#### My Crown 391

## Chapter 391: I Want Her to Die

She wasn't going to waste any words nor reconcile with you. The little fellow was clearly out to kill today!

"Junior Sister!" The Ghost Faction male disciple flared up, wrapping mystic energy around his fist. Just as he intended to punch out at the little girl, he felt a strange energy restricting and drawing that arm backwards.

His arm uncontrollably raised up towards the rear, and he couldn't swing it towards the girl no matter how much strength he used.

He immediately thought, Sh\*t, that girl has an expert protecting her in secret and is pinning him down!

The Ghost Faction male disciple lifted his eyes and looked distantly at Crown Prince Mo, who just stood there motionlessly. He only felt the other youth had icy and grim eyes on his solemn face, like the other party could possibly dismember his body completely into ten thousand pieces in the next second.

He could only hide if he couldn't be a match! The Ghost Faction male disciple shielded his junior sister and evaded towards the end of the corridor. However, he saw that streak of fire following him relentlessly like how a shadow followed a body, and unshakeable like how gangrene was bound to the bone. It rushed before the two people with a swish.

"Will this little junior sister please stay your hand!" A disciple from Xixia Valley anxiously called out. "They are Ghost Faction's disciples: Senior Brother Peng, Peng Zhang, and Senior Sister Chou, Chou An<sup>1</sup>. It's best that you don't clash during the competition's preparation period to avoid affecting the competition later on..."

"Boom!" The Ghost Faction disciple, Peng Zhang, completely did not understand how the little girl had actually appeared behind the two of them in an instant.

He clearly already evaded to the other end of the corridor! Why did it turn out like this?

The ferule directly slapped down from above right onto his junior sister's back. It caused her to stumble forward several steps and vomit out another mouthful of blood with a cough.

Qiao Mu was unwilling to let the matter go. A stern gleam flashed through her eyes, and she once again flew to the female disciple Chou An's front with a whoosh. She stared frigidly down at her from above, and the ferule in her hand raised high up again!

For this attack, she gathered all the mystic energy in her body, even systematically transferring out the mystic energy in her branch artery.

She! Wanted her to die! Right now! Immediately!

"Stop!!" After the angry shout, a fifty-year-old elderly man whose hair stood up like a pincushion suddenly flew over quickly and blocked in front of the Ghost Faction female disciple, Chou An. He then flew up and shot his palm out towards Qiao Mu's chest.

"Old geezer, you dare!" Murong Xun shouted angrily and flashed to her disciple's side with a whoosh. She amassed a vigorous burst of mystic energy and promptly met the incoming palm.

After a buzzing tremor passed by, Murong Xun jolted the elderly man into flying backwards. He continued retreating several dozen steps after barely landing on the floor, then clutched his chest to spit out a mouthful of blood.

"Junior Sister!!" The Ghost Faction male disciple, Peng Zhang, shouted harshly.

No sooner said than done, just as Murong Xun was beating up the elderly man, Qiao Mu's ferule, which had accumulated all the energy in her body, had already swung down directly at the Ghost Faction young girl's head.

"Boom!!!"

Everyone momentarily felt a remnant tremor in their ears. At that instant, they felt that all the living things in their surroundings had quieted down.

The Ghost Faction girl flopped down on the floor heavily as blood flowed out of the corner of her mouth continuously. A defensive weapon that she was holding in her hand abruptly rolled out of her fingers and shattered into pieces on the floor.

"Junior Sister, Junior Sister? ..." Peng Zhang called out falteringly in fear and alarm.

"Ugh, ugh, cough, cough. Cough, cough." The Ghost Faction girl spurted out fresh blood incessantly from her mouth. Bits of her internal organs were also mingled among the blood, creating a ghastly sight.

The Xixia Valley disciples were already stupefied a long time ago! They stood there dumbly and stared blankly at the expressionless little girl floating with a stern gaze in mid-air.

# Chapter 392: Strike Again If She's Not Dead

"Unexpectedly haven't died yet. Your life is really tenacious, huh!" Qiao Mu sneered, and a mysticenergy-guiding talisman matrix suddenly floated around her.

Mystic-energy-guiding talisman matrix: it could gather all the mystic energy from her surroundings in the valley to the greatest extent, which she could then continuously replenish into her own body.

It could really work wonders in combat! However, this talisman matrix constructed with intermediate-level yellow talismans could only last for a limited amount of time, just a quarter of an hour.

At this time, an unceasing abundance of mystic energy was presently replenishing the mystic energy that Qiao Mu had depleted due to the attack just now.

Everyone was agape and tongue-tied. They watched with bulging eyes as the little fellow's robes fluttered due to the mystic energy once again gathered around her body.

The two disciples from Xixia Valley wished for nothing more than to faint immediately: Oh my Heavens! Where did this ruthless little devil come from? The other person already used a defensive shield to block half of her attack, yet now, she's resenting that the person didn't actually die and wants another go at it again?

The Xixia Valley disciples had already cursed the two Ghost Faction disciples to no end in their hearts!

If it were not for the Ghost Faction female disciple suddenly attacking someone, there wouldn't be all this discord! Really, this both angered and depressed the Xixia Valley disciples.

This incident happened inside their valley. Even if Master didn't blame them, all in all, it could be said that they hadn't fulfilled their duty. They were unable to satisfy their arriving guests, causing them to even come to blows!

Suddenly—

"Stop!" A solemn middle-aged man's voice resounded all of a sudden.

The two Xixia Valley chief disciples almost cried in joy. "Master!"

Stop again? Why is everyone so annoying?

"Troublesome!" Qiao Mu squinted. She had already channeled her mystic energy to a critical juncture. The ferule in her hand again emitted a pitch-black glow, ready for release.

Let's see if you won't die this time! Let's see if you still have a defensive shield to block for you!

"Peak Master Murong! This miss, please show mercy!" The person who arrived hurriedly flashed all of a sudden to Murong Xun and Qiao Mu's side. He cupped his fists and bowed in greeting.

"I am Luo Jinyang, Xixia Valley's Valley Master. Greetings to the three peak masters!" Valley Master Luo hurriedly saluted towards Murong Xun and the rest with a faint smile on his scholarly face. "Could you all please first desist for this valley master's behalf?"

"What happened." At this time, the leader of the Ghost Faction group, Ghost Surd, rushed over with thirty disciples.

When he saw the wretched state of Chou An sprawled on the ground, Ghost Surd immediately interrogated angrily, "Who did this?"

Although he was interrogating, his pair of raging eyes were locked firmly on the little stoic's face. It was obvious without a doubt that this floating young girl holding a black mystic weapon in mid-air was the culprit.

"You're blind!" The little stoic said coldly, her gaze concealing an incisive killing intent.

Ghost Surd was livid, and he pointed at Qiao Mu. "You child, are too audacious and reckless!"

"Don't point fingers at my disciple! Ask your disciple yourself what actually happened!" Murong Xunberated.

"Peak Master Murong, Elder Ghost! Please calm down, please calm down!!" Xixia Valley's Valley Master was like a firefighter hurriedly calming down the two's rage. He kept saying, "Let's talk things out cordially, let's talk cordially! Let's first understand what happened."

"My! I didn't realize it was so lively over here! What is the Ghost Faction up to by mobilizing entirely? Is it that you want to start the competition earlier?" A faint laugh floated over from the corridor far away.

A smiling youth dressed in purple robes and a jade belt strolled forth following along the white jade corridor.

## Chapter 393: Duan Yue Has Come

The youth looked to be about 17 years old. His long hair scattered freely to his waist, while the peach-blossom eyes on his jade-like face rippled with a gleam.

The outer corner of his eyes tilted slightly, and they overflowed with a romantic and delicate devilish charm. Without a doubt, just a glimpse was enough to steal people's breaths away.

"Eldest Senior Brother! Slow down, Eldest Senior Brother!" A Daybreak Sect disciple was shading him with an umbrella.

"Eldest Senior Brother, it's already August, and the weather will gradually start to get blistering hot. Let me fan you more, Eldest Senior Brother." Another person was presently fanning him enthusiastically.

"Mhm." The youth was gathering his sleeves with an absentminded smile on his lips when he just so happened to look up.

It was precisely at this time when Qiao Mu also turned to look at the source of the voices, and she entered the youth's smiling eyes directly like this. They both blanked for a bit.

"Little girl!" The youth's eyes lit up all of a sudden, and he shouted abruptly.

Qiao Mu blinked and saw the excited youth bolting over to her. For a moment, she seemed to have recalled how the youth wanted to deceive her all those years ago, but suffered under her ruthless slyness instead.

Her stoic face overlapped perfectly with that stoic face entrenched deep in his mind.

Duan Yue beamed in joy. The slight gloominess that had lingered around his heart for the past few days vanished immediately upon seeing the little stoic.

He already knew very clearly that with the little fellow's abnormal talent, she would certainly participate in this competition between the Three Sects and Five Factions.

Because of that, he had been egging the Sect Master, Liang Wanshan, from the very beginning to arrive at Xixia Valley earlier, just to see this unfeeling little stoic earlier.

But who knew, the best laid plans often go awry! He was waiting here and there at the venue, to the point that he felt that he was almost growing mold, yet he still didn't catch a glimpse of the little fellow's figure.

Meeting today was truly out of his expectations!

He just ran into her like this without warning!

He really was in shock and joy. Duan Yue hastened to the little stoic's side and totally disregarded the Ghost Faction female disciple, Chou An, who was vomiting blood while sprawled on the ground. His beautiful peach-blossom eyes rippled rhythmically, and he said with a smile, "Little Stoic, what are you doing? Come with me! Seeing how it's so hard for us to meet, let me bring you for a stroll around Xixia Valley! I've already arrived for many days. Let me tell you..."

"There's no need to trouble you!" The crown prince sauntered over and glanced faintly at Duan Yue with his phoenix eyes. "I will bring Qiaoqiao around Xixia Valley for a stroll." As for you fella, go take a hike!

Duan Yue turned around and pointed at Mo Lian with his finger, shrieking as if he had seen a god of plague, "You, you! Why are you here?"

How outrageous! Why does this person keep following the little stoic around!

"Humph, you don't need to worry about my whereabouts!" Mo Lian irritably slapped away Duan Yue's finger.

Duan Yue's finger instantly perked up again. "You, you!"

Duan Yue quickly hopped to the little girl's side, "Stoic Face, let me tell you, you're still young now. Absolutely do not get abducted by some strange older brother! Some people look humane on the outside, but they are actually very wretched and dreadful on the inside!"

On the side, Murong Xun glared at the back of Duan Yue's head: Why did she feel like this youth was just like that strange older brother?

"What drivel are you spouting? Don't you see Peak Master Murong here?" Mo Lian gave Duan Yue a timely stab.

Duan Yue then noticed Murong Xun's stern stepmother face and hurriedly dismissed his mischievous smile before solemnly bowing. "Greetings to Peak Master Murong! This disciple is Duan Yue, Daybreak Sect's chief disciple."

## **Chapter 394: Berated Speechless**

When Duan Yue chatted up the little girl, then ran over to exchange greetings with Murong Xun, Ghost Faction's Elder Ghost Surd had already waited for a long time by the side with a darkened face.

No one was paying attention to him at all right now. How could he swallow this indignity?

He tilted his head to a Ghost Faction disciple and scolded in a low muffled voice, "What are you blanking out for? You don't think it's shameful enough? Go bring Chou An back. Let's go!"

"Stand there! Did I say that you could leave?" Qiao Mu shouted coldly as she recollected the mystic energy around her body.

Ghost Surd was so livid that his face reddened, and he turned around to glare at Qiao Mu with sinister eyes that seemed like they could squeeze out poison. "Little girl, don't go too far!"

"So what if I go too far?" Qiao Mu's expressionless and sarcastic attitude completely infuriated Ghost Surd!

"Does Holy Water Sect want to come to blows with our Ghost Faction right now?"

"A bunch of rubbish!" Qiao Mu rebuked. "Don't intervene in a personal grudge between me and her! Get out of the way! You're being a hindrance and hampering me from straightening her out!"

Everyone silently glanced at the little stoic, then looked sympathetically at the berated Ghost Surd.

Everyone who had been berated by Little Junior Sister before all clearly knew that she would not let off anyone she decided to straighten out just because of other people's attempts to dissuade her!

Perhaps, the more you tried to dissuade her, the more miserable she would make the other person be.

"You!" It was the Ghost Faction elder's first time being angered by a junior to the point of vomiting blood. His face was stifled to a dark reddish-purple, and his quivering lips repeatedly shouted, "Alright, alright! What an arrogant and despotic Holy Water Sect disciple!"

"Everyone, what exactly happened here?" Xixia Valley's Valley Master could only stand out again and mediate between the two parties.

"Did you understand the actual situation?" The little stoic abruptly turned her head and looked icily at the Valley Master.

The Valley Master stiffened from the question, then shook his head abashedly.

"Since you don't understand the situation, why did you suddenly jump out, sticking your nose into other people's business to be the peacemaker?" The little fellow continued to question expressionlessly, "In your eyes, is it that I shouldn't have a temper because I'm young? I should just swallow my anger without being able to retaliate after someone directly tried to disfigure my face?"

The Valley Master was berated until he was at a loss for words. He could only scratch his nose and shake his head repeatedly.

Sigh, this girl. Setting aside your horrifying combat prowess, who would dare to bully you with your silver tongue holding down the fort...

"Then step aside! We'll resolve our personal grudge ourselves! Why are you involving sects and factions?" The little girl turned her head apathetically to shout at the young girl from the Ghost Faction who was sprawled on the ground and pretending to be dead. "Get up, you spineless crook! Don't lie on the floor and play dead!"

Ghost Surd only felt his faction's dignity had already been obliterated completely. He interrupted furiously, "You! Don't be so unmerciful just because you're in the right!"

"So what if I am being unmerciful because I'm in the right today! What do you intend to do then? Is it your Ghost Faction's conduct to be so assured of justice even when you did wrong? With such a foul atmosphere, no wonder other people don't want to be friend you!"

The icy voice instantly suppressed Ghost Surd's scolding, and not a single voice could be heard from the surrounding people either.

Duan Yue even shrunk his head inexplicably. He suddenly felt blessed when he recalled the situation those years ago when the little girl chastised him. Apparently, the little girl was indeed merciful back then.

It really was useful to be handsome...

Ghost Surd momentarily stammered in frustration and anger. He also resented the Ghost Faction female disciple, Chou An, lying motionlessly on the floor.

#### **Chapter 395: The Little Stoic Is Very Shocking**

If it weren't for this person's brainless actions, how would the faction be humiliated like this?

He really wanted to shrug off and ditch his responsibilities and let this brainless female disciple resolve this trouble herself!

However, how could he, as the elder leading the faction's team, let his faction's disciple back down in front of others? It would be even more humiliating!

Ghost Surd wore a gloomy face and gazed at the little stoic, saying, "You said Chou An attacked you. Why would she attack you when there are no grievances nor enmity between the two of you?"

"Why don't you ask her! She's the one who made a move, not me! Your question is rather laughable." Qiao Mu coldly swept a glance at him.

"Speak, Chou An! Why did you make a move? You don't need to be afraid with an elder here! Is it because someone threatened you to do something detrimental to the faction, so you attacked in rage?"

"Elder Ghost, why don't you set up a stall in a teahouse as a storyteller?" Yang Xirong jeered with a smile.

Chou An sprawled on the floor motionlessly, as if she had already fused with the ground to form a single entity.

Ghost Surd was so angry that he wished for nothing more than to hoist her up and give her two sound slaps across the face! He had already paved the way for her, but this idiot didn't play along with him to resolve the matter. His face was already flushed red in embarrassment, as he couldn't find a way out!

"Just treat it as my Ghost Faction disciple's fault! But you already gave her a scolding and a beating! Chou An is heavily injured right now. You should have already finished taking your anger out on her, right!"

"I have not." Qiao Mu replied coolly.

The peanut gallery was naturally left speechless...

3The corner of Duan Yue's mouth twitched slightly, while Mo Lian chuckled out loud: 'His darling was so adorable even when she was angry.'

See how straightforward she was—one sentence was enough to choke Elder Ghost to death from anger.

The number of people gathering around at this time also kept increasing.

The Heavenly Dao Sect, Daybreak Sect, and Violet Firmament Faction's disciples who had arrived at Xixia Valley earlier all came to watch the ruckus upon receiving news.

They had heard that a Holy Water Sect disciple was berating Ghost Faction's elder, and they all wanted to come over and observe the situation.

The disciples from Violet Firmament Faction had never seen the little stoic.

But when Situ Yi, Shang Kun, and the rest who were once familiar with the little stoic saw her just now, they all uncontrollably twitched their mouths.

They had been wondering who was the one berating the other person, and it turned out to be the stoic little junior sister they had not seen for many years.

How did the Ghost Faction provoke this little fiend?

"What do you still want? You didn't even get hurt either! What's up with refusing to let go of my faction's disciple?" Elder Ghost was so flushed with anger that his brain was probably about to suffer from blood congestion!

The little stoic stretched her small pale white hand before Elder Ghost.

Everyone's gazes fell onto her small hand all at once.

3Mhm! A very good-looking small jade-like hand: white and delicate, small and exquisite, and even slightly chubby!

"Do you see this white trace? She left this behind! She hurt me!" The little stoic said seriously.

The crowd simultaneously collapsed to the floor, trying their best to stifle their laughter. Oh my, this little stoic really shocked others. The white trace on her small jade-like hand was so shallow and faint that it could easily be overlooked!

"On top of attacking me without rhyme or reason, you deserve to die for hurting me." Qiao Mu spoke coldly.

Her ruined body from her previous life was so pitiful...

No one understood more than herself how much she valued her own body. She did not hope for it to get even a teeny bit hurt again.

**Chapter 396: Asking to Be Humiliated** 

The Ghost Faction elder's dark reddish-purple face started to fluctuate again and gradually turned darker and darker.

"Chou An! Get up!" Ghost Surd hollered angrily and went up to kick the female disciple, Chou An, who was sprawled on the floor.

"Elder! Junior Sister suffered a heavy injury and can't stand up by herself! I-I'll support her!" Peng Zhang hurried forward and supported Chou An up from the floor with a tug.

Chou An hung her head low and didn't say a word, breathing weakly as she leaned against Peng Zhang. Only one eye peeked out from her bangs and gleamed indistinctly.

"Bring her away!" The Ghost Faction elder rebuked, "I would like to see who dares to obstruct our path!"

"Bite him!" Qiao Mu pointed at the condescending Ghost Faction elder.

2Without room for objection, a thoroughly snow-white and robust snow leopard pounced out from the back of the crowd. Its fierce pounce caught the Ghost Faction elder off guard, toppling him to the floor.

Its sharp teeth bit onto the elder's left hand unexpectedly, and it hurt so much that the elder screeched continuously, his eyes almost bursting out from their sockets.

"Ah? This is Little Junior Sister's mystic beast?" A Daybreak Sect disciple yelled in shock. "With Little Junior Sister possessing such a powerful mystic beast, what is there to still compete in? We'll certainly lose! Even Elder Ghost can't withstand this mystic beast's bite!"

"Are you blind? You don't see that Little Junior Sister's cultivation hasn't exceeded level eight?"

"That's right! But how can a level-eight mystic cultivator summon a mystic beast??" Everyone started talking at once in a lively discussion. How could they still bother about the Ghost Faction elder's horrific screams?

1"Ah!" Elder Ghost mustered up a burst of mystic energy and smashed it heavily on the snow leopard's head.

However, he didn't anticipate the snow leopard being extremely intelligent. It tilted its head to evade while clawing him with a big slap across the face at the same time.

It caused Elder Ghost to sport three distinct claw marks on his face right then!

Xixia Valley's Valley Master watched in stupefaction at the intensifying drama before him. He looked to the side at Murong Xun and opened his mouth to plead for help. "Peak Master, please be magnanimous! If Ghost Faction's elder were to be harmed in Xixia Valley, I wouldn't be able to shoulder the responsibility."

Murong Xun swept him a glance. "Valley Master, it's only a personal grudge. Why should you intervene and bring trouble to yourself?

1Xixia Valley's Valley Master involuntarily smiled bitterly knowing in his heart that he couldn't dissuade further.

"What do you want." Finally, the Ghost Faction female disciple, Chou An, opened her mouth. It required much effort for her to speak, and her raspy voice sounded as if she had been run over by a carriage.

"You used your left hand to claw my face earlier. Today, leave your left hand behind." Qiao Mu said expressionlessly and threw over a short and exquisite dagger before the female disciple with a clatter.

The snow leopard stopped biting, but its bulging eyes were still fixed on the Ghost Faction elder who was moaning while clutching his injured hand.

Ghost Surd hastily crawled back several steps to distance himself from the leopard's mouth, staring back at it with lingering fear.

The Ghost Faction female disciple trembled so much that her whole body was swaying. She was afraid, but she was naturally more angry and furious. Her fury was already about to flow out uncontrollably from her chest.

"Die if you're not going to leave your left hand!" The little stoic was about to flare up, once again turning hostile and merciless on the spot...

Who knew that Peng Zhang was actually even more decisive than the female disciple, Chou An. Seeing that the little stoic was going to bolt forth again to kill, he instantly picked up the dagger on the ground and left behind a streak with his slash.

"Ah—" Chou An let out a blood-curdling screech, and her face paled while her eyes shut, fainting right then and there in the crook of Peng Zhang's arm.

Peng Zhang's pair of eyes that were hidden beneath his headscarf were nearly about to literally ooze poison.

## **Chapter 397: He Incurred This**

"You were just asking to be humiliated." Qiao Mu said coldly and then trotted over to her master.

"Let's leave!" Ghost Surd used his hand to cover up the snow leopard's three red claw marks on his face and disgruntledly led the team of Ghost Faction disciples past the Holy Water Sect disciples in single file.

Each Ghost Faction disciple used fiendish gazes to glare ferociously at the Holy Water Sect disciples.

"Got held up from resting by some meaningless people. Let's leave too." Mo Lian said smilingly as he walked up to hold the little fellow's hand.

"Am I easy to bully?" Yet our dear Qiao Mu suddenly lifted her head and asked softly.

Before Mo Lian could reply, Wei Nanfeng, Princess Mi, the Holy Water Sect disciples, and even the spectating disciples from the Daybreak Sect, the Heavenly Dao Sect, and the Violect Firmament Faction all violently shook their heads in an extremely uniform fashion! They expressed that they completely could not agree with the little stoic's statement!

You're easy to bully, haha! This was really the most laughable sentence they'd ever heard.

"Then... why did that person suddenly want to claw up my face?" The little stoic couldn't understand at all. "I keep feeling that there was a deeper meaning behind her gaze, just like she was staring at a foe from the very beginning!"

"Right, right, right, Qiaoqiao." Duan Yue interrupted and said, "Let me tell you, the onlooker sees the situation more clearly than the actors. I saw very clearly just now that that woman's pair of eyes were fixated on him! This definitely is a debt that he incurred! Even implicating you! Don't let him get so close to you! You have to understand how to protect yourself, Qiaoqiao!"

Mo Lian tilted his phoenix eyes and turned frigidly towards Duan Yue. However, although he was glaring at Duan Yue, he started to rapidly speculate possible suspects in his mind. After filtering through the list, a sudden spark of insight flashed through his mind.

"What debt?" Qiao Mu was confused.

"Shut your trap!" Before Duan Yue could go on another spiel, Mo Lian already stopped him sternly.

He let go of Qiaoqiao's small hand and beamed threateningly at Duan Yue. "Come with me!"

"What do you want to do?" Duan Yue abruptly shielded his chest with both hands, his watering peachblossom eyes widening all of a sudden. He exhibited a terrified look on his handsome face and acted in a way that made people extremely speechless.

"I'm telling you! It's no use even if you coerce or intimidate me! I will not submit! Let me tell you, Qiaoqiao, don't see how this fellow's looks seem alright, just worse than me by a little bit, but he definitely owes a buttload of roman... Ow!" Duan Yue hadn't finished speaking a complete sentence when a streak of fire suddenly shot towards his mouth.

"F\*ck, you dare silence me with murder!" Duan Yue threw out a handful of shooting stars with a plink, plink. The 18 pit-sized shooting stars branched into three routes towards the crown prince's head, arms, and feet.

Mo Lian dismissed his blaze and sent out a burst of energy, which caused Duan Yue's incoming concealed weapons to all deviate.

As a result, the peanut gallery suffered...

Cries like "Oh, dear" and "My Heavens" rang out from the three sects and faction after they were targeted by Duan Yue's 18 shooting stars that had deviated from their course due to Mo Lian's strike.

The peanut gallery were simply flabbergasted!

Who caused collateral damage like this? The two of you might be perfectly fine after coming to blows, while the peanut gallery died from watching the show!

1

They completely didn't understand what was happening! This drama kept unfolding one after another! It was so theatrical that it was a real eye-opener!

Chapter 398: Settling In at Xixia Valley

The little stoic raised her head to look at the two people moving further away the more they fought, and then she shook her head with creased brows. She sighed and muttered to herself, "Men all like to fight like this."

Everyone: "..."

Murong Xun was amused. She pulled over her disciple and nodded with a smile. "As I said, girls are still the best. Girls are so considerate and good at understanding others, unlike those punks who get worse by the bunch!"

1The punks in the surrounding crowd: ...

Murong Xun then turned her head to say smilingly to Xixia Valley's Valley Master, "Valley Master Luo, if there isn't anything else, then we'll first go over to rest."

"Please, everyone." Valley Master Luo gestured and smiled amiably at Peak Master Murong. He had one of Xixia Valley's chief disciples continue to lead the Holy Water Sect forth to their lodgings.

For this competition, Xixia Valley especially constructed several individual small courtyards with pleasing environments for the sects and factions to lodge in.

The distance between each courtyard was not too far. The competitors' lodgings were in general arranged in the southern part of Xixia Valley.

The three sects' lodgings were arranged together. The Holy Water Sect's courtyard was flanked on both sides by the Daybreak Sect and the Heavenly Dao Sect. Not long after the group entered the courtyard, Heavenly Dao Sect's Sect Master Situ Min and Daybreak Sect's Sect Master Liang Wanshan dropped in as a pair to call on the three peak masters.

The three peak masters and the two sect masters went to the main hall to chat, while the little stoic and the senior sisters entered their rooms to settle down.

There were limited rooms in this small courtyard, and the disciples could only share between two people for there to barely be enough space. The peak masters would split up the two rooms left over.

When Doya heard that they had to stay with someone else, she immediately pounced over and hugged the little stoic's arm. She kept yelling, "Little Junior Sister, Little Junior Sister, let's stay together!"

Chang Yuxi pursed her lips. "I wanted to stay with Little Junior Sister, too, but you got her first."

Doya mischievously stuck her tongue out at Chan Yuxi, then towed the little stoic's arm along to a room. "Little Junior Sister, do you like sleeping on the inside or on the outside?"

Meanwhile, a horse carriage stopped in front of Xixia Valley's entrance, whose scenery was as elegant as a painting.

A sixty-year-old white-haired, hunchbacked, and limping elderly man stooped his back and coughed heavily into his handkerchief.

"Sir Liu." His retainer frantically supported his left hand that was withered like chicken skin and resembled a crane claw. He then hung his head slightly in deference. "It's been hard on Sir the past few days. Please take care of your body."

Liu Yizhi<sup>1</sup> waved his hand at his retainer. He didn't say anything but continued to stoop his back as he walked towards Xixia Valley's entrance.

"This guest is?" A Xixia Valley female disciple guarding the gate was slightly taken aback, then bowed extremely politely in greeting towards the elderly man.

"Cough, cough," Liu Yizhi pulled out an invitation from his sleeve and handed it over.

The female disciple then cupped her fists again. "So it is Ghost Faction's guest elder. Nice to meet you, Honored Sir! Your Ghost Faction has already settled in the Fourth Southern Courtyard. I will have someone lead you over now."

"Cough, cough, cough. Many thanks!" The elderly man replied with a raspy voice.

The retainer supported Liu Yizhi and followed for a while at an adequate distance behind a Xixia Valley disciple in the boundless sea of flowers.

The retainer asked in a low voice, "Sir, we came here this time just to see that girl from the Qiao Family? Actually, you Sir only needed to send people secretly..."

The hunchbacked elderly man smothered several coughs, then raised his head to glance coldly at his retainer, who instantly clammed up and hung his head again.

#### **Chapter 399: Be More Careful**

Liu Yizhi walked extremely slowly with his stooped back and glanced at the Xixia Valley disciple leading the way far in front. He said frigidly, "You forgot that the batch of people you sent out couldn't even enter the Qiao Family's courtyard in Xijiu City?"

The retainer hung his head even lower in shame.

"It's still better to just wait and see, rather than being overly conspicuous." The elderly man smothered several coughs in a row again before clutching his retainer's arm and ushering him to catch up to the Xixia Valley disciple in front.

When the two people walked past the Second Southern Courtyard, they halted and peered inside.

The Xixia Valley disciple hurriedly explained, "The first to third courtyards are where the Three Sects are staying. Holy Water Sect's disciples are staying in this Second Southern Courtyard."

"Cough, cough, cough." Liu Yizhi nodded as he coughed into his handkerchief while his gaze was fixated meaningfully on the door to the Holy Water Sect's courtyard. He then said after a while, "I heard that the mouth of a certain spring exists at the top of Holy Water Sect's snowy peaks, and it gushes out water all day long. The water is clear and free of impurities, so they called it the Holy Water Spring, cough, cough, cough. It could even help its sect's disciples increase the mystic energy in their bodies. That is where the Holy Water Sect's name came from."

The Xixia Valley disciple nodded with a smile. "This disciple has also heard that Holy Water Sect's 800 or so disciples were all accepted after passing the holy water's test."

Liu Yizhi nodded with a smile, when the door to the courtyard opened all of a sudden.

A red short-sleeved girl with delicate and charming features was dragging out another pale-clothed young girl whose face was frosted over with snow.

The red short-sleeved girl was involuntarily taken aback when she noticed that there were people standing outside the door. She subconsciously grasped the little girl's hand as a precaution and eyed the Xixia Valley disciple suspiciously. "What are you all standing here for?"

"Please don't misunderstand, this junior sister. This is Ghost Faction's guest elder. I'll be leading them to Ghost Faction's courtyard now." The Xixia Valley disciple smiled amiably at the two with a nod.

"Oh." Doya nodded, then turned her head towards Qiao Mu to say, "Little Junior Sister, let's go. I saw a pavilion with a nice view when we first entered. Let me bring you over to see."

Qiao Mu nodded, then suddenly turned around, a stern gaze shooting out directly at the elderly man's retainer who was secretly peeping at her.

The retainer was alarmed, and the sweat that was beading his forehead on the spot even threatened to drip down.

"You don't harbor good intentions toward me." Qiao Mu was extremely sensitive to people's presence. Ever since she was reborn, she could basically judge a person's character with a single look and tell who was friendly and who harbored malice towards her.

Liu Yizhi's heart dropped, and he hurriedly tugged on his retainer. He turned around with a muffled cough and gave the little stoic a not very nice-looking of a smile. "Little Miss, cough, cough, cough, you're thinking too much. We've never met, so how, cough, cough, cough, would we not harbor good intentions toward you?"

"Ghost Faction?" The little girl's tone of voice rose slightly.

The heart of the Xixia Valley disciple, who had long had a taste of her remarkableness, skipped a beat. He hastily came up to bow in greeting and mediated with a smile. "Don't be angry, Little Junior Sister. This elderly sir is only Ghost Faction's guest elder. He is completely unaware of the events that happened earlier."

"Be more careful." Qiao Mu gazed coldly at the elderly man and his retainer. "To whoever harbors malice towards me, I will seize the initiative and send him to hell!"

The cold sweat on the retainer's head flowed relentlessly, and he secretly exchanged a glance with the elderly man. After they watched the little stoic leave, they wore mixed expressions.

Sure enough, she was a tough nut to crack. No wonder the person above attached such importance; she really was not easy to deal with!

Chapter 400: Mystic Breakthrough Pill

Liu Yizhi and his retainer were led to the Ghost Faction's courtyard. When Elder Ghost heard that Liu Yizhi had come, he instantly led all the disciples out the door to welcome him, and he deferentially brought him to sit down in the main hall.

"This old man heard that you just, cough, cough, clashed with a girl from the Holy Water Sect, and even got deeply humiliated?"

Ghost Surd hastily bowed to beg for forgiveness. "Sir Liu, it-it's our fault. We have caused humiliation for the Prefecture Lord."

"Humph." Liu Yizhi waved his hand and said in disdain, "Having such inferior cultivation, don't even mention that you serve the Prefecture Lord outside."

Ghost Surd didn't dare speak and hung his head along with the rest of the Ghost Faction disciples. They stiffly listened to Liu Yizhi's reprimand.

"Your Ghost Faction has investigated the matter this old man requested for three years already, but I haven't even received a bit of news about it."

Ghost Surd bitterly recounted, "Sir Liu, as the Holy Water Sect is far up on the snowy peak, its environment is really simplistic, so it's difficult to sneak into. We had also sent two female disciples two years ago to infiltrate, but they did not pass that so-called holy water test."

Liu Yizhi sneered. "You dare to keep saying that you serve the Prefecture Lord when you can't even handle such a small matter properly? You'd better stop, cough, cough, cough."

"Sir." Ghost Surd and all the disciples simultaneously kneeled on the floor with a flump. "Please quell your anger, Sir. Please give us a little more time. This time, we will find out the truth of the Holy Water Spring no matter what."

"Cough, cough, cough, cough." The elderly man humphed coldly without a word and violently coughed without pause into his handkerchief.

"Sir, will that Holy Water Spring really be effective towards Sir's illness?"

"You don't have to worry about this matter." Liu Yizhi impatiently waved a hand at them once again. "This old man has thirty years of experience in tempering pills, cough, cough, cough. Once I have the Holy Water Spring on hand, refining a mystic breakthrough pill that will allow me to break through to become a great level-15 mystic cultivator, and stepping into the ranks of the supreme strong is imminent."

At that time, as long as he broke through to become a great level-15 mystic cultivator, his body would enter a profoundly mystical state and would naturally differ vastly from the present. Perhaps all the pain from his past illness would also vanish at that time.

Suddenly, a figure sprung out from the crowd of disciples and rapidly crawled several steps to kowtow soundly before Liu Yizhi. "Elder, please bestow me a level-12 mystic breakthrough pill! Chou An wants to break through to level 12 in one go!"

"On what basis are you one-eyed and one-handed trash asking this old man for an incomparably precious level-12 mystic breakthrough pill?"

"I am willing to offer my life!"

"Junior Sister!" Peng Zhang raised his head to rebuke her.

"Your lowly life is completely useless to this old man!" Liu Yizhi scoffed in ridicule.

Chou An kowtowed forcefully, her head banging the floor soundly. "Chou An is willing to become Elder's vessel! I am willing to offer all the mystic energy in my body to you! Only asking that you give me a level-12 mystic breakthrough pill today! Allowing me to break through to level-12 mystic cultivation in one go! And subsequently be able to personally kill my foe in this competition!"

Liu Yizhi laughed raspily, then suddenly bent his waist. He pinched the female disciple's chin and lifted her head.

Chou An's whole body trembled slightly.

"Your face was what I patched back together slowly with a needle and thread all those years ago! Your father had even paid a huge price for this!"