

I'm Actually a Cultivation Bigshot

Chapter 21: An Old Man Listening To Children's Stories?

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Watching this scholar's confusion, Li Nianfan continued, "The sun goes up and the sun goes down. This is the law of life. If you can't even grasp this basic fact, how are you to understand your own life?"

"One would experience the cycle of four seasons in ten years, and in a hundred years, one would experience the cycle of life starting from birth and aging to illness and death. In a thousand years, dynasties and rulers change. And in ten thousand years, one would see the turning of stars. In short, one cannot fathom experiencing all these in one day, so, of course, ordinary men can't see this world with the lens of a single day!"

The scholar shivered with changing expressions on his face, sometimes excited and sometimes confused.

Li Nianfan left him there and walked back to his mountain. That was all he could help him with. Whether or not this scholar understood him was up to him. Although longevity was the dream of many, it was not worth it at all if one went insane because of this. It was better for ordinary men to be more realistic.

After returning to his residence, Li Nianfan tossed two fishes to Xiao Bai. He placed his order for what he wanted to eat for dinner. Then, he enjoyed his lunch on his own.

Meanwhile, a thousand miles away, an elderly man was rushing to the Wanjian Immortal Sect along with a young man. Both of them were also flying swordsmen.

On the way there, the elderly man was sighing with a look of despair. The young man finally could not help but ask, “Master, I’m afraid the Wanjian Immortal Sect no longer exists. Why’re we still going?”

The elderly man sighed, “Chong Er, cultivators have been going against the law of the sky. We aren’t ordinary men and there’s danger everywhere. When one dies from danger, there may not be anyone to take care of our dead bodies.

“Bai Wuchen and I cultivated swordsmanship for many years and fought one another for a hundred years. Now, only I will be able to take care of his dead bodies.”

“Master, what if we bump into the Sword Demon?” the young man asked worriedly.

The elderly man seemed unperturbed. “Let it be if that’s the case since I don’t have many years left to live anyway. If we do, you should keep running. I’ll buy you some time.”

He said it with a glint of despair in his eyes. Five years ago, his Sect was still in glory, yet the Sword Demon destroyed half of it. Now that he was old, his power was not as strong as before, so much so that the Sword Demon did not even want to challenge him or he would have died a long time ago.

Knowing Bai Wuchen and his stubborn attitude, he knew that Bai Wuchen would not try to escape the Sword Demon. His dead body must have turned cold by now.

Both of them flew into the sky, creating a long arch in their trail. It was not long after that they reached the territory of the Wanjian Immortal Sect.

Meanwhile, the elderly man sensed something and looked in the far opposite direction. Three long arches came into sight.

It was the three of them returning home after listening to Li Nianfan's storytelling. Seeing this elderly man, Bai Wuchen froze, "Zhao Laotou, what brings you here?"

Zhao Laotou stopped for a moment and stared at Bai Wuchen in disbelief. "Bai Wuchen! Why're you still alive? I came here to take care of your dead body!"

Bai Wuchen was not offended. He smiled, "Hahaha! Of course not! I'll die after you and take care of your dead body instead!"

“Hmph!” Zhao Laotou did not refute but he curiously asked, “Didn’t the Sword Demon challenge you? Did you go into hiding?”

“Do I hide? Zhao Laotou, who do you think I am!” Bai Wuchen glared at him which was then followed by a cheeky smirk as he released some of his Qi.

Zhao Laotou trembled. He stared at him with wide eyes. “You-you’ve entered the Out of Aperture realm!?”

Bai Wuchen did not speak. He simply shut his eyes arrogantly.

“How did you break through? It doesn’t make sense! I’m better than you!” Zhao Laotou could not help sizing him up from head to toe bitterly.

“Can’t help it, but I just did!” Bai Wuchen said arrogantly.

Zhao Laotou seemed uneasy. He clasped his fists together as a gesture and greeted, “Congratulations to Senior Bai.” His voice was bitter. They both started together, but now his old mate had progressed beyond him. Of course, he did not feel good.

“Zhao Laotou, we’ve known each other for over a hundred years. Don’t call me senior!” Bai Wuchen explained hastily.

Zhao Laotou insisted. “According to the rules of status and power in the cultivation world, it’s only right for me to call you my senior.”

Bai Wuchen looked at Zhao Laotou with a hint of remorse. Despite knowing him for so long, Bai Wuchen knew that even if he became an Immortal, this old mate would never look up to him. Yet, he was now lowering his ego to greet him. There was only one explanation.

He did not have many years left.

He wanted Bai Wuchen to help look after his disciples and followers when he was gone. Every cultivator cultivated toward Immortality, but how many of them actually became one?

A Foundation Building cultivator had a life expectancy of two hundred years. Golden Core had four hundred years, Yuan Ying had eight hundred years, and Out of Aperture had one thousand and six hundred years. Each realm had a pre-fixed life expectancy, and one could live forever if one became an Immortal.

That was very, very rare.

It was likely that Zhao Laotou had less than fifty years left to live. As his old friend, Bai Wuchen saw right through him and could not help but sigh for his old mate.

After a moment of consideration, he decided that he had to help his old friend. “Even if I’ve reached Out of Aperture, do you think I’m a match for the Sword Demon?”

Zhao Laotou frowned slightly. He did not understand what he was trying to imply.

Bai Wuchen said, “The reason I broke through was because of an expert, who was the one who killed the Sword Demon.”

“What!?” Zhao Laotou’s voice was sharp and his face was filled with disbelief!

Even the young man behind him was shocked, as if he had heard the most impossible thing in the world! The expert was able to break through a Yuan Ying into an Out of Aperture? This expert must be very skilled!

Zhao Laotou asked, panting, “You’re not kidding me, right? Only an Immortal can do that!”

“Actually, I don’t think he’s just an Immortal,” Bai Wuchen said in a tone of admiration. He then began telling him his entire encounter with Li Nianfan from the beginning.

Listening to his description, Zhao Laotou's expressions went from one of shock to respect, and he ended up being stunned, staring blankly at Bai Wuchen.

An air purifier that produced Spiritual Qi? A water filter that poured out Spiritual Water? A drawing containing Sword Intent? And it was only a draft? A jade pendant with a phoenix engraved on it was able to kill the Sword Demon and turn him into ashes? A congee containing the Basics of Wisdom?

These sounded absurd!

After listening to Bai Wuchen's description of Li Nianfan, his face sank. "Bai Wuchen! I know you're of a higher rank than I am now, but this doesn't mean you can fool me!" He continued with an unfriendly tone, "You're making this up, aren't you? You're taking me as a fool!"

Bai Wuchen smiled bitterly. "Zhao Laotou, I'm not kidding! You can see for yourself when you follow me to listen to his story-telling tomorrow."

He did not blame Zhao Laotou for not believing him. Even he found it absurd and hard to believe. Who would believe it without seeing it for themselves?

"Follow you to listen to his story? Do you think I'm a three-year-old?" Zhao Laotou glared furiously, his face flushed red.

He was an aging man close to his death, yet Bai Wuchen was asking him to listen to someone's story-telling? Who was he kidding?

Chapter 22: A Bigshot's World Is Indeed Full Of Tests

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“That’s all I’ll say. Even if you believe it or not, that’s all I can help you with,” Bai Wuchen said calmly. He knew that the expert was powerful and all-knowing. If he did not like others speaking of him behind his back, then it would be over for him! Therefore, he was afraid to keep talking.

Zhao Laotou looked at Bai Wuchen suspiciously. “Are you sure you’re telling the truth?”

“It’s true!” Bai Wuchen nodded.

“Tszzz...”

Zhao Laotou’s face remained calm, but he breathed in a chilling breath. If Bai Wuchen was telling the truth, this expert was way too scary! Could he be an Immortal from above?

He suddenly realized that this was an opportunity for him. “I’ll go with you tomorrow. But if I find out you’re lying to me, I won’t let you go!” Zhao Laotou said.

The next day, when the sky was still hazy, Bai Wuchen brought Zhao Laotou along and started making their way to the Fallen Immortal Town. Bai Wuchen did not want to bother Li Nianfan. To show their sincerity, they arrived at the gate of the Fallen Immortal Town early, anticipating the arrival of Li Nianfan.

However, when they arrived, Lin Qingyun had been there waiting long before them. They exchanged a smile as they were not surprised.

Meanwhile, Li Nianfan was still enjoying his breakfast at a slow pace. After resting for a while, he made his way down the mountain.

When he arrived at the foot of the mountain, he was stopped by a figure. It was the scholar from yesterday. His eyes were no longer lost and confused. Instead, they sparkled with a hint of excitement. He bowed sincerely at Li Nianfan and said, “Mr. Li, I understand now! Thank you for your teaching yesterday!”

“You understood?” Li Nianfan looked at Meng Junliang, feeling that something did not seem right.

Meng Junliang said, “What Mr. Li was trying to say is that everything in the world follows a set of rules. One must start to realize the rules of everyday life to learn the rules of all

the living and the dead. For example, the cycle of an ordinary man consists of birth to death, and one must fully understand this cycle to break this set of rules!”

So, he was still chasing after longevity.

Li Nianfan was tired of explaining further. He was so close to scolding the scholar yesterday by saying ‘Death is normal, you have to face reality, stop dreaming!’.

Instead, he asked hopelessly, “Are you sure this is what I meant?”

“Of course, Mr. Li’s wisdom is not as simple! I’ve only realized a glimpse of it!” Meng Junliang said sincerely. “However, I’ll observe everything in the world closely from now on and feel its natural rules in hope of realizing the meaning of your wise words!”

Li Nianfan swallowed back the words he was about to say. Since this scholar was idolizing him, he could not tell him off.

He sighed. “I hope you’ll understand one day.”

“I won’t give up, Mr. Li. Thank you for your teaching. I can’t repay you, therefore, I’ll be your humble disciple from now on!” Meng Junliang bowed at Li Nianfan.

“Stop! I’m not your teacher!” Li Nianfan stopped him. This kid had some problem with his mind. In his past realm, they would have called him crazy! It would be a joke having him as his disciple!

A hint of despair flashed on Meng Junliang’s face. As expected, this expert did not think highly of him. Perhaps his understanding was still too shallow. He needed to work harder.

Li Nianfan did not want to spend any more time with this scholar, so he continued walking toward the Fallen Immortal Town. However, Meng Junliang followed behind him closely with such obedience and politeness.

“Why’re you following me!?” Li Nianfan asked.

Meng Junliang answered politely, “Mr. Li, after listening to your story yesterday, I’ve learned a lot. It was a masterpiece! Please, allow me to write it down as a record. It’ll become the most important principle of life, benefiting future generations to come.”

Huh? It was just a story. How did it have anything to do with the most important principle of life?

Li Nianfan shook his head, thinking that this scholar was hopeless. However, it was not a bad idea to have someone write down the story. At least his efforts would not be for nothing. He waved his hand and gestured, “Fine, write it down if you want.”

“Thank you, Mr. Li!” Meng Junliang bowed in delight and joy.

Upon seeing Li Nianfan walking into the Fallen Immortal Town, Bai Wuchen and Lin Qingyun walked forward hastily and greeted, “Greetings to Mr. Li.”

“Good morning, Mr. Li.”

“Brother Nianfan finally came. I want to listen to the story!”

“Yay! It’s storytime again!”

Being greeted by a big crowd by the entrance, Mr. Li was shocked. He then smiled politely. “Good morning, everyone.”

Zhao Laotou saw that Li Nianfan was such a young man, and not to mention, an incredibly ordinary man. He was feeling a little disappointed. However, since he was warned by Bai Wuchen, he did not show his disappointment and waited patiently.

Chong Er, who was behind Zhao Laotou, frowned and said in a lowered voice, “Master, this young man seems younger than I am and has no cultivation at all. He’s likely to be an ordinary scholar.”

“Bai Wuchen wouldn’t wait for nothing. Can’t you see that Lin Qingyun from the Linyun Immortal Court is here, too?” Zhao Laotou said in a lowered voice. “Observe more and speak less.”

Chong Er lowered his head and nodded. He took a glimpse of Lin Qingyun and his eyes glowed with adoration and surprise. He never would have thought that he would be able to meet the Saintess of the Linyun Immortal Court here today, and at such a close distance! Unfortunately, he did not dare to speak to her.

Meanwhile, Lin Qingyun walked toward Li Nianfan and said with a pleasing tone, “Mr. Li, there are too many people here walking back and forth. I’m afraid it might distract you from telling the story, so I’ve rented a restaurant for you to speak in with comfort.”

Li Nianfan looked at Lin Qingyun with surprise. He never thought that she would be so considerate. He smiled. “Thank you for being so considerate.”

Bai Wuchen smacked his thigh, wishing he could slap himself right away. How could he have missed such a simple opportunity to please the expert?

Argh! An expensive mistake!

The restaurant was nearby. It was clean and tidy, plus the ambiance was nice. Lin Qingyun really did make an effort to please him.

Li Nianfan carried Nanan in his arms and arrived at the top floor. He smiled, “Continuing from where we stopped, Teacher Bodhi Zhu left furiously. In the evening, Wukong pretended to be asleep, keeping his breathing steady. By midnight, he got up silently, put on his clothes, opened the door quietly, and left...”

Everyone listened attentively. When they realized that the three whips of Bodhi implied that Wukong should go to him by three in the morning, the audience had a look of realization in their eyes. The ordinary audience did not relate much, they only found it interesting.

However, the cultivators took it differently. Bai Wuchen felt as if he was struck by lightning. He did not expect that this was the Bodhi testing Wukong. With that, he knew that from now onward, he had to be more cautious. He needed to try his best to understand all the things the expert had been implying in an attempt to please him.

Chapter 23: His words!

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Bai Wuchen thought to himself bitterly, ‘Why didn’t I realize this earlier? I didn’t book this restaurant for him in advance and now that Lin Qingyun has done it before me, the expert’s pointing it out to me!’

Seeing that Bai Wuchen was sighing from time to time, Zhao Laotou listened to the story more attentively.

Meanwhile, Li Nianfan was at the part where Teacher Bodhi Zhu was teaching Wukong.

“Teacher Zhu said... I’m pleased that you’re destined to learn. Come closer and listen attentively as I teach the mystery of longevity to you.

“Wukong knelt and bowed sincerely...”

Destined?

Pleased?

Mystery of longevity?

Lin Qingyun, Bai Wuchen, and Zhao Laotou trembled upon hearing that. Their eyes flashed with excitement and shock.

Was he really going to tell them the mystery of longevity? They were convinced that the expert was teaching them through the words of Teacher Bodhi Zhu and implying to them that they were destined to be there. Especially Zhao Laotou who was approaching death soon. Hearing the words ‘mystery of longevity’, he held his breath in anticipation.

Meng Junliang's grip on his pen tightened. He pursed his lips as he did not want to miss a word.

“Teacher Zhu said... The mystery of longevity is the way to cherish life. The Essence, Qi, and Spirit must always be vigorous. One must firmly hold on to the release of energy. The energy comes from within and hides in between. The prosperous preaching...”

Words of wisdom came from Li Nianfan. Like a morning bell, the words entered the ears of the audience along with the Basics of Wisdom. Some of their gazes were focused, as if in the middle of realizing something, while some remained emotionless.

Though the cultivators stiffened with shock, waves of ringing penetrated their brains.

Wisdom!

It was the wisdom of longevity!

Their scalps were itching and they had goosebumps all over their skin. The words were difficult to understand and they did not understand most of his saying, but they remembered every single word.

Vroom!

Layers of dark clouds hovered above the sky of the Fallen Immortal Town without warning. Lighting struck like a snake, slithering between the thick layers of clouds, turning the sky of the Fallen Immortal Town into dark grey color.

Pitter-patter!

Instantly, heavy rain fell from above. From afar, it seemed as if the Fallen Immortal Town was surrounded by a curtain made of rain!

The pedestrians ran in all directions looking for shelter, shocked by the sudden change in the sky. However, the people inside the restaurant were unaware of what was happening outside. Everyone listened to the story attentively.

By then, Wukong had learned many skills, from flying in the sky to going underground. He was able to make seventy-two transformations. Every transformation was skilled and impressive.

Bai Wuchen was fascinated. He exclaimed bitterly, “These skills are so much more powerful compared to our cultivation.”

“In comparison to them, we’re nothing!” Zhao Laotou added. He was no longer suspicious and he felt grateful for coming here with Bai Wuchen, or else he would have missed this blissful opportunity.

Was this the world of The Immortals? They had such impressive skills!

By then, even if Li Nianfan denied being an Immortal, nobody would believe him. If he was not an Immortal, how would he know so much about the world of The Immortals?

Li Nianfan smiled and continued for a while before he ended. “Guan Tong’s surname was not his real name. What would happen to him next? Stay tuned for the next session.”

It ended again?

Everyone seemed hesitant to leave. Slowly, they realized that it was raining heavily outside. The sky was covered with thick layers of clouds which completely covered the sun. There was constant lightning. Many people started praying to the sky, asking for protection from The Immortals. The Fallen Immortal Town had not seen this spectacular view for almost a hundred years. Bai Wuchen and Zhao Laotou exchanged a look. They had an answer to this.

How powerful was this expert? A mere story from him attracted such a drastic change in the sky? It was too scary!

Li Nianfan walked to the entrance of the restaurant. He frowned at the sight of the weather and muttered, “This weather’s so erratic and troublesome. It needs to stop now.”

Instantly, a gold phantom rose from the pond in his backyard and flew up to the clouds.

“Mr. Li, why don’t I send you home? I can guarantee that you won’t get wet,” Bai Wuchen offered hastily, not letting this opportunity slip.

However, in the next moment, the sun shone through the dark clouds, shining directly on Li Nianfan. Swiftly after, the clouds dissipated as if the rain was abruptly stopped by someone without warning.

“Tsz...”

Bai Wuchen and the others took in a cold breath, looking at Li Nianfan with newfound fear.

His words!

Even the sky had to listen to this expert!

Li Nianfan did not feel anything. He merely thought himself to be lucky and marched out of the restaurant.

“Mr. Li, please, stop.” Meng Junliang ran out of the restaurant. “Mr. Li, may I please include your name on this ‘Journey to The West’?”

“Please, don’t!” Li Nianfan shook his head. He would not want to make a name for himself in this dangerous realm.

“This book was written by Wu Cheng’en. Just use his name.”

“Wu Cheng’en, Wu Cheng’en...” Meng Junliang muttered this name to himself and suddenly looked up at Li Nianfan with a sparkle in his eyes. “Mr. Li’s a genius! I’ve just realized it!”

‘What did you realize?!’ Li Nianfan scowled at him in his mind and did not bother to answer him. This scholar was too embarrassing!

Little did he know that the cultivators beside him had a realization, too! They looked at Li Nianfan with respect.

‘Wu Cheng’en... The name is a way of him asking everyone to not take his kindness!’ they thought.

The ‘Journey to The West’ would be a popular hit in this Immortal Realm, even the ‘mystery of longevity’ he spoke of earlier was precious. This was a book meant for the Immortals to read! The expert was generous enough to share it with everyone. He even called himself Wu Cheng’en? This was definitely a gesture from him saying ‘you’re welcome’!

Expert, a true expert!

As expected, everything he did had layers of meaning!

Zhao Laotou hastily pulled on Bai Wuchen’s sleeves and made a signal with his eyes. Understanding his old friend, Bai Wuchen grabbed Zhao Laotou by his arm and walked toward Li Nianfan. He introduced, “Mr. Li, this is an old friend of mine. His full name is Zhao Shanhe. He has heard great things about you and your skills, so, he begged me to introduce him to you.”

“Hello, Mr. Zhao.” Li Nianfan smiled. ‘If he’s heard great things about me, then he must be one of the cultivators, too.’

Zhao Shanhe greeted politely. “Greetings to Mr. Li.”

“Greetings to you, too. Mr. Zhao.” Li Nianfan smiled. Cultivators were so polite and always showed so much respect to him. He was quite lucky to have met so many friendly cultivators. It was comforting.

Zhao Shanhe and the other walked with Li Nianfan to the entrance of the town. Li Nianfan ruffled Nanan's hair and smiled. "Goodbye, Nanan."

Unexpectedly, Nanan replied. "Good...bye..."

It worked! His way worked better than any treasure or elixir!

Bai Wuchen and the others stared at him in awe. Mr. Li was like a god!

Chapter 24: Time To Feast!

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Watching Nanan's silhouette, Li Nianfan started thinking deeply. He hoped that Nanan could recover swiftly and heal her trauma. The meat of the leopard was very delicious. However, other than his fishless pond, he did not breed any other animals. So, it would not be easy to find wild meat. Furthermore, compared to normal wild animals, the monster's meat was more tender and delicious.

Li Nianfan muttered to himself, “I feel like eating some wild meat.” His voice was low, but the cultivators heard it clearly.

The expert was giving them a signal! It was his test for them!

Their eyes opened wide and their cheeks flushed with excitement.

“Mr. Li, I’d be more than happy to bring you some wild animals!” Bai Wuchen said hastily.

“Mr. Li, I can do that, too!” Lin Qingyun and Zhao Shanhe were late by a beat, but the two of them still called out in unison.

Li Nianfan was shocked by their enthusiasm. “Huh... You don’t have to be so polite!”

“Mr. Li, we listened to your story for free. Getting you some wild animals is the least we can do,” Lin Qingyun said.

Bai Wuchen already had his sword under his feet and was ready to take off. “Mr. Li, why don’t you go home first? We’ll go hunt for some animals right away.”

Seeing how enthusiastic they were, Li Nianfan felt bad for turning down their offers. “Alright, then. Thank you so much!”

With that, Bai Wuchen and the rest flew into the sky. They all exchanged competitive looks. They all took this as a competition to impress Li Nianfan.

Meanwhile, Bai Luoshuang staggered weekly. “Hmm... I feel that Mr. Li meant more than that.”

Hmm?

Everyone turned to look at Bai Luoshuang. Lin Qingyun seemed as if she was thinking, too.

“Luoshuang, what do you mean?” Bai Wuchen asked.

She replied, “Dad, I don’t think Mr. Li wants to eat wild animals. After killing the Leopard Monster, he wanted to treat us to a leopard feast. I have a feeling that the wild meat Mr. Li was referring to are monsters.”

“Why didn’t I think of that? I saw the look of pity when the expert looked at Nanan. Nanan was traumatized by the monster, so the expert must hate monsters!” Su Ya nodded.

“Argh! It’s a lucky thing you guys remembered. Come to think of it, he’s an expert. Why would he want to eat normal cheap wild meat, right? What he meant was the monsters, no doubt! We almost misread him. Imagine if we brought him some ordinary animals over. We might as well not see him again!” Bai Wuchen said cautiously.

He could not help thinking of the test in the story he heard earlier. He almost failed the test! Luckily, his daughter pointed it out to him.

Zhao Shanhe was impatient. “Then, what’re we waiting for? Let’s go and kill some monsters! We have to get him at least a Monster Lord!”

Lin Qingyun said, “I know a place where a Tiger Lord resides. It’s cultivating in the Yuan Ying realm and has caused harm to many people. If we kill it, the expert would be pleased!”

“Bring us there right away!”

They did not want to waste any time. They sped up to get to this Tiger Lord.

A thousand miles away, there was a forest filled with evil spirits. Everyone who passed by would be terrified and run away in fear. Meanwhile, a bunch of little monsters gathered in the forest. They were having a party. The Tiger Lord was staring at the head of another dead tiger, watching the performance of the little monsters while enjoying his feast and wine.

A bright light approached them and landed in the forest. Swiftly after, a white Sword Intent soared to the sky.

“Roar!”

A loud cry of a tiger resonated in the forest. Before the little monsters could react to what just happened, they saw their Lord in its original form, carried on the shoulders of the people who had just landed out of nowhere.

“Run!”

The little monsters were terrified and ran in all directions.

“One tiger is too little. Let’s grab a few more.” Bai Wuchen and the rest targeted a few more big monsters.

...

Li Nianfan arrived home, but not long after, Bai Wuchen and the rest arrived, too.

“Here.”

Different kinds of wild beasts appeared in front of Li Nianfan. They consisted of a double-headed wolf, a three-tailed lion, and many more. They were huge, which impressed Li Nianfan greatly.

Cultivators were so powerful! Eight out of ten of them were monsters!

“We don’t know what Mr. Li fancied, so we brought you more,” Bai Wuchen said.

“Hmm! Thank you so much!” Li Nianfan nodded with satisfaction. With the glory of the cultivators, he was able to have a feast today! These were not only rare beasts, they were monsters! This was something he could never have dreamt of back in his past realm.

Seeing Li Nianfan’s reaction, the cultivators let out a sigh of relief. Smiles appeared on their faces. So, the expert actually wanted monsters. Luckily, they realized his implication before it was too late!

After they had helped him so much, LI Nianfan had to return the kindness, so he asked, “There’s so much food. I can’t finish it by myself anyway. Why don’t you all stay for a meal?”

“Mr. Li, you’re too polite, don’t...” Zhao Shanhe instinctively rejected the offer out of politeness, but he was stopped by Bai Wuchen who glared at him with a look full of anger and hatred.

‘Are you an idiot?’

‘Didn’t I tell you that even the water the expert drinks is made of Spiritual Water? That even a simple bowl of congee contained the Basics of Wisdom and was ineffably delicious? How could you turn down such an opportunity?’

‘Brainless!’

‘Even if it’s shameless of us, I’d want to stay for a meal!’

Zhao Shanhe understood what went through Bai Wuchen’s mind instantly. He coughed gently and said, “If you insist, I won’t turn you down!”

Li Nianfan nodded and turned to Xiao Bai. “Xiao Bai, go and prepare the meat. Cut them into slices and prepare some vegetables. We’ll have hotpot tonight.”

“Yes, my dearest master,” Xiao Bai answered and did as he was told.

Although this was not the first time Bai Wuchen saw this, he was still immensely stunned. If someone else had a Spiritual Robot at home, it would be the most precious thing in the house and they would treat it as an altar in the ancestral hall. Unlike Li Nianfan, who asked his Spiritual Robot to do chores!

One could only imagine the joy of being an expert!

Li Nianfan smiled. “You’re all in luck. We’re having hotpot.”

Hotpot?

What was that?

Was that what Immortals ate?

The cultivators’ doubts did not stop them from being excited. They all looked at Bai Luoshuang with praise. It was all because of her that they passed the test imposed by the expert. Perhaps hotpot was a reward for them all.

Since the lunch was not yet ready, Li Nianfan permitted them to look around while he looked up at the sky. He contemplated if he should decorate his four-part architecture since he had been receiving so many guests lately, all of whom were cultivators. Although he was not a cultivator himself, his residence had to be impressive. Now that he knew the

cultivators were art lovers, he wanted to renovate his house in a way that would impress his guests upon arrival.

Chapter 25: I Came From The Mortal Realm, Seeking For Longevity.

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The cultivators did not dare to walk around too freely, only walking around in the yard cautiously. They explored the yard with a pious and awestruck heart as if visiting the residence of an Immortal. Regardless if it was the decoration or the architectural style, it was all very impressive and stunning. There were many things that they had never seen in their lives, such as ceramic tiles, mirrors, and many more.

Treasures... These must all be treasures!

So this was what the residence of an Immortal looked like.

Bai Luoshuang pointed out, “Dad, look. This is the air purifier and that is the water filter.”

“Tsz...”

Zhao Shanhe took in a cold breath, his eyes widened in shock. Although he had heard about them, he could not help being stunned upon seeing them with his own eyes.

This was a rare place filled with treasure!

“You’re impressed by these? Look, what’s there?” Bai Wuchen pointed at the corner not far away.

“Fallen Demon Sword?!” Zhan Shanhe rushed over and took a closer look. He was sure that this was indeed the Fallen Demon Sword!

“So, he really did help you kill the Sword Demon!?” Zhan Shanhe asked.

“How can this be fake?” Bai Wuchen smiled and said in a lowered voice, “I’m suspecting that this expert was a friend of our Wanjian Immortal Sect’s ancestor!”

Zhan Shanhe looked at him with a look of disdain and scoffed, “Oh, please! Can you be more shameless?”

Lin Qingyun, too, threw a strange look at Bai Wuchen. She did not know that this senior could be so shameless.

“I do have proof!” Bai Wuchen explained, “My daughter had escaped from the Sword Monster. It was almost going to kill her, but this expert happened to be there. Not only did he save her, but he also treated her with Spiritual Water and gave her a drawing, too!”

“The drawing made me have a breakthrough. Then, we brought the Sword Demon here, and he effortlessly destroyed the Sword Demon while saving the Wanjian Immortal Sect from danger. The timing of everything seemed to have been controlled by this Expert. It’s obvious that he was trying to save the Wanjian Immortal Sect!”

Zhao Shanhe looked at Bai Wuchen with a different look. He exclaimed, “Bai Wuchen, why haven’t I realized how shameless you are!? Well, if you put it like that, I might as well say that the reason this expert helped you is that he was trying to get to know me through you so he could help me in the future. It seems that my ancestors are the ones he’s trying to help!”

These two elderly men were way too shameless. Lin Qingyun rolled her eyes before her gaze landed on the Fallen Demon Sword.

So, this was the sword that destroyed the peace and caused so many deaths in the cultivation world? It was the sword that was feared by so many sects, yet, it was now left in the corner and only used for cutting wood.

“Eh?”

Bai Wuchen paused. “The demonic spirit is no longer present in the Fallen Demon Sword?”

“You’re right!” Zhao Shanhe was stunned, too. The Fallen Demon Sword symbolized the main demon in the world of swordsmanship, yet, it was now merely an ordinary black sword.

However, it seemed to make sense after they recalled he was an expert.

“It appears that the expert saw how demonic this sword was, so he sealed its demonic spirit. Using it to cut wood is a way for the Fallen Demon Sword to redeem itself!” Zhao Shanhe came up with this and exclaimed. “A true expert indeed.”

Meanwhile, Li Nianfan already came up with an idea to decorate his residence. He was getting his inkstone, ink, brush, and paper ready.

Those who visited him were here for his literary talent, and as a literary talent, he might as well hang a couplet in front of his door. He held onto his brush, his posture erect and eyes squinted while he got into the mood. With that, waves of Insight radiated from his body, engulfing the entire yard.

Suddenly, the cultivators jolted with goosebumps all over them. Their hearts almost skipped a beat.

“Mr. Li, he... He... he...”

Lin Qingyun cried out with wide eyes, her lips trembling so vigorously that she could not finish her sentence.

This was the first time Mr. Li revealed his Insight in front of them. Although it was just a hint of it, it was of an unbeatable level in this Immortal Realm.

They held onto their terror and started getting closer to him cautiously, taking one step at a time.

‘Is the expert about to write?’

Nobody dared to breathe out loud.

Li Nianfan was in the mood already. His eyes opened abruptly, revealing his pupils that were as deep as galaxies.

His brush touched the paper!

Vroom!

Even though the weather was fine, a loud thunder suddenly resounded in the sky!

His brush was moving like a dragon—majestic and beautiful!

The cultivators had forgotten to breathe. They simply stared at him with their reddened eyes, immensely captivated as if they were transported into a completely different world.

Li Nianfan's brush danced across the paper. To his audience, he was not just writing. Instead, he seemed to have been writing the Heavenly Path! Every stroke and movement complied with the Heavenly Path. It felt like waves of Insight was washing over them.

Too much, too deep!

Compared to this, their Insights were like a boat in the endless sea—very small. This kind of Insight was able to drive the entire cultivation world crazy! If it were not because Li Nianfan's Insight was soft and gentle, the cultivators here could have been killed in an instant or gone crazy, resulting in their hundred years of cultivation to be for nothing.

Li Nianfan was done and put down his brush. It was not until then that the cultivators were released from the tension, gasping for air with sweat all over their bodies.

Eight words were imprinted on the paper, lightly written like mist and dust.

“I Came From The Mortal Realm, Seeking For Longevity.”

Brilliant writing! Brilliant use of words!

It was just eight words, yet it contained the truth of the cultivation to immortality. Only an expert like Li Nianfan was able to come up with this couplet!

Zhao Shanhe stared at this and read it over and over again. He felt his scalp itching, and his brain felt like it was being woken up. He felt a glint of blankness.

A glint!

So close! He was so close to a breakthrough!

Zhao Shanhe panted hurriedly as he sighed inside his heart. However, he was not disheartened. As long as he was with this expert, it was way more beneficial than having a breakthrough!

Nobody spoke a word as they were all stunned by this couplet. They were scared that uttering any word might mess up the immersive Insight permeating through the room.

“Done!”

Li Nianfan took up the couplet and looked closely. “Not too bad. I haven’t been writing recently, so my skill has somewhat regressed.”

‘Not too bad?’

‘Somewhat regressed?’

‘Oh, please, take into account our feelings!’

Lin Qingyun trembled and was not able to utter a word.

“What do you all think?” Li Nianfan asked.

After being stunned for a very long while, Bai Wuzhen gathered his guts and stuttered, “Brilliant, this is...brilliant!” He really could not think of anything else to say. These words must have come from above!

Li Nianfan could tell by his look that Bai Wuzhen was out of words.

“I’ll put this outside my door,” Li Nianfan said as he walked to the door and placed it on the sides of the door. The longer he looked at it, the more satisfied he was. Although there were not too many words, it was all about artistic conception. Even if the Immortals saw it, at least they would not find it too ordinary.

‘It seems that my residence is a little more impressive now!’

“Master, the food is ready,” Xiao Bai said with a tray full of vegetables and meat rolls. They were then placed on a big stone table in the inner court. Meanwhile, the grill was set up with a big pot of soup placed on top of it. Xiao Bai filled the pot with butter and started steaming it.

Chapter 26: The Pot Contains Insights!

Chapter 26: The Pot Contains Insights!

It was not until then where they all snapped back from the shock. Zhao Shanhe and Bai Wuchen exchanged a complicated look with their lips pursed.

This expert was way too advanced, perhaps ‘Immortal’ was not adequate enough to describe his status. If they were to get a word from him, it would be as precious as a treasure that could be passed on for generations.

Zhao Shanhe said impatiently, “Bai Wuchen, didn’t you get a drawing from Mr. Li? Show it to me!”

“I’m afraid I can’t,” Bai Wuchen said with a bitter look, tears almost rolling down from his eyes.

“Huh? There are so many years of friendship between us, yet now you’re hiding it from me? Not even one look?” Zhao Shanhe said furiously.

“It’s not that I don’t want to show it to you, the drawing... It was destroyed by the Sword Demon,” Bai Wuchen said with pain in his voice.

“What!?” Zhao Shanhe’s aged face was flushed red, his beard spiked on its end as he scowled, pointing his finger at Bai Wuchen. “You’re such a fool! You can’t even take care of a precious treasure! The drawing was destroyed, yet you’re still alive! Are you not ashamed?”

Bai Wuchen’s heart was dripping in blood. This was indeed one of the most shameful things he had done in his life. “Zhao Laotou, do you think I wanted it to be destroyed? At that moment, I wished that I was the one who was destroyed, not the drawing!”

He was a few hundred years old, yet he said it with the tears in his eyes ready to overflow anytime. He would not be able to pass on the drawing to future generations and bring glory to the Wanjian Immortal Sect!

Zhao Shanhe understood that Bai Wuchen was really upset about it. If it were him, he would not have felt good either. He let out a long sympathetic sigh.

“What’re you two sighing about? One should be happy while eating, or else it’s an insult to the delicious food!” Li Nianfan smiled at them.

The speaker might not have meant it that way, but the listeners interpreted it differently.

“Mr. Li...” Bai Wuchen looked at Li Nianfan with his reddened eyes which were tearing out of gratitude.

‘Mr. Li’s hinting! He must’ve known that the drawing was destroyed. Him asking me to be happy probably means that he doesn’t blame me!

‘Ah! Mr. Li is too generous!’

In that instant, Bai Wuchen was so touched, he knew he would do anything to please Li Nianfan in the future.

Meanwhile, their gazes landed on the stone table not far from them. With just a look, Bai Wuchen and Zhao Shanhe let out a gasp.

The food was...too beautiful!

So beautiful that they looked like artwork. The thinly sliced meat was finely cut and rolled into a roulade, arranged accordingly on the plate. The white and red meat was arranged alternating one another, making it look as if they were glowing. The vegetables were cut neatly and tidily, with the different kinds placed together and forming a pleasing sight. Other than that, there were some round-shaped things which looked like balls. They had never seen those before, but it looked tempting with just one look.

“This, these are...” Bai Luoshuang looked at the food in front of her, her lips slightly parted in an ‘O’ shape. She did not realize her saliva by her lips was about to fall out.

Lin Qingyun, too, could not resist the temptation of the delicious food. She swallowed her saliva. She did not expect her usually cold heart to be so easily tempted when it came to delicious food.

They had not even started eating, yet by just the look of it, they were already tempted.

Was this the food for Immortals?

If they were fortunate enough to taste them today, they would have no more regrets in life!

Gulp! Gulp!

“Hmm? This pot...”

Bai Wuchen and the others looked at the pot as if they had discovered a new Insight! The round-shaped pot was divided by a slightly curved line in the middle. On one side of the pot was red spicy oil while the other side had white bone-broth. It looked like a Tajitu.

This was obviously the Insight of Yin and Yang!

The expert was indeed an expert. Even the pot contained Insights. He was way beyond anyone's level.

His guests felt like they had learned something.

Li Nianfan saw their expression and could not help smiling to himself. ‘So what if they're cultivators, they're still impressed by me! It's just a mandarin duck pot and they're looking at it with such awe in their eyes!’ he thought to himself.

Bai Luoshuang was running out of patience. She asked, “Mr. Li, how are we going to eat this?”

“It’s simple. Just put what you want into the pot and it will be cooked soon.” Li Nianfan demonstrated by dipping a tiger meat roulade into the boiling spicy red broth. He was used to starting with the spicy broth which was more appetizing.

The roulade was thin, so it only took around ten seconds for it to be cooked. The heat from the fire was just right.

“After it’s cooked, just dip it in the sauce.” Li Nianfan opened his mouth as he put the roulade into his mouth.

‘Wow! This is the perfect ‘feel’! Nice!’

Bai Luoshuang imitated what Li Nianfan did. She picked up the roulade and put it into the broth.

“Wow, so spicy!” Bai Luoshuang called out after taking a bite of the roulade.

A layer of red spicy oil covered the roulade. Dipped with a sauce that complimented the burning meat, the taste burst in her mouth perfectly. It felt like gunpowder burning in her mouth. Bai Luoshuang's cheeks were flushed red instantly. The spice and heat in her mouth was something she had never felt before, yet it felt so good. It could be said that the deliciousness was at its extreme.

At first, Lin Qingyun tried maintaining her image, but once she took a bite of the meat, she was no longer able to keep up her image.

It was too yummy!

She did not know why but the moment the food was in her mouth, she felt a sense of unusual satisfaction from the deepest part of her heart, and that all her troubles disappeared somehow.

Everyone was eating with oil dripping from their mouths, chewing vigorously while letting out the heat from their mouths. Without realizing it, their lips were all curved into satisfactory smiles.

Watching them eat, Li Nianfan could not help but smile himself. He remembered a saying back in his past-realm, 'hotpot helps one forget his troubles'. He did not expect this to happen here as well. The roulade was so thinly sliced that one would not find it too much however much one ate. Usually, everyone would focus on finishing the roulade before anything else. Especially when it was the meat of monsters!

However, after a while, Bai Wuchen was afraid that his stomach might get upset if he kept on eating the meat, so he picked a vegetable and boiled it in the pot.

Boil... Boil...

Quickly, the vegetable was boiling in broth. Bai Wuchen picked the vegetable and dipped it in the sauce before putting it in his mouth.

Huh?

The taste was good. Although it was not as stunning as the roulade, it tasted better the more he chewed on it. One might get sick of the meat after eating a lot, but vegetables could only get better.

However, in the next moment, Bai Wuchen's chewing jolted abruptly and his pupils shrank into the shape of needles. His face was filled with wild disbelief.

"This, this is..." Bai Wuchen took in a cold breath. He could feel his heart beating rapidly.

Even the vegetables contained Insights!

Chapter 27: Actually I Love Vegetables!

Chapter 27: Actually I Love Vegetables!

Bai Wuchen felt his throat getting dried out and his scalp itching. He discovered something unbelievable!

He picked up another vegetable, boiled it, and placed it inside his mouth. After chewing slightly, the juice of the cabbage oozed out and its fragrance was released in his mouth. Following that, a similar Insight rushed into his brain, sending him shivers.

Indeed, the vegetables did contain Insights! Bai Wuchen was excited. He had goosebumps all over him while his gaze locked tightly on the vegetables.

This must have been a test set up by the expert! The expert prepared meat and vegetables, and although the meat was of the monsters, the vegetables were the more precious ones. Everyone's attention must have been captivated by the monster meat, leaving out the vegetables, missing out on the greatest opportunity!

'I'm such a fool! I knew the expert was testing us, yet, I've only realized this now,' Bai Wuchen sighed to himself as he put yet another mushroom into the pot.

While Zhao Shanhe and the rest were happily enjoying their meat feast, they soon realized Bai Wuchen's strange behavior.

What happened to him? Why was he eating the vegetables only?

“Bai Wuchen, what’re you doing? Why aren’t you eating the meat?” Zhao Shanhe finally asked.

Monster meat was quite rare and they did contain some Spiritual Qi.

Bai Wuchen laughed. “I love vegetables. You all can have the meat, don’t need to be polite.”

With that, he picked up more vegetables for himself. “Luoshuang, Su Ya, don’t just keep eating meat. Have some vegetables to keep a balanced diet.”

Zhao Shanhe looked at Bao Wuchen suspiciously.

Fishy.

Very fishy!

He scoffed to himself. Everyone was eating from the same table. What was there to hide? With that, he picked some cabbage and put it into the broth.

‘Perhaps the vegetables are tastier than the meat? Let me try it.’ With that in mind, Zhao Shanhe put the vegetable into his mouth.

Cough! Cough!

The vegetables were spicy which choked him a little.

“As for the vegetables, it’s best if you put it into the bone-broth, the spicy broth is not as nice,” Li Nianfan said with a smile. Did all cultivators have such a low standard for food? Why were they all so eager to eat my food?

“Sorry to have embarrassed myself,” Zhao Shanhe said apologetically. However, his eyes were filled with awe.

Insights. It was definitely the Insights!

Bai Wuchen was indeed being fishy. He dared to keep it to himself, eating so much vegetables on his own!

Zhao Shanhe's eyes turned red as he started boiling and chewing on the vegetables rapidly.

Bai Wuchen was not to be outdone. Both of them started competing for the vegetables. Their faces turned red and their necks turned thick with vegetables. If it were not for the fact that Li Nianfan was there, the two of them would have broken into a fight.

This...

Lin Qingyun was stunned. If she was surprised by the deliciousness before, then this directly subverted her view of the world. The vegetables contained Insights? How was that possible?

To the cultivators, Insights were rare and sought after. It was like an epiphany—invisible and intangible. One could only encounter Insights by chance and destiny.

Now, however, all they had to do to gain Insights was to eat the vegetables.

Scarily unbelievable!

Who would believe this?

‘Yes, we hunted for some monsters’ meat. However, these vegetables were provided by Mr. Li! In other words, these must be something the Immortals ate! How foolish am I to have been so caught up with the roulade, I’ve completely ignored the vegetables he provided! How silly!’

Lin Qingyun thought to herself while looking at the half-gone vegetables on the table, all eaten by Bai Wuchen and Zhao Shanhe. Her face twitched slightly.

So much Insights are gone!

She had been keeping her composure, but now she was unable to stay calm. Even though she was a Saintess, she had joined in on the food-fight.

Watching the change in target, Li Nianfan asked curiously, “You’re no longer eating meat?”

“Mr. Li, we’ll only eat the vegetables from now on,” Bai Wuchen said hastily.

Zhao Shanhe said as he was eating the vegetables, “Mr. Li, I’ve realized that the vegetables are the most delicious. Don’t mind me.”

“Mr. Li, I’ve actually always liked vegetables,” Su Ya said.

Li Nianfan shook his head and he did not bother to question further. It seemed to him that the cultivators in this realm were not only friendly but also extremely weird.

After the meal, Bai Wuchen and the others felt the heat flowing in their bodies. It was more comforting than ever and more beneficial than any elixir they had ever eaten.

Bai Wuchen stood up and said to Li Nianfan in a serious and polite tone, “Mr. Li, this was the best meal I’ve ever eaten in my life. Please, accept my gratitude.”

“Mr. Li, your kindness to us is beyond words. I’ll do anything for you if you ever need me,” Zhao Shanhe said.

The rest of them thanked Li Nianfan, too, with sincerity and admiration. Although they kept on reminding themselves to treat Li Nianfan like an ordinary man and to speak to him in a normal way, it was really hard to keep calm at that moment.

How could ordinary men keep calm when they were right in front of an Immortal?

Li Nianfan frowned slightly. “It’s just a meal. What’re you all talking about?”

What was wrong with these people? They seemed alright earlier.

“Mr. Li, this meal was too delicious. We can’t help it. Sorry for our rude behavior,” Bai Wuchen said hastily.

“Don’t make such a fuss out of it.” Li Nianfan scoffed to himself. Cultivators were worse than ordinary men.

Bai Wuchen kept apologizing without daring to breathe.

‘Sigh, it was all my fault for being too excited. I’ve offended the expert. He just wanted to appear as an ordinary man. I should never repeat this mistake ever again,’ Bai Wuchen thought to himself.

Although it was just a meal, their bodies were filled with Insights flowing through their bodies. They had to rush back home to cultivate in private, therefore, they had to leave Li Nianfan after bidding him goodbye hastily.

After leaving the four-part architecture, Zhao Shanhe looked at Bai Wuchen with a stern look. “Bai Wuchen, thank you for introducing me to Mr. Li. I owe you one. Thank you for your kindness!”

This kindness was the greatest opportunity one could ever be given. It was something he was unable to return.

“What now? Look at you, are you going to have a breakthrough soon?” Bai Wuchen smiled.

“I’ll give it a try once I get back. It shouldn’t be a problem breaking through now.” Zhao Shanhe smiled as he stroked his long beard.

With the help from this expert, even a pig would be able to turn into an Immortal.

“Hahaha! I look forward to hearing great news from you.” Bai Wuchen laughed.

They parted at the foot of the mountain. They all turned back simultaneously to look up at this mountain as if they were all looking at the most sacred mountain.

Meanwhile, on the peak of a nearby mountain, two snowy foxes jumped out of the trees. Their soft fur fluttered in the wind while they stared blankly at the far end.

The most striking thing was that one of them had nine tails while the other had six tails. Their pure, glowing, monster-like tails pointed toward the sky, slowly swaying from left to right.

Chapter 28: Transformation and Lightning

Chapter 28: Transformation and Lightning

The two snowy foxes moved like the elves in the forest, embellishing the world. The nine-tailed fox had a pair of dark pupils that sparkled, looking like it was deep in thought while recalling something.

“Sister, please, don’t transform? Let’s stay hidden in the forest, please?” The six-tailed fox looked worried, its voice crisp and clear like a young teenage girl.

The nine-tailed fox shook her head with a determined look. “Humans and monsters are different. I’ll only be able to return the favor if I transform.”

“Even if we don’t transform, we can still secretly protect him,” the six-tailed fox said, not understanding her elder sister.

The nine-tailed fox could not help recalling the figure of that man. It said in a low voice, “You don’t understand.”

That day, the nine-tailed fox was about to die when a considerate man took care of its wound and saved its life. Although it did not understand how an ordinary man was able to cure its wounds, ever since that day, its cultivation had sped up and within a few years, managing to cultivate nine tails.

The six-tailed fox sobbed, “Sister, transformation is too scary. I don’t want to watch you die! What am I going to do after you’re gone?”

“You’re now able to protect yourself. After I’ve transformed, I’ll still need you to protect me,” the nine-tailed fox said. Its eyes narrowed slightly as its tails danced behind it. “I feel that there’ll be a chance for my transformation soon!” With that said, it jumped off the branch and flitted into the woods along with the wind.

“Sister!” the six-tailed fox cried out with tears in its eyes. It followed swiftly.

For a monster to transform, one needed at least a thousand years of cultivation along with lightning for the transformation to happen. Humans were the primates of all the animals. For monsters to transform into humans was against the law of nature, thus, lightning was a step one had to go through which was dangerous. One might be killed by a careless mistake.

Furthermore, even if the monsters were able to shield themselves from the lightning, its thousand years of cultivation would be lost and it would have to start from the beginning. Although cultivating in the form of a human would be easier and faster, one had to start from zero. If one’s enemies were to come for them, it would all be over.

Humans and monsters all loved meeting the newly-transformed monster. These kinds of monsters were at their weakest, while their monster Core would still be big. If one was hunted in this state, it would be like a fallen biscuit from the sky. Therefore, monsters who attempted to transform into humans were akin to taking one’s life as a joke. Most of the monsters would not choose to transform into humans. Instead, they preferred living in their original form or the half-human half-monster form.

“Once I’ve transformed into a human, I’ll be able to stay by his side and serve him,” the nine-tailed fox said with a determined and anticipated look.

One month passed quickly, which was especially so in this cultivating realm.

Vroom!

That day, thick clouds appeared in the sky, covering the sun without letting through any light. The entire sky turned dark. It was only noon but it felt like midnight. Sounds of thunder resounded in the sky. If one looked up, one could even see lightning slithering between the clouds like a silver snake.

“What? It’s such a weird timing to be out at this time.” Li Nianfan stood in the woods. He shook his head and smiled bitterly as he looked up at the sky.

Today, he was in the mood for a walk in the woods. He wanted to see if he could bring home some wild meat. Why did it suddenly rain out of the blue?

Pitter-patter...

Within a few minutes, pea-sized raindrops fell from the sky.

“Let’s find shelter.” Li Nianfan glanced around at his surroundings.

Woof! Woof! Woof!

Blackie barked in a direction and started rushing toward it. Following behind him, Li Nianfan arrived at a cave.

“We’re lucky! This is a cave! Good job, Blackie!” Li Nianfan laughed joyously as he praised Blackie. Little did he know that right before he got here, a Monster Bear had rushed out from the cave in a panic.

Pitter-patter...

At the moment Li Nianfan entered the cave, a flash of lightning struck, landing somewhere in the woods! The dark forest glowed for a split second, followed by heavier rain. Li Nianfan stood at the entrance of the cave and looked out.

Vroom!

Another strike of lightning. This time, it was more powerful than the previous one, like a silver pillar falling from the sky to the ground.

Terrifying!

Li Nianfan was shocked. He had chills all over his body.

This Immortal Realm was indeed scary. These types of lightning were so rare in his past-realm, one strike of lightning of this intensity would be able to turn off the electricity of an entire city.

“Hmph?” Li Nianfan squinted his eyes and was shocked. He somehow saw something moving below the lightning.

Damn it!

This must have been a bigshot in the Immortal Realm, someone who was able to resist this type of lightning. Could he have encountered two bigshots fighting one another?

Li Nianfan frowned a little as he felt a little uneasy. This was a dangerous place to be. He did not want to go over to check out what was happening. All he wanted to do was to leave as soon as possible. He was merely an ordinary man, even its aftermath would be able to turn him into ashes. Going over was like a suicide mission. As he was thinking, the sky brightened for a second.

Vroom!

The third strike of lightning struck, brighter than the previous two. This flash of light was reddish and seemingly more powerful than the previous one.

Li Nianfan looked attentively. There was indeed something below the lightning's strike, and it seemed to have flown into the sky.

"What kind of cultivators would fight here at this time?" Li Nianfan muttered to himself. Luckily, the thunder only struck a single spot which calmed Li Nianfan a little.

He hugged onto Blackie tightly, the two of them relying on each other.

After the ninth strike, the clouds in the sky finally dissipated. The rain stopped and the sunshine returned. Showered by the bright rays of light, Li Nianfan almost cried out of relief. He did not want to spend any more time outside. He walked out of the cave and walked in the opposite direction of the lightning, returning home.

"Blackie, hurry!" Li Nianfan pestered.

The soil was muddy after the rain, dirtying his pants and shoes. However, he did not slow down. What if the cultivators behind him broke into another fight? If they were to fight near his place, he would be dead. What if this was a chance for him to start cultivating? Li Nianfan did not want to joke with his life.

After passing through the forest, there was a long lake in front. The lake was as clear as a mirror, shaped like a long ribbon flowing through the mountains. Following the path of this lake, Li Nianfan was able to return to his four-part architecture.

Chapter 29: Do Not Disturb The Expert

Chapter 29: Do Not Disturb The Expert

After the heavy rain, the water in the lake flowed rapidly. Li Nianfan did not dare to get too close to the lake. He let Blackie lead the way.

Woof, woof, woof!

Blackie suddenly fastened his pace and turned back at Li Nianfan, signaling him to follow.

Li Nianfan frowned a little and picked up his pace. “Blackie, did you find anything?” He looked up into the distance and a hint of surprise appeared in his eyes.

In about a hundred meters, a figure seemed to be laying ahead. Li Nianfan dared not to slow down. Instead, he marched toward it hastily.

Laying in front of him was a naked woman. Her skin was snowy and fair, slightly flushed with pinkish blood. Her unruly dark hair glowed as it fell on her back. Below her arched brows were a pair of eyes tightly shut, complemented by her long eyelashes which were slightly curled. Her thin lips were as delicate as rose petals.

Beautiful. Extremely beautiful.

Somehow, when Li Nianfan laid his eyes on this beautiful woman, he could not help but think of these two words—'The harmed people and country, Su Da Ji'.

Her beauty was way beyond that of Lin Qingyun and Luo Shiyu. Her eyes opened slightly as Li Nianfan approached her. His blurry figure was similar to the figure who helped her three years ago. She was still a fox back then, and just as she was struggling and about to die, a figure rushed out from the woods and saved her life.

This time, it was a similar scenario, and this figure appeared again. The woman's lips curled up slightly, a hint of tears appearing in her eyes.

Li Nianfan glanced at the woman and looked closely at her face. He saw some tears rolling out of her eyes. He said, "Don't worry, I'm not a bad guy. You'll be fine!" Meanwhile, he took off his jacket and covered the woman's naked body.

"Hm." The woman nodded, her beautiful eyes looked up at Li Nianfan.

Not far away from them, a snowy white six-tailed fox peeped out from behind a tree branch. Pea-sized tears rolled down its face uncontrollably.

“Sister...” As it sobbed, it gritted its teeth at the silhouette of Li Nianfan. If it was not for this man, its sister would not have chosen to go through the transformation and she would not have died.

This fox hated the man so much. If its sister did not beg it to forgive him, the fox would have killed this man.

The nine-tailed fox transformed into the beautiful woman. Although she had successfully gone through the lightning, her life line was broken during the process. She was now hanging on with her last breath with less than a month to live.

The six-tailed fox wiped its tears. Although it agreed to let Li Nianfan live, it had its little plan. As its sister wished, the fox had sent her sister to Li Nianfan, but the fox intentionally took off its sister’s clothes. The fox wanted to see what kind of man he was. If the man was lustful, it would provide a reason to kill the man right away.

Unfortunately, when the fox saw the man covering its sister with his jacket, the fox gritted its teeth and moaned in despair.

Looking at the woman, Li Nianfan asked, “How did you get here?”

“I...” As the woman started to speak, fresh blood dripped from her lips and her face paled like paper.

“Don’t talk for now, have some rest.” After wiping off the blood, he said, “I guess you were hit by the aftermath of the lightning. There must’ve been some cultivators fighting earlier. You should’ve stayed away. It’s too dangerous!”

The woman looked at Li Nianfan and nodded lightly.

“Let’s go to my place. I’ll try to heal you,” Li Nianfan said sympathetically.

The woman nodded again.

Li Nianfan rubbed his hands and said awkwardly, “Hmm... Due to the emergency, I apologize for this in advance.”

With that, he carried the woman and put her on his back.

‘This woman’s an ordinary woman just like myself. We’re compatible.

‘Is this me bringing home a beautiful wife?’

‘This Immortal Realm is too dangerous. An ordinary woman with such beauty is dangerous. It’s only safe for her if she stays with me.’

On the way home, Li Nianfan was considering the likelihood of keeping this woman by his side while the woman was on his back smiling sweetly. Her gaze was soft. As long as she was able to meet him in her human form, she was pleased even if she had only one more month to live.

The six-tailed fox was following behind them, watching its sister being taken away by this ordinary man.

Meanwhile, the cultivators and monsters were stunned and surprised. Streams of light rushed through the sky in all directions, beaming at the spot where the lightning hit earlier.

Inside the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty palace...

Luo Shiyu looked at the direction of the lightning strike. She sighed and said in a low voice, “I can’t believe a monster would choose to go through the transformation. This hasn’t happened for a hundred years.”

“This monster was willing to give up a thousand years of its cultivation and risked its life to go through the transformation. It’s rare indeed,” Zhong Xiu nodded in agreement.

Nine out of ten transformations ended in death. Even the one survivor was considered extremely lucky. A lot of courage was needed for a monster to choose to go through the transformation.

“Mom, look at the direction. It seems close to where the expert lives.” Luo Shiyu frowned as she looked up in the sky.

Zhong Xiu nodded, “It’s indeed closeby. I wonder if it disturbed the expert from resting.”

“Mom, this is serious. It must’ve attracted many people over. I’m going over to make sure the expert isn’t being disturbed,” Luo Shiyu said with a serious tone.

As she spoke, the Holy Emperor rushed in. “Shiyu, I’ll go with you. The residence of the expert shouldn’t be disturbed by anyone!” the Holy Emperor said with a determined tone. “This is the will of the entire Ganlong Immortal Dynasty!”

Luo Shiyu and Zhong Xiu were shocked.

“Father Emperor, aren’t you going to the location of monster activity?” Luo Shiyu asked.

Everyone knew that this was the weakest time for the newly transformed monster. If one could find it, the reward would be handsome.

The Holy Emperor shook his head. “Although monster transformations are rare, it’s nothing compared to the expert! It’s our Dynasty’s pleasure to have such an expert residing in our territory. If the expert were to be disturbed, causing him to leave, it would be a great loss.”

Luo Shiyu and Zhong Xiu nodded in agreement. If the expert was disturbed and chose to reside somewhere else, it would be the greatest loss of the entire Ganlong Immortal Dynasty!

“Let’s go. We’ll all go together,” Zhong Xiu said.

They did not want to take any longer. Right away, the three highest-ranking people of the Dynasty left the palace secretly and walked toward the direction of Li Nianfan’s residence.

Chapter 30: Experiencing The Law Of Nature.

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In the sky above the Wanjian Immortal Sect, an elderly man was standing on his Seven Star Sword, his long robes fluttering in the wind as he traveled in the sky.

With a proud smile on his face, he called out, “Bai Wuchen, your old mate is out of his retreat!” Zhao Shanhe smiled as he exuded his newfound energy of the Out of Aperture realm.

“Zhao Laotou, that was quick! You had a breakthrough already?” A strong Sword Qi rushed into the sky. Bai Wuchen appeared in front of Zhao Shanhe with his sword under his feet, too.

The cultivators had long lives. Typically, a short retreat would take at least ten years while longer ones would take a hundred years. If the retreat was for a breakthrough, it would take even longer.

Zhao Shanhe only took one month to retreat before he had a breakthrough! He stroked his beard and smiled, “I was nothing like you though. You had a breakthrough within a night.”

“That was because I was helped out by the expert.” Bai Wuchen sighed.

Zhao Shanhe nodded. “Yeah, the expert’s skills are beyond any of our imaginations. A slight Insight from him was enough for us to easily break through from Yuan Ying to Out of Aperture. He’s way beyond an Immortal.”

Bai Wuchen’s look became serious. He asked in a lowered voice, “Did you see the lightning today?”

“I came here because of that!” Zhao Shanhe’s look turned serious as well. “If I’m not mistaken, the location of the lightning was not far from the residence of the expert.”

Bai Wuchen nodded. “Exactly. As of now, many powerful forces have made their way over there, especially Monster Kings and cultivators.”

“I’m not so concerned about the transformed monster. I’m more worried about the expert being disturbed,” Zhao Shanhe frowned.

“I thought so, too.” Bai Wuchen looked at Zhao Shanhe and suggested, “Why don’t we go over there now? If someone is disturbing the expert...” A flash of harshness appeared in his eyes.

Zhao Shanhe said, “I agree! We owe so much to the expert. The first thing I wanted to do right after my retreat was to thank him.”

With that, the two of them took off with swords under their feet and disappeared into the sky.

...

Li Nianfan was carrying the woman on his back. Finally, they arrived at his four-part architecture.

“We’re home.” Li Nianfan smiled.

He gently placed the woman on the bed and checked her pulse. Eventually, his brows tightened. He had assumed the woman was severely injured, but he did not expect it to be this severe!

On the surface, she seemed alright. However, her lifeline had been broken. If this happened to ordinary people, the person would have died a long time ago. This woman was lucky to have survived, buying him some time to save her.

Watching the pale face of the woman, a wave of strange anger arose from within. He growled, “So what if they’re powerful? Does that mean they can ruin lives? Bastards!”

He recalled how he was so terrified inside the cave and he got more agitated. ‘If I wasn’t an ordinary man, I would’ve made you all pay!’ Li Nianfan thought.

Seeing Li Nianfan angered on her behalf, a faint sparkle appeared in her eyes. She said softly, "I'll be fine."

"You're so severely injured. How're you going to be fine?" Li Nianfan said in despair. "Oh, right. I'm Li Nianfan. May I know your name?"

"I, I am..." The woman frowned slightly, a hint of panic appeared in her eyes. She had only just been transformed and had not made up a name for herself yet. In a panic, more fresh blood spilled out from her mouth.

"Don't panic. You must've been so severely injured that you lost your memory. Don't think about it for now," Li Nianfan comforted her.

He was secretly delighted. Since she had lost her memory, it only made sense for her to stay here with him. Considering the inconvenience of not having a name, he suggested, "Why don't I call you Daji for now?"

Her eyes sparkled a little. She liked this name very much. A pink flush appeared on her face. "Thank you for the name, Mr. Li."

Li Nianfan smiled. "Get some rest. I'll make you some medicine broth."

After he left the room, Li Nianfan instructed Xiao Bai to pick the needed ingredients from his backyard. He then started to cook the medicine according to Daji's injury.

Meanwhile...

At the foot of the mountain, Luo Shiyu, Lin Qingyun, and Bai Wuchen bumped into one another unexpectedly.

"Lin Qingyun, why are you here?" Luo Shiyu asked in surprise, looking at Lin Qingyun.

Lin Qingyun smiled and said proudly, "Of course, I'm here to visit the expert."

Luo Shiyu frowned slightly. Recently, she had been so caught up with the things happening between the Nation Master and the Prime Minister that she had no time to visit Li Nianfan. She could not believe that Lin Qingyun did not go home in the past month, and instead, secretly befriended the expert.

The Holy Emperor looked at Bai Wuchen and Zhao Shanhe with a shocking look.

"Sect Master Bai, Sect Master Zhao, you two have had a breakthrough?"

Bai Wuchen and Zhao Shanhe exchanged a smile, “Greetings to His Majesty.”

Tszzz...

The Holy Emperor took in a cold breath. Bai Wuchen and Zhao Shanhe had to call him ‘Senior’. Yet, they had a breakthrough so quickly?

Since when was breaking through into Out of Aperture so easy?

“It was all thanks to the expert,” Bai Wuchen said.

The Holy Emperor stared at him with wide eyes. Although he had known the expert was powerful, he had just realized that he had far underestimated the power of the expert.

The group started making their way up the mountain.

They chatted on the way up. When they realized they had missed the ‘Journey to The West’ sessions with Li Nianfan at the restaurant, the Holy Emperor and Luo Shiyu sighed in agony. The expert was teaching so close to them, yet, they missed out on such an opportunity. It was definitely one of the most painful things in life. Although they had solved the problem happening in the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty, compared to missing the opportunity to learn from the expert, it was like picking up a small sesame seed while missing a huge watermelon.

Luo Shiyu glared at Lin Qingyun with her beautiful eyes. She scoffed coldly, “You must’ve been the one who stopped the news from getting out!”

With how popular ‘Journey to The West’ was getting, there was no way that Luo Shiyu had not heard about it.

“The expert wanted to live as an ordinary man, and it’s apparent that he wants to keep things on the down-low. Of course, I can’t let people disturb him,” Lin Qingyun smiled as she replied.

Luo Shiyu gritted her teeth helplessly. Now that Nanan had recovered, and that ‘Journey to The West’ had ended, it seemed that she would never be able to listen to it ever again.

Bai Wuchen comforted, “Miss Luo, please, don’t feel bad. A scholar recorded every word of the ‘Journey to The West’. This book contains the most important knowledge. I’d like to borrow it at some point.”

“Being qualified enough to stay by Mr. Li’s side, this scholar must be someone impressive,” the Holy Emperor said.

Bai Wuchen nodded and said with a serious tone, “I’ve observed this scholar closely. He claims to be the scholar of Mr. Li. He seems like an ordinary boy, but sometimes, he’d stare at a leaf for one whole day. He’s always concerned about the lives of others, too. Regardless if it was a baby being born or an elderly passing away, he’d rush over instantly

to be present during the event. I've once asked for his reasons out of curiosity, and he simply said he was experiencing the law of nature."