

E Monarch 391

Chapter 391: Jun Mo Xie's Magnificent Plan!

The reason wasn't him. It was the Hong Jun Pagoda's aura. It was the bane of that sinister power since it was the purest aura in all of existence. In fact, it was the aura with the most vigor since it was the aura of life. That is... it was the force of life.

The entire world had originated from Primal Chaos. And, nothing can deceive the force of primal chaos since everything had been derived from it. The Hongjun Pagoda inside Jun Mo Xie was the most essential source of this power.

However, it's only natural that one would have to adjust according to the local setting. Otherwise Jun Mo Xie would lose the advantage of the miraculous effects of the Hongjun Pagoda's power.

Jun Mo Xie had always been very enthusiastic about the Tian Fa Forest. And, he suddenly got an idea after he was finished assisting Big Bear and Long Crane with their breakthroughs.

He had never been able to stand the world's clamor. Nor could he live a chaotic life. In fact, Jun Mo Xie was extremely tired of all that turmoil. Young Master Jun's journey had recently come to a start in this world, but he had already begun to hope for a secluded place to lead his life in peace.

[I will fulfill my responsibilities one day. Then, I will find myself a quiet place, and settle down there to lead a peaceful life.]

And, the Tian Fa Forest was an ideal place of seclusion for Jun Mo Xie...

In fact, even the snakes inside the Tian Fa Forest seemed far more pleasant than those high and mighty humans to Jun Mo Xie's eyes.

And, this was because... this place was free of the scheme and plots that had plagued the outside world.

Jun Mo Xie hated the scheming and the plotting. He would indulge in the scheming at times. But, he had always preferred a direct confrontation. [You want to see who's more powerful? Why don't you take a swing at me? Why beat around the bush? Why waste time with the nonsense?]

In fact, Jun Mo Xie's idea could perhaps be considered a grand design.

[I will change the society's rules if I ever become the supreme in this world.]

[And, I will restructure this world with my own methods!]

[No one will go against my rules! Even the Spirit Xuan experts and Great Masters won't be able to become the exceptions!]

[I don't wish to rule the whole world. But, I want the world to understand what I want!]

[The Xuan experts will have to take a test every year. There are different levels within Xuan cultivation. So, each level shall have its specific clothing and color. One shall get a new color of clothing once they would reach a new level. And, they will have to continue wearing their older clothes unless they've reached a higher level.]

[The divisions would be clear if this is implemented... just like they used to be in my previous life... all the way from kindergarten to university!]

[And, the Tian Fa Forest will be the seat of authority. Tian Fa will be the place from where these rules will be issued!]

[And, that's because this is the place of Jun Mo Xie's future residence!]

Jun Mo Xie even thought of prescribing hats to every division of rank. And, this brought a smile to his face. This was because Jun Mo Xie could suddenly imagine a scene where two people meet and wish to fight after they had quarreled for a while. However, they would then see each other's hats... and then shake hands and resolve the issue.

"Ah! You're a green hat? I'm a black hat! I'm far below you in rank! What's that? Let's go. Let's go, and have a drink. It's my treat!"

"Yes it is! Look at how ugly your black hat is! He he... look at how wonderful my shiny-green hat is!"

"I genuinely admire the green hat you've put on."

"You're too kind. You flatter me. He he... you can also wear a green hat one day if you work hard."

"Perhaps I could achieve that with your guidance. Ha Ha!"

... ..

Jun Mo Xie thought about the scene, and how he had gotten carried away... he couldn't help but burst into a loud laughter as a result...

This sudden and impulsive thought may have seemed like a joke to him at this time. However, Jun Mo Xie could never have imagined that it would become the premiere law of the Xuan Xuan Continent for the thousands of years to come. It would be called the law of the Evil Monarch!

It would remain unchanged for millennia! And, it would all have come from this...

The Lion King and the Monkey King had started to believe that their incurable injuries would soon be treated. And, they couldn't help but feel relaxed...

Why wouldn't they feel happy and excited? Why wouldn't they feel relaxed?

Jun Mo Xie came back to himself after a long while passed. He then chuckled and said, "We shouldn't delay this any longer if that's the case. Sixth and Seventh, come to me right now. I'll look at you right now... and you will turn back into your human form. That should also help you in drinking wine. Anyway, these beastly forms look very inelegant around the wine table..."

Jun Mo Xie thought... [This is the first time I'm drinking inside Tian Fa. Would I genuinely have to toast drinks with a monkey and a lion? That would be very awkward...! They will still remain a monkey and lion once they transform into human forms. But, they will at least look like humans...]

[Moreover, wouldn't this help in setting the path for the future...?]

Therefore, the Young Master Jun was very proactive at this time.

The Lion King could barely contain his fervent tears. His white hair trembled. In fact, he resembled an excited puppy as he came in front of Jun Mo Xie and crouched down. The Beast King's tail was wagging. But, he was so emotionally moved that his tail wagged at a very high frequency and slammed into the 'wine cup' Big Bear held in his hand. Consequently, the 'cup of wine' was thrown far-far away...

The other Beast Kings burst into laughter. Jun Mo Xie didn't care about it either. However, he didn't waste any time as he raised his hand. He simulated the Hongjun Pagoda with his body's aura, and a lofty Aura burst out with a loud sound. It shone brilliantly in the sky as it did...

The other five Beast Kings recoiled in shock.

Jun Mo Xie had used a swift and powerful method in order to facilitate a quick-fix in this instance. In fact, he had gone to the extreme of his limits. It was going to be morning-time soon. However, he didn't have much time to waste...

This extreme method obviously wasn't similar to the one he had used when he had helped the Bear and Crane Kings with their breakthrough. Their breakthrough had been very gentle. However, the aura surged through the Lion King's meridians at a very fast pace, and took him past the breakthrough-barrier in an instant. And, the unimaginable and tyrannical impact of this violently surging aura left the Spirit-level-equivalent Lion King to raise his head and give out a blood-curdling screech as his mouth spat-out blood like an arrow...

After that, the pestering-cold aura that had remained accumulated inside the Lion King for the past sixty years was expelled from his body. In fact, his condition seemed like that of a dog that had been beaten by a beggar's stick, which had then resulted in a thin arrow of blood to splash out from his mouth...

The violent aura that had surged between the heaven and earth was done with its mission. It then cycled warmly through the Lion King's meridians to ensure no cold aura was left inside them. And, it removed any sinister aura that had still remained there. The very able Young Master then raised his head, and pushed the Lion King aside even though the Beast King's eyes were still closed. He then spoke-up in a cold voice, "Next one!"

His manner of speaking was cold and tyrannical. In fact, it was like that of a doctor who had gone to elementary school for an 'immunization program', and had called for the next student even though the needle wasn't yet out of the previous one...

[What? It's already done! This is miraculous! Isn't it very miraculous?!]

The Monkey King trembled as he came to Jun Mo Xie. He then occupied the place which had previously been occupied by the Lion King. However, he wasn't prepared when he felt the pressure on his shoulders. Moreover, this pressure was as heavy as a mountain. The Young Master had already placed his hand on the Monkey King. So, the pure aura had quickly entered the latter's body...

The Monkey King felt a fit of comfortable sensation and wanted to groan to express his elation. However, he was unaware that a gut-wrenching and devastatingly painful sensation would shoot through him the next moment... His teeth almost broke-off as he screeched, and a black arrow of blood shot towards the trees from his mouth as this happened...

[This is painful... extremely painful... how can such a painful and torturous method be used to treat an illness? This is too extreme a method!] The Golden Monkey King was in the midst of thinking this when he suddenly heard a shout of ecstasy from his side.

He was very preoccupied, and in extreme pain. However, he still looked to his side from the corner of his eyes. And, what he saw... left him to open his eyes wide. In fact, they had been opened to their very limits. [My God of Beasts! Good mother of God!]

[This is a miracle indeed! This is truly a miracle!]

A strange yet familiar white-clothed tall figure was standing beside him. [This, this is Lion King?! My God! This method work so quickly! This is such a quick result!]

The Monkey King felt envious and relieved at the same time. [This pain isn't a problem as long as my injuries can be healed. What's this insignificant pain if my injuries can be healed? Let the pain be fiercer!]

The Monkey King suddenly forgot the excruciating pain he was feeling at this moment. Instead, he started to feel ecstasy; enrapturing ecstasy. He couldn't help but feel very happy, and started to laugh in a very wild manner as a result. However, that sound of wild laughter startled the other Beast Kings. In fact, even the heavenly aura which had been flowing from Jun Mo Xie's hand fluctuated to some extent...

[Why are you laughing, buddy? Have you gone mad from the excruciating pain? You won't kill me, right?]

The Monkey King was laughing in ecstasy even though he was in excruciating pain. One could say that his level of forbearance had transcended to mythical levels...

[He's really... a great man!]

That dark aura left the Monkey King's body along with the black blood he soon spat out. Jun Mo Xie then said, "Great! Now everyone can drink the wine properly!"

Jun Mo Xie then looked up, and saw that the six Beast Kings were looking at him with baffled expressions. He recalled that this expression was something similar to the one he had seen in the eyes of the Himalayan pilgrims in his previous life.

It was full of... fanaticism!

It was indeed fanaticism! Extreme fanaticism! It was like a Buddhist monk had gotten to see Buddha himself! Or... a Nazi who had suddenly seen Adolf Hitler...

He was their idol now!

He was like a God to them!

They were whining and whimpering... they were extremely touched...

Jun Mo Xie looked at the six Beast Kings in their human form as they stood in front of him, and felt very satisfied. He could've easily forced them to stop thanking him by saying one phrase...

[Do you think I helped you for your 'thank you's?]

And, those simple words... those very simple words would've left the six Beast Kings to ponder...

[Yes, that's right! There would be no words to thank him for such great kindness! Words of thanks to express my deep gratitude would carry the weight of a feather. What meaning would they even have?]

[This very able and helpful person may come to our area again. And, all of us must do everything in power to give him any assistance he needs if he ever asks. We won't stint even if we end up losing our lives for his sake! Why would we put our feelings in words and ruin this atmosphere?!]

The Beast Kings were feeling the exact same way. Hence, they came-up with the same train of thought as well. Therefore, none of them expressed their gratitude in words. However, all of them were expressing their gratitude towards this mysterious and skilled man with their actions and expressions.

Chapter 392: The Ultimate Objective

Jun Mo Xie slowly continued to drink the wine. And, the Young Master was eventually made to understand that the so-called Xuan Beast hierarchies. It turned out that the Xuan Beasts' hierarchies were much harsher and delicate than the Xuan levels of humans.

A Xuan Beast would have to cross one more hurdle after they had reached the peak of level nine in case they wanted to become a Xuan Beast King. And, this hurdle was the challenge they would have to make to the-then Xuan Beast King. They would only be able to transform their body once they had succeeded in this challenge.

Some would change forms at the peak of level nine, and some could never do it throughout their lives. The peak of level nine was followed by level ten. However, this breakthrough was the most difficult one for a Xuan Beast.

A Xuan Beast would automatically be considered a Xuan Beast King if the said-individual could take human form at the peak of level nine. However, they would only be considered a genuine Xuan Beast King once they had stepped into level ten. In fact, they would then be considered a True Xuan Beast King! And, this was different from being the Xuan Beast King of a single race of beasts!

Jun Mo Xie had helped Long Crane and Big Bear make this difficult breakthrough a short while ago. But, that was only the first step. And, it was obvious that they would have to face more of such mountains as they'd go forward. However, Long Crane informed him that no one except their Sage King had ever reached that realm. Therefore, he didn't mention much about it.

Jun Mo Xie grabbed a 'strange' wine cup and muttered, "So, you two are basically the primary Xuan Beasts of level ten. And, those four Xuan Beast Kings have taken their forms after they've reached the peak of level nine.

The six Xuan Beast Kings nodded.

"I will refine the pills from the Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons Fruit, and give them to you. And, your level should... go one step further when that happens..." Jun Mo Xie said this with uncertainty. The Young Master was confident in his ability to refine those divine pills. But, he hadn't tested them. So, he was unaware of the extent of their effect.

The eyes of the six Xuan Beast Kings were shining at this time. In fact, their eyes had coincidentally started to shine at the same time...

[We'll advance by another step!]

[We've made a breakthrough only recently. But, we'll get to do it again after three years? My God! This speed is amazingly fast! The Beast Kings of the past had never made breakthroughs with such speed!]

Three years wasn't a short period for humans. But, it was a very short period of time in the long lives of the Xuan Beasts.

It was important to know that talking about advancing another step was very easy. But, the gap between the two ranks was very large. The six Xuan Beasts were breathing in a rushed manner, and their eyes were brimming fervent admiration.

This was followed by some silence. After that, Long Crane spoke-up with a stammer, but it seemed as if he was impatient as well, "Great Senior, you wish to refine those divine pills. But, don't you lack some important herbs for those?" Everyone else picked their ears as those words were spoken.

"Alas... it's true. But, I only lack a few kinds of herb." Jun Mo Xie let out a long sigh at first. Then, he suddenly opened his eyes, "How did you know that I'm missing some herbs?"

Long Crane chuckled and replied, "That was a guess. He he... the senior's possesses great skills. So, he would've already handed-over the pills if he had all the necessary herbs. But, the senior said that he'll give us those pills after three years. That ought to mean that the senior still requires more herbs. And, it may be assumed that those herbs aren't ordinary, right?"

"Crane King genuinely deserves his title. His thought process is meticulous and extraordinary!" Jun Mo Xie smiled. His tone was uncertain as he hesitated and said, "Yes. How could the refining process of such efficacious pills be comparable to something normal? The Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons Fruit is very rare. But, it's only one ingredient at the end of the day. I still need to collect a massive amount of the other herbs before I can commence the liquid extraction. Many powerful and magical herbs will be mixed together into one. And, the Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons fruit will be used to aid in it at a later stage. It is only then that I will be able to refine those unmatched divine pills."

Jun Mo Xie's tone was heavy as he continued to speak. The Xuan Beasts Kings had held their breaths as they listened to him with their ears erected.

"This 'unmatched pill' would have a huge potential. It will be able to increase the life of an ordinary person by a hundred years or more. A Xuan expert could also take it. An Earth Xuan expert would become a level two Spirit Xuan expert in merely a few months' time with the help of this pill... maybe even stronger. Moreover, there's no chance of an accident since the body of the user will be under no threat of exploding. And, that's because the pills will work in accordance to a person's cultivation, and will spread out their aura in a gradual manner. It can be said that it is neither frightening, nor dangerous. It can genuinely be called the Divine Medicine that Seizes the Heaven's Fortune..."

There was a sound of collective gasps. The eyes of the six Beast Kings turned as round as copper bells. And, their bodies started to shudder with excitement...

[Earth Xuan to level to of Spirit Xuan? Life increased by a hundred years? Neither frightening, nor dangerous?!]

[My God! This is a divine pellet! This is crazy! This is something we've dearly yearned for! Damn! Damn!]

"How many herbs are you missing? We can think of a solution together! Please don't get me wrong. The senior has remarkable powers, but he's still one man. Our strength isn't as remarkable as the senior's. But, we are far more than one person. That should be able to count for something..."

Big Bear's eyes had become huge and round, and they had also started to emit a wolfish-green light. However, he had spoken in a very gentle manner.

"Yes, yes! Our Tian Fa is very huge. I'm sure that we can help the senior collect those heavenly herbs very quickly," The enthusiasm of the other Beast Kings also shot up to the sky. Many of them had spoken-up while licking their lips... they obviously seemed very greedy at this time.

"Well... that's also good. Everyone wants to help. And, that will save me a lot of unnecessary work and time in my search. In fact, it will be very beneficial," Jun Mo Xie pondered for a while before he finally agreed to it. And, this made the faces of the Beast Kings light-up with happiness.

"The herbs which I don't have are... Dragon Beard Grass, Phoenix Tail Flower, Nine Knot Lotus, Persistent Severing Root, Tricolor Manila Grass, and Seven Colors Lotus Root ..." Jun Mo Xie spoke with honesty. In fact, he was rather blunt as he named them in a long-drawn flow. He then took a short break to catch his breath before he continued onwards with the list, "Thousand Years Ginseng, White Vermilion Fruit, Nine Nether Grass, Nine Profound Root, and so on... a higher ranked herb will obviously be better. And, it will be better if you can get as many as possible."

The six Beast Kings had been stunned by this. The Falcon King had the most alert mind amongst them. And, he had quickly torn-off a large scrap of bark from a tree in order to use it as a scroll. He then used his claws to write everything down from memory. However, his wrist had started to ache by the time Jun Mo Xie finished...

Then, Jun Mo Xie related the details about how each of those plants looked... which environment they grew in... how to pick them, and so on. The Beast Kings listened extremely calmly and meticulously. In fact, they even held their breath for the fear that they might miss a tiny bit of detail which could later turnout to be crucial to the important matter of their advancement...

"I'm aware that collecting these precious and extremely rare materials at once would be impossible... even if the entirety of Tian Fa's strength is used. So, you can collect as much as possible at one time, and you can keep dispatching someone to Tian Xiang City and deliver it to the Jun Family while you prepare the next batch. Anyway, I will be visiting the Jun Family at regular intervals," Jun Mo Xie chuckled.

"Ah, you can be responsible for collecting herbs inside Tian Fa. And, you can meet me in the extreme north to collect your pills in three years' time. We'd get better results if we follow this two-pronged approach..."

Jun Mo Xie thought, [This matter won't take long if we do it like this. I also have to take a trip to the North. This matter with the herbs is only one of several others. So, I might as well do them at once...]

[Third Uncle must be going crazy in wait. There's a beautiful woman on a snowy mountain-top, and she has been looking forward to his arrival in hope for ten years... how many 'ten years' could there be in one life? How many decades can a pair of lovers wait? Would they wait till their hair turned white, and they became old and senile? What would they do even if they were united then?]

Besides this... there was the matter of the Dongfang Family's vow! Therefore, that Snow Sword Mountain needed to collapse. And, Jun Mo Xie genuinely wanted to see the Snow Sword Mountain since its collapse would make for a wonderful sight. In fact, the Young Master had already prepared his plans to bring-about such a heavenly and impressive wonder!

And, it would be more suitable to get this matter done as soon as possible...

Therefore, Jun Mo Xie had been making his preparations. He still hadn't fulfilled his promise to Tian Fa. But, he had already started to make plans to go to the Silver City...

It wasn't that the Young Master's heart had any sinister thoughts. It was only that the Beast Kings had asked to help. Moreover, the list of herbs mentioned inside the 'Book of Folk Remedy' wasn't easy to collect...

[These six Beast Kings may manage to collect these herbs. However, I may not have been able to do that for the life of me...]

The Young Master had come to Tian Fa to collect heavenly herbs. And, he had collected them in large quantities. However, that amount still wasn't nearly-enough for his requirements...

However, Long Crane and the others had offered to help Jun Mo Xie. And, they too would get what they wanted in case he succeeded. So, Jun Mo Xie had decided to tell them his requirements in an honest and blunt manner. This obviously meant that he would save himself from unnecessary labor and effort. He needed many herbs and divine treasures for raw materials, and it would've taken him a long time to collect them on his own. In fact, he reckoned that he may have failed to collect them in eight lifetimes...

[I'm using these Beast Kings in this instance. But, none of them will suffer a loss if I refine the pills. Everyone will get their share. I believe that those pills are worth far more to them... far-far more...]

Therefore, Jun Mo Xie didn't feel guilty about this. In fact, his conscience was clear.

The Beast Kings accepted Jun Mo Xie's requirements without any issues, and made a vow to complete the list. In fact, they wouldn't mind even if they would have to put a stop to any other matter at hand. They would lend their full strength in order to look for those treasured materials. After all, it related to the Beast Kings' breakthroughs. So, how could they not be meticulous about it?

Not to mention the fact that the Rainstorm and Hurricane Masters had blasphemed Tian Fa's fierce dignity a few days ago. And, that matter had been burning in their hearts for a while. Therefore, the Beast Kings had endeavored to advance after that incident had taken place. However, they hadn't been able to find a way forward before. But, the Lion and the Monkey Kings had suddenly become amongst the four living examples of a potential road to their success...

Moreover, that very skilled person had also devised an effective mode of contact via the Jun Family of Tian Xiang City. The Beast Kings felt even more assured since the goals had been set. In fact, the Beast Kings had only one thought in their minds... [Shouldn't I volunteer to deliver those herbs to Tian Xiang

City if we manage to collect each of those herbs in the first batch alone? I would become the first one to get my reward if that happens!]

Each of the Beast Kings was thinking the same thing at this moment. And, their faces had started to look somewhat strange. They then looked around, and saw the faces of their brothers. [No one will wish to miss out on this opportunity. It seems that some infighting will be inevitable...]

Jun Mo Xie looked to the sky to ascertain the time, and realized that it would be morning soon. So, he stood up to bid his goodbye. The Beast Kings strongly urged him to stay, but he had made his decision. So, he drifted away...

Chapter 393: Collision of the Spirit Senses

Jun Mo Xie felt very happy as he floated in the air. In fact, he almost wanted to sing at the top of his voice. The Young Master had never thought that everything would go so smoothly. However, he was also unaware that any other individual wouldn't have been successful if they had been in his position... even if they had been in the same circumstances.

The Hong Jun Pagoda had been the key factor here. The Hong Jun Pagoda's aura had made the Xuan Beast Kings feel warm to the very bottom of their hearts. And, this first impression had been a lasting one. And, he had somehow managed to create a mysterious and a fabulous impression as a result. Would anyone else have been able to pull this off?

Jun Mo Xie looked at the surrounding environment in search of a quick way out. And, he found himself rather surprised at this. This was because the place where he had run into that little beast wasn't very far from his current location. In fact, it was very close since he could already see that orderly formation of towering tree which created that "mansion" of sorts...

Jun Mo Xie couldn't help but feel comfortable as he looked at that scenery. And, he scuttled forward with a "whooshing" sound. [He he... It will be a lot of fun if I can get my hands on that adorable little thing and take her back with me. Kneading that soft and mushy meat felt so good... especially that little butt! It is something that I would never tire of pinching... I'm really looking forward to it...]

It had to be said that Jun Mo Xie's thought process was somewhat nasty. Other people would be very protective towards adorable animals, and would raise them with care... just like the little girl adored Little White. However, his approach was very disdainful...

That tiny beast was extremely cute. However, this rare specimen human of the species was also very different from ordinary people. So, he could only think of catching that tiny thing, and pinch its posterior again. He genuinely had a nasty taste...

The Young Master entered that little valley with joy and expectations. He had wanted to meet that creature again for a long time. The sight of the beautiful flowers filled his eyes after he set foot in the valley... same as before. And, their exquisite fragrance assailed his nostrils once more. But, this place was deserted. In fact, not even a little sound could he hear...

Jun Mo Xie took two steps. Everything was quiet inside, and he could only hear the echoes of his own footsteps. The place was obviously full of vitality. But, this valley was as quiet as a 'valley of death'. This silence was in complete contrast with the bright and colorful scenery. And, this contrast left him to feel extremely strange in his heart...

The Young Master Jun circled around as he meticulously searched. But, he didn't find a thing. So, he walked to that pleasant-looking stone cave, and looked inside. That black cloak was still there. But, there was nothing else there...

There wasn't a single trace of the adorable little creature...

Jun Mo Xie was still didn't wish to leave. So, he initiated his spirit sense to search... just in case that little creature had gone out to forage or hunt for food. The Young Master's spirit sense had become much more powerful ever since he had crossed into the third level of Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune. In fact, his ability then-and-now couldn't even be mentioned in the same breath. He could only sense to a radius of about thirty meters before. But, his range had increased to hundreds of meters now.

The Young Master's spirit sense had increased to a large degree. In fact, it had reached a very high level. And, this had nothing to do with the Hong Jun Pagoda's divine aura since this power was sourced from Jun Mo Xie's Sky Xuan cultivation level...

However, no one would that a Sky Xuan ranked expert possessed such a powerful spiritual sense...

Jun Mo Xie continued to expand the reach of his spirit sense in a step-by-step fashion. And, he went over his surroundings in an extremely meticulous manner. However, he didn't discover a single trace of that tiny creature. Everything was as silent as before. In fact, this place was dead-silent...

[How can this be? This place was quiet the last time I was here. But, it was a peaceful silence at that time. But, the silence has some malice about it now. How can I not feel suspicious?]

[This is Tian Fa's core, and it is understandable that common high-level Xuan Beasts don't dare to venture inside. But, do even the top Xuan Beasts like the peak level nine ones not dare to come here?]

The Young Master had exchanged many words with the six Beast Kings. Therefore, he knew that there were other level nine peak Xuan Beasts besides them. It was only that these other beasts couldn't take-on the human form...

[There's deathly stillness here. This shouldn't be happening, right?]

Jun Mo Xie strengthened his heart, and mobilized his power to its optimum. He then sent out his spirit sense to the depths of the Tian Fa Forest like incorporeal arrows.

The Young Master sent his spirit sense to a diameter of over six-hundred meters. He found the noise of Xuan Beasts' activity to the north, east and west. However, the southern side was deathly silent.

[It seems that the source of this weird event is in the south.]

Jun Mo Xie retrieved his spiritual sense from the other three directions, and narrowed his search to the south. He had understood that the strange things happening in the core of Tian Fa had something to do with the weird situation in the south.

Then... suddenly!

The movement of his spiritual sense towards the south seemed fine at first. But, it then hit an exceptionally thick barrier. And, the Young Master's strong spiritual sense got caught. In fact, it was

unable to move either forward or backwards. It was like an air-borne fly had been caught in a spider's web.

Jun Mo Xie was startled at first. But, he recovered quickly. Then, a powerful spirit sense arose, and rushed forward to meet Jun Mo Xie's spirit sense. This spirit sense then collided head-on with Jun Mo Xie's.

"Bang!"

Jun Mo Xie spirit sense wasn't weak. However, he felt that it had no margin to resist against the powerful spirit sense which had arisen before him.

There was something like an explosion inside his head. He became dizzy and fell down. The seven orifices of his head had started to overflow with thin wisps of blood. In fact, the Young Master would've been hurt very seriously if he hadn't reached the powerful and tyrannical state he was currently at...

Jun Mo Xie's spirit sense had already reached a powerful level. So, he hadn't expected that it wouldn't be able to face even a single blow from the opposing spiritual sense he had just encountered. He had never anticipated that he would've been defeated so thoroughly by this force.

His opponent had used a sneak attack. But, he couldn't deny the formidable strength of their spirit sense. The opponent had a very powerful spirit sense. In fact, he reckoned that they must be stronger than the Great Masters. This person might not have been more powerful than Venerable Mei, but their power was more or less the same.

[Could Tian Fa be hiding another strong person?]

He had been worried about the conflict between the various lands since he felt that Tian Fa would be defeated. Therefore, Jun Mo Xie had helped the Xuan Beast Kings breakthrough the barriers of their advancement, and had healed the injured ones. The Young Master had done this because he liked the Xuan Beasts' honesty and simplicity. So, he had enhanced their strengths since they would need it to defend themselves.

There was no need to aid the Xuan Beast Kings if they were to face a power like the City that remained hidden in the snowy peaks. The Beast Kings' future would perhaps remain unchanged. But, the matter regarding the very future of Tian Fa was completely different.

Even the usually calm and collected Jun Mo Xie had turned pale with fear in the face of such a powerful and terrifying spirit sense. His own spirit sense had dispersed even though his opponent's attack hadn't ended. Moreover, the said-opponent hadn't let up in their attacks. In fact, it seemed that they had decided to chase after.

Jun Mo Xie's mind moved like electricity. He strove hard to suppress his mental injury, and used the last bit of his consciousness to somehow launch the formidable and endless aura from the Hong Jun Pagoda. It was like a broken sword that had chopped forth into the blue sky. And, it rushed forth to attack the spirit sense which had clashed head-on with that of the Young Master's.

Jun Mo Xie's spiritual sense obviously couldn't be compared to that of the Hong Jun Pagoda's. In fact, they couldn't even be mentioned in the same breath. It started a powerful counter-attack, and went after the powerful spirit sense which had confronted the Young Master's in order to intercept it. The spirit sense from Hong Jun Pagoda then unleashed a fiery reign. The opponent's spirit sense was also bright and alert. And, it had quickly adjudged that the second wave of spirit sense would be greater than the one before. In fact, this individual seemed to have assessed that the second wave would be much stronger than their own by the time the two sides clashed again. Jun Mo Xie's damaged spirit sense was finally able to pull away from that thick barrier, and was then able to retreat with the help of Hong Jun Pagoda. It was then gently escorted by the aura from the Hong Jun Pagoda, and retreated into his body.

A miserable and tragic shriek was heard from the south as this happened. This individual's spirit sense was extremely powerful. In fact, it was far more powerful than those of the Great Masters'. Moreover, the reaction time of this individual was amazing. However, their spirit sense was no match for the Hong Jun Pagoda's. This individual had managed to recall their spirit sense very quickly after the second collision. However, they had been defeated very thoroughly. Thus, it was evident that they must've suffered a heavy damage.

The sound of that screech was somewhat low, but it was still very incisive. In fact, it even shook the trees at Jun Mo Xie's side. After that, a slight rustling sound was heard as this shriek made its way into the distance.

Heavens know when Jun Mo Xie's slamming heart returned to normal, and that feeling of helplessness and powerlessness disappeared. Jun Mo Xie then wiped the blood from his mouth. He looked towards the south like a wolf on a cold winter night. [There is another great power!]

[That place seems like an area even an incorporeal and formless spirit sense can't penetrate...]

[What is that place?]

[And, who is inside it?]

Jun Mo Xie jumped-up with the entirety of his strength, and initiated the Yin-Yang Escape. He took large strides, and vanished as he covered the distance between him and his opponent.

[Going to that weird area will only increase my wisdom and experience. I anyway wish to make a comfortable life for myself inside this forest in the future. So, why would I not wish to learn about such a mysterious and powerful individual?]

[That person could be a huge threat!]

A strange milky-white mist appeared in front of Jun Mo Xie. It could be said that there hadn't even been the slightest of hints of this mountain-like mist before he had turned around that mountain. In fact, there had been no sign of it in the sky either. However, he was faced with a pure white mist the moment he had crossed the mountain. And, this mist had seemingly shrouded everything...

It was vast and boundless.

This didn't seem like an ordinary form of mist. It didn't have any divine aura inside it either. Moreover, this thing seemed to be made of something which could turn it pitch-dark inside. The mist seemed like it would be weak, hollow, and delicate from the outside. However, it was very pliable in reality...

This strange white mist couldn't be penetrated by a spirit sense, but a physical body could still enter it...

Jun Mo Xie tried to make his way by moving his hand inside. He stretched it, and felt nothing obstructing him. The Young Master then extended it further inside, and it became evident that there was a huge space beyond this mist-barrier.

Jun Mo Xie tried to penetrate the white mist with his spirit sense again. However, he again felt like he had encountered a thick barrier. He couldn't get into it that way. The mist was extremely tough for his spirit sense. It was similar to poking a tenacious balloon with one's finger. The finger might go inside the balloon, but the balloon wouldn't burst.

The Young Master felt this exact-same way as he tried to force his spirit sense forward.

[This is really strange!]

[This is the first time I've seen such a strange place where the body can enter, but the spirit sense can't explore it...! It is either another mystery of Tian Fa forest... or some sort of an enormous existence...]

Jun Mo Xie snorted. It was nearly impossible to change his mind. He would use the Yin-Yang Escape, and he would then enter this place...

Chapter 394: The Nine Xuan Root!

Jun Mo Xie had no choice but to go in. And, this was because the Young Master noticed a peculiar foliage of vine at the edge of the white mist the moment he thought of withdrawing away. The leaves were heptagonal in shape, and blood red in color. Their inner veins were clearly visible. In fact, it was like they were trying to burst out of the leaves' surface.

This slender vine was snow white in color. In fact, it looked like silk floss. However, anyone who'd touch it would realize that it was stronger than steel.

[The Nine Xuan Root! This is the Nine Xuan Root I haven't been able to find anywhere!]

Jun Mo Xie was overjoyed at this unexpected discovery. This was the final ingredient he needed to concoct that Xuan Advancement Dan! Jun Mo Xie had accidentally stumbled upon this surprise. So, how could he let go of this herb? It could be dangerous inside. But, he would blame himself for an eternity if he didn't take the Nine Xuan Root.

The pills derived from the Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons Fruit would also have the same effect. But, that pill was still out of Jun Mo Xie's reach since he lacked a large number of raw materials. Moreover, his present cultivation wasn't high-enough to refine it. Anyway, the Young Master just couldn't wait...

Moreover, he could always make use of the pills he had refined from the Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons Fruit after he had done the same with the Xuan Advancement Pills. And, this would result in two burst of advancements. Plus, there was a chance that the pills refined from the Thousand Evils and Ten Thousand Poisons may fail to be as effective as he had imagined. So, wouldn't the gains still outweigh the losses if he was able to procure this vine for the Xuan Advancement Pill?

Jun Mo Xie became extremely elated at seeing something he had thoroughly longed for. And, he initiated the Yin-Yang Escape at its full capacity.

However, he was disappointed once again. The Yin-Yang Escape had been unstoppable in the past. And, it had always been extremely remarkable in every endeavor. But, the Young Master was unexpectedly encountering obstacles while using it in this place. He had the freedom of direction, but he'd feel as if he had fallen into a swamp whenever he'd touch the white mist. And, each step he'd take would require a huge amount of energy...

Jun Mo Xie felt trapped. And, he started to feel as if he had stepped into a mountain-pile of cotton. The cotton looked as light as a feather. But, one couldn't see thing once they had gone inside that pile of white cotton. The eye could only see one color, but the purity of this color still had a bedazzling effect...

[Such a fantastic place exists inside the Tian Fa Forest?] Jun Mo Xie was completely amazed.

He obviously didn't stop the Yin-Yang Escape. Wouldn't he become an easy target for some hidden expert if he did that? A man could die in that murky atmosphere, and wouldn't even come to know about it...

[Using the Yin-Yang Escape is draining a lot of energy. But, it still maintains my invisibility. So, I will be invisible even if an overwhelmingly talented expert is present inside. This is my biggest advantage!]

[This is a remarkable thing! How amazing!]

Jun Mo Xie was trapped inside this fantastic environment. So, he reached down towards the Nine Xuan Roots, and walked along its rattan in the same manner a person walks in their sleep.

The Young Master wasn't worried since he had already conducted his experiments. It wasn't easy to go forward if he wanted it. But, it was quite easy to move backwards. Therefore, he could withdraw whenever his heart so desired...

Hence, his safety was ensured...

Jun Mo Xie would only venture into such a strange area as long as his safety was a hundred-percent ensured. And, he wouldn't move forward if things looked even a little dangerous...

This was the prudence that had earned him the title of the greatest assassin of his generation.

However, Jun Mo Xie anyway wouldn't have retreated very easily...

And, this was because he was determined to obtain the Nine Xuan Root.

The six Beast Kings were drinking and celebrating at the time Jun Mo Xie disappeared into that valley. They had also heard that gloomy screech which had originated from the south. They stared blankly at first. Then, they jumped up. In fact, it seemed as if someone had lit a fire under their buttocks.

"It came from the direction of that Tian Fa's Cave!" Long Crane's voice was filled with alarm and panic. He was genuinely very nervous.

"That genuinely is Tian Fa' cave!" Big Bear and the others turned pale. They didn't waste any time, and rushed towards it with all their might.

"Does this have anything to do with the Senior? We were drinking, and he was in a hurry to leave. So, we forgot to tell him that he couldn't go there!" The Tiger King seemed somewhat worried, and his forehead was covered in sweat. In fact, he had spoken this while he was galloping along the route.

"It's hard to say..." The Falcon King's dark face became even darker. His falcon-sharp eyes could see only pitch-darkness far ahead.

"Who apart from that Senior would dare to enter Tian Fa's sacred place? Would you dare to do it?" Seventh Earl looked very anxious. He then continued in an impatient manner, "This sound may have originated because of the Senior. And, we must beg for leniency and get him released if that is the case..." The Monkey king had recently received a favor from the said-person. So, how could he bear to see them suffer in his homeland?

Big Bear snorted and said, "It's too early to speak anything on that matter. It's very difficult to say which one of those two will have the upper hand here. So, it is very difficult to decide who we will have to beseech in the end. I just hope that the Senior still gives weight to my word..."

These words were enough to determine the absolute and unparalleled faith Big Bear had in that mysterious person. It was hard to assess that whether Big Bear's reputation was prominent-enough to speak those words or not. However, it was evident that his skin was thick-enough. His skin may not have been the thickest one around. But, it was surely unparalleled in many ways...

"Shut up everyone! Is this the time for this? Let's just get there first!" Long Crane shouted back. Then, he stopped running on the ground, and rose in the air as he transformed into his original form. He then quickly turned into the huge pure-white crane. He flapped his huge wings, and quickly flew past.

Big Bear saw Long Crane leaping into the sky, and immediately understood the Crane King's plan. So, he leapt up as well. In fact, he jumped even higher than the Crane King. He would continue soaring into the sky until the Crane King would come around. Then, he'd transform into his Bear-form, and start to descend due to the excessive weight. The Crane King would catch him as he'd start to fall, and he would revert to his human form before he'd land on the Crane King's back. Then, the two of them would proceed forward together...

The two Beast Kings had been cooperating with each other for decades. Therefore, they were very familiar with each other.

However, there was a miscalculation this time. The Crane King was clearly very impatient at this time. He flipped around in mid-air, and came to a stop. Big Bear saw this, and transformed to his Beast-form in order to fall down towards the ground at a very fast speed. However, the impatient Crane King gave a screech, and shot forward at an even faster pace.

This was a big mistake...

Big Bear's immense weight dropped to the ground with a loud "Bang!" He had fallen to the ground very heavily, and the solid layer of earth was smashed. Consequently, an enormous crater was formed at the place he had landed. He had been completely unprepared for the eventuality, and was hence caught off-guard. He didn't sustain any wounds to his flesh since it was quick thick. But, there wasn't an inch of his body which didn't hurt badly. The Bear King then sat up, and cursed in anger.

The other Beast Kings were in haste at this time. In fact, it was almost as if they were fire-fighters charging to put-out a serious arson. They flit from his side in quick succession. The Falcon King was the kindest since he returned to Big Bear's side, and handed him his clothing. However, his speed didn't slow down as he did this. After that, he also flew into the sky, and shot southwards like a black arrow.

The six Beast Kings arrived at the forbidden area of the forest in nearly an instant due to their cultivation levels.

They found no reason behind the sound they had heard, and only saw that white mist instead. The six Beast Kings searched the area around the white mist, but didn't discover any traces that would indicate that a person had entered it. They were obviously very relieved at their finding...

However, they were unaware that Jun Mo Xie had gotten here by using the Yin-Yang Escape, and wouldn't have left any traces as a result...

It was a remarkable technique. It had left no traces behind whatsoever...

"It seems that no one has come here. And, it's a great thing that no one has!" Long Crane became relieved and spoke, "No average person can enter the forbidden area. Everything seems fine."

"I think it's still good to ask. The scream that came from inside has made me worried." Lion King seemed anxious as he continued, "We all know that they wouldn't have made such a sound if they weren't seriously injured..."

Monkey King disagreed, "One can sometimes feel intolerable pain during their practice. And, that can happen particularly when one's making a breakthrough. Perhaps that's what that scream was about. Such a sound isn't common inside Tian Fa, but it's not very rare either. So, should we make such a fuss over nothing?"

"You're right. Every Xuan Beast screams like that during cultivation practice. But, have you ever heard such a sound coming from the forbidden area?" the Lion King replied in a sarcastic tone.

Long Crane thought for a moment. He then strengthened his voice, and asked, "The current Crane King has come to pay his respects. Does the Senior of the Sacred Land have any instructions for us?" his voice was deep and resounding as it made its way inside the white mist.

A voice of someone gnashing their teeth replied from inside the mist after a long time had passed, "Sure, you've come to pay your respects! Hurry up and get lost to your grandmother!"

The six Beast Kings were stunned. Their big eyes had narrowed as they gloomily returned to the road they had come from.

The six Beast kings had been very unlucky this time. The individual inside had been caught off-guard by the powerful spirit sense from Jun Mo Xie's Hong Jun Pagoda. So, they had suffered a terrible defeat, and were currently lamenting about how heroic they had been in the past. And, this had made them very impatient and annoyed. It was then that the six Beast Kings had decided to come. So, how could they not be snubbed despite their good intentions...?

The six Beast Kings were given a tight one in their face, but they still didn't dare to complain. In fact, they went back at greater speeds, and disappeared from the scene very quickly.

Then, that voice again spoke-up from behind that thick mist, "Damn it! I forgot to ask them if anyone had come-in a while back. Who was that guy? He was such a pain! His spirit sense was so powerful and frightening! I would've been done for good if it weren't for that quick action!"

Jun Mo Xie was using the Yin-Yang Escape with everything he had. He was having difficulty while moving inside the thick mist, but he couldn't help laughing after what he had heard. [It seems that the guy inside this place is having a tough time. I seem to have driven his mind out of sorts. Just how powerful is

the Hong Jun Pagoda's spirit sense? I was able to contend against this individual's strength. In fact, the Hong Jun Pagoda left this individual in an injured state. This is truly amazing!]

He followed the Nine Xuan Root's vine one step at a time. And, each step of his' was extremely cautious...

Jun Mo Xie couldn't believe that the person inside this thick mist could live in this environment... [He should've been dead by now... Moreover, I haven't come across a single tree... or any other plant since I've started to follow that vine. This is extremely abnormal!]

[The Nine Xuan Root is here. So, how come there isn't any vegetation around...?]

[This doesn't make any sense!]

It was unknown how much distance Jun Mo Xie had covered before he finally felt that the thick mist had begun to thin out. So, he mustered his strength, and proceeded forward...

Jun Mo Xie suddenly felt his body relax as he finally left that thick-white mist. And, he found himself inside a clearing. The area was still surrounded by a wall of that snow-white mist. Therefore, one couldn't see anything past it. The Young Master could only see up to a few meters in diameter, but nothing beyond... Everything beyond it was merely endless and thick white mist.

There was a cluster of trees not far from him. And then, there was a hill a bit further ahead. But, it was enveloped in mist as well.

One could clearly see a little bit of that mist in-between the vegetation as well. The mist was light where the trees were thick, and it was dense where the trees were sparse.

Jun Mo Xie suddenly realized something. He still hadn't figured what this white mist was, but he had certainly understood one thing. [This strange mist is sparse wherever there is a lush growth of trees, but it is dense in the area where the vegetation is scarce...]

The Young Master saw the endless white mist and sighed. [It seems there isn't a lot of vegetation here. It's no wonder that something as poisonous as this Nine Xuan Root grows alone in this place...]

The Nine Xuan Roots were spread far and wide... just like the diameter of the trees...

The Young Master discovered that the trees inside the cover of this mist weren't very tall. In fact, they mustn't have been more than ten meters in height. However, they were very thick. It was obvious that the fog had stunted the trees' growth in terms of height. So, they had grown horizontally instead.

However, Jun Mo Xie was still very puzzled by this since there was no sunlight in this area. So, he couldn't understand how these had managed to trees grow. Moreover, they seemed to have been growing for thousands of years...

Jun Mo Xie sighed. He decided that he wouldn't think about these mysteries any longer. The Tian Fa Forest was full of mysteries, and he didn't have the strength to solve them all at this point.

[It is difficult for me to make progress with the Yin-Yang Escape method, and my skills aren't helping either. But, I will unravel these mysteries one day. And, that is when this Tian Fa will thoroughly accept me!]

[Anyway, I don't have the time to think over these 'restricted' matters right now. I only need to dig out this Nine Xuan Root, and I'm done after that.]

He was about to start when he heard a soft sound. It was coming from the forest, and it sounded like the snort of an animal...

Jun Mo Xie attentively looked in that direction. A huge golden-furred bear slowly stood up from the mist that had shrouded his body. It then stretched its huge body...

It was a level nine peak Xuan Beast.

Jun Mo Xie didn't wish to complicate things. So, he decided to evade in to the soil. He went underground, and dug out the Nine Xuan Root. He could smell the Nine Xuan Root's fragrance more

easily inside the soil. He held the Nine Xuan Root in his hand to take a better look, and his face exposed an exulted expression.

The snow-white Nine Xuan Root sparkled like jade in Jun Mo Xie's hand.

The Nine Xuan Root had a very strict aging system. It would be black after it would sprout. And, it would remain black until the first ten years had passed. It would turn brown after that. The color would change to yellow once a hundred years had passed... red after a thousand... and, it would only become milky-white after ten-thousand years.

[This place has the best quality Nine Xuan Root!]

Jun Mo Xie hadn't expected to find such a huge surprise. The quantity of this Xuan Root wasn't small either. It could be used for Grandpa Jun's pills, and there would still be a lot of it left afterwards. In fact, enough of it would be left to supplement the refining of every kind of Divine Xuan pill...

The Young Master happily took the root, and put it inside the Hong Jun Pagoda. He then broke into laughter without realizing it. Suddenly, the entire area started to reverberate with loud screeches. It turned out that there were more than one level nine Xuan Beasts in that area.

Jun Mo Xie used his spirit sense to search forward, and found the sources to be as strong as the spirit sense he had previously clashed with. In fact, there were several such entities in this area!

Jun Mo Xie couldn't help but break out in cold sweat. [My God! How come there are so many powerful entities hidden here?] He couldn't dare to delay, and he whizzed away from there.

It was difficult to come in, but it was quite easy to go back. It only took him a moment to get away from the scope of that white mist. The Young Master smiled as he looked at that white mist from afar, and muttered, "I will be back! That's for sure!"

Jun Mo Xie then came upon a huge rock which had big inscriptions written on it. It was then that he realized where he had been to...

[Tian Fa's Cave!]

[This place turned out to be the most mysterious place in the entire world!]

[Tian Fa's Cave! This is great! It is genuinely worthy of its legendary and mysterious status!]

Jun Mo Xie couldn't help but smile inside his heart. He then flew-up like a breeze as dawn broke out in the silky blue sky. After that, he quickly made his way back to the Southern Heaven City.

[This is truly a great harvest! And, an unexpected great harvest at that!] This great harvest had left Jun Mo Xie to feel extremely happy.

He now had every material required to make his grandfather advance. Moreover, he would also be left with enough material to refine a lot of divine pills. Was there any medicine that couldn't be refined from this herb that had accumulated tens of thousands years-worth aura in the Tian Fa?

There were barely any other places apart from Tian Fa which had a special environment that was capable of growing such heavenly herbs.

[How much effort has this saved on my end?]

[Moreover, my relationship with the Beast Kings has improved a lot after today. In fact, we've become quite familiar with each other. And, this will come out to be very helpful there as well!]

Jun Mo Xie still looked like the debauchee from six months ago. However, the fact was exactly opposite. He had been amazing in secret.

The Jun Family's military strength couldn't be considered weak. They had many people under their dominion. Moreover, Hai Chen Feng and Song Shang were there to take care of the Jun Household in the Tian Xiang City. And, the underworld gangs of the city were working for them as well. So, it was like they had full layout of the Capital with them.

Moreover, the business was blooming under Tang Yuan's talent and bitter haggling. The Aristocratic Hall was like a legendary treasure tree in the Capital. Moreover, it was a treasure tree which would shed huge amounts of treasure when shaken once.

In terms of individual cultivation... Jun Zhan Tian was at the peak of Sky Xuan, Jun Wu Yi was at Sky Xuan middle rank, and Jun Mo Xie was at the base rank of Sky Xuan. And, each one of them was on the verge of another breakthrough; especially Jun Zhan Tian and Jun Wu Yi! They would soon become Spirit Xuan experts as per Jun Mo Xie's plan.

They also had external help since one of the Great Eight Masters — Solitary Falcon — was living at the Jun Family's residence. Moreover, Jun Mo Xie was on the verge of completing the prerequisites that would free the Dongfang Family from the burden of their oath. And, this would gain him an extremely startling force in the form of these assassins. Each of his three Dongfang uncles was a Spirit Xuan expert. So, wouldn't the Dongfang Family be more powerful when their complete strength was taken into account?

Furthermore, he had painstakingly performed great favors for six Beast Kings in the Tian Fa Forest. It could even be said that the level nine Xuan Beasts and the Beast Kings would rush to assist in any battle as long as he asked them in the form of that mysterious master. This genuinely wasn't an impossible notion to consider. And, there was literally nothing that these Xuan Beasts couldn't achieve...

Moreover, Jun Mo Xie had invented himself into that mysterious master, and this was one of his greatest advantages. Who in the entire world didn't know that such a divine and powerful person was supporting the Jun Family?

This incorporeal and mysterious force was the Jun Family's greatest support. Who in the world would contend against the Jun Family after such an individual had decided to support them? Had they not seen the Second Great Master turn into ash?

In addition, the Baili Family's young genius — Baili Luo Yun — was waiting for him in the Southern Heaven City. Inviting him had also been part of Jun Mo Xie's big plan.

It could be said that Jun Mo Xie had become a great power in this world.

He had become extremely awesome!

Chapter 395: How Did You Eat It?

In the Southern Heaven City...

The very exhausted Guan Qing Han had closed her eyes, and lain down on her bed after Jun Mo Xie had left her tent. Her spirit had been stretched extremely thin ever since she had been besides the Young Master. Her heart wasn't worried. And, the others didn't matter. However, Guan Qing Han's mind was fuzzy, and she was extremely exhausted. Pain was invading her body. In fact, there wasn't a point on her body where it didn't hurt. Moreover, she felt ashamed that the lower part of the body hurt a lot in particular. In fact, she felt as if it was being torn apart. Even the tiniest of movements would give rise to excruciating pain there...

[It's entirely that idiot's fault for meddling with things! Damn... it hurts so much!]

Guan Qing Han felt powerless and weak. She couldn't move a single part of her body... not even her little toe. Two tears flowed down her cheeks. She didn't regret helping the Young Master. Nor did she resent Jun Mo Xie. But... it was too painful. And, these tears were her only means of relief from this pain...

The Young Lady had been passive throughout that stormy event. In fact, she had even mentally prepared herself for it. But, she had still lost every ounce of her physical strength. In fact, every bit of her Xuan strength had forsaken her as well...

She felt that she didn't have any bones or muscles in her body. She wasn't able to summon any strength from any part of her body. But, she was still unexpectedly able to turn her eyes. Guan Qing Han felt somewhat surprised at this. And, those tears had left her eyes even before she could react.

She expended the last bit of her strength to save her pride and dignity when she had stood-up inside Jun Mo Xie's tent, and had put-on her clothes...

The Young Lady didn't wish to show her weak-side in Jun Mo Xie's presence. She had told herself that she had committed that mistake to save Jun Mo Xie... to save the last surviving member of the Jun Family's Third Generation. She had thought that there would be no traces of that event, and that she

wouldn't get involved with him after that. In fact, she had convinced herself that there wouldn't be a need for them to get involved with each other after the incident had passed.

She tried to think along these lines, but she couldn't convince herself.

"You're my woman! This is a fact!"

Jun Mo Xie had spoken those words in a domineering manner. And, his tone had been unquestionable in its authority. That scene had been repeating in her mind, and those words had been playing in her ears...

"I will marry you when these problems subside!" that man had said.

[Was that a promise? Was that his desire?]

[That was a mistake, right? Isn't it?]

[And, why am I so scared?]

[But, why is there a trace of bashfulness in my heart?]

[I did it to save the sole surviving member of the Jun Family's Third generation. But, why haven't I committed suicide already? Why haven't I traded my life to defend the names of these two families? Why hasn't this idea even cross my mind? Why...?]

[Am I a woman with no sense of shame and honor...?]

[Why?]

She was quietly lying in bed when this train of thought overwhelmed her, and flooded her mind with a plethora of questions. And, Guan Qing Han had forgotten about the pain her body was suffering as a

result. Her face became red at first. It would then turn deathly pale... before turning deep red again... and would eventually paint her neck the same color. And, this continued to happen in endless circles...

Two tear drops flowed down her cheeks, and soaked her long, black, and satin-like hair.

However, they weren't because of the pain this time.

[This night... I... am doomed to get no sleep...]

She was unaware of how much time had passed when she heard someone speak something outside her tent. She didn't care much about that at this time. Everything seemed very trivial to her in her current frame of mind...

But, there's always something that comes to provoke a person regardless of how hard they try to avoid it. Someone lifted the entry flap of the tent, and stuck their small head inside. This person then sneakily looked around the place, and walked-in on tip-toes...

"Elder Sister Guan... are you alright...?" Dugu Xiao Yi's face was brimming with a sense of loss and shame. Her eyes gleamed with tears as she looked at Guan Qing Han. She then cautiously and solemnly sat at the bedside. It seemed as if the little girl's figure had wasted away in the middle of the night...

The little girl had been born into the second most powerful family of the Capital City of the Tian Xiang Empire. And, she was the only girl in her generation in that huge family; the rest of the off-springs were boys. Therefore, Dugu Xiao Yi had blossomed in that family while being doted on. In fact, the care she had received was hard to imagine...

It was very hard to have male-female relationships in that era. And, this case was the same for even the most common of girls of the most common of households. The morality of such a relation was scrutinized very strictly before marriage. And, it was for the fear of someone learning about something unsavory. And, wasn't she from a big family like the Dugu Family...?

Even the people of the neighborly households had to be very vigilant. They may dare to talk about those tabooed things, but the Young Lady's ears shouldn't come to hear of them. Otherwise, it would be a huge and unforgivable crime...

Their family had the Grandfather in-charge, three great generals, and the seven beastly Young Masters, and many other powerful members. Which one of them couldn't decide the life or death of a person from an every-day household? Therefore, the consequences of even one indecent word reaching the ears of the Young Miss Dugu would be horrible...

Moreover, the little girl was only sixteen years of age at present... what could she understand?

This was an era when the youthful maidens would only come to understand such things a night before their marriage. The mother and daughter would be alone together, and both would be blushing. The mother would gingerly hand-over erotic pictures through the silk. And, the daughter would be very careful while stowing it away. However, the thin silk enveloping these pictures would clearly indicate its purpose.

After that, the mother would send a loyal and elderly lady with her daughter upon her marriage... as a guide. And, this is when the real education would begin. Instructions about what to do... and when... and so on... the newly married girls would follow that loyal elderly lady's teachings... Ahm... ahm...

Even the mother would be too shy to speak about such things to her daughter!

Therefore, the fact that Dugu Xiao Yi already understood this much... and now knew what something as vague as "cooking rice" meant... was an amazing feat in its own merit.

However, Dugu Xiao Yi didn't understand this aspect of the society since she was very adorable and pure. A Young Lady would quickly assume the indicated postures the moment a man would ask her switch to the 'pushing a cart position' if she knew about these things in detail. How terrifying would such a tabooed sight be for this era...?

Which family would ever dare to take such a daughter-in-law in that era? And, they would be very unhappy even if they braced themselves and went ahead with such a marriage proposal...

...

Guan Qing Han's expression became complicated when she saw her culprit in front of her. How could she not harbor some hate when she saw the person guilty of perpetrating such a big crime?

The little girl would've had to lose her virtue, and would've had bear this pain if they hadn't switched places by accident...

[She had thought herself clever, and had set out to "cook rice". She had then set a roaring fire, but she herself had been scared away from the cooked food. And then, I took advantage of the situation... wait... I didn't take any 'advantage' of the situation. I was obviously the innocent one in this case...]

[Could it be considered as 'taking advantage'? It hurts a lot. This is a huge sin!]

Guan Qing Han's face started to heat-up at that thought. It was like her face had caught fire. However, she didn't know whether it was because of anger or shame...

"Elder Sister Guan... I'm really sorry... I didn't do it on purpose... I didn't know that it would turn out this..." Dugu Xiao Yi scowled miserably. She felt distressed that she had lost such a rare 'once in a lifetime' opportunity due to her mistake. The little girl had obviously cooked great rice. But, someone else had consumed that cooked rice. In fact, she hadn't even come over to apologize. Instead, the little girl felt wronged...

"It's nothing... it's in the past now..." Guan Qing Han smiled with difficulty. She wanted to raise her hand, but she was unable to since it was extremely painful. In fact, even budging a little hurt her a lot...

"Elder Sister Guan... is it... it isn't that painful...?" Dugu Xiao Yi saw Guan Qing Han remain motionless. So, she asked inquisitively.

"Ah... Ahm... Ahm..." Guan Qing Han's red face looked at her in an accusing manner. How could she reply to that? [How can I possibly answer to that in a way that doesn't sound wrong?]

"Elder Sister Qing Han, you're not answering... but I know that you're in a lot of pain... you've suffered a lot, elder sister..." Dugu Xiao Yi spoke-up with some sympathy. "Did he hit you?"

"Did he hit me?" Guan Qing Han opened her big and beautiful eyes at those words. [Where did that come from? Jun Mo Xie had lost his mind due to that excessive poison. He hadn't gone berserk on a battlefield. So, why would he hit me?]

"Oh, I had also seen Brother Mo Xie's devilish form that day. He was sure to have hit you. Uh... it's my fault..." Dugu Xiao Yi had spoken those words absent-mindedly. It was evident that she hadn't dared to speak the words she was thinking in reality...

"He he..." Guan Qing Han had finally understood that this little girl didn't understand what she herself had believed a moment ago.

[She definitely has a lot of guts. How else could she have dared to ask that question...?]

"Can I ask you a question, Elder Sister Qing Han?" Dugu Xiao Yi became relaxed when she saw Guan Qing Han chuckle. In fact, she had become so relaxed that she had become unbridled by what had happened before.

"What's the question? You can ask." Guan Qing Han looked at her gently. She could do nothing about this little girl at this time...

"Uh... ahm ahm... that one... how did you eat it? Was it tasty?" Dugu Xiao Yi rubbed her clothes as her face turned red with embarrassed.

"What? Eat what? I haven't had anything to eat!" Guan Qing Han was flabbergasted. How could anyone not be puzzled by what that little girl was speaking?

"I... Brother Mo Xie... wasn't he cooked by the rice I gave?" Dugu Xiao Yi's face became extremely red. She gathered a lot of courage as she asked, "I cooked the rice, but you ate it in the end... So, how did you eat it?"

"Huh?" Guan Qing Han's beautiful eyes widened to their greatest limit.