

Dragon King 281

Chapter 281: Potential Battle

Hao Ren returned to the seating area and found Zhao Hongyu and Zhao Guang in the middle of the second row.

Zhao Hongyu saved a seat beside her for Hao Ren, so he waved at Xie Yujia in the sixth row to let her know that he was switching to the seat in the second row. Then, he squeezed himself over and sat down beside Zhao Hongyu.

“You went to see Zi just now?” Zhao Hongyu turned to Hao Ren.

“Yeah, I went to check on her,” Hao Ren answered.

“Did you come here with Xie Yujia?” Zhao Hongyu asked again.

“Um... yes,” Hao Ren admitted in awkwardness.

Zhao Hongyu kept quiet and turned to the stage.

The curtain was pulled aside again as a brand-new scene appeared in front of everyone; Romeo was begging for help from the priest in front of a church.

Then, Zhao Yanzi was led in the church in her elegant dress.

Zhao Hongyu sat up straight as she watched attentively. She was appreciating her daughter’s performance.

Although Zhao Yanzi’s act was a bit immature and innocent, Zhao Hongyu showed her love for her daughter from the way she looked at her.

It was Zhao Yanzi’s first time being on stage, demonstrating her talent. If it weren’t for Hao Ren, she would probably still be in her lazy state.

When a girl tries to show her best side, it is definitely for someone specific to see.

Zhao Yanzi moved around in the dress like a doll on stage, and her heavenly charm was amplified 100 times in the spotlight,

The way she recited her lines was a little stiff, but she didn’t stutter; the show went on smoothly. In fact, all the students from the High School Department and Middle School Department were focusing on Zhao Yanzi’s charm instead of her performance.

Only people like Zhao Hongyu, who were highly educated in arts, paid attention to Zhao Yanzi’s performance details.

Zhao Hongyu caught all the shortcomings and highlights.

The play was coming to the end.

“A grave? O no! a lantern, slaughter’d youth. For here lies Juliet, and her beauty makes this vault a feasting presence full of light.”

Romeo’s most famous monologue put an end to the classic play.

“Ah, dear Juliet, why art thou yet so fair? shall I believe that unsubstantial death is amorous, and that the lean abhorred monster keeps thee here in dark to be his paramour? For fear of that, I still will stay with thee; and never from this palace of dim night depart again.”

‘Romeo’ picked up the poison and drank it all.

Zhao Yanzi slowly woke up and was stupefied as she saw Romeo laying on the floor.

“Her acting is pretty good here as she demonstrated how astonished Juliet was. Her acting was a little emotionless before this scene,” Zhao Hongyu commented lightly.

Hao Ren didn’t think it was Zhao Yanzi’s excellent acting. He knew exactly what was going on; Zhao Yanzi forgot her lines.

Sure enough, after a few seconds, Zhao Yanzi decided to omit the long lines in the end and went straight to take Romeo’s sword.

The straightforward suicide was to all the teachers’ surprise. At the same time, Juliet’s death brought the entire tragic play to an end.

The curtains closed as the play finished.

There was a big round of applause in the hall. All the actors and actresses came to the front of the stage and bowed in their costumes.

The Principal, who sat in the front row, asked the official from the Education Bureau nervously, “What... do you think of it?”

This Principal felt like the ending of the play was its biggest issue because there was a long speech during the rehearsal. However, the student who was playing Juliet suddenly took out the classic verses during the play; it was not just a few sentences, so it had exposed the lack of preparation of the play and attracted lots of attention.

However, the official nodded in satisfaction. “It was a good play. Especially the ending where she committed suicide. She displayed the panic and anxiousness. It is rewritten very well!”

“Ah...” the Principal lost his words. He was deeply relieved and said, “Yeah, yeah. The teachers are good writers, and the students are good actors!”

“The students in your school got to develop all aspects of their abilities, which is very good! We will be advocating this as an excellent example to the entire city!” The official from the Education Bureau continued.

The Principal was thrilled as he accompanied this official out of the hall.

“Oh, send over the recording. We’ll show it in the news as a demonstration project and make copies for all the middle school and elementary schools for them to learn from,” the official turned back and said to the Principal.

The Principal was extremely excited. He only wished to demonstrate LingZhao Middle School’s student integrated development plan and never thought that the play would be such a success. It would even be advocated in the entire city, and all the middle schools and elementary schools in East Ocean City would watch the play made by LingZhao Middle School as an example to follow...

“Mom...” Zhao Yanzi came directly to the audience in her costume after the play and ran into Zhao Hongyu’s arms.

“Don’t be spoiled. We are not home now,” Zhao Hongyu pinched Zhao Yanzi’s little ear and pulled her away from her arms.

“Was I good, dad?” Zhao Yanzi immediately turned to Zhao Guang, who looked serious.

“It was alright,” Zhao Guang said calmly as he didn’t want Zhao Yanzi to get overly proud.

In reality, as a father, he was very proud of his daughter’s performance!

He thought she wasn’t good at a lot of things, but now he realized that she was quick on her feet and smart. She could do well as long as she put her heart in it.

Hao Ren, on the other hand, looked at her with a smile on his face. He was happy for her success in her first performance. He could imagine how more popular Zhao Yanzi was going to get.

The guys who had never witnessed Zhao Yanzi’s charm finally got a taste of it through the play today!

Juliet was a 13-year-old fairy-like young girl in the play, and Zhao Yanzi, who was 15, was also as beautiful as a fairy!

There was another reason why Hao Ren showed up at the play. It was good that what he was worried about never showed up.

It was a play in a middle school, so the acts were very innocent. The leading actor and actress didn’t even hug each other. Even their hand-holding was just a symbolic drag on their costumes.

He turned back and realized that Xie Yujia and Luo Ying already left.

“Come on, let’s get out of here!” Zhao Yanzi held Zhao Hongyu and Hao Ren with each of her hand and headed to the exit.

She was still in her beautiful formal dress; it felt like Juliet from the stage was still alive. Hao Ren sensed dozens of eyes staring their way. When they got outside, they saw that the parents of the support actors and actresses were talking with the teachers. Zhao Hongyu and Zhao Guang also noticed that Luo Ying and Xie Yujia were standing together outside.

Since they rarely came to the school, Zhao Hongyu didn’t want to miss the chance of communicating with the Class Advisor.

She hurried over to greet Luo Ying.

Zhao Yanzi was scared of her class advisor, so she dragged Hao Ren to the other side immediately.

LingZhao Middle School appeared to be very quiet when they walked out of the Arts Hall. The sports field under the moonlight not far away reminded Hao Ren of his own middle school years.

“Hey! Was I good or not?” Zhao Yanzi pouted at Hao Ren when they walked a few meters to a basketball stand.

“It was very good,” Hao Ren answered.

“I actually forgot my lines in the end, so I thought whatever, I’ll just get it over with quickly,” Zhao Yanzi stuck her tongue out and laughed.

She was in a pretty good mood now that the play was finished.

“Why did you suddenly take part in this play?” Hao Ren asked.

“The school voted me out. I didn’t really want to be a part of this, but then I saw a video...” Zhao Yanzi immediately shut her mouth.

“Video? What Video?” Hao Ren asked.

Zhao Yanzi knew that she couldn’t hide it anymore, so she twitched her lips at Xie Yujia, who was beside Luo Ying, “The video of her from before.”

“Oh?” Hao Ren was interested.

The video of Xie Yujia’s play when she was in middle school...

“Oh, did Zeng Yitao get transferred to another school?” Hao Ren asked her.

“Um, yes. I was so sick of him,” Zhao Yanzi nodded without further discussion of why Zeng Yitao got transferred.

A few guys who were passing by saw Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi talking face to face near the basketball stand and pointed, “Is that Zhao Yanzi’s boyfriend? He doesn’t look that handsome... and has been to our school a few times now...”

Hao Ren turned to look at them as several middle-schoolers hurried up and left. A few high-schoolers, on the other hand, stared at Hao Ren viciously.

“Zi!” Zhao Hongyu waved at Zhao Yanzi from beside Luo Ying.

Zhao Yanzi knew that Zhao Hongyu wanted to ask her about some things, so she walked over slowly and reluctantly. Even if she was thinking with her feet, she could guess that they wanted to talk about her grades and performance in class...However, judging from Luo Ying’s smile, Hao Ren could tell that she was in a very good mood. Therefore, she was probably going to talk about how well Zhao Yanzi had been.

“It’s kind of late, so we will head back now,” Xie Yujia said to Luo Ying and Zhao Hongyu when Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi walked over.

“Um, go back as early as possible because the dorm will be closed soon.” Luo Ying nodded.

Zhao Hongyu also nodded towards Xie Yujia.

“So, it’s a deal, aunt. I’ll come to visit you tomorrow,” Xie Yujia lightly bowed to Zhao Hongyu.

“Hehe, ok.” Zhao Hongyu smiled in response.

Hao Ren looked at Zhao Hongyu, then at Xie Yujia. He couldn’t figure out what kind of agreement they had reached.

Hao Ren and Xie Yujia got on a bus to their school. On the way, Hao Ren couldn’t help but ask, “What did you and Zi’s mom agree on?”

“Just something small. She spoke with me privately for a little bit,” Xie Yujia answered.

“Oh, I heard there is a video of the play you were in before?” Hao Ren said.

“You want to watch it?” Xie Yujia blinked.

“Do you have it?”

Xie Yujia took a DVD case out of her pocket as if she was doing a magic trick, “My teacher says the original copy of the photos are lost so she couldn’t give me any extra copies. But they made a few more extra copies of the video from before. She specifically saved one for me.”

Chapter 282: No Wonder Zi Wanted to Challenge Her

“Can I borrow it?” Hao Ren asked in an inquiring tone.

“Hehe, I sure I wasn’t as cute as your Zi.” Xie Yujia put the disc in Hao Ren’s hand softly.

Hao Ren thought, “I’m just curious and never wanted to compare you two. Women...always find themselves opponents.”

The bus was empty besides Hao Ren and Xie Yujia in the back row. The evening breeze blew through the window. Xie Yujia looked outside, and Hao Ren had no idea what she was thinking about.

The bus arrived at the school gate near the dorm buildings. Xie Yujia waved goodbye at Hao Ren and walked toward the female dorm building; she didn’t show any anticipation in Hao Ren walking her over to her dorm.

Hao Ren weighed Xie Yujia’s disc in his hand and walked to his dorm building.

It was very lively in the dorm.

Hao Ren went back to the room with his basin after freshening up. He asked Zhou Liren, who was playing with his phone in bed, “Who has a laptop here?”

“Chen Ke from the room across the hall has one, but there is no internet. I heard that the internet would only be available for third-year and fourth-year students. What an inhumane rule,” Zhou Liren complained.

"I don't need the internet." Hao Ren knocked on Chen Ke's door and borrowed the laptop after a few words.

"Chen Ke uses that for studying only, so there is no games or movies," Zhao Liren said from the upper berth when he saw Hao Ren on the laptop.

"Mind your own business." Hao Ren turned the laptop away from Zhou Liren and inserted Xie Yujia's disc.

The laptop made a sound when it read the disc.

The video played automatically.

The stage looked similar to the one tonight, but it was only a little dimmer.

After seeing Zhao Yanzi's performance today, Hao Ren suddenly had strong expectations for Xie Yujia's recording.

"Hey, Ren! What are you watching?" Zhou Liren was bored, so he climbed down the berth. "You got some video and didn't want to share it with me?"

He noticed that Hao Ren had turned the screen to himself and smirked. "Ah...I see! You are watching that kind of video! Let me see! Let me see!"

He dashed to Hao Ren and found that it was a play.

"This is so... boring..." Zhou Liren immediately lost interest.

Cao Ronghua came back from getting hot water. He saw that Hao Ren, who was sitting, while Zhou Liren, who was standing, were both staring at the laptop, so he came over to take a look as well.

The stage and the dialogues were both similar to tonight's play, and it would be a little boring to watch the videotape.

Zhou Liren yawned as he was about to climb back up into his berth. Suddenly, a girl in a fancy violet dress appeared on the screen.

"Woah! This is really something!" Zhou Liren shouted immediately.

Cao Ronghua was stunned for a bit. He felt like... the girl in the video... looked very familiar...

"She is just too cute..." Zhou Liren kept on shouting.

But soon enough, he noticed something as well. "Oh? How come I feel like I've met her before..."

Hao Ren rolled his eyes at him. "Stop yelling and close the door."

"Ok..." Zhou Liren closed the door to their room immediately.

Cao Ronghua frowned intensively. "Could this be... Xie Yujia?"

"Xie Yujia!" Zhou Liren finally recognized the person on the screen. "It is really Xie Yujia!"

"Told you to stop yelling..." Hao Ren sighed, not knowing what to do about him.

"I mean..." Zhou Liren was still excited. "I had no idea that Xie Yujia was so cute before. Although she is pretty now, she had a completely different temperament when she was in middle school! This is from middle school, right?"

"Could you just be a little quieter?" Hao Ren glimpsed at him.

"Ok, ok, ok..." Zhou Liren finally shut his mouth and dragged over a chair.

Cao Ronghua put the water bottle down and sat on the bed to watch as well.

Xie Yujia indeed looked very innocent and pretty when she was in middle school.

Her partner in the play was more handsome than the one today. However, he lost all his glamour when standing beside Xie Yujia.

Ka...

Zhao Jiayi opened the door and walked in. He saw the three of them sitting together and focusing on the laptop. "What are you watching? You even locked the door? Oh, sh*t... Are you watching that kind of..."

"That's something YOU would do! I am a well-adjusted young fellow of the modern society!" Zhou Liren said presumptuously.

Zhao Jiayi rolled his eyes at him and squeezed over, covered in sweat. "Eh? Is that the Class President Xie Yujia?"

"Yeah, it's a video of her when she was in middle school," Zhou Liren explained, "She is indeed Ren's girlfriend; she even found such an ancient tape for him to watch."

Hao Ren smiled and shrugged as he was too lazy to explain. However, if she were really his girlfriend, it would have been a lovely move to show a video of her childhood to her boyfriend."

"Damn... Xie Yujia was absolutely a killer when she was in middle school!" Zhao Jiayi took over half of Zhou Liren's seat regardless of his sweatiness from training. He watched the video with full attention as well.

"She is gorgeous now as well. Especially after she started dating Ren, she is dressing prettier and prettier," Zhou Liren said.

"There must have been a lot of guys after her when she was in middle school," Zhao Jiayi said as he watched, "I would have pursued her if I was at her middle school!"

"Alright, alright, move now!" Hao Ren pushed them away as he didn't think the three of them would understand "art."

"Ok, ok, we'll leave Hao Ren alone to enjoy this." Zhao Jiayi pulled Zhou Liren and Cao Ronghua away from the laptop.

Hao Ren had never seen Xie Yujia when she was in middle school, but he could get a feel through this videotape. Then, he thought about Zhao Yanzi and sensed the similarities as well as the differences between the two most popular girls at LingZhao Middle School of different times.

Hao Ren watched the entire two-hour video patiently, yet he still wished there was more. Xie Yujia was almost perfect throughout the play, whereas Zhao Yanzi's performance lacked practice but was ingenious.

"Juliet was 100% focused in love and was willing to die for love. Xie Yujia is actually like that too..." Hao Ren put away the disc and returned the laptop to Chen Ke.

"I didn't expect Xie Yujia to be so gentle and cute in her middle school years," Hao Ren thought.

That was the period of time when he and Xie Yujia missed each other, but this video filled up that portion of his memory.

Xie Yujia looked elegant and innocent in the play. No wonder Zhao Yanzi wanted to challenge her; she didn't want to lose to the current version of Xie Yujia and also the middle school version of Xie Yujia.

In the second day, Hao Ren returned the disc to Xie Yujia before their first class in the morning.

"What do you think? In fact, I forgot about the details already," Xie Yujia wanted to know how Hao Ren thought about it.

"You were beautiful when you were in middle school too. If we could enter this play in some contests, you are probably going to win," Hao Ren laughed.

"I rarely participated in school activities while I was in middle school; that was the only one. Therefore, I paid extra attention to it. I was probably not as good as your Zi from yesterday, right?" Xie Yujia asked.

"You both did a good job," Hao Ren felt like she started to targeting Zhao Yanzi more and more now, so he went ahead and changed the topic. "What did you and Zi's mom agree upon after all? I thought about it all night yesterday and still couldn't figure it out.

"It's nothing. I'm just going over to visit her tonight." Xie Yujia smiled as she put the disc in her drawer.

Chapter 283: The Dinner!

"What are you standing up for? Go ahead and sit!"

Suddenly, Ma Lina pushed Hao Ren from behind and forced him directly into the seat beside Xie Yujia.

"I'll sit in the back!" before Xie Yujia could answer, Ma Lina ran to the back row where Hao Ren usually sat cheerfully.

Hao Ren turned to look at Ma Lina speechlessly. However, since it happened already, he sat down beside Xie Yujia and accompanied her.

The class bell rang, and the teacher walked in with his materials. He noticed that Hao Ren, who usually sat in the back, was sitting in the second row with Xie Yujia; he found it a little strange, but he didn't ask about it.

On the one hand, students could sit wherever they wanted in the university, and there was no restriction at all. As a matter of fact, it was already a good thing that they showed up for class. On the

other hand, Hao Ren was someone who had a golden star next to his name on the attendance list. He was one of the students who were looked after by Lu Qing, the Vice Principal. Therefore, this teacher needed to be extra careful about him.

After Ma Lina went to the back row where the guys were, Xie Yujia wasn't used to it at first. But soon, she got close to them and started to chat with them in a low voice.

Hao Ren, in the front row, didn't adjust to the change of the situation as well as Ma Lina did. He sat beside Xie Yujia and felt like the teacher was too close to him.

Although he had known Xie Yujia since they were little, it was the first time that he sat with her during class.

Hao Ren sensed a warm feeling from Xie Yujia's body, and he felt the softness of her arm even though they weren't touching.

He could see the side of her charming face if he turned his head slightly; it was the scene many guys dreamed of!

She quickly took notes with the ballpoint pen; her handwriting was graceful but assertive.

Xie Yujia suddenly turned to Hao Ren and blinked at him with her big eyes. "Why aren't you taking notes?"

"Oh, oh..." Hao Ren picked up a pen, not knowing what to write.

Xie Yujia smiled at Hao Ren's clumsiness and turned back to the teacher to listen carefully.

Her facial features were so delicate that she looked like the masterpiece of a sculptor. The graceful and perfect shapes such as her eyebrows, nose, lips were so beautiful that they looked like they were sketched out by an artist.

She wasn't wearing any makeup or perfume; all she had was the light, fresh smell of laundry detergent on her clothes.

"Damn, good boy Ren has such a peach blossom fortune! He even got Xie Yujia as his girlfriend!" Yu Rong, Zhou Liren, and the other guys at the back were very jealous.

Hao Ren sat beside Xie Yujia and felt like everything else started to turn into a blur. The tree danced outside the window, and the teacher kept writing on the blackboard. Hao Ren felt as if he was in a middle school classroom.

Hao Ren suddenly had the illusion of him being in a middle school classroom, sitting beside Xie Yujia during class.

The feeling of being childhood sweethearts, the feeling of knowing someone even better than himself, and the feeling of taking care of someone without the necessity of saying it out loud... All these feelings suddenly overwhelmed him.

"If only... I was in the same school and same class as Xie Yujia when I was in middle school..." he pondered.

“Hey... class is over.” Xie Yujia nudged Hao Ren out of the blue.

“Oh...” Hao Ren scratched his head. He didn’t even hear the bell while he looked at her.

Xie Yujia covered her mouth as she smiled. After she put her books in her bag, she said with a stern expression, “You have been daydreaming throughout the class. What are you going to do for the exam?”

“Weren’t you taking excellent notes?” Hao Ren asked.

She pouted speechlessly. “I’ll give you a copy before the exam!”

Hao Ren laughed. He turned to the back and found that Zhou Liren and the other guys were long gone.

“When are you going to Zhao Yanzi’s house?” Hao Ren asked as they walked out of the classroom together.

“In the evening; Auntie invited me over for dinner,” Xie Yujia answered.

Hao Ren nodded, thought for a bit, and asked, “Did she say that you are the only guest?”

“Not really.” She shook her head.

Hao Ren got lost in his thoughts, “I am supposed to go tutor Zhao Yanzi today as usual, but maybe it’s not a good idea to tag along since Zhao Hongyu invited Xie Yujia over for dinner...”

Xie Yujia looked at Hao Ren; she secretly wished that Hao Ren could go with her. Although she sensed that Zhao Yanzi’s mother was a gentle and wise person, she was still somehow a bit anxious.

“Call me if you need anything,” Hao Ren said to Xie Yujia.

“Ok...” she smiled at him and left the building.

In the afternoon, Zhou Liren dragged Hao Ren to watch Zhao Jiayi’s training. Hao Ren was surprised to find out that the stadium was filled with Zhao Yanzi’s ‘fangirls.’

Zhao Jiayi had become somewhat of a ‘campus celebrity,’ and his fame almost exceeded Huang Xujie’s.

“The basketball team had won three games in a row under Zhao Jiayi’s lead. It is ranked at the top in the National College Basketball League so far,” Zhou Liren said as he scanned the girls.

Hao Ren suddenly wondered what Lu Linlin and Lu Lili were doing as he looked at those excited girls.

“Gongzi!”

Hao Ren only thought of them, and they appeared by Hao Ren’s sides understandingly.

They looked like two Russian Nesting Dolls in their stylish red jackets. The jackets were kind of loose but very fashionable.

The appearance of the twins brightened the stadium. Even the members of the basketball team ran as fast as bunnies when they saw that the Lu sisters were watching them train.

“What have you been doing? I barely see you guys besides the weekends,” Hao Ren asked.

“Hehe, we have been cultivating and trying to advance to mid-tier Qian-level,” Lu Linlin answered with a bright smile.

“Plus, we didn’t want to disturb Gongzi,” Lu Lili added lightly.

“How’s studying going?” Hao Ren asked them.

“Getting smoother and smoother; the classes aren’t difficult. Oh, we need to go shoot a short video off campus in a few days,” Lu Linlin got closer to Hao Ren as she answered.

Although she was in the baggy red outfit, the softness of her arms and shoulders was the same.

“Um. That’s good.” Hao Ren nodded and turned back to the basketball court.

Lu Lili secretly stared at Hao Ren from his side. She moved closer; she wanted to touch him, but she didn’t have the gut to do so.

Lu Linlin, on the other hand, put her hands on Hao Ren’s shoulder and rested her chin on her hands, watching the game closely.

“Damn! Hao Ren will definitely get punished for this!” Zhou Liren said enviously since he was standing the closest to Hao Ren and saw how intimate the twins were with Hao Ren.

After a little while, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili said abruptly, “Let’s go get something to eat, Gongzi.”

Hao Ren looked at them with a strange expression. “How did you know that I’m not going to Zhao Yanzi’s house today?”

“We know Gongzi’s plan too well! If you are going to Little Zhumu’s house, you would be preparing tutoring materials in the afternoon instead of watching the training,” Lu Linlin laughed and said.

Hao Ren laughed and shrugged, “I might still need to go.”

He took out the phone and dialed Zhao Hongyu’s number.

“Where are you, Ren?” Zhao Hongyu picked up instantly.

“I’m at school,” Hao Ren asked upfront, “Auntie, did you invite Xie Yujia over today?”

“Yes, didn’t she tell you about it?” Zhao Hongyu didn’t deny it. She paused for half a second and said, “Why don’t you come along?”

“Ok... but Auntie, do you have something to talk about with Xie Yujia?”

“Nothing specific. I just want to treat her to dinner and get to know her,” Zhao Hongyu heard Lu Linlin and Lu Lili’s chatter over the phone and asked, “Are Linlin and Lili with you?”

“Yeah,” Hao Ren answered.

“Ask them to come over too then,” Zhao Hongyu said straightforwardly.

Hao Ren covered up the speaker and asked the twins, “I’m going to Zi’s house for dinner. Do you guys want to come?”

He thought they would say yes without hesitation since they loved big crowds of people. But to his surprise, the twins shook their heads. "We had plans for today already, so we can't go."

Hao Ren answered Zhao Hongyu, "They can't make it, so I'll come with Xie Yujia."

"Ok. Zi's dad is busy today, so he won't be back. It's going to be the four of us," Zhao Hongyu said softly and hung up the phone.

Hao Ren thought back to Zhao Hongyu's tone and felt like the dinner might not be as complicated as he thought.

"What are your plans then?" Hao Ren asked the twins as he put his phone away.

"Hehe, we got an invitation too," Lu Linlin said.

They didn't want to tell him the details, so Hao Ren didn't push them. No one in the mortal world was able to bully them after all.

Hao Ren went to the bus stop at the school gate after sending Xie Yujia a message.

Soon, Xie Yujia arrived at the bus stop in her casual outfit.

"I thought you aren't coming," Xie Yujia relaxed and exhaled before speaking to Hao Ren.

"I didn't want to go, but Zi's mom invited me as well. It is just a meal, nothing else," Hao Ren laughed.

"Um!" Xie Yujia nodded. Zhao Yanzi held prejudice against her, but in her mind, Zhao Hongyu was a very gentle lady.

The bus came, and the door opened after breaking.

Hao Ren and Xie Yujia got on the bus.

Everything seemed normal, just like the natural change of seasons from spring to summer.

There were green buds slowly coming out of the tree branches on the roadside, and there were also flowers withering in the bushes.

"Such nice weather," Xie Yujia lightly sighed on her window seat.

"Yeah," Hao Ren answered casually.

The sky was clear, and the sun was giving out the last bit of warmth of the day.

High above the sky, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili were flying inside their energy spheres, following a violet paper crane toward the direction of the ragged house.

Chapter 284: Zi Can Cultivate?

When Hao Ren and Xie Yujia arrived at Zhao Yanzi's home, Zhao Hongyu was cooking.

"You arrived early." Zhao Hongyu wiped her hands on her apron and opened the door.

"I have no afternoon classes today, so I thought I might come a bit earlier to help. I hope we are not interrupting." Xie Yujia walked into the house carefully.

"You don't need to get us gifts; you are only here to have a meal with us," Zhao Hongyu said politely as she saw Xie Yujia putting a gift on the ground.

"It is what I should do," Xie Yujia replied with a gentle smile.

Xie Yujia was indeed more thoughtful than Hao Ren as he had never thought about buying a gift for Zhao Yanzi's parents even though he had been to their house many times.

"Zi is not back yet. It seems like it is going to take a while. You guys can go read some books," Zhao Hongyu said thoughtfully.

"Auntie, let me help you!" Xie Yujia volunteered.

"There's no need. I'm just going to make a few quick side dishes," Zhao Hongyu went back to the kitchen after she replied.

"It seems like Zi's mom can cook very well," Xie Yujia said softly while looking toward the kitchen.

Hao Ren smiled and thought, "Not only can Zi's mom cook very well, but she is also a top architect in the country."

As Xie Yujia sat down on the sofa, she started to look at the decoration of the house. Although the house was not big, the interior was uniquely designed and made the house feel spaciousness.

The green and blue tablecloth, the elegant linen curtains, the refreshing bouquet... All those details created a refreshing environment for the guests.

The house provided a natural sense of belongingness, joy, and calmness of returning home.

"What a smart and elegant woman..." Xie Yujia suddenly started to admire Zhao Hongyu.

Pow!

Zhao Yanzi, who was wearing her sky-blue school uniform and had a bag on her back, opened the door and entered the house.

When she saw Hao Ren and Xie Yujia sitting on the living room sofa, she froze for a moment before turning to the kitchen and shouting, "Mom, what's going on!"

"I invited Yujia over to have dinner with us!" Zhao Hongyu walked out of the kitchen and was holding several plates.

Zhao Yanzi's expression immediately darkened.

"Yujia, Ren, wash your hands and come to have dinner. Zi's dad won't be joining us tonight," Zhao Hongyu ignored Zhao Yanzi's frustration and said to Xie Yujia and Hao Ren.

"Thank you for your hospitality," Xie Yujia said to Zhao Hongyu and went ahead to wash her hands in the washroom.

Zhao Hongyu looked at Xie Yujia and thought, "I wouldn't worry that much if Zi is half as polite and considerate as this girl. Hao Ren has such a good temper, and he is spoiling Zi."

After Xie Yujia finished washing her hands, she sat down at the table. Then, Zhao Yanzi ran in front of Hao Ren to wash her hands and rolled her eyes at him; she even bumped him with her body.

They both returned to the table.

As Zhao Hongyu picked up the chopsticks, she opened her arms and said politely as the host, "Since this is your first time visiting, feel free to start."

"Huh! Don't even think about coming here the second time!" Zhao Yanzi mumbled.

"Zi!" Zhao Hongyu said to Zhao Yanzi with a stern tone.

Zhao Yanzi pouted and picked up her chopsticks.

Xie Yujia smiled awkwardly and said, "Thanks, Auntie."

Zhao Hongyu slightly nodded. Then, she looked at Hao Ren and Xie Yujia and thought. "I have to admit, Hao Ren and Xie Yujia look great together. Compare to Zhao Yanzi, who has a bad temper, Xie Yujia gives people a sense of delightfulness."

Zhao Hongyu picked up the remote and started playing soft music in the dining room, trying to ease the awkward situation.

"How long have you been cultivating?" after a few minutes, Zhao Hongyu suddenly asked Xie Yujia.

"Um... about one to two weeks," Xie Yujia looked at Zhao Hongyu and replied.

"It seems like you are at level 3 of the Qi Refinement Realm. Your progress is quite good," Zhao Hongyu said.

"I'm quite dull in regard to cultivation. It is all thanks to Hao Ren's guidance," Xie Yujia smiled gently and said.

"This girl does make people feel comfortable..." Zhao Hongyu thought. Then, she asked again, "Are you normally busy with your studies?"

"It's alright. Usually, I spend my days going to the library and reading books," Xie Yujia answered.

"What if..." Zhao Hongyu suddenly lowered her tone, "Could Zi learn from you when you are free?"

"Huh?" Xie Yujia was surprised, "You mean... help her study?"

"Mom! I don't want to study with her!" Zhao Yanzi yelled.

"Not studying," Zhao Hongyu looked at Xie Yujia with her bright eyes and said, "I'm talking about cultivation."

"Cultivation?" Xie Yujia was even more surprised, and she quickly waved her hands. "I'm really bad at cultivation right now..."

Hao Ren, too, was a bit shocked as he never would've thought that Zhao Hongyu invited Xie Yujia over to discuss this.

Since this was the case, then Zhao Guang wasn't here not because of some emergencies; he probably wanted to give them a more relaxed atmosphere to discuss this issue.

"Hao Ren is at a higher level compare to me. Why not ask him to teach Zi?" Xie Yujia blushed when she saw Zhao Hongyu staring at her, so she tried to put the spotlight on Hao Ren.

"Oh, for some reasons, Zi can't cultivate like Hao Ren," Zhao Hongyu stopped for a moment before continuing, "Your master is willing to accept Zi as her non-official disciple, but Zi will need your help cultivating."

"Zhao Hongyu had met that old Grandma already?" Hao Ren was more shocked.

"Zi was at Zhen-level before. Because of some incidents, she lost all her power. Now, she is getting weaker and weaker, which is what I'm concerned about," Zhao Hongyu directly stated her concerns.

It was extremely dangerous for dragon cultivators to lose their dragon cores. Although it wasn't easy for adult dragon cultivators to lose their dragon cores, they would definitely die if someone else took it away from them. Since Zhao Yanzi was still growing, she could stay alive for a few years even though she lost her dragon core. However, as a member of the Dragon Tribe, the weakening of her body would become more and more evident without the support of the dragon core.

Zhao Yanzi had never gotten sick before. However, she got a fever a while ago; that was an example.

Although she could be quite irritating sometimes, she did, in fact, need protection.

When that Old Grandma came to visit, she gave Zhao Hongyu some advice.

Although she couldn't make a dragon core out of thin air, nor could she fix Zhao Yanzi's problem, she informed Zhao Yanzi's parents that Zhao Yanzi could cultivate like a human cultivator and absorb nature essence to improve her health. She might even be able to use some of the cultivation techniques.

This advice gave Zhao Hongyu some hope. Not even the best elixir pills or spiritual herbs from the dragon palace could change the fact that Zhao Yanzi's body was becoming weaker and weaker. However, if Zhao Yanzi started to practice human cultivation techniques, it could at least assure Zhao Yanzi's good health within three years.

In addition, Zhao Yanzi had a great body type known as the 'Heavenly Spirit Body Type' since she was a dragon. Compared to ordinary humans, she had much higher potential.

Another thing was that... Although Zhao Yanzi was a non-official disciple of that old Grandma, to others, she was related to a Soul Formation Realm cultivator.

Even if the old Grandma wasn't going to do anything to help East Ocean, other people couldn't dare to bully or hurt Zhao Yanzi anymore.

Chapter 285: Frenemy

Because of the old Grandma's status, she couldn't be Zhao Yanzi's master. However, Xie Yujia could.

It wasn't appropriate for a human cultivator on the Soul Formation Realm to have a close relationship with dragon cultivators. Yet, Xie Yujia didn't have that concern.

Zhao Hongyu understood the meaning of the old Grandma's words and had been thinking about it for a few days. It was on her mind up until she met Xie Yujia yesterday and invited her over today.

"Mom! I don't want to cultivate!" Zhao Yanzi started complaining.

Zhao Hongyu ignored Zhao Yanzi's complaint and looked at Xie Yujia sincerely. "What... what do you think?"

Xie Yujia hesitated for a few seconds and said, "If that is what master wants, then... I will try my best to teach Zi."

Zhao Hongyu smiled gratifyingly. "Alright. That's settled; Hao Ren will guide Zi with her schoolwork and Yujia will guide Zi with her cultivation."

"Mom!!!" Zhao Yanzi put down her bowl as she was fuming with rage.

"Zi," Zhao Hongyu finally turned her head to Zhao Yanzi. "From now on, Ren will have many things to do. Do you wish to stay at home, or go with him? Such as the Nine Dragon Palace, do you wish to follow Ren there but do nothing? Or do you wish to be able to help him?"

Zhao Yanzi remained silent. Deep down, she understood that she had become a mortal after she lost her dragon core. All those places she used to be able to go were now prohibited, and she couldn't even touch the dharma treasures she used to be able to use.

"From now on, you will go through many things with Ren. If you want Ren to cultivate by himself to solve your crisis, that's fine. But, are you really not going to work hard for yourself?" Zhao Hongyu asked Zhao Yanzi.

Zhao Yanzi pouted as she wasn't able to refute.

If she still had the power of Zhen-level, she could at least team up with Hao Ren, go to the border of the Demon Sea, and get a few demon beasts as pets.

Or she could go to famous mountains and collect herbs that couldn't be found inside the dragon palace.

Of course, once she practiced human cultivation techniques, she could pretend to be a human cultivator, sneak into Fifth Heaven, and steal some good stuff from there. She just hadn't thought about that yet.

When Zhao Hongyu saw Zhao Yanzi's silence, she knew Zi implicitly agreed. Zhao Hongyu smiled at Xie Yujia and said, "Thank you so much for helping with this."

"No problem," Xie Yujia replied with a gentle smile.

"Also, about the elixir making matter you asked me yesterday, it isn't a problem. You can do that at the dragon palace tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. I will ask Premier Xia to assign you a specific room," Zhao Hongyu said.

“Thanks, Auntie!” Xie Yujia nodded happily.

“Ren, starting from this weekend, you should come to my studio and start learning things about architecture,” Zhao Hongyu said to Hao Ren.

“Okay, Auntie.” Hao Ren nodded immediately.

Zhao Hongyu finally showed a satisfied smile as she had everything arranged properly.

Zhao Yanzi did not have any chance to express her thoughts. Even though Zhao Hongyu seemed like a gentle mother, her decision was not to be questioned and shaken.

After dinner, Zhao Hongyu cleaned up by herself so that Xie Yujia and Hao Ren could start giving Zhao Yanzi her first basic cultivation lesson.

Even though Zhao Yanzi didn't want to, she couldn't argue with Zhao Hongyu. So, all she could do was pout as she stomped up the stairs.

Xie Yujia smiled gently at Hao Ren and followed Zhao Yanzi to the second floor. Hao Ren looked at Zhao Hongyu and saw her waving at him. Therefore, he went upstairs as well.

Zhao Yanzi's room was warmly decorated. Compared to Xie Yujia's room, this room was 100 times more beautiful.

The chandelier was shaped like a flower, and the light spread to all directions through the petals and was reflected by the walls of the room, filling the entire room with warmth.

“May I call you Zi?” Xie Yujia walked into the room carefully and asked Zhao Yanzi.

“Huh!” Zhao Yanzi sat at the edge of the bed and remained quiet.

Xie Yujia looked at Hao Ren helplessly and said to Zi, “I will first teach you this basic cultivation technique called the ‘Qi Refinement Technique.’”

Zhao Yanzi tried to keep a straight face, but her ears were listening to everything.

Xie Yujia kept quiet for a few seconds, preparing. Then she said softly, “Heaven and earth, the beginning of all things...”

Hao Ren heard the first few sentences and thought it felt familiar. He tried to recall it from his memories and thought, “Isn't this the scripture that was on the stone monument inside the Heavenly Oneness Temple at the mountaintop when we toured the GreenStone Mountain?”

When he was having a hard time getting to Kan-level, he got help from someone in the sky, and the technique that rushed through his mind was precisely the same technique Xie Yujia was teaching Zhao Yanzi.

“This... so, this is the basic cultivation technique of human cultivators – Qi Refinement Technique.”

“Yujia, should I leave?” Hao Ren asked as he realized that Zhao Yanzi had started to listen seriously.

Eavesdropping on other people's cultivation technique, even if it was the basic cultivation technique, was considered a taboo.

"It's okay, you can stay," Xie Yujia said. She thought that if Hao Ren were to leave, Zi would definitely start opposing her. Therefore, she might as well let Hao Ren stay to make sure everything was in place.

"Okay." Hao Ren sat down on a chair nearby.

After she recited the technique that was more than 1,000 words, Xie Yujia started to explain it carefully to Zhao Yanzi. Although Zhao Yanzi was in a rebellious mood, she didn't want to give up cultivating and let Xie Yujia surpass her. So, she listened carefully to every word.

On the other hand, Hao Ren was quietly practicing his own Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll and ignored Xie Yujia's explanations. Both 'Spirit Concentration Scroll' and 'Qi Refinement Technique' had the same effects. However, they focused on different types of bodies and had different ways of cultivating.

As two hours passed, Zhao Yanzi memorized and understood the entire 'Qi Refinement Technique.' This surprised Xie Yujia as she did not expect Zhao Yanzi to be so talented.

"Hao Ren, do you still want to help her with her schoolwork?" After a long exhale, Xie Yujia asked Hao Ren.

"Not today, we won't have enough time." Hao Ren summoned Little White from the necklace. "We should leave now."

Little White looked around and started rolling on the ground excitedly as it saw the three people inside the room.

Hao Ren threw an Essence Replenishment Pill to it and slapped its butt.

Bang! Little White turned into the snow lion form.

After opening the door to the balcony, Hao Ren sat on Little White's back and pulled Xie Yujia onto its back as well.

Zhao Yanzi's cheeks were bulging as she felt wronged.

"Don't worry, I will not fight with you on certain things," Xie Yujia smiled awkwardly and said to Zhao Yanzi.

"Hey, this is for you!" Zhao Yanzi suddenly opened her backpack and took out a disc before she threw it to Hao Ren.

Hao Ren reached out his arm and caught it. "This is..."

"You will know when you see it!" Zhao Yanzi closed the door to the balcony.

With a loud banging noise, Little White carried Hao Ren and Xie Yujia to the sky.

Zhao Yanzi stood behind the balcony door and started thinking.

She walked back to her bed and tried to cultivate the technique Xie Yujia taught her.

Shoo...

A shallow white nature essence suddenly gathered around Zhao Yanzi's body.

Chapter 286: Super Cute Beauty

While Hao Ren and Xie Yujia were flying toward the school on Little White's back, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili were visiting the old Grandma in her house.

One shabby desk, one worn-out bed, and three cups of tea.

The Lu sisters had been sitting across from the old Grandma for more than two hours.

The old Grandma remained silent, and the Lu sisters also stayed silent.

"You two have the cultivation strengths of Three Lotus Petals," the old Grandma finally spoke.

"Elder, you have a cultivation of Four Lotus Petals, right?" Lu Linlin said.

"Almost." The old Grandma picked up her teacup and took a sip.

Politely, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili also picked up their cups and sipped.

In the teacup was high-quality Tiger Club Grass which was a spiritual herb with the effect of steadying people's nerves.

"In the mortal world, there are specific rules. You must abide by the rules even if you don't belong to this world," the old Grandma put down her teacup and said slowly.

"Elder, do you want to send us back?" Lu Linlin stared at the old Grandma and asked in a measured tone.

Sitting next to her sister, Lu Lili blinked.

The old Grandma shook her head. "I invited you to my place to discuss the necessity for you to abide by the rules."

"Rules?" Lu Linlin looked at the old grandma in defiance. "You almost hurt our Gongzi last time, and we haven't held you accountable yet!"

"Since we can't agree with each other, then more talking is useless." The old Grandma waved her hand.

A strong wind lifted Lu Linlin and Lu Lili up.

The shabby house was obviously the old Grandma's Xumi Space. Before they could react, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili were tossed out of the house.

"Sister, she's so fierce!" Lu Lili looked back at the house and said.

When she was in the house a moment ago, she was almost out of breath under the aggressive suppression.

"Humph! We are no match for her right now! We have to endure her for now!" Lu Linlin pulled her sister up into the sky with a five-colored energy sphere around them.

Although they were top-tier masters in East Ocean City, they were no match for the grandmaster of the Soul Formation Realm.

At their levels, they didn't need a battle to test each other's strength. By emitting auras, they get a feel of rival's cultivation strength.

The combined strength of the sisters was no match for the old Grandma!

Also, the old Grandma knew quite a lot of things about the Heavenly Realm that was above Ninth Heaven.

Meanwhile, Hao Ren walked Xie Yujia to her dorm building. After putting Little White away, he returned to his own dorm with the disc.

He borrowed Chen Ke's laptop from the other dorm again to watch the content on the disc Zhao Yanzi gave him.

As predicted, the disc was a video of Zhao Yanzi's performance from last night.

In her fancy dress and tight-fitting jacket, Zhao Yanzi looked vibrant.

When watching the video, he had a different feeling than when he watched the play in the auditorium.

Zhao Yanzi's performance was quite good.

Her presence on the stage was grand and fearless. Occasionally, her eyes scanned the audience as if she was looking for someone.

"Silly girl... you were distracted during your performance?" Hao Ren almost laughed as he watched.

In the second half, Zhao Yanzi was more focused and recited the long lines smoothly while her movements and expressions were more natural and accurate.

Her crisp voice was ear-pleasing; one couldn't get tired of hearing it.

When the video ended, it was almost time for the curfew. Exhaling deeply, Hao Ren thought that Zhao Yanzi was indeed a cute girl.

He was about to stand up when he saw a group of guys standing behind him.

"Damn! What are you all doing?" Hao Ren was startled.

With his cultivation strength on Zhen-level, he didn't even notice that a group of guys was standing behind him! He had been taken by the video.

"Wow! Who's this little beauty? She is so cute!"

"Super cute!"

"And her voice is great. Which school's play is this?"

"She must be more adorable in person!"

"Is it a viral video? How come I've never seen it before? Hao Ren, where did you get it?"

The moment the video ended, they immediately talked animatedly among themselves.

Hao Ren didn't answer their questions. Quickly, he removed the disc from the laptop before putting it away.

The guys tried to grab the disc from his hands, but Hao Ren stopped them.

"Please loan it to me. I'll make a copy and return it to you!"

"It will go viral if we post it online!"

As they talked, they looked at the disc with coveting glances. However, Hao Ren got up to his upper berth and placed the disc under his pillow.

He planned to bring the disc back home this weekend to show it to Grandma. He guessed it was one of Zhao Yanzi's intentions when she gave him the disc.

"Forget it! We'll search for it online. She must be a new star on the web!" Seeing Hao Ren hide the disk, the guys rolled their eyes before going away.

They didn't believe that Hao Ren would know such a cute girl; they had already forgotten that Zhao Yanzi had once come to East Ocean University.

However, Zhao Yanzi did look quite different on the stage. Besides, the guys only had a vague impression of her and couldn't make the link.

"It would be great to have such a girl as a girlfriend!"

"You pervert! She is a teenager!"

"I can wait!"

"You guys know nothing! Tons of middle schoolers are dating these days! A lot of them are dating high-schoolers."

They walked out of Hao Ren's bedroom while talking.

If they had known that the super cute beauty was, in fact, Hao Ren's fiancée, they would probably have climbed up to his upper berth and strangled him in jealousy.

Hao Ren spent half the night cultivating and the other half sleeping. Thursday morning came in the blink of an eye.

Su Han's course was still taught by the substitute teacher. During the class, the guys got sleepy, and none of them tried to grab the seats in the front. At Zhao Jiayi and other buddies' urgings, Hao Ren sat in the front row with Xie Yujia and Ma Lina. Not wanting to be the third-wheeler, Ma Lina sat with Zhao Jiayi and the others in the back.

After the class began, Xie Yujia was engrossed in taking notes while Hao Ren flipped through the Grade 8 Math Practice Booklet and prepared the night's materials for Zhao Yanzi.

They didn't look like a couple in love. Instead, they had returned to the relationship of childhood sweethearts.

In the evening, they took the bus together and headed to Zhao Yanzi's home.

The setting sun was as beautiful as a picture. Looking quietly at the scene outside the window, Xie Yujia said abruptly, "You were quite thorough with the preparations for Zhao Yanzi."

Hao Ren's mind had been on other stuff. Hearing her words, he looked up with a bitter smile. "It's useless since she's not serious with her studies."

"Actually, she is a sensible girl. It's just that sometimes she is too combative," Xie Yujia said.

"Sensible? She's sensible?" Hao Ren had his doubt.

The bus arrived, and they walked to Zhao Yanzi's home together.

Today, Zhao Guang was also home. Zhao Hongyu prepared a lot of dishes for them.

"Uncle, Auntie." Seeing Zhao Guang's stern face, Xie Yujia was a bit nervous. She greeted them respectfully.

"Hehe, come in and take a seat." Zhao Hongyu greeted Xie Yujia warmly and ushered her and Hao Ren into the house.

Zhao Yanzi had returned home from school. She sat on the couch with the TV remote control in her hand, ignoring Hao Ren and Xie Yujia.

Hao Ren looked at her closely and found no special radiance. However, her temperament felt different from yesterday.

Her eyes were brighter, and her delicate skin looked smoother. Although she sat on the couch leisurely, a vibrant, youthful energy emitted from her.

"Come on, the dinner is ready! We will be troubling you two to tutor Little Zi after dinner." Zhao Hongyu held Xie Yujia's hand and pulled her to the dinner table.

Her words were aimed at Xie Yujia. After all, after two hours of tutoring, Zhao Yanzi had reached level 1 of the Qi Refinement Realm in one night.

The progress looked insignificant, but it was important to Zhao Guang and Zhao Hongyu!

It meant that Zhao Yanzi could still cultivate despite her loss of the dragon core! She could get on a brand-new road of cultivation.

The more solid her cultivation foundation was, the better odds she would have in successfully receiving the dragon core in the future.

Zhao Hongyu was moved by Xie Yujia's sincerity in tutoring Zhao Yanzi despite the latter's prejudice against her.

"Auntie, you are too kind." Xie Yujia was a bit overwhelmed by Zhao Hongyu's warmth. She sat at the dinner table, blushing.

Zhao Guang sat at the table expressionlessly with the temperament of the family head.

However, when he happened to see the faint fluctuations of nature essence around Zhao Yanzi this morning, he was more excited than anyone else!

Since Zhao Yanzi was back on the road of cultivation, she would be able to take elixir pills without any side effects, and she wouldn't be as fragile as a mortal.

"Yujia, did you go to LingZhao Middle School in the past?" Zhao Hongyu chatted with Xie Yujia while they ate.

"Yes, Auntie," Xie Yujia answered politely, a bit reserved.

"Ms. Luo is very proud of you. You must have been the top student in LingZhao Middle School back then..."

The conversation was all centered around Xie Yujia, and Zhao Yanzi who busied herself with eating got more and more grumpy.

Zhao Guang kept the stern look as the family head while he ate, and his presence made Zhao Yanzi not daring enough to throw a tantrum.

Afraid that Xie Yujia would regard her as a nagging mom, Zhao Hongyu turned on the TV after consulting with Zhao Guang.

On TV, the local news was being broadcasted.

"A couple of days ago, LingZhao Middle School set a new standard for liberal education by producing a school play..."

The news attracted the attention of the people at the dinner table.

"Mom! It's me!" Zhao Yanzi yelled in excitement.

At the center of the stage, Zhao Yanzi in the company of the boy playing Romeo looked like a beautiful princess. The scene immediately caught the eyes of Hao Ren and the others.

Hao Ren looked at the Zhao Yanzi on TV before glancing at her from across the table and found that her temperament had indeed improved.

This news report that was about a dozen seconds ended quickly, but Zhao Yanzi's excitement was not abated.

Half a minute later, Zhao Hongyu's cell phone began to receive calls one after another.

"Hehe, it's ok. As a girl, it was a good challenge for her..."

"You are too kind. And your Qianqian is also pretty..."

"No! There are no plans for national performances. Ok, I'll bring her when we have dinner next time. And you must bring Yuyu; she's almost five years old now, right?"

Zhao Hongyu finally ended the last incoming call.

Obviously, they came from Zhao Hongyu's friends who had watched the news. Zhao Hongyu sounded modest, but her smiles showed that she was quite proud.

"Zi's performance that day was indeed excellent," Xie Yujia took the opportunity to praise her.

Glancing at Xie Yujia, Zhao Yanzi wanted to retort but controlled herself. After all, she was secretly pleased with Xie Yujia's compliment.

Seeing Zhao Yanzi's full-blown excitement, Hao Ren didn't flatter her. Instead, he said calmly, "It was ok."

Instantly, Zhao Yanzi rolled her eyes at him.

After dinner, Hao Ren and Xie Yujia walked upstairs with Zhao Yanzi, one teaching her the basic cultivation technique while the other tutoring her school work.

Due to her appearance on the news, Zhao Yanzi was still excited while subconsciously thinking about her classmates' reactions when she goes to school tomorrow. So, she didn't act defiantly with Xie Yujia; instead, she followed Xie Yujia's guidance and circulated the Qi Refinement Scroll.

Then, she quickly finished the test papers Hao Ren gave her without any conditions. In the middle of her work, she got a call from Little Ling and chatted with her for more than ten minutes.

On the other side of the line, Little Ling predicted that Zhao Yanzi would become a big movie star in the future, and Zhao Yanzi was so happy that she rolled on her bed while talking to her friend on the phone.

Hao Ren and Xie Yujia looked at her in exasperation and amusement.

Knock! Knock! They had finished tutoring and were packing their stuff up when someone knocked on the door.

"Come in!" Zhao Yanzi yelled.

Thinking it was her mom, Zhao Yanzi's tone was playful. From the look on her face, she wouldn't be able to sleep tonight. After all, she was only in Grade 8 thus easily got dizzy with vanity.

However, it was Zhao Guang instead of Zhao Hongyu who walked into the room.

Zhao Yanzi thought her dad would scold her for yelling in the room and immediately sat up.

However, Zhao Guang just glanced at her before turning to Xie Yujia. "Yujia, you want to make elixir pills, right? I'll take you there."

Chapter 287: Making Beauty Pills!

Xie Yujia had indeed been thinking of making elixir pills, but she didn't feel comfortable mentioning it to Zhao Yanzi's parents again.

Zhao Guang's sudden appearance solved the matter for her.

She nodded. "Ok!"

“Ren, come along!” Zhao Guang glanced at him and seemed to have sensed his concern.

Without a word, Hao Ren stood up.

“Dad! I want to go, too!” Zhao Yanzi jumped up.

“You...” Zhao Guang hesitated for a second before nodding. “Ok.”

It was only one hour before the curfew in the dorms, so they couldn't make it back if they went to make elixir pills.

However, Xie Yujia didn't mind. For the past few days, she had been practicing the procedure of making elixir pills that the old Grandma had taught her, and she could only get less anxious if she successfully created the elixir.

Zhao Guang drove the three of them to the seashore before walking to the dragon palace along the usual tunnel.

Premier Xia had gotten the news and was at the gate to greet them. Among the four people, he was actually closest to Hao Ren.

“Premier Xia, sorry for the trouble,” Hao Ren said when he found that their guide was Premier Xia again.

“It's my duty,” Premier Xia answered with gratification.

During the hundreds of years of being the Premier of the dragon palace, this Fuma was the most considerate person he had ever encountered.

The inside of the dragon palace was still heavily guarded despite the retreat of the West Ocean Dragon Clan. Without the powerful support of Zhao Kuo, Zhao Guang couldn't let his guard down. After all, compared with the other three dragon palaces, East Ocean was the most wealth but also the weakest.

Since they were in the dragon palace now, they were going to pay a visit to Su Han first. This time, Xie Yujia wasn't blindfolded and saw all the sceneries.

Her expression sometimes showed astonishment and sometimes showed admiration; she almost acted the same way as Hao Ren when he first came to the dragon palace.

After crossing a small plaza, they came to the palace where Su Han was recovering from her injuries. In the small garden before her bedroom, Su Han was practicing sword techniques in a white robe.

She was still pale due to her injuries, and the surrounding flowers flew around under the force of her sword energy. It was a beautiful sight.

She put away the white jade sword and turned to look at the five of them. Her pale face blushed a little as she cupped her hands in greeting.

Although she was living in the East Ocean Dragon Palace, she didn't have to be this polite as an inspector.

Zhao Guang nodded slightly to greet her as well.

“Sister Su!” Zhao Yanzi ran over to her. “Your sword techniques were so beautiful!”

Su Han patted Zhao Yanzi's head lightly before turning her gaze to Hao Ren and Xie Yujia. "What are you doing here..."

Before she could finish her sentence, she looked down at Zhao Yanzi in surprise. "Huh? You have nature essence on you? Can you cultivate now?"

"No... I'm just cultivating for fun," not wanting to admit that she was technically Xie Yujia's disciple, Zhao Yanzi mumbled.

"We are here today to make elixir pills," Hao Ren said before adding, "to make Beauty Pills."

"Beauty Pills?" Su Han's eyes lit up.

"Yeah. The old Grandma taught me how to make elixirs, and today, I'm here to borrow the venue and get the materials for the elixir," Xie Yujia said in a low voice.

"You... make elixirs?" Su Han rarely showed her emotions, but she was surprised by Xie Yujia's words.

She could tell that Xie Yujia was only at level 3 of the Qi Refinement Realm, and she had never heard that a cultivator in Qi Refinement Realm could make elixirs! The most they could do was to control the fire.

"Yes," Xie Yujia answered with a smile.

"Ms. Su, if you are interested, please come with us," Zhao Guang offered.

"Ok!" Su Han said immediately.

She put on another long white robe which elegantly trailed on the ground. While she walked crisply, she looked magnificent in the robe.

Elder Xingyue was studying scrolls in her room, and she hurried out to greet Zhao Guang. When she heard that they were going to make elixirs, she wanted to go with them, too.

After all, with her experience, she couldn't believe that a Qi Refinement Realm cultivator could make elixirs.

The group of people went to the underground elixir making rooms in the Godly Treasure Palace.

The Godly Treasure Palace was an important structure in the dragon palace, and the elixir making rooms that were hidden underground were even more critical; even ordinary elders couldn't get access to them without permission.

Of course, Zhao Guang had personally arranged a room for Xie Yujia's use, so the restrictions didn't apply to her.

Even with the great wealth of the East Ocean Dragon Clan, they could only build three elixir making rooms which used the 10,000-year earthly fires from under the bottom of the sea. The elixir making room in the middle had the purest and most powerful fire.

“This room is usually used by Little Daoist Zhen. But recently, he shut himself in his room, studying dharma treasures and hasn’t been coming. So, you may use this room to make elixir pills for the time being,” Zhao Guang said when he walked into the room in the middle.

The others followed, and the most curious one was Zhao Yanzi who had not known that such an elixir making room existed. She looked around with interest.

Bang!

The moment they entered the room, they were greeted with a surge of hot air!

The 10,000-year earthly fire!

Su Han immediately threw out an energy sphere around Zhao Yanzi to protect her from the heat.

Standing next to Xie Yujia, Zhao Guang was about to put out an energy sphere to protect her when two notes jumped out of her body. One gold and one silver, the two notes surrounded Xie Yujia, forcing the hot airwaves back half a meter!

The notes emitted waves of energies and jumped up and down mysteriously as if they were alive.

The silver and gold blinking lights showcased the powerful protection they offered.

“Your Majesty, the materials are prepared as instructed by Inspector Su.” Premier Xia opened a box and presented it to Zhao Guang and Xie Yujia.

“Ok.” Zhao Guang nodded slightly before backing to one side.

Su Han was still weak, so she sat down on a steel chair in the room, looking beautiful in her white robe.

Zhao Yanzi stood by her side, holding onto one of the armrests of the chair so she wouldn’t be pushed back by the sudden surges of hot airwaves.

Hao Ren also backed up several steps and watched Xie Yujia quietly.

“Hao Ren, it’s time to let out Little White,” Xie Yujia said to him abruptly.

“Oh. I almost forgot...” Hao Ren immediately tossed out Little White from his necklace. He usually let this spirit beast out three times a day. For the rest of the time, it would be inside the necklace so that it couldn’t cause trouble.

The moment Little White landed onto the ground, it sensed the hot airwaves. With a booming sound, it turned into its snow lion form to block them.

“The main ingredient of Beauty Pills are these three Beauty Flowers. Other supplementary ingredients include two Seven-Star Grass, one Dual-Hearts Wood, one section of Stone Bamboo, a 1,000-year purple ginseng...”

With all the materials prepared, Su Han was still uncertain. She told Xie Yujia about the herbs in the box.

“Ok, I got it.” Xie Yujia nodded cautiously.

Her right hand moved forward, and the golden note hovering in front of her flew forward.

Bang! The lid of the Profound Steel Furnace that was as heavy as 1,000 pounds was instantly lifted!

Chapter 288: Making Elixirs with Notes

Xie Yujia tossed the herbs in the box into the furnace one after another. The earthly fire under the furnace had been burning for thousands of years without stopping, and the inside of the furnace was already bright red.

The moment the herbs were tossed inside, they turned into essence liquid and merged slowly.

Cautiously, Xie Yujia threw in the most critical herbs, the three Beauty Flowers.

At the wave of her arm, the golden note blinked and moved the lid to its original position.

Xie Yujia's movement of lifting and closing the furnace lid looked quite smooth as if she had practiced it hundreds of times. Su Han looked at her with satisfaction and astonishment, wondering how a weak cultivator in the level 3 Qi Refinement Realm could move a furnace lid weighing about 1,000 pounds. The dharma note Xie Yujia used was indeed powerful.

Elder Xingyue was also surprised. She had never seen or heard of this method of making elixirs with dharma notes.

Elder Xingyue believed that Xie Yujia must be the disciple of a grandmaster.

In the furnace, the five elements in the herbs were instantly turned into essence liquid by the hot earthly fire. However, it was still a mortal fire and couldn't extract the five elements purely and merge them into each other.

That was why five-colored mists floated above the furnace.

"Little White, it's your turn!" Xie Yujia glanced at Little White that was by her side.

Little White looked at Xie Yujia and then at Hao Ren behind it, wondering what it was supposed to do.

"Silly dog! Spit fire!" Hao Ren rushed over and gave it a light kick at its rump.

Little White jumped forward and finally hissed out a red flame from its mouth.

The flame merged into the surging earthly fire; it looked weak, but the combined fire instantly leaped up by three feet.

The red fire had blue flames on the top, and the blue flames were obviously more potent than other flames.

A faint aroma of the mixed herbs appeared.

Little White's demon fire was, in fact, the samadhi true fire, the fundamental fire for making elixirs!

As a level 2 elixir pill, the Beauty Pills were not difficult to make. It was due to the rarity of the mature Beauty Flowers in the mortal world that caused the Beauty Pills to be long lost.

The five-colored mists transformed slowly, signaling the merging process of the essence liquid in the furnace.

However, making elixirs was not done after tossing the herbs into the furnace. One must continuously adjust the power of the fire and the combinations of the herbs. The process was almost the same as cooking which was not done the moment you dump the materials into the pot.

Sitting in the chair, Su Han watched the process without blinking, so was Zhao Yanzi who had never seen people make elixir before.

Half a step behind Zhao Guang, Premier Xia, and Elder Xingyue were also observing Xie Yujia's movements and the slow turning of the furnace.

The furnace was special, and ordinary cultivators couldn't turn it. Premier Xia and Elder Xingyue found it quite incredible to see a Qi Refinement Realm cultivator rotate the furnace with her cultivation strength.

They surmised that the secret lied with the golden and silver notes that were as big as half a thumb.

"Little White, more fire," Xie Yujia told Little White.

However, it didn't understand her. Therefore, Hao Ren had to take a step forward and gave a little pat on its rump.

Hiss... Another two dashes of flames shot from the space between its teeth, and the fire instantly surged high, illuminating the whole room in bright red.

Xie Yujia inhaled deeply, and her face grew grim.

If the process before this was heating the pot, the following part was the real cooking.

She raised her hands slowly, and the golden and silver notes surrounding her also rose.

The golden one was the Life Note or the Yang Note; the silver one was the Death Note or the Yin Note.

The change of Yin and Yang represented the shift of the world.

Hovering above the furnace, the golden note extracted traces of nature essence from the crack between the lid and the furnace. These traces were the five-elemental essences of the herbs.

Seeing the essences condense outside of the furnace, Su Han held her breath and didn't move a muscle.

Zhao Yanzi got nervous as well; her hand moving quietly to hold Su Han's arm.

Zhao Guang looked surprised since he had never seen such a mysterious method of making elixirs.

For Xie Yujia, it was as simple as tossing up ingredients in the pot in cooking! By doing this, she let the essence liquids receive heat evenly from Little White's samadhi true fire!

Ordinary elixir masters would stew the elixirs according to their previous experiences. However, Xie Yujia used the extracting and absorbing functions of the Life-Death Note to turn the process into 'quick frying!'

The golden Life Note pulled the five-element essences of the herbs to the outside of the furnace before the silver Death Note tossed them back into the furnace.

With the Nascent Soul Realm power inside these two notes, Xie Yujia carefully controlled the directions and the strengths of the notes.

“Dragon King, I’ve never seen this method of elixir making before,” Elder Xingyue took a step forward and whispered to Zhao Guang.

“It’s indeed powerful...” Zhao Guang exclaimed in a low voice. He looked lost while he watched the movements of Xie Yujia’s arms.

“She will become a powerful elixir master,” Elder Xingyue reminded him in a whisper.

Zhao Guang instantly understood her meaning. He nodded while a thought dawned on him.

Little Daoist Zhen was eccentric and rarely made elixirs. However, Xie Yujia would grow into a powerful elixir master.

Low-level elixirs were not very important to the dragon cultivators who could cultivate fast before Zhen-level; they had less value to the affluent East Ocean Dragon Clan members. However, high-level elixirs were strategic resources for them!

While they talked, Xie Yujia flicked her fingers, and the golden and silver notes each turned into ten smaller notes, circulating the furnace slowly.

A more intense aroma floated from the furnace.

It meant that the pills were almost done!

Standing close to the hot furnace, drops of sweat began to slide from Xie Yujia’s forehead down to her face and chin.

Hiss... The drops of sweat landed on the ground and instantly evaporated.

However, Xie Yujia didn’t dare to wipe her sweat since she had entered the most crucial stage of elixir making!

In this stage, Yin and Yang balanced each other, and the five-elemental essences gave birth to each other.

Although the Beauty Pills were only level 2 elixir pills, she must be careful with the small details.

After all, it was her first time trying her hand at elixir making, and the herbs were so precious.

“Yujia, keep steady.”

Sensing the slight shaking of her body, Hao Ren blurted out.

Xie Yujia was indeed exhausted. Hearing Hao Ren’s encouragement, she gritted her teeth and poured out all her nature essence.

Ten small golden notes and ten small silver notes brightened instantly.

The flames whirled around the furnace between the notes like a small tornado!

The fire was divided into small threads of flames which engulfed the entire furnace. It was a feat only an advanced elixir master could achieve!

“Hey! Who’s in my room?”

Little Daoist Zhen’s voice suddenly broke the tense atmosphere in the room.

Chapter 289: Little White’s Boss

No one had expected that Little Daoist Zhen would appear.

Xie Yujia who had been engrossed in elixir making was especially shaken.

Hao Ren saw it and immediately walked forward; he held her hand and injected surges of pure nature essence into her palm.

After all, all her cultivation strength was put on controlling the Life-Death Note, and one disturbance would cause nature essence deviation in her body!

However, her Five-Elemental Life-Death Note was the nemesis of Hao Ren’s Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll. The moment he touched her hand, he was bounced back by the great force of the Life-Death Notes!

Since the room was not big, he was bounced back and crashed hard onto the wall made from black rocks, and he was really dizzy

Fortunately, most of the power of the Life-Death Note was put into controlling the furnace. Otherwise, He could have got his arm broken in the process.

However, thanks to the trace of pure nature essence that was injected into her body, Xie Yujia was reinvigorated and continued to control the process of elixir making. She looked back at Hao Ren apologetically.

“You deserve the crash!” Zhao Yanzi yelled silently. “Humph! I’ll see if you dare to touch her again!”

“Little Daoist Zhen, we’ll borrow this room for a while.” Zhao Guang cupped his hands at Little Daoist Zhen.

“A cultivator in the Qi Refinement Realm is taking the risk and making elixirs here?” Little Daoist Zhen glanced at Xie Yujia, who was standing before the furnace, and said.

His cultivation strength was not high, but he had sharp eyes, instantly seeing that she only had the cultivation strength of the Qi Refinement Realm and was not a member of the Dragon Tribe.

However, his expression turned serious when he saw Xie Yujia’s golden and silver notes stirring the five-element essences in the furnace.

“What pills is she making?” He asked Zhao Guang.

“Beauty Pills,” Zhao Guang answered. Although Little Daoist Zhen was arrogant, Zhao Guang didn’t want to offend him.

It was not only because he had once saved Zhao Kuo's life; instead, everyone in East Ocean Dragon Palace knew from the hundred years he was here that he was an intolerant, 'an eye for an eye' type of person!

Anyone who offended him would be in trouble!

"Oh, level 2 pills." Little Daoist Zhen's expression relaxed.

Watching Xie Yujia's movements, he had thought that she was making some high-level elixirs. However, her elixir making techniques were indeed exquisite.

He stood there quietly, and the room returned to its previous silence except for the sounds of the flames.

Little White was spitting flames without stopping. Little Daoist Zhen's gaze turned from Xie Yujia to Little White, a peer of his.

They were both demon beasts, but Little Daoist Zhen had activated his intelligence while Little White hadn't. The process of intelligence activation usually took about 500 to 1,000 years.

Suddenly, Little Daoist Zhen was interested in this snow lion.

The pills were almost done.

Xie Yujia gritted her teeth; obviously, it was consuming the last bit of her strength.

"One step! Only one step away!" Little Daoist Zhen yelled.

As level 2 pills, Beauty Pills were one of the elixir pills that were the easiest to make. As long as the elixir master balanced the five-elemental essences, extracted the effects of the supplementary materials, and activated the essence in the main ingredients, it would be a success.

Although Little Daoist Zhen had not participated in the beginning part of the process, he judged from the aroma floating from the furnace that the pills still needed some time before they were done.

While Xie Yujia gritted her teeth and used the last bit of her strength, Su Han and Hao Ren were both looking at her anxiously.

Su Han's was anxious because she was afraid that Xie Yujia would fail to make the pills at the last moment. However, Hao Ren was concerned that the process would put too much pressure on Xie Yujia.

Little Daoist Zhen sniffed loudly and said abruptly. "No, one herb is missing."

While everyone else was watching the furnace without blinking, Little Daoist Zhen thought for a few seconds. "Yes. The mixture is missing a Unicorn Lotus."

He rummaged in his sleeves and drew out a black stick, that looked like a sugar cane, before walking to Xie Yujia.

"Little Daoist Zhen, don't mess around!" Zhao Guang tried to stop him.

Su Han was going to walk over and block him, but Elder Xingyue stopped her.

“You need this!” With one hand, Little Daoist Zhen lifted the furnace lid.

The Life Notes and Death Notes were scattered, and Xie Yujia, who was controlling the notes with her mind and spirit, spat out a mouthful of blood.

Little Daoist Zhen ignored it and tossed out a dharma treasure to push down the essences that were surging out of the furnace before tossing the Unicorn Lotus into the furnace.

“What a pity! With the opening of the furnace before completing the process, half of the essences are gone.” Little Daoist Zhen sighed while shaking his head.

Hearing his words, Su Han, who had high hopes for the Beauty Pills, almost spat out a mouthful of blood, too.

“Yujia!” Hao Ren hurried over to help Xie Yujia to stand up, but he was again pushed away by the remaining power of the Life-Death Note.

“I’m fine...” Pale-faced, Xie Yujia stood up.

“This kid is too reckless!” Hao Ren clenched his fists and began to walk to Little Daoist Zhen.

Despite Little Daoist Zhen’s high position, Hao Ren found it hard to control his anger towards this kid.

He had only walked forward for half a step before Xie Yujia grabbed his sleeve.

“He did it for my sake; he knew that I couldn’t make it and walked up to continue the process for me.”

Hearing her words, Hao Ren was surprised. He stared at her and asked, “Why did you still want to go on when you know you couldn’t make it?”

Xie Yujia lowered her head and said in a low voice, “I... didn’t want to disappoint Su Han...”

Hao Ren was both angry and exasperated. If Little Daoist Zhen didn’t offer his help, Xie Yujia might have ended up worse than spitting blood!

She looked gentle but was very stubborn!

Little Daoist Zhen sat down cross-legged in front of the furnace and took Xie Yujia’s place!

He reached out and patted Little white’s neck. “More fire! I’ll feed you great pills later!”

Little White seemed to have understood his words. Sticking out its tongue, it instantly spat out stronger flames.

Little Daoist Zhen chanted spells, and the furnace began to turn slowly.

His elixir making techniques were different from Xie Yujia’s. If Xie Yujia’s method was like stir-frying, then his method was like stewing. The stir-frying depended on the skills of the hands while stewing depended on the control of fires.

“Lower! Lower!” Little Daoist Zhen yelled at Little White.

Little White took a breath, and its samadhi true fire got less intense.

The aroma floating from the furnace was even more intense.

Elder Xingyue placed her hands on Xie Yujia's shoulders and began to help her settle down the surging blood in her body.

"It's so slow," bored, Zhao Yanzi blurted out.

Obviously, Little Daoist Zhen's method was not as eye-catching as Xie Yujia's. It was as boring as watching a sweet potato being baked.

"Can we rush the elixir making process?!" Little Daoist Zhen turned his head and gave her a fierce stare.

"So fierce..." Zhao Yanzi mumbled before hiding behind Hao Ren.

She knew she couldn't afford to mess with Little Daoist Zhen; she just hadn't expected that his hearing would be so acute.

After more than one hour, Zhao Yanzi was feeling the soreness in her legs and feet, and Little White looked fatigued. Just then, Little Daoist Zhen said casually, "Time to open the lid!"

With his right hand, he lifted the lid.

An intense aroma instantly filled the whole room.

Little Daoist Zhen took out a jade bottle and tossed it up. Hovering in the air above the furnace, the bottle sucked up the pills one by one.

One, two, three, four!

Su Han counted and got excited when she got to four. She thought that the ingredients were enough to make at most three Beauty Pills. Since Xie Yujia was trying her hand at elixir making for the first time, she expected less than three.

Besides, with the interruption of Little Daoist Zhen during the process, some of the nature essences had been lost; it would be fortunate if they could get one pill. To her surprise, they had made four pills, even one more than her highest expectation!

Little Daoist Zhen beckoned, and the jade bottle returned to his hand. He shook the bottle and heard the crisp sound of the pills rolling around in the bottle. With a playful smile, he tossed the bottle at Xie Yujia.

Xie Yujia caught it and was at a loss for what to do next.

"I just wanted to give you a hand. You must have been doing this for one day and one night," Little Daoist Zhen smiled haughtily and said.

"No! Before you arrived, we had been here for less than one hour!" Zhao Yanzi interrupted.

"One... One hour?" Little Daoist Zhen's proud face turned stiff.

It would take him at least one day and one night at the furnace to make such level 2 pills. However, this Qi Refinement Realm cultivator only used one hour to finish the majority of the process?

“What strange elixir making technique is this?”

While Little Daoist Zhen froze with astonishment, Little White stood up lazily. It leaned toward him with its red tongue hanging out, obviously asking for its reward.

“Here! Here!” Little Daoist Zhen took out a grey bottle and poured out more than ten pills before tossing them at Little White.

Joyously, Little White stuck out its tongue, licked onto all of them, and swallowed. After that, it trotted around Little Daoist Zhen with affection.

In Little Daoist Zhen’s hidden space, which was his warehouse, there were at least hundreds of bottles of such low-level pills. If he liked, he could make hundreds of low-level pills in just three days and three nights.

The so-called elixir pills were cheaper than beans to him.

What he cared about now was that a weak cultivator could compress the 24-hour process into two hours!

She was a living dharma treasure who could make elixirs all the time!

“Hey! Teach me your elixir making techniques!” Ignoring Little White’s antics, Little Daoist Zhen walked toward Xie Yujia and said.

Chapter 290: The Head of Support !

“Ugh?” Xie Yujia looked at him in a daze, not understanding his words.

“Teach me your elixir making techniques!” Little Daoist Zhen repeated.

Frightened, Xie Yujia didn’t know how to answer him.

“How can she teach you her technique so casually?” Hao Ren stood between them and said to Little Daoist Zhen.

“I just want to learn them; I won’t tell anyone else.” Little Daoist Zhen continued to stare at Xie Yujia.

He hated when his master made him learn elixir making techniques. Although he was gifted and smart and could even make level 9 immortal pills, it usually took him days and nights to do it. For those level 9 immortal pills, he had to spend more than one month watching the furnace without rest.

That was why he would rather make dharma treasures instead of elixirs. It took him at most three days and three nights to make a dharma treasure, and the process mainly involved his brain since he needed to arrange the different array formations. Compared to that, elixir making was purely physical labor to him!

If he could learn Xie Yujia’s techniques...

“My master told me that I couldn’t teach anyone these techniques,” Xie Yujia calmed down and told him.

“Who’s your master? Tell him or her to see me in the dragon palace!” Little Daoist Zhen said immediately.

“My master...” Xie Yujia said after half a second of hesitation, “She doesn’t see people.”

“I don’t think there are people I can’t see in the world!” Little Daoist Zhen grew arrogant. “Ok! I’ll go and see her then! I’ll see if she will teach me or not!”

Then, he waved his hand at Xie Yujia. “Ok! All of you get out! I’m going to make dharma treasures. I’ll find you later!”

Xie Yujia looked at this eccentric “boy” in exasperation.

“Let’s get out of here.” Zhao Guang led the group out of the room.

“Snow lion, you stay!” Little Daoist Zhen said abruptly.

Little White looked back at him in bafflement.

“What are you looking at! I meant you!” Little Daoist Zhen pointed at Little White. “Stay with me!”

“It’s my spirit beast,” Hao Ren told Little Daoist Zhen.

“I don’t care whose spirit beast it belongs to; it’s my little follower now! You can ask it to see if it wants to stay with me for a couple of days.” While he talked, he took out another bottle from his sleeve and poured out dozens of pale blue elixir pills.

After looking at Hao Ren its watering eyes, Little White suddenly turned and trotted toward Little Daoist Zhen.

“Damn dog!” Hao Ren almost cursed out loud.

“Don’t worry; I’ll keep it for just a couple of days. I’ll come and find you guys with it after I’m done,” Little Daoist Zhen said in a casual tone as he took out a silver conch-shaped dharma treasure from his sleeve and tossed it into the furnace.

Seeing Little White already leaning fawningly against Little Daoist Zhen, Hao Ren was so mad that he got speechless.

He had no choice but to leave them.

While Hao Ren and others walked toward the first floor of the Godly Treasure Palace, Little Daoist Zhen in the room suddenly had a cold expression on his face.

Today he was going to make a dharma treasure which he named Destructive ‘Making You Beg for Death’ Fire Lightning Super Killer Conch.

Since his master was in a 500-year exclusion cultivation in the Nine Dragon Palace, he could destroy the West Ocean Dragon Palace 100 times in the period, and no one would dare to stop him!

If the conch unleashed its full force, it would turn the whole West Ocean Dragon Palace into a pile of debris!

In this world, no one dared to mess with him. Even when he was in the Demon Sea and wasn't taken in as a disciple by Qiu Niu, he feared no one!

"West Ocean, you dared to mess with me? I'll show you my power!"

With both hands, he placed the first layer of essence absorbing array formation into the dharma treasure.

He planned to put 99 layers of powerful array formations into this super powerful offensive dharma treasure, and he didn't care that he would have to spend three days and three nights to do it!

When Xie Yujia and others returned to the great hall inside the Godly Treasure Palace, she immediately handed the bottle to Su Han.

Su Han took it and poured out one pill before placing it into Xie Yujia's hand.

"This is the reward for your hard work in making the pills."

Xie Yujia tried to decline, but Su Han already took back her hand.

Then, Su Han turned to Zhao Yanzi and gave her two pills.

Zhao Yanzi took the two fire-red pills with amazement. "They are for me?"

"One is for your mother, and the other is for you in the future," Su Han nodded and said.

"What if I take it now?" Zhao Yanzi asked.

"Then, you will always look like this," Su Han answered.

Hearing her words, Zhao Yanzi immediately put away the pills. She was young and pretty now, but her blooming time had not come yet.

"And the last one is for me." Su Han smiled.

Every woman wanted to look beautiful, including Su Han. While she concentrated on cultivation, she put a lot of thought on the Beauty Pills because she wanted to retain her beauty.

She was now at the blooming age. If she took the Beauty Pill, she wouldn't have to spend a lot of cultivation strength or large amounts of other elixirs to keep her looks; she could put all her energy into cultivation and try to realize her dream of reaching the Heavenly Dragon Realm.

"Let's head back," Zhao Guang said.

"Farewell, Your Majesty!" Premier Xia and Elder Xingyue bowed at him.

Zhao Guang led Hao Ren, Zhao Yanzi, and Xie Yujia out of the dragon palace and drove them back to his home on land.

It was midnight when they arrived.

"It's late. If you don't mind, you can spend the night here," Zhao Guang parked the car in the garage and said to Xie Yujia.

“Ok. Thank you.” Xie Yujia lowered her head.

Clutching the Beauty Pill in her hand, she leaned toward Hao Ren.

Zhao Yanzi pouted, but she was less defiant now since she was envious of Xie Yujia’s elixir making skills and hoped that she could learn the skills from Xie Yujia later on. That was why she didn’t want to alienate Xie Yujia for the time being.

Zhao Guang led them into the house and thought for a moment before saying, “Ren, you have to sleep in the living room, and Yujia can take the empty room upstairs.”

“Ok!” Hao Ren agreed immediately.

Zhao Guang led Xie Yujia and Zhao Yanzi to the second floor and then brought a thick blanket down for Hao Ren.

“Thank you, Uncle!” Hao Ren said politely, taking the blanket from him.

“Ren, I need to talk to you.” Zhao Guang didn’t leave immediately. Instead, he stood in the living room and looked at Hao Ren.

“Uncle, please go on.” Hao Ren was a bit nervous at Zhao Guang’s serious look.

Zhao Guang looked at Hao Ren and said slowly, “Zi must take the first place.”

“First place...” Hao Ren didn’t quite understand.

From the second floor came Zhao Hongyu’s happy exclamation.

Obviously, Zhao Yanzi was giving her the Beauty Pill. As an elegant woman, Zhao Hongyu must care about her looks very much as well.

“I mean, whatever happens in the future, you can’t let Zi suffer. That’s my bottom line,” Zhao Guang continued.

“Ok...” Hao Ren understood only a part of it, but he agreed anyway.

“The second thing is that although West Ocean has retreated, it doesn’t mean that our crisis is over. Among the four ocean dragon palaces, the elders in our East Ocean Dragon Palace have the weakest average cultivation strength. Since Grandmaster Qiu Niu is absent from the palace and Zhao Kuo is traveling, the situation is still precarious.”

“Uncle, you mean...”

“Our East Ocean Dragon Palace has abundant resources but lacks good elixir masters. There is now a shortage of elixir pills above level 5, and that’s why many elders are stuck in Dui-level. Now that West Ocean gave us more than ten pieces of Mystic Ice, it’s an opportunity for a collective breakthrough for the cultivators in the East Ocean Dragon Palace. The only catch is the shortage of elixir pills...”

“Uncle, do you want to ask Xie Yujia to make elixir pills?” Hao Ren asked directly.

Zhao Guang’s expression froze before continuing, “Of course, I wouldn’t ask her to help us for free...”

"I think she will help; Yujia is a warm-hearted and kind girl," Hao Ren answered. Then, he caught himself and corrected immediately, "But you must consult her first."

"Ok. I'll ask her. The third thing is about Little Daoist Zhen." Zhao Guang looked at Hao Ren. "In fact, he has been wanting to come up to the land and see the world. I'm sure he will use you as an excuse and try to come onto the land this time. I'll let him stay at Lu Qing's place for the time being, but I'm afraid Lu Qing can't keep him in check. You see, he's good at making trouble, and I want you to keep an eye on him."

"Me?" Surprised, Hao Ren pointed at himself.

"Yeah. Only you can keep him in check." Zhao Guang nodded gravely.

"It is more a transfer of trouble than a compliment... Ok, since I'm your son-in-law, I must take the burden from you..." Hao Ren remained silent while he looked at Zhao Guang.

"Thank you!" Zhao Guang patted on Hao Ren's shoulder before walking toward the stairs.

Hao Ren turned to look at Zhao Guang's back, lost in thought.

In the room on the second floor, Xie Yujia couldn't sleep, so she began to cultivate the Five-Element Life-Death Note.

In the red box on the bedside table was the Beauty Pill, but she thought for a long while and couldn't decide if she should take it.

Surges of essence came from all directions.

The Life Note could gather the essence of nature! The intensity of essence in Zhao Yanzi's house instantly elevated to that of the Eighth Heaven!

Hao Ren was cultivating the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll in the living room on the first floor. He felt so great that with two crisp crackles, two openings were unlocked without the stimulation of lightning!

In the room next to Xie Yujia's, Zhao Yanzi was counting sheep while cultivating Qi Refinement Technique. Unconsciously, she had reached level 3 Qi Refinement Realm!

Only Xie Yujia's cultivation strength didn't grow. She was still at level 3 Qi Refinement Realm with a little growth in her cultivation strength.

"Well, when can I catch up with Hao Ren if I go on like this?" Xie Yujia sighed in disappointment. Withdrawing the shining Life Note into her right palm, she gritted her teeth and got under the covers.

In the living room on the first floor, Hao Ren found the intensity of essence dropped suddenly, and some spirit energy that had not been transformed even had the tendency to escape from his body. Immediately, he locked it inside his dragon core and ended his cultivation.

"Strange... I had never felt Zhao Yanzi's home had such high-intensity essence..." Hao Ren murmured to himself before lying down on the sofa and pulling up the blanket.

Staring at the white chandelier, Hao Ren wondered if he could make elixirs with the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll as well as Xie Yujia...