

Cultivating with Top Enlightenment

#Chapter 11: Practicing Martial Arts Is Really Simple - Read Cultivating with Top Enlightenment Chapter 11: Practicing Martial Arts Is Really Simple

Chapter 11: Chapter 11: Practicing Martial Arts Is Really Simple

One incense stick later.

Taoist Longshan left with a complicated mood.

It was both joy and defeat.

The joy was that his disciple was indeed a born Martial Body; no matter what he said, Ning Qi could quickly comprehend, infer, and even grasp insights that even he hadn't thought of.

Such a prodigy joining the sect was surely a delight.

Yet, the defeat was also due to this.

When a disciple is too gifted, the master feels twice the pressure; in just a brief moment, there was a sense of being drained.

If this continues, and he is asked questions he can't solve, wouldn't that be a total loss of dignity?

A thought came to mind.

Taoist Longshan immediately found a pretext to leave.

"Master, you haven't taught me the other Stance Skills yet!" Ning Qi evidently still wanted more, unaware that he had already restrained himself quite a bit; otherwise, it would be even more shocking.

If someone else said this, Taoist Longshan would have surely rebuked, 'biting off more than one can chew'.

But at this moment, hearing the voice behind him, Taoist Longshan felt a slight tingle on his scalp.

Teach more?

If he continues teaching, his mental resilience might shatter!

"Let your senior brothers and sisters teach you."

Leaving this sentence, Taoist Longshan's figure instantly vanished into the distance.

Watching his master's slightly flustered figure, Ning Qi shook his head helplessly.

"Am I really that terrifying..."

He seemed to underestimate the impact of being a prodigy. Though he had demonstrated extreme intelligence and wit in the past three years, today was the first time his martial understanding was so apparent. He should have restrained himself a bit more, in hindsight.

Afterwards, a smile appeared on his face as he looked endearingly at Luo Wentian and Xiong Shi beside him:

"First Senior Brother, Second Senior Brother..."

The two shivered simultaneously, looking at each other and speaking in sync.

"You go first?"

"You're the First Senior Brother, you should go first."

"Nonsense, you're younger, you should go first."

"Nonsense, Master went first earlier, are you saying you are older than Master?"

Seeing the two senior brothers argue until their faces turned red, Ning Qi helplessly held his forehead:

"Don't argue, let's do it together!"

Luo Wentian and Xiong Shi exchanged a glance, looking at each other in bewilderment.

"Can it be done?"

"It can be done, I can keep up."

Ning Qi's eyes sparkled; he did not want to waste time here.

After initially touching the Martial Path, especially having already reached a profound level with the Bian Stance, he had developed numerous insights about martial arts.

"So then... let's give it a try?"

After some hesitation, the two began to spar and explain together.

One incense stick later.

Both looked at Ning Qi's departing figure, beginning to doubt life.

"You taught the Qiuniu Stance just now?"

"Nonsense, don't tell me you weren't teaching the Baxia Stance?"

"So, the junior brother... learned them together?"

"Seems like he learned them pretty fast."

The two exchanged a glance, seeing the hurt in each other's eyes, wanting to cry on each other's shoulders.

His mastery isn't just fast!

It's practically lightning speed.

Compared to Ning Qi, they felt their years practicing Stance Skills were like training on a dog!

"Junior Brother is hardly human!"

Luo Wentian sighed, his face full of bitter smiles.

Xiong Shi felt likewise.

Facing such a prodigy was indeed too disheartening; they finally understood the gaze of those with ordinary talent.

"However, it's a good thing."

Though discouraged, their hearts were more filled with contentment.

...

Ning Qi left with a skip in his step.

The day's gains were substantial.

His master taught the Bian Stance, First Senior Brother taught his primary Qiuniu Stance, while Second Senior Brother taught the Baxia Stance.

Three of the True Martial Nine Stances were acquired.

"Six Stance Skills remain: Chaofeng, Pulao, Fuxi, Chiwen, Suanni, and Vengeance."

"Senior Brothers truly insisted on only teaching their primary Stance Skills, yet claimed that they weren't proficient in other stances and feared leading me astray."

Ning Qi shook his head with a laugh.

He felt this was indeed partially true, but perhaps they didn't want to be further impacted by him, or maybe they also wanted other senior brothers and sisters to feel somewhat 'involved,' simply put, to let them experience their bewilderment.

Ning Qi could only shrug at this.

There's nothing he can do, as he has already tried to restrain himself.

But he couldn't pretend to be ordinary while having unparalleled comprehension; he didn't indulge in such a pretense, especially not in front of his closest people.

"Next, I'll continue cultivating while learning the other Stance Skills."

Ning Qi made a decision.

Training just the Bian Stance wasn't enough for him. Although Bian Stance is a superior Stance Skill, Ning Qi wanted to develop a Stance Skill that suits him better, allowing faster Body Tempering and stronger foundation building.

In the past, without martial arts knowledge, the time from zero to one naturally took longer; but now, going from one to many would be much simpler.

In fact.

During his learning of three Stance Skills, Ning Qi already had many flashes of insight.

Moreover, he discovered one thing.

"These three Stance Skills, while having their advantages, seem to have something in common?"

Ning Qi became interested.

He recalled Taoist Longshan's bold claim that the True Martial Nine Sons could battle Martial Saints, thinking that this commonality might be the key.

Returning to his residence.

With no disturbances, Ning Qi could finally go all out.

He started with the Bian Stance.

His gaze changed almost instantly; even before starting, there was an aura of fierce might, like a young Bian in human guise.

Were Taoist Longshan to see, he would undoubtedly exclaim at the monstrosity.

Divine Intent of Bian!

And that wasn't the end.

Ning Qi repeatedly practiced the Stance Skills, the small courtyard resonated with roars of Exotic Beasts, reaching the Realm of Perfect Divine Intent, the highest realm achievable with the Bian Stance.

It was fortunate that the True Disciple residences were far apart, preventing the Outer and Inner Sect disciples from approaching, otherwise it would surely cause chaos.

Ning Qi grew more exhilarated with each stance, sweat evaporating, skin reddening, flesh pulsating as if a mouse was scurrying inside him.

The effect of Skin Refining was evidently intense.

The Body Tempering Eight Realms, each realm is challenging to achieve.

For example, the Skin Refining Realm, with divisions of Cowhide, Stone Skin, Iron Skin, and Jade Skin.

For those with ordinary talent, merely one Skin Refining Realm could lead to years of delay, or even be stuck in a sub-realm, making no progress.

Yet Ning Qi believed.

To achieve the Cowhide Realm, he might need only a few days.

"Training martial arts... seems simpler than Third Senior Sister described as difficult?"

Ning Qi thought.

If Ye Qinghe knew Ning Qi's inner thoughts, she would probably be speechless.

Who's heard of anyone stepping into martial arts and immediately mastering a superior Stance Skill to its highest realm?

Higher Stance Skill realms naturally yield better Body Tempering effects.

Starting with full power, who could compete with him?

Ning Qi, of course, was unaware of this.

Feeling a bit tired of the Bian Stance, he switched to the Qiuniu Stance.

Before long.

Qiuniu Divine Intent intensified, then reached Perfection.

Next was the Baxia Stance.

Ning Qi carefully experienced the unique features of the three Stance Skills.

Until he felt a stinging sensation, Ning Qi finally stopped training and decisively took a medicinal bath.

Lying in the tub, Ning Qi felt his skin membrane had become much tougher, feeling extremely satisfied.

"The Martial Path is simpler than I imagined."

The path to martial arts opened for him; when he later stepped onto the Celestial Being or even Martial Saint level, with a long lifespan, he'd naturally have more time to pursue the method of eternal life.

As for revenge, once powerful enough, it would be accomplished effortlessly.

Chapter 12: Chapter 12: Improved Body Tempering Powder

Ning Qi lay in the wooden barrel, his thoughts gradually drifting.

"What I need most now is to gain powerful strength as quickly as possible."

"To train martial arts quickly, one relies on stance skill, and the other on medicinal bath."

"My stance skills have already reached their peak. The Bian Stance, Qiuniu Stance, and Baxia Stance have all achieved Divine Intent Perfection, and can go no further;

compared to the effects of the other six stances, they're about the same. To continue improving in this area requires stronger stance skills."

"But there's still room for improvement in the medicinal bath!"

Ning Qi's eyes lit up.

Perhaps he could improve the medicinal recipe.

This was not difficult for him.

Recalling the recipe, the dosages and properties of the various herbs suddenly appeared in his mind.

"Gold Silver Flower seems unnecessary, the amount of Purple Luo Root could be reduced, Blood Pattern Flower could replace Blood Strengthening Grass..."

In an instant.

Numerous inspirations flashed through Ning Qi's mind.

But the recipe, unlike martial arts, must be tested.

As he thought, he felt the medicine being absorbed by his skin.

He waited until the medicine completely dissipated, feeling half of his fatigue vanish, then leapt out and immediately went inside to start experimenting. Having spent three years studying various medical books and created his own Ning's Medical Book, this task was easy for him.

He worked tirelessly until late at night.

Finally, the recipe was altered.

Ning Qi couldn't wait to pour the improved Body Tempering Powder into the bath barrel, filled it with water, and jumped in.

Instantly, a peculiar sense of refreshment engulfed Ning Qi.

The previously lingering soreness and swelling on his skin disappeared at a visibly fast pace.

"The effect is at least twice as strong as before!"

"With this improved Body Tempering Powder, I can train more without worrying about my body being unable to bear it."

Ning Qi's lips curled into a smile.

To sharpen one's tools, one must first improve their skills.

This is essential.

He could continue to refine it over time.

...

In the blink of an eye.

Three days passed.

"Third sister, I'm leaving now."

Smiling, Ning Qi greeted her and strode away.

Behind him.

Stood the listless and drained Ye Qinghe.

She seemed somewhat despondent.

Initially.

Upon learning that her young apprentice brother could begin martial arts training at age three, she was first incredulous and then excited. When she learned Ning Qi wanted to learn the Chiwen Stance from her, she even shouted that she would train Ning Qi seriously.

The result, naturally, was what it is now.

Dealt a heavy blow.

"Is he really human? Why is the gap so wide despite both being humans?"

Ye Qinghe recalled telling Ning Qi, "You'll know hardship awaits when you train martial arts," and now she thought,

"I was so foolish... The hardship is clearly my own."

She frantically rubbed her face and finally looked at Ning Qi's back with a smile, feeling a tinge of comfort.

After all, it was a good thing.

The little kid the master brought back is growing, and growing unexpectedly fast.

Ning Qi's lips held a smile.

Without turning back, he knew what Ye Qinghe was thinking.

Because this scene had repeated several times in the past few days.

"In just three days, I not only advanced to the Cowhide Realm, but also learned five stance skills from the third sister and others: Chaofeng Stance, Pulao Stance, Suanni Stance, Fuxi Stance, and Chiwen Stance!"

"Of the True Martial Nine Stances, I've grasped eight; only the Vengeance Stance from eighth brother remains unlearned."

Ning Qi was somewhat impatient.

Having mastered eight stance skills, he increasingly sensed the connection between the True Martial Nine Stances. If he could learn the remaining Vengeance Stance, he was confident he could create a stronger stance skill from them.

"But there's no need to rush. Eighth brother is currently in closed retreat to breakthrough; I'll seek him once he emerges."

Ning Qi also considered asking other senior brothers to teach him the Vengeance Stance, but they weren't proficient and feared teaching it wrongly. As for Master Taoist Longshan, he'd directly entered closed retreat.

Thus, he could only wait.

Seven days passed quickly.

Ning Qi's realm advanced again, reaching Stone Skin Realm.

Refining Skin had already achieved Small Success.

At this realm, his skin was tough as stone, ordinary fists and feet could hardly harm him, and his strength increased significantly.

In just ten days, Ning Qi covered ground many needed years to traverse.

This success owed to the Divine Intent Perfection of several stance skills and the improved Body Tempering Ointment, which Ning Qi further optimized over the past few days. But he was too lazy to rename it and continued to call it the improved Body Tempering Ointment.

Ning Qi planned to present this improved Body Tempering Ointment to his master after he emerged.

Unlike many martial arts or Secret Techniques he created that had high comprehension thresholds, this recipe had no thresholds. If spread, it could rapidly enhance the strength of True Martial Sect disciples, deepening their foundation over time.

On this day.

Ning Qi was thinking of visiting Qin Yun's place.

Unexpectedly, Qin Yun's figure appeared in the distance.

At just twenty years old, Qin Yun was quite handsome, looking like a dashing young Taoist from afar. He and Ye Qinghe had the best relationship with Ning Qi and often visited him, but Qin Yun was obsessed with martial arts and extremely talented, bearing the hope of becoming True Martial Sect's future strongest, so he spent most of his time training.

"Eighth brother, did you break through?"

Ning Qi smiled and approached, walking steadily due to his martial arts training. Though only three years old, his physique matched that of a five or six-year-old child and was even stronger.

Qin Yun nodded, then showed shock in his eyes:

"Jiu, I didn't believe when the senior brothers said you could start training martial arts; I can't believe it's true."

Ning Qi grinned.

"Eighth brother, I want to learn the Vengeance Stance from you."

Qin Yun was still processing the shock that his little junior brother could train martial arts at age three, furrowing his brow.

"You can learn it, but know that overloading yourself won't help. How proficient are you with your primary Bian Stance?"

Ning Qi didn't say much.

Facts speak louder than words.

This scene had already occurred multiple times with other senior brothers.

Watching Ning Qi's agile movements in the courtyard, Qin Yun was astounded and felt a hint of undiscovered jealousy.

How long did it take me to reach a basic understanding of Divine Intent with the Vengeance Stance?

Half a year?

Or a year?

Even so, I was praised as an unparalleled talent, but now, compared to little junior brother, what am I?

He unknowingly fell silent.

Ning Qi stopped his stance skill, looked up and asked:

"Eighth brother, can I learn the Vengeance Stance now? I just seek knowledge; don't worry, I won't overreach."

Seeing his cute and clever little junior brother, Qin Yun forced a smile:

"Alright, I'll teach you."

Though instinctively he wanted to refuse, he felt it wasn't right.

He silently cursed himself.

Then he began the Vengeance Stance, explaining its various points.

"Junior brother, have you learned?"

Ning Qi nodded repeatedly.

With the foundation of the previous eight stances, he learned even faster than before!

Moments later.

Watching Ning Qi's proficiently executed Vengeance Stance, Qin Yun fell silent again.

"Junior brother, you practice slowly; I have something to attend to first."

Forcing a smile, he turned to leave, taking a deep breath, his gaze a bit complicated.

Ning Qi responded casually, not concerned, assuming Qin Yun was just shocked by him. Nonetheless, he restrained himself from showing the unusual strength of Stone Skin.

Slightly shaking his head, Ning Qi continued practicing martial arts.

With Qin Yun around, he felt constrained in his training. Soon, the Vengeance Divine Intent Perfection was achieved.

Ning Qi's eyes shone brightly.

The True Martial Nine Stances were finally united!

Chapter 13: Chapter 13 True Dragon Stance

In Ning Qi's small courtyard.

The roars of exotic beasts, sometimes deep, sometimes sharp, occasionally sounded. If anyone were here, they would surely be dumbfounded.

Ning Qi's eyes were focused, his whole being completely immersed in the world of stance skills.

He sometimes howled like a Bian, sometimes leaped like a Suanni, sometimes stabilized the sea like a Ba Xia, and sometimes crossed water like a Qiu Niu...

The True Martial Nine Stances had been practiced by him to the point where their execution was naturally seamless, even the switch of Divine Intent was extraordinarily smooth—from the Bian Stance to the Chiwen Stance, the nine originally distinct stance skills seemingly became one, as if integrated.

If the true disciples were to witness this, they would probably start questioning their existence.

Ning Qi's eyes were bright.

In his mind, inspirations continually emerged.

"Not enough! Still not enough!"

"I may seem like I've integrated the nine stance skills, but in reality, this is mere appearance. Although enhancing them has increased Quenching Skin efficiency, it's far from my expectations and still hasn't surpassed the category of superior stance skills."

Ning Qi practiced stance skills while contemplating, requiring barely any thought at his level; he simply followed his instincts.

At this moment.

Ning Qi's skin membrane constantly pulsated, appearing intimidating, with the reddened membrane now tinged with iron color, full of strong texture.

Ten days passed.

He astonishingly advanced further, reaching the Iron Skin Realm, a state where swords and blades were hard to harm him.

Despite being young, his combat power surpassed many adults.

This cultivation speed was already extremely fast, but Ning Qi was still unsatisfied.

"There's an apparent pattern among the True Martial Nine Stances; merely merging the surface isn't enough, the key lies in the Divine Intent!"

After stepping into the Iron Skin Realm yesterday, Ning Qi's perception of the True Martial Nine Stances became distinctly different.

The process of Body Tempering was also the process of comprehension.

Standing high and seeing far.

If Ning Qi were in the Inner Essence Realm at this moment, having fully experienced the Body Tempering process, he thought understanding the relationship between the True Martial Nine Stances might only take a quarter of an hour, possibly even less.

Regardless of how strong perceptions are, they require sufficient cognition and foundation to support.

After all, stance skills aren't just about refining skin, but encompass the entire Body Tempering process.

However.

Ten days of research was enough.

The inspirations in Ning Qi's mind grew rampant, his thoughts moved, Divine Intent bestowed upon him, continually switching, and eventually, merging—not forcefully but selecting the essence and transforming into new matter.

"The fierce spirit of Bian, the thickness of Ba Xia, the agility of Chaofeng, the steadiness of Qiu Niu, the ferocity of Vengeance..."

"The dragon gives birth to nine sons, each different, but all originate from the body of the True Dragon!"

"Returning to the source, it's... True Dragon!"

The moment Ning Qi comprehended.

The roars of exotic beasts inside the courtyard vanished, replaced by a majestic dragon roar.

Ning Qi's sweat evaporated abruptly, shrouded by white mist, obscuring his true form, each move gradually transforming, deriving from True Martial Nine Stances but fundamentally different, appearing from afar like a juvenile true dragon leaping in the mist.

Ning Qi felt incredibly exhilarated.

This was a stance skill he created himself, naturally reaching the highest realm instantly, and at this moment, Body Tempering efficiency skyrocketed once again, feeling doubled from before!

"Joy! Joy! Joy!"

Ning Qi's heart laughed freely.

He didn't pause, continuing until exhaustion, before reluctantly jumping into the pre-prepared medicinal bath.

Closing his eyes.

Ning Qi still felt some excitement.

This sense of accomplishment from solving a problem after thoughtful pondering was as rewarding as a breakthrough in realms, if not more, akin to solving a challenging math problem in high school from his past life, but even surpassing that.

"Now I can be certain, beyond the True Martial Nine Stances there's definitely a stronger stance skill!"

"In a way, I deduced it inversely, I wonder if the True Dragon Stance I created matches the original version, whether it's stronger or weaker?"

"Perhaps... I should consult Master?"

This thought arose naturally.

But he felt he might not get an answer.

He had heard from Senior Brother Luo Wentian previously that Master Taoist Longshan's True Martial inheritance seemed incomplete, missing some core elements.

Moreover.

Based on Ning Qi's understanding of Taoist Longshan.

He believed his master wasn't someone who would hold back; if there existed stronger stance skills than the True Martial Nine Stances, they would surely have been revealed already.

Nevertheless, he planned to find a time to ask, in case such a stance skill existed, allowing mutual validation with the True Dragon Stance he created, possibly strengthening it further.

Although True Dragon Stance could already be called unparalleled stance skill, Ning Qi still wanted to see if it could be further enhanced.

Moreover.

Ning Qi felt necessary to inform Taoist Longshan about his cultivation progress, which was crucial for earning more freedom later.

For the other senior brothers and sisters, he didn't plan on revealing his current realm yet.

Ning Qi feared demoralizing them.

For the other senior siblings it's manageable, they remained usual upon subsequent meetings, but the eighth senior brother was peculiar, later Ning Qi found out when visiting Qin Yun, he had entered seclusion again.

"Could it be he felt stimulated?"

Ning Qi was puzzled, intending to check on it later.

"Upon Master's emergence, let's first discuss the True Martial Stances and the improvement of Body Tempering Powder."

Ning Qi cleared distractions, emptied his mind, focused solely on the medicinal bath.

A burning prickling sensation emanated from the skin membrane, yet he savored it, a sign of gradual empowerment.

Time passed in the blink of an eye.

Another eight days passed.

Instead of waiting for Taoist Longshan's emergence, Ning Qi first stepped into the Jade Skin Realm.

From Stone Skin to Iron Skin took ten days, but from Iron Skin to Jade Skin actually needed only eight days, one of which was spent revisiting the previous three realms, demonstrating the prowess of True Dragon Stance.

Ning Qi curiously examined his skin surface.

Fair as jade, completely different from before.

Jade Skin Realm was the realm of perfect skin refining, blades difficult to injure, capable of withstanding massive impacts, both strong and flexible.

Additionally, Ning Qi cultivated the unparalleled True Dragon Stance, his foundation far firmer than that of others.

"Next is the Flesh Refining Realm!"

"Honestly, reaching perfect skin refining took me merely a month, even less, if this pace continues, a realm a month, wouldn't I complete the Great Body Tempering Realm in a year thus forming Inner Essence?"

Ning Qi first felt delight, then shook his head.

"No, Body Tempering starts easy and gets tougher, more time needed the further, especially deeper realms within the body requiring caution."

"My current speed owes fundamentally to comprehending Divine Intent Perfection stance skills upon entering the Martial Path, even crafting an unparalleled True Dragon Stance."

"But consider, the eighth senior brother equally excellent, encountering Martial Path at seven years old; perhaps three to four years were enough for him to reach Divine Intent Perfection with Vengeance Stance, yet still, he spent eleven years completing Body Tempering to generate Inner Essence—the difficulty of later realms apparent."

"My speed will nonetheless be much faster; my Martial Path has just begun, there'll be more time for creating techniques to expedite."

"True Dragon Stance isn't my limit."

Ning Qi's gaze was resolved and confident.

Chapter 14: Chapter 14 Taoist Longshan Emerges from Retreat

Time passed slowly.

Bright Martial Pavilion.

Taoist Longshan slowly opened his eyes and sighed softly:

"The Celestial Human Realm is indeed as difficult as ascending to heaven. I've been in the Primordial Core Realm for over ten years, but wanting my Divine Intent to resonate fully with the heavens and earth is still lacking."

He smiled wryly.

Just over a month ago, after teaching Ning Qi, he felt somewhat stimulated, a faint sense of crisis, and decided to take advantage of this momentum to break through the bottleneck in one go, but unexpectedly, he still couldn't succeed; the foundation he lacked still needed time to develop.

However, he wasn't discouraged.

A Celestial Being has a lifespan of up to eight hundred years; at a hundred years, a Celestial Being strong person is very young. Most celestial beings achieve mastery around two hundred years old, and some only break through as their four-hundred-year lifespan approaches its end.

And Taoist Longshan is only in his eighties, very young.

He realized that he had been a little impatient lately, perhaps influenced by the increasingly chaotic situation in the Great Yan dynasty.

He shook his head, realizing that this was not right.

Although this retreat didn't lead to a breakthrough, it wasn't without gains; at least it helped him regain the right mindset.

"It's been more than a month. I wonder how Jiu is doing now? Just when Jiu began touching upon the Martial Path, I, as his teacher, have been somewhat negligent."

Taoist Longshan felt a bit of regret.

Thinking back to the day he taught the Martial Path, he couldn't help but smile wryly. The impact back then made him believe he had found the key to breaking through, leading to his hasty retreat.

"Jiu is a peerless gem, with talent far surpassing mine. If properly nurtured, there's great hope for him to become a Martial Saint!"

Taoist Longshan stood up, his form shrinking the land as he appeared at the pavilion entrance. This was an extremely profound body technique. He planned to first visit Ning Qi to fulfill his responsibility as a teacher. After all, no matter how gifted the student, there are bound to be things he does not understand. Having practiced stance skills for so many years, there was always something here that Ning Qi could learn from.

He felt he needed to plan a suitable path for Ning Qi, to avoid wasting this great talent.

Although the True Martial Sect occupies True Martial Mountain, they've actually constructed their pavilions in the essence of the mountainside.

Taoist Longshan and the nine true disciples live in the core area, while the rest of the Inner Sect and Outer Sect disciples' residences are arranged outward in succession.

With Taoist Longshan's speed, it wouldn't take long to reach Ning Qi's courtyard.

He wore a gentle smile, with hands clasped behind his back, his Taoist robe fluttering, exuding a crane-like, immortal air.

He had already sensed the distant life aura.

But suddenly, his expression changed.

"Roar!"

A faint dragon roar sounded from the courtyard ahead, carrying a hint of majesty.

"This is..."

Taoist Longshan's pupils contracted sharply, his heart skipped, and his figure silently appeared outside the courtyard. The sight before him immediately made him freeze in place.

Inside the courtyard, white mist was swirling, constantly rolling. Within it, the dragon's roar emerged intermittently, as if a young True Dragon was soaring and leaping.

With Taoist Longshan's eyesight, it was naturally clear that this was not a young True Dragon but his terrifyingly talented young disciple.

At this moment, Ning Qi's skin was as crystalline as jade, but beneath it, his muscles and flesh were faintly red and continuously pulsing.

Compared to a month ago,

Ning Qi's figure had grown taller and stronger. The most striking change was the life aura, which had grown much more vigorous.

"Flesh Refining Realm?!"

Taoist Longshan's breathing quickened slightly.

Even with his temperament, it was hard to remain composed. This speed was simply astonishing. Although he anticipated Ning Qi's cultivation speed to be beyond imagination, it still surprised him. He almost doubted whether he remembered the time correctly, whether he'd been in retreat for more than a month or longer.

But that was not the most shocking part.

"This stance skill... isn't the Bian Stance!"

With Taoist Longshan's level, he immediately detected the traces of True Martial Nine Stances from this unfamiliar stance skill, almost seeing the shadow of every stance skill.

But just watching it left him in awe; the degree of dominion in body tempering far surpassed the True Martial Nine Stances.

As he continued to watch,

A sudden flash of insight crossed Taoist Longshan's mind, and his entire being shuddered with excitement.

"This is... the True Martial Stance?!"

His breathing quickened, emotions roiling, and his originally concealed breath technique fluctuated.

Ning Qi immediately sensed the presence of another aura outside the courtyard. He stopped his stance skill and shouted sharply:

"Who is it?!"

When his sharp gaze scanned over, Ning Qi was momentarily stunned, then joy surged in his eyes.

"Master, you've come out of seclusion? How did you arrive so quietly?"

He had just asked his senior brother about it yesterday, unexpectedly today his master had come out of seclusion.

Taoist Longshan felt a little embarrassed; he had originally intended to secretly observe his young disciple's progress in martial arts so as to be prepared for his teaching later. However, he hadn't expected to witness such an astonishing scene.

He couldn't care about anything else.

In an instant, he appeared before Ning Qi.

He gazed intently at Ning Qi, forcibly suppressing the excitement in his heart, and asked:

"Jiu, tell your master, who taught you the True Martial Stance? Is this master still in True Martial Mountain? Did he say anything else?"

Taoist Longshan kept asking.

Ning Qi was frozen on the spot.

He hesitated and said:

"Master, the True Martial Stance you're talking about is?"

"It's the stance skill you were practicing just now!"

Ning Qi suddenly realized, instantly understanding some things. His previous guess might be close to the truth; beyond the True Martial Nine Stances, there indeed existed a stronger stance skill, possibly named the True Martial Stance?

However, judging from his master's expression, it seemed the True Martial Stance was not part of the True Martial Sect.

He truthfully replied:

"Master, this is the True Dragon Stance I created myself, not the True Martial Stance you mentioned."

As the words fell,

Taoist Longshan's fluttering goatee paused; he looked at Ning Qi as if he were a sculpture, doubting what he had heard.

"You say... this was created by you??"

This was even more implausible than someone from the True Martial Sect leaving a legacy behind to give as inheritance, but Taoist Longshan knew his disciple, though young, he definitely wasn't prone to talk nonsense.

Ning Qi had long intended to come clean with Taoist Longshan; this moment was simply because Taoist Longshan approached him first.

"Reporting to Master, after you entered seclusion, I learned several other stance skills from my senior brothers and sisters. After mastering the True Martial Nine Stances, I always felt there was a commonality between these nine stance skills, and finally, there was a moment of enlightenment where I deduced a stance skill backward..."

Ning Qi explained his thought process and methodology in creating the True Dragon Stance.

Meanwhile, he handed over a meticulously prepared manual that recorded the True Dragon Stance in detail.

Taoist Longshan finally recovered from the emotional turbulence, he forcibly calmed down, glanced through the manual in his hand, listening to his young disciple's explanation, waves of emotion still rippling in his eyes.

Of course, he was aware of the connection between the True Martial Nine Stances.

But the issue was, understanding that connection was one thing, but using it to deduce the True Martial Stance was as challenging as creating an unparalleled stance skill anew!

It was simply fantastical!

Chapter 15: Chapter 15 Path Guardian

After obtaining the True Martial Legacy for so many years, he had tried numerous times, but no matter how hard he scratched his head, it was of no avail. He thought perhaps after advancing to the Celestial Being, there might be a glimmer of hope, but most likely it would come to nothing. Perhaps only a Martial Saint could accomplish it.

But he didn't expect.

After a month of seclusion, the True Martial Stake would appear before him in this manner.

When he first saw Ning Qi practicing this Stance Skill, Taoist Longshan's initial reaction was that a peerless expert from the remnants of the True Martial Sect had come, which sparked his earlier questions.

But now he knew, it was something his little apprentice had created.

He looked at the manual in his hand.

Gradually becoming immersed in it.

"So this is how it is!"

"Wonderful!"

"A stroke of genius!"

He sat on the stone stool beside him, intermittently slapping his leg.

It's quick to solve problems with the answers.

Being a top expert in the Primordial Core Realm, and extremely familiar with the True Martial Nine Stances, having tried to deduce them multiple times with several vague directions, now seeing this Stance Skill manual, he naturally could see its brilliance.

Such ingenious thoughts left him in awe.

Finally.

Taoist Longshan let out a long sigh, closed the manual, and looked at Ning Qi with a slightly complex gaze.

Initially, he felt that if Ning Qi followed his planned path, there was a significant chance to achieve Martial Saint status.

But now he thought.

Ning Qi becoming a Martial Saint is already a certainty, and even surpassing Martial Saint in the future would not be surprising.

Such comprehension is truly defying the heavens!

He could no longer estimate Ning Qi's limits.

At this moment.

Taoist Longshan recalled the day Ning Qi asked about longevity.

A phrase suddenly came to mind.

"How can a sparrow understand the ambition of a swan?"

He couldn't help but smile wryly.

"As Master said, should this Stance Skill be named True Martial Stance?"

Ning Qi's curious inquiry brought Taoist Longshan back to his senses.

He smiled and patted the stone stool beside him, only continuing after Ning Qi sat down:

"Jiu, do you remember what Master told you about the three levels of Stance Skills in the world?"

"I remember, Master."

"But now I tell you, besides these three levels of Stance Skills, there is actually an extremely rare type known to no one, called Unparalleled Stance Skill!"

"Looking around the world, forces possessing Unparalleled Stance Skills are very few, at least Master knows for certain only two places have it. The Great Yan Royal Family has one, the Demon Sect has one, as for the others, Dajue Temple, Inquiring Sword Pavilion, etc., at most can only be considered half-step unparalleled."

Hearing Taoist Longshan begin discussing the secrets of the world, Ning Qi's eyes lit up.

"And our True Martial Sect at its peak also had an Unparalleled Stance Skill."

Seeing Ning Qi's bright eyes, a smile appeared on Taoist Longshan's face:

"That's right, it's the True Martial Stance!"

"The True Martial Nine Stances I taught you are actually derived from the True Martial Stance. It is the general outline, and also unparalleled. Those who practice it can establish an unparalleled foundation and have a greater chance to aspire to the Martial Saint. Unfortunately, when Master obtained the True Martial Legacy back then, there were only the True Martial Nine Stances and no general outline, which has always been a regret."

"But unexpectedly, you figured it out."

"Perhaps, this is destiny."

Taoist Longshan laughed as he stroked Ning Qi's head.

"Master, you mean the True Dragon Stance I created is the True Martial Stance?"

"That's correct. The True Martial Legacy mentioned that the True Martial Stance can obtain the True Dragon's Divine Intent. Even if the Stance Skill you created isn't entirely identical to the True Martial Stance, it definitely isn't far off. But since this Stance Skill is created by you, it will be called the True Dragon Stance from now on."

"Speaking of which, Master feels that the name True Dragon Stance is even more apt, just like the Bian Stance can obtain Bian's Divine Intent, and since it gains the True Dragon's Divine Intent, naturally it should be called the True Dragon Stance."

Taoist Longshan greatly respected Ning Qi.

He was all smiles, in high spirits.

Ning Qi was also smiling. He had resolved the doubts in his heart, knowing that above the True Martial Nine Stances there indeed exists a more powerful Stance Skill, but regrettably, his Master did not have it to corroborate with.

Hearing Taoist Longshan's words, Ning Qi shook his head and said:

"Since it's historically called True Martial Stance, then it will be the True Martial Stance in the future. Master, keep it well, and pass it on to suitable junior disciples in the future."

As for those senior brothers and sisters, they have already stepped into the Inner Essence Realm, unable to restrain from the beginning.

Ning Qi did not care what this Stance Skill was called; it was a minor matter.

Taoist Longshan looked at Ning Qi and laughed heartily.

Name indeed was a minor matter, but from it, he saw Ning Qi's intentions.

He did not accept the manual, only saying:

"This True Martial Stance will be left for your disciples and descendants to practice."

Ning Qi asked in surprise:

"Why?"

Taoist Longshan's gaze was distant:

"Do you remember Master once saying the True Martial Nine Sons could contend with Martial Saints?"

"I remember, Master."

"In fact, in the past True Martial Sect, besides the True Martial Nine Sons, there was an even more powerful hidden presence, the True Martial Path Guardian! Path Guardian, Path Guardian, does not mean to protect any one person, but to guard the True Martial Legacy!"

"The Path Guardian practiced the True Martial Stance, and while the Unparalleled Stance Skill is strong, its requirements are high. Each generation had only one Path Guardian, who was almost always a Martial Saint!"

Ning Qi was somewhat surprised.

"So at the peak of the True Martial Sect, wouldn't there be two Martial Saint combat powers?"

"Exactly!"

"Such a powerful True Martial Sect, how did it perish into the long river of history?"

Ning Qi was a bit puzzled, as he now understood that achieving Martial Saint status wasn't easy. In the view of ancient history, some eras had only one Martial Saint dominating the world. Even in prosperous eras of the Martial Path, it might not exceed the number of both hands.

Logically speaking, with such a foundation, the True Martial Sect should have been able to endure continuously, right?

Taoist Longshan slightly shook his head:

"Perhaps it was internal strife, or perhaps some unexpected event. The truth is known to no one. In the legacy Master obtained back then, it wasn't mentioned."

Ning Qi suppressed his inner speculations and heard Taoist Longshan's expression gradually becoming solemn:

"Ning Qi, are you willing to be this generation's Path Guardian of the True Martial Sect?"

There was some expectation in Taoist Longshan's eyes.

Previously, without the True Martial Stance, he naturally never considered the matter of a Path Guardian, but now, is there anyone more suited than Ning Qi?

As long as Ning Qi grows, the True Martial Sect will be safe for a generation.

At this moment, Ning Qi immediately understood why Taoist Longshan said the True Martial Stance could only be practiced by future disciples and descendants.

It was because he already had this idea.

Ning Qi did not hesitate.

He stood up, his expression solemn.

"I am willing!"

One must be grateful. Taoist Longshan saved his life, protected him, and taught him tirelessly, while the senior brothers and sisters showered him with love. Even if he wasn't a Path Guardian, he would never watch the True Martial Sect face any trouble.

This was not a conflicting matter, and now it just gave him a more legitimate identity.

Taoist Longshan laughed heartily.

"Good! Very good!"

"Jiu, keep this manual with you. If you find a suitable candidate for a Path Guardian in the future, then pass it on to him. As for others, there's no need to inform them."

"Yes, Master, I will remember."

Master and disciple exchanged smiles.