

# The Sacred Ruins

## Chapter 16: Calm Before the Storm

“Should I give it some fertilizers?” Chu Feng pondered. He cleared out an area at the parterre in the yard for the seeds to grow, but he hesitated before he buried them.

Because of the importance Chu Feng had attached to the seeds, he took every step of the cultivating process very seriously. He was cautious too, so he supposed that the fertilizers for everyday use might not come as an asset to the seeds.

He crooked his head to see Yellow Ox. It was still making mockery of him with its signature grin on its face. It looked at Chu Feng with a sympathetic appearance, as if it felt sorry for Chu Feng for committing such a fruitless action. To Yellow Ox, the shrivelled plants had no chance to sprout, let alone flourish and blossom.

“Yellow Ox, I need you. The seeds need you. Their survival depends on your effort.”

Seeing his solemn face, Yellow Ox was dumbstruck. It seemed confused and bewildered. It made a bellow, as if it was questioning why Chu Feng said such things.

“Look, the soil in this parterre was mostly used for growing flowers and grasses. It lacks nutrients, so how about we extract some fertilizers from you, my friend?” Chu Feng demanded in a calm and explicit manner.

At first, Yellow Ox still seemed lost, then as the moment of realization came, it instantly widened its eyes, glared, stared and lurched to its feet. White puffs of mist vented out from its nostrils. It fixated its furious glare at Chu Feng.

“Hey, hey, hey, Brother Ox. Don’t go all sulky just yet. This almost means nothing to you. It’s something that comes and goes, happening in nature as it should. I know you were too shy to excrete your bowel mass in my garden, but for the sake of our beloved seeds, I will give you special permission to discharge what you need to rid at my garden from now on.”

Yellow Ox’s ears started smoking. The expression in its eyes speak of murder. At the same time, one of its fore hooves was pawing the dust on the ground, ready to charge at Chu Feng at any moment.

“No, no, no. Don’t be so agitated. I won’t give you a cold shoulder or anything for that. Are you afraid that it might smell stinky? Then let it be. I can well endure it.” Clueless of the danger associated with his reckless remarks, Chu Feng continued going.

Pong!

Yellow Ox rushed over, bounced up to Chu Feng, and sent him into the air. Fortunately, it did not use its pair of golden horns, but even so, the force still knocked Chu Feng out as he landed head-first down on the soil of his parterre.

Chu Feng finally understood the feeling of Zhou Quan. It was a bet on one's life to negotiate with a capricious bull.

In fact, Yellow Ox was angrier than Chu Feng. It glared at him with its flaming bovine eyes. It started doubting whether this guy was in fact even more flippant than that fatso.

Chu Feng struggled to get up as he gently rubbed against his swollen elbow. "Don't you know that these were some rather holy seeds?" Chu Feng sighted. "I was afraid that normal fertilizers might not be able to sustain their lives, and seeing how mystical you are and how potent cow dung is as a fertilizer as a matter of fact, I wanted...."

"MOOOO!"

It was a deafening bellow. Although the calf did not have a towering height, its voice echoed in the yard like a muffled thunder. It was so blaring that Chu Feng had to cover up his ears.

"Okay, okay. I give up," Chu Feng said before the calf made a second charge at him.

"Now it's only going to be you and you alone," he murmured.

Because of the extensive length of age that the seeds had stayed buried, Chu Feng was not sure whether or not his struggle would, in the end, prove to be frivolous.

However, if it was something godly, something divine, then it should have a tenacious vitality. Despite the unfavorable environment in which it had been planted, it should, in the end, resurrect from death and give the world an extra hint of green.

"It may be even better without cow dung," Chu Feng said to himself, because he realized a very serious problem.

Yellow Ox did not exactly have a friendly look as it heard Chu Feng saying these words. At the same time, it also seemed baffled.

Chu Feng explained, "If these seeds become Tsi Wang Mu or Fairy of the Ninth Heaven by any chance, then I would be as good as dead once they learned that I have used cow dong to cultivate them."

Yellow Ox was dumbstruck at first, then it turned angry from embarrassment. With a rowdy bellow, it was ready for another charge.

“Don’t you come here. I’m telling the truth though. If they know what I did now, I reckon it will be the worst kind of blasphemy. To let peace befall me, I’d better stay frank and well-behaved,” Chu Feng said with a smile.

Fumes of mist were still breathed from within the nostrils of Yellow Ox. It gave him a nasty look before it turned around, heading to some piles of pineapples.

“Oi! Apples and grasses are yours! Pineapples are mine!” Chu Feng chased after it.

At last, he buried the seeds in three different places. Because of the difference in soil type, he supposed that separation might mean better insurance of survival of at least one of them.

“I do hope they can sprout soon.” Chu Feng was expectant. He was ever so curious and eager to see what plants he would yield.

“But I mean, I shouldn’t be too worried if a fairy were to be the yield of this. It’s me who made them, so to them, blasphemy should be a non-existent concept. Even better, she may become a loyal servant of mine.” His face was beaming with a smirk.

“Moo!”

The bellow interrupted his daydreaming.

Yellow Ox looked askance at Chu Feng with a scornful look on its face. Supposedly, it was making a mockery at the brimless world conjured in his mind.

“Piss off!” Chu Feng drew away from the thrust of the ox head. He started to become a little speechless after being repeatedly mocked by a calf.

Pfft!

Suddenly, he heard a tittering sound. A glow of fire was visible within sight in the distance. It rushed into the vault of heaven with a garish flare.

“Missile!”

“Is this a mission against those extra-terrestrial plants in space?” Chu Feng shuddered in fear.

Yellow Ox had a sensitive instinct. It stared at the flare with wildness in its eyes. It sensed danger even before Chu Feng as the flesh of its body tightened. Its furs rippled with waves of golden glow.

It was a sign of stress and fear. The calf sensed danger.

It was a rare occurrence indeed, because such a scene would have never been seen by anyone on a usual day.

“I can’t believe I saw it with my own eyes. This could mean it was ejected from somewhere not far from here, and it also means it’s a serious business.” Chu Feng’s face looked solemn.

He had been hearing many rumors and hearsays about the potential use of military-grade weapons against those extra-terrestrial plants and creatures. It came as a rumor, and it stayed as a rumor.

He decided to look it up on the internet. There should already be reports on this sighting now.

At the same time, his communicator also came to ring. It was Zhou Quan trying to contact him. The excited voice of Zhou Quan was instantly heard as soon as he picked up the call.

“Man! Have you seen that? It’s bloody marvellous! Oh blimey, blimey. How magnificent it was! It was like a sword piercing through the sky right into the outer space. I can’t believe I had the honor to witness such a sight. I reckon this would most likely clear out those strange plants.”

“Hopefully, it’s effective,” Chu Feng replied, but he also suggested that they should get ready to run for it at any minute in case something terrible and awful happened.

Then, he asked Zhou Quan how he felt after consuming the fruit?

“Huge changes... ha-ha... nah, let’s not talk about it. I feel drowsy all the time, and now I feel like I’m going to fall into slumber at any second now.” Zhou Quan’s hollow laugh had no mirth in it. He sounded very unnatural.

“Why are you evading my question? Wait! Don’t tell me you’ve got a tail now, have you?” Chu Feng doubted.

“No way!” Zhou Quan shouted an unearthly cry. He did his utmost to explain that he had not become some hideous monster.

“Then, what’s wrong with you? Why do you sound so equivocal?” Chu Feng asked.

“I... there is a horn on my head now!” Zhou Quan grieved without tears, then he burst into a tirade of curses, “I knew it! I knew this must have been the doing of that freaking Demon Ox! It looked exactly like an ox horn!”

He cursed rather loudly.

Chu Feng's communicator drew Yellow Ox's attention. It fixated on it, and at the same time, he also heard the angry curses of Zhou Quan which prompted it to thrust itself even closer to the communicator. "Moo, moo, moo..." It was, admittedly, rather unkind of it to try to make mockery of Zhou Quan in this situation.

"Demon Ox! Are you saying that I look like a cow and that someday I will make these exact sounds you are making? Go fxck yourself!" Zhou Quan got rather exasperated.

"Clap!"

Zhou Quan hung up the call in blazing rage, but Yellow Ox still seemed rather entertained. To the calf, there seemed to be a certain charm in seeing Zhou Quan going berserk in rage and fury.

Chu Feng began to search for all kinds of reports. He was yet to see any official ones, since usually, the government would rather stay quiet on things that related back to themselves, but reports sourcing from all kinds outlets and magazines seemed to have been always inexhaustible on these kinds of breaking news.

There were even pictures uploaded. They did bear a striking similarity to what Chu Feng had witnessed.

This was not a sole event happening only in Chu Feng's close proximity. Sightings of missiles firing had been sighted around the world. It was a salvo of firearms from around the world in unison. They fired at different locations, but all were directed at the same target. Some people even reported seeing remains of plants falling out of the sky.

"The storm is coming," Chu Feng murmured to himself, frowning fiercely.

Later in that morning, Chu Feng also read a few other reports. As expected, people were burning in enthusiasm to discuss supernatural abilities. Even as today's world had keyed up about the use and regulation of firearms, there were still many people discussing the acquirement of superhuman power.

The Silver Wing, the Vajra, Fire Spirit, and White Tiger were the names given to the legendary four who had acquired their power. People all had a different version of their respective ability, but everyone seemed to have reached a consensus as to the extent of their power and their capacity. Everyone agreed that one day, they would become the gods of this new world order.

Chu Feng turned off his communicator. He was a bit worried. He worried about the uncertainty that lay in the future, but he knew he must do something now.

Yellow Ox seemed very discontented as Chu Feng turned off his communicator. It signaled him to turn it on again. To the calf, those sounds and videos were ever so attractive.

Chu Feng tossed his communicator at the calf, then he left home by himself.

He strolled along the street for a few li, before arriving outside of a large yard. This was the house of Grandpa Zhao, and it was also a workshop for the forging of swords, spears and other cold weapons.

Nowadays, this kind of craftsmanship had almost been lost in antiquity. The Family of Zhao was the only family in which this kind of workmanship had been passed on from generation to generation. Grandpa Zhao became one of the family members who had carried the torch for this kind of handicraft.

The Family of Zhao was also keeping pace with the times. They had been making tools and cutters with the materials that had been invented in the present era, which resulted in supreme quality renowned to both the locals and those around the country.

The folding crossbow Chu Feng brought to Tibet was a gift from Grandpa Zhao.

“Hello! When did you arrive here?” Grandpa Zhao had a visceral smile when he saw Chu Feng with surprise. Grandpa Zhao was in his sixties, but he was still hale and hearty. His hair had all turned silver white, but every strand was thick and firm.

Upon seeing him, one could instantly tell that he was a man firm in attitude.

“I came back after midnight yesterday. I had a quite hearty sleep, then I walked here to visit my dear grandpa as soon as I woke up,” Chu Feng said.

“Oh, how flattering! But I bet you’ve been thinking about taking something from me again this time,” Grandpa Zhao said with a smile.

“Yes. I would like you to make some crossbows and arrows for me.” Chu Feng clarified his intention for coming over. The ever-evolving world meant ever-evolving risks and dangers. He was unsettled, so he wanted to arm himself for protection.

For him, firearms were out of luck. Those were heavily restricted, so it was impossible to buy them from anywhere. But in the current era, it was legal to buy cold weapons as long as one held a relevant certificate of approval.

After a few more rounds of exchange of words, Chu Feng parted from Grandpa Zhao.

He learnt from Grandpa Zhao that many people had recently paid him a visit in request for all kinds of weapons. The supply seemed never adequate to the demand in recent days. But of course, the ones Chu Feng demanded would be made prior to all the others.

On his way home, Chu Feng heard a continual string of bellow of Yellow Ox. At once, his suspicions were all aroused. It was still a fair amount of distance to his house, but the noise sounded all so lively and clear.

Soon, he found the source of the problem. It was the communicator. Yellow Ox was fondling with it in a very joyful and devoted manner.

But wait a minute, what is he seeing? Chu Feng was astounded at the sight when he approached Yellow Ox. Yellow Ox had opened a contact list. It seemed to have been conversing with someone on the phone.

Chu Feng felt dazzled by this sight.

Especially as he looked closer at the names that appeared on the contact list, he almost spat out blood because of anger. There seemed to be names such as Lin Naoi and others.

“Demon Ox, you son of a bxtch! I’m gonna bash out that bovine brain of yours!”

## **Chapter 17: Grief Without Tears**

“Moo!”

Yellow Ox vented out a roaring bellow. Its movement was surprisingly agile, indicating none of the typical clumsiness of a bovine creature. It evaded Chu Feng’s rampaging charge with ease.

“Demon Ox! Do you have any ideas what you’re doing?” Chu Feng ground his teeth, then charged at it again with a murderous look on his face.

However, his target object was the communicator this time. He needed to know exactly to whom Yellow Ox had been calling, so later on, he could give them a justifiable explanation for the strange calls.

Otherwise, how would the others think about this? Picking up the phone, then all they received was just a continuous sequence of senseless bellows.

Picturing this scene, Chu Feng almost spat out blood in shame and embarrassment. He was on the verge of going berserk with a murderous intent.

Even if he accepted the challenge and braced himself to offer those people some sort of explanations, what exactly could he say? And who would believe him? This had evolved to a rather headache-inducing problem.

Was he going to tell the others that it was a golden calf who was using his communicator to converse with them? This would only further complicate the issue rather than solve it.

Despite all the complications it had caused, Yellow Ox was still not cooperative at all and kept evading Chu Feng with great agility.

Moreover, it stood in the yard with only two of its hind hooves. It was standing upright with its fore hooves cuddling the communicator, running in circles with Chu Feng as it tried to dodge him left and right.

“Give it to me!” Chu Feng cried.

Yellow Ox was even friskier than the most agile of human beings. It was bobbing, swaying, chirping and singing like a golden ape. It ran around a stone table, circling around with Chu Feng like an intelligent primate.

It still clutched onto his communicator and occasionally made a few more sounds of bellow into it.

Chu Feng’s face had almost turned green. “Is this bastard still calling someone?”

“Demon Ox, I will kill you!” he yelled and blared. The burning rage almost made him faint.

Yellow Ox was only disdainful of Chu Feng’s raging words. Contempt was written all over its face.

“Having committed every evil, yet still behaving aggressively out of bravado? Are you kidding me?” Chu Feng could not run fast enough to ensnare the calf, so he had to throw every possible item in the yard at it in order to distract it and slow it down.

To him, this was no less than a miserable torment. The longer Yellow Ox clutched onto that communicator, the more shameful and embarrassed he felt.

At long last, Yellow Ox halted its frisky movements and placed the communicator on the stone table.

Indignation and rage were written on Chu Feng’s face. He felt like weeping and shed no tears.

Obviously, Yellow Ox was so curious and fond to the communicator, that even though he had put it down, it still tried to poke it with its dexterous front hooves.

Chu Feng glared at it and sat down by the stone table in great exhaustion. He glanced at the communicator, then he turned to Yellow Ox. What explanation would he give?



How would he apologize on Yellow Ox's behalf for its ludicrous tomfoolery? He felt ever so frustrated.

He vented out a sigh then picked up the communicator. Since there were really no feasible alternatives he could think of other than telling the truth, Chu Feng had to gird up his loins and reveal the existence of Yellow Ox.

"Remember, in a few minutes, I would ask you to testify my words. All you need to do then was to make a few bellows when I ask you so. Understand?" Chu Feng urged it again and again.

Yellow Ox nodded with a guilty conscience in a seemingly cooperative manner.

Chu Feng froze when he turned to the list of contacts on his communicator. Where had all the contacts gone? Why were they not there anymore?

Chu Feng was completely dumbstruck. "Where did they go?"

Chu Feng suddenly recalled the very last moment when Yellow Ox was jabbing and nudging the communicator. Did it empty the whole list of contacts during then?

"Yellow Ox, you bastard! Look at what you've done!"

Chu Feng let out a yell. Only minutes ago, he was thinking of any possible remedies to this embarrassing incident; yet minutes later, everything had turned completely incorrigible.

"Who did you just call?" Chu Feng interrogated Yellow Ox in a rather loud voice. He had seen the name of Lin Naoi before, and she was the last person he wanted to be involved with. But who else did it call?

Yellow Ox shook its head with a smile that pretended to suggest a simple and honest nature. This meant that in simpler words, Yellow Ox had no ideas who it had just called either.

"How did you manage to get into my contact list?" Chu Feng was fairly frustrated.

It was this exact moment when the communicator suddenly came back to life with a rapid sequence of flashes. It was a call from Zhou Quan.

Zhou Quan's braying voice were instantly heard when Chu Feng picked up the call. "Demon Ox! How dare you keep on harassing me!"

"It's me," Chu Feng replied.

“Uh! Thank God! The communicator finally came back to you. That goddam cow just couldn’t stop harassing me with calls after calls. And all it did was just ‘moo, moo, moo...’”

Chu Feng grew stiff with unease and chagrin. It was conceivable what this silly cow had done to all the rest of the people from his contact list. Who else had the misfortune to sit through and endure this blatant series of harassments?

Chu Feng did not need to worry about Zhou Quan. After all, he had had personal experience of the frustration that came with this golden calf. He would have easily understood the cause of the troubles without much explanation.

After moments of silence, Chu Feng finally decided to make a call to Lin Naoi.

The call was picked up, but there were no words being exchanged between them. Soothing music was playing in the background as Chu Feng remained in silence. He did not want to rush to a serious talk about the issue at hand straight away. “I’m not a humdrum person,” Chu Feng thought to himself.

Music faded away on the other side, but Lin Naoi remained taciturn. The two were left in muteness. Vaguely, they could hear the faint sound of each other’s breath.

Silence lingered for over a minute.

Suddenly, Yellow Ox rushed to the stone table with its head raising up. It growled at the communicator with a blaring roar that almost deafened Chu Feng.

Chu Feng could clearly hear a sharp clicking of a shattered glass from the other side of the call. Without a doubt, the ear-splitting roar of the calf had also stunned Lin Naoi with a start. But then, she hung up on him.

For an extensive period of time, Chu Feng was stiff and rigid with disbelief and horror. He froze there until he suddenly gave vent to an angry shout. “You bastard! I will tear you limb from limb!”

Innocence was written all over Yellow Ox’s face as if it was saying, “Didn’t you just tell me to cooperate with you by making some bellow sounds?”

Chu Feng once again started chasing after the calf. The yard turned into a battlefield where man was screaming and ox was mourning.

At long last, Chu Feng was dead beat and done up. He went straight for his bed at his room. At this stage, he could not care less about those people on his contact list. All he wanted was to take a break from all the unrest and tumult that happened today.

Daylight had already given way to the darkness of the night when he finally woke up.

Chu Feng prepared a rich and sumptuous dinner to treat himself. This was his merit as well as his virtue. To rid any annoyance of the day, all he needed was a hearty feast.

Early on, his fingers were all itching for a fray with that bothersome calf, but his anger had started to dwindle now. Eventually, he forgave Yellow Ox and even fed it with some fresh grasses and fruits.

At night, Chu Feng was browsing through all sorts of reports on the process of the mutation that happened around the world.

Suddenly, the signal on both of his communicator and the television started losing stability. Clearly, it was under the effect of a disturbance of some sorts. He supposed it was most likely due to the loss of another satellite in space thanks to the attack of an extra-terrestrial plant.

At last, the effect of the disturbance dissipated, and the signal restored.

The internet then boiled with discussions.

Some semi-official news had come out, stating that almost all of the horrific plants that had been floating in mid-air had been destroyed and cleared up.

He was a bit worried, believing that this might not be the end of it, because many regions had been undergoing many complete alterations at the current stage.

Someone had uploaded a vivid photo that depicted the emergence of tens of thousands of great mountains outside that person's house. Just like those that appeared amongst the mountains of Taihang, these mountains were a sight of great majesty. Their towering height pierced through the clouds high above. They constituted the scenery from a fairy tale or a great fable that described the secret workings of nature.

There was another report stating that a young man ended up travelling hundreds of li before reaching a town that was supposedly ten li away.

Right now, the strange occurrences were no longer only a privilege to mountain ranges such as Mount Song, Wangwu Mountain and Taihang Mountains. Incomprehensible scenes and sightings emerged in many places. Mountains of tremendous height cropped up in groups of thousands everywhere across the globe. August waterfalls hung by the arduous cliff.

A revulsion of changes all seemed to have happened in a one-step process. It was not only limited to some special regions. Well-known mountains and rivers had all steamed with spirits and nimbus. Ferocious beasts and birds of prey indistinctly appeared in these areas, making the world a place ever so dangerous.

Ground fissure, power outage, communication failure, building implosion and collapse were no longer scenes of profound rarity. They could happen anywhere anytime, posing an ever-lingering threat to the life and well-being of people around the world.

It was late at night. Chu Feng quietly sat on the floor in his room. He knew that what had supposed to come had now come. It was time for the fiercest episode of changes to take place.

“Boom!”

Someone knocked on the door. Yellow Ox made a bellow.

Chu Feng opened the door. The golden calf signalled him to follow it into the yard.

Then, Yellow Ox sat on the ground, cross-legged with its head raised to face the starry sky. It began its special breathing exercise and hinted him to copy after it.

Chu Feng was surprised by the fact that Yellow Ox was pressing him to adopt its breathing system.

He calmed himself down and breathed according to that strange system, feeling that his body was surrounded by vigorous essence of life.

Moonlight was soft and gentle. It had been dim and hazy all night, but then it started thickening over Chu Feng's hair, as if there was an invisible force pulling over and gathering the light around him. At last, it became a holy aura of unmatched sanctity.

Besides, the stars in the sky were also scattering their essence like a river trickling in the direction of Chu Feng.

## **Chapter 18: Reign of Terror**

Drizzly moonlight coupled with a stream of stars trickled sluggishly in the proximity of Chu Feng. From a distance, it seemed like a dense layer of misty fog enshrouded Chu Feng in a sea of puffing steam.

This gave Chu Feng a rather cozy feeling. As he carried out the special breathing pattern, a smell of delightful fragrance wheezed out of his mouth and lingered about his nostrils.

There had been many historical records depicting the strange phenomenon of immortality that belonged to some old Taoist Priests or Eminent Monks. Their body and their flesh could endure the decomposing air as years went by. They were seemingly

dead, but their body could remain intact for thousands of years while giving off a delicate smell of fragrance.

Some said this was due to years of immersion in the process of cinnabar making that made their body immune to the decomposing bacteria in the air. This could also explain the delightful smells of musk emanating from their bodies.

Some scholars believed that everyone should have been born with musk-like smell, but the world was a foul and filthy place, and as such, only a minority of people could exude this true smell of human origin.

Right now, a thin layer of misty smoke was whizzing about his mouth and nose. The air was suffused with a light smell of incense. He could even taste a luscious sweetness in his saliva.

This was a strange way of breathing that followed some specially designated rhythms. Chu Feng could feel the lightness in his body. He felt weightless, as if he was about to depart from earth into the vault of sky above.

This breathing rhythm seemed to have improved his physical sensations. He felt his body full of joy and vitality.

It was not long before Yellow Ox opened its eyes. It pointed one of its fore hooves to the sky and the other to the ground. It made a few bellow then ended the breathing exercise.

Chu Feng also halted the exercise. Although the process had not lasted long, Chu Feng felt that his body was saturated with vigor and vitality. This saturated state meant that any further endeavour in trying to continue the exercise would be fruitless anyway.

“Snap!”

Suddenly, Chu Feng heard a wave of cracking noise rippling around him. It was the cracking of the yard walls. The ground gently quaked. Although the tremor was not of an enormous magnitude, one could easily sense this temblor of the earth.

“Earthquake?”

Then, he heard cries and wails of shock and terror throughout the village.

All of a sudden, all the streetlights went out in perfect unison as the lights from each household also flickered then extinguished in concordance. The power supply had been cut off.

At the same time, Chu Feng discovered that the signal on his communicator had also drastically weakened before it became disconnected.

“Moo!”

Yellow Ox growled as its pupils shone in the darkness. It raised its head and looked up in the direction of the Taihang Mountains. There were blossoms of purple lights as well as some trickling silver luminescence on the mountain.

Vaguely, a rumble rose from the distance.

This marked the beginning of another episode of drastic changes. Although the location seemed distant, he could feel an air of immense pressure clapping around his body.

“Look! More mountains are emerging!”

Chu Feng was shocked. He saw more mountains and hills cropping up out of the void in the distant Taihang Mountains. Some even measured hundreds of thousands of zhang in height, striking an even more imposing pose than the mountains that appeared earlier.

Was this the true colors of Taihang Mountains?

Turmoil rippled across the town. People’s outcry of terror could be heard throughout the village.

The ground was also stretching itself in all directions. Some of the streets had become broken and disconnected. Some houses started cracking as fissures of horrific width started crawling up the houses’ wall.

Fortunately, these changes did not happen at a lightning speed.

This was doomed to be another restless night.

There were all sorts of screams and exclamations, but all carried an undertone that suggested fear and terror.

Boom!

A building collapsed.

“Mom, I’m scared!”

“Purr! Grandma, what is happening. I’m so scared.”

Children were crying in fear.

Qingyang Town had fallen into chaos in only one evening. This seemed to foreshadow something even meaner, something even more chaotic. It precluded a series of more tumultuous events that no-one could prevent.

Chu Feng ran out into the village. He wanted to save those who had been buried under the debris of collapsed houses. To his relief, there were not many casualties involved. Many had already managed to abandon the houses before they became ruins.

A quarter of the houses from the town had crumpled. Most happened in the northern part of the village. The dilapidated buildings looked as if they had been pulled apart by some mysterious force as there were generally a considerable gap between each crumbled houses.

Most buildings from the east, the south and the west seemed still intact. Some houses were only partly damaged where minor fissures appeared on the wall, but they were far from the state of becoming a dilapidated building.

Water and electricity had all been cut off due to the impact brought by the earthquake and ground fissures.

There were three unlucky souls who could not make it out alive. Ten others were injured. Thankfully, everything happened relatively slowly which allowed plenty of time for people to escape from harm.

Only those who were too deep in their slumber could not leave their house in time, so tragedy ensued.

But this was enough to cause panic among the population in the village. No such things had ever happened before. Especially as people grew more and more uncertain about the future and as more and more people started feeling that their lives could no longer be grasped in the hands of their own, terror and fear rose as a result.

Who knew what the world in the next era would look like. Whether it be a continual tumult or an ordered society that had evolved to possess an even more advanced civilization, no one would ever see the world in the same way they had today. Nothing was certain, so everything became ever so uncanny and fearful.

Tears and outcries were no longer the only vehicle to exemplify the fears and terrors of the people. It was their sagging spirits and their atrophied hope for the future that slowly drove them out of sanity and into madness.

Water, electricity and communication had all become disconnected. They were isolated from the outside world, so it seemed almost impossible for any rescue teams to instantly come over to help.

No-one knew the situation in the outside world. Was it in a similar state or one that was even severer?

“Don’t be afraid and don’t panic. Only a minority of the houses has collapsed. Those that haven’t will sustain our needs for accommodation. Power shortage isn’t a concern either. Our town owns an electric generator that will come in use very soon. As to water shortage, we can deal with it with our ancient wells. They will supply us enough water for months on end.”

Chu Feng summoned Grandpa Zhao to make an announcement to pacify the unsettling atmosphere in the village.

Grandpa Zhao enjoyed high prestige and commanded universal respect in the village. His exceptional craftsmanship, his ownership of a cold weapon workshop, and his magnanimous yet determined personality all earned him the respect he deserved.

Chu Feng returned to his house. It was situated on the east side of Qingyang Town; therefore, the earthquake did not influence its structural stability that much. Only a few fissures along the walls could be seen, and none of them seemed to have much effect on the house itself.

Yellow Ox was gazing into the vast emptiness of the sky east to its position. There was a faint golden beam of light blossoming in its eyes. It looked excited, as if it had been expecting something.

“What are you expecting?” Chu Feng asked.

Yellow Ox did not reply. It was mute and quiet.

In the following few days, the town had been completely isolated from the outside world.

It was so far to be considered the safest place. All kinds of safety measures had been taken to ensure complete security in the city. There were also all sorts of strain schemes set in place to allow for the best possible and most immediate response in case of emergency.

It had been the capital city of all the past six dynasties, and maybe there was a reason for this. While the whole world had been turned upside down thanks to this continual string of calamities, Shun Feng remained intact and unscathed. The city was perched on the edge of the “stretching zone”, which meant none of its infrastructure had been even mildly affected.

Knowing these set Chu Feng’s mind at ease. He gave them consolation by asserting that he would soon come over to them.



“Are you still alright, Chu Feng? OH MY GOD! Our village has been divided in two, and there are two primitive and chaotic-looking mountains right beside our place. They are piercing right into the clouds with a size that I can’t even see the boundaries.” Zhou Quan called Chu Feng later that day. He cried in distress and his voiced trembled with emotion. “Guess what I saw? A Goddamn toad! Oh my lord! That thing was almost as big as a stone roller on a stone mill. And... and it is swallowing an elephant!”

Zhou Quan rambled in his statement. He shouted out incoherent speech while crying and yelling in anxiety.

In the end, Chu Feng finally understood Zhou Quan’s rambling words. There had been all sorts of ineffable creatures appearing in the mountain range that emerged at that night when they disembarked the coach. Chu Feng had been capturing the sight of all sorts of creatures with his telescopes.

Zhou Quan once saw a toad with the size of a stone roller. It was hunting down all sorts of other bestial animals. Once it even captured an elephant before it gnawed away the bones and flesh of the elephant.

After their call, Chu Feng went for a long, contemplative walk across the village. “The world will just go haywire if all of those fierce beasts were let out. Hopefully, they will forever remain at the place of their origin,” Chu Feng thought.

Then, he hastily went to surf the internet before he would lose access to it again.

Everywhere around the world had undergone and completed a radical shake-up.

Many people were afraid. Quite a few broke out in tears. This was no longer a world they knew. Peace and serenity were no more. People could smell the beginning of a storm, and an era of reign of terror.

Houses and buildings collapsed on a major scale. Some people lost their lives in the process.

Everyone now had started to realize that the distance between every city and town had grown in a quite dramatic fashion. It was a tenfold increase on average across the globe, and this meant that the area of the whole world had increased by at least a hundred times!

Some people cried and shouted. They believed that Earth had been connected to some other horrific worlds.

Some also suggested that this was actually the true face of the earth. A vast area of primitive land that had been buried deeply underground in the past, and they were not unveiled until today.

For a moment, the theory of parallel universe had been continuously explored and discussed amongst scholars alike.

Unrest rippled across the nation. Photos of many strange occurrences were repeatedly reported on the web.

Auspicious scenes and sights were allegedly spotted on various well-known mountains and lakes. Divine trees were seen blooming with flowers, sacred spring water trickled down the once-dried riverbed. Some people even went to scramble for the flowers and the water, arriving all at once as if it had been premeditated. This prompted many to express their shock and suspicions.

For the past few days, Yellow Ox stayed relatively quiet. It often stood in the middle of the yard, gazing into the empty void above it, as if it was showing solicitude for something invisible yet important to it.

However, in the depth of its eyes, there was an evident mixture of excitement and enthusiasm. For the calf, it was staying in a state of dormancy at present. It was waiting, waiting for the moment when its essential spirit could be aroused to bring out the divinity from within its body.

## **Chapter 19: Queer Substances**

The day reset itself again as the red summer sun rose to suffuse the sky above the Taihang Mountains with a bright pink. Yellow Ox suddenly erupted into a frenzy. It roared and groaned. It invited Chu Feng when it rushed out of the yard in a hustle!

Chu Feng's house was situated in the very east of Qingyang Village. There were acres of fruit-bearing forest right outside of its yard gate; it was suffused with tranquillity and peace. From there, one could also look far in the distance and see the epic ridges of Taihang Mountains.

Yellow Ox thrust its way into the orchid farm. It scurried on all four hooves, wildly running about ahead of Chu Feng.

Chu Feng pursued after it. He exerted himself with all his strength, but he could hardly manage to catch up with the speed of this golden calf.

Normally, an ox would give one an impression of slowness and tardiness. It was their bovine character. However, this one-meter tall calf seemed to have contradicted all the stereotypes. It possessed stamina and speed commensurate to a leopard.

It was running across this orchid forest. It was fast and nimble, gliding on the grasses beneath. At last, it arrived at an open area, leaving the orchid farm behind.

In front of them, there was a small hill. It lay right in their way and emitted plumes of white fogs as the red sun rose from the east.

This hill had never existed before the upheaval that happened a few days earlier.

In contrast to the rest of the mountains that appeared in that episode of radical shake-up, this two-hundred-meter hill could be considered as a dwarf in comparison.

For the past few days, Yellow Ox had been keeping a close watch on the hill before it decided to take action today.

Chu Feng was surprised. Had this been the sole target of Yellow Ox this whole time?

“Moo!”

Yellow Ox groaned in a low and deep fashion. This thunder-like grunt was its way of expressing excitement and delight. After days of dormancy, it finally acted.

There were neither strange grasses nor ancient trees on the hill. There were neither beasts nor birds of prey either. This hill was perhaps the most ordinary and the most inconspicuous amongst all. But there was one thing that caught his eyes, and that was the plumes of white smoke that effused from the tip of the hill.

Yellow Ox stopped and stood stock-still. Its eyes looked fervent, as if it was falling over itself for something meaningful. It kept its body unmoved, waiting for things to happen.

Despite his curiosity, Chu Feng did not open his mouth to ask. He was calm and composed, standing motionlessly beside the golden calf. In each other's company, they were waiting for that mysterious moment to come.

The rising sun looked especially blaring and red. Chu Feng was not certain if it was just his imagination, but there was an unspeakable feeling of comfort and vivacity as the morning glow casted on his body.

Chu Feng also realized that the whole world seemed to have had a boost in vigor and vitality.

Suddenly, the morning glow ruptured in a gushing manner. It seemed much holier and much more sacred all of a sudden. It illuminated every corner of the land.

Meanwhile, to his surprise, Chu Feng also discovered that all the giant mountains situated deep in the mountain range of Taihang were glittering with dazzling lights and colors. The luminescence was spewing out of the mountain into the glorious sky above.

“I could feel a rich lease of life suddenly suffusing me and the world around me,” Chu Feng mumbled.

It was the substance that emanated from those primitive mountains sprawling and expanding across the entirety of heaven and earth. People who resided within felt as if they had all been baptized and rendered pure and clean of sin.

Yellow Ox still remained motionless. It seemed indifferent about all the holy colors and lights that were bestowed upon him. It kept its gaze at the hill.

Suddenly, the hill trembled. The tremor was soon followed by an outburst of a chromatic plume of fog which rendered it ever so dazzling yet mystifying at the same time.

“Moo!”

Yellow Ox cried in excitement. It flung caution to the winds and rushed up the hill along its hilly ridge. It was approaching a cave that had been covered by ivies and vines earlier, but unveiled by the explosion of lights and colors.

With its characteristic rashness and valor, Yellow Ox plunged into the cave with a look of excitement that could hardly be papered over. Chu Feng pursued after it into the deep cave that delved into the depth of the hill.

The path within the cave was scrawling with axe marks. Obviously, this pathway was not formed naturally. Someone from an unknown era had excavated the cave with a primitive tool.

The cave was steaming with clouds of transpirations. Rays of the morning sunlight illuminated the misty fog, making this a rather surreal scene to behold. If this had only been a naturally-formed cave, why would the path within it seem so mysterious and so mystical?

In this environment, Chu Feng felt that the vitality and vigor within his body were somehow augmented. He felt as if his body had been nurtured by some sort of strange substances from within the cave.

What was that?

Suddenly, he caught a good sight of it. It was a little snake with a silver white body. It attached to the ledge of the rock walls, but the golden calf swallowed it whole.

Meat-eater?

No! Chu Feng suddenly realized that what he had just found might not be an ordinary snake. There was a faint smell of a delightful fragrance emanating from its body, and as it was caught in the gulping mouth of the golden calf, it became a plume of white smoke that soon dissipated into thin air.

It was not a snake!

Yellow Ox was scurrying towards a chink of light at the end of the cave's passage way.

Chu Feng closely followed after Yellow Ox. He felt like the distance they had covered in this cave had well exceeded the limit range of the hill. Plus, throughout the journey, there did not seem to be any circuitous intricacy that involved numerous turns or ups and downs at all. The whole passage way was flat and straight.

"Parallel universe!" This was the first phrase that came in Chu Feng's mind.

Along the way, Chu Feng spotted a few more silver white snakes. He caught a few and shoved them into his mouth. He felt like he ascended to heaven and became immortal. His body felt weightless and full of energy.

Was this just a plume of smoke? Chu Feng was surprised. He was certain that it must have consisted of some special substances that could augment one's vigor and vitality. This was truly an invaluable substance of immeasurable worth.

At last, the path reached an end. Vaguely, there seemed to be an obscure cloud of dim light blocking and covering something mysterious and something unknown.

After a roar of bellow, Yellow Ox stamped through the ring of light with great determination. Chu Feng then followed.

Yellow Ox was astounded at the very next moment, while Chu Feng seemed spellbound. Both of them found something hard to believe and hard to be conceived as something real.

At the end of the road behind this obscure screen of light, absolute silence befell.

What seemed hard to believe was the presence of a giant planet ahead of them. It was vast without a boundary. It spun sluggishly and leisurely. Everything seemed so abrupt and so sudden.

Where was this place?

Had they arrived at the outer space? Otherwise, how could they explain the abrupt appearance of this giant rotating planet?

Yellow Ox was astonished, but Chu Feng was completely petrified. Nothing here could be explained. Everything seemed so random and so abrupt. Who would have anticipated that entering a gaping hole on an ordinary-looking hill could lead to a place like this?

Gravity seemed to be lost, but they seemed unaware of it.

“If we come even closer, do you think we can reach that planet?” Chu Feng spoke as if he was sleep-talking.

It was an ancient planet. It carried a sense of vicissitudes of life that suggested its prolonged longevity. It moved in a rotary style, and just like any other planets suspending in the vastness of the space, its spin was almost inconspicuous.

The dense fog originated from the planet, surging towards the opening at which Chu Feng was standing. Then, it became a misty layer of smoke, dissipating into the emptiness of the cave.

“Look out! Something is coming at us!” Chu Feng cried out in alarm.

Besides the white fog, there was another object travelling swiftly towards them.

“Huh? A silver snake?” He saw it. It was that strange substance that condensed into the shape of a snake, surging towards them along with the fog.

Yellow Ox opened its mouth and swallowed the snakes whole, and so did Chu Feng. He knew that they were not actual snakes, but rather mysterious substances that came in the shape of snakes.

Why was there a planet? Were they standing in the middle of the deep space? For now, Chu Feng could not be bothered to think about these questions as both of them were busy capturing and gulping in the mysterious substances.

At last, their bellies became all bulging and distended. They felt that their stomach was close to the state of rupture. Only now did they stop their edacious gobbling and embark upon their homeward journey with profound reluctance.

As they finally withdrew themselves from the inside of the cave, Chu Feng felt the world had become so different, as if a lifetime had passed. Where had they just been?

Suddenly, the earth started trembling and the mountains swayed. The hill shook and fissures emerged.

Yellow Ox hurriedly sped downhill.

Chu Feng had gluttoned and surfeited to the bursting point, so running had become a challenging task for him. He grabbed the calf by its pair of golden horns and then thrust himself on its back.

Yellow Ox darted a furious glance behind it, but now was not the time to linger any longer. It jolted, bumped, tossed and thrashed, but all efforts to get Chu Feng off its back proved to be fruitless. It had to serve as Chu Feng’s personal ride downhill.

As they dashed further and further away from the hill, it gradually disintegrated, then finally with a blaring boom, the hill shattered into a pile of despicable dust.

However, during its disintegration, white fog rolled over and over, like a tempestuous sea surging into the vault of heaven above.

God knew how long before the fog and dust finally dissipated and scattered into the surrounding area.

Yellow Ox staggered across the dusty ground with a crouching head. It waited for the dust and fog to settle before it finally approached the site of the hill with great caution.

Chu Feng also came closer. Only rocks and sands were left there. The whole structure had completely crumbled into a sheer nothingness. As to that cave and that so-called parallel universe, both were no longer to be found.

“How come there is a place like this? And how come it is connected to an outer-space planet?” Chu Feng was full of doubts and queries.

Yellow Ox did not reply. After they returned to the yard, it went straight into a trance that signified the beginning of another breathing exercise. This time, it lasted long.

Chu Feng was doing the exercise along with the calf. There was an evident difference in experience this time. He felt his vitality especially rich and strong, and throughout the course of the exercise, his body became all sweaty and humid. His mind felt dizzy and sleepy.

God knew how long before he finally woke up from the trance. He was astounded when he found out that his heart was beating like a drumroll.

Then, he also discovered that his eyesight had improved quite drastically. He could clearly see the silhouette of a leopard cat on the summit of a distant mountain. This was clearly an impossible task in the past.

Chu Feng was taken aback by these changes. His body smelt all fetid and funky thanks to the excessive sweat. At the same time, he also felt very ravenous. He felt so hungry that he could eat a cow.

He gazed at the golden calf at once, and the calf regained consciousness as well. It was also glaring at him with its greenish eyes and flashing a toothy snarl. The calf showed a devious look as if it was about to swallow him whole.

Chu Feng rushed to the shower room, then he put up food and delicacy on a dining table before he binged on them.

Meanwhile, the golden calf was also puffing away grasses and fruits, then it came inside the dining room and tried to swoop on the food that Chu Feng was eating. In the end, the calf even gave up its status as a benevolent herbivore and started gulping on the various steaks and meat paddings that Chu Feng had.

Clueless as to why, Chu Feng felt ever so hungry. The food seemed insufficient to fulfil his desire to glut and feel satisfied by having eaten his fill. But despite the fact that he had eaten more than ten times the food he usually ate, he still suffered from feeling ravenous.

But Chu Feng dared not to eat more. Afraid of any damage that this might bring to his digestive system, Chu Feng could only sit there, watching helplessly and unfeelingly as the calf ate like a whirlwind sweeping away wisps of scattered clouds.

“I’m so hungry!”

He was terrified too, afraid that his body might have ended up with some incorrigible diseases or problems from the breathing exercise, so he hesitated no more before he went to the village for the clinic of a physician who was with a lofty virtue worthy of respect.

“How did your body become so abnormal?” Doctor Wang was an old man with a benevolent and kind countenance, but right now, he seemed terrified too. He looked at Chu Feng with a frowned look on his face.

Chu Feng was taken aback. “Was there a life-threatening problem with my body?”

“No, and in fact, you are much healthier than any ordinary human being. Your life indices were on average ten times higher than those of a normal human being!” Doctor Wang concluded after a comprehensive sequence of tests had been performed on Chu Feng’s body.

Chu Feng was dumbstruck. He never expected such a result.

“But... but I’m still very hungry.” Chu Feng clarified his problem.

“Do you feel your belly bulging?” Doctor Wang asked.

“No, not at all.”

“Your digestive and absorption abilities are also ten times higher than those of a normal human being. Food can be rapidly converted to essential molecules and substances within your digestive tract. If you feel hungry, eat as you please. There shouldn’t be any problems.” Although Doctor Wang had never seen a patient like this before, he was confident in the advices he had given.



“Could you please keep everything we’ve talked today confidential?” Chu Feng gave many exhortations to Doctor Wang before he left. He did not want any of these information to be known to others.

Doctor Wang solemnly nodded. He also told Chu Feng to come over for checks at any time if needed. In fact, he was very invested in Chu Feng’s case. He wanted to keep track of Chu Feng’s situation. He was eager to see what he would eventually turn into.

Chu Feng started engorging food and drinks as soon as he returned home!

While he was eating, he browsed through the news on his communicator.

Then, to his surprise, there were many pieces of news that reported the billowy fogs happening in many places. Some of the mountains in other places also collapsed; the vital essence that flowed out of their ruins were as tempestuous as a surging sea.

This meant that situations similar to that in the small hill also happened elsewhere in this world, but it still remained unknown as to whether or not anyone had also entered the parallel universe as he did.

“Tell me, is this one of those moments or junctures that you’ve been waiting for ever since you came to our world?” Chu Feng asked.

Yellow Ox nodded, then it shook its head.

It took him a while before he could finally comprehend the calf’s bizarre response. To Yellow Ox, the earlier encounter with the parallel universe was nothing major nor important. It could only serve as an opportunity that could potentially lead up to something major and no more.

Chu Feng was rather surprised by the calf’s indifference. To him, this encounter had meant a tenfold increase in many of his vital life indices, and this alone could potentially serve as a major turning point for Chu Feng’s life.

Moreover, other changes had also gradually evolved within him.

## **Chapter 20: Sanctification of the Mortal**

The satisfaction of eating his fill belatedly came, but it was a truly content and fulfilling moment when at long last, he felt full. His body was cloaked in warmth. He lay supine on the chair, cherishing this delayed arrival of unparalleled delightfulness.

The dining table had been peppered with empty plates. Chu Feng was a bit astounded. How much had I eaten? Am I actually becoming a proper rice bucket?

Near him, Yellow Ox was sleeping soundly with a bulging belly.

There was a surging feeling of drowsiness in his head. He could no longer resist the urge to sleep, so he fell asleep as soon as he went back to his room. It was a night of sound slumber. He did not wake up until noon.

His stomach growled again. It was hunger that woke him up. Chu Feng was shocked. "Am I going to spend my whole life in this vicious cycle of 'eat then sleep' for eternity from now on? How do I then differ myself from a pig?"

Yellow Ox had woken up hours before him. While Chu Feng was still deep in his slumber, the calf was seeking for food to eat all around the house. It had disposed of all the fruits and veggies from the fridge, and even these were not enough for it. It came to beg Chu Feng for more food.

"Be patient, young lad. I will make some stewed beef for you very soon," Chu Feng sourly said. He fetched a chunk of raw meat from the freezer and took it into the kitchen.

The calf looked, glared, and lurched to its hind hooves. Its pair of horns beamed with glitters as puffs of white vapors fumed out of its nostrils. It squared off with Chu Feng at the entrance hallway to the kitchen.

"Go, go, go. Don't stand here and bother me. These are pork chops," Chu Feng said with a guilty conscience.

In the end, Yellow Ox did eat up all the chops Chu Feng had prepared for it.

For himself, he stewed a pot of beef for himself with resolute determination. He told the calf in a solemn manner that he was in fact eating mutton, and because mutton did usually taste quite fishy, he advised it not to eat.

Yellow Ox was growing suspicious. It frequently looked into the pot and opened its mouth for a couple of times. No-one knew whether it was going to taste the meat or wanting to say something, but in the end, Chu Feng finished the pot of beef without much disturbance from the calf.

"What a bastard. It really has a good sense of smell, doesn't it? It will be really troublesome for me in the future to eat anything beef-related." Afraid of being found out, Chu Feng cursed under his breath.

At the same time, he also made an unspoken criticism. To him, it seemed almost absurd for a cow to be carnivorous.

But to his relief, his appetite today was no longer as prodigious as yesterday. He had eaten much less.

He then came to the yard, clutching onto the burdensome stone table with only one of his hands. He could lift the table over his head single-handedly with ease.

Chu Feng wanted to know how much strength he actually possessed. He had his eyes on a landscape stone in the yard. It was a heavy bulk of stone. Back then, it took the collaborated effort of dozens of men to settle it in that corner of the yard. It could easily weigh up to seven hundred jin.

It was a big chunk as well, which meant profound difficulty to grab it in the first place. Yet, Chu Feng still managed to grip it firmly, then with a sudden force, he lifted up this brownish hunk of stone.

Then, with a deafening bang, he slammed the stone onto the ground. Even the earth's surface trembled upon impact.

Chu Feng was spellbound. His two arms had possessed strength to an enormous scale. He had never expected himself to lift such a heavy dollop of stone. This, to him, was indeed startling.

If this were seen by another man, perhaps he would have the reaction that bore no difference to his.

"It's way more than just a tenfold increase in strength," Chu Feng murmured.

Then, he took out a timer and left the yard. He planned to test his speed. Upon setting off at a blistering pace, Chu Feng swished through the air. He could hear wind whirring and see the trees rapidly retreating beside him.

"Three seconds for a hundred meters?" Chu Feng was so awed at the sight of his own result that he could hardly speak.

Although his speed wasn't ten times that of a normal human being, but this still came as a start. It beat all the recorded limit of a human's speed by not just a narrow margin.

He was left in a trance for a long while.

Then, he made a number of other attempts. From his vision and fighting ability to reflex speed and hearing, all had improved by a wide margin. Of course, everything was roughly estimated, so the results might not be perfectly accurate.

Chu Feng was glad and afraid at the same time. His skin looked sparkling and crystal-clear as if he had been reborn for a second time. Vaguely, there was even a smell of fragrance on his body.

This was somewhat similar to the recounted stories about those priests and monks. Their bodies remained intact and fragrant even after death, and the cause of it remained as an unresolved mystery today.

In the following two days, Chu Feng quietly remained at home behind closed doors, focusing on the changes happening to his body. He performed the breathing exercises once in the morning and once in the night.

He found that his appetite had also returned to normal, and the changes within his body had also become more stable and subtler than before.

Meanwhile, Yellow Ox was getting lazier and lazier. How it wished it could sleep from sunrise to sunset. But as days passed by, it gradually returned to normal as well. It regained its interest and started fondling with Chu Feng's communicator again.

This reminded Chu Feng of the embarrassment from last time. "Demon Ox, I'm here to warn you: don't you touch my communicator, or I will bash you without a doubt!"

"Moo!" Yellow Ox took his warning for granted.

"I have things to do now, so I don't have the time to deal with you at the moment," Chu Feng said. He wanted to run another comprehensive test with Doctor Wang on his body.

Suddenly, the look on his face shifted. He looked at Yellow Ox with an uncanny smile. "Actually, if you really want to fondle with this thing, why don't I just buy you another one?" He said.

Yellow Ox was rather delighted when it heard such a promise from Chu Feng, but soon, it displayed an alarmed look and retreated back a few steps. It glared at him with its eyes wide-opened.

"Goddam it. Why are you looking at me like this? Don't use that cruel and unscrupulous heart of yours to try to fathom the magnanimity of mine!" Chu Feng shouted at it.

"Moo!" Yellow Ox replied in despise.

"How about this? Apart from the breathing exercise, what other special sorceries do you have up your sleeves? Teach me some, and in return, I will buy you a brand new communicator." Chu Feng simpered.

Yellow Ox grinned and smiled, as if it was mocking at him for so easily giving away his real character and evil intents.

Chu Feng was rather composed and calm. His face did not blush with shame at all. “Communicator is such a buried treasure. Once you have mastered it, you are basically in control of every piece of information there is about the world.”

Upon completing his sentence, Chu Feng pushed the door open and walked out.

The air that ran in the atmosphere above Qingyang Village seemed especially refreshing. After taking a deep breath, one could immediately feel rested and refreshed. Chu Feng was absorbed in thought, “Was this the result of the shake-up that recently happened?”

Vaguely, he could see the multi-colored fogs and smogs that were spewing out of the mountains in the distance. The fogs were evenly distributed between the heaven and the earth, making the local region purer and fresher than ever.

To his surprise, there were actually many people queuing in front of Doctor Wang’s clinic. Chu Feng stood at the back of the queue before his turn came at long last.

“So many patients, ain’t there?” Chu Feng commented.

Doctor Wang signalled him to go into the adytum. Clearly, he wanted none of the strangers to know about his specialty.

“Not exactly. These people had been suffering from some mild diseases a few days back. But strangely, all of them seemed to be getting better and better without any of my medication.”

“Do you think this could potentially be related to the recent upheavals and shake-ups?” Chu Feng conjectured.

“Yes, it should be. Look at those mountains in the distance. The fog emanating from that place seemed to contain some special substances that are very beneficial to a human’s body.” Doctor Wang nodded.

So many people came for a second-time inspection after feeling much more relieved from their earlier ailment.

“So it seems like this sequence of upheavals isn’t even half bad after all. It’s not as fearful as we thought it would be, isn’t it?” Doctor Wang said with a sigh.

During the past few days, even the ordinary people felt that their vitality had been drastically boosted. Their spiritual essence felt vigorous, and this came as a pleasant surprise to many people.

Chu Feng looked into the distance. He was worried that one day, those ferocious beasts would be released to haunt the world, turning it into a living hell. It was a possibility, and

when it eventually came true, nothing would survive under the clutches and claws of these mutated monsters.

Doctor Wang performed a comprehensive inspection on Chu Feng's health, then he also coordinated a few fitness tests for Chu Feng to perform. In the end, it came as a surprising assurance that his fitness had improved once again.

This time, Chu Feng managed to complete a hundred-meter sprint in only two and a half seconds. It really shocked that old man with a profound start.

His strength had also exceeded the standard of human beings by twelvefold. Hearing, reflex and vision had all become much more astounding than last time.

"This... this is truly a miracle. Is it going to keep improving day-by-day? Is there even a limit?" Doctor Wang murmured in a trance.

"I think it has reached its limit, because I can feel my body returning to a relatively stable and restrained state. My appetite has also restored to normal," Chu Feng truthfully informed the doctor.

"Even so, it still seems like a myth to me!" Doctor Wang could hardly restore his calm and composure. "I've been smelling a delightful fragrance this whole time. Is that you?"

He was a bit uncertain.

Chu Feng nodded.

Doctor Wang's face stiffened up after he ascertained that the fragrance was indeed emanating from Chu Feng's body. He found it hard to believe as his body had become seemingly petrified.

"How... how is this possible?" He was struck dumb in astonishment. He stared at Chu Feng in bewilderment, remaining speechless for quite a while.

"Is this a problem?" Chu Feng consulted.

"No, not at all. It is not a problem itself, but this would certainly stir up quite a sensation if it were to happen in the ancient times. Only some old priests or monks could emanate fragrance like this after the age of a hundred. Plus, you also possess power and speed of such immensity and of such swiftness. If this were the ancient times, you would be called a sanctified mortal."

"Sanctified... mortal?" Chu Feng seemed baffled.

"Yes! Sanctification of the mortal, that's how they call it," Doctor Wang assuredly answered.

Chu Feng was dumbfounded.

“We cannot just simply deny and reject all theories from the past. Although some of them seemed obscure, mystified and abstruse, some remained relatively truthful and trustworthy,” Doctor Wang said.

He had a good command of Western Medicine, but he was a proper practitioner of Chinese Medicine. He had an incisive understanding of many ancient medical codes and records. He even did some desultory readings about folk prescriptions and home remedies. Amongst them, many were ancient books written by respectful Taoist and Buddhist Priests, so he knew a lot in these areas.

“The limit of human bodies can be broken, and aren’t you a ready-made example of that?” Doctor Wang sighed. “So it’s safe to say that some of those from the ancient times could also achieve what you have achieved. The story about Shakyamuni throwing the elephant, for instance, sounds whimsical enough for any modern readers to believe, but if one’s body could acquire the power sufficient enough to break the limit, perhaps nothing is impossible.”

According to his theory, the Buddha was also only a human, but because of the exceeding power he possessed, he could hurl away an elephant with ease.

“Buddha throwing the elephant, Taoist Priests lifting mountains... these were all the embodiments of the process of sanctification of a mortal’s body. Their bodies will not decompose even after death, and fragrance emanated from them because of the exposure of their bodies’ essence.”

The more he spoke, the more visibly excited he became. Everyone could tell that he had invested much interest into these classical writings. Especially as he saw a living proof such as Chu Feng, his mind could stay calm no more.

“Of course, you’re not capable enough to throw an elephant yet, but you will be. And more importantly, you make me certain that once a person breaks the limit of his body, nothing will be impossible.” How he wished he could dissect Chu Feng alive so that he could scrutinize more closely into the structure and forms of his superhuman body.

Chu Feng hastily rose from his seat. He hurriedly bid his farewell to the doctor as though he were fleeing from him.

On his way back, Chu Feng thought about a lot of things.

Approaching his house, Chu Feng could hear the sound of blowing wind echoing in the yard. The blowing sound was also occasionally accompanied by the rumble of thunder.

What was happening? He was worried that the Demon Ox might have produced some serious foul-ups again.

Chu Feng marched into the yard, but he was immediately stunned by the sighting. He saw Yellow Ox standing on its hind hooves while its front hooves were expanding to form all sorts of movements. It... was shadow boxing.

Winds blew and thunder rumbled. All the sounds came through its body. Was this a particular type of fist position that the calf seemed to have mastered?

A cow throwing punching and practicing boxing styles! What a sight to behold!