

King of Hell 201

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Chapter 201: Completion Of Qi Refining Stage

This medicinal pill was something she had refined in Hell King Manor. Although it was a grade one medicinal pill, it wasn't made following a prescription used in Mi Luo continent, or one that was from the Overflowing Cauldron Pill Scripture.

Rather, it was made according to Xi Jia and the others' body types, combined with a kind of intensifier to strengthen a cultivator's physique. This medicinal pill prescription was something that was listed in the Overflowing Cauldron Pill Scripture, but then Hexi had improved on it, creating the current prescription by herself.

At first she had failed several times, until the last time, when she finally succeeded in her refining. As a result, she was only able to make a total of thirty pills.

Hexi pointed at the medicinal pill and said to Xi Jia, "I've checked the descriptions of Mi Luo continent's medicinal pills, and found that they were basically focused on refining the spiritual power of a martial artist. Yet for all of you, you're all walking on a different path compared to an ordinary martial artist. Therefore, based on your unusual physical and spiritual advancement road, I specially refined this medicinal pill for you. However, I don't know whether or not this medicinal pill will have side effects, and I also don't know whether or not it will be able to help you advance to Foundation Establishment stage...you can choose to eat it or not."

Actually, Hexi already knew that this medicinal pill wouldn't have any side effects. She knew that its biggest effect was to enhance a person's strength and speed, tempering a martial artist's muscles and bones, all so that their body could achieve the result of resistance to spiritual power attacks.

However, when all was said and done, this was the first time that she had refined anything. Moreover, it was her self-created prescription. So just in case, she wanted to explain it all to Xi Jia and the others.

But before Hexi had even finished speaking, without hesitation, Xi Jia picked up the medicinal pill and swallowed it.

After a moment, Xi Jia felt heat in his abdomen. Following this, his meridians, including his dantian that had been devoid of spiritual power, suddenly became boiling hot. It was as if there was a steady flow of heat surging throughout his entire body.

Hexi told him, "The force that is currently surging throughout your body will enter your meridians, circulating your body twelve times. After each lap, your body's strength will increase."

Xi Jia promptly sat cross-legged, and in accordance with Hexi's instructions, he began to slowly absorb this powerful force.

An hour later, Xi Jia rose from the ground with astonishment plastered across his face. Lifting one of his hands before his eyes, he formed a fist, and he seemed to hear each individual joint crack. It was like his body was now covered in a fine dusting of gold.

"Miss, I...I believe I've perfectly completed Qi Refining stage!" Xi Jia shouted in pleasant surprise.

In just one short hour he had gone from being ninth rank Qi Refining stage, to actually having completed it! This is something which he had never before believed possible and yet, to his astonishment, Young Miss had helped him to accomplish it!

Hexi nodded and said, "Disperse these medicinal pills to everyone. I want to see the results they have on everyone, so this time it's only one per person."

"Yes, Miss!" Xi Jia suppressed his excitement, taking the medicinal pills from Hexi's hand. "Once my Brothers receive the medicinal pills, they will certainly be happy!"

Hexi then asked, "How's the situation surrounding Cang Mountain been these past few days?"

Xi Jia swiftly repressed his joyful expression and respectfully said, "Answering Miss; the past few days a lot more people have come to visit Cang Mountain, but they mostly focus on the west side of Cang Mountain. A few days ago we had a number of martial artists examining our surroundings, but after that, no one has come here again. This subordinate sent people to secretly investigate the martial artists gathering around the west side of Cang Mountain, and discovered that not only are some of the martial artists from influential families and Jin Ling sects, there are also martial artists from other countries, as well as people from the royal family. Previously quite a few conflicts occurred between the groups, but now it seems to have calmed down. Although, even when they do fight, they fight at a distance, as if they were afraid to alarm something inside Cang Mountain."

Hexi frowned. "Hmm, regardless of what happens outside, don't bother about it. Don't go near the west side of Cang Mountain! At the moment a lot of Gold Core stage martial artists have gathered there, and with your current strength, you wouldn't be unable to provoke them and live. When you go out try to be careful, don't let people discover you."

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Chapter 202: Lonely Dandan

Xi Jia quickly nodded. "Yes, Miss! I will warn everyone here to be careful and to pay attention to their surroundings."

Hexi nodded. "You may go. With regards to your training, you can now start to enter the second stage."

The second stage? Miss had once said that as long as they could get through the second stage's training, that they would then have the strength to fight Foundation Establishment stage martial artists!

Xi Jia nodded excitedly and accepted the medicinal pills from Hexi's hand. But just as he was about to leave, he suddenly stopped and respectfully asked, "Miss, may I ask, what are these medicinal pills called?"

Hexi stared blankly. Name? Those pills were something that she had only recently created! How could she know what they were called?!

"I haven't thought of a name yet," Hexi couldn't care less about it and said, "You can all think of a name for it yourselves. Moreover, it was specially refined for all of you anyway."

Hearing that, Xi Jia was immediately filled with delight as he ran off. He and the other servants weren't foolish, they knew how precious this medicine was.

Just one pill was enough to finely temper an ordinary person's spiritual root constitution, helping their strength to equal that of a martial artist after they had used supplement pills and cultivation methods. If the medicinal pills were to be sold on the market, they would absolutely be extremely expensive.

However, Miss not only gave it to them without hesitation, she even gave them the right to name it! This was a big honour; it showed how much she trusted them!

Hexi didn't expect that just because she was too lazy to think of a name, Xi Jia would imagine such complicated meanings behind her action.

What's more, Hexi didn't expect that the illiterate Xi Jia and others would straightforwardly name the medicinal pills 'Invigorating Pills'. It was unknown now, but in the future, Invigorating Pills would become extremely famous in Mi Luo continent...and this horrible name would be forever engraved in every martial artist's memories.

After dismissing Xi Jia, Hexi returned to her room and entered her space.

What Hexi had learnt in Yan Jing City before, had made her realise that now was a good time to make money. But first, she would need to clean up her inventory and then she could sell it all for a high price.

Straight after entering her space, Hexi caught sight of Dandan sitting on a pile of mountain melon fruit. With an unhappy expression on its face, it bit into a melon and kicked its small feet in the air. Its fat round face was filled with loneliness and sadness.

Once Dandan noticed Hexi, it cried out cheerfully. Throwing away the melon, it then pounced towards Hexi. "Mother, why are you only coming and seeing me now, I was almost bored to death in here! Whaa, Mother, I don't want to stay alone in here anymore, I want to go outside and accompany you~"

Seeing him like this, Hexi felt somewhat sorry.

Although her space was vast and rich in spiritual energy, there was only Dandan living alone in here after all, so if she didn't come, then he would certainly be lonely.

Hexi appeased Dandan for a moment, and only after the small guy had calmed down, did the two of them then proceed to start working on the spiritual field.

Dandan had the nature of a filial son. A moment ago he was still weeping with an aggrieved and pitiful expression, but now that he was accompanying Hexi, he promptly tossed his loneliness to the back of his mind.

Yet one moment he was helping Hexi with the farming, and the next he was running circles around her. Running around crazily in the Ancient Rhyme Spiritual Field, he made a flower garland and placed it on the top of his head!

"Mother, does Dandan look good?"

Having a chubby and plump small guy, with a garland of flowers on top of his head asking whether or not he looked good...Hexi couldn't resist laughing inside. Plastering an expression of admiration and praise onto her face, she nodded. "Mhmm, Dandan is the handsomest."

Dandan immediately became cheerful, then continued to run around the spiritual field in glee. With his silver bell-like laughter echoing in Hexi's ears, her mood became light and tranquil.

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Chapter 203: Adorable Little Pig

Of course, what made Hexi the happiest was the nature defying harvest from the Ancient Rhyme Spiritual Field.

Looking at the small mountain of spiritual vegetables, spiritual fruits, and spiritual herbs, Hexi's eyebrows raised with delight. In her mind, she calculated the amount of crystal stones she could earn.

After she gained the crystal stones, she could use them to reorganise and expand her small courtyard. With all the activity surrounding Cang Mountain, she wanted to shore up her courtyard's defences.

Once she had finished sorting out the Ancient Rhyme Spiritual Field, she realised that it was now morning outside her space.

Stretching out her body, Hexi stroked Dandan's small head. "Okay, I'm going to go now. You behave in here, I'll come and visit you often."

"Noo~" Dandan tightly clutched Hexi's clothes with tears streaming down his cheeks, unwilling to release her. "Mother, let me go out with you, okay?"

Dandan's big, watery, and misty eyes were a weapon that no one could resist.

Yet although Hexi felt distressed for a moment, she still firmly shook her head. "No, don't you remember what Old Man Xumi said? If people were to recognise you, it would be very dangerous. Besides, your appearance is so unusual that it would definitely attract attention."

Hearing this, Dandan immediately began crying and rolling about on the ground. Sobbing and sniffing, he refused to speak, instead continuing to loudly weep. This kind of attitude would melt the heart of anyone, even the most hard-hearted person.

Hexi sighed. "Dandan, it isn't that I don't want to bring you out, it's just that your appearance is honestly too extraordinary. If I were to let you out, you and I will both be in danger. Unless...you can change your appearance into something less conspicuous?"

Dandan blinked his big eyes, his golden bean shaped tears immediately stopping. Lifting his small head, he said, "Change my appearance...like this?"

Dandan's voice had barely faded, when a roast suckling pig suddenly appeared before her eyes.

The eyes of the roast suckling pig rolled around, looking extremely ridiculous.

But aside from that, all the other details; including the alluring fragrance, were exactly the same as with the roast suckling pig that Hexi had previously made.

Hexi watched as this 'roast suckling pig' blinked it's big eyes, and when it hopped around on it's short legs, she couldn't help but laugh.

Could her Dandan be any more amusing?

While Dandan jumped about excitedly, he asked, “Mother, Mother, is it okay like this? Dandan’s spiritual power doesn’t leak either!”

This was true, Dandan had changed into a roast suckling pig, and except for his eyes, there was nothing unusual about him. He was just like a roast suckling pig, and even with Hexi’s sharp senses, she was unable to detect any spiritual power fluctuations coming from his body.

It seemed that Dandan’s transformation technique, and a common martial artist’s transformation technique, were completely different. An ordinary person really wouldn’t be able to notice at all.

Hexi pondered for a moment, then said to Dandan, “Dandan, change the colour of your skin into a pale pink...mhmm, exactly like that. Now change your height; become a bit smaller. Shorten your nose a little...”

Under Hexi’s instructions Dandan’s appearance changed little by little, until finally, an adorable pale pink little pig stood before her.

She had seen this little pig on television before in her past life. It was the leading character of an animated film named McDull[1], who was once extremely popular in her past life.

Since Hexi was an assassin in her previous life, she naturally hadn’t had any time to watch cartoons. But once, when she was carrying out a mission, she had glanced at a television and her mind automatically remembered its image. So when Dandan had turned into a roast suckling pig, she naturally thought of it.

Looking at Dandan’s version of McDull, Hexi nodded. “Mhm, perfect! Now, you can go out with me.”

Hexi intended to first test out his appearance in her courtyard. If the people in her courtyard were unable to make out anything unusual about Dandan, then the risk of taking Dandan out of her courtyard with her would be much smaller.

[1]McDull. Lol

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Chapter 204: Faithful Follower

The result, contrary to Hexi’s expectations, was that Dandan’s little pale pink pig appearance was unexpectedly well received by Xiao Li, Wet Nurse Chen, and the rest of the women in her courtyard. In fact, their love of Dandan was extremely intense.

Even the only female amongst the slaves, Xi Gui, was affected. When she saw Dandan, her eyes shone brightly, while her expression revealed her wish to hold him tightly in her arms.

Xiao Li, on the other hand, didn’t have the same reservations, and promptly hugged Dandan. She then rubbed her small face on his soft and tender skin, her expression as serious as a daughter-in-law’s as she asked, “Miss, is this your spirit pet? Too adorable! How can there be such an adorable spirit pet in Mi Luo continent?”

Hearing Xiao Li’s words, a corner of Hexi’s mouth twitched.

Because, at the same time in her mind, she could hear Dandan's angry yells. "Mother, this nine tailed fox is too much! I'm a primary spirit! How can she pinch me like this, this is simply disgraceful... Can I eat her, Mother?"

Hexi: "...You can't!"

Dandan immediately began crying. "Then Mother, quickly help me! Dandan doesn't want to be kissed and hugged by such an odd girl! Dandan's chastity will be damaged~~"

Chastity-?! I see your integrity seems to have been washed away!!

Hexi firmly ignored the two small animals, and turned around to describe her business proposal to Zhangsan.

The current Zhangsan had long since stopped being a wicked servant and taking advantage of his position to bully others.

After becoming Hexi's servant and succeeding in advancing his cultivation base, he was now Hexi's faithful follower.

Servants were usually poor people who were sent to serve as servants for the household of a rich family. In order to earn money to live, they would constantly be thinking of ways to promote their own strengths. Now this Young Miss was able to help him advance, and not only that, she was also able to pay him much more than Nalan Manor. So, what reason would he have to not be dead set on deeply revering this Young Miss?

Hexi had also seen the changes in Zhangsan's behaviour and found that, compared to Xi Jia and the others, Zhangsan's methods of handling the day to day affairs was much more efficient.

After all, Xi Jia and the others were previously slaves, so she noticed that their abilities' were limited. While on the other hand, Zhangsan wasn't able to quickly improve his strength, but he was very adept at dealing with social interactions, making him more skilled than the other people in her courtyard.

Zhangsan accepted the low level storage ring that Hexi handed him. After examining what was inside with his Divine Sense, astonishment lit up his face. "Miss, there's...there's so many spiritual plants in here! Do you want sell all of them?"

His voice was laced with disbelief because this storage ring was filled with all kinds of spiritual plants. Moreover, each spiritual plant was fresh and full of spiritual energy! Where had the Young Miss managed to get so many spiritual plants from?

Hexi nodded as she said, "Go find shopkeeper Zhou in Sheng De Hall first. If the price he gives is reasonable, you can sell these spiritual plants to him."

Sheng De Hall's shopkeeper Zhou, Zhou Yan'an, was the young man who had helped her when she rescued and treated Xiao Li's brother, Wu Qi.

Remembering the common people's reaction at that time, she realised that Sheng De Hall's reputation was well respected, so regardless of her background or character, it could be assumed that she wouldn't be cheated if these spiritual plants were sold to them. In fact, she was thinking that she would like to establish a long-term contract with Sheng De Hall if possible.

Zhangsan hastily nodded, and very carefully put the storage ring away.

But just when Zhangsan thought that the Young Miss had finished giving him her orders, Hexi swiftly took out two bottles of medicinal pills, effortlessly throwing them to him. "These are Spiritual Supplement Pills, one bottle for you, and the other bottle I want you to take to the market and find out their worth."

"Spiritual Supplement Pills?" Zhangsan cried out in surprise. "These...did you refine them by yourself, Miss?"

Seeing Hexi nod, Zhangsan's dedication to Hexi rose sky high. Is there anything in this world that his Young Miss couldn't do?

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Chapter 205: Medicinal Pill Appraisal

"Miss, if I may ask, do these Spiritual Supplement Pills also need to be sold to Sheng De Hall?"

Hexi shook her head while smiling slightly. "No need, I leave it up to you on how to deal with them, I only need to see a sufficient amount of benefits."

The value of a medicinal pill was higher than that of a spiritual plant. Hexi was able to sell her spiritual plants to shopkeeper Zhou, but she wasn't able to sell medicinal pills to him! She was counting on the sale of medicinal pills to earn enough money to accomplish her courtyard's defence system!

Zhangsan had the bottle of Spiritual Supplement Pills that Hexi had given to him, and he couldn't help but swallow a pill before doing anything else.

As a result, intense spiritual power spread throughout his dantian in a flash, circulating to every one of his meridians. It was obviously such a strong force of spiritual power, but where it flowed through his meridians, there wasn't the slightest trace of pain! Instead, he was so comfortable that he wanted to groan.

Half an hour later, Zhangsan stopped meditating and stood up to examine his cultivation base. Shock immediately flashed across his face.

He'd had a breakthrough? Within only half an hour, he had actually managed to breakthrough from the fifth rank of Qi Refining stage, to the sixth rank Qi Refining stage? Moreover, his meridians hadn't suffered any damage; it was as if there were no impurities at all in the medicinal pills!

This...is a first grade Spiritual Supplement Pill supposed to be so strong? Or did the Young Miss give him a special medicine?

Zhangsan's eyes shone brilliantly as he hurriedly left the courtyard. First, he brought the spiritual herbs to shopkeeper Zhou to sell, and then he signed a long-term supply contract with him.

And without showing the bottle of medicinal pills that he carried, he proceeded to head towards a medicine institute that specialised in appraising medicinal pills.

He believed that the Spiritual Supplement Pills that his Young Miss refined would certainly be graded as extraordinary; for sure they'll be the highest first grade medicinal pill possible. When it became time for the medicine institute to issue an appraisal certificate, so that the medicinal pills could be sold at auction, he firmly believed that they would be able to get a good price.

Zhangsan chose Yan Jing City's most famous medicine institute to appraise the medicinal pills; Jin Ling's Imperial Pharmaceutical Institution.

Yet after just entering the Imperial Pharmaceutical Institution, Zhangsan found his path abruptly blocked by someone.

The servant boy in charge of registration at the Imperial Pharmaceutical Institution noticed Zhangsan's wretched clothes and low cultivation base, and he couldn't help but say with contempt, "Hey you, do you know that the cost of appraising a medicinal pill is at least ten crystals, while the highest appraisal costs one thousand crystals? Do you have enough for the appraisal fee?"

Zhangsan's eyes immediately lowered, and from a chest pocket he fished out one hundred crystals, placing them on a nearby table. With a quiet voice he then said, "I want an advanced appraisal for a first grade medicinal pill."

When the servant boy saw the one hundred crystals, he stared blankly for a moment, before he then registered Zhangsan's words. Bursting into a fit of laughter, he said, "You came here just to get an appraisal for a first grade medicinal pill? Moreover, an advanced appraisal? Does your brain have some sort of illness?"

At the Imperial Pharmaceutical Institution, there were different appraisals available for medicinal pills. Of course, the higher the level, the more that could be detected about the composition and element attributes, better allowing the examiner to determine the value of the medicinal pill.

But if the medicinal pill itself was of poor quality, then to ask for an advanced appraisal would not only not have any benefits, it would instead reveal the ignorance and stupidity of the owner of the medicinal pill. If the owner were to spend so much money on such an appraisal, it would only end with people mocking them.

Zhangsan said, "That's right, I want an advanced appraisal on a first grade medicinal pill. As long as I can afford to pay with crystal stones, what is it any of your business what I want to appraise?"

The servant boy sneered, his gaze filled with contempt as he looked at Zhangsan. "Nowadays there's no lack of people like you. You accidentally get your hands on a medicinal pill, and then right away you think you picked up a priceless treasure, eagerly coming to us to appraise it. Hehehe, let me tell you, people like you will ultimately feel disappointment. Do you still think you've come to appraise a treasure now?!"

While the servant boy had been speaking he had registered Zhangsan's medicinal pill, ordering someone to deliver it to the evaluation room.

With a calm and collected face, Zhangsan stood waiting on the side, completely without the intention of refuting the servant boy.

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Chapter 206: High Grade Spiritual Supplement Pill

Zhangsan believed in his Young Miss's medical skill and ability. If she was able to make him, a low level martial artist, advance from the third rank of Qi Refining stage, to the sixth rank of Qi Refining stage within a few short months; how could it be possible that the medicinal pills she refined were just an ordinary product?

Zhangsan was waiting for quite a while, and after the servant boy had sent off the last client and noticed he was still sitting and waiting, he couldn't help but sneer. "Fool, it's useless for you to wait! In a moment, the result will come out and you'll find out that you wasted one hundred crystals, you can't..."

The servant boy's words hadn't yet finished, when suddenly, a white bearded old man abruptly rushed out from the evaluation room.

While he was running with an excited and/yet nervous look on his face, he yelled, "Number ninety seven? Who brought medicinal pill number ninety seven in to be appraised?"

Zhangsan and the servant boy both stared blankly for a moment, before Zhangsan looked at the number plate in his hand. He was number ninety seven.

With a glance, the white bearded old man caught sight of the wooden number plate in Zhangsan's hand, and like a whirlwind, he rushed over to him. Grabbing Zhangsan's hand, he shouted, "Was it you who brought in medicinal pill number ninety seven?"

Zhangsan answered, "Yes, I am. Was there a problem with the medicinal pill?"

"Was it you who found this medicinal pill? Where did you find it?" Zhangsan's cultivation base was only at the sixth rank of Qi Refining stage, and moreover, it seemed that his overall innate talent was only ordinary. Of course the old man wouldn't think that Zhangsan had refined this medicine.

Zhangsan shook his head. "That medicine was refined by my Master, I didn't find it."

The white bearded old man's brows suddenly rose in surprise, a radiant light appearing in his muddy eyes. "You mean, your Master is the one who refined this medicinal pill? It wasn't found? Do you have any other medicinal pills in your possession apart from this one?"

Zhangsan nodded, and he couldn't help but ask, "So how was it? What are the results of the medicinal pill?"

However, the white bearded old man ignored his question and asked impatiently, "Which Great Master is your Master? Quickly take me to see him!"

Zhangsan's brows wrinkled. "If you have something to tell my Master, you can tell me instead. My Master is very busy; he has already given me full responsibility to handle all matters dealing with the medicinal pill."

Zhangsan had always been a shrewd person, so he was obviously aware that Hexi didn't want her identity revealed. How could he stupidly expose Young Miss's information?

Hearing this, the white bearded old man became frustrated. However, thinking about how all Great Masters were temperamental and eccentric, he was also relieved.

This time, when he looked back at Zhangsan, he was smiling. "So it's like this; the results of your medicinal pill appraisal have already come out, and no one expected that it would actually be a first grade medicinal pill of the highest quality. Moreover, the appraisal found that the composition of the medicinal pill was perfect. This old man has never before seen such a perfect medicinal pill! Your Master's strength absolutely already surpasses that of this Sect Master!"

"How could that be possible?!" The servant boy exclaimed nearby, his expression one of shock and bewilderment as he looked at Zhangsan.

As for Zhangsan, when the old man had passed over the appraisal results, he only glanced at it before his eyes widened with shock.

First grade Spiritual Supplement Pill: contains ten crystals worth of spiritual power, ninety nine percent essence purity, and suitable for unrestricted long term usage.

This...this information...was it really that of a first grade medicinal pill?! It was even stronger than a mid-level second grade medicinal pill!

Firstly, the spiritual power contained in most top level first grade Spiritual Supplement Pills was at max only three crystals worth of spiritual power, and secondly, the ninety nine percent essence purity...that was enough to make martial artists go crazy with longing! It meant that even if a martial artist consumed many spiritual pills, they wouldn't have to worry about an overaccumulation of spiritual power.

This was practically an amazing way for a low level martial artist to advance by medicinal pill!

"I am the Vice-Head of this Imperial Pharmaceutical Institution, and also a fourth ranked doctor. On behalf of the Imperial Pharmaceutical Institution, I wish to sign a long term contract with your Master for this high grade Spiritual Supplement Pill. If there are any conditions you may have, we can discuss..."

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Chapter 207: Visiting Cang Mountain

Zhangsan stood in place in a daze, and while he could hear the Vice-Head of the Imperial Pharmaceutical Institution politely discussing contracts, he only felt dizzy; like he was walking on air.

What kind of frightening talent did his Young Miss possess in the end?!

If this kind of medicinal pill was to be sold, and this kind of attribute appraisal result was to spread out, it would absolutely turn all of Jin Ling Kingdom's low level martial artists upside down, right?

While Zhangsan was negotiating contract terms, Hexi was standing on a certain hill on the east side of Cang Mountain. From a distance, she could see plumes of grey fog rising from the top of Cang Mountain, and as she stared at it, she found herself contemplating.

In regards to Cang Mountain, she had researched about it in some of Mi Luo continent's ancient books and records.

It was said that more than a thousand years ago Cang Mountain was once full of vitality. However, all in one night, every living thing on Cang Mountain suddenly died.

Moreover, after that, any martial artist that futilely tried to enter into the depths of Cang Mountain never returned; even their bones couldn't be found.

And as time passed, all the spiritual plants growing on Cang Mountain began to vanish, along with all the animals. The only thing to remain was a powerful darkness, where dark spiritual beasts would occasionally roam.

Some people said that Cang Mountain was cursed, and that anyone who ventured near would be cursed too, until finally, they suffered an unnatural death.

Hexi of course didn't believe in curses, but since Cang Mountain was obviously devoid of spiritual power fluctuations, it really gave her a strange feeling.

The thing she found strangest of all though, was that she felt like something in Cang Mountain was faintly calling to her, and as time went on, this feeling only become stronger.

Recalling that some time ago there was a blast of power, followed by spiritual beasts that headed towards her courtyard from Cang Mountain, Hexi's brows wrinkled. It was fortunate that last time Xiao Li was able to hold it back, so that the people in her courtyard were able to escape from disaster. But if it were to happen again, everyone would certainly be in danger.

Glancing at Xi Jia and the others that were currently training in the valley, she then turned to glance at her courtyard where there was a curl of smoke rising from the kitchen chimney. Abruptly, she quietly said, "Dandan, we're going to enter Cang Mountain and have a look around."

Standing beside her, Dandan immediately lit up with happiness once he heard this and said gleefully, "Okay! Dandan wants to go on an adventure together with Mother the most~"

Recently, the things occurring in the vicinity of Cang Mountain had made Hexi become somewhat concerned.

The current atmosphere surrounding Cang Mountain was very unstable; it was nowhere near calm and safe. Instead, it was very likely that since every major force in the Jin Ling Kingdom would end up fighting over the secret territory, this area would become a slaughterhouse.

Although she was fond of this courtyard, in the end, the people here were more important to her than any object. So for those people, she would head to the east side of Cang Mountain and properly examine it. If it turned out that it wasn't suitable to stay here anymore, she would still be able to move everyone as quickly as possible.

Bringing only Dandan along with her, Hexi didn't notify Wet Nurse Chen and the others. Instead, she chose to trust Xiao Li to pass on the message, before she then entered Cang Mountain.

As she only planned to quickly examine the east side of Cang Mountain, she assumed that she wouldn't be away for more than three days.

Since Hexi had been watching the black fog rising from Cang Mountain at a distance for quite a while now, she figured that the area closer to the mountain would be covered in a thick layer of fog; permeated with a sinister aura.

However, as she got closer, she discovered that there were a lot of healthy green plants. Moreover, although there were no spiritual plants, and also no spiritual energy, the air was actually fresh and clean.

There were even quite a lot of unknown wild flowers growing on the roadside, each of them emitting bursts of a flowery fragrance capable of lifting a person's spirit.

Dandan, who had been closed away in Hexi's space, and then the courtyard for a long time, was now like a wild horse out of control as he ran around everywhere, exploring this unusual and vast area inside of Cang Mountain.

Hexi of course wasn't actually worried about Dandan's safety, as the two of them were connected. If Dandan was to run into danger, she would naturally be able to be there straight away.

But, not long after entering Cang Mountain, the previously frolicking Dandan ran back to her, his small and short legs trembling.

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Chapter 208: Disappearing Food

As soon as he saw Hexi, he clutched her leg and started sobbing. "Mother, there's a monster up ahead! I'm scared!"

Hexi became apprehensive. A monster? Except for a few dark spiritual beasts, there were no other kinds of animals in Cang Mountain, right? Could it be, that maybe what Dandan ran into was a spiritual beast?

With great difficulty she appeased Dandan, and with him leading the way, Hexi cautiously walked forward.

Not long after, the huge figure of a monster was reflected in Hexi's eyes, yet she couldn't help but release a sigh of relief, before she then burst out into a fit of laughter.

What spiritual beast! This is only the large skeleton of a spiritual beast, that's all!

But then, this spiritual beast's skeleton was really huge! The height of the skeleton was three times taller than Hexi, and if it was still alive, it would certainly be a huge monster that could terrify everyone.

Hexi poked Dandan's head, unhappily saying, "You're such a coward! That's just a skeleton, yet it unexpectedly made you so scared."

Dandan was still shrinking behind Hexi, and as he nervously peeked at the skeleton, his small body slightly trembled.

No longer paying him any heed, Hexi walked towards the skeleton and carefully inspected it.

She couldn't recognise what spiritual beast this skeleton was from, however, this skeleton was still completely intact. From its outside appearance she couldn't see any visible scars, or even any signs of poisoning.

Picking up a piece of bone Hexi examined its density, finding that this spiritual beast was in the prime of its life and full of vitality. Yet from the bone's colour, this spiritual beast had died at least a few hundred years ago.

What could have caused such a giant spiritual beast to wordlessly die, and without even the hint of a bruise?

Hexi was puzzled. What had occurred at Cang Mountain during that time?

Following the discovery of the spiritual beast bones, Hexi and Dandan entered further inside Cang Mountain. The deeper they travelled, the more skeletons they saw; skeletons of all different kinds of spiritual beasts, and even human bones!

Every skeleton was completely intact, and no skeleton showed any traces of scarring or bruising. It was like in one breathe they had suddenly died, without leaving any traces of a struggle.

The more Hexi saw, the more apprehensive she became. To be able to make all living things on the mountain die without them having the strength to resist, how formidable was that power? Did the so called Cang Mountain curse really exist?

Hexi was deep in thought, when suddenly, she heard the sound of a stomach gurgling.

As soon as she bowed her head, it was to see Dandan using two of his small piglet hooves to clasp his belly. When he noticed Hexi watching him, he laughed foolishly.

Once he had seen that first spiritual beast skeleton and experienced such a fright, and then seen so many spiritual beast skeletons along the way, Dandan had slowly begun to calm down. So now, every time he saw those smooth bones, all he could think of was delicious roast suckling pig.

As a result, his stomach began to growl in hunger.

Hexi looked at the colour of the sky, and noticed that the sun was high in the clouds, indicating that it was now noon; lunchtime.

So from her space, she removed all the food that she had prepared in advance: barbecue meats, creamy soup, cool vegetables, all kinds of pastries, fruit salad, and even fruit juice made from spiritual fruit; it was like they were about to sit down for a leisurely picnic.

Dandan held a piece of barbecued meat covered in grease to his mouth, and as he ate one side of it, he shouted, "Mother...the dishes that Mother makes are the best in this world...so delicious!"

After he finished devouring a chicken leg, Dandan extended a hoof to grab another piece.

However, his hoof didn't make contact with the familiar tender and fragrant meat, rather, it landed on an ice cold tray.

Dandan unwillingly extended his hoof to another dish, only to find that it was empty too!

Grumbling under his breath, he got up and crawled onto the tablecloth to see the trays, yet what greeted him was a strange scene.

The tablecloth previously overflowing with an arrangement of food was now completely empty! One by one, all the food on every bowl and tray had disappeared without a trace! Even the soup had disappeared without a drop remaining.

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Chapter 209: Thief

Dandan suddenly remembered the skeletons he saw on the way, and he immediately pounced into Hexi's arms, panicking as he said, "Mother, there's ghosts, really real ghosts! Dandan's scared..."

When Dandan had been in her space before it came to her and had been able follow the owner of the previous space around, he had experienced a lot of human world knowledge...ghost stories were one of them. So even though the cowardly Dandan was born as a powerful primary spirit, he...was very afraid of ghosts.

Although Hexi wasn't afraid, she still found this scene strange, so with a grave expression she wholeheartedly became alert.

She didn't believe in supernatural beings like Dandan, especially in such a world where cultivation was real. The so called supernatural beings were nothing more than the original souls of martial artists', that's all. But the scene before her eyes nevertheless caused her to become dumbstruck. After all, what sort of creature was able to make strange things happen in front of her, yet do it without letting her sense the slightest clue!

Hexi got up to look around, and yet after still not finding anything, she checked and found that the food on the tablecloth was still rapidly disappearing!

Hexi coldly snorted and suddenly waved one hand, collecting all the remaining food back into her space.

The next moment, a familiar voice was immediately heard, "Hey! Where did it all disappear to? I still haven't finished eating yet, put it back, quickly, quickly! That duck wing was really delicious! Girl, how did you make it? Give this old man twenty more pieces!"

A corner of Hexi's mouth twitched, and soon, an old man's body reeking of wine became visible.

Surprisingly, it was the old beggar man that had been pestering her yesterday.

She frowned and said, "Smelly old man, has no one ever told you what a thief is? With this type of morality and conduct, you still have the nerve to say that you're a large Sect Master?"

"Ooh, Baby Doll is too stingy," The old beggar man stroked his messy beard and laughed loudly. "Aren't all delicacies of the world meant to be shared with others? Besides, we know each other Baby Girl, so how can you regard me as a stranger?"

"Quick, bring the food out again, I'm still not full! Ahh, those duck wings, and there was also roast duck, so delicious. I've lived for so many years, and yet I've never eaten such delicious food before!"

Hexi's brows slightly raised. This old beggar man, although his behaviour was crazy and weird, his strength was absolutely top grade.

Suddenly taking out a roast rabbit leg from her space, she lightly swayed it in front of the old beggar man's face. With saliva sliding down from a corner of his mouth, he pounced at the roast rabbit leg.

Hexi unhurriedly asked, "Want to eat it?"

The old beggar man nodded repeatedly, lacking the slightest bit of decorum.

Hexi then sternly said, "Then tell me, what happened to Cang Mountain and why are there so many spiritual beast skeletons inside? What are those martial artists fighting over?"

The old beggar man's expression abruptly stiffened, before he then laughed loudly. "Ooh, Baby Doll, didn't you say that you weren't interested in Cang Mountain's secret territory? Why are you inquiring about it all of a sudden?"

Hexi sneered. "I'm not interested in the secret territory, but the area I live in is located at the base of this mountain. I have to find out what kind of place Cang Mountain is as my neighbour, and whether or not it'll be a future threat."

The expression on the old beggar man's face flickered through countless emotions, before he then finally said, "Ahh, I just came here to have a stroll, that's all. The secret of Cang Mountain and whatnot, how could this old man know?"

"Oh. Since that's the case, Dandan, this is for you to eat."

Dandan took the roast rabbit leg from Hexi's hand. After he devoured it clean, he then held his small plump belly while laughing, "Mother, it's so delicious, I want more!"

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Chapter 210: Fighting Over Food

"Ahh! Such a waste, such a waste!" The old beggar man said as he watched the disappearing rabbit leg, flinging his beard around in distress. "I say Baby Doll, why are you so serious? No matter what you want to say, I'm still your Master! Presenting food to this old man as a show of filial respect is only proper!"

Hexi sneered, "When did I agreed to pay my respects to you as a Master? Stop speaking nonsense!"

"Ah, it won't hurt you if you pay your respects to me! Why would you rather give your food to this guy, but not give any to me! It's simply unfilial of you!"

After the old beggar man said this, he suddenly waved his hand in the air. Dandan, who had still been rubbing his belly, abruptly appeared being held by his neck by the old beggar man and hanging in mid-air.

Hexi instantly turned pale. Moving so fast her figure flashed, she rushed over to snatch Dandan back.

However, no matter how fast Hexi moved, she couldn't even touch a corner of the old beggar man's clothes.

While Dandan loudly cried, the old beggar man stroked his beard and laughed raucously. "Baby Doll, your innate skill is pretty good, but if you want to snatch this thing from my hand, then it's still too early for you!"

The light in Hexi's eyes slowly become icy cold, and closing them, she suddenly extended an arm.

The next moment, the old beggar man's body was knocked down with a thump!

"Ooh, so you've landed the first strike! You unexpectedly have such a keen sense of intuition," Even if the old beggar man was taken down, Dandan was still captured by him, only now, he was floating in the air. Watching Hexi with a satisfied smile, he laughed happily. "The more I learn about you, the more eager I become to accept you as a disciple."

Hexi's face was cold as she looked up and watched as Dandan struggled in vain in the air, and she said with a grave voice, "What do you want?"

The old beggar man's face fell, and he pitifully said, "Baby Doll, do you still have any of that roast rabbit leg? I've been hungry for many days and I haven't really eaten till full!"

Forget it! It's just food anyways, she still has plenty more!

She's a normal person, she won't bother arguing with this crazy old beggar man!

When the old beggar man saw the food, how could he care about holding Dandan hostage anymore. "Who cares about paying respects towards a Master!" He exclaimed as he rushed towards the spread of food.

And so once Dandan fell from the air with great difficulty and saw that his precious food was now being eaten by someone, he immediately forgot his previous fear and furiously yelled as he rushed forward, "Smelly old man, you're not allowed to eat my food! Mother's food is mine~"

Hexi held her forehead in resignation. This brainless little pig! He really made her not want to acknowledge him as her spirit pet!

For a time, the old beggar man and Dandan began to compete in who could eat the most. So in the time it took to burn a stick of incense, the tablecloth that had been covered in food, was completely demolished by the pair. Moreover, most of the dishes were meat dishes!

The old beggar man rubbed his distended stomach and released a satisfied hum. "Having been able to eat such delicious food in this lifetime, this old man could easily die without regret now~~"

"The food that Mother makes, Dandan can eat it every day!" Dandan pointed his small butt towards the old beggar man and scowled. "In the future, only Dandan can eat it! I won't give you any to eat!"

"Little guy, why're you the same as your Master, so evil!" The old beggar man joked, yet as he examined Dandan, a trace of suspicion appeared in his eyes.

This pink little pig was apparently that girl's spirit pet, but the aura emitted from this spirit pet was unusual. It appeared different compared with a common spirit pet; even he was unable to see through its disguise.

Although there were spirit pets able to speak on Mi Luo Continent, it was very rare for a spirit pet to have such a high intelligence.