

## **Myriad 201**

### Chapter 201: Two Nines (1)

As Su Yu's willpower entered the wall, a starry sky unfolded before him.

It was vast and boundless.

Countless stars were flickering around him.

"What is this?"

Su Yu was curious. At the same time, he was also feeling somewhat excited. He felt like he was looking at something incredible. His consciousness started drifting around randomly amid the vast cosmos. After a short while, he seemed to have attracted a nearby star.

When the star flew over, Su Yu noticed that it was no star. Instead, it looked like a large pot...He was momentarily stunned, but he recovered immediately after.

"So I'm not building my own technique from scratch. Instead, there's a template?"

It was no wonder that his martial uncle and teacher had insisted that he would know what to do after entering.

The big pot continued flying toward him. When it reached him, it started hesitating. After flying around him for a bit, it flew away.

"Eleven shining dots..."

Su Yu was able to get a clear look at that big pot. There were 11 shining points in it. That signified that this was a character technique with 11 support points.

"That's way too little. Even Teacher's character technique has more support points. Also, this is a pot. It would be so lame to use it in battle."

Su Yu did not give chase. That pot looked completely unimpressive. He was starting to understand what he was supposed to do here. Like catching Divine Characters, he had to use his willpower to capture one of these templates.

His consciousness continued floating around. After a while, he saw a hammer. It had 11 shining points. Yeah, that was too weak. He rejected it.

He also saw a spear with 13 shining points. That was a decent one. He decided to shortlist it. The spear had even more support points than his teacher's sword. It was acceptable.

"Most of them are weapons..."

Su Yu realized that in this offensive wall, most of the templates took the form of weapons. Perhaps it was more efficient for one who walked the path of offense to fill their Divine Characters into a weapon.

"Maybe I should look for a saber..."

Su Yu continued looking around. It was rather difficult to see the shape of those stars without getting near them.

After some time, he finally saw a saber. Unfortunately, it only had 10 shining points. He rejected it and continued his search.

He saw a lot of stars. Thus, he was in no rush. He could take his time here.

Suddenly, the Divine Characters in his sea of willpower trembled. Next, three Divine Characters appeared in front of him.

Lightning, blood, and kill.

Su Yu was slightly stunned by the sudden appearance of his Divine Characters. However, he wasn't too surprised. This space was not reality. Instead, it was more akin to a space within one's sea of willpower. It was normal for his Divine Characters to appear here.

The moment his Divine Characters appeared, some of the stars around him shook.

Then, one star after another started flying toward him.

"Huh?"

Su Yu was confused for a bit, but he soon realized that his Divine Characters were taking the initiative to look for suitable character techniques.

Could Divine Characters actually do something like that?

After a while, a large number of stars gathered around him. They came in all shapes and forms. Swords, spears, sabers, halberds, hatchets, forks, and so on. Some also came in odd forms such as hammers, cauldrons, and chains.

At least 20 templates had gathered around him. And more than half of them had at least 10 shining points. The most impressive template was that of a sword. It had 15 shining points.

The sword seemed to have achieved resonance with his kill character. Both were pulsing at each other. The two had probably caught each other's eyes.

Su Yu looked at the template. He was tempted. This was the template with the highest number of shining points he had encountered so far. But right that moment, the lightning and blood characters started rejecting the sword. They shook unhappily, showcasing their dissatisfaction with the sword.

"They don't like it?"

Su Yu frowned. Bai Feng had said that he might not be able to use all his existing Divine Characters in the template he found.

Some Divine Characters were not compatible with some character techniques. He would only be able to use these Divine Characters independently. But with two of his Divine Characters rejecting the sword, he was starting to hesitate.

Was he supposed to give up on these two? But they were his earliest Divine Characters. He was unwilling to give up on them.

"It's better to find a weapon compatible with all three Divine Characters. That way, none of the Divine Characters would go to waste."

Su Yu continued looking around.

As for the sword, he kept it shortlisted as well. It was quite good with 15 shining points. It was a pity that it was incompatible with two of his little brothers.

As he roamed around, he encountered more and more stars. Some would fly around him for a bit before leaving.

Clearly, Su Yu wasn't the only one picking a character technique here. These techniques were picking a suitable owner as well.

After a while, Su Yu frowned. He hadn't been able to find a technique with more than 15 shining points. The sword was the strongest technique he had found thus far, but it was incompatible with the blood and lightning characters.

While Su Yu was considering taking that sword, a nearby star caught his attention. The star was rather small. It also wasn't as bright as the other stars. It even looked slightly dim. However, all three of his Divine Characters were hovering around that star.

His three Divine Characters were not rejecting this star. However, they weren't resonating with it either. They acted like they were meeting a stranger. They basically radiated indifference.

The star was dim and small. Thus, Su Yu was also having a hard time seeing the actual shape of the star. After a while, he finally found that it was actually a ball. He curiously studied the ball, but due to how dim it was, it was also hard for him to see the number of shining points in the ball.

"Is this a template as well? Why does it look so weak? The three characters do not reject it, but there's no resonance either..."

The tiny ball of light revolved around the Divine Characters like a child. It was both curious and shy, not daring to approach the Divine Characters yet unwilling to leave.

And when Su Yu tried approaching it, it even moved away from him.

That piqued Su Yu's interest. He started wondering if he had encountered something incredible.

After paying more attention, Su Yu finally saw that there were some indistinct dots of light within the ball.

"1...5...8..."

Su Yu was shocked after he made his count. There were actually 18 dots of light within the small ball. He even wondered if he had counted wrongly. Even that massive sword earlier only had 15 shining points, and the sword was so bright that it was almost blinding. But this dim and small ball had 18 shining points in it? So it was a character technique with 18 support points?

Was it really that incredible?

"Jackpot?"

Su Yu was greatly shocked. From some of the books he had read in the past, it was said that some treasures had the tendency to hide their radiance. Was this an example of that? So it was actually a powerful technique pretending to be ordinary?

"Eighteen shining points and the three Divine Characters do not reject it. Have I stumbled upon a treasure?"

Su Yu was ecstatic. Was he really that lucky? Being a ball, this character technique did not look too impressive, but it had 18 shining points. And that was very impressive.

In fact, none of the templates Su Yu had encountered earlier had a higher number of shining lights. Filled with excitement, he made his choice. He would pick this ball. What a fine ball!

It hadn't been easy for him to encounter a template with 18 shining points. He would stop hesitating. His willpower started spreading and wrapped around the ball. Using the method his teacher had told him, he started dragging the ball into his sea of willpower. The moment he did that, this ball would be his.

From then on, his character technique would be finalized. He would be adding Divine Characters into the character technique for a long period of time. In fact, he would continue doing it even after reaching the Skysoar Realm.

The ball seemed rather obedient. The moment he wrapped his willpower around it, it started approaching him. He was about to fully tame the ball. Suddenly, the golden book that had been silent all along suddenly shook.

Su Yu could hear the clear sound of something shattering amid the silent cosmos.

Su Yu was completely stunned by what he saw next. The ball...had broken down. It had shattered into pieces.

"What the hell?"

Su Yu was dumbfounded. The book in his mind would usually only do something when he activated it. Why had it suddenly decided to break the character technique frame he was about to tame?

"What's going on? What's the book doing? Is it trying to monopolize the sea of willpower? No, that's not right. The cultural weapon, skull, and Divine Characters have been able to enter the sea of willpower just fine. That's a technique with 18 shining points!"

Su Yu was furious. He had finally found something good with great difficulty. He even thought that he had been blessed by the heavens to encounter something this good. What was the meaning of this? The technique hadn't even resisted. Just look at how obedient it was. Why did the book destroy it?

After smashing the ball, the book returned to silence and ignored Su Yu.

Su Yu cursed inwardly. With no other choice, he could only set his sights on the sword with 15 shining points. At the very least, that technique resonated with the kill character. He could only say sorry to his blood and lightning characters. He would have to wait until he reached the Skysoar Realm before adding them into the character technique as regular characters.

He sent his willpower over and started pulling the sword over. While doing so, his kill character pulsed, helping him lure the sword over.?? The sword felt harder to attract than the ball from before. In fact, he had felt zero resistance from that ball. This sword, on the other hand, felt rather heavy when he tried pulling it. After a while, when he was starting to feel exhausted, the sword finally started entering his sea of willpower.

Su Yu paid close attention to the book in his sea of willpower. The book was not going to act like an asshole again, right? Right as that thought crossed his mind, the sound of something shattering rang out.

Su Yu was dumbfounded. The sword had broken apart as well.

"Fuck you!"

Su Yu was furious. What was the meaning of this? The book was hell-bent on not allowing any character technique to enter his sea of willpower. Just like that, the two best character techniques he had found were gone. Just what was going on exactly?

...

At the same time.

Outside the world within the wall.

When Bai Feng saw Su Yu's trembling body, he frowned and asked doubtfully, "Why is he not done yet? What is this kid doing in there?"

Chen Yong was feeling doubtful as well. He said, "I felt his willpower shaking earlier. He should have formed a character technique already. Why is his willpower all silent again?"

He couldn't understand. Why did the formation stop?

Bai Feng asked, "Did he fail the formation?"

"That generally won't happen. If he really did fail, then it can only mean that he's very unsuitable for this path of cultivation. In that case, the multiple character faction might not be the right choice for him."

Bai Feng was alarmed. "That can't be the case, right?"

Was Su Yu really incapable of forming a character technique? In that case, wouldn't that kid be completely incapable of inheriting their teachings?

Chen Yong was unsure. He said, "That is very rare. Over so many years, almost nobody has ever failed this. Even if someone has a bad talent, that person would only encounter trouble while filling up the character technique with Divine Characters, not during the formation."

"Almost nobody?" Bai Feng raised his brow. "Senior Brother, don't tell me that someone had really failed this before."

Chen Yong explained, "That was a long time ago. I think only one person had failed this before. I don't know the exact circumstances, but there was a record about it. Around 200 years ago, a student came to form his character technique. He picked a powerful technique with dozens of shining points. But after leaving the wall, no sign of that technique was found despite him insisting that he had formed the technique.

"According to the records, he wasn't even able to enter the wall anymore after that. As for everyone else, even after failing the first time, they could keep trying. That person only had a single attempt. Eventually, he switched to a different faction.

"He claimed that he had really formed a powerful character technique. It was a very unique technique that was dim yet possessed a lot of shining lights. It was also compatible with his Divine Characters. The process had been very smooth. But he didn't know why it disappeared after he left the wall.

"The third principal speculated that some misleading Divine Characters might have entered the wall, resulting in the formation of fake character techniques in the wall. Back then, this created quite a ruckus in the academy. Many students were worried that they would encounter such a character technique as well.

"But for hundreds of years after that, such an incident had never happened again. Thus, a few decades ago, someone refuted that possibility. They speculated that the student from back then had probably failed the formation and was merely lying to save face. As for why the student hadn't been able to enter the wall a second time, that remains a mystery."

Bai Feng blinked. "Is that real? Why am I not aware of that?"

"That's only a story in some unimportant records. There really isn't any need for you to know it."

Chen Yong was rather indifferent to the story. He smiled and said, "There has only been one example over so many years and even that might be a lie. So this piece of information isn't really that useful. If I hadn't read those random books, I wouldn't have known about this story either."

"That's good to hear..."

Bai Feng was relieved. He looked at Su Yu again, wondering why that kid was taking so long.

Chapter 202: Two Nines (2)

"I refuse to believe this!"

Su Yu cursed stubbornly. He picked a technique with 12 shining points instead of looking for a better option. But the same thing happened. He was on the verge of taming the character technique when it was smashed into pieces by the book.

"Damn it! What are you trying to do exactly?"

Su Yu was furious. If this continued, he wouldn't be able to tame any technique. Was he going to fail?

While Su Yu was raging, the golden book pulsed again. This time, something completely unexpected happened. The book actually flew out of his sea of willpower. Then, it erupted with a blinding light.

All around Su Yu, one technique after another shattered. Dozens of nearby techniques were destroyed by the book. Before Su Yu's dazed eyes, all the techniques were destroyed, leaving only the independent shining points behind.

Then, the book started looking over the shining points like it was shopping. Some of the destroyed techniques had several shining points picked. Some only had one. Some had none.

Even the shining points left by the techniques that had been destroyed after entering his sea of willpower were picked as well. Su Yu noted that of the shining points of the first character technique he had picked, only one was chosen by the book.

What was going on? Slowly, one shining point after another gathered before him before coming together to form a new character technique. The new technique was filled with countless shining points.

Su Yu was completely dumbfounded. So it turned out that his golden book had merely destroyed all those techniques because it looked down on them? It had decided to assemble an even better technique for him?

While Su Yu was thinking all that, the new character technique finished taking form. It was a tiny saber that resembled the cultural weapon he had obtained from Zhao Li.

Su Yu counted a total of 99 shining points in that character technique. Did he get something wrong? He counted for a second time. Yes, there were 99 shining points.

The destroyed character techniques had left hundreds of shining points behind. However, the book had only picked 99 of them to form this saber.

"99 points...is the book crazy?"

Su Yu wasn't happy at all. On the contrary, he was furious and dumbfounded. What was the meaning of this? Was the book telling him to form 99 Divine Characters before the Skysoar Realm? Was the book trying to kill him? Could his willpower even withstand such a heavy load before breaking through?

Other cultivators could enter the Skysoar Realm after forming only a few Divine Characters. And he had to form 99 Divine Characters? He might even need to form more in case some of the Divine Characters were incompatible with the character technique. That book was obviously trying to kill him!

If Su Yu's real body was in that space, he would most definitely have an ashen expression right now. This was a character technique with 99 Divine Characters. It was most definitely a powerful technique.

But...did he have the time to form so many Divine Characters? Did he have enough willpower to nurture all those Divine Characters? He would probably be stuck below the Skysoar Realm even after all his peers had reached the Mountainsea Realm. The book was obviously trying to destroy his future.

"I reject this! I don't want it!"

Su Yu raged. What was wrong with that garbage book today? Has it gone mad?

Couldn't it stay silently in the sea of willpower?

Why must it come out and create trouble for him?

That thought had barely crossed Su Yu's mind when all three of his Divine Characters pulsed before they flew into the saber.

Su Yu's willpower pulsed as he tried to pull his Divine Characters back, but he failed.

"What now? What in the world is going on?"

Su Yu was stunned. Why had his three Divine Characters betrayed him? In this case, would he lose all three of his Divine Characters if he rejected this saber? What the fuck?

Unlike Su Yu, the three Divine Characters seemed completely at ease and comfortable in the saber. They swam freely in the saber, seemingly trying to showcase how satisfied they were with their new home.

Su Yu was so angry he felt like his clump of consciousness was going to have a heart attack. He really couldn't understand what was going on. Wasn't his book supposed to be a mere tool? Did it have its own consciousness as well?

"99 Divine Characters..."

Su Yu was in disbelief, but he had no choice but to start comforting himself. He only needed 99 Divine Characters. That was nothing. Yeap. That was nothing. He could form one character reading a willpower text once. He would only need to read 99 willpower texts. If he read once per day, he would only need 99 days to complete his goal. No, he only needed 96 days since he already had 3 Divine Characters.

"But it would be expensive since I need to read a lot of willpower texts..."

Su Yu didn't know if this was a good thing or a bad thing. He was finding it hard to accept that he would need to form 99 Divine Characters.

"But it has 99 Divine Characters! It would be very powerful! Definitely!"

Once again, Su Yu comforted himself. Since there was nothing he could do about it, his only choice was to accept it.

All the stars near him had already been destroyed. He would need to spend more time if he wanted to find a new character technique. And even if he found one, it would end up being destroyed by his book anyway. That would be pointless.

Su Yu could only helplessly wrap his willpower around the saber and drag it into his sea of willpower. The saber did not resist while the book returned to the sea of willpower. As for the three Divine Characters, they seemed incredibly pleased with their new home. Before long, the saber vanished and reappeared in Su Yu's sea of willpower. This time, the book left it alone.

"99 Divine Characters...I doubt Teacher would believe this even if I tell him."

Su Yu had no idea what he should tell his teacher. Were there even supposed to be a character technique with 99 Divine Characters in this wall? He doubted so.

...

When Su Yu opened his eyes again, he had the expression of someone who had lost all hope. When Bai Feng saw that, he exclaimed, "He failed— "

But he suddenly realized that this was quite a familiar scene so he hurriedly changed his tune, "Did you form a bad character technique?"

This kid would usually have completely unexpected reactions. His current reaction could very well be due to his dissatisfaction with his character technique.

Su Yu hesitated to speak. It wasn't that he had formed a bad character technique. The issue was that his character technique was too good.

If he told his teacher he had formed a character technique with 99 Divine Characters, would his teacher believe it?

Su Yu opened his mouth to speak, but no words came out. After a while, he finally asked, "Teacher, who holds the highest record of required Divine Characters for a character technique?"

"Hmm?" Bai Feng gave it some thought before saying, "Either Martial Uncle Liu or the fifth principal, I guess."

Chen Yong looked at Su Yu doubtfully and said, "It's the fifth principal. He formed a character technique with 22 Divine Characters. Martial Uncle Liu formed one with 18 Divine Characters. As for our teacher and your grandteacher, he formed one with 14 Divine Characters. Of course, those walking the path of offense would have a harder time. Most of the time, someone specializing in offense would only need 10 Divine Characters to contend against a defense specialist with 12 Divine Characters.

"The fifth principal was someone on the cusp of the Invincible Realm. Martial Uncle Liu was the greatest genius 50 years ago. The two of them were terrifyingly strong. Generally, for offense specialists, even 10 Divine Characters would be enough to make you a powerful expert."

Bai Feng said, "That's right. That path of offense is far more difficult. But it is also far stronger. Although I only have 12 Divine Characters, I am stronger than my teacher. He is definitely not my match if we're both in the same realm..."

Chen Yong glared at his junior brother.

Bai Feng asked, "Did you form a character technique with too few Divine Characters? Don't be discouraged. It doesn't matter. Even 10 Divine Characters is good enough. Of course, that's not as good as me, but it's more than enough to bully people like Hu Wensheng..."

Bai Feng started comforting his student. Everything would be fine as long as the character technique was formed successfully. As for the number of Divine Characters, it really didn't matter that much. Even

10 Divine Characters would be enough to make one a top genius that could defeat everyone in the same cultivation realm.

Su Yu found himself out of words. He was really worried. What should he do? Even a super genius like the fifth principal who had slain an Invincible expert before had only formed one with 22 Divine Characters. But Su Yu's character technique required 99 Divine Characters.

He was basically four fifth principals combined into one. Or more than that. And since the fifth principal could kill an Invincible expert, he probably needed to be able to kill at least four.

Would Bai Feng be terrified to hear that?

Would Bai Feng believe that?

Would Bai Feng beat him up for lying instead?

Su Yu really didn't want to lie to his teacher, but after some struggle, he said, "Uhm, my character technique...has..."

"How many Divine Characters?"

Bai Feng was getting anxious. What was this brat doing? Was the brat not aware that being so hesitant would only make them more anxious?

Su Yu sank into silence. He decided to tell the truth since he was an honest man. He clenched his teeth and said, "Two nines."

"..."

Bai Feng blanked out for a bit, but his shock was soon replaced with anger. Why couldn't the brat say eighteen instead of being all fancy and saying two nines? Did he think he would look more incredible saying that? Then again, that was really incredible.

Chen Yong exclaimed in shock, "18 Divine Characters? That's a lot. This...should be a good thing. But you need to form 18 Divine Characters during the Mental Tempering Stage. In other words, you might end up needing more Divine Characters than that after including incompatible Divine Characters. This won't be easy."

But there was really no denying that this kid was really a genius for forming a character technique with 18 Divine Characters. That was a very powerful character technique. But it would also be much harder to cultivate. Chen Yong was worried. Could Su Yu complete the technique?

Su Yu did not say anything. He wasn't the one who had said the number eighteen! He had clearly said two nines! He hadn't lied. In the future when they found out about it, they couldn't blame him for lying. They were the ones who had misunderstood him.

Just look at their reaction after concluding that he needed 18 Divine Characters. They were acting like he was in big trouble. How would they react if they knew that he needed 99 Divine Characters? Would they sink into despair?

Su Yu was also worried that he would be abandoned if they learned the truth. After all, 99 Divine Characters could very well mean that he would be stuck below the Skysoar Realm for life. At the very least, that was how it looked like for these two.

Furthermore, it would be very hard for him to explain things related to his golden book. It wasn't like he had lied to them. They were the ones who had misunderstood his truth.

"I guess I'll need to keep a low profile from now on. I'll just report one Divine Character for every five that I form. In that case, everything would look reasonable..."

Su Yu started making his plans. He could no longer tell Bai Feng everything.

By reporting one out of five Divine Characters he formed, he wouldn't need to worry about explaining his progress to them.

"18 Divine Characters..."

Bai Feng and Chen Yong were no longer paying any attention to Su Yu. The two looked at each other. Bai Feng whispered, "He needs the same number of Divine Characters as Martial Uncle. How long did Martial Uncle take to form all his Divine Characters?"

"Three years." Chen Yong answered, "Almost three years."

"Would this kid be comparable with Martial Uncle? Even if that's the case, he would need at least three years to get into the Skysoar Realm."

Bai Feng looked at Su Yu again and exhaled in relief. It wasn't that bad. This brat was quite fast in terms of forming Divine Characters. Even if he needed three years to reach the Skysoar Realm, that was still very fast. He would only be slightly slower than Bai Feng.

From what Bai Feng had observed, he didn't think that Su Yu would be slower than his martial uncle.

At that thought, Bai Feng even started to get excited. This was good. If the brat had only formed a character technique with 10 Divine Characters, he would probably need only a year or two and ended up advancing faster than Bai Feng. That would be too embarrassing for Bai Feng as the teacher.

"18 characters...looks like we will need to spend a lot of money in the future."

Bai Feng was already thinking about something else. Meanwhile, Su Yu was looking down silently.

99 Divine Characters. That would require a lot of willpower texts. He started wondering if his teacher would really be able to afford having him as a student.

Chapter 203: Better Left Uninvestigated (1)

"18 Divine Characters..."

Bai Feng and Chen Yong were still busy talking.

After a while, Bai Feng recalled something and said, "Senior Brother, let him read a few myriad race willpower texts. This kid has formed three Divine Characters but all of them are human characters. He is quite fast in forming human characters, but I'm afraid that he would be much slower in forming myriad race characters."

"Only human characters?" This was Chen Yong's first time hearing about this. He said with surprise, "Had he never read myriad race texts before?"

"He did, but it was an incomplete copy. He didn't manage to form any Divine Characters through it."

"That's fine."

Chen Yong wasn't too worried about it. An incomplete copy didn't mean anything. It was normal that Su Yu hadn't formed any myriad race characters if he hadn't even read a proper myriad race text.

He turned and looked at Su Yu, "Don't worry. This is good. Sure, 18 Divine Characters are a lot, but there are benefits to needing more Divine Characters. You won't be delayed below the Skysoar Realm for too long anyway."

Chen Yong was really not worried. Just how long had it been since Su Yu had first met Bai Feng? In such a short period of time, he had formed three Divine Characters. And he had started forming his Divine Characters before even the Mental Tempering Stage.

After reaching the Mental Tempering Stage, with stronger willpower, forming Divine Characters would be even easier.

Even if Su Yu could only form one per month, he would only need a year and a half to finish forming all the Divine Characters he needed. Of course, things would only get harder and harder since the more Divine Characters he had, the more willpower he needed to dedicate to nurturing those characters.

"Some special myriad race willpower texts have been collected in the First Fusion Hall. With these texts, you might be able to form the Divine Characters of some powerful races."

Chen Yong pointed at the bookshelves and said, "There are texts from the divine race, the devil race, the dragon race, the giant race, and the other powerful races here. They might help you form some powerful Divine Characters. Su Yu, you can stay here and study these texts."

"Of course, the premise of that is you actually knowing these languages." Chen Yong added, "If you don't know the language, it would be pointless to study the texts since you wouldn't be able to form a Divine Character without understanding the text."

Su Yu nodded. He was getting slightly excited. He decided to stop thinking about his character technique. It was nothing. He only needed 99 Divine Characters. What was he afraid of?

He would be able to form one character each time he read. So he only needed to read 96 times. Yes, there was nothing to fear.

With that thought in his mind, Su Yu looked at the room filled with willpower texts in excitement. It would seem like the multiple character faction wasn't completely broke, after all. They still had so many texts in this room.

Looking at Su Yu's excited expression, Bai Feng reminded, "Don't drain them excessively. The First Fusion Hall is our final trump card. All our remaining treasures are here. Also, these texts aren't only ours. Many of these texts are the final copy. The moment one is fully drained, the future generation will no longer be able to study the contents in it."

Chen Yong nodded, "Your teacher is right. A lot of these texts are final copies. And these texts have already been read multiple times before. So some of them will probably break down soon. But studying them once or twice is still fine. If you fail to form a Divine Character after reading a text a few times, give up on that text."

Chen Yong sighed, "It's not that we don't want to give you more opportunities, but some of these texts are very valuable and irreplaceable."

"I understand." Su Yu nodded, "Don't worry. If I can't form a Divine Character from a text, I won't force it."

Bai Feng smiled and pointed at the bookshelves, "There are introductions on the Divine Characters you might be able to form out of each text. For you, just focus on offensive Divine Characters. Don't bother with defensive Divine Characters.

"Stay here for three days. You are free to read as many of these texts as you want during that time. I'll come get you after three days. You won't be able to visit this place more than once every three months."

Bai Feng sternly said, "At normal times, we still need to rely on ourselves. We don't have a lot of willpower texts left here. If we hadn't been using this place so sparingly, it wouldn't have lasted until now."

Su Yu nodded. Three days. That was not a short period of time. They were already being very generous by letting him freely study in the room for three days.

Even attending a public class held by a Skysoar teacher would need a payment of at least five merit points. And one such class would not last any longer than two hours. But he had been given the chance to stay in this room for 72 hours. That was probably worth at least 180 merit points.

If he could visit once every three months, he would be able to read over 700 or 800 merit points' worth of willpower texts over a period of one year.

"We'll be leaving for now."

Chen Yong smiled, "Don't worry and read here. For our faction, our priority after entering the Mental Tempering Stage is to form more Divine Characters. After you form more Divine Characters, we will start teaching you how to fuse your abilities into your character technique. Don't attempt anything for now."

Chen Yong reminded, "Don't forget that it is better to ensure that your Divine Characters are compatible with each other..."

Su Yu was confused.

"I mean that it would be better for your Divine Characters to come from the same race. For example, if all your Divine Characters are from the divine race, it would naturally have a better effect than having a mix of characters from the divines and the devils. Of course, things might differ from person to person. Nothing is fixed.

"Also, the characters of the stronger races such as the divines and the devils are much stronger than the characters of the weaker races. If possible, it would be better for you to pick the characters of the stronger races."

Su Yu kept Chen Yong's advice in mind. All that was the experience of a senior in the path of cultivation. He might not necessarily be able to learn that from a book. In fact, putting those words down in written form might do more harm than good as some people unsuitable for that cultivation method might stubbornly pursue having only the characters of a single race. That would only negatively affect their cultivation.

Bai Feng and Chen Yong left.

They didn't even leave any food behind. Only a few drops of source qi liquid were left for Su Yu. These were enough to ensure that he wouldn't starve to death. Su Yu was happy with that arrangement. After all, source qi liquid was expensive.

"99 Divine Characters..."

Su Yu muttered to himself. He finally had the time to look inside his sea of willpower. Looking at the tiny saber in there, he started growing furious again.

So many Divine Characters. What a scam. There was also that golden book.

Su Yu frowned. Just what was that exactly? Not only did that thing need to be fed with the blood essence of the myriad races, it even created trouble for him when he was trying to form a character technique. Was someone controlling it or was the book moving by itself?

Su Yu frowned worriedly. But there was really nothing he could do about it.

"I'll stop wasting time and start reading instead."

When his gaze landed on the bookshelves, joy covered his face as he forgot all his troubles. He would focus on reading for now.

"Sharpness-related myriad race willpower texts."

From the label on one of the bookshelves, he saw that the texts here had a higher likelihood of giving him a sharpness-related Divine Character. Of course, only the probability would be higher. He still wouldn't be guaranteed any Divine Characters.

"Blade ant race's cultivation method..."

Su Yu noted that beside each text was an introduction in human language, detailing the origin of each text. That way, people would not read the texts in languages they weren't familiar with and needlessly exhaust the willpower in these texts.

Before long, Su Yu found a text in a language he knew.

"Devil scorpion race. A race with sharp, spiky tails. Ranked 368th among the myriad races. Their racial ability, Tail Stab, is capable of piercing through armor and poisoning their opponents. Reading the willpower texts of this race would help one form Divine Characters related to sharpness..."

The introduction was very detailed. Su Yu picked up the hidden book in excitement and sent his willpower in.

...

While Su Yu was reading.

Prefect's manor.

There was a small garden in the manor. And at the center of the garden lake was a pavilion.

In the pavilion, a long table could be seen. People were seated all around the long table.

The chubby Marquis Xia was one of them. While sipping tea, he lazily said, "Longwu is truly bad at enjoying life. This place has good sunlight access, nice environment, and fresh air. It is the best place to drink tea. Why did he abandon a place like this? Good thing I'm here or this place will fall apart due to abandonment before long."

Not far away, Old Hu merely smiled and shook his head. He sipped on his tea silently, not feeling like saying anything to that.

To the side, Wan Tiansheng was busy feeding the fish in the lake. While looking at the ripples on the surface of the lake, he said, "The marquis is naturally better when it comes to enjoying life."

"You're right." Marquis Xia smiled, "After earning so much money, it is only natural that I enjoy life with all my money. I've decided. After some time, I'll change the water in this lake into source qi liquid."

He looked at Wan Tiansheng and asked, "Are you selling the source grotto? I'm buying. That grotto would be just nice to supply source qi liquid for my lake."

Wan Tiansheng said, "If you want it, feel free to take it."

"Really?"

"Yes." Wan Tiansheng smiled, "It's only a grotto. If you're willing to trade your Xia Trade Company with it, I won't object."

"Sure."

Marquis Xia sneered. Was this man dreaming? He wasn't stupid.

Marquis Xia couldn't even be bothered to entertain that offer with a reply. He said, "So why are you suddenly here?"

"It's related to Xia Huyou..."

"Pfft." Marquis Xia said with disdain, "Do whatever you want with him. You can even kill him if you have the guts. But if you keep him alive, it really doesn't matter what you do. Don't even dream of getting any money from me. If you're only here for this, you can piss off now."

Both Wan Tiansheng and Old Hu shook their heads while laughing. It was not easy to get any money from Marquis Xia. Wan Tiansheng stopped joking around and started talking business.

"I'm here today for two things. Firstly, I'm here to see Xia Yunji. Where is he?"

The moment he said those words, Marquis Xia's expression changed and he sat up straight. Old Hu's face also changed as he looked at Wan Tiansheng in surprise.

"Why are you looking for him?"

Marquis Xia frowned, "After he was expelled by you, he went on a tour around the Human Realm. What do you want from him? Don't tell me you're still thinking about the Divine Character on him."

"Not at all," Wan Tiansheng shook his head. "You know me. I'm not interested in their Divine Characters. It's pointless. And I don't need those Divine Characters."

"Why are you looking for him then?"

Wan Tiansheng solemnly said, "I only want to know about his progress in cultivation after all these years. I already asked Liu Wenyan. He wasn't willing to see me. Even if we meet, he would only assume an ugly expression and kick me out."

Wan Tiansheng sighed, "Also, Lin Wenyan alone is not enough as a point of reference. I want to know about Xia Yunji as well. I want to know if the multiple character faction's choice back then was right. If that option is really feasible..."

Marquis Xia interrupted Wan Tiansheng, "So what if it's feasible? Wan Tiansheng, don't tell me that you're trying to get them back to the academy."

"No." Wan Tiansheng shook his head, "It has been 50 years and the multiple character faction has fallen very low. However, I would often wonder if there is still hope for them. Back then, they were so stubborn and decisive, staking everything in that single choice. Did they discover something back then? Could they really produce an Invincible?"

"I was on the verge of losing all hope on them. But recently, a new student from Nanyuan joined the academy. I discovered something unique about that student. Therefore, I wanted to take one more look and see if there is still hope..."

"Hope?" Old Hu said, "I doubt there is any. Then again, I'm not sure either. Back then, all those lunatics were so stubborn. I don't understand them. They ruined themselves, they ruined Liu Wenyan, and they ruined my younger sister with that choice."

Old Hu sighed, "After she was expelled, Ping refused to even meet me. I really want to know if that was really worth it? All the elites of the multiple character faction were ruined for the sake of pursuing that tiny hope. Those people...sigh."

He was very regretful. He did not know what to feel about those people.

Liu Wenyan, Xia Yunji, Hu Ping, Zhao Mingyue...all these were the super geniuses of their generation. Now, they were all over 70 years old.

Back then, they were in their prime.

Back then, their radiance reached every corner of the Human Realm.

Now, they were all old. Those who had yet to reach the Skysoar Realm would probably reach the end of their life soon.

#### Chapter 204: Better Left Uninvestigated (2)

Wan Tiansheng interrupted them and said, "Don't waste your breath saying all that. It's pointless. I only want to know their current circumstances. Back then, an expert on the cusp of reaching the Invincible Realm, three Sunmoon experts, and seven Mountainsea experts had picked eleven young geniuses to inherit their main Divine characters."

"Liu Wenyan had been picked to inherit the Divine Character of that person. Zhao Mingyue, Hu Ping, and Xia Yunji were picked to inherit the Divine Characters of the three Sunmoon experts..."

"With the lives of 11 experts as the price, did anything come out of their choice?" Wan Tiansheng solemnly said, "Of the 11 geniuses, a few had passed away. Only 6 of them are still alive. Was their choice right?"

"We have waited for so many years but there is still no answer. I am not the only person waiting. The other academies are also waiting for an answer. They should give us a clear answer. We have a few Mountainsea experts nearing the end of their lifespans. If they have an answer, they shouldn't keep it hidden from us."

"We also need to know if this method would only work for the main Divine Characters of those in the multiple character faction or if it would work for any Divine Character. Even the Knowledge Seeking Realm is seeking the answer for this."

Marquis Xia was getting impatient, "Why do you people keep asking me? How am I supposed to know the answer? Even if you can find Xia Yunji, it's pointless. He won't tell you anything. Of course, since they're still not saying anything, it can only mean that this is still not the right time to announce the result. Or maybe there is simply no result yet."

Marquis Xia muttered to himself, "It's pointless for Wan Tiansheng to ask. Even if they have an answer, they might not be willing to tell Wan Tiansheng anything. Just look at the terrible state the multiple character faction is in. He should be glad they're not looking for him for revenge."

Wan Tiansheng rolled his eyes, "How is that my fault? I have merely been doing nothing. I wasn't the one suppressing them. Hong Tan is the one who has been too useless. He is a Mountainsea expert. But apart from stubbornly pursuing his research on racial abilities, he has been doing nothing else. He has not even tried to get anything for his faction. Am I supposed to force him to take from the academy? No matter what, he is still the deputy head of the Character Faculty. What has he been doing with that position? Has he ever bothered making his presence known to the public?"

Wan Tiansheng sternly said, "I am not taking this blame. Of the 36 pavilion elders, the elders from the pill making and talisman factions support him. Including himself and a few of the old elders from back then, he has the support of at least 10 out of 36 elders. Hong Tan only has himself to blame for being too useless. You can't put the blame on me.

"As for Zhou Mingren, a few Mountainsea experts have emerged from their side. They worked hard for that. Back then, there were only four Mountainsea experts in the single character faction. Now, there are eight. Are you telling me to suppress all eight of them?"

Marquis Xia shrugged, "Don't tell me all that. I don't care. That's the internal problem of your academy. Yunji is really not around. And I have no idea where he is. Didn't you say that you have two matters? What's the second matter?"

Wan Tiansheng ignored the marquis and looked at Old Hu, "Is Hu Ping unwilling to see anyone as well?"

"You are not allowed to disturb her peace!" Old Hu warned, "If you dare to disturb her, I won't spare you!"

Wan Tiansheng was starting to feel helpless. "Why are all of you acting like this? I'm really looking for them for something important. I'm not going to do anything to them. Do you not understand my words? A lot of Mountainsea experts and even some old Sunmoon experts are approaching the end of their lifespans.

"Should they leave their Divine Characters behind as Marks of Culture or should they materialize their Divine Characters to be inherited by young geniuses and increase the overall strength of humanity? This is very important!"

Marquis Xia smiled, "I know. But in my opinion, even if this option is feasible, I still think that the choice they made 50 years ago wasn't worth it. With the talent of Liu Wenyan and the others, they could have reached the Mountainsea or even the Sunmoon Realm by now if they had cultivated normally. Was there even a need for them to inherit those Divine Characters?"

"Back then, those experts were heavily injured and some were close to death. They had no choice. After witnessing the fifth principal's strength and seeing the hope of reaching the Invincible Realm, they recklessly passed their Divine Characters on with immediate death as the price.

"I personally don't have much hope for that option. The Mountainsea experts who are dying from old age today have not experienced the battle that year. They had never witnessed the magnificence of the fifth principal. They had not seen him kill an Invincible as a Sunmoon. Even if they picked the same path, the result might be completely different."

Wan Tiansheng nodded, "That is what I'm worried about as well. In that case, even if Liu Wenyan and the others could eventually reach the Invincible Realm, they would only be a special case. I still wish to find a stable path to the Sunmoon and Eternal Realms. It has been 50 years since the academy last produced a new Sunmoon expert. I don't know what's wrong. Fatty Xia..."

"Hmm?" Marquis Xia's face fell.

"Cough, cough. Marquis Xia," Wan Tiansheng corrected himself. "The academy's strength is Great Xia's strength. You still need to give us some help. We can talk about Xia Yunji next time. My second matter is related to something else. I need to borrow something from you."

"I have no money," said Marquis Xia. "No money, no resources, no blood essence, nothing. I have nothing except my life. Do you want my life?"

Wan Tiansheng blanked out slightly, but he was able to recover quickly since he was already used to Marquis Xia's antics. He said, "I want to use the Heaven Connecting Mirror once.

"I want to get a clear look. Why have we been failing to produce new Sunmoon cultivators? Is it because of the multiple character faction's decline? That shouldn't be the case right? Back then, the single character faction had produced Sunmoon cultivators as well. But now, even the single character faction has stopped producing Sunmoon cultivators. Why is this happening?"

Wan Tiansheng frowned and continued, "A few of our elders have been stuck at the ninth-stage Mountainsea Realm. In fact, something similar is happening in the other academies. Has something gone wrong?"

Wan Tiansheng had a troubled expression, "Not long ago, I gathered the data of the various prefectures and the Knowledge Seeking Realm. I found that over the past fifty years, only seven new Sunmoon cultivators have appeared. Seven. Only seven!"

Wan Tiansheng sternly said, "And of our existing Sunmoon cultivators, nine had perished for various reasons such as combat, old age, and cultivation issues. In other words, our total number of Sunmoon experts have actually dropped by two over a period of fifty years."

Marquis Xia nodded, "I'm aware of that. The number of Sunmoon cultural researchers have indeed dropped. But if we take you into consideration, then the number would change from two to one, right? So over fifty years, our total number of Sunmoon cultivators have only been reduced by one. By the way, which stage of the Sunmoon Realm are you in right now?"

Wan Tiansheng sighed, "I'm still at the Mountainsea Realm. I have been stuck for many years."

Marquis Xia was obviously not buying that, "Sure. Maybe I remembered it wrongly. If you say you're at the Mountainsea Realm, so be it. I really wonder who was the one who had stealthily killed that Sunmoon divine 36 years ago. The divines nearly declared war on us for that incident. I heard that some traces of the killer were left behind. People claimed that my father was the killer, so that old fart was feeling really wronged because he really wasn't the killer."

Marquis Xia shrugged and continued, "The killer knows the Sky Sundering Saber. Isn't that odd? My old man had not taught too many people that. Since the killer wasn't someone from the Xia Family, then the list of potential killers is really short. Perhaps Liu Wenyan was the killer? Incredible. That fellow is strong enough to kill Sunmoon cultivators already?"

Wan Tiansheng laughed, "Maybe Great Xia King made the kill and forgot about it..."

"Yeap, yeap. Everyone acted like my father has gone senile because of his old age." Marquis Xia rolled his eyes and said, "Why are you pretending? Is there a point in pretending in front of me? Why would I care if you're already at the Sunmoon Realm?"

Marquis Xia couldn't even be bothered to expose Wan Tiansheng. He said, "Heaven Connecting Mirror...Wan Tiansheng, it's not that I don't want to let you use it. But this issue concerns not only the Great Xia alone. It concerns all cultural researchers of the human race. Would you be able to see anything at all? Maybe you would end up losing your life before seeing anything."

Wan Tiansheng sighed, "I must take a look. I can't accept this. The mirror might not be able to show me the exact future, but it can still show me some hints. I need to see if the cultural researchers of humanity are really going into decline..."

"It's not that serious." Marquis Xia comforted him, "Those old fossils of the Knowledge Seeking Realm are still around. If something that bad is really happening, they would have done something by now. Also, seeing the future is a joke. The future holds countless possibilities. Any random Invincible expert is strong enough to change the future. The mirror will only show you one of the predicted results. It's not worth losing your lifespan for something like this."

Old Hu said, "Old Wan, forget it. The Heaven Connecting Mirror is merely something formed of several Divine Characters combined. It's not some sort of heavenly treasure. It is only an analytical Divine Character and what it shows might not necessarily be accurate. If you have the time and energy, you might as well spend it killing more enemies and get some blood essence."

Wan Tiansheng smiled, "Just let me use it. I want to take a look. Even if I'm only looking at a single possibility, I can still make some plans accordingly. I also need to see the future of the Foreign Students Faculty."

"Do what you want." Marquis Xia did not try to further persuade Wan Tiansheng. He said, "It's not with me. My old man has it. I'll send someone to get it from him. I suspect they had checked the same thing with the mirror already. It would be really pointless for you to use it as well. You might even delay your own progress into the Invincible Realm."

"Hmm?" Wan Tiansheng smiled bitterly and said, "I'm only a Mountainsea cultivator. I might be stuck in this realm for life. How can I even hope to reach the Invincible Realm?"

"Whatever." Marquis Xia impatiently said, "Leave. I don't want to look at your treacherous face any longer. It's annoying to look at."

"Remember to tell me when Xia Yunji returns."

"Yeah, yeah. Leave."

Marquis Xia did not enjoy conversing with people like Wan Tiansheng as he could never know which of Wan Tiansheng's words was true and which was a lie.

...

After Wan Tiansheng left, Old Hu laughed and said, "Marquis, has he really entered the Sunmoon Realm?"

"What do you think?"

"I think it's very likely. But I'm curious. Why is he hiding his cultivation?" Old Hu frowned, "The human race isn't in such a bad position that our experts need to start hiding themselves, right? It's pointless for Principal Wan to do that. He will only lose more opportunities by hiding his real strength."

Marquis Xia said, "Who knows. Maybe he's cooking a scheme against someone. Maybe the target of his scheme is an Invincible expert. This fellow is probably still below the Invincible Realm or he would be showing his fangs already."

"Invincible? Human or one of the myriad races?"

"How am I supposed to know?" Marquis Xia impatiently said, "Think about it yourself. How can you claim to be the number one sage of Great Xia with that brain of yours? Why do you need to ask me everything? Do I look like your dad? Can't you use your own brain?"

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"..."

Marquis Xia was lucky Old Hu couldn't kill with eyes or he would have died by now.

...

After Old Hu stomped away in anger, Marquis Xia rubbed his plump chin and muttered, "Just what are all these people doing? Who is Old Wan scheming against? He has been hiding his cultivation for so many years. He's even lying to the Knowledge Seeking Realm and the War Shrine. Is he really stuck?"

At times, even Marquis Xia couldn't help but to wonder if Principal Wan was telling the truth.

If it wasn't for some things that would only make sense if Wan Tiansheng was in the Sunmoon Realm, Marquis Xia might really believe that Wan Tiansheng was only at the Mountainsea Realm. But there was really no need for him to hide his strength.

Unless...that old fart had a massive scheme for a massive goal. And that goal was most definitely related to an Invincible expert.

Otherwise, there really wasn't any need for him to hide himself. There were still so many Invincible experts in the Knowledge Seeking Realm and the War Shrine. Even if he broke through into the Invincible Realm, the myriad races would not band together just to stop him. They had lost too much during their operation against the fifth principal back then. And Wan Tiansheng wasn't even someone who was unrivaled in the same cultivation level.

"I don't understand."

Marquis Xia decided to not think about it since it was unrelated to him. There were things that were better left uninvestigated.

Fifty years ago, Liu Wenyan and the others were expelled. Not a single surviving multiple character faction expert was spared. Who knew if they had actually reached some sort of agreement back then.

"I don't care anymore. As long as they continue producing experts for the military, they can do whatever they want."

## Chapter 205: Divine Character Rejection (1)

First Fusion Hall.

Su Yu was reading an Infinite Strength cultivation method of the devil scorpion race. That was a minor cultivation method of their race, aimed to help increase the sharpness of their tails.

It was slightly similar to the body strengthening methods of the other races. Su Yu had not been given the chance to read too many different cultivation methods before so he was very engrossed in his reading.

Although each race would have different acupoints, it was always possible to comprehend by analogy. It would still be beneficial for him to learn more about the cultivation methods of the other races.

Su Yu was being pulled deeper and deeper into the text. He had great focus when reading and he never stopped analyzing what he read. At the same time, he would draw parallels between his cultivation and what he read instead of just skimming through the text.

Before he knew it, half an hour passed. He had exhausted quite a lot of willpower. At that moment, he suddenly sensed the appearance of a new Divine Character. He was overjoyed and relieved.

Bai Feng had been worried that he would have terrible talent in myriad race Divine Characters. But he had finally proven that a genius would always be a genius. He could rapidly form myriad race Divine Characters as well.

In his sea of willpower, a devil scorpion character was slowly taking form.

An eager miniature Su Yu appeared. It was time for him to tame yet another Divine Character! Now that he was already at the Mental Tempering Stage, taming new Divine Characters should be even easier than before.

This was a strong character of the devil scorpion race. Strong, a character related to strengthening. Su Yu was confident it would be quite a useful Divine Character. Just as he was getting ready for a fight, the three Divine Characters in the tiny saber suddenly stirred. Then, they controlled the saber and made it fly forward.

Bang!

Su Yu only heard a loud boom in his head. Next, he was stupefied. The strong character had been destroyed by the saber. The blood character hurriedly absorbed the willpower left behind by the destroyed character. Even the lightning character was flickering endlessly.

"What is going on?"

Su Yu's face turned solemn.

After that incident with his golden book, even his Divine Characters seemed to have gone out of control. His newly formed Divine Character had been destroyed by them.

"Have the Divine Characters gained sentience?"

He had been suspecting that his golden book was actually sentient. But now, he was starting to suspect that even his Divine Characters were sentient. That wasn't supposed to be possible!

Su Yu tried controlling the three Divine Characters again. Everything felt normal. He could still control them with no resistance. But he was still feeling uneasy. Just what was happening?

He had been so happy just a moment ago after forming a Divine Character so quickly. He was even praising himself for being a super genius. But his joy barely lasted as his three Divine Characters had immediately shattered it. When he sent his willpower toward the golden book, it remained completely unresponsive.

He took a look at the nearby cultural weapon and mythic destruction beast skull before withdrawing from his sea of consciousness. He sank into deep thought.

He could still control his Divine Characters perfectly. In that case, why had they acted the way they did?

The blood character had grown stronger from that little episode. The other two characters had also benefited slightly. Thus, the formation of the new Divine Character had not been completely wasted. After it was destroyed, all three of his existing Divine Characters had grown.

"They had joined hands to destroy and consume the devil scorpion Divine Character?" Su Yu frowned, "Why?"

He was sure that this wasn't an issue with his talent. He was still able to form Divine Characters as quickly as ever. His speed would not be affected by the language of the character he was forming. In that case, why would something like this happen?

"The Divine Characters had rejected the devil scorpion character. The Divine Characters might not necessarily be sentient, but they had indeed rejected the other character."

The three existing Divine Characters seemed to have formed their own little group. A group that rejected all outsiders.

Su Yu wondered if they only rejected devil scorpion characters or if they would reject all characters.

"I need to give this another try."

A single attempt would not tell him anything. Su Yu decided to try more.

...

Three hours passed. Su Yu looked pale.

Yet another Divine Character had been destroyed. He had just formed an earthbee race character and the character was destroyed just like the previous character.

"I tried suppressing the three characters. I still have them under my control, but the resistance toward the new character is too strong."

During his previous attempt, when he suppressed his three characters, they hadn't been able to immediately destroy the new character. But when he was about to start subduing the new character, he found that the new character and his sea of willpower resisted each other too much.

In other words, even after taming this character, he still needed to spend more energy on suppressing and dissolving the resistance.

"I can't form devil scorpion characters. I can't form earthbee characters as well. No, I can actually form them, but my sea of willpower rejected them. My existing characters did not destroy the new characters because they dislike them. Instead, it was because of the resistance..."

Su Yu frowned and sank into thought.

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"Resistance...this has never happened before. Is it because all my previous characters are human characters? Now that I'm trying to form myriad race characters, there is resistance?"

A new thought appeared in Su Yu's mind. He might be different from others. The resistance of his sea of willpower might be related to the golden book in his mind. His three characters might have been influenced by the book. The book was the one rejecting the myriad race characters.

In that case, even if Su Yu could form myriad race characters and prevent his existing characters from destroying the new characters, it would still be pointless as he would have to spare more willpower on suppressing the resistance.

"I...am unable to cultivate myriad race characters."

It was unrelated to his talent. He could form those characters. But his sea of willpower rejected myriad race characters.

Su Yu frowned deeply. He noticed that his three characters had grown stronger yet again.

"Interesting. The destroyed characters can be used to feed them."

In that case, forming new characters here wouldn't be a waste. The past six hours of work hadn't been for nothing. He placed the book down and withdrew his willpower. He needed to focus on thinking about the consequences of what he had just discovered.

Also, he wondered if there would still be resistance if he destroyed his existing characters. He had no answer. But he did not intend to give it a try either.

"Golden book, human character, custom character technique..."

Su Yu started connecting the various hints he had obtained.

"Absorbing the blood essence of the myriad races to utilize the cultivation method and martial technique of the myriad races...If the book is a supreme treasure, then it must definitely be something made by a human."

Su Yu thought of many things.

Generally, blood essence would be obtained from an enemy one had killed. Thus, the book was essentially indirectly encouraging him to kill his enemies by requiring blood essence.

It wanted him to kill iron-winged birds and mountainbreak bulls to obtain their blood essence. And the book required blood essence, not regular blood.

"The book has been staying silently in my sea of willpower before this. It suddenly acted when I was forming my character technique. I thought it only wanted to gather the strongest shining points, but after seeing all this...perhaps it was merely rejecting all the shining points that represented myriad race characters? Are all 99 Divine Characters of my little saber human characters?"

One hypothesis after another was made. The book might not be sentient after all. And nobody was controlling it. But it definitely rejected the Divine Characters of non-humans.

"The book might be hostile toward the myriad race characters...Is the mythic destruction beast skull allowed to stay because it came from something that is already dead? So the book is a treasure of the human race? In my dreams, the myriad races have been trying to kill me all along. Can I conclude that the monsters in my dreams are all my enemies?"

Even more thoughts rose in Su Yu's mind. Was the book a treasure or a Divine Character? An Eternal Divine Character? A unique Eternal Divine Character!

"Is this a Divine Character?"

Su Yu frowned. If that was true, where did it come from? He really had no idea.

"I'm too weak. I have never seen Eternal Divine Characters before as well. Looks like I can only learn more after growing stronger..."

Su Yu exhaled deeply and rubbed his face to bring his attention to the right place. He decided to not think about all that for now. That wasn't something he could figure out at his current level.

"If the book is really a Divine Character, perhaps when I reach the Mountainsea Realm or even the Sunmoon Realm, I would be able to discover something. Furthermore, if it is really a Divine Character, then it is most definitely a human Eternal Divine Character."

He suddenly thought of something.

Human Eternal Divine Character!

Bai Feng said that of the known existing Eternal Divine Characters, none was a human character. Was that book a Divine Character?

If it was, it must definitely be an Eternal character. Since it did not reject human characters and reject all other characters, it would most likely be a human character if it was really a Divine Character.

"So do humans have Eternal Divine Characters as well?"

Su Yu grew excited. When he heard from Bai Feng that there were no human Eternal characters, he felt gloomy. He was unhappy. As far as he was concerned, human characters were strong as well.

But he learned that human characters could not become Eternal characters. He was upset about that. But perhaps...there were human Eternal characters in existence. Bai Feng was merely unaware of them.

"That must be it. Teacher is still quite young as well. He knows too little. A lot of things are probably still secret to him. Human characters are not weak at all. Even if they are really weak, given enough time and growth, they can grow strong too! Human characters can grow into Eternal characters too!"

When Su Yu looked at the willpower texts in the room once again, he knew that he would not be able to get any new characters from these texts. But he was still going to read them.

After all, he could still temper his willpower doing so. And if he could form more characters, he could feed them to his existing characters. He found that it might be a good idea to nurture his Divine Characters with other Divine Characters.

He had only fed his Divine Characters with two newly formed characters so far yet his blood character looked like it was already on the verge of transformation. That character had also absorbed a large amount of blood essence from the filter room.

Nothing had changed despite all the blood essence it had absorbed, but it had clearly grown considerably after absorbing the leftover willpower of the two destroyed characters.

"There are ranks to Divine Characters as well. Is this character on the verge of advancement?"

Su Yu was unsure. It was only natural that there were ranks to Divine Characters. Otherwise, where did Eternal Divine Characters come from? The basic classes had touched upon this topic. However, no detailed explanation had ever been given. That was because prior to the Skysoar Realm, one would only have Divine Characters at the lowest rank.

"I remember that during the class, the instructor said that Divine Characters won't advance prior to the Skysoar Realm. Only at the Skysoar Realm would the Divine Characters stand a chance to advance into the second tier. Is the blood character going to advance earlier?"

Su Yu shook his head. This entire situation was feeling more and more mysterious to him. Apart from serving as the nutrient of his Divine Characters, the myriad race characters seemed capable of helping his Divine Characters advance as well.

"These are the characters I had formed myself. What about the Divine Characters of Skysoar enemies that they materialized? If I destroy those characters, can I feed them to my Divine Characters?"

Su Yu sank into thought. Myriad race blood essence could help him activate his book. Myriad race Divine Characters could help him feed his Divine Characters. Then...what exactly were the myriad races to him?

## Chapter 206: Divine Character Rejection (2)

Su Yu spent three days reading without stopping. He only read through each text once. He did not want to spend too much time on a single text and accidentally destroying it. He didn't know too many languages. He only found 12 texts written in languages he knew.

Even so, reading 12 texts in 3 days was still an impressive feat. After all, one would exhaust willpower reading willpower texts. After every read, Su Yu would need to spend around an hour or two to recover his willpower. He had not been able to fully comprehend everything he had read.

Some texts were rather confusing so he wasn't able to get any Divine Characters out of them. In total, he had formed six new Divine Characters. If he was able to keep all six of them, Bai Feng and Chen Yong would probably be shocked. Six characters in three days. That was incredible.

Alas, Su Yu kept none of them. All the characters were destroyed and fed to his three existing characters.

He did manage to discover the advantages of doing this. The biggest advantage was the fact that he no longer needed to use too much of his own willpower to nurture his characters. They could nourish themselves with these destroyed characters.

"I was worried about nurturing my Divine Characters since I have to form 99 of them. But now, it is obvious there are options I can take to reduce the pressure on myself."

Things still wouldn't be that bad for now. When he reached the Skysoar Realm and needed to advance his Divine Characters into the second tier, things would become far more troublesome.

To raise a Divine Character into the point of advancement, one would need a few years of hard work unless one found some unique growth methods. Of course, one wasn't limited to only growing a single character at a time.

Bai Feng would be a good example of that. Although he hadn't told Su Yu anything, Su Yu knew that a genius like Bai Feng had probably advanced his Divine Characters as well.

"The blood character is showing signs of advancement."

While leaving the First Fusion Hall, Su Yu checked the blood character. After absorbing a large amount of blood essence and the leftover willpower of six destroyed characters, it had grown larger than before. The red glow on its body had also become brighter than before. It could probably advance after being fed a few more characters.

...

Outside the First Fusion Hall, in the fake room.

Bai Feng and Chen Yong were waiting.

When Bai Feng saw Su Yu coming out, he cautiously asked, "Did you manage to form any characters?"

Su Yu hesitated slightly before flashing an honest and apologetic smile, "Teacher, these characters are harder to form than human characters. I wasn't able to form a complete character."

Once again, he was telling the truth. He did manage to form characters, but they were incomplete since his existing characters had destroyed those new characters. Sure, most of the new characters had been eaten by his existing characters, but tiny traces of their previous existences could still be seen in his sea of willpower.

If his teacher refused to believe him, he could always form a myriad race character in the future and preserve it as proof.

He had a feeling that his book might be very important. It might be the sole human Eternal Divine Character in existence.

Bai Feng might be his teacher, but the human heart was not something that should be tempted too much. Unless he suspected someone of harboring evil designs toward him, it would be much better to not tempt anyone with a reason to act unfavorably toward him.

When Bai Feng heard those words, he frowned. But he soon smiled and said, "That's good to hear. Although you couldn't form complete characters, it is good enough that you can still form myriad race characters. In fact, this is how things should work for a normal person."

At first, he couldn't help but to feel somewhat downcast. But after thinking about it, wasn't it completely normal for one to form an incomplete character after three days? Even he needed several reading sessions to form a few strokes of a character. What Su Yu did previously was too abnormal.

Only now did Su Yu displayed the qualities of a normal genius. Yes, he was still a genius as an untalented individual would probably take months to form a few strokes of a character.

Chen Yong smiled, "Yeah. Just getting the early form of a Divine Character is good enough. Which race's character is it?"

"Devil scorpion race. It's a strong character. I feel like I need some time to complete it."

"Devil scorpion race...that's not too bad." Chen Yong nodded, "The devil scorpion race is ranked over 300 among the myriad races. Their tail-stabbing ability is quite strong. It is a very sharp attack. Although you didn't manage to form the pierce character, the strong character of that race should work nicely too. In that case, you now have four Divine Characters. Three are complete and one is brand new. This is actually quite fast. Try to complete it within a month or two and get five characters by the end of the year."

It was the 4th of September today. The end of year was still quite far away. Chen Yong hoped that Su Yu could form his fifth Divine Character by the end of the year. In truth, even that was quite a high expectation.

After all, he was expecting Su Yu to form five Divine Characters in less than a year, or to be precise, less than half a year. If Su Yu could continue growing at the same speed, he would be able to complete 18 characters in a few years. At that time, he could start considering his advancement into the Skysoar Realm.

A multiple character faction member who could enter the Skysoar Realm within three to five years was most definitely better and stronger than single character faction members who could do the same within one to two years.

"Your Senior Sister has been with us for over two years. She joined the academy around two years ago." Chen Yong couldn't help but to recall his student. He smiled and said, "When she joined the academy, she was already at the Mental Tempering Stage. Over the past two years, she had formed seven Divine Characters. She is now at the ninth-stage Great Strength Realm with 95 percent willpower.

"With her speed, she can probably get her tenth character after one more year. She can probably enter the Infinite Strength Realm next year too. If everything progresses smoothly, she can try entering the Skysoar Realm in two years."

Chen Yong was quite satisfied with his student. "That would be her fourth year in the academy. Advancing into the Skysoar Realm within four years is enough to classify her as a freak as well."

Bai Feng frowned and said, "Will her injuries slow her down?"

Chen Yong sighed, "She will definitely be slowed down by a few months. There is nothing we can do about that. Just treat it as a form of tempering. She can take this chance to rest as well. She has been working very hard for the past two years to enter the Top 100 Ranking."

Su Yu asked curiously, "Martial Uncle, how long did Senior Sister take to enter the top 100?"

"A year and a half." Chen Yong was smiling again. "This is her first year in the top 100. When she first entered the ranking, she was already at the eighth-stage Great Strength Realm with 90 percent willpower."

It was actually quite impressive to get into the ranking in one and a half years. Wu Jia's circumstances were different from Su Yu as she had joined the academy at the Mental Tempering Stage.

With her cultivation of eighth-stage Great Strength Realm, Mental Tempering Stage, and multiple Divine Characters, it wasn't surprising that she could get into the top 100. With all that, she definitely possessed the strength comparable to an Infinite Strength cultivator.

"Who defeated Senior Sister?"

Chen Yong said, "Don't worry about all that. Your current mission is to cultivate, form more Divine Characters, learn more languages, open more acupoints, and strengthen your willpower."

Chen Yong knew what Su Yu was thinking about. He discouraged that and said, "You have a lot of things to do next. You also need to get a better grasp on your character technique. It won't work just because you have successfully formed the frame for it. You need to learn about the relationship and teamwork between characters, learning to use and explore your character abilities together. You will be very busy for the next year or two. Thus, there are things that you don't need to worry about. Only start considering the Top 100 Ranking when you possess the combat strength of an Infinite Strength cultivator without the help of blood essence."

He had received some news about Su Yu recently. And he had heard about Su Yu's victory over Chen Qi.

But Su Yu had utilized blood essence ability to win that match. Bai Feng had been keeping the matter concerning blood essence abilities a secret from even him. That was understandable as it wasn't a good thing for too many people to learn about it now.

But blood essence was still an external object. Each drop of blood essence would only work once. If Su Yu relied on something like that to get into the top 100, he would end up being challenged by everyone all the time.

Was he supposed to consume blood essence for every single match? Did he even have that much blood essence to consume? Would all the challenges get in the way of his cultivation? Thus, Chen Yong hoped that Su Yu would not consider all that before gaining sufficient strength.

Su Yu nodded and said nothing else. His martial uncle was right. He was still quite far away from the top 100. But he also believed that he wouldn't take long to gain enough strength to challenge the ranking.

"To gain enough strength, I need enough blood essence and human willpower texts."

Suddenly, Su Yu asked, "Teacher, I have been skipping classes for a few days. Is that fine?"

"Don't worry. I applied for leave on your behalf." Bai Feng said indifferently, "After this, take your leave from those in the intermediate class. You will start attending the senior class from now on. Also, you will have one additional mission from now on. You can start feeding the creatures locked in the prison zone of the research center."

Chen Yong looked at Bai Feng with a frown.

Bai Feng calmly said, "Senior Brother, a cultural researcher walking the path of offense must have courage as well. He needs to get used to withstanding the pressure and oppression of powerful opponents. It won't do if he ends up going limp the moment he encounters a myriad race enemy."

Chen Yong gave it some thought and nodded.

Su Yu was still Bai Feng's student. It wouldn't be proper for Chen Yong to tell Bai Feng how to teach his own student. But Chen Yong personally believed that it was still too early for Su Yu to be exposed to all that.

The creatures imprisoned in the research center were all incredibly ferocious. And they were very powerful as well.

Bai Feng smiled, "That's nothing. I intend to let him fight those creatures when he grows stronger. That way, he can experience the true threat of death. This would be much better than the so-called spars with the other students."

Su Yu heard his teacher, but he wasn't really scared. In fact, he was even looking forward to it. He wasn't a total rookie. In Nanyuan and during his journey to the capital, he had fought and killed for real.

However, none of his previous opponents were non-humans, so he wondered if it would feel different fighting these opponents. He had also realized something. Bai Feng was too carefree. Therefore, the way he taught would certainly be rather rough. Most of the time, he only cared about reaching a goal and nothing else.

Chen Yong was far more gentle in comparison. He would take everything into consideration. Simply put, Bai Feng was akin to someone raising livestock free-range while Chen Yong was akin to a mother.

Perhaps it was due to their age, but their personalities were the main reason for the difference between the two. Bai Feng walked the path of offense. For him, the result was more important while the process did not matter that much.

"One gentle and one rough..."

That was Su Yu's evaluation on Chen Yong and Bai Feng. He wondered if the senior sister that he had yet to meet was similar to his martial uncle in character.

Neither style was better than the other, but after thinking about it, Su Yu concluded that it was more accurate to say that his martial uncle was someone who was both gentle and tough at the same time. He still remembered how his martial uncle had threatened Manager Zhou before.

Bai Feng did not waste more time and said, "Senior Brother, I'm leaving. Wait until I'm done with my research. I will take my revenge on every single one of them."

Chen Yong did not say anything and only waved his hand. He knew how his junior brother was as a person. For now, his junior brother was still fully focused on research. And when he was finally done with his research and had some free time in his hands, he would probably create quite a lot of trouble in the academy.

Chen Yong could only hope that his teacher would already be back by then. Otherwise, he wasn't sure if he could really withstand all the pressure that would come from that.

## Chapter 207: Prison Zone (1)

Wentan Research Center.

After a few days away, Su Yu found himself missing the research center. Naturally, he wasn't missing the dirty living area. Rather, he was missing the precious second floor.

When Bai Feng looked at the living area that had turned into a pigsty again in Su Yu's absence, he coughed awkwardly and said, "I'll take you to the prison zone on the second underground floor. Be careful. Don't let the beasts scare you too much."

Su Yu merely smiled. Was there a need for the warning? Did he look like a coward?

"There are currently six living creatures in there. Some are either dead or pretending to be dead. You can ignore them."

"Pretending to be dead?" Su Yu asked curiously, "What do you mean?"

Bai Feng smiled, "Some of the creatures have been reduced to a pile of bones. But these bones can transform back into a living being with flesh and blood. Some races have special abilities that can allow them to resurrect from a pile of bones. Your grandteacher normally ignores these creatures. Since these creatures enjoy pretending to be dead, they can keep doing so. After long enough time, they will be dead for real."

Su Yu nodded. That was enlightening. Some creatures could even resurrect from a pile of bones. That was incredible.

To speak the truth, he was quite curious about the prison zone as well. He had heard some noise from the prison zone, but he hadn't heard anything since then. He had thought that those creatures were all dead because they had all been so silent.

"Teacher, what do we feed them?"

"Meat and source qi liquid. We can't feed them too much. Just feed enough to make sure they don't starve to death. I'll tell you more about it. You can't feed enough for them to gather strength. They would be very troublesome to handle after recovering enough strength."

"Source qi liquid..."

Su Yu was somewhat speechless to hear that. Their faction was already very poor. Why was Bai Feng feeding those creatures source qi liquid?

"Don't look at me like that. We can only get something in return if we're willing to invest. If we feed them source qi liquid and keep them alive, we can harvest their blood every now and then. And we can then extract some blood essence from the gathered blood. Do you understand now?"

That was so ruthless.

However, Su Yu did not feel too much sympathy toward the creatures.

While talking, they arrived at the first underground floor. Su Yu had only been there once during his first day in the research center when he was checking out the storage. Bai Feng ignored the storeroom and opened a door at the corner of the first underground floor. The door opening process seemed rather complicated.

Su Yu could see the flickering dots of light on the door. Bai Feng had taken his Dragon Slaying Sword out. Like what Chen Yong did previously, the sword transformed into a key. After the key was inserted into the door, it swung open.

"You still can't materialize your Divine Characters so I can't leave any willpower imprints on your Divine Characters. You won't be able to open this door the normal way."

Bai Feng then took out a jade pendant and tossed it to Su Yu. "Remember to keep this well. You can use it to open this door. Since you still can't materialize your willpower, you can't take this jade pendant into your sea of willpower. If you lost it and someone else found it, they would be able to open this door."

Su Yu immediately grew anxious, "Teacher, why don't...you keep this with you. It would be too troublesome if I lost it. And you have basically planted the flag of me losing it in the future. I will definitely lose it after you say that I won't."

Bai Feng was speechless. What was the meaning of that?

"Cut the crap. It won't matter that much even if you do lose it. This research center looks shabby, but the tunnel right in front of the main entrance can seriously injure even Mountainsea cultivators. And someone strong enough to get this far without authorization probably won't even need the jade pendant to get through this door."

Su Yu heaved a breath of relief. Bai Feng should have told him that earlier. He had been so worried that he would lose the jade pendant and get in great trouble. When the door swung open, a set of stairs was revealed. After going down the stairs, they arrived at a large room.

"The prison zone is separated from the other floors. There is only a single door leading into it."

Su Yu was focusing on the explanation when he took a turn out of the winding stairs and was faced with a sight that captured all his attention.

The room was filled with metallic cages. At a glance, there were no less than 20 metallic cages. At the back of the room was a dark corridor, seemingly leading to more rooms that were being used as independent prison cells.

Some of these cages weren't empty.

The first thing Su Yu noticed was a massive lion.

It was a golden lion. However, there was no luster to the golden mane of the lion. It was sprawled on the ground. Its eyes were filled with ruthlessness and killing intent when it looked at Su Yu.

When Bai Feng noticed Su Yu looking at the lion, he calmly explained, "This is one of the six surviving creatures here. Just call him #3. He is a suanni, a top 100 race.

"He's at the ninth-stage Skysoar Realm. Your grandteacher captured him at the Allheaven Battlefield 15 years ago. At the time, this fellow was slaughtering a military camp. Only a few of the army of 1,000 survived. Do not hold any pity for these fellows. None of the creatures here are kind beings. They are all murderers who have taken countless lives. The truly innocent ones would all remain in their realms instead of roaming around the Allheaven Battlefield. Every single person is ready for everything upon stepping onto the Allheaven Battlefield."

Immediately after, the golden lion stood up and roared. He started speaking the common language.

"Bai Feng, you can kill me. But why are you imprisoning me to extract my blood and harvest my flesh? Is this how you treat experts?"

Bai Feng indifferently said, "#3, you're not an expert. You don't deserve respect. Shut your mouth. If you had challenged a human of the same cultivation level to a fight and killed that human, I would have respected you more. But instead, you were caught slaughtering Great Strength and Infinite Strength soldiers. How can you be considered an expert?"

"They were merely a bunch of weaklings." The golden lion did not think that he was wrong. "I was passing by and they dared to attack me. As mere weaklings, they dared to offend a superior person. Thus, they deserved death."

"I'm not going to waste my time arguing with you."

Bai Feng looked at Su Yu and said, "Ignore that fellow. Just feed him a drop of source qi liquid every three days."

He pointed at the cages and said, "Your grandteacher personally made these cages. He even got the head of the Talisman Faculty to create a layer of lightning talisman on top of each cage. Those below the Mountainsea Realm won't be able to damage these cages. The talismans would activate the moment they touch the cages. The talismans have the attack power of the Cloudbreach Realm and they can be controlled manually as well. I'll teach you how to control them. If these fellows are feeling rebellious, just strike them with lightning."

Bai Feng pointed at the lion, "Each time I extract his blood, I would strike him with lightning until he can't move before the extraction. That way, he won't be able to create trouble."

The golden lion roared furiously.

Bai Feng ignored the lion and said, "He's all bark. Just ignore him."

He then pointed at a different cage. The cage was empty. To be precise, there was a clump of darkness in the cage.

"This is #2, a fellow from the shadow race." Bai Feng's face turned solemn as he said, "You can see the shadow now, but when this fellow was first caught, nothing could be seen. It was as though this fellow was completely transparent. He can also attach himself to your shadow. Be careful and don't approach the cage. Also, don't allow your shadow to enter the cage or he would take the chance to attach himself to your shadow and escape."

Su Yu was alarmed.

Bai Feng smiled and said, "Don't worry. There is a layer of light talisman outside his cage. Your shadow won't be able to get into the cage anyway. This fellow used to be at the third-stage Cloudbreach Realm. But after having so much of his blood extracted, he has grown weaker. But he's still stronger than you. You only need to feed him a drop of source qi liquid every five days."

Su Yu was very shocked. He had read about the shadow race before. This was a top 100 race. Both the shadow and suanni were top 100 races. As the one who had captured all these creatures, his grandteacher must be quite a ferocious individual.

Bai Feng continued his introduction, "There are four other creatures. Look..."

Bai Feng pointed at a cage at the corner. Inside the cage was a...bull?

Su Yu assumed that he was looking at a bull with only one horn.

"This is a mountaindrill bull, the distant relative of the mountainbreak bulls..."

The moment Bai Feng said that, the bull in the cage said, "Bai Feng, I am from the mountaindrill bull race. I am unrelated to the mountainbreak bulls. I'm not their distant relative..."

Bai Feng smiled and said, "You can call him #4. The mountaindrill bull isn't a top 100 race. It is ranked 182nd among the myriad races. But this fellow isn't weak at all. He's at the ninth-stage Great Strength Realm. Like #3, just feed him a drop of source qi liquid every three days."

"That's #5..."

Su Yu followed Bai Feng's finger and looked at the cage beside the mountaindrill bull. There was a tiny white cat in that cage.

Su Yu swore that if it wasn't for the cage around the cat, he would have thought that this was someone's pet.

"#5, white civet. Don't look down on this fellow. She's at the eighth-stage Skysoar Realm. Her race is ranked 375th, a race good at sneak attacks and disguises. If the shadow race does not exist, the white civet race would be the kings of assassinations due to their incredible speed. And that's #6."

Su Yu looked at a different cage and saw a bird in the cage.

"A crow?" Su Yu stared at the bird for a bit before saying, "Teaching, is this a fire crow?"

"Yes." Bai Feng smiled, "This is a fire crow. A seventh-stage Skysoar cultivator with a weak physical body. However, he is capable of flight and throwing flames. Their racial ability is similar to the fire hog race, but the fire crows can burn even your sea of willpower. They are ranked 418th among the myriad races."

Su Yu had encountered five different races here. But he was curious about something. Where was #1?

#2 was a shadow, #3 was a suanni, #4 was a mountandrill bull, #5 was a white civet, and #6 was a fire crow.

Su Yu looked around and only saw a few piles of bones. Was #1 one of them?

"#1, stop pretending to be dead."

Bai Feng guessed Su Yu's thought and raised his hand. His willpower pulsed and next, rumbling sounds rang out within one of the cages.

## Chapter 208: Prison Zone (2)

Beads of water started appearing in the empty cage. Slowly, the water took a humanoid form. A humanoid outline made of water appeared. Next, the face of the creature became clear as well.

A weak voice said, "Bai Feng, give me some source qi liquid. I'm going to die soon..."

Bai Feng ignored the creature and said, "That's #1, a fellow from the water race. Of the myriad races, there are five unique races representing the five elements of metal, wood, water, fire, and earth. These

fellows were born from nature itself. There aren't a lot of them, and we generally classify them as a single race instead of five different races. They are colloquially known as the five elemental race.

"You didn't notice him earlier because he had transformed into a puddle of water. He's actually very strong. He's at the seventh-stage Cloudbreach Realm. It took a lot of effort from your grandteacher to catch this fellow.

"Don't look down on this fellow. Previously in the Allheaven Battlefield, he pretended to be a lake and swallowed an entire army of 10,000 soldiers in one go. It's the army of a minor race, but even the Cloudbreach Realm commander of the army was swallowed up just like that.

"You don't need to feed him that much. A drop of source qi liquid per month will do. He'll be very troublesome if he manages to recover his strength."

"I understand."

Su Yu nodded. He was very shocked to learn that there was even a seventh-stage Cloudbreach among the prisoners. Of the six living creatures, even the weakest was at the seventh-stage Skysoar Realm. This prison zone was truly quite scary.

Su Yu then looked at the dark corridor at the end of the room before looking at Bai Feng curiously.

Bai Feng also looked at the dark corridor before saying, "Ignore that place. Not even I will go approach that place. There are three rooms there, keeping three experts imprisoned. I don't know if they are still alive or not. Only your grandteacher knows.

"They are probably Mountainsea experts. I don't know too much about them. Your grandteacher is an eighth-stage Mountainsea cultivator so it's possible for him to capture a few early Mountainsea cultivators back. But I'm too weak so I won't go there and throw my lives away. Mountainsea experts are too strong. You never know what tricks they have left under their sleeves."

Su Yu looked at Bai Feng with shock.

Mountainsea Realm? There were even Mountainsea experts locked here? His grandteacher suddenly felt a lot more ferocious than before.

When Bai Feng saw Su Yu's shocked expression, he smiled smugly and said, "Your grandteacher is an eighth-stage Mountainsea. It might seem like there are a lot of Mountainsea experts in the academy with so many elders around, but in truth, those elders have been produced over several hundred years. The Great Xia Cultural Research Academy is one of the strongest academies among the entire human race. And the human race is one of the top 10 races. As one of the strongest races among the top 10 races, our academy is in truth comparable in strength with some of the medium-sized races. An eighth-stage Mountainsea is strong enough to become the sole ruler of some of the weaker races.

"Therefore, don't think that your grandteacher is weak just because he's only at the eighth-stage Mountainsea Realm. Someone like him is strong enough to dominate a region even in the Allheaven Battlefield. And since he's from the multiple character faction, he is definitely stronger than the ordinary ninth-stage Mountainsea experts."

Su Yu hurriedly nodded. He hadn't said anything about his grandteacher at all. His teacher had been the one to say all that.

"Teacher, how do I feed them?"

"Just throw the food inside." Bai Feng explained, "You can just throw the source qi liquid inside. I'll teach you how to control the talismans outside these cages. Remember what I teach you. Never ever deactivate the talismans. The cages might be firm, but you still need to be very careful when dealing with these fellows."

Su Yu was quite worried. These were all experts yet his teacher wanted him to be the one feeding them. Would he end up as their food one day?

Bai Feng did not care about Su Yu's worries. He continued, "I will give you the source qi liquid later. Don't get greedy and take the liquid for yourself. If you really end up starving these fellows to death, you'll be in trouble."

Su Yu hurriedly nodded. Was he that kind of person? How would he do something like that? The thought never even crossed his mind. Then again, if he took a little out of these fellow's food, they wouldn't really starve to death, right?

But he quickly erased that thought before it had the chance to blossom. He kept telling himself that he was not that kind of person. The filter room on the second floor was just as good as source qi liquid.

But source qi liquid could be brought everywhere while the filter room couldn't! And he only had three drops of source qi liquid left. Previously, he had used one drop on Chen Qi and another drop on himself.

That reminded him of something as he asked, "Teacher, what about my merit points?"

He had nearly forgotten about that! Damn it! Where were his 1,300 merit points?

When Bai Feng saw the anxious expression on Su Yu's face, he had the urge to roll his eyes. He said, "What is that reaction? Are you worried that your teacher would steal your merit points? Am I that kind of person? Why would I care about such a small number of merit points?"

"They already sent the merit points over. I paid the academy 200 merit points as the fee to register your Skybreak Technique. As for the remaining 1,100 merit points, I wrote-cough, I mean I bought a Great Strength War God Art willpower text for you. It's worth 300 merit points. I'll transfer you the remaining 800 merit points later."

"..."

.

Su Yu looked at his teacher in shock.

His teacher had deducted 300 of his merit points to buy, no, to write him a Great Strength War God Art?

Yes, that willpower text was worth 300 merit points if purchased from the academy. But he had not intended to buy it! More importantly, that copy had been written by Bai Feng himself!

Meanwhile, Bai Feng was acting indifferent, as though he hadn't noticed Su Yu's reaction. He had used some blood essence to write that willpower text, so he needed to recoup his expenses. Sure, he had merely used some discarded blood essence that was going to be thrown away otherwise, but blood essence was still blood essence, right?

"Teacher..."

Su Yu's expression turned gloomy. Was his teacher really that broke? To the extent he was trying to skim off his own student?

The longer Su Yu looked at Bai Feng, the more awkward Bai Feng felt. He cleared his throat and said, "Don't worry. After your teacher completes his research, you will be the first to benefit from the result. I'll have you know that my research is incredible. I am going to create a super Divine Character that is super strong. With it, you can defeat a Skysoar in one move as a Great Strength."

"..."

Sure. Keep bluffing.

Su Yu was really speechless. He decided to pretend like he had really bought the willpower text from the academy. Although there was the option of joining a public class for five to ten merit points per class, that was something he had to do with a bunch of other people. It would be troublesome and he might even be stuck at the back of the crowd, making it harder for him to focus.

This willpower text would probably come in handy. After reaching the third-stage Great Strength Realm, he could feel his acupoint opening speed slowing down. But he was really unhappy with the price of 300 merit points. He felt really helpless.

Bai Feng coughed again and said, "Don't look at your teacher like this. Others might hold back when writing willpower texts. But as your teacher, will I hold back?"

"Teacher, I didn't say that the willpower text was written by you..."

Su Yu rolled his eyes. His teacher had exposed himself.

Bai Feng glared at his student awkwardly. He feigned indifference and said, "How about this? When you reach the Infinite Strength Realm, I'll write one to you for free."

That was a tempting offer to Su Yu. When Bai Feng saw that, he was relieved. It would be quite a while before Su Yu could reach the Infinite Strength Realm. Su Yu was still at the third-stage now. He would probably need a year to reach the Infinite Strength Realm, right? Or at least half a year?

Bai Feng was confident he could complete his research in half a year. At that time, money would no longer be an issue. At that time, they would be able to get all the resources they want.

Yes, no matter how fast Su Yu could grow, he would take at least half a year. Bai Feng peeked at Su Yu to observe his student's expression and rejoiced inwardly that his student was still quite easy to please.

Meanwhile, Su Yu was making his own plans. Over the past three days, he had not been cultivating much as he had been focused on reading. Thus, he had only opened one new acupoint. He still needed 71 new acupoints before he could reach the Infinite Strength Realm.

"With enough blood essence, I might be able to open an acupoint every two days. In that case, I would need five months. But if I can enter the grotto a few times, things can be very different."

Bai Feng had promised him a willpower text when he reached the Infinite Strength Realm. Since a Great Strength willpower text was worth 300 merit points, an Infinite Strength willpower text would probably be worth 400 or 500 merit points. Thus, he could consider this a high interest loan to his teacher.

In fact, not even high interest loans would be this profitable. And there was no denying that he would be getting a Great Strength War God Art willpower text for free as well.

"A normal copy of Great Strength War God Art is worth 100 merit points while the willpower text is worth 300 merit points. The regular Skybreak Technique is worth 200 merit points so its willpower text is probably worth 400 or 500 merit points..."

Su Yu discovered that it was really expensive for geniuses to cultivate. Just these cultivation methods, martial techniques, and willpower texts at the Great Strength Realm would cost him over 1,000 merit points. Then again, that was a path all geniuses would voluntarily walk.

After all, a regular version of the War God Art is free. Instead of buying the willpower text, one could instead choose to buy some suitable martial techniques to be cultivated alongside the cultivation method. By doing so, one wouldn't need to spend too much money during the Great Strength Realm.

It was only a matter of choice.

...

Bai Feng did not spend too much time with Su Yu. After teaching Su Yu the controls of the talismans, he escaped like his life depended on it.

Only Su Yu and the imprisoned creatures were left in the room.

The suanni had stopped roaring and was looking at Su Yu with his large eyes.

Su Yu had no idea what the fellows from the shadow and water races were doing. As for the single-horned bull, it seemed to be sleeping. The white raccoon was also ignoring him while the fire crow was acting like it was dead.

Silence descended.

Chapter 209: Prison Zone (3)

After a while, the golden lion suddenly asked, "Little fellow, what's your name?"

"Su Yu." Su Yu assumed an honest and simple-minded expression and said, "#3, don't even think of deceiving me. My teacher said that I can't talk too much with you guys. But since this is our first meeting and I'm going to be your beastkeeper from now on, I don't mind saying more to you today."

Beastkeeper...When the suanni heard that term, his eyes flashed murderously. These bastards were treating them like domestic animals.

However, the suanni did not reveal his killing intent. He said, "I don't see you releasing us. You're not capable of that anyway. But can I at least get some normal food? It has been a long time since I last ate a normal meal. Some source qi liquid is not enough to satiate me..."

Su Yu shook his head, "No way. My teacher said that I can only feed you source qi liquid. Even if we feed you meat, my teacher is going to be the one to do it, not me."

The suanni sank into a short silence before saying, "It has been really long since I last ate any meat. Can you get us some random meat? I promise you'll be satisfied with what I can give you in return. If you can get me some proper food, I can provide you with a few drops of my blood. As for my blood essence, you won't be able to make use of Skysoar blood essence. Even my regular blood is filled with source qi. It will be much more helpful to you than regular source qi liquid.

"You're at the Great Strength Realm, right? In this realm, you need powerful blood essence to forge your body. I can't give you my blood essence, but my regular blood is enough to help you forge your body. In fact, my regular blood is even better than some of the more common blood essence."

Su Yu shook his head, "No way. If my teacher found out about it, he would kick me out."

"It would be fine. It's just some regular food. Back when Bai Feng was in charge of feeding us, he made some deals with us as well. As long as you don't release us, everything will be fine. Your faction is pretty poor nowadays. Just look at how desperate Bai Feng is. He's even taking from his own student. Can a teacher like this continue supporting you in your path of cultivation?"

"Do you know that a Great Strength cultivator isn't even qualified to become cannon fodder on the battlefield? To grow strong, opportunities are important. And your presence here is one such opportunity."

The bull that had been pretending to be asleep suddenly said, "Get me some food as well. I can teach you a cultivation method. It is a simple method that requires very few acupoints. Despite that, it is very useful for strengthening your body. Us mountandrill bulls have powerful bodies. We are comparable with the mountainbreak bulls...Even a regular cultivation method from us is good enough to give you a body that is stronger than a regular human cultivator."

"Come on. Get me some food. I'm going to starve to death soon. Kid, the opportunity is right in front of you. You need to grab it if you really want to grow."

However, Su Yu still stubbornly shook his head. He started running away while saying, "I can't trust any of your words. My teacher said that I shouldn't allow myself to be fooled by you guys. I'm not stupid. Who knows if you're trying to fool me into doing something stupid?"

Su Yu ran out of the room.

After the door of the room was shut, the suanni snorted and said, "Damn it, you dumb bull. You were too impatient. I was on the verge of success. Why did you mess it up?"

The mountandrill bull ignored the suanni and returned to sleep.

Suanni did not mind. He asked, "What do you guys think of this new guy?"

The fire crow spoke with his shrill voice, "Keep observing him for now. Do not act rashly. Suanni, it's not a good idea to instigate him during the very first meeting. That will only cause him to be more on guard against us. You should keep waiting until you find a good chance to instigate him."

The white civet opened her eyes and spoke with a coquettish voice, "Suanni, you were too impatient. This new guy is still weak. We can take it slow. It's only a matter of time before he's tempted by our offers."

"How long will that take?" The suanni gloomily said, "Just how much longer can we keep living?"

The shadow said, "Unless we can give a truly attractive offer, it won't be easy to tempt him. It has been so many years. We basically have nothing left. Do you really think that you can tempt him with just a few drops of ordinary blood? Since he can join the multiple character faction, he is definitely a genius. Would a genius care about some regular blood?"

Hearing those words, the other creatures sank into silence.

"Shadow, what do you think we should do?"

The shadow replied, "Wait. We might have to rely on white civet. White civet, you're a cultural researcher. He's a cultural researcher as well. I can see that Bai Feng is too busy to teach him too much. You can serve as a caring white civet in charge of teaching him more stuff. There is no rush. Let him develop some sympathy and relax his vigilance toward us first. White civet looks the most harmless among us. If he starts trusting white civet, our chance will come."

The white civet replied coquettishly, "Shadow, I have always been harmless. So I don't only look harmless. I'm truly harmless."

"Hehe..."

The other creatures merely sneered. Harmless? The white civet race was good at disguise. And what form of disguise was their favorite? Harmlessness. Everyone here knew each other well.

Why would the white civet be here with them? Because she was too unlucky. She tried assassinating Hong Tan while he was careless. But she ended up defeated. She should count herself lucky for staying alive until now after picking a wrong assassination target.

The white civet smiled, "I am truly innocent. I have never harmed anyone before. If you refuse to believe me, so be it. As for that child...fine. I'll have a chat with him the next time he visits. Even if I can't leave the Human Realm, my life would still be a lot better if I can convince him to send me to the Beast Taming Faculty to be trained as a mount, right? That's better than being locked here."

Her tone turned bitter as she said, "If I have my peak strength, I can probably assume a humanoid form. I wonder if that boy has a unique preference..."

Meanwhile, Su Yu was muttering to himself after leaving the prison zone. "Six powerful creatures. I won't be able to forgive myself if I don't scam some blood essence from them. I'll act like a fool that is slightly smart at times. Hopefully they will bite the bait. Teacher and the others are reaping great harvest from these creatures. I don't need much, but I need to get at least something out of them!"

Su Yu giggled to himself.

They wanted to instigate him? Great! He wanted to instigate them as well! They were willing to offer him blood just for some meat. If he could improve his relationship with them, he might be able to get even more from them.

"But I really don't care about regular blood..."

Su Yu rubbed his chin as he sank into thought. Were there cultural researchers among them? He had forgotten to ask them earlier. If he could make them materialize their Divine Characters before crushing the characters, would he be able to strengthen his Divine Characters?

While thinking, Su Yu rubbed his face and flashed a harmless smile. He told himself that he was an honest man who had never lied in his life. He was also broke and greatly lacked money. He needed someone to offer him some money.

Additionally, he was also a weakling. He was a perfect target to be roped in because he needed strength. Yes, they had to try roping him in for him to start profiting off them.

"Hehehe...cough." Su Yu hurriedly interrupted his laugh with a cough. That laugh was too villainous.

"Haha!"

He corrected himself with an honest laugh. He was very happy. He had discovered a treasure trove. There were six experts at the seventh-stage Skysoar Realm and above in that treasure trove. He should be able to get some good stuff from them, right?

Su Yu was pretty happy with his new job as a beastkeeper.

As for the dangers associated with the job, all those creatures were caged. He wasn't that worried. It had been so many years. If they could escape, they would have escaped long ago.

Of course, Su Yu still didn't dare to do anything rash as he was afraid that something unexpected might happen.

That night, he returned to his hellish training schedule.

...

5th of September. Su Yu started attending classes again.

Character Faculty.

Intermediate class.

Su Yu was handing over his tasks to the new class monitor. In truth, there really wasn't much to hand over. He only needed to give the new class monitor the class schedules.

The new class monitor was Wang Yun, the student who had taken second place in the monthly examination.

Su Yu had arrived to perform the handover before the start of the first class. A lot of the intermediate class students were reluctant to part with him. Although they knew that he was going to enter the senior class sooner or later, when it was really happening, they couldn't stop feeling sad about it.

When Su Yu saw that everyone was unwilling to part with him, he smiled and said, "It's fine. The senior class should be the target of all of us. I doubt anyone wants to stay in the intermediate class for life, right? I'll be waiting for you guys in the senior class. I hope I can see you guys again starting next month."

Su Yu looked at everyone and exhaled deeply. "This is a very happy month for me. Thank you everyone for all the help and support. You are all here to cultivate and grow stronger. I love the intermediate class. The environment here is good. But I still hope that all of you can feel more stressed."

Su Yu earnestly said, "The environment of the intermediate class is definitely not as stressful as the senior class. But I hope all of you can face the intermediate class like it is the senior class. I hope that before long, we can become classmates again in the senior class."

"Class Monitor, why don't you stay here. We'll miss you..." said a schoolgirl.

Su Yu flashed an honest smile and said, "I'll miss everyone too. But we're still in the same academy. We can still see each other."

But inwardly, he was muttering that all women were indeed obstacles in the path of cultivation. That young lady was actually trying to stop him from joining the senior class!

After a short chat with the students, Su Yu picked up his stuff and walked toward the senior class. Both classes were located in the same building. However, the two classes did not have much interaction with each other. The two classes were situated on different floors and the senior class students did not visit the intermediate class area often.

"A new beginning..."

Su Yu muttered to himself. He was feeling somewhat expectant. Senior class. This was where he belonged. There were more geniuses, more freaks, and more pressure here. This was a place that was truly suitable for him.

Jia Mingzhen, Xia Chan, Wan Mingze, Hu Qiusheng...

Just from his batch alone, there were plenty of students for him to pursue. Furthermore, it was also said that the senior class would attend the same classes as the geniuses and freaks of the previous batches at times.

Su Yu was looking forward to all that. There was really no pressure in the intermediate class. There wasn't even a single Mental Tempering Stage or Great Strength student in that class.

It was fine to stay there for a short while, but if he had to stay there for long, he was worried that his fighting spirit would be erased. He still wanted to be an expert. Since his first day in the academy, he had set his eyes on the Top 100 Ranking.

## Chapter 210: Encounters In The Senior Class (1)

Senior class.

The Character Faculty's batch of year 350 had a decent number of students at about 100 people.

Almost all of them were high-tier students.

This year, a total of eight students had joined the academy as freaks. Six of them had joined the Character Faculty, one had joined the Willpower Faculty, and one had joined the Talisman Faculty.

Hu Qiusheng, Xia Chan, Zheng Yunhui, Wan Mingze, Zhao Shiji, and Zheng Hong. All six of them were evaluated as freaks. It wasn't an understatement when people said that 75 percent of the academy's geniuses came from the Character Faculty.

Not all the students of the senior class would be present for the regular classes. But today, the classroom was filled with people. However, the atmosphere was cold and cheerless.

A bunch of prideful youths had been gathered in one room. None bothered to take the initiative to greet anyone. The mood was repressive.

Jia Mingzhen and company were present as well. At the moment, Jia Mingzhen was feeling regretful as he transmitted his voice, "Release that little fatty from the Xia Family. With him around, there would at least be some life here. It's too boring without him."

"Release him?"

"What are we going to do with him otherwise?"

They started complaining that it was not lively enough without that little fatty around. It was pointless to keep Xia Huyou locked up anyway. Marquis Xia would not pay anything for him. They could stop dreaming about getting some money from the marquis.

In the midst of his boredom, Jia Mingzhen saw someone. His eyes lit up as he said, "Lin Yao, you're here as well? Are you here to welcome Su Yu because you know he's coming today?"

Lin Yao sat down alone at an empty corner. When he heard Jia Mingzhen's voice, he looked over. There was fear in his eyes when he was looking at Jia Mingzhen, but his expression quickly returned to normal as he replied, "Yes. I'm here to wait for Su Yu."

Jia Mingzhen's words were caught in his throat.

Lin Yao's eyes were bright as he said, "I lost. Even without fighting him, there is no denying that I lost. But so what? Even Invincible experts had tasted defeat in their young age. A single victory does not mean that one would be victorious for life. Today, Su Yu is stronger than me. In the future...who knows?"

Lin Yao's tone turned excited as he said, "This is an era where everything is possible. Today, I'm not here to submit to Su Yu. Today, I am here to tell myself that there is someone above me, someone I need to surpass!"

"..."

Jia Mingzhen looked at Lin Yao speechlessly before looking at the other students. Finally, he looked at his old friends and transmitted his voice, "Did this kid hit his head somewhere this morning?"

One of them said, "Why are you so surprised? Have you forgotten about Liu Hong? That kid is good enough with his words that he can even convince you that pigs can fly. Lin Yao has probably been brainwashed by his teacher. Don't get too surprised."

Jia Mingzhen had nothing to say.

When he looked at Lin Yao once again, he didn't know if he should laugh or cry. Fine, this was probably good as well. This fellow was on the verge of collapse before. But now, he was filled with spirit and motivation. Jia Mingzhen couldn't help but wonder if this brat would grow stronger or weaker after this.

Jia Mingzhen did not let his thoughts show on his face. He smiled and said, "You're right. But it seems like there are quite a lot of individuals above you. Including Su Yu, there are 98 students in this class. Excluding you, there are 97. And there are probably around 20 or 30 above you. But it doesn't matter! Keep working hard!"

"..."

Lin Yao's face stiffened. He was slightly upset. He had been filled with fighting spirit just a moment ago. Why was this fellow showing him the cruel reality?

What a bastard.

If he wasn't fearful of Jia Mingzhen's strength, he would have challenged Jia Mingzhen then and there.

Done with making fun of Lin Yao, Jia Mingzhen looked at Wu Lan and grinned, "Wu Lan, your old rival Su Yu is coming. You're not doing very well, are you? He's not even viewing you as a rival anymore."

Wu Lan turned her head and looked at Jia Mingzhen. She thought for a bit before saying, "I read your profile before. You're 20 this year. That's 2 years older than me yet you only have this much strength! Garbage! Two years later, I will definitely be stronger than you! You are not qualified to even talk to me!"

"..."

Jia Mingzhen's face stiffened. Back when they had created their fake profiles, they had increased their ages to make their strength more believable. It would be too suspicious for all of them to be 18. But because of that, he had been looked down on? This little girl was calling him garbage?

Sounds of muffled laughter rang out in the classroom.

Even the other elders were laughing. Jia Mingzhen deserved that. Why did he insist on provoking that girl? Didn't he know how arrogant she was? He had the identity of a 20 years old genius. An old genius like that was nothing in Wu Lan's eyes.

How did that feel?

Wu Lan ignored the reactions of the others. She seriously said, "Two years later, I will definitely be far stronger than you. Jia Mingzhen, you might be strong now, but you are not qualified to look down at me."

Jia Mingzhen was infuriated. With an unsightly expression, he decided to ignore that girl. Damn that stinky girl! If it wasn't for her grandaunt, he would have sent her flying with one slap.

While the students were roaring with laughter, Su Yu arrived.

With a bag in hand, he knocked on the door. With a gentle smile, he said, "This is my first day here. I hope I'm not interrupting anything."

There were a lot of familiar faces in this class. There was no need to mention Wu Lan and the few students who had arrived at the capital with him like Hu Zongji.

There was also Jia Mingzhen, the student who had walked the furthest during the monthly examination. His teacher had reminded him to watch out for these people as they were too abnormal.

Wan Mingze stood up with a friendly smile and said, "Come on in, Su Yu. The instructor is not here yet. Just pick a random seat."

"Thank you, Student Wan."

Su Yu flashed a smile that looked even brighter than Wan Mingze's smile and stepped into the classroom.

When he looked around, he noticed something weird. In the class, two individuals in particular had a lot of empty seats around them. One was Lin Yao and the other was Wu Lan.

After giving it some thought, Su Yu decided to not sit near Lin Yao. He was too embarrassed as he had just won 300 merit points from that fellow. As he walked toward Wu Lan, he wondered if this woman was really that bad at making friends. There were nearly 100 students in the class yet not a single student was sitting around her. They would rather squeeze together than to sit near her.

A lot of the students had a toying look on their faces when they saw Su Yu walking toward Wu Lan. Wu Lan was a genius of the Wu Family. She possessed both background and talent. She was also good looking. Thus, many people would still be willing to befriend her if not for her unbridled arrogance.

It had already been a month since they entered the academy. Everyone knew about the temper of that young lady.

Xia Chan was merely lofty and disdained talking to others. Wu Lan, on the other hand, had quite a sharp tongue that could stab straight at the most tender part of one's heart. It was fine if she arrogantly ignored them. But she just had to keep using words like garbage, mediocre, and qualified when talking to others. And when she spoke, she was extremely serious, making it clear that she was not kidding. Who could stand her?

At times, when a random student tried sitting near her, she would say, "Sit further away. A mediocre person is not qualified to sit near me."

The only reason she hadn't been beaten up yet was because of her formidable family. Someone would have thrown a sack over her and beat her up long ago otherwise. Thus, when the students saw Su Yu walking toward Wu Lan, they were ready to see yet another student making a fool of himself.

However, Wu Lan did not say a single word even after Su Yu sat down near her. Envy brimmed in the hearts of many students.

Damn it!

Sure enough, she was only looking down on the others who had tried sitting near her. She was completely fine with a high-high student sitting near her. Then again, not all high-high students would be accepted by her. For example, Lin Yao. He had received a lot of insults from Wu Lan in the past when he tried approaching her.

Su Yu was unaware of all that. He was stealthily studying the students of the class. He noticed a lot of people looking at him. He did not say anything. He was still new here so he decided to keep a low profile. He was quite curious since Xia Huyou was nowhere to be found. Where was that little fatty?

Su Yu was somewhat regretful that Xia Huyou wasn't around. If that little fatty was around, there would at least be a person he could talk to. He knew too little about the senior class and there wasn't a single person here he could ask more about the class.

Thus, he softly asked, "Student Wu Lan, where is Xia Huyou? Why is he absent from the class?"

"That person?" Wu Lan frowned before saying with disdain, "He was caught for illegal gambling. He has been locked up for a few days."

"..."

Su Yu was dumbfounded. He was caught? Why was that fatty so unlucky? Didn't that fatty say that he was very well connected in the academy and everything would be fine? But he ended up caught?

Su Yu could only show some sympathy toward the little fatty mentally. He wasn't too worried about Xia Huyou. That fellow would be fine. At worst, he would only receive a fine.

Wu Lan had not intended to say anything to Su Yu, but now that Su Yu had started a conversation, she decided that it was fine for her to talk to him now. She said, "Since you asked me a question, it's my turn to ask you a question. Why are you at the third-stage Great Strength Realm already?"

That question caught the attention of many students. They did not look over, but many were paying attention to the conversation.

Su Yu had been growing too quickly.

Everyone knew that he was still at the Source Opening Realm when he first joined the academy. Only a month had passed yet he was already at the third-stage Great Strength Realm. That was a terrifying speed.

Su Yu was somewhat speechless. Was she not aware that she was asking a rather private question?

But he was a good and honest man, so he flashed an honest smile and answered, "All high-high students are given a free chance to enter the grotto, right? I went once and reached the third-stage Great Strength Realm there."

"I see."

Understanding dawned on Wu Lan. She was only at the ninth-stage Source Opening Realm and her breakthrough into the Great Strength Realm was still quite far away. Thus, she had yet to visit the grotto.

She didn't think too much about Su Yu's reply. She decided to perform her breakthrough in the grotto as well. She could probably reach the third-stage Great Strength Realm too.

But some of the other students were shocked by Su Yu's words.

Everyone had been making guesses about his breakthrough previously. One of them asked, "Su Yu, you reached the third-stage directly in the grotto?"

Su Yu smiled, "Yeah. I used the mountainbreak bull blood essence for my breakthrough. It worked splendidly, allowing me to open 36 acupoints that day."

When Lin Yao heard that, he felt like someone was stabbing his heart with a needle.

Mountainbreak bull blood essence!

He had nearly gotten the blood essence for himself.

Xia Chan and the other freaks raised their brow. Su Yu wasn't the only one who had broken through with the mountainbreak bull blood essence. They had used the same blood essence as well. But none of them had reached the third-stage at one go.

Wan Mingze smiled and said, "Su Yu, I heard that you were still at the fourth-stage Source Opening Realm a few months ago. Do you have any secrets for your rapid progress?"

Su Yu thought about it and said, "I guess you can say so."

Everyone paid close attention to what he was going to say next.

Fourth-stage Source Opening Realm. Third-stage Great Strength Realm.

Even the freaks who were supplied with endless source qi liquid would need a lot of time to grow that much. In truth, excluding Su Yu, none of the students in this class lacked source qi liquid.

One wouldn't need too many resources to reach the Great Strength Realm. Even a single Skysoar in their family would be enough to supply them with all the cultivation resources they needed.

After all, Skysoar cultivators could start forming their own source qi liquid. Thus, the gap between the students in this class wasn't due to resources. Rather, it was truly due to their talent and effort.

Apart from the freaks, only the high-high students in the class had reached the Great Strength Realm so far. A majority of them were still stuck in the Source Opening Realm.

That included people like Wu Lan and Hu Zongji. Lin Yao had broken through, but his advancement had been rather difficult.