

Myriad 311

Chapter 311: Defeat (4)

There were rumors of Huang Qifeng's real strength before, but he had only been displaying the strength of a ninth-stage Great Strength cultivator all along. Thus, the crowd was still quite surprised to learn that he had really reached the second-stage Infinite Strength Realm.

The ones who had wagered on him winning acknowledged that he was shameless, but they were also feeling quite good. They were going to win some money today!

As for the senior sisters, they were simultaneously cheering for Su Yu while helplessly telling themselves that it didn't matter if Su Yu lost. After winning their bets, they could share some of their winnings with Su Yu. He would definitely feel better after that.

Their presence clashed against each other as their willpower met. The entire ring was flooded with soaring battle intent and raging murderous intent.

Zhao Ming also turned solemn as he reminded, "You can surrender if you're not a match. Don't get yourself killed. I'm warning you. You will only ruin your own future if you end up getting crippled from this match. As a referee, I won't get involved unless one of you is at the risk of dying." "Got it." Su Yu replied.

Huang Qifeng cracked his neck and smiled, "Don't worry. I'll only cripple him but I won't kill him."

"Same here."

Match start."

Immediately, all of Su Yu's acupoints erupted, turning him into a shining man. He leaped into the air and raised one of his legs before bringing it down like a whip. As a response, Huang Qifeng activated his fetter character to seal Su Yu's movement.

Su Yu did not even need to use his willpower. When his leg descended, it smashed through the willpower attack with a rumble. This was the kick with the power of over 150 acupoints.

Second-stage Infinite Strength Realm?

Su Yu swallowed a drop of blood essence he had hidden in his mouth and activated even more acupoints, reaching a total of 180 opened acupoints. The entire ring was filled with the afterimages of his legs.

Huang Qifeng had a sensation that he had been separated from the rest of the world, surrounded by nothing but afterimages. At the same time, his vision turned black. Next, illusions appeared in his mind.

In response, he summoned his cultural weapon. It was a sword. He started swinging it randomly while roaring.

At this moment, Su Yu moved at a speed so fast that very few people could see him and sent his leg sweeping toward Huang Qifeng. A powerful wave of source qi erupted, sending shockwaves all around him. Crushing Mountainsea!

Boom!

That kick struck Huang Qifeng who was completely helpless against it. Followed by the boom was a loud sound of something snapping. Huang Qifeng's left leg had been broken.

"Ahhh!"

He wailed in pain as his willpower erupted and shattered the illusions. Finally, he was able to see Su Yu again.

At that moment, Su Yu had a frosty look in his eyes. His usual smiling expression was nowhere to be seen. He decided to push his advantage. He summoned his cultural weapon, but instead of enlarging it, he kept it at the size of a needle and sent it forward. With a pop, the saber pierced through Huang Qifeng's chest.

Huang Qifeng coughed a mouthful of blood. While he was retreating, Su Yu's body flickered and reappeared behind him. Yet another kick swept forth.

Crack!

Huang Qifeng's right leg broke. And thus, both his legs had been broken. With a thud, he dropped on his knees. Claspng both his palms together, Su Yu slammed his fists down.

Crack!

Huang Qifeng's left arm broke.

Grabbing the back of Huang Qifeng's neck, he slammed Huang Qifeng onto the ground before stomping down. A wail and a crack came after. Huang Qifeng's right arm broke.

Su Yu recalled his cultural weapon and sent his Divine Characters into it. All five Divine Characters activated as he swung his saber down.

Bang!

Huang Qifeng's cultural weapon broke into pieces.

"Ahhh!"

His willpower was damaged while the Divine Characters he had sent into his cultural weapon broke apart. His sea of willpower destabilized and he started bleeding from his seven orifices. He wailed in pain.

Once again, Su Yu activated his Divine Character and madly absorbed the lingering willpower from the destroyed Divine Characters.

Then, he kicked. With a bang, Huang Qifeng was sent flying into the sky. Su Yu leaped into the air and swung his saber at Huang Qifeng's face.

"Stop!"

Only then did Zhao Ming recover from his shock. He turned pale with fright as he hurriedly dashed out and caught Su Yu's saber.

Shock was plastered all over his face.

Holy fuck!

Just what the hell was that?

Holy fuck!

30 seconds. No more than 30 seconds had passed. Huang Qifeng would have died if he hadn't done anything.

But even after surviving with his life, Huang Qifeng would still be in a miserable state. All four of his limbs had been broken. His Divine Characters had been destroyed. His sea of willpower had destabilized.

Su Yu...was incredibly ruthless!

What was that saying again? A dog that would bite wouldn't bark. That saying was proven right today.

Holy shit. What a ruthless person.

Su Yu had revealed none of his ruthlessness when fighting Yang Sha and Liu He. The entire crowd was completely stunned.

The weaker ones couldn't even see anything. They only heard Huang Qifeng wailing miserably and the next thing they knew, Su Yu was already on the verge of killing Huang Qifeng. If the referee hadn't moved in, Huang Qifeng would have been reduced to a corpse already.

Holy shit. Was this a dream?

Countless people were stunned, including Xia Huyou, whose mouth was agape.

Zheng Yunhui collapsed onto the ground as he stared ahead blankly. Was this a joke?

Was this a fucking joke?

Was he really so strong?

Wan Mingze swallowed. He even started rejoicing that the previous time he fought Su Yu, it was only a match of Divine Characters. Fortunately, he had not challenged that fellow. Otherwise, he would suffer a miserable fate if that fellow had given him such a beating for the sake of revenge.

How ruthless.

Wu Jia, who had just arrived, didn't even have the chance to call out to her junior brother for the third time before she witnessed that astonishing sight.

He won?

Not only had he won, he had delivered a crushing defeat to Huang Qifeng.

Even Chen Yong was stunned. What was happening? How many acupoints had Su Yu opened? Dang! The kid must have opened hundreds of acupoints to be so strong, right?

Was he still a Great Strength cultivator even?

Was he really?

And what martial technique was he using with all his kicks? That was too strong. Even Chen Yong was slightly confused by all the afterimages he was seeing earlier. Those were most certainly not illusions. Those were something else.

Even further away, Liu Hong had allowed his snack to drop on the ground in shock.

He muttered to himself, "This technique...is at least a middle-stage heaven-grade technique. Why isn't he my student?"

Why? Who in the world could successfully cultivate a middle-tier heaven-grade martial technique during the Great Strength Realm? How many acupoints did he need to open for this technique?

A freak like this might exist in those war academies, but someone like this had definitely not appeared in a cultural research academy before. Numerous opened acupoints and incomparably pure source qi. How was this still a cultural researcher? This was clearly one of those brutes from the war academy!

After all, this was how the war academy students would beat up their students during the student exchange each year. Today, the same scene repeated.

But not even the war academy students were as savage as Su Yu. Broken limbs, destroyed cultural weapon, destroyed Divine Characters, badly injured willpower... At the very least, the war academy students couldn't damage one's willpower.

In the ring.

Su Yu put his weapon away. On the ground, Huang Qifeng was bleeding all over his body. His aura was incomparably weak. He was on the verge of dying.

Su Yu ignored his opponent and looked at Wu Jia before smiling. His smile was gentle and warm.

"Senior Sister, I won."

Wu Jia didn't know what to say, but tears dripped down her cheeks. As of that moment, the only person in her eyes was this junior brother of hers.

At this moment, the surrounding girls had also completely forgotten about Huang Qifeng and the money they had lost. They were incredibly touched to witness this scene. And they were also incredibly envious. They also wanted a junior brother like that!

Su Yu turned to look at Zhao Ming and asked, "Teacher, is this my win?"

"..."

Zhao Ming was speechless. The kid had nearly killed his opponent. And now, he was asking if it was his win? What did the kid think?

In 30 seconds, he had beaten Huang Qifeng to the verge of death. This event would shake the entire Top 100 Ranking! No, this would affect more than the ranking.

Damn it! The last student of a Mountainsea cultivator from the single character faction had received such a beating from him. Things were going to get even more troublesome after this.

Right that moment, an incomparably powerful aura erupted somewhere far away. And the aura was approaching rapidly.

Chen Yong's face turned red as he looked at the incoming aura. Fury slowly seeped into his eyes. He then unleashed his aura as well, causing his surroundings to shake from the pressure.

"Zheng Yuming! You're courting death!" A giant appeared in the sky with a cauldron in hand. The cauldron was sent flying in the direction of the incoming aura.

Right that moment, another voice rang out.

"Impudent!"

The cauldron was sent back where it came from. Meanwhile, Zheng Yuming, who had just soared into the sky, was caught in a gigantic palm.

Boom!

The palm crushed Zheng Yuming's body before forcing one Divine Character after another out. All those characters were also instantly crushed.

"Audacious!"

Wan Tiansheng's voice rang out again as he questioned, "Is the single character faction trying to go against the rules? Zhou Mingren, do you want me to kill this shameless person right here?"

Next, Zhou Mingren soared into the sky from within a certain grotto. He did not ask anything. Nor did he say anything.

He caught the crippled body of Zheng Yuming who was tossed his way and said, "A decade of imprisonment. Can you agree to that?"

"Hmph! Send him to the Allheaven Battlefield. If he can't kill a Mountainsea enemy, he can stay there for the rest of his life."

Wan Tiansheng looked incomparably domineering.

Then, his eyes lit up as he looked toward a certain direction and said, "Scram!"

Within the Foreign Students Faculty, several myriad race experts hurriedly retreated while trembling in fear. That was too terrifying.

Zhou Mingren sighed and said nothing else. He vanished with Zheng Yuming's crippled body.

Calm returned.

Meanwhile, Su Yu and the other students felt like they were in a dream. Had...Zheng Yuming gone crazy? He actually tried to attack Su Yu? He actually tried to do so within the academy? What was he thinking?

Even Liu Hong was completely confused. Just what was happening? Had he gone overconfident after spending all his time cultivating? He really thought that he could ignore the rules after becoming an elder?

After a long while, someone suddenly said, "Perhaps...he was only trying to come here and collect Huang Qifeng..."

"..."

Everyone was speechless. Nobody had anything to say. Not far away, Chen Yong lowered his head and said nothing. What the hell? How was he supposed to know that? He saw Zheng Yuming flying toward Su Yu so he anxiously made a move. How was he supposed to know if Zheng Yuming was trying to attack Su Yu?

Had he...created a big trouble without realizing it? He was unsure.

Since he had attacked, everyone would naturally assume that Zheng Yuming had tried to attack Su Yu. But was that really the case? Nobody knew.

Was Wan Tiansheng aware? Was he deliberately teaching the single character faction? Or was he not aware as well?

Chen Yong's head remained lowered. He...really hadn't intended to make it look like Zheng Yuming was trying to attack Su Yu. Could those hidden elders stop scanning him with their willpower already?

Chapter 312: Batch 350's Freaks (1)

Everything had happened too quickly.

Only a short time had passed since Su Yu first stepped into the ring until the time when a crippled Zheng Yuming was brought away by Zhou Mingren. The crowd wasn't even given the time to digest all that.

A ninth-stage Cloudbreach and a first-stage Mountainsea had made a move. Even Wan Tiansheng had made a move.

A brand new elder like Zheng Yuming was instantly defeated, receiving serious injuries in the process. Everyone was shocked to see how strong Wan Tiansheng was. But everyone was also surprised at how decisive he was.

He had seriously injured Zheng Yuming without any hesitation. Zheng Yuming hadn't even gotten the chance to actually attack before he was already defeated. The powerful aura receded as both Wan Tiansheng and Zhou Mingren left.

Chen Yong's scalp was going numb from the sheer number of elders scanning him so he gestured at Su Yu to meet later at the books depository before dragging Wu Jia away. He was afraid he would be driven mad by all the willpower concentrated on him if he stayed there any longer.

He really hadn't deliberately misled the principal and made it look like Zheng Yuming was attacking a student. He was an honest man through and through!

He had no choice but to leave. That was because that one sentence mentioning that Zheng Yuming might only be here to collect Huang Qifeng was truly too troubling for him.

Everything was finally over.

Both the students and teachers present decided to completely neglect what they just saw. Anything involving several Mountainsea and Cloudbreach cultivators would not be as simple as it seemed. Since they didn't know what was actually happening behind the scenes, it wouldn't be proper for them to say anything.

Thus, they all returned their focus to Su Yu. Everything that had happened earlier seemed somewhat complicated. Su Yu himself was also greatly shocked by all that. But he did not have the time to think about that. He suddenly recalled a certain term: The fox grieves when the rabbit dies.

He was worried that Zheng Yuming's fate would generate some sympathy and attract even more trouble for the multiple character faction. Some elders might even start resenting the multiple character faction because of that.

Without even thinking about it, he instinctively put on a show. His face turned pale and he started sweating profusely. He was also kneeling on one knee, looking like an innocent child who had just been frightened greatly.

Yes. He had just been frightened by the powerful presence of a Mountainsea. He had been subjected to an incredibly intense killing intent. The multiple character faction was the victim here. He was the victim here. The principal had only moved to uphold the rules.

He looked rather sorry. But not one of the students felt like it was shameful for him to behave that way. Some became even more convinced that Su Yu's life was in danger earlier. Elder Zheng had obviously gone crazy! For the sake of a single student, he had actually broken the academy rules. If it wasn't for Chen Yong, Su Yu would have probably been reduced into a corpse by now.

The little sympathy they felt for Zheng Yuming vanished completely. A single thought appeared in all their minds. The academy rules must not be broken!

The moment the rules were broken, even genius students could be killed by those elders as they wished. In that situation, would the academy still be a place they could put their trust on?

Could any student still challenge the Top 100 Ranking without worry? Everyone would just use their backers to compete instead of their own strength.

This involved everyone's benefits, including the descendants and students of those Mountainsea cultivators. Everyone needed to obey the rules. The rules did not exist for the sake of restricting them. Instead, the rules were there to protect them.

Even those from the single character faction understood that in the academy, they must follow the rules. After all, the rules could be the only thing protecting their lives at times.

If Zheng Yuming was allowed to attack Su Yu today, then when Hong Tan returned in the future, he would also be able to attack the students of the single character faction. Thus, these rules could not be broken or everyone would suffer.

At that thought, many even started rejoicing that the principal had made a move. Had Elder Zheng...gone mad from cultivation deviation or something? After all, that was quite common in the academy.

Many of them were thinking the same thing, but someone actually voiced that concern, "Did...Elder Zheng's cultivation went wrong? Was he suffering from a cultivation deviation?"

It didn't matter if that was the case. Even if that wasn't everyone would agree that it was the actual reason. Otherwise, the fact that an elder had attempted to attack a student would have massive ramifications.

And if he hadn't intended to attack yet Wan Tiansheng had attacked him, the ramifications would be massive as well. Thus, the only truth everyone could accept was that he had suffered from cultivation deviation.

Suddenly, the voice of an elder rang out, "Elder Zheng Yuming encountered some issues during his cultivation, resulting in the destabilization of his sea of willpower. The principal has punished him for his action and helped him calm his mental state. This matter ends here."

That was all the speaker said. And this was the best explanation for everything that had happened. Regardless of the actual truth, that would be the official truth. Countless people were relieved to hear those words. Regardless of whether that was true, everyone felt much better. Many students couldn't help but to nod in agreement.

"So he was suffering from cultivation deviation? No wonder. The path of cultivation is truly dangerous. Not even Mountainsea cultivators are immune to cultivation deviation."

"Yeah. I really couldn't understand why he did that, but now I know why. I wish Elder Zheng a speedy recovery."

Everyone started offering Elder Zheng their well wishes.

At that moment, Su Yu started slowly standing up.

Looking at the unconscious Huang Qifeng, he said nothing. He turned to face Zhao Ming and said, "Teacher, maybe you should give him a treatment? It wouldn't be good if he really ends up dying."

Zhao Ming glanced at Su Yu speechlessly. Was the kid not ashamed of saying that? The kid was so ferocious in the fight that even Zhao Ming himself was greatly frightened. Just what was going on today. He had been shocked several times in a row. Even someone like him was finding it unbearable.

He didn't say anything and released a ray of white light from his hand. The white light landed on Huang Qifeng and instantly stopped his bleeding. The bones within his body also started fixing themselves.

But with a damaged willpower, even after healing his physical injuries, Huang Qifeng would still end up bedridden for a few months. His injuries were even more serious than Wu Jia's.

Zhao Ming looked at Su Yu. This kid had clearly repaid Huang Qifeng for everything his senior sister had suffered.

He really wondered if it was a blessing or a disaster for the multiple character faction to receive a student like this. After today, the single character faction would finally start paying attention to this kid for real. Even more big shows were going to unfold in the future.

Huang Qifeng was merely a student near the bottom of the ranking. The single character faction still had more students with higher ranks in the ranking. They even had someone in the top 10.

Su Yu walked off the ring.

As for Huang Qifeng, he was carried off by a Cloudbreach cultivator from the single character faction. This time, the cultivator had not unleashed his aura. He didn't even spare Su Yu a glance. After all, Zheng Yuming had just been taught a lesson a moment ago. Who knew if something similar would happen if he flew over while releasing his aura?

The single and multiple character factions had been at odds for many years. This time, the single character faction was the one to suffer a defeat. Their genius student had been heavily injured. Their elder had been heavily injured as well. The principal himself had made the move. Nobody knew if the principal was merely upholding the rules or was actually warning them.

They had also noticed that the principal seemed a tad bit too terrifying. They were both supposed to be fellow Mountainsea cultivators. Sure, one was a fresh Mountainsea while the other was at the peak. But the gap between them really seemed too big. Zheng Yuming had been crippled before he could even open his mouth.

"Su Yu!"

Some people were still thinking about all that had happened. Meanwhile some people had completely tossed the little episode involving the principal out of their minds.

Wan Mingze stepped forth with a soaring battle intent. His shout attracted the attention of many people.

"You're very strong." Wan Mingze said, "But people like us won't fear your strength. We will only hope that you can be even stronger. Only then would you fill us with more fighting spirit."

Wan Mingze was no longer trying to maintain a low profile. He leaped into the ring.

"Senior ranked 93rd, please accept my challenge."

Zheng Yunhui was the one occupying the 91st place. Wang Peng, his defeated opponent, occupied the 92nd place.

Since Wang Peng had been defeated once today, Wan Mingze did not wish to challenge him. Thus, he aimed for the student holding the next position.

Wan Mingze declared, "Since the students of batch 350 are already starting to challenge the ranking, I wish to take this chance to experience the strength of my kind seniors as well."

Within the crowd.

Su Yu looked at Wan Mingze silently.

This fellow was finally making a move.

On one hand, Wang Mingze's fighting spirit had been triggered by Su Yu's strength. On the other hand, he was also trying to divert everyone's attention from the earlier incident. As a member of the Wan Family, it was his duty to step forth and do what he could to weaken whatever ramifications that might arise from Wan Tiansheng's action.

The student ranked 93rd was present. At this point, he no longer dared to underestimate Wan Mingze. New students were weak? What a joke.

Su Yu had defeated the ranked 71st Huang Qifeng without even breaking a sweat. His true strength was probably at the level of a top 50 student. Was that weak?

"Fine. Let's exchange pointers, Junior Brother Wan."

Then, a man entered the ring. He didn't dare to underestimate this opponent. The moment he entered the ring, he summoned his cultural weapon, unleashed his willpower, and activated his acupoints.

Even Zhao Ming couldn't help but to be amazed by the strength of the new students. The students of this batch...were going to start a storm that would engulf the entire academy.

The new students of this batch had done nothing major for the past two months. Although there were a lot of freaks in this batch, the public was not too bothered about them. But after today, who would still dare to underestimate them?

"Match, start."

Wan Mingze's willpower and Divine Characters erupted.

Three second tier Divine Characters were activated at the same time. Most people were unaware of how powerful his characters were, but Su Yu was once a victim of those characters.

Wan Mingze's opponent was just about to make a move when his sea of willpower trembled. His willpower had been sealed.

Alarmed, he pushed his acupoints and tried to break free from the seal. But Wan Mingze was absolutely not to be underestimated when he was using all his strength.

All 84 of his acupoints lit up.

Seventh-stage Great Strength Realm!

At the exact moment his opponent's willpower was sealed, he took out a small knife and instantly arrived near his opponent. Then, he started swinging his knife at his opponent.

Popping sounds rang out.

One acupoint after another was cut open, leaking the source qi within. Wan Mingze had discovered the weakness of his opponent and had taken the chance to damage the weakest acupoints of his opponent.

With that action, his opponent lost almost half his source qi. That shook his sea of willpower, allowing Wan Mingze to complete the seal over it. The opponent collapsed weakly onto the ground. With his entire sea of willpower sealed, he could only blink his eyes. Even talking felt impossible for him.

"Thank you for the match."

Wan Mingze helped the opponent up and removed the seal apologetically.

That person had a pale expression. With the damage to his acupoints, he would need to spend some time in recovery. Of course, he would still be able to recover faster than someone who had sustained willpower injuries. Nevertheless, his defeat had still been very miserable.

"Junior Brother Wan...incredible."

He spoke with a bitter tone. He didn't even have the chance to make a single move during the match. Just what was wrong with this batch?

The first student who had fought, Zheng Yunhui, was actually the weakest among the ones who had fought today. Prior to this, there was Su Yu and his astonishing victories. Then, there was Wan Mingze and his easy victory over a top 100 student. Just what was going on?

At this point, all the students had completely forgotten about the earlier incident. Mountainsea cultivators felt too far away for people like them. The affairs involving the Top 100 Ranking, on the other hand, felt more relatable to them.

Chapter 313: Batch 350's Freaks (2)

Yet another top 100 student had been defeated.

Wan Mingze had taken the 93rd position.

Meanwhile, his defeated opponent had dropped one position. When a student outside the ranking defeated a ranked student, the ranked student would not drop out of the ranking. Instead, the student would only drop one rank.

At this point, Lin Qing had dropped from the 95th place to the 97th place.

Liu He had dropped to the 100th place.

Su Yu had occupied Huang Qifeng's previous position while Huang Qifeng was occupying Liu He's original position. Liu He was the one who was on the verge of being squeezed out of the ranking.

But Huang Qifeng had suffered serious injuries. As long as someone challenged him, that person would be able to instantly take his position.

However, it was rather unlikely that someone would do so today. But if Huang Qifeng remained injured for long, it was only a matter of time before the other students lost patience. It wouldn't matter how strong the single character faction was. People would eventually challenge him. Leaving him alone for now was already the biggest respect people could give him and his faction.

After a few days, as more and more challenge fights happened, Huang Qifeng would be pushed out of the ranking.

"Another victory."

Lin Qing had a complicated expression.

Another one had won.

A new student had easily defeated yet another top 100 student. She had only managed to reach the 95th place after working very hard. But in the blink of an eye, she had dropped to 97th place. Liu He would most certainly climb the ranking again tomorrow, her position would only drop further.

After working hard for two months, she had once again been relegated to be the goal-keeper of the ranking.

While she was thinking, two people entered the ring.

When Hu Qiusheng saw that the other person was Xia Chan, he smiled and jumped off the ring, "You first."

Xia Chan said nothing. She said, "Senior in the 95th place, I wish to exchange some pointers with you."

The student ranked 94th was the one who had just been defeated by Wan Mingze before. Thus, Xia Chan was skipping to the next student.

A clamor erupted among the crowd. Was the new batch this year going to turn the Top 100 Ranking upside down? The ranked 95th student had an unsightly expression. His position had dropped several times in a short period of time. He refused to believe that the new students of this batch were really that strong.

Both combatants stood facing each other in the ring.

And the match began.

Su Yu knew that Xia Chan had a break character of the divine race. And that could very well be a second tier character. Xia Chan was also a seventh-stage Great Strength cultivator. Her cultivation was comparable to those in the bottom 10 of the ranking.

She had not won the fight as easily as the new students before her. She had spent about eight minutes before finally gaining an advantage with her Sky Sundering Saber, sending her opponent flying away. Even so, she also looked quite exhausted by the end of the match.

She won.

The victory didn't come easy, but she had still done enough to prove how insane her strength was as a new student who could enter the top 100.

Lin Qing had dropped to the 98th place.

Liu He had been pushed out of the ranking.

The next new student entered the ring.

Right after Xia Chan's match was over, Hu Qiusheng entered the ring.

People like Xia Chan who had defeated an existing top 100 student could enjoy the immunity of three days. Thus, she didn't need to fight further matches today. Hu Qiusheng challenged the ranked 97th student.

All the defeated students had dropped one position in the ranking, but none of the new students had bothered challenging them. If the impression Wan Mingze gave was that of a powerful student, then Xia Chan gave off a courageous impression while Hu Qiusheng gave off a mysterious impression.

One could say that Hu Qiusheng was the embodiment of a traditional cultural researcher. From the start until the end, he fought from far away with only his cultural weapon. He stood there calmly while his sword danced in the air, leaving numerous afterimages in the ring. After about five minutes, the ranked 97th student's scapula was pierced through by the sword.

Seeing that Hu Qiusheng still had enough willpower to fight, his opponent conceded helplessly. He wasn't even able to approach Hu Qiusheng. With Hu Qiusheng occupying the 97th place, Lin Qing dropped to the 99th place.

Lin Qing had an unsightly expression. According to this trend, if there was a next challenge, she would be the one challenged. That was because the current student ranked 98th was the one who had just been defeated by Hu Qiusheng.

Perhaps she wouldn't even be relegated to be the goal-keeper. She would probably get kicked out of the ranking entirely.

Zheng Hong, Zhang Hao, Su Meng, and Zhao Shiji hadn't even fought.

"The Top 100 Ranking is really going to change today."

Many old students couldn't help but to feel somewhat melancholic. In the blink of an eye, five new students had entered the ranking. The Top 100 Ranking was really going to undergo a massive change.

Previously, Zheng Yunhui had declared that they would clear the bottom 10 students. And now, they were on the verge of achieving that.

Zheng Yunhui had already recovered from his previous shock. He yelled, "Go! Zhao Shiji, what are you guys waiting for? There is still an empty spot! Get rid of the 99th place student!"

After defeating the 99th place student, the remaining old students in the bottom 10 would all be the students that had been defeated today. Due to the pride of the freaks, they would naturally not challenge these opponents today.

Thus, only one spot was left for the freaks. And that spot was currently occupied by Lin Qing. Grief covered Lin Qing's face. Just what in the world was going on?

Beside her, Wu Lan lamented, "What a pity. Sister Qing, I really want to enter the ring as well."

She was a tad bit too weak. Otherwise, she would have stepped into the ring as well. And if she could do so, her opponent would be Lin Qing. That was acceptable for her.

Lin Qing cursed inwardly. She would be glad to have Wu Lan challenge her instead of one of these freaks.

This stinky lass! She had claimed that the people in her class were nothing special. All of them were supposedly very ordinary. All of them were garbage. Were these...the so-called garbage students? If they were garbage students, what were seniors like them?

While she was thinking, the four remaining freaks looked at each other. The next match would probably be the final match involving the new batch today. Who would go next?

All the previous challengers had won. If they ended up losing, it would be too embarrassing. At times, reputation could be very important. If they issued a challenge without the confidence to win, things might end up badly for them.

"Let me do it." Zhang Hao volunteered, "Nobody from the Talisman Faculty has fought yet. I can't let your Character Faculty hog all the limelight, right?"

"Senior ranked 99th, please enter the ring."

Lin Qing cursed inwardly. Did they not have names? Why only address them by their ranks? She was in a bad mood, but she was still relieved to see that her challenger wasn't from the Character Faculty. Someone from the Talisman Faculty shouldn't be too strong, right?

Alas, she was soon subjected to a rain of exploding talismans.

Zhang Hao did not fight using ordinary talismans. Rather, he fought with exploding talismans he had formed with his Divine Characters. These were the talismans that had given even Su Yu a hard time, forcing Su Yu to focus on turtling up instead of attacking.

And it didn't even take much of Zhang Hao's energy to create one of these exploding talismans. He had always been a specialist in prolonged combat.

Explode!

Explode!

From the start until the end, that was the only move he used. He didn't approach his opponent. He didn't showcase an eye-catching martial technique. He only focused on bombing his opponent.

Lin Qing was definitely not weak. After all, she was the student of the genius teaching assistant, Wu Qi.

But against an opponent this unreasonable, Lin Qing was unable to even get near her opponent to use any of her powerful martial techniques. After being bombed for over a hundred times, Lin Qing finally fell off the ring.

At that point, her mind was in such a disarray that she didn't even know how she got out of the ring. As for Zhang Hao, he stood in the ring gasping for breath. He wiped his sweat in relief. Fortunately, he hadn't embarrassed the new students.

He was already on the verge of emptying his willpower. And at that point, he would be finished if Lin Qing was allowed to get near him. He was rather weak in terms of physical combat. Lin Qing was much stronger in that aspect. She would probably only need one swing of her sword to end him in melee range.

"I got lucky."

After politely thanking his opponent for the match, Zhang Hao happily left the ring.

And thus, Lin Qing was pushed back to the 100th place, becoming the goal-keeper of the Top 100 Ranking yet again.

Zheng Yunhui, Wan Mingze, Xia Chan, Hu Qiusheng, and Zhang Hao had entered the bottom 10 of the ranking. Su Yu had climbed to the 71st place.

On the 3rd of October, the new students of batch 350 had given the academy a grand performance.

The Top 100 Ranking had been turned upside down by them.

With the end of the final match, the grand performance on the 3rd of October came to an end.

There were no new challenges. The changes today had been too shocking. Many people needed some time to properly rearrange their thoughts and plan for the future.

Meanwhile, Su Yu was preparing to head to the books depository. Everyone else could forget about the little incident earlier, but he couldn't.

In fact, more troubles were probably coming his way. He had given Huang Qifeng such a terrible beating. Even an elder of the single character faction had received such heavy injuries. If the single character faction could even let all that slide, then that would probably be a faction of saints.

Of course, they probably wouldn't dare to break any rules. But they could still give Su Yu a lot of trouble while sticking within the boundary of the rules.

While walking, a secretive Xia Huyou caught up to him. The fatty kept looking left and right cautiously.

When Su Yu looked at him, Xia Huyou said, "Su Yu, I suspect someone is targeting me. A guard warned me earlier that the academy is getting ready to raid me again!"

"..."

Su Yu was stunned. Holy shit. Did he manage to bribe the guards?

"Don't look at me like that! I didn't bribe anyone!" Xia Huyou explained, "It was a senior from my family..."

"..."

Su Yu was speechless. What was so different about that?

Xia Huyou couldn't even be bothered to explain himself. Of course it was different. The academy guards were technically also an army under the Xia Family. Not only would the guards need to obey the academy, they also needed to obey the Xia Family. Thus, strictly speaking, they hadn't bribed anyone.

He said, "And sure enough, a shameless old fossil is targeting me. That is most definitely a pavilion elder. Fortunately, I'm smart enough to accept bets in receipts this time."

Not far away, Jia Mingzhen was "casually" walking by.

Very good.

He was that shameless old fossil.

He did not have the time to create further trouble for that little fatty today. He still needed to meet Wan Tiansheng. The principal had suddenly attacked Zheng Yuming. He needed to get a clear idea of what was happening.

"Just you wait, little fatty. When I'm done with this matter, it would be your turn to receive my attention."

Both Xia Huyou and Su Yu didn't even notice Jia Mingzhen. Su Yu didn't really care about all that either. He merely asked, "So how much did you earn?"

"Su Yu, you are too savage!" Xia Huyou helplessly said, "You should have told me you could win in one minute. I would have been able to earn even more had you told me that. Didn't you say that you need three minutes?"

"That's a safe estimate. One should always be humble."

Su Yu flashed his friend an honest smile. One should always be humble, so he naturally couldn't sound arrogant. Thus, it wasn't surprising for him to claim that he needed three minutes only to win the fight in 30 seconds.

Xia Huyou was speechless. He said, "Are you selling that heaven-grade technique?"

"..."

Su Yu stared at his friend silently.

"Don't worry. I won't leak it. The Xia Family has a habit of collecting all sorts of methods and techniques. If you submit it to us, we will keep it in our collection. Only a very small number of people will be allowed to read it. As long as we don't make the technique public, even if the creator is still alive, they usually wouldn't be bothered about it."

Su Yu did not give any reply. Dream on!

"Cut the crap. Just how much did you earn?"

"Not much. The rate for those betting on you is too high. In the end, I only earned about 25,000 merit points."

Xia Huyou grimaced in pain and said, "But of the 25,000 merit points, I still need to take some out and bribe the relevant people that had allowed me to safely carry out my business activities. And a lot of people have yet to pay up since the bets had been placed with only receipts..."

He then smiled again and said, "But you will get your share. With a split of 3:7, you can get 7,000 merit points. What do you think?"

That was a decent amount of money. To be precise, that was actually a lot of money. After all, that was pure profit. He hadn't even invested anything in the business.

Since Su Yu could get that much, he had to admit that this fatty was still quite fair when dealing with him. Thus, he smiled and said, "Sure. You don't need to transfer me the points. Just gather some five elemental and mountainbreak bull blood essence for me."

"You're still buying blood essence?"

Xia Huyou looked at Su Yu in astonishment. Even after buying so much blood essence previously, Su Yu was still buying more?

"Prioritize five elemental blood essence." Su Yu said, "The blood essence is not for me. It's my teacher."

He turned solemn as he said, "My teacher is recently performing a massive research. He is in need of blood essence. I heard the five elemental blood essence is helpful in cultural arts. My teacher is trying to see if he can create a method for people to grow their willpower through consuming blood essence. This is very important."

Xia Huyou was astonished, "What? Assistant Bai is already starting to research willpower? I thought he was researching blood essence abilities."

"It can be considered a related project." Su Yu said, "Apart from the mountainbreak bull blood essence, all the other blood essence will be given to my teacher."

Xia Huyou looked at Su Yu with sympathy.

How pitiful. He actually had to raise his teacher instead of the other way around. Bai Feng was truly shameless. Was he now ashamed of living off his student? When he thought about it, Su Yu's explanation was understandable. How could Su Yu use up that much blood essence alone?

Then again, Bai Feng was also quite nice. At the very least, Su Yu had benefited from all the results of his research. Su Yu wouldn't have been so strong otherwise.

"Wentan Research Center..."

Xia Huyou reckoned that the day this research center opened itself to the outside world, countless astonishing research results would be announced to the world.

But something about the research center still felt somewhat unreliable. It wasn't Su Yu. Rather, it was Bai Feng.

Could Bai Feng even complete his research? Could this shameless person who was living off his student finish his research? If he couldn't, then all those resources would have gone to waste.

Wentan Research Center.

Third underground floor.

Bai Feng had just made a small progress in his research. In his joy, he was about to continue his research when he sneezed.

"Am I getting sick because I haven't slept for a long time?"

But he was a Skysoar!

How could a Skysoar even be sick? Also, he seemed to have sensed some disturbances outside earlier. Was someone fighting in the academy? Scratching his messy hair, Bai Feng decided that the fight was none of his business. He was better off focusing all his energy on his research.

"Racial ability character..."

Bai Feng muttered to himself with a look of madness in his eyes. But the light of joy in his eyes was also getting brighter and brighter.

"The so-called racial ability character might be more than a single Divine Character. Rather, it is something formed by several Divine Characters. In that case, which Divine Characters do I need? No,

perhaps different Divine Characters will give birth to different racial abilities. Do I need human characters?

"Character technique? Is the character technique of the multiple character faction something that was created as a precursor to the racial ability character?"

Bai Feng had a deranged look on his face.

Was his guess correct? If that was the case, the multiple character faction must not only survive, but should also rise to prominence yet again. Only then would they be able to activate the racial ability of humanity.

"No, the single character faction might also be able to assemble multiple characters together to form the racial ability character. But they might have a harder time doing it than us..."

Bai Feng grew more and more excited.

"Teacher, in your absence, I have nearly completed a research that would shake even the Myriad Realms!"

Chapter 314: A Glimpse Of Future (1)

Books depository.

When Su Yu arrived at the books depository again, the guards had changed how they treated him. They were behaving like how the Mental Tempering Garden guards acted when they encountered Jiang Mu, a top 100 student.

They were treating him with respect. Yes. Respect. The moment he arrived, they opened the door and stepped aside, allowing him to enter smoothly.

That was how the academy worked. No, that was how the Myriad Realms worked. With strength, talent, and ability, one would do well wherever one went.

Su Yu did not care about taking this chance to teach these guards a lesson for their past disrespect. Instead, he nodded at them with a warm smile. These guards had only been carrying out their orders.

Even cultural researchers would occasionally need the help of these guards. For example, when leaving the academy for some missions, they might need to bring some of these guards with them.

Tenth floor.

The moment Su Yu arrived, a loving voice rang out in the room, "Junior Brother!"

Su Yu shivered. That sounded way too weird.

Wu Jia walked over. Her eyes were still red. She jumped forward and gave Su Yu a big hug while choking with emotions, "Junior Brother, you're the best!"

"..."

Su Yu struggled off his senior sister's hug before saying, "Senior Sister, is Martial Uncle here?"

"Yeah." Wu Jia was somewhat unhappy that Su Yu was unwilling to accept her hug so she gave a perfunctory answer. She then curiously asked, "Junior Brother, when did you become so strong?"

"Cough, cough. My teacher taught me well."

"..."

Wu Jia was dumbstruck. Her martial uncle taught him well? That was obviously a lie! Her martial uncle was clearly an unreliable teacher!

"Jia, Su Yu, come in."

Chen Yong's voice rang out from the inner room. As for Su Yu's words, there was no need for them to take him seriously. Perhaps not even Bai Feng himself was aware of Su Yu's real strength.

His teacher taught him well? Bullshit! It was fine if Su Yu used that as an excuse to lie against outsiders, but why would he lie against his own senior sister as well? What a little rascal!

Inside the living room.

Chen Yong looked at Su Yu with a complicated expression. After a long while, he said, "Jia, go make a pot of tea. Your junior brother is thirsty."

"Sure!"

Wu Jia ran off happily. After she left, Chen Yong exhaled and said, "We're in big trouble."

Su Yu nodded.

Chen Yong smiled, "From your expression, you seem to understand what's happening. Tell me. What do you understand?"

"Principal Wan was too harsh." Su Yu calmly said, "Even if Elder Zheng was really going to attack me, he hadn't actually attacked. An elder like this had been seriously injured just because of what he might do. He was nearly killed. If the principal was really someone so rash, the academy would have fallen apart decades ago."

"That's right." Chen Yong nodded, "What else?"

"I believe something we're unaware of is happening in the background. Perhaps the principal wanted to warn the single character faction. Perhaps they had angered him somehow. Perhaps they had done something to cross his bottom line."

Chen Yong nodded, "All that might be right. There is also another possibility. The principal might be trying to support the multiple character faction."

"But why?" Su Yu was curious. They had been left without support for decades. Why would the principal decide to support them now?

Chen Yong sank into thought before answering, "Perhaps there is a reason for that. Previously, the principal looked for me once for something related to you, but I couldn't be bothered to entertain his request so I told him to talk with you instead."

Chen Yong did not enjoy getting into academy politics so he would allow Su Yu to make his own decision regarding the principal's request.

"In fact, the matter involved more than you. The principal wishes to have us make the character technique wall semi-public and run it like one of those grottos in the academy."

Su Yu cursed and said, "What is he thinking? Why don't he get the other factions to do so with their own unique resources as well? We don't really have that many trump cards left. Are we supposed to share even the last trump card we have?"

Chen Yong gestured at Su Yu to settle down and said, "I didn't agree. I told him to ask your grandteacher about it. I can't make this decision."

Chen Yong did not linger on the topic for long.

He said, "In any case, you need to be careful. Heavily injuring Huang Qifeng is nothing, but Zheng Yuming has been affected as well. He has even been exiled to the Allheaven Battlefield. His exile can only end through killing a Mountainsea enemy. In short, he would probably be stuck in the battlefield for life."

Causing a Mountainsea cultivator to be exiled for life was much more serious.

But Su Yu appeared unbothered. Instead, he asked in confusion, "So what if he can't return? Do we cultivate so hard just so that we can keep staying in the academy in seclusion? What's the point of strength if we don't head to the battlefield and fight for humanity? Shouldn't only the weak ones stay behind in the academies?"

In fact, Su Yu had been very curious about all those Mountainsea cultivators in the academy. What were they doing hiding behind the frontline? What was the point of keeping so many experts within the Human Realm?

Even those in the Great Strength and Infinite Strength Realms were fighting hard on the battlefield. But the actual experts of humanity were actually not participating in those battles. Su Yu had never been able to understand the reason for that.

Chen Yong sighed, "There are several reasons for that. Firstly, if all experts get involved, then the war would escalate into a different level of intensity, upgrading the main combatants from Skysoar cultivators to Cloudbreach and Mountainsea cultivators.

"Secondly, the battlefield is our first line of defense. We need to be careful lest all our experts perish together, severing all our inheritances.

"Thirdly, the Human Realm isn't that peaceful. We still need some experts to stay and guard against the unexpected.

"Additionally, the cultural research academies have fewer people on the battlefield compared to the war academies. People like us mostly have some important research projects. And some of these projects are important enough that the help of these experts are required."

"Projects?" Su Yu thought of Bai Feng and said, "What important project is the single character faction involved in? They have so many experts hiding behind the front line but why have I never heard of the incredible project they are involved in?"

"They naturally have some. Don't underestimate the single character faction. There is a reason they are able to grow so big. Haven't you fought Zheng Hong before? Did you notice anything?"

Su Yu thought about it and said in hesitation, "Wind, fire, mountain, and forest...a system?"

"Exactly." Chen Yong nodded, "The current single character faction is completely different from the past. Back then, their Divine Characters did not have a proper system. Many would only focus on a single character. But that has changed. For example, Divine Characters that can be assembled into a system is one of the changes they have undergone over the years..."

"In truth, the single character faction itself is also split. Some believe that they should stick to only one character. Some believe that they should cultivate multiple characters and assemble them into a system. They have been at odds with each other for that."

Su Yu nodded as understanding dawned on him.

Chen Yong continued, "Apart from that, they have many other research projects. For example, Faculty Head Zhou Mingren has been researching the eternal preservation of willpower texts. And that research has been rather helpful to humanity."

"You are aware that human willpower texts will continue deteriorating with time even without usage."

Su Yu nodded as he regretfully said, "That's right! When I was in Nanyuan, Teacher Liu gave me a Lightning Source Blade willpower text. But only the first four moves still have some willpower left. The willpower for the rest of the moves have dissipated..."

Chen Yong blanked out. The willpower for the early moves was still there while the willpower for the later moves had dissipated? Was that a joke?

The later moves would be stronger so more willpower would be attached to those moves as well. Even if the willpower was going to start dissipating, the willpower of the early moves should be the one to dissipate first. When he thought about it, he guessed the truth.

He did not know whether to laugh or cry. It wouldn't be proper for him to expose his martial uncle. Thus, he awkwardly agreed, "Exactly. Therefore, human willpower texts can never be preserved for long. That has resulted in a lot of wastage.

"And Faculty Head Zhou Mingren is trying to solve this issue. I heard that he is going to complete the research soon. The moment the research is completed, we would be able to store human willpower texts for many years like myriad race willpower texts. With that, the experts of humanity would be able to start stockpiling more willpower texts for the future generations."

Su Yu nodded. That could indeed be helpful.

"Zheng Hong's teacher, Elder Sun, is also researching something important. He is researching foundation cultural arts. In other words, he is trying to create willpower cultivation methods that even those in the Great Strength and Infinite Strength Realms can cultivate. A lot of effort and resources have been poured into this research."

Su Yu's heart thumped as he asked, "Martial Uncle, has the Knowledge Seeking Realm not created a proper foundation source art even after so many years?"

Chen Yong shook his head, "I'm not sure. There are things that I don't know as well. But logically, after spending so much time and using so much resources, there should be some results. Perhaps the results are not perfected yet. Perhaps they are unwilling to share. Who knows?"

"You know that not all humans can be trusted. Thus, some things must be kept secret, such as the more important inheritances to prevent our enemies from getting their hands on them."

Su Yu disagreed, "That is the same as not eating for fear of choking. You can always make it so that one would need to pay a price to learn it like the War God Art. How is humanity supposed to progress if we keep everything good a secret?"

"Well, that is not up to people like us. Don't even talk about others. Even our research center would probably be very careful if we happen to make a massive discovery as well. Before publicizing our results, we must properly weigh the pros and cons."

Su Yu couldn't help but to nod in agreement. That was true. He couldn't be a hypocrite and expect others to do what he wouldn't do himself.

That was something people had spent countless years and exhausted countless resources to create. It was natural for them to refuse when being asked to contribute their result for free. Thus, it all came down to the exchange of benefits.

Chapter 315: A Glimpse Of Future (2)

When Chen Yong saw that Su Yu was getting what he was saying, he smiled, "These things are still unrelated to us. For now, your main mission is to cultivate and enter the Skysoar Realm as soon as possible. Additionally..."

He hesitated slightly before saying, "If it's inconvenient for you to tell the truth, it doesn't matter. All cultural researchers, or to be precise, all cultivators have their own secret. But you should still try to put more trust in your teacher."

He looked at Su Yu and said, "I am not trying to take what's yours. But...try not to create potential trouble for yourself. That is especially true for the blood essence abilities you used previously, such as the soul devouring bug blood essence. I know that Bai Feng has most certainly not come up with that or he wouldn't have been able to resist telling me."

"In the past, those blood essence abilities would only affect one's physical combat ability. Thus, most cultural researchers can stay indifferent. But the moment it involves willpower, it becomes an entirely different matter."

"Warriors have never been able to easily harm the willpower of cultural researchers unless the warrior is much stronger than the cultural researcher. That is why above the Skysoar Realm, cultural researchers are generally stronger than warriors of the same level."

"But if you really have a blood essence ability capable of harming willpower, then that would be a much bigger deal than you realize."

Chen Yong solemnly said, "You must remember that in the battlefield, cultural researchers mainly served as the pillar of entire armies. The value of a single Mountainsea cultural researcher is definitely higher than the value of a Mountainsea warrior."

"Mysterious and unpredictable...that defines all cultural researchers. And willpower is the foundation for all that. Su Yu, can you imagine what would happen if there is really a blood essence ability that can harm willpower? How valuable would that blood essence be?"

He inhaled deeply and said, "Now, not many people are aware of that yet. I already proposed to the principal to keep this news under wraps. But it is only a matter of time before outsiders learn of it. The principal suggested that we hand this blood essence to the academy for a price. The academy would be in charge of submitting it to Great Xia and the Knowledge Seeking Realm. They can be the ones to perform more research on it and share the risk with us. That way, we won't be the only ones targeted when word gets out."

Su Yu's heart thumped.

"Martial Uncle...you mean...the soul devouring bug blood essence is very important?"

He already knew it was important, but he never guessed that it would be so troublesome.

Chen Yong nodded, "Yes. The martial blood essence abilities you have shown previously are nothing. They are basically the same as martial techniques. But now, even a technique that can harm willpower has been created. Thus, this entire thing has just become a much bigger deal than before. Of course, your safety is still guaranteed inside the academy. But that guarantee would not exist outside the academy. Thus, the best solution is to offer the research data for a price and have others share the risk with us."

Su Yu frowned, "Are all valuable research projects this troublesome?"

"Well, that depends on your strength, the strength of your faction, and how good you are at keeping it secret."

Chen Yong looked at Su Yu with a troubled expression. This kid had done many good things for them, but he was also very good at attracting trouble. The soul devouring bug blood essence was one such trouble.

Chen Yong would be fine. Bai Feng would be even more fine. But Su Yu...unless he remained indefinitely in the academy, any trip made outside the academy would be a dangerous trip.

"I am only a student, I don't know anything..."

Chen Yong said, "Ever since you sold the fake data, everyone believed that you're in the know."

"..."

Su Yu felt incomparably awkward. Was he suffering from his own actions? Yeah. Previously when he said he knew nothing, everyone would believe it. But wasn't he also the one who had sold the production method of those unique blood essence? Would anyone still believe that he knew nothing?

Strictly speaking, this was a large crisis that Su Yu had created for himself. If he hadn't carried out that scam, even with the soul devouring bug blood essence, everyone would think that a student like him knew nothing. Alas, it was too late for regrets.

Su Yu sank into thought. After a while, he said, "Martial Uncle, you mean that we must now produce some relevant data and submit it to the authorities? But if we do so, we will further prove that we know about this unique blood essence. Would people stop targeting us after that?"

"This is merely a way to share some of the risks with others. If more people know about this, then we won't be the only ones to know about it. Additionally, if we can prove that this thing is very hard and expensive to make while the blood essence ability is still stuck at the Great Strength Realm, its value would diminish greatly."

Su Yu raised his brow, "In other words, we only need to figure out the production method for Great Strength soul devouring bug blood essence and prove that any further upgrades are extremely difficult or even nonexistent? That way, the risk on us would drop tremendously?"

"Yes."

Su Yu understood what his martial uncle was getting at. He said, "Is our research center capable of producing something like that?"

Chen Yong stared at Su Yu and smiled. At this point, if either of them were still confused as to what they were supposed to do, then that person would be a total idiot.

"That is quite likely. I don't know too much about this topic, but your teacher knows a lot. He was the one who had come up with the breakthrough for the blood essence ability extraction project. Since he is already capable of extracting some other abilities, then he should be able to do the same for the soul devouring bug ability as well. The main issue is the activation method of that ability..."

Su Yu understood. He nodded. The soul devouring bug ability was essentially a part of the Soul Devouring Art. It was basically a technique within a cultivation method. A special sort of technique involving willpower.

And Su Yu knew that the Soul Devouring Art involved acupoints, not soul apertures. Thus, the matter was really not as serious as others thought it was. It was completely unlike the cultural arts of the five elemental race which would be a much bigger deal.

In fact, as long as I can offer the Soul Devouring Art cultivation method suitable for human cultivation and have some people cultivate it, then this issue would no longer be a problem.

Yes, the matter wasn't as serious as he had thought. Of course, it would be much better if he could avoid providing the cultivation method. Just providing the unique blood essence would be much less conspicuous than providing an entire cultivation method.

After a short chat with Chen Yong, Wu Jia returned with a freshly brewed pot of tea. After returning, the only thing she did was stare at Su Yu. Both Su Yu and Chen Yong felt somewhat awkward.

But Chen Yong laughed when a thought crossed his mind. If these two could get together...it would result in quite an incredible love story. But he did not try doing anything. After all, Wu Jia and Su Yu might not be interested in each other.

At the moment, Wu Jia was merely touched and curious. It was rather unlikely that she had developed a romantic feeling toward Su Yu. Furthermore, this student of his was quite a scatterbrain. She knew nothing about romance.

After reminding Su Yu to keep a low profile for now, Chen Yong said nothing else. As for the matter concerning Zheng Yuming, it really had nothing much to do with Su Yu for now.

Before leaving, Su Yu asked, "Martial Uncle, for your end of year performance review, do you need Senior Sister to get into the ranking?"

"Don't worry too much about that..."

But Su Yu couldn't do so.

Thus, he hurriedly said, "Martial Uncle, we can't lose the books depository! Our character technique wall is still here!"

"We can move that thing away..."

"Martial Uncle!"

Su Yu simply couldn't agree to that.

He solemnly said, "For generations, the members of the multiple character faction have formed their character technique in the books depository. But in our generation, we actually lost it? How can we face our seniors? Also, without the books depository, it would be quite troublesome for us to form new characters in the future. Thus, we can't lose this building!"

"..."

Chen Yong laughed. Why did the kid look even more worried than him?

"Martial Uncle, Senior Sister can definitely enter the ranking. Worst comes to worst, I'll kick all single character faction members out of the ranking..."

"Don't be rash! That's too dangerous. They even have a top 10 student capable of fighting Skysoars. As for Jia...If we really have no choice, we can get her to challenge you and take your position on the 25th of December right before the ranking is shut for updating. That way, she can remain in the ranking while I can avoid the inspection..."

"But I'm already in 71st place..."

Su Yu looked at Wu Jia. His rank was too high for her to challenge. Unless...he dropped his rank.

Meanwhile, Wu Jia was feeling rather gloomy.

She muttered unhappily, "Teacher, do we really need Junior Brother to give me his position? That's too embarrassing. We even need him to drop until the bottom 10 before we can do so. Wouldn't that be a stain on Junior Brother's record?"

Chen Yong was feeling pretty helpless too.

He said, "That's why I'm saying that it doesn't matter if I lose my position here. There is no need to ruin your own future for something like this."

That would be the other option apart from having Su Yu beating up every single single character faction student that was even slightly powerful, beating them up so badly that they wouldn't even dare to challenge the ranking ever again. Plant so much fear in them that they wouldn't even dare to think of challenging Wu Jia anymore. But that would be too difficult.

Instead of getting demotivated, Su Yu said, "Martial Uncle, Senior Sister's willpower and Divine Characters were damaged, but would she be able to recover faster if she gains access to a cultural art she can cultivate?"

Chen Yong nodded, "Yes. But she's not at the Skysoar Realm yet. The Myriad Text Sutra can only be cultivated by those in the Skysoar Realm. If she's already in the Skysoar Realm, she would be able to easily recover from an injury like this. The soul apertures required by the Myriad Text Sutra are only available at the Skysoar Realm. Those below that realm will have no way of opening them.

"For now, forget about growing. Your senior sister's sea of willpower will destabilize just from a regular clash of willpower during cultivation. Thus, she has no choice but to stop her willpower cultivation for now. She has been focusing on her physical cultivation while waiting for her willpower to recover."

Those in the Mental Tempering Stage could only cultivate their willpower passively through clash of willpower.

But Wu Jia's willpower was injured. The moment she tried doing so, her injuries would worsen. Thus, she could do nothing apart from waiting helplessly as her willpower recovered by itself.

"The Five Elemental Art..."

Su Yu muttered under his breath. That was something even those at the Mental Tempering Stage could cultivate. And it did not require the clash of willpower to cultivate. Instead, it allowed one to cultivate through absorbing willpower.

Thus, it would be very helpful for Wu Jia's recovery. But...Su Yu hesitated. If it was leaked, it would be very troublesome. That was not a regular physical cultivation method. It was a willpower cultivation method.

Those at the Mental Tempering Stage could cultivate it. Not even the academy had something like that. Once leaked, it would have a much greater impact than the soul devouring bug blood essence.

In truth, Su Yu was very afraid of trouble. Also, to be perfectly honest, he wasn't even that close to Wu Jia. Should he take this risk for her? He had only challenged Huang Qifeng because he was confident he could win. But exposing this cultivation method could bring him a lot of trouble.

"I'll wait and see."

Su Yu decided to wait for a bit before making a decision. He would try cultivating it himself first. In any case, he wasn't sure if everyone could cultivate it. And he hadn't even properly organized it into a cultivation method. He only knew how to open those soul apertures. He might be able to cultivate it, but that might not necessarily be the case for Wu Jia.

Su Yu left the books depository.

Along the way, he encountered some students. All of them respectfully made way for him. That was the treatment each top 100 student enjoyed in the academy.

Su Yu was still as calm and gentle as ever. He showed no arrogance whatsoever and would politely smile at any student making way for him. Of course, he did not try persuading them against it. This was the benefit of being a top 100 student. If he rejected it, then he would essentially be going against the entire top 100.

He could be humble, but there was no need to offend an entire group of people for no reason. There was no need for him to be overly humble. That would only make him look like a hypocrite.

Sure, there were already some who were viewing him as a hypocrite. But he would absolutely not admit to that. He was no hypocrite! He was a good and honest man!

Chapter 316: A Glimpse Of Future (3)

When Su Yu returned to the research center again, he relaxed.

He felt relieved, but at the same time, he also felt somewhat melancholic. The events of the day had developed slightly outside his expectations. While he was measuring his gains and losses for the day, his vision suddenly swam. Then, he appeared at a completely different location.

He was inside a building. In front of him was a human silhouette.

"Su Yu, why don't you come to the Heart Cultivating Pavilion and have a chat with me when you have the time?"

Su Yu was completely stunned. He had clearly been in the research center. That research center was the territory of a Mountainsea expert. Had someone actually penetrated the defenses of the building without being detected?

"Principal?"

"Yes, it's me." Wan Tiansheng's voice drifted around randomly as he said, "We can have the chat here too, but your willpower won't be able to last too long. It's better if you visit me in person some other day."

"Principa, I..."

Before he could finish, his vision swam again. He was awakened by a sharp pain in his head. He was still sitting on the couch, but his willpower had been completely drained. He felt incomparably tired. Shock covered his face.

Wan Tiansheng had easily broken through Hong Tan's defenses and brought his willpower out for a conversation. What was that? That was too powerful. Was the gap between different Mountainsea cultivators so big?

Su Yu was shocked, but a different thought also appeared in his mind. He had to be even more careful from now on. That was too scary! Suddenly, he felt like there was no privacy in the academy. Everything was fully under the principal's control.

In that case, was the principal aware of the trick he pulled on the single character faction? Was the principal aware of that little club he had established with Hu Zongji? Was the principal aware of all the resources he had bought from Xia Huyou? More importantly, was the principal aware of the book in his mind?

He felt as though all his secrets had been seen through. Someone had been observing everything he had done. He swallowed. The principal could bring his willpower out even when he was inside the research center. But could the grottos block the principal's gaze?

"Maybe not...Zhou Mingren was obviously within a grotto earlier yet he had immediately noticed when Zheng Yuming was injured. In that case, not even grottos can obstruct their willpower. A chat with me? What does he want to talk about?"

Su Yu was greatly troubled. What was happening here?

Suddenly, Wan Tiansheng felt like a villain to him. The principal had been staying in the academy for a very long time. Did the principal spend all his time spying on everyone in the academy?

"I really need to grow stronger."

Su Yu cursed inwardly. He was still too weak. He was so weak that even within his own base of operations, the principal could still take his life without any trouble if the principal so wished.

At the same time.

Heart Cultivating Pavilion.

Wan Tiansheng smiled and took a sip of tea before muttering, "Multiple character faction...no, would the cultivators of human Divine Characters rise into prominence because of you?"

That was what he had seen from his glimpse into the future. That might not necessarily be the true future. That was merely one of the countless possibilities that could happen in the future. But he still wanted to give it a try.

Sun and the moon swam within his eyes. His hair alternated between white and black. Strand after strand of white hair fell off his head. After a while, he waved his hand, causing all the fallen strands of hair to disappear. Softly, he muttered to himself, "A hundred years of lifespan...is that worth it?"

He shook his head and stopped thinking about that.

"Sunmoon, Eternal..."

Su Yu was merely a small part of the future he glimpsed, not the major part. Thus, there were a lot more things he needed to take into consideration.

Suddenly, his eyes flickered as he nonchalantly said, "I have merely destroyed his divine and devil characters. This might be another opportunity for him. Old Zhou, you don't have to keep pleading for leniency from me. The rules exist to be obeyed."

Outside the building.

Zhou Mingren gloomily said, "Yuming mainly cultivates divine and devil characters. Without those characters, sending him to the Allheaven Battlefield is the same as killing him."

Wan Tiansheng indifferently said, "Without destruction, there can be no rebuilding. He has not entered the Mountainsea Realm for long so there is still hope for him to reinvent himself. If he is already at the peak of the realm, it would be much more troublesome to destroy his characters."

"Fine. I won't say anything else about that. I only wish to ask for one character for Yuming."

Wan Tiansheng raised his brow and said, "That does not belong to me. Neither does it belong to you."

"I know. But those people are already dead. The Divine Characters have accompanied them to their graves. Is that really the correct choice?"

Wan Tiansheng said, "I don't know, but that's their own choice. You reap what you sow. If we hadn't expelled them back then, perhaps those Divine Characters would still remain in the academy. But since we had chosen to expel them, there is nothing we can do now. Zhou Mingren, you can choose to dig the grave of a deceased for the sake of your student today. What if tomorrow, the multiple character faction regains their former strength and comes looking for revenge? At that time, don't blame me for not helping you."

"I'll face all the consequences myself. I don't want to do this either, but I can't just watch as Yuming is sent to his death. You are the principal. Since you asked for him to kill a Mountainsea enemy, I won't object. I'll follow your rules. But as his teacher, I need to find a path of survival for him."

Wan Tiansheng said nothing.

Zhou Mingren also said nothing else and walked away. After Zhou Mingren left, Wan Tiansheng sighed and shook his head. You reap what you sow. Today, he could dig the grave of one of them. One day in the future when those people returned, they would naturally look for him to settle scores.

"Liu Wenyan, Xia Yunji..."

Wan Tiansheng muttered. Was there still hope for those people?

"Someone is going to dig the grave of one of you. Can you guys...remain patient?"

Wan Tiansheng shut his eyes and returned to his cultivation.

Research center.

Su Yu rested in silence. After a long while, his willpower finally fully recovered.

It was already the night of the 3rd.

It should be the day he fed the creatures in the prison zone again, but he was in no mood to do so. It had only been three days anyway. They wouldn't starve so easily so there was no rush.

Thus, he stood up and pressed a button on the wall. After a short while, sounds of footsteps came from below. A Bai Feng with a messy stubble, heavy eyebags, and messy hair appeared. He looked at Su Yu with a somewhat blank look in his eyes.

"Yes?"

Su Yu felt a headache coming. Just how did his teacher turn into someone like this? He no longer looked carefree and confident. He was no longer the refined and elegant cultural researcher Su Yu remembered.

"Teacher, I wish to start doing research."

"What?" Bai Feng asked blankly, "Research?"

"Yeah."

"But..." Bai Feng scratched his head and said, "Before reaching the Skysoar Realm, you should focus on cultivation instead..."

Research was very time consuming. It wasn't a good idea to start wasting time on research before even reaching the Skysoar Realm. Even Bai Feng himself had only switched his focus to research after reaching the Skysoar Realm.

Su Yu thought about it and said, "Teacher, didn't our research center produce a drop of soul devouring bug blood essence? Because of that drop of blood essence, I think we are being targeted. Therefore, we need to come up with the actual production method of soul devouring bug blood essence..."

Bai Feng was completely confused. What the hell was Su Yu talking about? Bai Feng understood the words spoken by his student, but he couldn't understand the sentence formed by those words.

When did their research center produce a drop of soul devouring bug blood essence? He looked at Su Yu blankly.

Su Yu helplessly said, "Teacher, didn't you promise to become my scapegoat? You told me to claim that any racial ability I use is a product of your research. Recently, I used the racial ability of the soul devouring bugs. And then...well...I'll be needing your services as a scapegoat."

"..."

Bai Feng was still blanking out.

Damn it! He had only been in seclusion for a few days. The moment he left, the kid gave him such a massive trouble to solve. Was this kid deliberately trying to make his life difficult?

Bai Feng finally recovered somewhat from his daze. He rubbed his head and said, "It's the fault of that blood character again? You used their racial ability after consuming some soul devouring bug blood essence and was found out. Others think that we have produced blood essence capable of affecting willpower and are now targeting you?"

"Pretty much."

Su Yu nodded. Wow. His teacher sure was smart. Just look at how easily his teacher had understood the messy explanation he had given. How smart. This smart teacher better have a way to solve this problem.

Bai Feng was somewhat speechless. He said, "That racial ability is not a willpower ability. It can only affect the outer layer of one's willpower by applying a burning and corroding force to the outer layer. It is still a source qi ability. Are those people so stupid that they can't differentiate between willpower and source qi abilities?"

"..."

Su Yu looked at Bai Feng, surprised. He was aware of that because he had used the ability before. But Bai Feng was aware of that as well? One ought to know that even Chen Yong thought that this was a willpower ability.

"Teacher, how did you know that?"

Bai Feng said, "What stupid question is that? I've experimented on so many different types of blood essence over the years. The soul devouring bug is such a unique species. How can I not experiment on their blood essence as well? Your grandteacher used to have some soul devouring bugs locked up. I had personally experienced having my willpower corroded by the soul devouring liquid. It is a source qi attack.

"If this ability can be developed to the point that warriors can use it, then it would be a nightmare for cultural researchers. This ability allows one to alter one's source qi and greatly reduce the difficulty of defeating a cultural researcher."

Su Yu nodded. His teacher was right. He was very surprised. His teacher was actually quite knowledgeable.

Bai Feng sat down and stared at Su Yu for a while before pointing at the empty teapot in front of him. What a dumb student.

Su Yu laughed and hurriedly ran off to brew a fresh pot of tea.

Bai Feng yawned and continued speaking, "I once spent several months researching the soul devouring bug. Back then, I tried to discover the way of changing this ability into a martial technique. I wanted to see if I can open the acupoints required for this ability and alter the nature of my source qi..."

He then shook his head, "But it was too hard. The soul devouring bugs are a species of bugs. Their body structure is too different from humans. Even after dissecting dozens of them, I wasn't able to discover anything."

Chapter 317: Teacher Is Incredible (1)

While making a pot of tea, Su Yu said, "Teacher, there is one issue. You might have neglected something."

"What is it?"

"I'm human."

"No shit."

Bai Feng rolled his eyes. Was he supposed to not know that his student was a human?

So what?

But next...Bai Feng stood up in shock. The look in his eyes changed. Finally, he was wide awake. He pointed at Su Yu blankly. His mouth was opened to speak, but no words came out.

After a while, he roared, "You're human!"

Yeah! Su Yu was a human! Did he neglect something extremely crucial? Holy shit! He had been waiting for Su Yu to reach the Skysoar Realm so that he could research Su Yu's character. Why hadn't he thought of this? Su Yu was a human!

Holy shit!

He was a human!

Su Yu didn't know what to do when he saw Bai Feng's reaction. He knew this would happen. As a student, he really didn't want to despise his own teacher. But at times, his teacher could be...somewhat...unreliable.

Was his teacher not aware that he was a human? They had been staying together for so long. Did his teacher only notice that now?

Bai Feng said, "You're a human. Therefore, would you open some acupoints when activating these racial abilities? Are you actually activating them with your acupoints?"

He frowned, "Wait, aren't you activating these abilities with your character? Are you not activating these abilities directly from the blood essence?"

Su Yu became even more speechless. True. That was the excuse he had always given his teacher.

He coughed and said, "Teacher, the character is only a medium. It will convert the power within the blood essence into a unique power and open some temporary acupoints in my body to use that ability."

Bai Feng was alarmed.

He hurriedly asked, "Is this the case for all racial abilities?"

"I think so."

"You're finished!"

Su Yu was confused.

Bai Feng said, "If news of this spread, you're dead for sure, kid! You will become the number one target of the myriad races! Since you can use their abilities, they have no secret before you! You're screwed! Not even your grandteacher can protect you from this! Kid, are you serious? I thought you're activating those abilities with your character? Why can you suddenly open their acupoints?"

"..."

Bai Feng was horrified by what he just learned.

Previously, he had thought that Su Yu could only activate those racial abilities through his Divine Character by extracting the remnant of those abilities from blood essence. That was how the blood essence produced by the research center worked.

A medium was required. The user would not actually open any acupoints to utilize those abilities. Instead, the power and the racial ability imprint within the blood essence were used to duplicate the ability.

Su Yu's activation method was completely different.

The research center's version was essentially a duplication. A single-use ability similar to talismans. As for Su Yu, he was basically producing a blueprint from the blood essence to open his own acupoints, turning the abilities into his own techniques.

Bai Feng stared at Su Yu in shock. He had thought that nothing this student could do would shock him anymore. Alas, he was proven wrong by reality.

Bai Feng swallowed as the look in his eyes changed. He asked, "Is anyone aware that you can activate the acupoints for these abilities?"

Su Yu shook his head, "I doubt so. I already have a lot of acupoints opened, so people might not be able to notice that the acupoints I used for these abilities are temporary acupoints."

"What a stupid thing to say. With the small number of acupoints you have, anyone with a good eye can see that you're opening temporary acupoints."

Su Yu scratched his head and said, "I think...it won't be easy. Teacher, I have opened 153 acupoints. I doubt they will be able to notice a few additional or missing acupoints among all those acupoints..."

Bai Feng blinked. What?

Wasn't this kid only a Great Strength cultivator?

What 153 acupoints?

Su Yu said, "Therefore, even if I open those temporary acupoints right in front of them, they would probably not notice anything unless they perform a deep scan on me."

"Wait a minute." Bai Feng interrupted Su Yu, "What do you mean by 153 acupoints? Explain yourself."

Su Yu was starting to get nervous, but he put on a calm expression and said, "Aren't you aware, Teacher? I remember telling you before. When you asked me about my progress, I told you I made great progress."

"Did that happen?"

Bai Feng dug through his memories.

Had he really asked the kid that question?

"So you're saying that..." He looked at Su Yu.

Su Yu nodded, "I have 153 acupoints. I have reached the ninth-stage Great Strength Realm. I have opened additional acupoints to cultivate some martial techniques."

"153 acupoints..." Bai Feng muttered to himself. He looked at Su Yu and didn't even bother trying to hide his shock. He asked, "What day is it today? No, what month is it?"

"Year 350 of Anping Calendar, the night of the 3rd of October."

"You have been in the academy for two months?"

"Yeah."

Bai Feng nodded. Calm returned to his face. He was no longer as surprised. Two months. No, it had been more than two months. It had been 63 days. The kid had opened 153 acupoints. Excluding what the kid had opened prior to this, he had opened 140 acupoints since entering the academy.

"So you couldn't even open more than three per day?" Bai Feng inhaled deeply and smiled, "That's acceptable, I guess. So you still couldn't open more than three per day."

Su Yu was getting more and more nervous. Has his teacher gone mad? What did he mean by that? Wasn't that...normal?

Bai Feng scratched his head. He looked completely indifferent, as though he had gained full immunity toward anything Su Yu could throw his way. He waved his hand and said, "Forget about that. It's only some acupoints. Return to the topic of the racial ability. Did any outsider notice you opening temporary acupoints?"

"I doubt so. Teacher, isn't that how the research center's blood essence work as well?"

"No." Bai Feng took out a bottle and tossed it to Su Yu. He said, "This is a drop of fire hog blood essence with their racial ability, Tackle. Give it a try."

Su Yu did not hesitate and swallowed the blood essence.

Next, he roared painfully. A powerful force was erupting within his body. He started growing in size, tearing through his clothes. A stream of knowledge suddenly entered his brain, causing him to ram forward instinctively.

Boom!

Bai Feng casually slapped Su Yu away before smiling, "How does it feel?"

Su Yu was stuck on the wall. He waited until the blood essence's power was exhausted before answering in exhaustion, "So this is how it works? The blood essence supplies the power while my brain is given a vague impression of what to do. Following the implanted memory, I unleashed the ability."

"Exactly."

Su Yu smiled bitterly. So the research center's version was completely different. He had always thought that the research center's blood essence ability worked the same as his, as in they would open temporary acupoints. But he was wrong.

No wonder. He had been curious why Bai Feng didn't know more myriad race abilities. So that was the reason.

Bai Feng looked at his student helplessly and said, "So do you now understand the implications of how you use your blood essence abilities? Kid, you should just stop using blood essence. I don't want to die. If the myriad races found out about this, I reckon there will even be Eternals coming after you."

What a big mess. This kid was actually able to perfectly imitate their racial abilities. Who would they kill if not him? He still remembered that when Su Yu first used a blood essence ability in front of him, things were different.

He asked, "I remember that you didn't open temporary acupoints when you demonstrated the iron-winged bird's racial ability to me previously."

Su Yu shook his head, "I did. I opened some arm acupoints. But all your focus was on my character so you didn't notice."

Bai Feng thought about it. That...seemed to be the case. He had been too shocked to notice anything at the time. He had never imagined that the way Su Yu activated blood essence abilities were completely different from the research center's method. He had been busy thinking of waiting for Su Yu to reach the Skysoar Realm before researching him.

Bai Feng said, "You're right. I was too busy thinking about how I should dissect you when you reach the Skysoar Realm..."

"Cough, cough!" Su Yu coughed.

That was too excessive! Also, should his teacher even be telling him that?

Bai Feng couldn't even be bothered to entertain Su Yu's response. He was too troubled by what he had just learned. He needed to solve the problem created by the soul devouring bug ability.

Su Yu had already reached the ninth-stage Great Strength Realm. The kid had also opened a large number of additional acupoints. The kid's racial ability activation was completely different from what he had expected it to be.

If this was leaked, they would probably spend the rest of their lives being hunted by the Eternals of the myriad races. What else?

Bai Feng rubbed his head. Due to his lack of sleep, he wasn't able to think very well. He asked, "Anything else? Tell me everything at once. I can handle this."

Su Yu glanced at his teacher cautiously and tested the waters, "I defeated Yang Sha."

"Who?"

"Liu Hong's first student."

"Oh."

Bai Feng was completely indifferent.

"I defeated Liu He as well. Liu Hong's little brother."

"Oh. Wait a minute. Did you enter the top 100?"

Bai Feng realized what Su Yu was trying to say. The look in his eyes turned odd. The kid had entered the Top 100 Ranking. But...yeah. That was normal. The kid was already a ninth-stage Great Strength cultivator. At that thought, he calmed down again.

"Anything else?"

"Yeah. And then...while I was at it, I fought Huang Qifeng, the one who had seriously injured Senior Sister. I beat him to the verge of death."

"Oh. So be it. As long as you follow the rules, everything is fine."

"And then...I think his teacher, Elder Zheng, tried to attack me. Principal Wan caught and crushed him before exiling him to the Allheaven Battlefield. His exile will only end after killing a Mountainsea enemy."

Bai Feng felt like his brain was going to burst apart.

He could no longer stay calm. He grimaced painfully before saying, "Well done. Very good. I think I need to go look for your grandteacher at the Allheaven Battlefield. Otherwise, you're screwed. I'm probably screwed as well."

This was more trouble than he could handle.

He looked at Su Yu and asked with a mournful tone, "Am I the last to know about this? I sensed some powerful aura eruptions earlier. Was that when it happened?"

"I think so."

"So the entire academy might already be aware of this before me."

"I...think so."

"I think...you can graduate from my teachings already." Bai Feng was being driven mad, "Kid! Your teacher is only a Skysoar! Are you trying to kill me?"

Su Yu dryly said, "Teacher, that's not all."

"You..."

Bai Feng crumpled down on the couch and weakly said, "Continue, then."

"Earlier, Principal Wan visited and pulled my willpower out of the research center to his place. He told me to visit him when I have some time."

"Fuck!" Bai Feng suddenly cursed, "This is a private research center. Does he not know the rules? He crossed a line! I can file a complaint with the Talent Fostering Bureau!"

Technically, all educational institutions were under the Talent Fostering Bureau's jurisdiction.

Chapter 318: Teacher Is Incredible (2)

The look in Bai Feng's eyes changed as he noticed the crux of the issue. "How did he even get his willpower in here? The defenses placed by your grandteacher might not be able to block the invasion of a peak Mountainsea, but it should at least be able to prevent one from entering undetected."

He looked at Su Yu and asked, "Are you sure you were in here when it happened?"

"Yeah."

"Holy shit!" Bai Feng couldn't stop himself from cursing yet again. "That old scoundrel--cough, cough. I mean...that old principal...is already in the Sunmoon Realm?"

"Sunmoon?"

Su Yu was astonished. Was Wan Tiansheng already in the Sunmoon Realm?

"That is very possible." Bai Feng frowned, "Otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to so easily sneak through your grandteacher's defenses. Whatever. Just forget about him."

Bai Feng decided to stop thinking. The more he thought about it, the more troubled he felt.

"Anything else?"

"Yeah..." Su Yu softly said, "Teacher, I accidentally obtained a martial technique."

"Oh."

Bai Feng was relieved. That was no big deal.

"It's a heaven-grade technique."

"Not bad."

"A middle-tier heaven-grade technique with 132 acupoints..."

Bai Feng glanced at his student and said, "It's only a technique. So what if it's a middle-tier heaven-grade technique? Are you showing off? The Knowledge Seeking Realm and War Shrine have plenty of such techniques. Every single one of those old fossils have a few of these techniques lying around. Your teacher's Dragon Slaying Sword is, strictly speaking, no weaker than these heaven-grade techniques."

He was a cultivator who had experienced and seen a lot. Could something like this shock him? Sure, that was most definitely an incredible technique. But in comparison with everything else he had heard today, that was nothing.

Su Yu stole a glance at his teacher and softly said, "I found the technique inside the Mountainsea Peace Seeking Stratagem you sold."

Bang!

Bai Feng kicked a side table in shock before hurriedly picking up the things sprawled all over the floor. He swallowed and said, "Bullshit! I sold nothing! It was stolen!"

He then asked with despair, "Are you sure? You found it inside the Mountainsea Peace Seeking Stratagem?"

"Yeah. The suanni told me. It was something he accidentally obtained a long time ago."

"When your grandteacher returns, he will kill the suanni. Kid, don't tell your grandteacher. Or the suanni would be dead."

Bai Feng shivered. Had the suanni thought of his fate after this? Hong Tan would probably slowly flay the suanni while maintaining a sinister smile of a devil on his face.

Since the suanni had lied for decades, he might as well continue lying. But instead, the suanni had decided to tell Hong Tan's grandstudent. That was too humiliating for Hong Tan. Hong Tan would definitely kill that suanni after learning about it.

Su Yu also smiled bitterly. That was true. That idiot suanni...how pitiful. He decided to offer the suanni some of his sympathy.

Bai Feng didn't even feel like asking more about the technique. He weakly said, "Forget about everything else for now. As for the soul devouring bug ability...I'll think of something. I tried producing a drop of unique blood essence with their ability before, but it was too difficult so I gave up. I've learned something new recently so I can try again."

Bai Feng was no fool. He was able to instantly see through the crux of the issue. He said, "I will try to get the basic production method out. If I can't further improve it, I'll give it to the academy or the Knowledge Seeking Realm. They only need to pay us. We can also sell them some blood essence to let them know that this ability is not a willpower ability."

Bai Feng started cursing, "A bunch of fools. They don't even know the difference between willpower and source qi abilities. After buying a few drops of blood essence and learning that it is a source qi ability, they would probably give up. After all, this blood essence can only be obtained from a single species. It is

also very weak. Unless you gather thousands of people together and have them use the ability as one, it would be useless against even Skysoar cultivators."

Su Yu was relieved to hear that. At times, this teacher of his could also be quite reliable. Just look at how easily his teacher solved this problem. Sure enough, using his teacher as the scapegoat was the correct decision.

Bai Feng said, "As for the matter involving Zheng Yuming, who cares about him? He won't be able to do anything in the Allheaven Battlefield. But some trouble will probably come from the beating you gave Huang Qifeng. You'll have to deal with that yourself."

"As for the heaven-grade technique, generally, the creators of these techniques would still be alive. And it's not a good idea to spread the technique when the creator is still alive. Just cultivate it privately. For human inheritances, if they come in the form of willpower text, then the creator is likely still alive. After all, human willpower texts can't be kept for long. Your technique comes in the form of a willpower text, right?"

"Yeah." Su Yu nodded.

Bai Feng said, "That explains why even your grandteacher was clueless. I reckon that it is an inheritance from a Sunmoon or even an Invincible. But we're not desperate for something like that so keep it for yourself. You don't even owe the creator a favor by learning a technique in this manner. At most, you'll have to call the creator teacher when you meet them in the future. It's not like you had robbed the technique from them. If you get along well with them, you can further develop this relationship. If not, it's no big deal."

Bai Feng wasn't too worried about that. Heaven-grade techniques might be rare, but cultural researchers were generally unconcerned about martial techniques. That was especially true for those from the multiple character faction.

Strictly speaking, their character technique could also be considered a middle-tier heaven-grade technique.

Su Yu nodded repeatedly as he listened.

Bai Feng said, "From now on, you're not allowed to fight with blood essence unless it's a matter of life or death. As for what you have already shown, just blame them all on me. Not many people would know anything yet and the few that would suspect anything had no way of being sure either."

Su Yu nodded.

"Since you can actually use those abilities the correct way..." The look in Bai Feng's eyes changed, "Have you tried the blood essence of the five elemental race? No, you can only use their racial abilities instead of their cultivation methods. Forget it. That won't help."

Su Yu's heart nearly popped out of his chest. This teacher of his...could be terrifyingly sharp at times. He knew what Bai Feng was thinking. His teacher wanted to ask if he could duplicate the cultural art of the five elemental race and create a version that was suitable for human cultivation.

How terrifyingly smart. Even Su Yu himself had only thought of that recently. Sure enough, his teacher was actually smart. He just enjoyed being a shut-in a tad too much.

Bai Feng was unaware of what his student was thinking. After thinking for a bit, he said, "Also, for now, try to focus on only human characters. Don't be in a rush to confirm your main Divine Character character. Perhaps...you were right. Why can't human characters be strong as well?"

"You wish to start researching as well. Your strength has reached an acceptable level. Starting from tomorrow, you can enter the third underground floor. Your first project would be the creation of the production method for soul devouring bug blood essence ability. After you're done with that, you can join my research project."

Bai Feng inhaled deeply, "I suppose that would be a good idea. Since you know so many different racial abilities, you can help me with my experiments, such as activating some abilities every now and then for me to learn more about those abilities.

"What a pity that your grandteacher isn't around. Otherwise, we would have been able to get him to provide more divine and devil blood essence for you. Perhaps we can discover something unexpected by doing that. I really need to send someone to go look for him. Yeah. I'll need to issue a mission for someone to find him for us."

Bai Feng was starting to regret sending his teacher away. He better not be lost somewhere. Bai Feng and his senior brother were not strong enough to handle all the troubles coming their way.

He was also worried that even after completing his research on the racial ability character, he wouldn't be able to announce his research results without the protection of his teacher. That would simply be too big of a deal.

In fact, maybe not even his teacher could withstand the troubles that might come their way after he completed his research. He needed the backing of even more multiple character faction experts.

There was also this kid. This kid was simply a monster.

Divine Character?

Bullshit!

He swore if the kid dared to claim that all his special abilities were thanks to the character he wrote, he would strangle the kid to death.

Bai Feng was willing to bet his life on the fact that the blood character really wasn't that incredible. He couldn't help but to curse inwardly. That damn kid had been lying to him!

Suddenly, Bai Feng thought of something. He hesitated slightly and said, "Give my martial uncle a call and ask him if...he's willing to become my lab rat."

"Huh?"

Su Yu blanked out.

"What do you mean, teacher?"

"The literal meaning of all those words." Bai Feng rolled his eyes, "Can't you understand what I'm saying?"

"No...I mean...Teacher, why don't you call him yourself..."

"Nonsense. Do you think I'm not afraid of death? My martial uncle is very petty. He also doesn't like me. He keeps thinking that I'm trying to steal from him. If I dare to mention this to him, he would get his old lover to beat me up..."

"..."

Su Yu was stunned. His teacher's mouth was getting more and more out of control. Was his teacher so desperate that he couldn't even be bothered to keep some things secret anymore?

Curious, Su Yu softly asked, "Teacher, who is...Teacher Liu's old lover?"

"It's—"

Bai Feng hurriedly shut his mouth.

"Scram! Don't ask something you shouldn't be asking about!" Bai Feng rolled his eyes, "Ask him yourself. Don't ask me. Remember, give him a call. I have an idea and my martial uncle would be the perfect lab rat. I'm even starting to wonder if what the fifth principal left behind is the thing I'm thinking about."

Racial ability character. Was the character left behind by the fifth principal a racial ability character? He was seriously suspecting that. He really wanted to cut his martial uncle's head open and get a good look at that character.

It would be even better if he could do the same to Su Yu.

At this moment, Su Yu recalled something and said, "Teacher Huang said that human cultural researchers are incapable of entering the Eternal Realm because humans lack something. And that something is related to the sea of willpower. Teacher..."

Bai Feng was completely stunned. Yes. He didn't know that. He had never asked about it and nobody had ever bothered telling him about it. Was someone supposed to tell someone at his cultivation level that human cultural researchers would be stuck at the peak Sunmoon Realm?

Nobody was that free. Nobody would tell him unless he asked about it first. He wasn't a peak Sunmoon so what was the point of telling him? In the end, he would still need to reach the Eternal Realm through physical cultivation.

Bai Feng swallowed. And like Su Yu when he first heard of that news, Bai Feng also thought about the racial ability character.

He looked at his student and asked with a trembling voice, "Are you sure? Who told you that?"

"Teacher Huang. The one guarding the grotto."

Bai Feng inhaled deeply, stood up, and solemnly said, "Do not tell anyone that we are researching the racial ability character. If anyone asks, we are researching blood essence abilities. Do you understand? We are researching blood essence. Our research has nothing to do with Divine Characters and sea of willpower."

Su Yu hurriedly nodded. Yes. He understood. At that moment, he suddenly felt like his teacher was truly incredible. His teacher's research was actually related to humanity's path toward the Eternal Realm. When Bai Feng saw the look of admiration on his student's face, he felt incredibly smug.

"Me. Your teacher. Incredible, right? Amazing, right?"

Next, Su Yu softly asked, "Teacher, you're only a Skysoar. Even if you can complete your research, can you even put it to use?"

"..."

Bai Feng was totally speechless. Those words were too hurtful. Only a Skysoar? What was the kid talking about? Did the kid think he was already a Cloudbreach? Bai Feng was tired of talking to his student. But he couldn't help but to feel melancholic. Yeah. He was only a Skysoar. Damn it! He must reach the Cloudbreach Realm faster!

Chapter 319: Racial Ability Character (1)

Research center.

Student and teacher continued chatting for a while before Bai Feng recalled something and furiously asked, "Where's the tea?"

Su Yu laughed. His teacher was still thinking about tea? Bai Feng was finally happy after Su Yu served him a cup of tea. While sipping on tea, he sank into thought.

After a while, he said pensively, "Do you still remember the activated acupoints when you used the soul devouring bug ability?"

"Yeah."

"Soul devouring bug...soul devouring bug ability...source qi alteration..." Bai Feng muttered, "Is the alteration due to the ability itself or is it due to the source art of the soul devouring bugs? Too bad you don't know their source art..."

Su Yu thought about it and said, "Teacher, I think their source art and racial ability probably utilizes similar acupoints. I have a feeling we can even derive their source art from the ability. After all, the acupoints of the ability are basically almost the same as the acupoints of their source art."

Generally, racial abilities and foundation source arts would come in pairs.

A good example would be the War God Art and Skybreak Technique. Racial abilities were essentially the martial techniques that the myriad races innately knew.

The War God Art required 108 acupoints while the Skybreak Technique required 96 acupoints. But most of the acupoints overlapped. Thus, one only needed to open 12 additional acupoints to cultivate the Skybreak Technique.

"That makes sense." Bai Feng nodded, "If the source art of the soul devouring bugs can really alter one's source qi, giving it the abilities to burn and corrode willpower, then this cultivation method would be a very big deal for all warriors.

"Generally, warriors would need to close in to cultural researchers to harm them. But if they could burn the willpower of the cultural researchers from far away, a lot would change. Perhaps we can use this to gain the support of some powerful warriors."

Su Yu stared at his teacher, his expression changing.

Bai Feng indifferently asked, "Why are you looking at me like that? We're not strong enough. It is perfectly normal for us to look for more supporters. But my research is still stuck at the Great Strength Realm. Is that the highest level of the ability you have tried using as well?"

"Yeah."

"It's fine. That is enough. Our main goal is to figure out the required acupoints."

Bai Feng continued sipping on his tea while thinking.

This was a cultivation method capable of altering source qi and harming willpower. Were there similar cultivation methods out there? The world was massive. Everything could exist.

In fact, similar cultivation methods might already exist in the Human Realm and had merely been kept secret. As far as Bai Feng knew, there was no such cultivation method among the publicly known methods.

In Great Xia, apart from the Xia Family, the other warrior families probably wouldn't have something like that.

Suddenly, Bai Feng smiled, "If we really trade this cultivation method to some warriors, would we be known as the traitors of cultural researchers?"

Su Yu thought about it and answered, "No. The ones scolding us will be the actual traitors. We are sharing the cultivation method to strengthen our warriors, to help them kill more enemies in the battlefield. Why should human cultural researchers fear that cultivation method if they don't intend to betray humanity? Isn't it good for humanity to grow stronger? Thus, anyone daring to think that way is a traitor trying to destabilize humanity from within."

"That makes sense. But..." Bai Feng sneered, "Cultural researchers are very proud. All cultural researchers believe that warriors are incomparable to them. And when you provide warriors with a method to harm cultural researchers, they will feel threatened."

There were far fewer cultural researchers in existence compared to warriors. And one could only reach the Eternal Realm through physical cultivation. Even so, cultural researchers were still incomparably proud.

Even though the overall strength of the cultural research community was lower than the warrior community, they still believed that they were better. In truth, this thought was shared across the myriad races.

Su Yu shook his head, "That is not a good reason to keep important research results hidden. Should we prevent humanity from growing stronger just to preserve the status of cultural researchers?"

Bai Feng replied, "Of course not. But the premise for doing anything is strength. If you're an Invincible, even if you decide to preach about the dao publicly in the Allheaven Battlefield, nobody would dare to say anything."

Bai Feng exhaled and said, "We need to act carefully. Kid, since you want to get involved in research, this will be your first task. Deduce the Soul Devouring Art out of their racial ability."

Inwardly, Su Yu thought that the job was already done. He already knew the Soul Devouring Art. There was no need for him to deduce anything. Of course, he couldn't tell Bai Feng that.

It was still understandable if he could extract abilities out of blood essence. After all, a lot of people were also researching blood essence. But if he could also learn the cultivation method of other races through their blood essence, then he would be too much of a threat. Bai Feng would probably go crazy if he knew the truth.

Just look at his reaction after learning about Su Yu's ability to activate racial abilities.

Suddenly, Bai Feng stood up. When he saw that Su Yu was still sitting there blankly, he said, "What are you waiting for? I thought you wanted to start doing research?"

"Teacher...now?"

"Of course." Bai Feng frowned, "Are we supposed to wait until tomorrow?"

What an odd kid. Why would he think that?

"Kid, why are you so lazy? Back when your grandteacher first agreed to let me enter the lab, the only thing I wanted was to enter immediately. Why are you trying to avoid entering the lab instead?"

Su Yu was speechless. How was he trying to avoid entering the lab? He was merely caught unaware by Bai Feng's impatience. He said nothing and silently followed Bai Feng to the third underground floor.

Main laboratory.

This was Su Yu's first visit. The first thing he noticed was the thick and heavy-looking door of the laboratory.

Pointing at the door, Bai Feng explained, "This door was made of a material good enough to forge earth-grade weapons..."

Before Bai Feng could finish, Su Yu's expression changed as he exclaimed, "Flaming devil steel! A special product of the Flaming Devil Realm. It can be used as the main material for weapon forging. We are using this as a door?"

"Exactly. It's good that you know about it. If we need to, we can easily take it off and use it as an earth-grade weapon." Bai Feng proudly said, "And it won't even be an ordinary earth-grade weapon. A large piece like this is valuable enough to buy several high-tier earth-grade martial weapons."

A weapon at that level was good enough for even Mountainsea cultivators. Su Yu could see just how rich this research center used to be.

Su Yu estimated that this door could easily be sold for 5,000 merit points. This was only a material for martial weapons. If it was a material for cultural weapons, it would have a much more terrifying value.

Bai Feng wasted no time and summoned a small sword. The sword turned into a key before unlocking the door.

"Come on."

Su Yu hurriedly followed his teacher inside. He was utterly shocked by what he saw. Countless devices could be seen all over the main hall. And all around the hall, countless smaller rooms could be seen.

This place was much larger than the secondary laboratory of the research center. And it also had a lot more devices in it.

Suddenly, the look in Su Yu's eyes changed as his gaze landed on a room with transparent walls. What was that?

Countless floating books were visible in the room, and those books look rather familiar to Su Yu.

Noticing Su Yu's gaze, Bai Feng said, "Do they look familiar? Those are Marks of Culture. They were all formed of Mountainsea Divine Characters."

"Teacher..." Su Yu said in astonishment, "There are so many of them."

Bai Feng nodded, "These are all the spoils of war your grandteacher had obtained from the battlefield. Over the years, he had visited the battlefield several times. He had killed six Mountainsea experts in total. Three of them were cultural researchers. Your grandteacher had stripped a total of 16 Divine Characters from them. Three were main Divine Characters while the rest were secondary Divine Characters. All these characters have been preserved here."

Su Yu was greatly shocked.

Six Mountainsea cultivators?

One ought to know that Mountainsea cultivators were extremely rare. And generally, each battle between two Mountainsea cultivators would be an extremely dangerous fight. The only exceptions were situations where one party was much more powerful, such as the gap between Wan Tiansheng and Zheng Yuming.

And his grandteacher was actually able to go hunting for Mountainsea cultivators in the Allheaven Battlefield. His grandteacher must be really strong.

Bai Feng said, "These things can't really be called Marks of Culture. Proper Marks of Culture are left behind by deceased human cultivators that had decided to pass down an inheritance before dying. They do so with the hope that one day, the future generation would be able to inherit something from what they left behind. That was the origin of the name Mark of Culture."

Su Yu asked curiously, "Teacher, can the Divine Characters in Marks of Culture be passed down as well?"

"No." Bai Feng shook his head, "When a Mountainsea cultivator dies, all their Divine Characters will start dissipating. These characters can only be preserved through unique methods. But even preserved Divine Characters are semi-dissipated Divine Characters. And they won't exist forever. Thus, each Mark of Culture can only last for about 100 years."

He sighed.

Each Mark of Culture signified a deceased Mountainsea cultivator. Yet even this final imprint of them would eventually disappear.

Bai Feng said, "But there are unique circumstances, such as some peak Mountainsea cultivators with stable main Divine Characters. Before their death, they can use their life itself as the price to turn their Divine Characters into semi Eternal characters. Such characters can be kept longer as they will be closer to actual Eternal characters."

Su Yu nodded in understanding.

He asked, "Teacher, aren't there some Eternal characters in the academy? So these characters can actually still be used?"

All the grottos of the academy were made of Eternal characters. And the academy had a decent number of grottos. Most of these characters were left behind by the past Sunmoon cultivators of the academy.

"Use?" Bai Feng looked at Su Yu, "You mean letting someone use those characters like they were normal characters?"

Su Yu nodded, "Yeah. If those Eternal characters won't dissipate, can't we take them in and put them to use?"

He had suddenly thought about the book in his head. Thus, he was curious if Eternal characters could be taken into one's sea of willpower and be put to use.

Bai Feng shook his head, "That won't work. Simply put, it's an issue of compatibility. For example, you are someone who has formed a blood character. I'm not. After you're dead, I might not be able to use your blood character even after getting it from you."

"..."

Su Yu had an odd look on his face. Teacher, those words were...somewhat unkind. Why must he be the one to die? Bai Feng sure had a way to give an example.

"In that case, can these Eternal characters even be compatible with anyone?"

Su Yu asked.

"Yes." Bai Feng nodded, "My martial uncle and some other people are compatible with some Eternal characters. The compatibility might not be 100 percent, but they were compatible enough to actually take the characters into their seas of willpower. That is very rare. Generally, only geniuses can do so. Because these are the characters that these geniuses might end up forming by themselves anyway.

"Don't even think of doing this. You're a Mental Tempering Stage cultivator. How big of a burden an Eternal character would be to your sea of willpower? Can you imagine it? Your sea of willpower might burst apart the moment you take one in. You will only survive if you are really a super genius with an incredibly powerful sea of willpower while the Eternal character is also highly compatible with you. Only then would you have a tiny chance of succeeding.

"This would be even harder for the single character faction. For our faction, we have numerous characters and a character technique. Thus, we can still forcefully use the character technique to suppress the Eternal character. Meanwhile, subduing an Eternal character would be extremely difficult for the single character faction."

Su Yu nodded. But he was actually busy thinking about something else.

Bai Feng said that his martial uncle was one such person. And when Su Yu recalled what Bai Feng had said in the past, he suddenly asked, "Teacher, has Teacher Liu received one such inheritance as well?"

"Yeah." Bai Feng couldn't be bothered to hide anything, "The fifth principal left a character behind. That character was eventually taken away by Martial Uncle. Maybe he has already absorbed it into his sea of willpower. Maybe not. I don't really know either.

"Your Teacher Liu used to be an extremely talented freak of the academy. But he eventually ended up crippled. This character might be related to that. Personally, I have a different guess. That might be more than a single character. Instead, an entire racial ability character has been passed down by the fifth principal."

Su Yu blinked. Racial ability character? Was that really the case? Their research center had not even completed the research on that. Had the fifth principal formed one such character back then?

If that was the case, then the fifth principal would really be the person closest to entering the Eternal Realm through willpower cultivation.

Bai Feng started walking again. He pointed at a large machine and said, "This is the centrifuge. We use it to separate components of blood essence. Generally, when a drop of blood essence takes form, it is almost impossible to split that drop. This machine is the only way we can do so."

"This is a willpower examination machine..."

Su Yu was very interested in this machine. Willpower examination machine? The machine was basically a small room. How did it work? When Bai Feng saw Su Yu's reaction, he smiled and walked into the room. Inside the room, a burst of willpower erupted.

On a screen connected to the room, some words appeared.

Willpower grade: Peak second grade

Opened soul apertures: 30 - 40

Number of Divine Characters: 15 - 25

Overall evaluation: Ninth-stage Skysoar Realm

What was that?

Chapter 320: Racial Ability Character (2)

Su Yu looked at Bai Feng who was walking out of the room in astonishment and asked, "Teacher, this thing is also capable of detecting your Divine Characters and soul apertures?"

"It's a general scan." Bai Feng smiled, "We mostly use it on our captured creatures to prevent them from hiding their strength. You need to know that some races are very unique. They might look completely normal even at the Mountainsea Realm. Some concealment Divine Characters can also be very difficult to notice."

Su Yu nodded. He asked eagerly, "Teacher, can I try?"

"Yeah. You're too weak so the scan will be much more accurate. You only need to unleash your willpower inside the room. If you want it to be more accurate, stir your Divine Characters as well. The weaker someone is, the more accurate this machine would be."

Su Yu looked excited. This machine seemed fun. He jogged into the small room. Next, his willpower erupted. There seem to be countless talismans on the walls of the room. These talismans started absorbing the willpower he released. Then, he stirred his Divine Characters.

Outside, Bai Feng was paying attention to the data. With one look, he blanked out.

Willpower grade: Peak first grade

Percentage: 68

Number of Divine Characters: 5

Divine Character tier: Two second tier characters

Overall evaluation: Peak Mental Tempering Stage

He looked at Su Yu and roared, "Get out here!"

Su Yu ran out and asked, "What's wrong, Teacher?"

"When did you form your fifth character? Why am I not aware of that?"

"..."

Su Yu scratched his head. Had he not told his teacher? Yeah, that seemed to be the case. The deceit character was too embarrassing. It did not fit his character so he had intentionally forgotten about the character.

"Uhm...I formed one not long ago."

Bai Feng rolled his eyes before saying in astonishment, "Your willpower grade is actually peak first grade. That's odd. Generally, without at least 90 percent willpower, you won't be able to reach peak first grade."

"Mostly, those between 0 to 30 percent are considered low first grade, those between 31 to 60 percent are considered middle first grade, those between 61 to 90 percent are considered top first grade, and those above 90 percent can be considered peak first grade."

He looked at Su Yu and said, "You're only at 68 percent, so you should be at top first grade. A fresh top first grade. How are you a peak first grade already? I thought you were cultivating the Soul Expanding Art, but that doesn't seem to be the case or the machine would be able to detect something. You...are an odd kid."

Su Yu's willpower grade was higher than it was supposed to be. His score signified that his willpower was actually as powerful as actual peak Mental Tempering Stage cultivators. That was why he had been able to contend against the likes of Zheng Yunhui.

Even the machine gave him the label of peak Mental Tempering Stage even though his willpower was still below 90 percent full.

Su Yu thought about it and said, "I told you before that Teacher Zhao hammered me a few times. Did you forget?"

"I still remember that." Bai Feng rolled his eyes, "Is that really so effective? He really sent you to the top with a couple hammer strikes? Holy shit. Why had that fogey refused to hammer me a few times as well? No wonder you're able to fight those peak Mental Tempering Stage fellows. Your willpower is already as strong as theirs."

A look of surprise covered Bai Feng's face as he asked, "By the way, how are you growing so fast? Your willpower has already reached 68 percent?"

Bai Feng remembered that his student had only reached the Mental Tempering Stage not long ago.

"Teacher, each time I read the willpower text of the heaven-grade technique, my willpower will undergo a willpower clash training and grow rapidly."

In truth, his growth was also related to the five elemental blood essence he had consumed. During that time, he had absorbed some external willpower. That had given his willpower cultivation a boost as well.

"Right. I didn't think of that."

Bai Feng nodded.

The more he looked at Su Yu, the more astonished he was. He said, "Not bad, kid. Maybe you should get Old Zhao to hammer you a few more times. Maybe he can hammer you straight to the peak Mental Tempering Stage while making your willpower as powerful as a Skysoar's willpower."

Su Yu looked awkward. He hurriedly changed the topic and said, "Teacher, according to the machine, you're at the peak second grade, so your willpower is also stronger than your actual cultivation level."

Bai Feng rolled his eyes, "What nonsense are you saying. I am a cultivator of the multiple character faction. Of course I am stronger than ordinary eighth-stage Skysoar cultivators. Normal eighth-stage Skysoar cultivators will only receive an evaluation of top second grade from this machine."

Su Yu nodded. He wasn't too surprised. If Bai Feng could defeat someone like Hu Wensheng at the seventh stage, he would naturally be even stronger now that he had reached the eighth stage.

Bai Feng continued introducing the other machines to Su Yu. There were way too many things for Su Yu to take in. He couldn't help but to admit that their faction was very willing to spend money in terms of research.

Every single machine in the room was worth thousands of merit points. Some were even worth tens of thousands of merit points. They could really get rich just by selling this research center. Ignoring all their research results, just these machines would probably be worth between 200,000 to 300,000 merit points.

How rich. His grandteacher sure was generous. If it was Su Yu, he definitely wouldn't be willing to spend so much for research.

Eventually, they arrived outside a small room.

Bai Feng exhaled softly and pointed at the room, "This is where I normally conduct my research. Come with me. I'll show you what I've been working on recently." Su Yu hurriedly followed his teacher inside the room.

The moment he stepped inside, he noticed that the room was filled with willpower. He was surprised.

The willpower within the room wasn't violent. Rather, it was extremely gentle. Su Yu felt like this willpower would be safe for absorption. But he still didn't have any opened soul apertures yet so he couldn't actually do so.

Bai Feng said, "The willpower here has been purified countless times. You are not allowed to absorb it. This place is used to nurture Divine Characters. Characters at the Skysoar Realm can be materialized, but

they can't stay outside a sea of willpower for long. Thus, when a character is stripped from its owner, an environment like this is required to preserve the character for a longer time.

"Kid, even after entering the Skysoar Realm, you're not allowed to absorb the willpower here. Gathering so much purified willpower in one place is a very expensive process. If you dare to absorb the willpower here, I'll make you regret it."

Su Yu laughed dryly, "Teacher, I won't. I'm not that kind of person."

"Scram!"

Bai Feng cursed. He was not buying that. If Su Yu was already a Skysoar, he would definitely absorb the willpower in the room.

Bai Feng approached a research station and waved Su Yu over.

Su Yu hurriedly walked over. When he noticed the research station, his eyes flickered. A few Divine Characters were actually hovering atop the station.

"This..."

"Divine Characters of the fire hog race." Bai Feng explained, "Most of the fire hogs are warriors. Very few of them are cultural researchers. Your grandteacher and I had to hunt down countless fire hogs before finally finding three fire hog cultural researchers. We were able to strip them off their Divine Characters, but these characters can only be kept here. Watch closely, kid."

As Bai Feng said that, the five Divine Characters floated higher into the air.

Bai Feng had a solemn expression as he operated the five characters. Meanwhile, Su Yu was focusing all his attention on the characters. Slowly, the five characters started fusing together before changing. Eventually, they seemed to have transformed into an actual fire hog.

Su Yu felt like he was looking at a massive fire hog. He had seen actual fire hog corpses before. But this time, the fire hog before him looked very alive.

"Tackle!"

A voice resounded within his mind in the fire hog language.

Su Yu hurriedly retreated as the fire hog formed of the five characters started charging at him. He could feel a heavy aura pressing down on him while he was retreating in panic. Next, his vision blurred and everything vanished.

The fire hog had turned into five characters again. The five characters had dimmed considerably. They were also no longer fused together.

Bai Feng was sweating heavily as he asked, "Did you see that? After trying to fuse these characters through numerous different methods, I finally discovered a certain combination that can create something similar to a racial ability.

"What does that mean? It means that Divine Characters can really be combined to create a racial ability character. Naturally, most fire hogs do not have Divine Characters. In that case, why can every one of them utilize their racial ability?"

"My guess is that there is a hidden character within the sea of willpower of every single one of them. I also guess that their racial ability is definitely more powerful in the hands of a cultural researcher than a warrior. This is why I deduced that racial abilities are related to Divine Characters and the sea of willpower."

Su Yu nodded.

He asked, "Teacher, did you notice that...this...resembles..."

"You noticed it as well?"

"Yeah." Su Yu nodded and said with an astonished expression, "This fusion is very similar to character techniques. Several characters have to be assembled in a specific manner for it to work."

"Exactly. I noticed this long ago." Bai Feng exhaled and said, "If I'm right, then character techniques might be a unique method of utilizing Divine Characters our seniors had discovered. But they had not been able to discover the connection between character techniques and racial abilities."

"Therefore, our character technique is probably already a racial ability. The multiple character faction is already ahead of everyone else. As long as we can find the way to fully convert character techniques into racial abilities, truly fusing all our characters into one like acupoint fusion, we might be able to create a true racial ability character."

The more Bai Feng spoke, the more excited he seemed, "At that time, we will be able to unleash our true strength. No matter how many Divine Characters you have, you will be able to activate all of them at once. No longer will cultural researchers lack offensive strength despite having numerous Divine Characters."

A better example would be acupoints. For example, Su Yu had 153 opened acupoints. But would he be able to unleash the strength of all his acupoints in a single attack? He couldn't. Not even with a heaven-grade technique. The technique only allowed him to utilize the strength of the acupoints it required instead of all his acupoints.

For now, Su Yu wouldn't be able to utilize more than 100 acupoints at once. Some of the acupoints he had opened with the War God Art were not able to be used alongside his heaven-grade technique.

After thinking for a bit, Su Yu said, "Teacher, you mean that just like our utilization of acupoints, our utilization of willpower is not efficient enough. But the racial ability character might allow us to utilize 100 percent of our strength?"

"Exactly." Bai Feng smiled, "Even 80 percent would be incredibly impressive. Right now, the actual rate of our utilization is pitifully low."

Su Yu inhaled deeply and stared at the floating characters. His teacher seemed to be on to something here. What an incredible discovery.

Bai Feng said, "I have only been experimenting on fire hog characters. I have yet to start testing this on actual humans yet. And the multiple character faction is best suited for this experiment. It's a pity that you're still not at the Skysoar Realm. Looks like I have to be the lab rat instead."

"..."

Su Yu didn't know whether to laugh or cry. So was the only reason for him to enter the Skysoar Realm was so that he could become Bai Feng's test subject?

"Teacher, be careful. The moment something goes wrong, you might get in big trouble."

Su Yu was no longer a clueless new student. He could see the dangers hidden in this experiment.

Bai Feng appeared indifferent, "It's fine. This is normal in research. But if I can complete my research, you will be able to witness the sight of a Skysoar defeating a Cloudbreach!"

Even Bai Feng himself was getting excited at the thought of that.

"Skysoar fighting Cloudbreach. Throughout history, very few people at the Skysoar Realm and above could accomplish the feat of fighting above their level. Your teacher will become one of this small group of people soon!" Su Yu took the chance to flatter his teacher,

"Teacher, you are really incredible, mighty, domineering..."

"Piss off!" Bai Feng cursed. Then, he turned somewhat dispirited as he said, "But I don't have a good test subject. Remember to talk to my martial uncle. I need to study him. I have a feeling he already has the initial form of a racial ability character within his head. Without a proper point of reference, I'm afraid I would probably kill myself before I could even come up with a proper character combination."

Su Yu was left speechless. Teacher Liu...Yes. They might really be able to learn something from studying his Teacher Liu.

Bai Feng said, "My martial uncle has been bothered by that character for a very long time. If it is actually a racial ability character, then his own characters are definitely rejecting that character. Because of that, he had never been able to truly make that character his and truly fuse that character into his existing character technique.

"Martial Uncle might be talented, but in terms of understanding of Divine Characters, he might not know as much as me. He already has a lot of characters originally. With that special character taking the position of main Divine Character within his sea of willpower, he won't be able to utilize his true strength before properly assimilating that character into his sea of willpower. And he also wouldn't be able to properly make use of that character.

"According to my theory, fusion is the only solution. Perhaps he can try to fuse his own characters with that external character to fully turn it into his. Only then would he be able to start making use of it."

Bai Feng shook his head and said, "My martial uncle is too stubborn. And he is not flexible enough. I suspect that he has been forcefully assimilating that character for the past 50 years through brute force. He's treating that character as a meatball, thinking that forcing them together would be enough."

He had a look of disdain as he was saying all that.

A good example was mud figurines. Everyone was creating beautiful figurines with their mud while his martial uncle was trying to pass off a clump of mud as a mud figurine as well. How would that work?

He was seriously suspecting that his martial uncle was doing that. A brute! A fake cultural researcher!

Bai Feng continued insulting his martial uncle. He was unafraid since his martial uncle wasn't around to hear him.

Beside him, Su Yu sighed. Did his teacher think that he wouldn't snitch to his Teacher Liu about this?

"Teacher Liu...racial ability character..."

Su Yu himself was also getting a lot of ideas in his mind.

Over the years, he had still noticed some things. Liu Wenyan might look indifferent most of the time, but at times, he would still look somewhat bleak. Su Yu had noticed Liu Wenyan staring blankly in a certain direction a few times.

Now that he thought about it, he finally realized that Liu Wenyan had been staring in the academy's direction all those times. He still couldn't let go of the academy.

"Racial ability. An inheritance of the fifth principal..."

...

At the same time, Nanyuan.

Liu Wenyan sighed. The sun in the center of his sea of willpower turned even brighter than before. Orbiting the sun were numerous stars, each of them trying to fuse into the sun. Bai Feng was right. Liu Wenyan was forcefully fusing the character.

As for the method of fusion...there was no method to it. Nobody had any idea how to do this since it had never been done before. He only relied on his instincts. He was blindly helping the character left by his teacher grow stronger. Perhaps when he was finally able to stuff all his characters into that character, he would be able to start using it.

Liu Wenyan was in no rush. He could take his time. And if he couldn't complete this task, perhaps the next generation could continue his work.

Su Yu seemed to be doing quite well in the academy. In that case, he should probably start looking for a new candidate. The candidate must be honest, reliable, and resilient.

If his generation couldn't complete this grand undertaking, then he would have to let the next generation continue their work.