

Cultivating with Top Enlightenment

#Chapter 31: The Way of Inner Essence, Exchanging Secret Techniques (Two in One) - Read Cultivating with Top Enlightenment Chapter 31: The Way of Inner Essence, Exchanging Secret Techniques (Two in One)

Chapter 31: Chapter 31: The Way of Inner Essence, Exchanging Secret Techniques (Two in One)

Little chubby Zhuang Chen's enthusiasm for Sword Dao was beyond dispute. After witnessing Ning Qi's sword, he even considered becoming his disciple.

Divine Sword Old Man nearly blacked out, almost fainting on the spot.

If other disciples had committed such an outrageous act, he might have already started to purge the sect.

But towards Zhuang Chen, this precious treasure, he could only feel outrage, yet was reluctant to punish him.

The little chubby boy seemed foolish when not in battle mode, so such actions were understandable.

Ning Qi found the situation amusing and frustrating. He hadn't expected that teaching the little chubby boy a lesson would nearly earn him a disciple, though clearly he couldn't accept one, as Divine Sword Old Man would be furious.

Fortunately, Dong He was perceptive. Seeing his master's expression as dark as a pot bottom, he swiftly darted over to carry Zhuang Chen away.

The little chubby boy could only gaze longingly at Ning Qi.

Everyone from Divine Sword Sect breathed a sigh of relief.

Taoist Longshan lightly coughed and said:

"Brother Divine Sword, shall we end here today?"

Divine Sword Old Man regretted deeply; had he known, he wouldn't have insisted on this final match, losing both his prize and his forces.

Nearly losing his foolish disciple to someone else.

He glanced at the Dragon Owl Sword in front of him, feeling a pang of pain in his heart.

But words, once spoken, are like water spilled on the ground; he wouldn't retract, and with a wave of his hand, the Dragon Owl Sword landed beside Taoist Longshan.

"Hmph, today Longshan, your skills outshine mine! We'll compete again ten years from now!"

He planned to thoroughly train the little chubby boy, never to let him be so lax again. Others had already comprehended Sword Intent, yet he remained at Unity of Man and Sword—unacceptable!

Divine Sword Old Man felt that if he dedicated ten years of training, perhaps he could definitely contend with Ning Qi then.

Innate Sword Bone is likewise the demeanor of a Sword Saint; only previously the little chubby boy lacked an opponent, hence became complacent.

He saw clearly that Ning Qi's Body Tempering progress was at most similar to his own foolish disciple, perhaps even inferior.

Taoist Longshan chuckled bitterly:

"Brother Divine Sword, why insist on this?"

But he eventually put away the Dragon Owl Sword. Divine Sword Mountain offered then, much more reason to keep Dragon Owl Sword.

Divine Sword Old Man stood up:

"Today's sparring has taught my useless disciples that beyond people there are others more talented, beyond heavens there are greater heavens. Don't be smug, Longshan, for in ten years' time, it's yet to be seen who will prevail!"

With a sullen face, he took a deep breath and gestured to leave with his disciples.

He felt the last shred of his dignity had been utterly discarded by Zhuang Chen.

Taoist Longshan restrained him:

"Brother Divine Sword, stay!"

As Divine Sword Old Man was about to speak, he heard Taoist Longshan's voice:

"Brother Divine Sword, you and I have not met for ten years; why so rush? Recently, I've occasionally had Celestial Being secrets and gained some insight. Why not stay to contemplate together? It would also allow our disciples to exchange experiences, discontent from the past was merely a momentary impulse..."

His words were earnest and his expression sincere.

Divine Sword Old Man froze in his tracks, looking at Taoist Longshan in a complex manner.

Willing to share insights on ascending to Celestial Being, he was unsure how to respond.

"Longshan, you..."

Taoist Longshan laughed heartily:

"Contemplating together will naturally increase chances of success, a mutually beneficial matter."

A sudden wave of conviction arose in Divine Sword Old Man; he opened his mouth but ultimately said nothing.

Taoist Longshan pointed his finger, and the Dragon Owl Sword fell in front of Ning Qi. He nodded in approval at his little disciple and then instructed Luo Wentian:

"Wentian, make proper arrangements for Divine Sword Sect. For the next few days, exchange experiences with each other, but don't harm the harmony."

Divine Sword Old Man also solemnly announced:

"Dong He, behave properly on True Martial Mountain."

The disciples of both factions respectfully responded:

"We heed the orders of our mentors!"

Thereafter,

Taoist Longshan and Divine Sword Old Man departed.

Ning Qi was slightly surprised, though he could guess a bit about the situation. He shook his head, realizing it was not yet a domain he could explore.

The ten-year agreement concluded in a manner no one had anticipated. Ning Qi originally thought he would witness a grand battle between two top Gang Essence experts, but it ended up as a spar between disciples.

Nonetheless, he didn't lose out.

Drawing the Dragon Owl Sword, nearly as tall as himself, Ning Qi praised silently for its excellence.

This top-notch sword could not only cut through iron like mud, cleave gold, and jade, but also amplify Inner Strength and Gang Essence. He was soon advancing to the Inner Essence Realm, and even if he didn't use it, he could find an opportunity to forge a suitable one anew; or, at least study the marvel of such weapons.

Ning Qi tossed the Dragon Owl Sword to White Ape, turned around, and left, uninterested in what followed.

Various gazes followed Ning Qi and the trailing White Ape, full of astonishment.

They knew this was a true unparalleled genius.

What they didn't know was that Ning Qi's display was not even one percent of his true monstrous potential.

...

Inside Seeking Tao Institute.

Ning Qi lay in a vine chair, reading texts.

He felt his body undergoing transformation, the subtle yet profound sensation enchantingly engrossing him, strands of potent strength emerging, converging towards the Dantian.

"So this is... Inner Strength?"

Ning Qi's eyes sparkled brightly.

The mysterious energy flowed within him. Even if it was just a minute trace, he could sense its formidable power capable of causing his physique to explode with terrifying force far beyond its original capacity. Only such small quantity could likely reinforce a single finger.

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This is the essence of physical strength.

"The process of inner strength's emergence will last for two months. It's the 'fruit' produced by the body. Only when the fruit fully matures can it be considered a breakthrough into the Inner Essence Realm. Now, I can at most be considered half-step Inner Essence?"

He laughed wryly.

In fact, according to martial artists, this transitional stage can also be considered Inner Essence Realm, but the inner strength hasn't fully formed. Its destructive power isn't as strong as Inner Essence Realm, and most importantly, without the process of inner strength completely forming to reinforce the body, lifespan doesn't change.

Generally speaking, people in this transitional stage rarely walk around outside.

"But for me, even a trace is enough for me to understand the essence of inner strength!"

"The so-called inner strength is not a physical entity; it is a miraculous force that arises from one's own 'spirit', but it's rather illusory. To some extent, it is akin to a power suggested by the mind. Therefore, inner strength can only enhance oneself, not leave the body. Essentially, the process from the Inner Essence Realm to the Gang Essence Realm is the transformation from illusion to reality!"

Ning Qi's mind was filled with flashes of inspiration.

The martial arts of inner strength that he had browsed in the Scripture Pavilion flashed by, which were pure theory in the past, but now that he possesses inner strength himself, touching the reality naturally feels different.

"The Inner Essence Realm is divided into the Ninefold Realm, that is, Ninefold Gang Formation."

"Each stacking of strength makes the inner strength solidify a bit more."

"The initial process of the body's birth of inner strength is actually the first fold, and this marks the Inner Essence Introduction."

"After three folds, it is considered Small Success."

"Sixfold is Great Success!"

"Ninefold, Perfection!"

"Thereafter, one can attempt to condense the illusion into reality and strive to break through to the Gang Essence Realm!"

Comprehending the wondrous power within his body, Ning Qi has fully grasped the path ahead; from Inner Essence Realm to Gang Essence Realm, there are no more secrets.

He stood up and slowly performed the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance.

The newly emerged trace of inner strength instantly became more active.

"Inner strength originates from the body and is consistent with stance skill."

"The method of cultivating inner strength is called Stacking Strength Skill."

"For example, the Ice Silkworm Strength obtained before is a superior technique of Stacking Strength Skill. In our True Martial Sect, there are four superior techniques, three of which correspond to the True Martial Nine Stances, namely Heaven-shaking Strength, Earth-shaking Strength, and Sea-covering Strength."

"If I had previously practiced the Bian Stance, then now I should practice Earth-shaking Strength. Thus, step by step forming the connection, nine merged into three, three into one, and only then might I recreate the grand confrontation of the Nine Great Celestial Beings battling the Martial Saint."

"Above Heaven-shaking Strength, Earth-shaking Strength, and Sea-covering Strength is True Martial Strength, which my master also didn't pass on."

"However, this is not difficult for me."

Ning Qi took a deep breath, already inspired.

He had pondered for a long time. The days spent in the Scripture Pavilion were not wasted, having already begun mentally preparing. Now, with the emergence of inner strength and understanding of its essence, everything naturally fell into place.

In an instant.

The intricacies of the Three Stacking Strength Skills of Heaven-shaking Strength continuously flashed in his mind.

The similarities were peeled away, and their essences were fused together.

Who knows how long had passed.

A new Stacking Strength Skill quietly formed.

It is the True Martial Strength retro-engineered by Ning Qi.

Previously, the creation of the True Martial Stance from the True Martial Nine Stances took Ning Qi ten days.

But now, from Heaven-shaking Strength, Earth-shaking Strength, and Sea-covering Strength to create True Martial Strength, he only spent two hours.

Because the path was similar, saving a lot of time.

Moreover, theoretical preparation had already begun.

This True Martial Strength may not be exactly like the original, but the difference should not be large.

But Ning Qi was still not satisfied.

"Currently, the foundation I laid is the Supreme Stance Skill Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance, so I naturally cannot practice True Martial Strength. As my master said before, the True Martial Stance matches True Martial Strength, so I must create a Stacking Strength Skill that matches the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance myself."

In a certain sense, this is also the drawback of creating techniques oneself: the path must be paved by oneself.

Lowering the standard to practice True Martial Strength would feel difficult for Ning Qi, and would waste the supreme foundation he built.

Moreover, it would slow his growth.

"Martial artists in the Inner Essence Realm have a lifespan of two hundred years; considering reaching the Ninefold Realm within twenty years is considered extremely gifted, but for me, twenty years is too long!"

"Currently, with two months until the inner strength completely forms, this time is entirely sufficient for me to create a supreme Stacking Strength Skill matching the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance, perhaps not even needing that long."

Ning Qi's eyes carried confidence.

With the experience of creating the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance, True Martial Strength, and various Stacking Strength Skills for reference, coupled with now having greater insight than before, he was fully assured.

He took a deep breath.

Ning Qi's eyes moved slightly, and he said:

"Tiansheng, there's a guest."

The White Ape, originally practicing the Ape King Stance on the side, immediately stopped. He went inside to brew tea, but when he re-emerged holding the teapot, he became quite flustered.

In the distance.

A sneaky little fat man was looking around as he sneaked over.

The White Ape set down the teapot and rushed over angrily. Now, having initial success in martial arts practice, as long as he doesn't use martial arts techniques, others would only see him as having powerful bloodline.

The White Ape moved swiftly, startling Zhuang Chen.

"Yuan Tiansheng, you, you noticed me!"

But the White Ape merely sneered and kicked out directly toward Zhuang Chen's butt. Remembering the little fat man's words about being a pet two days ago, now the sneaky arrival added new grievances to the old.

Zhuang Chen frantically dodged.

But he couldn't evade.

Took a solid kick.

Zhuang Chen started to fight back but was shocked to find himself unable to suppress the White Ape; the man and ape were equally matched, surprisingly even.

"Yuan Tiansheng, you're impressively strong." He exclaimed.

Ning Qi watched from a distance, nodding slightly.

The White Ape indeed is extraordinary; to have trained for such a short time and yet fight Zhuang Chen to a draw, and the White Ape wasn't using martial arts, though neither did Zhuang Chen draw his sword.

With a loud bang.

Zhuang Chen's butt was kicked once more.

He furiously said, "Yuan Tiansheng, if you keep this up, I won't let you!"

Seeing Zhuang Chen about to draw his sword, Ning Qi finally spoke:

"Tiansheng, let him come over."

The White Ape immediately stopped respectfully.

Made a funny face at Zhuang Chen and slipped back into the courtyard.

Zhuang Chen also chuckled, rushing over with bright eyes.

"Ning Qi, little master, I finally found you!"

The Divine Sword Sect members were still lingering in the True Martial Sect, but Ning Qi, hoping for peace, deliberately avoided them, only for Zhuang Chen to find him here.

Ning Qi lay on the vine chair, calmly saying:

"Don't call me master; be careful Divine Sword Senior expels you from the sect."

Zhuang Chen hurriedly shook his head:

"No way, my master said before that if I wanted to apprentice with anyone I saw, I could."

"Ning Qi, little master, please accept disciple's bow."

"I don't accept disciples; bowing a hundred times won't help."

"Then teach me the swordsmanship from that day, okay?"

"With your talent, comprehending Sword Intent is only a matter of time, you don't need my teaching."

"No, it's different!"

"Your sword is unlike any I've ever seen."

Seeing the certainty in the little fat man's eyes, Ning Qi was slightly surprised.

What he used was the Rebirth Myriad Phenomena Fist; that sword was not merely imbued with Sword Intent; even Divine Sword Old Man couldn't see it, yet this little fat man did?

This Innate Sword Bone is indeed remarkable.

"How is it different?" Ning Qi became interested.

"It's very cool! Infernally cool!"

Zhuang Chen's face was full of excitement.

"Even my master's sword isn't as cool as yours!"

He instinctively felt Ning Qi's sword was amazing but couldn't articulate its greatness.

Ning Qi's mouth twitched.

"You have some insight, but not overwhelmingly so."

Still, having someone appreciate his swordsmanship was quite pleasing.

Ning Qi, smiling, looked at the little fat man:

"I don't accept disciples, nor do I teach casually."

The little fat man seemed inspired, suddenly thoughtful, as he mischievously leaned over and said:

"Ning Qi, if I tell you an unparalleled secret technique, will you teach me that day's swordsmanship in exchange?"

Chapter 33: Chapter 32 Dreaming Gluttony, Divine Sword Descends the Mountain (2-in-1)

Ning Qi's eyes slightly brightened.

"A Secret Technique of the Divine Sword Sect?"

The little chubby nodded repeatedly like a pecking chicken.

"Exactly."

"Ning Qi, let me tell you, I have three hobbies."

"What are they?"

"I love sword training the most, then eating, and the third is sleeping. Eating and sleeping, it's all because of the Secret Technique I practice."

Zhuang Chen's expression was full of pride.

Ning Qi was thoroughly intrigued.

During the meal, he had seen the little chubby devour food ravenously, but he only thought it was his natural behavior, yet now it seemed different.

"This Secret Technique is called Dreaming Gluttony."

"Taotie, devourer of heaven and earth, absorbs the essence of all things, transforms it for personal use during sleep and dreams..."

Zhuang Chen's youthful voice began to sound.

Each sentence was spoken slowly, making Ning Qi's eyes grow more astonished by the minute.

This Dreaming Gluttony Secret Technique is not simple!

After listening to Zhuang Chen's explanation, Ning Qi found the intricacies and creativity of it refreshingly novel; it's a technique independent of Stance Skill and Stacking Strength Skill but can aid and boost those cultivation techniques.

Thus accelerating the progress of cultivation.

By consuming large amounts of food or other precious treasures, one could extract their essence and digest it while in a unique state during sleep.

There's no denying that the creator of this technique was quite talented.

"Ning Qi, this Dreaming Gluttony is really powerful, let me tell you, part of the reason I can reach the Tendon-Refining Realm so quickly is because of this Secret Technique."

"My master says, if this Secret Technique can reach a high level, it can even consume treasures like iron blocks and crystal stones, causing changes in the body and Inner Strength, extremely powerful, but unfortunately, I can only eat food."

"You better not think I'm dumb, I'm the only one in the Divine Sword Sect who mastered this Secret Technique, even my master hasn't learned it yet!"

The little chubby proudly puffed out his chest, but then seemed a bit guilty.

"But Ning Qi, don't worry, you're so smart, you're sure to learn it."

Seeing Ning Qi silent, the little chubby got anxious:

"Ning Qi, I've already told you the Secret Technique, you're not going to not teach me swordsmanship, are you?"

He wasn't intentionally trying to cheat Ning Qi, he simply forgot about the difficulty of Dreaming Gluttony. As he was speaking, he suddenly remembered, afraid Ning Qi couldn't learn it and wouldn't teach him swordsmanship.

Ning Qi came back to his senses, smiled, this little chubby had a bit of a scheming mind, but not much.

For most people, mastering this Secret Technique is very difficult, perhaps even requiring a special constitution.

But for Ning Qi.

Simple.

He can completely extract its essence and perfect a technique that suits him.

For him, the important aspects are the concept and inspiration.

However, having a ready path also saves a lot of time.

Unexpectedly, Zhuang Chen brought him such a surprise.

Ideas and inspirations were continuously emerging in his mind.

However, Ning Qi naturally wouldn't bully him or take advantage of him.

"Rest assured, if I said I'd teach you, I will teach you."

Zhuang Chen nodded repeatedly, showing joy on his face.

"Then I'll tell you a few more times, so you won't forget."

"No need, I've already remembered it all."

Zhuang Chen immediately scratched his head:

"Ning Qi, you're so smart, it took me a long time to remember this Secret Technique when I first learned it, and you did it so quickly."

However, he didn't think much further.

He believes Ning Qi, however fast, won't master the Secret Technique right now.

Ning Qi slightly smiled, not offering any further explanation.

"You stand properly and practice swordsmanship for me to see."

Having received the Secret Technique, it's only right to teach him well; Ning Qi wouldn't be perfunctory.

His expression was calm, but it carried a sense of authority.

Originally slightly playful, Zhuang Chen was shocked, his face instinctively showed a hint of fear, it was as if he saw the shadow of his master in Ning Qi.

In the Divine Sword Sect, he only felt three points of fear when Divine Sword Old Man taught martial arts.

"Yes!"

The little chubby responded respectfully, then took a deep breath and slowly took out the wooden sword from his back.

His eyes suddenly became sharp.

With a light shout, Zhuang Chen's chubby body became nimble, he swung the sword and slashed, a profound swordsmanship unfolded effortlessly.

Zhuang Chen spared no reservations, giving it his all.

In the Seeking Tao Institute, swords flashed around, sweeping fallen leaves, occasionally a sword light flashed, then precisely split into two, demonstrating its strong control over Sword Dao.

This level, many swordsmen who have practiced for ten or twenty years may not reach.

Zhuang Chen's sword sometimes floated like a falling leaf, sometimes pressed like a mountain, light and heavy at will, and ultimately only the sound of the sword was heard, not the person; not that the person truly disappeared, but the exquisite sword had already made people ignore the person's presence.

"The realm of Unity of Man and Sword has become more refined, Zhuang Chen has improved slightly in just a few days, what kind of mystery does the Innate Sword Bone hold?"

Ning Qi's eyes flashed with curiosity, he even thought of 'dissecting' the little chubby; if he could closely observe the mysteries of the Innate Sword Bone, perhaps it could lead to incredible insights.

Of course, it was just a thought.

He wasn't that kind of person.

Unknown to him, Zhuang Chen had already stopped, he saw Ning Qi's gaze, and couldn't help but feel cold throughout, timidly saying:

"Ning Qi, was there anything wrong with my swordsmanship just now?"

Ning Qi returned to his senses, smiled:

"It was quite impressive."

With his keen sight, it wasn't hard to see, the little chubby was taking the overbearing path.

The Overbearing Sword Intent is indeed a powerful type of Sword Intent.

He roughly understood why the little chubby was especially eager to learn his swordsmanship, it was because Ning Qi mastered more than one Sword Intent, that day a casual strike actually consisted of several Sword Intents combined.

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Ning Qi observed the myriad phenomena of heaven and earth, and the insights he gained were far more than just the creation of the Myriad Phenomena Origin Stance. It was a lifelong accumulation that he could draw upon at any time.

However, that day Ning Qi used it very discreetly. He was confident that not even the Divine Sword Old Man or his own master could discern it.

Unexpectedly, the little chubby kid instinctively sensed something unusual.

He already knew how to teach the little chubby kid.

Taking a deep breath, Ning Qi solemnly said:

"Watch this sword of mine closely."

Zhuang Chen's eyes widened.

With a casual wave of his hand, Ning Qi made the wooden sword in Zhuang Chen's hand fly uncontrollably into his own hand.

Then.

Ning Qi moved.

His left hand was behind his back, his right hand gently wielding the sword.

The little chubby kid's eyes widened even more.

In his eyes.

Ning Qi had already vanished.

That seemingly unremarkable sword stroke appeared to him as if an ancient mountain was pressing down, or as if an ancient divine elephant was roaring skyward, and vaguely he saw a blazing sun rising.

He was dumbfounded, frozen in place.

Until Ning Qi's voice sounded:

"What did you see?"

Zhuang Chen shivered, coming to his senses, and looked at Ning Qi with eyes full of admiration.

"I saw an ancient mountain, a divine elephant, and a dazzling sun."

As he spoke, he couldn't help but gulp.

Ning Qi nodded lightly:

"Your comprehension is passable."

"Keep watching."

Ning Qi swung his sword again.

Zhuang Chen watched intently.

Then Ning Qi asked again.

Zhuang Chen answered honestly.

Repeating this process.

Until the expression in Zhuang Chen's eyes grew more eager, Ning Qi finally said:

"Try it yourself."

Zhuang Chen swung the sword.

Compared to before, it was already somewhat different.

Ning Qi nodded secretly.

This Innate Sword Bone was indeed extraordinary. His comprehension of the Sword Dao far surpassed that of ordinary people. Ning Qi had only seen such a learning speed when the White Ape was learning the Ape King Stance; compared to this person and ape, the others were inferior.

Ning Qi had Zhuang Chen practice swordplay, occasionally correcting him, until his forehead was covered in sweat, and his face turned pale, then let him stop.

Contacting Sword Intent also required a strong physique and 'God' to support it.

Zhuang Chen was still eager, his face full of excitement:

"Ning Qi, I can feel it, I can feel it!"

"You are amazing!"

He felt that with Ning Qi's guidance, it was as if he had divine assistance, and any casual words could save him from many detours.

He even thought in his heart that his master, the Divine Sword Old Man, was not as good a teacher as Ning Qi.

Zhuang Chen's eyes were full of admiration.

But Ning Qi just smiled faintly:

"For the next few days, come here at noon every day for half a two-hour period to practice swordplay. The rest of the time, you're not allowed to come."

If it had been before.

The little chubby kid might have pestered him endlessly.

But now, he had a kind of unspeakable reverence for Ning Qi.

Although he was reluctant, he still respectfully said:

"Yes!"

In the following days.

Every noon, the little chubby kid arrived as expected, practicing swordplay at the Seeking Tao Institute.

Ning Qi occasionally offered guidance, but he had already created a tailor-made sword for him. As long as the little chubby kid didn't slack off and practiced methodically, comprehending the Overbearing Sword Intent in advance was a natural progression.

Even this Overbearing Sword Intent had some other mysteriousness to it.

While the little chubby kid practiced swordplay, the White Ape watched from the side. After a few days, the little chubby kid humbled himself, finally dispelling the White Ape's anger. These man and ape had come to know each other through their conflicts, and now their relationship was unexpectedly good.

However, when the little chubby kid was present, the White Ape would not practice Stance Skill. This was a rule Ning Qi had set for him; when outsiders were present, he must not reveal the Stance Skill.

As for Ning Qi himself, apart from occasionally guiding Zhuang Chen, he was contemplating the newly obtained Dreaming Gluttony Secret Technique.

This Secret Technique was indeed extraordinary, but Ning Qi also discovered its drawback.

That was, if one continuously cultivated this secret technique, the body would become increasingly corpulent, and eventually, one might turn into a mountain of flesh, which was something Ning Qi couldn't tolerate.

"Ultimately, this Dreaming Gluttony Secret Technique cannot completely digest the energy absorbed in the body, requiring conversion into fat for storage."

Ning Qi planned to extract its essence, improve it, and integrate it into his conceived Stacking Strength Skill.

He already had an idea.

Thus.

Seven days passed in a flash.

The inner strength within Ning Qi's body grew day by day. At the same time, he revisited sets of Stacking Strength Skills, especially Ice Silkworm Strength, which he found quite well-intentioned. It might not necessarily be inferior to Dreaming Gluttony and was worth referencing.

On this day.

The little chubby kid approached the entrance of the Seeking Tao Institute but didn't enter.

His face showed some disappointment:

"Ning Qi, Yuan Tiancheng, I'm leaving."

Today was the day the Divine Sword Sect was to leave. After exchanging experiences here for all this time, it was indeed time to go.

The White Ape leapt out, also showing some reluctance in his eyes.

Although at first he disliked the little chubby kid's disrespect, after getting to know him, he found that the little chubby kid was actually a good person.

"Do you not want to part with me?"

Zhuang Chen looked at Yuan Tiancheng with his eyes lighting up.

The White Ape turned its head haughtily and looked away.

Zhuang Chen laughed, looking at the figures in the courtyard, his eyes filled with reverence.

"Ning Qi, I will miss you all."

Ning Qi smiled.

"Go back and cultivate well."

Zhuang Chen nodded repeatedly:

"I will work hard, and strive to surpass you in ten years!"

Saying that.

The little chubby kid dashed away.

Ning Qi glanced at his departing figure, shaking his head with a smile. Surpassing him, not quite possible.

His mind was slightly stirred, but soon returned to calmness.

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With the little fatty's talent, barring any accidents, he will at least reach the Celestial Being Realm, enjoying a long life. There will be many opportunities to see him in the future, so there's no urgency now.

His gaze returned to the sheepskin parchment in his hand.

"Ice Silkworm Strength, nine instances of Cocoon Breaking and Rebirth, which means nine times of Stacking Strength. Each qualitative change is extremely thorough, but achieving Cocoon Breaking and Rebirth is easier said than done. Each time requires enduring hardships. Perhaps, a different method can be considered..."

Ning Qi's mind was filled with flashes of Spiritual Light.

At this moment, outside the True Martial Mountain,

Divine Sword Old Man and Taoist Longshan were also saying goodbye.

"This time, I owe you one." Divine Sword Old Man said rarely.

It was said that the two were exploring the secrets of the Celestial Human together, but in reality, it was mostly Taoist Longshan sharing, with Divine Sword Old Man occasionally offering some different insights. With these, although Divine Sword Old Man was not guaranteed to immediately break into the Celestial Human Realm, he at least gained some hope and saw the path ahead.

Taoist Longshan laughed heartily:

"It's rare to hear such words from you, Brother Divine Sword."

Divine Sword Old Man turned away, annoyed, and snorted coldly:

"Long Shan, don't think that just because I owe you a favor I'll go easy on you. Don't slack off for our next ten-year appointment, or be careful that my disciples sweep you away!"

Taoist Longshan merely smiled.

After saying this, Divine Sword Old Man also laughed loudly:

"I'm off, see you in ten years!"

The members of the Divine Sword Sect performed the sword salute, and then departed swiftly with their sword steps.

On the way.

The little fatty was distracted, often wanting to speak but holding back.

Seeing his youngest disciple in such a state, Divine Sword Old Man couldn't help but feel a pang in his heart. He pulled Zhuang Chen to the front, and only when the other disciples were out of sight did he kindly ask:

"Chen, is there something you want to tell your master?"

Zhuang Chen cautiously said:

"If I tell you, Master, will you promise not to spank me?"

Divine Sword Old Man felt a chill in his heart, he took a deep breath and smiled:

"Go ahead."

"I... I taught Ning Qi the Dreaming Gluttony."

The little fatty mustered his courage.

Divine Sword Old Man stood in place, stunned.

He knew that his little disciple had been playing with that prodigy from the True Martial Sect these past few days, but he never expected his foolish disciple to have actually passed on the Unparalleled Secret Technique. However, he was not angry; instead, he felt a mixture of emotions.

"Longshan shared the secrets of the Celestial Human with me, and Chen shared the Dreaming Gluttony with Ning Qi. Could this be fate?"

He found the situation somewhat wondrous.

Noticing that his master was silent for a long time, Zhuang Chen worried that he was angry and quickly said:

"Master, don't be mad. Ning Qi didn't just take my secret technique for nothing; he taught me a swordsmanship move."

Divine Sword Old Man's spirit was immediately lifted.

A moment later.

As he watched Zhuang Chen wield the sword, he became statue-like, a storm of emotions surging within him.

"In just a few days, Chen has actually begun to glimpse Sword Intent?!"

In that instant.

He realized that the ninth True Inheritor of the True Martial Sect was likely far more monstrous than he had imagined.

"Longshan, you've accepted an extraordinary disciple!"

He sighed longingly, feeling a bit envious, yet also happy for his old friend.

Soon after, he solemnly patted the top of Zhuang Chen's head and sternly said:

"Chen, from now on, you mustn't tell others that this swordsmanship was taught to you by Ning Qi. If anyone asks, say I taught it to you, understood?"

Zhuang Chen had never seen his master so serious.

But he respectfully responded:

"Yes! I understand, Master!"

Divine Sword Old Man smiled with satisfaction. No matter how monstrous other people's disciples were, his own silly disciple was still the best.

...

Time passed quietly.

A month had gone by since the Divine Sword Sect's departure, and the True Martial Sect had returned to tranquility.

Meanwhile, Ning Qi's creation of his own Stacking Strength Skill had reached a critical point.