

# I'm Actually a Cultivation Bigshot

## Chapter 81: Chess Fanatic

*Chapter 81: Chess Fanatic*

The cultivator who was speaking earlier smiled. “Interesting, let me have a try.”

He jumped in the air and landed in front of the stone wall. He picked a spot on the board and pushed against it.

Vroom!

A chess piece appeared in its spot! No one knew how many years had passed between him and the game, but the game had somehow already started years ago!

It merely took the cultivator three moves for his once-confident face to turn into one of unease and cluelessness. His eyes were bloodshot and the Qi in him started to run out.

“Argh!”

He spat out a mouthful of fresh blood and staggered five steps backward. His eyes turned dull—a sign of his Insights being attacked!

“Interrogation of Insights?”

Everyone’s faces changed as they all turned to look at the Qingyang Elder. One of them asked in an unfriendly tone, “Qingyang Elder! You didn’t tell us this is the Interrogation of Insights!”

The Qingyang Elder said with a frown, “Since this is a secret border, of course, it won’t be easy to enter! Did you need me to explain this concept, too?”

Everyone else did not speak. They did not show much on their faces but they were fuming in anger!

Anything could happen inside the secret border. Only the one who gained the final opportunity could become the ultimate winner and keep his power. Only the last man could win!

There was a saying among the cultivators, ‘A dead friend is better than a dead self!’

Following that, nobody dared to go forward. The tension in the air stiffened.

Suddenly, a hoarse voice rang in the air with a cold, mocking tone, “Chess Fanatic, if you’re still unwilling to come forward, I’m afraid nobody will ever be able to enter this secret border!”

Chess Fanatic?

Everyone jolted slightly and in unison, turned to look at an elderly man dressed who was dressed in black robes.

This elderly man had a goatee. His hair and beard were half black and half white. His face was slender and he stood in the last row without speaking.

Lin Mufeng turned and said in shock, “Chess Fanatic? The man who’s crazy about chess?”

“I can’t believe Qingyang Elder even invited him over!” Old Man Sun said in shock.

The Chess Fanatic was well known for how he treated chess as his life. It was as if he used his life to play chess!

According to the rumors, he was a gifted man. At the age of forty, he had reached the Yuan Ying realm. However, ever since then, he somehow became crazily addicted to chess. Not only did he stop cultivating, but his cultivation also regressed so much to the point of becoming a joke among his peers. Even his sect had to kick him out!

Back then, everyone was talking about this because there were just too few rumors in this Immortal Realm. So, when a weird and funny rumor of him started to spread, he became well known and everyone soon knew about him.

Now that four hundred years had passed, the Chess Fanatic title was gradually washed out of everyone's memories. Little did they expect to hear about him today, let alone to finally meet him!

Out of curiosity, Lin Mufeng used his divine consciousness to check his stats and he let out a surprised gasp. "Huh? The early period of Out of Aperture? So, he used the Chess Dao to reach the Distraction realm?"

"It's possible. Since every genius takes a different path." Old Man Sun nodded. "If it's really him, perhaps the secret border can be opened soon!"

The Chess Fanatic did not speak. He stared at the chessboard without blinking, as his body slowly made its way to the front of the stone wall.

Other than chess, there was nothing else in the world that could excite him.

Under everyone's gaze, he raised his hand and pressed it on a spot on the chessboard.

Vroom!

The glow on the stone wall became brighter than usual as if it was excited to have met an opponent after all these years of waiting!

"Nice!" Old Man Sun's eyes sparkled. "It appears that someone might be able to help get us in after all!"

"It's wrong." Lin Mufeng shook his head and sighed. "There's only one way to play this. One wrong move would end up causing more mistakes and eventually cost you the game."

Old Man Sun looked at Lin Mufeng with a strange look. "Lin Mufeng, I know you! Don't pretend like you know anything about chess!"

"Of course, I don't! But I have the expert's support behind my back!" Lin Mufeng said calmly. "I've seen this chess pattern at the expert's house and I had the privilege to learn the moves that could end this."

Old Man Sun's pupils dilated as he stared at him in disbelief. "Are you kidding me?"

“No, I’m serious!” Lin Mufeng nodded, then shook his head with a bitter smile. “According to what I know, this is an entry-level game used for beginners at the expert’s house.”

“Entry...entry-level?” Old Man Sun’s hair stood on their ends. He was utterly shocked.

If this was merely an entry-level game, then how would an advanced-level game look like? How shocking would it be?

Swiftly after, he thought of a possibility as fear appeared on his face. He asked in a trembling voice, “Wait! Do you think it was a coincidence that you saw this game at the expert’s place? Did the expert show it to you on purpose?”

Lin Mufeng’s face was filled with solemn respect. “Very likely! Perhaps the expert knew that none of us could get into the secret border, so he intentionally gave me some pointers!”

Omniscience!

He was truly omniscient!

Old Man Sun could feel his heart throbbing and his scalp itching, as if a pair of eyes were watching him in the air with invisible hands moving him.

Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun exchanged a look and they could each see a deep sense of awe and terror in one another's eyes. They seemed to have something to say but they swallowed their words, too afraid to say them out loud.

Using the world as his chess game and the people as his chess pieces!

This was the realm of the expert!

The more things they knew about the expert, the more they realized how his realm was way beyond their imaginations. Limitless!

Impossible to imagine! Impossible to speculate!

Lin Mufeng could not help looking at the Chess Fanatic and said with a complicated look, "There are so many paths with the same destination. Nobody knows which path is correct and which path is wrong. The Chess Dao...the chess path..."

"Although I don't know which path is correct, I know for sure that following the expert won't be wrong!" Old Man Sun looked at Lin Mufeng with eyes full of admiration. "If you don't want to become the chess piece of the expert, let me!"

“You?” Lin Mufeng glared at Old Man Sun and snorted. “Not a chance!”

Meanwhile, the face of the Chess Fanatic had turned strange. His face was pale like paper with pea-sized droplets of sweat rolling down uncontrollably. Finally, his body jolted vigorously as he, too, spat out a mouthful of blood.

“I made a wrong move. When did I make the mistake?” He narrowed his eyes, looking confused and lost. He stared at the chess game as if he was about to collapse from the interrogation!

“Sigh, let me do it.” Lin Mufeng went forward to help the Chess Fanatic up. He raised his hand and pressed on a spot. Instantly, a chess piece appeared on the spot and a sudden change happened on the chessboard. The chess game came alive!

It seemed that this move had already determined the outcome of the game. The stone wall did not continue the game, and instead, the chess game disappeared entirely. Soon after, the stone wall gradually lifted.

Vroom!

## Chapter 82

*Chapter 82*

: Where Men And Women Work Together



“It’s open! It’s open!” everyone cried out in delight while they all looked at Lin Mufeng with an impressed look.

The Chess Fanatic jolted. His dull eyes instantly sparkled as the game kept unfolding in his mind. He mumbled to himself, “I see... I see... I understand now... I understand now...”

Lin Mufeng looked at the stone wall and said to him, “Why don’t you come in with us?”

“No need. I already got what I needed. I’ll wait outside.” The Chess Fanatic waved as he staggered to a nearby corner and sat cross-legged. His mind was still replaying the game from earlier.

“Thank you for your help.” The other cultivators thanked Lin Mufeng and turned into light. Then, they headed into the secret border.

Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun exchanged a look and said, “Let’s go in. That’s all the expert can help us with. If we still fail to complete the mission, we don’t deserve to see him again!”

...

Five days passed by quickly.

The sky was darkening while Li Nianfan brought Daji out to the town like usual. Today was the Lunar New Year and night time was the busiest time of all. Standing on the mountain, Li Nianfan looked down to see that the Fallen Immortal Town had lit up, glowing like a bright red sea. He could feel the festivity from afar!

“Let’s go!” Li Nianfan brought Daji down to town with him.

Ring! Ring! Ring!

As they arrived at the foot of the mountain, they could hear the sound of drums coming from the Fallen Immortal Town. Once they entered the town, they could see houses lit up with decorations. The stalls by the side of the road had different kinds of lights and flowers as decorations, making the city glow. There were also toys for the kids, as well as sweets and snacks. There were plenty of choices that would catch anyone’s eyes!

The kids surrounded the stalls as they pointed at their desired toys, looking up at their parents with their tiny sparkling eyes and hoping that their parents would buy them the toys. The adults stood behind their children, smiling helplessly. Eventually, they bought the new toys for their children to make them happy.

Six circus performers were performing in the middle of the street as well as groups performing the lion dance and dragon dance to entertain the audience. Cheers and applause filled the air.

Li Nianfan smiled at Daji. “What do you think? Feeling festive?”

He remembered being captivated by the festive celebration of Lunar New Year the first time he came here. This was way more festive than the celebration back home in his previous realm.

“Yeah, it’s hard to believe that ordinary men can live so freely, too.” Daji looked at them curiously, her eyes sparkling with excitement.

This was her first time mingling with the ordinary men. The entire festive celebration really impressed her.

Li Nianfan shook his head and said, “You’re wrong to have said that. So what if they’re ordinary? Though we only have a mere hundred years to live, it teaches us to cherish the beauty of life and to live to one’s fullest potential with joy and happiness. Your life depends on the way you choose to live it, not based on your identity.”

He wanted to correct Daji’s thinking.

In this Immortal Realm, every ordinary man envied the high-above cultivators. However, the ordinary men had their way of living, too. No one should envy how others lived.

A look of awe appeared in Daji's eyes. She looked at Li Nianfan with her beautiful eyes as she said after taking a deep breath, "Daji will remember Mr. Li's teaching."

She felt a wave in her heart. Li Nianfan's words were like a bomb ringing in her head. It was as if she had grasped something, but she was uncertain of what it was.

'Master's realm is indeed way beyond this realm. It's a privilege to be able to follow him around and to hear him teach. Even his words are beneficial!' Daji thought to herself.

"It's not teaching! I'm just speaking my mind. Just treat it as 'Chicken Soup'," Li Nianfan said nonchalantly.

"Chicken Soup?" Daji looked at him as she paused slightly, confused.

She felt disheartened. It seemed that her understanding was not good enough and she still had many things to learn since she did not quite understand Li Nianfan.

As they walked further, there was a river bisecting the street. There was a stone bridge crossing the river, decorated with many lights and flowers of different colors. Below the bridge were some nicely decorated boats where countless men and women chatted and flirted with one another.

“Sir, fancy a cup of tea?”

“Yeah, sir. Come and listen to the music.”

The flirtatious sounds of women were heard coming from a building at the other end of the bridge, turning one’s imagination wild.

Daji looked at the lit-up building and instinctively frowned. She asked out of curiosity, “Mr. Li, what place is that?”

Li Nianfan’s lips twitched slightly and said, “Hmm...it’s a place where men and women work together.”

On the top of the building.

An elderly man in a black cloak narrowed his eyes as he observed the passer-by walking below him. His dry and slender fingers were wrapped around a bottle of wine as he tasted it. Behind him was a big red bed. On the bed, a naked woman was staring at him wide-eyed, resembling the terror on the face of an animal just before its impending death.

Suddenly, the elderly man's eyes narrowed further as a woman in white clothes caught his eye. His eyes sparkled with desire as he licked his lips and said, "Who would've thought there'd be such a beauty in this ordinary town?"

Behind him, a follower saw Daji as well. He called out in shock, "Master, I'll bring her here right away."

The elderly man said with a cold smirk, "Of course, a beautiful woman like her can't be left with that ordinary man."

However, his brows furrowed in the next instance. He called out, wearing a suspicious look, "Wait!"

The follower was shocked. He said, "This ordinary man knows the Holy Emperor?"

The elderly man said with a low voice, "Follow them. Keep an eye on them."

...

The Holy Emperor was enjoying the festive lights with Zhong Xiu and Luo Shiyu. When he saw Li Nianfan, he walked up to him in delight, "Mr. Li, Miss Daji, you're here for the light festival!"

Li Nianfan nodded and smiled. “Yeah, what a coincidence to see you here!”

“Haha! Yeah! What a coincidence!” The Holy Emperor laughed with excitement. He then suggested, “Mr. Li, I know a place where we can watch the lights from above. You’ll be able to catch the entire festival from up there. Are you interested?”

Li Nianfan thought for a moment but shook his head. “Perhaps not. I heard the sects will be recruiting disciples tonight. I’d like to have a look.”

The Holy Emperor said, “Oh, so Mr. Li wants to go there. I was going that way, too. Why don’t we walk there together?”

“Sure!” Li Nianfan smiled and nodded.

## Chapter 83: A Gift

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The place where the sects recruited their disciples was in the northeast corner of the town. There were significantly fewer people in the area, with no performances and noise. In fact, there was a kind of solemnity in the air.

When they reached the area, Li Nianfan was quite surprised to find that there were more people than he expected there to be. There were some renowned cultivators as well as children with their parents.

Some of them had big grins on their faces while some looked disappointed. Of course, there were more frowns than grins!

The so-called recruitment was a test of Spiritual Root. Unfortunately, most of the people present did not possess much Spiritual Root.

“Mr. Li, you came!” Auntie Zhang saw Li Nianfan and instantly walked over to greet him. One could tell that she seemed rather upset.

Li Nianfan asked, “Auntie Zhang, what happened?”

“Sigh, it’s because of Nanan,” Auntie Zhang sighed and said in a distressed tone. “Nanan only has an Inferior Spiritual Root, yet she insists on cultivating. She won’t listen to me!”

Li Nianfan frowned, “Where’s she?”



“There!” Auntie Zhang pointed to a little girl who was standing in line, her eyes red but determined. The other children beside her had the same looks on their faces as well, and at the front of the line was an old woman who also wore a sad look on her face.

Normally, there was a hierarchy between the sects. The queue led by the old woman was located at a secluded corner, making it apparent that they were an inferior sect. The children with Superior Spiritual Root would be recruited by the bigger sects while the smaller sects could only recruit those with Inferior Spiritual Root.

“Mr. Li, Nanan listens to you the most. You have to help me convince her,” Auntie Zhang said worriedly. “I’ve heard that those with Inferior Spiritual Root don’t have a bright future and usually end up being cannon fodder. On top of that, the sect she was recruited into is located in a secluded area. She’d be better off as an ordinary person!”

“Auntie Zhang, I’ll try to convince her. If Nanan doesn’t agree, perhaps you could let her have a try. It’s better than her regretting it in the future,” Li Nianfan said. He thought about it for a moment before walking toward Nanan.

“Nanan.”

“Brother Nianfan!” Nanan’s eyes reddened. “I only have Inferior Spiritual Root.”

“That’s not so bad. This is a very rare gift.” Li Nianfan smiled.

Nanan looked up at him with a sparkle in her eyes. “You’re not asking me to give up?”

Li Nianfan ruffled her hair. “Of course not. I’m here to give you a gift.”

He knew that Nanan was determined to cultivate and there was no way to talk her out of it.

The old woman of the sect turned to see the Holy Emperor! She jolted and walked toward them. “Greetings to the Holy Emperor, Princess Luo.”

The Holy Emperor nodded.

The old woman looked at Li Nianfan with a look of disbelief. She wondered who this ordinary man was that he could be accompanied by the Holy Emperor!

She then took another look at Nanan and her heart sank. It seemed that the disciple she recruited was not ordinary at all!

As for the Holy Emperor, he seemed calm on the surface but in reality, his heart was bleeding. He wanted to slap himself!

‘I’m a fool! I’m a pig!’ The Holy Emperor jeered at himself.

He knew that Li Nianfan was incredibly fond of Nanan. Why did he not recruit Nanan earlier? He missed out on a great opportunity!

Was the expert’s hint not clear enough? Why did he not think of it earlier?

The more he thought about it, the more upset he was! Now, he really wanted to recruit Nanan, but he did not want to risk offending Li Nianfan. The Holy Emperor’s brows tightened into a straight line.

“A gift?”

Nanan looked at Li Nianfan with excitement. “What gift?”

“Wait.” Li Nianfan smiled gently. He had prepared this earlier. He reached into his System Space and brought out his writing tools.

He glanced around and walked to a nearby stone table. He then rolled out the paper gradually.

The Holy Emperor's heart throbbed. He had goosebumps all over his skin and he started feeling overwhelmed with anxiousness and excitement!

Was the expert about to...

If so, he could not begin to fathom how big this opportunity was going to be!

Under the bewildered gaze of the Holy Emperor, Li Nianfan asked Daji to help him prepare some ink while he closed his eyes to get into the mood.

If Nanan insisted on cultivating, then he might as well write her some blessings. Since cultivating was all about longevity, he hoped that Nanan could achieve that.

Gradually, Li Nianfan opened his eyes. They were filled with Insights.

He picked up his brush.

Instantly, ethereal Insights burst out like tidal waves! On the outside, it looked like he had blended in with nature, becoming one seamless entity.

The cultivators of the sects did not notice this corner earlier. Suddenly, they felt their hearts sinking. The Spiritual Qi in their bodies halted for a second as a shapeless pressure weighed down on them, making them breathless.

They all turned to Li Nianfan with terror and fear in their eyes.

Was he really an ordinary man?

“Insights Circulation! It’s the Insights Circulation!”

The slender elderly man who was watching from the hidden corner stared at the scene with his dilated pupils. He almost let out a scream!

No wonder the Holy Emperor would follow behind this ordinary man. He was not an ordinary man at all! He was a hidden expert!

The elderly man stared at the paper with a deadly gaze. He changed his mind.

‘He’s starting! He’s starting!’ The Holy Emperor stared at Li Nianfan, wide-eyed and holding his breath. He did not dare to move as he did not want to distract Li Nianfan.

Li Nianfan's brush landed on the paper. The movement of his brush was like a dragon, writing the words all in one go.

[I am not ordinary. I leadeth an immortal life.]

Once the two short sentences were written, a strong wind blew, causing everyone's clothes to blow in the wind. The wind seemed strong but also gentle, giving the people an indescribable comfort.

The ordinary men thought it was just the wind, but every cultivator present felt a huge swarm of Insights. The Insights came in the form of a wave that almost engulfed the entire land!

The swarm of Insights was merely a fraction of the Insights coming from the words!

The cultivators felt their hearts throbbing. They did not dare to breathe nor speak.

Where did this bigshot come from?

Nobody dared to ask nor to speak. They all trembled in silence.

The Holy Emperor stood the closest to Li Nianfan. Upon reading the words, he instantly heard ringing in his ears. It was as if he could see through a thin mist and into where the Immortals lived. There were Immortal buildings within a city ringing with Immortal music in the air. He was caught up with this view and unable to come back out.

Li Nianfan rolled up the paper and smiled. “Nanan, this is for you.”

“Thank you, Brother Nianfan.” Nanan accepted the gift happily.

She was not yet able to appreciate its deeper meaning. All she could feel was that Brother Nianfan’s writing was very beautiful, so beautiful they could fly off the paper.

He...he gave this...to an ordinary girl?

The cultivators were perplexed. Their brains were unable to process it. They did not know what this was all about!

The old woman’s mind went blank. She was unable to make sense of it at all. She felt like a puppet, transfixed in her spot.

A precious treasure!

That was beyond precious!

And he gave it to a disciple she had just recruited?

She felt as if she had just been knocked over by a delicious biscuit that had fallen from heaven! It felt like a dream!

“As long as you like it. Remember to work hard,” Li Nianfan said.

Nanan nodded vigorously as she promised, “Yes! I will!”

“Alright, it’s getting late. I should head home soon,” Li Nianfan said.

Nanan said suddenly, “Brother Nianfan, wait for me. When I grow up, I’ll gather all of the best things in the world and give them to you!”

“Hahaha! Alright, I’ll wait for you, then!”



# Chapter 84: Ignorant Idiot!

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The Holy Emperor walked Li Nianfan to the entrance of the Fallen Town.

Li Nianfan said, “Holy Emperor, you’re a cultivator yourself, too. If possible, please help me take care of Nanan.”

“No problem, Mr. Li. I will for sure.” The Holy Emperor instantly nodded.

“Thank you! See you soon.”

After making sure that Li Nianfan could no longer see him, the Holy Emperor raised his hand and started slapping himself.

One on the left cheek, another on the right cheek, then another one on the left...

Slap! Slap! Slap!

Three slaps rang in the air—clear and crisp!

“Idiot! I’m an idiot!” The Holy Emperor cried out through his gritted teeth. He wanted to cry!

He knew about Nanan, and he also knew how much the expert liked her. How could he let such a big opportunity slip past him!

What a miss! What a huge loss!

That was his autograph! And it was about his identity which contained the truth about longevity! That was a priceless treasure! A shockingly huge opportunity!

Besides that, though Nanan only had Inferior Spiritual Root, she had the expert on her back!

She would clearly become a bigshot one day!

‘How could I miss out on such an opportunity? My brain is so useless! Do I even need my brain!?’

Luo Shiyu tried to comfort him. “Dad, let it go. The expert must have his reasons. Now that we know, it’s not too late to assist him.”

The Holy Emperor sighed. “Well, that’s all we can do for now.”

Suddenly, his face changed colours. The momentum in his body soared as he transformed into light and flew to the northeast side of the town.

“Who are you! How dare you invade my Ganlong Immortal Dynasty!?” the Holy Emperor growled as he chased after them. He was extremely furious. He travelled as fast as he had ever travelled before. He was anxious since he had just promised Li Nianfan to take good care of Nanan. Yet, at that moment, Nanan was about to be captured by this man! He might as well take his life!

No way! He could not afford to let Nanan get hurt!

He told himself that no matter what it took, he had to save Nanan! Even if he had to use up all of his Spiritual Qi!

The black shadow travelled very fast, too. He turned into a black mist with Nanan and vanished into the darkness.

“Holy Emperor, you’re not even related to this girl. Why chase after her?” the black shadow flashed a cold smile as his evil voice rang in the air.

“Demon Man!” the Holy Emperor called out his name through his gritted teeth. “Let go of Nanan now and I’ll let you go! If not, I’ll chase after you and kill you!”

He was furious! This Demon Man was such an idiot! He had no idea how foolish he was being! Although this girl was not related to him, she was a very important person to him!

“Haha! You’re chasing after me because of the expert, eh?” the Demon Man scoffed. “You want to use this to impress the expert?”

“You know nothing! You have no idea who you’ve offended!” the Holy Emperor jeered. “It’s not too late now to stop this! You might still stand a chance to live! You can’t imagine what kind of existence the expert lives in!”

“Haha! So scary!” The Demon Man could not help laughing out loud. “Of course, I know he’s not an ordinary man judging by the words he wrote. But an existence beyond imagination? Haha! I can certainly imagine him being an old Mahayala realm monster who had a successful Cross Tribulation. He managed to transform into a human but is still unable to become an Immortal.”

“What a toad in the well! A toad in the well!” The Holy Emperor’s face flushed red. Being ignorant was so scary! It could cost someone one’s life!

Ignorant idiot!

A Mahayala realm cultivator's words were not comparable to even a strand of the expert's hair!

The both of them were Out of Aperture cultivators. The speed they travelled at was like a meteor flashing through the sky.

Soon, they went into a forest.

The Demon Man slowed his pace as he landed on a huge stone. He tossed Nanan to a tree by the side and turned around. He looked at the Holy Emperor and said, amused, "You don't give up easily, do you? So annoying like a fly!"

The Holy Emperor frowned as an ominous premonition rose in his heart. Either way, he said, "Demon Man! This girl isn't someone you can touch! I'll be frank, this expert is way beyond an Immortal. It's highly likely that he's already gained Wisdom!"

"Gained Wisdom? Hmm... Hahaha!"

The Demon Man could not help laughing breathlessly. It was as if he had just heard the best joke in the world. He shook his head. "Holy Emperor, do you know what you're talking about? At least make up a better lie than this. Already gained Wisdom? How so?"

Do his thoughts come true and is his word the law? Even the Immortals can't do that! Why would an existence like this even come to our realm?"

"You're helpless. Helpless!" The Holy Emperor shook his head. He reached out with his hands as a red flame lit up the night sky like a long chain of fire that was about to engulf the Demon Man.

The Demon Man merely scoffed. He reached out his right hand and a black flag appeared. This flag seemed broken and it had some holes on it. Once it was fully unrolled, a disgusting smell was unleashed along with the howling sounds of monsters.

The stench radiated from the flag in waves, forming a protective barrier around the Demon Man.

The fire chain circled the black smoke like a python before increasing its speed and finally catching it.

Tzz...

The fire chain and the black smoke collided, eliciting a sharp sound. Both forces halted.

"Sacrifice Blood Flag!"

The Holy Emperor's face darkened. "Demon Man! Why would you harm the innocent? How dare you use that move! Damn it!"

"Hehe! I heard that the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty's Dragon Fire is the nemesis of all evil. It's no big deal!" The Demon Man laughed as his black smoke filled the sky.

The black smoke twisted into a long and slender snake, swimming toward the Holy Emperor!

"Damn it!" the Holy Emperor growled as he raised his left hand. A flaming red bowl appeared in his palm.

The bowl rotated slowly, casting a bright ray of light on the black smoke. Instantly, the bright light shot out of the bowl and dispersed the smokey snake.

Burning flames started pouring out of the bowl, merging with the fire chain to form a gigantic flaming dragon!

The gigantic dragon was much bigger than the fire chain. It started surrounding the black smoke. The dragon's head was high up in the sky. Looking down at the black smoke, it let out a gust of dragon fire!

Roar!

Burning red flames engulfed the black smoke as the ground around them turned into a sea of fire.

Tzzz!

The black smoke sizzled as it rolled in its darkness as if it was evaporating.

“Dad!”

Luo Shiyu and Zhongxiu finally made it. When they arrived at the scene, they let out a sigh in relief. It appeared that they were winning!

“Shiyu, go and save Nanan,” the Holy Emperor said.

Luo Shiyu nodded and went straight to Nanan.

However, just as her hand was about to touch Nanan, a string of black smoke penetrated through the flames. It turned into a black chain, capturing Luo Shiyu.



“Muahahaha!”

The Demon Man’s devilish laugh came from inside the flame, sounding as if he had successfully captured his prey.

The Holy Emperor jolted. He asked in disbelief, “How could this be?”

“Holy Emperor, did you really think I’d come unprepared?” the Demon Man jeered coldly, sending the Holy Emperor deeper into despair.

He looked around and realized that his surroundings were darker than usual. It was not the night sky—it was pure darkness!

He looked up and saw that even the moon was no longer visible!

“Formation?” the Holy Emperor cried out through his gritted teeth.

He did not know when it happened, but he found that they were engulfed in thick, black smoke. They were completely surrounded.

Click, click, click!

Footsteps were heard coming from within the forest. Three cultivators dressed in black robes then walked out. They looked at the Holy Emperor with ill-intent.

“Hahaha! Oh, Holy Emperor! How foolish of you to risk your life for a girl you don’t even know! How foolish!” the Demon Man laughed. “Now, not only have you been captured, even your wife and daughter have been captured by me!”

The Holy Emperor’s face sank. Without speaking, his hands moved rapidly to destroy the formation!

Humm!

The bowl in his hand vibrated vigorously, letting out a loud hum.

Vroom!

A gigantic flame exploded like a volcano, soaring into the sky before landing right in the black smoke.

Tzz...

The black smoke started to disperse. The flame was burning bright and hot, ready to crack open the surrounding darkness.

“Hmph!” the Demon Man scoffed. He swung the Sacrifice Blood Flag with his hand.

Instantly, the dispersing smoke started to condense, floating toward the Holy Emperor. Without a sound, the black smoke transformed into ten or so black chains, trapping the Holy Emperor and Zhong Xiu.

The Holy Emperor could not help asking, “Demon Man, do reconsider. Are you sure about becoming an enemy of the expert?”

“Hahaha! I already decided from the moment I attacked!” the Demon Man laughed. He jeered, “The Immortal Realm is so huge. I can go anywhere! Also, are you sure he’ll fight me because of you?”

The Holy Emperor shook his head and said coldly, “An ignorant person is always fearless! If the expert wants to kill you, he can easily kill you with just a thought!”

“What a joke! I’m standing right here. If he’s as powerful as you say he is, why hasn’t he come to save you?” the Demon Man said victoriously. He tightened his grip on the flag and swung it again.

Roar!

A loud roar erupted from within the black smoke as it rushed toward the Holy Emperor and Zhong Xiu.

Vroom!

Both of them were shocked by the black smoke, losing their ability to fight.

“Dad!” Luo Shiyu cried out with terror on her face. She was engulfed by the black smoke, too.

“Hahaha! Don’t be afraid, my beautiful girl. Let me take good care of you,” the Demon Man scoffed with an obscene look on his face as he looked at Luo Shiyu. “Holy Emperor, I’ve yet to thank you for travelling all the way here just to deliver your daughter and wife to me.”

He was growing impatient with such beauties in front of him, but he did not forget about the important matter at hand. He walked to Nanan...

# Chapter 85: A Touch From The Immortal!

*Chapter 85: A Touch From The Immortal!*

The Holy Emperor warned coldly, “I’d advise you to stay away from them, or else you’ll die a horrible death!”

“Haha! I’m so scared!” the Demon Man laughed without flinching.

Above an Immortal?

A man who gained Wisdom?

It was unlikely that such a man existed in the Immortal Land, let alone this Immortal Realm!

‘If there was such an existence, why am I still alive? Come and get me if you can!’

Meanwhile, Nanan sat under the tree while biting on her lip. She looked at the approaching Demon Man with a terrified look.

The Demon Man had lust in his eyes. He reached out with his dry, slender hand and said coldly, "Give me the paper."

Nanan held onto the paper tightly as she shook her head vigorously. He staggered a few steps backward.

A red light flashed through the Demon Man's eyes. His hands turned into claws as he condensed the black smoke and pushed it toward Nanan!

He jeered, "A mere Inferior Spiritual Root. You're worthless anyway so you might as well die!"

"Stop!" The Holy Emperor was terrified! The three of them felt as if their hands and legs were frozen as anger flared in their eyes!

However, just as the black smoke was about to touch Nanan, the paper she was holding lit up, glowing softly. Mist started to form around it as if an Immortal had just descended from above. Time stood still.

The black smoke vanished instantly as if blown away by the wind.

“This... This is...” The Demon Man was caught off guard. He stared at the paper and staggered a few steps backward. He was starting to feel uneasy.

The paper flew out from Nanan’s hand and slowly unfolded itself mid-air.

Instantly, thick mist burst forth from the paper and soared into the sky as if it was about to penetrate the clouds.

When the paper was fully unfolded, pure white light shot down from the sky, lighting up the entire forest!

Flash!

The Demon Man’s formation instantly crumbled and dispersed. In the forest, the souls of almost all the monsters trembled. They all bowed respectfully in the direction of the light.

The Demon Man’s face went pale like paper. His teeth started chattering as he stuttered, “Imm....Immortal?!”

He staggered backward, overwhelmed with terror. His scalp was itching and he could feel his organs cracking!

Among the white light, there seemed to be an elderly man with white hair. His robe was flowing in the air. Though one could not see his face, there was an indescribable aura exuding out from him. Superior but not condescending.

This felt like a meeting between a two-dimensional animal and a three-dimensional animal. Due to the differences in realms, one could only look up to the superior in awe.

“Spiritual manifestation! It’s the spiritual manifestation!”

The Holy Emperor’s eyes had widened so much, he had to hold onto his breath. It was as if his blood stopped circulating in his body as he had goosebumps all over him. He stared at the light blankly as his brain lost its function.

This was the spiritual manifestation!

The realm that only existed in legends!

A thought could come true, a word could be the law, a stroke could turn Spring into Summer, and a painting could set the date!

The Insights contained in his words were able to manifest an Immortal?



Terrifying! So terrifying!

“How could it be? How could it be?!” The Demon Man was terrified. His face twitched with disbelief. “How could there be such an existence in the world! This is fake! This is fake!”

He spat out a mouthful of blood before turning into light to escape! Meanwhile, he was still feeling uneasy. He wanted to get rid of everything he had, which included burning his Spiritual Qi to escape as quickly as possible.

He was completely terrified. He did not even dare to look back.

The Immortal stood in the same spot as if looking into a distant land. He let out a low sigh. Then, he slowly unfolded his palm.

The Demon Man who had already escaped earlier suddenly appeared in sight, flying back to where the Immortal was standing.

He tried speeding up to escape, but somehow, a stronger force was stopping him. He ended up flying straight into the palm of the Immortal.

“No, let me go! Let me go!” The Demon Man’s face was filled with fear and despair. He begged the Immortal, “Expert, I’m wrong! I’m willing to serve you! Please, forgive me!”

However, it was a futile attempt.

The Immortal’s hand landed gently on his head.

There was no shocking sound, nor a loud explosion of Spiritual Qi. A gust of wind came by and his body simply transformed into dust which was then dispersed by the wind. All that was left was a Yuan Ying core, floating mid-air.

The Holy Emperor and Luo Shiyu stared with their mouths wide open. They could only feel a chill in their hearts as they did not dare to take another breath.

The three disciples of the Demon Man were even more terrified. They fell on their knees as their minds went blank. They felt as if their scalps could explode at any given time!

The Immortal waved and the Yuan Ying core appeared on Nanan’s head. He then gently caressed her head.

A touch from an Immortal entailed longevity.

The Yuan Ying core went into Nanan's body with a soft glow. Nanan watched everything unfold with curiosity. Gradually, she felt her eyelids getting heavier as her body was engulfed by a soft white light. Eventually, she fell asleep.

Swiftly after, the white light dispersed and the paper gently folded back up. It then fell and landed beside Nanan.

The mist also vanished while the darkness returned, almost as if it was all just a dream.

Luo Shiyu gulped. She looked at the Holy Emperor, "Dad...dad..."

"Don't speak!" the Holy Emperor cut her off. He warned, "Just remain calm."

He looked at the three remaining disciples of the Demon man. His eyes flashed and the bowl in his hand let out a bright light. It then turned into a flaming dragon which swallowed the three of them.

Pheww...

Zhong Xiu slowly stood up and let out a sigh of relief. She seemed perplexed and confused. Tonight was indeed a nerve-wracking night. She would not forget that last scene for the rest of her life.

An Immortal could be manifested out of the expert's Insights! The realm of the expert was terrifyingly high!

"Follow me," the Holy Emperor said as he slowly walked to Nanan and the paper.

When he was half a meter away, he stopped to bow at the paper. He said sincerely, "Excuse me."

With that, he then used both hands to gently pick up the paper before keeping it carefully.

"Shiyu, you carry Nanan. We have to go back right away."

Shiyu nodded and carried Nanan in her arms. They turned into light and flew toward the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty.

## Chapter 86: Unimaginable Form Of Existence

*Chapter 86: Unimaginable Form Of Existence*

When they arrived at the entrance of the Fallen Immortal Town, the old woman was pacing anxiously.

Though she seemed old, she was only a Golden Core cultivator. She was lucky that the Demon Man did not kill her.

When she saw the Holy Emperor coming back with Nanan, she hurriedly went forward and said humbly, "Greetings to the Holy Emperor."

"Greetings to you."

The Holy Emperor helped her up. He did not want to be the Holy Emperor in front of her. He only wanted to get acquainted with her since she had recruited such a great disciple!

He looked at this old woman with a complex look filled with admiration. This old woman was so lucky to have pleased the expert! She took on the greatest opportunity ever! Perhaps she did not even know what kind of man Li Nianfan was!

The words on this piece of paper were priceless. It was probably the most precious item in the entire Ganlong Immortal Dynasty!

The paper contained Insights that could manifest an Immortal! It also contained Wisdom and longevity! If this news were to get out, everyone would have gone crazy!

As for Nanan, she was also a treasure! Although she had Inferior Spiritual Root, she was caressed by an Immortal!

The Demon Man was an Out of Aperture cultivator whose Yuan Ying core had gone into Nanan's body. This meant that her potential would be limitless! And since the expert liked Nanan so much, he would be able to help her and give her an abundance of opportunities!

Envious! So envious!

The more he thought about it, the redder his eyes became. His heart started aching again as he silently wished he could recruit her instead! But now it was too late to do so. Also, he could not risk disobeying the expert. He could only try to be kind to this old lady.

"May I know which sect you're from?" the Holy Emperor asked with a rather awkward face. He was embarrassed for not knowing which Sect she was from.

But since it mattered to Nanan, he had to find out.

The old woman did not take it personally. She replied, "I'm from the Golden Lotus Sect."

The Holy Emperor frowned. This sect was too small. He had never even heard of it.

Zhong Xiu, who was by his side, asked, “The Golden Lotus Sect that’s located in the northern part of the Ganglong Immortal Dynasty?”

“Exactly!” the old woman nodded.

Zhong Xiu hesitated for a moment. “I remember that the sect master of the Golden Lotus Sect is called Wu Hanyan.”

“Yes, she...” The old woman sighed. She seemed rather upset. “Three months ago, she was cultivating outdoors when she was stung by a poisonous bee. She doesn’t have much time left to live.”

“That’s great news!” the Holy Emperor cried out with delight.

He quickly concealed his statement with two dry coughs. “What I was saying...that...that’s too bad!

“However, don’t worry. It’s just a poisonous bee. The Ganglong Immortal Dynasty happens to have the antidote for such incidents. I’ll get you one right away!”

He was truly excited! He was still figuring out how to please her. This was his chance!

The old woman smiled with delight. She said in disbelief, “Are you really willing to help me?”

Of course, she knew the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty had the antidote. But over the past three months, she had begged for help from the other bigger sects only to be rejected by all of them. The Golden Lotus Sect was a small sect so nobody was willing to help them.

“Follow me.” The Holy Emperor went straight to his treasure vault and took out a pile of elixirs. The pile in front of the old woman seemed almost like a hill.

“This...this...this...”

The old woman was caught off guard. Her breathing grew rapid. She had lived for three hundred years but she never would have dreamed of seeing so many elixirs! Being able to get her hands on any of them would make her very happy!

The Holy Emperor separated them into groups. “Your sect is built on poorer land so there’s probably a lack of elixirs there. These are for Nanan during Qi Refining, and these are for her Foundation Building. These are for her Core Condensation. If you ever run out, please, don’t hesitate to get more from me. Don’t be stingy with Nanan.”



“This—I—my disciple...” The old woman looked at Nanan and all she could feel was her scalp itching. Who was she to receive such special treatment from the Holy Emperor?!

The Holy Emperor looked at the old woman with a serious look. “You have no idea what kind of disciple you’ve just recruited. But... I’ll tell you this. Nanan will become the biggest opportunity the Golden Lotus Sect has ever gained. So, if you take good care of her, the Golden Lotus Sect might even surpass my Ganlong Immortal Dynasty. If you don’t, I don’t even have to tell you what will happen.”

Surpass the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty?

The Golden Lotus Sect was only established less than a thousand years ago. They did not even dare to think about it!

The old woman’s heart sank as her face flushed red and her scalp itched in excitement. She asked with a trembling voice, “May I ask... Is it because of that...that man?”

The Holy Emperor smiled. “Haha! All you have to know is that his existence is way beyond your imagination!”

Tzz...

The old woman felt her heartthrob. She reached out with trembling hands to accept Nanan from Luo Shiyu. She did not dare to hold her too tight, afraid of possibly hurting her.

Trembling, she said, "I'll take good care of Nanan."

She was about to bring this important guess home! She swore she would not let any harm near this little girl even if she had to risk her life!

"Good." The Holy Emperor nodded. This old woman was not a fool. She should know what to do.

...

Li Nianfan and Daji arrived at the foot of the mountain. They were walking toward the four-part architecture. It was late by then, and the sky had darkened. The entire forest was engulfed by complete darkness as they made their way home without being able to see the path ahead.

From time to time, weird howls were heard coming from the dark forest, making the darkness scarier than it already was.

'Damn it. Why did I come home so late when I knew there'd be demons lurking around here at night? Please, please, don't let me see one!' Li Nianfan thought to himself.

He was panicking on the inside, but since Daji was with him, he had to conceal his fear and act like a man! Luckily, Daji seemed alright. She made Li Nianfan feel better as she was not like other women who would have been terrified by now.

The way home seemed unusually longer than usual. Li Nianfan walked deeper into the darkness while sighing to himself, 'How have I never noticed that there aren't any street lights here? At least a lantern or a torch would be helpful. I should probably carry the torch with me from now on!'

In the darkness, two pairs of tiny eyes were hidden among the trees, observing Li Nianfan and Daji.

They were two extremely huge mice!

"Brother, look! Two ordinary people are coming!"

"Wow! That woman's so pretty! Must be yummy!"

"Yeah! It's so late now and yet, we're lucky enough to bump into them! We're in luck!"

“I’ll teach you something new today! When a man and woman walk into a forest, we don’t even have to take off their clothes! Learn something new?”

“Yes! Yes, I did! My brother’s so smart!”

However, when they were just about to take action, they saw that the beautiful woman turned slightly to glance at the both of them.

With just one glance, their minds went blank and their bodies stiffened. Suddenly, they felt their blood freeze.

Moments later, two ice-sculptures in the shape of mice appeared in the forest!

## Chapter 87: The Right Way To Use Take-Away Container

*Chapter 87: The Right Way To Use Take-Away Container*

Under the moonlight, the familiar and welcoming four-part architecture finally came into sight. Li Nianfan felt so lucky to be alive that he almost cried, ‘Finally! Lucky me! I’m really lucky to have survived that!’

He let out a sigh and looked up to appreciate the full moon in the sky.

‘Hmm, beautiful!’

Daji looked at Li Nianfan and said, “Mr. Li, it’s getting late. Go and get some sleep.”

Li Nianfan nodded. “Yeah, it’s time to sleep.”

Daji asked softly, “Is there anything else I can do for you?”

“Do for me?” Li Nianfan halted slightly. This ancient woman was so kind. He smiled, “What’s there to do so late at night? Go and get some sleep!”

Moments later, he was laying in bed, thinking of some lingering fears. He sighed to himself. ‘Although I do know a few cultivators, it’s not very nice to keep asking them to protect me. Hopefully, Nanan will turn out to be a great cultivator. I think she’d be willing to protect me—her ordinary friend!’

...

Izumo Mountains.

Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun seemed nervous. They were venturing further into the secret border.

When they first entered, everyone had their own intentions, trying to outsmart one another. However, after staying here for five days, they learned what teamwork was. There were many tests and dangers in the secret border, and after passing all the tests, they could only make it so far.

There were few rewards, too!

This made them feel less motivated. Was this a secret border with many dangers but no opportunity?

This secret border was so stingy! As mean as animals!

“Qingyang Elder, the secret border you found isn’t good! We’ve made a loss this time!” someone started to complain.

Instantly, someone added on, “Yeah, I’ve used up so many treasures in here. I won’t even be able to breakeven! How’re you going to compensate for my loss?”

“No way!” the Qingyang Elder shook his head furiously. “There was an Insight Interrogation at the entrance, followed by so many tests. This secret border must be something special! No way there’s nothing in here! Unless...unless the person who set this secret border up was just feeling bored!”

Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun exchanged a look. They shared the same thought.

There was no doubt that there would be treasures in here. The fewer treasures they gained so far, the more they would get later on!

After all, they came here based on the hints given by the expert. Judging by the current situation, it meant that the refrigerator the expert mentioned was definitely something special.

The group continued walking on, feeling more doubtful than ever. Yet, they took each step cautiously.

Finally, the narrow path widened, leading to a clearing with a glowing light at the front. Anticipation appeared on their faces as they moved faster. The closer they got, the lower the temperature dropped. At the end of the path, a rush of cool air washed over them, causing them to shiver.

When they arrived at the end of the path, everyone was shocked! They were all overwhelmed with joy and ecstasy!

In front of their eyes was a grand hall. They could not tell how the hall used to look like in the past, but now, the entire hall was completely frozen—just like a frozen world!

Fog floated in the air. The cultivators had to endure another test!

On a pedestal in the middle of the hall was an azure blue hexagonal object made out of crystal. It sat quietly, exuding a terrifying chill!

“Refrigerator! It’s the refrigerator!” Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun’s eyes sparkled as they called out in unison.

By then, their hearts had been completely won over by the expert. They knew for sure that this was the refrigerator the expert wanted!

He knew everything! He saw everything coming!

The other cultivators looked at them weirdly.



Someone could not help mocking them, “Haha! It’s so scary to be ignorant! What refrigerator! This is clearly an Ice-Crystal!” His eyes were filled with lust as he could not wait to claim the prize!

This was an Ice-Crystal!

It was not just him. Everyone else was staring at the Ice-Crystal as well, hearts trembling with desire!

The Ice-Crystal was likely to be the most precious treasure in the entire Immortal Realm in terms of its lifespan.

The Ice-Crystal could freeze anything and was shockingly powerful. Other than that, it could also freeze one’s lifespan!

The cultivators would spend most of their time in retreat, and one retreat would last up to a hundred years. If they could freeze their lifespans during the retreat, then they could keep themselves from aging which in return, would give them extra years to live!

Also, if they were dying from diseases or if they were heavily wounded, they could use this Ice-Crystal to freeze themselves so that they could be healed in the future.

The power of the Ice-Crystal would turn anyone crazy!

Especially now that the bridge to Immortality had broken, there was no hope in becoming an Immortal. The situation made this item more precious than ever!

What was the whole point of cultivating? All for longevity was it not? This Ice-Crystal could fake longevity!

When everyone else was still caught up with the surprise, a shadow dashed toward the item. By the time everyone realized what he was doing, he was already standing by the Ice-Crystal, reaching for it.

It was the Qingyang Elder!

“Stop!”

The rest of them were startled and instantly used their Spiritual Qi to turn into light, flying toward the Qingyang Elder.

However, the moment the Qingyang Elder placed his hand on the Ice-Crystal, the smile on his face stiffened. A piercing chill traveled from his hand to the rest of his body.

Fzzzz!

Instantly, his hand turned into ice.

The Qingyang Elder shivered and instantly tossed the Ice-Crystal away.

Another cultivator saw it and a look of delight appeared on his face. He instantly caught the Ice-Crystal.

Fzzz!

The look of delight was still on his face, but his entire body had already frozen over with the Ice-Crystal still resting in his hands.

“This, this...”

Everyone was shocked. They all stopped in their steps, not daring to get any closer.

What just happened was too terrifying! Even the Qingyang Elder who was in his Distraction realm could not touch this item! This showed how difficult the task was!

The feeling of not being able to get their hands on this treasure which was right in front of their eyes was driving everyone crazy!

Lin Mufeng stared at the Ice-Crystal without blinking. He was thinking of a strategy. He had no desire of keeping the item for himself. The only thing he was thinking about was how to get a hold of it to give it to the expert.

The Qingyang Elder sighed. “Just try your best. Whoever succeeds in getting a hold of the Ice-Crystal can keep it. No hard feelings.”

Instantly, all the cultivators used their own tactics, trying their best to get a hold of it. Some used fire while some used water, but none of them succeeded.

Suddenly, Lin Mufeng had a thought and he almost screamed out loud with excitement!

‘Oh, yeah! How could I forget about it!?’

‘This was given to me by the expert. Why don’t I give it a try?’

He took out the take-away container and gradually approached the Ice-Crystal. He then carefully placed the Ice-Crystal into the container.

Even fire froze when touching the Ice-Crystal, yet, this container was still perfectly fine! The Ice-Crystal sat inside the container quietly, as if it had become an ordinary crystal.

It worked!

It actually worked!

Lin Mufeng's heart was jumping with excitement and shock! By then, his admiration for the expert had become as intense as a tsunami!

Click.

As he placed the lid back onto the container, the chill from the Ice-Crystal seemed to be insulated as it vanished instantly. Even the ice in the hall started to melt.

## Chapter 88: Forces of the World

*Chapter 88: Forces of the World*

So this was the right way to use the container!

‘Every action of the expert made had its implied deeper intentions. He planned this all out for me! Such an ability is other-worldly!’

Scary! So scary!

Luckily, he understood the expert’s hint!

Lin Mufeng took in a deep breath and warned himself, ‘Don’t be arrogant! I’ll have to be more cautious in the future to never miss out on any of the expert’s hints!’

The rest of the cultivators stared at him in disbelief. They could not believe what they just saw with their eyes!

This container seemed ordinary. Yet, it was so powerful?

If they had not just witnessed the power of the Ice-Crystal, they would have thought the Ice-Crystal was fake!

Lin Mufeng laughed and said to the rest of them, “Haha! Thank you, thank you.”

Although he was smiling, the entire Spiritual Qi in his body had reached its peak. He was prepared for any attack. Old Man Sun also stood by his side, watching everyone cautiously.

The atmosphere in the room became tense.

Suddenly, the Qingyang Elder said, “As I said earlier, whoever succeeds in getting a hold of it earns the right to keep it. Shall we all just let it go?”

The Qingyang Elder was the highest-ranked cultivator there. He was in the full-Distraction realm, while Lin Mufeng was in the pre-Distraction realm. Old Man Sun was only an Out of Aperture.

With the three of them joining forces, nobody else dared to do anything foolish. They had no choice but to let go of the lust and desire they felt in their hearts.

The Qingyang Elder smiled at Lin Mufeng. “Let’s go. I’ll send you both out.”

“Thank you, my friend,” Lin Mufeng said.

The three of them flew out of the secret border in the form of light, speeding away...

None of them stopped. Only after making sure that there was nobody following them, Lin Mufeng stopped and looked at the Qingyang Elder. “Thank you so much for your help. I’ll remember your kindness. Goodbye.”

However, he remained cautious of the Qingyang Elder. Throughout the journey in the secret border, one could tell that Qingyang Elder was not a fair person. If it was not because of the difficulty in securing the Ice-Crystal, he would have snatched it away long ago!

The Qingyang Elder merely smiled, seemingly unperturbed. “Haha! My friend, I’ve done you such a massive favor and that’s all you’re going to say? That you’ll remember my kindness? Have you forgotten something?”

Lin Mufeng’s face sank slightly. He asked, “What do you mean?”

Old Man Sun’s face changed color. He started to prepare his Spiritual Qi for an attack.

“I was the one who realized this secret border and I helped you get hold of the Ice-Crystal. Did you really think you can run away with it?” The friendly look on the Qingyang Elder’s face had disappeared. He showed his true colors and scoffed coldly, “Give me back the Ice-Crystal and I’ll consider letting you live!”

“So, this was on your mind all along,” Lin Mufeng said in a low voice. “If I’m not mistaken, you discovered this secret border a long time ago but you haven’t been able to



get hold of this item! That's why you gathered so many people here to help you. You just planned on snatching it away from whoever that was able to get it!"

"Hahaha! Exactly! But it's a little too late for you to realize that!" The Qingyang Elder's eyes sparkled as he raised his hands abruptly. Instantly, a pool of cyan waves filled the air, silently and swiftly. Suddenly, it transformed into something extremely sharp, traveling toward Lin Mufeng.

Lin Mufeng seemed to have expected this. He unfolded his palm and a green shield appeared, expanding and blocking the sharp object!

Looking closely, it was in fact a long dagger, looking like a snake spitting out light.

"Qingyang Elder! So, you faked your friendliness all along!" Old Man Sun scoffed. Without hesitation, he took out his black dragon-head staff and cast a stream of black smoke directly at the Qingyang Elder.

The Qingyang Elder's eyes sparkled. A bright light started to glow from within his cyan robe. A flash of light emerged like a peacock unfolding its feathers, forming a protective shield all over him and blocking the black smoke.

Instantly, the bright light circulated in the air.

Meanwhile, a figure rushed toward them from afar. It was the Chess Fanatic!

“Don’t worry, my friend! I’m here to help you!” He raised his hands as black and white Qi came forth from his fingertips. Just like the black and white chess pieces, they lashed toward the Qingyang Elder.

The three of them halted. There was not much change around them, but they could feel something mysterious was lingering in the atmosphere...as if the area had turned into a chessboard!

The Qingyang Elder did not seem to care at first but in the next moment, he started having some difficulties in breathing. His world became messy and it became much harder for him to move.

He had no choice but to take a few steps backward, shocked.

“The control of the Forces of the World?!”

Not just the Qingyang Elder, but Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun also looked at the Chess Fanatic in shock!

Although they were all inside the chessboard, Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun were on the offense side, going against the Qingyang Elder. They somehow felt closer to the world and felt more at ease moving around.

This...this was the Forces of the World!

In simpler terms, it was the controlling of fate!

The Chess Dao was able to transform the world into a chessboard!

Lin Mufeng was extremely shocked! This proved his earlier speculation!

The Chess Fanatic could only cause minimal impact, while the expert seemed like he was able to control, and perhaps even change, the Forces of the World!

Over the past hundreds of years, the Chess Fanatic had never shown his power to the world. Who would have thought that once he did, his Chess Dao would be so powerful!

“Interesting. Who would’ve thought you’d choose a different path from the rest of the cultivators!” the Qingyang Elder narrowed his eyes at the three of them, still unperturbed.

He was a full-Distraction, the highest-ranking cultivator among the rest of them. He raised his hand and five different colored flags appeared in the air, instantly wrapping around the three of them, casting an enchantment.

He looked at Lin Mufeng, confident that he was winning. “I’ll give you one last chance. Hand me the Ice-Crystal.”

Lin Mufeng looked at the Qingyang Elder and sighed. “My friend, don’t be so stubborn. It’s not too late for you to stop. The Ice-Crystal isn’t something we can get hold of either.”

Qingyang Elder halted. “Huh?”

“Do you really think I would’ve been able to solve the chess game at the stone wall?” Lin Mufeng shook his head and said with a solemn tone full of admiration, “An expert appointed me to this quest. The expert not only showed me the chess game, but he also showed me how to solve it. I only realized that the test at the entrance was the same as the game he showed me when I arrived!”

## Chapter 89: A Palm Fallen From The Sky

*Chapter 89: A Palm Fallen From The Sky*

“Expert?” the Qingyang Elder scoffed. “Do you think I’ll believe such a childish excuse?”

“You’ve witnessed the Chess Fanatic’s chess move. Even though he was unable to solve the game, do you think I’d be able to solve it with my current level?” Lin Mufeng continued with a solemn tone. “And the container. It was given to me by the expert as well. Don’t you think the whole journey was too easy for me? The truth is that it was all part of the expert’s plan! He had set these all up for me!”

“This is the true Chess Dao. This is the true Chess Dao!” the Chess Fanatic mumbled repetitively as he trembled. His face flushed red and his eyes started to glow.

Lin Mufeng sighed. “The expert knows everything, and he uses the world as his chess game. I’m merely a chess piece in his hand but I’m more than willing to be one!”

The Qingyang Elder seemed perplexed but he eventually scoffed. “Haha! What a joke! The bridge to Immortality had been broken thousands of years ago. Why would such a man exist in our Immortal Realm? You’re about to die and yet you still attempt to fool me with such a stupid lie! If he really knows everything, does he know that I’m about to kill you and snatch the Ice-Crystal away?”

Lin Mufeng sighed with a look of pity on his face. “Of course, the expert would’ve seen this coming. I was trying to help you but you insist on being stubborn. It seems that I’ll lose a fellow friend today.”

“Yeah, bring it on! I’m getting old anyway. Even if this expert does exist, I’ll have to offend him either way! Since one could only gain wealth from risk, I’ll just have to take that risk!” the Qingyang Elder cried out in a demented voice, exuding an extremely bright light all over him. The cyan light gathered in front of him and with a wave, they dashed toward Lin Mufeng!

Old Man Sun cried out in panic! He looked at Lin Mufeng, about to cry for help!

If he was as powerful as he claimed to be, why was he not fighting back? What use would come out of standing there without doing anything!?

Did he not see that they were under attack!?

The light traveled at a rapid speed and within an instant, the light was less than three feet away from them.

However, Lin Mufeng remained calm and unperturbed. He merely raised his palm. Instantly, it was as if the light was blocked by a shapeless force as it came to a halt right in front of Lin Mufeng's face.

The wind started to blow wildly!

Winds blew from all directions, causing Old Man Sun's beard to dance wildly as he staggered backward.

Vroom! Vroom! Vroom!

The wind was so strong that the sky almost seemed to change color!

Meanwhile, a swarm of Insights exuded from Lin Mufeng. Instantly, his figure expanded, almost like a pillar between the sky and ground.

“This...this is...” the Qingyang Elder’s face changed colors instantly. A look of terror that was never seen from him before flashed in his eyes. He asked, trembling, “Force...Force of God?”

“I thought the expert showed this to me without special intention. Now, it’s apparent that he saw this coming long ago and intentionally passed this onto me,” Lin Mufeng said solemnly. He was once again truly impressed by the expert’s set up!

“You...you...you...” the Qingyang Elder was trembling. He wanted to escape, but he realized that he was trapped by a powerful force. He felt as if he had no way of escaping from this.

Lin Mufeng raised his hands slowly. “Have you seen a palm falling from the sky?”

Vroom!

In the air, the Basics of Wisdom could be heard. Slowly, the clouds cracked open to reveal a gigantic palm. Instantly, the palm broke through the clouds, and just like a meteor, it fell toward the Qingyang Elder!

“No! No!” the Qingyang Elder whimpered as he looked up at the sky in despair.

He tried to resist in many ways but all manner of resistance was futile once the palm landed.

Scratch!

His clothes were torn open!

Instantly, the palm fell upon him.

Vroom!

The ground and the forest shook as if an earthquake had happened!

Once the smoke and dust cleared, one could see from above that there was an imprint of a gigantic palm left on the land. As for the Qingyang Elder, he had already disappeared without a trace, vanishing into thin air.



“Oh...Oh my god!” Old Man Sun was stunned. He looked at Lin Mufeng as if it was his first time meeting him. He stuttered, “This...this was passed on to you by the expert as well?”

“What rights do I have for the expert to pass this onto me? I was only lucky enough to catch a glimpse of his power!” Lin Mufeng said unperturbed as if he had done nothing impressive. He looked at the mark on the ground and sighed. “It’s a pity that my understanding is too shallow. I only caught a glimpse of the entire act.”

Only a glimpse of the entire act?

Only?

This was the Force of God!

Old Man Sun’s eyes reddened. His good friend had changed! After meeting the expert, he had become so arrogant!

But...he really wanted to meet the expert, too!

“My fellow friend, did you say that the chess move you made was appointed by the expert? Is that true?” the Chess Fanatic asked in anticipation as he looked at Lin Mufeng in admiration.

Lin Mufeng nodded. “Of course!”

The Chess Fanatic instantly made a low bow at Lin Mufeng. He then said sincerely, “I was too blessed to have witnessed the move and I shouldn’t ask for more. But knowing that such an expert exists in this world, I’d regret it for the rest of my life if I’m not able to meet him. May I ask if you could introduce him to me?”

“This...” Lin Mufeng frowned. He looked at the Chess Fanatic, then at Old Man Sun. After a moment of hesitation, he said, “You both have contributed to getting this refrigerator anyway. And since the expert likes to play chess, I’ll try to bring you both to visit him together.”

The Chess Fanatic and Old Man Sun jumped in delight!

Lin Mufeng said, “Let’s not waste any more time. Since we’ve secured the refrigerator, we must send it to the expert right away to show our sincerity! Let’s go!”

Instantly, the three of them turned into light and traveled to the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty. When a mountain came in sight, Lin Mufeng led them to the foot of the mountain. He said in a serious tone, “The expert lives on this mountain. We’ll go up by foot.”

“This is a must! This is the basic respect one must show to the expert!” Old Man Sun and the Chess Fanatic nodded in agreement.

Lin Mufeng continued, “You both have to remember that the reason the expert lives among ordinary men is that he wants to experience living as an ordinary man. His house is filled with treasures and opportunities all over but you have to control your reaction. Treat him as an ordinary man, or else he’ll be displeased.”

“Don’t worry. You’ve said this for the hundredth time during our way here!” Old Man Sun said.

Lin Mufeng repeated, “This is a taboo at his house, so I need to make sure!”

The Chess Fanatic’s eyes sparkled. He said, “I think I somewhat understand the expert’s attitude!”

## Chapter 90: Boots Licking Competition!

*Chapter 90: Boots Licking Competition!*

“You understand?”

Lin Mufeng and Old Man Sun looked at the Chess Fanatic in unison.

“Huh? Tell us!” Old Man Sun said curiously.

“Actually, I happen to have this attitude from time to time as well.” The Chess Fanatic smiled. “As a cultivator like me and you, no one is born as an Immortal. We were all born in the shell of an ordinary man. I’ve always thought to myself that if I manage to become an Immortal one day, I could bring an end to my busy life. Then, I’d be able to go back to being an ordinary man and live a carefree life, mingling among the ordinary folk and enjoy the rest of my life.”

“You’re right! You’re right!” Old Man Sun nodded in realization. “If so, when one returns to his basics and chooses to live as an ordinary man, he’d feel disturbed and upset if someone else exposes his identity.”

It would be the same as meeting the wealthiest man. If he said he was merely an ordinary man who had no interest in money, would it be wise to call him out?

No! It would not! One would have no other choice but to go along with the act!

Lin Mufeng said with a low voice, “Alright. Stop talking now. It’s right up front.”

Old Man Sun and the Chess Fanatic shivered. Their breathing became shallow as they could feel their limbs getting cold. It was as if they were students who were about to enter the exam hall—uneasy and nervous.

“Relax. The expert’s friendly,” Lin Mufeng comforted.

With that, he walked forward and called out with respect, “Is Mr. Li home?”

Click!

Xiao Bai opened the door. After looking at the three of them, it said, “Welcome!”

So this was the Spiritual Robot? Terrifying!

Instantly, Old Man Sun and the Chess Fanatic jolted slightly, as if the Spiritual Robot could read their minds. Hurriedly, they flashed the friendliest smiles they had ever given in their entire lives.

Lin Mufeng said respectfully, “Hello, Xiao Bai. I’m Lin Mufeng, a friend of Mr. Li’s.”

“I remember you,” Xiao Bai nodded and opened the door. “Please, come in.”

“Thank you.”

The three of them walked into the four-part architecture cautiously. The decorations of the four-part architecture did not change much over the last few days, but somehow, it felt like there were a lot of changes.

Upon entering the four-part architecture, they could smell a tangy fragrance. It was not the smell of ordinary flowers but instead, it was the smell of herbs!

The three of them jolted, feeling refreshed. They could not help glancing over to see the Spiritual Herbs and elixirs. Their hearts quickened.

The growth of the herbs was beyond imagination. It was almost as if they were all fighting over the expert’s attention, unleashing their tangy fragrance.

In fact, Lin Mufeng even noticed that there was a Spiritual Herb that was never supposed to bloom, but it bloomed anyway...

These plants certainly knew what they were doing!

Lin Mufeng suddenly felt as if he had no place in this house. This was out of his league. Completely out of his league!

Li Nianfan was playing chess with Daji. When he saw Lin Mufeng, he smiled. “Hey! Brother Lin’s here! Welcome!”

“Greetings to Mr. Li, greetings to Miss Daji.” Lin Mufeng was eager to hand over the treasure. He said, “Mr. Li, I heard you needed a refrigerator the other day. I happened to come across one recently so I brought it to you!”

“Eh? The refrigerator’s here?” Li Nianfan’s eyes sparkled with anticipation.

“Right here!” Lin Mufeng took out the take-away container and handed it to Li Nianfan. “I also brought along the container from the other day.”

Li Nianfan was truly impressed by Lin Mufeng!

‘Look at him! How polite!

‘He actually brought back the one-time-use container after using it! Also, I briefly mentioned the refrigerator the other day. Not only did he remember it, he even brought one all the way here!

‘I used to think that the Immortal Realm was full of lurking dangers! Perhaps I was mistaken!’ Li Nianfan thought to himself as he accepted the container. He looked at the hexagonal crystal inside.

The crystal was very beautiful. It sparkled with an azure glow as if it was surrounded by a halo—dazzling and sparkling!

Click!

Li Nianfan uncovered the container.

“Mr. Li...” Lin Mufeng was just about to warn Li Nianfan about the chill coming from the Ice-Crystal, but Li Nianfan already took out the crystal and placed it in his hand to observe.

Instantly, Lin Mufeng swallowed back his words.

He thought too much! Who was he? Did he even need to be reminded?

The crystal was cool to the touch. Li Nianfan placed it on his palm and instantly felt a coolness coming from it, making him feel refreshed. However, he frowned slightly. “The temperature is a little too high. It can’t be used as a refrigerator!”



As he spoke, he felt the crystal's temperature drop, exuding a piercing cold.

"Nice!" Li Ninfan was delighted instead of shocked. "I should've realized earlier that this is likely to be another voice-controlled device! That's great. Now it can be used as a refrigerator as well as an air-conditioner! Nice! Very nice!"

Instantly, he placed the refrigerator on the rockery beside the stream. He ordered, "Lower the temperature!"

Click! Click!

A cold breeze came by. The stream started to freeze into ice.

Lin Mufeng and the other two stared at the Ice-Crystal who was on its best behavior, trying to impress the expert. In unison, the three of them jeered at it in their minds, 'Boot licker!'

The Ice-Crystal was so arrogant just a moment ago. Yet, when it came to the expert, it instantly pretended to be obedient and ordinary? Ew!

“Almost there!” Li Nianfan looked at his refrigerator with delight. He said to Lin Mufeng, “Thank you, Brother Lin!”

“It’s just a small matter, you’re being too polite, Mr. Li,” Lin Mufeng said.

He was very excited! It seemed that the expert was very pleased with his performance. Good job! He was not far from the peak of his life!

“Right, this container is a one-time use item. You don’t have to return it to me. It’s useless.” Li Nianfan tossed the container aside. He did not seem to care about it at all.

Lin Mufeng and the other two’s breathing became harsh. They stared at the container, wide-eyed. It was as if they had lost their minds.

Useless?

One-time use?

This was a precious treasure! This might as well be the best item to store special treasures! He said it was only for one-time use?

This was...too extravagantly wasteful!

Was this the world of a bigshot?

Lin Mufeng's heart throbbed vigorously. He gritted his teeth, hastily keeping the container that was tossed aside.

'I'll keep your trash!'

"Ah... Mr. Li." Lin Mufeng recomposed himself. "These two are my friends. This man is Sun Qianshan, and this man is known as the Chess Fanatic. He's a big fan of chess."

Old Man Sun and the Chess Fanatic greeted, "Greetings to Mr. Li."

"Oh? You play chess?" Li Nianfan's eyes sparkled as he looked at the Chess Fanatic. Indeed, he seemed like a well-cultured man. Li Nianfan was excited. "Why don't we play a game?"

Finally, there was someone who played chess! This would be quite interesting!

The Chess Fanatic was beyond delighted! He said hurriedly, “Of course! It’d be my pleasure!”

Judging by his excitement, this cultivator was likely to be a huge fan of chess!

Li Nianfan was excited. He sat face-to-face with the Chess Fanatic and set up the board.

Li Nianfan made a gesture to the Chess Fanatic. “You’re the guest. Please, go ahead with the white.”

The Chess Fanatic knew he was far from the expert’s level, so he did not reject the offer. He picked up a white piece and looked at the board...