

Cultivating with Top Enlightenment

#Chapter 21 Myriad Phenomena Origin - Read Cultivating with Top Enlightenment Chapter 21 Myriad Phenomena Origin

Chapter 21: Chapter 21 Myriad Phenomena Origin

Ye Qinghe looked at Ning Qi and was momentarily dumbfounded.

She saw that Ning Qi, at some unknown time, had already closed his eyes, his hands hanging loosely, in an extraordinarily relaxed posture, yet there seemed to be some peculiar rhythm within, as the sunset cast a sacred aura on the young boy's silhouette.

"Could it be that little junior brother is experiencing enlightenment?"

Ye Qinghe was taken aback, but then overjoyed.

She had heard her Master, Taoist Longshan, speak of this miraculous state, where if one could achieve enlightenment, it was as if divinely aided, effortlessly resolving perplexing doubts from the past. It is a supreme opportunity, and some people cannot enter the enlightenment realm even once in their lifetime.

"Little junior brother can actually experience enlightenment at just four years old, such impressive perception!"

Ye Qinghe felt a bit envious, and also somewhat in awe.

Both could see this miraculous scene, yet there was not a trace of sensation within herself; this is the difference.

To ordinary people, she was undoubtedly a genius, but compared to Ning Qi, they were not even on the same level.

But thinking about how Ning Qi had attained Bone Refining in a year's time, she felt relieved; what was there to compare with such a prodigy.

She began to earnestly act as Ning Qi's guardian, to prevent disturbance to his opportunity.

On the stone platform.

Two people and an ape.

Ning Qi and the White Ape both had their eyes closed, while Ye Qinghe focused all her attention on sensing the surroundings to prevent exotic beasts from approaching.

At this moment.

In Ning Qi's mind, strands of spiritual light rushed in.

The various thoughts pondered over the past year surged forth all at once.

The Stance Skills read in the Scripture Pavilion, and the observed natural scenes, all emerged.

Indeed, he had reached enlightenment.

But it wasn't entirely due to the natural phenomena before him; it was merely a catalyst. His accumulation was already sufficient, and today, with Ye Qinghe's company, he affirmed his inner thoughts, which would have succeeded in time anyway.

Now, it has merely advanced.

"Body Tempering Stance Skill, in essence, is 'Quenching the Body with Qi,' the Bian Stance gathers Bian Qi while the True Martial Stance gathers True Dragon Qi. The divine might of Bian and the majestic dignity of the True Dragon are considered strong among myriad phenomena; mimicking these creatures to gather 'Qi' is naturally more potent, thus offering superb tempering effects."

"However, the secrets of the human body are endless; even True Dragon Qi isn't entirely beneficial. In some areas, it might have the best effect, but in others, it might be inferior to others."

"The best approach is to adapt with the situation, using different 'phenomena' to temper different areas, ensuring each tempering site achieves maximum effect."

"Thus... mastering the myriad phenomena to temper the human body!"

Various thoughts continuously emerged in Ning Qi's mind, like a string gradually connecting the previously scattered spiritual lights together.

He began to move.

In Ye Qinghe's astonished gaze.

Ning Qi remained with his eyes closed.

But his hands already had assumed a stance.

The fists and feet were not swift, but powerful.

"Is Jiu practicing a Stance Skill?"

Ye Qinghe was taken aback.

With her eyesight, she could only discern that this was probably a Stance Skill related to Body Tempering.

"But isn't Jiu practicing the Bian Stance?"

She knew.

Her little junior brother was gifted beyond measure and might have already perfected the Bian Stance. After all, his talent was overwhelmingly impressive when he learned the Chiwen Stance alongside her.

But now, she could not understand this Stance Skill.

It was clearly not the Bian Stance.

There was no Divine Intent of Bian, not even the basic forms, no manifestation of phenomena, but there was a mysterious rhythm.

Her eyes narrowed, observing even more seriously.

As she watched.

Ye Qinghe's pupils gradually widened.

In her eyes, Ning Qi's figure slowly disappeared.

She seemingly saw a river, a mountain, a cloud, a gust of wind, as well as tigers roaring and dragons roaring, wolves attacking and eagles screeching.

Mountains, water, clouds, fog, dragons, tigers, eagles, wolves...

Ye Qinghe couldn't comprehend but was profoundly shocked.

She fervently rubbed her eyes, only to find all those scenes vanished; Ning Qi was still there executing his punches, his moves seemingly mundane, but Ye Qinghe knew this was likely an extraordinary Stance Skill.

Perhaps it could rival the Bian Stance.

As to surpassing it?

She dared not think; after all, the True Martial Nine Stances were true martial techniques created by generations of the True Martial Sect. For her little junior brother to create a Stance Skill comparable at the age of four was already an extraordinary feat.

"This guy, Jiu, is defying the heavens!"

Before she knew it.

The White Ape had awakened.

Ye Qinghe heard movement and looked over to see the White Ape, after digesting that red fruit, looking even whiter, as if glowing with vitality. Its limbs, brows, and eyes were all covered in white hair, and it even seemed mystical, like an enlightened old ape to those unaware due to its smart and sly eyes.

The White Ape was about to roll over excitedly.

Ye Qinghe quickly signaled silence.

It then noticed Ning Qi practicing punches with closed eyes in the distance, wisely pausing its actions to avoid affecting Ning Qi, having been deeply impressed by Ning Qi smashing the Iron-Armed Ape earlier.

Curiosity arose within its eyes, observing Ning Qi's movements just as carefully as Ye Qinghe.

The White Ape's agile eyes gradually widened.

In its sight, Ning Qi gradually vanished, replaced by a Golden Monkey clad in a Taoist Robe. There was a special rhythm in the Golden Monkey's punches and kicks, as if questioning the heavens, which struck the White Ape like lightning, compelling it to mimic.

But no matter how hard it tried, it couldn't learn.

Even though the punches seemed simplistic, it felt incredibly inharmonious and uncomfortable when it tried.

Ye Qinghe watched the fumbling White Ape and softly reminded:

"Little monkey, this is a Stance Skill only for the Human Race, don't force yourself or you'll get hurt."

The White Ape froze, a look of utter disappointment on its face.

Yet shortly after.

It couldn't help but gaze at Ning Qi's back, a profound admiration and longing in its eyes.

It always felt this was unlike anything it had seen before.

Ye Qinghe marveled silently in her heart.

Both for the spirituality of the White Ape and the mystique of Ning Qi's Stance Skill, which even enticed the White Ape to learn.

Finally.

Under the gaze of both human and ape, Ning Qi gradually ceased his movements.

He opened his eyes, realizing he was a mere fist's distance from the edge of the stone platform, yet felt no panic. Despite having his eyes closed, he could 'see the divine,' sensing his surroundings, ensuring he wouldn't fall off the cliff.

Having reviewed 132 Stance Skills, understanding the essence of Stance Skills, observing myriad phenomena and the four seasons, using the True Martial Stance as a foundation, and melding myriad phenomena, he had finally reached enlightenment.

Ning Qi's lips curved into a smile.

Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance.

Was the fruit of this enlightenment.

The intention of Myriad Phenomena Origin carries his aspirations. While now, he merely glimpses the phenomena and may only grasp the surface, when his cultivation becomes profound, reaching further heights, perhaps he will touch the origin.

Undoubtedly.

This is a Supreme-level Stance Skill, and in Ning Qi's conception, it surpasses an Unparalleled-level Stance Skill.

From now on.

Body tempering will be a smooth path.

Ning Qi couldn't help but burst into laughter.

Chapter 22: Chapter 22: White Ape Asks the Way

"Jiu, you're holding back your laughter too much."

Ye Qinghe's voice rang out.

She walked to Ning Qi's side, then stood with her hands on her hips, took a deep breath, and laughed wildly, her laughter echoing through the sky, startling distant birds into circling around.

"Did you see that? Laugh like this in the future, and the enemy will surely fear you a bit before anything else!"

Ning Qi was speechless.

Laughing so arrogantly, anyone who doesn't know better might think you've achieved enlightenment.

Seeing Ning Qi concede, Ye Qinghe laughed even more wantonly, any previous traces of vexation instantly dissipated.

"When it comes to perception, I'm not as good as you, but in other aspects, Jiu, you're still a bit naive."

Ye Qinghe didn't ask what Stance Skill Ning Qi had comprehended. Although she was curious, she didn't want to be discouraged.

The two lingered on the stone platform for a long time.

Drinking Monkey Wine and enjoying the scenery, there was a unique flavor to it. Ye Qinghe was reluctant to leave, finding that the previous boredom and monotony vanished.

"Jiu, you're really a lucky star. Next time you go out to have fun, make sure to bring your senior sister along."

Ye Qinghe giggled.

She then stopped the White Ape from pouring more wine, stood up, and dusted herself off.

"We probably should head back now."

Ning Qi nodded with a smile.

"Little White Ape, our meeting is fated. I hope next time I see you, you're not being chased by a group of Long-armed Apes."

Ye Qinghe echoed with a laugh:

"Exactly, exactly, it's too embarrassing, little monkey."

However, she felt that this Little White Ape wasn't simple. After eating a few mysterious red fruits, it underwent miraculous changes, which might not yet be fully developed.

The White Ape scratched its head in embarrassment.

The two of them and the ape crossed through the waterfall curtain again, returning to the cave, and then walked through the cave into the woods, where the setting sun was casting increasingly shallow shadows, making the forest appear even more mottled.

The White Ape watched the two with some reluctance.

It waved its arms as if trying to keep them from leaving.

Ning Qi shook his head with a smile and said:

"We have to return to our sect. It's getting late, the forest is dangerous, you should head back sooner."

With those words.

The two waved their hands and walked on.

The White Ape felt dejected, watching the figures of the two disappear into the forest until a sudden jolt made it recall Ning Qi practicing his boxing earlier, the scene of the Golden Monkey asking questions growing more vivid, and its resolve strengthened.

The White Ape, unsure of where it got the strength, screeched twice and sprinted forward.

Ning Qi and Ye Qinghe were chatting and laughing.

Suddenly.

They both paused, eyes filled with astonishment.

They saw the White Ape panting heavily as it leapt to a halt in front of them.

Ye Qinghe chuckled:

"Little monkey, do you want to stick with us?"

The White Ape took a few breaths to calm itself.

Suddenly it knelt down, bowing to Ning Qi with utmost respect, in a manner no different from a human.

Ning Qi and Ye Qinghe's astonishment deepened.

Ye Qinghe exclaimed in wonder.

"Looks like it's not following us, but rather it wants to follow you, Jiu."

Ning Qi asked:

"Do you want to go back with us?"

The White Ape's eyes lit up, nodding repeatedly, gesturing frantically, and finally showing a cautious expression on its face.

Ning Qi was taken aback.

He realized it was mimicking a few of the positions from his own Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance.

Ye Qinghe took a sip of wine:

"This little monkey was secretly learning just now. Now it seems it wants to go back with you to practice that Stance Skill."

Ning Qi chuckled in surprise.

The Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance is incredibly difficult. Even the most talented in the True Martial Sect, Qin Yun, might not be able to learn it, let alone a Little White Ape. Ning Qi understood that the White Ape probably saw some suitable 'figures' within it and thought it could be fitting.

Having said this, Ye Qinghe, feeling somewhat indignant, continued:

"This little monkey has no judgment. I'm much stronger than you, Jiu, yet it chooses you over me, silly monkey!"

The White Ape quickly showed a flattering smile, even giving Ye Qinghe a thumbs up.

Ye Qinghe was immensely amused, feeling overjoyed.

She looked at the pondering Ning Qi and advised:

"Jiu, why not take the little monkey back with us? The True Martial Sect can surely handle raising a little monkey."

This Little White Ape was endearing, for one thing.

Another reason was that she felt Ning Qi was somewhat lonely.

After all, being so young, spending so much time practicing Martial Arts and reading alone, it wouldn't be good if he became withdrawn in character. This Little White Ape was full of spirit, and if it could accompany Ning Qi, it would be a good thing.

This was the main reason she was persuading him.

Ning Qi nodded slightly.

The Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance couldn't be learned by the White Ape, but perhaps he could simplify a part of it to create a stance suitable for the White Ape.

What would happen if an Exotic Beast practiced Human Race martial arts?

Ning Qi suddenly felt a bit curious.

This White Ape, though a bit mischievous, wasn't a fierce creature, and he quite liked it.

He looked over, and the White Ape immediately became nervous.

Ning Qi smiled and said:

"Alright, then you can go back with us."

The White Ape's pupils suddenly dilated, then it rolled and leaped in excitement, swinging through the woods.

Ning Qi and Ye Qinghe exchanged a smile.

...

True Martial Sect.

Fortunately, night had fallen, otherwise their trio of two humans and an ape might have attracted quite a bit of attention.

Ye Qinghe first hid the Monkey Wine she had gathered, then circulated her Inner Strength to remove the scent of alcohol from her body before saying:

"Let's go see the master."

After all, they had brought back an Exotic Beast, the White Ape, into Ning Qi's care, and she felt it necessary to inform her master.

Ning Qi nodded.

Meanwhile, the White Ape was feeling somewhat nervous.

In fact, since it set foot in the True Martial Sect, it had been a bit tense.

Ning Qi reassured:

"Don't worry, the master is kind and benevolent."

The White Ape relaxed slightly, following Ning Qi step by step.

"Disciple greets the master!"

The two respectfully saluted, and the White Ape followed suit.

Taoist Longshan looked at Ning Qi with amiable eyes, as Ning Qi rarely came here, usually only visiting when he encountered a problem. He then glanced at Ye Qinghe, shaking his head slightly, since the scent of wine, though removed, couldn't escape him.

Ye Qinghe blushed instantly, shifting slightly in embarrassment.

Longshan Taoist looked behind them, where the White Ape was hiding most of its body behind Ning Qi. However, Ning Qi was just four years old, and the White Ape was taller than him, making its action slightly redundant, thus a bit amusing.

His gaze slightly sharpened.

Ye Qinghe quickly said:

"I was just about to report to the master!"

With that, she began recounting their story in detail, from encountering the Iron-Armed Ape to the White Ape offering its secret manual, witnessing strange scenes, and finally following them back, leaving no part untold.

"This is the secret manual the Little White Ape gifted us."

Ye Qinghe gestured, and Ning Qi took out the Ice Silkworm Strength from his bosom.

Taoist Longshan listened and gradually fell into deep thought.

Chapter 23: Chapter 23 Heavenly Beast

Taoist Longshan took the Ice Silkworm Strength, quickly skimmed through it, and revealed an expression of admiration.

"The predecessor who created the Ice Silkworm Strength was indeed a rare genius. It's a pity there are only the first three levels; otherwise, it would surpass those Stacking Strength Skills you cultivate."

Upon hearing Taoist Longshan's evaluation, Ye Qinghe couldn't help but be surprised, realizing he had underestimated the Ice Silkworm Strength.

He felt a bit regretful in his heart.

But Taoist Longshan did not dwell on the Ice Silkworm Strength; instead, he asked another question.

"You mentioned earlier that the White Ape consumed a red fruit. Describe its characteristics in detail."

Taoist Longshan's expression was somewhat solemn.

Seeing this, Ye Qinghe dared not be negligent and immediately described the appearance of that red fruit.

"Bright in color, its stem is mysterious yellow, and the body is perfectly round..."

Even though he only held the red fruit for a few breaths, with Ye Qinghe's memory, he still managed to recall it completely.

Moreover, the red fruit indeed looked extraordinary.

She couldn't help but ask curiously:

"Master, do you know what strange object this red fruit is?"

Taoist Longshan slightly furrowed his brow:

"It resembles the legendary Vermilion Fruit, but the Vermilion Fruit can transform the body, refine the essence, and cleanse the marrow. If it is as you said, the White Ape consumed more than one Vermilion Fruit, its strength would undoubtedly be formidable, perhaps you might not even be its match. The chances of the red fruit being the legendary Vermilion Fruit are slim."

"This red fruit can enlighten wisdom, yet the White Ape's strength is only that of an ordinary beast, what a phenomenon indeed."

Then he shook his head.

"In the vast world, there are all kinds of wonders; the exact nature of the Exotic Fruit doesn't matter. Since it fell into this little ape's hands, it's its destiny. You two need to maintain your perspectives and not give rise to delusions."

Ning Qi and Ye Qinghe composed themselves and respectfully said:

"Thank you, Master, for the guidance."

The True Martial Sect has always maintained such principles, where disciples uphold righteousness and abstain from committing evil deeds.

Taoist Longshan nodded in satisfaction, trusting the character of his disciples; he beckoned to the White Ape.

The White Ape first looked nervously at Ning Qi, and upon seeing the encouragement in his eyes, respectfully walked over to Taoist Longshan, knelt, kowtowed, and made repeated prostrations.

Taoist Longshan stroked his beard and laughed:

"Indeed its spiritual insight is remarkable."

He asked solemnly:

"White Ape, I ask you, will you join my True Martial Sect? Know this, once you join True Martial, you must not commit reckless acts or wanton violence!"

Taoist Longshan's voice was thunderous, exuding great authority.

The White Ape was overjoyed.

It nodded repeatedly.

Almost blurting out 'I am willing, Master.'

Seeing the White Ape receive the master's approval, Ning Qi and Ye Qinghe exchanged smiles.

Taoist Longshan looked over:

"Jiu, since you brought back the White Ape, let it stay with you for now, it'll be good for you in case you need each other."

He shared the same thoughts as Ye Qinghe. Having such a spiritual White Ape accompany the young disciple was better than solitary cultivation every day.

"Disciple obeys."

"Since the little monkey has joined our True Martial Sect, why not give him a name?" Ye Qinghe suggested.

"Very well." Taoist Longshan nodded, "Since the White Ape wants to follow Jiu, let Jiu choose."

Ning Qi did not decline.

He pondered for a while, looked at the White Ape, and said:

"Since you are from the Ape Race, let's give you the surname Yuan, you wander the mountains alone, unique, yet possess various opportunities, born from Heaven and Earth, how about calling you Yuan Tiancheng?"

With these words.

Taoist Longshan and Ye Qinghe were still pondering the meaning behind the name, while the White Ape's eyes widened with excitement, if it weren't the wrong occasion, it would've started flipping and jumping; yet even so, its scratching and itching movements betrayed its feelings.

Evidently, the White Ape was quite satisfied with the name.

The three of them smiled.

Ning Qi suddenly spoke:

"I have a question I want to ask Master."

"This time, the disciple went into the mountain with the senior sister and encountered several Exotic Beasts, some whose strength could rival the Inner Essence Realm, and others were even weaker than the Bone Refining Realm. Why is there such a disparity in the strength of these Exotic Beasts? Do they have any cultivation methods?"

Though the Scripture Pavilion also contains records on Exotic Beasts, it's not comprehensive.

Taoist Longshan glanced at the White Ape, then said:

"The origin of Exotic Beasts is no longer traceable, only hearsay. According to legend, initially, some beasts, by chance, gained Heaven's favor, allowing them to directly temper their bodies using the Power of Heaven and Earth, even wield this power, thus known as Heavenly Beasts."

"However, bearing the cause and effect of Heaven's favor isn't simple, and something seemingly went wrong, leading to backlash and the decline of Heavenly Beasts."

"Since then came the era of Exotic Beasts, who are said to have the bloodline of Heavenly Beasts."

"Exotic Beasts don't possess inherently powerful wisdom like our Human Race. Though they start higher, unlike us who have methodical cultivation means, their path to strength is to tap into their Heavenly Beast bloodline, until they reach the limit of their bloodline."

For Ning Qi, hearing this perspective for the first time, his eyes showed astonishment.

The Heavenly Beasts could directly channel the Power of Heaven and Earth to temper themselves; their starting point exceeds the Human Race by far, as humans can only resonate with Heaven's power upon reaching the Celestial Human Realm.

"So, whether Exotic Beasts are strong depends entirely on the power level of the bloodline within them?"

"Indeed, such as the Iron-Armed Ape you encountered before, its maximum potential is only comparable to a Body Tempering Martial Artist, unless it has other ancient bloodlines within. In the Hundred Rivers Lake of Great Yan, there's a Flood Dragon Monarch, whose bloodline is extremely top-notch; it has now grown into its own strength, and even Celestial Being Strong Persons do not dare to provoke it lightly."

The White Ape listened intently but felt slightly melancholic, feeling that there shouldn't be any strong bloodline within him; only after consuming several red fruits did he gain more understanding.

Taoist Longshan glanced at the White Ape and said:

"However, theoretically speaking, humans and other beast types have no specific difference. The Human Race has cultivation paths because generations of predecessors have created them. If beasts with great wisdom could create suitable cultivation paths for themselves, perhaps they could be similar."

"But the body structures of every beast type differ greatly, which makes it very challenging."

Suddenly, hope gleamed in the White Ape's eyes.

Ning Qi understood even further.

It's not that beasts cannot cultivate, but there aren't any corresponding Dharma Methods.

It's just a general term for beasts, for example, those of the Snake Race need snakes of significant wisdom to create and pioneer a cultivation path for themselves, and only then could they be akin to the Human Race.

But contemplating it reveals the difficulty; snakes gaining wisdom is already scarce, then requiring great wisdom and generations of effort, reaching fruition might come tens of thousands or millions of years later.

Ning Qi gently shook his head within.

"However, for apes, having a similar body structure to humans, though different, they can adjust to accommodate Human Martial Arts, making it far easier."

"To me, it serves as mutual validation."

A thought came to him.

Ning Qi already had ideas; he bowed and said:

"Thank you, Master, for clearing my doubt."

He felt he still needed to mature, as even with strong comprehension, some knowledge needed continuous accumulation.

Chapter 24: Chapter 24 Supreme Foundation

After Ning Qi finished his salute, he left with Yuan Tiancheng.

Ye Qinghe prepared to slip away with a playful tongue, but still got called by Taoist Longshan.

With a bitter face, she said:

"Master, it wasn't me bothering my little junior brother this time, he took the initiative to let me accompany him into the mountain."

Taoist Longshan snorted, but eventually his expression softened.

"You, compared to Bai Shan, are not lacking in talent at all, yet all your mind is set on drinking. Now, Bai Shan's cultivation has surpassed yours."

He scolded lightly, but Ye Qinghe still giggled:

"With Fifth Brother as the facade, isn't it nice? Behind still are Ba and Jiu. When they grow up, our True Martial Sect will be as strong as clouds, and the disciples will be very assured."

"You are assured, but I'm not!"

Taoist Longshan was helpless.

The only comfort for him was that this third disciple, although she loved her liquor, had a pure heart and was an outstanding cultivator among her peers. She could have been stronger.

"Forget it, forget it. Next autumn, the Divine Sword Old Man will bring his disciple here again, just make sure you don't embarrass me then."

Ye Qinghe was stunned, then seemed to remember something.

The Divine Sword Old Man mentioned by her master was no ordinary person. In fact, he used to be the owner of the True Martial Mountain, although back then it was still called Divine Sword Mountain.

A tinge of urgency finally rose in Ye Qinghe's heart; she solemnly said:

"I understand, Master."

Taoist Longshan waved his hand.

"Go now, tell your senior brother about Tiansheng tomorrow, and inform the disciples inside the sect to avoid accidental injury."

"I accept the task, Master."

Ye Qinghe left respectfully.

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Ning Qi, accompanied by the curious White Ape, arrived at his small courtyard.

"Tiansheng, from now on, you'll stay here with me. That room beside is yours; take good care of it."

"When I practice martial arts or read, don't disturb me. You may move around the True Martial Sect freely, but remember not to disturb the cultivation of other disciples. As for the path of cultivation suitable for you, I will sort it out and slowly teach you."

"During this period, learn to read more and read books."

The White Ape nodded repeatedly, extremely excited.

He felt he had entered a new world.

A night passed without words.

The next day.

Ning Qi woke up to find the White Ape was already busy with chores, which made him smile, feeling a change inside.

It wasn't bad having a living being around.

Ning Qi found a wooden board and wrote the words 'Seeking Tao Institute', placing it outside the courtyard.

Inspired by naming the White Ape yesterday, he felt he should name his small courtyard. Seeking Tao, seeking immortality, was a constant reminder to himself.

Looking at this simple wooden plaque,

Ning Qi felt his thoughts clearer.

He wanted to practice martial arts.

After creating the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance yesterday, he hadn't begun to fully attempt it.

"Just right to redo the Front Four Realms and establish a Supreme foundation."

He had not rushed to breakthrough the Refining Organ due to this very reason.

With this thought,

Ning Qi moved.

With a swing of his body, he entered the profound state in an instant. The Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance was his creation, and he naturally understood its intricacies. The Realm of Perfect Divine Intent came as easily to him as raising a hand.

Watching from the side, the White Ape's eyes widened, as if he was witnessing the scene of the Golden Monkey questioning the heavens again, taking a while to come back to his senses.

Looking at the wood in his hand, the White Ape's eyes gradually hardened.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step; he believed that if he did well with these small matters, he might one day gain the True Skill.

He continued to chop the wood, applying more seriousness to it.

Meanwhile, Ning Qi practiced martial arts.

Ning Qi could feel the 'Qi' of his stance skill moving at will, starting from the skin, re-training it. This time, he found that the skin tempered by the True Dragon Qi still had many inadequacies.

The Qi transformed into a white cloud, into a green mountain, into a gray eagle... One by one, the gaps were gradually filled.

This process was very fast.

After all, it was retracing the path once more.

Ning Qi's growth was visible to the naked eye.

In the blink of an eye, seven days had passed.

Inside the Seeking Tao Institute,

Ning Qi practiced fist techniques, without any phenomena, just calmly punching, but the changes within him would leave anyone speechless.

"Body Tempering Outer Four Realms, with Refining Skin providing unparalleled defense, Refined Flesh giving the strength to lift cauldrons, Refining Tendons being swift as a leopard, and Refining Bone coordinating all three, further elevating a Martial Artist's power, speed, and defense!"

"A Lower Grade Foundational Cultivator with Bone Refining Perfection wields a one-armed strength of a thousand pounds, while a Superior Root like True Martial Nine Stances wields three thousand pounds. Previously, I began the True Martial Stance, creating an unparalleled foundation, reaching five thousand pounds of one-armed strength!"

"But now, I forge a Supreme foundation with Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance, reaching ten thousand pounds of one-armed strength!"

"The time spent on this was worth it."

This isn't merely a difference in strength, but a variation in the depth of underlying foundation.

From now on, Ning Qi would be unrivaled among his peers.

He gently pushed his palm out. Though the movement seemed light, the White Ape was shocked as if seeing a prehistoric beast walking past, an overwhelming pressure arising.

Then,

The White Ape's eyes widened as he saw Ning Qi slowly stop and exhale a long breath of white air. The white air, like an arrow, pierced through space, and on the ground, left a pit.

The corners of Ning Qi's mouth curled up slowly.

"Exhaling like an arrow, common refining organ perfection may not achieve this level, and I have only just begun to refine organs, already reaching this realm. This is the difference in foundational strength."

Advancing to the Refining Organ Realm was a matter of course. After all, he could've broken through earlier, but he wanted to wait for the stance skill to be created.

He could feel his state was better than ever.

Body Tempering's last Four Realms, called the Inner Four Realms, cover more mysteries of the human body.

"From now on, Body Tempering will be a smooth journey."

"Organs represent endurance, marrow symbolizes explosiveness, blood signifies longevity, and finally consolidates with spirit. The Inner Four Realms reach Perfection, and thus the body is flawless, immune to all diseases, and can live for two Jiazi cycles."

Ning Qi was slightly looking forward to it.

That might be the first elevation in the essence of life.

He turned his head, and looking at White Ape's earnest eyes, said:

"Tiansheng, how did today's homework go?"

The White Ape shivered, coming back from his reverie, then took out a small booklet from the Taoist robe, writing:

"Please, Teacher, inspect."

Now the White Ape also wore the Taoist robe of a True Martial Sect disciple, taking much pride in it. Writing in the booklet was a way to practice writing so others wouldn't need to guess, and the White Ape insisted on calling Ning Qi 'Teacher.'

He felt he had joined Ning Qi's tutelage and wanted to call him Master.

But Ning Qi felt himself was still seeking the Tao and not yet qualified to take disciples, so he firmly refused.

In the end, the White Ape could only pitifully call him Teacher.

Ning Qi tacitly agreed.

Considered as a pupil.

Ning Qi laughed as he quizzed.

The White Ape continued writing and answering, with hardly any mistakes, which made Ning Qi very satisfied. This pupil, though far below him, would be considered among the most intelligent even among humans.

"Writing like this is indeed cumbersome. In the future, if the chance arises for Tiansheng to step onto the Martial Path, maybe I can create an Abdominal Language Skill for him."

Ning Qi thought to himself.

The Martial Path for the White Ape was something he was still pondering. Once he understood the White Ape's body structure, he could simplify a stance skill from the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance, which might be feasible.

Chapter 25: Chapter 25: Physical Body Perfection

True Martial knows no years.

Winter goes and spring comes, then autumn is once again full.

In the blink of an eye, nearly another year has passed, and Ning Qi, born in winter, is soon to be five years old.

Ning Qi has grown taller again, now even slightly taller than the White Ape, looking no different from a child of seven or eight.

In this nearly one-year period, the True Martial Sect has changed greatly.

Taoist Longshan frequently enters seclusion to seek the opportunity for a breakthrough to become a Celestial Being, handing over all affairs, big and small, to his big disciple Luo Wentian for management, with several other disciples assisting. The True Martial Sect gradually opens its doors to recruit disciples. Up till now, the disciples have exceeded a thousand.

There are even a number of third-generation disciples.

Ning Qi's seniority has once again risen a level.

He has started to be called the Ninth Master Uncle.

However.

Ning Qi is too mysterious and low-key, so many disciples have little concept of this mysterious Ninth Master Uncle.

Instead, they are quite familiar with the White Ape under this Ninth Master Uncle.

As Ning Qi's student, the White Ape naturally counts as a third-generation disciple of the True Martial Sect.

From being cautious at the start to finally revealing his true nature, being mischievous and lively, the White Ape only took a month.

After all, he is lively by nature, unlike Ning Qi who can endure loneliness, often goes out to play, and as a result, he is very familiar with many disciples of the True Martial Sect. The disciples of the True Martial Sect are also thoroughly accustomed to such a special third-generation disciple as the White Ape, and they are very fond of the mischievous White Ape.

Ning Qi lets him be.

He doesn't insist on everyone being like him.

To him, enlightenment and cultivation are top-tier enjoyments, but for others, it may not be.

However.

The White Ape is not without ambition; it is just his nature.

In fact.

The White Ape works harder than most people.

More than half a year ago.

Ning Qi, drawing from human Stance Skills, took the ape image from the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance to create a skill for the White Ape.

With the experience of creating the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance, Ning Qi's foundation in the Martial Path has significantly increased.

Without much effort, he created the Ape King Stance suitable for the White Ape's cultivation.

From then on.

The White Ape officially set foot on the path of cultivation.

With the body of a White Ape, practicing the Ape King Stance, he is indeed uniquely gifted, born to comprehend the Ape King Divine Intent, coupled with his intelligence, he cultivates extremely quickly, though not as fast as Ning Qi, he is faster than the unparalleled geniuses among humans.

Ning Qi was surprised and observed carefully.

He discovered that perhaps the bodies of beasts are inherently stronger than humans, making Body Tempering easier.

There might also be the influence of that mysterious red fruit.

But regardless of which it is.

Ning Qi gave the White Ape a warning: without his permission, he must not casually reveal his involvement in the Martial Path, or else he will be expelled.

Ning Qi was worried that if the White Ape's peculiarity was revealed, powerful Exotic Beasts might come upon hearing it.

The White Ape naturally agreed obediently.

Thus, as of now, aside from Ning Qi, no one in the True Martial Sect knows that the White Ape has also started on the Martial Path and has reached a not insignificant realm.

However, the changes in the True Martial Sect and the White Ape are secondary.

The real change.

Is Ning Qi himself.

In the Seeking Tao Institute.

Ning Qi is practicing the Stance Skill.

His punches and kicks slow and gentle with a special charm.

Yet this isn't cultivation, it's just instinctual practice that has accumulated over the past two years.

Reflecting on the path of cultivation in this past year, Ning Qi felt a slight sense of wonder.

Since creating the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance.

Within just two months.

He had already achieved Refining Organ Perfection.

From then on, his internal organs were robust, inexhaustible on the battlefield, able to contend with hundreds of powerful foes.

Three more months passed.

Marrow Refining Perfection.

The marrow fluid as thick as mercury, strength sublimated, moving like a rabbit.

Another three months passed.

Blood Refining Perfection.

Now the internal qi and blood are unified, the body is smooth and unimpeded, thoroughly harmonized.

In the last two months.

Just seven days ago.

Ning Qi had already crossed the last hurdle of Body Tempering, Refining Spirit.

This is the most difficult stage.

It requires using the 'qi' from the Stance Skill to simply refine the head and stimulate one's own 'spirit.'

But for Ning Qi, it wasn't difficult.

His comprehension was extraordinary, mastering the divine intent of the Stance Skill helped with the Refining Spirit stage, and the variety of divine intents he had mastered far exceeded others, so the time spent was actually less than the previous stages.

"Now that I have perfected Refining Spirit, my mind is clear, my thinking sharp; for an ordinary Martial Artist reaching this stage, it would also lead to spontaneous wisdom."

"But for me, it's not just that."

"With 'spirit' overseeing, inner and outer realms unified, now my physical body has reached a flawless and perfect state, capable of longevity for two Jiazi, with an enhancement in life strength, my comprehension has also increased once more!"

Ning Qi's eyes held delight.

He seeks the path to longevity.

Though living for two Jiazi is only a slight improvement, it brings him joy; it is one step at a time, walking upon the great path.

Moreover.

Peak comprehension will continuously enhance with the upgrade of his life's essence, always staying at its strongest state.

This is his foundation.

In the future, if he could elevate his life's essence to be on par with heaven and earth, comprehending myriad dao with a single thought might be a simple matter.

Of course.

It's not just about the extension of lifespan.

Ning Qi's combat power is equally remarkable.

With the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance forging an unparalleled foundation.

Now his physical body is perfected, a shake of his arms holds a force of a hundred thousand pounds.

Moreover, Ning Qi has also conducted some research into the Slaughter Technique, where ordinary people find it difficult to compare, and even casually, it might be enough to put geniuses to shame, especially the Myriad Phenomena Fist he created to complement the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance, which is even more powerful.

Ning Qi almost never competes with others.

But he believes that even in the Inner Essence Realm, there might be some who are not his match.

It's hard to imagine.

That this is merely a child not yet five years old.

Virtually a human-shaped Fierce Beast.

"However, one should not underestimate the Inner Essence Realm, Inner Strength is a very powerful force, although it does not break out like Gang Essence, cutting mountains and rivers, it can greatly enhance the human body, stacking strength nine times, becoming more formidable each time."

Ning Qi is not arrogant or complacent.

Though he has achieved a certain level of success now.

It's still early for him to be invincible in the world.

"Now my physical body is perfected, the next step is to use 'spirit' to stimulate the body, generate Inner Strength, and thus step into the Inner Essence Realm."

For ordinary people, this stage is also not easy to pass, with some being stuck here for a lifetime, aging and weakening, their bodies decaying, unable to break the realm and extend their lives.

But for Ning Qi.

It is just a matter of course.

His foundation is too robust, moreover, it is foreseeable that the Inner Strength he generates will surely be strong enough.

"Two months is enough."

Ning Qi silently estimated.

His eyes showed some anticipation.

By then he will just be five years old, able to step into the Inner Essence Realm, live for two hundred years, another leap in life.

"During this period, I can think about the cultivation path of the Inner Essence Realm and prepare in advance."

"But before that, there's still something that needs to be resolved."

Ning Qi called to the White Ape beside him.

"Tiansheng, it's time for us to go."

The White Ape, dressed in a gray Taoist Robe, almost indistinguishable from a human, stopped his practice of the Ape King Stance and quickly followed up.

Today.

Is the ten-year appointment between the Divine Sword Old Man and Taoist Longshan.