

Honoured 551

Chapter 551: Alchemy Exploration [11]

"Haa.. it's so cold..."

Swimming on the chilling lake, a soft sigh escaped Zhao Tian's lips.

Floating on his back, he gazed up at the sky, the half-moon shining brightly, surrounded by a scattering of stars.

Zhao Tian closed his eyes for a moment, letting the cold water cradle him as he drifted.

Opening his eyes, he glanced at the surface of the water swaying slightly and he brought his hand down.

As he infused the space energy in his palm, the water wavered slightly and was pushed back under the pressure.

Seeing this, Zhao Tian smiled faintly and gripped his palm "Not bad..."

A few minutes later, he stepped out of the lake and dried his body, wearing a new set of robes.

The soft fabric of the robe offered immediate warmth as he slipped it on, and he ran a hand through his damp hair, pushing it back as he exhaled deeply.

"Let's return.. she must have cooked something."

...

As he reached the tent, he was surprised to see Yao Jing standing there, leaning on a tree and there was no tent in that place.

Yao Jing noticed his arrival and smiled faintly "Tian'er..."

Zhao Tian glanced around and asked "Where is the tent?"

Smiling, Yao Jing tilted her head slightly, letting the wind play with a strand of her dark hair and her emerald-green eyes sparkled under the faint moonlight as she extended a hand, palm up, letting the cold wind brush against it.

"The wind has picked up," she said softly.

"The speed has been increasing steadily... I believe there's a chance we'll face a sudden snowstorm or even a blizzard."

Zhao Tian frowned, glancing at the darkened sky as the half-moon was now partially veiled by fast-moving clouds, and the air had grown noticeably colder.

He could feel it now, the sharp sting of the wind against his face, more biting than it had been by the lake.

Yao Jing continued, "If we stayed in the tent and a storm hit, we'd be exposed. The fabric won't hold against the force of the wind, let alone the cold. It would be dangerous."

Her gaze softened as she looked at him. "That's why I took it down and packed everything. I thought it'd be better to move somewhere safer."

She gestured in the direction of the nearby mountains. "The cave we went to earlier... it's sheltered and far more secure. We can stay there comfortably until the weather clears."

Zhao Tian nodded thoughtfully. "That makes sense, Let's head there before the storm catches us."

As they flew to the mountain, snow began to fall. It started as a light dusting, tiny flakes drifting down lazily, but soon the air was thick with swirling white.

Visibility dropped, and the cold became sharper, biting through even their layered robes.

A bit later, they reached the cave and entered.

She took the things from her storage ring and began to set them up inside.

"First thing we need is fire."

Zhao Tian nodded and began helping her.

Together, they gathered dry kindling and set up a makeshift fire pit using stones scattered near the cave entrance.

Yao Jing snapped her fingers creating a flicker of flame and the cave was bathed in the warm, flickering light of a crackling fire.

As the flames grew, Zhao Tian leaned back against the cave wall, letting the heat seep into his chilled body.

His breath came out in soft clouds as he stared into the dancing flames.

Beside him, Yao Jing unrolled their blankets and set them near the fire, creating a cozy spot to rest.

She glanced at him, her expression softening as she took in his tired face. "You pushed yourself too much today," she said quietly, sitting down beside him.

He chuckled, shaking his head. "I'm fine. You worry too much."

As the warmth of the fire filled the cave, Yao Jing stretched reached to her storage ring, her fingers glowing faintly as she retrieved several items.

Zhao Tian glanced at her as he watched her pull out a small cooking stand, a collection of herbs, a vial of oil, and a bundle of neatly wrapped meat.

She set up the stand with practiced ease, placing a flat metal plate over the fire.

The oil was poured in next, sizzling softly as it spread across the heated surface.

The rich aroma of spices soon followed as she sprinkled a mix of fragrant herbs onto the plate, their scent quickly filling the cave.

"This should be quick," Yao Jing said, pulling the cuts of meat from their wrapping.

The marbled slices glistened as she laid them onto the plate, the sizzling sound growing louder as the meat began to sear.

Zhao Tian's stomach growled audibly, and he rubbed the back of his neck, chuckling in embarrassment.

"Hungry already?" Yao Jing teased, flipping the meat with a set of tongs she'd also pulled from her storage ring.

"Be patient. Good food takes time."

She leaned forward slightly, the firelight highlighting her focused expression as she worked.

With deft movements, she basted the meat with oil and sprinkled more herbs on top, the golden-brown edges crisping beautifully.

Zhao Tian watched her, his gaze softening as he noted the care she put into every motion.

She lifted a piece of meat with her tongs and waved it slightly to cool it before offering it to him. "Here, try this."

Zhao Tian accepted the offering, biting into the tender, flavorful meat and he smiled as the rich, savory taste spread across his tongue. "Amazing as always..."

Yao Jing's smile widened, a hint of pride in her expression. "Good."

For the next hour, the cave was filled with the sounds of sizzling meat and quiet conversation, the air rich with the aroma of roasted herbs and spices.

Yao Jing continued to cook, serving pieces of perfectly grilled meat to Zhao Tian, who happily devoured each one.

...

With a soft smile, Yao Jing spread the sheets over him as he lay on the mattress "You went through a lot today... rest for now."

"Mhm..."

Yao Jing lay beside him as she reached out and patted his head, her fingers threading through his soft white hair.

She placed her another hand over his chest and soon drifted to sleep.

...

For the next whole day, they stayed inside the cave because of the heavy snow storm outside.

And quickly a week rolled as they continued their search...

Finally they found the Misty Moon petal.

Chapter 552: Refining the pill!

The cold wind howled through the icy peaks as Zhao Tian and Yao Jing trudged forward, their breaths visible in the freezing air.

After grueling weeks of searching the treacherous cold region, they finally stood at the edge of a valley shrouded in mist.

In the center of the valley, there was a single Misty Moon Petal, its translucent silver leaves shimmering like delicate ice.

The plant's petals emitted a faint luminescence that pierced through the surrounding mist.

"There it is," Yao Jing whispered, her green eyes narrowing with a mix of excitement and caution.

"Grrrr!" But their excitement was short-lived as a deep, guttural growl echoed through the valley, reverberating off the ice-covered cliffs.

The ground beneath their feet trembled slightly as an enormous shadow emerged from the mist.

From the dense fog, a beast appeared as it stood on four muscular legs, its body covered in crystalline scales.

Jagged ice formations jutted from its spine, and its massive head bore four glowing, slitted eyes, each radiating an intense cold.

Its maw opened to reveal rows of sharp, serrated fangs.

"So much for an easy grab," Zhao Tian muttered, looking at the beast.

Yao Jing let out a soft sigh "Frost Revenant Wyvern.. well, it is to be expected. It is a rare powerful herb and the astral energy surrounding it is rich, which is beneficial for beasts too."

With that, she jumped in the air, dashing into the valley "Let's finish this..."

woosh Flames began to swirl around her as she dashed to the ground like a comet, clearing the mist in the valley.

Before Yao Jing could land, the wyvern her and let out an ear-splitting roar, the sound carrying enough force to send shockwaves rippling through the valley.

"GUAAARGHHHH!!" Ice crystals formed in the air as the temperature plummeted further, the wyvern's aura saturating the environment.

As she landed stream of fire erupted from her body, so intense that the snow beneath her evaporated instantly, revealing scorched rock.

woosh The wyvern lunged, its massive jaws snapping shut where Yao Jing had been mere moments before.

swish She spun in mid-air, her flames gathering into a fiery whip.

flip With a flick of her wrist, the whip cracked against the wyvern's crystalline scales, creating an explosion of steam and sparks. *thoom*

"GRRR!" The beast howled in pain, recoiling back as the heat began to melt the ice along its spine.

Yao Jing landed lightly on a nearby rock, the flames in her hand growing brighter as she raised her hand.

"Blazing Blossom..." she uttered and a massive fireball, shaped like a blooming lotus, formed above her, its petals radiating waves of searing heat.

With a faint gesture, she hurled it at the wyvern.

THOOM The fireball struck the beast squarely in the chest and for a moment, there was silence as the valley seemed to hold its breath.

THOOOM Then came the explosion as a deafening roar of flames and shattering ice echoed through the valley.

"GRAAARGHHH!" The wyvern screamed, its crystalline body cracking and shattering under the intense heat.

Shards of molten ice flew in every direction, the mist evaporating entirely in the aftermath of the attack.

When the flames subsided, the wyvern lay motionless, its massive form reduced to a steaming carcass, and the ground around it was scorched black; the snow completely melted.

Yao Jing descended gracefully, her flames flickering out as she landed beside the Misty Moon Petal.

She reached out, her fingers hovering over the delicate herb before plucking it carefully.

Turning to Zhao Tian, who had watched the entire battle in silence, she smiled faintly "Now, let's refine the pill."

From his storage ring, Zhao Tian retrieved a series of jade boxes, each containing supplementary herbs carefully selected for the refinement process.

Their surroundings were eerily quiet now, the only sounds being the faint whistle of the cold wind and the occasional crackle of residual flames on the scorched ground.

They found a flat area near the center of the valley, shielded by towering ice formations, where they could safely begin their work.

Zhao Tian unfolded a simple alchemy mat, retrieved his cauldron, and set it down.

Yao Jing sat cross-legged behind him, "Tian'er, this won't be easy. The Misty Moon Petal's astral energy, along with other herbs, will resist fusion."

"So you surely need a cauldron to exert extra pressure. You'll need to steady your mind and focus entirely. I'll assist you by regulating the energy flow."

Zhao Tian gave her a small smile. "Mhm."

Settling himself before the cauldron, Zhao Tian inhaled deeply, clearing his mind.

He placed the Misty Moon Petal into the cauldron and used his flames, lighting up the cauldron.

The petal began to release a silvery mist, its essence melding into the air inside the cauldron.

One by one, Zhao Tian added the other ingredients.

Each addition caused the cauldron to react violently, shaking and emitting bursts of light.

Zhao Tian's hands moved with precision, channeling his astral energy to control the volatile mixture within.

Behind him, Yao Jing closed her eyes and began to channel her own energy.

Her fiery astral energy surged through her body and extended her palms, and a faint, warm glow surrounded Zhao Tian as her energy began to flow into him.

Her energy intertwined with his, creating a harmonious balance.

The fiery warmth of her energy stabilized the volatile astral energy within the cauldron, taming the unruly, rare herbs.

Time seemed to stretch on endlessly as they worked.

The cauldron's glow shifted from silver to radiant gold, a sign that the ingredients were finally merging.

Zhao Tian's hands moved in patterns, guiding the energy flows within the cauldron while simultaneously maintaining the perfect temperature of the alchemical fire.

Yao Jing's voice broke the silence. "The petal's essence is stabilizing. This is the critical moment, Tian'er. You'll need to fuse it completely or risk losing everything."

Zhao Tian nodded, and his energy surged into the cauldron, enveloping the volatile energies within and compressing them into a single, unified form.

The cauldron trembled violently, its runes glowing brightly as the final fusion took place.

There was a brilliant flash of light as the cauldron emitted a soft chime.

The intense energy dissipated, leaving behind a serene stillness.

Zhao Tian opened the cauldron lid carefully, and inside there was a single pill, its surface glistening with a silvery-gold hue.

Zhao Tian exhaled deeply, his shoulders relaxing as he picked up the pill and turned to Yao Jing, who opened her eyes and smiled, her face glowing with satisfaction.

"Are you taking it now?"

With a shake of his head, Zhao Tian replied "No, I will use it in my room later... For now, let's return to the sect."

"Hm, we need to report the Astral Mine."

Chapter 553: Report to the Sect Master [1]

By the time both Zhao Tian and Yao Jing reached the sect, it was already pretty late at night.

As the cool night air brushed through her face, Yao Jing smiled faintly "Let's go and meet the Sect master."

Zhao Tian frowned slightly at her words, glancing at the dimly lit sect grounds. "But it's already so late. Wouldn't it be better to wait until morning?"

Yao Jing shook her head "This matter is of utmost importance; not only the Mother Stone... the Fallen Mandate is also involved with this."

woosh The two of them quickly dashed toward the center of the Sect, to the private quarters of the Sect master of Jade Eclipse Sect.

Landing in the courtyard, Zhao Tian looked around and it was eerily silent, only the cold wind howling in the air.

"Let's go..."

Zhao Tian expected the Sect Master's private space to be grand, but it was a simple, cozy building amidst a little garden.

Walking to the front door of the room, Yao Jing knocked on the door "Sister Shuang, it's me.. Jing'er."

...

A beautiful woman was sitting on the edge of her bed, her fingers gripping a book in her hand, her purple hair tied into a loose bun. with a few strands cascading down the side of her face, framing her delicate features.

Her purple eyes scanned through the book, reading it.

She is wearing a black nightdress, sticking to her skin, accentuating her curves and her bountiful bosom.

As she turned a page, a faint knock echoed from the door, and her lips curved into a small, knowing smile as she recognized the voice. "Jing'er?" she murmured softly.

Placing the book on the bedside table, Ji Shuang gracefully rose from her bed.

Barefoot, she moved toward the front door, her steps making no sound against the wooden floor.

She adjusted her robe slightly, the black silk flowing around her like a liquid shadow as she approached the door.

Pulling it open, she was greeted by the sight of Yao Jing and Zhao Tian standing in the cool night air.

H-HUH?!

Seeing the handsome young woman standing there, her eyes shrank in shock and her eyes quivered in fear. 'M-Master Tian?'

Oh?

The last time Zhao Tian saw her was during his fight with the vampire but that time he couldn't take a good look at her as he hurried off from there.

And now that he look at her, he was quite surprised, as the Sect Master was really a beauty, possibly one of the most beautiful women he had ever seen.

His gaze dropped down, seeing her thin nightdress, and his eyes landed on her bosom 'Damn, huge... Are they bigger than Shenyi's? K cup?'

Ji Shuang's body quivered as she came out casually and did not try to sense anyone's presence.

'He was with her?'

baam She instantly closed the door, straight in front of Yao Jing's face and the force of the door created a gust of wind that blew past Yao Jing, ruffling her hair.

For a moment, silence hung in the air.

Yao Jing stood frozen, blinking at the abruptness of it all before letting out a dry laugh. "Ah, I completely forgot that Sister Shuang prefers to dress casually at night."

She couldn't help but chuckle "She must have been embarrassed that you saw her like that."

Ji Shuang hurriedly dashed back to her room, her heart palpitating in nervousness and took a mirror from her storage ring "Your Grace, please..."

A few seconds later, the mirror glowed faintly and a silhouette appeared on the glass "Ji Shuang?"

Hearing Qian Shi's words, Ji Shuang hurriedly asked "Your Grace, Master Tian is here... w-what should I do?"

There was a long pause.

-- Qian Shi who was on the other side was dumbfounded and canceled the connection before saying "Deal with it."

W-What?

"W-What? Wait! NO! YOUR GRACE!" Ji Shuang cried, shaking the now-inactive mirror.

Letting out a long, frustrated sigh, she slumped onto her bed. "And there goes my first impression..." she muttered, burying her face in her hands.

"He saw me in a skimpy outfit like this. How am I supposed to face him now?"

She looked down at herself, the thin material of her dress doing nothing to conceal her figure. Her cheeks burned as she thought back to the way his gaze had lingered on her chest.

She grumbled to herself, poking at her own curves with disdain. "And these lumps of fat! He must think I'm some indecent woman showing off like this..."

Ji Shuang groaned and flopped onto her bed, pulling a pillow over her face "My image as a cold and scary Sect Master I wanted to show in front of him.. is ruined."

...

A few minutes later, the door opened and Zhao Tian glanced at the woman wearing a normal robes as she had an indifferent expression on her face and her chest also looks smaller now.

"Come in, Jing'er... Zhao Tian."

Hm? Zhao Tian's eyes narrowed. 'She knows my name? Maybe Yao Jing already told her about me? They seem very close.'

Zhao Tian and Yao Jing entered the small hall and Ji Shuang pointed at the couch "Sit, both of you."

With a nod, Zhao Tian and Yao Jing sat opposite Ji Shuang with a short table in between them.

A slight frown crept over Ji Shuang's face as she asked in a cool tone "So, what is the reason for you to meet me at this time with your disciple?"

Yao Jing smiled softly and gestured to Zhao Tian "Before that, let me formally introduce my disciple, Zhao Tian."

"I already told you, right? I accepted a new disciple."

Ji Shuang nodded faintly "Hm. I am happy for you, after all these years, you finally managed to get a disciple who is exceptionally talented in Alchemy."

"Hehehe..."

Giggling, Yao Jing raised her chest proudly "Of course."

Ji Shuang's eyes softened to see the always smiling woman and asked "And the reason for you to visit me? I am sure it's not just to introduce your disciple."

Yao Jing shook her head, a serious expression forming on her face "No, Sister Shuang."

Chapter 554: Report to the Sect Master [2]

A long silence enveloped the hall...

Ji Shuang leaned back on the sofa, her purple hair cascading around her shoulder as her gaze narrowed "Fallen Mandate... and a Mother Stone."

"That woman found out about the Mother Stone only after you broke through that hole right, Zhao Tian?"

Looking into her calm purple eyes, Zhao Tian gave a nod "Yes, Sect Master."

Yao Jing tilted her head "The Mother Stone was actually found by the disciples of our sect, so it does belong to us.. right, Sister Shuang?"

Ji Shuang turned her eyes to her "Not necessarily. The Great Tianhe Forest is not part of anyone's jurisdiction. It is considered public property, governed by the unspoken rule of shared access. As such, we have no legal claim over the Astral Mine."

"By the rules of the world, the strongest one will have that Mine."

Yao Jing's eyes squinted "In the Jade Eclipse Star, the strongest ones are the Jade Emperor of the Jade Dynasty and the Sect Master of the Jade Eclipse Sect, Ji Shuang."

Ji Shuang smiled faintly and gave a nod "True, but there's another contender this time... Fallen Mandate, the most powerful organization in the cluster of High Stars..."

"Their influence extends beyond the High Stars. Their main base is in the Astral Realm, giving them a legitimate stake in any discovery involving Astral resources

Ji Shuang tapped her fingers thoughtfully on the armrest of the sofa. "That said, even for Fallen Mandate, directly opposing an apex High Star like ours is a significant risk."

"A war with us would mean risking their foothold in the High Stars."

Her tone shifted, betraying a hint of skepticism. "I doubt they would consider such a gamble worthwhile over a single Mother Stone. For now, we can leave them out of the equation."

"The only powerful forces remaining are me and the Royal family."

A soft sigh escaped her lips as she continued "But don't forget the smaller forces lurking in the shadows... lesser sects, rogue cultivators, and opportunistic dynasties. They'll all want a piece of the Astral Mine if word gets out."

Yao Jing gave a faint nod and replied "Then let's keep our discovery a secret and mine stones from there."

Upon hearing this, Ji Shuang shook her head "No. If the Jade Emperor finds out later that we concealed the existence of the mine, it won't just be a political dispute."

"He'll brand us as traitors. And once that happens, he'll rally every sect and dynasty on the Jade Eclipse Star against us. It would mean the destruction of the Jade Eclipse Sect."

Eh? Yao Jing was surprised "I thought our Sect and the Jade Dynasty had a good relationship?"

With a soft chuckle, Ji Shuang shook her head "No, that guy is a sly bastard... we show smiles on the surface, but there can be only one Lion in the jungle, right?"

"We are the only force on this star that rivals his power. Do you think someone like him would tolerate an equal?"

"He has been waiting for a chance to undermine us, and this mine would give him the perfect excuse to strike."

Yao Jing's lips pressed into a thin line as she absorbed Ji Shuang's explanation. "So, what do we do?"

Ji Shuang let out a long sigh, leaning back on the sofa as she crossed her legs gracefully. "For now, we tread carefully. We need to assess the mine's true value and determine how much of it we can secure without provoking a larger conflict."

"At the same time, we'll need to prepare for the inevitable... diplomatic maneuvering with the Jade Dynasty and possibly a confrontation with Fallen Mandate."

Her gaze narrowed in thought "Or is it good to negotiate with the Jade Emperor to get equal shares over the mine?"

The discussions continued as they planned for the future.

...

Stepping out of the house, Zhao Tian raised his gaze looking at the stars in the sky.

The cool night breeze brushed against his face, carrying with it the faint scent of blooming nocturnal flowers and a soft sigh escaped his lips, his breath visible in the crisp air 'Let's go back to my room.'

As he left, Yao Jing closed the door and stepped back inside the hall "Sister Shuang."

Ji Shuang smiled softly and patted the space beside her "Come here..."

With a big smile on her face, Yao Jing quickly went to her and sat beside her.

Ji Shuang chuckled softly, her elegant fingers brushing against Yao Jing's hair as she patted her head affectionately. "Now, tell me. How was your time with your disciple?"

"Hahaha, Yes Sister Shuang..."

She happily began to narrate the things that happened.

Yao Jing considers Ji Shuang as her big sister, as she was the one who saved her from her star while she was wandering around as nothing but pure horror.

Ji Shuang took her in and helped her overcome her past trauma, giving her a new name.

Recognizing her talent in alchemy, Ji Shuang offered her an Elder position within the Sect overseeing the Alchemy Chamber.

As she was speaking, a deep sigh escaped Yao Jing's lips "But.. Sister Shuang, I promised you that I wouldn't kill anyone.. but I killed that woman."

Ji Shuang reached out, her hand warm and comforting on Yao Jing's shoulder. "Jing'er, you did what you had to. You didn't kill out of malice or hatred. You acted to save your disciple. That's not a crime; it's your responsibility."

A dry smile appeared on her lips 'If he is dead.. I am also dead. Well, Her Grace did say not to meddle with his things and I don't have to watch him 24x7.'

Yao Jing looked down, her fingers clenching the hem of her robes. "I know that, but it still feels wrong. Like I've broken the promise I made to you."

Ji Shuang's smile softened further. "Jing'er, do you know why I made you promise that in the first place?"

Yao Jing shook her head.

Ji Shuang replied with a smile. "It was to guide you. You've endured so much darkness in your life. That promise was meant to remind you to choose the light whenever possible."

"But the world isn't always so kind as to allow us that choice. In moments like those, it's not about keeping a promise but protecting what's truly important."

The words seemed to lift a burden from Yao Jing's shoulders and she rested her head on Ji Shuang's shoulder, a deep sigh escaping her lips. "Thank you," she whispered.

For a moment, the two women sat in silence, the quiet crackle of the brazier filling the room.

Finally, Ji Shuang spoke again, her tone lighter. "Now, tell me more about this disciple of yours. Zhao Tian, was it?"

Yao Jing's face brightened. "Oh, Sister Shuang, he's... remarkable. He's fearless but respectful. Stubborn but caring. And his potential... it's boundless."

"He's already grasping concepts that take others decades to learn. I see so much of myself in him, yet he's so much more..."

"Oh, you seem so proud..."

"Hahahaha, of course."

Chapter 555 You sicko pervert!

555 You sicko pervert!

thud Closing the door, Zhao Tian entered his room with a tired sigh and sat on the bed, stretching his arms.

He leaned his back on the head rail of the bed and took a book from his storage ring; its worn cover bore the title 'Honoured One's physique refinement.'

Looking through the page, Zhao Tian's gaze squinted 'I have already concocted the pill to refine my physique to level one.'

'The book outlines that there are totally nine levels but there are only notes for two levels in my hand. I wonder where has the First Honoured One kept the other notes.'

He continued reading, scanning the lines to ensure he hadn't overlooked any crucial details about the pill's preparation or usage. Seeing that there are no such conditions, 'I shall go back to my artifact and.. Hm?'

However, suddenly his gaze squinted and he turned his head to the door.

baam The door was blasted open and a woman entered in, her face twisted with anger and pain.

Zhao Tian blinked his eyes "Jia..."

Li Jia hurriedly walked to him and got on top of the bed, her fingers grabbing his collar.

Her strength caught him off guard as she yanked him forward, her tear-filled eyes glaring into his "You fucking bastard!"

Her hands shook as she gripped his collar tighter, shaking him like a rag doll.

Zhao Tian's head snapped back and forth, the sheer force of her frustration leaving him momentarily stunned.

But he quickly grasped her hand, stopping her "Jia, what's wrong?"

"What's wrong?" she repeated, her voice trembling with rage.

Tears spilled from her eyes, streaking her flushed cheeks. "I am sorry... you fucker. Don't leave me like that."

Huh?

Zhao Tian's gaze squinted as he heard her words, 'When did I leave her?'

Thinking back, he realized that he went to the forest right after the next day of his fight with Li Jia without telling her.

And it took him a whole month to return...

So, she must have thought that I went away because of our fight.

Looking at her tear-filled blue eyes, Zhao Tian couldn't help but chuckle, his eyes softening in tenderness.

"Pfft.. hahaha..."

But seeing him laugh only infuriated Li Jia even more and she struck his chest, "Don't laugh... your jerk."

As he hugged her waist, she fell into his chest, her hands instinctively grasping his shoulders.

"Idiot," she muttered, her voice muffled as her forehead pressed against his collarbone.

With a shake of his head, Zhao Tian spoke "I went to the Great Tianhe forest to get some herbs.. and it took a month for me to return."

Li Jia raised her head slowly, her lips parting slightly in surprise as his words sank in. "You... you went to the forest?" she murmured. "Then.. I was misunderstanding the whole thing?"

Her cheeks flushed deep in embarrassment and she couldn't bear to stay there any longer in shame.

"Ah!" She hurriedly tried to get off him, but he hugged her and turned her body in his lap, as his hands hugged her from behind.

"Where are you escaping, little cat? let me check your progression."

Li Jia struggled in his lap; however, Zhao Tian held her firm with a playful smile on his face "Stay obediently."

His hands slipped inside her robes and he quickly began to remove them.

Feeling the robes slipping past her skin, Li Jia's eyes quivered in embarrassment and she hastily tried to break free.

But with a soft chuckle, Zhao Tian hugged her closer.

As her robes fell down her shoulder, Li Jia snuggled "You.. jerk."

"Oh, come on, I have already seen them and enjoyed them, so why are you still shy?"

Hearing this only intensified Li Jia's embarrassment, and she closed her eyes.

Zhao Tian glanced down at the dark mark sprouting on her chest, in between her cleavage and uttered, "Hm.. seems like its power is gradually decreasing."

Li Jia opened her eyes and looked down at her own chest "Mhm.. yeah."

Zhao Tian gently cupped her breast, squeezing it in his palm as he leaned down and pressed his face against her neck, inhaling her sweet womanly scent.

"Haah..."

A hot breath escaped Li Jia's lips as he squeezed her breasts and she closed her eyes in ecstasy, "Mnhg~ You pervert."

Zhao Tian opened his lips and bared his teeth on the flesh near her neck, making her squirm in pleasure.

"Hngh~ bastard.. I still hate you, a-and don't leave a hickey."

Even though she says that, there was no force behind her words and she let herself sink in his arms.

"Nngh~ be gentle.. you sicko pervert."

As Zhao Tian retracted his lips, he glanced at the red mark on her shoulder along with this saliva.

His eyelashes trembled as he again inhaled her scent 'Her yin energy alone is turning me on so much... The yang energy in my body, I need to find some way to dissipate it.'

'It is building up so much inside my body.'

"Huff..." A deep sigh escaped Li Jia's lips and she gently leaned back on his shoulder "Well, I am glad you are back. Don't go missing without telling me."

Nodding his head, he patted her, his other hand squeezing her breast.

With a smirk on her face, Li Jia pulled herself from him and got down from the bed "If I stay here any longer.. I am afraid, you will assault me even more."

She showed her tongue and spoke "Bleh, go and do that stuff with your wives, you perverted scum."

Zhao Tian shook his head helplessly, amused by her words and it seems like she is still in a huff for that.

"Hmph!"

She snorted and glanced away as she began to wear her clothes.

After wearing her robes, she turned back to look at Zhao Tian and showed a smile "Good night, bastard."

Zhao Tian gave a nod and she stepped out of the room, making her way to her own room.

After she left, Zhao Tian took a deep breath 'My yang energy... I can't just fuck with any random women to dissipate it.'

'Should I really just ask Yao Lian's help after all?'

As he thought, he rubbed his temple 'Uhhh, I can still somewhat suppress it.. so I will absorb the pill first.'

swoosh

Chapter 556 A small dispute [1]

556 A small dispute [1]

SWOOOSH

Standing beside the brilliant blue array, Fei Lingxi, Shi Yixian and Xia Shenyi looked at the enormous amount of astral energy swirling around Zhao Tian.

Zhao Tian is sitting cross-legged under the blue array, absorbing the pill he refined.

Xia Shenyi's gaze squinted, looking through his cultivation. "Hm.. he could reach the 8th level of the Stellar Essence stage today."

With a nod, Shi Yixian replied "My Liege is nearing one of the crucial movements in one journey of cultivation."

As they were watching, a small pink fox walked past that way and glanced at the energy around him in awe.

Yao Lian quickly dashed to them and asked "Is Master making another breakthrough?"

Nodding her head, Xia Shenyi replied "Hm, more than a cultivation breakthrough, it is a physique breakthrough."

Yao Lian's ears twitched, and a soft sigh escaped her lips as she plopped down on the ground near them. "And here I am, still stuck in the Half-Empyrean realm. It feels like I've been stagnating forever." With a shrug, Xia Shenyi replied "As Tian said.. you are talentless trash and you need an Empyrean pill to break through, but I don't know the recipe to create an Empyrean pill."

Yao Lian let out an exasperated groan, her hands clutching her head. "And where am I supposed to get an Empyrean Pill? It's not like I can just pluck one out of thin air."

"One of them is crazy expensive and it's not like everyone has that recipe." With a sly smirk, Xia Shenyi tilted her head as a playful smile appeared on her lips "Or...you could always take a shortcut."

"Have sex with Tian, enter seclusion with the other women, and use his essence as a catalyst to strengthen yourself. Who knows? It might be more effective than waiting for an Empyrean Pill."

Yao Lian's jaw dropped, her eyes widening in disbelief as her cheeks flushed a deep crimson. "What in the world are you saying?!" she exclaimed, staring at Xia Shenyi as if she had sprouted a second head. Xia Shenyi, undeterred, waved a hand dismissively. "I'm just saying," she replied, her tone as casual as if they were discussing the weather. "It's a perfectly valid method. Besides, you're from High Star. Your control is leagues better than most of his wives. They're inexperienced, but you wouldn't have to deal with the same... complications as entering seclusion." "Hmm, we can just use some seals on you."

Yao Lian glared at her "Ridiculous! Do you honestly think I would give up my purity for something like that? This princess of the Yasheng Star does not stoop so low."

Xia Shenyi had a sudden thought "Hm, he can ask Yao Jing... Since she is a great alchemist, she must have the recipe for that Empyrean pill."

"And we can get that for free."

A glimmer of hope appeared in Yao Lian's eyes "Yay!!!"

...

Zhao Tian, who just appeared in his room, sensed three presences standing outside the door and his gaze squinted.

Walking to the door, he opened it and glanced at the two young men standing outside, a powerful aura radiating from them.

'Inner court disciples? What are they doing here?'

As he stepped out, he glanced at Li Jia, who was standing on the right side with a deep red bruise on her face, from where the blood was dripping down her cheek.

Huh?

His eyes narrowed and feeling his gaze, Li Jia lowered her head, her body trembling "Tian..."

'What the fuck is happening here?'

He reached out and gently grasped Li Jia's hand, pulling her to his back.

A cold glint passed through his eyes and he glanced at the young men standing before them.

One of them took a step forward and looked at Zhao Tian up to down "So, you are Zhao Tian, huh..."

The young man had a nonchalant look and spoke "You see, we are from the Crimson Flame wing."

Zhao Tian instantly understood what was going on and saw through their souls 'Evil cultivators. Same wing as Li Xueyan... Velnorah's wing.'

The young man, Wei Liang, continued "We are close friends with Li Xueyan.. and we know she was close with you too."

"But she suddenly went missing for a month; do you know anything about this, Little brother?"

Zhao Tian shook his head and muttered "I don't even know who Li Xueyan is, so piss off."

Hearing his answer, Wei Liang's gaze condensed 'He is clearly hiding something... I am sure Xueyan was tracking him down to suck his yang essence, that sadistic bitch.'

'But suddenly, a month ago, she disappeared.. I initially thought she would eventually return and thought she might have gone far away for a sect mission.'

'But it's been a month and there are no records of her submitting a sect mission.'

'The last guy she was in contact with was...'

Wei Lian leaned forward, "Now, Now... Little Brother, it is not nice to lie..."

As Wei Liang reached out to touch Zhao Tian's shoulder, Zhao Tian grasped his wrist and twisted it as the noises of bones crackled in the air.

crack "Augh!"

Before Wei Liang could react, Zhao Tian's hand moved like a blur, grabbing the back of Wei Liang's head and slamming it into the wall with brutal force. *THOOM* Splinters of wood and plaster exploded from the impact as Wei Liang's head created a deep indentation in the wall.

"Guh!" Wei Liang gasped, his body trembling from the force of the blow. H-HUH?

Li Jia's eyes shrank in shock looking at Zhao Tian and fear gripped her heart 'W-What the hell is he doing? Does he want himself to be killed?'

What?

Lei Feng who came with Wei Liang was taken aback and before he could snap out of it, Zhao Tian twisted his leg and delivered a sharp kick to his gut.

"Gugh!"

As the wind got kicked out of his gut, Lei Feng was momentarily staggered back, falling to his knees. "Augh!"

"What is happening here?"

Chapter 557 A small dispute [2]

557 A small dispute [2]

As Lei Feng fell to his knees from Zhao Tian's kick, he clutched his abdomen, gasping for air, his face contorted in agony.

Meanwhile, Wei Liang pulled himself out of the broken wall and glared at Zhao Tian.

Li Jia hurriedly grasped Zhao Tian's arm, her eyes trembling in panic "T-Tian..."

"What is happening here?"

Hearing a hoarse voice, the four of them turned their heads and glanced at the old man who was walking towards them through the corridor.

The old man, Dayoung, was one of the sect overseers, tasked with maintaining order among the outer disciples in dorms.

Dayoung's eyes glanced around at the scene and his gaze narrowed looking at Wei Liang "What is an inner court disciple doing in new outer disciples' dorms?"

His eyes glanced at Li Jia's face and saw the red bruise with blood dripping down her cheek 'Was I late?'

Meanwhile, Wei Liang gripped his palm in anger and glanced at Zhao Tian 'What was that.. Suddenly my head was smashed on the wall. What happened?'

Lei Fang also stood up to his feet, clutching his abdomen in pain as he felt his stomach churning up.

Wei Liang glanced at Dayoung "Senior Dayoung, I just came here to get some information about my missing friend."

"But this outer disciple... seems like he wants to provoke a fight."

Zhao Tian nodded his head "Of course, that's why I smashed your head... you dimwit."

Wei Liang's face twisted with anger as he pointed a finger at Zhao Tian. "See, Senior? He admits it himself. He's the one who started all this." Dayoung clicked his tongue "An outer disciple beat an inner court disciple like you.. and your are pointing a finger at him?"

Wei Liang's gaze squinted upon hearing this and gritted his teeth in anger "That was a surprise attack.. I..."

Dayoung again glanced at Zhao Tian and a flash of surprise crossed his face 'Already at the 8th level of Stellar Essence Stage?'

One can apply to become an inner court disciple when they reach the 5th level of the Stellar Essence Stage.

'But seeing that he still hasn't applied, seems like he is waiting for the Qualification tournament, which is going to start in two days.'

Sighing in his heart, he replied "If you want to fight, there are sect arenas... there you can fight against each other by betting something. Don't do that in front of dorms.'

Dayoung spoke, glancing at the small group of disciples who had gathered there after the small commotion.

Zhao Tian's gaze condensed and he nodded his head "Ok then, we can fight in the arena. I am betting my life."

Since these two are Evil cultivators, he has already decided to kill them, and that's why he provoked him into a fight.

Within sect grounds, he can kill them legally.

And another thing is, they have hurt Li Jia... so of course he can't leave them alone after that.

H-Huh? Li Jia's eyes shrank in shock 'Betting his life...'

Hoh? Dayoung's eyebrows raised in amusement and glanced at Wei Liang "A challenge for Life or Deathmatch where you can even kill each other."

"That is a serious wager, Zhao Tian. Are you certain?"

Wei Liang, still nursing the throbbing pain in his head, sneered. "You're insane, you know that? An outer disciple like you thinks he can face an inner court disciple in a life-or-death match? Don't get ahead of yourself."

Lei Feng, clutching his abdomen, chimed in, his voice dripping with disdain. "This arrogant worm thinks he can fight Wei Liang? The audacity..."

-_- Zhao Tian stared at them blankly 'It is really easy to provoke idiots like this.'

With a sigh, Zhao Tian glanced at Dayoung "Senior Dayoung, it seems like the inner court disciples from the Crimson Flame wing are afraid of a match against a new outer disciple like me. So I withdrew my challenge."

Huh? Wei Liang's eyes squinted and he glanced at the small crowd gathered around him "This bastard.. set me up.'

'He even used my wing name. If I don't accept now, it will be a shame to me, and my wing's reputation among the other 13 wings will fall into the gutter.'

'Why the hell is this bastard so confident about fighting me?'

As he thought, he saw through Zhao Tian's cultivation and gasped in surprise 'No wonder you are so confident, bastard. 8th level of Stellar Essence Stage?'

'Why is he still an outer court disciple? Maybe he is aiming for the Qualification tournament.'

'But I am already in the 2nd level of Heavenly tribulation stage; let's see fucker.. I will break your arrogance.'

Shaking his head, Wei Liang shook his head "Nothing like that; I will never refuse challenges. I am just worried that it will foil my reputation and people will say that I am bullying an outer court disciple."

"But since my junior brother is so confident... as an equal bet, I will also place my life to fight."

Zhao Tian glanced at Lei Feng "Both of you..."

Huh? Lei Feng's eyes quivered in anger "You-"

But Wei Liang stopped him and spoke "Alright, if you won our fight, you can fight against Lei Feng next, with his life on the line."

Hearing this, Zhao Tian smiled faintly and nodded his head.

Dayoung glanced at Zhao Tian 'Zhao Tian, the wing master Eldric Grey, has been keeping an eye on him to recruit him into his wing...'

'I wonder if he will survive this fight; there are very low chances.'

With a nod, Dayoung spoke "Then I will oversee the match; is tomorrow alright?"

Zhao Tian shook his head and replied "No, right now."

Huh?

The others were surprised and glanced at Zhao Tian.

Keeping his smile, Zhao Tian glimpsed at Wei Liang "Oh, come on now.. don't tell me, you need to warm up a day to defeat an outer court disciple like me."

"You arrogant-" As Lei Feng began to flare out, Wei Liang grasped him and put him in place.

"Okay, I agree... we can fight now."

Dayoung sighed in his heart "This brat is truly arrogant, he robbed those disciples on the first day and now he is picking up a fight with inner court disciples.'

"Then, let's leave for the arena."

Li Jia nervously grasped Zhao Tian's hand "Tian..."

Hm? Zhao Tian turned to her and lower his head, whispering in her ear "Don't worry.. I will come and heal you later."

Dayoung noticed their closeness in amusement 'He wants to fight Wei Liang because he hurt his girl? Truly a youth reason to put your life on the line.. Hahaha.'

Chapter 558 A small dispute [3]

558 A small dispute [3]

Standing on the counter near the arena, Zhao Tian glanced at the paper in front of him.

The paper is the binding... an agreement for a death match, stating that neither side's friends nor family would seek vengeance, regardless of the outcome. After signing the paper, Zhao Tian walked to the arena and glanced at Wei Liang, who was standing opposite him.

Wei Liang smirked as he rolled his shoulders, the faint glow of his astral energy rippling across his body.

He was confident... Why wouldn't he be?

As an inner court disciple, he was not only a stage above Zhao Tian in cultivation but also held a significant advantage in combat experience. On the sidelines of the arena, Lei Feng stood with his arms crossed, and he was ready to step into the ring should Wei Liang falter, though he found the notion laughable.

"Wei Liang is more than capable of handling this brat," Lei Feng thought smugly.

Still, he couldn't help but feel a flicker of unease as he noticed Zhao Tian's calm demeanor.

Fights often happen in the arena; it's no wonder, but it's not like everyday you can see a death match.

Even in a short time, rumors flew, and there are quite a small crowd around the arena to witness the fight.

And what's the most interesting part is that the fight is between an outer court disciple and an inner court disciple.

"Did you hear? That outer disciple dared to challenge Wei Liang to a death match!" "Is he insane? An outer court disciple doesn't stand a chance!" "But look at him... He doesn't seem nervous at all and he is handsome."

"He looks cute."

Li Jia was standing nervously among the crowd as she looked at Zhao Tian.

'I know Tian is strong... He even killed that wretched sister of mine...' she thought, biting her lip. 'But these two seniors are a stage above him in cultivation. How can he possibly win?'

There are two other women in the crowd who were shocked to see Zhao Tian in the arena.

H-Huh?

Qi Xue's eyes shook in horror, her delicate face paling as she clutched her sister's arm. "Nue'er... Little Brother is..."

Qi Nue was equally taken aback and her gaze squinted "Let's go and call Master Jing."

"Y-Yes.. lets go."

The two sisters hurriedly pushed their way through the crowd, their anxious expressions drawing curious glances from those they passed. ...

THONG Back in the arena, the tension reached a boiling point as the gong signaling the start of the match echoed through the air.

The crowd fell silent, their breaths held in anticipation. 19:21

Astral energy flared out of Wei Liang's body as he stepped forward 'Even without using my evil cultivation technique, I can kill brats like these easily.'

"You must be trying to show off in front of people.. by challen-"

flick Zhao Tian teleported from his place and appeared in front of Wei Liang, a cold gint passing through his eyes.

Huh? Wei Liang's breath caught in his throat.

He didn't have time to react before Zhao Tian's hand shot out, grabbing his face in an iron grip. Zhao Tian's gaze condensed as his fingers gripped his face 'If you were only an Evil cultivator, I would have given you a painless death.'

'But you touched Li Jia... No one dares to touch my women.'

His fingers clutched his face and Wei Liang's mind raced in panic. 'What is this strength? Ho-'

But his thoughts were violently interrupted as Zhao Tian smashed his head into the arena floor with a deafening *THOOM!*

The impact reverberated through the entire coliseum, sending tremors into the ground.

A spiderweb of cracks exploded outward from where Wei Liang's skull collided with the reinforced stone floor.

Wei Liang's eyes rolled back for a moment, his vision swimming as the sheer force of the blow scrambled his senses.

His skull felt like it had been cracked open, and his body instinctively spasmed from the impact.

"UGHHHH!" Wei Liang's agonized groan echoed through the arena, but Zhao Tian wasn't done.

Far from it.

Before Wei Liang could recover, Zhao Tian pulled him up by the face, lifting him off the ground like a ragdoll.

cough *cough* Blood dripped from Wei Liang's nose, and his jaw hung slack as his brain struggled to process what was happening.

Zhao Tian hurled Wei Liang across the arena like a missile.

woosh Wei Liang's body slammed into one of the stone pillars lining the arena's edge, shattering it into rubble.

CRACK! BOOM!

"URRGHH!" Wei Liang coughed violently, spitting out blood as he slumped to the ground.

His limbs twitched, his body refusing to obey his commands.

But Zhao Tian didn't give him a moment to breathe.

He appeared in front of Wei Liang in a flash, grabbing him by the ankle and swinging him like a broken puppet.

"AGHH!" Wei Liang's body smashed into the ground, then into the wall, then back onto the floor.

Each impact left craters and cracks in the stone, the sheer brutality of the attacks leaving the crowd in stunned silence.

"Stop... Ugh... STOP!" Wei Liang managed to choke out, blood dripping from his mouth.

His once-pristine robes were now in tatters, stained red.

Zhao Tian ignored and raised Wei Liang by the throat, lifting him high into the air.

Wei Liang's astral energy flared weakly as he tried to get some semblance of resistance, but it was like a candle flickering in a storm.

Zhao Tian's aura completely overpowered his, suffocating him like a crushing tide.

Zhao Tian slammed Wei Liang down onto his knees, the sound of bones cracking audible even to the audience. *crunch* *crack*

"ARGHHHHH!!!" Wei Liang screamed, but the sound was cut short as Zhao Tian's knee drove into his face, sending him sprawling backward in the arena. The crowd was surprised... It is not new for them to kill people, but Zhao Tian's methods are quite brutal.

Lei Feng's eyes shrank in shock looking at the horror in the arena "What the hell is happening?"

Chapter 559 A small dispute [4]

559 A small dispute [4]

"Master!"

The sound of hurried footsteps echoed as Qi Xue and Qi Nue rushed into the Alchemy Chamber, slamming the heavy wooden doors open.

thud The room was filled with the faint, sweet aroma of herbs and bubbling elixirs.

Yao Jing, lounging on the cold stone floor with a half-empty jade wine flask in hand, turned her head lazily toward the disturbance.

Her gaze condensed looking at their panicked faces "What happened, Nue'er?"

Qi Nue hurriedly walked close to her "Little Brother picked a fight with a senior."

Oh? Yao Jing raised an eyebrow in surprise and straightened herself up, sitting on the cold floor "Are they fighting right now?"

Qi Nue hastily nodded her head "Yes, Master.. they are fighting a death match in arena with that senior who is a stage above him."

Upon hearing this, Yao Jing's brows furrowed in thought, 'He even withstood against that woman and gave her a lot of punches...'

'He might be reckless, but he is no fool... so i am sure he can win this fight.'

But instead of the panic her disciples expected, Yao Jing simply stretched her arms above her head, letting out an exaggerated yawn. "Waaaah... So the boy found himself in some trouble. Well, let's go, then." Qi Nue sighed in relief, taking a step toward the door. "Thank goodness! If you intervene-" Eh?

Yao Jing chuckled loudly and shrugged her arms. "Who told you I am going to stop the fight?"

"I am going there to watch my disciple fight... Hehehehe."

"B-But Master!" Qi Xue stammered, rushing forward, and her face turned pale.

"He could die. That senior is an entire stage above him. We need to do something. Call the Sect Master, or-" Yao Jing raised her hand, stopping her, "Do you think Tian'er is foolish enough to pick a spar knowing that he can't win?"

Qi Nue looked unconvinced, her fists clenched tightly. "But this isn't just a spar! It's a life-or-death match." Yao Jing raised her chest proudly "I have complete confidence in my disciple that he will win."

The three of them quickly rushed out of the Alchemy Chamber and Yao Jing instantly shot up in the air, reaching the arena.

Within moments, Yao Jing reached the arena and hovered in the air briefly, her eyes scanning the scene below.

The crowd had grown massive, a sea of disciples buzzing with anticipation and the fight is also about to start.

"Didn't expect for you to be here... Yao Jing."

Hearing a sweet voice, Yao Jing turned her to look at the beautiful woman floating beside her "Elder Velnorah?"

Velnorah's lips curled into a smirk "I heard that Tian accepted you as his Master."

Yao Jing showed an equal smirk "And I heard you tried courting him to get him under your wing."

Hearing this, Velnorah shrugged casually "Of course, you must have known how talented Tian actually is."

Yao Jing nodded her head "Of course I know..."

Velnorah's eyes narrowed, "By the way, he was missing for a month inside the sect. Did you take him to the Great Tianhe Forest?"

With a nod, Yao Jing replied "Yeah... it took a month."

"And, are you here to watch him fight? Seems like you received the news ahead of me."

Velnorah smiled faintly "Of course, because he picked a fight with a disciple from my wing."

Hoh? Yao Jing raised an eyebrow in surprise "And you are not intervening to help your wing's disciple..."

Velnorah dismissively waved her hand "I could care less. Though I am worried about Tian... I wonder if he can handle it."

Upon hearing this, Yao Jing clicked her tongue "Don't doubt my disciple. He can handle it."

Velnorah's gaze softened looking at Zhao Tian...

...

H-HUH?

Meanwhile, Li Jia standing in the arena was utterly surprised to see Zhao Tian thrashing Wei Liang across the arena.

'Just how much strength was he hiding?'

A relieved sigh escaped her lips and her tensed body relaxed, as she rubbed the small teardrop from her eyes 'I was worried for nothing...'

She glanced at Zhao Tian in the arena 'See.. what I am going to do to you for making me worried, you fucking bastard.'

Zhao Tian crouched over Wei Liang's broken body, gripping his hair and forcing him to look up.

Blood streamed from Wei Liang's face, his eyes swollen and nearly shut. "Grghhh!"

Wei Liang couldn't move an inch of his muscles as he was fully pressed by some aura and glanced into the blue eyes of Zhao Tian 'W-What is even.. happenin-'

Before he could think further, Zhao Tian pulled back his fist, and Wei Liang's body instinctively tensed up to take the hit.

Bamm As his fist landed on the face, another bone-breaking noise echoed through the arena.
crunch

Zhao Tian's finger grabbed his hair tightly, pulling him up with such force that strands of hair tore from his scalp.

Holding his face inches away, Zhao Tian smashed his knee into Wei Liang's chest with a sickening *THUD*, shattering his ribs.

"Ughhhh!" Wei Liang coughed violently, blood spilling from his mouth as his body convulsed.

BAM! Zhao Tian hurled him across the arena like a discarded doll.

"ARGHHH!" Wei Liang skidded across the bloodstained stones, leaving a crimson trail in his bloody path.

Zhao Tian walked towards Wei Liang, who was lying in the arena, his whole body drenched in blood.

'Using space energy to suppress his movements and attacking him... good.'

As he walked toward him, Wei Liang felt the space energy crushing down on him, pinning his body to the ground.

'Urghhh.. why can't I fucking move?'

Reaching him, Zhao Tian raised his leg, placing his foot on Wei Liang's throat.

H-Huh?

Wei Liang's body trembled in horror and he raised his swollen eyes to look at Zhao Tian's face through the blurriness of his vision.

Zhao Tian slowly crushed his throat with his foot and Wei Liang's hands clawed weakly at the blood-soaked ground, his fingers trembling as if trying to find something... anything... to cling to.

"Urghh haa.. uff." His breathing came in ragged, desperate gasps, each one shorter and weaker than the last.

splash *puchi* The arena was eerily silent, saved for the sickening crunch of bone and cartilage giving way under Zhao Tian's foot.

Wei Liang stopped resisting and his eyes rolled up...

As he fell dead, Zhao Tian raised his gaze, looking at Lei Feng who was scared shitless...

"Next."

Chapter 560 A small dispute [5]

560 A small dispute [5]

Zhao Tian raised his gaze to look at Lei Feng, who was visibly trembling after witnessing Wei Liang's merciless end.

Fear gripped Lei Feng's heart as he took a step back, his eyes darting around the arena, searching for a way out. Then, in an instant, Lei Feng made his decision.

Panic overtook him as he turned, and his body blurred as he shot into the air, soaring high above the arena in a desperate bid to flee. Hm? Zhao Tian's gaze condensed and he quickly dashed into the air, following him.

"Fuck, fuck, fuck," Lei Feng muttered under his breath, his voice trembling.

His heart pounded as he pushed himself to his limits, the wind whipping against his face. The disciples who were watching also raised their gaze to look at the sky.

"I will just escape from here-" *flick*

With a blur in space, Zhao Tian appeared in front of Lei Feng and kicked Lei Feng right in the face.

baam His foot crushed his face and the sheer force of the kick sent him hurtling back toward the ground like a meteor.

THOOOM Lei Feng's body slammed into the arena floor, creating a crater upon impact.

Dust and debris exploded into the air, obscuring the sight of his broken body.

"URGHHH!" As his back crashed into the floor, Lei Feng felt his spine break and a guttural cry escaped his lips.

"URGHHH!! ARGHHH UFFFF!" His hands trembled as he weakly tried to push himself off the ground, his arms barely holding his weight. Blood trickled from the corner of his mouth, his face bruised and battered from the force of Zhao Tian's kick.

His vision blurred with tears of pain and panic, yet he couldn't stop his trembling hands from futilely pushing against the ground.

But as he tried to move, he felt his spine crackling and his eyes trembled in terrific pain
"Urghhhhhhh!"

flick Zhao Tian appeared in the arena and Lei Feng raised his quivering eyes to look at him, his silhouette glowing against the morning sun.

"Urgh... no... please..." Lei Feng coughed, pitifully whimpering.

THUD

Zhao Tian's foot slammed down onto Lei Feng's outstretched hand, the sickening crunch of bones shattering filling the air. "ARGHHHHHH!" Lei Feng screamed, his body writhing in agony as Zhao Tian ground his foot against his crushed hand. The crowd watched in horrified silence, unable to tear their eyes away from the brutal spectacle. Zhao Tian lifted his foot, allowing Lei Feng a moment to cradle his mangled hand.

baam Zhao Tian's kick landed squarely on Lei Feng's face, the force sending a shockwave through the arena.

"Graagh!" Lei Feng's head snapped back, blood spraying from his nose and mouth as his body spasmed violently.

Zhao Tian didn't stop as his leg rose and fell repeatedly, each blow landing with bone-crushing force.

CRACK.

THUD.

BAM.

The audience flinched with every crash, some turning away, unable to bear the sheer savagery of the scene. "urghh..." Lei Feng's cries grew weaker with each strike until they were little more than wet, gurgling sounds.

plash *puchi* Blood splattered across the ground, staining Zhao Tian's clothes and the surrounding debris.

Finally, Zhao Tian tossed Lei Feng's limp body to the ground like discarded trash.

Lei Feng gasped weakly, his chest heaving as he struggled to draw his breath.

His body twitched uncontrollably, his mind barely clinging to consciousness.

Zhao Tian stood there waiting for Lei Feng to take his last breath.

Under the bloody mess, Lei Feng's chest heaved up to take one last breath before his eyes went lifeless looking at the skies.

THONG The sound of the going echoed through the arena, indicating the end of the match.

"Zhao Tian wins."

Dayoung had a faint smile on his lips 'Elder Eldric Grey had spotted a good seed, Zhao Tian.'

"Zhao Tian?"

"That was his name?"

"Ohh..."

The disciples who heard Dayoung's voice began to whisper to each other.

...

Yao Jing, who was watching the whole fight, had a proud smirk on her face "Don't doubt my disciple ever again."

"I am really surprised," Velnorham muttered, her eyes narrowing in amusement.

"I didn't expect it would be a one-sided match like this... I expected him to struggle so I could intervene at the right time and save him like a hero."

"Guess my plan was foiled." She uttered with a sad sigh.

Yao Jing's lips twitched in exasperation "You were trying to get brownie points amidst the commotion?"

Velnorah just smiled "Of course, he is going to be under my wing after all.. hehe."

"Dream on."

...

Zhao Tian quickly left the arena to go back to his room 'I need to clean myself and the blood stains from my body.'

Li Jia who knew he would go to his room next, quickly followed him out of the arena and rushed to the dormitories.

The corridors were quieter than usual, most disciples still buzzing around the arena.

As she rushed to the corridor, she saw Zhao Tian entering his room and called him "Tian!"

He paused mid-step, his hand on the doorframe, before turning to face her and a small smile touched his lips "Jia."

She reached him and grasped his shoulders, her eyes moistening with tears "You bastard.. you scared me there."

With a soft chuckle, he raised his hand caressing her cheek "I told you... I can handle it."

His fingers brushed the bloody bruise on her cheek and she winched slightly in pain.

"Let's go inside and I will heal you."

tap At this time, two figures stepped into the corridor from the air.

E-Eh?

Li Jia was startled by the arrival of the two gorgeous women, and her gaze flickered to the black token hanging on their waist.

'S-Sect Elders?'

Yao Jing stepped forward and rustled his hair "You fought very well, Tian'er."

With a deductive smile, Velnorah leaned forward, bringing her lips close to his ear "Seems like you will be busy for a while."

"Come and meet me at my private quarters later... we can train to make some babies."

With that, she dashed from there like a blur.

Zhao Tian let out a soft sigh "I am surprised she didn't get mad considering the disciples I killed are from her wing."

Yao Jing's eyes narrowed as she crossed her arms "Well, she did say that she doesn't care about those disciples. But you, Tian..."

She tilted her head looking at him suspiciously "She seems very close to you. Don't tell me, are you cheating on me with another Master?"

--

Eh?