

## Firmament 91

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#### Chapter 91: Who Tricked Whom? Curing The Melting Bone Palm!

“Urn...” Ye Xiao realized that he had divulged too much information, “Well... You wouldn’t know. In fact, I’ve read a lot of books. Reading makes a man well informed. My knowledge...”

Ye Xiao fabricated some baloney and said, “The martial art that I am cultivating can cure the wounds caused by any of these six martial arts, so I decided to absorb the attacks. The strength of our house has almost been completely exposed. That is not a good thing, so I think we should intentionally hide some of our strength. This time, they laid their dirty hands on me... It now gives us a good reason and a good opportunity to return the favour.”

Song Jue said, “I understand that. But the most important thing is your safety. Melting Bone Palm, as I know, is not easily dealt with. I am unable to deal with it anyway. We should still get your father to make sure that you are safe.”

Ye Xiao stopped talking. He slowly took off his upper garments and revealed the smooth white skin of his chest. He turned around and showed his back to Song Jue. His back was fair and no abnormalities were visible.

And then he started operating the East-rising Purple Qi, causing a stream of hot qi to slowly rise from his body.

Song Jue stared at Ye Xiao while watching out for signs of any wounds and abnormalities.

After the time it takes for an incense stick to burn, some faint palm marks showed up on Ye Xiao’s back one by one.

These marks were appearing from underneath his skin. One after another, these palm marks materialized on his back, covering it entirely. They were packed extremely tightly and a few even overlapped...

As Ye Xiao kept on operating the East-rising Purple Qi, the initially faint palm marks became more prominent as they started to turn into a darker shade. At the beginning, these marks were light cyan in colour, and as time passed, they became dark cyan. They looked gruesome.

“There are 18 cyan coloured palm marks. It really is the vicious Melting Bone Palm.” Song Jue took a deep breath and his face filled with coldness.

But not long after, the coldness on his face disappeared.

He was an expert in cultivation. Since Ye Xiao had known that he was secretly hit and could make the hidden wound show up on the surface, that meant he truly had the capability to negate the effects of the Melting Bone Palm.

It was now absolutely certain.

Song Jue had never heard of a man in his early stages of cultivation actually forcing the hidden wounds caused by the Melting Bone Palm to appear on the surface of his body.

The martial art that Ye Xiao used seemed to be unbelievably magical to Song Jue.

If Song Jue had never been hit by the Golden Mai Palm and he was at his peak condition, it would be an easy job for him to cure the damage caused by the Melting Bone Palm. However, he was suffering from hidden injuries and that made him fall to the very bottom of the cultivation stages. He was no longer able to cure the wounds caused by the Melting Bone Palm.

Yet, he was sure that even if he was at his peak condition, it wouldn't be as easy for him to deal with the Melting Bone Palm like Ye Xiao was able to.

It would at least take him one month of effort to totally force the hidden marks to show up.

"That was truly vicious!" Staring at the 18 cyan wounds, Song Jue grinded his teeth.

Ye Xiao's face was all red at the moment. He was required to operate the martial art in full flow to force the hidden wounds to show up. With his current capability, it had taken his whole strength to do so.

While he kept on operating the martial art, he could feel the Melting Bone Palm's extraordinary viciousness and cruelty.

With the marvelous East-rising Purple Qi, he had already compelled most of the wounds to arise, yet there was still a part of the wounds which remained deep within his bones.

Luckily, Ye Xiao was quite experienced, and the East-rising Purple Qi was truly fantastic, otherwise, he would have probably missed these hidden wounds. They were almost impossible to be find.

[To resolve these wounds that have seeped into my bones, I need to use the gelid qi to assimilate them slowly when I am alone.] Ye Xiao immediately devised a plan in his mind. He sped up the operation of the East-rising Purple Qi to resolve the surface wounds.

After a short while, ninety-nine cycles of Qi circulation had passed.

Song Jue was shocked and he looked at the white mist that kept rising from Ye Xiao's body. It only took a while and the dark cyan marks slowly started changing. They had turned light cyan...

- Puff! - Ye Xiao opened his mouth and spat out some cyan-purple blood.

When the mist disappeared, the marks on his back had almost completely faded away.

Ye Xiao gradually stopped operating the martial art. The light marks disappeared at the same time. They returned into the skin.

Although the wounds were still inside him, they were almost harmless now. At least, they wouldn't take his life.

In fact, the damage that was caused by the Melting Bone Palm was similar to that of the Golden Mai Palm. They both created some impacts and forced themselves into people's body. They hid inside the body, and when they finally acted, they would immediately cause death.

To deal with it, a power of the same attribute as the wound was required to assimilate it. However, these two martial arts were of quite different levels regarding to their capability. If the Golden Mai Palm

was a rank 1 martial art, then the Melting Bone Palm was, at best, worthy of rank 2. It could be ranked worse.

Ye Xiao was able to cure the effects of the Golden Mai Palm in Song Jue yet strangely, he could not cure the wounds on his own self. In fact, to cure Song Jue, he had to send his energy out of his own body. Whereas now, he was self-saving. There was a big difference between these two scenarios.

Regarding the current situation, it should take Ye Xiao only a few days to fully cure the rest of his injuries. But to fully cure the wounds inside Song Jue, it had required Ye Xiao to be much stronger. That showed the difference between Golden Mai Palm and Melting Bone Palm.

“Uncle Song, now you can relax, right?” Ye Xiao smiled tiredly.

Ye Xiao was all sweaty. He had nearly used up all his spiritual power after that.

“Yes.” Song Jue was finally relieved. His face turned from dark and angry to happy and cheerful. He said with his eyes half-closed, “Good for you, kid. You made me worry. It turns out you have played a trick on those bastards. Amazing.”

Ye Xiao watched Song Jue’s face. His expression had changed so fast that Ye Xiao suspected his uncle of being temperamental. He said, “The Crown Prince has been heartless to me, so I shall treat him the same way. There will be a time for me to make the scores even. Our family is spread apart at the moment. The part in the capital is weak, so we can only slow down the rhythm for now.”

“That’s true.” The steward spoke in high spirits, “Now the challenge has become an opportunity. Now that you are ‘badly injured’, we can fall back from the open into the dark and get out off their sight...”

“Exactly.” Ye Xiao clapped.

“When they no longer focus on us, we can make covert actions to take care of those motherfxcking sons of bitches...” The steward was getting excited while he talked. More and more rude words came out from his mouth.

[Motherfxcking sons of bitches?]

Ye Xiao thought, [Some motherfxckers... who were sons of bitches... That is a real tragedy.]

“Dirty tricks eh? Humph.” Song Jue’s eyes were shining and he spoke viciously, “I have a huge amount of tricks in my arsenal. Maybe I should send some guys to rape the Crown Princess. What do you say? Take some small advantages.”

“.....” Ye Xiao looked at his uncle and immediately became sweaty.

[To do that to someone is just a small piece of advantage to you?]

Song Jue seemed to realize his rude language was inappropriate. He coughed and said, “I mean urn... I should send some guys to make some trouble in the Crown Prince’s Palace to distract their attention.”

Ye Xiao spoke gently, “As for now... We should stay still and keep low. We should at least wait for a half month. First, our men need to prepare and we need them to be stronger. Second... we need to wait for the moment when they’ll think that the wounds within me are about to take my life...”

“True.” Song Jue nodded, “Why did I forget this? First there needs to be a danger, and then it could transform into an opportunity...”

And then he spoke mysteriously, “By the way, I have a good news for you. I nearly forgot it.”

Ye Xiao was surprised, “What news?”

“You uncle, that means me, has improved a lot in cultivation...” Song Jue was proud, “Now I am in the first level of the Grade of Tianyuan.”

“Congratulations, Uncle Song! You finally become a superior cultivator of the Grade of Tianyuan.” Ye Xiao was happy.

Song Jue laughed, he was overjoyed.

And then he suddenly stopped.

He spat immediately and thought, [What the hell am I happy for? I was a superior master that had broken through the Grade of Tianyuan a long time ago... Now I have just recovered a part of my strength to reach the first level, yet I actually felt enjoyment because of that. That... was so embarrassing...]

He relaxed for the rest of the night. He could finally have a good rest. But Ye Xiao had been busy all night to deal with rest of the wounds. They were much more difficult to cure, because they were dispersive. They were hard to aim at and force out. The extremely cold energy that was hidden deep inside his bones were the most difficult ones. Ye Xiao had tried everything, he kept operating the gelid qi to finally force them out of his body. He was exhausted and sweaty, and right now, he felt that he was made entirely of sweat...

The whole night, he had done nothing but deal with the wounds.

His bedroom was destroyed by a certain uncle of his, so he had to temporarily live in the guest room.

“I was underestimating the damage dealt by the Melting Bone Palm. It’s really vicious.” Ye Xiao looked at the cold yin qi in his hand. Even his gelid qi couldn’t assimilate this cold yin qi. It was surely useless.

It was not only useless, but also so hazardous that wherever it appeared, nothing would survive.

Ye Xiao thought about it and stomped on the floor. A deep pit was instantly created. He threw the dark yin-cold qi inside the pit and then used his gelid qi to freeze the floor solid. He didn’t want the cold yin qi to get out and to create disasters.

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### **Chapter 92: Stormy Night; Tracking; Hunting**

After that, Ye Xiao prepared to go to bed.

He had been so busy for several nights. He was really exhausted. He finally had some time to have a good night’s rest.

If he was still the previous Xiao Monarch, who was always alone and aloof, how could he possibly deal with the Crown Prince so courteously without any sincerity? He wouldn’t have been full of worries and

let the things develop further. With his temper, he would have likely struck out the needles and killed the Crown Prince and his wife once and for all.

Even if he needed to escape and hide from the royal court's pursuit without definite residence, and even if he was facing enemies from all over the world, he would still do that. There would be no compromise.

However, he was different now and he clearly knew it.

Now he had something to worry about.

His father, his family, the steward, the blood guards, Su Ye-Yue, Prince Hua-Yang, Lan Lang-Lang, Zuo Wu-Ji...

These were the people he was concerned about, and also the people that made him restrain himself.

For the sake of these people, Ye Xiao had to be more meticulous in choosing a way to solve the problem in front of him.

He had been unwilling to part with any of these people.

If any of them died because of him...

It would be something he would never be able to bear, and it would definitely be something he would regret for life...

"Is that what they call family affection?" Ye Xiao was lying in bed with his eyes half-closed. There was a stream of warmth that rose and ran slowly in his heart. He felt very comfortable.

These people would sacrifice anything for him, even their lives.

That was what they call an affection.

An affection that he had never experienced before!

Since they were willing to sacrifice for him, then it became his responsibility to protect them.

That was the responsibility of a man.

It was something he, as a man, had to bear!

It was such a dark night. He sighed involuntarily.

He had already accepted his new identity. He had also accepted his family. Most ridiculously... since he was reborn, he had never even truly seen his present father, yet he had completely accepted his present identity and family.

He felt that everything was so ridiculous.

"Maybe it is a farewell to my lonely days in the past..." He murmured to himself, "Maybe I have been too tired of those... lonely days that were full of uncertainty... for a long time..."

"Family affection... It feels fantastic... I have been through so many lonely days in my previous life... I have been through so many joys and sorrows, too many bloody battles and madness... Who has ever given me any kind of family affection?"

Thinking of that, he took a deep sigh and murmured, "Why was I an orphan... in my previous life? I asked myself a million times why my parents abandoned me. Why did they?"

He felt sad and stopped thinking.

He closed his eyes to force himself to sleep.

He fell asleep with an infrequent dream...

In the dream, there was a woman gently looking at him standing in the mist. She kept calling, "... Xiao-Er..."

Ye Xiao was asleep. He didn't know that a drop of tear from his eyes dripped into his pillow.

It was glittering and translucent like a dewdrop.

It stayed on the pillow for a while, and then it seeped into the pillow. Only a tiny wet mark that showed the transitory existence of the teardrop was left, and it also disappeared right away.

If he was awake, he would rather die than let it come out. However, in this dream, he chose to set himself free. He was venting the hidden emotions inside his heart.

That fond face in the mist staring at him with a pair of eyes that were filled with love... Then he felt a soft hand touching his face gently...

His mouth showed a smile of happiness. Such smile would have never shown up on the Xiao Monarch's face. Such smile had never belonged to Ye Xiao!

It was tranquil... in the dream.

...

In the middle of the night, Ye Xiao was immersed in the sweet dream and didn't want to wake up. However, a clap of thunder suddenly awoke him from his sleep!

- BOOM! -

It sounded like it had splitted the dark sky, and it had awoken many people in the capital!

The next moment, the dark clouds gathered together from different directions...

Some of them were even colorful!

When Ye Xiao saw that, he was astonished. He stood up and discovered that it was raining heavily outside.

He watched the heavy downpour and felt that something was wrong.

However, he had just woken up and he was still a bit dazed. He couldn't find out what was wrong.

He didn't see the scene when the clap of thunder emerged from the sky with his own eyes.

If he was able to see it... He would have naturally figured out what was going on.

Yet he had been in sleep because he was too tired...

And it was a tight and good sleep.

The roaring thunders continued to struck the land. But only ordinary thunders were left. - Boom. - - Boom... -

The rain was getting heavier.

Ye Xiao watched for a while and didn't find anything suspicious. He was preparing to sleep again to continue the god-given sweet dream. Suddenly, he felt another powerful thunder splitting the sky fiercely!

The next moment, a lightning flashed in the sky.

And then it instantly disappeared.

A normal person or even a superior cultivator in this world would think that it was nothing but a normal thunder.

Yet the hair on the back of Ye Xiao's neck stood up with fear right away.

That was not a lightning! It was the movement of two superior cultivators!

One of them was escaping, while the other was chasing!

They were moving in an extremely high speed!

The spiritual qi that was covering their bodies rubbed the air while they were moving, and that created the flashing lights. Combining the extreme speed and the flashing lights, it looked exactly like a thunder!

In Ye Xiao's estimation, these two were at least in the Grandmaster Levels of Tianyuan. Both of them were absolutely stronger than Guan Zheng-Wen!

He had thought that with the capability of the Grade of Diyuan, he was able to knock down everyone he encountered. However, just a while ago, he had fought against Guan Zheng-Wen, and now, he saw these two superior cultivators. Not to mention even Steward Song had returned to the Grade of Tianyuan too.

Ye Xiao thought for some time while looking at the direction of those flashing lights. His eyes lit up and then his right hand reached to the bed. A suit of black clothes flew up. - Hewh -

The next moment, he was dressed in black. - Puff. - He flew out through the window and suddenly, the rain got him all wet.

He didn't care much about the rain. He twitched his body and immediately arrived at the roof. In the next instant, he instantly disappeared.

...

That was not the Lunisolar Shadow he was using; it was the One Laughter in Skyline!

The Lunisolar Shadow kept him concealed while moving in high speed, while One Laughter in Skyline purely increased his speed to the fullest. Because its sole focus was his movement speed, it made his speed instantly reach its peak!

He who was just drinking at the door, suddenly appeared in the skyline with just a laugh!

(方在门前饮，一笑已天涯！)

Someone was just drinking at the door of a tavern in the market, but after a single laugh, he was already at the end of the world!

One Laughter in Skyline.

It was publicly accepted as the fastest martial art in the Qing-Yun Realm!

The only one!

In his previous life, because of this martial art, he had been able to escape from all those people chasing him for over 30 thousand miles!

Within an instant, he had moved 300 kilometers already. The rain didn't disrupt him. In fact, it actually boosted him!

He was like a wind blowing to the ends of the sky.

The tiles of the roofs of the houses he passed by were like fish scales under his feet. - Shoot shoot shoot. - They flashed away. Soon, he had arrived at the edge of the capital. The city wall was over 20 meters high. Before the guards on the wall noticed anything, Ye Xiao had already disappeared. - Puff. - He instantly arrived outside the wall.

Far away, yet another two lightning flashed in the sky, they were like two silver snakes dancing.

Ye Xiao had sharp eyes. He noticed there were sword lights flashing in the sky. He was distant from it, so he couldn't see it clearly, but he knew that these flashing lights were indeed sword lights.

Ye Xiao was like a rolling Chinese dragon who rushed forward as he instantly entered the forest. He then operated the Lunisolar Shadow...

The One Laughter in Skyline gave him the fastest speed, but it couldn't conceal his whereabouts. It was the only negative result of pure speed. As for the Lunisolar Shadow, it covered both speed and concealment. It was slower than One Laughter in Skyline, but it kept him safe while moving.

[Why did these two superior cultivators chose to fight at night, not to mention the heavy downpour?]

As of this moment, he was getting closer and closer!

- Dang! - The weapons of the two superior cultivators struck each other. Looking at them from a distance, Ye Xiao could see some flashing lights blasting to the sky. It was quite a marvelous sight.

In the heavy downpour, the status of the battle constantly reached his senses. From what he heard, some trees had obviously fallen down...

Ye Xiao frowned and watched. The battle was about four miles away from him.



He waited. He didn't approach, and as he expected, after a while, another lightning appeared. It came from the other direction this time. They were nearly a thousand kilometers away from where they had been.

"They are both top superior cultivators as I expected." Ye Xiao was motivated in mind as he operated the Lunisolar Shadow in order to get closer to the battle.

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#### **Chapter 93: The Woeful No.1 Assassin**

"They have fought all the way here. Obviously, one of them has been tired, so they have to start fighting here. Otherwise, with their cultivation capabilities, they wouldn't have to fight so hard. They are now fighting in a life and death battle, which must be the last thing the one who's being hunted wished for."

"The one exhausted is obviously the prey... As a man who is being hunted, he would never want to get into a tough fight against the enemy. If he has the capability to have a tough fight, he wouldn't even try to escape..."

"To fight hand in hand, they have to get close to each other. The prey isn't a match to the hunter, so he will definitely take advantage of a strike to run away in high speed. However, the hunter has finally caught up... So the second close fight eventually happened."

"When they had their first close fight, the sound was not that loud. That means the hunter was restraining his strength. However, when the second close fight happened, the sound was a few notches louder. That means... After the first fight, the prey was hurt. Or maybe he was hurt... again..."

"Therefore... It seems like this battle is about to reach its conclusion."

"After less than another four close fights, the prey will eventually lose his strength to defend..."

"They have been moving for over five hundred miles... They have obviously started the fight far away from the other side of the capital. They are truly top superior cultivators..."

Ye Xiao flew like the wind and cautiously approached.

He was thinking, analyzing, estimating, but he was still calm and steady.

Finally, he was close enough to the battle.

Almost at the same time when he stopped, there came a huge explosion. - BOOM! - This time, it happened quite near to him. Endless dirt and grime flew up in the air, and then it all headed straight towards his direction. He quietly stayed down on the floor, allowing the dirt and grime to cover his body...

In the next moment, he was immediately smothered.

He had become a 'sweat guy' earlier the night, and then now he became a 'dirt guy'... Yet it disguised him rather well!

A sound of someone panting was getting closer. According to the sound, this guy must be extremely exhausted. He might freak out, fall down and never get up at anytime.

And then a sword flew over to him. It was covered by cold glow. - Shoot! - It stopped at a point about ten meters away in front of Ye Xiao. It was stabbed into a stone that was right in front of the exhausted guy.

This sword served as an instrument to stop him from escaping and take his life!

A lightning suddenly lit up the sky. - Shoo! - The stone still looked normal after the sword struck it. However, when the rain fell on the stone, the rock splat into four parts, it was like four petals blooming.

The sword stood with its point sticking in the ground.

In fact, it was inappropriate to use 'sticking' to describe it. The sword was totally exposed and not a single part of it was stuck inside the ground. However, it didn't fall down. It was just standing there flashing with a cold glow. It was actually floating in mid-air.

Lightning once again flashed in the sky and the world was lit and turned dark again.

The wild rain seemed to rule everything once more.

The exhausted man looked at the sword as he suck in heavy breaths. Suddenly, he made an extremely hoarse laugh and then sat on the floor. He then spoke bitterly, "You win... Kill me as you wish. No more worthless conversations."

Ye Xiao was so close to them and he didn't dare to move even a single bit.

After all, he was too close to the battle, and these two were top superior cultivators. The heavy rain had helped in concealing his existence. Otherwise, he must have been beaten up eight hundred times. The martial art he used to hide himself wasn't weak. However, the difference between his capability and theirs was too big.

There was nothing else he could do.

It was just that the place he picked was perfect to hide his whereabouts.

It was a ramp of the forest and they were heading over to this ramp. They were about to pass through the ramp.

If the prey went over the top of the ramp, he would definitely fall down to the other side of the ramp since he was exhausted. The hunter would jump down following the prey. Then Ye Xiao would be behind them.

Because they went over Ye Xiao's location, they wouldn't be able to notice him since they would never keep an eye on the route they passed.

So it was a perfect place to hide indeed.

Basically, things should happen as Ye Xiao estimated. And it had been developing that way.

However, something out of his expectation happened.

The hunter actually threw his sword to force the prey to stop a few meters away from where he was hiding!

The prey looked at the sword and thought that it was impossible for him to escape anymore. So he suddenly felt discouraged and couldn't get up his strength anymore. So he kind of accepted his fate and sat down on the floor...

Ye Xiao didn't care whether he sat down or not!

The only thing that mattered to him was the fact that they were only seven meters away from him!

[What the hell is this! It really didn't go as I expected!] Ye Xiao cursed in mind, [For fxxk's sake, I am so unfortunate...

In such a short distance, facing two superior cultivators of the Grade of Tianyuan, no matter who found me first, I will certainly die!

That is really clamping a bird when closing the door [1]... What an unfortunate coincidence...]

It was true that he was the Xiao Monarch who was wise and knowledgeable. So although he was in the third level of the Grade of Diyuan, he was invincible to all the others who were in the same level. Even those in the fourth or sixth level of the Grade of Diyuan couldn't be a match to him. If he really fought hard, he could even defeat the superior cultivators who were in the ninth level of the Grade of Diyuan!

However, that was it. He was unable to win against someone who was in the Grade of Tianyuan. Someone in the Grade of Tianyuan could beat him easily in everything. Took Guan Zheng-Wen as an example, Ye Xiao was helpless in front of him.

And these two in front of him were miles ahead of Guan Zheng-Wen in terms of cultivation capability.

If he was exposed, any of these two could easily take his life. That was simply the absolute higher level suppressing the lower one. No one could do anything about it!

Under such a negative situation, Ye Xiao was a bit distressed. At the same time, he had another feeling that was strange. [How come the voice of the prey is so familiar to me?

Is it possible?

It mustn't be!

I have never been in-touch with such a high-level superior cultivator except for Guan Zheng-Wen!

The prey shouldn't be Guan Zheng-Wen. Then who the hell is he?]

While collecting his thoughts, he suddenly heard a soft voice, "Do you really have to be like this?"

Ye Xiao was shocked and he nearly exposed himself.

[Shit! The hunter is the one I am actually familiar with!

At least the hunter is someone whose name and background I could identify!

The voice is so peaceful, soft, calm, ringing like the river running in the mountain, and could make people feel comfortable.

It is the voice of...

The one who was in the auction... Xiu Of The Heavens!

Lady Xiu-Er!

She is the girl who is qualified enough to give orders in the House Of Chaotic Storm!

She is the one who slaughtered every man of the Mu Clan in the capital!

[Oh my bloody heavenly holy gods...] Ye Xiao's heart pounded hard several times, [How come I didn't realize this girl was a top superior cultivator in the Grandmaster Levels of Tianyuan?]

When he pondered deeper about it, he recalled something suspicious.

He had realized that Xiu Of The Heavens had an extraordinary capability, but Ye Xiao was sure that she shouldn't be as capable as she was now! In the auction, she was so far away from the Grade of Tianyuan, let alone the Grandmaster Levels of Tianyuan!

Ye Xiao dared to swear with his sharp eyes and his life.

And he was pretty sure that he hadn't seen her wrong!

However, since their last meeting, it has only been a month. The girl had actually reached the Grandmaster Levels of Tianyuan from the Grade of Diyuan. Wasn't it boosted too much?

[What... What the hell is going on?

What the hell is it?!]

The prey laughed hoarsely and said, "I want to be clear about the truth before I die. You asked me whether it had to be like this or not. In fact, I want to ask you the same question. What made you hunt me like this?"

In his voice, there was a sense of dejection. He was in despair.

A top superior cultivator was about to die in the hands of a girl that seemed to be about seventeen years old during a fair fight. It was unacceptable for him as he had always been proud. He would even accept his demise, but he desperately wanted to know the truth!

Xiu Of The Heavens stayed quiet for a while and spoke, "Ning Bi-Luo, I regarded you as an outstanding cultivator, so I invited you to join the House of Chaotic Storm... I promised you that as long as you join us, the assassination affairs of the House of Chaotic Storm will be under your command. You have the full power! Besides, I would solve the problem between you and the Saint Master. Such conditions are good enough no matter what. Yet you turned hostile and attacked in advance. Do you have an explanation for your actions?"

At this moment, Ye Xiao actually remembered the prey at once.

Ning Bi-Luo.

The No.1 assassin in the Land of Han-Yang.

However, he was a bit surprised. [How woeful this No.1 assassin is.]

He had heard of him several times. When he heard about him for the second time, it was about his assassination organization fading away as Ning Bi-Luo fought his way to escape. At that moment, he was still on the run...

The first time he met Ning Bi-Luo was when he had just been set free from Wen-Ren Chu-Chu's grasp. It was a coincidence. That day, Ning Bi-Luo was being hunted and was fleeing madly. If Ye Xiao didn't do him a small favor, he might have died that day.

At this moment, Ye Xiao met him again and he was still being hunted. However, the hunter was way stronger than before!

[Could he be a rat on the street [2] in his previous life?] Ye Xiao thought.

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#### **Chapter 94: I Am An Assassin. Not A Dog!**

[This guy has been hunted for quite a long time...] Ye Xiao thought, [His experience of being hunted is not as miserable as mine, but it is quite woeful already...]

He didn't know that Ning Bi-Luo was being hunted because of him!

Ning Bi-Luo sat on the floor dejectedly while breathing heavily and he asked, "The House of Chaotic Storm. I wonder whether you are Wan Of The Clouds or Xiu Of The Heavens?"

Xiu-Er spoke blandly, "I am Xiu-Er."

"I see." Ning Bi-Luo smiled with self-mockery. He suddenly looked amused and said, "To die in a demon's hand, at least it won't stain my honorable name in the world."

Ye Xiao was surprised and thought, [Demon? What demon? What does he mean?]

Xiu-Er's voice turned cold, "Ning Bi-Luo, do you know you just offended me?"

Ning Bi-Luo rolled his eyelids and said while panting, "I know. Of course I know... However, Lady Xiu-Er, even though you are powerful with all your hexes, you can only kill me once, right? You want to drag me back from hell and kill me again and again... Hey hey. Even if you really are a demon, I am afraid that's out of your capability. Right?"

While speaking, he actually laughed and said, "I am unlucky to come across you while I am still carrying wounds. If I am fully recovered, I doubt that you can defeat me! Let's just say the gods didn't stand on my side!"

A figure in white fluttered. The slim figure of Xiu-Er appeared in Ye Xiao's sight. Even in the heavy rain, her clothes still looked clean and dry!

She spoke, "There is no such thing as absolutely fair in the world. In the martial world, there is no such thing as justice either... Ning Bi-Luo, you are an assassin. Killing is normal for you. When you took people's lives, did you give them a fair chance to defend themselves? Yet now you spoke those words.

Don't you think that what you said has stained your name? A man demeans himself right before his death. How pathetic."

Ning Bi-Luo stayed silent for a while and then spoke hoarsely, "You are right. I am hypocrite by saying that. Just end my life today. I won't complain anything about it."

Xiu-Er laughed and then spoke indifferently, "You know what. I don't want to kill you. What I want is to recruit you."

Ning Bi-Luo laughed and said, "Recruit? In such a pleasant way?"

Xiu-Er spoke calmly, "The House of Chaotic Storm hasn't recruited any true member for many years... Now that we are showing you our appreciation, why are you still unsatisfied? Does it really matter what way we used you?"

Ning Bi-Luo coughed for a while. He then panted out, "What a pity... I don't want to be a demon."

The coldness in Xiu-Er's eyes increased and her eagerness to kill turned heavier.

Even though she was not looking at Ye Xiao, Ye Xiao felt a bit terrified at the moment...

"You have offended me over and over again. Ning Bi-Luo, as a man like you, it is immoderate to offend a lady like that." Her voice became peaceful again.

Ning Bi-Luo was quiet.

"I want to know the true reason." Xiu-Er spoke blandly, "The House of Chaotic Storm is world-shocking... All the superior cultivators want to be a member of it, except you. Why?"

Ning Bi-Luo spoke after a long silence, "I know that what you said is true. However... I am a self-governed man. I am always the one who gives the orders, even though I am an assassin. Perhaps I have never been a good guy... But I will never be a dog!"

He raised his head and spoke blandly and stoutly, "I can be a bad guy, but I will never be a dog for others! Not even a dog for the king!"

Xiu-Er stayed silent for a while before she said, "Good. Good. You are a tough guy. I was underestimating you."

Ning Bi-Luo was motivated and laughed. He spoke proudly, "I am born with an unyielding character! I don't think I can ever change it in this life."

"The House of Chaotic Storm needs assassins this time. A man like you is someone I truly don't want to lose..." Xiu-Er sighed and said, "The guy, Red In The Sky, has been missing since his last mission. Ning Bi-Luo, I am giving you another chance here... You can still change your mind."

Ning Bi-Luo closed his eyes and mouth. He stayed silent.

His attitude was obvious, [Just kill me. I won't change my goddamn mind!]

Xiu-Er sighed of pity and had her last try, "Fine. I won't force you. However... Ning Bi-Luo, let me ask you another thing. If you can explain it clearly to me, and if your answer satisfies me, I will stop pushing you and give you a quick and nice death."

Ning Bi-Luo spoke with his eyes closed, "Ok. Go ahead."

"You say you don't want to serve anybody and only wished to fight for yourself alone. That is your personal conviction, right?" Xiu-Er asked, "For your whole life, you only obeyed yourself, is that true?"

Ning Bi-Luo sneered, "Of course. So I am. So I always have been. I will keep it so until I die! I won't ever regret it!"

"Is that so? Then three years ago, why did you secretly lead all your men to the north and help Ye Nan-Tian kill a lot of the generals of the Northern Wolves?" Xiu-Er spoke blandly, "Don't you think you were a dog for Ye Nan-Tian? Were you not serving the king of the Kingdom of Chen?"

"Nonsense!" Ning Bi-Luo suddenly opened his eyes and furiously said, "That's different! How could you bring it to the same topic?"

Xiu-Er spoke poignantly, "What you did was helping others! Don't tell me Ye Nan-Tian and the king had given you something as payment. If you said so, I won't be satisfied. You won't die today, or tomorrow, or the day after. You will be alive for a long time. You must know how it is to be begging for death. After that 'a long time', you will realize that death is a very precious and rare dream to you!"

"I said. You can't associate these two things together. They were different essentially!" Ning Bi-Luo shouted.

"Oh? Tell me more!" Xiu-Er spoke indifferently.

"It had nothing to do with Ye Nan-Tian. I didn't help him. In fact... I had an enemy in the generals of the Northern Wolves. So I had to kill them! My clan was slaughtered a long time before that and it was that enemy who did it. You were wrong about me helping Ye Nan-Tian. For me, Ye Nan-Tian was helping me with my revenge."

"Ye Nan-Tian won the battle because I killed those guys, but I didn't care about it and it had nothing to do with me. Ye Nan-Tian alone could surely win that battle without me."

Ning Bi-Luo spoke indifferently, "You said that I was a dog for Ye Nan-Tian. Well it was nonsense. We were just cooperating by coincidence!"

Xiu-Er said, "Then what about the second question?"

Ning Bi-Luo stared at her with disdainful eyes and spoke blandly, "It turns out the wisdom of the Xiu Of The Heavens is just a joke. You actually keep questioning me about serving others?! Don't you see... Even if I have fought in the battle, even if I have fought for the Kingdom of Chen, even if I didn't have an enemy in the other side, it could never prove that I am a dog for the king!"

"It is simply because I am one of the people of the Kingdom of Chen!"

Ning Bi-Luo spoke blandly, "It is about bloodline, about the country. It has nothing to do about personality or personal business. And it certainly has nothing to do about being a dog!"

“Even though the royal court has been offering a reward for my head, when my country is in danger, I will stand forward to fight for her! Because this is the responsibility of the people in the country!”

“I hate most of the men who works in the royal court. I hold no good feelings to the royal family. I don’t give a shit to the king. I am simply a man in the martial world. Even in the martial world, I am an assassin which is always detested by the so-called noble men. But I will fight for my country when she needs me to!”

Ning Bi-Luo sneered, “I don’t want to join you, because firstly, I don’t want to be your dog, secondly... You guys have no idea how to be loyal to your country. You only care about rising and falling... Yet you don’t care about who will rise and who will fall. I am different. I have my roots.”

“Who rises and who falls... It includes my country! I can’t just sit and wait doing nothing!”

Ning Bi-Luo smiled, “So... You can recruit anyone you like, except me, the disreputable assassin!”

“Or let’s just say you don’t have the capability to recruit me, because you can never afford the conditions I want!” Ning Bi-Luo laughed.

His words were solid in the heavy rain and the wild winds.

It became silent!

The world was covered by the rain and the wind.

The rain was getting heavier.

To see it from the top, the raindrops were like endless javelins falling from the sky to the earth!

The mountains were like the ocean. Water was running everywhere...

The deafening sound of the flood had come over from the valley.

Ning Bi-Luo was covered by dirt and gasping. He was in a difficult position. Yet the Xiu Of The Heavens was still in a suit of white clean clothes, like a faery from the heavens.

However, Ye Xiao felt that Ning Bi-Luo contained more of the aura of a human being than Xiu Of The Heavens.

Xiu Of The Heavens looked clean and saintly, yet she was full of the ruthlessness, ‘looking at the world’s suffering, I am still casual and elegant’!

Her white clothes seemed so disgusting in the dark.

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 95: The Purple Lotus Master!**

After a while...

Xiu-Er sighed and said, “I guess we really have no such destiny that would tie us together. Let me fulfill your final wish and send you to your death.”



A sword light flashed!

The end of her words signified Ning Bi-Luo's death!

She swung her sword and a cold light moved quickly towards Ning Bi-Luo's neck.

That was a sword without mercy, without any regard for life!

Suddenly, she changed her motion. The sword light that was filled with killing intent was drawn back and held in front of her chest. - Bang! - It created some sparks. It suddenly illuminated the dark surroundings which bathed in the heavy rain, and then died out quietly.

Her sword which was going to kill became a wall that she could use to defend herself!

"Who dares to initiate such a sneak attack in the dark?" She put down her sword and stood still, with her sharp and cold eyes glancing at the brushwood.

She caught the crystal that was used to attack her and was now held in between her fingers.

It was cold. It was actually an ice cone.

In the brushwood, Ye Xiao humphed and stood up. He spoke in a disdainful voice, "I have heard that the House of Chaotic Storm was full of astuteness and resourcefulness and was the best in the Land of Han-Yang. But you actually do things as bad as compelling people to engage in prostitution. It turns out you are just good at these dirty pressing cunning schemes."

Right now, he did not resemble either Ye Xiao or Feng Zhi-Ling.

He was wearing a new face!

At this moment, he was a slim man with a square face. He was about thirty years old. He was incomparably vigorous. He walked out into the rain with his shoulders steady. It looked like he was trying to take charge of all the raindrops.

He had the vigor of 'peerless in the whole world and unexampled among all the great men' and he was full of confidence.

Xiu-Er was shocked when she saw him.

He casually walked over to her and it gave her a feeling similar to when she interacted with her own master who was so proud and elegant and despised the whole world!

[They... are so similar!]

It immediately aroused her alertness.

[This man must be a peerless superior cultivator!]

It is not ordinary for someone to give off the same impressions as master!]

She was astonished and extremely cautious at the moment, yet she still looked calm and steady. Her face suddenly turned colder and she spoke blandly, "Compelling people to engage in prostitution? You are talking nonsense. May I have your name? Do you realize that you are attempting to be our enemy by

attempting to say such slander. Speaking wrong words could result in you being dragged into hell from the heavens!”

Ning Bi-Luo’s face was initially red and then quickly turned blue. [She is asking me to be the head of their assassins group. That may not be a decent job... I am lucky to have someone standing up for me, but this one actually talks like I am compelled to be a prostitute. So am I good at selling my body or what...

The way this man talks... is really unbelievable.]

Ning Bi-Luo didn’t know that Ye Xiao had to say so because he couldn’t think of anything else to say when he was compelled to appear.

Ning Bi-Luo was a tough guy.

And Ye Xiao believed so.

He thought it was worth his efforts to save such a guy!

Besides... Ning Bi-Luo had once helped his father to kill the Northern Wolves. And he had also saved Ye Xiao once, although Ye Xiao had helped him kill those men that were chasing him. Well, those were different things though. Ning Bi-Luo had saved Ye Xiao while he was weak and helpless, and Ye Xiao helped him in a simple and easy way.

Anyway, Ye Xiao believed that he should save Ning Bi-Luo this time!

It would be a pity if a guy like him was killed.

If Ye Xiao was to simply watch a guy like him die in his sight, it would simply result in a nightmare that he was never be able to get rid of.

So, he had to save him!

The question was how?!

He was not capable enough. That was obvious!

If he acted recklessly, he might fail to save Ning Bi-Luo and would also get himself killed in the process.

While Ye Xiao was collecting his thoughts from within the brushwood, Xiu-Er had already made her move. It all happened very quickly, and in that tense moment, he instinctively took action in order to save Ning Bi-Luo.

It was not his choice; it was his instinct!

He didn’t even think about the consequence when he struck.

After the strike, when he looked at the cold eyes of Xiu-Er looking at him through the rain, he was terrified. [I am absolutely not a match for this woman now!

What should I do?]

Suddenly, he had an idea. He knew it was impossible to escape. There was only one thing he could do, so he casually walked out into the open.

Facing this dangerous situation, he once again displayed the fearless vigor that he had carried in his previous life!

He casually strode forward with his hands on his back and spoke blandly, "It is not important for you to know my identity. The affairs of the people in the martial world that have been caused by the way of the martial world should be solved by the means of the martial world. Now that I am at the sight of injustice, I have to simply render my help."

Xiu-Er calmly stared at him and sneered with her pretty face, "Rendering help at the sight of injustice huh? I didn't know that you are a knightly man... I wonder whether you have heard of this saying 'The one who wants to be a knightly man in the martial world... usually dies early.'"

Ye Xiao smiled blandly, "That is quite true. However, I have rendered my help so many times in my life, yet I am still alive. Even the House of Chaotic Storm has never hurt me, not even a scratch. I wonder whether I am an exception to that saying?"

Xiu-Er's pupils shrank and she asked, "Who are you?"

Ye Xiao really had no other plans to deal with the current situation, so he had to keep playing. He casually put his hands on his back and spoke blandly, "How is Master Bai by the way?"

Xiu-Er was a bit surprised and confused and then she spoke angrily, "Do you really think that it would make me believe you or fear you by mentioning Master Bai?"

Ye Xiao smiled blandly and reached out his hand. A purple cold qi in the shape of a ball suddenly appeared in his hand. The heavy rain couldn't even dampen it. The purple qi slowly transformed into something like a purple jade, and then it unfolded slowly and turned into a small purple lotus. The lotus bloomed in his hand.

The small lotus was vividly purple. It was peaceful and calm in the heavy rain, spreading the aura of mystery. The process that turned it from the purple qi to a purple lotus was magical. However, Ye Xiao's hand didn't move a bit.

It remained still, as if saying that it was only natural.

Yet the purple lotus just appeared in his hand from nothing.

What a magical and fantastic scene!

Immediately when the lotus was formed, an extreme cold qi spread out, enveloping everything within 30 meters of the lotus!

Ye Xiao's hand reached out steadily and his eyes were half-closed. He was staring at the lotus attentively. He spoke casually, "I wonder if you have heard about this from Master Bai?"

Xiu-Er's eyes were filled with surprise again and she looked at it carefully. She looked around the lotus and then spoke blandly, "What is it?"

Her curiosity had calmed Ye Xiao down a lot.

[As long as you don't just come to me and fight like a mad dog, it will be an easy job for me to fool a little girl like you with my great experience.]

Ye Xiao sighed and spoke slowly, "The world is great; the purple lotus is faint. It lives through the ages; it circulates through centuries. It blooms; death comes. It falls; the sky shines. ..."

It was a pet phrase used by a top superior cultivator whom he had killed in his previous life. He was called the Purple Lotus Master.

With the purple lotus, he killed the dissenters; in the universe, he governed worlds!

(紫莲为令·不服者杀;纵横宇内·号令天下!)

However, he was unlucky to mess with the Xiao Monarch. Ye Xiao had chased him for three thousand miles and killed him with his own hands. After that, the whole Purple Lotus Gang was wiped out.

Yet, no one in the Qing-Yun Realm knew about it, because the Purple Lotus Master was always mysterious and the Xiao Monarch always did such things secretly.

At this very moment, Ye Xiao needed to act like someone powerful, so he spoke the phrase.

He was sure that nobody would know about the Purple Lotus Master in the mortal world anyway.

However, when he finished the phrase, Xiu-Er's expression suddenly changed!

She had been calm all along, yet she actually took a deep breath and fearfully stepped back. She asked, "You... you are the Purple Lotus Master?"

Ye Xiao was astonished.

[She... She has actually heard of that guy?

A girl in the mortal world actually knows about the Purple Lotus Master?

The guy was a very mysterious figure in the Qing-Yun Realm. He was always acting strange and it was extremely difficult to see his true face. Many people know about the Purple Lotus, yet, very few of them know about the Purple Lotus Master.]

Ye Xiao pretended to be relieved and said, "Hmm... Your master didn't forget his old friend, I hope."

He was talking politely, yet his mind was agitated!

[The girl actually knows about the Purple Lotus Owner. Her master shouldn't be an enemy of the dead guy, should he? So... In fact... Are they friends or enemies?] Ye Xiao had no idea.

No wonder that the girl had looked at the lotus for a while. She was checking if it was real... wasn't she?

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 96: Promise? Why Did You Save Me?**

Ye Xiao rejoiced in his mind, [Thank god that I acted so well. Even if the dead Purple Lotus Master was alive, he would have failed to make a purple lotus that was better than mine...

Otherwise, I would surely be exposed, wouldn't I?]

Ye Xiao realized that things were going in an unpredictable and strange direction ever since he had shown the purple lotus...

Xiu-Er was visibly more cautious and she asked in a low voice, "I didn't know who you were... It was said that you were hunted by the peerless Xiao Monarch in the Qing-Yun Realm. After that, no one has ever heard about you... We all thought that you were..."

Ye Xiao shook his head slowly and showed hatred on his face. He said, "The Xiao Monarch is indeed the most terrifying person in the Qing-Yun Realm. I am clearly not a match for him. In fact, if he hadn't kept hunting me like a mad dog, how would I have ended up in this realm... Oh."

While he was making up a story, his pulse quickened.

[She actually knows that I hunted the Purple Lotus Master?

That is weird!

Who is this Xiu-Er? And the master behind her? Where are they from?

How come I have never heard of them?

There are not many people who know what happened... Anyone who knows is a great figure in the world... But I don't have any memories about Master Bai of the House of Chaotic Storm. Why...

That is... extremely weird!

Unbelievable!

And the way she talked to me doesn't seem fearful or respectful.

Apparently, she is not afraid of the Purple Lotus Master!

Why is that? Even in the Qing-Yun Realm, there will be no more than 200 people who would dare to talk to the Purple Lotus Master like that. I don't think there is a man named Bai among those 200 people.

She is just a maid, yet she doesn't fear the Purple Lotus Master...]

Ye Xiao was shocked, [This will surely lead to complications later on!]

Xiu-Er had, by now, confirmed that he was the Purple Lotus Master.

After all, she had the same thought process as Ye Xiao, [In the mortal world, there are only the master, Wan-Er and me who know about the Purple Lotus Master!

It is impossible for other people to know about it.

And no one can speak out the pet phrase used by the Purple Lotus Master.]

She then smiled and said, "It is my pleasure to meet you in person. I have some good news for you... Your enemy, the Xiao Monarch was hunted down by the three factions three months ago. He was eventually slaughtered!"

"What the hell!"

The rough words escaped Ye Xiao's lips.

He wasn't pretending this time. He was truly astonished!

[Why does this girl know everything?

She actually knows that I got killed?

What the hell is going on?!

Is there a communicating channel connecting the Qing-Yun Realm and the mortal world?

That... That is too unbelievable!]

"It is true!" Xiu-Er thought that he was shocked by the news itself, so she nodded and said.

For Xiu-Er, it was reasonable for the Purple Lotus Master to be surprised. The Xiao Monarch was arrogant and peerless. Such an invincible figure wouldn't naturally have been killed so easily!

Xiu-Er herself didn't believe it before she confirmed the news three times!

"The Xiao Monarch... He... He actually died..." Ye Xiao showed a strange expression. It was like mourning, and also like regret, or a bit like hatred, but it was mostly an indescribable blankness...

Such expression was exactly what the Purple Lotus Master would have shown if he was alive and had heard the news.

Xiu-Er looked at him and was now certain that it was the Purple Lotus Master who was actually standing before her.

"He actually died... Heh heh heh..." Ye Xiao laughed in a sad way and spoke, "How come he died so soon?"

In Xiu-Er's mind it was naturally translated into 'how can he die so soon before I can get my revenge and kill him myself...'. .

Xiu-Er looked at him and a sense of disdain flashed in her eyes.

She thought, [You are nothing but a loser who was hunted by the Xiao Monarch and escaped to such a low-class world... Yet you are actually thinking about revenge? That is truly just your stupid dream. If you really wanted that revenge, why didn't you go back to take it?

You have no guts to return to the Qing-Yun Realm. That's all. Do you really think you are still that Purple Lotus Master...]

Naturally, she didn't dare to speak it out.

The Purple Lotus Master might be just some garbage for the Xiao Monarch, yet he was still someone she absolutely shouldn't mess with!

Xiu-Er suddenly spoke in low voice, "Are you hurt?"

Ye Xiao became cautious immediately and spoke indifferently, "If I was not... How would I come to this place... It was a sad story of mine anyway. However, I guess I am going to return."

He meant that his wounds were mostly cured, or completely cured.

Xiu-Er glanced at him and said, "Well. Why do you want to save this man?"

Ye Xiao spoke inscrutably, "I surely have my concerns to save him. I am afraid it is inconvenient for me to tell you about it. Would you please do me a favor? What do you think?"

Xiu-Er smiled and said, "Since the Purple Lotus Master has given his word, I must step back... Since this bloody Ning Bi-Luo doesn't want to join us, it will be fine to let him join you... However, now that you are in the mortal world and it seems you are going back to the upper realm soon, I wonder if you could do me a favor too?"

Ye Xiao frowned, "A favor? As a return? I don't want to owe people. Go ahead!"

"I don't dare to talk about returning to you. I just want to ask you to help us with one thing. I don't know what it would be at this moment though. But I will come to you as soon as I have decided upon it..." Xiu-Er smiled, "As long as you promise, I will leave right away."

Ye Xiao increasingly felt that this Xiu-Er and that Master Bai were no ordinary people.

Facing the cruel and well-known Purple Lotus Master, she actually dared to make a request...

She was truly a ticklish person. As a maid was this ticklish, who knew what her master was like!

"You meant you don't have anything that needs my help right now?! I won't make such a promise!" Ye Xiao shook his head stoutly, "If it turns out that you want me to do something that I shall never do or just want me to kill myself for fun, how can I fulfill my promise then? The foundation of a deal was that both sides consider it as a fair deal. Do you really think you have the right to ask me for everything you want like that?!"

Xiu-Er's eyes lit up with a cold glow, [This Purple Lotus Master knows that I have a low cultivation strength, so he actually despises me. I will get to him sooner or later for this.] She was furious, but remained smiling, "You are misunderstanding me. My request will never cause you any embarrassment. It will go no further than requesting you to kill a target."

"Well it is not a difficult thing... to kill a person... In this world, even killing a king is an easy job." Ye Xiao acted vigorous and said, "In that case, I will say yes, since your request is just that simple."

[I just need to get off all this today. And you can go to the Purple Lotus Master if you want him to fulfill his promise, only if you can find him...]

“You are a straightforward man. I will leave Ning Bi-Luo to you then.” Xiu-Er’s white clothes fluttered. Her sword flashed and then disappeared. She was standing still, slim and tall, but the sword was nowhere in sight. It was really well hidden.

“If you have time, please come to the House of Chaotic Storm to talk to our master. He would be very happy to see you.” Xiu-Er spoke with smile. When she spoke the word ‘master’, she was obviously proud and restrained.

Ye Xiao realized that this Master Bai must be at a higher position than the Purple Lotus Master!

He then smiled and said, “When I am fully recovered, I will naturally go visit Master Bai and Lady Xiu-Er.”

“You will be welcomed anytime. It is quite a difficult thing to have a chat with an old friend in this mortal world...” Her clothes floated and she flew up like a fairy. She moved backward and spoke gently with a peaceful smile, “See you soon.”

And then a stream of white silk rushed away. Suddenly in the rain, there appeared a pristine white bridge. It gave the impression that it would lead you to the end of the world...

Xiu-Er’s slim body was walking on the bridge in the sky. She looked so beautiful and peaceful. She appeared to be moving slowly, but was infact travelling at a rapid pace. With her floating white clothes, soon she disappeared in the rain.

She didn’t even glance at Ning Bi-Luo.

Her white clothes didn’t even get a raindrop or any dirt on itself!

She came clean and white and she left clean and white.

Under the boundless heavy rain.

...

Ye Xiao moved closer to Ning Bi-Luo who sat on the floor, looking at him with extreme fear and asked, “Who are you? What is Purple Lotus Master? Why did you save me? What do you want?”

Ning Bi-Luo was known as the No.1 assassin in the world, yet after all, that title only applied to the mortal world.

He knew nothing about the Qing-Yun Realm.

“You just asked me four questions in a row. You really can talk in one breath! Well you don’t need to know who I am or where I’m from. I will only tell you one thing. I saved you just because I could. That’s all.” Ye Xiao spoke indifferently, “Can you move?”

Ning Bi-Luo gritted his teeth and held his hands on the floor. He stood up constrainedly and took a deep breath. He said, “Sure! My legs and arms are all fine. Why can’t I.”

### [Realms In The Firmament](#)

#### **Chapter 97: Anti-tracking!**

Ning Bi-Luo stood up, but his legs were trembling.



Apparently, he had reached the limits of his strength. He was supporting his body with just willpower. It seemed that taking a single step would cause him to fall down.

He was truly a tough guy!

Ye Xiao stepped forward and held his arm.

He wouldn't want to see a tough guy embarrassed. Not even in front of his own eyes.

He spoke blandly, "Don't push yourself. It will be a big joke if you let yourself fall and die because of it. Including this time, I have saved your ass twice already. I don't want to learn that I have saved a dead man!"

Ning Bi-Luo raised his head and his eyes became sharp, "You? It's you?!"

"Hush! Don't you feel tired shouting that loudly? Do you really think that you are at the peak of your health? Do you really want to make everyone know of your location?!" Ye Xiao pointed his finger upwards.

Ning Bi-Luo stopped talking, yet his face showed that he was thrilled.

[My savior!]

He had been hunted and nearly died that time. Ye Xiao was the one who saved his life! Nobody else knew about it... So when Ning Bi-Luo was sure Ye Xiao was his savior when he heard what Ye Xiao said!

Ye Xiao took out a Pei-Yuan Dan Bead and put it into Ning Bi-Luo's mouth right away.

Ning Bi-Luo was a bit annoyed being fed forcibly, yet Ye Xiao was his savior who had saved him twice, so he didn't resist. When the dan bead went into his mouth, he felt a stream of hot qi suddenly scatter inside his mouth and then rush into his belly. After that, the qi spread around his Jing and Mai. Suddenly, he felt his weak body become indescribably comfortable.

His dantian had been empty, yet now as the hot qi kept running into it, it produced some energy. And then the disengaged qi in his dantian started to gather together. His whole body had regained energy and vigor in a matter of seconds.

Ning Bi-Luo was spirited and said, "What is it? It is actually so wonderful."

Ye Xiao spoke blandly, "Nothing special. Just a supreme dan bead!"

Ning Bi-Luo was shocked again.

He stopped talking.

[He has saved me twice. And now he has given me the precious supreme dan bead!]

I continue to owe him more and more.

Considering the return...]

Ning Bi-Luo thought, [His cultivation capability must be enormous. He is at least stronger than Xiu Of The Heavens. He made the girl leave by only telling her his name. He is at least in a level that is higher than

the limit of this world... What can I possibly give him in return? Things I have will only embarrass me if I take them out!]

Ye Xiao held Ning Bi-Luo and they headed to the city slowly. When they were walking, the Pei-Yuan Dan Bead continued operating. Ning Bi-Luo's body started to operate his cultivation automatically. He had already recovered half of his strength. It was not enough for him to fight yet, but it was enough to let him move freely.

Ye Xiao naturally stopped holding him.

Such heavy rain was truly rare. It didn't let off at all. It rained cats and dogs on the whole world.

They made sure that it was safe around them and then took a break in an abandoned shed.

Ning Bi-Luo was exhausted and Ye Xiao had experience astonishment.

"Thanks." Ning Bi-Luo rested for a while and then stood up again.

He didn't seem to like sitting. As long as he was able to, he would stand, "I am not a man who is good at saying sweet words. Anyway, if there is anything you need me for, just give me a word. I will do whatever I am capable of for you."

Ye Xiao smiled and looked at him without saying a word.

Ning Bi-Luo was annoyed, "Are you looking down upon me? Are you thinking that you won't have anything that a man like me can help with?"

Ye Xiao smiled, "No. I am just curious since you are exhausted and you have time to rest now, why aren't you sitting down?"

Ning Bi-Luo was quiet for a while and then spoke, "Do you think I don't want to rest. I am an assassin. An assassin has no comfortable life. As long as I am still standing, I can stay alert. Once I sit down... and get used to it, laziness will keep me down forever. Even if I can resist the laziness and stand up again, it won't be the same! I shall just give up 'sitting' and get used to standing. That's all."

Ye Xiao nodded, "That's true. That's reasonable. You are truly the No.1 assassin in the Land of Han-Yang!"

He stopped and then continued, "However, I don't have anything you can help with. I am just being honest." He stood up and spoke blandly, "Now that you are fine, and you have enough energy to defend yourself, I think I should better be off now."

Ning Bi-Luo wouldn't have thought that in the raining night, someone actually saved him and asked nothing for return. He was surprised, "You... You saved me for nothing? Really?"

Ye Xiao became silent for a while and then spoke with his back to him, "At the beginning, I had a purpose. But... You said that you wouldn't serve anybody... So I don't want to push you. Besides... It is never a bad thing to have another friend in the martial world. You don't need to bear it in mind."

Right before he finished talking, he had disappeared in the heavy rain.

He had carried the thought of recruiting Ning Bi-Luo.

But as he said, Ning Bi-Luo had shown his attitude that he didn't want to serve anybody.

It wouldn't be helpful for Ye Xiao to force him.

It would break his faith in Ye Xiao if he were to push him around as his savior. It was impossible for him to do so!

Moreover... He knew that he was really too weak at the moment. If Ning Bi-Luo found out his true status and his true strength, it would be too embarrassing for him. Currently, no one in the House of Ye was a match for Ning Bi-Luo.

Although Ye Xiao believed that Ning Bi-Luo wasn't an ungrateful guy, he knew that they would feel very uncomfortable if Ning Bi-Luo found out the truth.

Ye Xiao was a carefree guy, so he decided against recruiting him upon pondering deeply.

He couldn't recruit Ning Bi-Luo anyway, so he decided to just leave and let Ning Bi-Luo remember him.

Ning Bi-Luo watched Ye Xiao leaving. He wanted to say something, yet he didn't. He could only stare blankly.

"At the beginning, I had a purpose. But... You said that you wouldn't serve anybody... So I don't want to push you."

What Ye Xiao had said made Ning Bi-Luo thrilled.

"What he wanted, was to recruit me..."

"Yet he gave up after he heard what I said to Xiu Of The Heavens. And he just left. He didn't even say anything about what he wanted... Apparently, he is a man with extreme pride!"

"He didn't want me to struggle in difficulty, and he didn't want to be embarrassed too. So he just went away and left everything behind."

Ning Bi-Luo was thinking.

"But I am not an ungrateful man, am I?"

"However... Do I really want to be his underling? Isn't it against my will to serve him?" Ning Bi-Luo was collecting his thoughts but couldn't find any answers. He eventually shook his head. [I can't resist my will. I can't be your servant. But I will offer my help anytime you need me!]

He then rushed into the rain like a speedy arrow.

He was heading in the same direction as Ye Xiao.

He was at the Grandmaster Levels of Tianyuan. In the Land of Han-Yang, he was one of the most powerful men. Although he only recovered half of his strength, he was still much stronger than Ye Xiao.

Ye Xiao wasn't in hurry when he was heading back to the city, and he wasn't in his best condition, so he didn't use the One Laughter in Skyline or Lunisolar Shadow. He wasn't moving very fast.

That's why Ning Bi-Luo could easily sense his trace before he arrived at the city.

Ning Bi-Luo was surprised. In fact, he was shocked. And then he thought that Ye Xiao must have known that he would follow up... So Ye Xiao intended to let him catch up.

Ning Bi-Luo was convinced that Ye Xiao was much stronger than him. Even in his best condition, he would never be a match for Ye Xiao. Besides, he was hurt at the moment!

However, Ye Xiao hadn't turned his back at all.

The next moment, something happened which surprised Ning Bi-Luo more. When Ye Xiao was about to get into the Chen-Xing City, he actually took a breath before he leaped over the tall and huge wall.

The rain was hitting Ning Bi-Luo's face. He was astonished.

He really couldn't understand it. What Ye Xiao had shown had really confused him.

[He actually took a breath before he jumped over the wall?! It was nothing but a wall. Yet he actually needed to take a breath? That... That was even worse than me! No. It was much worse than me... What is going on? Maybe he was hiding his capability, but who was he hiding from?]

[If he wasn't hiding anything... What gave him guts to save me from the grasp of Xiu Of The Heavens?]

Ning Bi-Luo was confused.

And then he recalled the first time Ye Xiao had saved him.

That day, he was hunted by the men of the Boundless Lord. He was wounded and he had to operate a lot of healing martial arts to cure himself. He was trying to leave secretly after he got through the fight, yet his enemies found him...

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 98: How is it possible?**

Ning Bi-Luo remembered that the three men who had been hunting him didn't have high cultivation levels. They were just at the first stage of the Grade of Tianyuan. However, Ning Bi-Luo had run out of energy at that time. Because his secret martial art had rebounded onto himself, he was badly weakened. If not for the assailants fearing his reputation and not daring to fight head on, he would have died a long time ago.

His enemies didn't fight him using their utmost efforts, but he was badly injured. When he was escaping, he met Ye Xiao. He showed mercy towards him and pushed him away and was surprisingly saved by him. He remembered the face. He would never forget it.

And he would never forget the shocking power of the gelid qi.

However, this time, Ye Xiao had changed his appearance. That was the reason why Ning Bi-Luo couldn't recognize him.

Until Ye Xiao said 'I have saved you twice' to disclose his identity after saving him from the Xiu Of The Heavens, Ning Bi-Luo was sure Ye Xiao was his savior.

As Ning Bi-Luo thought deeper about it, there seemed to be many strange facts popping up here and there.

Things seemed to be suspicious to him at the moment. The last time in the long street was his first contact with Ye Xiao. While he was busy fleeing, he protected Ye Xiao from danger. It was rather easy for him to push Ye Xiao that time.

If Ye Xiao had been a peerless cultivator, it wouldn't be so easy to push him away. In fact, Ning Bi-Luo had pushed Ye Xiao away so easily, although he was weak at that moment. That meant Ye Xiao was truly not that strong!

However, it didn't matter how strong Ye Xiao was, and it didn't matter how he saved Ning Bi-Luo. It was not important to Ning Bi-Luo! The truth was that Ye Xiao actually saved Ning Bi-Luo!

Although Ye Xiao was weak, he had saved Ning Bi-Luo twice. For Ning Bi-Luo, this fact was more than enough to be grateful.

However, what Ning Bi-Luo noticed was that this Purple Lotus Master seemed to be totally different from the guy in the long street. Different appearances. Different behaviors. Different ethos. They were totally different men!

Well, he was right about it though. That day in the long street, Ye Xiao was 'Feng Zhi-Ling'. The funny part was that Xiu-Er knew Feng Zhi-Ling well. So apparently, Ye Xiao couldn't show up looking like Feng Zhi-Ling this time.

That's why Ye Xiao disguised himself with the appearance of the true Purple Lotus Master. So of course, Ning Bi-Luo could believe they were the same person!

While Ning Bi-Luo thought further, he noticed a few more suspicious points. He was confused.

At the moment, Ye Xiao had disappeared. Ning Bi-Luo followed up in a hurry. He was so confused that he had an incredible urge to find out the truth.

He climbed over the wall effortlessly, as if flying. Ye Xiao was unable to do it as breezily and elegantly as he could.

The capability of a man in the Grandmaster Levels of Tianyuan wasn't a joke.

Even though it was raining heavily, he could still sense the direction where Ye Xiao was heading and followed him silently.

On the other hand, Ye Xiao had absolutely no idea that he was being followed.

He thought that Ning Bi-Luo would just leave after he had gone away.

The capital was truly a place full of troubles for Ning Bi-Luo at the moment. Even though he wouldn't encounter the Xiu Of The Heavens, he would still be in a tough situation because he was now a rat on the street in the capital...

Anyway, Ye Xiao believed that Ning Bi-Luo would never follow him!

It was quite a simple truth. [You don't want to serve anybody, so I won't force you to. I have saved you twice and I don't have any requests from you... It all clearly pointed the truth that you owe me a lot and I owe you nothing...]

Then what reason do you have to follow me?]

Apparently, he was wrong about it this time. Even a wise man who had made a thousand right decisions could make mistakes after all. From his perspective, he had nothing more to do with Ning Bi-Luo, but from Ning Bi-Luo's perspective, he couldn't understand how the two men who had saved him could be the same guy. Besides, he was saved twice and was unable to repay the debts. So he was upset. So he eventually decided to follow Ye Xiao!

Ye Xiao didn't know he was being followed, but he was cautious as usual. He had changed directions several times to check out if anybody was following him and then quietly went back to his house when he felt safe.

What he had done was enough to escape from most of the people in this world.

It was even enough to escape from those top superior cultivators like the Xiu Of The Heavens.

Yet, it was not enough to escape from Ning Bi-Luo.

Ning Bi-Luo was one of the most capable cultivators in this world, yet he was still far from being the No.1 cultivator. However, he was the No.1 assassin in the Land of Han-Yang.

Tracking and sneaking were the special skills of an assassin.

He could sneak away by taking advantage of the tiniest of opportunity and flee far away, even when facing someone who was much stronger than him...

With the same line of reasoning, it was never a difficult task for him to track people whom others were unable to track.

He was the best assassin and also the best tracker!

That was why he could catch up with Ye Xiao.

But he was surprised!

From the whole tracking process, he was sure about one thing; his savior was not a top superior cultivator like he had thought; instead, he was quite weak in cultivation.

He found that Ye Xiao's cultivation capability was far lower than his own and was even under the Grade of Tianyuan!

According to that, Ning Bi-Luo began to speculate that this Purple Lotus Master could be the same guy who was at the long street. They were both men with a low cultivation capability.

Yet he had been saved by this man twice from the hands of some superior cultivators who were at the Grade of Tianyuan!

That was however the first strange thing.

There was second strange thing... He found that Ye Xiao was extremely cautious, even more cautious than himself. In such a heavy rain, Ye Xiao was sure that nobody would follow him, yet he changed his direction for dozens of times. Even though Ning Bi-Luo was quite good at tracking, he had nearly lost him several times.

In fact, he had lost him, but he had a strong spiritual sensation, had abundance of experience in tracking, and he had recovered most of his strength, so he was luckily able to get back on track.

If he had been lacking in any of these three departments, he could never have kept up with Ye Xiao!

So he was sure about one thing, [In this world, nobody except me can keep following him. Others would surely be left behind! That is an absolute fact!]

“Well maybe there is another one who can do the same as me... Red In The Sky. Maybe he can catch up. Who knows!”

Ning Bi-Luo murmured.

He couldn't think of anyone else who was as capable in tracking as himself. He thought that Ye Xiao was more lubricious than a loach, more deceitful than a fox!

Finally, Ning Bi-Luo saw Ye Xiao enter the House of Ye. Even though he was an experienced man, he couldn't help being astonished.

[This guy... is actually... from General Ye Nan-Tian's house?]

He then flew into the house like a wind without hesitation.

The rainy dark night was a best cover for a stalker.

He arrived at the roof of Ye Xiao's room easily and lowered his body.

Ye Xiao entered his room and finally took a breath of relief. He thought that everything was settled!

He was preparing to return to his true appearance, yet he had a strange feeling and he didn't know why.

He felt like he was being watched by someone else. It made him feel uncomfortable!

“What is wrong? Am I followed?” Ye Xiao murmured in mind.

He then jumped up and rushed into the rain again. - Poof!- He got to the roof immediately.

When he was going to check around, he saw Ning Bi-Luo lying in front of him!

At that moment, Ye Xiao was shocked!

And Ning Bi-Luo was shocked too!

[You have returned to your house... I am already lying on your roof... Yet you actually came out again!

Could you even be more cautious buddy...]

The stalking specialist Ning Bi-Luo hadn't thought that Ye Xiao would come out again. So when Ye Xiao was standing beside him, he was still lying on the roof like a fool...

“Oh! It is you!” When Ye Xiao saw Ning Bi-Luo lying on the roof like a fool, he couldn’t help feeling a bit dizzy!

[What the hell! I was so cautious all the way back, yet I actually missed this guy!

He could actually follow me to my own house and I actually failed to notice it...]

At this moment, Ye Xiao was rather frustrated.

At the same time, he felt an eagerness to improve himself. [If I am what I was in my previous life, do you really think that you could stalk me? In the past, I could kill you by simply breathing out! Damn it! I am too weak!]

After a while, they both entered Ye Xiao’s room and looked at each other without uttering a word.

It was raining so heavily that staying outside in the rain was simply out of the question. When Ye Xiao discovered that it was Ning Bi-Luo, he stopped being contentious and said, “Come on in.”

Ning Bi-Luo was stunned and he just followed him in. It seemed he was still unable to understand the whole situation.

“Well... This... This is your room?” Ning Bi-Luo sat on the luxurious chair. He was a bit speechless.

“Yes.” Ye Xiao wiped and dried his clothes with a towel.

Ning Bi-Luo didn’t use such an inconvenient way. He naturally use the method that people of the martial world usually did: Operating the Qi!

Some mist appeared around his body right away and then his clothes became dry in just a second...

“Is... Is this your home?” Ning Bi-Luo was still a bit blank.

[How... How is it possible?]

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 99: How To Be Indifferent**

There were very few things in the world that could make Ning Bi-Luo feel shocked to this extent.

Yet what happened at that moment had really astonished him to an unprecedented degree.

“What are you talking about... This is my room. What else can it be if not my home?” Ye Xiao showed his back to him while carefully removing the disguise on his face.

There was no need for him to wear a disguise now, so he decided to show some sincerity.

“I see. It turns out you are Ye Nan-Tian! The great general! No wonder there has been no one who knows about your background. It turns out you are from the higher realm and you are here to escape your troubles! You are so weak now. Is it because you are suffering some illness?”

Ning Bi-Luo looked at Ye Xiao’s back. He was enlightened and said, “Hmm... Aren’t you supposed to stay in the north? Why are you here...”



“Now I know why you saved me. You knew me for a long time...”

Ye Xiao felt funny and he turned around showing Ning Bi-Luo a big smile, “I am not the General Ye.”

At the moment, he was wearing his true face.

His handsome face which was a bit boyish was revealed to Ning Bi-Luo.

Ning Bi-Luo was astonished when he saw his boyish look!

[Damn it! I made a wrong guess again?]

“You... You, you, you...” Ning Bi-Luo opened his mouth and looked at the face which belonged to a boy who was younger than 18. At that moment, he felt his brain exploding.

That was a feeling of ‘the whole world went wrong’ in his brain.

Ning Bi-Luo thought that the Purple Lotus Master was the great General Ye Nan-Tian. That conclusion could perfectly explain every question in his mind. However, when Ye Xiao’s true face was revealed to him, those questions in his mind returned once again!

His brain was blank for a long while.

Ye Xiao gave him a big smile, “What? Is it really that surprising?”

Now he had clearly seen the No.1 assassin’s face.

He was slim; he was neither tall nor short, only in average height, a little bit shorter than Ye Xiao himself. He was not handsome, but not ugly either.

His eyes looked like there was an ocean in them; they were sharp like swords.

He would be absolutely inconspicuous amongst a crowd. He truly had the first quality to be an assassin - inconspicuousness. However, when such a man burst out, he would be shining like a star. He would shock the whole world within a few seconds!

Yet it seemed that he was not very up to standards at the moment...

Because right now... he was looking at Ye Xiao’s face with his mouth trembling. After a long while, he had finally pulled himself together and sat on the chair dispiritedly. He spoke weakly, “Please tell me the truth. Is the man who have saved me twice really you? Isn’t he someone else?”

Ye Xiao laughed, “What? You have a problem with it? Do you think I need to lie to you about it?”

“It turns out... Twice, you have only shown me your disguised face... There was only one truth. You are weak.” Ning Bi-Luo’s appearance was quite funny at the moment. His expression was changing continuously.

Ye Xiao was bland. He didn’t reply, but only collected the thoughts in his mind, [Screw you. I have saved you twice. You have some words to say. That’s fine. But the last sentence was truly unnecessary!

What do you mean... ‘weak’!]

Ning Bi-Luo was lost in his thoughts. He finally sighed and then spoke again, "I understand... I understand why you want to recruit me... You are so weak at the moment, so you definitely need a man like me. It is indeed rather difficult to protect yourself in the capital during such a miserable time, since you are weak."

Ye Xiao spoke blandly, "What a pity. You won't serve anybody."

He was a bit upset, [This guy... is truly not good at talking. He keeps mentioning something he shouldn't. I am weak indeed, but that's not his business. Does he really need to mention it again and again?]

Ning Bi-Luo lowered his head and thought. After a while, he said, "I am sorry. Even though you have saved me twice and that made me owe you two lives... When I think about bowing in front of others and waiting for orders... I feel terrible and frustrated. So..."

Ye Xiao understood him. He nodded. He had already thought about it.

The reason why Ning Bi-Luo could become the No.1 assassin in the world is his pride. So Ye Xiao said, "In fact, you don't need to feel vexatious. I never want to force you into anything."

Ning Bi-Luo understood what it meant. If he hadn't followed Ye Xiao, he wouldn't need to be vexatious like this.

He was suffering from his own actions, wasn't he?

"But, how can I pay you back?" Ning Bi-Luo asked embarrassedly.

"Heh heh. Have I ever mentioned anything... about paying me back?" Ye Xiao smiled blandly, "You have your faith to insist. You have your path to walk on. And I have mine. We are the same kind. I understand you."

"So, whatever you think you should do, just do it." Ye Xiao said peacefully, "Don't care about anything between you and me. They are nothing but turns in life."

"But I do care. How can I not?" Ning Bi-Luo smiled bitterly.

Ye Xiao was speechless.

[Now you care. Yet you told me seriously that you won't serve me. What do you want?

What the hell is wrong with this guy!]

"Is there anything I can do for you at the moment?" Ning Bi-Luo seriously asked, "I can do it for you in any case. I will talk about leaving after that. It can be anything!"

"Unlucky for me. I don't have anything for you to do right now!" Ye Xiao refused stoutly.

He had his own pride too.

[You don't want to serve anybody. I won't force anybody.

You have your insistence. I have mine. We have the same quality!]

“Can’t you just give me a chance to pay you back? Do you want me carry this heart of regret for the rest of my life!” Ning Bi-Luo asked with frustration.

“Heh heh. It won’t take long. There will be a chance.” Ye Xiao spoke ambiguously, “Just be patient. There will be a chance for you to pay me back soon.”

Ning Bi-Luo sighed in mind.

He understood Ye Xiao. He knew that even if there was a day that Ye Xiao would need his help, he was sure that Ye Xiao would never ask for it.

And he didn’t know when Ye Xiao would need his help in the future!

Ning Bi-Luo was a proud man. The guy in front of him was young and a bit laddish, yet he was also an extremely proud guy. He knew that Ye Xiao was even prouder than himself!

“I want to rebuilt my assassination union.” Ning Bi-Luo spoke in a low voice.

“Oh.” Ye Xiao had clean up himself and walked to his bed. He casually took off his shoes and then lied on the bed. He also put both his feet on the bed casually. He was a bit impolite anyway, as there was still a guest in the room.

Yet Ning Bi-Luo understood that Ye Xiao acted this way because he didn’t want to talk further. He knew that Ye Xiao was telling him to leave now.

“I want your advice, please.” Ning Bi-Luo said.

They both understood that Ning Bi-Luo was saying yes to his recruitment. Ning Bi-Luo was still a bit resisting this though.

Yet he had no other choice, since Ye Xiao had saved him twice.

[I will establish an assassination union for you as my return.]

Ye Xiao spoke blandly, “That’s unfortunate. I am not an assassin, so I don’t have any advice. I think I should better keep silent in front of a specialist.”

Ning Bi-Luo stood up and said, “I have nothing to say.”

He walked several steps and spoke again, “I won’t leave the capital for the next several days.”

Ye Xiao spoke blandly, “As you wish. The world is so big and you are a free man.”

He raised his head and spoke seriously, “Ning Bi-Luo, do not take what I do for you as an exchange of interests! We are men of the martial world. It is nothing but only fate... Why take it as a deed to heart?”

Ning Bi-Luo was stunned and then he spoke embarrassedly, “Fine then. I am off now. I won’t tell anybody about you. You have my word.”

Ye Xiao spoke peacefully, “I have never told you anything. Ning Bi-Luo, as a man in the martial world, you are a bit too calculative. You don’t need to!”

Ning Bi-Luo smiled embarrassedly and thought, [Come on man. I owe you my life twice. And you won't give me any chance to pay you back. How can I not be calculative? If I just ignore it, doesn't it make me a graceless and ungrateful man!]

He walked by the window and then stopped. He spoke in a low voice, "Lord Ye, let's all step back a bit. I can serve you three years. In three years, I will follow your orders. After three years I become a free man. How about that?"

Ye Xiao laughed, "No! I don't want it!"

And then he continued, "It is wet and rainy outside. Be safe... Don't forget to close my window when you leave, please."

Ning Bi-Luo was refused again.

Three years was the limit of what he can do. Yet Ye Xiao refused it so stoutly. Ning Bi-Luo understood that Ye Xiao was too proud to accept it as he had refused Ye Xiao once.

Ye Xiao would never accept this repayment.

For Ning Bi-Luo, it was not charity; it was the biggest compromise he could make!

He then sighed with frustration and left. As Ye Xiao wished, he closed the window gently.

Ning Bi-Luo heard Ye Xiao spoke inside, "Now you have done one thing for me, haven't you? From now on, you don't owe me anything. Go and feel relaxed. You are an assassin. I am from the General's House. We are in different sides. We have different paths. There is no need to care too much about each other."

And then the light was off inside.

Ning Bi-Luo was upset, [What I have done for him was only closing the window for him as he wished.

Can it really be as important as saving my life twice?]

...

## [Realms In The Firmament](#)

### **Chapter 100: Tough Time For The Salesroom**

Ning Bi-Luo realized that Ye Xiao was speaking naturally. There was no anger or displeasure in his voice. It was spoken in a peaceful context. Ning Bi-Luo knew that Ye Xiao truly didn't care about it.

[You can be indifferent, but I... Can I?]

Ning Bi-Luo stayed on the roof in the heavy rain for a long time. Eventually he sighed and flew away.

Ye Xiao smiled in the dark and murmured, "As an assassin, he is cute... However, he underestimated me. If I am a man who always does favors for benefits, I won't risk my own life to save you, will I?"

"Besides... If the No. 1 assassin becomes my servant... Then he will no longer be the No.1 assassin. He will even fail to be an assassin... The change of one's faith will lower one's strength..."

“So I will never constrain you by asking you to repay the favor.”

“Have a safe trip, my friend.”

Ye Xiao fell asleep quickly.

The past events had truly left him exhausted.

...

The next day, in the Ling-Bao Hall Salesroom.

Ling-Bao Hall had also been through a busy time these days.

Since the big boss had arrived, the atmosphere had become tense in the Ling-Bao Hall. The whole place was full of anxiety.

Especially Master Guan, Guan Wan-Shan. He was having a really difficult time.

He had been looking forward for Feng Zhi-Ling’s arrival.

The big boss, the big fat guy Wan Zheng-Hao had badly lost his weight these days. That was an efficient way to lose weight. He was like a mad man walking round and round in the salesroom everyday.

Hmm. Regarding his body type, it might be a bit inappropriate to describe it as ‘walking round and round’; ‘rolling round and round’ should be better...

Every time he saw Guan Wan-Shan, he would grab him and ask, “Did Feng Zhi-Ling come? He is here, isn’t he? No?”

If he saw Guan Wan-Shan ten times in a day, then he will ask the questions about Feng Zhi-Ling at least twenty times.

When he let Guan Wan-Shan go, he would add, “Why hasn’t he come yet? When will he come?”

During their conversation, he will ask some other questions from time to time. That was why he will ask this one question ‘at least’ twenty times a day.

“He couldn’t be dead, could he?”

“Why is he still not coming... What’s going with that bastard?”

“Why isn’t he here yet? Do you know what happened to him? Did he die for some venereal disease or what?”

“I think maybe I should send someone to check the brothel. What do you think?”

“Why is he not coming? You. Explain it to me...”

It truly brought Guan Wan-Shan a painful headache. He was nearly freaked out.

It wasn’t overstated. Everyone who had been asked the same questions dozens times a day would be freaked out. And his IQ would never stop being reduced...

Guan Wan-Shan thought that if the big boss kept asking him, he would go mad. [Feng Zhi Ling... He is not my son, is he? How can I possibly know that when he will come or why he doesn't come? You keep asking me. Who can I ask? Explain? What on earth can I explain? What clue do I have to explain? Explain your ass!

But... I can not turn down my boss, can I?]

Every time after he had humbly answered all these meaningless and repeated questions, he felt like he wanted to go mad. Maybe the next time, he would really go crazy...

As for now, when Guan Wan-Shan noticed the big boss, the only thing he wanted to do was to run away.

However, the salesroom was not a spacious place after all. Even he wanted to escape, there was not many places that he could hide.

He just couldn't escape the big boss, could he?

Day after day, the big boss was getting more and more anxious. Instead of coming across Guan Wan-Shan, he ran to Guan Wan-Shan's room shouting in a hurry, "Has he come? Any news? When will he come?"

When he failed to find Guan Wan-Shan, he asked everybody in the salesroom to look for Guan Wan-Shan, "Bring Master Guan to me now!"

So sometimes Guan Wan-Shan was brought to the big boss.

And then the big boss started his questions, "Has he come? Any news? When will he come?"

Guan Wan-Shan was hearing the same vicious spells when he heard the questions. His face would turn pale and his eyes would become blank and straight. Sometimes he just wanted to die.

He really wanted to shout out, [Damn it! You keep asking the same questions eight hundred times a day. Do you think it is funny?]

However, he had thought of this words for eight million times and still couldn't dare to speak out.

He was working under the big boss's place. He couldn't be so offensive. He had to answer the boss's questions in a proper way!

In fact, the big boss, Wan Zheng-Hao was more upset himself.

He was so upset that he nearly wanted to kill himself.

He had made an awesome decision to store such a precious treasure. It was kept in his place for three thousand years. Yet he never had seen its true value. Every time when there was an auction, he desperately wanted it to be taken away.

For three thousand years, nobody wanted it. Even when it was bought several times, it would be returned in a short while. He had been so upset about it, because he thought that it was a curse set to have him humiliated.

In fact, it was this very treasure that brought him to today's glory. It was obviously a blessing to him. Why did he so desperately wanted to get rid of it?

He was out of his mind... Wasn't he?

Now, it was finally sold. Yet right after it was gone, he realized that it was a priceless superior treasure.

That was truly, a huge tragedy.

When he knew the truth, he almost hung himself right away.

That was just a normal thing for him...

Everyone knew that the Ling-Bao Hall was inherited from generation to generation. No matter who became the big boss, he needed to change his name to Wan Zheng-Hao.

That was the tradition of Ling-Bao Hall.

However, only Wan Zheng-Hao himself knew the truth.

All those heritors were actually the same guy... Wan Zheng-Hao himself. The inheriting matter was just a cover.

Nobody knew about it.

"It is lucky that nobody knows the truth. Otherwise I will be seriously disgraced this time... I have to get the Cosmic Hades back..." Wan Zheng-Hao was pacing around anxiously.

[I may die if I don't get it back soon enough.

There is a slayer that I should never mess with staring at me every day...]

In his room, the middle-aged man watched Wan Zheng-Hao pacing and spoke indifferently, "It won't do any help pacing around. Wan Zheng-Hao. You brilliant bastard. You had kept such a precious treasure for so many years and you actually never have told me anything."

Wan Zheng-Hao was sweating because of fear. His muscles were trembling as if dancing and he spoke weakly, "I didn't know its value, did I... I thought it was just some garbage that kept bringing me disgrace... Ah. I was so blind..."

The middle-aged man sneered and said, "I have made such great efforts to keep you alive. I have taught you the secret martial arts so that you can prolong your life. I have helped you make your Ling-Bao Hall the No. 1 salesroom in the whole land... Wan Zheng-Hao, and you pay me back with all this?"

Wan Zheng-Hao was extremely frightened and said, "Please. Please... I didn't know the truth about the Cosmic Hades. It is true... If I knew it, I wouldn't put it in the auctions so many times, would I? I wouldn't sell it for only several millions silver bars, right? It was valuable only in the hand of the outstanding superior masters like you. Besides, if I knew that you would like it, I would just give it to you as a gift. If you just gave me a slight piece of favor, it would be more valuable than billions of gold in the mortal world... There is no way I could be so stupid..."

The middle-aged man frowned and thought, [That is true. He is talking reasonably indeed.

It was just like a piece of dark gold being regarded as mud by a ignorant poor little rat... who didn't think it pretty and valuable, instead he think it had the same color with shit...]

"Any news now?" he then asked, "That guy... Feng Zhi-Ling?"

Wan Zheng-Hao wanted to kill himself when he heard the question.

Recently he had been asking Guan Wan-Shan the same question many times over, and actually he had been asked this same question by the middle-aged man for the same amount of times. What Guan Wan-Shan felt was exactly what he felt.

Guan Wan-Shan was just freaked out being asked while Wan Zheng-Hao was being threatened... That were quite different things.

"Not at the moment." Wan Zheng-Hao was upset, because he knew what the middle-aged man would say next.

"Why don't you have any information yet..."

"When will you have anything..."

"How long do you want me to wait? Do you know how much time you have wasted me..."

These words had been said several hundred times these days. Wan Zheng-Hao could even recite them in reverse.

- Bang! - Suddenly the door was opened. The next moment, the old man Guan Wan-Shan rushed in like a vigorous seven-teen years old guy yelling excitingly, "The... That... He... He has come!"

The two men in the room were shocked at the same time.

They kept their eyes wide opened staring at the old man who looked like he had taken aphrodisiac. They were stunned.

The room they were staying was a place that nobody else was allowed to entered. Guan Wan-Shan was in a high position in the Ling-Bao Hall and he knew about this room, but usually he never dared to get in. What happened to him?

Guan Wan-Shan shouted and then gasped. He was holding his knees. He was old after all. He got tired after being excited for a moment. His face was in red, not because he had moved tempestuously, because he was too excited.

[Oh thank god! The days that I need to be asked the same questions eight million times a day have finally come to the end...

The guy... Feng Zhi-Ling has finally arrived!]

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