

Tales of Herding Gods

Chapter 21: Power Of Medicine

The herb garden outside the village was very huge and inside were planted spirit herbs that Apothecary had found in Great Ruins. The villagers were long eyeing the herbs, however Apothecary had bred various dangerous little bugs in the herb garden therefore no one dared to enter it.

The people in Great Ruins were scarce thus there were plenty of spirit herbs that were valuable as well. Over these years, Apothecary had gathered countless of rare and unique herbs back, replanting them in the herb garden. He had rarely used these spirit herbs and had finally decided to use them all on Qin Mu!

It's important to know that with his high standard, all these spirit herbs he had gathered were all very valuable. Putting out any stalk outside for sale would easily raise a commotion, therefore Apothecary had indeed went all in!

As the bonfire slowly extinguished, the villagers all went back to their houses to rest. Qin Mu also went back into his room and fell into deep sleep shortly. Granny Si covered him in a blanket and looked at the young boy's sleeping face, revealing a loving smile.

"My Mu'er... No matter if you have Overlord Body or not, you will always be the child I raised and I will not let anyone or anything hurt you!"

She was still pretty wise and could see many things from the expression of Village Chief and Apothecary during the bonfire celebration, just that she did not expose them.

She scampered back into the room with her tiny feet to sleep.

The next day, Blind carried his bamboo cane and excitedly rushed into the house and called, "Mu'er, quickly get up. It's morning, Apothecary..."

"I still haven't got out of bed, how dare you come to peep!"

Hearing a great crash, Qin Mu opened up his sleepy eyes and saw Blind flying out from Granny Si's room. Blind flew through the sky in an arc and landed somewhere outside the village.

"Grandpa Blind sure is impressive!"

Qin Mu exclaimed in admiration as he saw Blind still holding onto his bamboo cane and sitting cross-legged, flying through the sky with an innocent face.

Qin Mu woke up and started washing up before making breakfast to eat together with Granny Si. After washing the bowls and spoons, he saw Blind running back excitedly from outside the village and shouted, "Damned old woman, what a ruthless kick, I almost couldn't find my way back! Mu'er, come over quickly, Apothecary had made some elixir for you!"

Granny Si had a malicious face and gave Blind a stare before getting up to leave unsteadily, "I shall go Border Dragon City to do some trading. Blind, I shall leave Mu'er to you these few days. If I come back and find out that he has lost even a single strand of hair, you will answer to me! Old Ma, Old Ma, is the cow carriage ready? Cripple, is the bamboo raft tied in place?"

Qin Mu immediately followed Blind to Apothecary's workshop and had smelt a strong medicinal smell before he even got in. He then saw a huge cauldron hanging in the air with a few vermilion coloured birds flying around it. Between the birds' feathers, the flames blazed furiously and heated the cauldron red hot on the outside while on the inside were bubbling sounds.

"Mu'er, this is your medicine."

Seeing that Qin Mu had arrived, Apothecary took out the last herb which was a piece of green leaf and threw it into the huge cauldron. As the leaf just touched the medicinal water, the bubbling water immediately started to become extremely thick.

While doing it, Apothecary gave a push and the huge cauldron started to spin rapidly. Following that, clattering sounds started to come out from the cauldron as the full pot of medicine actually became half pot of white coloured medicine pills. As the cauldron continued to spin, the pills started to collide with each other and gave out the crisp sound of metal.

Apothecary waved his hands and the few vermilion coloured bird flew out from the window and vanished.

As the cauldron reached the floor, Qin Mu was speechless. "Grandpa Apothecary, I have to eat so many medicinal pills today?"

"If you ate all of them, you would be dead."

Apothecary said evenly, "This cauldron of medicine of mine is made from all the highest quality spirit herbs. Even though it's just a low level Vitality Reinforcement Pill, one pill wins a hundred pills from other apothecaries. You only can eat one to two pills at a time and no more than that."

Qin Mu was skeptical. Apothecary also fed him some strange and weird medicines before, however, every time it had always been a huge bowl of something filled to the brim. Whereas now, he only had to eat one pill. Was the medicinal energy in this pill that strong?

Blind was also skeptical and said, "The swindlers outside also say that one of their pills was equivalent to a hundred pills of others. Is your medicine really that strong? However I must say these medicines are pretty fragrant."

Apothecary laughed sinisterly, "Why don't you try eating the entire cauldron of medicine?"

"Mu'er, how about you grab a bunch to try?" Blind tried to stir him up.

However Qin Mu absolutely would not get stirred up by him and only brought a pill to his mouth.

As the spirit pill entered his stomach, he immediately felt something wrong. He felt like thousands of fire, water, gold and wood dragons overturning the seas and rivers in his belly, making his body to become tall, short, fat and thin from time to time. Sometimes he felt so cold that his body would form a layer of ice while other times he felt so hot that burning smoke would come out of his clothes. Sometimes, his clothes would start to germinate and the hair on the beast skin of his clothes would grow crazily, while other times, his clothes would get dyed in a layer of metal color and even his skin would become hard, as if he was entirely made up of metal!

The more frightening thing was: all the different types of symptoms burst out together, causing a great deal of pain to Qin Mu.

He gave a silent groan and immediately used 'Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique' to dissolve the medicinal energy by his vital qi!

Blind totally changed his look and cried out, "Apothecary, your Vitality Reinforcement Pill seems to be different from ordinary Vitality Reinforcement Pill!"

"That's right. A normal Vitality Reinforcement Pill is separated into four kinds, Fire Vitality Pill, Water Vitality Pill, Gold Vitality Pill and Wood Vitality Pill."

Apothecary gave a sinister smile, "Vitality Reinforcement Pill is directed at the four different vital qi attributes of the Four Great Spirit Bodies, in order to nourish the Spirit Body's vital qi. However Qin Mu's Overlord Body has no attributes thus I have come up with a compromise method to refine spirit herbs with all four attributes into a Vitality Reinforcement Pill that contains all four attributes. Maybe it would be able to arouse the power of the Overlord Body's vital qi. Only Qin Mu's Overlord Body's vital qi could absorb this kind of spirit pill. If you had eaten the entire cauldron of Vitality Reinforcement Pill just now, hehe..."

Blind gave an uncontrollable shiver. If he had eaten them, the conflict between four different attributes of vital qi would probably have dissipated his power by twenty to thirty percent. Of course, this would happen only if he had eaten the entire cauldron of Vitality Reinforcement Pill. Eating only one pill would not hurt him much.

“Apothecary, is what you refined a tonic or a toxic?” Blind mumbled,

Suddenly Qin Mu gave a loud shout and started to sprint crazily, disappearing in a twinkling of an eye.

Blind couldn't help but become worried, “The four attributes conflict each other. Would Mu'er be fine?”

“There's no need to worry. He is digesting the medicinal energy.”

Apothecary actually was uneasy inside while he was saying so. After all, it was his first time improving the Vitality Reinforcement Pill and also his first time refining the improved Vitality Reinforcement Pill. As Qin Mu was the first to try, Apothecary was also unsure how much medicinal energy in the pill, if it had any side effects or if the person who ate it would die or not.

Of course, he could never say these out or else Granny Si would come for his life.

In the forest far away, Qin Mu's roar rang out as the trees collapsed one by one and created loud rumbling noises.

The corners of Apothecary's eyes twitched as he said, “It's going to be fine, don't worry. Listen, he is currently vigorous and lively!”

Blind gave a sigh, “Young people sure are full of energy.”

In the forest, Qin Mu sprinted among the trees. His fists and feet were as fast as lightning as he kicked and punched towards the various huge trees. A huge tree that required two people to hug could only take three punches and two kicks before getting broken into half by him!

Unbearable.

It's too unbearable!

The medicinal energy of Apothecary's Vitality Reinforcement Pill was simply too strong. Despite using 'Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique' while sprinting, he was still unable to dissolve it and felt like his body was about to explode. He could only exhibit the martial arts that Cripple and Old Ma had taught him to vent out the excess medicinal energy!

In his Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure, the tiny human shaped spirit embryo was also frantically doing breathing exercises to absorb the vital qi rushing forth and purifying it. This tiny Qin Mu was also so weary that he was gasping for breaths.

“Die, young’un!”

Suddenly, the forest trembled as a furious devil ape stood up within the forest and bellowed in rage. Fists the size of small mountains flew ruthlessly toward Qin Mu who was destroying the forest!

So it turned out that the medicinal energy had got to Qin Mu’s head thus he unwittingly came into the devil ape’s territory again. Seeing that it was the young’un who had trespassed into his territory again, it became exceptionally furious meeting his foe and attacked Qin Mu without explanation at once.

Qin Mu’s eyes were scarlet red as he suddenly raised his head. The medicinal energy in his body furiously broke out and caused the vital qi in his entire body to burst to the brim. Qin Mu then leaped forward and gave a punch towards the devil ape’s fist!

Booom—

A deafening sound rang out as Qin Mu flew backwards and broke several huge trees in his path. The devil ape leaped towards him excitedly and raised its legs for a sweeping kick towards Qin Mu who had just landed on the ground. The huge and thick leg was like a large pitch black pillar crushing towards him!

In an instant, Qin Mu gave a shout and gave countless of kicks on the devil ape’s extremely thick leg at the point where muscles and tendons connects. The devil ape immediately felt the strength vanished from its leg, so it quickly followed up with another punch from the sky.

Qin Mu raised his arms to block and was once again forced to retreat.

Fighting close combat with Qin Mu, the devil ape’s punches and kicks would rake up gales that caused a whooshing sound. As it attacked Qin Mu, Qin Mu seemed to become hysterical and actually began to fight hand to hand with this strange beast. Even when he was at a disadvantage, he didn’t show the slightest fear.

The devil ape became all the more furious and became hysterical as well. Every punch and kick towards Qin Mu became heavier and heavier.

One human and one ape, one big and one small, everywhere they went the trees would collapse and shattered rocks would fly.

Suddenly, Qin Mu leaped into the sky as if he was flying and started to sprint on the devil ape’s arm, reaching his face in the next moment.

Thousand-Armed Buddha!

His two arms looked as if they became hundreds of arms as they left after-images while the few hundreds punches landed right on the devil ape's soft and drooping nose in succession.

The devil ape teared in pain and fell on its back. It swung its huge palm and ruthlessly smacked Qin Mu away.

Turning over its body to crawl up, it turned its gaze over with his nose still bleeding. Seeing Qin Mu getting buried in the cliff after getting smacked by it, the devil ape couldn't help being satisfied, "Young'un, dead."

Suddenly, the young'un who was buried in the cliff suddenly twitched and with both his hands propping him, he pulled himself out from the crater and frantically rushed to it.

The devil ape jumped in a shock and beat his chest with its two fists, bellowing as it leaped toward Qin Mu, "Die! Young'un!"

Chapter 22: Secret Of The Stone Statues

In the valley below the cliff, sounds of heavy impact kept sounding out, causing the tree leaves to sway continuously from the tremors. The birds in the mountains also flapped their wings and flew away, not daring to stay near.

In the valley, the devil ape leaped forward while hugging onto a huge boulder, smashing it towards Qin Mu in midair.

Qin Mu agilely dodged it and when the devil ape saw that it had missed, it picked up another huge boulder wanting to smash again. However Qin Mu leaped onto the huge boulder and bounced onto its nose again and giving it another palm strike.

Thunderclap Eighth Strike Third Form, Tempest Of The Nine Dragons!

This palm of his contained nine layers of force. The first force bursting forth from the heart of his palm was like the impact of a raging dragon, causing the devil ape to fall backwards. Qin Mu's shoulders and hips then moved together. With the strength flowing through his entire body, he directed all his muscles to centralize at the center of the palm. With the second burst of force, the devil ape's head was smacked onto the ground, splitting the rocks under its head.

The body muscles of Qin Mu looked like a coiling and squirming dragon. With the third explosion of force from Tempest Of The Nine Dragons, the split rocks began to shatter.

His muscles throbbed tremendously and the fourth force burst forth, burying half of the demon ape's head into the ground.

The fifth force from Tempest Of The Nine Dragons exploded and a deep rumble came from the ground as the devil ape's head had fully sunk below the ground!

The sixth force of Tempest Of The Nine Dragons was like the impact of six dragons, however just as the force burst forth, the devil ape had already reacted to it and his small mountain like fist struck from the side and smacked Qin Mu away like a fly!

Qin Mu landed on the ground tumbling. The devil ape struggled to pull its head out and gave it a few shakes to get rid of the debris in his thick hair.

On the other side, Qin Mu flipped his body up and rushed over the ape again like the wind. Frightened and upset, the devil ape thought for a while and leaped onto the cliff, squatting there and waving its hand, "Young'un, no."

With his fleeting footsteps, Qin Mu rushed forward and ran up the precipitous cliff from the bottom to the top and continued to attack the devil ape.

The devil ape flew into a rage. The human and ape continued to leap around on the cliff, shooting rocks in random directions as they fought.

A great deal of time later, the medicinal energy in Qin Mu's body was gradually used up. The devil ape was also so exhausted it could not even take another step. The human and ape were both gasping for breaths and laid there unable to move.

Five minutes later, Qin Mu caught his breath and sat up to do breathing exercises to readjust himself. He was elated when he found out his vital qi had a great improvement in such a short time. His vital qi had become more tenacious and could reach every single corner of his body unimpeded.

His body was also covered in a lot of filth which was probably because of the fight against the demon ape, arousing the medicinal energy which strengthened his vital qi to refine more impurities in his body.

Qin Mu gave a flick and the screeching sound sounded out as if it was an arrow breaking through the air.

The devil ape was startled and immediately sat up in a defensive position.

Qin Mu stretched his body comfortably and felt the soreness in his muscles. He shook his head, "Let's not fight anymore."

The devil ape understood his words and gave a sigh of relief. It stretched out his hand and plucked out a huge tree with the width of an arm. It swept up a bunch of tree leaves

and slowly chewed them in its mouth before placing the tree in front of Qin Mu, speaking in a low and muffled voice, "Eat, young'un."

Qin Mu plucked a bright red fruit and skinned it before eating. The sweetness and refreshing taste moistened his throat.

Devil ape looked at him at disdain and resented him for only eating a little. It then patted its chest strongly, "Eat! Strong!"

Beaten by the devil ape, Qin Mu's face was full of bruises. He endured the pain in his body as he stood up to execute Thunderclap Eight Strikes in front of it before patting his own chest, "Train, strong!"

Devil ape rolled its eye and continued to slowly eat the tree leave and replied in despised, "Believe, ghost."

After Qin Mu had finished resting, he leaped off the cliff and ran of the walls of the cliff, "Fight, tomorrow!"

Blinking its eyes, the devil ape waited until Qin Mu was far away before jumping to his feet and started to imitate Qin Mu's movements earlier. Even though his Thunderclap Eight Strikes was very crude, it still had extraordinary strength after all and actually managed to execute some grace of Thunderclap Eight Strikes, striking out the sounds of wind and lightning.

Devil was stunned and revealed an expression of ecstasy. It then continued to strike until the whole mountain cliff was filled with the sounds of wind and shouted, "Strong! Strong! Strong!"

When Qin Mu returned to the village, Apothecary anxiously came up to check on his body and smeared some ointments on his face, asking, "Is there any unusual symptoms?"

Qin nodded his head and made Apothecary even more nervous.

"Grandpa Apothecary's spirit pills sure are effective. My vital qi had became even stronger." Qin Mu replied.

Apothecary finally gave a sigh of relief and smiled, "These spirit pills are indeed effective for the Overlord Body. As long as you don't die from eating them, it means that my approach is correct. Hold on to this cauldron of pills first while I go mull over other prescriptions!" Finished saying, he left excitedly.

Blind propped himself over with his bamboo cane and smiled, "Are you tired Mu'er? If you are, I can teach you a first class eye technique."

Qin Mu gave a cough and replied, "Grandpa Blind, I'm over here. Over there is the toilet."

Blind turned over and faced Butcher who was suntanning on the lower millstone, "I pondered over it for a long time. Since your Overlord Body doesn't have any attributes, you can't cultivate my techniques. However this eye technique doesn't require vital qi with attributes therefore the Overlord Body's vital qi can also cultivate. Come with me, my technique is called Nine Heavens Eyes Awakening Skill..."

Qin Mu had a headache as he always felt that Blind was somewhat unreliable but he still forced himself to follow Blind.

He was extremely bewildered when Blind said that he wanted to teach him Nine Heavens Eyes Awakening Skill but did not teach him how to train his eyes. Instead he had brought him to observe and study the four stone statues in the villages.

The two of them sat in front of the stone statue located at the east corner. Even with Blind's empty eye sockets, he also gazed at the stone statue as if he could see something.

Qin Mu knew everyone in the village was very weird, even the stone statues at the four corners of the village were weird. In Disabled Elderly Village, no one wasn't weird.

Even though these four stone statues were not tall, they were extremely heavy. They were so frighteningly heavy that even Qin Mu could not sway them at all.

His current strength was very great especially after he had consumed the blood of the four spirits. Recently with vital qi body refinement cleansing his body and marrow, his body had become stronger and stronger yet he was still unable to move the stone statue the slightest inch.

When he was young, he would often climb up the statues to play but Granny Si and the rest would always grabbed him down, telling him not to be disrespectful to the stone statues. During New Year and other festivities, Granny Si and the rest would still put out offerings for the stone statues and light a few incense sticks, praying to the statues for blessing the villagers' lives and the village with peace. The four statues were not sculptures of human, they only had human-like figures. The southern stone statue had a bird head and was crouching on a stone pillar. With its hand supporting on its knees, there were two wings sculpted out from his back as if he was ready to fly off.

At the north of the village, the stone statue was a tortoise back old man with a horsetail whisk in his hand. However the horsetail whisk was sculpted into a huge snow white snake coming out from the horsetail whisk handle. The white snake was coiled around the body of the tortoise back old man as its head looked far into the distance.

At the west side of the village, the stone statue was a sculpture of a woman wearing a plume feather crown with a crouching tiger under her legs.

The female sculpture was also very weird. In the middle of brow, another eye was sculpted there, however a bird nest was sculpted inside of the eye where there were three little birds inside.

Whereas right in front of him was the stone statue in the east corner of the village which was a dragon head humanoid. On its body was a herb basket with a few herbs still inside.

Blind asked him to observe the stone statue carefully. However, Qin Mu had seen the stone statue countless of times in the past and had even behaved atrociously by climbing onto the stone statue. He really didn't know what to look for at the statue.

"Mu'er, can you lift this stone statue?" Blind asked as he saw Qin Mu being absent-minded.

"I can't."

Qin Mu shook his head. The stone statue was too heavy, so heavy that it didn't seem to be made of stone. A stone with the height of a human could at most be a few thousand kilograms and with Qin Mu current strength, it would be an easy feat for him but he couldn't move any of the four stone statues at all.

Blind then kept the conversation interesting, "Do you know why the stone statues are so heavy?"

Qin Mu shook his head again, "I don't know."

"The stone statue actually isn't heavy, not at all."

Blind's expression remained calm, "What is heavy is not the stone but what was sculpted from the stone."

Qin Mu was puzzled. Isn't it still stone after sculpting it from a stone?

Blind continued, "For example, when learning calligraphy and painting from Deaf, your paintings and writings are a load of crap which are worthless. However Deaf's paintings and writings can't even be bought with ten thousand taels of gold! Both paintings were made from paper and ink yet why is Deaf's painting more valuable?"

Qin Mu half understood what Blind had said but Deaf's painting really had an extraordinary appeal in it which was way better than his.

Blind lifted his bamboo cane and pointed, "If these stone statues were sculpted by an ordinary person, it wouldn't be heavy at all. However, since the person who sculpted them comes from an extraordinary background and the contents of the sculptures are even more frightening, the weight of these stone statues can't be measured with common logic. Carrying a stone statue is equivalent to..."

His expression turned eccentric before continuing after a while, "Is equivalent to carrying a god!"

Chapter 23: Disrespecting The Gods

Qin Mu's heart wavered, "Carrying a stone statue is equivalent to carrying a god?"

Blind replied indifferently, "Carrying a god while walking is extremely heavy. Back then when Granny Si and the rest wanted to save you, Old Ma was the one who carried a stone statue and brought Granny Si to the riverside. Although it was such a short distance, Old Ma almost collapsed from exhaustion even with his strength."

Qin Mu's scalp turned numb. The stone statues in the village were that heavy?

Who was the one who had sculpted these stone statues?

Who were the gods sculpted on the stone statues? Why do they become so heavy when sculpted in these appearances?

Will he be hated by the gods when he had defecated and pissed on them while he was still a child?

"Don't you worry, the god that had sculpted these sculptures is long dead. Mu'er, the reason I had made you observe the stone statues is to train your eyes. What I want you to see isn't just an ordinary stone statue, but the image that a god had crafted for gods!"

Blind voice was so loud that even the deaf could hear him, causing Qin Mu's eardrums to ring. Blind faced the bamboo basket beside the stone statue and shouted, "Mu'er, what the Nine Heaven Eye Awakening Skill opens are your god eyes, and since they are called god eyes, you obviously have to see god! Use your eyes to see god, to see the god's powers, god's grace, god's aura, god's appearance and the god's spirit!"

Qin Mu's heart and mind trembled, "To see god? To see the god in the stone statue?"

"Allow your vital qi to enter your eyes and open the first heaven of your own ignorance!"

Blind's bamboo cane gently tapped on Qin Mu's heart and it was unusually accurate this time. Qin Mu immediately felt his vital qi circulating endlessly and rushed toward his own eyes!

Cultivating the eyes was extremely dangerous. Despite Qin Mu's vital qi had started to refine out impurities and excess fats from his body, the eyes were still the most difficult part to train. It could almost be classified as a forbidden area as one could turn blind on the slightest mistake!

Qin Mu had once asked Village Chief how to train his eyes but Village Chief did not say much and only told him not to try refining his eyes rashly.

However Blind had instead pushed Qin Mu's vital qi towards his eyes in a violent and overbearing momentum against common sense!

Qin Mu felt a piercing pain from his eyes as his vital qi majestically rushed into his eyes. His vital qi cultivation was extremely thick but it was compressed finely by Blind's terrifying cultivation.

How big could eyes be?

However at this moment, Qin Mu felt as if his eyes had become extremely humongous like the sky!

His vital qi was like huge and long dragon entering his eyes that were as wide as the sky. His vital qi then violently surged forward and squirted into the sky like a pillar that was supporting the heaven and earth. The surging vital qi then spread across the entire sky and formed strange markings on the sky that crossed each other to become a net. It was like heaven's net covering the entire sky.

The pain earlier had also suddenly vanished and was replaced by a extremely cozy sensation that he had never felt before.

"Mu'er, memorize the image in the sky. That's the first heaven of Nine Heavens Eye Awakening Skill, the Heaven's Big Dipper Formation Marking." Blind's voice came from the sky high up.

Qin Mu immediately tried to memorize the image by heart. With his vital qi directed by Blind and forming the Heaven's Big Dipper Formation Marking inside his eyes, he could clearly see the path, structure and details of the formation marking. However the Big Dipper Formation Marking was too complex and complicated thus it required him to take some time to memorize them.

Blind directed his vital qi over and over again until Qin Mu's vital qi was almost depleted. He then took his cane away from Qin Mu's heart.

“How much have you remembered?” Blind asked.

“Sixty to seventy percent.”

Blind gave a pleased expression, “It’s not an easy feat to memorize sixty to seventy percent in such a short time. Now recover your vital qi.”

Qin Mu started sprinting and executed ‘Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique’ to allow his vital qi to recover faster.

When his cultivation had returned to his pinnacle, Blind continued, “Execute the Big Dipper Formation Marking that I have taught you and look at the stone statue again to see if it was different from before.”

Qin Mu immediately directed his vital qi into his eyes and constructed Heaven’s Big Dipper with his vital qi. Even though he had only learn sixty to seventy percent of the formation marking and didn’t complete it, the cozy sensation when one could refreshingly see through everything came out again as his vital qi spread all over his eyes.

Lifting his head up to look at the stone statue of the dragon head elder, his mind couldn’t help trembling. The stone statue which was once ordinary in front of him had suddenly become bright and colorful.

It was as if the stone statue had come to life and become an indomitable god!

He even saw the finest light given off around stone statue. Every fine ray of light brought out the divine grandeur of the stone statue!

His mind and spirit immediately suffered the pressure of the stone statue!

In his eyes, the stone statue was no longer a stone statue but a living and breathing god!

God’s spirit, appearance, aura and power came crashing down on his spirit before overwhelming his entire body, making him unable to resist wanting to kneel down.”

“Continue looking and don’t close your eyes. Don’t kneel down either.”

Blind coldly continued, “Remember how you peed and pooped on the stone statue when you were young? If you dare to do that when you were young, why do you have to kneel down when you become older? Mu’er, what Nine Heavens Eye Awakening Skill awakens aren’t just your eyes but your spirit as well, for you to stand strong against all the powerful and the evil!”

“How powerful is a practitioner isn’t solely based on the power of his moves, it’s more important that the spirit is strong! If your spirit loses to a pile of broken rocks, no matter how powerful you become you will still be a total failure!”

Blind knocked his bamboo cane on the ground and shouted, “If you go against the stone statue and withstand its pressure, your spirit will become stronger as well! If you want to have greater power, you must first strengthen your spirit, become your own god and fear nothing!”

Beads of sweat rolled down Qin Mu’s forehead as he struggled to go against the thought of him kneeling down. The pressure that the stone statue had brought on him was simply too strong and was impossible to resist.

Blind told him that there was nothing to be afraid of but it was impossible for him to do it.

Things became totally different after awakening his eyes.

When his eyes were not yet opened, the stone statues were just ordinary stone statues, thus he had no qualms peeing and pooping on them. However when he had opened his eyes, the stone statue was like a god and any actions even looking at the god was counted as a blasphemy.

Blind said, “It’s easy to destroy the god in the temple but difficult to destroy the god in your heart. Do you know who had said this sentence?”

Qin Mu’s spirit was still being intimidated by the stone statue and was unable to answer.

“The one who had said such a rebellious sentence is the current Imperial Preceptor of Eternal Peace Empire, the person acclaimed as the number one man under gods!

With awe inspiring presence, Blind shouted, “Mu’er, the gods in your heart are all strange gods and fake gods. Only by destroying them could you erect your own god statue! Even if a real god is right in front of you, you can’t kneel down, let alone a stone statue!”

Blind stabbed his bamboo at the side and loosened his pants, laughing loudly, “Not only you shouldn’t kneel, you should pee on it!”

“Pee on it?”

Qin Mu stared blankly, “Pee on a god?”

Blind peed at the stone statue and laughed, “That’s right, pee on it! When you were young you had peed on it no lesser than a hundred times, why are you afraid now?”

Qin Mu gritted his teeth and loosened his pants to pee. A warm sensation flowed out onto the stone statue.

This pee was not insignificant. The god statue in Qin Mu's eyes was still divine and full of pressure, however the feeling that was pressuring his spirit to kneel down had vanished entirely.

The old and the young 'looked' at each other and laughed happily.

Village Chief was at the village entrance suntanning as he heard their laughter. Turning to have a look, he couldn't help but shook his head, "Blind is indeed a frivolous genius, to use this kind of method to break the god in Qin Mu's heart and strengthen his spirit. If it was anybody else, they wouldn't have thought of such a weird method. Mu'er sure is extremely daring to pee along with him. Making Mu'er pee on the stone statue not only broke the god in Qin Mu's heart but also broke the god in his heart, the 'god' that had taken his eyes away... The Spear God is back."

He knew why Blind had done this.

The bamboo cane was not a cane in Blind's hands but a spear.

When Blind had walked into Disabled Elderly Village back then, his body was heavily injured and was in a pathetic state as if he was a beggar covered in filth.

However Blind's footsteps as well as the bamboo cane on his hand were very stable.

When he walked into the village, he gave Village Chief a feeling that raging dragons were sweeping out from all directions. In Village Chief's eyes, the bearing of Blind was like a pillar supporting the heavens.

The only person in the world to have that kind of spear skills and spirit could only be that of Spear God!

However, the most powerful point of Spear God was not his spear but his eyes. He had a pair of god eyes and could see through every loopholes of the moves.

And now, Blind had imparted the god eyes to Qin Mu.

You must first train your eyes to train the spear, and before you train your eyes you have to train your heart!

Blind's eyes were god eyes. The stronger the eyes got, the more truth they could see, and the more truth they were able to see, the more you could see how terrifying it was.

Chapter 24: Destroying The God In His Heart

All the living things in the world were not as simple as they looked. What ordinary humans saw with their naked eyes and what practitioners saw with their awakened eyes were two entirely different worlds!

The stone statues in the village seemed ordinary but practitioners who had awakened their eyes could see gods from these stone statues. These practitioners could also see the gods and devils from all the ruins left behind by them which were scattered everywhere. As for the Buddha in the temple, ordinary folks could only see a Buddha statue but for practitioners who had awakened their eyes, they could see a peerless great Buddha, crushing their spirits!

If the practitioners didn't have a strong spirit, they would die of fright sooner or later from what they saw.

Therefore as Blind taught Qin Mu to train eyes, he had first taught him to train his spirit, to destroy the image of god in his heart so that he wouldn't be afraid again, henceforth then could he achieve success.

As what Buddhism goes by, if there's a Buddha in you heart, it's hard for you to become Buddha.

Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor had also said: it's easy to destroy the god in the temple but difficult to destroy the god in your heart. These two kinds of sayings went by the same logic with Blind peeing on the stone statue.

The first two methods required one to slowly improve his spirits to destroy the god and Buddha in his heart, step by step. Blind's method was simple, crude and somewhat extreme, however it was effective.

When Village Chief saw Blind for the first time, the atmosphere around him was extremely strong as if raging dragons were rolling into all directions. However Blind broke down then as both his eyes had been dug out.

And now, Spear God had returned.

This was all due to Qin Mu. Ever since the village had this healthy little boy, their resentment had gradually been washed away. To teach Nine Heavens Eye Awakening Skill to Qin Mu, Blind had to first awaken his 'god eyes'. However since his god eyes had been dug away, he was only left with his mind's eyes.

When Blind was imparting his skill to Qin Mu, Village Chief could feel his 'god eyes' awakening, which was actually his god mind's eyes!

Having no eyes left, he used his mind as a replacement!

Village Chief slowly closed his eyes and leisurely laid there under the sun as he thought to himself, "God mind's eyes will surpass god eyes and Spear God will also surpass that previous Spear God. When you walk out of the Great Ruins one day Blind, your enemies will shudder in fear..."

After Qin Mu had finished peeing, a shiver ran down his spine. He felt his body and mind entirely free from worry.

The stone statue could no longer put pressure on his spirit anymore. Looking at the stone statue again, he could see many things he couldn't see previously. It was like that previously his eyes were covered with a veil, causing him to see everything fuzzily. Whereas now that the veil had been lifted, the true colors of the world were shown.

He looked at the colors around him greedily. The beauty that he had never discovered before made him so excited that he wanted to cry.

Approaching the other stone statues in the village, his spirit was once again overwhelmed. The other three stone statues in the village were similar to the dragon head elder stone statue, giving off intense divine rays and extraordinary charm, possessing a sacred aura!

However, he could look at them normally now as the stone statues could no longer affect his spirit.

Nine Heavens Eye Awakening Skill, just by cultivating the first heaven had already made him to be wild with joy. What other beautiful sceneries would his eyes see after being upgraded by the next few heavens?

Qin Mu took out a copper mirror and took a look at his reflection. In the mirror, his eyes were different from usual as a ring appeared deep inside his pupil. On the ring were strange markings that were like lightning intersecting.

The ring gradually became faint and faded away.

Qin Mu closed his eyes and directed his vital qi to carefully construct the Heaven's Big Dipper Formation Marking before opening his eyes once again. He then saw the ring appeared in his eyes once again.

This ring was the projection of heaven.

"If I managed to cultivate Nine Heavens Eyes Awakening Skill then there should be nine heaven rings overlapping each other like ten pupils stacked together." Qin Mu thought to himself.

Blind continued to guide him on how to complete the Heaven's Big Dipper Formation Marking and after quite some time, Qin Mu finally mastered the entire Big Dipper Formation Marking.

"Mu'er, are you finished with your rest?"

Butcher 'jumped' down from the lower millstone and grabbed his two Pig Slaughtering Knives, "If you are done, then it's time to train your knife!"

Qin Mu acknowledged and rushed towards Butcher after retrieving his Pig Slaughtering Knife.

Not long after, Old Ma and Cripple had returned from hunting and immediately took over from Butcher in training Qin Mu. Qin Mu was only let off after he could no longer move from exhaustion.

In the evening, Qin Mu went to learn blacksmithing skills from Mute the Blacksmith. Mute gave a few hand signs and some unintelligible sounds while Qin Mu nodded in deep thought.

What Mute was explaining were the techniques of cultivation. He said cultivation was like blacksmithing: one must pay attention to the different functions of the small flame and big flame. Other than the functions of the flames, you should also know how to quench the metal. You had to temper the metal in cold water to harden it.

Wisdom and force, strength and flex, dragon and tiger, these are how the opposite forces complement each other.

The more Qin Mu pondered over it, the more he felt logical. He admired Mute for his words, which would allow him to avoid going down many wrong paths.

While blacksmithing, Mute taught him to observe fire. While looking at the fire in the furnace, Mute performed a few actions.

Qin Mu's eyes brightened and followed what Mute had taught, to observe the fire while circulating his vital qi at the same time. Executing Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique, his vital qi circulation was like a small furnace hidden in his chest directing heat to all parts of his body.

Qin Mu felt a delightful sensation like his vital qi was burning.

At the same time in his Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure, his spirit embryo absorbed energy from the sea of light as it did breathing exercises. His spirit embryo also began to change gradually as the vital qi it exhaled got ignited into flames, surrounding it as if it was being bathed in a furnace.

Qin Mu was astonished as his spirit embryo also started body refinement. By observing the furnace fire, the spirit embryo had such a mystical transformation that he didn't expect!

Mute was also astonished as he sized up Qin Mu curiously. Halfway past midday, Qin Mu felt that the fire power that his spirit embryo could withstand had already reached its limit and immediately stopped observing the fire.

“Ah ah!”

Mute gave two hand signs and dunked the red hot iron strip into the water. As it fizzled and gave off white wisps of smoke, Mute gave another two hand signs.

Qin Mu's eyes lighted up and observed the water jar in deep thought.

The sound of flowing water gradually sounded out from his chest. Along with the babbling sound of water, his vital qi flowed into his Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure and actually became a tiny stream. When it came into contact with his spirit embryo, something magical happened. His vital qi actually started to temper his spirit embryo!

He was enjoying himself while his spirit embryo was tempered by fire and water!

The next morning, Qin Mu woke up bursting with life. Overflowing with energy, he used the method Mute taught him to cultivate and it was indeed twice as fast!

“Let me find that devil ape to fight again!”

In high spirits, Qin Mu consumed the Vitality Reinforcement Pill and was forced to rush out of the village to vent the medicinal energy. Meanwhile, the devil ape had been waiting for quite some time under the cliff.

“Lay, young'un!”

The devil ape cultivated Thunderclap Eight Strikes that Qin Mu had imparted to him and had a tremendous boost in strength. Seeing Qin Mu rushing to it, it immediately threw away the tree branch in its mouth and gave a fighting stance while guffawing, “Lay, flat!”

Qin Mu rushed forward while the devil ape was like a moving mountain crashing towards him. As it came face to face with Qin Mu, it suddenly executed Spring Thunder On The Lonely East Sea. With the whooshing sound of wind getting louder and louder, the move blew down all the surrounding trees with a strong gust!

Qin Mu's eyes sparkled and let out a loud roar. He too executed Spring Thunder On The Lonely East Sea and clashed with devil ape!

Boom!

A dull explosion rang out as both of them got shot away by their own strengths. When the devil ape landed on the ground, it immediately rushed over again with its huge fists breaking through the air, causing the air to vibrate from his attacks. As it continued to punch while moving, the air began to hum from the vibrations.

Qin Mu was astonished, the devil ape had actually learned the move Thousand-Armed Buddha as well!

The Thousand-Armed Buddha the devil ape executed was still lack of practice and the devil ape hadn't mastered the subtleties of this move, but it had already mastered the soul of the move. Combined with his extraordinary strength, its Thousand Armed Buddha looked even more powerful than Qin Mu's!

The devil ape's body was too strong, stronger beyond belief. After cultivating the Thunderclap Eight Strikes, its body had become even stronger. The power of its every punch was terrifying.

Having his cultivation and strength tremendously improved yesterday, Qin Mu thought he could beat the devil ape half to death after nourishment from his vital qi and Vitality Reinforcement Pill. He totally did not expect that he gained no advantage whatsoever in the fight and was beginning to get overwhelmed!

Chapter 25: The Second Awakening

The human and ape begun to strike out wildly and clashed fiercely. Qin Mu's arms started to get sore and numb as he gradually found it harder to withstand devil ape's overwhelming attacks.

Not long after, his face became bruised and swollen from devil ape's beatings, however the devil ape did not take the chance to kill him and instead continued to spar with him while it restrained a portion of his strength.

"Eat, strong!"

The devil ape unleashed another punch which brought the rush of wind that actually contained nine waves of powers. The move was indeed Thunderclap Eight Strikes Third Form, Tempest Of The Nine Dragons. As it fought with Qin Mu, it also kept nagging Qin Mu to eat more until he was as strong as it.

"Heaven's Eyes, awaken!"

Qin Mu's vital qi surged up into his eyes and constructed the first heaven Big Dipper Formation Marking of Nine Heavens Eye Awakening Skill. Another layer of pupil seemed to appear immediately in his eyes.

Awakening his Heaven's Eyes, Qin Mu suddenly felt everything in the world becoming extremely clear, deep and orderly. Even the devil ape's punch coming in his way had become magical in his eyes.

He could see every hair on the devil ape's fist swaying in the air and even could see how every tendon, muscle moved under the devil ape's skin as well as the path of its strength!

The Nine Heavens Eye Awakening Technique that Blind had imparted to him allowed his eyes to see the reality in what he saw. It also allowed him to know well of the disparity in strengths between him and his enemy, as well as to control and steer the strengths in a level that he had never thought of!

The instant before Qin Mu's fist met with the devil ape's fist, Qin Mu's five fingers suddenly flicked out and his fingertips broke through the air, releasing a piercing whoosh like the sound when a bowstring had been released from a strongbow!

Thunderclap Eight Strikes, Thunder Fingers Of The Pipa Player.

Old Ma's fist skills didn't entirely consist of fist skills but also finger skills. Thunder Fingers Of The Pipa Player was one of the superb fingers skills among them. As Qin Mu's first finger had flicked onto the devil ape's huge fist, it immediately realized that all the power in its fist had vanished.

With Qin Mu's second finger, devil ape felt the flexor tendon in his arm vibrating!

Qin Mu flicked out his third finger and the devil ape felt the muscles on his arm also began to tremble violently thus it couldn't help panicking.

Qin Mu's fourth finger flicked out and the devil ape couldn't control his arms as they lifted upwards, revealing its chest.

Finally, Qin Mu flicked his fifth finger on the chest of this humongous creature. Devil ape only felt as if it was bashed in its chest by a few hundred wild bulls in the Great Ruins and uncontrollably flew backward!

Qin Mu stared blankly. Wasn't Nine Heavens Eye Awakening Skill that Blind had taught him way too strong?

What was strong wasn't his moves but his eyes. Using Heaven's Eyes, he could easily see through the changes and path of devil's ape strength. From there he could locate the weakness in devil ape's punch and strike its weakness with the first finger to negate the astonishingly powerful punch!

Whoosh—

The instant where he got lost in thought, the devil ape rose up and punched Qin Mu away. It then leaped in midair and clenched both its fists, mercilessly pounding Qin Mu down. The ground trembled as the place where Qin Mu's body had landed was smashed into a deep pit.

The devil ape landed back on the ground with a boom and gave another punch into the pit. Before its fist had even reached the pit, Qin Mu flicked another finger onto its fist.

The next moment, the devil ape's gigantic body flew upwards while Qin Mu leaped up from the pit and caught up with devil ape who was in midair.

Tempest Of The Nine Dragons!

Boom boom boom, a series of explosion sounds rang out as devil ape's gigantic body dropped down like a shooting star, crashing down several huge trees in its path.

After some time, Qin Mu and the devil ape fought their way to the top of the cliff. Gasping for their breaths as they laid down, they already had no more strengths to continue fighting.

Even though Heaven's Eyes was very powerful, it consumed his vital qi so much that even Qin Mu couldn't tolerate it with his profound cultivation.

After resting for some time, devil ape sat up and raised his thumb to point at itself, "I, elder!"

Qin Mu also sat up and shook his head, "I, elder. You, younger."

Devil ape flew in a rage, stretching out its fist and showing off the lumps on its arm, "I, strong!"

Qin Mu grabbed one of its fingers and swung devil ape up before mercilessly smashing it on the ground, "I, stronger!"

Devil ape flipped its body back up and they both started fighting again. Soon they ran out of strengths again and laid down to catch their breaths.

Qin Mu regained some strengths and stood up. Devil ape also sat up and stared at Qin Mu as he executed Thunderclap Eight Strikes on the top of the cliff.

Qin Mu had only taught him once yesterday and it had already learned the basics, having a rough framework. Now Qin Mu exhibited every fine detail in Thunderclap Eight Strikes for it to watch and explained to it the secrets on how to bring out the power of each moves.

The devil ape learned very fast and managed to master the complete Thunderclap Eight Strikes in several hours. Qin Mu's scalp turned numb and suspected that if he kept teaching it, would he still be able to fight against this jumbo.

"This fellow is also a martial art genius. Could strange beasts be so intelligent? Could it also cultivate?"

Qin Mu thought for a while and sat down teaching breathing exercise to the devil ape, imparting his Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique to it.

Devil ape imitated him closely and learned the breathing exercise. Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique was really the simplest Daoyin Technique, thus its method of circulation was extremely simple which required only moving and guiding vital qi.

Not long later, devil ape had basically mastered Daoyin Technique and had an even breathing rhythm. This was also partly due to his temperament. Since it was a herbivore, it had quiet disposition and a pure mind, therefore it could master Daoyin Technique in such a short time.

"This fellow really is a martial art genius."

Seeing it mastering Daoyin Technique so quickly, Qin Mu couldn't help sincerely exclaiming in admiration, "Train well big fella. I'll find you to spar again tomorrow." Finishing his words, he leaped down from the cliff and ran towards the village.

Devil ape saw him off and sat down once again, whispering, "Young'un..."

The next several days, Qin Mu everyday came to spar with devil ape and after sparring, devil ape would treat him to some fruits. On the other hand, Qin Mu would show it how to cultivate and even taught Cripple's Heaven Pilfering Divine Legs to the devil ape.

Devil ape was originally good at fists skills but lacking in leg techniques. However after learning Heaven Pilfering Divine Legs, its legs skills became extremely crafty, putting Qin Mu at a disadvantage whenever he wasn't careful.

Qin Mu's strength increased rapidly while devil ape's improvement was also frighteningly fast. It soon attained small success in cultivating vital qi. During sparrings with Qin Mu, if he didn't utilize his Heaven's Eyes, he was unable to gain the upper hand and would instead fall into a disadvantageous situation.

This evening after fighting with devil ape, Qin Mu came to the workshop of Mute the Blacksmith to help and observe the fire following what Mute had taught him.

In his Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure, his vital qi was like fire tempering his spirit embryo. Everything seemed to be similar as usual but at this moment, golden rays

suddenly started pouring into his spirit embryo as it frantically absorbed them from the golden sea in the divine treasure.

Qin Mu was at a loss and totally did not know what was happening.

Mute was unable to see what was happening in Qin Mu's spirit embryo therefore he naturally didn't know something mystical was happening inside Qin Mu's body.

As his spirit embryo absorbed more and more golden rays, the little figure suddenly stopped. The spirit embryo also stopped breathing and exhaling, sinking into silence.

Qin Mu tried to mobilise his spirit embryo but it still remained motionless.

“Did the spirit embryo die?”

The young boy felt slightly uneasy. After some time later, his spirit embryo slowly recovered and woke up.

Qin Mu let out a sigh of relief and went back to observe the fire. Right at this moment, he felt his vital qi become extremely scorching. Whenever his spirit embryo exhaled out vital qi, his vital qi would ignite and didn't extinguish even after it flowed out of Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure.

Qin Mu jumped in shock and immediately stopped observing fire. However it was too late as his clothes automatically started burning!

Mute who was beside him immediately lifted the huge water jar and covered it over Qin Mu, extinguishing the fire.

Lifting up the water jar, Qin Mu had been drenched like a drowned rat.

Mute was stumped and checked the burn marks left on Qin Mu's clothes. He immediately threw down his iron hammer and iron bar, flying straight to Village Chief making hands signs.

Village Chief was astonished and immediately called Deaf and Mute to carry him over, “Mu'er, try observing the fire again!”

Qin Mu didn't know why was the Village Chief being so serious but he observed the fire again anyway. In his Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure, his vital qi once again turned into a flaming forge surrounding his spirit embryo.

Following that, a heat wave surged out from his body, instantly raising his body temperature!

Village Chief's eyes sparkled and he continued to guide Qin Mu, "Mu'er, focus your mind and don't let it sway. Treat your palm as a knife and show me a hack!

With his mind free from thoughts, Qin Mu only had his eyes on the furnace fire in front. His vital qi naturally unleashed as he gave a hack using his hand as a knife.

Whoosh—

His palm actually ignited on fire just like a flaming sword cutting down!

Chapter 26: Thickness Of An Arm

Everyone in the blacksmith workshop stared blankly.

An attribute actually appeared in Qin Mu's vital qi in his Overlord Body. Furthermore, it was the fire attribute which clearly was the Vermillion Bird Vital Qi.

Deaf was about to shout in joy but Village Chief interrupted him, "Relax first, Deaf. Mu'er, now focus your mind and observe water, don't think of anything else."

Doing as he said, Qin Mu observed water and his vital qi turned into a trickling stream, flowing into his Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure to temper his spirit embryo. The small blacksmith workshop was soon squeezed full from all the villagers who had rushed here after hearing the news. Old Ma, Cripple, Butcher, Apothecary and Blind had all squeezed into it to take a look at Qin Mu who was currently observing water. None of them even dared to take a deep breath.

Village Chief's voice sounded out, "Do you still remember the spear skill that Blind have taught you? Imagine you have such a spear in your hand and give a stab forward!"

Qin Mu lifted his arms and gave a stab while circling the spear tip. The instant his empty hands tried to do a stab, his vital qi turned into snow white vapour and surged out, forming a spear shape in his hands. At the same time, there was also sounds of trickling water as the water dragon like steam circled from his tremors.

"Success, a success..."

Old Ma cried tears of happiness, "He finally succeeded. Our years of hard work is not in vain... Mu'er, you have grown up..."

He couldn't resist turning his head to the side and used his only arm to wipe his tears.

Cripple carried his sincere smile on his face and muttered, "Our Qin Mu can finally survive in Great Ruins... Damn it Old Ma, can you stop wiping your tears? You're going

to make me cry as well! Granny Si had gone to Border Dragon City to buy stuffs if not she would be the one who would cry the most among us!”

“What’s there to cry about?”

Apothecary’s eyes turned red and smiled, “We should be smiling! Should we die of old age in the future, Qin Mu can still continue to survive by himself. This is a extremely good thing and we should laugh happily!”

“You’re right, extremely right!”

Deaf laughed heartily, “Apothecary, even though I don’t think much of you, but you got me good by this sentence!”

World shaking laughter resonated out from the tiny blacksmith workshop and into the heavens. Looking at these excited old men, a warm feeling flowed throughout Qin Mu’s entire body.

All these people who were slightly disabled and more or less had some kinds of shortcomings might look fiendish at times but they were all his family, his closest kin!

Suddenly, Granny Si’s voice came from outside as she laughed, “What are you old things squeezing inside for and laughing about?”

Qin Mu was surprised and elated. Granny Si had finally returned from Border Dragon City!

Soon, Cripple disclosed this happy matter out and Granny Si couldn’t help being surprised. With her eyes reddening, she smiled, “Good, good. Mu’er has finally grown up... This is good...”

Thinking about her hardships for the past eleven years, she couldn’t resist tearing up. The little old woman sat down and wiped her tears, “If we die in the future, Mu’er can still live on... Don’t touch me, it’s only some sand that had got in my eyes...”

Village Chief secretly gave a sigh of relief. The dark clouds that were hovering above his head had vanished along with the appearance of attributes in Qin Mu’s Overlord Body vital qi. With Qin Mu now able to unleash the full power of his vital qi, he had affirmed his ‘Overlord Body’ identity and resolved a crisis in the village.

However, even with his remarkable abilities, he couldn’t help feeling puzzled. How did the attributes suddenly appear in Qin Mu’s Overlord Body’s vital qi?

And the weird thing was Qin Mu’s Overlord Body’s vital qi had two attributes, the attributes of fire and water!

It was known that as a Spirit Body, they only could have one attribute and never two.

Qin Mu was obviously an ordinary human and yet he had two kinds of attributes. Furthermore they were the fire and water attributes which couldn't coexist together, making it strange.

“Does an ordinary human always have two kinds of Spirit Body when they awaken their spirit embryo?”

He couldn't help feeling at a loss, “What exactly did Mute teach him to let his vital qi have the fire and water attributes? Can other ordinary people do the same too?”

He knew that the villagers had tried all means to help Qin Mu to unleash the full power of his Overlord Body's vital qi these days. Apothecary used medicinal supplements. Cripple, Butcher and Old Ma trained him vigorously. Blind didn't hesitate to imparted his god eyes. Deaf wanted Qin Mu to enter the path through painting and calligraphy, to paint out his divine art. Whereas he had no idea what means Mute had tried to use.

He didn't expect Mute to be the one who had aroused the power of Qin Mu's Overlord Body Vital Qi.

He only knew Mute had instructed Qin Mu to observe fire and water. How did Qin Mu's vital qi attained attributes by observing fire and water was still a mystery to him.

Mute was the village blacksmith who had never revealed his talents. The most frivolous person in the village was Blind. Butcher was the most brash while the most helpful one was Old Ma who always put up a cold front. Cripple looked full of enthusiastic spirit but actually was the most insidious. The most down to earth guy was Apothecary and the one who had no desires was Deaf. Hunchback Granny Si was the most mercurial and the Mute was the most inarticulate man.

In regards to Mute, Village Chief hadn't the slightly clue about him. He only knew Mute had his tongue cut off by someone and was good at forging tools. Normally, the neighbouring villages would request items like cooking knives, plows and farming hoes from him to get by.

From his guidance to help Qin Mu to unleash his vital qi's power, Mute's cultivation and insight probably was the best except him in the village.

“Mu'er, can you now shape qi into thread?” Granny Si asked in anticipation.

Qin Mu tried to shape his vital qi into thread and the next moment his vital qi left his body becoming as thick as an arm that was blazing with flames.

The huge and thick 'vital qi thread' swept up the Pig Slaughtering Knife and gave a hack forward. The wooden stake as thick as a water barrel was instantly split into half by the astonishing power!

All of the villagers were speechless as they saw the vital qi thread which was as thick as an arm.

It was true that Qin Mu's vital qi thread was powerful enough, however refining qi into thread required one to refine vital qi into fine thread. In this way it would be more flexible and unpredictable to control treasure swords using qi, executing moves that one could not normally execute.

Whereas Qin Mu's vital qi thread couldn't be considered as a thread and would be more suitable to call it vital qi arm.

With such a thick vital qi 'thread', it was also extremely vital qi consuming.

Cripple scratched his head, "I feel that having vital qi arm isn't that bad, it's equivalent to having another arm and could also be pretty powerful in fights."

Everyone didn't know whether to cry or laugh. Granny Si shook her head, "Vital qi thread is more nimble whereas vital qi arm is way too thick. It's flexibility and agility are way inferior to vital qi thread. Mu'er, you have to refine vital qi into thread as soon as possible."

Qin Mu nodded.

Only when he observed fire could the fire attribute emerge from his vital qi, turning it similar to the Vermillion Bird's vital qi. If he didn't observe fire, his vital qi was still ordinary vital qi.

To observe fire while refining qi into thread was still slightly difficult for him to accomplish.

Village Chief and the rests also saw something amiss as they frowned. If Qin Mu could only unleash his fire and water attributes when observing fire and water respectively, it would be extremely unfavorable in the midst of a battle!

In the midst of a battle, would the enemies give you chance to observe fire and water?

They had originally felt that Qin Mu's Overlord Body was extremely powerful for having both the fire and water attributes but they were not as sure of it now.

"Ah ah!"

Mute gave a few hand signs while smiling brightly.

Deaf understood it and smiled, "Mute is right, Mu'er has only learned the basics. Practice makes perfect. If he continues to cultivate, he would definitely be able to master it!"

Having fire and water attributes in his vital qi was equivalent to awakening both Black Tortoise Spirit Body and Vermillion Bird Spirit Body. When Qin Mu observed fire, it would become Vermillion Bird Spirit Body and when he observed water, it would become Black Tortoise Spirit Body.

In the village, Qin Mu controlled his vital qi with the thickness of an arm to execute the Pig Slaughtering Knife Skill. As the Pig Slaughtering Knife flew around, it almost split Qin Mu into two halves from time to time. Every time when danger approached, Blind at the side would use his bamboo cane to deflect the Pig Slaughtering Knife away so as to avoid Qin Mu from really splitting himself to death.

Refining qi into thread and using it to manipulate swords required step by step cultivation. To use vital qi thread to control treasure sword for killing enemies was extremely dangerous and only the hardworking ones could control it smoothly.

Butcher's Pig Slaughtering Knife belonged to the Battle Techniques Faction. Despite Butcher gaining some merits from the Divine Arts Faction and could manipulate his knife without hands, there was still an extremely great difference between the moves of Battle Techniques Faction and Divine Arts Faction. Using Pig Slaughtering Knife to train manipulating sword by qi was extremely dangerous.

Butcher's moves were simply too insane and dangerous. When he became wild, it was not empty talk to say that he could even cut himself to extinction.

Whereas Thunderclap Eight Strikes that Old Ma had imparted to him was purely from the Battle Technique Faction and could not be used for any method that required qi to manipulate sword.

The Heavenly Devil Creation Technique that Granny Si had imparted to him was classified as spells. Cripple's leg skill, Blind's staff skills, Deaf's calligraphy and painting, Apothecary's medicinal concoction and Mute's blacksmith techniques were obviously unable to be used to train how to manipulate sword by qi.

Therefore to cultivate qi to manipulate sword, Qin Mu could only use the dangerous Pig Slaughter Knife Skill to train.

At the village entrance, Village Chief lazily basked in the sun. Apothecary was standing beside him as he looked back at Qin Mu who was struggling to cultivate qi to manipulate sword when he suddenly said, "Blind had imparted divine eyes to Mu'er while Butcher had also imparted his knife skills to him. There's also Cripple's legs skills and Deaf's calligraphy and painting techniques... Now what about you, Village Chief?"

Village Chief turned his head to look at him.

Apothecary had an aggressive tone, "What we are good at are different, but we're all not competent in using qi to manipulate sword. You have a greater experience than any of us here and your abilities are also higher than any of us here. Why don't you want to teach him? In regards to using qi to manipulate sword, I would like to ask in this entire world, whose sword skill could be stronger than you?"

Village Chief's face turned dim as he looked down at his non-existent limbs and said softly, "I want to teach but the responsibility is too great for Mu'er to handle. When I still had my limbs back then, I wasn't able to take on the responsibility as well, or else there was no need for me to hide in the Great Ruins... do you know how my limbs were broken?"

Apothecary shook his head.

"These are sword wounds."

Village Chief raised his head and said in a daze, "My limbs were chopped off by a sword. Anyone who inherits my techniques would have to take on my responsibility which I was unable to handle, much less the current him."

Chapter 27: Spirit Embryo Technique

Whoosh—!

In the forest outside Disabled Eldery Village, Qin Mu gave a palm strike and vital qi could be seen surging out from his arm like a flaming dragon coiling around it. The air in front of him immediately became extremely parched as if the air had been lit up in flames!

His footsteps shifted as he struck continuously. The air became more and more parched as if there were ten extremely scorching suns hanging over the vast yellow desert!

What he had used belonged to Old Ma's fists skills: Thunderclap Eight Strikes Fourth Form, Kua Fu Chasing The Sun.

Suddenly, Qin Mu's footsteps changed irregularly and his moves converted accordingly. His moves and forms were like a torrential river flowing into the sea. His vital qi actually changed from fire attribute to water attribute. On his arm was a coiling water dragon formed by steam and even his moves resonated out with sounds of surging waves as if there was a flood flowing around him.

His move changed again and this time both his hands grabbed onto emptiness as spear like steam overturned the seas and rivers like a long dragon.

These few days, he had always been in the village training using qi to manipulate sword and focusing on improving his vital qi. However, he still had to first observe fire before he could allow his own vital qi to acquire the fire attribute and executing using qi to manipulate sword thereafter.

As he continued to practice, the time required for him to observe fire became shorter and shorter. And now he had no need to observe the furnace and as long as his mind thought of the fire in the furnace, his vital qi would automatically become hot.

However, Butcher's Pig Slaughtering Knife Skill was from the Battle Technique Faction thus it was not very successful for Qin Mu to use Pig Slaughtering Knife Skill to train using qi to manipulate sword.

On the other hand, cultivating Old Ma's Thunderclap Eight Strikes and Blind's spear skills had resulted in bountiful harvests and rapid improvements.

And today as he executed Thunderclap Eight Strikes Fourth Form, Kua Fu Chasing The Sun, he was like a giant sprinting while the air exploded from the tremors of his palms. This was the power of his vital qi!

Of course, the fire attribute of Vermillion Bird's vital qi could not perfectly unleash the full power of Old Ma's Thunderclap Eight Strikes. The most suitable vital qi for Old Ma's Thunderclap Eight Strikes was still Green Dragon's vital qi.

Contrariwise, the water attribute of Black Tortoise's vital qi could unleash Blind's spear skills without any restraint.

After some time, Qin Mu stopped and consumed two Vitality Reinforcement Pills to recover his rapidly draining vital qi. He then pondered over what he was lacking while he used his vital qi.

Originally only one Vitality Reinforcement Pill would already make him go wild from being stuffed, but after his spirit embryo had awoken, consuming two Vitality Reinforcement Pills wasn't a big deal anymore, just that he would be unbearably stuffed.

"Could devil ape eat thing like Vitality Reinforcement Pill? It shouldn't be so since Grandpa Apothecary said there were four kinds of attributes in the Vitality Reinforcement Pill so it would be poison to whoever that isn't the Overlord Body. Maybe I could make a cauldron of Vitality Reinforcement Pill for devil ape some day."

Qin Mu's heart wavered as he recalled the jumbo that had sparred with him. He hadn't gone to look for devil ape these days and didn't know what extent did this strange beast had cultivated 'Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique' to.

He stood up and ran swiftly towards the devil ape's territory. After all he was only a teenager and had no friends other than the elders in the village. He and devil ape could be considered to be no discord, no concord. He was still pretty concerned about it after not meeting it for a few days.

Not long later, Qin Mu had arrived outside the mountainous valley that devil ape lived in. Suddenly a small mountain like body rose up within the forest which was none other than the devil ape.

Having not met for a few days, devil ape had become even more majestic. It was exceptionally elated at seeing Qin Mu and started to hammer his chest, signalling Qin Mu to jump onto his shoulder.

Qin Mu leaped onto its shoulder and the devil ape went flying as it ran and brought him deep into the valley.

It was Qin Mu's first time entering devil ape's nest. He could see wild deer, horses everywhere. There were even some musk deer and some silly roe deer. There was an ancient vestige in the hinterlands with crumbling fences and dilapidated walls which was beyond rundown.

Where the devil ape was living in was a palace which was already half collapsed. In front of the place was a ruined stone statue of a semi human and semi beast. Qin Mu activated his Heaven's Eyes and was overwhelmed.

The stone statue was like the stone statues in Disabled Elderly Village. Through the Heaven's Eyes, the stone statue's grace was like an indomitable beast god who was malevolent with flames surging to the sky!

So this statue was what devil ape was relying on to resist the darkness invasion at night and to protect its life.

"With this kind of extraordinary grace, could this statue also be sculpted by god for god?"

Qin Mu jumped down from devil ape's shoulder and a silly roe deer came up to him sniffing the corners of his shirt, chewing on it.

Devil ape pinched up the roe deer and carefully place it aside. It then waved its hands, signalling Qin Mu to catch up.

It was the ruler of this valley and also its guardian, protecting these animals and only being fierce to trespassers.

Qin Mu followed it into the rundown palace and he frowned. There were wild beasts scents all around and should have come from the wild beasts which had also hidden here every night to avoid the darkness.

“Look, young’un!” Devil ape pointed to a wall.

Qin Mu lifted his head looking at the ruined wall paintings on the palace wall. The wall paintings were mottled and peeling off in some places. Some places were missing their colors and only a few wall paintings were still considered complete.

What these wall paintings depicted was a man in qi cultivation. The arrows inside the body represented the flow of vital qi.

Taking a few looks, Qin Mu’s heart jolted. He saw the vital qi guiding path of ‘Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique’!

Devil ape must have cultivated the ‘Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique’ and found it similar to the pictures on the wall paintings thus bringing him here!

However Qin Mu quickly discovered the different points. The first picture on the wall painting was indeed the guiding diagram of Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique whereas the second picture differed to some extent. Even though it was still in accordance to the path of Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique, it was slightly more complicated.

The guiding path in the second picture had entered the Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure on the heart of the brow!

After the vital qi entered the Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure, the third picture was revealed. However the third picture showed the guiding path of the vital qi in the Spirit Embryo Divine Treasure and instead of being inhaled and exhaled from the spirit embryo directly, the vital qi formed a mystical vital qi formation marking under the spirit embryo’s feet.

This formation marking was extremely complicated. It was even more complicated than the Heaven’s Big Dipper Formation Marking that Blind had imparted to him. Qin Mu took a close look and memorized it by heart while using his vital qi to imitate and form the formation marking under his spirit embryo’s feet.

When he had completed the spirit embryo formation marking, his body uncontrollably trembled and immediately felt a weird connection between him and his spirit embryo!

When he breathed, the spirit embryo breathed as well. When he made a move, the spirit embryo would make the same move as well and when he executed Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique, the spirit embryo executed Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique as well!

Qin was stunned before erupting in joy, “Doesn’t this mean its equivalent to two of me cultivating?”

However he immediately discovered that executing Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique with his spirit embryo couldn’t allow his vital qi cultivation to stack and had instead honed his vital qi.

As his vital qi swam through the formation marking under his spirit embryo’s feet, it absorbed the golden rays in the golden sea before entering the spirit embryo’s body. When it was exhaled out, the vital qi had become even more pure and tenacious after fusing with the golden rays.

In the past, his spirit embryo had also indistinctly absorbed the golden rays but never as fast as going through the formation marking like what indicated in the third picture.

“Could this be the Spirit Embryo Realm technique for Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique?”

Qin Mu’s heart started thumping wildly. Village Chief had said he didn’t know the following techniques for the Overlord Body and never would he expect to find the Overlord Body technique for Spirit Embryo Realm here!”

He looked toward the fourth picture and slightly frowned. The fourth picture had already been peeled off and only half was left. What was recorded should be the technique for the Five Elements Realm.

On the picture were scratches of animals thus it should have been destroyed by the animals living here.

The fifth picture was also very badly damaged while more than half of sixth picture had simply come off. The following remaining pictures were even more ruined and impossible to identify.

“With the palace damaged to this extent, who knows how long the wall paintings inside could still be preserved for.”

Qin Mu gave a sigh. It already wasn’t easy for a few pictures of the wall paintings to last all the way until now. He memorized the second and third picture and recalled them silently before he could be at ease.

Even though the wall paintings in the palace were completely destroyed, they would still be handed down by him to the next 'Overlord Body'!

There were not much wall paintings left on the palace walls. Other than the 'Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique', there was still another wall painting that was more complete.

It was a painting of a map. Looking at it closely, Qin Mu found the location of the Surging River. His heart throbbed, "Could this be the map of Great Ruins?"

Little by little along the Surging River, he finally found the location of Disabled Elderly Village through the river flow and turns of the river channel.

"Ee? Why is a dragon drawn here?"

Looking dozens of miles upstream from Disabled Elderly Village on the map, there was actually a figure of a dragon drawn on the map which was puzzling.

"Surging River Dragon King!"

Qin Mu's heart slightly jolted. He had no idea what the four words, Surging River Dragon King meant.

There was not just one weird place on the map. There were still other weird places like a well drawn ten miles east from Disabled Elderly Village. There were also four words written beside the well, Heaven's Well Dragon King.

There was another well which wrote Ocean Eyes Dragon King.

In a faraway place on the Great Ruins map, he also saw a ship and on the ship was a sun. Beside it were two words, Sun Ship. Not far from the Sun Ship, there was a place called Sun Well. There was still a Moon Ship in a place very far away from Sun Ship and beside the ship was a moon. Beside the Moon Ship, there was also a strange place called the Moon Well.

Qin Mu's gaze searched around the map and couldn't find the ancient temple on the heart of the river that was suppressing Woman Wu. He also couldn't find Border Dragon City which was a few hundred miles downstream.

"This map, could it be the map before the catastrophe in the Great Ruins?"

Searching for a while more, his heart leaped when he found the vestige where he had hidden from the darkness. However on the map, it was not labelled as a vestige and was instead called Goddess's Pass!

"It is really the map before the Great Ruins' catastrophe!"

Chapter 28: Shadow On The Wall

Qin Mu composed himself. The map before the Great Ruins' catastrophe was very useful as there were many ruins indicated on it. If he were to go hunting and wasn't able to return to Disabled Elderly Village in time, he could find the vestiges indicated on the map to hide from the darkness invasion.

"With this map I can avoid a lot of dangers."

He memorized the map by heart and found the valley where he was now located in. This valley on the map was called Doom Suppression Palace.

"Doom Suppression Palace? Doom means disaster, which means catastrophe."

Learning painting and calligraphy from Deaf, he had acquired a bellyful of knowledge even if he couldn't be considered as a scholar, "If Doom Suppression Palace means a palace to suppress catastrophe, then what kind of catastrophe was the palace suppressing?" Qin Mu muttered to himself.

Looking around him, he realized devil ape was no longer in the palace and had left without his knowledge. It must be because the devil ape was afraid of disturbing him by staying here around.

"Big fella sure is thoughtful."

Walking out of the palace, Qin Mu called devil ape over and asked, "Big fella, are there any strange places around here?"

Devil ape scratched its head and thought for a moment before running towards a side chamber inside Doom Suppression Palace. Qin Mu quickly kept up with it as the silly roe deer behind them followed as well.

Devil ape entered the side chamber and pointed out with its finger. Looking at the direction where it was pointing, Qin Mu saw a white wall where a tiny thumb size human shadow was painted.

Qin Mu took a closer look at the wall and didn't find anything else other than the tiny human shadow.

The silly roe deer moved forward and sniffed the human shadow on the wall. Just as it was about to lick the wall, a hand suddenly came out and grabbed the silly roe deer into the wall!

Qin Mu jumped in shock while devil ape hammered its chest in fury and bellowed at the wall, however it didn't dare to go forward.

On the wall, a vivid painting of a roe deer appeared beside the tiny human shadow. Qin Mu then saw the human started to move slowly as it opened its mouth. As the mouth grew larger and larger, the mouth which was filled with nail like teeth closed down on the roe deer!

Qin Mu was dumbstruck. After the human shadow on the wall ate the roe deer, it suddenly took huge steps walking toward them!

Qin Mu then realized even though the human wasn't walking out of the wall, it's shadow was growing larger and larger until it was the size of a normal human. However it didn't stop there as the shadow continued to move forward.

In just a short while, even though the human didn't walk out from the wall, his shadow had reached the ceiling in the side chamber. It was the shadow of its head with his mouth wide open while its hands stretched towards the two adjacent walls at the side.

"Young'un, go!" Devil ape grabbed Qin Mu and leaped out to prevent getting caught by the shadow on the wall.

An angry roar came out from the wall as the wall trembled non stop, filling the air with smoke and dust. The black shadow then spread out from inside of the side chamber and shrouded the whole side chamber in a blink of an eye!

The shadow tried to break free from the walls of the side chamber but was unable to do so no matter what.

"This is a demon?" Qin Mu stopped running away as he blinked his eyes and turned back to probe. "Qi ke duo sa mo ye, bo re bo re sa mo ye, qi ke duo bo re sa mo ye."

The shadow that had shroud the side chamber suddenly calmed down. The window frame on the side chamber opened up like two pitch black eyes. Qin Mu felt a terrifying gaze landing on him, giving him a bone chilling feeling.

Suddenly the huge door of the side chamber closed automatically before opening up again. As it opened and closed, a hoarse voice sounded out, "The Great Freedom Incantation. You are a descendant of my race? How pathetic. Your incantation ain't even authentically handed down. Has my race declined to this extent?"

Qin Mu probed on, "Does senior know the true Great Freedom Incantation?"

"Of course!"

The door opened and closed as an arrogant voice resonated out, "A supreme power is hidden inside the Great Freedom Incantation of my race. This imposing power was the one that had established this world and attained the power of great freedom! Why did it land into such a pitiful state in your hands? There's not even an ounce of might in it! Make this monkey retreat and I will teach you the true incantation!"

Qin Mu looked at devil ape as it shook his head and warned in a muffled voice, "Believe, fool!"

"This senior is of the same race as me and won't harm me. Go outside and wait for a moment." Qin Mu consoled it.

Devil ape was still not reassured but it was pushed out by Qin Mu.

The door of the side chamber opened and closed again with a devilish voice, "Incantation is the wonder to executing techniques. You had only learned the syllables of the incantation but not the grace within. You also haven't learned the method to bring out the innate qualities of the incantation. This method is called Great Freedom Mudra, the core ultimate arts of our race! My power is sealed within this big chamber and would not last long so you better pay attention. I shall only teach you once, how much you take away from it will depends on your own ability!"

The black shadow on the walls of the side chamber started to shrink and became about the size of Qin Mu. Circulating lines started to appear inside the shadow which showed the flow of the vital qi.

The devilish voice explained, "There are four types of mudra methods from the Great Freedom Mudra. Devil God Mighty Force Mudra, Devil Freedom Mudra, Great Wisdom Mudra and the last mudra method combines the first three together to form the Great Freedom Devil Mudra! What I am about to show you is the first mudra, Devil God Mighty Force Mudra! Your voice must carry the devil voice to be able to unleash the full power, qi ke duo!"

Qin Mu gazed steadily at the black figure on the wall of the side chamber as he memorized the path of executing the technique. In his body, his vital qi was circulating with the path as well.

"Qi ke duo!"

The devil voice burst forth from his mouth and Qin Mu immediately felt a terrifying power surging out from inside his body. This terrifying power induced his five fingers to form an unusual mudra and strike forward uncontrollably.

Boom!

A muffled sound rang out as Qin Mu's palm actually executed the thunderclap he was longing for, thunder in palm!

Qin Mu stared blankly as it seemed inconceivable to him.

The Devil God Mighty Force Mudra that the human shadow on the wall had taught him was actually exceptionally powerful. In terms of variation, it could not be compared to Old Ma's Thunderclap Eight Strikes but in terms of strength, it surpassed Thunderclap Eight Strikes by quite a fair bit.

However, the move Devil God Mighty Force Mudra also drained his vital qi tremendously. It consumed several times more vital qi than Thunderclap Eight Strikes!

The shadow on the wall squirmed as it seemed to get pulled back by something. When it returned to the side chamber uncontrollably, it panted heavily, "The power of this side chamber is too strong, suppressing me all along. I don't have much time left. Take a good look. This is the second mudra, Devil Freedom Mudra! Sa mo ye!"

On the wall inside the chamber, the vital qi flow on the black shadow changed again however. Due to the dimness inside the chamber, it wasn't clear in distance.

Qin Mu stirred himself up and subconsciously took a step forward, finally managing to see the vital qi circulation and changes clearly.

"Sa mo ye!"

He silently chanted the devil voice and circulated his vital qi. Instantly, another wondrous power burst forth within his body and induced his body to do another pose.

His face uncontrollably revealed a smile as his finger formed a pinching flower gesture and gave a strike.

The power of this mudra wasn't very strong and instead seemed to have no power at all. However Qin Mu felt that its effect was very similar to a mudra in Thunderclap Eight Strikes.

Thunderclap Eight Strikes Fifth Form, Sunshine Refining Yang Soul In The Sky

This move that Old Ma had imparted to him wasn't particularly good in offense but the essence of this skills lied in attacking the soul of a divine arts practitioner!

The secret of Sunshine Refining Yang Soul In The Sky lied in the fist which was like the sun shining down from the sky, using the sun and thunder in one's palm to purge the soul!

The Devil Freedom Mudra that the human shadow in the wall had taught him also didn't look like it had much power because it was focused on purging the soul, which was why it was similar to Old Ma's Sunshine Refining Yang Soul In The Sky.

The only difference between the two was that Old Ma used the sun and thunder to ferociously destroy the opponent's soul, whereas Devil Freedom Mudra used a mudra to draw the opponent's soul to your palm, where you obliterated your enemy's soul in the heart of your palm which was much more sinister and vicious, causing the opponent to be unable to guard against it.

One was able to defend against a ferocious attack but it was impossible to defend against Devil Freedom Mudra.

Qin Mu was puzzled. The mudra from the shadow on the wall was similar to Old Ma's fist skill. Both of them clearly had similar theory however the methods used to expound on the theory were completely different. One belonged to the righteous path while the other belonged to the unorthodox path.

As for which of them was better, Qin Mu was unable to say. He could only say that they each had their own strengths.

Old Ma's Thunderclap Eight Strikes were more suitable for attacking enemies head on and crushed them with the ferocious fist skill while Great Freedom Mudra was more suitable for sudden execution, catching the enemies by surprise.

The human shadow on the wall shrank more as it seemed to be unable to withstand the restraint of Doom Suppression Palace. It gasped for breaths and continued, "Pay attention, this is the third mudra, Great Wisdom Mudra...."

The shadow on the wall became blurred and fuzzy causing Qin Mu to subconsciously take another two steps forward. Just as he was about to enter the side chamber's door, he suddenly stopped. Instead he executed Nine Heavens Eyes Awakening Skill that Blind had taught him and another layer of pupil appeared in his eyes. Even though the shadow on the wall was dim, it was however, extremely clear in his eyes.

"Can you see clearly if you don't come in?" The shadow on the wall asked.

Chapter 29: Small Cheat, Big Cheat

Qin Mu respectfully replied, "Don't worry senior. Junior here cultivated from young. My kidneys are strong and my primordial yang is brimming. My eyesight is very good and I'm able to see things in the darkness, so naturally, I can see clearly."

The shadow on the wall wavered but did not act any further and instead continued to exhibit the wonder of vital qi circulation.

The third mudra of Great Freedom Mudra was Great Wisdom Mudra. The execution for Great Wisdom Mudra was much more complicated. The circulation of vital qi in the black shadow also became faster and faster and despite having opened his Heaven's Eyes, Qin Mu was unable to completely catch the path of the vital qi, making him itching to enter the side chamber.

Qin Mu hesitated for a moment before putting one leg into the chamber while his other leg remained outside. This way, he was finally able to barely catch the execution path of the vital qi.

Qin Mu struggled to memorize but the shadow on the wall soon completed executing Great Wisdom Mudra. He tried to execute Great Wisdom Mudra and even though it was executed out, he still felt that something was missing.

He didn't manage to completely remember the execution path of Great Wisdom Mudra.

"This is the fourth mudra of Great Freedom Mudra which is also the strongest mudra. The powers of the first three mudras would fuse together into this mudra.

The shadow on the wall seemed to become strengthless as it became smaller and smaller. His voice grew softer and softer, "However this mudra is slightly more complicated and I'm afraid you can't see clearly."

"Don't worry senior."

Qin Mu gave a sincere smile, "Junior here cultivated from young. My kidneys are strong and my primordial yang is brimming, therefore, my eyesight is still very good. I can still barely see clearly."

The shadow on the wall fell silent. It then replied with a weaker and weaker voice as it sighed, "But I can no longer keep this up. Come in, there are four long bronze nails nailed to the floor in the four corners of the chamber. You just need to pluck out the four bronze nails. These four nails are stabbed into my back so as long as they are plucked off, I'll be able to catch my breath. Once I catch my breath, I can teach you the complete mudra."

He coaxed in a gentle voice, "You haven't completely learned Great Wisdom Mudra right? Great Wisdom Mudra is very complicated but its power is also extremely strong. If you don't learn it completely you would be unable to unleash its full power. That's not all. The strongest mudra of them all is still the fourth mudra, Great Freedom Devil Mudra! Once you pluck the nails out..."

“Senior, I think I shall not learn it anymore.” Qin Mu shook his head as he retracted his left leg from the chamber. “It’s too troublesome and with how stupid I am, I probably won’t be able to master it.”

The shadow on the wall wavered as it tried to tempt Qin Mu, “I can teach you a second time as long as you pluck out the nails...”

Qin Mu became even troubled and shook his head, “Didn’t senior say you were only going to teach me once? If I make senior teach a second time, won’t I be making senior eat your words? Junior would only just become more guilty. I’m sorry for disappointing senior’s expectation for being so stupid.”

“No, you are very clever.”

The voice from the shadow became even more gentle just like an affable elder instructing his young ones, “You had learned Devil God Mighty Force Mudra and Devil Freedom Mudra by only seeing them once. You even learned part of Great Wisdom Mudra by seeing it once as well. Your aptitude is extremely high and you would definitely be able to learn Great Wisdom Mudra by seeing it again. I like your aptitude and intelligence thus I’m fine with eating my words and teaching you a second time...”

Saying until here, the voice suddenly stopped before turning into an icy cold tone, “You cheated me for my techniques?”

Qin Mu was startled, “Why did senior say that?”

“You cheated me for my techniques!”

The shadow on the wall flew into a fury as it became larger and larger, shrouding the entire side chamber once again. The shadow was malicious and sternly shouted, “How dare you cheat me for my techniques! Little brat, I taught you with good intentions and instead you lied to me!”

Qin Mu remained standing outside the chamber and let the devil shadow squirm freely in front of him while he shook his head, “You must be joking, senior. Aren’t you trying to trick me into releasing you?”

The door of the side chamber opened widely. With windows as eyes and door as the mouth, it looked sinister and terrifying as it said imposingly, “You knew?”

“We’re both originally from two different races yet senior tried to lie first by saying we are of the same race. Then you tried to bait me using Great Freedom Mudra to make me come closer to you with only two kinds of goals in mind.”

Qin Mu revealed a sincere smile that was similar to Cripple’s, “The first kind is to make me enter the chamber and bait me to go closer to the wall where you can capture me

before controlling me to pluck out the bronze nails in the four corners of the chamber. The second kind is to make use of my desire to acquire the complete Great Freedom Mudra to pluck out the nails by my own will. If I were to pluck out the nails, things wouldn't be as simple as catching a breath. What senior would do after being freed was to eat me like what you did to that silly roe deer. However..."

Qin Mu smile became even more sincere, "I'm no silly roe deer, thus I have played along with your lies and cheated two and a half mudra skills from you."

The whole chamber trembled non stop and an earth-shattering howl resonated from the door, "Son of a bitch! I'm going to kill you! Once I'm freed, I will torture you to death!"

The cowherd boy from Disabled Elderly Village curled his lips and turned to leave, "Grandpa Cripple had played little tricks like yours countless times on me. I had been tricked ever since I was young. Even the sweets granny bought for me were tricked away countless of times by him. For you to be thinking of tricking me..."

"I'm going to kill your Grandpa Cripple!" The shadow on the wall howled in fury.

Qin Mu turned back and warned him seriously, "Don't even try it. He will swindle you until you lose your underpants."

The shadow on the wall suddenly quieted down, so quiet that it seemed peculiar. It then whispered in a soft voice, "Did you just say that we aren't of the same race? Hehe, you are too naive, little brat... How is it that you and I aren't of the race... Hehehe, my young and little devil spawn..."

Qin Mu felt a chill and suddenly thought of the god voice that was from nine heavens above when he was doing a Wall Break. He then thought of how he used the devil voice to counter the god voice. Combining them with the words from the shadow on the wall, he made some unpleasant connections.

He immediately shook his head and chased away all the messy thoughts in his mind before turning to leave.

"Hehehe, you are the same as me, the same, the same..." Behind him, the shadow on the wall laughed queerly.

Qin Mu frowned as he walked out of Doom Restraint Palace.

Devil ape immediately went up to him and sneaked a glance at the side chamber. It was only relieved after seeing the shadow shrinking back into the side chamber, before solemnly telling Qin Mu, "Believe? Fool!"

Qin Mu nodded his head while feeling the same deeply, "Great Ruins is simply too dangerous. If people as honest as us do not learn to be clever, they would definitely be cheated clean without having the slightest dregs remaining."

Devil ape took a glance at him and twitched its mouth, "Believe, fool."

Qin Mu's face turned slightly red and protested, "Hey, I'm not a cheat. I just got the worst of it since young therefore I was forced to become quick-witted. However, I'm afraid you can't stay here any longer. With Doom Restraint Palace being so rundown, I have no idea when it will collapse. If it collapsed, that old devil would definitely vent his anger on you."

Devil ape shook its head and silently looked at the wild animals.

There were not many living places left in Great Ruins. They were either taken by humans or taken by other strange beasts. If devil ape was to bring all these wild animals to move, it was afraid that they would not be able to find a place to stay and would definitely die from the darkness invasion.

Qin Mu also had no plan as Disabled Elderly Village was too small and simply unable to squeeze so many animals.

'Come, young'un."

Devil ape walked forward while Qin Mu followed behind it. Devil ape then brought him to the bottom of the cliff and pointed at the handprint on the side of the cliff while revealing an expression of anticipation.

The handprint had been imprinted by devil ape itself. Its hand was extremely huge therefore it had left a deep handprint on the cliff.

This handprint represented that this was devil ape's territory. Once other strange beasts saw the handprint, they would know that this was devil ape's territory and take a detour.

If other strange beasts wanted to take over this place, they would come forth to challenge. If devil ape was to lose in the fight, the handprint would be erased by the new owner and a new imprint would be left behind.

"You, mark." Devil ape said in anticipation.

Qin Mu was puzzled and didn't understand the meaning of its words.

Devil ape grabbed his hand and placed it beside his handprint, saying "Mark."

Qin Mu understood what it was trying to say and felt moved. With a heavy strike beside the ape's handprint, his handprint immediately appeared on the cliff.

Devil ape revealed a smile and pointed at the valley as it spoke in a muffled voice, "Mine, yours."

The warm feeling in Qin Mu's heart turned into sounds of laughter, making devil ape chortled as well.

At this moment, a voice came from midair, "Master, there're people below."

Qin Mu immediately raised his head and saw a paper boat flying past in the air. The paper boat was about sixty to seventy feet long. There was a lot of space on the boat as several men and women wearing green garments stood inside.

After that, he saw even more strange stuff: a few paper cranes came flapping their wings while surrounding another paper boat. There were also several strange men and women standing on the paper cranes and each of them had a long sword on their backs.

On the second boat, there was only one person and some goods that Qin Mu couldn't see clearly.

The paper boat stopped in midair as an elder sat there and said, "Qian Qiu, go and ask for directions."

"Understood."

A young man on the paper crane looked down and enquired, "Youth, do you know the way to Disabled Elderly Village?"

Qin Mu was bewildered and pointed to the direction of Disabled Elderly Village.

The young man was refined and courteous as he bowed to express his thanks. A gold ingot then dropped down from the paper crane as they flew away around the boat.

Qin Mu picked up the gold ingot in bewilderment, "Why do those people want to go to our village? Could they be merchants that were passing by? However, if they are merchants shouldn't they go to Border Dragon City?"

Chapter 30: Seeking Revenge

Qin Mu kept the gold ingot and said, "Focus on cultivating big fella, I will come find you tomorrow. Do not ever go into the side chamber, that devil is very sly!"

Devil ape nodded.

Qin Mu immediately return to the village and soon reached the outskirts of Disabled Elderly Village. From far away, he could see two paper boats anchored in the sky outside the village gate. The paper cranes landed under the trees outside the village but there was nobody left on the boat or on the paper cranes which meant that they must have entered the village.

As he walked into the village, he saw the elder who had spoken on the boat sitting face to face with Village Chief and speaking to him, "I have heard Granny Si from your village is outstanding at handicrafts, therefore, we have come to request Granny Si to help us tailor some clothes."

Village Chief asked, "May I venture to ask what kind and size of clothing do you want her to make?"

The elder replied, "I need her to make some burial clothes, a total of nine pieces. As for the size, we'll go according to the sizes of all the villagers here. I've also heard Old Ma's carpentry was not bad as well, so I would like to trouble Old Ma to help make nine coffins. As for the length, we'll have it accordingly to everyone's build here."

Suddenly, the elder saw Qin Mu walking over and gave an astonished expression, "I had said wrong, I would need ten burial clothes and ten coffins. Qian Qiu, bring out the deposit."

The man named Qian Qiu came forward and waved his hand. One of the paper boat outside the village came floating over and landed beside Village Chief. Qin Mu immediately saw that the boat was actually filled with inauspicious items such as paper notes, paper ingots, candles, white funeral flag and etcetera.

The elder instructed him to stop the boat in the village and said, "This is the deposit for the ten burial clothes and coffins. May I ask if Granny Si and Old Ma could finish them by today? Truth to be told, I'm in a hurry to use them."

Cripple, Blacksmith, Apothecary who were busy with their own works all suddenly turned quiet. Granny Si tottered over and smiled, "Ten burial clothes by today? That's a bit rush, customer."

Old Ma walked over and said coldly, "I work fast so the coffins would be done by today. Could old mister wait a moment?"

The elder smiled, "It's surely a bit rush but everyone here is talented therefore you should be able to rush them out right?"

Granny Si took a glance at ingots and candles and smiled coldly, "If you are in a rush to wear them, I could make them out right now. It's a coincidence that I just bought some rolls of cloth."

The elder half rose out of his chair, "Thanks for the trouble, granny."

Granny Si walked back to her house to carry out a few rolls of cloths. With a sweep of her arm, the rolls of cloths unraveled in midair and a pair of scissors automatically flew out. The scissors went snipping in midair and in just a short while, the shapes of clothes were done.

Silver needles then flew out from the basket and with thread tied to their ends. As the needles weaved around in the sky, the burial clothes were soon completed.

On the other hand, Old Ma came to the huge willow trees and released green qi from his fingers which surrounded the trees with a sawing sound. Not long after, the huge tree trunks were sawed into several white wooden coffins.

These white wooden coffins flew over and landed in the village.

Granny Si's clothings were also done. As she gently waved her hands, the burial clothes one by one landed on the coffin.

Old Ma took a few strides forward and coldly said, "You have brought quite a large amount of money, therefore, I had made another two coffins for free, a total of twelve coffins for you and all made according to your measurements so it would definitely not be longer or shorter if all of you laid inside them! Are you satisfied with my craftsmanship, old mister?"

Granny Si smiled, "I have also made another two more burial clothes for free which would definitely fit?"

The elder chuckled, "Satisfied, I'm satisfied."

Qin Mu felt the atmosphere becoming more and more peculiar. He secretly counted and realized when he added the green clothing people and the elder together, there were precisely twelve people!

Apothecary walked over with a sinister expression and yet his voice was very gentle, "From old mister's accent, you don't sound like a local. The accent seemed to come from the southern border."

The elder replied with a gentle smile, "That's right, we are from the southern border, where Li River is at."

Cripple walked over with his face brimming with smiles, "I heard that there was a big sect called the Li River Sect located beside Li River, where there are many experts. I heard that the sect master of Li River Sect is called Mu Beifeng. His divine art had reached perfection and could break the river flow with just a stretch of his hand."

The elder immediately replied, "I'm flattered. I don't deserve the praise. I am indeed Mu Beifeng, our Li River Sect is merely a small sect that is just trying to make a living off the river. I have five junior brothers who were well respected and known as the Li River's Five Elders.

Qin Mu's heart jolted and his expression changed slightly. Arent Li River's Five Elders the five elders that had died at granny's hands?

Could it be Mu Beifeng brought his people here to seek revenge for Li River's Five Elders?

He specifically wanted ten coffins and ten burial clothes which were clearly prepared for all the people

in Disabled Elderly Village. After killing the villagers, they will put the burial clothes on them and placed them in the coffins to bury on the spot, before burning the ingots and candles as offerings.

The paper boats and paper cranes were also prepared for the villagers after their deaths!

Mu Beifeng twisted his jade ring on his thumb and calmly said, "Two years ago the Imperial Family issued an imperial order which was personally brought to us by the Imperial Preceptor. When he reached our Li River Sect, he sat down to talk about the path with me. In just an incense time, he had won me over and I accepted the imperial order willingly, thanking the emperor for his grace. I'm indebted to the emperor and Imperial Preceptor for thinking highly of me, bestowing me as the governor of Five Sprouts Prefecture in the southern border, a lower second ranking official governing over Five Sprouts. Imperial Preceptor then bestowed Li River's Five Elders as the vice governors, lower third ranking officials. However, we are wanderers after all, even with an official position, we still like to move around."

Village Chief smiled, "Eternal Peace Empire is a sect disguised as an empire. With the number one man below gods as the emperor's assistant, the fate of the empire becomes increasingly prosperous, making many sects yield to it. It even allows disciples from various sects to enter the army to open up new territories. Brother Mu was originally free and unrestrained, but after becoming officials, you have to abide by the law of the Imperial Family. It is understandable that you are not used to it"

Mu Beifeng replied, "Therefore my five junior brothers took a breather and went out, bringing Li River's Five Disciples into Great Ruins. Li River's Five Disciples were the disciples that my five junior brothers had taken in. They were all talented in their own ways and my five junior brothers decided to bring them out for some training."

Blind walked over with his bamboo cane and stated, "Li River's Five Elders came into Great Ruins for training? And they brought their disciples? Great Ruins is a very dangerous place, I can't help feeling worried for them."

Mu Beifeng sighed, "That's right. Great Ruins is simply too dangerous and there are fiendish people everywhere. They have already been away for two months, and not seeing them return for so long, I knew something must have turned wrong, therefore as I searched for them, I found the place where my five junior brothers died by chance. They had all died so miserably, from the wounds on their broken bones, the one that killed them should be an expert from Heavenly Devil Sect with a short stature that was about the height of Granny Si.

He shook his head and continued, "After that, I also found the place where their disciples had died, which was at a valley. Their corpses were mangled by the wild beasts. Hais... What a horrible death... From the wounds on their corpses, the one that had killed them should be a young practitioner, just like our little brother here. I heard your village had a tailor and a carpenter thus I had come forward to order burial clothes and coffins for the murderers that had killed my junior brothers and junior disciples. All that's left is to place them inside."

He revealed an expression of slight haughtiness, "I may be a court official but I'm used to being wild. I'm not used to mumbo-jumbo of the Imperial Family so let us settle this the martial world way. I have come to take revenge for my junior brothers and their disciples. Qian Qiu."

Saying here, the elder closed his mouth and stop talking.

Behind him, a young practitioner came forward and looked at Qin Mu. It was the man who had thrown Qin Mu a gold ingot for his help. "My Junior Brother Qu died from a knife skill that was executed with a stick. Little brother, seeing the knife at your back, would you show me your knife skill and spar with me?"

Qin Mu hesitated and looked at Granny Si, Village Chief and the rest.

Granny Si could not help and spoke, "Mu'er, the southern border has a feral custom. Their ways are ruthless and they never show mercy. Since he asked you to show your knife, you should just execute..."

"Keep your mouth shut!"

Village Chief gave a shout of warning and stopped Granny Si from saying more before calmly saying, "They have come here following the rules of the martial world and didn't use the power of the Imperial Family and Imperial Preceptor to pressure us so we can't spoil the rules either. No one is to give advice to Qin Mu or to help him."

With his awe-inspiring gaze, Village Chief looked at Qin Mu and said coldly, "Qin Mu, the coffins and burial clothes are right there, if you are soft-hearted, one of the coffins would be yours! It's either he will die or you will die! He has already challenged you to a duel so why are you standing here and staring blankly?"