

Realms In The Firmament

Chapter 21: The Monarch Holds His Sword!

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The two guards were pissed. However, they felt extremely pressured under Ye Xiao's unyielding gaze! They wanted to curse and scream, yet under this pressure, their voices never managed to leave their throats!

To them, Ye Xiao seemed to be a god from the heavens. They felt that he was invincible!

After a prolonged period of silence, they finally caved in and shouted out in panic, "Ye Xiao you fool! You dare to speak with such arrogance while standing on death's doorstep!"

Ye Xiao nodded and smiled gently, "Well. Well. Then could you please send me to my death?"

Meanwhile, a completely out of breath Mu Cheng-Bai finally managed to catch up with these three. His eyes turned red out of anger when he caught the sight of Ye Xiao, and he yelled his orders to the guards, "What in the bloody hell are you waiting for? Go kill him!"

The guards could no longer stand the stress from this stand off and now they, having received the order from their master, decided to take the initiative. If they didn't make any actions soon, they would certainly go insane. Therefore, they shouted in unison and swung their bright steel swords!

Ye Xiao laughed, casually stepped forward while facing the swords and said, "Never speak of the hardships in life. It doesn't take a thousand bottles of wine to relieve your sorrow. It is your destiny that we have met in this narrow path. With my laughter you will be sent to your death."

The swords had started to emit flashy rays of sword lights after being infused with the guards qi.

The guards had obviously gone all out with these attacks as they had felt a life-and-death crisis originating from Ye Xiao's smile. Every inch of his smile gave them an ominous sense of death!

But even after going all out, they continued to feel intimidated!

Ye Xiao slightly spun around while smiling, and just barely managed to slip away from the two attacking swords. Whoops!

One of his fair and delicate hands hit the wrist of a guard!

His actions had seemed so slow that even an ordinary person would have been able to follow the movement of his arm as he attacked.

However, the guard remained absolutely powerless to defend against it!

While the guard was screaming and let go of his sword, which shone brightly as it continued on its path.

It almost managed to slash Ye Xiao's hand!

Ye Xiao used one hand to stop the blade and tossed it to his other hand and he used this newly acquired weapon to attack the guards. A sword light burst out causing the sword slash to look like a galaxy of stars in the night sky.

He looked like a master calligrapher with a hand folded behind his back and gripping a brush pen with the other hand to write on a snow white paper.

It was both elegant and enjoyable.

The sword flashed and all observers would only see a streak of light illuminating the path travelled by the sword! But the two guards who were fighting against it showed horror-struck looks!

Moreover, they felt admiration towards a foe who was skilled to such a degree!

They worshipped his talent deep within their hearts. It felt like a paramount god from the heavens was smiting them! The slashing sword seemed to represent the will of heaven and hell!

It was inviolable and overwhelming!

They felt like that it was their destiny to die under this sword!

While the sword lights were quickly losing their splendor, blood sprayed out of the guards and painted the sky, trees and ground red.

The murderous looks that had been on the guards' faces had been replaced by the fearful looks – like they had desecrated a god. Then they slowly fell down on the floor.

PUFF! When their bodies hit the ground, a small cloud of dust to rose from the ground.

...

The swordplay that Ye Xiao was using was The Monarch's Sword that he depended on to rule the Qing-Yun Realm!

The Monarch holds the sword and he takes away all lives! Thousands of dead bodies fall. Beacons are lit for millions of miles! The sword of the Monarch kills with absolute certainty. It rarely shows up but it will kill when it does!

There was no one who had survived after facing The Monarch's Sword.

...

A single sword strike had actually caused two instantaneous deaths!

Mu Cheng-Bai's eyes were wide open as he was utterly shocked. He looked at Ye Xiao and felt that his heart had suddenly stopped beating!

At this moment, he wasn't thinking of slipping away, nor was he feeling frightened! He felt endless astonishment and bursting rage!

"Didn't Wang Xiao-Nian say... that this Ye Xiao was just a foppish idiot and was even too weak to hold a chicken? How come... he possesses such superior martial skills? He actually easily killed my two guards, who were both at the Grade of Renyuan, with one strike of his sword! How could a foppish idiot ever do this? Are you kidding me? Wang Xiao-Nian you are trying to get me killed, aren't you?" A lot of thoughts kept spinning inside Mu Cheng-Bai's head.

At this moment, the thing he wanted to do most was to find Wang Xiao-Nian and rip him to shreds! Though he was convinced that even by doing that, his anger wouldn't be relieved!

Ye Xiao held the sword with only two fingers and casually looked at a drop of blood dripping down along the edge of the blade. He then looked straight at Mu Cheng-Bai and spoke, "You've had a rough day."

Mu Cheng-Bai started panting and felt a chilling coldness in his heart. He couldn't even utter a single word.

Ye Xiao shook his head and sighed, "This...This is my first time killing in this life."

He stopped and slowly shook his head before continuing, "I didn't expect the first time would come this soon."

Mu Cheng-Bai said hoarsely, "Soon?"

Ye Xiao smiled and explained patiently, "Yes, you are right. I didn't expect that I would start this kind of life again this soon..." One could see an extreme yearning and desire being born deep within his eyes.

Mu Cheng-Bai felt a deep sense of fear when he saw the yearning and desire in Ye Xiao's eyes.

Ye Xiao smiled and spoke gently, "You must be exhausted after chasing me all this way, but isn't living as long as you have done much more exhausting?"

Mu Cheng-Bai's legs started trembling. He took a deep breath and said, "Ye Xiao! I know you don't have the guts to kill me!"

Ye Xiao spoke with half-closed eyes, "You mean you have distinguished blood?"

Then he followed, "Or special status?"

He didn't stop, "Or powerful backgrounds?"

At last he said, "None of that will work on me." He pointed at the sharp and bloodstained blade, "and neither on this."

Mu Cheng-Bai gnashed his teeth, "I am from the Mu clan! I am Mu Cheng-Bai! I am Mu Cheng-Bai..."

Ye Xiao moved his ear forward, "Never heard of them." He held the sword and stepped forward.

"I am the brother-in-law of the crown prince! I am the older brother of his wife!" Mu Cheng-Bai was sweating. As Ye Xiao stepped closer to him, he couldn't help but step back and say, "If you kill me, the Ye clan will suffer repercussion for your actions. But if you let me go today, I promise you, Ye Xiao, I will make you rich and powerful in the government!"

Ye Xiao straightened his back and said after thinking, "Did you know me before today?"

"No, I didn't." Mu Cheng-Bai shook his head and answered, "We have nothing against each other. You can't just kill me."

"Nothing?" Ye Xiao frowned, "Then... what did you do all this for?"

He was truly confused about this.

"Wang Xiao-Nian! It was Wang Xiao-Nian!" Mu Cheng-Bai nearly shouted out, "That bastard, he... he... He was angry because you had robbed something from him. He

asked to come along with me today and happened to see you there... So he encouraged me... Then I... I..."

"Oh..." Ye Xiao narrated, "It was Wang Xiao-Nian... Hmm, so you went after me? You bullied me and then tried to kill me... Right?"

Mu Cheng-Bai was scared to death, "NO! NO! NO! Noooo..."

Ye Xiao ignored him and said softly, "Several days ago, I got poisoned... You know of it, don't you?"

Mu Cheng-Bai was confused, "Poison? No please... It wasn't me."

Ye Xiao looked right into his eyes and frowned, "It wasn't you? You know nothing?"

If the brother-in-law of the crown prince didn't know... Then who did it? Wang Da-Nian was surely a suspect and he was with the crown prince... But now Mu Cheng-Bai said that he didn't know anything about it...

This case was getting extremely complicated and confusing.

"I don't know. Please. It truly wasn't me..." Mu Cheng-Bai was willing to take out his fresh heart to show his honesty.

"It wasn't you... and you know nothing... then what should I keep you alive for..." Ye Xiao frowned.

"I am useful! Please! I truly am... Lord Ye, listen to me please... I... I can help you in anyway... The government businesses, the wealth, the martial world..." At the moment, if there were pills for regret, Mu Cheng-Bai would spend every penny he had to buy them all. But there was no such thing in existence.

He now had to beg for his life, and had started promising one beautiful thing after the other.

Ye Xiao was too vicious at that moment! He was making Mu Cheng-Bai feel so stressed that he felt unable to control his bowels – he was almost certainly going to suffer from incontinence.

"If I can get through this alive, I swear I will figure out ten thousand ways to torture Ye Xiao and and that father of his, Ye Nan-Tian, to death!"

Mu Cheng-Bai was already planning his revenge, but even so, he kept on making promises to Ye Xiao in hopes to get him to change his mind. He was hoping that Ye Xiao would let him go.

But he also knew that his chance of survival was truly too small...

If Ye Xiao hadn't kill the guards, he might have considered sparing Mu Cheng-Bai. But since he had already killed the guards, he couldn't stop anymore.

Ye Xiao sighed, "I really want to trust you, but... I can't. I know that if I let you go, it will bring me unending troubles. You are begging. That's true. But I can also feel that you've already started planning your revenge... People like you, they are always standing high and never get humiliated. What happened today must have already created a seedling of burning shame deep inside your heart. If I were to let you go, your revenge would arrive at my doorsteps shortly, right?"

Mu Cheng-Bai shook his head fearfully, "No! No... Absolutely not... You must trust me. Please, trust me..."

Ye Xiao was nonchalant, "Besides, I always do things cleanly... In many situations, things will just change when I speak one word extra..."

"Ahhh... Ahhh..." Mu Cheng-Bai gasped weirdly and strange sounds were coming out of his throat, even he didn't know why. His eyes turned wider and wider in fear as he stared at Ye Xiao. Then he suddenly screamed and started running away, as if the devil himself was chasing after him.

Ye Xiao's eyes flashed as he slightly flicked his wrist. The steel sword flew out of his hand straight for Mu Cheng-Bai. PUFF! It managed to penetrate his back and quickly cut through his heart!

Mu Cheng-Bai's body still ran for several steps before falling down.

His eyes were inanimate but still seemed to be looking forward. There was no hate in his eyes, only fear and regret.

He had messed with the wrong guy.

"The brother-in-law of the crown prince?" Ye Xiao looked down at the dead body and shook his head, "How can a dead man be the brother-in-law to anybody... Dead men are sharing the same title... Dead bodies."

"Don't worry, I will avenge you." Ye Xiao stared at the body, "I will punish Wang Xiao-Nian soon enough."

After saying these words, he walked away steadily and did not spare a second look. He made his way out of the forest while stepping on the fallen leaves.

A calm man could be seen walking casually out of this forest, as if he had just enjoyed the sunset followed by the appearance of the moon and the stars.

From start to finish, not a single drop of blood nor a single speck of dust had stained his clothes.

Three bodies remained on the forest floor, silently waiting to be devoured by the hungry wildlife.

Chapter 22: Extreme Joy is followed by extreme Sorrow

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Wang Xiao-Nian arrived home, feeling absolutely euphoric. He had predicted that Ye Xiao would definitely die this time.

“Humph! How dare you extort me! I just played a little trick and now you’re dead meat!”

Wang Xiao-Nian was skipping away in a completely happy mood. Wang Da-Nian noticed that his son was unusually buoyant and felt dumfounded. He kept on pestering his son about his improved mood, but Wang Xiao-Nian remained tight lipped.

Wang Xiao-Nian knew the seriousness of this event. If Ye Xiao had truly died... the Northern General would definitely create a massive tempest!

He knew that it would be in his best interest to remain silent for now!

He had restlessly spent the next two days anticipating the arrival of this good news. He had frequently daydreamed about the sorry figure of Ye Xiao’s dead body and whether Ye Xiao had figured out the culprit responsible for his demise.

Hmm...

Another day had passed, and Wang Xiao-Nian was still waiting for the news...

And the news finally came.

A messenger had arrived from the crown Prince’s Palace, “Supervisor Wang. The crown prince sends for your son. There are some questions for him.”

Wang Da-Nian felt flattered that the crown prince had actually sent for his son. He thought, “This... this must be the start of my son’s bright future.”

“Go. Speak well.” Wang Da-Nian urged his son, “This is your best chance. Do keep that in mind.”

Wang Xiao-Nian looked confused. He was thinking, “Why is it the crown prince who is contacting me? Why is it not Mu Cheng-Bai? What? Something doesn’t feel right...”

...

On the other side of the city, after killing Mu Cheng-Bai and his two guards, Ye Xiao had stayed at home for three days!

He was not trying to cover the murders nor was he afraid that people would figure it out.

When he had finally arrived back at home that day, he immediately jumped into the sphere. He had spend 350 thousand silver bars on treasures, so he couldn’t wait to see the amount of qi that would fill the space inside the sphere!

Ye Xiao was truly unable to contain himself..

However, when he finally got into the space, he was stunned by what he saw.

The amount of qi in the space had actually remained the same and its color showed no changes.

Well, there was a tiny difference – which was the appearance of a small amount of fog-like qi. That was all.

Ye Xiao took in a lungfull of the unchanged qi in the space and was rendered totally speechless.

“It shouldn’t be! The space totally changed by just absorbing one blood ginseng... Today it has absorbed a great amount of qi from all those herbal medicines. It may not be enough to expect an improvement in the quality, but there should at least be a change in quantity. How come nothing has changed at all?”

He was totally bewildered by what he saw!

It was true that it shouldn’t be like this. But what could have gone wrong?

Blink! Ye Xiao suddenly thought of something and rushed to the egg. Once he arrived and saw the egg, he turned furious.

He had found out the reason for his confusion.

Endless white qi was flowing into the egg like a rapid river and it was slowly growing bigger.

Ye Xiao was not only angry, but also shocked.

He saw that the egg was blowing up like a balloon. It was getting bigger and had increased its size from that of a goose egg to that of a small melon. Then it finally stopped growing, but still continued to absorb all the qi that was flowing inside this space.

The egg's need for the qi wasn't limited by its size.

Although the egg had stopped growing, its dim surface was getting brighter and brighter. It could be seen indistinctly that some mystical patterns were appearing on its surface.

"Damn it!" Ye Xiao couldn't help cursing.

"I spent 350 thousands and got through such a rough day and all I got for my troubles is some food for this god damn egg! This greedy bastard has left nothing for me! And... And it actually stopped growing! That is simply a waste of my bloody energy and money!" Just a short while ago, he was fantasizing about the huge improvement of his cultivation level, but now he was really upset.

"How much more is needed to quench your thirst?" Ye Xiao rubbed his chin and felt completely depressed.

However, at least he felt satisfied for what happened today. Actually he even felt a bit rapturous. It was because of the acquisition of the Heaven's Cyan!

Ye Xiao took out the box and thought, "If the egg dares to absorb my Heaven's Cyan too, I would not care about what creature's egg it is any more and smash it into many pieces before I eat it!"

He couldn't help smiling when thinking about it and he murmured, "Bad egg... Bad egg... Everybody is saying that I am a bad egg. Now what I have here is the real bad... No kidding..."

When he opened the box, he sensed some joyfulness spreading through the environment of the space. The next moment, a strong force attacked the box.

BANNING! The box was crushed into pieces at once and the Heaven's Cyan burst out of the box and flew into the air.

The Heaven's Cyan was intact!

It was actually entirely absorbed!

Ye Xiao was totally stunned to see what just happened. Then he widened his eyes!

The space was twisting and the purple qi was swaying. Suddenly the space expanded. The purple qi then spread over and there it was – a brand new cyan space had appeared!

The cyan space then slowly moved adjacent to the first temple.

The accessorial space was about a dozen meters wide surrounded by white mist. And standing at its center was the Heaven's Cyan.

It looked like the Heaven's Cyan had always been there and that it wasn't brought from somewhere else.

Everything had blended into a harmonious whole!

The next moment, a lot of white qi flowed towards the cyan space like a storm. The space was quickly filled up! And yet, the qi did not stop flowing into the Heaven's Cyan!

All Ye Xiao could see was that the Heaven's Cyan was quivering and some new leaves were growing one by one on it. Suddenly his vision turned black and the very next moment, when it returned, he was already outside of the sphere and back in his own room!

For a while, he was still shocked and lost in amazement!

It looked like the space could feed the Heaven's Cyan!

Also the Heaven's Cyan could be planted in the space safely!

That was to say that in a short time, Ye Xiao could have an inconsumable Tree of Cultivating Tea forever and carry it around!

Thinking of this, Ye Xiao started feeling better and quickly got through his depression. Infact, he had even started to feel euphoric.

He sat cross-legged and started cultivating!

"The sun is shining upon the sky. The purple qi rises for me."

Ye Xiao performed the basic cultivation task nine hundred times daily.

He knew that his cultivation was still at a low grade and was still far from the point where the qi would fluently circulate within his inner body channels, automatically performing his cultivation. The only way for him to improve himself was through hard work!

Ye Xiao sat quietly and meditated.

He had no idea that the crown Prince's Palace was now in a mess.

But even if he knew, he wouldn't care at all!

...

Wang Xiao-Nian was brought to the crown Prince's Palace. He felt that something must be wrong and his legs started to quiver.

When he got into the main house, he felt like his heart had stopped beating!

He felt extremely cold in his heart!

In the yard of the main house, three dead bodies were placed on the ground, covered in white sheets.

One of them had a deep sword-stab wound in the chest. It went through the body, from the chest to the back and it had left a large hole. The hands were lying aside. The sleeves of the robe were uncovered and there was a golden flower embroidered in each of the sleeves.

The golden flowers were so eye-catching.

Wang Xiao-Nian looked at the shiny golden flowers and nearly passed out.

It was not some ordinary flower. To Wang Xiao-Nian, it was the symbol of... Mu Cheng-Bai!

The day when they hung out together, Wang Xiao-Nian had seen Mu Cheng-Bai wearing this robe! He recognized the golden flowers on the sleeves at once.

"Mu Cheng-Bai is dead?" Wang Xiao-Nian almost freaked out.

For him, Mu Cheng-Bai was someone who could not be killed by anyone!

The crown prince was sitting still and wore a bright yellow robe. He looked down at Wang Xiao-Nian with a serious look and a sharp gaze.

"Wang Xiao-Nian?"

"Yes, your highness."

"The day before yesterday, was it you who had accompanied Mu Cheng-Bai?" The crown prince spoke with a calm voice. He didn't look emotional at all.

Beside him was a girl wearing the royal clothes. She was currently staring at Wang Xiao-Nian. She had a slim body, white skin and a pretty face, but her eyes were swollen and red, showing traces of tears.

“Y... Yes.” Wang Xiao-Nian quivered.

“He is dead.” The crown prince spoke the three words in a peaceful voice, but to Wang Xiao-Nian it was like thunder to his ears.

Wang Xiao-Nian’s pupils suddenly expanded, as he felt his gallbladder breaking apart due to fear!

The crown prince looked at him, and spoke slowly, “Tell me every detail about the events from that day.”

“Y... Yes, your highness. Hmmm...” Wang Xiao-Nian was quivering and could hardly speak. He then licked his lips and bit his tongue heavily so that he calmed down, “That day, I hung out with lord Mu. He said that he wanted some herbs, so we went to the Hui-Tian Street... When we had only just arrived, we ran into this guy named Ye Xiao.”

“Ye Xiao?!” The girl sitting beside the crown prince suddenly looked up and stared at him with sharp eyes, “Son of the Northern General Ye Nan-Tian? One of the ‘three lords’ of the capital, Ye Xiao?”

“Yes, it was him.” Wang Xiao-Nian lowered his head hastily.

He lowered his head because he was too scared by the girl’s sharp eyes. He didn’t even dare to look her in the eyes at all.

“Go on.” The girl spoke, while the crown prince kept quiet.

Wang Xiao-Nian realised that this girl was most likely the sister of Mu Cheng-Bai, the crown prince’s wife.

“Coincidentally Ye Xiao was there to buy some herbs too... and the thing he wanted to buy... was... was the one thing lord Mu had targeted. So... So they got into a fight...” Wang Xiao-Nian spoke haltingly.

“Wait! Mu Cheng-Bai didn’t know Ye Xiao. He would never know his name, as he hated the foppish-lord kind. How did he recognize Ye Xiao?” The crown prince interrupted.

Wang Xiao-Nian was stunned.

How did Mu Cheng-Bai recognize Ye Xiao? He felt that it was now impossible for him to get out of this!

Chapter 23: A Lot Of Doubts Reveal The Chaos

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“It was... urh... It was because of me... I told him about Ye Xiao...” Wang Xiao-Nian lowered his head and finally confessed.

“Hmm... I see. Mu Cheng-Bai didn't know Ye Xiao at the beginning. You hate Ye Xiao because he had extorted you. When you saw him, you encouraged Mu Cheng-Bai to pick a quarrel with him. Is that right?” The crown prince said in a rather calm and peaceful voice.

But this calm and peaceful voice made Wang Xiao-Nian nervous. It almost made him pass out due to sheer fear.

“Y... Yes... Your highness...”

Wang Xiao-Nian spoke out these words with difficulty. He could clearly sense the much colder gaze from the crown princess. He couldn't help quivering.

“Then what?”

“And then they had a wrangle... And then Ye Xiao suddenly h... hit lord Mu... He knocked lord Mu down to the floor... Then lord Mu ordered his guards to fight back... Then Ye Xiao ran away... Then lord Mu and his guards ran after him...”

Wang Xiao-Nian's face turned pale. He was sweating profusely as he stutteringly narrated the events which had taken place.

“Ye Xiao hit lord Mu and knocked him down to the floor...” The crown prince frowned, “As far as I know, Ye Xiao is one of the ‘three foppish lords’. He is just a fool, living a meaningless life, only to eventually waste away... Lord Mu had reached the top of the Grade of Renyuan... And there were two guards with him!”

He looked at Wang Xiao-Nian doubtfully, “Did Ye Xiao really beat lord Mu and knock him down to the floor?”

“Y... Yes, your highness... Th... That's true...” Wang Xiao-Nian stuttered. He was on the verge of fainting by the time he finished speaking. He couldn't believe that he had drawn this much bad luck.

If it hadn't been for his plans to take revenge on Ye Xiao, would lord Mu have been involved in this ordeal?

In his opinion, the useless trash, Ye Xiao, really deserved to die. But while Ye Xiao had managed to survive, the young lord Mu, who really didn't deserve to die prematurely, had passed away instead!

Wang Xiao-Nian felt like he was being pranked by a god!

This... this is just absurd!

"Oh... Ok." The crown prince nodded, "Go on."

"Ye Xiao fled away and lord Mu chased after him with his guards... and... And then I w... went ho... home..." Wang Xiao-Nian finally couldn't hold his tears any longer and started to cry loudly, "Please, your highness... I know nothing about what happened next..."

"You started all this... You forced my brother into this fight... And while he was fighting against Ye Xiao, you actually just went home? And now that my brother has been killed, you dare to tell me that you don't even know how it happened?!" The crown princess stared bitterly at Wang Xiao-Nian. Her voice sounded like she wanted to tear him apart.

"I... I... Lord Mu wanted to kill Ye Xiao and he told me to hide from the public... I... There was nothing I could do, your highness..." Wang Xiao-Nian cried like a baby. He was so scared that it felt like his soul was trying to escape his body.

"Guards! Take this useless garbage out and chop his head off!" The crown princess was so angry that she immediately gave the order to the royal guards. Wang Xiao-Nian heard this and immediately lost consciousness.

The crown prince waved his hand and frowned, "Wang Xiao-Nian was just a remote cause. There's no need to kill him. It may force Wang Da-Nian to betray us if we kill his son. After all he is leading the royal guards... Besides, I think there is still a lot of things we don't know about, regarding Mu Cheng-Bai's death."

"Uncertainties?" The crown princess frowned angrily, "What bloody uncertainties could there be?"

"Ye Xiao is just a stupid foppish lad. He absolutely does not possess the abilities to kill Mu Cheng-Bai!" The crown prince clasped his hands behind his back, "There must be a third party... that we don't know of... involved in this case."

His eyes lit up, "This case needs a detailed investigation."

"This Ye Xiao must definitely be involved!" The crown princess was emitting a strong killing intent, "I can not let my brother die in vain! Ye Xiao must be buried with him!"

The crown prince smiled bitterly, "Well we need to discuss it further. Ye Xiao is nothing, but his father, Ye Nan-Tian, holds a strong army and defends the north. He is the backbone of our kingdom. In the north, he is almost like a king. Besides, the world is currently in a great disturbance and other kingdoms are maniacal. Wars are aroused frequently and our princes are all constantly fighting to protect our kingdom... To kill the great general's son in this period of time... is truly not a smart move!"

The crown princess turned offish, "Chen Bang-Guo! We can't do this and we can't do that! So are you saying that we should just let my brother die in vain?!"

The crown prince sighed, "First things first. We shouldn't focus on just one or two aspects, we need to focus on the overall situation and find the real culprit... Fine... Let's check on Ye Xiao first. If the murderer truly is someone else and we have killed Ye Xiao without giving him a chance to explain, we will have lost our only lead and let the actual murderer get away. That would really be the situation in which your brother would have died in vain

"Fine! I will wait for the news!" The crown princess humph and walked away with a beautiful scent trailing her. She turned her head around when she got to the door and yelled, "No mercy for this bastard Wang Xiao-Nian!"

"Eighty cudgel beatings!" The crown prince frowned, "Let the god judge whether he should die or live."

Eighty cudgel beatings could kill a normal cultivator. Wang Xiao-Nian was just a normal young lord who was already weak because of immoderate debauchery. Even though he had cultivated, more or less, it was not worth mentioning.

If he really got the eighty cudgel beatings, he would absolutely die. So after thinking for a while, he said, "Let Wang Da-Nian carry out this!"

Let Wang Da-Nian carry out the punishment to his own son... How could the lad die if so?

"Humph!" The crown princess was pissed and left.

The crown prince made sure his wife was gone, clapped and asked, "How's your investigation?"

A man in black came in humbly and answered, "The whole thing is generally the same with what Wang Xiao-Nian said. But there is something weird."

The crown prince frowned and didn't say anything.

The man went on, "First of all, the witnesses said that they had seen Ye Xiao knock down Mu Cheng-Bai. It is weird because it is impossible that Ye Xiao has the capability to do so.

So I checked the body of Mu Cheng-Bai and found that... his dantian was wounded. But we all know that it was the hit on his back that took his life; it is a very clean hit...

So what happened to his dantian is suspicious. It is obvious... that someone had blocked his dantian. That's why Ye Xiao could knock him down... Whoever blocked his dantian is absolutely a world-class elite cultivator!"

"A world-class elite cultivator..." The crown prince murmured, he paced around and nodded, "What else?"

"Yes, your highness. When Mu Cheng-Bai was chasing after Ye Xiao, Ye Xiao didn't get very far. He hid behind some street debris after he turned around a corner and, after he saw lord Mu and the two guards run by, he went home. There are a lot of witnesses to this occurrence..."

It seemed like Ye Xiao had somehow mislead the spectators to believe in his escape, which had clearly worked.

The crown prince frowned, feeling increasingly puzzled by these developments.

The man in black continued, "But lord Mu hadn't noticed this. So he ran all the way to the 'a hill, a forest and a lake', which is where he and his two guards were killed. There are still a lot of unknown factors. I can't quite figure it out yet."

The crown prince nodded, "What?"

"The fatal wounds on the three of them are all very clean... The two guards were cut at the same time and the wrist of one guard was completely broken. From this, I concluded that the murderer seized the sword from one of the guards and killed both of the guards at the same time! It is absolutely not a move that could be performed by an ordinary cultivator. Even a man who has reached the top of the Grade of Diyuán is incapable of doing this. The murderer is more like..." The man in black hesitated for a second and said, "...like an actual swordmaster... A sword master of the Grade of Tianyuan!"

The man in black felt cold sweat dripping down his back as he spoke out the last few words.

The crown prince raised his eyebrows and looked up, "A swordmaster of the Grade of Tianyuan... Are you sure?"

"Yes, your highness." The man in black lowered his head.

The crown prince was silent for a while, and then he spoke, "So... This all had nothing to do with Ye Xiao?"

The man in black hesitated slightly before he answered, "It is uncertain."

"If there is a third force that got to Cheng-Bai, to whom does it belong? For what reason did they kill him?" The crown prince asked as he was absorbed in these thoughts, within his voice, a strong sense of horror could be discerned. The man in black quietly listened to the crown prince as he humbly stood aside.

The crown prince was just talking to himself. He didn't want any answers for the question. And the man in black didn't dare to answer it.

There were too many variables and uncertainties in this whole ordeal.

With half closed eyes the crown prince calmly ordered, "Start from Ye Xiao. Move the investigation along from there..."

"Yes, your highness."

"Anything else you might be working on... should be suspended."

The crown prince turned around elegantly, flicked the sleeves of his bright yellow robe, and then he left calmly.

But the man in black was extremely nervous. He had been following the crown prince for many years now, so he knew better than anyone else that when the crown prince shows an unusually calm attitude, his heart would infact resemble a raging inferno!

He had already deeply etched this into his mind.

But he couldn't understand why the crown prince had told him to suspend all his other cases.

The man in black felt cold sweat dripping on his back. He clearly understood that it was very possible that in the near future, endless amounts of blood would dye the sky and land of his beloved capital dark red!

There were also words that he didn't dare to tell the crown prince – Even though Ye Xiao might not be the one to have taken Mu Cheng-Bai's life, this didn't make the investigation any easier. Besides the other princes, there were also another eight noble clans that'd be very happy to see Mu Cheng-Bai's early demise.

But all the man in black could do, was to keep these words deep inside his heart.

...

At this moment, Ye Xiao was sitting cross-legged and carefully started to feel the change and increase of the qi in his dantian. This was something he enjoyed very much, because it gave him an intense feeling of getting stronger. As a matter of fact, this was a feeling every cultivator would crave for!

While Ye Xiao was enjoying this wonderful feeling, the steward entered his room quietly and made a gentle cough.

Ye Xiao opened his eyes at once and asked, "What is it?"

The steward was very surprised when he saw Ye Xiao sitting in a cultivating pose. He then said, "My lord, there is one thing that needs your affirmance."

"What?" Ye Xiao frowned.

"Was it you who killed Mu Cheng-Bai?" The steward looked at Ye Xiao as he asked directly.

This question, that was asked with such a peaceful tone really stunned Ye Xiao.

Every time Ye Xiao met this steward, he found him more and more mysterious, he was truly an interesting fellow. He was definitely not a simple man!

Chapter 24: You just wouldn't stop getting in trouble, huh?

Chapter 24 – You just wouldn't stop getting in trouble, huh?

"What Mu Cheng-Bai? Who is Mu Cheng-Bai?" Ye Xiao had opened his eyes really wide and they were filled with curiosity as he looked at the steward.

It was only reasonable that Ye Xiao would play innocent. After all, the man he had killed was not only the brother-in-law of the crown prince, but was also from the Mu clan – one of the eight noble clans! There were things that could be done in the shadows, but one should never openly talk about it.

"Mu Cheng-Bai, the young master of the Mu clan, the older brother of the crown princess, and brother-in-law of the crown prince." The steward spoke slowly and stared deeply into Ye Xiao's eyes, "Three days ago, you got into a disagreement with him, which turned violent, young master... Eventually you ran away and he quickly chased after you... What happened after that... Nobody knows."

He stopped for a second trying to spot some kind of change in Ye Xiao's behavior, but shortly after, he continued, "What everybody knows is that you came back safely and Mu Cheng-Bai died."

Ye Xiao smiled deviously, "Well if no one knows what happens, then it certainly doesn't have to be me who killed him, right? If I were to be blamed for the deaths of everyone who got killed secretly, then I would be a mass murderer! Besides... Do you really think I actually have the capabilities to kill anyone?"

The steward stood calmly with a straight back and said in an almost inaudible whisper, "A perfect defense, young master... However, I know that it was you."

Hearing these words Ye Xiao couldn't help but frown.

This steward was acting too calmly and seemed too certain of his words.

Before Ye Xiao could clearly think it over, the steward continued, "Let's put aside the topic of who made the killing blows, you're definitely going to be investigated, so we should make proper preparations for when this investigation happens. If something unexpected happens, you'll only be able to feel regret in your afterlife.

"Even though your defense is perfect, you're still the prime suspect in this case. Mu Cheng-Bai isn't just some random farmer's son, he's the young master from the Mu clan and the older brother of the crown princess. And at the end of the day, they'll have to catch someone. If they fail to find a scapegoat, that someone might just as well be you."

Ye Xiao was collecting his thoughts and could only reply with an, "Oh?"

"That's why I wish to discuss this with you, young master. I suggest that we order the 36 blood-robe guards to send you to your father in the north." The steward spoke calmly, "You are the only son of the general! You are the heir! You can't die!"

Ye Xiao smiled and asked, "To the north? To hide from trouble by using my father's might?"

"Yes." The steward answered humbly, "It is currently too dangerous to linger around here any longer. I am afraid that everyone in this house might meet an early demise if we stay." The steward sighed.

He felt completely speechless and inconsolable about this situation. This brat had promised him not even two days ago that he would definitely 'never make any trouble'. But almost before this sentence had left Ye Xiao's mouth, he had already gone ahead and slaughtered the brother-in-law of the crown prince... If this couldn't be considered 'making trouble', then what could?

Even in a scenario where Ye Xiao didn't kill anybody, he'd still be the most obvious suspect. This fact alone was unbearable for his family. If the crown prince actually wanted to kill him, he would only have to lift a finger and there'd be nothing anyone could do about it.

Besides, there was also an extremely powerful force behind all this – the Mu clan!

The steward really didn't know what to say and thought, "What is there I can say... For god's sake... Was it that hard to behave well for a couple of days? And here I actually believed that you had reformed yourself and that you had prepared to be a good lad for once... I even proudly send a letter to the general about this, but even before this letter will reach him, you've brought such a calamity upon yourself!"

"Nah..." Said Ye Xiao.

As these words reached the steward he kept himself composed on the outside, but in his mind, he was actually seriously complaining, "This whole thing is already a huge trouble for us and if that wasn't enough, you actually dare to speak these words without a care in the world" He almost fell over, completely gobsmacked, "No?!"

"Nope, not going..." Ye Xiao spoke peacefully, "If I were to run off to my father every time a little problem came my way, then how could I possibly call myself a man?"

The steward's eyes lit up, as he stared incredulously at Ye Xiao.

"What is going on?! Is this really my young master? At what point in time did he grow a pair?" He thought.

"Urgh... It is good to have a strong sense of responsibility..." This was the first time that the steward had seen this young lord act like a man, so he wanted to give him a word or two of praise. However, he then quickly turned solemn, "But you have to know which battles to pick and this one right now, is not the right fight. We should start by preparing countermeasures for all possible situations which may occur."

He looked at Ye Xiao wishfully and thought, "Well... If you've actually grown up just a little bit... Then please figure out a plan as perfect as your defense and share it with me."

The steward still kept himself composed on the outside, but there was a raging storm of worry brewing in his heart. However, he had already made his decision long ago: To sacrifice the lives of the 36 blood robe guards alongside his own to safely escort his young master to his father in the north!

"Hmm... There isn't anything special that should be prepared. Just let things run their own course..." Ye Xiao humphed and continued, "It really isn't all that big of a deal really... Firstly, there is no evidence whatsoever. Secondly, I am nothing more than an

unlikely suspect at the moment. Thirdly, the crown prince can't afford to start a brawl with one of the great generals of the kingdom if he wishes to become king one day. And lastly..."

The steward's eyes immediately lit up as he felt Ye Xiao was really growing up to the point where he even started to speak wisely, so he eagerly asked, "What is this last reason?"

"Lastly..." Ye Xiao humphed and rolled his eyes, "If they are really going to mess around with me and manage to piss me off, I'll just kill the crown prince too. One kill will then bring peace and everything will then be solved as well!"

As the last few words left Ye Xiao's mouth the steward felt like he was going to faint.

"What is wrong with this guy???!!!!!"

The first three reasons had made sense and made Ye Xiao seem like he had actually grown up, but when the last reason finally left his the mouth, all the steward wanted to do was to curse loudly at this foppish lord!

"What a bastard! If this can be called a plan, then jumping off a hill completely naked would be a good plan to learn to fly. If these words of yours were to be spread to the public, it wouldn't even matter if you actually killed Mu Cheng-Ba... You'd have your head chopped off and sliced in eight hundred pieces anyway! You fxxking little shit! Fxxk! Fxxk! Fxxk!" The steward's mind at the moment was in complete panic and disarray.

"Ohh... Noo... Ohhhhh..." The usual calm and composed steward now felt extremely depressed and was actually stomping his feet on the floor. After hearing the last few words of Ye Xiao, he had quickly cast aside the idea that this young master would actually come up with a good plan, so he depressingly said, "Just forget it... I'll go arrange the guards to escort you right away!"

"No. I don't need that. Really." Ye Xiao looked very confident as he said these words, "Three days of protection from some guards will be enough to ensure our safety..."

He paced around a bit and eventually said, "Arrange for some people to spread around some gossip. Just let them say... That I actually killed the crown prince's brother-in-law and that the crown prince has gone crazy, looking to chop me into a million pieces! ...That should do the trick. Do make sure that this will be the leading story in the capital within the shortest possible time!"

Shock filled the steward's face, before he quickly praised his young master, "Nice! Good plan..." But as these words left his mouth he frowned, "If we do it like this, then the crown prince will not dare to act boldly in bright daylight, but the possible stealthy attacks will be hard to defend against... Besides... even if we survive the actions taken

by the crown prince, the Mu clan is also looking for the murderer and they're much more ferocious and dangerous than the crown prince."

Ye Xiao looked at the steward and said carelessly, "Well, nothing that can be done about that right now... People will do their best to slaughter us, we either move our heads forward and face them like men, or we move our heads back and hide in the shadows, like little chickens... Why are you still so anxious? Who could have possibly predicted Mu Cheng-Bai would have this kind of luck and died just like that? Misfortune loves me!"

The steward was completely gobsmacked and thought, "Oh... You're trying to say that Mu Cheng-Bai is actually luckier than you are? His body has been partly eaten by wild animals before it was found and who knows how much it has rotten by now... At the very least, you are still alive..."

A while ago the steward had looked completely confident that his young master was the killer of Mu Cheng-Bai. This was, however, only a show, as he truly couldn't believe that his young 'foppish' master actually had the capabilities to kill Mu Cheng-Bai.

Mu Cheng-Bai might not be anything special, but for the steward, the strength of Mu Cheng-Bai couldn't be mentioned in the same sentence as Ye Xiao's strength – Ye Xiao was just a foppish black sheep who enjoyed women more than he enjoyed cultivation, his strength was absolutely rubbish!

The steward was confident in his knowledge concerning Ye Xiao. He was of the opinion that if Ye Xiao could actually kill Mu Cheng-Bai, with a single attack – the heir of the Mu clan... then the Mu clan should just disband already...

He was trying to collect his thoughts as he heard his young master murmur a few words, "If the Mu clan dares to piss me off, then watch me annihilate them..."

If the earlier dialogues weren't reason enough for the steward to faint, then the line spoken right now it definitely was! In his long life, he had met all kinds of people, but never had he met someone who could gloat like his young master was doing right now.

"Do you even know how powerful the Mu clan is? If you did... You wouldn't dare to murmur those words, or even think about them for that matter?! You won't die if you stop boasting..." The steward was thinking.

Sadly, the steward would never come to know, that Ye Xiao would not hesitate to deal with the Mu Clan if they came looking for trouble.

...

As the plan was pretty straightforward, the steward immediately went into action. He quickly formed a team to spread the rumor that Ye Xiao had killed Mu Cheng-Bai. The

story they were to spread was purposely exaggerated and consisted about eighty percent truth, with some lies hidden in between. Whoever heard this rumor dismissed it quickly with words like, “Ye Xiao? The foppish lord Ye Xiao? The crown prince believes that guy can actually kill Mu Cheng Bai, like really... is he stupid?”

“What the fxxk! Can’t you come up with better jokes?!”

“Ha ha, that dude? Really? How is that even possible?”

“Pah hah ha. How highly can some people think of that foppish lord?!”

“I’d already find it hard to believe if you told me that he killed a chicken, but you are actually claiming that he somehow managed to kill an expert cultivator... Seriously dude... Go home. Even if a donkey would’ve hit my head and knocked all sense out of it, even then I wouldn’t believe you...”

With these reactions, the public was actually defending Ye Xiao from the crown prince. If the crown prince would still make a move on him, then he would become the laughingstock of the capital!

Once he’d become the laughingstock of the capital... his authority would be questioned: ‘how could such a dumb lad become our king?’ ‘If he couldn’t even spot the vivid truth in front of him, then how many people would find an unjust end by his hands?’ ‘Today the crown prince can’t see the simple truth that is right in front of him and actually killed the son of one of our great generals... When he becomes king one day.... Is he going to kill a minister if he farts?’

Even though the rumors were doing their job, the steward still went ahead and secretly arranged for the 36 blood robe guards to protect his young master – having them ready to defend Ye Xiao at a moment’s notice. And if all else failed, he could also use these guards to lead Ye Xiao out of the capital and towards General Ye’s army in the north!

The sun hadn’t even reached its highest point, yet the rumor was spreading like wildfire. People were discussing it throughout the entire capital!

“Hey, have you heard? The Lord Ye, one of the ‘three lords’, has really outdone himself this time!”

“What did he do this time?...”

“It is said that he slaughtered the crown prince’s brother-in-law...”

“Wait... Seriously?! What exactly happened? Quickly! Tell me everything!”

“It is said that...”

“Aha... Hmm? Wait a minute... No... You just said that Ye Xiao has killed the crown prince’s brother-in-law... Isn’t that fellow from the Mu clan?? Isn’t he even their heir? An expert cultivator?”

“Well... Yes...”

“You bloody fool! Even a donkey isn’t as stupid as you are... Don’t you know what Ye Xiao is like? I might believe you if you told me Ye Xiao killed a beggar, but you actually claim he killed an expert cultivator from a noble clan... I will never believe this. Not even if lightning would kill you right now...”

“Hey dude! Seriously? Mind your language! Why do I have to die...”

“You bloody deserve it, you fool! Someone tells you something impossible happened... And you just believe it like that... Not only that... You’re actually spreading it! If I ever feel the need to punch someone, I will definitely look for you... You really leave me speechless dude... Did you get your brain kicked in by a donkey or something?”

“Yeahh... It is odd...”

...

“This is most likely the worst scam in history...”

“Possibly...”

“Ye Xiao is pure garbage. Perhaps if the claim was that he raped Mu Cheng-Bai I would believe it... But this... Hehehehehe...” The man let out a disdainful laughter.

“Absolutely true...”

“Hey, perhaps the crown prince is looking to mess around with our northern military forces? So he’s just finding some excuse to do so...”

“Hm! Well... That’d really be something. Heh heh...”

“Silence!”

“Hush...”

...

Chapter 25: The Blue Gelid Qi

“Well... I don't believe in this fake information anyway. But why does everybody keep talking about it?”

“You bloody know nothing! That is the imperial's trick to go against Ye Xiao”

“Oh wow... This young lord is truly unlucky. I am sure he doesn't dare to kill a chicken. Now he has actually been set up for killing an expert cultivator. He becomes a murderer... heh heh... I really have no words to say about this obvious trap...”

“You know nothing! To kill someone, only an excuse is sufficient...”

“That's right...”

“But what our prince is doing is truly a little bit over the top”

“Ya, I know...”

...

“Stop spreading nonsense! You mean Ye Xiao could actually kill Mu Cheng-Bai? How ridiculous!”

“That's what people are saying...”

“A rumor is a rumor. Is your brain located in your ass? If we trust the 'rumor', what should we do about the 'truth'? ...You pig!”

...

“Did this ridiculous thing... actually happen? Ye Xiao killing Mu Cheng-Bai... You actually believe that? Hahahahahaha...”

...

The rumor was spreading as fast as lightning all over the Chen-Xing City, and it kept on spreading further and further at an unimaginable pace!

This event suddenly became a joke everywhere in the capital.

The Crown Prince's Palace had been preparing to take actions, but then they suddenly became muddled because of this unforeseen and overwhelming rumor!

“At the moment this rumor has caused quite a stir in the capital... If we insist on going for Ye Xiao at present, it will be difficult. I have a lot of misgivings about this.” A middle-aged counselor was sitting opposite the crown prince. He smiled bitterly, “Besides, I heard that the king is also paying attention to this event.”

The counselor's words seemed to purposely hint towards a certain direction.

"My father is also paying attention..." The crown prince smiled and said lightly, "It seems that... there is a tricky and capable person in the General's House who is pulling the strings. They stir up the public opinions and let us be trapped in the scruples... Interesting. Heh..."

"So, we have only two options." The counselor calmly said.

"Go with the second one." The crown prince didn't even ask what the two options were and spoke decisively, "Follow the normal procedure. Let the ministry of penalty do the investigation... Try to reduce a big trouble into a small one, and a small one into nothing. At least make it look good at the official level... After all, we need to consider the reaction of General Ye. The first option is too uncompromising and we can't do that!"

The counselor nodded, "Yes, your highness. I got it."

That was right. The crown prince only ordered everything to look nice from the government's perspective, but he didn't mention anything about the involvement of clans or about the common folk.

Of course he didn't need to consider about those two yet.

The counselor had left for a while and the crown prince was still sitting there quietly.

His eyes were flashing as he was murmuring, "Mortal? Mortal world? ..."

And then he suddenly let out a chilling laugh, "The glory, splendor, wealth and rank in the mortal world are wonderful things that those boring guys will never understand! They only run after the so-called ultimate goal! Even if the mortal life is just an experience spanning a limited time, at least I will taste every bit of it. If you are not a fish, then how do you know what constitutes the enjoyment of fishes... How dare you talk such nonsense that we are nonentities..."

He stopped laughing and stood up, and then left with long strides.

...

Ye Xiao was sitting cross-legged and was feeling the East-rising Purple Qi silently circulate inside his body. It was a wonderful feeling that comforted him with each passing second, and he was truly enjoying it so much that he completely forgot about the passage of time and neglected to wake up.

One after another, strands of qi were entering his body through his skin.

When he thought about the time he killed Mu Cheng-Bai, he had mixed feelings.

He understood that under the present circumstances, killing Mu Cheng-Bai was really a stupid move, because a lot of people had seen him fight against Mu Cheng-Bai that day. They had witnessed it personally. It was absolutely impossible to wipe out the witnesses. He knew that he shouldn't do it but he did it anyway. That meant that he had also put himself into a very dangerous situation.

But he had to do it. Even though he knew it was a bad idea, he still went for it!

Because he could feel that after being reborn in this body, the former owner's personality and instincts were still influencing him.

And former Ye Xiao's personality showed irresoluteness and cowardice.

He had no determination nor any sense of responsibility! All these foppish stupid young lords were in the same situation.

Ye Xiao even felt that, as of this moment, he was way inferior to his previous invincible self.

Occasionally, he even feels that, he is no longer a true cultivator.

He knew that he couldn't let this situation escalate any further, so he used this opportunity to bring about a great danger for himself so as to arouse the instincts of his prior life.

He wanted to completely get rid of the impact of the former Ye Xiao!

So, although he knew that it wouldn't do him any good, he still did it with decisiveness.

That was to revive his survival instincts in the face of extreme danger and to sharpen himself by overcoming these perilous situations!

While he was collecting his thoughts, the qi in his body suddenly started to boil, and then it gradually pulsed along towards his Jing and Mai. Ye Xiao didn't dare to be careless, so he calmed his mind and restrained the pulses step by step. However the amount of qi going haywire was too much for him to possibly regulate, and he started to feel sick. Ye Xiao still worked very hard to perform the supreme spiritual method [2], but the longer he cultivated, the worse he felt. The qi in his body was refusing to calm down.

Ye Xiao was experienced in cultivating, and so, he remained calm in such a situation. The boiling qi, although hazardous, was also a fantastic opportunity. If he stopped the East-rising Purple Qi from rampaging, it would gradually slow down, would eventually clear away and the danger would pass. If he decided to bear with it, the possible benefits would definitely be tremendous. But if he succumbed to the boiling qi, his Jing and Mai would definitely be damaged.

If Ye Xiao followed the conventional knowledge about the principles of cultivation, he should have stopped cultivating the moment the qi in his body started to boil. However, at that moment, he suddenly felt inspired – actually, it was his intuition, that if he stopped now, he would miss out on a golden opportunity!

He had to choose between experience and intuition, and the Xiao Monarch decided to go with the latter!

He grinded his teeth and continued cultivating!

But it didn't get better at all. Instead, he felt his dantian bulging, and was on the verge of exploding. If the continuous accumulation of qi inside his Jing and Mai continued, it would certainly explode!

Ye Xiao was terrified.

The current situation was beyond his knowledge. The result of this gamble was uncertain!

Did this mean that his intuition was wrong?!

But, just when he was about to consider stopping, the boiling qi in his dantian calmed down!

After a while, the boiling qi that settled suddenly flowed back towards his dantian. At the same time, an unbearable piercing pain coursed throughout his body. Ye Xia instantly blacked out after spitting out a mouthful of blood!

In an instant, everything in front of him was dyed red with blood!

The next moment, the rolling qi in his dantian oddly separated into two parts; one was red while the other was blue!

Ye Xiao realized that these were two types of qi with different attributes.

The red qi contained the power of scorching hot flames; it felt like it could incinerate everything. And the blue qi contained a power of intense coldness; it felt like it could freeze anything.

Were these two options for him to choose from?

One stayed while the other disappeared?

Or could they both coexist within him; one representing yin and the other, yang [1]?

Ye Xiao frowned; it was really a tough choice.

The power of the scorching red scorching qi was surely good, but the power of the blue gelid qi also had its own advantages.

Ye Xiao didn't want to give up on either of them.

He thought about it for a while longer and finally decided to mainly cultivate the power of the blue gelid qi.

He was still in one of the realms under the same firmament as in his previous world. He was known for his scorching hot attacks in his previous life and he had even reincarnated in a body which shared the same name.

If he managed to draw the attention of the three factions and was identified as the Xiao Monarch, it would certainly result in his death, because he would never be able to resist them in his present condition. He should do everything in his power to prevent them from finding out about his identity as the late Xiao Monarch before he became strong enough to oppose them.

Basically, if a cultivator lost all his cultivation and had to rebuild it, he would choose to cultivate the method and attribute that he was familiar with; he would never choose to cultivate in another attribute, let alone a conflicting one.

Therefore, the ultra cold attribute was a perfect mask for Ye Xiao.

In fact, there was another reason why Ye Xiao chose to cultivate the gelid qi.

The East-rising Purple Qi actually held a pure yang attribute, but at the moment, it showed a completely contrary attribute. Due to the profoundness of the East-rising Purple Qi, Ye Xiao thought that this gelid qi must be something extraordinarily powerful.

With that, the decision was made. Ye Xiao tried transferring the power of the gelid qi. He had only just started to guide it, before it suddenly moved quickly to fill up his dantian!

Simultaneously, the red scorching qi also started to disappear from his body.

And then a wave of gelid qi rushed out from the dantian and ran through every inch of the Jing and Mai. Wherever this gelid qi spread, the originally mild qi was immediately replaced by the gelid qi!

While the attribute of the qi was switching, Ye Xiao actually felt his mind clear up like it never had before!

There were streams of the clear power running around each and every inch of his body.

Ye Xiao tried reaching a finger to tap on the chair nearby lightly.

A wave of frost suddenly burst out from his fingers and froze the chair until it cracked!

The power of the finger tap didn't stop and the chill rapidly spread in the air.

Within the blink of an eye, the entire room turned into his own little ice cave.

However, the coldness brought by the gelid qi brought an incredible comfort to Ye Xiao. He didn't feel cold; rather, he felt an endless pleasure surrounding him.

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[1]Yin and Yang : In Chinese philosophy, yin and yang describes how opposite or contrary forces are actually complementary. In this context, Yin represents the blue gelid qi, and Yang is used for the red scorching qi.

[2]Supreme spiritual method : method used to cultivate the East-rising Purple Qi.