

Carefree 101

[Carefree Path of Dreams](#)

Chapter 101: The Fight

“What are you intending to do, Prefecture Master?”

Lu Renjia was gentlemanly, and there was a light fragrance coming from him, which had the ability to calm the others down.

His eyes were like lightning and shot right at Liu Yan, interrogating him.

“Kacha! Kacha!”

The sound of armour dragging across the floor could be heard from outside. Numerous Secluded Mountain Prefecture soldiers flooded the hall.

Liu Yan lifted his eyebrow and smiled. “It isn’t about what I want to do, but you, Master Lu. What do you intend to do?”

As he spoke, he appeared stricter. “By getting closer to my prefecture’s sects and Prefecture soldiers just to hastily sit in my seat? You think I can’t live long? You are trying to bully me?”

“Rumble!”

The rage of a spiritual knight was not to be taken lightly!

In the hall, Shi Yutong could feel an immense spiritual pressure which was almost suffocating.

Looking at Liu Yan, he was seated in his seat, but green flames appeared and seemed to be surrounding him, and were slowly growing.

“Impossible!”

Lu Renjia took out a small bronze cauldron and placed it in front of himself. He was not ashamed of anything and became serious. “Old Liu... Why are you still so strong? Must be... What treasures have you consumed to lengthen your lifespan?”

“That’s right!”

Liu Yan’s voice became deeper, with a mocking tone. “Hehe... I was fated to receive a Fire Dragon Fruit. Not only does this fruit complement me perfectly, it also had the ability to lengthen my lifespan... If I’ve used this to make it into the ‘Red Dragon Pill’, it’s ability would increase fivefold. However, I knew that you would be greedy, so why would I trust you to do this for me?”

Shi Yutong’s heart became heavy after hearing this.

If not for his old age, Liu Yan would still be the number one spiritual knight in the entire Secluded Mountain Prefecture! Due to his planning, despite the fact that his enemy had improved tremendously, he was able to keep the secret and eventually trick them with the news that he was dying!

‘This words are not meant for Master Lu, but for the rest of us Sect Masters!’

With this, Shi Yutong had a question in mind. 'Even if he kneeled down to surrender, I wonder how will things end up? It seems that he still had to let out his position and live in privacy for the rest of his life!'

'It seems that this is still more worth than the Sect being destroyed by the Secluded Mountain Prefecture soldiers.'

The pretty Sect Master suddenly changed her expression, as though she was fighting a mental battle. The two Wu Zongs on both sides seemed to be in the same predicament.

"Don't be fooled by this Old Liu!"

Lu Renjia rolled his eyes and said, "Eating the Fire Dragon Fruit raw can only increase his lifespan by a century! This old fool doesn't have too many years to live..."

He looked at Liu Yan with a sinister look, with no intention to conceal his motive to kill. "Furthermore... Even if you are willing to use your life to pit against us, in the end, all of us will die together!"

"Even if we have to die together, I will still exterminate this bunch of you!"

Liu Yan became fierce and waved his hand. A streak of green fire shot out like a dragon and aimed straight for Lu Renjia.

"Fight!"

Lu Renjia became extremely serious and pushed the cauldron forward.

"Rumble!"

An invisible ripple of energy dispersed, and the green flame dragon was destroyed into embers, which flew in all directions.

"Ah!"

A soldier wearing a Thousand Year Chilled Metal Armour could not dodge in time and was struck by an ember, lighting his shoulder in green flames.

"Hong! Hong!"

In the next moment, his entire person became a green human torch. He shrieked and died in an instant.

'Liu Yan's fire-type spiritual spells were even scarier than before... Even martial artists of the 4 Heavenly Gates don't stand a chance!'

Witnessing this scene, Shi Yutong was shocked to her wits and glanced at her lowly-skilled sect disciples, who were all shivering in fear. She was glad not to have brought her own disciple along. Otherwise, she might not be able to leave this predicament.

"It seems that everyone is unwilling to accept my gracious offer..."

Liu Yan looked at Shi Yutong and the other Sect Masters and shook his head. Suddenly, he gave a deafening shout. "The soldiers of Secluded Mountain Prefecture, do hear this. The Spirit Returning Sect, Bone Melting Sect and the Yellow Brothers sect are now traitors. Kill every single one!"

“Yes, Master!”

A commotion was heard and the clanging of knives and swords outside was deafening.

“Haha..... Sect Master Shi, I, Old Niu, have always wanted to get closer to you, and now I finally have the chance!”

The capital leader of Niu Capital laughed, wore a helmet with bullhorns and approached her.

“If I had a choice, I would not want to oppose you Prefecture Master, but...”

Shi Yutong was unwilling but made her choice.

Since he had already done it and was found out, any hesitation would only quicken his death. The only solution he had was to carry on what he was doing.

“Haha... You guys have made the right choice!”

Lu Renjia laughed. “After this, I will not forget any of you. And as for the promised spiritual pills, I will deliver two times more!”

“Lu Renjia!”

Liu Yan turned ferocious and slowly stood up.

“Hong! Hong!”

Balls of green flames appeared around his body, burning brightly in mid-air. There was a continuous stream of heatwave coming from him. “Do you still think that you stand a chance?”

He still feared this alchemy master.

Although his combat skills may not be good, his alchemy skills helped him developed many diplomatic ties.

“You would never guess what my secret move would be! Even though you surpassed my expectations today, that is all you are going to be!”

Lu Renjia became speechless. “Tiancan, Dique, bring Ling Yin away!”

“Yes, master!”

Two Wu Zongs suddenly stood beside Ling Yin and escorted her out.

“None of you will leave this place today! He! The elemental forces of nature, listen to me! Green Dragon Dance! Prosperity be in the world!

Liu Yan recited his mantra, and spiritual imprints appeared on his spiritual gown.

“Hong! Hong!”

Nine balls of green flame surrounded him, and suddenly evolved into claws. A green dragon formed from the balls of flame and struck towards Ling Yin.

“I am your opponent!”

Lu Renjia frowned and threw out a few pills.

“Peng!”

A red pill collided with a white pill in mid-air and exploded. A grey fog appeared, which constrained the fire dragon.

Liu Yan could see that the fire dragon within the fog had lost its spirituality. It stopped moving and began to slowly shrink in size.

“Good! You have lived in the Secluded Mountain Prefecture for almost twenty years and it is only today that I get to see your true ability!”

Liu Yan began to spew fire out of his eyes. “Hopefully you do not disappoint me!”

“Hong! Hong!”

In a short moment, the green flames covered the entire hall!

...

“Eh?”

Outside the Secluded Mountain Prefecture City.

Fang Yuan, who was on the carriage, turned his head around and took a quick glance in the direction of the Secluded Mountain Prefecture City.

The tremor of the spiritual force was way beyond the capabilities of a spiritual disciple; it was obvious that two spiritual knights were engaged in a fight.

“Master?”

Yu Xinlou and Huang Fu Renhe rushed over, saw Fang Yuan staring in the direction of the Secluded Mountain Prefecture City, and followed suit.

“Rumble!”

At that moment, it seemed as though a flame started to grow in the Prefecture Master’s mansion. Thick smoke rose into the sky like a chimney.

“That is... the direction of the Prefecture Master’s mansion!”

Yu Xinlou was dumbfounded. “Today is the City Master’s birthday, and yet they close the four gates to the city, and even something like that could happen within the city...”

“Are these green flames from the legendary Secluded Mountain Prefecture City Master’s spiritual spells? I’ve heard that he is skilled in fire-type spiritual spells, and is a totally different level!”

Huang Fu Renhe observed the increasingly chaotic city, and made eye contact with Yu Xinlou; he broke out in cold sweat.

If not for Fang Yuan who brought them out of the city, they would be the ones trapped inside, desperate. They might even be implicated to death.

“Rumble!”

Another deep tremor was heard.

To have travelled such a long distance, Fang Yuan understood that the two spiritual knights had used their spiritual force to strike a hard one on each other.

Indeed, when he looked back, he saw something like a roof flying in mid-air, and suddenly it broke apart into flames. Screams were heard where it landed.

“Oh..... This is how spiritual knights fight with each other?”

Fang Yuan was shocked to see such a fight.

Even though he had become a dream disciple, he could not command his elemental force as he wished as he was not a dream master yet.

Seeing how one’s own elemental force could affect nature in such fearsome means, he knew what to expect in the future.

“Elemental force... It’s not far from me!”

Fang Yuan clenched his fist, in silence.

In terms of martial arts, he had already broken through the 11th Gate. What was left for him was the final Heaven Gate and Wu Zong to break through before he could finally attain Wu Zong.

As for his journey as a dream disciple, he had also entered the final stages and was only a few steps away from truly being able to control his own dream world.

“It’s just... My skillset is specific, and the destructive power of a dream master can never be on par with that of a spiritual knight...”

Fang Yuan sighed, and suddenly called Yu Xinlou and Huang Fu Renhe over. “It seems that the only one capable of going against the Secluded Mountain Prefecture Master is that alchemy master, Master Lu?”

“Although I have never seen him personally, I have heard that his alchemy skills are superb, and well known throughout the entire Xia Country... My previous master is no match for him!”

Huang Fu Renhe looked agonized and said.

He explored the ends of the world and his exposure was rather broad.

“The influence of the Prefecture City is rather strong, but the Secluded Mountain Prefecture Master had many connections with the outside world, and external allies might help him out!”

Yu Xinlou shook his head.

“Hmm... That’s true. The destruction that we witnessed just now, could it be made by several spiritual knights and Wu Zongs together? Isn’t it a good chance to see what we can loot amidst the chaos?”

Fang Yuan made a guess after hearing him said that.

‘To loot from the chaos, we will still need a formidable party. Otherwise, we would be killing ourselves!’

"Let's go! We need to rush!"

"Fang Yuan did not hesitate and ordered them.

"Yes, master!"

Yu Xinlou instructed for the carriage to move on. As he looked back at the Secluded Mountain Prefecture City, he was filled with mixed emotions.

Seeing his hometown being destroyed and feeling sad was secondary; it was more of a worry.

The entire Secluded Mountain Prefecture would change!

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Chapter 102: The Peak Level

"Elemental force.....Only spiritual knights, Wu Zong, and other similar level experts can awaken the ability to use this power that of the heavens and earth..."

The carriage was sparkling.

Inside the carriage, Fang Yuan seemed to have closed his eyes to rest, but in fact, he was finding out the secrets behind his elemental force.

"There are roughly two systems of power in this world. One is magic and the other is physique...The path of magic would be arduous at the start because it depends on one's potential. Only spiritual disciples, alchemy disciples, dream disciples or the likes can develop elemental force under the guidance of a master!"

"Physique, on the other hand, is slightly different. I can be described as the supplement of magic. In the 12 Gates of martial arts, one will start from the 3 Prosperous Gates, before moving onto 2 Peaceful Gates and then the 3 Perilous Gates, and lastly the 4 Heavenly Gates in this order. This order helps to build one's foundation for obtaining elemental force. However, the first 8 gates would only help to condition one's body while only the 4 Heavenly Gates would improve one's magical energy gradually. Hence, although one may have reached the peak level of the 12th Gate, one may not have reached one's full potential to become Wu Zong!"

"Of course, I am different from them and I can choose to go by both paths of magic and physique. Martial arts is just a form of self-defence in the early stages, and also a way for me to build up my foundations.....The 12th Gate is the final preparation for me to make a last breakthrough which is completely dependent on my magical energy!"

The trip to the Prefecture City was beneficial for Fang Yuan.

Even though he could only watch the moves of a spiritual knight from afar and feel the spiritual pressure, it made him slightly more optimistic of a breakthrough.

This was not because of his gifts, but rather, his accumulation in experience.

"It looks like when these skills have reached a later stage, they cannot be depended on proficiency points to be improved. Rather they depended on self-realisation and maybe some sort of opportunities....."

Fang Yuan glanced at his stats window and noticed that his Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique's proficiency points had reached 99.99% in Grade 11!

Along with this self-realisation, the last percentage of improvement needed was finally fulfilled!

Suddenly, Fang Yuan closed both of his eyes.

"Piak!"

He could feel a soft sound coming from the middle of his forehead.

However, this sound was not real. It was the tremor from his sea of consciousness!

"Hoo....."

Fang Yuan exhaled gently while he held on to his forehead.

From previous breakthroughs, he could feel his inner force surging around his whole body. This time, it was totally different. He could feel a slight dizziness and a swell in his head as if a brick had just been squeezed into his consciousness.

"Such feeling I'm getting.....must be due to my body's inability to adapt to the sudden surge in magical energy....."

He looked at his stats window again and saw the changes.

"Name: Fang Yuan

Essence: 8.0

Spirit: 7.9

Magic: 5.5

Profession: Dream Disciple

Cultivation: [Martial Artist (12th Gate)]

Technique: [Black Sand Palm (Grade 5)], [Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique (Grade 12)] (Limit reached)

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 4)]"

Fang Yuan was surprised by the changes. "There are not much increments for my [Essence] and [Spirit], but my [Magic] has improved by 1!"

Such great improvements were way more than what the Questioning Heart Tea could do.

However, there were also side effects from this vast improvement and these side effects were quite scary. Hence, Fang Yuan had to clear his mind to allow his body to get used to the increase in magical energy.

After a while, his energy was at its peak and he became very alert.

He could feel that his thinking speed was much faster than before and he was very satisfied.

"Even though I had the magical energy of an average person from the start, but with the cultivation from my master, my strong foundations, the help of the Questioning Heart Tea and the breakthroughs in martial arts, I am now comparable to the other talents!"

"With my current magical energy, I should be considered gifted among all other normal spiritual disciples!"

His mind was clear and Fang Yuan stretched himself. He then continued to check on other areas.

"[Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique (Grade 12)] -- You have mastered this technique to its peak level and the level is similar to the creator of this technique! However, due to the disadvantage of this technique, this technique cannot be further improved to condense elemental force!"

The system also identified that the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique had reached its peak and there would be no further improvements.

This meant that if Fang Yuan still wished to continue to make a breakthrough in his martial arts, he had to change his cultivation to either the Xuan Yin Heart Technique, the Spirit Returning Heart Manual or other similar high levelled techniques.

"This system is useless....Can't it improve or optimise my techniques?"

Fang Yuan murmured and stroked his chin. "No.....the system's abilities seem to come from my level of comprehension....."

Where did martial arts originate from in this world?

Martial arts were created by man, of course! Since one could create techniques for Wu Zong, Fang Yuan believed that he could similarly do so.

A real expert would probably be able to raise his Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique to Grade 13, Grade 14 or even Grade 15!

Of course, with his current level of comprehension and experience, the chances of him going crazy from improving his technique was very high, since he was cultivating without any help.

"Even if I enter the dream world to experiment, with my current level of cultivation as a dream disciple, I'm afraid I'm not even able to simulate inner force properly, let alone elemental force!"

Death in the dream world didn't mean actual death. Therefore, he could simulate many different environments to try out.

If he was capable enough, he could build another Xia country in the dream world!

With this convenience, high cultivation levelled dream masters often improved their techniques in martial arts beyond the original peak levels. Furthermore, they could also provide services for optimisation of martial arts for other martial artists. Of course, these services would cost a bomb.

With Fang Yuan's current level of cultivation, he would not be able to simulate at such a level yet.

"However.....this is also another type of cultivation. At least it would be much more convenient to reproduce my actual physical body in the dream world, and give it inner force....."

The ability for a martial artist to understand their own body condition would be rather useful.

However, if Fang Yuan had the ability to simulate everything in the dream world and allowed himself to go crazy from improving the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique to Grade 13 for a few thousand times in the dream world, he would already have made a breakthrough in his cultivation of becoming a dream master, thereby developing dream elemental force.

Hence, the effectiveness of this method to aid his martial arts was still debatable.

"However, if this method was solely for the purpose of the cultivation to become a dream master, it could still be done. I shall remember this!"

He added another to-do item in his checklist silently in his mind and opened the curtains. The sunlight was blinding, causing him to squint his eyes.

"How long have I been meditating? Where are we now?"

Fang Yuan looked at the coachman and asked him.

"Sir!"

The coachman was from the White Cloud Business Council and was one Yu Xinlou's men. As such, he would not be rude to Fang Yuan and answered him politely. "You have meditated for half a day. We are currently in Qinghe County and in two days time, we should be able to reach Qingye City!"

"Very good, get Huang Fu Renhe and Yu Xinlou to come over here!"

Fang Yuan got out of the carriage and randomly asked one of the horse riders dressed in green to get off the horse. Fang Yuan then took over, as the horse obediently allowed him to train his riding skills.

"Sir!"

Not long after, Yu Xinlou and Huang Fu Renhe came over. Yu Xinlou's eyebrows were furrowed and his face looked sad.

"Oh? From your facial expression, it looks like you have gotten the news of the current situation in the Secluded Mountain Prefecture City!"

Fang Yuan's eyes then brightened up.

Even though he had decided not to be involved in the happenings in the Prefecture City, he still sent a few men to find out about the current situation, and it was worth it.

"One of the riders from my business council has just returned with news. The current situation in the Prefecture City is quite bad..."

Mentioning this, Yu Xinlou's eyes went red. "It was the misfortune on the day of the birthday banquet. The fire spread through the entire city, costing the lives of many innocent civilians living there. Now,

many civilians are trying to escape the city, and my riders have seen a few of their ex-colleagues who were also escaping. The Prefecture City is now a big battlefield!"

"What?"

Fang Yuan was surprised and asked, "Lu Renjia is that powerful?"

"You can't imagine how many connections an alchemy master like Lu Renjia has!"

Huang Fu Renhe gave a wry grin and said, "Of all the 6 counties in the Secluded Mountain Prefecture, 3 of them clearly voiced out their support for Lu Renjia. Even one capital leader from the Secluded Mountain Prefecture was convinced to join Lu Renjia's side and remained undercover. When the time is ripe, the Prefecture Master's side will go down!"

"Even so, I don't believe that the Prefecture Master will lose in his own territory. It doesn't matter if his men were dead. Ultimately, what would be the outcome of the fight between the leaders? And what about the Wu Zongs?"

Fang Yuan frowned and asked.

Of course, he was only interested in Liu Yan and Lu Renjia.

"Such information is rarely disclosed and no one knows the truth. There are only rumours everywhere...."

Yu Xinlou shook his head and said, "I have heard that this Prefecture Master is holding back. Even though his life is coming to an end, he is still holding back, with the intention to capture everyone who opposes him once and for all. However, he did not expect Lu Renjia to come up with an ultimatum..... Furthermore, both parties are recruiting reinforcements from external parties. The final outcome will lead to both sides being severely weakened. However, as long as the leaders of both parties are alive, I'm afraid the war will last!"

As he spoke, his face gave a worried look.

The war in the city had caused much sufferings and chaos. The ones suffering the most was the civilians.

Escaping to Qinghe County did not mean that one would be safe from the heat of the battle.

"Hmm.....The downfall of both sides.....This alchemy master is unexpectedly capable!"

Liu Yan was actually the most highly skilled in the entire Secluded Mountain Prefecture. However, Lu Renjia, who was just an alchemy master, could fight against him to such a stage, shocking Fang Yuan. Fang Yuan then asked, "What about Shi Yutong?"

Yu Xinlou shook his head and said, "Spirit Returning Sect is one of the 3 sects who had rebelled. However, I haven't heard any news about the whereabouts of Shi Yutong. She probably managed to escape successfully!"

Fang Yuan had expected that anyway.

With the cunningness of Shi Yutong, it would be strange if she didn't manage to escape.

"It looks like....this world is going to get even more chaotic!"

He looked at the end of the pathway ahead and sighed. "Pass down the order to tell everyone to move faster! Otherwise, by then, it will be harder for us to return amidst the chaos if the Spirit Returning decides to gather their men to join in the fight."

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Chapter 103: Pill Making

It was eight years since the Xia Country opened up to business from other countries.

Lu Renjia created chaos by betraying the Secluded Mountain Prefecture, and even recruited the help of an evil spiritual knight, and ended up badly hurt together with Liu Yan. Qinghe County, Cangshui County and Jushi County declared to pull out of the Secluded Mountain Prefecture's governance, and under Lu Renjia's command.

Of course, all these didn't affect Fang Yuan.

With the Zhou Family and others as the local families under him, the White Cloud Business Council had a smooth transition into Qingye City; Fang Yuan did not need to worry about the small issues.

He left Huang Fu Renhe in the secluded valley and made him comfortable, before riding the Iron-tailed Black Eagle and arriving at the Green Peak spiritual land.

"Phew... The air here is the best. It is so much different as compared to the air outside..."

The spiritual land was filled with spiritual energy. Fang Yuan unknowingly took a few deep breaths and appeared drunk with power.

"If not for the things I have to settle in the outside world, living here for a long period of time would be like a deity living in heaven..."

He sighed and clenched his fist.

The chaos in the Secluded Mountains Prefecture urgently required strong martial artists as protection.

In terms of martial arts, he had already reached the peak for the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique. Unless he changed his cultivation to another type of martial arts, he would have no hope in breaking through to Wu Zong.

However, the Spirit Returning Heart Manual and the Xuan Yin Heart Technique were both profound. Without the hindrance of the 12 Gates, and to train to reach the level of the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique would be extremely hard.

"The good thing is that I have another path to take. Based on my prediction, the creation of the 12 Golden Gates is to cover up for the shortcomings of normal humans... Since I have overflowing magical energy, my journey to become a dream master would be a smooth-sailing one!"

If he could break through to obtain elemental force, then he would be the only one in the entire Xia Country who would be able to oppose the Spirit Returning Sect and other Sects!

"What a pity... I have not sent the Flame Jade Rice for an appraisal!"

Fang Yuan took out a handful of flame-red rice grains, with regret in his eyes.

After the trip to the Secluded Mountain Court, he now knew the value of the higher tiered spiritual rice. It might even be more valuable than the Questioning Heart Tea.

This was because there was only one Questioning Heart Tea Tree, but on the other hand, the rice could be planted many times and be resold to earn back the money.

With the valuable plants in his hands, Fang Yuan did not dare to expose what he had, especially after seeing the situation at the Prefecture; he did not want to involve the alchemy masters and spiritual knights.

"The good thing was that I managed to appraise a few spiritual objects, bought a whole bunch of new spiritual seeds, and obtained two new helpers. I should be rather influential now, albeit small..."

Fang Yuan went to take a look at the Questioning Heart Tea and the spiritual bamboo shoots. The Questioning Heart Tea was growing well, with the prospects of another season of tea leaves being able to be harvested. As for the bamboo shoots, the shoots remained small, which made Fang Yuan roll his eyes.

Based on the maturity period of the spiritual bamboo, even if he used his spiritual fertilizer, it would be hundred years later before it would mature.

But then again, if he could harvest around ten bamboo fruits, be it changing to another type of martial arts or by harnessing brute force to break through to Wu Zong, it would be so much more helpful.

"It seems that I have to become a dream master to obtain Master's next piece of inheritance..."

Fang Yuan went to the red-eyed white king bird's nest to check that the nest was alright, and glanced at the growing wisteria. He nodded in satisfaction.

"Chirp..."

Suddenly, a shriek came from the cave which broke the silence. It attracted Fang Yuan's attention to the red-eyed white king bird.

Although it appeared sluggish, its eyes remained ferocious and full of stubbornness. Fang Yuan knew that unless a miracle happened, it was almost impossible to tame it.

"You seem to be quite energetic. Hmm... I shall not feed you then..."

Although this bird refused to eat, Fang Yuan still had other ideas. Previously, he used underhand means to subdue it but was lost for words as it did not appear any less fierce than before. He went up to the straw pavilion, poured out every spiritual seed he bought and began reading through the planting manual.

"The Black Jade Rice and Green Striped Rice are nothing much, I can just directly sow them in the spiritual farm... Their effects are similar to that of the Vermilion Jade Rice, and at most I'll just have new flavours to try!"

"The Bone Quenching Flower can destroy one's bones and tendons, and complements the Three Star Fruit perfectly. If I plant them together, I can increase my produce by a few folds!"

"The Sickie Grass and Serrated Flower are the most troublesome. Other than requiring a specific type of land, it still feeds on blood!"

...

After a long while, Fang Yuan closed the manual, his eyebrows slightly raised.

Blood-fed meant consuming the bones, flesh and blood of wild animals. If these two spiritual plants did not get the blood they require, their growth would be hindered and they might not even germinate, making the plants feel carnivorous and barbaric.

Of course, these two spiritual plants were not to be eaten or made into pills; they were for protection.

"They are similar to plants like the Pitcher Plant and the Venus Flytrap... The only thing is that the Sickie Grass and Serrated Flowers are slightly more brutal; their prey are wild beasts or even humans!"

Of course, the normal Sickie Grass had at most a serrated edge like a knife. If a normal person came into contact with it, his flesh would be cut and he would bleed profusely, causing him to die in a gruesome way. As for martial artists, especially high-levelled martial artists, they would easily dodge these plants, just as for the Serrated Flower.

But Fang Yuan didn't intend for these normal spiritual plants to protect his home.

He bought these seeds to produce them in large quantities, so as to increase their chances of evolving their special traits. Hopefully, they would evolve into even more fearsome spiritual plants, and together with the hypnotizing fog around the Green Peak spiritual land, it would be able to guard against even the strongest 4 Heavenly Gate martial artists!

To produce large quantities of spiritual plants would be almost impossible to do in the small farm at the secluded valley; he could only go ahead with the plan at the Green Peak spiritual land. Everything had to be done by Fang Yuan personally.

As for the farm at the secluded valley, a few farmers already raised the problem of the soil getting less and less fertile.

If Fang Yuan still refused to reveal the secret of the spiritual fertilizer, the next season's Vermilion Jade Rice harvest would be much lesser, and eventually, it would lead to too many farmers at the farm.

"This is not too bad... At least I can dismiss those thoughts of greed! It would be even more beneficial during times of war."

Fang Yuan stroked his chin and started to worry.

Fighting a war is all about resources, especially the long-standing wars. One should not execute the decisive move as the first move, otherwise, the entire war would deplete all the resources available.

To a martial artist, doctor, herbs and storage of spiritual objects, a war was a test to all of these.

"What a coincidence that Qinghe County was named as one of the betrayal counties now in chaos. It is not a matter of whether it will spread, but that it will surely spread! Unless one had enough influence from the start, otherwise trying to control it would be to remove the insignificant powers!"

Fang Yuan slowly understood as he looked in the direction of the county.

If he guessed correctly, he would be able to face of Shi Yutong the next time round.

"Based on my current stage of cultivation, it is still not enough, and I am still not there yet!"

He was lost in his thoughts...

...

Chaos ensued in the outside world, but it did not seem to have spread to the secluded valley yet.

The grass was lush, the insects and birds were making their noise, the farmers were farming and the servants were washing clothes; the entire scene was one of tranquillity.

Unknowingly, a few days went by.

In the pavilion, Fang Yuan wore his normal clothing and was sitting with Huang Fu Renhe. Both of them were looking at the stove in front.

"The skill of alchemy is all-encompassing. The art of lighting fire is already very profound, and normal people might not even be able to comprehend it in their lifetime..."

Huang Fu Renhe explained, and at the same time added a few animal charcoals underneath the stove.

This was a valued possession brought here personally by Zhou Wenwu. There was only a hint of burnt smell, and every piece was delicately carved into animal shapes. They were extremely valuable and were sold by the piece.

However, Huang Fu Renhe treated it like garbage and didn't even blink an eye as he threw it into the fire.

"Hong! Hong!"

The fire grew larger, and the green flames licked the green stove. A strong fragrance filled the air.

"An alchemy master would use spiritual fire to make their pills. I am useless and can only use normal fire as a replacement, which is much less efficient and would make a whole lot of difference..."

Huang Fu Renhe blushed, and timed it right before lifting the stove. "It's done!"

White smoke rose into the sky, and as Fang Yuan channelled his energy into his eyes, he could see a puddle of liquid medicine at the bottom of the furnace.

Huang Fu Renhe's face turned red and was totally engrossed in his role. He began the extraction, purification and evaporation process - This was not how the alchemy masters would describe it, but to Fang Yuan, this was what he saw.

After the filtered medicine evaporated into crystals, what appeared in front of Huang Fu Renhe was many piles of yellow, fragrant and seemingly tasty powder.

"This is Spiritual Grain Powder. It can be consumed directly, and after eating it, one would not feel hungry for three days. However, it harms one's digestive system, and therefore is not considered top grade..."

Huang Fu Renhe passed the medicinal powder to Fang Yuan, but his face was full of regret. "Based on my ability, I could possibly make Combat Ration Pellets in the future, but forget about Royal Valley Pill..."

"Alchemy Master?"

Fang Yuan thought of the Questioning Heart Tea and smiled cheekily. "Don't give up so soon, you might be able to do it in the future!"

Powder, Pellet and Pills were the three types of medicine, and their medicinal powers were in increasing order. It was also how pharmacist and alchemy masters proved their own worth.

Using the same ingredients to make the pills, the Spiritual Grain Powder could last for three days but would harm the digestive system, while the Combat Ration Pill could last for 7 days. As for Royal Valley Pill, it was a common food source for high-levelled cultivators who planned on going into closed-door cultivation for long periods. A prolonged period of consumption would strengthen one's body, which led to some highly-skilled martial artist giving up on food and eating spiritual pills instead, to strengthen their foundation.

But for Huang Fu Renhe, he could only forcibly produce Combat Ration Pellets from spiritual grains; this was because he had no help from spiritual fire and therefore could not attain the level of an alchemy master.

"You're talking about learning martial arts? I can't do it!"

Huang Fu Renhe laughed. "I've tried this path before, but I have no potential for it and I could spend my life training but will not be able to harness inner force."

He was dumbfounded, clenched his teeth, and was feeling determined again. "My lord saved my life and Lanruo's, and even took us in. I have nothing to hide. In alchemy, other than controlling the fire, the most important is to understand the properties of every ingredient and be highly skilled in appraising them... I am useless and have not accomplished much in this field, but I have a gift for you, master!"

As he spoke, he loosened his belt and retrieved something stuck in between, and passed it to Fang Yuan.

"This is... a piece of jade?!"

Fang Yuan was surprised and pleased at the same time. He knew that this person had totally given his trust to him.

"This is indeed a piece of jade... This is from my master... I took it from him, but it was a pity that I was unable to see its contents..."

Huang Fu Renhe blushed and explained.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 104: Exaction

"I had spent much energy looking for this piece of jade in the past, but who would've guessed that it would appear so effortlessly!"

Inside the room, Fang Yuan slowly put the piece of jade down, feeling relieved.

"The thing that I had wanted most came to me in such a way....."

He shook his head, with a slight happiness in his heart.

According to what Huang Fu Renhe said, many years ago, he was being ill-treated and was under extreme pressure; there was no way he could endure. Taking an opportunity, he escaped with this piece of jade to the Secluded Mountain Prefecture.

However, his magical energy was not great enough to see through the piece of jade to know its secrets.

To Fang Yuan, however, it was a piece of cake.

<>!

This was the title of the paragraph inscribed in the piece of jade. It was the elementary book for potential alchemy masters. The book not only had recordings of the characteristics, medicinal effects and methods of handling different types of spiritual objects, it also included a special way to appraise spiritual objects, aiding alchemy masters in determining the quality of spiritual objects, if they were poisonous, etc.

After all, there were many weird and strange spiritual objects present in this world and it was impossible for the inscription to cover every single one of them.

"Of course, the most valuable pieces of information will be the explanation by alchemy masters themselves, as well as the methods of handling different types of spiritual ingredients.....This inscription should be considered very precious to Huang Fu Renhe!"

Fang Yuan thought about it before deciding to pass on the information from the Spiritual Recordings to Huang Fu Renhe. Ultimately, this piece of jade was from him.

"Unfortunately, Renhe didn't know about the preciousness of this object. If he had passed this jade to Lanruo, that girl should be able to see some of the secrets in it, and of course.....that would also mean that the jade would not come to me!"

He felt fortunate, and at the same time, a little worried.

The mysterious spiritual knight or spiritual disciple who wanted to kidnap Lanruo was also a problem.

Of course, he had already exterminated the Wild Wolves Gang. It would be hard for the spiritual knight to track him down.

Being such a gifted girl, Fang Yuan was not willing to give her up.

"I cannot easily pass on the cultivation of a dream master. However, I still have a few other spiritual knight techniques with me....."

Letting his thoughts run wild, he pondered. "It will be beneficial for me to train a few loyal subordinates. Of course, as much as possible, I shouldn't let her learn the Blood Magic Manual. Just the thought of it spooks me....."

"Thinking about this, as part of the secluded valley faction, we can have anything we want. If I need people, I can get them. If I need spiritual ingredients, I can also get them. We now have a doctor, a pharmacist, a martial artist and a certain level of influence, and therefore should be considered the most powerful in Qingye City. If I was the Sect Head of the Spirit Returning Sect, even if I only knew a little about the secluded valley, I would still have to ask them for help in times of war....."

Fang Yuan stroked his chin and was speechless.

He was in a different position and hence, his perspective and attitude in seeing things were very different.

Since he was part of the secluded valley, he wouldn't wish to see the Spirit Returning Sect having their way and becoming powerful at the expense of the suffering of others.

"Master! They are already here!"

While Fang Yuan was in deep thoughts, Zhang Sheng called to him from outside.

"Direct them to the main hall. I will be there soon!"

Fang Yuan opened the door and saw Zhang Sheng carrying a broom.

Under the care of Fang Yuan, and with the help of spiritual ingredients, Zhang Sheng's Dantian recovered. He had re-obtained his inner force and reinstated his status as a considerably skilled martial artist.

In the main hall of the secluded valley.

Zhou Wenwu, Yu Xinlou and Huang Fu Renhe were waiting in there.

Huang Fu Renhe looked like he had no worries and was enjoying his tea. Yu Xinlou seemed a little worried and Zhou Wenwu was the most uneasy one.

"Here comes Sir!?"

Seeing the arrival of Fang Yuan, the three of them got up and greeted him.

"Hmm!"

Fang Yuan nodded his head to acknowledge them. He then sat in his chair and waved his hand.

Seeing this, Zhang Sheng closed the doors to the main hall and guarded outside. With his skills, even martial artists of the 4 Heavenly Gates could not sneak up upon them.

"You may speak now. Did something happened at the Spirit Returning Sect?"

Fang Yuan came straight to the point.

"You are correct. The Spirit Returning Sect had given an order for all cities in Qinghe County to be on alert. Soldiers from the Spirit Returning Sect are now deployed everywhere, and every family in the county are expected to contribute and help out in any way they can!"

Zhou Wenwu gave a wry grin.

The way he mentioned about the Spirit Returning Sect showed that he was unhappy with the sect.

"Oh? What did they blackmail the three of you for?"

Seeing this, Fang Yuan became interested.

"Every big household in the Qingye City will have to give 100 taels of gold and all the spiritual food they have. The households will also have to provide their most powerful martial artists to be under the direct command of the city master!"

Zhou Wenwu's face was black.

Previously, things were improving back in the Zhou family. However, with this order from the sect, his family would be forced to their limits, and even he, an inner force expert, would have to be conscripted since he was the most highly skilled in his family, which explained his expression.

"The situation for my family is slightly better than Brother Zhou's!"

Yu Xinlou forced a laughter. "I was ordered to give them some money and food supplies, and some of my business shops to the temporary city master....."

"Since all of you were affected, I guess it is a matter of time the secluded valley will be blackmailed too..."

Fang Yuan murmured and suddenly, he asked, "A temporary city master? What about the previous county leader?"

The previous county leader was a good old man. He was kind, and it was probably due to the fact that he did not have real power and authority over the county. As long as things were not too chaotic or going out of hand, he would always be the forgiving and kind old man, which made him the favourite among the rich and powerful.

However, since the situation in Qinghe County was different now, the previous system of bureaucracy was no longer relevant. Hence, the county leader, together with the name of his appointment, had to be changed.

"City master?! This name sounds like a mercenary!"

Fang Yuan curled his mouth and said, "Why? Why haven't they ask me to give up anything?"

"This is expected!"

Zhou Wenwu added. "Your influence in the Qinghe County is bigger than ours. Furthermore, you are not living in the city and have no business or tradings there. Since you can walk away from this easily, the city master would not dare to bother you much....."

"Master, Little Pearl says that we have a female guest!"

Zhang Sheng voice was calm and deep, frightening Zhou Wenwu a little.

Even though Zhou Wenwu knew that Fang Yuan had taken in a cleaner, from his voice, it seemed that this cleaner's inner force was powerful, and might have surpassed himself.

"A female guest? Who is she?"

Fang Yuan glanced at Zhou Wenwu and had a premonition.

Zhang Sheng then went to have a few words with Little Pearl, before his deep voice came again. "She is from the Lin family. Lin Leiyue!"

"It's really her!"

Fang Yuan had expected her. "You three, take your leave! Bring her in!"

"Yes, Master!"

The three of them answered together and left. Not long after, Little Pearl brought the female guest in and quickly served her tea. After which, Little Pearl left.

"Miss Lin, please have a seat!"

Fang Yuan waved his hand and stayed calm.

Lin Leiyue stared right at him, in shock. She could feel that he had changed too much, even exceeding her expectations for him.

From the confident look Fang Yuan gave, it was a level of prestige that he could only attain from being at a high cultivation level for a long period of time and the ability to take a life without blinking his eye. Even though she had made a breakthrough in the inner force, she would still fear him.

"Even though my secluded valley is a little remote, I still have some good tea for my guests to enjoy. Please!"

Fang Yuan lifted his teacup and took a sip.

The tea that was used to serve the guests was not spiritual tea. However, it was still good and fragrant.

"Good tea!"

Lin Leiyue took a sip and her eyes glittered. She then looked at Fang Yuan with a bit of disappointment and determination. "Brother Fang, I guess you already know the purpose of my visit?"

"Sigh..."

Fang Yuan shook his head and gave a wry grin. "It is the Spirit Returning Sect's business to take full control over the country. What has that got to do with the secluded valley?"

"There is a saying that, a land in a country belongs to the king, and the people living in the land are the people of the king. Even though the secluded valley is not geographically in Qingye City, it is still under our jurisdiction. Would you disagree with this point?"

Lin Leiyue gave a strong rebuttal.

At that moment, a thought went through her mind. 'I am saying this is for your own good. If we end up fighting and causing the sect head to take action, I will not be able to answer to Master Wenxin.....'

Thinking about the amount of effort she had put in to persuade her Master, Shi Yutong and how Fang Yuan was not recognising her effort, she was a little pissed.

"This is true..."

Fang Yuan touched his nose and looked at Lin Leiyue without an expression. "And what will the Spirit Returning Sect want from me?"

"The spiritual rice, of course!"

Lin Leiyue bit her teeth and said, "At least 660 pounds of it. Of course, the Spirit Returning Sect will not be getting it for free. We will buy it from you at market price. Also, since you have impressive medicine skills, I will also have to ask you to relocate to the Qingye City. This is also for your own safety, in case you get injured by robbers at night. Of course, the sect will need your help to treat the injured members of the sect during the war..."

"After everything is over, the sect will allow you to choose the next three generations of the city master of Qingye City. How does this sound?"

After she had spoken, she looked at Fang Yuan, hopeful. The conditions that she had given him were much much better compared to the others.

"Hmm....."

Inside, Fang Yuan laughed silently and intentionally gave a look of hesitation. "This is such a hard decision to make, I will need some time to consider....."

He had to live up to his title as the doctor who could work miracles.

As long as he didn't show that he wanted to relocate to Secluded Mountain Prefecture and join the other side, Shi Yutong would not dare to pressure Fang Yuan to the limits.

'He still needs to consider?'

Lin Leiyue became even more unhappy. She got up and said, "You have 5 days to consider, and I have fought for this deal for you. If we don't hear from you after 5 days, it will no longer be me looking for you!"

After her threatening words, she glanced at the back of the hall and noticed a few people hiding behind, before giving a bow and left.

"Hehe.....Lin Leiyue, this little girl..... her tone is so different now after being a junior sect leader for a few days....."

Fang Yuan touched his chin and felt a toothache. "She's too fierce!"

"We are useless!"

At the back, the three of them came out blushing.

"I cannot blame you three. Zhou Wenwu, I'm afraid that you were already followed as you made your way to the secluded valley..."

Fang Yuan exhaled a long breath and was under no pressure.

After all, even if Shi Yutong came personally, he would be able to escape even if he couldn't defeat her.

He was not in a desperate situation, which was why he had nothing to worry.

However, if he really lost his subordinates and his business, he could always hire more people and rebuild the business. There was nothing to be worried about.

Of course, that would be the worst-case scenario. For now, it would still be best to keep his subordinates and his business.

[Carefree Path of Dreams](#)

Chapter 105: Farming

"Elder Han!"

As Lin Leiyue walked out of the secluded valley, a shadow followed her.

However, it seemed that she had already predicted it, and therefore her expression did not change.

"Thank you for coming personally to settle this!"

"Hehe..."

Elder Han shook his head. He was already completely recovered by now and got back the calmness a Martial Artist (11th Gate) should have. However, he knew that he could not go head-on against the secluded valley. "The secluded valley has many secrets, especially Fang Yuan himself. Within the entire Sect, I'm afraid only the Sect Master can infiltrate successfully..."

"If what you said is true, then Fang Yuan's cultivation level is... 4 Heavenly Gates?"

There was shock in Lin Leiyue's eyes.

After being allies with Lu Renjia, the alchemy master had to bear with the pain and gave them a sizeable amount of spiritual pills in an attempt to improve their relations; Elder Han and Lin Leiyue both benefited from it, with one being able to recover successfully and the other able to break through the next gate.

However, as compared to Fang Yuan, Fang Yuan's improvement was still more shocking.

"Even I'll have to admit that Fang Yuan is gifted... I can no longer see what's going on in the secluded valley with the addition of that spiritual beast!"

Elder Han shook his head in dismay. After getting rid of the strong opposition, the secluded valley could actually be comparable to the Spirit Returning Sect.

After shock came fear.

"The Spirit Returning Sect kept a low profile, which led to the opposing powers being developed slowly... We could use this chance to teach them a lesson and get rid of them!"

He did not try to hide his motive.

On the battlefield, all it would take was an order and he could let martial artists die themselves, without using underhand means.

Only when the opposing powers within the county become lesser would the Spirit Returning Sect have the freedom to do whatever it wants.

And as for the secluded valley, it was indeed a miracle. Without much notice, it had developed so much over such a short period of time.

However, it still didn't matter much. With the Sect Master in charge, using her ability as a 12th Gate Martial Artist at her peak, it would be as simple as jumping over a wall.

The difference between Wu Zong and the normal martial artist was immeasurable; it was like comparing Heaven and Earth!

"How would Master deal with the situation..."

Lin Leiyue stopped and looked back at the secluded valley once more. Suddenly, her heartbeat became faster. She did not want to see Brother Fang reach this point of no return, but at the same time, she felt immense relief. She was resolute and walked away.

Both of them were extremely quick and disappeared into the forest within moments.

The serenity and tranquillity of the forest were intoxicating.

After a long while, Fang Yuan appeared and looked indifferent. "They even had to send Elder Han to spy on the secluded valley, so it seems that there is no other person capable enough in the Sect already!"

"Unless... Shi Yutong?"

...

After Fang Yuan returned to the secluded valley, even more news came in.

This rebellion went to the extremes. Not only did Qinghe County, Cangshui County and Jushi County leave the Secluded Mountain Prefecture's jurisdiction, they were led by the Spirit Returning Sect, Bone Melting Sect and Yellow Brothers Sect respectively to come together to form a large army of over 10,000 troops. Additionally, external forces joined in as well, and Lu Renjia became the undisputed alliance leader. He directly issued the challenge to Liu Yan without regard for any reputation.

As for the Xia royal family, and the other two prefectures, they would have to wait and see. Even if they tried guessing, they could only send out highly-skilled martial artists in disguise and had to be cautious.

Fang Yuan did not know the happenings in the other two counties, but in Qinghe County, the Spirit Returning Sect was putting in an effort to eradicate the rebels and remove those families who were loyal to the Secluded Mountain Prefecture. This was all expected.

There was news that three entire families were eradicated, and they plundered a large amount of resources. The other families who knew of this lived in fear, afraid of being the next family to be dealt with.

From all these, Fang Yuan could predict that he did not have much time left.

However, there was a piece of news which made Fang Yuan wary.

"Lu Renjia could recruit the help of a mysterious spiritual knight, and this spiritual knight has blood-red light all over him; he must have the assistance of the Blood Dragon, which explained why he could suck the blood essence of 3 or 4 Heavenly Gate Martial Artists and 5 Inner Force Martial Artists at one go and that was extremely scary..."

"This description... Why does it sound so much like the Blood Magic Manual, could it be that this person is related to the Blood Killer?"

Thinking of this, he ended his speculations about Lu Renjia.

"If I create trouble for the Spirit Returning Sect now, I would greatly hurt their battle strength. It would become hard for Shi Yutong to take control of the entire county and unite all the forces together... By sending Elder Han and her other direct disciples all around already revealed her intention, but..."

If Fang Yuan really wanted to kill, then even two Elder Hans could not save their own lives.

However, killing mindlessly did him no good and was therefore not what he would do.

"Keeping them alive would buy me at least five days more..."

To a normal martial artist, it was impossible to gather opposition support and fight against the Spirit Returning Sect in just a mere 5 days, but to Fang Yuan, it was slightly more possible. He just had to dream.

...

Green Peak spiritual land.

Within the straw pavilion.

Fang Yuan placed a stone basin in front of him, and in it full of clear water. There were a few red dots suspended in the water.

Taking a closer look would reveal that the red dots were actually grains of Flame Jade Rice, swirling in the basin of water, at it seemed that there was a layer of gold that had yet to come off.

"Go!"

With the wave of his finger, he exerted a force and the water mixed with a flame-red colour flew out, landing on a bamboo paper placed at one side. It grew upwards quickly, forming a trace of red glow.

Fang Yuan took up the piece of paper and examined it.

"Based on the method for identifying poisons recorded in <>, I can now confirm that this spiritual rice is not poisonous. Using the water refinement method, I can observe from the paper that there is a hint of gold in the red. Its fire-type properties are strongest, but in it, there is a hidden metallic property as well, how unexpected... At the end, the trace is 1.6 inches long, which shows that its spirituality is of the higher tier of Yellow Grade. Because it is a spiritual rice, maybe it can be placed under the Mystery Grade?"

The method of appraising as described in this <> was founded by alchemy masters who realised that a vast variety of spiritual items existed.

And in it, the spiritual materials were classified into Heaven, Earth, Mystery and Yellow.

Based on the description in <>, the Vermilion Jade Rice, Emerald Grass, and even the Bamboo fruit and the Icy Fire Jialan were all of Yellow grade, and were just slightly above average.

As for the Flame Jade Rice, Questioning Heart Tea and the Vermilion Fruit, they were more extraordinary and could be classified under Mystery grade.

"The Flame Jade Rice's effects might not be better than that of the Icy Fire Jialan and were at the higher end of the Yellow Grade. However, since it could be harvested every season and stored in large quantities, its value could go up and therefore could be classified as Mysterious Grade... As for the Questioning Heart Tea and the Vermilion fruit, both of them are undisputedly of Mystery Grade..." As for the Questioning Heart Tea and the Vermilion fruit, both of them are undisputed..."

"After appraising the grade of the Flame Jade Rice and knowing its qualities, I can now produce it in large scales and start consuming it..."

Fang Yuan nodded his head, picked up the shell of the Flame Jade Rice, went outside and fed it to the Iron-tailed Black Eagle.

As the Black Eagle ate it, it wailed in happiness.

"The Flame Jade Rice is a fire-type plant. If Liu Yan or other fire-type spiritual knights know of this plant, they would do all they can in their power to get it and consume it every day. Its benefits are countless, but to me, it would only aid me if I chose to cultivate fire-type techniques in the future..."

The Flame Jade Rice he brought here to appraise was of a small quantity, and Fang Yuan was too lazy to cook it. He gave it all to the Iron-tailed Black Eagle to enjoy.

Afterwards, he went to a newly allocated spiritual farm, and grain by grain planted it in.

[Botany (Level 4)] was indeed impressive. Fang Yuan's natural actions made the action of sowing seeds even more delicate.

"If you want to enjoy such good rice next season, remember to properly guard this spiritual farm, and don't let anyone destroy it, understand?"

Fang Yuan stroked the Iron-tailed Black Eagle's head, as though it was instructing it.

After trying it out for itself, it would surely pay more attention to guard the spiritual farm.

Looking up, he realised that it was noon.

Fang Yuan stopped farming and cooked a full pot of Vermilion Jade Rice. He also instructed the Iron-tailed Black Eagle to catch two fresh fishes and smoked them for lunch.

The water quality in the spiritual land was rather good, and the fishes that came from it were fat and fresh. By using smoke to remove the fish's stench, the fish meat became crispy on the outside and soft on the inside. As he tore the fish, the meat and bone separated easily, and it was simply delicious. It was the perfect lunch.

"Chirp! Chirp!"

Fang Yuan was enjoying his lunch, while the Iron-tailed Black Eagle was flapping its wings in unsatisfaction, as though it deserved more.

After trying the Flame Jade Rice, it was used to it and eating the Vermilion Jade Rice was a torture for it.

"Haha..."

Seeing how human-like the Black Eagle was, Fang Yuan laughed uncontrollably.

After a full meal, Fang Yuan returned to the spiritual farm and started to plan. "Following which, I will have to focus on the Flame Jade Rice! The Black Jade Rice, Green Striped Rice are just new flavours, while the Bone Quenching Flower and Three Star Fruit are not as useful. Maybe I can pass some to my servants for them to start growing them as well. Of course, the most important are still the Sickly Grass and Serrated Flower!"

Fang Yuan had high hopes for these two aggressive spiritual plants. He specially instructed the Iron-tailed Black Eagle to hunt for some wild animals and started to prepare the blood for these plants.

"Other spiritual plants thrive with spiritual water and spiritual fertilizer, but these two spiritual plants do not have requirements as for what type of soil, instead they need to be blood-fed and fertilized with flesh and bones..."

Fang Yuan specially chose a location far from the original spiritual farm and opened up a narrow but long plantation.

This was not only in consideration of the original spiritual farm but also for the growth of these two spiritual plants.

"After all, these spiritual plants are predators, and therefore they should have a larger area to themselves so that they can experience hunting for prey by themselves. That would also save me a lot of trouble!"

There were quite a number of wild animals in this spiritual land and it was sufficient for the growth of these two spiritual plants.

"Whoosh!"

Fang Yuan stirred a wooden bucket and used a gourd to scoop out a serving of blood. He watered it on the gourd, and the spiritual farm became a 'blood farm'. After which, he slowly planted the seeds one by one.

"Since I am using flesh as the fertilizer, they definitely will grow to become ferocious monsters!"

He had a strong feeling that with the increased chances of the special traits evolving that came with his [Botany (Level 4)], this farm would bring him a lot of surprises.

Chapter 106: The Sweep

Fang Yuan sat cross-legged inside the meditation room, holding the jade manual passed to him by the dream master. He had a serious expression on his face.

"The path to become a spiritual knight is made up of only a huge single step! However, spiritual disciples, alchemy disciples and dream disciples are only comparable to Earth Gate martial artists, harnessing only miniature elemental force... Only by breaking through would they obtain elemental force!"

Although he was a dream disciple and held just the basics of elemental force, along with the dream master's consistent and accumulative training, his martial prowess had improved tremendously, considering he was not even a competent fighter at the start.

Comparing with the blood killer who was at a similar level as a spiritual disciple, he originally bragged that he had already mastered blood elemental force, but it turned out that he was just trying to impress others. If he had really mastered blood elemental force, he would have killed Fang Yuan instantly within the first move.

Even so, the blood killer's blood elemental force was still very powerful and lethal. The incident affected Fang Yuan tremendously.

As for now, Fang Yuan was extremely determined to become a dream master to fully control and master elemental force.

"To become a dream master, I have to be true to myself. I am only able to truly master elemental force when I am able to be the master of my own imaginary world!"

"If I had all these powers, fighting the Spirit Returning Sect would be a piece of cake."

Fang Yuan breathed in deeply and began meditating. He allowed his soul to wander into a faraway and unknown realm as he shut his eyes.

...

World of Qianyuan, Mainland Tianyuan.

"Oh...It's still this place again!"

During the appearance earlier, Fang Yuan regained his soul and he could tell that he was in the imaginary world.

"To be a dream master, I need to be in complete control of this world of my imagination. For now, I have only accomplished half of it..."

Fang Yuan looked at both of his hands and activated all his senses.

Feeling an abundance of magical energy and a tingling sense of connection with the heaven and earth, Fang Yuan knew then that his skills had improved again.

Sadly, everything that happened in this imaginary world did not reflect reality.

"Disperse!"

With this thought, the original immense power he felt disappeared instantly as he returned to his original self.

As he recounted the internal messages from the real world, every nerve in his system and his internal strength rose within his body. The energies within him activated and created a storm within his body, momentarily creating a semblance of a miniature elemental energy formed by the merging of the yin and yang forces.

After a moment, the heavenly gate opened, and Fang Yuan immediately became a full level 12 martial arts expert.

"Eagle Claw Technique!"

Fang Yuan shut his eyes and his right hand thrust forward.

"Slash!"

In the direction which Fang Yuan shot out his hand, trees in the pathway of his technique split from the centre. The cuts where the trees split open were as smooth as the surface of a mirror. Fang Yuan's power was greater than in the real world!

However, Fang Yuan was not satisfied, "It's too unrealistic!"

The combat power of a dream master is relatively weak at the beginning. After becoming a dream master, the ultimate goal was to achieve the Prominent Divine Stage!

Prominent Divine Stage?

One's Mind could affect matter and consciousness could affect reality!

Only the dream masters who were capable of actualising objects from the dream world into the real world were worthy to rule, and they can do anything!

Of course, the path to the Prominent Divine Stage was extremely difficult. It was never easy to create objects from nothing!

Therefore, the first thing a dream master had to master would be the laws of reality. A shortcut could be created if a dream world could be moulded to obey and mimic the real world!

Nonetheless, at his current stage, Fang Yuan was far from being able to do such a thing.

After all, he was still unfamiliar with the laws of reality, and needed to accumulate experience.

Even his body's physical composition of meridians in his dream world was still far from his actual body's composition.

"How could I even think of trying to elucidate further grades of the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique with such a weak foundation?"

Fang Yuan shook his head in frustration.

The inability to allow his body in the imaginary world to completely merge and combine with the one in the real world indicated a problem for Fang Yuan. It meant that whatever he could master in this world could not be brought over into the real world as it would likely cause very detrimental effects that could cause a gruesome death should he attempt to do so.

"It seems like... the merging of martial arts powers from the imaginary world to the real world is still very much a work in progress! Is it possible that brute strength is the only way to achieve this?"

As he was deep in thought, several immensely powerful spiritual wills swept by in terror.

"It's that demon!"

"The Apocalyptic Demon is here!"

"Run! Hurry!"

Within several kilometres of Fang Yuan, immortal cultivators were in complete chaos as panic gripped the area. It seemed as though a catastrophe was about to hit.

"Am I that terrifying?"

Fang Yuan caressed his face, feeling slightly troubled.

All he did was to completely wipe out Green Cloud Sect. He could not believe that doing so would give him such a horrific reputation.

However, from the perspectives of these immortal cultivators, Fang Yuan did not just wipe out a major sect. He even took down the most powerful immortal elders of the sect and killed them. This gave him his ferocious and brutal reputation!

"All of these developed from my cluttered thoughts and will continue to evolve by itself..."

Seeing this, Fang Yuan felt deeply relieved.

To take control of the entire imaginary world was in fact his own personal aim. He was not willing to make any compromise to achieve this aim.

He smiled himself and walked forward, paying no attention to the chaos around him.

"Bang!"

Suddenly, the scene in front of him changed.

The original mountainous environment now became masked by a thick fog. This drastic change now seemed to contain several other small imaginary worlds.

As these arrays became suppressed, Fang Yuan was also planted back at his original location.

"Hmm...Just because you guys are able to find this array, do you really think it can stop me?"

Fang Yuan smiled flippantly as his line of sight pierced through the array, looking at the several immortal behind it.

"This time, to take you down, the Tribulation Stage grandmasters from Heaven's Element, Earth's Branches, East's Victory and South's Departure have all came together. The grandmasters from the higher realm have also spared no effort to make their way here, and brought with them the precious and rare Delicate Xuan Huang Array. This array can split the heaven and earth and is considered a rare treasure. It is blessed by the Xuan Huan energy, and can take you down regardless if you are formidable demon from other realms!"

These immensely confident voices rang out continuously from outside the array.

"An extremely powerful gem you say?"

Fang Yuan scoffed and stepped forward suddenly.

"Bang!"

The array changed instantly. Huge bolts of lightning flashed out on the ground and struck out in all directions. All the little imaginary worlds unexpectedly disappeared into little pockets of forces, coalescing as they sped towards Fang Yuan.

Under such an array, it would be extremely difficult for even an immortal cultivator from the higher realms to survive through this!

"I said...I demand light!"

Fang Yuan's thunderous voice shook the imaginary world he was in.

"Shoo!"

Just as he shouted, a ray of light really appeared.

This ray of light was not very bright, but it burned. It was like the first ray of light in a world of eternal darkness. It was unbelievably penetrating and sweeping.

"Snap! Snap!"

Wherever the light passed through, it showed complete devastation and ruin. Even though one sought to completely extinguish all the vile and pernicious forces in this world, they could only slowly melt away under this light.

"Bang!"

After a series of explosions, a huge hole emerged. Through it, one could barely see the blue skies and fluffy white clouds of the imaginary world.

"Impossible!"

The immortals from the upper realms who came to fight off Fang Yuan shouted out in shock and disbelief.

"The most powerful weapon? It has no effect on me!"

Fang Yuan sighed and stretched out both his arms in front of him. Instantly, all the rays of light coalesced on his arms. All the flying rubble caused by the Delicate Xuan Huang Array merged into a crystal luopan and landed on his palm.

As the fog dispersed, it revealed the unfamiliar surroundings as well as the elders and from the upper realms who came to fight Fang Yuan. All of them had the look of utter disbelief and shock.

"How is this possible?"

"This was the most precious and powerful weapon in the world, how did it get defeated and destroyed so easily? It was indestructible!"

"The gem that had suppressed by powers is lost. Could this be god's will?"

...

The immortals looked on in horror and uncertainty at Fang Yuan.

"Enough!"

Fang Yuan shouted coldly. This brought about a deathly silence.

"How dare you come down to this realm out of your own accords? Prepare to face the consequences!"

Fang Yuan narrowed his eyes and glared at a few elders who were obviously guilty of this crime and said, "All of you are guilty, accept your punishment!"

"Heavenly Punishment?"

A few immortals were taken aback. At the same time, a panel of white jade door opened above their heads. When it opened, several bolts of lightning flashed out and struck them.

"Is this... The tribulation to become a deity? Didn't we live through that 42,000 years ago? Why is it starting again?"

One immortal pulled out his moustache in disbelief.

"Do not panic, it might be an illusion to trick us into a trap!"

"Snap! Snap!"

These highly experienced and skilled immortals were also very tenacious. After being calming down, many began taking out their immortal weapons and starting probing.

Almost immediately, a frightening flash of magical lightning struck down and hit a shiny immortal sword.

With a sickening noise, the sword was cracked from the middle.

Its owner who was spiritually connected to the weapon lost the colour from his face and spat out a mouthful of slightly purplish blood, saying, "Not good! It's real!"

"You people could enjoy your freedom after you became immortals. Why suffer the heavenly tribulation?"

Rays of lightning flashed in all directions and the ground trembled. Amidst this complete catastrophe, a few immortals were forced to desperation and executed their most powerful techniques in an attempt to resist.

This was not like a virus. One could not gain immunity just by getting hit once.

Just like a knife wound, it was not possible that just because a victim had a scar from a knife attack meant that he was no longer afraid of getting attacked by a knife again.

Specifically talking about this heavenly tribulation, this was the most feared and horrifying punishment of all. Even the immortals feared this.

"This demon...could even manipulate the heavens!"

"This demon is undefeatable and could even manipulate the heavens...This is either a major catastrophe or an apocalypse!"

Seeing the rest of the immortals suffer and perish in the chaos, the veterans from the previous disaster they suffered 42,000 years ago looked on in submission to their fate.

"The immortal world is the immortal world and the normal world is the normal world. We have already put in so much effort and work and reached this level, why must we still control the events in the world we left behind?"

Fang Yuan looked on as the last bolt of lightning struck down on an immortal which caused him to break into a fit of hysteria. Fang Yuan grumbled silently, disappointed that the rules of this world and the universe were the constructs of his own thinking.

"Okay, now that the external people are gone, it's time to deal with the situation here!"

As Fang Yuan looked at the suffering immortals, he broke into a smile. This made him look all the more menacing to them.

[Carefree Path of Dreams](#)

Chapter 107: Control

"What do you want, demon?"

An immortal cultivator in the Tribulation Stage stood out, as though he had a great sense of justice.

"You're noisy!"

Fang Yuan took a glance and flicked his fingers.

"Snap!"

The next moment shocked many grandmasters who were in the Tribulation Stage. The immortal cultivator's cultivation was slowly stripped off, from the Tribulation Stage to Magic-fusing, then Magic-melting, then Magic-splitting, then Elemental Infant Stage....and then finally, he had nothing left of his cultivation and was back to a normal person.

"You....."

An Immortal Cultivator who had made a breakthrough could originally extend his lifespan.

However, since his cultivation was stripped off, the previously middle-aged looking immortal cultivator had transformed into a white-haired old man with full of wrinkles.

He stretched his thin fingers as though they were chicken claws. Before he could say a word, he fainted and was no longer breathing. He had died of old age!

"So? Does anyone have anything to say?"

Fang Yuan squinted his eyes as he spoke, and no one dared to say a word.

With a wealth of experience, they all knew the theory of surrendering and admitting defeat. They all knelt down and asked, "What orders you have for us, senior?"

"Senior?"

Fang Yuan laughed and thought in his heart, "What a sudden change in tone. Is this how my consciousness is?"

"Forget it!"

"He waved his hands and added, "From today onwards, whatever belongs to the mortal world will remain in the mortal world, and whatever belongs to the immortal world will remain in the immortal world, this is to.....separate heaven and earth!"

Everything Fang Yuan said was absolute and was to be abided.

Just as he had spoken finish, the heaven and earth shook, as though something was changing.

"The immortal world.....has been separated!"

Some of the grandmasters in the Tribulation Stage closed their eyes, while some of them took out their jades. They stared at it, speechless.

They had no intention of rebelling against Fang Yuan, who was able to change the world with just his words.

"From today onwards, I will be the greatest leader in the world of Qianyuan, the ruler of everyone. Those who follow me will prosper and those who go against me will perish!"

Fang Yuan's voice was apathetic. He looked at the immortal cultivators who were bowing down to him, but his heart did not waver a single bit.

As of this point, he was the ruler of the whole of Qianyuan.

So what if he was the ruler of this world? It was just a dream and he was not capable of controlling the dream world yet.

"One can only control a world when one has reached the peak of his abilities. I am still a distance away from that level!"

Similarly, an emperor in the real world seemed to have the control of a country, but compare this to the entire world and it would become negligible!

At least, an emperor couldn't affect nature and will be clueless about whether there would be flood, drought or famine.

Fang Yuan's had more control than an emperor in the real world. He could be considered a deity, but he was still a distance away from having full control over this dream world.

"What happens after the separation of heaven and earth?"

He thought about it before disappeared in front of the group of grandmasters, leaving them in shock.

....

Time passed like flowing water.

Unknowingly, 100 years had passed.

After the separation of heaven and earth, the immortal world was sealed. Grandmasters in the Tribulation Stage who had managed to survive the 9 Tribulations would no longer be able to access the immortal world.

In the beginning, the entire cultivation world was in desolation. Many immortal cultivators were left in despair and walked the path of evil.

100 years later, as the evil immortal cultivators were being ganged up upon and killed off, a new generation of immortal cultivators was born. The world started to settle down.

Many grandmasters in the Tribulation Stage had tried to escape into the immortal world, but all had failed to do so. After losing faith, they decided to spend their lives discovering the secrets of longevity.

An increasing number of immortal cultivators from the new generation started to believe that there were no immortals in this world to begin with and that the most powerful beings were the grandmasters in the Tribulation Stage.

Without external influences from the immortal world, the isolated cultivation world began to develop.

Although Fang Yuan had declared himself as the greatest leader of this world, he had kept a low profile ever since, and lived in seclusion. Hence, everything from destroying the demon to separating heaven and earth slowly became a myth.

"Hmm..... my current body in the dream world is very real. There are no differences, at least visually....."

Fang Yuan was living within the depths of the forested mountains. He examined his Dantian, full of satisfaction.

In this dream world, treasures and magical weapons were all but illusions. Martial art techniques were all just a kid's play.

The only useful thing in this world was the environment of the dream world, which he could use to perfect his martial arts.

At least, in this 100 years, Fang Yuan became extremely familiar with the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique. He had also read through the Spirit Returning Heart Manual and Xuan Yin Heart Technique Manual many times and was very familiar with the both of them, and might even be more well-versed than both Shi Yutong and the sect head of the Five Ghosts Sect now.

Once he was back in the real world, he could be comparable to a sect head.

"Even though I have spent so many years, it is still only 99% similar! The one last percentage of difference would make the outcome a lot different in the real world!"

Fang Yuan sighed silently.

With the combination of the two manuals he had read, he had a much clearer idea on how to progress on the pathway to Wu Zong with the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique. He had also made a few successful 'breakthroughs' in this dream world.

However, to have a successful breakthrough in the real world, he would still have to test it out slowly in the real world. It would still be insufficient to just think about it in the dream world.

"This.....I would need a test subject....."

Fang Yuan gave a cold look and suddenly lifted his head. "Hmm? Is this....."

His current level in this world was at the peak. By simply staring into space, he arrived at an immortal cultivators' cave.

"Haha....I have succeeded! I have succeeded!"

An immortal cultivator in the Golden Pill Stage with messy-looking hair stared at a clumsy machine, which was spinning. His eyes then glittered. "This spiritual turbine can work without the help of the Immortal Cultivators and function on crude oil. Even mortals can use it to create spiritual force.the vision of my ancestors is about to come true!"

The number of immortal cultivators in the world of Qianyuan was still much lesser than the number of mortal people.

In any world, there would always be only a small population of immortals. Otherwise there would be insufficient resources to go around.

However, with the presence of the spiritual turbine machine, the entire world had changed.

"Hmm? After the separation of heaven and earth, my fruit of labour is finally shown here. Is the world finally changing?"

Fang Yuan's eyes glittered.

Even though he had become the most powerful immortal, he still couldn't fully control the world, and instead, had some daring thoughts of his own.

For instance, he could control and set this world onto a different path.

After all, he was the ruler of this world! No one could say anything if he wanted to destroy the world!

He had free will to do whatever he wanted to and had executed the separation of heaven and earth. Finally, he saw the prelude to the era of post-immortal cultivators.

"Here we go....."

He sighed and slowly waved his hands. The heavens shook and a resolute change began to form.

.....

"Spiritual energy! The spiritual energy is decreasing!"

"In recent years, the number of immortal cultivators has been decreasing, and it is even harder to find children who are spiritually inclined among the population...."

"Sigh, I was from the south of the cultivation world. There are already 18 small sects which are unable to find any successors, driving them to extinction. I cannot find words to describe the situation....."

"I have heard that in the mortal world, the revolution of the spiritual turbine had the potential to completely replace the immortal cultivators, by being able to create spiritual force, and power talismans and magical weapons.....It is extremely simple to operate.....Is this the trend of the future?"

Even though immortal cultivators were known to be stubborn, some of them understood and realised the trend in the world and started to make discreet changes in order to continue thriving.

On the other hand, there were many high-levelled immortal cultivators who had no further progress in their cultivation and were at risk of losing their cultivation level. Some even went crazy looking for the demon who destroyed their world, which was Fang Yuan.

From their instincts, they guessed that the decrease in the amount of spiritual energy was linked to the demon that had separated heaven and earth.

Of course, Fang Yuan was too lazy to deal with them.

...

History kept unfolding itself.

The drainage of spiritual energy started to slow down and maintained at a steady level after many high-levelled immortal cultivators died.

Not many young immortal cultivators in this world who could absorb the energy into their bodies. Those in the Golden Pill Stage and the Elemental Infant Stage were already considered the most powerful, and the Magic-melting and the Tribulation Stage had already become a myth.

The only good news was that with the decrease in the lifespan of the immortal cultivators, the destruction due to karma was getting smaller and everything settled down.

With this, the mortals were able to utilise the spiritual turbine machine to obtain energy comparable to that once harnessed by the immortal cultivators. Slowly, they used it as their bargaining chip to make requests.

The immortal cultivators, who were so used to being superior for a long time surely would not entertain to such requests. With this, an impending war broke out between the two sides.

The outcome was expected. The small population of the immortal cultivators was easily overwhelmed by the bigger population of mortals. Since then, the remaining immortal cultivators went into hiding in the woods, and the new era of mortals thus began.

Many new countries were born spreading across the 4 big continents. The improved mindsets and productivity levels further pushed the modern world to greater heights.

.....

The Year 389 of the New Calendar

In the capital of the Star Country, Heaven's Element.

The tar roads were designed in intersecting parallels. Beside the roads were a few big and tall cemented buildings. A giant screen was playing an advertisement of a middle-aged man making a speech. He was a candidate for the mayor election and he was gathering votes.

"Rumble!"

Many flying cars flew by, floating above the roads like blood flowing in arteries. They were emitting white smoke from their exhausts.

Beside the road, there was a cafe.

Fang Yuan wore spectacles and was scrolling through his smartphone.

"It has already been 300 hundred years.....I cannot believe that from my subtle hints, the whole world has undergone major technological advancements. This is vaguely similar to the weird dream I had previously....."

"Immortal cultivators are now a myth. Those who occasionally appeared would only be regarded as fortunate ones with special abilities, and would be subjects of interests to experiment on..."

"With a wave of my hand, this world is under my control!"

Fang Yuan laughed lightly and snapped his fingers.

"Kacha!"

At that moment, the whole world had come to a strange stop, as if time had stopped running.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 108: Dream Master

"The essence of a dream master is to have full control over one's dream world, and subsequently rule it!"

"A dream which lasted a thousand years. I have finally attained such a level!"

Fang Yuan sighed.

Since he broke through Heaven Gate and increased his magical energy, he had a strong feeling that he could use this hidden ability in conjunction with his cultivation to become a dream master, and could, therefore, make tremendous progress.

Indeed, by taking advantage of the Spirit Returning Sect's pressure, he was desperate and made it!

"Shatter!"

He breathed out lightly, and the entire dream world shook.

"Kacha! Kacha!"

Cracks began to form all around, like a mirror cracking. Pieces shattered and fell towards the ground, as the cracks spread throughout the world in the speed of light.

"Rumble!"

In the blink of an eye, the entire dream world disintegrated into powder. Even the connecting Immortal World, Hell, the mighty Yama, and the daoist grandmasters were not spared. In shock, they disintegrated together with the world.

"I am the Light! I am the beginning! I am everything!"

Fang Yuan stood in the middle of emptiness, full of emotions.

The feeling of being a creator was one that was extremely overwhelming; it was the ultimate goal for most of the cultivators.

If a dream master remains trapped in a dream world and forgot to return to the real world, his physical body in the real world would die, and this was the danger of being a dream master.

"My dream world, I am the creator!"

Just by thinking, an entirely new Qianyuan world began to form, and after a few upgrades, it was entirely the same as the previous world.

"There is an entire world in a flower, an entire Heaven in a blade of grass. Alas, a dream is everything!"

Fang Yuan shook his head, and his surroundings changed once again.

The Green Peak spiritual land appeared, followed by Qingye City, Qinghe County, Secluded Mountain Prefecture.

A world similar to reality appeared in front of him.

"Brother Fang, it was all Leiyue's fault!"

"Master! Ready to receive your orders!"

Surrounding him was a number of feminine ladies. There were Lin Leiyue, Zhou Wenxin and the other ladies who were once related to him before, albeit in some way or another. All of them looked pitiful.

"Good day to you, Master!"

Around 10 Wu Zongs and spiritual knights knelt on the floor and became as lowly as dogs.

"Oh?"

Seeing this scene, Fang Yuan stroked his chin and found it interesting. "The details in my subconscious mind are appearing again?"

Even though he had full control of his dream world, it was still fluid.

A person's mind was complex enough, not to mention one's subconscious mind.

Even the calm water in a well might become waves of tsunamis the next moment.

Therefore, even if one was enlightened, anything could still happen and one might lose his enlightenment.

"Once control is lost, the cultivation level of the dream master would drop... In the path of cultivation, there is another huge obstacle to overcome, and that is attaining 'Steadiness'. To be steady and be unwavering, to be wise and not use the wisdom, have values and be independent, and from there make the dream world a stable one, so that one would not accidentally stray from the path of dao..."

Fang Yuan shook his head, and a clear glow appeared from his body.

All the ladies and servants who were shone at by the clear glow disintegrated into dust, with Fang Yuan the only one standing.

"Phew..."

He opened his mouth and released a white flash like an arrow; it shot out a few feet.

"Eagle Claw!"

Fang Yuan's hands became claws, and move by move he practised.

Regardless of technique or strength, it was similar to that of the real world already.

"Chirp! Chirp!"

Accompanying the movement of his joints, his breathing and the movement of his fingers, a distinct and loud chirping came from his body, as though his entire physical body was a large eagle.

"Good, now that the body in my dream world is 99.9% as that in the real world! The last 0.1% is the limits we have in the real world, and unless I have a good grasp of the limits of the real world, my training would be useless..."

"This level of reality has already allowed me to try out and make some predictions to my breakthrough. The last three types of tryouts would have to be done in the real world already!"

Fang Yuan shook his head as he felt the fear of a dream master.

It was all about accumulating. In the beginning, a dream master would have insignificant combat powers but could use his abilities to assist himself and even deduce out techniques, which was the unique advantage of a dream master.

"Just plain old technique deduction, and is still much more efficient as compared to when I was a dream disciple... I have understood what it is to be a dream master!"

Fang Yuan remained quiet.

...

Reality.

Green Peak spiritual land, in the straw pavilion.

Fang Yuan opened his eyes, and his face shone. "Only I will know who will awaken first... A thousand years in the dream but not even 5 days in the real world..."

He chose to enter a closed-door cultivation here due to the level of safety and privacy available, but more importantly, he had someone to protect him!

He had earlier informed the Iron-tailed Black Eagle to knock at the door rapidly if he had been in confinement for too long, in case he got too engrossed in his dream and forgot about the time.

"Of course... the few hundred years in the Qianyuan world is nothing... It is just a thought that developed!"

Fang Yuan recalled the wonderful feeling that he once had, and thought hard about it.

Everyone would mature if they had to experience a thousand years. However, he spent a hundred of those years living in seclusion, and even detached himself from the world like a god, influencing the changes in the world. Therefore he only spent a fraction of all that time experiencing the world.

After all, anything could happen in the dream world.

"If I were to think about the time ratio, one day would be equivalent to a few years in the dream world. Although it might be a long time, it has yet to reach its limits..."

Fang Yuan shook his head and started to worry about his own evolution.

There was an entirely new force within his mind palace which replaced his previous miniature elemental force. It was like a dragon in hiding, albeit resting, and its aura was shocking.

Elemental force!

True elemental force!

"Have I gained complete control of my dream world, became the owner of the world and entered the world of a dream master?"

These changes were under Fang Yuan's predictions, and he took a glance at his stats window:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Essence: 8.0

Spirit: 7.9

Magic: 8.5

Profession: Dream Master

Cultivation: [Martial Artist (12th Gate)], [Dream Master (1st Tier) (Fused Elemental Force)]

Technique: [Black Sand Palm (Grade 5)], [Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique (Grade 12) (Limit)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 4)]"

"My [Magic] points have increased by '3'? And I don't feel uncomfortable about it, it seems that my body has adapted to it already..."

Fang Yuan nodded his head, and looked at the description for 'Dream Master':

"Dream Master - You rule the dream world, you are a traveller between dream and reality, and a nightmare for all your enemies! You can control you dream world at will, and you are everything in your dream world!"

"The description is rather simple... In reality, the first part of my inheritance ends at becoming a dream master, and I have no idea what's coming up next..."

Fang Yuan touched his chin but did not feel disheartened.

After all, Master Wenxin's inheritance was there to stay. Since he became a dream master, he would be entitled to one part of it.

"Forget about the rest, the most important is learning the usage of dream elemental force... It would be useless if I could only use them in my dream world..."

"As well as martial arts... After becoming a dream master, my body feels increasingly real, and the three types of breakthrough seemed likely. With my magical energy, I can surely attain the Wu Zong level. Once I can prove that I am able to, then I will break through anytime!"

As he thought about it, he opened the door.

"Chirp! Chirp!"

The Iron-tailed Black Eagle saw him walked out, and chirped in joy.

"It's tough on you, good job!"

Fang Yuan stroked its head, and eagerly headed to the cave in the middle of the mountains.

"Chirp!!!"

The shrivelled red-eyed white bird which was originally lying on the floor immediately lifted its head, and in anxiety, all its feathers stood on its ends.

It was the same evil human who was back, but it could feel a whole lot of difference in him. It was an astonishing transformation.

"Teacher!"

He felt different as he entered the cave with his inheritance.

The Questioning Heart Path did not have any visible effect on Fang Yuan.

The dream elemental force in his Mind Palace shook, and the hypnotizing effect that once made him sleepy dissipated. He arrived at the crystal door.

Previously, Fang Yuan tried all methods but could not get the door to open.

However, this time, as both hands came in contact with the door, Fang Yuan felt an entirely different feeling.

A gush of dream elemental force flowed from his forehead, through his hands and into the crystal door.

"Whoosh!"

After exerting his dream elemental force, the crystal door spun with a bright and colourful light, as though there was water flowing through it from inside. Suddenly, it was as though it melted, and the door slowly disappeared.

The huge obstacle for him previously just disappeared like that!

Behind the crystal door was another tunnel.

At the end of the tunnel, it was a purple crystal wall, and on top of it sat a pearl the size of a dragon's eye.

"The second inheritance?!"

Fang Yuan was filled with emotions. He took out the piece of jade which he previously took, and placed it on the Purple Dragon Eye.

"Wung! Wung!"

A flash of light appeared and shot right into the emerald jade.

It happened in the blink of an eye, and shortly after, the Purple Dragon Eye lost all its brightness and became an ordinary looking marble; the original piece of emerald jade now had streaks of purple in it.

"This method of saving information is too eerie..."

Fang Yuan sighed and used his magical energy on the jade.

"Rumble!"

On the back side of the original inheritance, there was a new paragraph of text; it was the method of cultivation for a dream master.

After reading through it carefully, Fang Yuan became shocked.

"It is indeed the path of a dream master because after accumulation, my power will increase exponentially... But the only thing lacking is Master's message... It seems that everything is in the last piece of inheritance?"

Fang Yuan looked at the purple crystal gate and sighed a deep breath.

He knew that at his level, he was unable to open the door to get the last piece of inheritance.

"This piece of inheritance included the details of the cultivation process from the beginning of a dream master all the way to the Prominent Divine Stage, and is enough for my cultivation..."

Fang Yuan was extremely satisfied. Only his Master, whom he lived with all his life would help him so much. If it was another person, they wouldn't teach him everything so smoothly and would make things difficult for him.

Carefree Path of Dreams

Chapter 109: Into the Dream World

"A dream master is the master of his own dreams! If the dream master wants to improve further, he will have to involve himself in other people's dreams.....Such an involvement is highly risky and it is easier to succeed by targeting a person who is less spiritually intelligent to train with..."

As he recalled the description in the inheritance, Fang Yuan became serious.

The dream masters who were able to access other people's dreams were known as 'dream-accessing masters'. The next step would allow the dream master to alter other people's dream, and would be known as 'dream-building masters'!

These two stages were the basic stages of a dream master.

After all these, it would be cultivating to attain Prominent Divine Stage: to understand the rules of reality and assimilate them into the dream, transforming things from the dream world into reality.

In conclusion, the more similar the dream world was to reality, the more similar the rate of time flow would be.

"Only when a dream world is similar to reality can a dream master start to actualise objects.....If I want to achieve the standard that my master has achieved, I will need a longer time to do that....."

Master Wenxin achieved not just the Illusionary Divine Stage, but could also build his own world and form spiritual land as well.

Fang Yuan could not imagine the complexities of such an achievement.

"The risks of accessing someone else's dream is way more dangerous than entering my own....If I was to get injured or killed, it would damage my magical energy and even my body in reality....."

Fang Yuan walked out, stared at the Red-eyed White King Bird, and was lost in his thoughts.

.....

"Chirp!"

One of the eggs broke. A chick with a few feathers and red coloured skin emerged.

It opened its little eyes and was feeling hungry.

With an immense amount of energy, it instinctively pecked and ate its own eggshell, while keeping a lookout at the other chicks.

Some of the young birds were much stronger. After coming out of their shells first and finish consuming their eggshells, they laid their eyes on the other chicks.

In the cruel fight for survival, being blood-related did little to deter them from fighting for their lives.

The chicks quickly fed on their own eggshells and shrieked loudly. They seemed unwilling to share their portions with the rest.

"Whoo! Whoo!"

Just as a few chicks were squeezing and on the brink of fighting, a big gust of wind blew and a giant bird suddenly appeared above the nest.

The giant bird's feathers were pure white and the bird's eyes were bloodshot. There were also a few golden feathers on the tip of its head, resembling a crown.

"Pa!"

After it landed on the nest, its metallic black sharp claws opened, dropping a piece of deer meat in front of the chicks.

'A deer? Why do I find it familiar?'

This thought went through the mind of a chick but disappeared as it was distracted by the piece of meat.

It was so fragrant!

As they were hungry for food, the eyes of the young birds were all bloodshot.

"Chirp! Chirp!"

"Chirp! Chirp!"

The chick hobbled forward with the other birds and started to feed on the blood that was dripping from the meat.

"Chirp! Chirp!"

The Golden Crown King Bird let out a loud chirp. Using its claws and beak, it tore the meat into smaller strips, making it easier for the young birds to consume them.

Although they were beasts, they had already displayed signs of being special. Even though they were only at the stage of infancy, they had no problem digesting the raw meat.

"It's great to fill full....."

Another thought went through the mind of the chick.

After which, the energy it had was used to digest the meat, leaving the chick tired as it dozed off.....

.....

In a blink of an eye, many years had passed.

In the sky above a piece of spiritual land, the chicks had grown bigger and they were spreading their wings and flying across the big blue sky.

The Golden Crown King Bird would wait till all the chicks had fully matured before bringing them to the cliff. At the cliff, the Golden Crown King Bird would push them down one by one!

Those spiritual birds which had not mastered the ability to fly would fall to their deaths!

Under the fear and pressure of death, many spiritual birds would awaken and be able to flap their wings to bring themselves up.

Once they were able to fly, they were considered mature and they could start to hunt on their own.

The father of the young birds, which was the giant bird, would violently chase all the young birds out of the nest.

Every day, the young bird which had just reached the adult stage would have to endure through hunger and spend a lot of effort to hunt for its own food. It would also have to build its own nest to attract female birds in future.

Being pressured to survive and reproduce, the young bird quickly became the best hunter among their kind. It was able to hunt more preys than any other normal white birds and was larger in size, only inferior to the king bird.

However, there were many instances where the young white bird would still be confused.

Especially when it had gotten used to flying, but still didn't know what its hands were used for.

'A pair of hands.....this is a new term!'

Such thoughts which appeared many times in the young bird's mind had taught it how to think. This made it more spiritual than the other birds.

At this point in time, it had thoughts of challenging for the position of the king bird.

Only at the highest position would it be able to enjoy the greatest amount of power in the whole population. This was every white bird's dream!

The current king bird was the Golden Crown King Bird.

"Wait a minute....to overthrow the throne? Why must I do that?"

The young bird was a little confused as that thought came to its mind.

"Who am I, where am I from and where am I going.....Am I really a bird now? No! No! I have a name.....my name is..."

In the sky, the young bird was in a trance and started to fall down quickly.

"I remember!"

"I remember!"

I am a white bird.....no! I have seen this type of bird somewhere!"

"I'm not a white bird. I'm Fang Yuan!!!"

"I am.....in the dream of the Red-eyed White King Bird!!!"

...

Many confused thoughts then went through its mind like a massive flood, and he remained helpless as he became overwhelmed.

"I have actually....became a bird?!"

While he was falling down from the sky, Fang Yuan didn't know to laugh or cry.

He no longer had the ability to make his bird body fly again.

"After all....this is not my dream.....and there would be a backlash as consequence....That was close!!!"

He still feared to know that he had become a bird. "Luckily, I am able to become self-aware, and this means that I have gotten the hang of it. I would be able to gain self-awareness quicker in future.....but I don't want to die in a bloodied mess now!"

Fang Yuan let out a loud cry and the bird let out a loud chirp. With much effort, he managed to spread his wings and fly again.

"That was close!"

He exhaled a long breath and said, "This is not my own dream. If I were to get killed here, there would surely be a backlash!"

"Kacha!"

Immediately after, he heaved a sigh of relief.

A loud thunder rumbled from above and lightning struck down. The mid-air shattered and a fearful giant hand emerged from nowhere.

The giant hand's target was very clear. It went straight at the cliff and nobody could escape from it!

"Damn.....if I had my cultivation....."

Looking at the giant fingers, Fang Yuan felt like an ant. As his mind was whirling, his mind blacked out.

.....

Green peak spiritual land.

Back in the nest of the Red-eyed White King Bird.

Fang Yuan took a few steps back and opened his eyes. Two streams of blood flowed down from his nostrils.

"This is.....the backlash from the dream world!"

He wiped away the blood and looked at the confused Red-eyed White King Bird. He then gave a wry grin.

He tried out the dream-accessing method in an attempt to communicate with the Red-eyed White King Bird, but faced with an emphatic defeat!

Even though the bird was a semi-smart spiritual beast, the resistance in its dream world was powerful. Its consciousness had combined with Fang Yuan's, making Fang Yuan incarnate into a Red-eyed White Bird and making his mysterious dream a scary one.

Luckily, Fang Yuan was a dream master and was able to wake up after a few hints. Otherwise, he would have remained trapped in that dream world.

Even so, after gaining self-awareness, the consciousness of the Red-eyed White King Bird immediately took countermeasures against him.

"The giant hand that was covering the whole sky..... That should be the scariest thing in that dream world. It appeared in that world to deal with me specifically....."

Fang Yuan touched his chin and was in deep thoughts.

Even though the things in that world was fake, it was still very real in the subconscious mind. Since the Red-eyed White King Bird feared the giant hand the most, it would naturally have an impression of it in its dream.

This was the strength of a dream master. In the dream world, adversaries would unknowingly reveal valuable information.

"However.....the risks are nonetheless high..."

Recalling the dangerous situation that he had just experienced in the dream world, Fang Yuan was still afraid.

"If not for the retaliation from the bird's subconscious mind, and that I became aware of the dream, this failure might severely harm my divine spirit. It would not be as simple as using up a large portion of my dream elemental force and experiencing a little bleeding..."

"Chirp! Chirp!"

The Red-eyed White King Bird stared at Fang Yuan and was a little confused. It didn't know what Fang Yuan had just experienced.

Unknowingly, it had a strange feeling towards Fang Yuan. It was as though he was kind but evil at the same time, and had a phobia of him.

"However.....this is the correct method. In future, I will be much more familiar with the method of execution. Compared to the complicated human beings and even more complex dream masters, this is considered an easy task already!"

Fang Yuan sat down and his dream elemental force was flowing slowly in his body. His throbbing headache slowly dissipated.

"Now, the subconscious mind of the bird has regarded me as an enemy. I should not prioritise it. Instead, I should start with the Iron-tailed Black Eagle's and the Flower Fox Ferret's dreams first before trying to access its dream again. Afterwards, it would be the most complicated dream world if the humans....."

After deciding, he walked out of the cave and took a deep breath of the air from the spiritual land. He felt more refreshed.

"I have made a breakthrough in the pathway to becoming a dream master. Next up, Wu Zong!"

"I have already tried the method and pathway of breaking through the Eagle Claw Iron Skin Technique in the dream world. There are three possible ways for me to do it, and I will need to try all of them in the real world....."

Even though there was only a slight difference between the dream world and the real world, there was still a possibility of him going crazy, as it involved his own elemental force.

Of course, Fang Yuan would not use his own body to try out and hence, he would have to find test subjects.

"Even though elemental force originates from heaven and earth, they might appear in different forms. Take for instance, dream elemental force is more illusionary, while the martial arts' elemental force in the Mind Palace originates from the Dantian... To qualify as a test subject, a person must be at least an Earth Gate martial artist and be able to harness miniature elemental force... I have one such person in my hands, no... I might have two!"

Fang Yuan looked at Qingye City and gave a scheming look.

[1] We've started using 'backlash' to replace 'rebound' as it conveys the meaning of the raw better.

[Carefree Path of Dreams](#)

Chapter 110: Kidnap

Qingye City.

The fortress was distinctly different. The wall was fully manned by several elite troops. An enormous crossbow was locked and loaded, pointing towards the main gate. The large arrowhead which had an iron hook attached to it looked like it could fall any moment.

During this period of war, not only was the head of this city replaced, even the guards were all replaced with troops from the Spirit Returning Sect.

Here, the army officers were all from the Spirit Returning Sect. Even though they were not as ostentatious and well-manned as the Secluded Mountain Prefecture to have level 4 martial artists as their lowest ranking soldiers, their lowest rankings soldiers were still around level 3, strong enough to easily power commoners without a martial arts background.

Ta ta!

Against the red evening sun, a group of riders emerged from the horizon. They were shouting and riding aggressively at great speed.

"Halt...Any unknown armed personnel who steps within the 30 metres radius of the wall will be killed without hesitation!"

Soldiers from the Spirit Returning Sect instantly grew alert and nervous as they readily aimed the crossbow in the direction of the riders.

"This is an Elder from the Spirit Returning Sect! We have a pass!"

From the centre of the riders, a flag was raised. This was characteristic of the Spirit Returning Sect. One of the riders raised an iron pass plate and sprinted to the bottom of the wall, just outside the 30m radius and shouted.

"Sou!"

A disciple from the Spirit Returning Sect executed Lightness Skill and leapt off the wall. He took a look at the pass and returned.

In no time, the gates opened, and Elder Han personally came out to invite the guests saying, "Hello Elder Bian! Sect Head informed me about this earlier, but I did not think that you would have arrived this soon!"

"The leaders of Maple City are spineless cowards! All we did was to exterminate a few families to scare them into submission...Hehe, I can be quite unpredictable sometimes!"

Elder Bian then chuckled flippantly, looking all the more intimidating to those around him.

At 30 years of age, with his hair at both sides greying, Elder Bian looked like an extremely experienced and seasoned martial artist. His martial arts skills were also highly advanced. They were comparable to those of Elder Han's.

"Come, please come inside Brother Bian!"

As a mark of respect, Elder Han pushed his right clenched fist into his left palm and smiled as he said, "Qingye City is different from the other places, the situation here....is slightly unique!"

Bian Xie was a renowned solo martial artist in Qinghe County. The legends said that he was a tomb raider from young. When he was still young he chanced upon a large tomb and found several extremely rare martial arts manuals buried with the body. From then, he already had the cultivation of the earthly element realm and the ambitious desire to break through Wu Zong and establish his own sect.

Up till now nobody knew what Shi Yutong promised him in exchange for his allegiance to the Spirit Returning Sect.

Elder Han guessed that Shi Yutong intended to make Bian Xie the successor and replacement for Lady Yan who had been kidnapped for such a long time. As there was no news up till now, the chances of her returning were very low.

"Hehe...Of course I know, as for this well-known healer of the secluded valley..."

Bian Xie broke out in a care-free laughter and walked to the main residence of the city by the side of Elder Han.

Although the newly appointed head of the of the city had some credible qualities in management, he was not proficient in martial arts. Upon seeing the arrival of the influential and powerful elders from the sect, he threw a welcome banquet for them which he had prepared way in advance.

After the food was served, Elder Han started to discuss official business. He waved his hand, gesturing for the servants to leave Elder Bian and him alone.

"Elder Bian your arrival cannot be timelier!"

Elder Han took a mouthful of wine. As his face flushed slightly with redness, he reported, "Fang Yuan is a very powerful martial artist. He has probably reached the 4 Heavenly Realms. He also has a spiritual beast. In Qingye City, I am the only one confident of doing reconnaissance beyond the secluded valley without being detected...."

"It's so challenging?"

Bian Xie frowned and was filled with an unspeakable sense of jealousy.

He was not sure whether he was jealous of Fang Yuan being so gifted in being able to reach the 4 Heavenly Realms at such a young age, or was he jealous of Fang Yuan's great fortune at being able to have a spiritual beast as a companion, or maybe he was jealous of both aspects.

Elder Han raised his wine bowl and had an awkward smile on his face and remarked, "I am not that afraid of what he might do, but I am indebted to him..."

"Elder Han do not worry, let me handle this!"

Bian Xie had heard about the news of Fang Yuan treating Elder Han. He was also aware of the unclear relationship between Fang Yuan and the pet disciple of the sect head.

Silently blaming Elder Han for being unwilling to take action and making him the aggressor, and also his bad luck for only joining the sect recently, he had no choice but to accomplish this mission regardless how nasty and unpleasant it was.

'Both sect heads are almost done with signing the alliance pact and will return very shortly. When she does, it's best for her to make the decision!'

Bian Xie was very troubled but he looked relaxed on the outside, enthusiastically drinking with his parter.

"Keke..."

Out of nowhere, a high pitch noise pierced through the air, causing Bian Xie and Elder Han to jump to alertness.

"Who is that who dares to make such a ruckus, are you looking for trouble?"

Elder Han turned towards the source of the noise and froze in shock.

A young man pushed opened the door and strode in carefreely. This was Fang Yuan.

"Oh? Looks like you are having a banquet? I hope you do not mind that I turned up without invitation?"

Fang Yuan entered without paying much attention to Bian Xie and spoke directly to Elder Han.

"Haha...Why would we?"

Elder Han laughed dryly. For some reason, his palms started perspiring.

Qingye City was under the maximum security of the Spirit Returning Sect. Furthermore, this place was the core of the city and it was supposed to be the most highly guarded and secure place! How could Fang Yuan have evaded all those patrols and sentries and entered?

Of course, Fang Yuan's intention of visiting was more important now. He looked like he was not here on peaceful terms.

"This is..."

Bian Xie had never met Fang Yuan before. Judging from the way Fang Yuan behaved, he thought Fang Yuan was an important official in the city and Bian Xie looked towards Elder Han.

"Elder Han, let me introduce to you, the divine healer of the secluded valley, Fang Yuan..."

Elder Han laughed dryly as the muscles on his face twitched uncontrollably.

"So, it's you!?"

Bian Xie widened his eyes. After all, he was just discussing about how to take down Fang Yuan with Elder Han. Now that the person they were discussing about had appeared in front of him, the situation was extremely tense and awkward.

Most importantly, how much of their conversation did Fang Yuan hear?

"I remembered the dateline we gave you was in 5 days' time. Are you here because you have made a decision?"

Elder Han calmed himself down. Looking at Bian Xie by his side, he regained some of his confidence and spoke.

"Yes, I have decided!"

The smile on Fang Yuan's face widened as he said gleefully, "Furthermore, I am quite lucky today. I was originally planning to catch a guinea pig, I was not expecting Heaven to be so generous to also send me a..."

"How dare you!"

Despite not knowing what Fang Yuan meant by referring to them as an experimental object, judging by his behaviour, it was obvious he was not there in peace and was ready to start fighting.

Elder Han instantly made the pre-emptive strike. With a thunderous roar he smashed the wine bowl in his hand in a thousand shards.

"Smash!"

As the bowl splintered into a thousand pieces as it hit the ground, the sharp noise reverberated and pierced through the silence.

However, there was no response from the surroundings. There was only dead silence.

Upon seeing this, the aggressive Elder Han exchanged a furtive glance with Bian Xie and realised their disadvantageous situation. Both began to break out in cold sweat.

"How? Very disappointed perhaps?"

Fang Yuan laughed, "Were you thinking of using the smashing of the bowl as a signal for 300 troops to appear and take me down? It's useless...I have already sealed off this area. If any noise from within this area can travel out by more than 30 metres, I would be impressed!"

"Lock down?"

Elder Han rose up slowly. He knew a fight with Fang Yuan was inevitable. He removed his outer robe and revealed his Golden Soft Armour and clenched his fists into a weird stance as he said, "Please enlighten me, divine healer!"

"Do not waste my time, I do not want to play this type of little games with you!"

Fang Yuan shook his head and replied, "If you surrender, I will still give you a painless death!"

"Such arrogance!"

Bian Xie shouted out and stepped into a weird footwork and arrived in front of Fang Yuan in a blink of an eye. He threw out a punch and with the thunderous roar of a ferocious tiger, it flew towards Fang Yuan's face.

The manual that Bian Xie took from the tomb had a total of three parts. One part had a total of 12 beastly feast techniques which were incredibly ferocious, another part was on the iron bone technique which solidified one's internal structures and the last part was on Lightness Skill, the Steps of No Return technique. With these techniques combined, they were no less inferior than the Spirit Returning Heart Manual and the Xuan Yin Heart Technique and were incredibly famous in Qinghe County.

Bian Xie attacked Fang Yuan with all his might, creating a remarkable sight.

"The Bestial Fist? I have heard of your reputation..."

Fang Yuan casually sent a right claw flying towards Bian Xie. Fang Yuan's execution looked casual, but was in fact immensely powerful and flawless.

"Slash!"

As Fang Yuan's claw contacted Bian Xie's fist, Bian Xie let out a gruesome scream and retreated extremely quickly. His right hand was locked in a weird angle behind his back.

Elder Han's eyelid jumped rapidly.

From his point of view, he could see blood flowing profusely on Bian Xie's entire arm. Bian Xie lost the fight in just one move!

"The Heavenly Gate!"

Fang Yuan stuttered.

"To be able to force Bian Xie to such a condition, not only was Fang Yuan a level 12 martial artist, he was definitely the top martial artist of that level. He was probably not far from the Wu Zong!"

Recounting his opponent's technique, Bian Xie's heart froze over.

The claw technique looked so simple, but it was so magically devastating and lethal. The executioner must have had practised it diligently for at least 30 years! Bian Xie refused to believe his opponent was so young.

However, the scar and excruciating pain from his battle wound confirmed this harsh reality, causing Bian Xie to convince himself he was in a dream.

"You were counting on this man?"

Elder Han rolled his eyes and replied, "So it seems you are very powerful, but what use does it have? Young man, I advise you to think about the consequences of your actions and not act so rashly."

"It seems I have to kill you to make you concede defeat!"

Fang Yuan laughed, "Just now I was rash as I was overly excited to finish him off, unless...you really thought that was everything I had?"

"What?"

Panic struck Elder Han. He was beginning to realise the perilous situation he was in.

"Leave quickly!"

Without further hesitation, he grabbed Bian Xie and sprinted in the opposite direction.

They went at an incredible speed and in a blink of an eye they were by the side of the wall. Elder Han was fully confident that nobody was that powerful to neutralise the guards outside without making a noise. He just had to rally all the soldiers and he would be able to survive.

However, his eyes widened instantaneously.

"Whoo whoo!"

Within the hall, there was some sort of force in the atmosphere that coalesced on Fang Yuan.

A layer of thick fog appeared out of nowhere and blanketed the whole area. It even seemed to be alive as Elder Han felt as though there were numerous hands grabbing onto him.

"Sleep! Sleep!"

Elder Han suddenly felt an irresistible urge to fall asleep hit him, causing him to slow down.

It did not matter how many alarms bells rang off in Elder Han, he felt as though weights were attached to his eyelids.

"Bang!"

Just as he was intensively battling the sleep demon, he heard a dull thud next to him. It sounded as though a human body had hit the ground. At the same time, he felt a sharp pain in his neck and his vision blacked out as he fell into a coma.