

Great Teacher 21

Chapter 21 -

“Qi Shengjia...”

Just when Zhu Ting wanted to announce that Qi Shengjia had given up and Peng Wanli was the victor, he suddenly heard the word ‘present’ echoing through the entire battle hall.

Qi Shengjia dashed forward and leaped when he got near the battle stage.

The sparse and fragmentary sounds of whispering rang out. At this moment, one-third of the students in the battle hall had already left. The reason why they were here was because they wanted to see the fights of the top 50 ranked geniuses. At most, maybe the top 100. The more backward the ranking, the less interested they were.

“Quickly began!”

2

Those students who were arranged to battle near the end began to urge. They hated those who wasted time the most. If the challenger knew he couldn’t make it, he might as well not show up to embarrass himself.

“I still thought that Qi Shengjia would forfeit!”

Wang Hao was surprised.

“Sun Mo must have encouraged him and he impulsively went up. Why doesn’t he think a little? There’s a two-level difference in their cultivation. How can he win?”

Zhou Xu shook his head.

On the stage, Zhu Ting spoke, “Both parties are to greet each other mutually.”

“Peng Wanli, 6th-level of the body refinement realm. Please provide me with guidance!”

Peng Wanli who was short and stocky surveyed Qi Shengjia. Qi Shengjia’s mental state seemed to be not bad, but it was fine. Their cultivation bases were two levels apart; he would win for sure.

When students wanted to participate in the challenge battles, they had to report their information during the registration. Peng Wanli was an official member of the battle hall, so he simply asked his friends who were in charge of registration and soon learned of his opponent’s information.

“Qi Shengjia, 5th-level of the body refinement realm. Please provide me with guidance!”

Qi Shengjia adopted a battle posture. He remembered Sun Mo’s instruction. Once the judge gave the announcement to start, he would attack immediately.

“He’s actually at the 5th-level? No wonder he is so confident!”

Peng Wanli’s lips twitched, yet he didn’t really care at all. However, Zhou Xu and Wang Hao in the audience were stunned.

“Did I hear it wrong or did Shengjia say wrongly? 5th-level of the body refinement realm? If he lied, he would be expelled!”

Wang Hao was worried. He thought that Qi Shengjia was lying to Peng Wanli because he wanted to win.

“How stupid. This minor trick is useless!”

Zhou Xu hated iron for not becoming steel. Teacher Sun must have been the one who taught him this. If not, the honest Qi Shengjia wouldn't have done such a thing.

As for Qi Shengjia breaking through to the 5th-level, even if the two of them were beaten to death, they wouldn't believe it. Leaving aside the fact that Qi Shengjia spent more than half-a-year before he broke through to the 4th-level of the body refinement realm, his aptitude was extremely inferior and he had just successfully broken through to the 4th-level just a few days ago. How could he break through again?

“Begin!”

As Zhu Ting's voice rang out, Qi Shengjia was like a hungry wolf lunging over. His fists danced in the air, generating gusts of wind that swept over to Peng Wanli.

“Hmph!”

Peng Wanli didn't bother to evade, and he domineeringly faced the attack.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Fists and palms collided with each other. Their impact caused waves of energy to blast out.

“Teacher Sun is right!”

Qi Shengjia felt agitation in his heart as he recalled what Sun Mo had said to him.

“All young people would have pride in their hearts, let alone your opponent who is one level higher than you. He would definitely choose to face you head-on. At that time, aim all your attacks at his right shoulder!”

At the start of their exchange, it was already proven that Sun Mo was correct. This caused Qi Shengjia's confidence to swell as he gave it his all.

“Remember, trade injuries for injuries. Do not even retreat for half-a-step, just crush his right shoulder.”

Qi Shengjia remembered Sun Mo's guidance. He gritted his teeth and fought valiantly. Peng Wanli's Eighteen Arhat Palms was indeed very powerful. Each blow on his body caused him extreme pain. He felt that if it was him in the past, he would definitely not be able to withstand this. But today, his condition was so good that it was terrifying. Although it was painful, it was like his endurance had also increased.

“Right, it must be the effect of the Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands!”

Qi Shengjia guessed. He was too stupid, and he forgot that after he leveled up, the strength of his body would increase as well.

“What's going on?”

Peng Wanli was frowning, and his display of the Eighteen Arhat Palms grew increasingly hurried. It was clearly a relaxed battle, but why did it feel so difficult? His opponent was like a mad dog, refusing to retreat. He was adamant about trading injuries with him.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

After another round of attacks, Peng Wanli who suffered over ten blows to his right shoulder continuously retreated in order to extend the distance between them.

Qi Shengjia's chest heaved violently as he panted.

"A pity!" Li Ziqi sighed.

Qi Shengjia's strength was only at this level. If he were stronger, he could take down Peng Wanli now if he exerted another spurt of energy.

Jin Mujie sat behind a long table made from mahogany. She was drinking tea and chatting with a few students, guiding them on their flaws. After Qi Shengjia got up the stage, her gaze instantly shifted over.

"He leveled up? Did he eat a peak-grade alchemy pill? Wrong, that intern teacher shouldn't be a fool. He wouldn't do something so meaningless like feeding an alchemy pill to the student just for the sake of winning this battle."

Jin Mujie analyzed, "But if he didn't eat an alchemy pill, how did he level up?"

This graceful young married woman furrowed her brows as a puzzled look appeared on her face. As a 3-star great teacher, her judgment was extraordinary and could naturally see Qi Shengjia's previous condition. Qi Shengjia hadn't been at the stage where he was about to break through. Hence, his current cultivation at the 5th-level of the body refinement realm was due to something the intern teacher did.

1

"My god...what the hell?"

Zhou Xu cried out in surprise. How could Qi Shengjia fight so dazzlingly against Peng Wanli? Could it be that Peng Wanli's ranking was fake?

"Did Peng Wanli have diarrhea today?"

Wang Hao was puzzled too. "Speaking of which, did Shengjia get a bit stronger?"

"Yeah, he couldn't really be at the 5th-level of the body refinement realm, right?"

As someone at the 6th-level of the body refinement realm, Zhou Xu realized Shengjia's outstanding performance. If one spoke of their mental states and imposing manner, Qi Shengjia might be even stronger than him!

"Could it be that he can really win?"

After Wang Hao mumbled to himself, he involuntarily shook his head. "I'm thinking too much, Peng Wanli isn't an immobile target!"

"I can win!"

On the stage, these three words appeared in Qi Shengjia's heart.

The scene right now was no different from what Teacher Sun had said.

"After some time, he wouldn't want to fight directly against you and will take the initiative to retreat. At that time, after your earlier eruption, you won't be able to catch up to him. However, don't be anxious. Take the chance to gather your breath and strength. You should use words to disturb his mental state."

As he recalled Teacher Sun's instructions, Qi Shengjia spoke.

"Peng Wanli, I've already seen through your flaws."

"Hehe!"

Peng Wanli laughed coldly, acting as though he wasn't bothered. However, his heart was pounding in fear.

"My aptitude is bad and my family is poor. If I cannot enter the Battle Hall this time around, I will have to quit school and be sold to a large clan as a servant. Hence, I will fight to the death in this battle today."

Qi Shengjia looked directly into Peng Wanli's eyes. His tone was honest and filled with desolation.

Sun Mo covered his face. Qi Shengjia completely didn't have any acting talent. Luckily, his current situation was roughly the same as what he said. Hence, his expression was still on the ball.

"What do you mean by this? You want me to show mercy?"

Peng Wanli wasn't those types of people that would be considerate to the circumstances of others.

Qi Shengjia didn't know what to reply, but Teacher Sun had said before that no matter what Peng Wanli said, he just had to repeat the words Teacher Sun had taught him.

"You and I are different. You are a genius, and even if you lost this, you will be able to rejoin the battle hall three months later."

"Hmph, that's only natural!"

Peng Wanli had arrogance on his face.

"However, if you truly fight to the bitter end with me, even if you won, you would still suffer some residual injuries. Although you will recover, your peak state will never be the same again!" After speaking, Qi Shengjia directly rushed out.

Skywolf Hunt! A moment later, twenty sets of fist shadows surged over.

Boo!

Scattered booing sounds rang out from the crowd, criticizing Qi Shengjia for using a dirty trick. However, the majority of students didn't care about it. Wasn't it just trash-talking? There were no problems as long as Qi Shengjia didn't use hidden weapons or disgraceful methods.

Zhu Ting, who had been bored to death, seriously surveyed Qi Shengjia after hearing his words. He felt somewhat taken aback. "Qi Shengjia actually knows how to use verbal attacks and fight a psychological battle?"

Jin Mujie nodded. Attacking the 'hearts' of your opponents was the supreme battle method!

"What?"

Peng Wanli retreated again and again. The pain in his right shoulder seemingly intensified. His doctor once told him that due to his injury, he mustn't fight in the meantime, or it would affect his recovery.

However, no one could avoid the test of the battle hall. When he had been selected by Qi Shengjia, Peng Wanli was rejoicing. He had thought that he had found an easy opponent. But who could have known that Qi Shengjia was a hot potato!

Peng Wanli's mind was unsettled. His pride made him not want to defend. However, the words from his doctor made him feel as though there was a bone stuck in his throat. He had no choice but to defend instead of attacking.

At this moment, Qi Shengjia's morale received a boost as he attacked even more fiercely.

"Is he going to win?"

Li Qizi's hands were tightly clenched as nervousness could be seen on her face.

"Let's go!"

Sun Mo turned to leave, there was no need to watch any longer. Peng Wanli's defensive posture indicated that his heart was already in chaos.

"What to do? What to do?"

Peng Wanli's heart was jittery and filled with anxiety. He didn't know what he should do.

Should he ignore the worsening of his injuries and defeat Qi Shengjia? However, the consequences would be severe. If he lost now, he could always join the battle hall again after he recovered three months later.

To a young guy that was 14 years of age. This choice that would affect his future simply gave him too much pressure.

As for Qi Shengjia, his confidence skyrocketed because up until now, everything that Sun Mo said, had come true.

"I can win this battle!"

Qi Shengjia stepped and punched out with immense might.

Skywolf Whistling at the Moon.

Roar!

Spirit qi whistled. The strands of it transformed into a wolf head and shot over to Peng Wanli, wanting to take a bite out of him.

Thump! Thump!

Peng Wanli continued to retreat. He executed his Arhat Heart Shattering Palm and after dissipating the wolf head, he discovered that Qi Shengjia had taken the opportunity to rush forward, appearing before him. It was too late now even if he wanted to continue defending.

Bang!

Peng Wanli's right shoulder was punched, and he fell down the stage from the impact.

"For this match, Qi Shengjia is the victor!"

Zhu Ting announced.

The entire audience was in a state of absolute silence. The eyes of the students were filled with a mixture of envy and disdain when they looked at Qi Shengjia. None of them felt he deserved the win.

They felt that Qi Shengjia didn't win by virtue of his strength. Rather, it was because Peng Wanli coincidentally had an injury and encountered him. If they were fighting against Peng Wanli, they would win as well.

"My god, Shengjia won"

Wang Hao rubbed his eyes forcefully. He felt that he was dreaming.

Clap! Clap! Clap!

All of a sudden, sounds of applause rang out. Everyone turned and discovered that the 3-star great teacher Jin Mujie was the source of it. She was clad in the long white robes with three strands of gold embroidered on it. The robes fully accentuated her full figure, and she exuded a sense of holiness and beauty.

Chapter 22: Reaping a Wave of Favorable Impression Points

"Well fought!" Jin Mujie praised.

"Jin...Jin..."

Qi Shengjia was so emotional that he couldn't manage to talk. This was praise from a great teacher, something that he had never received before!

The other students were so jealous that their eyes almost turned red. Jin Mujie who had the air of a young married woman was not only beautiful, but her figure was great as well. Her teaching ability could be considered among the top in the Central Province Academy. Being able to be praised by her was something many guys yearned for even in their dreams.

“Peng Wanli, your aptitude isn’t bad. Sadly, your will is too weak and your combat experience is lacking, resulting in your mind being shaken in the psychological battle. Otherwise, given your strength, the battle wouldn’t be this one-sided.”

Jin Mujie listed the reasons for Peng Wanli’s defeat.

Peng Wanli bitterly laughed. He stood up straight, and his hands were at the sides of his legs as he bowed. “This student has benefited from your advice.”

“Qi Shengjia, your acting skills are too bad. If you were facing geniuses like Zhu Ting, they would definitely not be fooled,” Jin Mujie commented.

“This student has benefited from your advice.”

Qi Shengjia gulped down a mouthful of saliva. He had simply followed Sun Mo’s instructions to the letter, totally not expecting them to be so effective. But when had he ever waged a psychological battle? He was a direct and pure guy. Honestly, he would forgive his wife-to-be even if she turned out to be unfaithful on their wedding day.

5

“Your aptitude is bad, but you shouldn’t undervalue yourself. Your execution of the Skywolf Fist is extremely good!”

After pausing for a moment, she added one more sentence. “Out of all the students in the Central Province Academy, the number of people whose attainments in the Skywolf Fist are higher than you can be counted on two hands!”

Hua~

After hearing Jin Mujie’s words, everyone was in an uproar.

This country bumpkin was so powerful? This was an evaluation given by a 3-star great teacher, so it shouldn’t be wrong.

For a time, Qi Shengjia became the target of envy of the crowd. Many students, who also cultivated the Skywolf Fist, were prepared to bring some gifts over to seek guidance from Qi Shengjia about it.

“It’s fake, right? This must be a dream,” Zhou Xu muttered. He was so jealous that he was about to go crazy. Qi Shengjia had received a great evaluation from Teacher Jin Mujie. Why did he qualify to get such an evaluation?

“It’s too incredible, Shengjia actually won?”

Wang Hao clicked his tongue.

“Alright, you guys can leave now. The next battle will begin shortly!”

Jin Mujie sat back down. Given the aptitude Qi Shengjia displayed, it was evident that he didn’t comprehend the Skywolf Fist by himself. Since that was the case, someone must be teaching him.

“Was it that intern teacher?”

Jin Mujie suddenly felt some interest in the young man with the sunshine-like smile. If it wasn't for her having seen the scene of Sun Mo berating Qi Shengjia earlier, she basically wouldn't have given an evaluation at all.

...

Two rows of tall chinese parasol trees, which were planted at both sides of the road, cast down their shadows onto the limestone pathway.

Sun Mo leisurely walked over, simultaneously admiring the beautiful scenery of the campus while listening to the notifications from the system. A smile could be seen on his face, making him appear like a fisherman who had just returned with a full haul.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Qi Shengjia +50, this was the worship that Qi Shengjia felt after he obtained victory by blasting Peng Wanli off the stage.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Qi Shengjia +50, this was the eruption of his emotions after receiving the evaluation from great teacher Jin Mujie. Without Sun Mo's guidance, he wouldn't have been able to receive praise from a great teacher in his lifetime.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Qi Shengjia +50. The sense of worship in Qi Shengjia's heart was growing after he had heard the praise of great teacher Jin Mujie regarding his Skywolf Fist.

Without Sun Mo's guidance, his Skywolf Fist wouldn't have improved by so much. By receiving a positive evaluation from a 3-star great teacher, it also could prove Sun Mo's teaching ability.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Qi Shengjia +50. Without Sun Mo, Qi Shengjia would have to quit school for sure. But now, everything was different.

Ding!

Prestige connection with Qi Shengjia. Friendly (358/1,000).

"Seems like one could only generate a max of 50 favorable impression points at any given time."

Sun Mo was very satisfied.

'Ding! The host helped Qi Shengjia to pass the battle hall's test. Mission completed. Reward: one golden treasure chest.'

As the system notification rang out, a shiny golden treasure chest appeared in front of Sun Mo.

"Beautiful!"

A golden treasure chest had a very high probability of containing some peak-grade items. Just when he was about to open it, a voice rang out in his ears.

“Teacher Sun, he won!”

Li Ziqi jogged over. Because she hurriedly tried to stop, when she got near Sun Mo, she tripped and fell forward.

Luckily, Sun Mo’s reactions were fast. He stretched his arms up and supported this girl that only had 1 point in the agility stat.

“Ahh!”

Li Ziqi felt extremely embarrassed. She lowered her head and pretended to be a turtle that pulled its head in.

“Everyone has different things they are proficient in. Don’t be too bothered.”

Sun Mo laughed. Under the sunlight, he looked even more handsome.

“Your guidance is too useful!”

Being with Sun Mo this whole time, Li Ziqi had experienced how Sun Mo orchestrated the whole battle. One could say that Qi Shengjia had won because of Sun Mo’s excellent guidance, which had led him step by step in this ‘tempo-battle’.

Ding!

Favorable impression points from Li Ziqi +30.

“It’s normal!”

Earlier, when Sun Mo had seen Peng Wanli standing on the stage, he had immediately activated Divine Sight and looked through Peng Wanli’s data. If Sun Mo hadn’t seized the advantage and used it to the fullest, he would have let the spell ‘Divine Sight’ down.

“You are too humble!” Li Ziqi spoke. This was most probably the effect of a good teacher who could change the fates of students. If it wasn’t for Sun Mo, Qi Shengjia could only quit school and be a normal worker forever.

“Don’t need to be so polite, or I will take it as you treating me as an outsider.” Sun Mo smiled. He then gave an open indication. “I’m in a good mood today, so I will treat you to a meal. You can order anything as long as the food cost is below one tael of silver.”

“Teacher, you are so petty. Just one tael of silver? It isn’t even enough to order a flask of cool grape wine.”

Li Ziqi was only joking. She was like a happy little chick following beside Sun Mo. She didn’t know why, but she always felt very happy when she was together with him.

3

...

Qi Shengjia didn't see Sun Mo after his battle ended. Feeling a little anxious, he was prepared to look for him, but he was stopped by Wang Hao and Zhou Xu.

"How did you win? Quickly tell us what's going on!"

Zhou Xu jumped over. His right hand directly hung over Qi Shengjia's neck. "Let's go. I will treat you for today's lunch. We will have a feast at the Drunken Immortal Inn!"

"It's all Teacher Sun's credit."

When speaking of Sun Mo, Qi Shengjia became even more respectful.

"How did you break through to the 5th-level of the body refinement realm?"

Wang Hao's eyes flashed. From the strength unleashed by Qi Shengjia in the earlier fight, there was no doubt that he was at the 5th-level.

"Teacher Sun used the Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands on me. Oh right, he even used an extremely expensive bottle of whale oil. When he opened it, the fragrance permeated the entire resting room."

When he thought back to that fragrance, Qi Shengjia had a look of intoxication on his face.

Wang Hao and Zhou Xu exchanged mutual glances, feeling extremely shocked in their hearts. Then what followed was the feeling of regret. They should have been more respectful to him.

At this moment, Sun Mo received two notifications from the system.

Ding!

Favorable impression from Wang Hao +30.

Prestige connection with Wang Hao. Neutral (63/100).

Ding!

Favorable impression from Zhou Xu +35.

Prestige connection with Zhou Xu. Neutral (50/100).

Sun Mo furrowed his brows, feeling as though he had just picked up a ten-dollar coin from the road. He knew that these must have occurred because Qi Shengjia had explained the reason for his victory to Zhou Xu and Wang Hao.

...

"Do you think he will use his Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands to help me level up if I go and beg him now?"

Zhou Xu had an extravagant hope.

"Are you dreaming? It's such a powerful method, how could it be displayed so easily?"

Wang Hao felt extremely regretful. He had eyes but couldn't see Mt. Tai, missing the chance to get into Sun Mo's good books. He also didn't know what he could do to make up for this.

“Student Qi Shengjia, please wait!”

Peng Wanli rushed over.

“What’s the matter?”

Zhou Xu’s tone was unfriendly. He thought Peng Wanli was here to look for trouble.

Qi Shengjia also grew nervous.

“Don’t misunderstand. I just want to know how you could tell that my right shoulder was injured.”

Peng Wanli stared at Qi Shengjia. Regarding this matter, no one should have known about it, and he had concealed it very well. Why was it exposed? If he didn’t make things clear, he would feel hard to rest or eat in peace.

“It was Teacher Sun Mo who told me,” Qi Shengjia spoke bluntly.

Wang Hao wanted to roll his eyes when he heard this. (Do you have to be so honest?)

“Who?”

Peng Wanli thought he heard wrongly. “Sun Mo? Headmaster An’s fiancée? The ‘soft-rice’ guy?”

“Correct!” Qi Shengjia nodded.

“Hmph. Student Qi Shengjia. Even if you don’t wish to tell me, there’s no need for you to trick me like this!”

Peng Wanli coldly snorted as he turned to leave. The name ‘Sun Mo’, due to the connection with An Xinhui, was extremely well-known in the Central Province Academy. If he had such good judgment, why wasn’t he qualified enough to be a teaching assistant?

1

...

Sun Mo and Li Ziqi ate some fried dishes in the canteen, and their total expenses were below half-a-tael of silver. The steel plate girl (flat) Li Ziqi wanted to treat him. But as a man, how could Sun Mo permit it?

1

“Teacher Sun, goodbye!”

After their meal, Li Ziqi waved her hand. She had been hesitating but after experiencing the matters today and seeing the joy that Qi Shengjia felt after winning against his opponent, she made a decision.

“Sun Mo is a teacher worthy of my trust!”

Li Ziqi muttered to herself. Her hands were placed behind her back as she skipped while walking, staring at the Sorrowless Lake in the distance. “In addition, I like the scenery of the Central Province Academy very much!”

...

After Sun Mo returned to his dorm, he heard the discussion between Ludi and Yuan Feng.

“Gu Xiuxun is so awesome. Although she’s just an intern teacher, there’s already a student that wants her to be his master.”

Yuan Feng’s words were filled with envy.

“That student is named Zhang Yaozong, right? I heard that this fellow defeated the #10 ranked Cai Tan in the battle hall’s battle today. He became famous after a single battle.”

Ludi clicked his tongue and continued, “After he won, he even praised Gu Xiuxun and her guidance. Sigh, Gu Xiuxun can be considered to be in the limelight today.”

Qi Shengjia merely won against Peng Wanli who was ranked #108. This incident was so small that it was like a pebble tossed into the water. And as for the top ten rankers of the battle hall, they were all publicly acknowledged geniuses of the school. When one of them was defeated, it would cause a huge commotion.

1

“Cai Tan is so miserable. No matter what, he is one of the representative characters of the fourth-year students, but he could only become a stepping stone to a first-year.”

Yuan Feng felt a little joy and delight in Cai Tang’s misfortune. There was nothing he loved more than watching these geniuses suffer a setback.

1

“I heard that Gu Xiuxun used the momentum of her student’s victory to come up with a condition. She wanted the intern teachers to have the qualifications to recruit personal students in the upcoming student recruitment meet.” Ludi praised.

Gu Xiuxun’s ambitions were truly great. If the school agreed, with the gratitude of all the intern teachers and her own capabilities, she would become the leading character of this batch of intern teachers.

“Has the school agreed?”

Yuan Feng opened his eyes wide and had a nervous look on his face. The thing intern teachers sought after the most was to become a substitute teacher. This would mean that they had officially joined the faculty and became a real teacher that could teach students and give lectures boldly on the rostrum.

Chapter 23: Great Teacher Halo, Ignorant and Incompetent

“The leaders of the school have already finished discussing, and they decide to permit intern teachers to recruit students. As long as an intern teacher has five students under them, they would be able to become substitute teachers and officially join the faculty.”

4

After Ludi finished speaking, Yuan Feng jumped up agitatedly.

“This is too awesome!” Yuan Feng used his strength and waved his arms in excitement. “Getting a pay raise and promotion is just before our eyes.”

“Don’t be too happy. The title of an intern teacher holds no attraction toward new students.”

Ludi poured a bucket of cold water down on Yuan Feng’s head.

Just like how a fine bird would choose a good tree to rest in, acknowledging a master was an extremely major matter. All students would only acknowledge a teacher as their master and sincerely seek the chance to be a personal disciple after studying in the school for two to three years, or until they completely familiarized themselves with the teacher’s situation.

Naturally, a great teacher was an exception. But how many students would truly be overflowing with enough talent that they would be recruited by a great teacher?

Teachers wouldn’t casually accept disciples either. Once a student became their personal disciple, they had to treat the student like a half-son or a half-daughter and attentively guide them.

Similarly, the students would also treat their teachers as parents and show them respect and love. If they changed their mind half-way through and turned to other teachers, they would receive great condemnation and rejection from the majority of people.

But even a salted fish (trash) would have dreams!

It wasn’t easy to join the tutelage of a great teacher. Hence, many students would consider acknowledging teachers with many years of experience. As for intern teachers who just joined the school and wasn’t even guaranteed that they could join the faculty? Truthfully speaking, unless one had a way with words or had some accomplishments, they would only then be able to attract maybe two...or three students.

When he thought of this, Yuan Feng sat back dejectedly. But after he saw Sun Mo, he became complacent again. “If I cannot make it, this ‘soft-rice’ guy would undoubtedly not have a chance.”

1

Sun Mo lay on the bed. His left eye blinked twice as he opened up the storage cabinet.

The golden chest appeared, shining brilliantly.

“How can I increase the chance of getting good stuff? Should I go and find a 36E papaya girl and touch her chest to increase my luck?”

9

Opening treasure chests was a metaphysics study. But when he thought of the fact that papaya girls were rarely seen, Sun Mo gave up on the notion.

“Open!”

As Sun Mo mumbled, the golden treasure chest opened. A book emitting a dense golden light floated in the air, revolving slowly around.

“Ignorant and Incompetent?”

When he saw the name on the cover, Sun Mo rapidly sat up. In the end, he banged his head into the wooden plank above his bunk bed.

BOOM!

Sun Mo drew in a breath of cold air due to the pain. However, he couldn't bother to rub his bruise, his attention was completely attracted by the golden book.

'Ignorant and Incompetent, a great teacher halo. When students don't want to put in any effort or work hard, devolving into muddle-headed youngsters that only know how to idle their time away, becoming scums that only know how to play and enjoy themselves...You can use this great teacher halo to administer punishment, helping them back onto the proper path.'

5

'After a teacher uses this halo, the student being berated would experience a sensation of being hit in the head for the purpose of bringing about instant awakening. The student would instantly enter a dazed state and lose their ability to think.'

1

'Elementary-grade.'

“Haha, it's actually a great teacher halo?”

Sun Mo involuntarily laughed out loud. “Could it be that by being together with that steel plate girl, it would increase my luck? Praise to Li Ziqi, Amen!”

3

Sun Mo decided that in the future when he received another golden treasure chest, he would chat with Li Ziqi for three days before opening it.

“Crazy fellow, you can't even become a teaching assistant, yet you can laugh out loud? You truly have no sense of shame.”

Yuan Feng stared at the smiling Sun Mo with contempt. (When you are fired, I would definitely buy 1 kg of pig head's meat to send you away.)

1

Sun Mo couldn't do anything about the happiness he felt. This was a great teacher halo! One could only obtain one by gaining enlightenment and not through studies. If one wanted to become a great teacher, they had to comprehend three great teacher halos at the very least and have a secondary occupation.

1

The prerequisite to becoming a normal teacher was to comprehend the 'self-taught' halo. Because that was the basic, it couldn't be considered a great teacher halo.

The current Sun Mo possessed the 'Priceless Advice' and 'Ignorant and Incompetent' halo. It could be considered that he had taken a small step forward on the path of being a great teacher.

4

Sun Mo couldn't wait anymore. He quickly left his dorm and found a remote location with no one else. He then took out the golden book and placed it before his nose, inhaling deeply.

"How fragrant. This must be the smell of a great teacher."

5

Sun Mo mumbled. After that, he crushed the skill book.

2

Pak!

The book crumbled apart, transforming into a ball of golden light that shot into the center of Sun Mo's brows. In Sun Mo's mind, some mysterious and profound secrets instantly appeared.

When he glanced at the great teacher halo's effect, Sun Mo wanted nothing more than to find someone to try it on.

...

In the resting room of the logistics department.

Li Gong stared at the teacup in front of him, and a conflicted look could be seen on his face. His face was currently scrunched up like an 'anus'.

7

"Constipation again?"

Chen Mu passed some pickled plums over.

Just when Li Gong wanted to reply, a fatty walked into the resting room. Li Gong hurriedly stood and squeezed out the most radiant-looking smile he could muster.

"Department Head Yang!"

Creak! Creak!

The grinding sound caused by the friction of chairs moving against the floor could be heard. Also, the sounds of greetings rang out together in unison.

"Mn, you guys can go out first!"

Yang Cai nodded in satisfaction after seeing that all the staff in the logistics department stood up. He placed his hands behind his back and walked toward Li Gong. The fat on his stomach was too much. When he walked, the flesh there trembled like waves.

The staff hurriedly bowed. They lowered their heads and left the resting room.

“Has it been settled?”

Yang Cai stood before Li Gong and casually lifted Li Gong’s teacup.

“Al..almost done.”

Li Gong’s neck shrank.

Pak!

Yang Cai threw the teacup right at Li Gong’s nose, scolding, “Are you dumb? How many days has it been? Can’t you even handle an easy matter like this?”

“Sun Mo is very cunning!”

Li Gong smiled bitterly.

Bang!

Yang Cai took the teacup and threw it at Li Gong again.

“What do you mean by he is cunning? You only need to find trouble for him. When the matter becomes big, I will be the one to wrap things up.”

Yang Cai coldly snorted. Sun Mo was merely an intern teacher while he was the logistics department head. As long as Sun Mo made a mistake, he would have an excuse to deal with him.

“I will do it immediately.”

In order not to be hit again, Li Gong hurriedly guaranteed.

“I will give you three more days. If you cannot handle it, scram for me.”

Yang Cai glared at Li Gong. He then walked past a few office desks and pulled their drawers out. Only after he did a rough check did he leave the department.

“Pui, how stupid.”

Yang Cai spat out a mouthful of saliva on the flowers beside him. He was considering using other methods. The higher-ups said this was very urgent and were rushing him for results. If he didn’t chase Sun Mo away quickly, he would have to be scolded again.

“What can I do? I’m also in despair!”

Li Gong sighed. He sat on the chair, seemingly devoid of strength. Blood flowed from his nose, but he didn’t have any mood to wipe it away.

...

The sun gradually set.

Li Gong opened the door leading to Sun Mo’s room.

“Who are you looking for?”

Ludi was holding a pig trotter while staring at Li Gong in puzzlement.

“I’m looking for Sun Mo, Teacher Sun.”

Li Gong smiled.

“Sun Mo, someone is looking for you.”

Ludi called out and then returned to the table, continuing to pluck away the fur on the pig trotter. However, his eyes involuntarily turned to Li Gong. This lame middle-aged man was clad in the uniform of a worker from the logistics department. Why was he looking for Sun Mo?

“Teacher Sun.”

When Li Gong saw Sun Mo sitting at the side of his bed, reading a book, he laughed. He placed the bag of tea leaves that he had bought beside him. “This is the Tuanlong Tea from Ceylon Mountain. I’ve already kept it for twenty years.”

Upon hearing the words ‘Tuanlong Tea from Ceylon Mountain’, Ludi’s brows involuntarily twitched. This was a famous tea, 50 grams of the dried tea leaves could be sold for over 1,000 taels of silver. Unless one was a wealthy person or a government official, they wouldn’t be able to afford it.

Ludi glanced over. Li Gong had brought a bag of roughly 250 grams of tea leaves. Although it might not be a lot, if these were truly Tuanlong Tea Leaves, that would mean that their value was about 5,000 taels of silver.

During these few years, the Tang Country enjoyed favorable weather. The country prospered and the people were at peace. However, the annual expenses of a family of three were at most about 100+ taels of silver.

“This fellow put so much thought in his present, what does he want to do?”

Ludi was incessantly shocked. However, what was even more shocking was the scene that followed. Sun Mo’s eyes didn’t even glance at the tea leaves. He couldn’t even be bothered to acknowledge Li Gong’s presence.

A hint of rage flashed on Li Gong’s face, but he didn’t dare to vent. He continued smiling and stood obediently at the side.

After over ten minutes, Li Gong finally couldn’t bear it anymore. “I will go to boil some water to steep the tea!”

Li Gong took up the bronze kettle on a nearby table and went out of the dorm. The moment he got out, he couldn’t help but begin to curse.

“You little brat, how dare you treat your daddy Li like this. When you fall into my hand, I’m going to make sure you die with pain.”

After the water boiled, Li Gong, who was so angry, coughed twice intentionally. He then spat out a mouthful of yellow phlegm into the kettle. But when he returned to the dorm, his smile shone again.

Sun Mo was the only one who could cure his leg that had been lamed for over ten years. If he wanted to recover, he could only endure this.

“Tuanlong Tea’s essence would only be fully brought out in the second infusion. You must definitely drink it while it’s hot!”

As Li Gong introduced, he steeped the tea. A dense tea fragrance permeated the atmosphere of the dorm, causing one to salivate.

Gulp!

Ludi silently swallowed a mouthful of saliva. From the fragrance, these tea leaves should be the Tuanlong Tea from Ceylon Mountain.

“This teacher, why don’t you come and try as well?”

Li Gong called out to Ludi.

“I won’t stand on ceremony then.”

Ludi walked over and lifted his teacup, blowing on it a few times. Then a sizzling sound could be heard as he pursed his mouth and drank a mouthful. At that moment, the fragrance immediately flowed into the bottom of his heart. He involuntarily called out ‘good tea!’ after he drank it.

“Hehe, Teacher Sun. Come and try it.”

Li Gong smiled widely, but his heart was bleeding. This was the tea leaves he had kept for over ten years after all. It was wasted just like this.

Sun Mo glanced at the tea and activated his Divine Sight.

‘Ceylon Mountain, Tuanlong Tea, good-grade. Upon consumption, one’s mind would be cleared and one’s fatigue would dissipate. It’s healthy for the guts and digestion.’

The age of the tea leaves wasn’t bad, but they couldn’t be considered top-quality. Given Li Gong’s status and his financial ability, being able to get 250 grams of them was already his limit.

“Sun Mo, come and taste it. It’s very fragrant, really good.”

Ludi urged. His EQ wasn’t bad. He knew that Li Gong treated him to this tea not because he was generous. It was because Li Gong wanted his help in praising this tea.

Li Gong tactfully filled up another teacup and passed it over.

“You drink it!” Sun Mo spoke.

“Ah?” Li Gong was stunned.

“Drink up all of the tea, not even a drop is to be left.” Sun Mo’s tone was ice-cold.

(Damn, how could this guy spit a mouthful of phlegm into the tea? Could he be more disgusting than this?)

“Sun Mo, he is kind-hearted enough to give you the tea leaves. Is your attitude not a little too vile?” Ludi spoke and drank another mouthful. The taste wasn’t bad.

“Oh? You help him to drink it then!”

Sun Mo laughed lightly.

Chapter 24: When A Gentleman Seeks Revenge, It’ll be From Day to Night

“You guys can chat. I still have to go and braise the pig trotters.”

After finishing his drink in one gulp, Ludi licked his lips and enjoyed the aftertaste for a while. Then he took his pig trotters and headed out.

The tea wasn’t bad, but Ludi was thin-skinned, so he didn’t ask for another cup.

“After I become a great teacher in the future, I’ll be able to afford such tea leaves as well. I’ll rinse my mouth with it!”

Ludi set a small goal for himself.

“Drink up!”

Sun Mo personally poured Li Gong a cup of tea.

Li Gong smiled bitterly and finished it. It didn’t matter since he was the one who had spewed it out anyway.

“Drink it all up, the entire pot.”

Sun Mo had no intention of letting this end.

(When a gentleman seeks revenge, it’ll be from day to night. Want me to drink a cup of tea that has been spat? You’ll count as lucky if I don’t pee all over your face.)

3

“Teacher Sun!” Li Gong pleaded.

“Pui!”

Sun Mo spat into the cup and put it in front of Li Gong.

“Sun Mo, you are an intern teacher. Can you not humiliate me like this?”

Li Gong gave in.

Sun Mo was sick of the persuasion and grabbed Li Gong’s hair directly, tugging it downward. He then brought the cup to Li Gong’s mouth, forcing the tea down his throat.

“Cough cough, cough cough!”

Li Gong coughed and struggled.

“When you spat into it, why didn’t you think of my status? Should I be the one humiliated instead?” Sun Mo asked.

Li Gong had wanted to push Sun Mo away with brute force. But when he heard this, his body stiffened up, and cold sweat covered his entire forehead. How did he know about that? A fluke? Right, it must be a fluke!

“Hmph!”

Sun Mo raised his hand and slapped the cup into Li Gong’s face.

Bang!

The cup shattered, and Li Gong’s nose broke as well. Two streams of blood immediately trickled down like water from a fountain.

“Ahh!”

Li Gong cried out agonizingly, held onto his face, and fell to the ground.

Sun Mo picked up the pot and poured it all over Li Gong’s head.

1

Splash!

Water splattered and Li Gong was drenched.

“Ahhh, it’s so hot!”

Li Gong’s clothes were completely wet, and he rolled around after being scalded. His skin had turned a little red as well.

Creak!

The dorm room opened, and Ludi stood there in a daze. He had forgotten something and came back to get it. However, he hadn’t expected to see such a violent scene.

“I’m sorry, I came to the wrong place!”

Bang!

Ludi closed the door and dashed down the stairs. As he was too nervous, a few pig trotters had dropped down.

Rumors said that people were giving Sun Mo a hard time and that he was leading a pathetic time in the logistics department, having to do all the tiring and dirty jobs. He wouldn’t be able to hang on for long...

Bullshit. That person seemed to be the one in-charge of Sun Mo in the logistics department. However, he was being trashed and yet didn’t dare to make a sound.

“Could it be that he can act like this just because his fiancée is the headmaster?”

Ludi was extremely envious. “Sun Mo is really having it good when sponging off a woman!”

...

“Department... Department Head Yang Cai came to look for me today, asking me to make things hard on you.”

Li Gong was in so much pain that he was clenching his teeth.

“You’re trying to haggle with me?”

Sun Mo smiled coldly.

“No, no, I wouldn’t dare.” Li Gong explained, “I think that you should help me cure my lame leg, then we can deal with him to...”

Bang!

Before Li Gong could finish his words, Sun Mo picked up the pot from the ground and smashed it right on Li Gong’s head.

Dong!

Li Gong fell flat on his back.

“Don’t you understand your situation yet?”

Sun Mo squatted down next to Li Gong, poking him in the chest. “You don’t have a choice. Yang Cai’s goal is just to deal a blow to An Xinhui through me, chasing me away while he was at it. I’m telling you, I don’t care if I have this job or not.”

Li Gong looked at Sun Mo. Given his judgment that was trained from scrambling around at the bottom of the society, he could tell that this young man wasn’t joking.

The actual owner of this body was previously worried that he’d make mistakes and get fired. That was why he kept on tolerating things. However, things were different for Sun Mo. Although this was a good job that over 200 people were fighting to get, even if he were to be eventually converted to a permanent position, he’d still tender his resignation if he wasn’t happy with the job. He wouldn’t have any reservations.

Li Gong was at a loss. He was like an old dog whose territory had been snatched from him, lowering his head. His teeth were unable to get through Sun Mo!

Sun Mo grabbed onto Li Gong’s leg with one hand and kneaded a little with his grandmaster-grade ‘Muscleforge Technique’. This gave him a greater understanding of Li Gong’s injury.

Li Gong first felt soreness and numbness, followed by a piercing pain, and then a warm current flowing through. His lame leg, which he had lost the feeling of, felt extremely comfortable.

“It’s moving? My leg is actually moving?”

Li Gong was elated.

“Don’t challenge my patience again. If you want your leg to be cured, then do as I say.”

Sun Mo got up and patted Li Gong on the shoulder. "Another thing. The muscles on your lame leg haven't been moved over the years and have shrunk a lot. If this drags on, it will be impossible to cure it."

As Sun Mo removed his hand, Li Gong's lame leg once again returned to the icy cold condition it was in before. That feeling was like a parched traveler in the desert finding a watermelon after great difficulty. But when he had just taken a bite into it and hadn't had the opportunity to enjoy it, someone slapped him in the face, and he spewed it out.

"Are you a demon?" Li Gong cried.

"No, I'm Sun Mo."

3

Sun Mo wore an extremely alluring smile, flashing his eight white teeth, causing Li Gong's heart to palpitate. "I'm Sun Mo, who is even more terrifying than a demon!"

3

Sun Mo had been a teacher-in-charge for six years and had taught 12 students who went to Tsinghua and Peking University. He hadn't managed to do this only through patient guidance. When he became strict, he could make a spartan warrior cry.

3

"Oh, right, I've gained enlightenment and obtained a great teacher halo today. Do you want to give it a try?" Sun Mo teased.

"What's that?"

Li Gong pouted, not believing it. Was it so easy to get a great teacher halo?

"Ignorant and Incompetent!"

After saying that, Sun Mo snapped his fingers.

Pa!

A golden flare flashed, like sparks that were created when flintstones were struck against each other. These flares didn't disappear but condensed to form a golden arrow, shooting out toward Li Gong.

"Huh?"

After seeing the light flare appearing, Li Gong was given a shock. He backed off unconsciously. However, the golden arrow's speed was too fast, and it stabbed into his head in the blink of an eye.

The golden arrow's power pushed back Li Gong's head abruptly. When he lifted it back up, his eyes had lost focus. His gaze became dull and spiritless, appearing as if he was intellectually disabled.

Heh!

A sound came out from Li Gong's throat unconsciously. His mouth opened wide, and saliva came dripping down from the corners of his lips.

"Li Gong, can you hear me?" Sun Mo asked loudly.

Li Gong turned his head, still appearing to be in a daze.

"My great teacher halo is really amazing!"

Sun Mo was surprised. He had temporarily turned a person into an idiot. He walked up to Li Gong and tested him by asking some simple questions.

Li Gong didn't show any reaction.

"Is this for real?"

Sun Mo was a careful person. He would always try his best to gather information about the unknown to prepare for emergencies. He raised his hand and slapped Li Gong's face.

Pa!

The slap was very loud.

"Hehe!"

Li Gong smiled idiotically, and more saliva came dripping out from his mouth.

Pa! Pa! Pa!

Sun Mo exerted more and more strength, but Li Gong continued to smile, still not showing any significant reaction.

"I've ascertained from his gaze that he's a real idiot now."

2

Sun Mo was surprised.

The 'Priceless Advice' halo that he had gotten previously had the effect of reinforcing what the teacher said, and thus Sun Mo didn't manage to have any direct experience from it. But now, he truly experienced how powerful the great teacher halo was. He felt very happy. If any student were to not listen to him and create trouble in class, he would just toss an 'Ignorant and Incompetent' halo at them, turning that person into an idiot and stop the ruckus.

Sun Mo started to study the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art. It was only after half an hour had passed that Li Gong started to regain his consciousness.

"Who am I? Where am I? What did I do?"

2

The daze in Li Gong's eyes gradually dissipated. He realized that he was still in Sun Mo's dorm, but his memories were still stuck at the point where he had been hit by a 'golden arrow'. He couldn't recall what he had experienced in between.

Plop!

Li Gong dropped to his knees.

Ding!

+20 favorable impression points from Li Gong.

Prestige connection with Li Gong. Current state, neutral (26/100)

“Teacher Sun, I was wrong!”

Li Gong cried. He was regretting why he had promised the Logistics Department Head to create trouble for Sun Mo. He had initially thought that Sun Mo was just a mediocre person who had become an intern teacher in the Central Province Academy after getting involved with An Xinhui. He had thought that Sun Mo didn't have much capabilities. However, by the looks of things, Sun Mo was very scary.

“If anyone were to say that Sun Mo is someone who sponges off a woman in the future, I'll spit all over their face.”

Li Gong had seen Sun Mo performing the 'Priceless Advice' halo at the warehouse a few days back, and he had gained enlightenment with yet another one. His talent was probably at Gu Xiuxun's level.

Li Gong was just a worker in the logistics department. Although he had the Logistics Department Head, Yang Cai, backing him up, why did he have to fight against Sun Mo? To Yang Cai, someone like himself was like a chamber pot. When needed, he would be called. If not needed, he would be kicked away.

If he were to get into trouble, he could forget about Yang Cai helping him out.

“Teacher Sun, if you ask me to head to the east, I'll definitely not run toward the west.”

3

As someone who had been scrambling in society for over twenty years, Li Gong decided to change sides after assessing the situation.

Ding!

+30 favorable impression points from Li Gong.

Prestige connection with Li Gong. Current state, neutral (56/100)

Two consecutive notifications rang out, causing Sun Mo to assess Li Gong. He was a little surprised.

“Li Gong's respect toward you led to the increment in the favorable impression points. This is the power of a great teacher!” the system explained.

“Very good. Go gather negative news about Yang Cai after this.”

Sun Mo was in no hurry to take care of that Logistics Department Head. It wasn't because he had any reservations, but more like once he made a move, he wanted it to be lethal, not giving the opponent any chance to retaliate.

In order to keep Li Gong motivated, Sun Mo massaged his lame leg a little more, making him feel so good that he had a strong urge to do anything for Sun Mo.

...

Next morning, Sun Mo was woken up by the sound of rain hitting the plantain trees.

“It’s raining?”

2

He opened the window and a light breeze blew in, bringing in the humidity from the rain. Sun Mo couldn’t help but stretch out his body.

The rain still hadn’t stopped after he had his breakfast.

Sun Mo took out an oiled paper umbrella, picked up the [Essentials of Alchemy] and [Compendium of Herbology] he had borrowed from the library, and went out to return them.

Sun Mo’s body was very healthy due to cultivation. However, after he got a rough grasp of the general knowledge in this world, he still chose to study alchemy and herbology. He wanted to have a greater understanding of his body through them.

1

As it was raining, there were fewer students around. Sun Mo walked for a while and then turned to the path leading to the Sorrowless Lake.

The wind and rain brought about melancholy, causing Sun Mo to miss his home.

The lakeside, pavilion, and stretches of lotus leaves!

Jin Mujie was enjoying the scenery when her beautiful gaze landed on Sun Mo.

Chapter 25: Sun Mo’s Value!

The summer wind blew against the lotus leaves, producing light ripples.

Sun Mo was holding onto two books in his left hand and an umbrella with his right. He walked along the pebbled path by the Sorrowless Lake, taking a stroll.

He was wearing a light blue long robe, his long black hair tied up into a bun. As he wasn’t used to such a hairstyle, he didn’t do a good job of tying his hair up. A few tufts of hair escaped the knot and came falling down.

2

Sun Mo felt irritated and wanted to cut them off. However, Jin Mujie felt as if it gave the handsome Sun Mo an additional hint of unconstrained and relaxed disposition.

“It’s so relaxing. It’s a pity that I didn’t bring along my drawing tools with me!”

Jin Mujie sighed. What a waste of such good scenery!

Sun Mo looked up and saw that a young married lady was sitting at the pavilion by the lake. Her limpid eyes that were like that of the autumn water happened to land on him.

7

The rain was getting heavier, and Sun Mo entered the pavilion. He took the furthest seat from the lady and sat down.

The scenery here wasn't good, but it was far away from the lady. This would save others from saying that he had ill-intentions and wanted to hit up on her.

Sun Mo had taken a few glances at the young lady and couldn't help but notice that she was very beautiful and had a curvy figure. Although she was in her thirties, there weren't many traces of time on her face. She wore light makeup, but brought out an elegant disposition.

"What's your name?" Jin Mujie spoke up. As a 3-star great teacher, she wielded great authority in the Central Province Academy.

There were plenty of teachers who came to the lakeside to enjoy the scenery in the rain. However, when they saw Jin Mujie, they avoided the pavilion. They were worried that they'd disturb and displease her.

Sun Mo was the only guy who had the guts to come over.

"What about you?" Sun Mo asked.

Jin Mujie smiled faintly, not replying. With just this alone, she could tell that this elegant-looking guy was extremely aggressive.

She didn't reply, so the atmosphere in the pavilion turned awkward.

"You think that I don't know just because you aren't saying it?"

Sun Mo's lips curled up as he looked at her.

The words 'Jin Mujie' immediately appeared above her head.

"30 years old, likes sweet food. Has the hobby of collecting bones. As she has been working too much in the office, her cervical vertebrae is feeling a little uncomfortable."

"3-star great teacher."

"Potential Value: Extremely High."

"Remark, she hasn't had a taste of love for three years. If this goes on, she'll wither."

9

The rows of information appeared next to Jin Mujie. When Sun Mo saw the words 'collecting bones', his brows couldn't help but raise.

"What the hell?"

Sun Mo was quite a courageous person, but he'd definitely avoid contact with bones. Therefore, his gaze became a lot more indifferent when he looked toward Jin Mujie again.

Seeing Sun Mo looking at her, Jin Mujie felt a little displeased. This was offensive to any lady. She had wanted to reprimand him but then noticed that he shifted back a little and turned his gaze away.

"What's the meaning of this?"

Jin Mujie was perplexed. She could feel some repulsion from Sun Mo's subconscious action.

Yes, repulsion. This was too unbelievable to Jin Mujie. Putting aside her dignified status as a 3-star great teacher, given her beauty and figure, she had seen too many men who had strong yearnings for her. There was a reason why there tended to be more guys in her public classes than there were girls.

"Could it be that he likes guys?"

Jin Mujie was curious.

"Sister, it isn't that nice for you to be staring at me like this, right?"

When Sun Mo brushed his teeth every morning, he would practice smiling. This made him more approachable before his students.

Sun Mo didn't continue the conversation and only stared at Jin Mujie while smiling.

Although Sun Mo didn't have a girlfriend and had been a single man who had devoted all his leisure time to games, he wouldn't jump out just because he saw a beautiful lady.

5

The reason he spoke up was because of her title as a '3-star great teacher'.

Having been a teacher for six years at No.2 High School, Sun Mo understood how helpful it was to his career to be able to cling onto someone influential.

Since ancient times, having connections would make it easier to get things done.

From day one, the higher-ups of the academy had thrown Sun Mo to the logistics department instead of giving him the position of an intern teacher. From this, it was clear that although he was said to be someone sponging off a woman, that An Xinhui, who wasn't in a good position herself, probably couldn't be of much help to him. However, given Sun Mo's character, he wouldn't mind this.

Sun Mo had always been someone who liked to prepare for the rainy weather. Now that he had met a 3-star great teacher by chance, it'd be a waste of the many years of reading the Thick Black Theory [1] if he didn't try to forge a connection and cling onto her.

In Middle-Earth, a place where great teachers held the greatest statuses, a 3-star great teacher had higher status and prestige as compared to a Logistics Department Head.

1

Of course, Sun Mo had his bottom line as a person, and he wouldn't just cling to anyone.

At the thought of this, Sun Mo turned his gaze toward Jin Mujie.

Today was a rest day, so Jin Mujie was wearing casual clothes. She wore a long dress made from brocade, and it looked resplendent and expensive.

Jin Mujie felt uncomfortable from being stared at by Sun Mo and couldn't help but raise her hand to cover her collar. She spoke out in a slightly angered tone, "What are you looking at?"

"Looking at your cervical vertebrae. There's a problem with it. If you don't seek treatment earlier, the lines of your neck won't look good in the future."

Sun Mo intentionally exaggerated things. Women loved to look beautiful, so he should be able to make a move from this point.

"People who work at the desk for a prolonged period would end up like this."

Recently, Jin Mujie's neck would feel stiff and there would be a piercing pain if she were to sit for too long. She had looked for a female doctor to help give her Tuina, but it didn't help.

"I can cure it!"

Sun Mo felt so confident as he had the grand-master grade 'Muscleforge Technique'.

"Hehe!"

Jin Mujie didn't believe him, wanting to say, (bastard, you want to take advantage of me? No way.)

Sun Mo stood up and walked toward Jin Mujie.

Jin Mujie wasn't scared. How would an intern teacher dare to offend her? But as she looked at Sun Mo with a challenging gaze, about to reprimand him, he suddenly grabbed the back of her neck.

An astonished look appeared on Jin Mujie's face instantly. Although Sun Mo's wasn't rough, it was a man's hand after all.

There hadn't been a man who dared to be so rude toward her.

"I'm going to break his hand!"

Jin Mujie was instantly filled with rage and stood up. However, the words of reprimand she was going to say instantly turned into a low scream.

2

"Ahh..."

When Sun Mo's hand pressed onto the back of Jin Mujie's neck, even though there was a slight piercing pain, it still felt comfortable for her. It was the feeling of liberation.

That feeling was indescribably good.

"Mmmhmm!"

Jin Mujie forgot about the reprimands and let out a soft moan without realizing it. She closed her eyes slightly and sat back down, behaving like a cat master who was enjoying the stroking from its servant.

2

“It’s a success.”

Sun Mo had broken out into cold sweat. A 3-star great teacher was at least at the divine force realm. If she were to slap out and kill him, he wouldn’t be able to retaliate.

Thankfully, Jin Mujie’s hostility plunged.

“Your pain started about nine months ago.”

Sun Mo tried to display his value the best he could.

Jin Mujie was very surprised. “You’re able to find that out just from touching it a few times?”

“En!”

Sun Mo nodded and let go of his hand, returning to his seat. He could resolve Jin Mujie’s neck problem in one sitting, but he mustn’t do that. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have any other excuse to approach her in the future.

Jin Mujie moved her fair neck, yearning for more of the massage and feeling a little dejected. She wanted to experience that comfortable feeling for a little longer, but her dignity as a great teacher wouldn’t let her make this request.

“Try not to work at the desk for a prolonged period. If you must work, remember to get up and move your neck every once in a while.”

Sun Mo then picked up his umbrella and wanted to leave.

“Thank you!”

Jin Mujie stood up. From this action alone, it was clear that her impression of Sun Mo had gotten a little bit better. “I’m called Jin Mujie. If you have any trouble in the future, you can come to look for me.”

Jin Mujie didn’t mention anything about money, but these words of hers were even more precious than gold.

Sun Mo didn’t look back, only waving his hand. He then stepped onto the pebbled path and disappeared in the rain.

“Interesting. He dares to plot against me. He’s quite daring.”

Jin Mujie thought of how this kid had instructed Qi Shengjia the other day, and it piqued a little interest in her.

Ding!

+1 favorable impression points from Jin Mujie.

Prestige connection with Jin Mujie initiated. Current state, neutral (1/100)

Hearing the system's reminder, Sun Mo was speechless. As expected, it wasn't easy to cling onto a great teacher. Jin Mujie had clearly enjoyed the experience, but it ended up only giving him one favorable impression point.

It was hard for ordinary people to obtain the recognition and favorable impression from important characters like Jin Mujie.

However, Sun Mo didn't mind that. Even if Jin Mujie's cervical vertebrae was fine, there'd still be ways in which the ancient massage technique would benefit her. After all, this was a nurturing technique. Which woman didn't like to look good? Who wouldn't want to enjoy eternal youth?

Chapter 26: His Old Home Was No More

It was the rainy season in Jinling City, causing the place to give off a rustic and elegant feeling.

Sun Mo took a stroll around the city. In this place, there was neither the forest of concrete nor the metal vehicles of his world. Instead, it was filled with alleys, maids in green clothes, and elegant-looking young ladies who took light steps into some shops that were selling make-ups.

You could smell the fragrance of claypot chicken or meat skewers and hear the occasional calls from generous customers who wanted the waiters to serve them wine.

Sun Mo bit on his vegetarian bun as he walked along the wet and slippery slated path. After passing past a tanghulu [1] seller who was lifting a carrying pole, he entered a bookshop called Reading Veranda.

As it was raining, there were very few customers in the shop. There was only an old man sitting on a wooden chair, reading a book leisurely. Placed next to him was a cup of tea that had already turned cold.

The bookshop was very big, filled with tall and heavy bookshelves made from Chinese locust trees. Even with Sun Mo's tall stature, he would have to tiptoe to reach the books on the highest level of the bookshelves.

Sun Mo took a liking to this bookshop after taking a look around.

Everything was categorized and placed very neatly. The books could be loaned out, and it would only cost one copper coin per day.

Usually, books that were loaned out would have some stains or damage to them, but that wasn't the case for the books here. This meant that the owner took great care of the books and had solemnly given a warning to the people who loaned them.

Sun Mo didn't like to go out. Other than playing games, his other hobby was to read novels. Therefore, he felt very endearing to see a bookshop here.

There were folk stories, Chinese opera manuscripts, as well as poetries. There were different types of books here, but the one Sun Mo picked up was a novel.

[Nine Provinces Immortal Slaying Legend], written by Wild Mountain Old Man. There were over ten books in the series, and they filled up half the shelf. This should be a popular series in the Tang Country.

Sun Mo flipped through the book. The title sounded very domineering, and the plot was heavy. It wrote about the emotional entanglements in a sect, presented in an imposing style. It was no wonder that they could be displayed here.

In Middle-Earth, the literature was written in movable type printing. Therefore, knowledge still wasn't being disseminated widely, and only a minority of people were literate.

"Tsk, if they are of this standard, I can write my own novels."

Sun Mo took a few glances and put the book back.

"Why? Not satisfied?"

Sun Mo hadn't noticed when the old man had gotten up from the wooden chair and approached him. Seeing Sun Mo put back the [Nine Provinces Immortal Slaying Legend], he couldn't help but ask, "This is a popular book that took the entire Jinling by storm in the past one year. Youngsters like to read it."

"Hehe!"

Sun Mo didn't say anything. This old man was clearly a fan of the book. If he were to say the wrong things, they might end up getting into a fight.

The old man carefully tidied the bookshelf that Sun Mo had browsed through and then sat back on the chair. About half an hour later, he saw Sun Mo coming back, holding onto the [Nine Provinces Immortal Slaying Legend]. He couldn't help but smile.

"I thought you don't like it?"

The old man raised his brows, making his intentions very clear. (You said that it isn't good, but your body seems to be very honest. You're still going to borrow them after all, right?)

"That's right. I don't like it. But there are really no other books to borrow, so I can only make do with it."

Sun Mo wore a helpless expression. The novels here were still stuck in the xianxia and monster genres. How could such monotonous subjects possibly satisfy Sun Mo?

1

Hearing the words 'make do', the old man glared at Sun Mo, his mustache flying as he puffed out. "Then write a book and show me what 'not make do' is like!"

"Have you read Transformers before?" Sun Mo teased.

1

The old man appeared stunned.

"Have you read Dragon Ball before?"

The old man continued to wear a dazed expression.

“Then you must have not read Journey to the West before, right?”

Sun Mo started his teasing episode.

“You’re spouting gibberish, right? I’ve read countless books. Why is it that I haven’t heard of the books you mentioned?”

The old man felt gloomy and stared at Sun Mo suspiciously. He hadn’t expected this young man to be such a liar when he looked so refined.

“That’s because you haven’t read enough.”

Sun Mo said as if it was true, but he was laughing inside. Then he felt dejected. Sigh, he wouldn’t be able to read them anymore in the future.

The old man’s face turned black. But as someone who loved books as much as his life, he suppressed his fury and asked, “Where did you read those books?”

“I wrote them myself!”

Sun Mo didn’t dare to say things recklessly. As someone who came from another world, he wouldn’t say these names if it wasn’t because the old man had been speaking sarcastically to him. It was because revealing information might just bring him trouble.

“You...”

The old man was so angry that he raised his hand, wanting to beat Sun Mo. Sun Mo had piqued his interests, yet he was now telling him that those were all made up? What an awful man.

“It costs one copper coin to rent it for a day, right?”

Sun Mo dug out the money.

“En.”

The old man nodded and settled the procedures for Sun Mo. However, the words Sun Mo had mentioned earlier kept on flashing in his mind. Putting that Transformers aside, just the names of Dragon Ball and Journey to the West sounded very interesting. He couldn’t help but ask, “What is Journey to the West about?”

Sun Mo let out a soft laugh and shook his head.

“If you have a manuscript, I can buy it from you!”

The old man had read too many books, and thus it was far too difficult for him to find a book he liked. This was a torment to someone who loved books as if they were his life.

“How much would you offer?”

Sun Mo’s eyes lit up. Right now, the money he was spending belonged to the original owner of this body, and there wasn’t much of it in the first place. Moreover, an intern teacher’s salary was very meager. Sun Mo could predict that he’d have to live a straitened lifestyle for quite a while.

If he were to get into a relationship and have a girlfriend, then he'd have to spend even more money. At the thought of how he didn't even have the money to change his lifestyle, he felt way too pathetic.

"200 silver taels!" The old man offered.

Sun Mo shook his head.

"Why? You think it's too little?"

The old man knocked on the table. "100 silver taels is enough for a family of three to lead a comfortable life for a year. Young man, don't be too greedy."

"What's the market price if I were to publish a book?"

Sun Mo thought, (if I were to sell the story of Journey to the West to you, I'd be a fool.)

"Hehe!" The old man let out a contemptuous laugh. "Young man, lead a proper life. Don't be dreaming."

Middle-Earth was still in a feudal era, and the production capabilities were low. When the printing and paper manufacturing capabilities were lacking, it would mean that publishing a book was an extremely extravagant matter.

Sun Mo turned to leave.

"Alright, I'll satisfy you." The old man gave in. "I'll help you publish 300 copies. If it ends up being a loss, it'll be on me. And if it earns money, it'll all go to you."

"1,000 copies!"

Sun Mo made an exorbitant request. He had a colleague who published reference books, and back then, 1,000 copies were considered quite a good result.

"Too many, no money, not possible!"

The old man gave three rejections, not wanting to be scammed.

Sun Mo looked at the old man and activated his Divine Sight.

'Zheng Qingfang, retired to his hometown three years ago, becoming a rich man. He loves books as if they were his life, and his divine force realm is at the seventh level.'

'His body function is severely damaged. He was harmed by poison in the past, and it left a hidden ailment.'

'Remark, the Zheng Clan has a strict family teaching. If you encounter a member from the Zheng Clan who has fallen down, you can help them with a peace of mind. Don't be afraid of being scammed for money.'

Sun Mo looked at the data that appeared next to the old man. Retired? Did that refer to an official who had retired? He didn't expect that this bookshop owner had worked as an official before. He must not be lacking in money.

Zheng Qingfang had survived a lot of great storms in the court, but somehow he felt uncomfortable being stared at by Sun Mo. It was as if ants were crawling on his body.

“Alright, 500 copies. Nothing more.”

Zheng Qingfang gave in and assessed Sun Mo while he was at it.

Sun Mo was wearing a light-blue long robe that was washed very cleanly. Together with his handsome appearance and upright figure, he gave off a faint and refreshing disposition. When he pursed his lips, there seemed to be a faint and unnoticeable arch to it, giving off a calming feeling.

Zheng Qingfang had seen many youngsters with outstanding dispositions in his lifetime. But this young man was even more outstanding than most of them.

“1,000 copies.”

Sun Mo refused to give in.

“Alright, but I want to admire your wooden blade.”

Zheng Qingfang’s gaze landed on Sun Mo’s waist. He had attached a wooden blade made from black sandalwood there.

Sun Mo shrugged and turned to leave. What a joke. It had the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art on it. How could it be shown to others so easily?

However, this old man’s judgment was extremely good, capable of seeing Sun Mo’s most valuable thing in one glance.

“Kid, it’s useless no matter what you say. Bring me the manuscript first. If it’s interesting, I’ll go all out and print 1,000 copies for you,” Zheng Qingfang shouted out.

When Sun Mo’s figure disappeared from his sight, this old man sat back on his wooden chair. Now that he looked at the novel he was holding, it all felt so boring. His mind was filled with the names Dragon Ball and Journey to the West.

“What kind of story do they have?”

It was as if a cat was scratching at Zheng Qingfang’s chest. He felt an uncontrollable itch in his heart.

The rainy season in June continued. After buying a few pieces of osmanthus cake, Sun Mo got onto a small boat and toured along the Qinhuai River.

The wooden blade was casually stashed at his belt. Its value wasn’t high to begin with, but after the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art had been carved on it, it no longer had the same value as it did before.

Since Sun Mo was worried that he’d lose the wooden blade if he were to leave it in the dorm, he could only keep it with him.

It wasn't forbidden to bring around blades and swords in the Tang Country, but bows and arrows were banned. If one were found to be holding them, they'd be arrested and chained down, even thrown into prison for a few days.

2

Sun Mo still wasn't used to keeping a heavy blade or a sword with him, so he just kept this wooden blade on him as a means of defense.

After offering a joss stick at the Spirit King Temple, Sun Mo headed back to school. When he passed by a corner, he saw a skinny girl hugging a small bag tightly in her arms. She was sitting under a roof to get out of the rain.

The girl was about 13 to 14 years old and looked very innocent. It was just that her face was filled with dejection.

"A young girl with nowhere to go back to?"

1

As a teacher, Sun Mo was very sensitive toward kids like her. It was because he had had an encounter back in school where a student had run away from home.

Sun Mo looked at her, activating his Divine Sight.

'Lu Zhiruo, 14 years old, penniless. In a state of extreme starvation.'

Sun Mo secretly gave his approval at this elegant name.

The roof was small and couldn't shield the girl from the rain completely. Her cotton clothes were all wet, but she seemed as if she didn't notice anything. She curled up, like a little kitten who had been abandoned.

Chapter 27: Wealthy Family, Rainy Season!

"No money? Her money pouch must have been stolen by a thief." Sun Mo analyzed as he walked over, handing the packet in his hand to the girl. "These are osmanthus cakes. You can have them."

Lu Zhiruo looked up and threw a glance at Sun Mo. The girl didn't accept the packet and cowered back a little, avoiding his gaze.

"I'm not a bad guy!"

4

Sun Mo tried to ease his tone.

"Father said that all bad guys would say that."

1

Lu Zhiruo pretended not to hear what he had said.

“If you don’t dare to speak to strangers, why would you leave home by yourself?”

This girl really didn’t bring shame to her surname. She was like a newborn deer, cowardly and scared of strangers.

Lu Zhiruo remained silent, not saying a word, almost burying her entire head into her bag.

Sun Mo shook his head and turned to leave.

It was only until Lu Zhiruo heard the footsteps getting further and further away did she quickly look up. She saw the package placed at the side. After struggling for a few minutes, she then reached out her index finger and poked at it.

It was the scent of osmanthus cake!

“He doesn’t look like a bad guy. Should I eat some?”

Lu Zhiruo picked up the package, but before she took a bite, she put it down again. “I better not. He might be hiding in some corner, waiting for me to take the bait!”

At the thought of this, Lu Zhiruo held onto her bag tightly and stood up. She tiptoed and looked around, only sitting back down when she didn’t see anything.

“Should I eat it or not?”

Lu Zhiruo was hesitant.

Gurgle~

Her stomach was starting to growl again. Lu Zhiruo had been waiting here for one day and one night, ever since she lost her money pouch yesterday. She wanted to catch the thief but didn’t manage to succeed.

“I’ll just take one bite. Even if there are sleeping drugs in it, I wouldn’t fall from just that bit, right?”

Lu Zhiruo couldn’t stand the starvation anymore. However, when she opened up the package and ate the osmanthus cake, her ears pricked up, like a small deer that had heard a ferocious beast getting near.

The footsteps she had heard earlier were coming back.

“This is bad! I really fell into the trap!”

Lu Zhiruo’s face was filled with worry. She wanted to run away, but what if that thief happened to pass by when she had left? Wouldn’t she miss the thief then?

The girl hadn’t made her decision and Sun Mo was already standing in front of her.

“These are buns that had just come out. Do you want to try one?”

Sun Mo had casually brought the buns seller with him from the corner of the road. He then took a bite on one of the buns.

Lu Zhiruo glanced at the buns and then looked toward Sun Mo, assessing him seriously for the first time.

This person wasn't old, and his teeth were very white. He had a very gentle smile, which contrasted with the worry and reproach in his black eyes.

When she saw his gaze landing on her hand, Lu Zhiruo's face flushed up, and she quickly hid the osmanthus cake behind her back.

"Are you going to eat it or not?"

The seller was feeling displeased. If it wasn't because Sun Mo had paid him a lot of money, he wouldn't care to make this trip.

Pa!

Lu Zhiruo quickly took one bun. She gave it some thought, took another, and then suddenly bowed toward Sun Mo.

1

"Give me ten more buns!" Sun Mo said, "By the way, I'm a teacher at the Central Province Academy."

2

After hearing this, Lu Zhiruo's big eyes lit up. She instantly became less wary against Sun Mo.

"Why are you sitting here by yourself?"

Sun Mo stood under the roof, looking at the sky that was filled with dark clouds.

Drip! Drip!

The raindrops hit the umbrella, producing a deep and stifled sound.

"I... I'm trying to catch a thief."

After eating the hot buns, Lu Zhiruo's hostility toward Sun Mo dropped even more.

"It's raining, and there are so few people on the streets. It's harder to steal in this situation. Thieves would be laying at home and sleeping."

Sun Mo wanted to add that given her physique, even if the thief were to appear, she wouldn't be able to catch him.

Strength: 3. You're really very weak.

Intellect: 5. Your brain is still alright, but why do you appear so stupid?

Agility: 3. What gave you such a heavy burden?

Endurance: 3. Weakling, go and train!

1

...

Looking at Lu Zhiruo's data, Sun Mo couldn't help but glance toward her chest. He was then astonished. The girl was hugging her small baggage the entire time, blocking her chest. It was only now did Sun Mo notice that her chest was astonishingly big. Did she stuff two papayas in her clothes?

'Potential Value: Extremely Low.'

"System, is it possible to have a lower potential value than this?"

Sun Mo was speechless. Even Qi Shengjia, whose potential value was extremely low, would be able to spit in contempt when standing in front of this papaya girl. There was probably no one whose data could be as low as hers.

"She already has such big papayas, so why would she need potential value?" the system asked.

7

Sun Mo was stunned from the remark, but he had to agree.

"That's true!"

Lu Zhiruo sighed and looked toward the cloudy and raining sky. It seemed that she wouldn't be able to get her money pouch back. At the thought of this, her expression turned sad. "That's something my mother left for me!"

The girl's shoulder trembled and she started sobbing.

Sun Mo couldn't bear to see this and consoled her, "Maybe the thief who stole it is someone hardworking and can't bear to take a break even on a rainy day."

"Right, right, there's this possibility!"

Lu Zhiruo instantly cheered up and kept on nodding.

"..."

Sun Mo thought in his heart. (There's really no one who can compare with your intelligence. Can you not take someone else's consolation seriously?)

Lu Zhiruo was scared of strangers, timid, and wary. However, once she started talking, she would let her guard down completely. Sun Mo didn't even try to find things out from her, but she already said a lot.

"I came to Jinling to find a great teacher to learn from. But they don't want me!"

Lu Zhiruo shared what she had been through and couldn't help but start crying.

(Given your aptitude, they'd be blind to take you in.)

Sun Mo shook his head.

The rain kept on pouring down, not showing signs of stopping.

"What are you planning to do next?"

It didn't make sense for her to keep on waiting out here.

“Waiting for the thief.”

There was a hint of stubbornness in Lu Zhiruo’s reply. Moreover, given that she didn’t have any money, there was nowhere she could go to.

“You’re better off going back home earlier.”

Sun Mo took out his money pouch and pushed it to Lu Zhiruo. If she continued to wait here, she’d probably even lose herself. Then Sun Mo turned around and left.

“I can’t take it.”

Lu Zhiruo chased after Sun Mo, wanting to return the money pouch to him.

“Take it as a loan.”

Sun Mo waved his hand impatiently.

“No. Father said that one shouldn’t get undeserved rewards. Moreover, I’ve already eaten the osmanthus cake and hot buns you gave me.”

Lu Zhiruo was very stubborn, making a few attempts to stuff the money pouch back to Sun Mo. Then, after making another attempt, she suddenly cried out.

“It’s him!”

Although this word didn’t make any sense, given Sun Mo’s intellect, he immediately understood that Lu Zhiruo was referring to that thief. Therefore, he immediately followed her gaze.

A sloppy-looking young man was holding onto an umbrella and staying close behind an auntie.

Sun Mo was speechless. (You’re really hardworking. To think that you’re not even taking a break on a rainy day!)

1

“Don’t run, return me my money!” Lu Zhiruo shouted out loud.

“Is this what they meant by having big boobs but no brain?”

Sun Mo had wanted to remind Lu Zhiruo to not alert the thief, but it was too late. Thankfully, his reaction was fast enough and he had already darted out. At the same time, he drew his wooden blade and tossed it out.

The young man was a habitual offender. When he heard the cry, he quickly ran toward the closest alley. However, he hadn’t run far off when the sound of slicing wind rang out next to his ear. Then, a wooden blade hit him at the back of his neck.

Pa!

The young man stumbled from the strike and fell to the ground.

Puddles splattered.

...

After Sun Mo rummaged through the thief's home, he called the constables to take care of the case.

He had to say that with the title of a teacher, things progressed a lot smoother. He watched as a constable broke one of the thief's legs and then acted very respectful toward him. Sun Mo was very pleased with this outcome.

Lu Zhiruo, who was wearing cotton clothes, hugged her small bag and followed behind Sun Mo like she was his tail. As she had managed to find her lost money, she started humming happily.

When they were nearing the school gates, Sun Mo turned back.

Lu Zhiruo's head shrank back, her grip on her bag tightened, and her ears also pricked up. She was like a small deer that was listening to any movements, immediately escaping if something was amiss.

"How long are you going to follow me?" Sun Mo asked.

Lu Zhiruo avoided Sun Mo's gaze and mumbled softly, "I... I don't know."

Sun Mo couldn't understand what Lu Zhiruo was thinking about.

"That... Teacher Sun, you're really amazing. How did you know that the thief would come back?"

Lu Zhiruo blinked her eyes, looking at Sun Mo with an admiring gaze.

(How could I have known? I just mentioned it in passing to console you.)

Sun Mo couldn't get himself to speak the truth after seeing the girl's gaze. He did feel a little proud to have such a beautiful young girl admiring him.

"This is called conjecture!" Sun Mo fabricated a story.

"That's so amazing!"

Lu Zhiruo's eyes gleamed brightly like the stars in the night sky.

Ding!

+5 favorable impression points from Lu Zhiruo.

Prestige connection with Lu Zhiruo initiated. Current state, neutral (5/100)

"That can't be. You believe this?"

Sun Mo was speechless. He looked at the girl's innocent face and suddenly felt that he mustn't leave things as they were. Otherwise, she'd definitely be swindled.

When they entered the school gates, the guard, Mister Qin, put out his head from the window.

"Teacher Sun, this is..."

From the young lady's dressing, Mister Qin could tell that she was clearly not a student of their school.

"My relative."

Sun Mo passed him a packet of tobacco leaves that he had bought a long time ago. Although the guardhouse's authority was very small, almost at the bottom tier in the school's hierarchy, it would be beneficial to keep a good relationship with them. Moreover, a packet of tobacco leaves was just about twenty or so coins.

"Oh, she came to look for you for help? Or is she going to take part in the student recruitment meet?"

Mister Qin immediately broke into a smile. It was no wonder that Sun Mo could sponge off Headmaster An. He really knew how to conduct himself. Amongst so many intern teachers, he was the first to give him, a guard, a gift.

After entering the school and looking at the passing students, Lu Zhiruo felt very anxious. She immediately went up a few steps and followed Sun Mo closer.

Intern teachers didn't have an office, so Sun Mo brought Lu Zhiruo back to the dorm.

"That's my bed, feel free to take a seat!"

Sun Mo poured a cup of water.

"En!"

Lu Zhiruo nodded. However, as her clothes were drenched by the rain, she was worried that she'd dirty the sheets. Therefore, she put her bag down by the bed and sat on it.

She kept her legs closed tightly and put her hands on her knees, behaving herself.

Sun Mo's impression of the girl improved after seeing this. She was a sensible girl, but he'd still have to ask about her plans. Otherwise, if her family were to come looking for her and blame him for human trafficking, he'd be in trouble.

Chapter 28: First Meeting

"I want to become someone my father can be proud of!"

Lu Zhiruo's eyes were filled with hope. This was her dream.

"So you came out alone by yourself to learn?"

Sun Mo had some admiration for this girl. On the way back, the two of them chatted a little. He knew that she was from the Sheng Capital, and it would take close to half a month to travel to Jinling by horse carriage. She hadn't reached 14 years old yet but dared to travel alone. Her guts were admirable.

"Ahh, uhh."

At the mention of this, Lu Zhiruo's countenance immediately turned dim. It hadn't been easy for her to meet that great teacher, but her aptitude turned out to be too bad, and the great teacher only took a glance at her before waving his hand to send her off. He couldn't even be bothered to say anything.

"The Central Province Academy's student recruitment meet will be held the day after tomorrow. You can take a look. You might be able to find a better great teacher then."

Sun Mo hoped that Lu Zhiruo could recognize reality and head back home earlier. After all, given her aptitude, even intern teachers might give her the cold shoulder as well.

2

(Although you have breasts, it isn't any help to your studies!)

Sun Mo sighed. If Lu Zhiruo's breasts could be considered as her aptitude, then she'd be looking down on the rest of the world.

"Teacher Sun, you're a good guy!"

Lu Zhiruo felt very thankful.

Sun Mo had initially planned on letting Lu Zhiruo look for an inn near the school, but she wasn't willing to do so. Left with no other choice, Sun Mo could only look for Li Gong, who then cleared up a warehouse to let her stay there temporarily.

"This is where I usually rest. No one will come, so feel free to stay here."

Li Gong's face was full of smiles, afraid that Sun Mo might not be pleased with his service.

Sun Mo waved his hand, and Li Gong took his leave. However, before he left, he couldn't help but throw a glance toward Lu Zhiruo. (Oh my god, the man who marries her in the future would be so fortunate.)

"Take this money, you can use it first."

Sun Mo took out five silver taels and gave it to Lu Zhiruo. When they had caught the thief and gotten back the loot, he knew that this papaya girl didn't have much money left. This might be the reason why she refused to stay at an inn.

"No! No!"

Lu Zhiruo waved her hand and rejected, wearing a horrified expression.

"Take it. Are you expecting me to send you food every day?"

Sun Mo frowned.

Seeing that Sun Mo was angry, Lu Zhiruo jumped up like a rabbit whose tail had been stepped on. She explained, "No, I didn't have that intention!"

"Then take it."

Sun Mo asked Lu Zhiruo for her home address so he could get someone to come and fetch her. However, when he mentioned this, Lu Zhiruo would lower her head and pretend to be dumb. Therefore, he could only give up on this thought.

After returning to the dorm, Sun Mo went through his luggage and realized that he didn't have much savings left. Therefore, it was important for him to earn money quickly. Otherwise, his standards of living would plummet.

If this was in the past, given his educational background, it'd be easy for him to work as a home tutor for a few days. However, he couldn't do this in Jinling. It was because he hadn't taken on a permanent role yet.

"Am I only left with the choice of writing [Journey to the West]?"

3

To be honest, Sun Mo didn't wish to do this. However, he thought of the homeless Lu Zhiruo. He had to help her out, right? This was like he had picked up a lost kitten from the roadside. He had to keep it for a while. If he didn't even have the money to buy dried fish for its snack, then the kitten would look down on him as well.

"That'll settle it then. It's better to write 'Journey to the West' than to become a masseur!"

The ancient massage technique was very amazing, and he could definitely be a world-class masseur. However, Sun Mo felt that if he were to do this, the system would definitely be the first to die from laughter.

1

The morning sunlight had just appeared when Ludi carried a bowl of soup and a plate of pig trotters, leaving the dorm. Teacher Zhou Shanyi's impression of him was quite good. As long as he continued to keep things up, he'd definitely be able to get an 'excellent-grade' rating. It'd increase his chances of being able to stay in school.

The only thing he wasn't happy about was the teacher's rating on his braised meat. What did he mean when he said that it'd be better if Ludi were to add some goji berries and caterpillar fungus? That would be heterodoxy. It'd spoil the natural taste of the braised meat.

5

Moreover, only middle-aged people would drink goji berries steeped in water. (You're already an old man and no longer need that. Even if you were to eat goji berries every day as you would rice, you'd still age and slowly lose strength.)

At the thought of this, Ludi couldn't help but increase his force exertion in his arms, being narcissist of his healthy body that was filled with vitality, and then...

He felt gloomy. A papaya girl was sitting on the ground, leaning against the wall. She propped her legs up and hugged them with her arms. With her head resting on her knees, she slept comfortably.

Glistening saliva trickled down the corners of her lips, landing on her pants. It made a huge wet patch on it.

"Would you guys cut it out?"

Ludi felt that Zhang Sheng and Sun Mo were truly shameless. To think that they'd spend money on actors to boost their reputation so that they could stay back in school. He, on the other hand, was very upright.

At the thought of this, Ludi felt that the braised meat he was holding became even more fragrant.

“Uh?”

Lu Zhiruo rubbed her eyes, looking up with a dazed expression. As she had been sitting there for too long, her shoulders felt a little sore. She instinctively shook and rubbed them, moving her body.

“Oh my god!” Ludi almost screamed out. Was this the legendary child-like complexion? “Who are you looking for?”

“I’m looking for Teacher Sun, Sun Mo!”

Lu Zhiruo quickly stood up. After saying that, she even bowed. “Hello Teacher!”

Ludi was stunned. He hadn’t been called a teacher before. Everyone would refer to him as ‘Teaching Assistant Lu’, and it somehow sounded like the words ‘pig trotter braiser’. Other than making Ludi feel upset, this title also made him swear that he’d become a substitute teacher as soon as possible, followed by the yearly teacher-in-charge and then a great teacher. He would then get the intern teachers to braise pig trotters for him.

To suddenly be called a teacher by a student, Ludi felt as if he had drunk iced sour plum soup on the hottest day of the year. The feeling of exhilaration went right down into his bones.

“Sun Mo, someone’s looking for you!”

Ludi shouted out and then flashed a smile that he had been practicing for a while. “I am Ludi. If you have any problems in the future, you can come to ask me.”

“There’s no... no need. Teacher Sun can help me with my questions!”

Lu Zhiruo backed off a step and lowered her head. This teacher’s smile was so scary. She could even see the chives stuck in the back of his teeth.

(Hey, hey, do you think I don’t want any face to be rejecting me so quickly?) Ludi’s passion was like the sandcastle on the beach that was washed away by the waves.

(Hmph. You look at me in contempt right now, but in the future, I’d be at a level too high for you to reach!)

Ludi thought in his heart and then turned to leave. However, he had only taken a few steps away when he turned back, throwing a glance at Lu Zhiruo’s chest.

Sun Mo attached the wooden blade at his waist and walked out of the dorm.

Lu Zhiruo hid behind a pillar and looked around, afraid that another guy she didn’t know would come out. When she saw that it was Sun Mo, she jumped out with a peace of mind, bowing and greeting him.

Sun Mo ran two rounds around the Sorrowless Lake. After warming up, he practiced the first level of the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art.

Lu Zhiruo was like a small tail, following him in what he was doing. Sun Mo hesitated for a moment but didn’t stop her.

1

By the time he had started to sweat a little and more people were coming to the lakeside, Sun Mo stopped. It was going to be the peak hour at the canteen soon. If he didn't go now, it'd be squeezey there.

Someone handed a towel to him.

Sun Mo turned and saw the girl, who was still dressed in her green clothes, standing under the sun and passing him the towel respectfully with both hands.

"You don't have to do these things!"

Although Sun Mo said that, he still took the towel from her and wiped off the perspiration on his forehead.

Lu Zhiruo then took out a bamboo cylinder from her bag. After pouring out a cup of water and passing it to Sun Mo, she took the used towel, not saying a word in the entire process.

The fragrance of meat buns was permeating the second level of the canteen.

"Are you hungry?"

Sun Mo looked around.

Lu Zhiruo nodded subconsciously and then quickly shook her head.

Gurgle~

Lu Zhiruo's stomach started growling, making her feel extremely awkward. Her face was instantly flushed up all the way to her neck.

The papaya girl lowered her head, and her two slender index fingers were rubbing against the corner of her clothes uneasily. She was like a quail that had been captured.

"Go get what you want to eat!"

Sun Mo threw his employment pass to Lu Zhiruo and headed toward a table next to a window. "I'll have porridge and salted vegetables. If there are hotteoks, then get me one."

"En!"

Lu Zhiruo took the employment pass and quickly ran toward the porridge stall.

All the teachers in the Central Province Academy had an employment pass. It was a small wooden token that was the size of one's palm. Other than allowing one to use places such as the martial lecture hall and the Meditation Dojo for free, there'd also be discounts when one showed it when buying meals and other things.

Lu Zhiruo was holding onto Sun Mo's employment pass and thus would be able to enjoy the discounts. This caused the corners of her lips to curl up, giving her the urge to touch the money pouch in her pocket that was almost empty.

After having breakfast, Sun Mo went to the library. He looked for a secluded spot and started writing [Journey to the West]. For fear that she'd disturb Sun Mo, Lu Zhiruo took a seat slightly further away from him.

Sun Mo had read the Four Classic Novels many times in the past. He felt that out of them [Journey to the West] was the most obscure one in its writing. He remembered all the stories, but he couldn't replicate it word by word. Therefore, he used his own language to reproduce the story in which Tang Sanzang went on a mission to seek holy scriptures.

1

Lu Zhiruo was bored just sitting there and planned to take a few books to read. However, after taking a look around the library, he realized that she had read almost all of them before and didn't like the remaining ones. She came back empty-handed. Not daring to disturb Sun Mo, she placed both hands on her knees and sat upright, being so well-behaved as if she was a cat.

The summer wind blew past the window, sending one of the manuscripts to her. She had long since felt curious about what Sun Mo was doing and thus glanced over.

"The Flowerfruit Mountain is a place of good fortune, and the Water Curtain Cave presented a whole new world?"

Lu Zhiruo continued reading. (This is a story of a monkey, but is it possible for a monkey to come out from a stone? That's so mysterious! Hmm, isn't Teacher Sun's choice of words too straightforward?)

Lu Zhiruo felt that she'd be able to do a better job than Sun Mo. However, she couldn't tear her eyes away from the manuscript. It was because this monkey was really interesting. It was just a beast, but it dared to call itself the 'Monkey King'. What arrogance.

Lu Zhiruo put aside the copy of the manuscript and then glanced toward Sun Mo. She then secretly inched closer, reached out her hand, and took another piece.

Distressing journey to the west, the birth of the Monkey King.

Traveling the world in search of immortality!

Lu Zhiruo continued reading. When she reached out again and touched nothing, she quickly realized that she had finished reading through all the manuscripts.

"There's no more?"

Lu Zhiruo was disappointed and subconsciously looked toward Sun Mo. He was also looking at her.

Clank!

Lu Zhiruo instantly got up in shock, but because she moved too quickly, her knees scraped against the table. It hurt a lot.

"Ouch!"

Lu Zhiruo gasped but quickly greeted, "Teacher Sun!"

The papaya girl then turned her gaze toward the manuscript in front of Sun Mo, subconsciously reaching out her hand. She had a strong yearning to read it.

Chapter 29: Sitting At Home, But Points Were Coming Down from the Sky!

The ink had already dried, and Sun Mo kept the manuscript.

Lu Zhiruo blinked her big eyes, watching with such fervent gaze as if she was a kitten that had starved for days and had just discovered dried fish left to dry on the balcony.

“Hold on, why don’t I help him tidy up his manuscript? Won’t I be able to read it openly then?”

Lu Zhiruo clenched her small fists and knocked her head. She was so stupid.

Swoosh!

A golden halo suddenly extended out in the library, bringing forth some noises in the initially quiet atmosphere.

“It’s a great teacher halo!”

Lu Zhiruo looked around and saw a handsome young man walking in. He waved his hand to get everyone to continue with their learning.

“He’s called Qin Fen, a graduate from Jixia Learning Palace, one of the top nine renowned schools. Do you want to have him as your teacher?”

Sun Mo assessed Qin Fen. What high EQ. He had released the ‘Wide Learning and Retentive Memory’ halo in the library. Not only would this leave a favorable impression on the students’ hearts, but it would also spread his name. His way of doing things was a lot better when compared to Zhang Sheng who only knew how to build up his reputation by bribing students.

Of course, the great teacher halo was something that could only be gained through enlightenment and not learned. Even if Zhang Sheng wished to do this, he was unable to.

Sun Mo was unable to replicate this act either. The ‘Priceless Advice’ halo could increase the weight of his words, allowing the students to be influenced for a while. However, he hadn’t grasped it completely yet; thus, it would only work at times. As for the ‘Ignorant and Incompetent’, it was a great teacher halo that was purely punishment in nature. If he were to throw it out here, he’d definitely bring about a great commotion, and he’d then be fired.

1

“No!”

Lu Zhiruo shook her head without any hesitation.

“You don’t look up to him? From what I heard, many students want to become his personal disciple.”

Sun Mo was surprised by how decisive Lu Zhiruo was. For students who didn't have a good aptitude, there was no chance for them to study under a great teacher. Therefore, Qin Fen's reputation as a graduate from a renowned school was very tempting. It wouldn't be bad to be his personal disciple.

"It's not about his capabilities. I just don't like the scent of him!" Lu Zhiruo explained.

"Huh?"

Sun Mo was stunned and he subconsciously sniffed. There didn't seem to be any other smell other than that of ink? (Moreover, are you really able to smell it despite being over 30 meters away from him?)

"Teacher Sun smells better."

Lu Zhiruo smiled sweetly, flashing her dimples.

"Haha."

Sun Mo couldn't help but pat Lu Zhiruo on the head when he saw how docile she was.

The papaya girl didn't doge but squinted her eyes slightly. She tilted her head a little and rubbed it against his hand. Her hand then reached out toward the manuscript on the table.

2

Did that monkey obtain the art of immortality? She really wanted to read it!

...

The sky was slowly turning bright. Yan Li, who usually liked to sleep in, got up. After washing up, he changed into a clean set of uniforms.

"It's such a pity. Why can't we wear the clothes we brought from home? Who would be able to tell that I come from a rich family like this?"

Yan Li felt gloomy as he looked into the mirror. But that didn't matter. He put on his jade bracelet and then rolled up his sleeves just so that the bracelet would be revealed discreetly.

The true way of doing things was to flaunt your wealth in a low-profile manner.

1

It wasn't as if Yan Li wanted to hitch up with girls, but that he wanted to become Qin Fen's student. He knew that his aptitude was mediocre, but he could make it up with his wealth.

After all, cultivation required the depletion of a tremendous amount of resources, and money could be used to purchase some resources. Otherwise, if one were to rely on their own cultivation, how long would they take before they managed to achieve anything?

"Yan Li, you'll definitely be able to succeed."

Yan Li gave himself some encouragement. Today was the day of the student recruitment meet. Many teachers who were hard to meet would appear, and there would even be great teachers amongst them. However, Yan Li felt that he might not have such a chance to be chosen by them.

At the thought of this, Yan Li felt very gloomy. However, when he turned and saw Qi Shengjia, who was just getting up from his bed, he felt a sense of superiority.

“A salted fish!”

Yan Li wore a contemptuous smile. It was degrading to share the same dorm with trash like him. Was he not leaving school? Why was he still not doing anything?

Over the past two days, Yan Li would hope to see Qi Shengjia’s bed being emptied every time he returned to the dorm. He had even had the delusion that this pauper would flee away sheepishly like a loser, but he would be disappointed every time.

“I must get a great teacher this year!”

Wang Hao clenched his fist.

“Sigh, Shengjia has entered the battle hall. His chances are a lot greater than ours.”

Zhou Xu felt emotional and couldn’t help but be a little jealous. Previously, he was in a position in which he could look down on Qi Shengjia. However, now that Qi Shengjia had overtaken him, he naturally felt slightly uncomfortable.

“Zhou Xu, who did you say has gotten into the battle hall?”

Yan Li frowned. Had he heard wrongly?

“It’s Qi Shengjia. Didn’t you know that?”

Wang Hao was a little envious as well.

“Haha, is it fun to lie to me?”

Yan Li let out a stifled laugh and then glanced at Qi Shengjia from the corners of his eyes. “If some trash of the 4th-level of the body-refinement realm could get into the battle hall, then wouldn’t I be able to become its lecturer?”

“Shengjia, show him your battle hall’s identity plate.” Wang Hao teased, “By the way, Sheng Jia is at 5th-level of the body-refinement realm, not 4th-level.’

“That’s impossible!” Yan Li cried out and assessed Qi Shengjia dubiously. “Even if you want to lie, you should be more serious about it. I would believe that he can get up to 4th-level. After all, anyone could have a streak of good luck. But 5th-level... Would a guy who’s so poor that he has to wear a pair of holey socks be able to afford peak-grade medicine?”

Wang Hao and Zhou Xu exchanged a glance and suddenly appeared astonished. If a cultivator wished to advance, other than putting in effort into their cultivation, the other method was to take peak-grade medicine for additional nourishments. However, these alchemical pills were all very expensive.

Even Qi Shengjia’s father couldn’t bear to buy them. So, did Sun Mo, who was completely unrelated to Qi Shengjia, have so much money to waste on him? It could only mean that Sun Mo’s Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands was very amazing.

Ding!

+20 favorable impression points from Wang Hao.

Prestige connection with Wang Hao: Neutral (73/100).

Ding!

+16 favorable impression points from Zhou Xu.

Prestige connection with Zhou Xu: Neutral (41/100).

1

Sun Mo immediately received favorable impression points from two students. This gave him a feeling of exhilaration as if he had picked up a money pouch. However, this Zhou Xu clearly didn't have much admiration for him.

...

"How about it? You don't have anything else to say, right?" Yan Li sounded very proud. "If I didn't remember wrongly, your opponent was Peng Wanli, who is at 6th-level of the body-refinement realm. Even if you're at 5th-level, you won't be able to win against him!"

Wang Hao couldn't be bothered to answer him. He took out Qi Shengjia's plate and threw it over.

Pa!

Yan Li immediately took it and was then stunned. Qi Shengjia's name was written in gold on the black wooden token. There wasn't any sense of aesthetics to it, but after seeing it, Yan Li was so astonished that he was speechless.

This was something Yan Li wanted and even dreamed of but couldn't get. Even worse, now it appeared in the hands of an inferior student.

"What the...?"

Yan Li screamed as if a thick mace was pierced into his butt, and his voice broke. He clutched onto the plate tightly, trying to console himself by saying that this was a fake. However, he was unable to do so. It was because he had seen a battle hall's plate that belonged to a good friend. He had spent a lot of money to treat that person to a meal.

"Shengjia won against Peng Wanli despite the difference in their level. Moreover, Teacher Jin Mujie even gave him praise in front of everyone, saying that Shengjia's Skywolf Fist is quite good and that he has reached a small achievement in it."

Zhou Xu helped to speak up for Qi Shengjia as the former would still need the latter's help in the future. In the past, although Zhou Xu didn't like Yan Li, he would definitely not scoff at him.

"Impossible!"

Yan Li denied this possibility without even giving it any further thought. A great teacher's judgment was very high, so why would they praise Qi Shengjia?

“You can just go and find out from others! Many of them saw the battle with their own eyes.”

Wang Hao urged. “Let’s go. Today’s a big day.”

“Why?” Yan Li couldn’t understand. (How did a salted fish manage to turn the tables around? Could it be that he encountered a great teacher? But why would a great teacher be so free as to bother with such a trashy student? That won’t do. I must find out the truth behind this.)

1

Qi Shengjia pursed his lips and clenched his fists tightly. He wasn’t good with words and thus wasn’t able to scoff at Yan Li. However, when he saw Yan Li’s countenance changing from blue to red repeatedly after taking the plate, Qi Shengjia felt that all the humiliation he had experienced over the past three years had been washed away.

Qi Shengjia smiled and reached out his hand. “Have you seen enough? If you have, then return it to me. I’ll be heading to the student recruitment meet.”

“You...”

Yan Li almost died from fury. He wanted to rebut, saying ‘who would care for a lousy plate like this?’ But he wasn’t able to say it. It was because he really wanted it!

Qi Shengjia left the dorm, and he hadn’t left far away when he heard banging sounds coming from it. He didn’t have to ask. It must be Yan Li venting his frustrations by smashing stuff to the ground.

“Thank you, Teacher Sun Mo!”

Qi Shengjia had heartfelt gratitude toward Sun Mo. In the 15 years of his life, he had never been able to walk with his head held up high like this before. And all of this was what Sun Mo had given him.

Ding!

+50 favorable impression points from Qi Shengjia.

Prestige connection with Qi Shengjia. Current state, friendly (408/1,000).

Sun Mo, who was cultivating the Grand Universe Formless Divine Art by the Sorrowless Lake, received a notification from the system. It was really a case of sitting at home but money was coming down from the sky.

(Qi Shengjia, you can do it!)

Sun Mo hadn’t expected that Qi Shengjia would contribute so many points. Honest people were really reliable. If you were to treat them well, they’d thank you for life.

1

For a short instant, Sun Mo had thought of taking Qi Shengjia as his personal disciple. After all, he’d be able to gain a tremendous amount of points, but he immediately dismissed this thought.

1

There was no other way out. Qi Shengjia's potential value was extremely low, and it was destined that he wouldn't be able to gain much in life. How could he let a student like him be his first disciple?

1

Even salted fish had dreams!

Sun Mo was still planning on producing a few great swordsmen, saber saints, or people like that.

Turning his head, Sun Mo then looked toward Lu Zhiruo whose potential value was extremely low. However, the first thing that he saw was her pair of papaya breasts.

They were really too big and would be seen with just a casual glimpse.

Sun Mo hesitated. He felt that if Lu Zhiruo wanted him to be her teacher, he'd definitely not reject her.

1

Chapter 30: Ying Baiwu, 13 Years Old, Goodbye!

"Depending on the students' aptitude, you'll be given treasure chests of different grades. The lowest-tier reward would be one black-iron treasure chest."

2

Sun Mo was about to ask what the system would do if he were to ignore everything and randomly recruit five students with the weakest aptitude. However, the system covered that.

It didn't leave any loopholes.

It had just passed eight in the morning, but the number of people in the school was bustling. Most of them were teenagers who were about 12 years old. There was uneasiness, curiosity, and yearning in their youthful faces.

4

Entering a reputable school, meeting a great teacher, and becoming a character who was renowned in the world was the dream of almost every youngster.

"There are so many people!"

Lu Zhiruo grabbed onto Sun Mo's sleeve tightly. She was very scared of strangers. If it wasn't because she wanted to accompany Sun Mo, she would have escaped back to her room, closed the door tightly, and then locked it.

Everyone, both male and female, would throw Lu Zhiruo a glimpse when they passed by her. It was inevitable because her papayas were too big. In addition to her child-like face, the killing prowess was tremendous.

1

"Teacher Sun!"

Lu Zhiruo was very nervous. She buried herself into Sun Mo's arm without realizing it. Why were all these people looking at her? Had she not washed her face properly this morning? Or did something get stuck in his teeth?

"Why don't we head back?" Lu Zhiruo mumbled softly.

"If you don't take this opportunity to train your courage, what are you going to do in the future? Why are you shrinking your head back just because you see other people? Are you an ostrich?"

Sun Mo tugged Lu Zhiruo's arm away.

"Ouch!"

Lu Zhiruo instinctively wanted to grab onto his arm again. However, she hesitated a little, worried that she'd be reproached. Therefore, she put out her fingers and pinched the clothes on his waist.

The schools in Middle-Earth's nine provinces were all managed by the Saint Gate, and they could be classified into five grades.

There were only nine Supreme Academies, and they were known as the Nine Greats, as well as the Aristocratic Schools.

Below them, there were 18 'A' grade schools, 36 'B' grade schools, 72 'C' grade schools, and 108 'D' Grade schools.

These 5 grades were followed by over 1,000 schools that weren't included in the grading.

All in all, a total of 243 schools were listed in these five grades, and they could be given the title of famous schools.

Every year, all schools of the same grade would head to the Darkness Continent and participate in a league tournament. Then, based on their rankings, the top five schools would rise to participate in the higher grade tournament. Respectively, the five schools ranked at the bottom would go down by one grade.

Over 1,000 schools that weren't included in the five grades would compete for ten positions. Then, after passing the Saint Gate's test, they would get the qualification rights and could advance to the 'D' Grade league tournament to obtain the title of a famous school.

At the same time, the ten schools that were ranked at the bottom of the 'D' Grade would be downgraded and lose their title.

The two most renowned schools in Tang Country's Jinling City were firstly the Central Province Academy and secondly the Myriad Daos Academy that had risen in the recent ten years.

In the past, the Central Province Academy would be the first target of many students, but things had completely reversed in the past few years. However, compared to the other non-graded schools, the Central Province Academy still retained its title as a 'famous school' at least. It had a glorious history and was situated in the flourishing Jinling City. These added bonus points, and thus it was the second option of some students.

Schools that wished to advance to a higher grade would have to obtain good results in the league tournament and be ranked in the top five.

How could they raise the rankings?

Of course, it was through having outstanding students represent the school to take part in the competition. For this, it was necessary to have a supply of students with outstanding aptitude.

An Xinhui had been on this job for three years and had put in a lot of effort in this area. However, the returns were very small. Most of the good students had been snatched by the Myriad Daos Academy. After all, the Myriad Daos Academy was a 'C' grade school that was one grade higher than the Central Province Academy.

After understanding the education system in the nine provinces, Sun Mo was filled with emotions. He thought of how the housing prices in the school district had skyrocketed, but not many people were willing to sell their houses. It was because having houses in the school district meant that they had the right to enter a good school.

However, there was only one condition that determined if one could enter a famous school or not—your aptitude and not your father's money.

2

Although these students might be leftovers from others' picks, Sun Mo believed that there'd be pearls amongst them. With his Divine Sight, it wouldn't be a problem for him to unearth five or even ten of them.

However, after roaming around for one hour, Sun Mo felt gloomy. He didn't even see a single student with a high potential value, let alone someone with an extremely high potential value like Li Ziqi.

"Teacher, you can't do things like this."

Lu Zhiruo was very anxious. She was worried that Sun Mo wouldn't be able to get a single student after the three days were over.

"System, how did you measure the potential value of a person?" Sun Mo asked.

"The overall assessment of the target's current condition, as well as the system's expectations of the target's future."

The system's reply was very generic, giving Sun Mo the urge to give it a beating.

"This means that the greater your anticipation is, the higher their potential value would be?" Sun Mo analyzed.

"Yes. But a student with an extremely high potential value might also become mediocre because they didn't get the guidance of a great teacher. Misguidance might lead to the destruction of a genius."

Having a high potential value meant that one had a high growth possibility. It represented the successful future they might have.

"Teacher, you must take the initiative!"

Lu Zhiruo thought that Sun Mo was unable to lower his standard. But since he was so young and lacked experience, he could only go head-on if he wished to take the first step.

1

Even though the teachers were picking the students, the students also wanted to find a teacher who could stimulate their potential.

“There’s no hurry.”

Sun Mo rubbed his eyes. He was starting to feel a little tired and decided to sit down by the flowerbed. It was tiring for the eyes to keep on using Divine Sight.

Another half an hour passed by, and he still didn’t get any success. Lu Zhiruo was starting to feel very anxious. Seeing that Sun Mo still had no intention of approaching the students, she clenched her teeth, summoned her courage, and ran toward a female student.

“He... Hello. Are you planning to enroll in a school? Can you consider Teacher Sun Mo?”

2

Lu Zhiruo bowed and then finished her words while trembling.

“Him? He’s too young!” The female student rejected her.

Lu Zhiruo didn’t give up. She ran toward a second female student and asked the same question.

“How long has he been a teacher for?”

The female student assessed Sun Mo. This young man looked quite handsome, and when the sunlight shone down on his face, it gave him a cool aura. This met her aesthetic requirements.

“Hold on!”

Lu Zhiruo quickly ran back to ask Sun Mo.

“Over a month, currently on an internship!”

1

Sun Mo didn’t hide anything.

“Huh?”

Lu Zhiruo was stunned when she heard this. She felt that the level of difficulty had suddenly increased by many folds. This fact discouraged her a lot when she walked back toward that female student.

As expected, after the female student heard that, she shook her head, took a final look at Sun Mo, and then left.

Even a female student who placed a great emphasis on looks wouldn’t pick an intern teacher who lacked experience.

Lu Zhiruo stood on the spot, struggled for a moment, and then decided to continue helping Sun Mo. What if there were students who didn't care that he was an intern teacher?

She continued to stop a third female student. However, this time around, the student's question was very domineering. "Are you his student? How are his teaching capabilities?"

"I... I..."

Lu Zhiruo stuttered and turned her head back pitifully, looking at Sun Mo for help.

"She's not my student."

Sun Mo stood up. This female student was willing to ask this question, meaning that she valued the teacher's capabilities more than their status. It was just that before he could give a self-introduction, the female student continued to question him.

"She must trust you a lot to be helping you like this, but why don't you take her as your disciple? Is it because you don't wish to waste her aptitude? Or does she think that you aren't worthy? Regardless of which it is, they both prove that your capabilities are limited!"

The female student looked straight at Sun Mo. She was very gutsy and forceful.

"Oh, interesting!"

Sun Mo wasn't angered but had his interest pique instead due to her logical conjecture. He activated his Divine Sight and observed her.

'Ying Baiwu, 13 years old.'

Strength: 7. Top-notch amongst those from the same age group.

Intellect: 7. Top-notch amongst those from the same age group.

Agility: 7. Top-notch amongst those from the same age group.

Will: 7. Top-notch amongst those from the same age group.

Endurance: 7. Top-notch amongst those from the same age group.

'Potential Value: Low'

'Remark, possesses a huge flaw and is not recommended to be taken in as a disciple. Please keep your distance from her.'

2

...

Sun Mo looked at Ying Baiwu's data and was speechless. He wanted to drag the system out and give it a beating. "Don't you think that you're being contradictory? No matter how you look at it, this data should be matched with a high potential value, right?"

"The system is never wrong!"

The system added emphasis on the word 'never'.

Sun Mo fell silent and stared at the 'remark'. Her flaw must be the thing that lowered her potential value.

"10,000 taels!" Ying Baiwu spoke up.

"What?"

Sun Mo heard her clearly but didn't understand what she meant.

"Give me 10,000 taels and I'll be your personal disciple." Ying Baiwu gave a quote.

Lu Zhiruo was so surprised that her mouth was wide-open. This was something that could be sold for money? This was the first time she even heard that!

"I'm a pauper."

Sun Mo rejected her.

"Sorry to bother you!"

Ying Baiwu turned to leave decisively.

Sun Mo looked at Ying Baiwu's clothes that looked old from repeated washing, and the image that appeared in his mind was her pale and lean face. She was poor.

Lu Zhiruo was hesitant to speak up.

"Don't look for people anymore."

Although all the students that Lu Zhiruo had approached had low potential value, he appreciated her help. She had been extremely nervous even when speaking with girls.

As a teacher who had come into contact with many students before, Sun Mo knew that Lu Zhiruo had a fear of strangers. She would feel nervous if she had to come into contact with them. This whole time, she was breaking out in a sweat, and she might even have a strong urge to pee. This was a psychological illness.

"But..."

Lu Zhiruo looked at Sun Mo worriedly, wanting to ask him what would happen to him if he couldn't recruit any students.

"You're a good girl!"

Sun Mo rubbed Lu Zhiruo on the head. He liked such well-behaved students. She had summoned a lot of courage to approach the three girls from earlier.

"If... if you don't mind that my aptitude is too weak..."

After saying that, Lu Zhiruo threw a glance timidly at Sun Mo and then lowered her head. She drew small circles with the tip of her toes and mumbled softly, "Then why not take me as your personal disciple?"