

## **Divine 1981**

### Chapter 1981 - Important People 1

She intended to continue nurturing them as they settled into the Bai Clan. Along with enhancing their spiritual power, she also focused on teaching them strategic thinking and agility for the upcoming competition.

Understanding the situation within the Bai Clan was her first priority. Once they were seated, Gu Chaoyan turned to Dao Seeking with a serious expression and inquired, “How is Si Kangning faring within the Bai Clan?”

Si Kangning? Hong Fang and the others pondered the question carefully.

“He can be considered one of the more remarkable individuals in the Bai Clan, but Si Kangning tends to be ostentatious and openly displays most of his cultivation. On the other hand, other equally exceptional individuals have concealed their true depths, so we are unaware of their true capabilities,” Hong Fang responded cautiously.

Gu Chaoyan nodded in understanding.

She believed that these few individuals possessed great potential and an advantage— they knew how to think. Even if their cultivation levels were not particularly high, they approached life with earnestness.

Gu Chaoyan had a general sense of Si Kangning’s cultivation level.

For them, attaining the position of Tribe Chief would still be relatively straightforward.

“Continue cultivating in the following days. Lingyun has refined a substantial amount of elixir pills to aid you in breaking through to the Martial Warrior level. Once you reach that level, I will guide you into the mountains and back out again. Acquiring the position of Tribe Chief will be a simple task for you,” Gu Chaoyan assured them.

She instructed them to cultivate peacefully and informed them that she had no plans for the next two days. Her main responsibility was to protect them.

Given the numerous tasks within the Bai Clan, she feared that any missteps could prove detrimental.

Sword One continued his cultivation, while Lingyun diligently crafted pills.

In this tumultuous world, alchemists were exceptionally rare.

The two courtyards quickly fell into silence.

At the Bai family residence.

Once the matter was fully resolved, the head of the Bai family discussed it with a select few family members.

Bai Ruiguang, being the eldest son, had always maintained a commendable cultivation level.

Curiously, he asked, “Why would that lady from the Haitian Market, who possesses such fine Spirit Stones, pills, and magical weapons, want our Bai family’s courtyard?”

Today, the head of the Bai family was suddenly taken aback. However, after regaining composure and careful consideration, he had a rough idea.

It was likely that she desired the courtyard because the Wu brothers had been driven out, and it was evident that she had brought them along.

Just moments ago, he had dispatched someone to inquire and learned that this girl was the master of the Wu brothers, Hongfang Fu, Huarong, and the other two seemingly worthless individuals.

Things were starting to connect.

A certain understanding began to take shape.

For the Bai family, it remained uncertain whether this was a favorable development.

“I suspect that Wu Zimo, Wu Ziming, Hongfang Fu, and Huarong encountered a Noble Lady. This Noble Lady is assisting them,” the head of the Bai family solemnly remarked.

If that were the case, he wondered if Ruiguang and the others had a higher chance of success.

Bai Ruiguang initially frowned but then expressed confusion. “A Noble Lady helping them? The four of them are renowned as trash. What’s the point of assisting them?”

“I do not know the reason. However, it’s possible that they are onto something. By frequently venturing outside for training, they may stumble upon opportunities. On the other hand, we are closely monitored, which limits our chances,” the head of the Bai family regretfully stated. Bai Ruiguang did not share the same sentiment..

Chapter 1982 - Important People 2

So what if they encountered a Noble Lady?

Now that the Noble Lady was within the Bai Clan, or even within the Bai family itself, and she possibly possessed something valuable, what of it?

Bai Ruiguang believed that he could contend for it.

However...

He refrained from expressing this aloud.

The head of the Bai family was fair. If he voiced his intentions, his other two brothers would likely have to share the spoils. But if he remained silent, all the benefits would be his alone.

Bai Ruiguang nodded. “His cultivation level may not be impressive, but his luck seems to be quite good.”

The head of the Bai family agreed with a nod.

After dividing the acquired items, he distributed them to the three brothers.

“The three of you possess formidable cultivation levels. I have given you equal shares. The outcome of the competition will depend on your abilities,” the head of the Bai family remarked.

The three brothers collected their belongings and departed, each lost in their own thoughts.

Following the sudden commotion, silence settled upon the Bai family.

This incident could be regarded as an unexpected gain for the Bai family.

News of this development quickly reached the Wu family.

The Bai family had their reasons for accepting the Wu Brothers. After inquiring around, they discovered that Gu Chaoyan had concealed nothing.

Upon learning this, the expression of the Wu family’s head turned unpleasant.

Had they known that Wu Zimo and Wu Ziming were under the patronage of such influential figures and possessed valuable assets, the Wu family would have readily handed over the courtyard. The

Wu family possessed numerous courtyards, and even if they couldn't offer one, Teng Kai would have had alternatives.

Why was it entrusted to the Bai family?

Initially, Zidao's cultivation level was on par with the boys from the Bai family. However, now that they had obtained such a valuable opportunity, it was likely that they would soon surpass Zidao.

How could this situation be advantageous for the Wu family?

The future of the Wu family relied heavily on Zidao's performance in the competition.

Feeling disheartened, the Wu family's head called Madam Wu over. When he saw her, his anger intensified.

He berated, "What exactly were you thinking?"

"Zimo and Ziming brought someone with them. Why didn't you inquire about the situation before chasing them away?"

"Now, the Bai family has reaped substantial benefits. If we had fought for it from the beginning, wouldn't those Spirit Stones, pills, and magical weapons belong to our Wu family? And wouldn't Zidao be the one we utilized?"

"I entrusted you with a task, but it seems nothing has been accomplished." The

Wu family's head seethed with anger. "Summon Wu Tian here."

Although he was the head of the Wu family, he was not the biological father of Wu Zimo and Wu Ziming. They were Wu Tian's sons. If there were any matters to be discussed, it would be more fitting for Wu Tian to address them.

Wu Tian arrived promptly.

Upon his arrival, he quickly replied, "Master, Zimo and Ziming's decisions are their own, and they have nothing to do with me. I have no intentions of leaving the Wu family either. Regardless of what may befall them in the future, please rest assured, Master."

Wu Tian wanted to ensure that he would not be implicated in this matter, hence his swift clarification.

The Wu family's head seethed with fury upon seeing him.

"Bring Zimo and Ziming here and convey to them that I drove them away out of disappointment, not because I truly meant it. Tell them to return home—we are still a family!" the head commanded.

Wu Tian was taken aback.

Callingl them back?

What was happening?

Hadn't they just cast them out earlier today?

They possessed no cultivation and were deemed useless to the Wu family. So why were they suddenly being summoned back?

Wu Tian nodded and departed.

As he left, a sudden realization struck him..

Chapter 1983 - Important People 3

He swiftly turned around and headed back. It dawned on him that the family head had neglected to inform him where to find them.

"Family Head, where should we look for them?" Wu Tian inquired, his expression perplexed.

After driving them away, he had lost track of their whereabouts. If he were to search for them now, who knew where they could be?

"The Bai family," the head of the Wu family impatiently replied.

"The Bai family? Why would they go to the Bai family? Could it be that the Bai family took them in? The Bai family doesn't strike me as the kind-hearted sort." Wu Tian voiced his doubts.



“If I tell you to go, then go!” The Wu family’s master couldn’t be bothered to engage in further conversation, resorting to direct reprimand.

Wu Tian quivered, refraining from further inquiries. He hastily departed.

At the Bai family’s residence.

Why would the Bai family take them in, given their unsavory reputation?

Wu Tian found himself even more bewildered.

Upon their arrival at the Bai family’s compound, he unexpectedly encountered Bai Ruiguang.

“Rui Guang, where are Zimo and Ziming?” Wu Tian inquired.

Bai Ruiguang cast him a nonchalant glance, paying him no mind whatsoever.

His own cultivation was average, and his two sons didn’t even possess testable spiritual roots. He was met with little respect within the Wu family, let alone in the presence of the Bai family.

It seemed Bai Ruiguang was already aware of the Bai family’s involvement when he arrived today.

For the time being, it seemed implausible to bring them back to the Wu family.

“Uncle Wu, please return. Since your Wu family has already driven them away, let them have some peace and refrain from disturbing them any further. If there’s anything to discuss, we can address it later. Today is not an opportune time,” Bai Ruiguang declared.

He signaled to his attendant to escort Wu Tian out, wearing a faint smile upon his face.

He had been concerned about finding a suitable occasion to converse with him, and now seemed to be the perfect moment.

Bai Ruiguang approached the entrance of the two courtyards.

Upon reaching the door, Sword One warily inquired, “Who are you?”

Bai Ruiguang responded with a warm smile upon seeing Sword One. “I am Bai Ruiguang, the Young Master of the Bai Family. I have something to discuss with your master, or perhaps Zimo and Ziming are here as well.”

At the Bai family’s residence.

Sword One sought instructions first.

Gu Chaoyan emerged from the courtyard and asked Dao Seeking, "What's the matter? Zimo and Ziming are currently unavailable to see anyone."

"It's like this. Just now, their father, Wu Tian, came to the Bai family, expressing his desire to see them. Given what transpired today, I initially prevented him from doing so. However, in light of the recent events, I believe it's important to inform Zimo and the others," Bai Ruiguang explained.

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

"They are immersed in their cultivation and cannot be disturbed by visitors during this period." Gu Chaoyan replied.

"Cultivation?" Bai Ruiguang appeared slightly surprised. He then continued, "Zimo and Ziming underwent testing on the Spirit Testing Platform. Their spiritual roots weren't particularly remarkable, so it's likely that cultivating would be twice as effective for them."

"Lady, you have previously visited Haitian Market and possess a high cultivation level, indicating your exposure to the wider world. If you require any assistance, I am willing to lend a hand. Although you have exchanged your belongings for this courtyard, our Bai family has indeed received a significant favor. It is only fair for us to offer our support."

Gu Chaoyan furrowed her brows, feeling a hint of irritation.

She acknowledged that her own conspicuous actions had led to this situation..

Chapter 1984 - Experience 1

She had originally hoped to quickly resolve these complicated matters so that they could focus on their cultivation. However, she had not anticipated that her actions would attract covetous attention.

Fortunately, the Bai family did not harbor such intentions. It seemed that it was only this young master, Bai Ruiguang, who had his own agenda.

Gu Chaoyan had no intention of getting involved with him.

She said coldly, "There's no need."

"I exchanged something valuable for two courtyards from the Bai family. It was a transaction, and once a mutually agreed transaction is completed, no one owes anyone anything. That's how morality and rules work. I believe Young Master Bai, you, understand this. If there are any ambiguities in the transaction, it will undermine the principles of fairness and order"

"There's no need to trouble your Bai family for help."

"There's no need to trouble your Bai family for assistance. I have already informed the head of your family that your involvement in the affairs of these two courtyards is unnecessary. If any minor issues arise in the future, we will handle them ourselves. There's no need to trouble you, Young Master Bai."

"If there's nothing else, Young Master Bai, please."

"Zimo and Ziming are still focused on their cultivation, so they may not have time to entertain you," Gu Chaoyan stated coldly, firmly keeping Bai Ruiguang at a distance.

Bai Ruiguang cleared his throat lightly, attempting to conceal his embarrassment. He had initially expected some room for negotiation when Gu Chaoyan mentioned leaving leeway, but he had not anticipated such a thorough rejection.

This was the first time he found himself in such a predicament. He couldn't understand why she had extended so much help to Wu Zimo and Wu Ziming while keeping her distance from him. Bai Ruiguang believed that the assistance he could provide far surpassed what the two brothers could offer. It was perplexing to him.

Despite the awkwardness, Bai Ruiguang decided to stand up. As the young master of the Bai family, he understood the art of navigating social situations, knowing when to push forward and when to retreat.

“Since you don't currently require any assistance, I shall return to focus on my cultivation. Although the transaction is complete, we are now neighbors. If you ever find yourself in need, you can come to the Bai family and seek help from Ruiguang,” he offered, leaving some room for future interaction.

However, he did not linger any longer. Bai Ruiguang stood up and prepared to take his leave.

Gu Chaoyan furrowed her brow as she took a sip of tea. Sword One accompanied Bai Ruiguang on his way out.

Upon his return, Sword One still appeared perplexed. “Earlier, the head of the Bai family seemed afraid that we would cause trouble for them again. But this young master of the Bai family came over, trying to help in every way possible. I truly don't understand what is going on with the Bai family.”

Gu Chaoyan replied calmly, “It’s just greed. Initially, I feared that Brother Wu would cling to the Bai family, and I wanted to ensure I didn’t break my promise. However, now I realize that I desire more. It’s simply human nature.”

“Sword One, don’t cultivate for the next two days. Watch the yard.”

“Although this world operates on the principle of the strong preying on the weak, as long as the four of us advance in strength, no one will dare to make things difficult for us. However, growing up in a prominent family like the Bai Clan means we can’t simply abandon those relationships overnight. Even if some individuals approach us with ill intentions, let’s not sever our ties abruptly. It would only make their lives difficult within the Bai Clan. We will eventually depart from here, and Zuo is currently dealing with some troubles during this period,” Gu Chaoyan explained to Sword One, conveying her perspective.

Sword One comprehended her words and understood her intentions.

She knew her role and what needed to be done.

Meanwhile, in a room within another courtyard, Wu Zimo had just awakened and was preparing to step out when he overheard Gu Chaoyan’s conversation with Sword One..

Chapter 1985 - Experience 2

They would eventually have to depart from the clan, and their future lives would not be within its walls?

Did their Master mean that she had no intention of taking them along?

Wu Zimo had never discussed with his Master what would happen after the competition, and she had never mentioned it either. However, in his heart, his Master had saved their lives and taught them the ways of cultivation. In his mind, they would unquestionably follow her in the future. The competition was just a small mission, and they had the potential to achieve even greater things.

But...

He never expected that his Master did not plan on bringing them along.

Similar to Sword One and Lingyun.

The elation he felt after his breakthrough suddenly waned, leaving a sense of calm in its wake.

For a moment, he was unsure whether he should come out.

“Why aren’t you coming out?” Gu Chaoyan asked directly.

With her current level of cultivation, she could already sense their auras.

The four of them had been cultivating together.

Although she didn’t know who had achieved the breakthrough first, she could sense that someone had awakened.

Coincidentally, she had refrained from entering and was waiting outside.

But after a while, no one emerged.

Curious about the delay, Gu Chaoyan asked directly, unaware of the reasons behind it.

Wu Zimo felt a sense of embarrassment. Initially, he had hesitated to come out because he didn't know how to face his Master. The recent events still lingered in his heart, unresolved.

However, he mustered up his courage and emerged hesitantly. "Master." "What? Have you made a breakthrough?" Gu Chaoyan asked.

It happened much earlier than she had anticipated, and she hadn't expected Wu Zimo to be the first one to break through again. He seemed to have been consistently the fastest among the four of them in achieving breakthroughs. Previously, it had only been a little bit longer, but this time, the gap was even more pronounced.

The one who would likely prevail in the future was most likely him.

Wu Zimo nodded, standing not far away from Gu Chaoyan.

He remained silent.



Gu Chaoyan assumed that he had not yet fully adjusted his emotions due to what happened with his father at the Wu family, so she decided not to disturb him further. “Then rest for a while. Once the others awaken, I’ll take all of you to the mountain.”

“Also, someone from the Bai family came to inform me that your father came looking for you. What do you want to do about it?” Gu Chaoyan asked.

His father?

What was he doing here?

Before, Wu Zimo wanted his father to leave with them. He was unwilling to let his father’s presence burden their lives outside the Wu family.

Since their childhood, their father had never shown much concern for them. Instead, he had always been worried that they would cause trouble for him.

When they left earlier, it seemed like their relationship had been severed.

So why was he seeking them out again?

Did he somehow find out about the good fortune their Master possessed?

Wu Zimo knew his father’s personality all too well.

“Ignore him,” Wu Zimo said coldly. Then, he lowered his head and said, “I’ll guard them and cultivate here. Master, go and rest.”

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

She made a conscious decision not to interfere in their family matters.

With that in mind, she entered the house to rest.

She couldn’t predict what they would encounter once they entered the mountain, so she wanted to prepare some additional pills as a precautionary measure.

Furthermore, considering Wu Zimo’s unsettled state, she believed it was best not to disturb him at the moment.

Even by the next morning, the other three still hadn’t achieved a breakthrough. It seemed that they were considerably lagging behind Wu Zimo.

The following morning...

Wu Zimo remained on guard.

But early in the morning, he noticed Si Kangning approaching with a group of people.

“Si Kangning, what do you want?” Wu Zimo asked warily..

Chapter 1986 - Experience 3

Si Kangning was known to hold grudges.

Given their previous encounter, where Master had beaten and embarrassed him, Wu Zimo suspected that Si Kangning’s arrival with the elders of the Si family was to settle that score.

Wu Zimo stood his ground, blocking them from entering. He believed that if the Si family wanted to address the past, they should approach him instead of bothering Master.

Wu Zimo remained vigilant and prepared to take action if necessary.

Si Kangning grew annoyed as he looked at Wu Zimo. “It’s none of your business. I’m here to see this girl. Don’t obstruct us. The Si family has matters to discuss with her.”

Wu Zimo, not letting his guard down, asked warily, “What’s the matter?”

“Zimo, the Si family seeks her assistance in a certain matter. It’s not a negative proposition, so don’t hinder us here,” the elders of the Si family intervened, standing up to address the situation.

Wasting any more time with someone like Wu Zimo, who they considered to be of no significance, would be pointless. The Si family wanted to engage with the important figure directly.

Seeing that the elders of the Si family were not interested in arguing with him, Wu Zimo couldn't stop them any longer. However, he couldn't just let her go without hesitation. He maintained his vigilance and said, "Wait here. I will inform Master and see if she wishes to meet with you."

The elder of the Si family nodded, not rejecting Wu Zimo outright.

Wu Zimo entered the house with a serious expression to consult with Master before allowing them to come in.

Gu Chaoyan calmly took her seat.

She glanced at the Si family members and asked, "Why are you looking for

"Miss, here's the situation. Kang Ning believes that your cultivation level is exceptionally high. Our Si family would like to invite you to become Kang Ning's master. As long as you are willing to teach Kang Ning, we will do our best to fulfill any conditions," the elder of the Si family stated directly.

Gu Chaoyan cast a glance at Si Kangning.

Observing her reaction, Wu Zimo anxiously clenched his fists. He worried that his Master might actually agree.

After all, Master had willingly taken them in as disciples, and they didn't seem to hold much significance to her. She had shown no intention of bringing them along in the future.

If she were to accept Si Kangning, Wu Zimo wouldn't be pleased.

As Gu Chaoyan observed Si Kangning, she realized he wasn't entirely foolish. It was rather surprising.

However, he was cunning and scheming.

Taking him on as a disciple was out of the question.

Gu Chaoyan subtly shook her head. "I already have four disciples: Hong Fang, Zimo, Ziming, and Huarong. have no need for any more."

"If there is nothing else, please leave," Gu Chaoyan responded with a cold tone, dismissing the matter.

The elder of the Si family was taken aback.

He felt a sense of puzzlement.

After all, these four individuals were known as worthless. Gu Chaoyan had been willing to accept them as disciples, and Kangning was intelligent with a high cultivation level, so why would she refuse?

The Si family's elders were caught off guard. They had assumed that a simple request would be enough, but they were met with rejection.

Momentarily, they exchanged uncertain glances, unsure of how to proceed.

"Kangning is a well-behaved and respectful child," the elder of the Si family continued, attempting to persuade Gu Chaoyan.

"Zimo, please escort our guest out," Gu Chaoyan instructed Wu Zimo.

A glimmer of joy flickered across Wu Zimo's face, unable to conceal his delight..

Chapter 1987 - Experience 4

He had initially expected Master to agree, but he was taken aback when she didn't even consider it. Did that mean the four of them held a special place in her heart?

At least, they couldn't be easily replaced by anyone else.

Wu Zimo couldn't contain his joy.

However, in front of the Si family, he maintained a serious expression. "Uncle Si, Si Kangning, Master is unwilling. Please return. Master values peace and solitude. It's best not to disturb her here."

The elder of the Si family exchanged a glance with Si Kangning.

Si Kangning was at a loss for what to do.

He cleared his throat. "Apologies for the interruption, Miss."

With that, he led Si Kangning out.

They hadn't expected to leave empty-handed.

"I truly can't comprehend what she sees in those worthless individuals to become her disciples. They don't even possess spiritual roots. How can they be of any use to her? Will they remain worthless for the rest of their lives? If she were to take me in, the outcome would be entirely different. Regardless of whether she becomes the Tribe Chief or not, I, Si Kangning, can offer her far more benefits than those four," Si Kangning grumbled with a hint of bitterness in his tone.

He displayed a stark contrast to his behavior in front of Gu Chaoyan moments ago.

The elder of the Si family couldn't understand it either.

"It's puzzling."

“Those four even had the audacity to participate in the competition. What good would that do for them?” Si Kangning continued his rant.

The elder of the Si family shook his head slightly.

“After I defeat them in the competition, she will realize how to choose wisely, ” Si Kangning said through gritted teeth.

The two of them headed back to the Si residence.

In the courtyard.

Just as the Si family departed, Gu Chaoyan sensed that the remaining three disciples had also awakened.

The trio emerged from their rooms with joy upon waking up.

Gu Chaoyan awaited them in the yard.

“Master, we’ve broken through!” they exclaimed excitedly.

After uttering those words, their gazes shifted to Wu Zimo, who had achieved the breakthrough earlier. He stood alongside Gu Chaoyan, and they were genuinely happy for him.



Regardless of who emerged victorious in the competition, as long as one of the four could stand as a barrier for Master, their initial aspiration would be fulfilled.

Hence, it was a cause for celebration whenever anyone's cultivation level soared.

They were pleased that Zimo had consistently remained ahead of them.

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

The progress of the four disciples exceeded her expectations.

With their breakthroughs in place, it was time for them to prepare for their venture into the mountains.

During their stay in the Bai Clan over the past few days, various disturbances had occurred, hindering their cultivation. It would be best to enter the mountains early and return for the competition. This way, they could avoid such interruptions.

"Now that you've made your breakthroughs, make your preparations.

Tomorrow morning, we will venture into the mountains. What awaits us there is uncertain, so be ready," Gu Chaoyan declared.

“Yes, Master,” the four of them replied in unison.

After giving them instructions, Gu Chaoyan glanced at Sword One and Lingyun. “The same goes for the two of you.”

It was a crucial phase in their cultivation journey, one that required both diligence and determination.

Sword One and Lingyun nodded in agreement.

Gu Chaoyan instructed them to make the necessary preparations.

The following morning, after a brief rest, Gu Chaoyan led them into the mountains.

However, as they departed, Bai Ruiguang arrived with someone in tow..

Chapter 1988 - Experience 5

He had prepared some snacks and some things for the Bai Clan to cultivate today.

His thoughts were very simple.

This lady was alone and had a lot of Spirit Stones, pills, and magical weapons. It was fine if she was willing to interact more with him, but it was fine if she was willing to have a deeper relationship with him as well.

In short, it was not bad to slowly move her with these small things.

As long as he spent more time and energy, Bai Ruiguang felt that there would not be much of a problem.

He had just arrived with his men.

No matter how hard he knocked, no one answered.

He got someone to take a closer look and reported that no one seemed to be around.

If they weren't there, where did they go?

Bai Ruiguang could not figure it out.

In the meanwhile....

Gu Chaoyan and the others had already entered the mountain.

There were definitely demons in the mountains near the Bai Clan.

After all, when the people of the Bai Clan cultivated, there would be spiritual energy wherever they cultivated. Where there was spiritual energy, it would naturally attract the demons and some of them could even breed inside.

However, the cultivation levels of the Bai Clan were generally not high, so there were no high-level demons in the nearby mountains.

Gu Chaoyan thought that they could handle it, and even if they could not, she could still protect them.

“There are quite a lot of wild fruits on this mountain, ” Hong Fang said with emotion. “There are also people from the Bai Clan who will arrange for them to enter the mountain. Usually, they will pick some wild fruits and don’t dare to approach for fear of danger. The four of us have never come here. Our families are unwilling to bring them along, and secondly, we’re afraid that we won’t be able to return after entering. This is our first time here.”

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

There were indeed many wild fruits here, and they all showed signs of being picked.

so...

This meant that there were demons here.

She did not remind them. After all, they were here to train.

Since it was a training experience, they had to face these sudden situations themselves.

Actually, when one went to a place, observation was also very important.

As Gu Chaoyan was thinking about this, Hong Fang was already standing in front of her with a cautious look on his face.

Moreover, she said softly, “Most of the wild fruits here are glutinous. Typically, white tigers like to eat glutinous hair. White tigers are already more ferocious than humans. Moreover, the white tigers that grow under the nourishment of spiritual energy are probably even more ferocious. Let’s be careful.” Gu Chaoyan nodded in satisfaction and continued walking.

It would be good if she could meet the white tiger.

After this experience, they would be more at ease in the competition.

Sure enough...

Not long after Hong Fang finished speaking, they heard a commotion.

The few of them had vigilance on their faces. When the white tiger suddenly attacked at a high speed, the four of them directly went up.

After a round of fighting.

The white tiger fell to the ground.

Because there was only one, it was naturally not their match.

They did not act rashly because they did not know if there were other white tigers in front.

Until a small howl sounded.

They all looked over.

It was a small white tiger.

It was looking at them harmlessly.

It rolled to Hong Fang's feet and rubbed against his feet.

Hong Fang wanted to pick up the white tiger, but he did not do anything rash. Instead, he threw a look at Gu Chaoyan.

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

White tigers were primates. If Hong Fang could keep raising and domesticating one, and it could be used as mounts in the future.

Hong Fang smiled as he picked up the little white tiger and placed it in his chest pocket.

“We encountered a white tiger as soon as we entered the mountain. I’m afraid that the deeper we go, the higher the level of the demon race will be..”

Chapter 1989 - Experience 6

That was indeed abnormal.

Despite their recent victory, they remained vigilant. Their expressions grew even more serious.

Throughout their journey, they frequently encountered low-level demons. Dealing with them was not a challenge and they even gained valuable resources.

Their timely reactions were evident.

Gu Chaoyan felt satisfied, even though she hadn’t obtained anything from the low-level demons in the mountains.

Nevertheless, it was sufficient.

Having been outside for a considerable time, it was now time to return.

Gu Chaoyan led the way back.

As they began walking, they heard rapid noises emanating from the mountain. Before Gu Chaoyan could ascertain the source, Wu Zimo let out a sudden scream. Gu Chaoyan turned around to witness vines wrapping around him, rapidly growing in size.

Vines extended from all directions, targeting the others.

No wonder she couldn't pinpoint the location earlier. Vines were moving everywhere.

Without wasting a second, Gu Chaoyan swiftly drew her sword and severed the vines ensnaring Wu Zimo.

He was finally freed. He remained cautious, constantly evading the encroaching vines.

However, it became apparent that evasion was futile, as the previously severed vines showed relentless regrowth.

If this persisted....

They would only exhaust themselves to death in this place.



For now, they still had the capability, but their energy would inevitably be depleted.

When their energy was depleted, the vines would ensnare them.

It became clear why they hadn't encountered any demons along the way and why it had been eerily quiet. There were hidden monsters lurking here.

The group grew increasingly anxious.

As Gu Chaoyan looked after her companions, she also surveyed the surroundings.

The vines and branches they were dealing with were merely extensions, not the main body. That explained their relentless growth. Merely cutting these branches proved almost futile.

If only they could locate the main body,

Eliminating them would be a simple task.

While they focused on cutting the branches, Gu Chaoyan observed intently.

Suddenly...

Hong Fang let out a cry.

The vines overwhelmed them, rendering it impossible to handle. Hong Fang held Little Tiger in his arms, leaving him unable to fend them off.

Gu Chaoyan scanned the area.

Instead of directly rescuing Hong Fang, she flew towards the old tree and channeled all her spiritual qi into cutting it down. Instantly, the vines ceased their growth and withered away.

The vines binding Hong Fang loosened as well.

A collective sigh of relief escaped their lips.

“Let’s get out of here,” Gu Chaoyan declared. The group swiftly made their way out.

This mountain was truly peculiar.

Little did they know, such a demon, Fey, and demonic spirit tree did not exist.

Their journey had been unusually smooth, almost too smooth. They had become somewhat complacent, but this encounter served as a stark wake-up call.

During their return, Gu Chaoyan chose not to bring up the incident again.

The competition was drawing near.

Without any further interruptions, they made swift progress and soon arrived at the entrance of the courtyard. Gu Chaoyan spotted Bai Ruiguang waiting for her.

As he caught sight of Gu Chaoyan, he approached her with a smile. "Where have you been all these days? I have something important to discuss with you.."

Chapter 1990 - Bai Ruiguang's Thoughts 1

Bai Ruiguang stood outside the courtyard, accompanied by his attendant, wearing a smile on his face.

Subconsciously, Hong Fang, Wu Zimo, and the others positioned themselves in front of Gu Chaoyan, casting wary glances at Bai Ruiguang.

In the past, a young master like Bai Ruiguang would have kept a considerable distance from them, fearful of being tainted by their lowly status. Now that he sought them out, they couldn't help but wonder what his intentions were.

Their eyes were fixed on Gu Chaoyan. Perhaps he had some scheme against her.

Plotting against their Master was out of the question. At the very least, they would stand as a protective shield before him.

“Bai Ruiguang, what do you want?” Hong Fang inquired.

Bai Ruiguang couldn't maintain a serious expression while facing someone like Hong Fang, so he responded stiffly, “I'm not here for you.” Then, turning towards Gu Chaoyan, he continued, “The competition is fast approaching, and the Bai Family is hosting a small banquet tomorrow. Our esteemed old chef will be preparing the dishes. The culinary skills of the Bai Family's old chef are unparalleled. Nowadays, she only occasionally showcases her talent due to her advanced age, so tomorrow presents a great opportunity. Miss, would you like to join us?”

His gaze held sincerity as he looked at Gu Chaoyan.

In the past few days, he had visited this place intermittently. When he was occupied, he would have his attendants stay here.

With the competition drawing near, he himself had made significant progress. Bai Ruiguang happened to have some leisure time today, prompting him to come over. He hadn't intended to seek them out directly, but he hadn't anticipated their timely return.

He informed Gu Chaoyan about the Bai Family's gathering tomorrow.

Many people desired to attend the Bai Family's event.

Personally inviting her and sharing details about the esteemed old chef was bound to pique her interest.

Bai Ruiguang pondered to himself.

Gu Chaoyan glanced at him casually. “I don’t have the time. If the Bai Family is truly sincere, Hong Fang, Zimo, Ziming, Huarong, you can go tomorrow if any of you are available.”

Considering their future ties with the Bai Clan, it was inevitable for them to have some form of interaction.

The four of them nodded in agreement.

Visiting the Bai family wouldn’t pose a problem for them.

Bai Ruiguang’s expression instantly soured.

Allowing the four of them to go? The Bai Clan had no intention of inviting these individuals. If news spread, it would be a source of ridicule within the Bai

Clan.

“Miss, aren’t you coming? The dishes prepared by the old chef are truly delectable,” Bai Ruiguang protested reluctantly.

He couldn’t comprehend why she always remained so obstinate.

Gu Chaoyan subtly shook her head.

She didn't have extravagant food preferences. In the past, she may have had a slight fondness for tea and snacks, but it wasn't a necessity. Moreover, she harbored something hidden within her heart, an encounter she had on the mountain. Consequently, she had no desire to invest her time in such trivial matters.

"Hong Fang, attend to the guests. I have matters to attend to," Gu Chaoyan stated coldly before entering her room.

Sword One and Lingyun followed her inside.

Hong Fang was instructed to stay behind. The other three didn't depart immediately but stayed with Hong Fang.

After all, they were tasked with attending to the guests.

Hong Fang's attitude was still very good, and he was especially polite. "Young Master Bai, would you like to sit inside?"

Bai Ruiguang looked at them angrily.

Bai Ruiguang, on the other hand, felt dejected. The four of them were trash, but she treated them as family.. What was going on?!