

Daily Life 1071

Chapter 1071: Void Gate and Master Li Xiaokai

Wang Ling felt that he had underestimated the power of Shadow Dao.

Unexpectedly, the Heavenly Dao spell he cast was devoured – this was the first time something like this had ever happened to Wang Ling.

“His mind has already been devoured!” All of Loopy Toad’s fur stood on end when it instinctively sensed the danger. This Shadow Dao could devour people’s minds; the lower a person’s realm, the greater the extent to which they were devoured. What was more, their hidden potential could be stimulated. This was different from Wu Yuanji and Father Zheng; their realms were at a particular level, so their minds hadn’t eroded completely.

Wang Ling frowned slightly. In other words, if ordinary people were boosted with the power of Shadow Dao, they would instantly become world-defying masters. And when their minds were completely devoured, their hidden potential was completely triggered and their fighting strength was brought up to the level of Huaxiu’s best; they could even stand shoulder-to-shoulder with members of the Dark Network.

Wang Ling felt that this was somewhat similar to his Great Enlightenment Spell. Furthermore, it was enlightenment in the opposite direction...

Since Wang Nuan was still immature, it was very normal for something like this to happen. What Wang Ling needed to do now was prevent the situation from deteriorating further.

“What should we do?” asked Loopy Toad.

“An experiment,” Wang Ling said calmly.

Loopy Toad: “...”

An experiment?

Listen... was that something a human would say?!

Compared with Wu Yuanji and Zheng Tianqiang, this undertaker Li Daiwei had been devoured by Shadow Dao to a greater extent, and Wang Ling felt that he was a more suitable test subject for investigating Shadow Dao. Wang Ling currently knew very little about this brand new Great Dao. Although he had plenty of thoughts on it, they were all just ideas – all scientific progress was achieved through repeated experiments and a verification process.

What Wang Ling needed to do was verify his hypothesis.

And currently, this undertaker was a relatively more suitable test subject.

“What strong energy.” After devouring Wang Ling’s Great Purification Spell, this undertaker licked his lips and felt that he was even stronger than before. When the Great Purification Spell was stripped of its effect, it was just Heavenly Dao energy! For the undertaker, this was just like an energy supplement.

“Again! Again! Again!”

After the sweet taste of power, the undertaker’s expression gradually became even more deranged, and an extremely fiendish black shadow swirled around his feet in smoky wisps like a tornado.

“Energy materialization?” Loopy Toad was so frightened it fell back a few steps, its tail wagging wildly on reflex.

This was the mark of a supreme-level expert; very powerful experts could give their energy form. According to the Cultivation Encyclopedia, there was a martial dao master called Li Xiaokai whose ability to materialize energy was at the height of perfection. His consummate body technique was unmatched in all of history. Furthermore, Battle Saint Marshal Jiang, one of the Ten Generals, was one of Li Xiaokai’s inner disciples.

But this Master Li later attempted to breach the Void Gate with this body technique. In the end, he was unable to withstand the Void Gate’s power to rip things apart, and he vanished inside it.

The Void Gate, Gate Between Worlds and Heavenly Dao Gate were on par with each other. The difference was that the Void Gate came into being naturally, the Gate Between Worlds was created by Immortal Zhenyuan, and the Heavenly Dao Gate was access which the Heavenly Dao Governing Committee specially set up for those experts who had comprehended Heavenly Dao. To be able to enter the Heavenly Dao Gate meant that one had already touched the Heavenly Dao realm.

As for this Void Gate, it was more like a wandering secret land in the cultivation world. There were plenty of explorers, but the chances of the Void Gate appearing was extremely low. In addition, there hadn't been any new fluctuations from it in the last thousand years; even the most precise surveillance equipment couldn't accurately detect the Void Gate's location.

The Void Gate's last appearance had been at Master Li's birthday banquet. On that day, after smashing the void open with his fists, he disappeared.

Hundreds of years later, the government believed that Master Li was dead.

But all along his body had yet to be found, and the speculation that he was dead was nothing more than a hypothesis.

The center of the Void Gate was almost like a black hole. Many people believed that despite Master Li's formidable body technique, it would be very hard to struggle free once you were sucked in.

Even if his body wasn't ripped apart, he had probably starved to death after a few hundred years of drifting in space without nourishment...

In spite of that, the people still recognized this master as the one who had accomplished the materialization of energy.

Hence, every time someone materialized energy, a lot of people couldn't help but associate this phenomenon with Li Xiaokai.

Even someone like Loopy Toad, who was from the demon world, knew the name Li Xiaokai, which demonstrated how influential and famous this master had been back then.

Wang Ling didn't stop this undertaker from performing his trick. He saw the black energy mist at the undertaker's feet gradually take form behind the man and turn into a pure black phantom. This

phantom looked like a malevolent spirit, and with two horns on its head and six arms, it made for a very bizarre image.

“Stand attack 1!”

Loopy Toad couldn’t help crying out in fear.

Wang Ling didn’t think it was as simple as that.

This was probably similar to the manifestation of the inner demon. Since this undertaker’s mind had been devoured by Shadow Dao, his shadow had become an intelligent lifeform which reflected the most sinister heart demon inside him, and took on its appearance.

Tentatively call it “Shadow Image.”

Wang Ling silently gave this phenomenon a name.

For those whose minds had been corroded by Shadow Dao, the Shadow Images probably differed from person to person.

At that time, the undertaker gazed at Wang Ling, who was expressionless where he stood, and burst out laughing. “Two juniors! Didn’t your mothers tell you not to hang around the cemetery in the middle of the night? Go, Soul Devourer! Gobble them up completely!”

As soon as he said the words, this Shadow Image called Soul Devourer roared on the spot and lunged at Wang Ling and Loopy Toad with a wide open mouth that was full of fine, black teeth.

This power...

Wang Ling frowned.

Sure enough, Shadow Dao was far more powerful than he had imagined. Such an attack looked simple and straightforward, but it was in fact extremely concentrated and stronger than Wang Ling had ever seen from any expert before.

In other words, this Shadow Image was able to far better endure beatings than Evil Sword God; at least, Wang Ling didn't think he could kill it with a single slap.

Furthermore, Wang Ling speculated that normal physical attacks probably wouldn't work on this Shadow Image.

What should he do?

Pulverize it from the inside?

Relaxing his muscles and bones, Wang Ling stretched out his hands and actually pulled the Shadow Image's mouth open to enter its stomach.

Chapter 1072: Shadow Palace

Little Master Ling did frequently bust out some astonishing moves, but something like directly pulling open someone's mouth and going in was still a shock to Loopy Toad. It dashed forward to grab hold of Wang Ling's clothes, and followed him into the Shadow Image's stomach.

What astonished the man and dog was that there was actually another world inside the Shadow Image's stomach.

This was a great world which functioned according to its own laws, but it was in black and white, as if someone had taken photos on their cell phone, and each image was an extremely beautiful ink and wash painting.

Wang Ling was surprised by his little sister's "masterpiece" yet again. Not only could she endow someone else's shadow with abilities and activate their Shadow Image, she could even create a great world inside the Shadow Image's stomach.

Wang Ling felt that this was like spending two hundred yuan to buy a smartphone on the streets: it was a roadside product which in the end worked better than the real deal, and the most ridiculous thing was that it had 256G of space instead of the 16G you were expecting!

It could only be said that as a brand-new Great Dao, Wang Nuan's Shadow Dao was constantly surprising Wang Ling.

When Wang Ling and Loopy Toad these two colorful people entered this black and white world, they stood out in stark contrast.

"There's very powerful demonic qi here," Loopy Toad said as it raised its guard.

The demonic qi which they had felt outside was now so thick inside this Shadow Image's world that it assailed Loopy Toad's nose.

Wang Ling furrowed his brow before raising his hand to produce two golden light shields to cover them securely. He himself wouldn't be affected, but he was still worried that Loopy Toad might be swayed by the evil intent. While Loopy Toad was currently on the right path thanks to Wang Ling's training, it was in the end from the demon race, and definitely still harbored evil thoughts in its heart.

And one of Shadow Dao's abilities was to stir up the wicked thoughts which a person had repressed. If the demonic qi invaded Loopy Toad here, it would be yet another inconvenience for Wang Ling later.

"The heart demon is there."

Lifting his head and looking around, Wang Ling murmured the words in his heart.

The demonic qi that Loopy Toad was talking about was none other than the heart demon which dwelled deep inside the Shadow Image's world. Wang Ling speculated that once he ferreted out the heart demon and destroyed it, the Shadow Image would directly disappear and the undertaker outside would return to normal.

Wang Ling gave this world a name, and called it "Shadow Palace."

He had to find the heart demon that was hiding inside the palace.

The Shadow Palace world was set up according to each Shadow Image's state of mind. In this undertaker's Shadow Palace, for example, graves stretched into the distance, as far as the eye could see. These graves weren't arranged in tidy rows like in a cemetery, nor did they have finely and elegantly carved tombstones.

They looked like a jumble of burial mounds, with the graves haphazardly scattered throughout this world; Wang Ling felt like he was in a horror game.

Wang Ling walked over to a grave, the words on the black broken tombstone almost indistinguishable: Wang Lin's Grave .

Wang Lin? Was it the legendary Old Demon Wang?

Wang Ling was a little shaken. While the legend was that Wang Lin had long died after attempting to attack the Gate of Immortality, Wang Lin himself was also a legend. That was because the world now only had three Gates, and the Gate of Immortality didn't exist.

Next to Wang Ling, Loopy Toad also had an inkling of what was going on. "Demons emerge from a person's heart. All this is fake. Everything in the world of the heart demon is nothing but an illusion. This is a great world, but none of what we see is real – it's just a true reflection of the heart." Although Loopy Toad said this, it was well aware that only Little Master Ling was able to resist being corroded by this heart demon. If it was anyone else, they would very quickly be assimilated into the heart demon's world.

Man and dog continued to explore the place. Unfortunately, there didn't seem to be any end to this world. Wang Ling saw all kinds of oddly-shaped tombstones, and no two tombstones were alike.

Activating the King's Eye, Wang Ling searched the entire world with a godly perspective, and finally discovered a shabby cabin in one corner of the world.

Taking Loopy Toad with him, Wang Ling approached the cabin before coming to a halt in front of it.

He could sense a person's aura inside.

Then, the door was pushed open, and a kindly-looking old man walked out of the cabin.

It was precisely the undertaker whom Wang Ling had seen in the outside world.

The hunched old man's expression was as unperturbed as ever. "Come in..."

It was as if he knew Wang Ling and Loopy Toad would be coming; he didn't look very surprised, and instead showed them in.

From the moment he saw the old man, Wang Ling already knew that he was a manifestation of the heart demon. What Wang Ling found unexpected, however, was that despite the strong demonic qi around this old man, there wasn't the least bit of killing intent from him.

After entering the cabin, Wang Ling and Loopy Toad noticed that the cabin was all the old man had.

"There's nothing else in this house." Sitting on the ground, the old man laughed bitterly. "You were able to enter this place – you really aren't simple people."

Wang Ling was silent as he also sat on the ground silently. He gave Loopy Toad a meaningful look, indicating for it to ask the questions.

Loopy Toad understood Wang Ling's meaning.

Loopy Toad: "Are you the heart demon, or...?"

"I am, and also not."

Unexpectedly, the old man gave this cryptic reply. "Everyone has shadows in their hearts. I'm the heart demon, but also a victim."

"Victim?"

"The reason why people push their shadows down to the bottoms of their hearts and don't let them out is ultimately because of their conscience. I am Mr Li Daiwei's inner conscience. But unfortunately, as you can see, I've already been corroded by the heart demon... I can't escape this

place. What's more..." when he said this, the old man's gaze swept over their surroundings, "You've seen this cabin..."

From the moment they entered the cabin, Loopy Toad had already noticed that there was something strange about it, and at the old man's words, Wang Ling and Loopy Toad paid more attention to the place.

They were astonished to realize that the cabin was shrinking bit by bit.

"Whatever conscience is left is the size of this cabin. As for the graveyard outside, that's all the heart demon's territory after it corroded Mr Li's conscience." The old man sighed gloomily. "The graveyard wasn't big before, and this cabin was instead a huge palace. Unfortunately, Mr Li Daiwei ate a bag of frozen dumplings several days ago, and the palace was taken over bit by bit. It kept shrinking until it turned into this shabby cabin. I was living in the palace all this time, and in the end, I wasn't able to escape, and the heart demon took control... The moment this cabin is thoroughly corroded, this old man will transform into the real heart demon."

"There should be a way to stop it, right?" asked Loopy Toad.

The old man shook his head helplessly. "There isn't a solution."

"No solution?"

"I'm the conscience that has been taken over by the heart demon. If you kill me, you can indeed kill the heart demon. This might seem to put an end to everything. You have to remember, however, that you'll also be killing the conscience." The old man said, "If a person loses his conscience, it's no different from being dead."

Chapter 1073: How Many Levels of Qi Deviation Are There?

For Wang Ling and Loopy Toad, this was undoubtedly a dilemma. The undertaker's conscience was contaminated by the heart demon, and the two had already become one. If the old man in front of them was killed, his heart demon would disappear, but his conscience would be swallowed up at the same time.

Wang Ling realized that he couldn't make a move himself. The situation was starting to become a lot more worrying.

The most critical thing was that Wang Ling had never encountered anything like this before.

If he couldn't solve this old man's problem, then even if he found all those who had eaten the special frozen dumplings, he would still be unable to solve the root of the problem. Furthermore, over a long period of time, everyone else's conscience might be corroded to a greater degree compared with the undertaker.

What should he do?

Look for Heavenly Dao to ask about the situation?

Wang Ling was wondering how to solve the current predicament.

He couldn't go wrong by asking Heavenly Dao if he couldn't fix a problem.

Perhaps the Heavenly Dao Treasury had some magic treasure that could resolve this problem.

Thinking this, Wang Ling bit his finger and started to set up a Heavenly Dao Summoning Array inside the small cabin.

The old man didn't know who Wang Ling and Loopy Toad were, but seeing how they were actually able to penetrate this place, he knew that they weren't ordinary people. Now, seeing Wang Ling construct an array he didn't recognize, the old man couldn't be any more shocked; all of this was too overwhelming.

Wang Ling looked to be only about as old as the old man's young son, but he was unexpectedly so amazing.

A moment later, the Heavenly Dao little golden man was summoned once more.

This time, however, the little golden man clearly looked like he was suffering.

“Heart demon corrosion?” The little golden man was immediately aware of the situation. The Heavenly Dao little golden men were all very pure beings who symbolized supremacy, light and pure holiness, and would instinctively feel uncomfortable in such a polluted environment.

It was like a human who had lived in the woods for a very long time suddenly coming to a city full of heavy traffic and exhaust fumes, which was bound to be hard to adapt to.

The house was still shrinking. If the very last bit of conscience was completely corroded by the heart demon, the only thing that awaited the old man was destruction.

“It’s too late.”

The little golden man knew why Wang Ling had summoned him.

A golden light was released from his body, and several large golden hands covered in obscure runes stretched out from the sky to firmly prop up the walls of the house.

But this could only delay the heart demon corrosion, and couldn’t prevent it from happening.

“Now what?” Loopy Toad couldn’t help asking.

The little golden man wiped at his sweat. It was clear that even Heavenly Dao had never imagined that the situation would be this tricky. “I’ve been a part of Heavenly Dao for hundreds of years, and I can be considered knowledgeable, but why haven’t I seen this Great Dao before?”

Loopy Toad replied, “Of course you haven’t. This Great Dao belongs to my little master’s little sister, though she hasn’t been born yet.”

The little man was struck by realization.

It turned out that another big shot devil was going to be born...

And this was clearly a she-devil.

She actually had this sort of power even before she was born – she surpassed what Wang Ling had been like back then.

The little golden man was well aware that Wang Ling only started to run wild after he was born; he had been very well-behaved when he was still in the womb.

Who would have thought that the next one would be even more worrying...

Does Heaven want to kill off us Heavenly Dao?!

The little golden man sobbed inwardly.

“Don’t cry. Is there a way to fix this?” Loopy Toad asked.

“Heart demon corrosion actually isn’t uncommon.” The little golden man wore a solemn expression and began to analyze the situation. “Usually, there are only a few ways a heart demon can invade someone. The first is during qi deviation. This is the most common way one is corroded by a heart demon, as well as the simplest and most crude. The victim’s qi and blood will flow in reverse, thus endangering his life. It looks very serious, but is the lowest level of heart demon corrosion. As long as there’s someone watching him who realizes in time that he’s experiencing a qi deviation, medication can be used to alleviate the condition.”

“There are levels?”

“Of course there are levels... Every year, Heavenly Dao takes in countless people who die from qi deviation. The victims are usually missing part of their three spiritual and seven physical souls, so a large number of them are unable to reincarnate into humans.”

So there was this sort of principle...

Wang Ling’s and Loopy Toad’s horizons were broadened once again.

“Then what level am I at?” When the old man heard this, he couldn’t help asking about his situation. He looked very apprehensive as his entire body trembled.

“Don’t rush me, I’ll explain everything.”

The little golden man said unhurriedly, “There are three levels of heart demon corrosion. What I was talking about just now is the third and lowest level. Next, I’ll talk about the second level. A level 2 heart demon corrosion commonly happens when one’s Dao heart collapses, and is caused by many things.

“For example, the share market crashes; your girlfriend breaks up with you; you didn’t draw the chess piece you wanted in Auto Chess and you’re killed at full health by a player with low health; you’re missing one number on your lottery ticket; the author you like doesn’t update; you were scammed in an eSports bet; you haven’t written a single word of your homework when the summer break is about to end; and so on...”

“...”

“In short, the reasons a Dao heart collapses are complex and many, and usually have something to do with one’s mental tolerance. In addition, based on annual statistics from the Heavenly Dao Governing Committee, the higher a person’s realm, the more likely a cultivator’s Dao heart will collapse. A high realm and position often means that he has higher self-esteem than the average person, and when something hits the bottom line in his heart, this will produce a huge sense of frustration that leads to the collapse of his Dao heart.”

The little golden man continued, “There are many cultivators who die every year because their Dao hearts collapsed, but the condition can be treated. A Dao heart can also be adjusted with medication. If you have the Bell of Purification, which is one of the Heavenly Dao’s Thirty-Three Precious Treasures, the collapse of a Dao heart at levels 2 and 3 can even be instantly cured.

“As for level 1, the situation is more complex. A level 1 heart demon corrosion is a combination of the second and third levels; that is to say, one’s Dao heart collapses because of qi deviation... when a level 1 heart demon corrosion occurs, a cultivator will die in a short ten seconds, unless first aid is administered very promptly. This is relatively rare.”

“Have there been any cases?”

“Of course...”

The little golden man said, “For example, the Heavenly Dao Governing Committee received the soul of a cultivator who happened to experience a qi deviation when he was in seclusion. Before he was completely cured, he texted his family to say that he was fine. However, he never expected his fiancée to marry someone else while he was in seclusion... so his Dao heart directly collapsed on top of his qi deviation!”

“...”

“Then, as for me...” The old man pointed at himself and looked eagerly at the little golden man.

“As for you, level 0,” the little golden man replied.

“There’s a level 0?”

“Mm, it’s also the highest level. I decided after observing the current situation – in my report to the Heavenly Dao Governing Committee, I plan to apply for an upgrade of the grading system. This level 0 heart demon corrosion is much worse than I imagined...”

Chapter 1074: Heavenly Dao’s Principle of the Overbearing Director

Was there truly no hope?

When Wang Ling heard what the Heavenly Dao said, his expression darkened, and when he saw the last shred of the old man’s conscience swallowed up by the heart demon, he thought quickly and decided to give it one last shot.

He stretched his hand out in the air, and actually pulled out another old man from a space fissure, who wasn’t corroded by the heart demon.

Then, Wang Ling placed his other hand on the conscience old man who was about to be devoured by the heart demon, and he used his body as a bridge to transfer the heart demon out by splitting it in half!

“This is...”

“Acid-base neutralization,” said Wang Ling.

It was a very simple chemical principle.

It could be done with Fate Dao.

The old man whom Wang Ling had pulled out of the space tunnel had been grabbed from a parallel dimension using Fate Dao. Now that the old man’s heart demon corrosion was beyond saving, Wang Ling thought that this technique might buy them some time.

In the end, after Wang Ling made his move, the Heavenly Dao little golden man suddenly said, “We can save him!”

“How?”

“Earlier, the heart demon corrosion was too great. But the degree of damage now can be fixed with the Bell of Purification,” the golden man swiftly replied. “I’ll go to the treasury to fetch it!”

“Don’t we have to go through the application process?”

“Those on the white list don’t have to.”

...

Ten seconds later, the little golden man made a hand seal and pressed his hands to the ground. A mist suddenly swirled up, and a colorful ceramic magic bell appeared in front of Wang Ling and Loopy Toad.

Floating in the air, this bell radiated a pure and holy aura, which seemed to possess the power to purify all beings in the world. Wang Ling sensed that the power of the Great Purification Spell paled drastically in comparison with the Bell of Purification. After all, it was a supreme magic treasure, and one of the Heavenly Dao’s Thirty-Three Precious Treasures.

Sighing inwardly, Wang Ling grabbed the Bell of Purification with his bare hands, and it didn't show any resistance at all. The little golden man was terrified when he saw this. If a normal cultivator happened to run across a Heavenly Dao Precious Treasure, the latter absolutely wouldn't let itself be touched as long as it didn't recognize the cultivator as its master.

But this Bell of Purification lay docilely in Wang Ling's hands like a baby...

Holding the Bell of Purification, Wang Ling shook it in front of the two conscience old men, and the black mist that lingered around them dissipated.

They were completely purified of the heart demon on the spot!

After everything was done, Wang Ling sent back the conscience old man whom he had pulled from a parallel universe.

The ground which the shabby cabin was on started to shake slightly.

In the blink of an eye, the shabby cabin turned back into a massive palace; sunlight shone brightly through the windows and the world outside the palace came back to life.

Wang Ling and Loopy Toad finally sighed with relief.

Fortunately, he had mastered Fate Dao, otherwise he really didn't know what he could have done in the face of this situation.

"By the way... can you..." The little golden man gazed at the Bell of Purification in Wang Ling's hand and tried to get it back.

Of course, Wang Ling wasn't someone who didn't return what he borrowed.

This was one of the Heavenly Dao's Thirty-Three Precious Treasures, after all... it belonged to Heavenly Dao to begin with.

But Wang Ling also knew that in a peaceful era, the Heavenly Dao's Thirty-Three Precious Treasures didn't get much use. While he had fixed the undertaker's problem, there were still eight other people to go, and Wang Ling would need to rely on this Bell of Purification to purify them of the heart demons.

So Wang Ling couldn't return this thing for the time being.

Of course, he wasn't completely selfless...

When he shook the Bell of Purification just now, he thought that the sound it made was quite pleasant to listen to.

Maybe he could give this small bell to his little sister as a toy.

Ah Nuan was too aggressive and could easily stir up trouble. This Bell of Purification could eradicate demonic tendencies as well as suppress fury, which fit Ah Nuan to a tee!

At this thought, Wang Ling cheerfully put away this Bell of Purification.

Seeing this, the expectant little golden man was furious but didn't dare say anything...

...

After returning to the land of Heavenly Dao, this little golden man who was responsible for all matters to do with Wang Ling was rebuked by the six main Heavenly Dao of the Heavenly Dao Governing Committee.

"I didn't do it deliberately..." The little golden man felt quite wronged. "If you think you have the ability to get it back, go look for him yourself..."

"I don't care what you think! I only care what I think!"

The six main Heavenly Dao began to berate him one after another.

“I’m the main Heavenly Dao, you have to listen to me!”

“Can’t get it back? I don’t think it’s a problem. Even if it is, it’s your problem as the person-in-charge – you should be the one to fix it!”

“I don’t care whether it’s possible to get it back or not. You have to get it back even if you can’t! I’ll say it again! Go get it back even if you can’t! Don’t ask me again if I can get it back, you must get it back! Understand? You must get it back!”

“If you can’t, why don’t you just quit?”

...

A few seconds later, the little golden man burst out in tears.

...

Elsewhere, Wang Ling, who had obtained the Bell of Purification, embarked on the second part of his journey of purification.

The undertaker’s problem was fixed and the Shadow Image behind him directly disappeared, while the souls that had been devoured by the Shadow Image before were all released, and were now waiting to enter the natural cycle of reincarnation.

Wang Ling’s second stop was a hospital in the city center.

This place wasn’t unfamiliar to Wang Ling – this was precisely Director Li’s hospital from back then. Wang Ling remembered that this was a special administrative medical defense building mainly used to quarantine patients with unusual ailments. It was a little strange for Wang Ling to show up uninvited in the middle of the night, but fortunately, Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal had already made the arrangements for Wang Ling. The Office of Strategic Deception had sent someone over to wait for them, and the person who had been appointed to wait for Wang Ling at the second stop was Little Silver.

“Master!” From a long distance away, Wang Ling saw a barefooted young man with silver hair waving at him.

“You came out like this without putting on a disguise?” Loopy Toad gazed at Little Silver in some surprise, since Little Silver would go out with a hat to cover the two horns on his head.

“It’s fine, it’s fine. It’s so hot with a hat on, and my horns would be cooked under it!” said Little Silver. “Didn’t Nezha become big recently?”

“That’s right.”

“If someone asks me about my horns, I’ll just say I’m cosplaying Aobing.”

“...” Loopy Toad and Wang Ling sucked in their breaths.

In some sense, this guy was really a genius...

Without wasting any time, Little Silver led them into the building and explained the second person’s situation to them. “Master, this person’s condition is somewhat unusual. It’s pica, and the person has been receiving treatment for it here all this time.”

“Pica? Then how did they eat that bag of frozen dumplings?”

“According to the nurse, the person ate half a mouthful that day and threw up... They probably didn’t throw up all of it.”

“...”

Chapter 1075: A Pica Girl’s Special Ability

Wang Ling thought this was good news.

Although the person agreed to eat the dumplings, they were suffering from pica, and their body couldn't keep normal food down, so they only ate a little. If it was just a little, then the heart demon corrosion shouldn't be too advanced.

"How did this person get pica?" Loopy Toad couldn't help asking as they followed Little Silver to the ward.

"The patient is a girl, and every day she yells about how she wants to lose weight. She started out by eating only one cucumber a day, and later stopped eating altogether. Then she got really hungry, but refused to eat food, and suddenly fell in love with soot, which doesn't contain fat and can make her full. The girl was very happy to eat it. In the end, she was poisoned, and thus brought to the hospital." As he spoke, Little Silver took out his phone and searched for the photos he had obtained from the doctor.

"Look, this is a photo of the girl when she was healthy," Little Silver said.

Wang Ling and Loopy Toad look at the phone screen. This was a girl with a figure that was just right. She was already well-developed, with flesh in all the right places.

"This kid doesn't look fat; she doesn't need to lose weight at all." Loopy Toad didn't quite understand why some boys and girls would go to such extremes in a diet in order to lose weight.

If you were hungry, you had to eat.

Didn't you just need to make sure to exercise every day? You wouldn't gain weight that way.

Eating healthily was very important. As long as a person didn't consume a lot of fat, and had a healthy diet and proper exercise, a good figure wasn't a pipe dream.

After all, not everyone could be like Wang Ling, who rubbed away whatever fat he gained on his body like plasticine...

For now, they would take a look at her.

Wang Ling looked at the phone screen with a calm expression.

He had the Bell of Purification in his hand. It shouldn't be a problem to drive out the heart demon.

A few minutes later, Little Silver led Wang Ling to a ward in the special zone. Wang Ling, Little Silver and Loopy Toad were all wearing white robes, and Loopy Toad's white robe was tailor-made. The Office of Strategic Deception had given them new identities as consultant doctors.

The head nurse saw Little Silver bring Wang Ling and Loopy Toad over, and she exclaimed when she saw Wang Ling's young face, "You're Dr Wang? You're so young!"

Wang Ling: "Mm..."

"Head nurse, please don't mind him. My teacher doesn't really talk much. We'll have to trouble you!" Little Silver took the initiative to step forward and greet the head nurse.

"Mm, alright..." The head nurse nodded woodenly.

Long before Wang Ling and Loopy Toad arrived, Little Silver had already made all the preparations.

Their credentials passed muster and their fake identities were ironclad.

But even so, the head nurse was still very curious about Wang Ling.

She felt that this Dr Wang was too young. Also, he seemed to be quite the character, even bringing a spirit dog with him when he visited the patient.

It was rare to see such a handsome and young doctor with this sort of character.

Instantly, the head nurse's imagination started to run wild over Wang Ling.

"Follow me, please." The head nurse took out an all-purpose card and started to lead the way. The special zone had individual wards, where a lot of unusual patients were treated.

“That girl with pica wouldn’t have come here originally, but after she ate the dumplings, her mental state suddenly changed for some reason and she became completely unstable. Not only that, but her appetite also increased. Although she started to eat again, she binged like crazy, and her weight increased by 30 jin in a short period of time.” The head nurse frowned. “We’ve never seen anything like it before, and we suspect that it’s an unusual disease, so she’s quarantined here for observation and treatment.”

Wang Ling nodded his head.

Following the head nurse, they reached the door to Ward 1306, where they heard the hysterical cries of a girl.

“As you can see, the girl’s already gone crazy, shouting for food.” The head nurse sighed. “The walls of this ward are made of special memory foam to prevent some mental patients from doing something dangerous like knocking their heads against the walls. Even if the walls are damaged, they can bounce back in a short time, and have the ability to absorb water and fire.”

“Since the girl’s illness was triggered by the frozen dumplings, where are the frozen dumplings?” Loopy Toad asked.

“They were thrown out,” said the head nurse.

Little Silver then said to Wang Ling and Loopy Toad telepathically, “Master, don’t worry. Grenade-Throwing has arranged for all the frozen dumplings to be recovered!”

Wang Ling breathed a sigh of relief at the news.

No matter what, it was a good thing that these dumplings weren’t passed on again...

The head nurse swiped the card, then hid somewhat fearfully behind Wang Ling. “Dr Wang, I’m scared...”

Wang Ling: “...”

Seeing this, Little Silver hurriedly grabbed the head nurse’s hand, then turned around to stand in front of her. “Head nurse, Teacher Wang has mysophobia. It’s better for you not to touch him...”

The head nurse retracted her hand in disappointment.

She knew it wasn't very nice for an old cow like her to eat young grass.

But a person could dream!

Hearing the head nurse's thoughts, Wang Ling was speechless.

This lunatic author had set up crispy noodle snacks as the female lead, and had even stopped writing about Lotus Sun. How can an "old cow" like you compare with Lotus Sun? Lotus Sun isn't even the female lead, and you want to be the female lead? That isn't a dream, but simply a fantasy!

Ignoring the head nurse's "dream," Wang Ling pushed the door open.

There wasn't any furniture in the special ward, so no matter how much of a scene the girl made, it was no use.

Seeing that someone had come in, a crazed look appeared on the girl's face. She stared at Wang Ling and sniffed him, and muttered incessantly, "Crispy noodle snacks... crispy noodle snacks... crispy noodle snacks..."

She smelled crispy noodle snacks on Wang Ling!

Then she sniffed Little Silver. "Broccoli... broccoli... broccoli..."

"What kind of ability is that?" Little Silver was startled.

The head nurse, who was hiding at the back, explained, "After she went crazy, it seems that she's able to smell what other people have eaten in the last few hours."

"I see..." Little Silver was struck by realization. He had indeed been eating broccoli salad with Grenade-Throwing before this; he never expected the girl to actually be able to sniff out something like this, which didn't have a smell.

A crazed look started to appear in the girl's eyes. She stared at the head nurse who was hiding in the back and kept repeating the words, "Garlic... garlic... garlic..."

The head nurse lowered her head and breathed on her palms. She had eaten garlic that evening before she came, but she had already rinsed out her mouth and used a lot of chewing gum so as not to affect anyone. She didn't expect this girl to still be able to smell it.

Finally, the girl turned her gaze to Loopy Toad. "Shit... shit... shit..."

At that moment, everyone turned in unison to look at Loopy Toad with utterly horrified expressions.

Chapter 1076: A Dog Can't Stop Eating Shit

There was a saying that a dog couldn't fix its habit of eating shit...

While Loopy Toad's soul had already merged with its body to a very great extent after it turned into a dog, Loopy Toad still saw itself as a grand demon king of the Sky-Swallowing Toad clan, and couldn't discard its identity as a toad just like that. However, Loopy Toad never thought that when it was out walking on the streets and saw a lump of fresh shit that looked just like ice cream, something in its brain would unexpectedly prompt him to give it a lick.

It was an instinctive reaction, like when a dog lifted a leg to pee.

By the time Loopy Toad realized what it had done, it was already too late.

It had happened so suddenly. Loopy Toad had been following Wang Ling all the while, but at the time, Wang Ling's thoughts were preoccupied with finding the nine people who had eaten the frozen dumplings, so he didn't pay attention to what Loopy Toad was doing.

Loopy Toad was extremely glad.

After all, it was very disgraceful behavior.

But Loopy Toad never expected a female lunatic with pica to see through it at that critical moment.

Even the way Little Silver looked at Loopy Toad was different. “Senior brother...”

Because Little Silver had come later than Loopy Toad, becoming Wang Ling’s second combat pet, he already recognized Loopy Toad as his senior brother. It was just that Little Silver had never called Loopy Toad as such, and it felt like a stab to the heart when Little Silver did it now.

Loopy Toad: “I...”

Little Silver: “Senior brother, you don’t have to explain. We all understand.”

The head nurse at the back also chimed in, “A dog can never fix its habit of eating shit... We all understand.”

Loopy Toad: “...”

Loopy Toad realized at that moment that it had already jumped into the Yellow River and could no longer wash itself clean.

Of course, Wang Ling didn’t react much to Loopy Toad’s behavior, and just felt a little sick.

Their priority right now was to save the girl in front of them.

The girl had a crazed expression on her face. After she analyzed what everyone had eaten in the last few hours, Wang Ling thought she would lunge at him, and completely didn’t expect her to huddle in a corner and hug her knees.

“What’s going on?” asked Little Silver.

Apart from the head nurse, the other three at the scene were straight men who naturally didn’t understand a young girl’s heart.

After seeing the initially deranged girl suddenly calm down, the head nurse actually understood what the girl was thinking. “She probably got shy, or might be trying to appear a little more reserved.”

“Why?” Little Silver was puzzled.

“Why do so many young girls want to lose weight in the beginning? To look good! Why do they want to look good? Looking at the deeper reason, they want to find a boyfriend to love them! For young teenage girls like these in particular, their requirement in a boyfriend isn’t necessarily money – for most of them, it’s still looks. When they meet a good-looking boy, they’ll subconsciously become reserved.”

The head nurse analyzed it logically: “For example, some girls who usually have a huge appetite will become restrained when they start dating. They’ll nibble on their food and look a little bashful, completely different to when they put their feet up and gobble down instant noodles.”

“...”

“And as another example, sometimes young girls like to hold hands and talk loudly with one another, but when they see a good-looking boy passing by, their voices will suddenly become softer and extremely gentle.”

“...” Wang Ling, Little Silver and Loopy Toad were suddenly enlightened, and they sighed over the truth of things...

Although this head nurse was like an old cow who wanted to eat grass, her analysis really made sense!

But here was the problem: Wang Ling didn’t think he was that good-looking... he had even specially modified his face; it was really strange if even this would catch the young girl’s eye!

Wang Ling walked over to the room’s light controls, and after turning off some of the lights, the girl’s Shadow Image very quickly took form in front of Wang Ling — it looked like an ox demon, except that instead of horns, there were two ice-cream cones on its head, and it held a baguette in each hand.

The appearance was a reflection of the mind – this was certainly the case with this girl's Shadow Image.

Wang Ling went up in a straightforward manner, pulled its jaws open, and entered to look for this girl's heart demon inside the Shadow Palace.

Once again, Wang Ling appeared in a world which was like an ink and wash painting. Unlike the undertaker's world, however, this world which the heart demon had invaded wasn't a graveyard, but had mountain ranges made up of snacks. All types of potato chips were piled up together, and there was even a network of endless black chocolate rivers which flowed through the entire world – the smell was very strong as Wang Ling got closer.

It went without saying that he was amazed by this world's landscape.

Wang Ling and Loopy Toad took a few steps forward, and a huge hotpot mountain appeared in front of them.

It was a massive volcanic, and there were a lot of common hotpot ingredients inside the crater, such as fish balls, beef balls, shrimp dumplings, fish rolls and dried tofu rolls. Although everything was black and white like an ink and wash painting, this food's appearance was very distinct, and smelled good – one couldn't help but drool just approaching it.

“This...”

Loopy Toad felt that things weren't looking good.

It had thought that since the girl had only eaten a bit of the dumplings, the corrosion shouldn't be so serious; it hadn't expected the heart demon corrosion to be far more severe than they had imagined.

Perhaps this was the result of being restrained for too long.

Because she had been dieting to lose weight all this time, the girl had constantly suppressed the natural hunger for food. In the end, she was completely triggered after eating a bit of the frozen dumplings.

All the food in front of them had high calories, which was taboo for people who wanted to lose weight.

Loopy Toad didn't dare approach casually, and waited for Wang Ling to make his decision.

And Wang Ling prepared to start searching for clues to the Shadow Palace in this world.

In the undertaker's world before, the Shadow Palace had been a cabin. But what about the girl's Shadow Palace? Perhaps it was some type of food? Wang Ling made some guesses.

He sent out the King's Eye to search the area, only to find nothing.

There wasn't anything similar to a house in this world; perhaps the girl had hidden her Shadow Palace in some sort of food.

Following behind Wang Ling during their search, Loopy Toad eventually noticed that they seemed to be going off-track.

As they walked, Loopy Toad realized that Wang Ling was actually heading toward a forest...

"A forest of crispy noodle snacks..." Wang Ling raised his head to look at this forest of crispy noodle snacks. It was densely packed with crispy noodle snack trees! Crispy noodle snack packets dangled like apples from the branches.

Loopy Toad was stupefied...

Who could top this...

Chapter 1077: Flame of the Universe

The moment the forest of crispy noodle snacks appeared, Loopy Toad realized that the situation was gradually spinning out of control... Although the forest had been produced by the heart demon, everything about it was truly a little too real. Even from far away, Loopy Toad could smell the pepper scent of crispy noodle snacks which wafted out from the forest.

It knew its Little Master Ling too well – how could he possibly resist such temptation?!

“No! I have to do something!” Seeing Wang Ling gradually turn absent-minded, Loopy Toad grabbed Wang Ling’s pants leg between its teeth to drag him back. However, Wang Ling was outrageously strong, and Loopy Toad found itself unable to stop him at all. Despite its death grip on Wang Ling’s pants legs, it was dragged over the ground, its head creating a deep furrow in the earth...

No, it needed reinforcements!

Loopy Toad grit its teeth and took out the immortal seal! This was from Immortal Zhenyuan, and could be used to summon him whenever necessary. In this situation, the fastest way Loopy Toad could think of to get help was to summon Immortal Zhenyuan.

To prevent the girl from doing anything unusual, Little Silver was protecting them outside, and thus couldn’t enter the world.

“Law of nature! Seal complete!” Loopy Toad shouted inwardly.

With the injection of spirit energy, Zhenyuan’s immortal seal instantly burst with powerful spirit power. Power gathered in the sky before a figure finally took shape. Immortal Zhenyuan was the same as ever with his red hair. Red flames of spirit light curled around his body as he descended from the sky.

Zhenyuan cultivated the Upright Yang Element Technique, which was a divine-level fire technique that had the miraculous effect of driving off demons and ghosts. When he appeared, the initially gloomy heart demon world seemed a little more colorful.

“Senior Dog!” Zhenyuan came over to greet Loopy Toad. He was still working on restoring Drought Star, and all this time had been anticipating Senior Dog summoning him to do odd jobs for it! He never thought that after so long, Senior Dog would finally remember him!

This sort of excitement was like a popular uploader, who hadn't been online for a while, remembering his password for the video website...

Immortal Zhenyuan looked around excitedly and was stunned.

Heart demon world...

Although he didn't know about the Shadow Palace, he could instantly sense that this world had been created by a heart demon!

Zhenyuan was no stranger to heart demons. Back then, he had sundered his heart demon from his body before it overwhelmed him, and it became "Wind Spirit." Ultimately, he destroyed Wind Spirit with his own hands. Zhenyuan still vividly remembered the melancholy of that act to this day.

It was already scary enough dealing with a heart demon.

How much worse would it be to deal with a world that had been constructed by a heart demon?

"Come." Loopy Toad didn't say anything unnecessary as it promptly called Zhenyuan over to hold back Wang Ling. It already felt like it couldn't hold on, but thinking of its identity as "Senior Dog" in front of Zhenyuan, it automatically switched to a commanding tone.

Loopy Toad had covertly drawn on Wang Ling's power last time to help Zhenyuan destroy Wind Spirit. Zhenyuan had treated it as a senior since then, and even revered it as a divine dog for a while.

"Okay, Senior Dog, there's no need for you to handle this small thing! Just leave it to me!" The next moment, Zhenyuan took action right away. Since he had faith that this "Senior Dog" would support him from behind, he wasn't apprehensive at all in his movements.

"Heaven Sun Lock!" He made a hand seal at the speed of light, his long fingers moving unceasingly like a fire lotus blossoming. In a split second, several golden disks appeared in the sky, and blazing golden chains of fire shot out to firmly grasp Wang Ling's ankles.

This Heaven Sun Lock which Immortal Zhenyuan took pride in was one of the magic treasures he had created. It could suppress powerful spirit beasts, demon beasts, and even vicious behemoths! This was the confidence of a man who was devoted to creating magic treasures!

In fact, Wang Ling held Zhenyuan in very high regard when it came to the creation of magic treasures. After all, this was the man who created the Gate Between Worlds... If it wasn't for the Gate Between Worlds, Loopy Toad wouldn't have met Wang Ling, and it might not be where it was now if it hadn't met Wang Ling. It had already been stuck at a bottleneck as a demon king, and if things had continued in that vein, the Sky-Swallowing Toad clan might have been sooner or later swallowed up by the other demon clans.

It could be said that the Gate Between Worlds had changed the outcomes of many things...

Loopy Toad thus also had a lot of confidence in the Heaven Sun Lock which Zhenyuan created. Even if the magic treasure couldn't stop its Little Master Ling, it should at least buy them some time, right? Its little master's strength was still sealed away; in theory, it should be possible to forcibly restrain Wang Ling in his constrained state.

But reality was far more challenging than Loopy Toad imagined.

The chains had only just fastened themselves around Wang Ling's ankles, when a flash of protective gold light actually smashed them into powder!

"My Heaven Sun Lock..."

Zhenyuan was extremely heartbroken.

This Heaven Sun Lock was his proud masterpiece which he had only been able to accomplish after roaming the universe for a long time looking for the materials needed!

But it had actually been smashed to smithereens by this youngster's protective golden light alone?

Zhenyuan was somewhat surprised.

It seemed that Senior Dog had found him a really amazing opponent this time!

Perhaps this was Senior Dog's test for him?

He had to put on a good show!

The youngster's odd behavior as he uncontrollably walked toward the forest of crispy noodle snacks was a typical sign of a heart demon corrosion! Perhaps he had been tainted by the inner demon of this world?

A lot of complicated possibilities flashed through Zhenyuan's mind.

Looking at Wang Ling's young face, he couldn't help sighing. When all was said and done, this was still a youngster who had yet to spread his wings, and who was completely unable to withstand the pressure of such an environment!

Zhenyuan smiled a little sympathetically.

Now that he knew that the youngster had lost control of his own body because of the heart demon, what Zhenyuan needed to do next was very easy.

Thinking this, Zhenyuan unhurriedly took out a second magic treasure.

Loopy Toad noticed that it was actually a lighter.

"Senior Dog, this is the Flame of the Universe that I gathered when I was wandering around space... the holy power it contains has the effect of purifying a heart demon!"

"Why a lighter?"

"This is the legendary nuclear lighter. I also have a matching nuclear flashlight here!"

"...Does it work?" Loopy Toad was doubtful.

This heart demon was created by Shadow Dao – even the Great Purification Spell was useless.

But this was Loopy Toad's first time seeing the Flame of the Universe.

It was a rainbow-colored flame which had been refined in the core of every large star that existed in the deepest parts of the universe.

Now that things had come to this point, Loopy Toad had no other choice but to let Zhenyuan give it a try.

“Don't worry, Senior Dog, the Flame of the Universe will automatically purify the heart demon!”

Pa!

Zhenyuan aimed the nuclear lighter at Wang Ling and flicked it.

The Flame of the Universe had its own spiritual intelligence. It sprang out of the lighter and lunged confidently at Wang Ling.

But even before the flame was halfway to Wang Ling, something happened which left Zhenyuan astonished.

This small seven-colored flame actually pulled back shivering into the lighter...

Zhenyuan: “???”

The Flame of the Universe was actually so scared?

Who on earth did Senior Dog want him to deal with?

Chapter 1079: Regain Confidence?

The King's Eye had the power to eliminate what was false and retain what was true. Although the world of the Shadow Palace created by the Shadow Dao heart demon was excessive and the food looked so real and smelled irresistible, the world's true appearance was laid bare under Wang Ling's King's Eye.

To try and use a petty heart demon illusion in the Shadow Palace to trap Wang Ling – this was simply looking down on this Immortal King's capability. Wang Ling had pretended to fall for it largely because he had sensed that the spirit power inside Loopy Toad's body had reached a critical point after they entered this world, and Loopy Toad just needed a turning point in order to make a breakthrough.

This was why Wang Ling had directed and acted out this play himself.

He never thought it would be at the cost of Zhenyuan being summoned...

As a sheltered "baby," Wang Ling naturally felt bitter.

His principle of laying low would never change, so of course, the fewer people who knew his identity, the better. Wang Ling had only acknowledged Grenade-Throwing after years of testing him, but even then, Grenade-Throwing only knew part of Wang Ling's actual situation.

Few outsiders knew of Wang Ling's true situation; Odd Zhuo, as Wang Ling's disciple, was the only human being who was privy to it.

Odd Zhuo had been searching for Wang Ling for many years, and hadn't breathed a word about Wang Ling in all that time; he was a very trustworthy person. It was after Wang Ling put Odd Zhuo through all sorts of tests that he finally decided to accept this disciple – it wasn't because of those crispy noodle snack packets! Definitely not! ㄟ(ㄟ ^ ㄟ) ㄟ Hmph!

But Zhenyuan's appearance now put him in an awkward situation...

After all, Zhenyuan was a Venerated Immortal, who was recognized as a legendary cultivator on Earth. Although his realm still fell a little short of Wang Zhen's level, the latter being from the Domain of the Gods, Zhenyuan was an expert whose reputation was well-deserved.

In short, he wasn't easy to fool.

After Dog Two evolved into its human form, Wang Ling felt that it was time to drop the act, so he stopped pretending that he had been taken over by the heart demon. Seeing this, Loopy Toad hurriedly urged Zhenyuan to cancel the seal.

The Heavenly Emperor's Jade Seal was admittedly powerful, but it was ridiculous to imagine that it could suppress Wang Ling. If it wasn't because Wang Ling had an act to keep up right to the end, he could have broken the seal with one puff of air.

Loopy Toad transformed back into its dog form and ran over to check on Wang Ling, before sighing with relief after discovering that he was fine.

Wang Ling had almost scared it to death.

But at the same time, Loopy Toad was suspicious.

How could a person as devilishly strong as Little Master Ling be so easily possessed by the heart demon?

"Senior Dog, I think you're more handsome in your human form!" Zhenyuan also came over and started to lavish extravagant praise on Loopy Toad.

"I think so too, but I don't have any clothes." Loopy Toad laughed, but was sweating. Except for the green hair, its human form was more handsome than it had imagined. Unfortunately, it didn't have any clothes, and it didn't seem very tasteful to walk about with its thing dangling out.

Wang Ling was lost for words for some time.

What he was mainly thinking about now was how he should face Zhenyuan.

This was a cultivator acclaimed as a legend on Earth; if Wang Ling got tangled up with the other party, he couldn't imagine what might happen in the future. The new school term was just about to start, and Wang Ling wanted to sort out his little sister's mess before then so that he could live his Senior Grade One life peacefully.

Wang Ling didn't expect the problems to pile up like dominos, with things spiraling out of control ever since the first domino fell.

"Senior!" Zhenyuan took the initiative to come over and greet him.

It seemed like a simple greeting, but in that instant, Wang Ling was pulled into another space.

This was the Mystical Sound Technique, which was a spell that combined space and sound. When cast, it could instantly suck a person into a separate mental space which was soundproof and practically impossible to guard against.

Of course, there was no way Wang Ling would be affected; no one could invade his mental landscape so easily. He just wanted to see what move Zhenyuan would use on him as well as what Zhenyuan wanted to say.

Having said that, Wang Ling was a little disgruntled at being pulled into a different space at their first meeting.

The red-haired young man who stood in front of him in the mental space still looked composed. In a confrontation, experts often didn't reveal much on their faces; even if they were panic-stricken, their expressions would look unruffled and calm.

"Senior, you deliberately let yourself be led astray." When Zhenyuan opened his mouth, he got straight to the point. From his previous contact with Zhenyuan, Wang Ling knew that this guy was a straightforward person who didn't like to beat around the bush. Actually, this was good, since Wang Ling didn't have to waste time making blind guesses.

Wang Ling sank into a short silence again at these words. He didn't deny it, which was as good as admitting it.

"I knew it..." Zhenyuan sighed emotionally. "Senior, I want to ask you for a favor."

Wang Ling: "???"

“Senior, it’s like this: I’ve been fixing Drought Star all this time. Since getting rid of Wind Spirit, I’ve been wondering what kind of attitude a true expert in the cultivation world should have toward life as well as future cultivation... Senior Dog’s appearance was a huge inspiration.”

“...”

Zhenyuan’s next words then completely astonished Wang Ling. “I know the reason why Senior deliberately went astray was to stimulate Senior Dog’s true strength so that it had the courage to face its human form, right?”

“...” Not at all, come on!

Wang Ling had clearly stirred Loopy Toad up in order to help it transform into a human! It didn’t have a human form to begin with! Why had it suddenly turned into helping Loop Toad regain its confidence??? What kind of operation was this?

“Senior, I understand. You don’t need to say anything else... I know that Senior Dog’s green hair in its human form makes it a little self-conscious. And Senior Dog’s human form itself is a little... hm... actually, I’m not sure whether it’s proper for me to say this, but I’ll still say it...”

“A little what...” Wang Ling’s curiosity was piqued.

“A little... short...”

“...”

“It’s quite normal for a man to lose his confidence when he’s that short as a human.” Zhenyuan sighed lightly. “But I didn’t expect Senior to actually help Senior Dog regain its confidence by provoking it. I was greatly moved when I saw how Senior Dog rushed forward to save Senior without any thought to its own safety.”

“...”

“Because of that, I have a presumptuous request.” After saying that, Zhenyuan finally got to the point. “Senior, please accept me as your disciple and let me study under you...”

Chapter 1080: School Reopens

Yet another person who wanted to learn from him... Wang Ling was silent. It was just the summer holiday, but there was no lack of people saying that they wanted to learn from him. First, it was Wang Zhen and Liu Qingyi, and then Gu Shunzhi popped up later. Now, there was also Zhenyuan...

He had no other choice; for the time being, he would just arrange for all of them to study at No. 60 High.

After cleaning up the mess left by his little sister Wang Nuan, Wang Ling sent Odd Zhuo a text message and had him arrange for Zhenyuan's school admission. Although the transfer test which Wang Zhen and the others had taken was already over, Odd Zhuo could pull some strings to get Zhenyuan in. Of course, Wang Ling only had one request: try not to put Zhenyuan in his class...

As everyone knew, cultivation schools didn't start at the same time as ordinary high schools.

Finally, on November 4th, No. 60 High reopened.

Thanks to the efforts of all the teachers in the second half of the summer break, the fragments of No. 60 High's Jade Scroll of School History was recovered before their application was submitted to the General Administration of 100 Cultivation Schools. Following the trending news that No. 60 High was applying to become a key city cultivation high school, the second semester of Senior One heralded new transfer students... There were two in Wang Ling's class alone...

"I will now introduce everyone to two new students in our class. Let's welcome Student Gu and Student Zhen!" After Teacher Pan finished speaking, the whole class immediately broke out clapping.

Student Gu was Gu Shunzhi, while Student Zhen was Zhenyuan... This was the fake identity which Odd Zhuo had created for Zhenyuan: Zhen Yuan, based on a homonym of Zhenyuan.

Following the clapping, there were the sounds of quiet discussion.

"Both of them are very handsome!"

“You can tell with one glance that the one with glasses has to be a curve wrecker, while the one with red hair... Don’t you think he looks like some idol?”

Feather Lin stared at Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan on the dais unblinkingly... In her mind, she was already concocting an indescribable epic between the two men...

A fujoshi’s way of thinking was really scary...

Wang Ling turned his eyes away indifferently and looked out the window.

In the reflection on the glass, he could clearly see both Zhenyuan and Gu Shunzhi staring at him.

Before each semester, Teacher Pan had a habit of making an example of someone in order to cow the others. This “example” label was clearly going to fall on Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan’s heads.

Teacher Pan looked at Gu Shunzhi first. His hair was a decent length and he had a more relaxed dress style. Since the school hadn’t yet had the time to allocate him a school uniform, this Student Gu deliberately chose to wear a blue sports outfit, which wasn’t particularly out of place in No. 60 High’s environment.

Hm...

But Gu Shunzhi was going to be the “example” used at the beginning of the semester, and Wang Ling had to salute Teacher Pan’s ability to nitpick.

“Student Gu, I know your performance in the transfer test was very good and you’re first on the enrollment list for the entire school, but you still have to be humble, understand? Look at you – you’re so tall that I don’t even reach your shoulders! As a warm man, can’t you show a little consideration for your teacher’s feelings? There are also quite a number of girls in our class. As a good student, you need to put your best foot forward! Understand?”

Old Pan’s tone sounded as gentle as a spring breeze, but a lot of the students could actually tell that she didn’t have anything to say, and so was deliberately nitpicking... Of course, Teacher Pan also had another objective, and that was to test the character of this “Student Gu.”

After all, newly transferred students were unfamiliar with the other students. As the teacher-in-charge, Teacher Pan naturally had to clearly determine what their personalities were like. Different situations required different response measures to enable the transfer students to quickly integrate into the larger collective class environment.

In Teacher Pan's opinion, Gu Shunzhi's performance was truly perfect...

"Alright, teacher, I understand." Gu Shunzhi gave a slight smile which was so gentle that Teacher Pan actually felt the blush of first love...

"Go... go down then..." Teacher Pan was speechless, and pointed at the last seat in the middle row as she hurriedly got Gu Shunzhi to step down.

This transfer student had a good disposition and character... This was really rare!

Teacher Pan now wasn't worried about Gu Shunzhi at all; instead, she started to worry about the female students in the class... Such a child who was outstanding in all respects would definitely be the catalyst for "puppy love"! Views on love in the current cultivation world were more liberal: as long as it was a safe environment, there weren't that many rules and restrictions.

But Old Pan was a more conservative person.

And she also valued grades more.

She didn't object to puppy love, but if it affected a student's grades, she would definitely put a stop to it.

Teacher Pan pondered this deep in her heart. It looked like she would have to keep an eye on the other students for a while.

After she was done with Gu Shunzhi, Teacher Pan turned to look at Zhenyuan next to him.

Compared with Gu Shunzhi, Teacher Pan's evaluation of Zhenyuan's image had straightaway dropped to below the passing score of 60...

“Student Zhen, I know that your grades are also very good! You ranked second this time. But you should know that our school doesn’t allow its students to dye their hair! And why do you have ear studs? A boy actually has more jewelry than I do?” Teacher Pan scolded him in front of everyone.

Only then did Zhenyuan realize what was wrong with himself.

He was so bent on learning from Wang Ling that he forgot he had already become a high school student in this environment. He had always had his red hair and was used to it, but it did look rather unconventional. As for the ear studs... they were the mystical “Studs in Ears” that Zhenyuan was also proud of. This was a formidable imprisonment magic artifact, and also a very useful magic treasure for defense.

Realizing that he was wrong, Zhenyuan removed the ear studs of his own accord and then explained his hair to Teacher Pan. “Teacher, I’m really sorry... My hair is always red because of my fire cultivation arts. Even if I dye it black, it’ll turn back to red overnight... This can’t be considered dyed hair, right? But I know that my hairstyle might not be very suitable, so I’ll get a haircut after school.”

“Because of cultivation arts?” Teacher Pan was skeptical.

It could only be said that as a teaching pioneer in No. 60 High, Teacher Pan was in the end Teacher Pan. Given her many years of teaching experience, she immediately came up with an idea for Zhenyuan. “How about this, Student Zhen: you can directly shave your head so that you don’t have to worry about hair color. Since our school is a large body, we naturally stress unity.”

The truth was that Teacher Pan’s words weren’t absolute. If Zhenyuan didn’t want to do it, Teacher Pan could actually compromise. Previously, some students in the other classes got into massive rows with their parents and teachers over their hairstyles and ran away from home. Teacher Pan didn’t want a repeat performance of that

But Teacher Pan was surprised once again.

She found it hard to imagine that this Student Zhen would actually have an unusually good nature as he hurriedly agreed with her. “Teacher Pan, don’t worry, I’ll sort it out after school today!”

In the back row, Wang Ling felt deeply moved when he heard Zhenyuan’s words.

Zhenyuan and Gu Shunzhi were two men who stood at the top of the cultivation world.

They were long unfazed by the affairs of the secular world... and long past the age of rebellion...

And Wang Ling had just realized something.

He realized that Gu Shunzhi and Zhenyuan's arrival seemed to have drawn most of the class's attention.

His own sense of existence was thus diminished.

Perhaps these two joining his class wasn't as bad as he had imagined.