

The Immortal Cultivation Game Has Come True Come True

21 Chapter 20: Cultivation Breakthrough!

As the incense belief approached Xuanqing,

in an instant, action

it seemed like two magnets with opposite poles attracted to each other, and it merged into Xuanqing's mind in an instant.

Hum~

An extremely weak, mysterious warmth emerged in his mind.

Along with this warmth, there was a faint whispering sound.

At this moment,

Xuanqing felt an inexplicable urge to absorb the power of this incense fire.

However, he knew that if he really absorbed this weak incense faith, he would create a subtle and weak karmic connection with the little girl believer.

It wouldn't matter on ordinary days, but if her faith collapsed one day, he would suffer an equivalent backlash.

"No wonder it is said that incense fire is toxic and shouldn't be absorbed easily!"

Xuanqing took a deep breath, resisting the urge in his heart.

He couldn't absorb it, with the bright future set before him, how could he possibly absorb incense fire and walk down the fruitless path of becoming a god through incense fire.

With a thought,

"Convert all the power of the incense fire into ingots!"

[Ding~ Recharge successful, ingot +0.5]

Accompanied by a crisp mechanical prompt sound, the belief power that had been swirling around his body and tempting him dissipated.

"Phew~"

Xuanqing breathed a sigh of relief.

It seemed that in the future, after capturing the incense fire, he must immediately charge it into the system; otherwise, if he accidentally absorbed it, it would be troublesome.

.....

The next day,

early in the morning,

people came to the Taoist temple to offer incense one after another.

Most of them were young people. Occasionally, families would come up the mountain together. They all had one thing in common: they had all seen Duoyin's promotional video.

Xuanqing was also immersed in the bustling atmosphere.

It had to be said, the internet of this era was powerful.

Who would have thought that such a remote and desolate Taoist temple could attract so many incense guests just because of a short video?

At first,

whenever someone came to offer incense, he personally went to the door to greet them, leading them to the main hall for incense.

Later, as more and more people came, he was too busy to keep up. So he simply put up a sign pointing the way, allowing the incense guests to make their way to the main hall themselves according to the sign.

In the main hall,

two young men came in together.

Xuanqing opened his eyes and pointed to the corner, saying, "Immeasurable Longevity and Fortune, short incense for two yuan a pack. The main god of this temple is the Five Thunder Court..."

Like those before them,

These two young men were amazed by Xuanqing's temperament and were only awakened when they heard his voice.

However,

When they scanned the QR code to pay for the incense and picked it up from the table, they thought of Xuanqing's words that the main god of this Taoist temple was the Five Thunder Court Right Judge.

"Brother, who should we offer incense to first?"

"As the saying goes, the current magistrate is better than the county magistrate. Let's offer incense to the temple's main god first. What if it really works?"

"You're right."

The two young men whispered and finally unanimously decided to offer incense to the god tablet of the Five Thunder Institute Right Judge under the statue of the Three Pure Ones first.

On the side,

hearing the two people's discussion,

Xuanqing's mouth curled up slightly.

Through previous attempts, he had learned that the thickest incense fire power generated by a person was when they first kowtowed.

Of course,

he had those who offered incense first to his own god's tablet and then to the Three Pure Ones.

Fortunately,

these two young people were among the more devout believers and both generated incense fire belief.

Afterward,

Xuanqing absorbed the incense fire belief generated by the two.

[Ding~ You can currently recharge and exchange 2.5 ingots. Do you want to exchange all ingots?]

"Exchange all of it!"

[Ingot+2.5]

The power of incense fire generated by each person is related to their mental and health status, as well as their devotion to the gods.

.....

Just like that.

Time came to the afternoon of the third day.

[Beep! Player's cultivation has reached its limit, standby cultivation status stops, continue to activate standby after breakthrough!]

A system prompt forced him to close the door of the Taoist temple early and post a notice on the door saying, 'The temple owner is out for a few days and is not accepting incense guests temporarily.'

There was no other way.

Apart from his cultivation being on the verge of a breakthrough, the Loose Cultivator Trade Fair in Journey to the West World was about to begin. He had to use the remaining two thunderstruck woods to exchange for some cultivation resources and subsequent cultivation techniques.

Little did he know.

He still only knew one 'breathing method' that didn't quite count as a cultivation technique, which allowed him to absorb mana.

But for refining essence into qi later on, an ordinary mortal like him, who had no cultivation techniques and relied solely on passive breathing exercises, would probably never be able to break through to the next level even in his old age.

Back in the bedroom.

"Enter the game!"

....

Journey to the West World, in a corner of the Black Wind Mountain Range.

In the Cave House.

"Huff~"

Xuanqing opened his eyes and exhaled a long turbid breath, ending his standby cultivation state.

The slightly swollen feeling in his Dantian told him that his cultivation had reached the limit of the middle stage of Qi Introduction.

With a thought!

“Break through!”

A trace of brilliance flashed in Xuanqing’s eyes.

He controlled the mana in his Dantian and fiercely charged towards the barrier.

The next moment.

These qi, like wild horses, surged towards the acupoints and meridians all over his body, and his cultivation reached the late stage of Qi Introduction.

After all.

Qi Introduction was just the first realm of cultivation.

Its main purpose was to wash the body with ‘qi,’ preparing it for subsequent cultivation of refining essence into qi.

“I’ve broken through.”

“Now all I have to do is wait a few days to attend the Loose Cultivator Trade Fair and see if I can use the thousand-year-old Thunderstruck wood to exchange for a cultivation technique for later stages.”

Xuanqing took a deep breath and thought to himself.

Afterwards.

With a thought.

“Open personal interface.”

[Name]: Xuanqing

[Grade]: Taiji Palace Chosen Scholar: Right Magistrate of the Five Thunder Court,
Conjoined with Thunder Administration Affairs (9th Rank)

[Cultivation]: Qi Introduction (Late Stage)

[Cultivation Method]: Basic Breathing Method (Passive)

[Ingot]: 110

In terms of cultivation, he had already broken through to the 'late stage of Qi Introduction.'

Next, he had to allow the qi that permeated his body to nourish and cleanse him of worldly impurities, preparing for the subsequent cultivation of refining essence into qi.

After three days in the real world.

His ingot count had not decreased but increased, reaching a total of 110.

If all were used for standby cultivation, he could hang up in Journey to the West World for nearly four months, which would be equivalent to eleven days in the real world.

As previously agreed, he would go to Black Bear Essence's cave in a few days.

Before leaving, Xuanqing instructed Fat Ya, the child in charge of watching the house, not to run around and to take good care of the spiritual grains planted in Ling Tian.

...

A few days later.

Outside Black Wind Cave.

From a distance, two figures, one black and one white, stood at the entrance of the cave, gazing into the distance.

"Haha, Friend Xuanqing, you're here! We've been waiting for you!" Black Bear Essence laughed heartily, warmly greeting him.

22 Chapter 21: Setting Off

"Fellow Daoist Friends!"

Xuanqing nodded slightly, giving a greeting to the two demons.action

"Friend Xuanqing, we should not delay, let's set out now."

With that, the Black Bear Essence waved its right hand, spitting out a black demonic wind, and its plump body suddenly leaped up.

Gentleman Bai She from the side didn't want to be outdone.

They saw his head constantly changing between human and snake shapes, and finally, with a wide-open mouth, he spit out a smooth, round “pearl”.

This was his snake core, which had the effect of soaring flight.

After the two demons used their respective methods, they soared into the sky and Xuanqing was left standing outside the Black Wind Cave, looking dumbfounded.

A moment later.

The two demons had already flown some distance before they noticed that their “Friend Xuanqing” hadn’t caught up.

“Eh, why didn’t Friend Xuanqing follow us?”

“Oh dear, we’ve been careless. Friend Xuanqing’s cultivation is weak, and he certainly doesn’t know flying techniques. Let’s go back and get him!”

The two demons looked at each other in the sky and then turned around and flew back.

...

After returning to the entrance of Black Wind Cave.

They saw Xuanqing standing in the same spot, with an awkward expression on his face.

Both demons suddenly felt somewhat embarrassed. “Uhm... We forgot that our friend doesn’t know how to fly. Sorry about that.”

“I’ll give you a lift, Daoist Friend. Please don’t mind my demonic wind.” The Black Bear Essence scratched its head and said in a deep voice.

Xuanqing shook his head with a smile, “Thank you, Fellow Daoist Black Bear!”

And so.

With the Black Bear Essence carrying Xuanqing and Gentleman Bai She flying beside them, the human and two demons headed toward the five-yearly Loose Cultivator Gathering.

...

In the high sky.

Although the Black Bear Essence had some bloodline of powerful bears, it had no knowledge of protective techniques to shield it from the gale-force winds generated by high-speed flying.

Under the high-speed flight of the black demonic wind, Xuanqing felt that he could hardly keep his eyes open.

After an unknown period of time.

Xuanqing finally felt the speed slow down.

When he opened his eyes!

What came into view was a vast basin-like valley.

The valley was surrounded by high mountains, with peaks piercing the sky, leaving only a single road leading into the heart of the valley.

“Friend Xuanqing, this place is at the border between Nanshan Continent and West Niu Hezhou, a Three No’s Zone where humans and demons mingle. Most of the people here are background-less loose cultivators.”

The Black Bear Essence slowed down the demonic wind and pointed to the valley, introducing it to Xuanqing.

From the side, Gentleman Bai She added, “For us low-level demons to survive, we can only band together and help each other out.”

Of course.

Another way for them to gain power as demons was to devour humans. As long as they consumed a large number of humans, their cultivation could advance significantly.

However, the consequence of doing this would be being hunted down by the “Myriad Gods and Buddhas” and all the human race cultivators who practice exorcising demons and eliminating devils.

“Haha, Little Brother Bai She, you’re too modest. Everyone knows about your pill refining skills in this area!” laughed the Black Bear Essence.

Gentleman Bai She repeatedly waved his hand, “No, no. Big Brother Black Bear’s honey wine is the real unique specialty!”

After complimenting each other for a bit, they suddenly remembered that they hadn’t asked Xuanqing what materials he had prepared. Could it be that thunderstruck peach wood again?

“I wonder what materials Friend Xuanqing has prepared for this trip?”

“I’ve prepared two stalks of Thunderstruck Peach Wood!”

Upon hearing this.

The two demons looked at each other, their hearts filled with envy.

Having a background was indeed great; they could easily acquire precious materials without taking any risks and obtain the rare Thunderstruck Peach Wood.

For a while.

The two demons didn’t know what to say, but they were even more eager for the Buddhist and Taoist system in their hearts.

...

Upon entering the valley.

People coming and going, brushing shoulders, it was as bustling as if they had entered a town.

These ‘people’ looked rather peculiar, some had lion heads, others had long tails, and there were even those covered in scales all over their bodies.

Some of them, like Xuanqing, were true humans mingling among them. Most of them kept their heads down, not speaking and keeping a low profile.

It’s worth mentioning that

The two demons, Black Bear Essence and Gentleman Bai She, seemed quite famous at the trade fair. From time to time, passing demons greeted them.

Just now,

A person with a leopard head and a tail behind him, upon seeing Black Bear Essence, immediately greeted him warmly.

“Big Brother Bear arrived very early, I’ll come to your stall for honey wine in a while!”

Saying this, it seemed like he remembered the delicious taste of honey wine, and the leopard head couldn’t help but unconsciously lick its tongue.

“Haha, if it isn’t Old Leopard! No problem, just come to my stall later.” Black Bear Essence said heartily.

.....

After walking around the valley for a while,

finally,

The footsteps of the two demons, Black Bear Essence and Gentleman Bai She, stopped under a huge ancient tree.

“Friend Xuanqing, this trade fair will last a month. Little Brother Bai She and I will set up a stall here; what do you plan to do?”

“I’ll go for a walk first!” Xuanqing thought for a moment and said.

Black Bear Essence nodded, then seemed to remember something, “That’s right, there are all sorts of creatures here. If you encounter any trouble, just mention the names of Black Wind Mountain Black Bear King and Azure Dragon Mountain Gentleman White Snake.”

“Thank you, fellow Daoist Black Bear, fellow Daoist Bai She!”

Xuanqing smiled and bowed his hands, not saying too many polite words, but kept their kindness in his heart.

Whether it’s Black Bear Essence or Gentleman Bai She, neither of them were the kind of demons who liked to eat humans. From Xuanqing’s perspective, they were good demons.

In the future, if there is a chance, he could help these two demons.

After Xuanqing left,

Black Bear Essence and Gentleman Bai She began to set up their stall.

Being two famous demons in the area, one with powerful mana and the other skilled in alchemy, both possessed Sumeru storage bags.

One after another, items flew out of the Sumeru bag.

Soon,

Two stalls were set up.

Black Bear Essence sold his specialty “honey wine,” while Gentleman Bai She offered various elixirs used for cultivation.

...

Meanwhile,

After leaving the two demons, Xuanqing began to stroll around.

It turns out,

The Loose Cultivator Trade Fair held every five years was quite large, with a stall set up every hundred meters or so.

It's worth mentioning that,

Most of the stalls adopted "bartering" as the most primitive trading method.

However,

A very small number of them explicitly stated the need to trade using "spirit stones."

And the owners of these stalls were all real members of the human race, not those with horns on their heads and tails behind their 'bodies'.

The items on the stalls were varied and colorful.

Mastiff rhino horns, snake skins, devil cores, herbal medicines, ores, etc., everything one could imagine was available.

It turned out,

Wandering among these stalls felt like attending a temple fair in his previous life.

Xuanqing looked around with interest at everything.

He didn't forget the purpose of his trip, looking for cultivation techniques.

Suddenly,

Not far away,

A commotion caught his attention.

"Huh?"

Xuanqing looked over and couldn't help but let out a light "huh."

23 Chapter 22: Zhu Ganglie?

The reason it felt strange.

It's because there were more than ten customers gathered around the stall, making it exceptionally lively.

More importantly, these customers weren't the kind with horns on their heads and tails behind them from the Devil Race, but were genuinely human.

So many human cultivators were gathered around a single stall?

Xuanqing soon joined them.

...

The stall owner had a fat face with fan-shaped ears and a long nose and a large belly.

Oh!

It turns out to be a pig demon!

The reason for attracting so many humans to watch was not the appearance of the stall owner but the items on his stall.

Cultivation techniques!

All kinds of cultivation techniques recorded in green skin books.

A demon, selling human cultivation techniques, is indeed rather bizarre.

But what's strange is that the faces of these gathered humans didn't show any sign of surprise, as if they were accustomed to this.

"King Gangling, how much do you sell this Five Elements Formation for? How many spirit stones?" A human cultivator asked.

King Gangling?

Hearing this address, Xuanqing couldn't help but pause.

Could it be that the pig demon in front of him was the famous Marshal Tianpeng Zhu Bajie of the legends?

“Humph~” The pig boss rolled his eyes and then pointed at the sign with his hand, “Are you blind? This time, my old pig will not sell for spirit stones, but for worldly gold and silver treasures.”

Having said that,

The pig boss glanced around, “You all listen well, what my old pig wants is the gold and silver in circulation in the world, containing wealth qi.”

“Whoever dares to deceive me with gold and silver without qi, don’t blame me for being impolite!”

As soon as these words were uttered,

It was suddenly noisy.

“Weren’t the transactions in the past made with spirit stones?”

“Yeah, I didn’t even prepare any worldly yellow and white things.”

“King Gangling, can I owe you now and pay at the next trade fair?”

“That’s right, even though we are humans, we have been separated from the world for so long, where do we get gold and silver treasures?”

...

For a moment,

The cultivators gathered around the stall voiced their grievances one after another, and some even expressed the desire to owe the money first.

“Don’t make a noise, it’s making my old pig’s ears hurt!”

The pig boss shook his head, then shouted loudly, “No credit allowed, you buy it if you want, or else don’t crowd around in front of me, otherwise I’ll treat you to my spiked rake!”

“Those without money hurry up and leave, come back five years later!”

The cultivators had no choice but to grumble and curse in their hearts, but their bodies honestly shut up and dispersed.

In a short time,

There was only one person left in front of the entire stall.

Zhu Ganglie sneered and glanced at the remaining Xuanqing, wondering why he hadn't left yet.

It wasn't until he looked closer that he realized something.

"Huh?"

"Strange, even though his cultivation is weak, his body exudes an authentic Daoist quality not like a loose cultivator!" Zhu Ganglie squinted his small eyes and showed an interested look.

"Which sect do you belong to?"

Upon hearing this,

Xuanqing slightly smiled, then cupped his hands and said, "I am Xuanqing, coming from the East, preparing to head to the Tang Dynasty."

From the East?

Zhu Ganglie was taken aback.

With his experience, he could naturally see that the Taoist in front of him was not lying and was indeed from the East.

From the East... from the East, the Eastern part would be the territory of the Taoism School of Three Teachings, he didn't know if this Taoist had any connection with his master and Ren Jiao?

Zhu Ganglie's thoughts were swirling, but his expression remained unchanged on the surface.

"Oh, it turns out it's a Taoist from the east side. So, you want to buy cultivation techniques?"

"I mentioned earlier that I'm selling these cultivation techniques in exchange for money, not spirit stones, not natural treasures. I'm only accepting money with wealth energy in it!" Zhu Ganglie said leisurely.

Upon hearing this,

Xuanqing nodded.

Without saying much, he bent down and began searching through the stall.

There were many cultivation techniques on display, divided into several categories, such as various magical techniques, identifying natural treasures, and the most critical – cultivation techniques.

There were dozens of books, large and small.

“Hundred Refinements Sacred Axis” is a divine body refining method that uses one’s physical body as the foundation to refine it into a treasure, which would be impervious to swords and fire, eventually reaching the realm of immortality.

“Great Kun Xu Swallow” is a method rumored to have been created by an ancient sage who observed the Primordial Kun creature. Its cultivation effects are unknown.

“Ingesting Qi Decision” is a basic technique for Daoist disciples after the unification of the Three Religions. It could potentially achieve the realm of the Heavenly Immortal.

.....

After looking through more than a dozen secret cultivation texts,

Logically, one should choose the “Great Kun Xu Swallow,” which is known from its name to be a mysterious and powerful technique.

But,

Xuanqing eventually chose “Ingesting Qi Decision,” a seemingly ordinary technique used merely for laying a foundation.

After selecting the cultivation technique, he didn’t ask for the price but turned his head and began looking through the secret books on the other side.

Finally,

He selected one cultivation technique and three magical techniques.

“How much for these – ‘Ingesting Qi Decision,’ ‘Five Elements Formation,’ and ‘Treading the Clouds?’” Xuanqing pointed to his choices.

“Do you have any worldly gold or silver?” Zhu Ganglie scratched his head, unsurely asking.

In reality,

He only set up this stand to send a signal that gold and silver can be traded, laying a foundation for his next booth.

Xuanqing nodded, "King Gangling, tell me the price!"

Upon hearing this,

Zhu Ganglie's eyes rolled around as he replied, "Seeing that you're a Taoist from the east, we're somewhat related."

"I won't deceive you. These three secret books, well...just give me a thousand taels of silver or a hundred taels of gold."

A thousand taels of silver or a hundred taels of gold?

Xuanqing was slightly stunned.

He was worried that Zhu Ganglie would ask for an exorbitant amount. But he didn't expect that these secrets to cultivate immortality would be sold at such a low price.

Without thinking, Xuanqing decided on the former.

After all,

In the real world, the price of gold is as high as three hundred per gram, whereas even processed silver is only around ten per gram.

"I wonder how long King Gangling will be at this trading fair?"

"I'll be here for the entire one-month trading fair. If you want to get the money, hurry up!"
Zhu Ganglie waved his hand.

"Alright, then put these three secret books aside for the time being. I'll get the money and return!"

Xuanqing nodded, then put down the three secret books in his hand and turned to leave.

.....

Meanwhile,

After leaving Zhu Ganglie's stall,

Xuanqing arrived at the huge ancient tree where the Black Bear Essence was.

"Both of you Daoist friends, I have some insights in my mind. I would need to go into closed-door cultivation for several days. Could you help me watch over my stuff?"

Upon hearing this,

The two demons were slightly stunned. To gain insights during a trading fair was indeed worthy of a reincarnated great power and an authentic Daoist.action

“Sure, you go ahead and close yourself off for cultivation. Nobody dares to mess with Old Black at this fair!” The Black Bear Essence patted his chest, declaring.

It must be said,

That apart from having no background, Black Bear Essence had a strong bloodline and a myriad of techniques, which were by no means inferior.

...

24 Chapter 23: Changling Taoist Association.

Over here.

Xuanqing sits cross-legged and closes his eyes.

His mind moves.

“Exit the game!”

The next moment.

When Xuanqing opens his eyes again, he is back in Qingping Temple.

Death and revival without losing experience or dropping items allow him to exit the game world at any time.

Even if he is killed accidentally while hanging up, there will be no loss.

“One thousand silver taels, sixteen taels per catty, that’s 62.5 catties. Each catty has 500 grams, making a total of more than 30,000 grams.”

Xuanqing silently calculates.

According to the current market price of silver, processed accessories that circulate in the world are priced at about ten yuan per gram.

So, more than 30,000 grams is 300,000 yuan.

As for why to buy processed silver accessories?

It is because of Zhu Ganglie's requirement, which must be circulated in the world with a certain amount of financial Qi in the gold and silver.

Xuanqing doesn't know what this so-called "circulation" is, but silver jewelry definitely circulates more than silver bricks do.

"There's one month for the Loose Cultivator Trade Fair, which means I have less than three days!"

Xuanqing supports his chin and thinks.

He decides to sell the wild ginseng worth dozens of years in his hand. It can easily be sold for more than a million yuan.

Next.

He dials a number.

After two "beep...beep" sounds, the call is connected, and a sweet female voice comes from the other end.

"Hello, this is the Changling City Taoist Association. May I ask who you are...?"

"I am Xuanqing, the newly graduated master of Qingping Temple. I would like to ask if there are any Daoist friends here who would like to buy..."

Xuanqing explains to the person on the other end of the phone that he wants to sell a decades-old wild ginseng.

"Daoist priest, please wait a moment, I will check it for you!"

A moment later.

The female voice on the other end of the phone says, "Daoist Priest Xuanqing, Crane Cloud True Person at our Changling Temple is collecting wild ginseng. If it's convenient, they can send someone over in a couple of days."

"If you are in a hurry for money, you can bring the ginseng directly to the headquarters of the Changling Association and advance a part of the payment."

Hearing this,

Xuanqing nods slightly and says to the phone, "Alright, I will come over today, please have the appraiser ready."

...

The call is hung up.

Xuanqing takes the wild ginseng out of his game backpack, wraps it in cloth, and puts it in a wooden box.

Descending the mountain!

Although Taoism is not as satisfactory as Buddhism, it is a native sect after all, and there is basically an association center in every province-level unit.

Wild ginseng, however, is a scarce treasure in the circle of Taoists.

It is indispensable for both alchemy and martial arts.

After spending most of the day,

Xuanqing finally arrives at the Changling City Association Center. After explaining the situation to the staff, he meets the master who appraises ginseng.

Hisss~ What a handsome and immortal-looking little Taoist! The appraiser master is somewhat surprised by Xuanqing's temperament.

A few seconds later,

The appraiser master, who has recovered, slightly bows, "Immeasurable Longevity and Fortune!"

"Immeasurable Longevity and Fortune!"

People in the Daoist community always go straight to the point.

Xuanqing doesn't dawdle either and immediately takes out the wooden box, opens the cloth to reveal the ginseng.

The appraiser master does not touch it directly but wraps the ginseng in a piece of cloth and brings it to his face to examine closely.

He looks at it for a while, smells it with his nose, and even picks off a tiny ginseng whisker to taste.

Finally.action

The appraiser showed an understanding expression on his face.

The reason for being so cautious was entirely due to the advancement of technology; one slip-up might result in receiving “technology and ruthless work”, and his reputation would be ruined.

“This wild ginseng, Daoist friend, is of excellent quality and weight, ranking as a top-grade wild ginseng of sixty years.”

Having said that,

The appraiser waved to the staff to bring in a machine for precise weighing.

Ginseng was placed on it.

272.34 grams!

As the saying goes, seven taels make ginseng, and eight taels make treasure, referring to the weight of ginseng exceeding eight taels can be a family heirloom.

Of course, the ancient “eight taels” was actually equivalent to the modern “half a jin”, and a popular saying goes, half a jin or eight taels is all the same.

“According to the market price, the current sixty-year-old top-grade ginseng is 12,000 per gram. You have 272.34 grams, totaling 3,268,000.”

“According to our association’s regulations, you can mortgage and prepay 80%, totaling 2,614,000,” said the appraiser.

2,614,000?

Xuanqing was somewhat surprised.

However, on second thought, this ginseng was a product of the Journey to the West World, a world with spiritual qi, and even ordinary medicinal plants there would be of top-grade quality in the real world.

.....

After leaving the Changling Daoist Center,

Xuanqing’s bank account had an additional 2.61 million, and he headed for the next destination, a ‘silver accessories store.’

The reason for not going to the wholesale market was that the silver in these retail silver shops had gone through more sales and circulation, containing more ‘wealth qi.’

What if the silver bought at the wholesale market was newly mined and had only been circulated once, and the 'wealth qi' it contained couldn't meet Zhu Ganglie's requirements?

He randomly navigated to a shop named Auspicious Silver Accessories.

Upon arriving at this Auspicious Silver Accessories shop, the store clerk felt a little puzzled by Xuanqing's Taoist robe, but there was no imagined showing off or face-slapping.

The entire purchase process went smoothly, and he even got a discount for buying the silver in bulk.

"One hundred jin of silver, a total of 550,000, a 10% discount for you, 495,000!"

"Welcome, Daoist priest, to visit again."

The middle-aged store manager waved enthusiastically.

.....

After leaving the silver accessories store.

It was getting late, but Xuanqing had no intention of stopping.

As the saying goes, money can make the ghost grind.

Having plenty of money, he directly hired a taxi and offered a high price for the driver to take him back to the foot of Qingping Mountain.

Back on the mountain.

It was already around midnight, and it was just getting light.

"Enter the game!"

.....

Journey to the West World.

Under the huge ancient tree.

Gentleman Bai She was engrossed in reading a book titled "The Supreme Profound Treasure of The Infinite Measure of the Uppermost Wonderful Scripture for Delivering People".

This book was the greeting gift that Xuanqing brought to the black bear essence when he first went to Black Wind Mountain. After the black bear essence had read it, he borrowed it back.

Next to him!

Black Bear Essence leaned against the trunk, chewing on a straw out of boredom.

His honey wine was an absolute bestseller at the Loose Cultivator Trade Fair and was sold out on the third day.

"I wonder when friend Xuanqing will wake up!" muttered Black Bear Essence.

As luck would have it,

Just then.

Xuanqing, who was sitting cross-legged in the corner, opened his eyes.

"Huff!"

"Thank you, my fellow Daoists, for guarding me!"

25 Chapter 24: Which Secret Book Should I Practice First?

Hearing a familiar voice.

The two demons immediately regained their senses and focused their attention on Xuanqing's body.

The two could feel that, although only ten days had passed, the aura of friend Xuanqing appeared even more stable than before.

Could this be the power of a human genius or a rebirth power of a mighty one?

"Friend Xuanqing has a very extraordinary talent and profound foundation. I am envious of your cultivation speed!"

"I feel the same."

The envy in the eyes of the Black Bear Essence and Gentleman Bai She could hardly be concealed.

You should know that when these two demons were at the same cultivation stage as Xuanqing, it took them several years to see any progress in their cultivation.

Yet for Xuanqing, it was measured in 'days'. Indeed, comparing one person to another can be frustrating, and even more so for a demon comparing oneself to a human.

"It's just a small gain, not worth mentioning!"

However, Xuanqing smiled indifferently and waved it off.

After all, his main purpose was to go to the real world to exchange some silver with an accumulated wealth aura. The Hang-up Cultivation simply came along with it.

As for why he had to go to the real world to exchange his silver and not directly change it like he did with the glass cup from the beginning, action

There simply wasn't enough time.

You should know the meeting place of the Loose Cultivator Trade Fair was on a desolate outskirts. Even the nearest town would require riding on clouds for several days.

"Have both of you finished selling your wares?"

Seeing the idle two demons, Xuanqing looked a bit surprised.

Black Bear Essence shrugged: "My honey wine is exquisite, liked by all scattered monsters, and even many humans buy it."

"My elixirs as well!" Gentleman Bai She added.

Hearing this, Xuanqing nodded understandably.

After all, cultivation resources are always in high demand, and he had tried Black Bear Essence's honey wine before; its taste was indeed unparalleled.

"In that case, could the two of you please wait for a while longer? I will buy something and we can go back together. How does that sound?" Xuanqing said with a smile.

Actually, according to his original plan, he intended to buy silver from Zhu Ganglie and then deal with the thunderstruck wood in his hands. However, since the two demons had already finished selling their goods, he couldn't let them keep waiting for him. His skin was not that thick!

"No hurry, take your time, friend Xuanqing. We will wait here for you!" Black Bear Essence patted his chest firmly as he spoke.

.....

Arriving at Zhu Ganglie's stall.

At this moment, there was nobody in front of the stall. Zhu Ganglie was idly lying down, basking in the sun while holding a spiked rake.

He did not expect to receive worldly riches this time; he was just trying to spread the word so he could sell his items at the next Loose Cultivator Trade Fair.

While Zhu Ganglie was dozing, a voice entered his ears.

"King Gangling, I have already prepared the silver, are those three secret books still available?"

Zhu Ganglie opened his eyes and looked at the little Taoist in front of him with some surprise.

Did he really manage to get a thousand taels of silver?

"The secret books are still here, but I need to see the money first, and then I will give them to you!" Zhu Ganglie muttered.

"Here are a thousand taels of silver!" Xuanqing smiled slightly as he took out a portion of the silver from his game backpack.

As soon as the silver was taken out, Zhu Ganglie could feel an aura of wealth emanating from it. This money had definitely been circulating in the human world.

Zhu Ganglie grinned and laughed heartily, "Friend, you are a man of your word. This silver is filled with wealth, no problem. Here... your secret books."

"Thank you, King Gangling."

Xuanqing bowed slightly and picked up the secret books "Ingesting Qi Decision", "Five Elements Formation", and "Treading the Clouds" from the stall.

.....

Returning to the foot of the giant ancient tree.

Upon seeing this, Black Bear Essence and Gentleman Bai She hurriedly stepped forward and asked, "Friend Xuanqing, did everything go smoothly?"

"Things went smoothly, thanks to the help of the two of you." Xuanqing bowed his hands in gratitude once again.

Gentleman Bai She smiled modestly, “As wet birth creatures, we are fortunate to have the esteem of Daoist Priest Xuanqing. These small tasks are nothing to be polite about.”

“Indeed, indeed!”

Black Bear Essence laughed heartily and nodded in agreement, then suggested, “Shall we go back and take my Black Wind Ha?”

Xuanqing nodded slightly.

And so...

With the gusts of the Black Wind, Xuanqing once again experienced the feeling of ‘Swift as the Wind, Rapid as Lightning.’

Although modern society on Earth has airplanes and other such means of transportation, compared to this fleshly horizontal flight, there’s still something lacking in the sensation.

It’s worth mentioning that...

When they flew over a human town, Xuanqing had Black Bear Essence stop for a moment while he bought two sticks of candied haws, only then did they continue their journey.

After all, he’d been gone for so long; he had to bring a gift back for Fat Ya.

After they returned to Black Wind Mountain...

Black Bear Essence brought Xuanqing to the cave mansion in the Black Wind Mountain Range and then flew away on his demonic wind.

...

In the cave house...

Fat Ya, who was gnawing at her finger while reading a book, looked up to see her master had returned.

“Sir... you’re back~” Fat Ya exclaimed and ran over, throwing herself into Xuanqing’s arms.

Xuanqing gently stroked her hair, his eyes showing a rare softness.

With a thought, Xuanqing took the candied haws he had bought in the town out of his game backpack.

Seeing this...

“Ah... candied haws~”

Fat Ya's eyes lit up, as if they were filled with twinkling stars.

Fat Ya grew up without her parents and was raised by her grandmother. She rarely had enough to eat, let alone the luxury of candied haws.

Every time she saw someone eating candied haws, Fat Ya would cover her face with her hand and quickly run away because she was afraid her saliva would flow out.

“You eat it slowly. I need to undergo closed-door cultivation for a while. Avoid disturbing me unless there's an emergency!”

“Don't worry, Sir. Fat Ya will be good.”

Fat Ya licked the candied haw and nodded like a chick pecking at rice.

...

In the cultivation room of the cave mansion...

Recalling Fat Ya's expression when eating the candied haw, Xuanqing couldn't help but laugh softly.

In her day-to-day life, understanding Fat Ya always made him unconsciously overlook the fact that she was just a child.

“When I return to Earth, I'll bring this kid some snacks and toys.”

Xuanqing murmured softly.

Then...

He took out the three secret books he had purchased from Zhu Ganglie.

Among the secret books, “Ingesting Qi Decision” is for cultivating mana and is their main cultivation technique.

The other two secret books, “Five Elements Formation” and “Treading the Clouds,” are talisman and body technique secret books, respectively.

“‘Ingesting Qi Decision’ can be cultivated while hanging up, but should ‘Five Elements Formation’ or ‘Treading the Clouds’ be learned first?”

After thinking it over...

Xuanqing ultimately decided to practice “Treading the Clouds” first.

After all, in this world, it’s not the strongest attackers who are the biggest winners, but those who live long and can laugh at the end.

No time to waste. First, return to Earth and activate Hang-up Cultivation, then practice “Treading the Clouds”!

“Exit Game!”

26 Chapter 25: “Treading the Clouds” Level 1, Light Body!

Real World.

Qingping Temple.

Xuanqing, sitting cross-legged, suddenly opens his eyes.

Since his cultivation reached the late stage of Qi Introduction, his body had been greatly strengthened, and maintaining a posture for a long time would not cause any discomfort.

The first thing he did after waking up was to look at the game screen.

“Open the automatic training feature!”

The next moment.

The game character, who had fallen asleep because of quitting the game, immediately began to practice and took elixirs according to the preset rhythm.

With a time ratio of one to ten between the two worlds, after opening the automatic training feature.

Xuanqing could clearly feel that the ‘Qi’ in his body was increasing at a visible speed, constantly washing over his physical body.

This continuous improvement felt truly addictive.

“This game is amazing, even when the phone is turned off, it doesn’t affect its operation at all.”

Xuanqing shook his head and charged his phone.

As soon as the phone was turned on, there came a continuous ringing of text message notifications.

He checked the messages.

Apart from various advertisements and scams, there were several messages from Yang Ying, all asking when the temple would open.

After some thought.

Xuanqing typed in the input box, "Miss Yang Ying, how do you know that my Taoist temple is closed?"

A moment later.

A message notification chimed on the phone, a reply from Yang Ying.

"Daoist Priest Xuanqing, I'm very sorry to bother you, it's just that many of my friends in the group chat are urging me to ask you when the temple will be open."

???

Seeing this reply, Xuanqing was slightly startled.

What does 'friends in the group chat' mean? Could it be that many people want to come and worship, and have even created a group chat for it?

Although it felt a bit strange, he didn't dwell on it, and after sending a message saying 'the temple is now open' to the other party, he didn't bother with it any more.

Because, compared to these worldly matters, he was more looking forward to the secret manual "Treading the Clouds."

Subsequently.

With a thought.

A quaint, green-covered book appeared in Xuanqing's hand, exactly the "Treading the Clouds" he had bought from Zhu Ganglie.

Upon opening the first page.

Preface.

"Treading the Clouds: Riding the wind and stepping on clouds, when the great achievements are accomplished, one can control the lucky cloud."

Despite this simple introduction, Xuanqing didn't look down upon it.

To know that in the Journey to the West, most demons travel by demonic wind and rolling black clouds when flying.

Even a great demon like the Black Bear Essence traveled by controlling black wind. Controlling a 'lucky cloud' was already extremely rare.

"That Zhu Ganglie is interesting too, after falling into the mortal world, he actually exchanged this secret technique for worldly money, I wonder what he had in mind."

"Could it be that he's preparing to take it as a dowry to marry Gao Cuilan at Gao's Manor?"

Xuanqing muttered softly.

However.

The moment this thought appeared in his mind, he immediately shook his head. It was absolutely impossible to marry Miss Gao.

According to the timeline of Journey to the West, at this moment, Miss Gao wasn't even a tadpole yet; her father was still a child.

Unable to figure it out.

Xuanqing didn't bother to think about it anymore. As a serious cultivator like him, he would never get stuck on something trivial.

He continued to read "Treading the Clouds."

The entire "Treading the Clouds" secret manual was divided into three levels:[Light Body][Controlling Wind][Cloud Rider].

The first level, 'Light Body', was based on one's own mana, applying it to the physical body in a certain pattern, making the flesh and blood extremely light.

Once accomplished, the body would be as light as a goose feather, easily leaping hundreds of meters while walking on water.

The second level, 'Controlling Wind', was to further perceive the force of wind in the air on the basis of Light Body, allowing the wind to carry the light body.

As for the third level, it became somewhat mythical.action

By condensing mana to form a lucky cloud, one had to reach a state where their feet tread upon it but don't fall, and then ride the Gang Wind, able to travel dozens of miles with a single puff.

"First practice this Light Body on the first level!"

Xuanqing's eyes narrowed.

He mobilized the mana in his body, and according to the technique recorded in the secret manual, applied it to his legs.

In an instant.

A floating sensation surged into his mind.

"Go!"

With a slight effort.

His whole body was like fitted with a spring, shooting forward at a speed that lightning could not even cover its ears.

Bang~

A loud noise.

The wooden wall of the bedroom was directly cracked open with a big hole.

And Xuanqing's body, after flying out of the hole, slid for more than ten meters before finally lying down in the courtyard.

"Cough cough~"

Xuanqing looked somewhat embarrassed, immediately dispelling the mana gathered on his legs, and then unsteadily stood up.

This...

Fortunately, after such a long period of cultivation, the physical body had been strengthened under the nourishment of Qi.

If it were an ordinary person, such a bump might not necessarily kill them, but it would at least leave them crippled.

"Do not practice in the room without being familiar with it!"

Xuanqing looked at the big hole in the bedroom and the shattered robe on his body, then made this decision in his heart.

Afterward.

He directly went outside the Daoist temple.

Maybe the news of ‘closing the observatory’ had gone out, or perhaps the previous short video had been forgotten.

The whole Qingping Mountain once again regained its tranquility.

This endless stone step trail extending from the temple down was very suitable for practicing the Light Body in “Treading the Clouds.”

Once again, following the first layer operation method in “Treading the Clouds,” mobilizing the body’s mana and applying it to both legs.

With a slight effort.

Suddenly~

In a swoosh.

His entire body was like a sharp sword, rushing towards the foot of the mountain.

The speed was so fast that the tattered clothes on his body and the air friction produced a “whirring” sound.

...

Meanwhile.

County TV Station Office.

At an inconspicuous corner desk, after seeing Daoist Priest’s reply on her phone, Yang Ying was delighted.

Yang Ying used a form to block her head, then secretly peeked out through one eye, scanning the entire office.

Hmm... the boss isn’t here!

She quickly opened a group chat called ‘Fans of Daoist Xuanqing,’ and then her hands seemed to transform into octopus tentacles, rapidly typing a message.

[Brothers and sisters, Daoist Priest is back, and he said Qingping Temple is now open!]

As soon as the message was sent.

Immediately.

This 'Fans of Daoist Xuanqing' group chat was like cold water pouring into hot oil, causing an uproar.

"Wow, great, I want to go to Qingping Temple to offer incense!"

"Hmph, you above me, you really want to go and offer incense?"

"Sisters, let's organize a group to climb the mountain tomorrow, sign up if you want to go!"

"I want to go... I want to go."

" +1 "

" +1 "

...

Seeing the excited scene in the group chat.

"This lady is also going to see... No... to offer incense!" Yang Ying's face could not help but show a half-smile.

However.

She suddenly realized something, it seemed her vacation this month had already been used up.

"Sigh!"

A myriad of thoughts finally turned into a long sigh!

27 Chapter 26: Are you all going up the mountain to burn incense?

Not to mention how disappointed Yang Ying was at the county television station.

The scene returns to Qingping Mountain.

On this small path up the mountain, Xuanqing's figure is running rapidly.

With his left foot stepping forward and the light body technique on both legs, he strides over ten meters directly up the mountain.

The moment he lands, his other foot exerts force, leaping again without any pause between take off and landing.

If a nearsighted person were to see this scene, they might think he was flying.

...

After running up and down the mountain like this, practicing in a loop for more than a dozen times,

Finally,

Xuanqing has completely mastered the 'leg' part of the light body technique.

"Now let's try to lighten the whole body!"

The first layer of "Treading the Clouds" is not difficult; it mainly tests a cultivator's control of mana.

Generally, as long as one practices diligently, with no mana coming from elixirs, they could quickly master it.

Although he was also using elixirs, the system's 'Hang-up Cultivation' function allowed his body to fully develop, expelling toxins from the elixirs while absorbing their power without any adverse effects.

Afterward,

Xuanqing's eyes narrowed.

The mana in his body surged, following the technique described in "Treading the Clouds" and circulating in an orderly manner.

The legs lightened in an instant, followed by the thighs, buttocks, waist, chest, neck, and head.

It took more than ten minutes for his whole body to become lightened.

At this moment,

Xuanqing felt an unprecedented lightness throughout his body, as if a gust of wind could blow him away.

By coincidence,

A northern breeze blew by.

“Perfect opportunity!”

Xuanqing’s eyes shone, sensing the power of the wind, and then made a small leap with his toes.

The next moment,

His whole body appeared like a kite floating upwards as the airflow lifted him.

Higher and higher.

One meter.. two meters... three meters.. five meters!

He continued floating until the airflow ceased, as his body gently drifted down and landed on a patch of grass.

If any observer were present, they could see his body resting atop a weed after landing.

More importantly, that weed only trembled ever so slightly.

It was as if he was stepping on the grass without a trace!

“Phew!”

Standing atop the tip of the grass, Xuanqing took a deep breath.

The first half of the ‘Light Body’ technique was successfully executed.

However,

To fully master the ‘Light Body’ technique, he would still need some time to practice until he could achieve lightening at a single thought.

Despite several hours of continuous practice, he felt no exhaustion of mana.

“Tsk tsk, practicing techniques on Earth is really great, no need to worry about mana running out!” Xuanqing’s mouth slightly curved up.

You should know,

The time ratio between the real world and game world is one to ten.

This means that while he consumes mana on Earth, his avatar in the game world is recovering at ten times the speed, plus the double effect of Hang-up Cultivation, totaling twenty times the speed.

Under such conditions,

No matter how much he uses his techniques, the mana within his body never runs out.

“Keep practicing!” Xuanqing’s eyes were firm and determined.

Without a firm heart, one could not be called a cultivator.

.....

....

A flower blooms in pairs, each on a separate branch.

The next day,

A small town at the foot of Qingping Mountain welcomed a group of unique visitors.

They wore matching sports clothes in various shades of pink and white, with excited expressions on their faces.

These words, “youthful and energetic,” were fully displayed on these girls.

They entered a noodle shop.

The boss, who was originally dozing off at the counter, suddenly perked up.

Wow, so many people, big business here.

“Boss, give each of us a bowl of sliced noodles!” A girl at the front shouted to the boss.

“Alright, just wait a moment, I’ll get it right away.”

The boss rubbed his hands, counted the number of people, and quickly jogged towards the kitchen.

They were just a small town, besides the market days, there was hardly any business on weekdays. If they missed this order, they would be so upset.

In a while...

“Pork Whistle Noodles coming up~”

The boss served the noodles to them one by one, all the while curiously asking, "Girls, what brings so many of you to our small town?"

Upon hearing this,

The girls casually replied, "We're all going to Qingping Temple to burn incense."

Qingping Temple?

The boss was surprised.

Having lived in this small town for decades, he had never heard of a Qingping Temple that could attract so many young girls to burn incense.

"Is Qingping Temple a Taoist temple? Where is it?"

As soon as the words came out,

Suddenly,

Girls eating noodles gained spirit, and all chimed in, "Are you a local, boss? You don't know about Qingping Temple?"

"Yeah, the boss...no, the Daoist priest of Qingping Temple is so handsome and has an excellent temperament."

"Our county's television station even went there for an interview, and you don't know that?"

"It's south of your town; there's a big mountain there, and on the mountain, there's a Taoist temple called Qingping Temple."

...

The girls chattered away, like countless birds singing.

Although the girls' words were messy, the boss still understood.

"So it's that broken temple on Qingping Mountain you're talking about, I didn't expect it to have been interviewed by a television station?"

The boss was amazed.

He didn't understand why such a dilapidated temple would attract the attention of a television station and so many beautiful young girls. It was quite strange.

Although he didn't understand it, the words "Qingping Temple" were deeply engraved in the boss's mind.

...

At the foot of Qingping Mountain,

The girls unfolded their collapsible climbing sticks, gazed up at the towering peaks, and set off without hesitation.

At this moment,

One of the girls, who liked to shoot short videos and share her life on social media, raised her selfie stick.

"Haha, spending the weekend mountain climbing with my sisters, going to Qingping Temple to burn incense, and to take a look at Daoist priest Xuanqing. Don't be jealous, guys~"

While speaking,

She also rotated the selfie stick, looking around in a circle.

When the phone pointed toward the mountain, a black shadow seemed to appear on the screen.action

"Huh...what is that?"

The girl curiously took her phone off the selfie stick and checked the playback.

Seeing this,

The rest of the girls gathered around, curious.

"Sisters, I'll post the video in the group chat, and you can see what this black shadow is."

Everyone hurriedly opened their phones and clicked on the video the girl shared in the group chat.

The video started playing.

A small black dot could be seen moving at an extremely fast speed on the endless path near the hillside.

However,

Perhaps because the distance was too far, the image was blurry, and they could only see a small black dot without distinguishing what it was exactly.

Just as the girls were all huddled around their phones, guessing and discussing,

Suddenly,

A gentle and elegant voice resounded.

“Immeasurable Longevity and Fortune, are you girls going up the mountain to burn incense at Qingping Temple?”

Chapter 28: Chapter 27: The Daoist’s heart’s desires.

“We are looking at... ah., yes., yes”

The girls were startled by the sudden appearance of the phone and looked up to see a young Taoist priest wearing a Taoist robe.

What an aura-

That was the first thought that came to their minds when they saw Xuanqing.

Even if they had already seen the background in the short video and had seen photos from Sister Yang Ying in the group chat.

But after meeting him in person, all the previous infatuations in their minds disappeared, leaving only a sense of their own inferiority.

The crowd was stunned for a long time.

It wasn’t until Xuanqing repeated his previous question that the girls finally reacted.

“Xuanqing Daoist Priest, we want to go up the mountain to Qingping Temple to pay a visit, is it possible?”

At this moment.

The leading girl no longer had her usual superiority, instead speaking in a timid tone.

Hearing this, Xuanqing nodded slightly.

“I will open the door for the fellow laymen!”

Leaving this sentence behind.

Xuanqing did not continue to stay and directly took a step and headed towards the mountain.

The speed was not fast.

His step only covered a few meters in distance.

This was not an intentional attempt to hide his abilities in front of these ordinary people.

In fact, for Xuanqing now, even if he faced firearms head-on, it would be impossible to hit him, so why bother hiding his strength in such a situation?

It was said that at the end of lightness skill cultivation, being able to walk as an ordinary person while the whole body was in a light state was considered a great accomplishment, and could then proceed to the next step.

Yes.

He practiced for a whole day and night.

Under the constant supply of mana from hang-up cultivation, he didn't even need to rest for the whole day. He was only a step away from achieving the first layer of lightness skill.

Xuanqing had no qualms about going up the mountain to open the door.

But at this moment.

the girls at the foot of the mountain were stunned, wondering if their eyes were playing tricks on them.

"Just now, did Daoist Priest Xuanqing... float up?"

Yes, in their eyes, Xuanqing took a step and drifted several meters up the mountain, his legs crossed, giving a feeling of shrinking the ground and stretching.

The group looked at each other.

Suddenly.

A girl holding a selfie stick had an extremely excited expression, her face flushed.

"Girls, I got it on record again." She forcefully shook the selfie stick in her hand.

Hearing this, all the girls said, "Quick, Xuanxuan, hurry up and upload the video to the group chat."

Xuanxuan, the girl who liked taking selfies, nodded proudly and then uploaded the video to the group chat.

"Girls, let's study the video later; let's go offer incense first."

"Okay, let's go."

"Let's go!"

Mid hill of Qingping.

Xuanqing opened the Taoist temple gate.

It would take even young people an hour or two to climb from the foot of the mountain to the temple.

During the time he waited for the girls to offer incense, he didn't idly stand by.

His body moved continuously in the courtyard, sometimes appearing in the main hall and sometimes in the bedroom.

With this speed, he would be able to reach great perfection in lightness skill cultivation before tonight. By then, he would be able to practice the next level of "Treading the Clouds," called 'Controlling Wind.'

Two hours later.

Xuanqing stopped his movements and looked out the window.

The girls had already arrived at the entrance of Qingping Temple. Under the solemn atmosphere of the Taoist temple, their original chirping voices unconsciously stopped.

"Fellow laymen, please follow me to offer incense in the Main Hall!"

Immediately after.

He led the girls to the main hall.

Like when receiving other incense guests before, he explained the price of the incense and the main god of this Taoist temple, and suggested that they should offer incense to the main god first.

As for why they should offer incense to the 'main god' first.

It is because of the previous discovery that people generate the most incense fire when they burn incense and worship for the first time, and although there is some during the second time, the contribution of incense fire power is at least halved.

Moments later.

A weak incense fire gathered above the tablet of [Tai Chi Palace selects the right judge of the Five Thunder Court and serves the office of Thunder Minister] again.

Xuanqing immediately sat cross-legged, and his mana surged, turning into an illusory big hand invisible to the naked eye.action

He grabbed at his tablet!

“Exchange for ingots!”

Xuanqing muttered in his heart.

[Ingot+42]

More than thirty girls contributed forty-two points of incense fire, not only because of their health and youth but also because they worshipped the tablet for the first time.

Speaking of which.

His practice of letting incense guests worship the main god’s tablet first is not considered excessive in the Taoist community; it’s just like the tax collection of local government offices, which must first satisfy the local area before the surplus can be handed over.

“Hoo-”

Xuanqing opened his eyes, a doubtful expression on his face.

“Fellow laymen, why are you all staring at me?”

It turned out that after the girls finished offering incense, they did not leave but stood in the main hall, occasionally glancing at him.

The girls looked at each other.

Finally.

A slightly bolder girl stepped forward.

“Uhm...Daoist priest, we are all your fans and really like the sound of your chanting in that video. Could you...could you...”

The girl's eyes dodged slightly, speaking timidly.

It's not that she was timid; on the contrary, she was the most daring and open-minded in her daily life, but for some reason, she felt an inexplicable sense of inferiority in front of Daoist priest Xuanqing.

“Hehe~”

Xuanqing chuckled bitterly.

He thought it was something else, but it turned out that the girls wanted to hear him chant. It was not an unreasonable request, so there was no need for such expressions.

At this moment, he didn't realize that with his late-stage Qi Introduction about to break through Refining Essence into Qi, the pressure he put on ordinary people made the girl in front of him appear shy.

“Since you all want to hear me chant, I will chant once!” Xuanqing said indifferently.

“Yay-”

The girls' faces were filled with joy.

Moments later.

Accompanied by a 'dong' sound of the wooden fish, the chanting in Yin and Yang intonation, with a hint of rhyme, began resonating in the main hall.

Quiet-

Unbelievably quiet.

Everyone listened as if intoxicated.

Such face-to-face listening experience was far beyond what could be felt in the video; listening to it felt as if the soul was being washed.

It seemed as if only a few seconds had passed.

The girls still wanted more, but they found that the chanting had stopped.

“Daoist priest, can you do it again, please?”

Upon hearing this,

Xuanqing smiled without answering.

“Fellow laymen, you should leave the mountain soon!”

No matter how the girls pleaded, it was meaningless to the unwavering Daoist heart of Xuanqing.

What Daoists value is following one’s heart’s desires.

No matter if it is a ragged beggar, a wealthy merchant with mulberry silk, or a powerful figure in Beijing City, they are all the same to him.

After sending off the girls,

Xuanqing practiced Light Body skill in the courtyard again, determined to master it completely before today was over.

There was no other way.

Physical flight was too tempting for humans after all..

Chapter 29: Chapter 28: Cultivation Reaches the Limit, Auto-Battle Terminates!

Time passed by, second by second.

Finally.

When the sun was about to set, a gentle breeze blew past.

“Great opportunity!” Xuanqing took a deep breath, his gaze focused in the distance.

With a single thought.

In an instant.

His body seemed to be coated in a layer of silvery-white light, and his entire body’s lightness was completed in this moment.

With his eyes closed.

Xuanqing spread his arms, allowing his body to absorb the ever-present breeze in the air.

Accompanied by the breeze brushing against his face, his body swayed with the wind, as if it had become a fluttering flag.

Not just that.

He could also control the direction by controlling the local lightness.

In other words,

As long as the wind is still blowing, he could ride the wind and fly.

“Now that the Light Body has been completed, the next step is to sense the wind, summon the wind with mana, and ultimately control the wind.”

A passionate look appeared in Xuanqing’s eyes.

However,

After carefully reading “Treading the Clouds” and trying it a few times, he was left dumbfounded.

According to the records in the book, sensing the wind means feeling the power of the wind at different levels.

Starting with a small breeze, gradually progressing to gales, until comprehending the mysteries of the wind, eventually being able to summon the wind with a simple use of mana.

It wasn’t an easy task.

Even in a mythical world like Journey to the West, summoning wind and rain is not considered a technique, but rather a divine power.

For example, the 72 Earthly Fiends Divine Skill Transformations and the 36 Heavenly Spirits Divine Skill Transformations both have the ability to summon wind and rain.

However,

Having chosen this path, even if he encounters great difficulties, he will not give up, because what cultivators value most is a clear state of mind.

Subsequently,

He brought out the electric fan from the Taoist temple and used it to aid his practice.

After all, compared to the chaotic wind in nature, the wind blown out by an electric fan undoubtedly provides more stability.

Just as Xuanqing was in closed-door cultivation practicing his divine power,

Online.

A video was being shared and forwarded non-stop.

At the beginning of the video, a girl full of youthful vitality is climbing a mountain, a common sight in this age of information explosion.

The reason for the video's popularity lies in the middle section and the last few seconds of the video.

In the video,

About a minute after the girl appears on screen,

A shadow can be seen on the mountain top in the slightly shaken frame, disappearing at an incredibly fast speed.

Many netizens initially thought it was some kind of "cheetah-like" animal, as these animals are known for their speed on land.

But at the end of the video,

A young Taoist priest appears on the screen.

This Taoist priest wears a long robe and walks with a gait, as though he's an ancient person. His demeanor exudes an otherworldly charm that catches one's attention instantly.action

As the video plays to this point,

Countless "Warning: High-energy ahead, please focus on watching" barrage comments make the viewers unconsciously hold their breath.

The next moment,

The Taoist priest turns around and with a slight push of his right foot, his entire body seems to have broken free from the Earth's gravity.

Whoosh-

With one step, he covers several meters, as if performing a shrinking – earth – to – inches move.

“Holy shit-1

H

Countless audience members in front of the screen are shocked, almost dropping their phones.

You must understand,

This video can be easily identified as being shot with a phone’s selfie stick. From the picture quality, it’s apparent that there are no special effects involved.

In the video, the protagonist – Xuanqing – has been thoroughly investigated by netizens with vast divine powers.

When it is discovered that the youth wearing the Taoist robe, who appears to be an ancient person, is actually a Taoist priest and even the head of a temple,

It goes viral.

In no time, it spreads all over the Internet.

A myriad of netizens begins speculating on whether martial arts exist in this world, and if the Daoist Priest Xuanqing they see in the video was demonstrating a Lightness Skill like Striding on Clouds.

Even.

Some well-known “science bloggers” have been analyzing the video non-stop, ultimately coming to a single conclusion.

Either it’s an exceptionally impressive special effect, or this Daoist priest Xuanqing really knows martial arts.

That’s not all.

The television station account from Liucheng County, where Yang Ying had previously posted the video, has also been discovered by netizens.

Users have edited the two clips together.

Using the sound of Xuanqing chanting scriptures in the main hall of Qingping Temple as the background music for the video, they paired it with the footage of Xuanqing taking steps several meters apart as he used his lightness skill to climb the mountain.

In an instant.

The heat exploded once again.

Qingping Temple, the Daoist with lightness skills, Daoist priest Xuanqing these terms occupied the top ten trending searches. Anything related to them would automatically gain traffic.

While the video was going viral, many doubted that this was all just a publicity stunt.

However.

More netizens still expressed their desire to go to Qingping Temple in Liucheng County to see for themselves. If they could meet Daoist Priest Xuanqing in person, that would be even better.

Although most people were just talking about it casually.

But considering the vast numbers of internet users, there would surely be a significant number who would actually go to make offerings.

A large crowd of people is either on their way or already heading to Qingping Mountain.

On the other side.

Qingping Temple.

In the courtyard.

Xuanqing sits slumped in a chair, not far away, an electric fan whirring away at full force.

It had been blowing air continuously for days.

However, when faced with the abstract concept of “wind,” he still had no clues.

As he was feeling troubled.

Suddenly.

An alert sounded.

[Beep! Player's cultivation has reached its limit, Standby cultivation status stops, continue to activate standby after breakthrough!]

"Huh?"

Xuanqing's face filled with bewilderment.

Well, well.

While his understanding of "controlling wind" had not progressed in the slightest, his game character in Journey to the West World had made a breakthrough in cultivation.

"It seems my comprehension is lacking. It's a pity that the hang-up cultivation feature can only cultivate mana and cannot comprehend the divine powers of magic techniques."

"Sigh-"

Xuanqing let out a long sigh.

However.

Though he felt somewhat downhearted, he was also filled with anticipation.

Because after this breakthrough, he would enter a whole new realm known as "Refining Essence into Qi."

With a thought.

"Enter the game!"

Xuanqing, trapped in his physical body, probably had no idea that a swarm of netizens was about to descend upon Qingping Mountain.

What would happen when they arrived?

Two flowers bloom, each on a different branch.

Let's not mention Xuanqing entering the Game World, eagerly anticipating his cultivation breakthrough for now.

Liucheng County TV Station building.

In a certain office.

“The number you have dialed has been turned off, please try again later... beep... beep...”

Looking at the phone screen with the note, “Daoist Xuanqing,” and hearing the sound of the switched-off phone, Yang Ying felt like an ant on a hot pan.

She had already made more than a dozen calls, each time the phone was off, clearly not going to get through.

“It’s all those idiots’ fault. They should have just secretly recorded it and enjoyed it themselves. They had no business posting it on their Friends Circle. If... if...”

A terrifying scene emerged in Yang Ying’s mind.

In a dark lab, Daoist priest Xuanqing is tied to a bed, and several bizarre scientists are about to perform surgery on him.

“No!

H

“I need to go inform the Daoist priest right away and tell him to run for his life!”

The imagery in her mind scared Yang Ying to the point of shivering.

Not caring about whether she had any days off left or if she would be considered absent from work, she put her phone in her bag and hurried out of the office..

Chapter 30: Chapter 29: Fat Ya’s Strange Question.

The scene switches.

In the unimpressive cave mansion somewhere in the Black Wind Mountain Range of the Journey to the West World.

A body that had been sitting for tens of days suddenly opened its eyes—it was Xuanqing who had logged into the Game World.

“Hoo-”

Xuanqing takes a deep breath, surging out all the Qi in his Dantian, which then rushes towards the limbs and acupoints.

Without any hesitation.

After all, whether it's Qi Introduction or Refining Essence into Qi, they are all just basics in the path of cultivation.

At this moment.

The entire Physical Body seems to have turned into a dry sponge.

When the Qi in the Dantian surged out, it was instantly divided cleanly by all parts of the body.

The Dantian becomes empty.

However, Xuanqing does not feel the slightest bit weak, instead, he feels fulfilled, as if he stepped from a boat floating uncertainly onto firm land.

Qi Introduction means introducing the Qi of Heaven and Earth into the Physical Body.

This final step is to completely integrate the Qi into the body, making the body more suitable for 'Qi'.

About the time of a cup of tea later.

The surface of his body begins to exude a layer of black grease.

Contrary to the imagined 'foul odor', it exudes a smell of hot pot and stir-fried rice.

The reason for this.

Is because these things are not years of toxins but low-level energy produced by eating and excreting, hence they would have the smell of food.

"I've broken through!"

Looking at the black dirt on the surface of his body.

Xuanqing slightly frowns!

"Heaven and Earth Nature, disperse the impurities, the Profound Void in the cave, brightly shining Tai Yuan, in all directions...."

Accompanied by the fluctuating incantation of Yin and Yang.

The dirt on his body seems to dissolve into sulfuric acid, at a very fast speed, finally turning into whiffs of green smoke, disappearing with the wind.

Outside the Cave House.

Fat Ya is holding a strand of Foxtail Grass, her chubby little hand propping up her plump chin, boredly looking at the distance.

Suddenly.

Her dainty little nose twitches.

“Huh, why is there a smell of food coming from the Cave House? Could it be that Sir is not in Closed-door Cultivation but secretly eating?”

Fat Ya tilts her head, murmuring to herself.

Just as she was considering whether to sneak into the Cave House for a peek, a voice sounded next to her ear.

“Fat Ya!”

“All!” Fat Ya quickly spat out the Foxtail Grass, standing up hastily, her small hands constantly rubbing the corner of her clothes.

“All, Sir, you have come out, Fat Ya... Fat Ya didn’t peek-”

After all, she’s just a few years old.

She hadn’t asked her yet, and she’s already confessing in a fluster.

Seeing this.

Xuanqing just laughed and shook his head, and then asked: “Fat Ya, has anything happened in the Cave House recently?”

“Sir, nothing has happened!”

Fat Ya stuck out her tongue, sighing a breath of relief in her heart.

Xuanqing nodded slightly, not at all surprised by the few months of tranquility. This was the normal pace.

After all.

This is a world where people engage in Closed-door Cultivation for years and decades. What could happen in just a few months?

Of course, this is all based on the fact that the ‘Journey to the West’ hasn’t started. Once the events of the Journey to the West start, the entire Three Realms will become lively.

“Fat Ya, seeing you bored all day, I’ll give you something to pass the time.”

“Wow- is Sir going to give Fat Ya a reward?” Fat Ya covered her face, looking surprised and expectant.

Xuanqing nodded slightly.

He’s always in Closed-door Cultivation in his daily life, and no matter how sensible Fat Ya is, she is just a little girl after all.

Last time he thought, when he returned to Earth and logged into the game, he would bring Fat Ya a gift to pass the time.

With a thought.

A pile of children’s picture books appeared in Xuanqing’s hand.

The exquisite book cover and the colourful illustrations immediately attracted Fat Ya’s attention.

“Do you like it?”

“Thank you, Sir. Fat Ya loves it very much!”

Fat Ya was so excited that she kept bowing in thanks.

Every time someone brought a gift to their home, her grandmother would bow in gratitude like this, naturally Fat Ya remembered this gesture.

“Hahaha, good, good. I’m glad you like it.”

A small smile plays on Xuanqing’s face.

The breakthrough in his cultivation, coupled with the innocent smile on the child’s face, had put him in an extremely good mood.

However.

The moment Fat Ya got the fairy tale picture book, she asked a question that was hard to answer.

“Sir, this pig looks so strange, why does it like to jump in puddles?”

Fat Ya looked at the book’s illustrations biting her fingertips, asking curiously.

This...

Xuanqing was momentarily stumped.

He glanced at the fairy tale picture book in Fat Ya's hands and saw a pig with a blowing machine head, happily frolicking in a puddle.

Well then, it's Peppa Pig. As for why Peppa likes to splash in puddles, probably only the creator would know.

After a moment of contemplation.

"Perhaps this pig has cultivated a water attribute technique, thus naturally enjoying jumping in water!" Xuanqing replied mysteriously.

"I understand."

Fat Ya seemed to suddenly understand, and then said confidently, "Just like Fat Ya, who practices the Wood attribute techniques, I naturally like flowers and grasses, right?"

A promising pupil indeed!

Xuanqing gave Fat Ya a look of approval.

"Alright, play on your own, but don't forget your daily practice!"

"Hmm.."

Back in the cave mansion.

Xuanqing took out the "Ingesting Qi Decision."

Now that his cultivation had broken through to refining essence into Qi, his previous basic breathing exercises were no longer sufficient.

He opened up the secret book.

And read the summary on 'Refining Essence into Qi'.

A drop of water, a grain of sand, and everything in the world has its own essence, Qi, and spirit, and humans are no exception.

This realm of refining essence into Qi mainly aims to temper one's 'essence' to lay a foundation for the later cultivation of 'Spirit'.

In the eyes of a cultivator, 'Essence' and 'Spirit' should be viewed separately. Only when the essence within the body is strong can it nourish the soul of a human.

After reading the introduction to 'Refining Essence into Qi' and the cultivation method in the "Ingesting Qi Decision",

Xuanqing was full of admiration.

"As expected from the authentic Xuan Gate's Qi nourishing method!"

Suppressing his eagerness, Xuanqing reminded himself that in cultivation, it's important to be patient and calm. He needed to adapt to his new level of cultivation.

It had only just been a breakthrough, after all.

And so.

After several days of adjustment and stabilizing his cultivation, he resumed his practice.

Of course, with the abundance of ingots he had... For something like cultivation, using the game's AI function was more effective.

"Exit game!"

In the real world.

On Qingping Mountain.

Xuanqing woke up.

Perhaps due to the breakthrough in his cultivation, the moment he returned, he had a feeling and looked down the mountain.

"Huh... There are pilgrims visiting, and not a small number?"

PS: Handsome Old White is begging for votes and comments online.. Even just a squeak would be nice-