. He shifted his gaze to the young lady clad in green, whose face was full of joy at his appearance. The smile on his face became even gentler: "You seemed to enjoy cursing just now."

Listening to Xiao Yan making fun of her, Xun Er innocently shook her head, pursing her lips and saying with a bright smile: "That wasn't my intention. It was just that I didn't like his attitude - Even Xiao Yan ge-ge back then didn't dare to openly snatch someone off the street."

Facing Xun Er's hidden rebuttal, Xiao Yan touched his nose and smiled forcefully. He might have been a little arrogant back then, but he could not be as bad as the man in front of him.

"Oh, isn't this the young master of the Xiao Clan? Having not seen you for over a year, I heard that you have finally gotten rid your name, 'cripple!'" Jia Lie Ao couldn't help but butt in after seeing Xiao Yan speak to Xun Er.

"Who is he?" Liu Xi's gaze was equally cold. Seeing Xun Er chatting and laughing with another man after giving him the cold shoulder was a great blow to the arrogant Liu Xi's ego. he could not accept this.

“Hehe, Liu Xi Da-ge, this is the Xiao clan’s famous “genius”. His name is Xiao Yan. Back then, despite training for over ten years, his Dou Qi remained at only the third or fourth stage. I don’t know what he ate recently, but his Dou Qi rose quickly to the eighth stage within a few months.” Jia Lie Ao stood beside Lu Xi and made the introduction with a cold smile.

“Regardless of how great one’s talent is, if one isn’t even a Dou Zhe, he is nothing but trash,” Said Liu Xi coldly

Hearing these words, Xun Er’s small face grew even icier. A golden flame flashed in her limpid eyes.

Reaching out his hand and lightly patting on Xun Er’s stretched, taut body, Xiao Yan smiled indifferently and shook his head. Turning his head, Xiao Yan glanced at Liu Xi who was completely dressed in white. His gaze randomly swept towards his chest where the Alchemist badge resided and smiled: “You should be the alchemist who refined the potion ‘Return of Spring Powder’, right?”

Lu Xi coldly smiled and stuck out his chest with the badge, proudly announcing: “That’s right! I am the alchemist hired by the Jia Lie Clan.”

Xiao Yan, seemingly having realised something, nodded and laughed, “No wonder. Only an alchemist like you could refine such a low-grade healing medicine. You really have been worthy of your master’s teaching!”

Upon hearing Xiao Yan’s words, the surrounding mercenaries promptly laughed loudly. After having experienced the profiteering ways of the Jia Lie Clan, these mercenaries held a significant grudge against the creator of the “Return of Spring Powder”. Seeing that Xiao Yan dared mock the creator in his face, they felt a little satisfied.

The laughter of those around him resulted in Liu Xi’s face gradually growing darker. His eyes coldly stared at Xiao Yan: “You are helping your Xiao Clan offend someone they cannot afford to offend.”

Hearing this, Xiao Yan was a little stunned. He laughed bitterly and massaged his head, utterly speechless at how arrogant the man was. Did he really think he was some disciple of a Dou Di? A one star alchemist would be respected by the Xiao Clan but to say that he was someone the clan couldn’t afford to offend, that would be a joke.

TL: Dou Di is the highest Dou Rank

“Ai, how did he become an alchemist with such low intelligence?” Sighing and shaking his head, Xiao Yan, who was a little depressed, exchanged a glance with Xun Er. After having a brief conversation with Liu Xi, he finally understood why the gentle and soft Xun Er would dislike this man so much.

Rubbing his palm gently on his face, Xiao Yan was too lazy to continue conversing with this obviously stupid person. Waving his hand at the dozen of large men behind him, he smiled, "Attack! Go after their master too. Since these people dared to create trouble in our territory, we do not need to give them any face. Otherwise, we may be laughed at."

Seeing Xiao Yan's actions, Jia Lie Ao's face changed. He did not expect Xiao Yan would really attack. Turning his eyes, he insultingly provoked: "I thought that you had grown quite a bit. To think that you are still a useless person who only knows how to rely on his subordinates."

"Your provocations really are rather weak." Xiao Yan waved the metal rod in his hand as he spoke quietly.

"If you wish to treat it as a provocation, then consider it one. A useless person like you doesn't have the qualification to walk beside Xun Er Xiao-jie." Said Jia Lie Ao insultingly. A cold look stealthily flashed across his eyes as he continued with his evil design: "You should have undergone the Coming of Age Ceremony, haven't you? Heh. That means if I challenge you now, you won't have any reason to decline, right?"

"You are really shameless. Xiao Yan is only seventeen this year while you are twenty-three. You actually dare to issue such a challenge. If you wish to play, I am willing to accompany you!" Xiao Yu rebuked Jia Lie Ao challenge. Her eyebrows straightened and she lashed out with her whip, leaving a thin white scar on the ground.

The corner of his mouth twitched slightly as Jia Lie Ao provokingly said: "You seem to have quite good luck with women. Yet another woman has come forward to stand up for you. Heh, you are but a coward who only knows how to hide behind women."

"Dammit, this white face is too cocky. Young Master, I will play with him in your place." Watching the overbearing Jia Lie Ao, some of the surrounding mercenaries who had a better relationship with Xiao Yan howled.

Seeing that his words had stirred up such a large commotion, Jia Lie Ao's face changed. His strength was that of a three star Dou Zhe and was a little overwhelmed at offending such a large crowd.

Glancing at the expressionless Xiao Yan, Jia Lie Ao brushed his sleeves and coldly said: "Since you don't have the guts to accept the challenge, then let's forget about it. Liu Xin Da-ge, let's go. A person who did not dare to accept such a challenge doesn't deserve any respect."

Liu Xi nodded his head while wearing a shady smile. His gaze covertly landed on Xun Er for a moment before furiously glaring at Xiao Yan and threatening: "Brat, just you wait. I will have the Xiao Clan voluntarily send her over to me. Amongst all the woman who had caught my eye, there was not a single one whom I cannot get my hands on."

Xun Er indifferently glared at Liu Xi, whose face was filled with obscenity. Within her eyes, a killing intent finally emerged.

Jia Lie Ao and Lu Xi turned around but a couple of haughty large men from the Xiao Clan appeared at the entrance of the marketplace and barricaded the entrance.

“I know that you really wish to cripple me. Em, alright. Let’s fulfill your wish... I accept your challenge.” Just as Jia Lie Ao was about to send a signal for help, a young man’s indifferent voice suddenly rang out from behind him.

Hearing this, Jia Lie Ao was first stunned before a sinister smile appeared. The corner of his mouth slowly lifted as he whispered: “It’s you who seeks death. Don’t blame me if anything happens.”

### **Chapter 86:Challenge**

Turning around slowly, Jia Lie Ao slanted his head, the smile on the corner of his mouth was a little sinister. “Liu Xi Da-ge, may I play around with him?”

Liu Xi nodded his head and smiled. Without leaving any trace, he straightened his palm in front of him and perversely said: “If you have the chance, don’t hold back.”

Jia Lie Ao smiled and shut his eyes. Liu Xi’s words had abruptly prompted him to recall a secret private conversation he had with Jia Lie Bi. Back then, Jia Lie Bi had just received the news of Xiao Yan having recovered his talents. After a long silence while wearing a gloomy face, Jia Lie Bi used an extremely solemn and cold voice when he finally spoke to Jia Lie Ao.

“If that boy ever accepts your challenge you must not show any mercy. It would be best if you could kill him on the spot. Even if you are unable to, crippling him will also help the Jia Lie Clan remove a potentially terrifying enemy.”

Gradually remembering the grave and chilling voice that his father used to deliver the message, the smile on Jia Lie Ao’s face grew increasingly sinister. His awful eyes gazed at the calm Xiao Yan a short distance away. He felt a premonition that the young genius would be killed by his own hands.

Jia Lie Ao’s confidence originated from his own strength. In addition to the position of a three star Dou Zhe, the Qi Method that he had trained with was a wind element High Xuan one, Hurricane Chant. Adding the few Dou Techniques that he knew, he was already able to be victorious in a challenge against a five star Dou Zhe.

Compared to him, even though Xiao Yan had his talent return was only 8 Duan Qi at the Coming of Age Ceremony. Even if his strength once again increased during this period, it was impossible for Xiao Yan to surpass him. Regarding this, Jia Lie Ao had absolute confidence.

Within the entire street, Jia Lie Ao was not the only one who thought that Xiao Yan had no chance of victory. Even the observing mercenaries and Xiao Yu similarly thought that regardless of how outstanding Xiao Yan's talent was, the gap in the rank of the two was not something that anyone could ignore.

"Isn't this little rascal normally overtly shrewd? Why did he fall for that guy's lowly provocation?" Seeing Xiao Yan who had a metal rod in his hand, Xiao Yu's face became bleak. Stepping forward, she cruelly scolded in order to protect Xiao Yan: "When have you become someone who doesn't know his limits? Knowing that you can't win, why did you accept the challenge? Are you tired of living?"

Receiving the spurt of reprimands from Xiao Yu, Xiao Yan merely shrugged and smiled: "We haven't even started fighting. It is difficult to say who is the one who is tired of living."

"You..." Watching the stubborn Xiao Yan, Xiao Yu savagely stomped her feet. Her sexy long legs leaped to his front, blocking him. Next, she lashed her green whip in the air and releasing a splitting sound. "Let me fight in your stead. I know your potential is great but that is something for the future."

Watching Xiao Yu whose back was facing him, Xiao Yan was stunned. He did not expect that the woman who had always fought with him would in the face of others, protect him to such an extent. He rubbed his head, unable to make heads or tails out of it. After which, he swept his gaze across Xiao Yu's back to her slender waist, her beautiful butt and finally landing on her pair of perfect and sexy long legs.

Somewhat surprised at the perfect outline of this wild woman, Xiao Yan smacked his lips and quickly retrieved his gaze before the body's owner discovered them. His head leaned forward. When viewed from a distance, he appeared to be putting his chin on Xiao Yu's shoulders. "Eh. Back then, didn't you wish for someone to beat me to death?"

The sound of breathing beside her ear lead to Xiao Yu's body instantly tense up. The delicate tip of her ear was quickly covered by a pink blush. A moment later, she took a deep breath and spoke with indifferent voice that hid a difficult to discern shiver: "You should clearly understand the value you have to the clan. Therefore, you cannot accept any challenges as you please. As your... Biao-jie, I have the right to protect you from some danger."

"Eh, what a strange argument." Xiao Yan could only helplessly scratch his head. "Forget it. I will settle my own problem. As a woman, you should stand aside." Finishing the sentence, he fiercely tightened his grip on the metal rod and turned his body to one side, bypassing Xiao Yu who had been blocking him. Stepping off the ground, he suddenly rushed towards the impatient Jia Lie Ao.

Watching Xiao Yan's actions, Xiao Yu became anxious. Just as she was about to knock Xiao Yan back with her long whip, a young lady's clear voice caused her to pause: "Xiao

Yu Biao-jie, have faith in Xiao Yan ge ge. He is not an impetuous person. If he did not have the confidence, he would not proactively provoke another.”

“Xun Er...” Turning around Xiao Yu watched the smiling Xun Er, Xiao Yu was stunned. All she could do was nod and sigh. Her hands, however, continued to grip her long whip tightly.

“Heh Heh, little bastard, I will make you regret your foolish actions today.” Staring at Xiao Yan, who was rushing over armed with a metal rod, Jia Lie Ao laughed coldly. The pale green Dou Qi was quickly being embodied on his palm.

Jia Lie Ao stood on the spot without moving. His palms had suddenly changed into the shape of sharp claws. At the tip of his fingers, the green Dou Qi faintly formed 10 sharp wind nails. With a sinister laugh, he moved his hands. Together with a wind-breaking sound, he ruthlessly attacked Xiao Yan.

Feeling the faint sharp sound of ripping air, Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes. He raised his left hand and ferociously punched the ground in front of him. A shapeless strong gust of air hit the surface and its reflected force suddenly halted Xiao Yan’s advance.

Seeing how flexible Xiao Yan was in controlling his momentum, the surrounding experienced mercenaries immediately exclaimed in admiration.

At the moment when his body came to a stop, the metal rod in Xiao Yan’s hand was released and continued forward. Just like a released arrow, it shot towards Jia Lie Ao’s head.

Watching the metal rod flying towards him, Jia Lie Ao smiled disdainfully. With the flip of the hand with the floating green Dou Qi, the air in front of him became turbulent and a few small green hurricanes appeared.

After bypassing a few small hurricanes, the metal rod’s strength was easily eliminated.

Losing its strength, the metal rod fell onto the ground half a meter away from Jia Lie Ao with a clear and loud crash.

“Ah...” Observing Xiao Yan’s offensive being easily overcome, the surrounding people could not help but sigh. Jia Lie Ao, who possessed a high level skill seemed to be unbeatable.

### **Chapter 87:Try To Kill**

“Jie, Xiao Yan’s situation isn’t looking too good.” Looking towards the field at the weapon-less Xiao Yan, Xiao Ning said nervously.

Xiao Yu, with a calm and collected face whispered: "Why should I care if he dies, he wanted to be a hero. Now he's better. He failed to become a hero and is being bullied by others while losing face." Slightly staying silent for a moment, Xiao Yu sighed: "Get ready to save him. Jia Lie Ao, that scoundrel looks like he's out for blood."

Xiao Ning nodded his head reluctantly and did not dare to get on her bad side.

Compared to the nervous Xiao Yu, Xun Er appeared to be exceedingly calm. The pupils of her eyes swept across the field and fell upon the disadvantaged Xiao Yan while her luscious lips held a faint smile.

Sidestepping with some difficulty, Xiao Yan dodged Jia Lie Ao's attack. Just as Xiao Yan retreated, Jia Lie Ao closed in since the wind attribute technique amplified his speed. Clenching his fists firmly, with a fierce expression, Jia Lie Ao heavily attacked towards Xiao Yan's head.

With his back to the wall, unable to evade, Xiao Yan's face was still as calm as pond water and slowly let out a breath. A faint yellow Dou Qi ferociously rushed out onto his clenched fists. With an indomitable violent manner, he finally started to direct clash with Jia Lie Ao.

Seeing that Xiao Yan chose to meet force with force against Jia Lie Ao, the surrounding crowd could not help but make some commotion. The large discrepancy between the levels of both sides was obvious. If Xiao Yan had continued to choose to evade, then he could still stall the fight. But if he chose brute force, then he would undoubtedly be defeated.

Just when everyone was about to feel pity for Xiao Yan, those firmly held fists of Xiao Yan suddenly spread out and a fierce formless pushing force abruptly appeared and ruthlessly smashed into Jia Lie Ao's stomach.

Jia Lie Ao's stomach suffered an indescribably powerful attack as his quick and violent charge was immediately reflected back. His face became pale and with eyes full of maliciousness, a thought hurriedly flashed through his head: "What Dou technique is this? How could it be so strange?"

The faces of many people watching were astonished after seeing Jia Lie Ao unexpectedly blown backwards.

"Vacuum hand!"

Spreading out his palm and targeting Jia Lie Ao who was flying back, Xiao Yan, with an extremely sinister gaze chose the best opportunity. Immediately, with a wild suction force, he ruthlessly pulled at Jia Lie Ao.

In midair, pulled back as if he were a leather ball, Jia Lie Ao became extremely furious and gritted his teeth towards Xiao Yan who was getting closer and closer while holding a trace of cruelty on his face. Cyan Dou Qi quickly condensed onto the surface of his fist, unexpectedly forming into a small whirlpool: "Low Xuan Dou Technique: Green Wind Whirling Fist!"

The fist in midair brought a sound of piercing wind while the immense wind pressure from the technique blew back the junk on the ground next to Xiao Yan.

Slightly narrowing his eyes, feeling that colliding violent wind pressure, Xiao Yan's complexion gradually turned grave. His body, after a moment of silence, suddenly turned around. His right foot stamped firmly onto the wall with an enormous force, leaving a half-inch deep imprint. Using the wall's counter force, Xiao Yan's body whirled around in midair and his right leg curved into a weird arc. In this moment, his flexible legs appeared as if they were as hard as steel.

"Octane Blast!"

Pursing his lips, Xiao Yan's face was cold. His right foot in the air had finally stored up enough force and under the gazes of the crowd, it met with Jia Lie Ao's oncoming fist and made an explosion on contact.

"Don't get cocky just because you're a three star Dou Zhe!"

At the moment foot and fist clashed, yellow Dou Qi rushed forth from Xiao Yan's right leg with a light sound, making Jia Lie Ao's face change abruptly.

"Bang!" Fist and foot collided as a muffled thunder arose from the point of contact.

"Kacha!" Right at the moment of contact, the sound of bones being broken pierced through the air. Following the noise, Xiao Yan and Jia Lie Ao's bodies flew backwards at almost the same time.

His body smashing heavily against the wall behind him, Xiao Yan tasted something sweet rise up in his throat and then spat out a mouthful of blood that sprayed onto the ground.

Seeing that Xiao Yan had vomited blood, the mercenaries in the vicinity all sighed with regret. They all thought that Xiao Yan had already been defeated but suddenly Jia Lie Ao, who had fiercely slammed onto the ground, suddenly gripped his right hand. He rolled all about on the floor, releasing howls of anguish.

Within the crowd, there was no lack of shrewd spectators. Once they noticed the grotesque shape that Jia Lie Ao's arm had been twisted into, they couldn't help but draw a sharp breath, their faces displaying shock.

The sounds of clamor within the crowd went silent at this moment. Gazes of astonishment fixated on the youth who was panting heavily near the wall. After a long while, cheers suddenly erupted into the air.

Her red lips slightly parted, Xiao Yu gazed in disbelief at Jia Lie Ao who was wailing miserably and said in amazement: "That little bastard, he actually won?"

"It seems that way. That guy's arm was broken by Xiao Yan....." Xiao Ning swallowed a mouthful of saliva. Xiao Yan's ferocious attack made him recall the miserable condition he had been put in before. However, Jia Lie Ao's current condition was obviously worse, about ten times worse. Staring at the Jia Lie Ao whose bone was nearly sticking out of his arm, Xiao Ning could tell that this guy's arm was most likely permanently disabled.

Hearing Xiao Ning's confirmation, Xiao Yu didn't speak for a while. Her vision fiercely fixated on Xiao Yan who was gasping for air: "So it turns out that this little bastard had already advanced into the Dou Zhe realm. No wonder he wasn't the least bit scared."

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After sitting on the ground for a whole ten minutes, Xiao Yan slowly climbed to his feet and swept a cold glance at the nearby Liu Xi who gawked stupidly. Dragging his numb right leg, he picked up an iron rod at his side. He gazed ominously at the howling Jia Lie Ao on the ground and drew over with difficulty. Jia Lie Ao's attack from just a moment ago already revealed the murderous intent he had towards Xiao Yan. To those who wanted his life, Xiao Yan wouldn't be unnecessarily merciful either.

Lying on the ground and staring at the Xiao Yan who drew steadily nearer, Jia Lie Ao's face no longer held any hint of viciousness but rather looked panic-stricken as he swallowed a mouthful of saliva. He could clearly distinguish that look of murder in Xiao Yan's eyes, and couldn't help but hastily say: "I yield!"

Xiao Yan's face was completely expressionless and seemed as if he didn't even hear a word. He gripped the iron rod in his hand even tighter.

Looking at that youth's steeled expression, even if it was the bloodthirsty mercenaries, they couldn't help but feel a bit frightened. The current Xiao Yan made it hard for people to believe that he and the previously ever-smiling youth were the same person.

His steps halting, Xiao Yan towered above Jia Lie Ao and stared at him. He suddenly grinned but that full smile which showed off those pearly white teeth made Jia Lie Ao's heart grow cold. Only now did he realize that this youth who was normally as calm as a sheep, actually possessed a heart even more cruel than his.

"Die, you scum....."

Laughing lightly, Xiao Yan's pitch black pupils suddenly radiated even sharper killing intent and the black iron rod in his hand whistled fiercely through the air to smash towards Jia Lie Ao's head.

### **Chapter 88: Conclusion**

Staring at the merciless Xiao Yan, Jia Lie Ao's face turned white; a frightened expression enveloped his face.

On the street, the observers spontaneously sucked in a breath of cold air as they watched Jia Lie Ao about to be killed. Xiao Yan's decisive move led to many people changing their opinion of him.

Xiao Yu opened her red and moist mouth as her entire body was utterly frozen on the spot. Xiao Yan's ruthless and decisive character had totally overturned the gentle image she had of him. She had never expected that the young boy who she usually fought and lost her temper with could practice ruthlessness with such familiarity.

Everyone's gaze followed the metal rod in Xiao Yan's hands. When the metal rod was half a meter away from Jia Lie Ao's head, however, there was a sudden violent sound that was like a clap of thunder. On the street, someone abruptly called: "Brat from the Xiao clan, a challenge's purpose is to learn from each other. You actually dare to be so brutal?"

Hearing the furious scream, Xiao Yan narrowed his eyes, the edge of his mouth curled into a cold smile. Instead of stopping, the metal rod in his hand smashed downwards with an even more vicious force.

"Move aside!" Xiao Yan's action had obviously fanned the flames of the person who had shouted. With a curse, an extremely sharp wind energy was released, whistling forward. Like green lightning, it cut across the middle of Xiao Yan's metal rod and instantly, the firm and hard metal rod was cleanly cut into two midair.

Xiao Yan's face changed when the metal rod was broken into two. Clenching his teeth, Xiao Yan wanted to ruthlessly pierce the remaining half of the metal rod into Jia Lie Ao's throat when the green wind stuck once again. The strong pressure from the wind actually caused Xiao Yan to have difficulty breathing.

Shrinking his eyes, he used all his strength to pierce forward with the metal rod. However, he was blocked by an invisible air film that could not be broken.

Twitching his lips, Xiao Yan's right hand tightly gripped the rod as his body moved slightly and twisted over. The metal rod left his hand and became a black shadow, ferociously shooting toward the figure flying towards him.

“Hmph!” Seeing that Xiao Yan had actually dared to attack him, the figure coldly snorted. His hands curled into claws and fiercely waved in front of him. The thick green Dou Qi formed a few pale green wind blades.

Raising his finger, the wind blades left his hands and cut the metal rod into over ten pieces.

“To have such a ruthless heart despite being so young. Today, I shall teach you a lesson in Xiao Zhan’s stead!” The figure coldly laughed after cutting the metal rod into pieces. Within both of his palms, green Dou Qi was being quickly gathered. A cyclon gathered under his legs and lifted him into the air. Like a cannon, he threw himself towards Xiao Yan. A pale green wind blade appeared just as he waved his palm and explosively shot toward Xiao Yan.

The air pressure originating from the wind blades blew the ground free of any dirt.

“Teach me a lesson? Who do you think you are? You should discipline your son first.” Xiao Yan shook his head and smiled coldly. From the attribute of the Dou Qi, he had recognised the figure to be Jia Lie Ao’s father, Jia Lie Bi.

Xiao Yan watched the wind blades that were shooting towards him with a calm face. When they were five meters from his head, Xiao Yan violently struck his palm in the direction of the ground. A shapeless burst of air was released and upon coming into contact with the ground, pushed Xiao Yan’s body into the air. He somersaulted in the air and landed on an empty piece of land dozens of meters away.

The wind blades missed. With a “clang”, many deep scars were left on the hard rock surface of the ground.

“Father, kill him!” Seeing the figure who swooped down, Jia Lie Ao’s face was filled with unrestrained happiness as he viciously cried.

Landing on the ground, Jia Lie Bi darkly glimpsed at Jia Lie Ao’s hand. His face slightly tensed and a cold killing intent appeared in his eyes. Without replying, he pushed off from the ground and once again frenziedly rushed at Xiao Yan. “Let me see just how great this genius of the Xiao Clan really is.”

Only a short time had passed from the appearance of Jia Lie Bi to the hurried retreat of Xiao Yan. The crowd recognized Jia Lie Bi and began to boo; a Da Dou Shi had launched a sneak attack at a Dou Zhe!

“Wow, Jia Lie you old dog. You big watermelon. You actually have the face to attack?” Xiao Yan scolded. Seeing how Jia Lie Bi ignored the difference in their status and once again rushed towards him, Xiao Yan’s face finally started to ashen.

“Brat! After breaking my son’s arm, you can forget about leaving in one piece.” Jia Lie Bi stepped off the ground. Like the wind, he bizarrely appeared above Xiao Yan. A sinister expression flashed across his face. His fist fiercely tightened and a turbulent green Dou Qi quickly gathered into a huge swirl.

“Crap. You are even using a Xuan Level Dou Technique? You old dog. You have brought shame on the entire Jia Lie clan!” Feeling the ferocious strength that was gathered on Jia Lie Bi’s fist, Xiao Yan’s face turned very ugly. Secretly, he began pulling the black ring on his finger.

A short distance away, Xun Er’s face changed upon seeing the danger Xiao Yan was in. Slowly taking a breath, a golden flame appeared in her clear eyes. In the blink of an eye, the pale golden Dou Qi was beginning to emit an aggressive energy.

Just as Xiao Yan was preparing to save himself and Xun Er was preparing to rescue him, a sudden loud yell filled with anger blasted across the street. “F\*\*\*, you old dog. Since when has it become your turn to teach my son?”

When the cry died down, a flame covered figure sped over from beyond the marketplace. Stomping his feet violently, he was propelled with lightning speed towards the front of Xiao Yan and raised his head to roar like a lion

“Furious Lion’s Rage!”

Looking awe-inspiring, Xiao Zhan tightened his iron fist and punched viciously at Jia Lie Bi above him. A huge red coloured lion head flashed on his fist.

“Boom!”

The green and red Qi made contact and exploded like a thunder, causing the ears of most of the people on the street to ring.

In mid-air, the two men engaging in combat shook and hurriedly stepped back. As he was retreating, Xiao Zhan grabbed Xiao Yan with him.

The two men stepped on the ground hurriedly as they retreated, with each footstep leaving a visible footprint on the ground. From this, it was obvious just how strong both parties were.

Dissipating his Qi, Xiao Zhan coldly stared at Jia Lie Bi just a short distance away. He coldly laughed: “Jia Lie Bi. You have really lived like a dog. To have the face to attack the younger generation...”

Jia Lie Bi’s face was dark. His mouth slightly twitched as he pointed towards Jia Lie Ao, who was lying on the ground. In a cold voice, he said: “He has hurt my son to such an extent. Xiao Zhan, you will give me an explanation!”

“Explanation? What explanation? If my son had not reacted fast enough, the one lying on the ground would have been him. If that had happened, would I hold you accountable?” Xiao Zhan sneered as he swiftly and fiercely scolded back.

“This challenge was issued by your son. Everyone present can be a witness. Moreover, in a challenge, losing one’s legs or arms is very common, why are you making such a big fuss over it?” Xiao Zhan ferociousness slowly faded as he said with a smile.

“You...” Jia Lie Bi’s face twitched in anxiety. He scanned the laughing gazes around him and knew that he had lost the opportunity to hurt Xiao Yan. Clenching his teeth angrily, he said: “Don’t give me any opportunity, otherwise...”

“I will return the same sentence to you.” Xiao Zhan’s eyes flashed with a vicious glint as he smiled.

“Good, good. Let’s wait and see!” Jia Lie Bi nodded his head and smiled furiously. He went over to lift the groaning Jia Lie Ao, turned around and left. As he passed Liu Xi and noticed the latter’s shocked and speechless manner, the anger in him rose once again. Taking a deep breath, he suppressed his anger and said: “Mister Liu Xi, let’s go.”

“Eh? That lady...” Liu Xi unwillingly gazed at Xun Er nearby.

With his eyes twitching, Jia Lie Bi was ready to kill, there and then, this idiot whose mind was filled with nothing but women. He tightened his fist. After a moment, he forced himself to put on an awful smile: “Regarding this matter, we shall discuss it further after returning home.”

“Ah, alright.” Seeing the pain on Jia Lie Bi’s face, Liu Xi could only unwillingly nod his head. His gaze once again obscenely swept across Xun Er’s before reluctantly leaving the marketplace with Jia Lie Bi.

Looking at the shameful looking Jia Lie Bi and group out of the city with his eyes, Xiao Zhan let out a cold laugh. His gaze swept across his surroundings before turning around and facing Xiao Yan, who had a trickle of blood on the corner of his mouth. His gaze was gentle as he heavily patted the latter’s shoulders. Sucking his lips, he regretfully said: “Your attacks are not vicious enough. Jia Lie Bi has only one son and today, if you had castrated him, Jia Lie Bi would have gone crazy. If that had happened, the three elders who are hiding outside would have had the excuse to kill him. Ze ze, what a wasted opportunity.”

Hearing this, Xiao Yan was stunned. He could not help but roll his eyes. On the other hand, Xun Er and Xiao Yu’s faces turned red at the dirty words as they stood on one side.

Listening to Xiao Zhan’s words, the surrounding mercenaries felt their heads grow numb. No wonder the son was so vicious, his father was even more ruthless!

## Chapter 89:Dark and Windy Night

The silver moon hung high in the sky, emitting a faint moonlight that covered the ground in a silvery layer that gave it a mysterious look.

After the disturbance in the day, Wu Tan City had become dark and quiet in the night. From within the houses on some streets, there was only the occasional sound of nightly activities

In a room in the backyard of the Xiao clan's home, a young man was lying on the bed. His eyes, as dark as the night sky, were filled with a cold quietness.

"Teacher, what is your strength in your current state?" After a long quietness, Xiao Yan abruptly asked in a soft voice.

"Why?" The black ring that he wore emitted a random response. A moment later, Yao Lao vaguely said: "Although I am currently in my soul form, I should have no problem handling some small flies like Da Dou Shis or Dou Lings with my heavenly flame."

Hearing this, a slight happiness appeared on Xiao Yan's face. His eyes, however, still carried a coldness.

"You wish to kill the boy from the afternoon?" Seeing Xiao Yan's behaviour, Yao Lao asked with surprise.

"Jia Lie Ao isn't deserving of such effort." Xiao Yan smiled and whispered. "Two months is fast approaching and I am losing my patience to drag out the competition with the Jia Lie clan. Thus, I am hoping to secretly kill the alchemist called Liu Xi. Once he dies, the Jia Lie clan without any healing medicine will lose their remaining market share. Once that happens, even if their clan can continue surviving, their strength would have greatly declined and will no longer be able to threaten the Xiao clan."

"Oh. Have you really lost your patience? Seeing your character, you don't appear to be an impulsive person." After a brief silence, Yao Lao's joking voice escaped from the ring. "It seems that you care a lot for the girl called Xun Er. All that guy did was to act a little dirty yet you bear such a deep grudge. What a jealous child."

Hearing this, Xiao Yan's face warmed. The shame of having his thoughts so easily revealed arose his anger. "From the start, I did not have much time. How can I continue to play with them. Even if I had not met that guy today, I would have started using some tricks."

"Alright, alright. It has nothing to do with the girl..." Watching Xiao Yan's manner, Yao Lao laughed loudly. The mocking tone in his laughter caused Xiao Yan to roll his eyes helplessly.

“Since you wish to take action, let’s get going. I am just a soul so I’ll need to borrow your hands.” Yao Lao ceased his laughter and said.

Hurriedly nodding his head, Xiao Yan quickly jumped off his bed. He took out a red storage ring from his breast pocket and retrieved a large black cloak which he had prepared beforehand. He pulled it over his body in a practiced manner and the thin body of the young man was transformed into a bloated, mysterious black-cloaked man.

“Let’s go. You need not do anything. Just let me control your body. With my spirit encompassing you, you need not worry about anyone recognising you from your scent.” Seeing the well-prepared Xiao Yan, Yao Lao gave a smiling reminder.

“Ah.” Nodding his head, Xiao Yan easily reached the side of the window and scanned his surroundings like a thief. Only then did he jump out and his body quickly descended. Following which, a mysterious strong strength was emitted from the ring on his finger.

The mysterious strength quickly encompassed Xiao Yan’s entire body. Immediately, the rapidly falling figure suddenly floated in midair. Stepping lightly off a roof, his black figure was like an eagle, silently speeding out of the Xiao clan’s home and disappearing into the dark night.

The dark and windy night presented a good opportunity to kill.

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Jia Lie clan.

“Mister Liu is really able to refine other medicine?” In the well-lit hall, the originally anxious Jia Lie Bi was initially stunned upon hearing Liu Xi’s pleased announcement before asking happily.

Extremely satisfied with Jia Lie Bi’s surprised manner, Liu Xi lifted the tea cup beside him and took a sip. The expression on his face was very proud. “Besides healing medicine, I am able to refine something that’s very suited for the mercenaries’ use. The drug’s called “Explosive Strength Pill”. It can raise the strength of the user by ten percent for a short period of time.”

Hearing this, the happiness on Jia Lie Bi’s face grew . If a drug with such effect could be refined, he could use it as an advertisement to attract quite a lot of people. He might even be able to once again suppress the Xiao clan.

“Unfortunately, this “Explosive Strength Pill” cannot be refined in bulk like the healing medicine. With my current ability, I am afraid I can only refine twenty pills a day.” Liu Xi said in a regretful voice.

“Haha, twenty pills it is. We can create something like an auction, where the highest bidder will get it. In any case, the healing medicine is the main aim. We are only using this to raise our popularity.” Jia Lie Bi waved his hand and said with a smile.

“Hey. Clan Leader Jia Lie, I am indeed able to make this “Explosive Strength Pill”, but according to our agreement, I am only responsible for making the healing medicine.” Seeing how the “Explosive Strength Pill” had attracted Jia Lie Bi, a thought struck Liu Xi and he abruptly spoke.

Jia Lie Bi’s face suddenly changed. The crafty man knew what the guy was planning. However, at this stage, all he could do was to laugh dryly and ask: “What is Mister Liu Xi’s meaning?”

“Haha, relax. I know what kind of situation the Jia Lie clan is in right now so I won’t ask for much.” Watching a relaxed Jia Lie Bi, a sinister smile flashed across Liu Xi’s eyes. “All I want is Clan Leader Jia Lie to help me get hold of the lady called Xun Er.”

Before a smile could appear, Jia Lie Bi’s face stiffened. The corner of his eye twitched. He had not expected that this guy, who was strongly driven by sexual urges, would actually directly target the Xiao clan.

“Mister Liu Xi, if our Jia Lie clan touched a member of the Xiao clan, Xiao Zhan would have the excuse to openly attack us. By then, it would not be just a business confrontation but actual violence...” Sighing, Jia Lie Bi smiled bitterly,

Tapping his finger on the table, Liu Xi quietly said: “This is not a matter for me to consider. I don’t care if Clan Leader plans to forcefully snatch or stealthily drug her. All I care about is the result. As long as you can bring her to me, I will begin to refine the “Explosive Strength Pill”.”

The corner of Jia Lie Bi’s eye twitched. Despite his anger surging, he could only forcefully laugh: “Can you give me time to think? May I give you an answer tomorrow?”

“Hee Hee. It’s just as well. Clan Leader, you may think it over. Before I leave, I would like to add something. The Jia Lie clan and the Xiao clan have already become irreconcilable enemies, so why do you need to worry about adding another grudge into the mix?” Laughing perversely, Liu Xi stood up, patted his backside and swaggered out of the hall. With hurried footsteps, he headed towards his room in the backyard. The lotus-like extraordinary young lady from the day had ignited the lust in him. All he wanted to do now was to find a young and beautiful servant girl to relieve his lust.

Gazing at Liu Xi who disappeared into a corner, Jia Lie Bi turned even more gloomy. It was only after a long time that he exhaled a long breath and thickly said: “This bastard, whose head is full of women, would sooner or later die at the hands of one.”

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In a room at the backyard, Xiao Yan helplessly watched the knocked-out beautiful lady lying on the bed. Her body was covered only by a thin robe, exposing much of her naked body.

“That guy’s back.” Yao Lao whispered from within the ring, causing Xiao Yan to quickly squeeze into a hidden corner. Through a small gap, his eyes managed to observe everything in the room.

“Creak...” The wooden door was slowly pushed open. Liu Xi discernable laughter instantly came from within the room. “Ha ha. Precious, I am here. Prepare to be ruined tonight.”

“What a sperm-filled head idiot. Yao Lao, prepare to strike.” Xiao Yan said in his heart as he coldly smiled and shook his head.

“Alright... wait, there’s a change!” Yao Lao shouted a warning just as he was about to agree, resulting in Xiao Yan’s heart tightening.

His forehead was full of perspiration after being frightened by Yao Lao’s warning yell, Xiao Yan stayed where he was, not daring to move.

“On your left!” Within his heart, Yao Lao’s voice once again emerged.

Listening to the warning, Xiao Yan slowly turned his head. His gaze shifted to the window on his left and his eyes suddenly contracted.

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The originally closely-shut window had already been unknowingly opened, allowing the pale moonlight to scatter into the room. In the blink of an eye, the emptiness in the window and its surroundings was strangely replaced by a young lady in a golden dress. Below the golden dress was a pair of jade-like round and white small feet which drew an attractive arc in midair.

Moonlight spilled into the room, shining on the exquisite face of the young lady. It was just like a goddess under the moonlight, beautiful yet mysterious.

Gazing at the sudden appearance of the young lady, Xiao Yan felt his throat becoming dry. His heart softly moaned a name.

“Xun... Xun Er?”

### **Chapter 90:Arranging Everything**

After staring at the young lady who had appeared beside the window like a ghost, Xiao Yan whispered in surprise, “What is she doing here?”

“He he. From the looks of things, it seems that she has the same intentions as you.” Yao Lao softly said with a smile.

Frowning slightly, Xiao Yan hid his entire body within the shadows. He immediately but with some hesitation asked in his heart again: “Xun Er’s strength... why is it so overwhelming? Looking at the speed at which she had appeared, it seems comparable to that of a Da Dou Shi.”

“Her real strength is indeed what you usually see. For now, she is clearly using a secret technique that enables her to temporarily raise her strength for a period of time. Considering her background, being in possession of such a mystical secret technique is not something surprising.” Yao Lao indifferently said.

Hearing this, Xiao Yan was slightly shocked and bitterly laughed in amazement. Once again, his inner curiosity about Xun Er’s mysterious background led him to sigh helplessly. Shaking his head, he stopped thinking. His gaze passed through the curtain on the opposite side and watched the strangeness unfold.

Within the room, the sudden ghost like appearance of Xun Er had yet to catch Liu Xi’s attention. For the moment, he was entirely overcome by lust and had his pair of eyes staring at the beautiful woman on the bed. His hands were tugging at his clothes in a mad rush.

At some point, Liu Xi’s hand, which was tugging at his clothes, froze. As a six star Dou Zhe, he had finally felt that there was something amiss. After a brief hesitation, he slowly turned his neck and his gaze shot to the widely opened window.

On top of the window was a young lady in a golden dress lazily leaning on the window frame. A pair of eyes which were filled with a golden colored flame were indifferently watching the partially dressed man in the room. Floating above her white hand was a golden flame that was orbiting in an active and bewitching manner, much like a spirit.

Liu Xi foolishly stared at the young lady who was bathed under the moonlight. He slowly shifted his gaze until it landed on her indifferent and exquisite small face. Within his eyes, a tipsy feeling emerged. Despite the wrong atmosphere, Liu Xi could not help but become slightly dazed in the face of the perfect face and extraordinary disposition.

After being in a daze, however, Liu Xi abruptly turned around. Slamming his feet on the ground, his body crazily shot towards the main entrance like a released arrow. In this strange atmosphere and with a cold feeling of being near death, he knew that the young lady’s sudden appearance was not a good sign.

The room might have been spacious, but with Liu Xi’s speed, he only needed a short few seconds to move from the bed to the front door. Seeing that the wooden door was within reach, happiness flashed across Liu Xi’s eyes. Once he exited the room, he

would be able to loudly call out for help. Once Jia Lie Bi heard his distress calls, he would immediately come over to rescue him.

Unfortunately, just as he was about to touch the wooden door, he felt a sudden pain in his legs. His body, which was running at extreme speed, tilted and slammed against the floor and Liu Xi coughed out a few of his broken teeth along with accompanying blood.

Lowering his head in terror, he saw that two fist sized bloodied holes had unknowingly appeared on both of his legs. The edge of the bloodied hole was entirely black while emitting a faint charred smell.

“Somebody! There’s someone who wants to murder me!”

The intense pain from his legs nearly caused Liu Xi to faint. However, he clenched his teeth and withstood it. Then he opened his mouth and screamed as loud as possible.

“You can stop shouting. The room is surrounded by my aura. No one can hear you.” The young lady leaning on the window edge said indifferently. A golden flame blade formed on the tip of her finger as she lifted it. It seemed like the injury on Liu Xi’s legs was caused by this flame blade.

“You... What do you intend to do? What do you want? Money? Medicine? I can give you anything as long as you let me go.” Watching the young lady with utter terror, Liu Xi’s face was utterly white. In the face of death, his lust was finally suppressed.

Glancing impassively at the crippled Liu Xi squirming on the ground, the young lady lightly jumped from the window. With slow continuous steps, she walked toward Liu Xi.

Watching the Xun Er who had lightly jumped from the window, Xiao Yan realised that her hair, which usually ended at her waist, had lengthened and extended down to her bottom. Apparently, this was another effect of the secret method.

In the spacious room, the young lady wearing the elegant golden dress continued to head toward Liu Xi, who was groaning on the ground. When she was in front of him, she halted her footsteps, lowered her head and gave a sudden light smile. The instantaneous smile caused Liu Xi’s heart to violently jump.

“Didn’t you wish to capture me?” Xun Er’s light voice was filled with coldness as she lowered herself.

Liu Xi swallowed his saliva. His face was filled with cold sweat that originated from his fear.

“I actually dislike killing...” Seeing Liu Xi’s terror stricken face, Xun Er suddenly sighed.

Hearing this, a faint hope appeared in Liu Xi's eyes. Before he could beg for mercy, however, the sudden coldness that appeared on the young lady's face sent him to an even greater despair.

"I don't mind a little pointless gaze. But why did you insult him? What right do you have to insult him? He might not take to heart what trash, like you, said, but I cannot allow it. Really cannot!" As the young lady's voice abruptly turned cold, the golden flame blade above her finger was suddenly and violently released. It transformed into golden lightning and penetrated Liu Xi's chest. Instantly, a bloodied hole appeared.

Having received a fatal blow, Liu Xi's body suddenly contracted. His white face slowly went dark while his slightly protruding eyeballs looked frightening.

After indifferently glancing at the lifeless corpse, Xun Er stood up and lightly sighed. The cold small face exhibited a helplessness as she quietly whispered: "If I were not worried of Xiao Yan Ge-ge blaming me for being a busybody, the Jia Lie Clan would have long vanished from Wu Tang City. All these troublesome matters would not have appeared if that happened..."

Shaking her head, Xun Er's gaze randomly swept the room before turning her body. When she appeared again, she was already by the window. With a light leap, she disappeared into the night.

"Ze ze, to think that this girl who seemed to be so gentle and soft is actually decisive when it comes to killing people. Hehe, it seems you have found something precious." Yao Lao's joking voice sounded from Xiao Yan's heart not long after Xun Er left.

Bitterly smiling as he shook his head, Xiao Yan sighed once more. "It seems that I have made a futile trip tonight."

"Heh heh. That's hard to say. Although that girl was merciless in her attack, she's too young and lacks experience." Yao Lao spoke with a smile.

Hearing this, the stunned Xiao Yan immediately asked, "What do you mean?"

"Just watch..." Yao Lao smiled mysteriously before becoming quiet.

Seeing Yao Lao's manner, Xiao Yan could only shake his head and continue hiding himself in the dark. His gaze observed everything in the room.

The dark room, with the exception of the servant girl's breathing, was utterly quiet.

Xiao Yan waited quietly for over ten minutes. Just as he was beginning to frown, the eyes of the haphazardly fallen corpse of Liu Xi moved.

Beside the door, the hands of the originally lifeless Liu Xi had begun to move slightly. A moment later, the closed eyes slowly opened while the grayness on his face had also disappeared.

“Si...” Looking at the bloodied hole on his chest, Liu Xi took in a light cold breath. His eyes were filled with hatred. “Damn girl. Had I not stolen some ‘Turtle Breath Pill’ from teacher when I left, I would have really perished here.”

Reaching out his hand with great difficulty, Liu Xi extracted a jade bottle from his breast pocket. He carefully poured some of the white powder on his wound before taking out a pale green pill and swallowed it without hesitation. After completing these simple actions, Liu Xi’s face once again turned pale.

“It will likely take at least half a year to recover from this serious injury. Tomorrow, I will ask the Jia Lie Clan to send me back and invite my teacher over. With teacher’s help, the Xiao Clan will not have any good days left. At that time, I will torture that woman until she dies.” Liu Xi sinisterly clenched his teeth. His face was filled with wickedness.

“Sorry to interrupt, but you may not have the chance to return...” As Liu Xi was imagining how he would proceed, a bland voice with a hint of laughter suddenly erupted from within the room.

The sudden voice caused Liu Xi to freeze. His face changed as he turned around with great difficulty.

A figure that was entirely covered in a black cloak slowly emerged from the shadows.

“What a careless girl. In the end, I am still required to put an end to it all.” A young man’s voice escaped from under the black cloak. His palm was lightly stretched out and a white Heavenly flame slowly emerged.

“A heavenly flame?” Seeing this strange white flame, Liu Xi’s eyes narrowed and he involuntarily cried out in horror.

“Congratulations, you are correct. Here’s your reward.”

With a smile, the black cloaked man waved his hand. The gloomy white flame instantly left his hand. With lightning speed, it covered Liu Xi, burning him into a pile of ashes in the blink of an eye; Liu Xi did not even have the time to scream.

From that moment forth, the alchemist known as Liu Xi vanished from the continent.

Coldly clapping his hands, the black cloaked man waved his hands once more. A wind swept away the ashes on the ground, leaving a clean floor. Then, he leisurely left from the window, soared into the air and sped off.

Without alerting anyone, the black cloaked man quickly left the Jia Lie Clan's home. His feet lightly touched the roof of a house and just as he leaped for a couple dozens of meters, he suddenly paused. Helplessly sighing, he gradually lifted his head.

On the edge of a tower to the side was a young lady in a golden dress who was randomly swinging her round snow-white feet. With limpid eyes that contained a golden flame, she was lazily staring at the black cloaked man on the roof.

“Who are you?”

The young lady's finger gently touched the black hair that was lifted by the night breeze as she lifted her delicate chin. Her agile voice reverberated through the small space around them.