

The Sacred Ruins

Chapter 26: Elegant Indifference

Translator: Mike Editor: Chrissy

Her voice was insipid and flat. The greeting sounded polite rather than with tenderness. The tone felt distant and disconnected.

Chu Feng tried to sound as calm as he could. He returned the greeting in a quite attentive manner, then he gave a chortle and expressed his amazement and wonder at her elegant indifference.

Although the parting words were only said a few weeks ago, Chu Feng felt as if years had passed. Being able to talk to her again gave him an odd sense of déjà vu.

Lin Naoi had always been a calm, sensible and intelligent girl. She had never gone out of her way to propitiate people, so naturally, there was an air of elegant indifference around her. Almost everyone at school perceived her as someone above their station, so few people had the audacity to claim ties of kinship or to make friends with her.

Perhaps it was due to the sheer beauty of hers in addition to the coldness of her temperament that she shied almost everyone around her. Although many people wanted to win her hand, few even had the audacity to take the initiative to talk to her.

Even Chu Feng's acquaintance with her was an accident.

Despite his higher-than-average academic performance, he was nowhere near the level of hardworking. Playing truant was a common occurrence, and for most of the lectures that required mandatory attendance, he usually entered the classroom as the bell rang.

One could easily imagine the circumstance in the classroom by the time Chu Feng entered. It was usually filled with sad and sober faces, but this one time he found a vacant seat by the window in a mid-row.

This was the row for girls, and most of them were with countenance like flowers and the moon. It was a sight that gladdened his heart and pleased his eyes.

But the vacant table by which he was sitting had a paper with the name Lin Naoi written on it. Clearly, the seat had been reserved for this particular girl who was also running late.

Chu Feng took no notice of the paper. Under the astonished gaze of a few other girls, he sat down on the seat at his ease. Then, he folded the name card into a paper plane. With a gentle thrust, he flew it out of the classroom window.

The girls were dumbstruck. There were looks of astonishment in their eyes. For them, this was truly a daring action, since no-one had ever treated Lin Naoi in such a flippant manner.

Chu Feng soon started to realize for whom the seat had been reserved, but the realization did not make him withdraw himself from the seat.

At the same time, a long-haired girl walked in. She was a stunning beauty, alright. With a height of at least 170 centimeters, she was a young woman, fairly tall and fairly slim. Her hair was smooth as silk; her face was bright and spotless. Her jet-black eyes were sparkling and charming.

She was breathtakingly beautiful, but clearly, she was a cold beauty. Standing still by the desk at which Chu Feng was sitting, she quietly gazed at Chu Feng with a flat and insipid look on her face.

The girls from the same row were also pressuring the immoral seat-grabber with indignant glares, signalling him to leave at once.

However, Chu Feng did not simply resign to such pressure. He remained seated with perfect composure. Having looked face to face with Lin Naoi, he started engrossing himself with the books in his hand.

Lin Naoi calmly stood for a while before she turned her back and left without a word being spoken.

Perhaps it was not the best way to greet someone for the first time, but they did get acquainted with each other thanks to this awkward encounter. Gradually, they started communicating with each other more and more often.

Strictly speaking, their relationships had never been the most fervent one. The times they had had together walking abreast were almost minimal. Once, Chu Feng tried to hold hands with her, but he was greeted with a quite unfriendly gaze from her.

This could almost mean the end of it if the leading man of this romantic story was someone else.

But Chu Feng was a spontaneous man driven by mood and emotion, or in other words, he was quite a brazen man who knew nothing about dignity. He persisted on holding her hand. He smiled like a gentleman, but he refused to let the hand go.

In the end, Lin Naoi turned away her head, resisting no more. She let her hand enshrouded in the warmth of another man's palm, freeing herself from the constraint and melting away in a man's profound virility.

It was that very day when their relationships was finally confirmed. Other boys were wailing in sadness and disappointment in themselves. Many also basted Chu Feng behind his back for his unparalleled brazenness and shamelessness. But all in all, he did succeed.

However, the progression stopped just there. Lin Naoi had never altered her temperament. She was still the elegant yet indifferent beauty as she had been. For Chu Feng, her occasional indifference to him was almost insufferable, but he still chose to go along her path.

Chu Feng recalled pieces of memory from the past, but he was soon able to collect himself and remembered that Lin Naoi was still on the phone.

On the other side of the communicator, it was the melodious voice of Lin Naoi. Her voice was musical, alright, but there was also a sense of distance and remoteness in it.

In the end, he could truly feel the sense of distance when Lin Naoi asked him if he needed any help. After parting company, their insipid relationship seemed to have become even flatter.

Chu Feng frowned. He did not need help from her.

But the idea that his parents might do occurred to him.

The world had changed. Strange occurrences happened around the world in a more and more unpredictable fashion. Maybe one day, the world might take the left turn somewhere with all hell breaking loose.

As a member of the Dainty Biomedical Group, Lin Naoi had much more inside information than anyone out there; moreover, her family had the power and influence to ensure the safety and the soundness of his parents.

“My parents are stranded in Shun Tian, so I hope, if possible, that you may look after them on my behalf.”

Chu Feng was fairly straightforward when he needed to be. He never wanted to sound frippery or fake. He did not feel embarrassed to pose such a request simply because they had broken up. It involved the safety of his parents, so he pushed forward his request regardless of the status of their relation.

Lin Naoi calmly listened, then she responded with a monosyllable: “Okay.”

Chu Feng reverted to his old taciturn ways. He spoke no more. He felt he should end the call right here, right now.

“I will be visiting Taihang Mountains in the near future,” Lin Naoi informed.

Chu Feng vented out an amused laughter. His flippant character dictated him to never give in to the cold indifference of Lin Naoi. He could not resist the urge to poke fun at her. "Just like I always said, you owe me a hug. So are you coming here to compensate me for that this time?"

Clap!

She hung up on him, abruptly ending the conversation.

...

Zuo Jun opened his dimmed eyes. Even the slightest movement could cause insufferable pain to his head. He was having a double vision while his head almost felt like it was about to crack open. To him, everything felt ever so insufferable.

"He is finally back to life!" said someone with a sigh of relief.

Zuo Jun sat up from the bed, but the piercing headache kicked in at once. He groaned in pain and clutched onto his head. He could finally open his eyes before a long while had passed. His head belled with buzzing and humming sounds. He also felt confused.

"Zuo Jun, what had happened?"

Zuo Jun looked up. It was a young girl with a pretty face. She was looking over at him across the room with a benevolent smile.

"Qingyu Zhu," he called out her name. She was one of the most powerful two in the team.

Her face always wore a delightful smile regardless of her mood. The smile seldom faded away.

"Do you know you've fainted for four days? What happened to you?" said another man in the room. He looked like a twenty-five years old man with a pale skin. His eyes were tenuous, but they were sparking eyes.

"Ye Ge," Zuo Jun recognized.

He was surprised that the two most powerful warriors in the team were here at the same time. They were also the head of the team.

There were also a few others present in the room. Some had a pair of golden wings on their back, some had two heads, and some had fingers glittering with a golden shine.

The room was crammed with the mutated. They stared at Zuo Jun, waiting for him to answer.

"I can't recall what happened." Zuo Jun tried to canister back, but the severe pain in his head rendered him incapable of remembering anything.

"Weren't we deployed to Taihang Mountains for the strange fruits here? This is all I can remember. The others seemed too muddled to remember," Zuo Jun said as cold sweat trickled down his chins.

The crowd silently stood as they gazed at him. They were stunned by the fact that Zuo Jun had lost all his recent memories. The order he just recounted was given a long while ago.

"You might have run into a competent fighter. He defeated you even when you've turned into a giant. He has caused severe trauma to your head, and as a result, you lost your memory," Ye Ge said as purple light ran inside his eyes. "Your opponent should have been a human. If it had been a beast or bird of prey, chunks of raw meat would have been the only things left of you now," he deduced.

"Did you go looking for troubles again, Zuo Jun?" Qingyu Zhu said with a smile. "Ever since you became one of the mutated, you have grown more and more full of yourself. You thought no-one could defeat you, didn't you?"

"I...I didn't," Zuo Jun refuted.

"Yes, you did. And I'm sure you're not the only one with an inflated ego. Don't think you can fool me on this. I know some of you have been frequently going in and out of the nearby towns with a condescending attitude and act as you please, looking down at the ordinaries." Her voice grew a bit colder. She glanced across the crowd. "Acquiring the superhuman powers and abilities does not grant you the right to lose your soul or your heart!"

"Qingyu is right. Today, more and more people started mutating into one of us, so don't be fooled by the misbelief that you're still invincible, because you're not! You are not gods yet!" said Ye Ge.

"We were amongst the earliest to mutate. We have already won at the starting point, so if someone could become a god, that someone will always be one of us!" Someone from the crowd took Ye Ge's words amiss.

"Shut up!" Qingyu Zhu scolded.

"Behave yourselves. There will be an important figure visiting us very soon in the future," Ye Ge said.

"Is it going to be Silver Wing?" asked someone.

“Mind your own business and stay out of trouble. We shall prioritize the investigation of this incidence that Zuo Jun was involved in. We all know that Zuo Jun was not a weakling. He is a strong fighter, so who could have beaten him and caused him to lose his memory?” Ye Ge frowned.

...

Chu Feng finished his boxing exercise for the day, then he noticed a hint of green in the parterre. The recent warm weather had been boosting the growth of all plants. Weeds and wild flowers grew wild in the well-nourished soil.

“How are the seeds doing?” He was struck by the thought.

At the very beginning, he paid the seeds a visit several times a day in a fervent wish to see the sprouting of those seeds, but as time went by with nothing occurring, his passion eventually dwindled.

Especially for the past few days, lots had happened, so naturally, he nearly forgot about the existence of these seeds.

“By my reckoning, we should see seedlings now.” With great expectations, Chu Feng trotted towards the parterre.

Chapter 27: The Storm's Coming

Translator: Mike Editor: Chrissy

The soil in the parterre was far from being rich or fertile, but it was nutritious enough to grow flowers and plants. Canna and Chinese roses both threw a lot of autumn growth, emanating a rich fragrance that were both heart-gladdening and mind-refreshing. The pomegranate tree had also borne fruits. The fruits were golden and ripe, exposing its plump and red seeds through cracks on the surface.

Chu Feng crouched by the parterre, drawing his face close to the soil. However, after meticulous scrutiny of the parterre, he still couldn't see any signs of life. There were no seedlings sprouting out of the bleak and barren soil.

He was rather disappointed. Why were they still not growing?

For the sake of a better chance, he had planted the three seeds in three separate locations, but so far, in none of which had there been any visible activities. Even weeds were nowhere to be found in the parterre.

There was only deep resignation in Chu Feng's expression. Could it be that the three seeds had already drained their vitality of life? In other words, were they already dead?

He refused to reconcile to failure. He wanted at least one of them to grow into something. He wanted to know what he would yield from it.

Days ago, he had been diligently looking up for the seeds that belonged to all kinds of plants. He compared each one of them to the seeds he had in hand, and none even remotely matched.

This further deepened his expectation, even more firmly believing that the seeds were nothing ordinary.

“Crack!”

Yellow Ox thrust itself onto the rich soil of the pomegranate growing soil, sticking its sizable mouth upwards to the branches as it reached for the sizable fruits. With a gulp, it swallowed a whole pomegranate. Red juice trickled down from the corners of its mouth. It squinted its eyes and enjoyed the mellow fragrance and the syrupy taste.

“Demon Ox, be careful when you stumble in there! Don’t clomp on my seeds!” Chu Feng warned.

Yellow Ox showed a contemptuous expression as Chu Feng warned. It did not believe that the three shrivelled seeds could come back to life at all. It kept munching on the pomegranate regardless of Chu Feng’s concern.

Chu Feng frowned. He felt ever so frustrated. He wanted them to spear out of the earth, but nothing seemed to happen regardless of the methods he attempted.

In the end, he decided to dig up the soil to see the condition of the seeds for himself. Otherwise, he would feel as if a hundred claws were scratching his heart. He was eager to know the result.

“I think I will first choose the seed with a relatively fuller shape.”

Chu Feng crouched by the parterre, carefully dusting away the thin covering of soil and unconsolidated rock waste above the seed. He was afraid of breaking any potential stems of a seedling, so he kept his actions to a minimal level.

Plucking away the dirt revealed a slightly shrivelled seed. While half of it buried underground, another half re-exposed to the air. Although it was yet to shoot a seedling, the seed’s color and luster seemed to have been added with a richer hint of green.

“Things seemed a bit hopeful!” Chu Feng was delighted.

He carefully observed the seed and discovered that its skin was a bit smoother than before. It also looked greener, with a complicated system of grains engraved on its surface. It looked complex, but also mysterious.

The seed had undergone evident changes.

The seed used to wear a dry yellow skin, but months later, it turned into something plentifully bestrewn with few green stripes and scalings. It somehow had a lingering charm associated with it.

Chu Feng was astonished. The more he looked at the seed, the more extraordinary it seemed to be.

He sighed with relief. He set his mind at rest, resting assured that sooner or later, it would spear out of the earth.

He grew hesitant. He was unsure whether or not to nourish the soil with some fertilizers in order to boost up its growth.

Chu Feng turned to Yellow Ox with a mendacious smile. "Oh my darling little ox. I know you may not be eager, but you need to help me. Otherwise, I'm totally out of options."

A shudder ran down Yellow Ox's back. It retreated a few steps back, warily glaring at Chu Feng with its eyes wide opened, as if it was asking Chu Feng to get straight to the point. Don't beat around the bush!

"I will only say this once. Cow dung!"

"Pong!"

Yellow Ox hurled its hooves at Chu Feng, forcing him to shun aside from the fearsome attack.

It rushed back into the room, and with a bang, it slammed the door of the room shut behind it. Not only had it usurped an entire room, but it had also seized a king-sized bed in that room ever since it got here.

Every night, it would lay prostrate when it slept. Its arms outstretched, and its eyes closed.

Chu Feng had a hidden bitterness, but he was helpless too.

Having covered the seeds with the rich soil again, he started to practice boxing once again. He had a sense of urgency. As the number of the mutated grew day-by-day and with each possessing a set of unique skills and powers of their own, he felt he needed to acquire some sort of measures for self-protection.

At the same time, he also wanted to explore Taihang Mountains to try out his luck. Maybe by chance, he could run into something unusual.

But all the risky explorations were premised on the basis that he was powerful enough to battle against the feral beasts and birds residing in the mountains.

It was still the first position of Yellow Ox's boxing style, but Chu Feng was determined to practice it again and again. His fist carried an imposing power, whipping the withered leaves drooping on the branches of the trees in the yard into churning masses.

"Moo!"

Suddenly, a blaring bellow of a wild yak sounded as he jabbed away with his fist. It was an ear-splitting sound that echoed and rumbled within the enclosure of this small yard.

Pong!

Yellow Ox had been taken aback. It rushed out of the door of the room, dreamily staring at the yard with its eyes wide opened.

There was a silhouette of a jet-black yak behind Chu Feng's back. It was lofty tall, and strapping too. Its glare gazed into the eyes of Yellow Ox, with a body shining with black luster. It looked exactly like a real yak, only with a look more formidable, and a temperament more imposing and fear-inspiring in its beholders.

A fist that Chu Feng had jabbed away was all that preceded to the emergence of this black demon yak. It poised beside the equally formidable torso of Chu Feng, ready for a fight.

Chu Feng knew that this was the ultimate form of Yellow Ox's boxing type. He was now in full mastery of this first position!

The first position was the fundamental of Demon Ox Boxing Style. All the nine positions were established on this foundation; as such, it made the first position all the more difficult to master than the rest of the boxing style.

The positions that followed would not take long to master.

Sure enough, Chu Feng managed to complete all of the first five boxing positions in the following two days without a break. The rate of his progress had drastically increased.

Yellow Ox was astounded by Chu Feng's progression. In response, it wrote another few shapeless and twisted words on the ground, referring Chu Feng as to the descendent of Tauren.

Chu Feng was wild with rage.

On that day, amongst the plate of pork chops he prepared for the calf, he chucked in a few pieces of beefsteaks with a quite decisive determination.

“Hey man, I really miss you after days of us parting company. How do you do recently?” Zhou Quan rang up Chu Feng.

“Not bad. How are you doing? I’ve heard plenty of news about mutations and metamorphosis. Are you doing alright?” Chu Feng showed his concern over Zhou Quan’s wellbeing.

“I can burn gold and melt stones these days. Even I was taken aback by myself, but I think I’m getting used to it. But that horn, that goddamn horn that had grown on my head is disgustingly ugly.” Zhou Quan was fraught with emotion.

To cover up the pointing horn, he had been wearing his hair slicked back lately, but his outlandish hairstyle had proven to be an eye-souring sight to his family who contended that the hair made him look like a local ruffian. As expected, it was really depressing for him to listen to everybody’s whinges.

Chu Feng had a good gloat over this.

“Oh, right! Isn’t it strange that Demon Ox hasn’t harassed me for the past two days? It’s been quiet all day, and I don’t think myself is used to this,” Zhou Quan complained.

Chu Feng was speechless. Days ago, Yellow Ox had been harassing Zhou Quan with endless string of calls regardless of the time of a day, almost driving Zhou Quan into madness.

Suddenly, Chu Feng recalled something. His expression turned astonished. “That’s not right! I have seen the calf hugging and cuddling the communicator the whole time for the past few days. It bellowed into the communicator, so clearly, it has been talking to someone on the other side.”

“Impossible! It’s been really quiet for me for the past two days. No one harassed me during the night, and that actually made me sleepless.” Zhou Quan emphatically asserted that Yellow Ox had not called him.

Chu Feng’s expression turned at once, hanging up the call almost in an instant.

If the calf had not been harassing Zhou Quan, then who had it been calling? Was it trying to get a rise out of some of his classmates? Chu Feng felt a dizziness overcoming him and blurring his vision.

Was the calf getting more and more intelligent? Did it secretly manage to take note of all the numbers from his contact list?

White smoke rose from his scalp, indicating profound anger burning within him. At the same time, he also felt quite uneasy. He blasted into Yellow Ox’s room, roaring, “Demon Ox! I’m gonna whoop your sorry ass!”

Chu Feng hurled himself onto the lying calf.

Yellow Ox was rather baffled as it heatedly glared at Chu Feng.

“Did you go harassing all those people from my contact list again?” Chu Feng accused.

Yellow Ox fiercely shook its head. It stuck out its front hooves, jabbing at the screen of the communicator.

Chu Feng looked doubtful. He took over the communicator and rapidly glanced through the call history. To his relief, what he was worried about did not happen.

But he questioned to whom these unfamiliar numbers belonged to. At the same time, he felt sorry for the poor soul who had to endure the constant harassment from a calf.

In a residence at a nearby town.

Zuo Jun almost had a mental breakdown. He had been badgered by calls from the same number over and over. The calls were made regardless of the time of the day ever since he woke up from the coma. It was an endless sequence, irritating to the say the least.

Sometimes, the phone rang in the evening; at times, the call came at dawn. To him, the caller was a sheer abomination.

His head was yet to recover from his head trauma. Him losing memory coupled with the penetrating pain made him all the more lethargic and drowsier.

He would kill to have a sound slumber, but for every time he fell asleep, the nightmarish ringtone would sound and wake him with a shudder.

He dared not to turn it off either. As one of the mutated, the communicator was the only means of communication with the commanders-in-chief of the team.

What made it all the more abominable was that the person who called him emulated the sound of a cow's bellow every time he called. It was a long and irritating succession of noise that made him clench his teeth in bitter hatred. How he wished he could wring the neck of the person on the other side.

His head had a sharp pain. It was a particular type of pain that resembled to a trauma inflicted by the stomp of an animal.

And now, the sound of cow's bellow felt not only irritating, but also suggestive of the pain. Every bellow felt like another stomp on his head.

Sometimes, the irritation sent him into a fury, prompting him to smash the communicator into a million pieces to end all the pain and sufferings.

But he couldn't. This was a special kind of communicator. Although its functions were simple, they were also powerful. Signals to this communicator could be ensured wherever he travelled to. It was also tied to his identity, so by no means could he dare to lose it.

Qingyang Village. Chu Feng's house.

Yellow Ox signalled for him to put the communicator on the bed, then with a few poking and jabbing that seemingly reflected its profound experience with the device, it made another call to the number. Yellow Ox shunned away as soon as the call was put through.

As expected, an ear-splitting roar soon sounded from the other side of the call. "You bastard! Don't make me track you down, or you will..."

The answerer gave vent to a torrent of abuse and curses. Clearly, he had gotten very exasperated.

Chu Feng seemed dumbstruck. He could well recognize the voice. This was the voice of Zuo Jun! "What a poor bastard!" Chu Feng thought. "How did Yellow Ox manage to make him fall victim to its tasteless practical jokes."

Chu Feng was at a loss on whether to cry or to laugh. On that day when Chu Feng made a body search of the unconscious Zuo Jun, Yellow Ox was also standing beside and tinkering with Zuo Jun's communicator. So all that fiddling around with the man's communicator was to take note of his contact number.

Chu Feng left the room and bit his lips to keep from laughter.

Yellow Ox was at last left alone in the room. It turned to its trusty communicator and fondled with it with profound interest. Occasionally, it moaned at it, as if it was flippantly replying to Zuo Jun's raging words.

At that night, Chu Feng was vigorously practicing boxing. To his surprise, he managed to master the sixth and the seventh position almost in an instant.

He lifted up a palm-sized boulder and caressed it gently in his hand, but the solid stone turned to powder in his fingers at once.

Chu Feng was astounded. He raised his palms and stared at them. What a horrifying strength they carried!

Chu Feng had once been doubtful about the expeditious rate at which his practice progressed. He consulted with Yellow Ox, and it informed him with words writing on the ground.

Some people might not be able to master this boxing style after a lifetime of intense training and practice. They might not even be able to pass the first position in their life.

While at the same time, there were also people who could come in mastery of the boxing style in months or even weeks. Of course, "mastery" was only used to refer to the completion of the moves that the style involved. It was only the first step that preceded many more procedures that followed

"This means I will soon become the master of the style," Chu Feng murmured.

He did not continue his practice for the sake of a more rapid progression. He preferred a more natural approach.

Chu Feng took a bath before the reports published on the internet engrossed his thoughts again.

Chu Feng carefully browsed through the reports, then a breaking news drew his attention.

Someone reported that an unusual tree was discovered in the depths of Taihang Mountains. Many of the mutated had entered the mountains, poised to snatch the fruits once they were borne on the tree.

This stirred up quite a sensation in the community!

Since, according to rumors, the cause for Silver Wing, Kong Kim, Fire Spirit and White Tiger to be significantly more potent than the other mutants was that they had eaten the fruits borne on a strange tree rather than that of a grass.

Therefore, the news that a new tree had been found to have the potential to bear such fruits prompted many to gird up their loins and be eager for action. They wanted to be the strongest of the pack. They wanted power to oppress the other mutants!

All of a sudden, Taihang Mountains became the focus of the world.

"The storm's coming."

Chapter 28: Combat Experience

Translator: Mike Editor: Chrissy

"The storm's coming," Chu Feng murmured. He dreamily stared out of a small window

at the dark horizon. Occasionally, a shooting star streaked across the dark night. The sight was transitory and forgettable.

The mutants would surely converge here for the fruits that could mold an ordinary into a skilful fighter like Silver Wing, Kong Kim, Fire Spirit and White Tiger. How could this not perturb one's mind and one's desire?

For the truly skilful mutants, their arrival at Taihang Mountains could be imminent.

With each mutant crossing path with each other, fights would be inevitable. Some might achieve fame for the victory of one single battle, while others might have the fate of a shooting star. Their existence would be proven to be transitory, and their once-acquired superhuman abilities would soon be forgotten and lost in the depths of the mountains.

All in all, a storm seemed imminent.

"Is Lin Naoi also coming with the same purpose?" Chu Feng frowned. In the near future, this region would be bound to disturbances. Various beasts and birds of prey would no longer be the only latent danger creeping in the area, but the mutants who desired for fame and power would perhaps wreak a grander havoc than the indigenous inhabitants of the mountain.

He was aware that Deity Biomedical Group had always been a giant in its related field and industry. Nowadays, the inclusion of Silver Wing under its brand made it all the more invincible. Even an alliance of mutants could do little to challenge its position.

In a residence at a nearby town.

Ye Ge wore a sullen look on his face. Only moments earlier, he was accused by his superior for divulging the secrets about the tree in Taihang Mountains so soon to the outside world.

Qingyu Zhu did not look exactly joyous either. The consistent smile on her face disappeared. As a co-leader of her expedition team, she was held accountable for the incident too.

Deity Biomedical Group had been watching Taihang Mountains since a long while ago. They deployed a team of their best fighters and pinpointed the location of the strange tree.

But man made plans and God laughed. Who would have thought that the secrets would be exposed and be thoroughly known to the public before they could take any actions?

As a result of this unwanted exposure, their initial advantage started swaying further and further away from them as more and more mutants decided to join the competition. Fights for the fruits seemed all the more likely now.

So understandably, the top executives had become all raging and furious.

Zuo Jun clutched onto his communicator, glaring furiously at the screen. An extreme hatred for the person who was constantly calling him had surged up in him. When the call came, he would answer the call at once then hurl his raging invective at the person on the other side.

“Zuo Jun, wake the hell up!” Ye Ge snapped. He was a mild and placid man on his usual days, but today was clearly not that day. He was exacerbated. “You were traumatized by someone, so did you leak the information about our operation to that person before you lost your memory?”

Zuo Jun was astounded before his face turned pale as a sheet. He fiercely shook his head. He dared not to admit to such accusations, or there would be no good fate for him.

“Impossible! I’m not a weak-kneed and spineless person. I was free of my flesh as I fought, so how could I be a traitor and betray the company?” Zuo Jun was emotional. He stood up on his feet and roared, explaining himself.

“It’s impossible for us to leak the information either, so I suspect that it was the other two teams divulging our secrets.” Another mutant in the room echoed.

Although all of the teams were members of Deity Biomedical Group, the competition was fierce between them.

“Maybe it was leaked by some of our opposition forces, such as Bodhi Genes. Their members also recently came to Taihang Mountains,” Qingyu Zhu said.

Medicine was also one of the core businesses for Bodhi Genes. Similar to Deity Biomedical Group, they had also been the leading body of the field.

The company started with a hint of mystery attached to it. It was said that many old monks in their hundreds were invited in addition to many of the top experts at biomedical fields.

They used a number of advanced instruments ahead of its time to perform a variety of tests and examinations on the monks.

Later as the company gradually expanded, it became more and more famous and influential in this post-civilization era.

“I can’t believe these people could be brazen enough to step on the soil that we have claimed possession of,” a mutant expressed his discontent.

“Maybe they have sensed the advantage we have led here, therefore. they muddied the water by leaking the information to the public,” Qingyu Zhu said.

Many other mutants frowned. Bodhi Genes would be a formidable opponent if they also wanted a share of the spoils. They had recruited a team of invisible beasts as well. Kong Kim, for instance, would stand up to Silver Wing as an equal.

“Let this be the worry of our executives. We only need to deal with the issues we have been assigned with.” Ye Ge started to calm down.

They all knew that before long, hell would break loose amongst these mountains. Fights would be bloody, and no-one would walk out unscathed.

Qingyang Village. The yard.

Wind blew. Thunders rumbled. These were no longer the sounds of the nature, but the sheer disturbance in the air caused by the wavering of a man’s bare fists. Chu Feng was practicing boxing. His every move had become profoundly different. A mystical force formed a layer and enveloped his fists.

Petals and leaves swirled up as he faltered his fists.

Finally, with a soft roar came a plume of white smoke from within his nostrils and his mouth. The plume flew around the circumference of the yard before returning back to his body.

He mastered the eighth position of Demon Ox Boxing Style!

Even for Yellow Ox, the rate at which Chu Feng progressed seemed astounding.

However, on the days that followed, his progression ceased from cruising on. He toiled away for two consecutive days, but was still far from mastery. This last position was slightly different and slightly special. Its pattern and its rhythm did not chime in at all with the very first position of the style.

He halted his practice. He wanted a break. He went to the kitchen to prepare himself some treat for the progression he had achieved thus far.

However, the fridge was empty, and so was the freezer. There was only a beefsteak remaining, but if Yellow Ox had seen this, it would be more than likely for it to go berserk on him.

“No, I think this is the time for me to brace myself to the adventure into the great depths of Taihang Mountains!” Chu Feng was determined.

Nowadays, almost all supermarkets had been emptied by the surging crowd from the neighboring villages. Meat was nearly impossible to find.

There were a few bags of grains and cereals stored in the house, but his high demand for energy meant that these were not even nearly enough to sustain his everyday intake of food. He needed meat.

“Yellow Ox. Let’s move into the mountains!” Chu Feng shouted.

If he were to venture into the mountains, Yellow Ox would be an almost mandatory companion to bring along with. It came from these mountains, so it knew about the mountains better than anyone.

Yellow Ox coldly reacted. It moved sluggishly. The profound laziness that had developed in its temperament had paralyzed its limbs, robbing it of movement.

“Pork Chops, gone. Turkeys, gone. I think you will have to eat grasses from now on. So if you’re not coming, be my guest,” Chu Feng threatened.

Chu Feng’s threats were effective to say the least. They drove Yellow Ox immediately off the bed. It could not bear the ideas of a diet without meat.

Finally, it agreed to come with Chu Feng into the mountains.

Taihang Mountains spanned across the horizon. The ridges formed a continuous curve in the distance.

Chu Feng led this expedition dual in a due east direction. They cut through the orchid forest then entered the great mountain range right after a twenty-li trek through the jungle.

There had always been a lot of wild animals in the mountains. It was the law that prohibited the locals from hunting.

The mountains had been the ancient habitats for boars, leopards, macaques, roe deer, reindeer, badgers and etc. since the beginning of time. Of course, wolves were also amongst them.

With the speed that Chu Feng and Yellow Ox travelled, it did not take long for them to barge into the mountains.

Chu Feng was also quite meticulous to his surroundings on their way there. He checked on every tree and every bush to see if there were any strange fruits. All in all, this was a place where few people had trodden.

Sadly, nothing was found.

“Wait! Where are you going? It’s dangerous there!” Chu Feng suddenly halted his pace.

Yellow Ox rushed ahead towards a towering mountain in the distance. Mist wreathed the mountaintops where horrifying beastly roars originated. Occasionally, one could see a monstrous bird of prey encircling the mountains before disappearing in the misty fog high above.

Yellow Ox stood, feasting its eyes on the view, then signalled for Chu Feng to go there.

“It is a perilous place to go. There are too many ferocious animals there!” Chu Feng’s expression shifted.

He was aware that that very mountain was not part of Taihang Mountains in an ordinary sense. It came with the thousand other primitive mountains during the upheaval.

But admittedly, it was a truly majestic mountain. It could easily dwarf the Himalayas or the Everest. Its height could measure well beyond tens of thousands of meters as it pierced into the layer of cloud above.

Great trees of an ancient age soared into the sky. Vines had grown thick as a tree. Apes whistled as tigers roared, rendering the mountains all the more primitive.

Chu Feng stood far from the mountain, but he could feel a dreadful and horrific gusto of air that was suggestive of death and destruction blotting out the sky and covering up the earth. “Combat experience!” Yellow Ox wrote the two words on the soggy soil. It looked serious and solemn. This was the reason it brought Chu Feng here. It pointed out the issue that Chu Feng currently faced, and that was the lack of real combat experience.

Chu Feng’s expression slightly shifted. It suggested his hesitation. He had never planned to even go near the beasts and birds of prey that resided amongst the primitive mountains.

“Moo!” Yellow Ox urged.

“Okay, okay. I will listen to you this time!” Chu Feng gritted his teeth and agreed to accept the challenge. He knew Yellow Ox would not harm him by any means, and moreover, its suggestions were quite reasonable as well. Giving how close he was to the full mastery of Demon Ox Boxing Style, there was really nothing that should make him be worried or hesitant about.

Perhaps, Demon Ox Boxing Style came from an environment of such cruelty.

At last, they went near the mountain’s body. It was so vast and boundless that Chu Feng felt as if he had stepped onto the edge of a highland plateau of unmatched vastness.

The florist was verdant, but all were of the primitive type.

“They can’t get out, but I can go in?” Chu Feng asked.

Yellow Ox confirmed by nodding its head.

“Then, will I be able to come back out again?” Chu Feng was doubtful.

Yellow Ox nodded again. It assured him that as long as he was not killed by the beasts or the birds of prey, he could easily backtrack his trail and make his way out.

Chu Feng was in a daze. He could not understand the principle behind this, but on the other hand, Yellow Ox also refused to say anything anymore.

Although it was still quite a distance between him and the mountain, he could already see some of the ferocious beasts he had never even heard of before. Some had the body of a lion, but there were bony spurs growing along its spine. It was at least ten meters tall, striding across the forest.

Chu Feng swallowed hard and felt ever so daunted. “Am I even remotely a match to that monstrosity of a beast?” Chu Feng thought.

Yellow Ox enjoined him not to take on fights when he entered the forest. The most important task was to survive. He would need to ensure his safety first before attempting to hunt down any appropriate opponents.

Finally, Chu Feng stepped over the boundary of the mountain and entered a world of unknown.

He had a glimpse of the towering multitude of trees, and of the immense matted jungle. Great trees soared above to cut out most of the light, rendering the air below all the more chilling.

Yellow Ox warned him to move and walk in the way that was taught in the boxing style. He must tighten up his muscles and seal off the breath of his body.

Chu Feng followed its order then quickly departed from the position where he stopped.

Boom!

As expected, the forest was full of latent dangers. The flora in the distance rocked and waved before a beast with the size of a house and a body of a leopard suddenly emerged and pounced itself onto the spot where he just stood on. It had a pair of horns, and that made it all the more fearsome and ferocious than it already was.

In the distance, Chu Feng hid behind a bush of grasses, clearly catching everything in sight. The scene sent a chill up his spine.

He realized that there was still a lot he needed to learn. A primitive mountain like this one was truly capable of consolidating one's skills and instincts for survival. He could only qualify as a master of the skills he had after he left this mountain alive.

Chu Feng no longer repelled Yellow Ox's idea. He wanted to put all his heart and soul into this invaluable training session to steel himself to be the strong man he longed for.

The time for a total war between mutants was about to come. Therefore, despite the profound risks that were associated with this expeditionary adventure, it was also a chance for him to transform qualitatively into a totally different person. It would train him well for the challenges to come.

A fist-sized spider suddenly cropped out in front of Chu Feng as he walked through the jungle.

Pong!

Without a second to spare, he threw a punch right into the flimsy body of that damnable spider. Blood splattered at once.

He quickly examined his fist, worried that it might be poisonous.

Yellow Ox sluggishly shook its head, meaning that he did not need to be worried, and that Demon Ox Boxing Style was much stronger than he thought.

Chu Feng ran into many monstrous looking beasts on the way. Once, he was almost tackled by a twenty-meter bird of prey. Admittedly, it was an alarmingly dangerous situation.

The bird had a body saturated in blazing flames. It crashed into a rocky cliff as it chased Chu Feng. The cliff was then melted by the bird's inferno blaze.

It was unbelievably dangerous here!

Chu Feng did not go toe-to-toe with the bird. He disappeared from the bird's sight after scurrying further into the depths of the jungle.

As he passed by an oddly quiet section of the jungle, his instinct told him that more than likely, a ferocious beast would jump out at him at any moment.

Here could well be the nest of a fear-inspiring beast, daring other less ferocious animals to approach

All was ever so unsettling, simply because it was too quiet.

However, Yellow Ox insisted to keep walking forward.

Suddenly, the scene he caught in sight made his hair stand on the end. He saw a tiger with a body thoroughly composed of white fur. There was not even a streak of marking consisted of fur in a different color. Its body was more than six meters in length, and its claws were cutting sharp, glittering with a cold and piercing gleam.

“It’s not a tiger!”

The beast had three tails. Every single one of them was shining with glittering luster. With a light stroke, the tail turned a boulder into a thousand pieces!

Yellow Ox wrote on the ground. “This is our dinner.”

Chu Feng’s eyes were widened in disbelief. What a monstrous beast this was! “This is for dinner? You kidding me?” Chu Feng whispered in a voice quivering with fear.

This is for dinner! That’s right!

Yellow Ox seemed certain. It solemnly nodded, signalling for him to fling himself upon the beast and kill it!

This was a relatively open area. Neither plants nor trees were obstructing his view or in the way of his movement. The ground was dry and firm instead of soggy and soft. There was a cave engraved on the cliff, and that was obviously the nest of this monster.

Meanwhile, this six-meter monster opened its inexorable eyes, looking over at Chu Feng. It sensed his intrusion.

“Roar!” With an ear-piercing howl that caused an earthquake and tottered the hills, it turned into a dazzling flicker of white glint, pouncing itself at Chu Feng at a lightning speed. All happened so fast, and all escalated so quickly. The wind suddenly turned foul. It had an offensive smell of blood, which was suggestive of a sanguinary slaughter.

“I’ll take my fist and ram it down your sassy throat!” Chu Feng shouted. He gritted his teeth, greeting the charging beast with his iron fist.

Chapter 29: Return of the Untamed

Translator: Mike Editor: Chrissy

Chu Feng blared and yelled as he charged at the beast.

He could feel the adrenaline pumping as his heart rapidly thumped in his chest. The speed at which the blood flowed in his veins drastically increased!

As a citizen of the modern society, there had never been a situation like this happening to him before. This was the first time in his life where he came toe-to-toe, face-to-face against a giant beast. To adapt to this nerve-wrecking moment, his body immediately adjusted its internal biology in response to this death-or-alive situation.

“Roar...”

The six-meter beast lunged at Chu Feng, brandishing its cutting claws that were sharp as a sickle. The beast flung and swung its trusty claws, desperately attempting to rip the face of this daring intruder.

Chu Feng leapt and hopped, steered clear of the bouncing beast. Before having known the actual strength of his opponent, Chu Feng dared not to confront the tough with toughness. The superhuman agility of his body now came in handy as he nimbly skipped aside. The beast's claws glanced off his shoulder, but Chu Feng's rapid movement ensured that he could always went back to safety unharmed.

Crack!

Sparkles spattered as the beast landed its claws on a rigid rock, leaving many deep groove marks on its slick and glossy surface. This was just to showcase how sharp and deadly his claws were.

If those claws were to land on an ordinary person, the poor old soul would certainly have their legs cut off just below the crutch and would die a violent death at once.

Ong!

The air exploded. The beast flung its three formidable tails that are both strong and stiff. It was as rigid as an iron rod!

Chu Feng managed to dodge the fatal swing. The tail landed on a tree instead, and with a clear, sharp crack, its trunk snapped upon impact. The tree fractured then solemnly tumbled with a blaring boom.

Chu Feng was dumbstruck. As a man living in a modern society, he had never seen a beast of such strength and of such valor.

Although all kinds of strange occurrences had cropped up during the upheaval, he had seldom seen many of the events that had occurred, let alone fighting a beast with his bare hands.

The beast was called the three-tailed tiger. It was a variant of a giant tiger. As the name suggested, the beast had three tails. Their bodies were generally giant to say the least. On average, they could measure up to seven meters in length.

It possessed all the available powers of a giant tiger. All of the three tails were stiff and firm like iron rods. The beast could easily split a rocky cliff or snap a person's body in half.

"Roar!"

The bestial howl trembled the sky and quivered the forest.

The beast thrust itself onto Chu Feng once again. It opened its bloody mouth which could easily swallow an adult human whole. Its fangs were more than two feet long. They shone with a chilling luster.

Chu Feng evaded the attack once again. Had it not been that Chu Feng had a speed twelve times faster than an ordinary human being, the thrust of this wild beast could well end up with him being gulped by the beast.

"Moo!"

In the far distance, Yellow Ox growled, urging Chu Feng to start attacking and not to be afraid.

"Come on! You bloody bastard! I'm not afraid of you! Come on!" Chu Feng was desperate. He would just have to risk it. He roared like the beast, trembling the forest as well.

His previous defensive maneuvers allowed him to give a rough estimate of the beast's strength and power. He realized that after all, despite the fearsome look of its cutting claws, the strength and the power that the beast possessed were in fact much less fiercer than his.

"So what exactly am I afraid of? Come on!"

He settled himself into the first position of Demon Ox Boxing Style. His fists were enveloped with a mystical layer of force. After a roar of anger, he charged ahead.

A black yak emerged behind his back. It was the same yak with the same formidable black body. Its dark pupils glared with raging fury. Its pair of tremendous horns pointed towards the vault of heaven. It had a primeval look that made it seem all the more likely that it had come from time immemorial!

"Moo!"

The blaring bellow trembled the forest. Innumerable leaves rustled down, dancing in the air.

The beast was taken aback. The unadulterated white fur on its back stood on end. The beast arched its back, on the alert and combat-ready. It was prepared to respond to any challenges with its swiftest and fiercest attack.

Pong!

Chu Feng landed his fearsome jab on target. As the red marking left by the blow slowly expanded on the skin of the beast, the black yak hovering behind his back began its action. It raised its head, upturning its horns towards the vault of heaven. It shifted like a black bolt of lightning strike, fiercely charging ahead.

The beast opened its bloodthirsty mouth, clapping and spanking its gigantic claws. Clearly, the agitated beast had determined to call forth all its energy and to devote every effort to rip the flesh and drain the blood of its opponent.

The battleground was ringing with the rumbles of the fight. The earth turbulently quivered as the fight carried on. Although the size of the beast and that of the man carried a tremendous contrast, the difference in the actual strength of each respective individual was almost minimal.

“Roar...”

The beast growled in agony. Clearly, it had not anticipated for itself to be injured by an opponent so despicable in size. It staggered and stumbled as it hurriedly retreated. However, its limping limbs made it tumble in the end.

Chu Feng had gained the upper hand, but this did not stop the giant yak from resuming its action. It rammed and packed forcibly into the beast, tumbling the great beast once again.

As the vivid projection of the giant yak dissipated, Chu Feng slammed both of his fists onto the claws of the beast. A wound opened on the claw under the forceful impact, and blood oozed out. Chu Feng then brought the other hand of his into action. He jabbed, dug and punched, snapping the beast's buck teeth and fractured its backbones.

Chu Feng had perfectly impersonated the essentials of the first position of Demon Ox Boxing Style. He had summoned the ultimate godly spirit that belonged to the style. The black yak emerged as a spiritual figure, hauling an immense amount of force and power into the human body of Chu Feng. Together, their strengths were many times greater than that of the beast.

The forest had become a gory scene. Blood were mixed with pieces of fractured bones and teeth. They looked like shiny daggers, bright as snow.

Blood was streaming out of the beast's mouth. It sprung up quickly, but its face had become taut and terrified. The unbridled arrogance had long disappeared.

The beast stared at Chu Feng with a cruel glitter in its eyes. It arched its back and buried its punctured claws under the soil. It bared its fractured buckteeth. These were no signs of fear or horror. It was accumulating strength in its torso and its limbs, prepared for a final blow.

The beast came as a descendant of the species of white tiger. It belonged to the fiercest race of tiger. They were born with cruelty and ferocity trickling in their blood, so under normal circumstances, they would not bow in defeat to their opponent. They were bloodthirsty for a fight, and they would not quit until one of the two parties died.

“Come! Come practice boxing with me!”

Chu Feng was fearless. He took the initiative and charged at the beast with an assailing move. He waved his fists in an organized pattern with each position perfectly matching the styles he had already known by heart.

Pong, pong, pong...

The forest was rattling with beating thumps and hissing cries. Chu Feng was ceaseless in his fist movements. It was a pitched battle between a man and a beast. Chu Feng progressed his boxing style all the way up to the eighth position.

During the sequence of combats, Chu Feng found himself more and more skilled and more and more relaxed.

If the fight had continued, the beast would have already stricken dead, but in order to steel himself to become more adept at a more systematic boxing style, he decided to reserve some of his power and drag out the fight for even longer.

Pong!

The beast's formidable tails stroke again, but they were unpleasantly greeted by Chu Feng with his hardened fists. Chu Feng gave in a deadly blow, almost snapping one of the three tails in an instant. Blood sprayed and spattered.

He frowned, then he retreated a few steps back.

His power and his skills had allowed him to own the beast in this fight, he was, however, not at all accustomed to the blood and gore that the scene had turned into. As a citizen of a civilized society, he was not born for killing.

However, the beast belonged to the wilderness. Regardless of how Chu Feng wanted to withdraw from the fight and spare its life, the beast seemed to have a different agenda of its own. It roared then fiercely attacked in retaliation. Equipped with its bloodthirsty mouth and its cutting claws, it pounced on Chu Feng again after getting beaten off.

Chu Feng was still in a daze, but before he could recollect himself and react to the beast's retaliation, the claws had almost landed on his face. He hastily shunned away. It was genuinely a close call.

Chu Feng's blood began running cold. He roared and growled in fury, releasing the primitive savagery within him. He leaped up with a skip, pouncing his fists onto the wounded body of the beast.

Pong, pong, pong!

Finally, the fight ended with three consecutive strikes. Each landed on the claws, the skull and the chest respectively. He pulverized the claws, splintered the skull and penetrated the chest. The beast died a gory death.

The six-meter beast finally rested in peace. Blood was surging out of its chest through a gaping hole dripping with blood.

This time, Chu Feng did not hedge against the outburst of blood. He stood beside the lifeless corpse, allowing the boiling blood of the beast to scald and to stain his body. His body was calm, and his heart was open. He remained composed, as if he was receiving some sort of baptism.

It was not savagery or cruelty. This was not a sacrificial rite either. The spewing blood was the key to unlock his primitive instinct for survival, and also the key to raise it to a higher level.

Chu Feng could feel the ancient indigenous people to this land passing by. He was just like them, fighting and killing beasts of prey then bathing in the hot blood of their quarry. They fought and killed for the odds of survival.

He stood riveted to the ground. It was some minutes before he could finally collect himself.

Yellow Ox had come near the yield of their hunt. It urged him to tow away the corpse at once.

Chu Feng knew that he should not linger here for longer than he needed. The thick smell of blood could easily attract the carnivores and the scavengers. He dragged the three-tailed beast, scurrying along the path where they came from.

Despite the unparalleled speed at which they travelled, the two were still hunted on their way out.

The foul smell of scented blood allured many beasts of prey along the way. Behind the verdant dense leaves of the virgin forest, pairs after pairs of horrifying eyes opened. They looked over to the direction of the smell then rashly chased after.

A journey of battles!

Fortunately, they were near the outer-ring of the thickly forested mountains, and nothing overly terrifying had come in their way.

Event of profound peril occurred just when they were about to leave the mountain. A giant black hand with the size of three average-sized rooms came down from heaven. It swatted down with a horrific force.

Boom! The hand landed, trembling the entire forest like a violent earthquake!

At the same time, almost half of the torso of the dead beast was turned into slush and slime. Blood and flesh splashed in all directions, forming a scene even more horrifying than the gory battleground.

“Moo!”

Yellow Ox kicked up its heels as it hurriedly dashed out of the mountain.

Chu Feng was still clutching onto the smaller half of the corpse. His body was saturated in blood, but right now, he could care no less about his bloodstained image. In his hurry to flee, Chu Feng tossed and rolled before finally tumbling across the boundary of this deadly mountain.

Fortunately, they were only meters away from the mountain pass. They had avoided death, but only just.

That thrilling scene had really made his hair stand on end. What kind of monster was that?

It had the size of a hill, so it was a genuine monstrosity when compared to other animals. It had a humanoid shape. Its body was jet-black with hair as long as six feet. Its hands were of no exception either. Black hair also grew profusely on them.

This beast had lunged itself at the dual, almost squashing them with its abnormally big hands.

It had stood up. Its towering torso was at least two hundred meters tall. The beast had the size of a mountain and eyes of a moon. It glared at the two with a chilling glitter in its eyes.

However, it did not barge out of the mountain. It stood there for a while then slowly retreated. The forest quivered as it stepped back. Leaves rustled down the forest trees.

Chu Feng could fairly catch sight of the beast as it stepped further into the depths of the primitive mountains, eventually disappearing behind the mountain he was at.

Chu Feng gazed into the distance for a long while. His clothes and his body were soaked in blood and cold sweat.

At last, he lowered his head and noticed that the prey he had hunted was only left with two hind legs and a minute section of its fragmented torso. Most part of it had degraded into mud of blood when the hand descended from heaven to earth.

“What monster was that? We almost became mud of blood and flesh too.” Chu Feng panicked in fear. He still felt that his body was stiff and cold.

“God of Black Apes.” Yellow Ox scribbled down these words. Then, it etched another line of words. “After a year or so, I will kill it.”

Although the corpse was only left with two hind legs, it still weighed at least hundreds of kilos. Chu Feng shouldered the lump of meat, briskly hurrying home. The meat was cleaned and trimmed in a short and procedural fashion. Chu Feng skinned the legs then dissected them with his black dagger. Finally, he stuffed everything into a freezer.

“Finally, I can take a break at home for the next few days.” Chu Feng sighed in relief.

Yellow Ox shook its head, solemnly telling him that going into the mountains would become a daily routine from now on.

Chu Feng was first astounded, then he nodded his head in agreement. He knew that by hardening himself in the mountains, he could learn to tackle all kinds of dangers. In doing so, he could potentially change qualitatively.

Right now, for instance, he felt that his disposition, his courage and his experience had all increased and improved quantitatively. Overall, he had become a better man equipped with better skills.

Chu Feng knew that as the change in this world started to intensify and aggravate, the reclamation of some of his primitive savagery would be necessary for a future world.

Otherwise, he would have to wait passively until the future rolled in. When a cruel and odious environment like that in the mountain became a general theme across the world, he would have to exchange more of his sweat, blood or even life for the invaluable experiences to survive.

For the following few days, Chu Feng braced himself into the mountains everyday. There, he practiced his boxing style and steeled himself to become accustomed to the cruelty of the wilderness.

His fist started to drive more power and strength. His comprehension of the first eighth positions had become increasingly comprehensive and thorough. Meanwhile, he had also developed a brand new strand of understanding of the boxing style on his own.

These, together, had drastically improved the force and power he could harness for his boxing style.

Later, he also mastered the ninth and the final position of Demon Ox Boxing Style. His mastery was achieved as he fought and killed a bird of prey with a body ten meters in length. The fight had allowed him to unlock greater might and higher power.

Buddha threw the elephant!

As far as Chu Feng was concerned, this was not only a mythology; it was a reality that become possible when a human body had reached a certain level of strength. He wanted a firsthand experience of this great extension of human ability!

Chapter 30: The Treasure of Demon Ox

Translator: Mike Editor: Chrissy

Chu Feng roamed wild in the primitive mountains, haunting the homes that belonged to the indigenous inhabitants. The process felt very much like a qualitative transformation for him. Once, he had been a nervous novice at fighting and combat. The mere sight of blood alone could have made his sweat turn cold. Gradually, he grew into a calm, composed and impassive killer. He could survive in the wilderness and battle the beasts that claimed to be his enemy.

His practice of Demon Ox Boxing Style was an incessant effort. After days of consolidation, he finally grasped all nine positions of the style and claimed mastery of them.

Trees were dense and verdant in the mountains. Their very existence reflected the old age and the primitive nature of these mountains. Their great height blotted out the sky and covered the sun, and underneath on the mushy soil in between the solid woods of the jungle, Chu Feng scurried off into the depths of these mountains. This time, Yellow Ox did not follow. He was by himself.

“Garrr...”

It was the whistle of a bird. The howl blared and blasted like a thunder-gust. The sound resonated and rang in Chu Feng’s ears. Suddenly, a black bird of prey hastily dove down, fluttering its wings to swirl up a gust of evil wind.

The bird’s feathers all had an unadulterated black color. The bird measured at least ten meters in length. Its body gleamed a biting cold metallic luster, as if it had been cast with black gold. It had a pair of pointed talons. They were as cutting as a sharp dagger.

Clonk!

Chu Feng evaded its down thrust, staying hidden behind a giant boulder. To his surprise, the cutting talons of the bird grabbed onto the boulder and shattered it with ease. The bird had a horrifying strength.

The sheer size of it could easily allow the bird to hunt on elephants!

Gales blasted as it dove again. It seemed to have totally ignored the trees that were in the way. Its black feathers were firm as a real steel, riving the branches as it glanced off. The withered leaves plummeted in a flurry.

Chu Feng was fearless. After days of practice, he felt like he had been reborn. He had cast off his old self and took on a new identity. He was even calmer and more dauntless every time he returned to this lot of primitive lands.

The area had become the scene of a fierce fighting in almost a minute.

At last, Chu Feng leaped into the air, greeting the fierce bird in mid-air.

It was this moment that Chu Feng proved his dominance with his powerful boxing style. His fists were unstoppable, razing everything in their way. Finally, both of his fists landed on the bird's chest with a blaring boom.

The gold-like feathers at the chest of the bird were suddenly blasted away. The feathers sprung to the sky then aimlessly descended, plummeting to the ground.

The bird made a piercing shrill. The jarring noise was grating on the ear, almost penetrating Chu Feng's eardrums in the process.

Puff!

Its chest collapsed then ruptured. A gaping hole emerged as blood gushed out of the wound.

The colossal corpse of the bird plunged towards the earth into its demise. It crashed on the soggy soil, trembling the earth around it. Trees from the surroundings violently quivered as giant mountain boulders rolled down the hills due to the impact.

Chu Feng bathed in the blood of the lifeless bird. He stood there still, calmly watching as all of these happened.

Then, he took segments of the bird's flesh then scurried away into the distance.

"Let me taste the meat quality of a bird today."

At home, he cleaned and trimmed the meat with his black dagger. The meat was then stewed, braised and fried into a variety of dishes.

“What a treat!” Chu Feng gasped in admiration.

Most importantly, the meat of the wild beasts had also proven to be an amazing reservoir of power and godly strength. They could well replenish the needs of Chu Feng’s body while empowering him as he practiced boxing at the same time.

“Moo!”

The meat seemed to have served as a quite satisfactory treat to Yellow Ox as well. His stomach had become bloated with the meat it consumed. There was a substantial growth in the circumference of its waist after days of edacious carnivorous meals.

“I’ve treated you well, so when you are home alone, promise me that you will behave yourself,” Chu Feng said to Yellow Ox after having eaten his fill, “I will have to go and share some of these meat with Grandpa Zhao, so I will put you in charge of the order of this house.”

“Moo!” Yellow Ox agreed.

For the past few days, Uncle Liu from the thrift shop and Grandpa Zhao from the weaponry workshop each had received an abundant supply of the beasts’ meat. The unparalleled quality of the meat prompted both of them into a profuse raving of praises. “What a marvellous taste this has!” They applauded in astonishment.

But unquestionably, Chu Feng dared not to admit that these were indeed the flesh of a brutally murdered beast which had once been the king that haunted the nearby mountains.

The sky turned dark. Chu Feng joyously returned to the yard of his house with a skip and a hop while carrying another two bags of cooked meat. His subconsciousness led him to the parterre where the seeds grew. He checked the place almost twice a day.

Unfortunately, no sprouts could be seen.

Yellow Ox saw Chu Feng looking over at it again, feeling rather uneasy. It always had a suspicion that Chu Feng was concocting some sort of malicious intents. Its eyes rounded with doubts and cynicism, then it scurried hastily back into its room, slamming the door behind it.

“Do you really think I have to use your dung to nourish my plants? Perhaps except for dragon dung, there are no other beasts whose excretion I could not find, collect and use for the benefit of my agricultural planting. Had it not been that I was afraid that using an animal’s excrements might potentially defile Tsi Wang Mu and the Fairy of Ninth Heaven, I would have acted a long time ago!” Chu Feng said, then he burst into laughter.

“Moo!”

The whole house trembled from Yellow Ox’s angry bellow.

Chu Feng disregarded its objection, turning his back and pacing onto the quiet street.

When he returned, it was already late at night. The moon was lit, but the stars were scarce. Uncle Liu and Grandpa Zhao both kept him for dinner with a few shots.

Chu Feng’s house was only a short distance away when his slightly tipsy mind was suddenly awoken by a sphere of golden luster floating in the distance. Obviously, it was the golden body of Yellow Ox. Lurking and sneaking around like a ghost, the calf exited the yard in a furtive manner.

It moved and acted like a thief. It stopped, gazing left and right, before it went off into the orchid farm at a glance.

Chu Feng stayed hidden in a dark corner of the street. He was quite surprised by the calf’s stealthy actions. “What on earth is this guy hiding away from me?”

Curiosity drove him into action. He tightened his breath and his body like the way Yellow Ox had taught him to prevent the activities of qi from escaping his body. Then, in an equally stealthy manner, he followed after Yellow Ox.

As expected, Yellow Ox had some quite treacherous looks. It was extremely careful. It looked around to check its surroundings at a quite frequent interval. Sometimes, it would abruptly turn its head around to check its six, as if it was afraid that someone had followed its track.

“Something odd is happening here!”

Chu Feng murmured. His suspicion felt increasingly confirmed. He knew that Yellow Ox must have been into something secretive, something clandestine, and something dangerously underhanded. Otherwise, why would it have been so careful?

Unquestionably, it was afraid that Chu Feng could be potentially tailing after it.

Chu Feng had to slow his pace as he tried to increase the distance between them. He knew that Yellow Ox had an inherent instinct that was of profound acuteness. If their distance was kept too close, he would soon be discovered by the calf.

Recently, after accomplishing a full mastery of the boxing style, an acute instinct had also developed as part of his senses. Even if a beast was distant or out of sight, he could still sense its existence and its movement beforehand.

This felt more like an instinctive reaction that had always been inherent to a human being!

Having increased their distance to one that he felt was far enough, Chu Feng ascertained that Yellow Ox would by no means realize his unwanted involvement in its secretive business. He evenly paced his steps at this distance, calmly tailing after it. He could only vaguely see a dim golden sphere walking ahead of him.

Finally, Yellow Ox ceased at a random spot in the orchid farm. It abruptly turned its head around again, confirming whether or not someone had followed it.

“What an overly prudent bastard!” Chu Feng silently cursed, “And what has made it so prudent?” He hastened to hide behind the trunk of an ancient tree, staying motionless.

Moments later, Chu Feng noticed that Yellow Ox was digging a hole there, then it seemed like it was hiding something into the gaping hole.

“Is this bastard hiding something and not letting me know? You son of a...” Chu Feng gritted his teeth in anger and enmity, but he kept his composure, silently and patiently waiting behind the tree for the calf to leave the site.

Yellow Ox seemed quite contented. God knew what it had hidden down there, but the action did seem to have very much pleased it. It joyously embarked upon its homeward journey while humming a cheerful tune.

“Bastard! You are NOT hiding things from me! I will take everything you’ve hidden there and make you find no places to cry. I will bust your sorry arse!”

Chu Feng was inwardly plotting a revengeful scheme, smiling complacently at his own cleverness.

It was a conceivable scene to imagine that one day, when Yellow Ox returned to reclaim what it had buried, it would discover that the site had become as bare as the palm of its hooves. Surely, this would send it to a raging fury, and Chu Feng would only need to pretend as an innocent onlooker as the calf hopped in madness.

“Hahaha!” The more he pictured the scene, the more amused he felt. He waited until Yellow Ox had completely disappeared into the distance. He slowly came out of his cover, prepared to dig up the treasure.

He could rest assured that for someone who was as picky as Yellow Ox, the things they valued would most likely to be of profound value and worth.

“Did it manage to find something behind my back as we went to the primitive mountain a few days ago? Why did it not tell me?” Chu Feng questioned.

Suddenly, he heard a noise coming from the distance. Although it was a relatively distant sound, but his superhuman hearing had made him aware of the commotion happening in the proximity.

It was already late at night, so who would still come to the orchid farm? Aware of this fact, he became all the more vigilant.

He retreated back to the old tree and calmed himself once again. He tightened his muscle to seal off all activities of qi in his body. The darkness of the night became his camouflage, allowing him to blend into the surrounding scenery.

In mid-air, a giant bat emerged, then it slowly descended above the orchid farm.

Chu Feng was taken aback!

Then, he frowned. He realized it was not a bat, but a man who had features that made him look like a giant bat. It fluttered its featherless wings, slowly and silently descending.

At the same time, there was also a woman vertically below him. She travelled like a gust of wind, arriving at the site almost simultaneously as the batman appeared in mid-air.

The batman had a benevolent countenance. His face was pretty too. He landed at where Yellow Ox had hidden its treasure.

The woman, in comparison, looked rather plain and ordinary. She looked not as stunning as the man, but she had plenty of make-ups. Her vermilion lips looked bright as a rising sun, and her smoky eyes looked black as a nimbus cloud. In the darkness of the night, she cladded in a jarringly white dress, making her even more of a trifle out of place.

“What was that thing that just passed by? Vaguely, I can tell it is a golden ox, but how did it come here?”

The two stood there and whispered to one another.

“I saw it going in the direction of Qingyang Village.”

“Oh, so it went to the same town as where our target, Chu Feng, lives?”

In the distance, Chu Feng could vividly hear the content of their whisper. His heart shrank at once. Why did these two come for him? What did they want?

“I can’t believe you asked me to come with you just for an ordinary person, but no matter what, I will kill him tonight!” the man said. His face turned cold. Murder was written all over his face.

“That golden creature had dug a hole, and it seemed like it has hidden something around here. How about we check it out. Maybe today is our lucky day, and who knows what treasures we will find!” The woman ran her fingers through her hair, giving a winsome smile. She seemed to have deemed the task of killing Chu Feng as a mere trifle, so understandably, she was more interested in finding out what treasures had been buried on the ground. With grace and delicacy, she squatted down on her heels.

She looked like someone who was compulsively neat and clean, but right now, all of her fingers were drenched in soggy mud.

“Let’s divide evenly if we find anything good,” the man said.

Chu Feng calmly watched in the darkness. He did not choose to step in to impede their efforts. The opportunity for him to intervene had not yet come. As their common enemy, he knew that there would be a better time for him to initiate an attack.

A scuffling noise sounded as the woman dug up the dirt. Her pair of bright eyes betrayed the high expectation she had. Clearly, she had seen this opportunity as the prospect of an easy profit.

Chu Feng frowned upon his decision to hold back for a temporal moment, but after careful deliberations, he became less worried. He knew that Yellow Ox’s belongings would still not be lost even if he sprang into action later. Things that required careful planning and good timing was better to be done later than sooner.

“Ah...”

The woman vented out a piping outcry. The noise was especially piercing under the coverage of a dark night.

She swung and flung her hands like a mad man who had just woken from a terrible dream, then she desperately rubbed and scrubbed her hands against the batman, looking ever so frantic and delirious.

“What the hell are you doing!” Obviously, the batman had seen what the woman had dug up. He burst into raging fury almost in an instant. He rapidly retreated back. He seemed so disgusted that he burst into an episode of painful retching and kecking.

“Cow dung! All there were was sh*t in there!”

The woman wailed a piercing cry. She frantically swung her arms and hands as if she had been hypnotized by an evil spirit of some sort. She scrubbed her hands with leaves and pieces of tree trunk. In the end, she gave in and started retching as well.

In the distance, Chu Feng was dumbstruck in astonishment.

At this moment, his brain rapidly operated, trying to make sense of these all.

It took him a while before he could finally understand the implication. "Motherfucker... what a close call!"

"Yellow Ox! You were so full of sh*t!" Chu Feng silently cursed.

The very thought that he might have become the victim instead made him break out in a cold sweat. What a frightening scene that would be!

Chu Feng wiped away the cold sweat again. God knew how many times he had silently cursed at Yellow Ox in his heart. He was also baffled. For what did Yellow Ox have to take such secretive measures in ensuring that his answering to the call of nature would not be seen by others? It could easily take a dump in his yard, and that would even prove as beneficial to both parties.

All in all, doing pieces of mischief seemed just like a second nature for Yellow Ox! It was indeed a bastard after all!

But at last, he came to a realization. It was his frequent mentioning of cow dung for the past few weeks that might have inflicted trauma on the calf's mental psychology, so this was the measure that it had taken to guard against him!

"Bastard!"

Having linked everything together, Chu Feng became truly speechless. He was at a loss whether to laugh or to cry. Between him and Yellow Ox, it felt like Chu Feng had done more harm to the calf than the other way around.

In the distance, the woman was still struggling to restrain from the extreme disgust she unfairly received from her treasure hunting endeavor. She could not hold back the relentless retching. The kecking sound was accompanied by her disgusted shrill. Her life had become all a misery.

The batman also had a streak of dry coughs. Then, with great resolve, he riven and rent the clothes that had been daubed with animal excrement. Obviously, he was not impressed.