

Talisman 21

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 21: Bizarre Battle

Night descended.

Luo Chong's patience was slowly ground off bit by bit and the rage in his heart towards Chen Xi grew as he gazed at the Little Princess who sat before Chen Xi's home.

This unpleasant bastard, why hasn't he returned yet?

Luo Chong lost his patience to wait when he saw the sky getting darker and darker, yet there was still no sign of Chen Xi. He decided to take the Little Princess and leave first.

However, right at this moment, a strand of extremely concealed murderous air silently came from afar.

"Hmm?" Luo Chong suddenly raised his head to look at the three figures that used the night sky to shroud themselves as they silently snuck over from afar and dense killing intent instantly surged in his heart.

Within Pine Mist City, the General's Estate formally decreed the prohibition of violence. If there were violators, then without exception their cultivation would be crippled before being expelled from the city. As the number one expert under the command of the General's Estate, during these years, Luo Chong had always led the guards of the General's Estate to patrol day and night within the city, protecting the peace of this territory.

And yet at this moment, there were three assassins that had silently appeared within the Commoners District. This was obviously challenging the honor and authority of the General's Estate!

What made Luo Chong the most furious was that the direction these three assassins snuck towards was shockingly where he was, and the Little Princess Qin Hongmian was nearby. If their target was the Little Princess, then... The life of the Little Princess would be exposed to a great threat, and its consequences were absolutely unimaginable!

"Not only challenging the honor of my General's Estate, but you still want to harm the Little Princess. If I don't kill all of you, what face would I, Luo Chong, have to face the General?" Luo Chong took a deep breath, and the killing intent within his chest had boiled to the limit.

Yet his eyes were extremely calm as he concealed himself in the shadows at the corner, his figure had perfectly blended with the darkness, causing one to be unable to notice a shred of his presence. Within his hand, a long and narrow saber that was pitch-black like ink had suddenly appeared.

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The Dao of stealth and assassination is truly the king of the night!

Manager Wu stood in the distance, gazing upon Li Han, Li Feng, and Li Zhan's figures that snuck in the darkness. When he was unable to locate them any longer, he couldn't help but exclaim with heartfelt admiration.

Mmm, once this mission is complete later, I must properly foster them for a time. They might be of use to me in the future. Manager Wu briefly considered before shooting his gaze at the extremely faraway old and shabby house.

Manager Wu had been endlessly depressed and at a loss for allowing Chen Xi to save Chen Hao and that woman from within his grasp. Until this moment when he thought of how Chen Xi's cultivation would soon be crippled soundlessly, all the dissatisfaction in his heart instantly vanished and he became excited.

A jinx that was already infamous within Pine Mist City also had his cultivation crippled and became a piece of trash. What a beautiful scene this would be!

The more he thought about it, the more excited he became, and a trace of complacency and viciousness appeared on Manager Wu's emaciated face.

Om!

Extremely far away, a low and ear piercing sound that was like tearing silk resounded out, and accompanying the sound was a beautiful black light like a waterfall as it suddenly tore through the sky.

What's going on?

Manager Wu was startled, then he leapt up a house to look over.

In the next moment, the complacent expression on his face froze.

A tall figure stood in mid-air, wearing violet clothes and holding a long and narrow saber in hand. On the house where the tall figure stood, the three Li Clan brothers stood there completely covered in black clothing that only revealed their eyes.

"Eradication Blade! Luo Chong!" At practically the moment he laid eyes upon the tall figure, Manager Wu recognized who it was, and his triangular eyes were instantly filled with astonishment and terror.

Luo Chong was the only cultivator in Pine Mist City that used a long and narrow saber, and amongst the names of sabers that people were familiar with, the Eradication Blade in Luo Chong's hand would absolutely be ranked at the first.

Most importantly, not only was Luo Chong's cultivation unfathomable, he was even the number one expert under the command of General Qin, and he represented the supreme honor of the General's Estate!

"Bastard! I fucking asked you all to go cripple Chen Xi's cultivation, how did this baleful existence, Luo Chong, get attracted? What the fuck is going on?"

Manager Wu was already completely devoid of the earlier relaxed and complacent expression. At this moment, his heart was filled with boundless bitterness and terror, and his emaciated face was extremely gloomy and unsightly.

"This won't do! I have to go forward and warn them. So long as they don't attack, there's surely room for discussion. Otherwise, offending Luo Chong is equivalent to offending the General's Estate. How would my Li Clan continue living in Pine Mist City?" Manager Wu took a deep breath as he forcefully

restrained the terror in his heart. He was just intending to head over and stop them, but before he could even head over, the confrontational situation in the distance was completely brought to an end.

“Kill!” A low and deep explosive shout sounded out from afar, and Li Han’s group of three unsheathed their weapons before dashing out towards Luo Chong who was in mid-air.

At this moment, the last trace of hope in Manager Wu’s heart collapsed with a loud crash, and his eyes were empty and despondent as he muttered. “I’ve really never fucking noticed anyone in this world that’s more idiotic than these three brothers. Motherfucker! That’s Luo Chong! Are your eyes in your anus? Even if you don’t know Luo Chong, would it kill you to greet him before attacking?”

“Ah!” At the moment that the sad and shrill cries resounded in the night, it also stopped abruptly.

Manager Wu shivered in his heart as he raised his head, he saw three heads flying up mid-air as they dripped blood. They flew in a beautiful arc in the sky before heavily mashing onto the ground, completely shattering into a pool of muddy flesh that had bone fragments mixed within.

“It’s over... The mission this time has been completely fucked by these three idiots...” Manager Wu was frightened out of his wits as he muttered, utterly not daring to stop for even a moment as he turned and fled madly. He appeared as if he wished for nothing more than for his parents to have given him two more legs at birth.

Luo Chong stood mid-air in the distance, he didn’t even spare a glance at the three corpses on the ground as he shot his gaze into the distance to follow the figure that was fleeing in panic. The corners of his mouth couldn’t help but curl into a trace of a ridicule.

Since the instant he noticed Li Han’s group of three, he’d noticed that another person was concealed in the distance. After slightly sizing up the person, he recognized the person as the Li Clan’s Manager Wu and he finally made sense of everything.

One month ago, the Li Clan’s Young Master had fought with Chen Hao on the streets and was reported to the General’s Estate. For the fear of hurting their relationship with Li Clan, General Qin only ordered the Li Clan to pay a large sum to atone for their crimes.

Luo Chong knew from that moment onwards that the Li Clan would absolutely not be able to stomach this loss. As expected, today, Manager Wu and three assassins had appeared nearby Chen Xi’s home, exactly confirming this.

Thinking up to here, Luo Chong felt furious and amused at the same time. He originally thought that these people were coming for the Little Princess, Qin Hongmian, but unexpectedly they had come for Chen Xi and he just happened to encounter them. The god of destiny really does make fools of people.

Luo Chong arrived before Chen Xi’s home, then looked at Qin Hongmian who squatted on the stairs with her arms around her legs and said in a low voice, “Miss, let’s go. The General will be worried if you continue staying here.”

“I want to wait for him. I won’t be able to sleep soundly if I can’t figure out the structure of these talisman markings.” Qin Hongmian shook her head, and her clear and beautiful little face had a staunch and persistent expression.

Luo Chong didn't dare go against Qin Hongmian's feelings and could only give up. In his heart however, he was even more furious at Chen Xi, because he felt that he would soon become the protector of Chen Xi's home...

I stayed within the Clear Stream Restaurant during this entire half months' time, and only planned to make a trip home today. Who exactly found out of this news beforehand and set up an ambush in the shadows?

Could it be members of the Li Clan?

As he felt the fierce and sharp aura that hovered around him, Chen Xi's nerves strained as he paid attention to the movement in his surroundings, and he swiftly pondered in his mind.

Whoosh!

An eye-piercing sword light shot out and tore through the sky, emitting a sharp howl.

Chen Xi's strained nerves relaxed quite a bit when he saw this strand of sword light, as an enemy that was concealed in the shadows was the most terrifying. Now, the enemy had exposed himself, so he didn't have to worry about being silently dealt with a sneak attack anymore.

However, he still didn't dare be careless, as this strand of sword light was condensed into a solid form and all the strength on it seemed to have gather on a single point. Even if he'd already advanced to the 8th level of the Congenital Realm and his body refinement technique had already attained the step of using the baleful qi of the Flexible Waterstar to knead the tendons, but the pure sharp aura on the sword light still caused him to feel a trace of a great threat.

The enemy is extremely formidable, I'm afraid he isn't much inferior to me!

Chen Xi didn't dare hesitate as he fiercely stomped his left foot, then his figure rotated like an axle, turning onto his side with an extremely unsightly movement before flashing explosively towards the side, barely dodging past this strand of sword light.

Clang!

Along with the sound of a sword entering its sheath, that fierce and sharp sword light seemed to vanish into thin air as it instantly vanished.

"Instructor Meng Kong, I told you right? I can't defeat my brother even if it's a sneak attack." Chen Xi's heart shook as the familiar voice resounded in his ears, then he raised his head to look and saw Chen Hao has suddenly appeared in the alley to the side.

By Chen Hao's side, it was shockingly Meng Kong, the 6th star Violet Palace Realm expert that was reputed as the number one sword cultivator in Pine Mist Institution!

"Brother, you won't get angry with me right?" Chen Hao had an obedient expression as he walked over to Chen Xi's side and explained. "Instructor Meng Kong said that my progress this month is unusually great and my sword technique has already broken through the advanced-stage to attain the unity-stage. So, I would surely be able to defeat you. But unexpectedly..."

Chen Xi patted his younger brother's shoulder and interrupted with a gentle voice. "You don't have to explain, progress is a good thing. But don't take me as practice again, do you understand?"

Chen Hao fiercely nodded. "Okay."

"Your cultivation has advanced?" Meng Kong suddenly spoke, his steadfast expression revealing a sense of surprise and bewilderment.

Chen Hao's actions earlier weren't suggested by him. But, Meng Kong had said with certainty earlier that with Chen Hao's current strength, he would completely be able to defeat Chen Xi.

There was a reason that Meng Kong made such a judgement. It was because Chen Xi still had a cultivation at the 3rd level of the Congenital Realm one month ago and according to his judgment, Chen Xi seemed to not be adept in battle.

Whereas Chen Hao was different, the little fellow was undoubtedly a rare sword cultivating genius. In the month he was at Pine Mist Institution, he not only attained the unity-stage in his sword technique, but even his cultivation has successively broke through two levels to arrive at the 3rd level of the Congenital Realm. So, it ought to be more than sufficient to defeat his older brother.

But unexpectedly, Chen Hao's sword strike that was originally certain to be successful was instead easily dodged by Chen Xi, and this naturally aroused Meng Kong's curiosity and wonder.

"My cultivation has indeed advanced to the 8th level of the Congenital Realm." Chen Xi replied.

Instructor Meng Kong was Chen Hao's master in sword cultivation and had a special relationship with Bai Wanqing. There was completely no need to hide the advancement of his cultivation to Meng Kong.

"8th level of the Congenital Realm? Brother! You're too formidable!" Chen Hao gaped, and his small face was filled with adoration.

"Successively breaking through five levels within a month?" Meng Kong was unable to maintain his composure as well, and he stared at Chen Xi with a strange gaze, as if he was staring at a freak.

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Chapter 22: Wandering Cloud Sword Sect

This pair of brothers are really dragons amongst men, the young brother revealed unparalleled talent in the Dao of the sword, and the older brother advanced by leaps and bounds in his cultivation. If the Chen Clan wasn't annihilated, then it would absolutely be able to forge supreme brilliance in the hands of these two brothers!

Meng Kong ceaselessly praised in his heart.

If the numerous disciples of Pine Mist Institution knew that Meng Kong who possessed the reputation of Grim-face Instructor was able to praise others as well, their jaws would absolutely drop from shock.

"Right, doesn't the Pine Mist Institution prohibit disciples from going out?" Chen Xi asked, as seeing Meng Kong beside Chen Hao, he vaguely felt that something should have happened.

Chen Hao nodded. "Brother, Uncle Meng Kong wants to take me to leave Pine Mist Institution and head towards Dragon Lake City to enter the Wandering Cloud Sword Sect to train. I came out this time precisely to listen to your opinion."

Chen Xi's heart fiercely shook and he shot his gaze at Meng Kong.

If sects were divided into various grades and ranks, then the Wandering Cloud Sword Sect that was situated within Dragon Lake City that was at the heart of the southern territory would absolutely be a first-rate sect. Supposedly there were quite a few Earthly Immortal Realm experts that lived in seclusion within the Wandering Cloud Sword Sect. Also, the abundance of the Wandering Cloud Sword Sect's hidden resources and reserves was something that very few powers in the entire southern territory could compare to.

"Chen Hao's comprehension in the Dao of the sword is superb, and what's even harder to come by is his Sword Heart which is solid. Thus, he's extremely suitable for the path of a sword cultivator. I feel we should allow him to go to the Wandering Cloud Sword Sect to receive the most legitimate training in swordsmanship, and not learn in a small place like Pine Mist City. Otherwise, it would delay his future."

Meng Kong said in a deep voice, "Besides that, you don't have to worry about his safety on the way. I'll send him all the way to Wandering Cloud Sword Sect."

Chen Xi was only worried about this, because a month ago, his grandfather precisely lost his life in the hands of their enemies while sending his younger brother to Dragon Lake City to participate in the Thousand Sword Sect's test.

Now when he heard that Meng Kong would accompany Chen Hao, Chen Xi completely let go of his worries, then he looked at Chen Hao's eyes as he said earnestly, "You've grown up already, Big Brother respects your choice. The Wandering Cloud Sword Sect is stronger than the Thousand Sword Sect. If you've really decided to go, then you must make sure to take good care of yourself."

"Okay!" Chen Hao had a staunch expression as he said, "Brother, don't worry. Once I finish learning and return, we'll surely kill all the enemies of our Chen Clan!"

Hatred has been planted into his marrow?

A trace of worry couldn't help but arise within Meng Kong's heart, as the more one had a staunch mentality, the more obstinate and stubborn one was. If Chen Hao's Sword Heart was blinded by hatred, then there was an extremely high likelihood that he might experience qi deviation one day in the future.

Chen Xi frowned and berated. "Don't mention the matter of taking revenge again in the future! If I find out that you went looking for our enemies alone, then don't call me brother anymore!"

"Oh." Chen Hao sulkily lowered his head when he saw Chen Xi getting angry, but the obstinate expression in his eyes didn't change in the slightest.

"How about this, once you attain the Golden Core Realm, you can do whatever you want, and I won't interfere." How could Chen Xi not understand Chen Hao's thoughts? He knew he couldn't use force but had to gradually persuade Chen Hao, so he instantly put forward a suggestion of compromise.

“This suggestion is good!” Chen Hao raised his head in excitement then cried out. “Brother, just you wait. I’ll quickly attain the Golden Core Realm, and at that time you better not stop me anymore.”

“It’s a deal.”

“It’s a deal!”

The two brothers stretched out their fists and tightly grasped each other’s hand.

Meng Kong lightly smiled and was just about to say something when he suddenly turned around to gaze into the distance.

Under the night sky, a silhouette swiftly flashed over like the wind, yet the figure emitted a trace of a panicked and terrified aura.

“Chen Xi!” The silhouette that was running madly suddenly stopped and exclaimed in surprise as he gazed at Chen Xi who stood in the distance.

At this moment, Chen Xi and Chen Hao finally recognized the person, it was shockingly the Li Clan’s Manager Wu.

Manager Wu was in an extremely sorry state; his emaciated face was extremely pale and a trace of bitterness and terror still remained in his expression. Chen Xi’s group of three couldn’t help but be slightly curious when they saw this.

Why would this fellow appear in the Commoners District for no reason?

What did he encounter to cause the dignified Manager of the Li Clan to be in such a sorry state?

Manager Wu’s gaze flashed past Meng Kong and he couldn’t help but be stunned. He recalled Luo Chong who was before Chen Xi’s home and his face became even more unsightly. Could it be that all this was a trap this fellow set?

The number one expert under the command of the General’s Estate, Luo Chong, guarding at his home’s front door, and there’s the strongest expert in Pine Mist Institution, Meng Kong, supporting from behind. If this isn’t an ambush, then what is?

“Chen Xi, you’re going too far! Having an ambush and support, what an atrocious plan! Just you wait! My Li Clan will absolutely not let you off!” Manager Wu didn’t dare stop for a moment after fiercely putting down a threat, he turned tail and fled.

What does he mean?

It wasn’t only Chen Xi, even Chen Hao and Meng Kong were clearly confused.

They didn’t know that in the heart of Manager Wu, he’d long since firmly believed that everything that happened tonight was a trap that Chen Xi had placed after deliberate planning for the sake of dealing with him and the three Li Clan brothers in one fell swoop.

“Hmph, it’s only an old dog of the Li Clan’s, there’s no need to pay any attention to him.” Meng Kong grunted coldly with a voice that contained dense disdain.

“Brother, did that old dog look for trouble with you while I was training at Pine Mist Institution?” Chen Hao gnashed his teeth, his face filled with killing intent.

Chen Xi shook his head. “Let’s hurry up and go home. The reason old dog Wu was fleeing in a flustered state tonight might be near our home.”

Meng Kong sighed with admiration in his heart. They’d only come into contact with Manager Wu for a short moment and Chen Xi was already able to roughly determine the reason Manager Wu was fleeing in a sorry state. Such wisdom and thinking could practically be called close to demonic!

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“Meng Kong!”

“Luo Chong!”

When they arrived before Chen Xi’s house and saw Qin Hongmian who sat on the stairs and Luo Chong who stood respectfully by her side, Meng Kong was startled as he exclaimed in surprise.

Right at the moment Meng Kong had just opened his mouth, a ball of cold light abruptly shot out of Luo Chong’s eyes and he practically exclaimed in surprise at the same moment.

Obviously, the two of them ought to be quite familiar with each other. As for how their relationship was, Chen Xi was unable to judge. However, he finally confirmed something, the fleeing of Manager Wu surely had something to do with this number one expert under the command of the General’s Estate, Luo Chong.

“Meng Kong, you’re finally willing to step out of Pine Mist Institution? Do you dare fight me today?” Luo Chong was like a child that had seen its favorite toy, he stared at Meng Kong with a burning gaze and his tall figure suddenly surged with billowing battle intent!

“I’m busy.” Meng Kong shook his head with an expressionless face. His tone was dull, as if he wasn’t afraid of Luo Chong attacking him in the slightest.

In fact, Meng Kong had a slight headache when he saw Luo Chong.

In the eyes of others, perhaps Luo Chong is the Grand Commander of the General’s Estate that could only be revered, but in the eyes of Meng Kong, this fellow was absolutely a madman that was addicted to battle. So long as one was believed to be an opponent that could be battled by this fellow, then he would stick to you like how traditional paste medicine stuck to the body. Unless one fought him straight off, otherwise, one would absolutely be unable to flee from this fellow’s harassment.

Meng Kong wasn’t afraid to battle Luo Chong, but as a prideful sword cultivator, his sword was used to kill and not spar, and he was unwilling for his own sword to become a whetstone for another, so he was absolutely unable to agree to this.

“That won’t do. You have to agree today even if you don’t want to. It was so difficult to catch you, I can’t let you off so easily.” At this moment, Luo Chong was no different from a madman, he unsheathed long and narrow, pitch-black Eradication Blade with a clang, and a terrifying aura shot out to instantly firmly lock onto Meng Kong.

“If you dare attack, I’ll use the name of the Pine Mist Institution to notify the General’s Estate. As the Grand Commander of the General’s Estate, actually stirring up trouble on the street. I wonder how General Qin would think of it when he finds out?” Meng Kong’s expression remained unfazed as he spoke unhurriedly.

“You... Shameless!” Luo Chong was hit in his soft spot and flew into a rage.

“Hmph.”

“You’re too shameless!”

“Hmph.”

“You’re simply shameless to an unreasonable extent!”

“Hmph.”

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Seeing Luo Chong and Meng Kong who were like bickering children, Chen Xi and Chen Hao looked at each other and were both speechless.

Is this still that number one expert under the command of the General’s Estate that’s famous within Pine Mist City?

Is this still that person that’s reputed as the number one sword cultivator in the Pine Mist Institution?

“You’re Chen Xi?” There was someone more composed than Chen Xi and Chen Hao, even to the extent of completely ignoring Luo Chong and Meng Kong. She was naturally the Little Princess of the General’s Estate that was madly addicted to the Dao of talismans, Qin Hongmian.

“Oh, I am.” Chen Xi recovered from his shock and sized Qin Hongmian up. He couldn’t help but be slightly curious when he saw that it was a young girl with a neat and beautiful disposition. It’s already deep into the night, why was she on my house doorstep? And she even has an expert like Luo Chong protecting here...

Wait!

Could it be that she’s the Little Princess of the General’s Estate that’s greatly doted upon, Qin Hongmian?

“I’ve finally found you.” Qin Hongmian laughed happily, then she withdrew a pile of talismans from a small and exquisite Hundred Treasure Bag and said quickly, “These are all the talismans you crafted that I bought from the market. The structure of the talisman markings had of style of its own that’s novel and mysterious, and its might has increased by nearly double. I want to know the principle behind it, I wonder if you can help me understand?”

Practically everyone in Pine Mist City knew that the Little Princess, Qin Hongmian, of the General’s Estate was addicted to the Dao of talismans. At this moment, when he heard this young girl speaking of talismans and the structure of talisman markings the moment she opened her mouth, Chen Xi was finally able to confirm the identity of the neat and beautiful young girl before him.

“I’m only a talisman crafting apprentice, it seems I’m unable to help you, right?”

Qin Hongmian’s eyes sprang wide open as she said in disappointment, “But all these talismans were crafted by you, how are you be unable to help me?”

“I...” Chen Xi really didn’t know how to reply when faced with a young girl who was addicted to the Dao of talismans and had pure thoughts that weren’t tainted with the ways of the world. He thought for a moment then extended his hand to take a talisman from Qin Hongmian’s hands, then slightly sized it up before recognizing that this was one of the Earthshield talismans he crafted after comprehending the Fuxi Divine Statue.

“I’m indeed unable to explain the reason behind it. It isn’t that I don’t want to tell you, but it’s that even I haven’t figured out why I can craft such a structure.”

“Really?” Qin Hongmian stared with her clear and innocent eyes with a confused and puzzled appearance.

Chen Xi nodded, he was indeed not deceiving Qin Hongmian, those new version talismans were purely a product of the uncomfortable feeling he felt while crafting talismans and he still hadn’t figured out the specific reason. How would he dare agree to Qin Hongmian’s request?

“How could it be like this?” Qin Hongmian pursed her small mouth and her eyes became red as tears dripped down.

Chen Xi was extremely stunned.

“Kid! Do you know that the Young Miss of my General’s Estate had been waiting here for you for an entire day?”

Luo Chong suddenly rushed over when he saw Qin Hongmian crying and berated him with a low voice.

“To think that I even helped you kill the three assassins the Li Clan sent, but I never imagined that you, kid, would be so heartless and ungrateful!”

“Uncle Luo, it isn’t your fault, it’s mine.” Qin Hongmian persuaded in a low voice as she cried. Her appearance was tender and delicate and caused one to be unable to help from feeling tender and protective towards her.

Luo Chong was even more furious when he saw this, then he stared at Chen Xi and said in a deep voice, “If you don’t agree to the Young Miss’s request today, then I’ll fucking tie you up and bring you into the General’s Estate!”

“You dare!” Chen Hao who hadn’t spoken all this time spoke out first, his small face was filled with rage as he stared at Luo Chong and shouted. “My brother didn’t offend her, on what basis are you tying up my brother and bringing him into the General’s Estate?”

Chen Xi stopped his brother and shook his head to stop Chen Hao from speaking any more, then he shot his gaze onto Qin Hongmian and said in a light voice. “I indeed do not know how I did it, but I’m instead able to give you a suggestion.”

Qin Hongmian’s eyes lit up as she wiped off her tears.

“I feel that cultivating a visualization technique to make your soul stronger ought to have extremely great benefits to the Dao of talismans.” Chen Xi pondered for a moment then slowly spoke.

“Visualization technique?” Chen Xi had only just finished speaking when Luo Chong and Meng Kong both exclaimed in surprise at the same time, their faces filled with disbelief.

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Chapter 23: Exquisite Pavilion

Chen Xi couldn't help but feel slightly curious when he saw the stupefaction on Meng Kong and Luo Chong's faces. Is there anything wrong with cultivating a visualization technique?

“Brother, I've heard Instructor Meng Kong say that soul visualization techniques are extremely rare. No more than three powers within Pine Mist City possess a visualization technique.”

“The reason that visualization techniques are valuable is because they're unable to be passed down in the form of jade slips or physical writing and illustrations. Instead, it requires being personally passed down by the original owner via a type of Secret Technique, and is only able to be passed down to one person and not be passed on widely. This is precisely also the reason why it's so rare.”

Chen Hao noticed Chen Xi's confusion and explained by his ears in a low voice. “However, I've also heard that those ancient sects with abundant hidden resources and reserves possesses different Visualization Secret Treasures that are forged by remarkable figures using their own thoughts. One can comprehend a visualization method through these Visualization Secret Treasures, like the Inscribed Swordstone of the Wandering Sword Sect is a mysterious Visualization Secret Treasure.”

Chen Xi came to a sudden understanding as he recalled the Fuxi Divine Statue within his mind, and only now did he deeply feel it become valuable.

“I'll learn a visualization technique as soon as possible. If I'm still unable to comprehend the mystery of the structure of these talisman markings at that time, then I'll come look for you again.” Qin Hongmian clenched her small fists and her clear eyes emitted a light of burning staunchness as she waved her hand at Chen Xi before turning and leaving.

“Meng Kong, forget it this time. I'll surely battle you next time!” Luo Chong was unable to care about asking Chen Xi about the visualization technique when he saw Qin Hongmian leaving. He fiercely glared at Meng Kong before leaving rather unwillingly.

“The madman finally left.” Meng Kong smiled when he saw the two of them leaving, then he turned around to look at Chen Xi with a strange gaze. “No wonder you advanced so quickly. So it turns out that you've cultivated a visualization technique.”

“Probably.” Chen Xi casually replied and was unwilling to speak any more about it.

“A visualization technique is extremely marvellous, and extremely rare and valuable. Don't talk about this with anyone in the future, otherwise, your life might be in danger.”

Meng Kong smiled. “But don't worry, although Luo Chong is a madman, he will surely not reveal your secret.”

Chen Xi nodded, but he secretly thought in his heart, There isn't a wall on this world that doesn't have a crack. I'll surely not speak of this matter to another in the future. I nearly planted a seed of misfortune for myself this time...

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The next day, Meng Kong brought Chen Hao along to step foot on the path to Dragon Lake City.

Chen Xi was already feeling sad and reluctant because of his younger brother's departure, so when he saw Bai Wanqing bringing Xixi along to leave with Meng Kong, his mood became even more downcast.

"Brother, don't worry. I'll work extremely hard. You have to take good care of yourself as well. Be sure to not be worried about me..."

"Chen Xi, since the day I brought Chen Hao to see Meng Kong, I'd already promised to leave Pine Mist City and return to Dragon Lake City with him. You have to take good care of yourself, and if you go to Dragon Lake City you must come see Aunt Bai."

"Big Brother Chen Xi, Xixi is leaving. This is the green orange candy that Xixi love the most, we'll each eat half. After you've eaten it, then you're Xixi's best friend. BYE!"

The voices of Chen Hao, Aunt Bai, and Xixi still lingered in his ears as Chen Xi sat in his room and stared blankly for a long time before slowly opening a beautiful note in his hand.

Chen Xi, death lurks everywhere in the word of cultivation. If you want to walk further, then you must possess a formidable martial strength that matches your cultivation. Whereas last night when we talked in detail, I noticed you seemed to have not practiced in the martial arts for many years. Your cultivation in the Martial Dao is extremely plain and simple, and this is the great taboo of a cultivator.

Be sure to remember that the cultivation in the Martial Dao is the foundation of combat. Sword techniques, fist techniques, saber techniques... no matter what martial technique it is, you must seek a path of combat of your own. Only in this way will you be able to be called a true expert!

Take good care of yourself, and see you again — Meng Kong.

Hu~

Chen Xi heaved a long sigh after he finished reading the note.

Chen Xi had reaped great benefit from the long conversation last night with Meng Kong, the sword cultivator that was the strongest in Pine Mist Institution. He understood that even though his cultivation surged in advancement all the way, the strength that he was able to exert was just barely satisfactory. Tracing it to its cause, it was still because of that he only took consideration to his talisman crafting and culinary arts, and had neglected the cultivation of martial techniques.

Now when he saw the note Meng Kong left especially for him, at the same time that Chen Xi felt grateful, a heroic spirit couldn't help but arise in his heart.

In the past, due to having to bring home the bacon and help his younger brother pay his tuition, his time was all used on crafting talismans and learning culinary arts, and he completely had no time to cultivate

martial techniques. Now, after Chen Hao left, he only needed to complete the payment for Pine Mist Institution's tuition and he could pull out some time to properly cultivate martial techniques.

Unfortunately, my Chen Clan was annihilated, and over a thousand martial technique ancient books were destroyed. Grandfather was merely able to retain a cultivation technique, the Violet Sky Arts before being injured by our enemies. If I want to cultivate martial techniques, I'm afraid I need to enter an Institution. Chen Xi silently pondered for a long time before walking out of his room.

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Zhang General Store.

Due to the new-version talismans being sold to exhaustion, the explosive scene of rushing to purchase the talismans in a frenzy all these days had gradually calmed down.

But, compared to before, the reputation of the Zhang General Store has already resounded in the entire Pine Mist City, and the daily flow of customers was a few times more than before. Under these circumstances, Boss Zhang Dayong didn't have to worry about being unable to earn spirit stones.

"Uncle Zhang." Chen Xi pushed open the door and entered.

The eyes of Zhang Dayong who was sleeping behind the counter suddenly sprang open upon hearing Chen Xi and his face beamed with smiles. Moreover, the ten plus talisman crafting apprentices that were busy at the side all stopped their actions, and their faces all emitted a sense of admiration and envy.

Because of the appearance of the new version first-grade talismans, all of the talisman crafting apprentices benefited from Chen Xi and obtained a great increase in their salary. How could they still ridicule and mock Chen Xi as before?

So what if he's a jinx?

So long as he's able to bring benefits to everyone, even if he's the reincarnation of the God of Misfortune, it would still be worth it for everyone to greet him with a smile!

Chen Xi has been staying within the Clear Stream Restaurant's Quiet Room all this time, so he didn't know the explosive degree that his new version talismans were welcomed in the market, and he also didn't know that he'd been crowned with the honorary title of 'Mysterious Grand Talisman Master.'

So, he swept everyone with a slightly curious gaze and compared to the other people present, his mood was much calmer.

Zhang Dayong had a smile on his face as he invited Chen Xi into an elegant room, then Zhang Da Yong feigned anger as he said, "Kid! You disappeared for an entire 15 days and you still have the face to see me?"

Chen Xi slightly blushed with shame. "Uncle, I had some other matters to attend to during these past few days, and was unable to get away from it for some time, so..."

"Alright, you've already grown up, and you have your own matters to attend to. Uncle can understand." Zhang Dayong waved his hand as he seemed not to mind as he spoke, then he smiled as he asked, "How many talismans have you crafted before coming this time?"

Chen Xi shook his head and deliberated before saying, "Uncle Zhang, I'm afraid I won't be able to craft talismans in the future, as I want to concentrate on cultivating martial techniques to increase my strength."

Zhang Dayong was stunned and only recovered from his shock after a long time, then he sighed with emotion. "I knew this day would come, but I never thought it would be so fast."

Chen Xi had a slightly complicated mood as he walked out of Zhang general goods store.

If it wasn't for Zhang Dayong showing consideration for them during these past few years, then he, his younger brother, and his grandfather would probably have been reduced to beggars on the street since a long time ago. Now, for the sake of cultivating martial techniques, he had no choice but to leave this work, and he couldn't help but be slightly ashamed.

"Uncle Zhang, I, Chen Xi, will never forget this kindness!" After standing before the Zhang general store signboard for a long time, a trace of staunchness flashed within Chen Xi's eyes before he resolutely turned and left.

...

The Exquisite Pavilion was a rather famous place in Pine Mist City that specialized in the sale of cultivation methods, from the low grade cultivation methods to high grade cultivation methods, it had everything that one expected to find. It greatly satisfied the needs of many independent cultivators and there was even no lack of powers like clans and institutions who had cultivators come here to uncover treasures.

In the aspect of qi refinement, I'm cultivating the Violet Sky Arts that's passed down in the clan, and in the aspect of body refinement, I'm cultivating the Universe Starslayer Body Forging Technique that Senior Ji Yu passed down to me. What type of martial technique should I cultivate in order to fully exert my strength?" Chen Xi currently stood before the counter and gazed at the superb collection of various martial technique ancient books, and wasn't sure where to start.

"Senior, do you want me to help you select some cultivation methods?" A beautiful female attendant nearby spoke and suggested.

Chen Xi thought for a moment, then asked, "What body refinement martial techniques do you have?"

The female attendant was startled and a trace of disdain flashed deep within her eyes. In Pine Mist City, body refiners were mostly some coolies of lowly status who had no money nor power and were extremely poor.

At this moment, when she heard Chen Xi wanted to purchase some body refinement cultivation methods, the female attendant naturally took him for a pauper that struggled in poverty.

"There's very few cultivation methods for body refinement, only around ten methods. Please look over here." The female attendant's attitude became extremely cold and she didn't even bother to call him 'Senior' as she pointed towards a corner of the counter.

"Tiger Subduing Claw, Dragonform Footwork Technique, Great Demon Subduing Palm, Golden Roc Movement Technique..." Chen Xi swept past them one by one and couldn't help but say in amazement,

“The price of every single one is more than 100 spirit stones, and these are only basic body refinement martial skills. Doesn’t the price seems slightly unreasonable?”

The female attendant was even more disdainful in her heart as she replied indifferently, “These are all the valuable martial skills that my Exquisite Pavilion has gathered together, even if it’s a basic martial skill, it’s much more formidable compared to those common martial skills on the market. If you feel it’s expensive, then you can go look at other places.”

As she spoke, the female attendant turned and left, and she muttered, “If you can’t afford it then say you can’t, still complaining it’s expensive. Hmph! These body refiners are truly poor to an unreasonable extent.”

Chen Xi shook his head and was lazy to fuss about it with the female attendant. He spent 100 spirit stones and purchased the Grand Collapsing Fist and has only just walked out of the Exquisite Pavilion’s door when he was called from behind.

“Chen Xi!” The voice was deep and powerful.

Chen Xi turned around to see the tall and mighty Luo Chong walk out of Exquisite Pavilion.

“These are 13 body refinement jade slips that the Young Miss bought for you. Take it,” said Luo Chong as he threw a Hundred Treasure Bag to Chen Xi before turning around and once again entering the Exquisite Pavilion.

What’s going on?

Chen Xi was extremely stunned, then his gaze swept towards the Exquisite Pavilion and he surprisingly saw Qin Hongmian in a plain dress waving towards him.

Could it be that she saw everything from before?

It has to be like this, otherwise, why would Luo Chong throw some body refinement jade slips to me for no reason?

But, Chen Xi was unable to accept this gift, as the saying goes, no gains without pains. He didn’t want to owe this favour to her, so he once again walked into the Exquisite Pavilion, however after looking around, he noticed that Qin Hongmian had long since vanished.

“Senior, I’m... I’m sorry.” The female attendant walked over, seeming to have taken an extremely heavy blow, she apologized with a low voice that revealed a trace of dejection and dense reverence, and didn’t have a trace of her earlier cold and cynical appearance.

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Chapter 24: Guidance

Chen Xi didn’t loiter around after exiting the Exquisite Pavilion and hurried on to the Clear Stream Restaurant.

Old man Ma couldn’t help but feel slightly gratified when he saw Chen Xi who returned just a day later. “The little fellow isn’t bad, he knows how to make the best use of his time and advance his culinary arts...”

“I want to do closed door cultivation within the Quiet Room.” Chen Xi put forward his request.

Although Manager Wu’s assassination operation that targeted him was gotten rid of by Luo Chong unintentionally, but Chen Xi didn’t feel at ease in the slightest as the feeling of danger in his heart had increased rather than decreased.

For the sake of protecting himself, he had no choice but to leave his talisman crafting work, and he planned to stay in the Clear Stream Restaurant from now on to practice his culinary arts while cultivating martial skills.

Old man Ma felt even happier when he heard this, then he waved his hand. “Alright! I’ll prepare all the ingredients for you. I’m really anticipating the day you advance to become a 2 leaf spirit chef.”

Chen Xi secretly heaved a sigh of relief and nodded. “I’ll work hard.”

In next to no time, Chen Xi had once again arrived within the Quiet Room, and he pondered as he gazed at the surrounding ingredients that were piled into hills. With all these ingredients, not only can I cultivate my culinary arts, I can also replenish my True Essence and nourish my physique. Coupled with here being quiet and safe, I don’t have to worry about being disturbed by the outside world; if I take some time out at night, cultivating martial skills here is extremely good as well...

Chen Xi didn’t delay before starting to distinguish and sort ingredients according to their differing attributes and taste.

With the experience from last time, Chen Xi seemed to be already able to accomplish this with ease, and it wasn’t long before he’d already finished dividing the room full of ingredients.

Afterwards, he came before the stove and started cooking.

Chen Xi had currently already attained the grade of 1 leaf spirit chef in his culinary arts. Regardless of knife skill, control of the flames, or the combination of ingredient flavor, he had a deep understanding of them all.

However, if he wanted to advance to become a 2 leaf spirit chef, then he must be able to cook dishes that were able to greatly benefit Congenital Realm cultivators, and this posed quite a degree of difficulty to Chen Xi.

He was lucky that he had the support of old man Ma, so Chen Xi didn’t have to worry about facing a shortage of ingredients in the slightest. He wasn’t afraid even if he failed, as he was completely capable of trying time after time to find a path of the culinary Dao that belonged to him.

The kitchen knife fluttered like snow to finish preparing the ingredients, then Chen Xi controlled the spirit flames as he poured the ingredients into the iron wok and started cooking carefully.

His wrist was steady and numb, his expression focused. He successively vibrated the iron wok and iron ladle according to a strange rhythm, and the various ingredients ceaselessly rolled about within the burning hot wok like spindrifts that fluttered out layer upon layer and was extremely pleasing to the eye.

Chen Xi clearly noticed that cooking this time seemed much smoother and easier than before, and all the subtle changes that occurred on the various ingredients within the iron wok were understood and grasped in his heart.

“It ought to be because of me visualizing the Fuxi Divine Statue all the time, this feeling is simply exactly similar to when I crafted those new version talismans!” Chen Xi exclaimed ceaselessly, as he now fully understood the point that made visualization techniques valuable.

Sizzle!

Right in his moment of absent-mindedness, the ingredients within the iron wok was completely burnt.

Chen Xi hurriedly concentrated his mind and didn't dare let his imagination run wild anymore.

Even then, Chen Xi spent an entire afternoon in failure. It couldn't be helped, under the circumstances that he didn't have anyone to guide him, and he could only rely on himself to learn by trial and error. It was obviously an extremely difficult thing.

The failed dishes were all stuffed into his stomach one by one. It was firstly for the sake of analysing the reason for failure, and secondly was that even though he failed to cook these ingredients properly, they still contained a large amount of residual spirit energy that was able to replenish the used True Essence within his Dantian.

Chen Xi only stopped cooking when night arrived, then sat cross-legged in meditation.

Practicing his culinary arts for the entire afternoon was extremely tiring for his mind. At the moment, he'd just started meditating when his mind was quickly immersed in a gentle and peaceful state.

Swoosh!

Surging True Essence was like a rolling great river that ceaselessly flowed within the meridians in his entire body.

These True Essence were condensed from the spirit energy that was contained within the ingredients Chen Xi had eaten during the entire afternoon and accumulated within his body. They were like numerous spirit pills that swiftly transformed into pure True Essence that surged into his Dantian the moment Chen Xi circulated his cultivation technique.

After two hours, Chen Xi awoke from his meditation, and he couldn't help but be delighted in his heart when he noticed that his cultivation had obviously advanced slightly. If he were to continue cultivating at this impetus, he would probably be completely capable of advancing to the 9th level of the Congenital Realm within a month!

After arriving at the 9th level of the Congenital Realm, Chen Xi only needed to accumulate sufficient True Essence before being able to develop a Violet Palace within his Dantian, and then establish his Dao foundation to become a true cultivator who has stepped onto the road of immortal cultivation. At that time, not only would Chen Xi be able to fly in the sky, but he would be able to utilize Magic Treasures and his strength would obtain an enormous qualitative change!

However, if I want to pass the first level of the Heavenpeak of Trials, I must similarly attain the Violet Palace Realm in my body refinement technique. Right now, I've only attained the third level of the

Universe Starslayer Body Forging Technique, and I'm still another two levels away from cultivating to perfection of the Postnatal Realm. I wonder when I'll be able to advance to the Congenital Realm, let alone the Violet Palace Realm..." Chen Xi silently pondered for a moment and then withdrew a Hundred Treasure Bag from his pocket.

The Hundred Treasure Bag was entrusted by Qin Hongmian to Luo Chong to gift to him, and within it were 13 basic body refinement cultivation techniques. The Tiger Subduing Claw, Dragonform Footwork Technique, Great Demon Subduing Palm, and Golden Roc Movement Technique that Chen Xi saw in the Exquisite Pavilion were shockingly all within it. Combined with the Grand Collapsing Fist he'd spent over 100 spirit stones to purchase earlier, there was a total of 14 body refinement martial skills.

Chen Xi couldn't help from being extremely elated at obtaining 14 body refinement martial skills within a day, and he impatiently started to carefully read through them.

The Tiger Subduing Claw was a martial skill that specialized in tempering the fingers, its moves were swift and vigorous. Its penetrating power was extremely strong, and shattering stones and wood was as easy as breaking dry branches.

The Dragonform Footwork Technique was divided into the Sleepy Dragon's Stroll, Swimming Dragon's Stride, Violent Dragon's Stride, Flying Dragon's Vigorous Stride, White Dragon's Bizarre Steps, Leaping Dragon's Prance, Golden Dragon's Eight Graceful Steps. These divisions respectively aimed at forward steps, forward movements, jumping movements, backwards steps, backwards movements, sideways movements, turning movements, and winding movements. These eight most basic movements were also called the Heavenly Dragon's Eight Steps, and possessed both offensive and defensive footwork with incomparably marvellous variations.

The Great Demon Subduing Palm used the hands to form seals. It possessed vigorous and condensed force, and is even able to condense the force of the vital energy and blood. It caused the hands to be bright red like blood, and was able to increase the might of the palms to explode forth with shocking strength.

The Golden Roc Movement Technique was famous for its speed being swift like a bolt of lightning. It was a widely spread lightness technique. When cultivated to a high level, one was able to instantly dodge ten thousand arrows that are shot at one without suffering any injuries.

...

After reading though a few martial skills in succession, Chen Xi didn't know how to choose the more he saw, as it seemed that every martial skill was something he needed, and there were none that he disliked.

This type of feeling was extremely painful, as if faced with a table full of sumptuous dishes but not knowing where to start.

"What're you hesitating about? Let me ask you, what do you want to learn the most?" A voice that contained experience on the vicissitudes of life resounded out within the room, and accompanied by the voice, Ji Yu whose hooves were pitch-black like ink and had a single horn on his head suddenly appeared within the room.

“You’re able to come out?” Chen Xi was extremely shocked.

“Who told you that I’m unable to come out? Anyway, this isn’t important. What’s important is what exactly do you want to learn?” Ji Yu lazily shook his head, then a black light flashed and he’d already transformed into a lean faced old man of graceful bearing and a refined demeanour.

Chen Xi was stunned, then sunk into deep thought.

Ji Yu didn’t disturb him, as the choice of which martial skill to cultivate was related to the level of one’s combat strength. Some people were adept in using swords, some were adept in using sabers, and the crux of the matter was to see if this type of martial skill suited one’s self.

After a long time, Chen Xi suddenly said, “I want to learn the martial skill with the strongest offensive ability and the swiftest ability to flee.”

Ji Yu was startled, then smiled faintly. “You want to hear my opinion?”

Chen Xi nodded and openly admitted his thoughts. As far as he was concerned, with the mysterious Ji Yu present, he only needed to mention what he wanted and it would absolutely be not wrong to listen to Ji Yu for the specifics.

“You’re not bad.” Ji Yu gave a rare praise, then his expression went solemn as he said seriously, “There’s no differentiation between strong and weak in martial skills. To Fiendgod body refiners, offense is embodied within their Divine Ability and cultivation techniques; to qi refiners, if solely in terms of the swiftness and power of offense, then sword techniques are naturally number one.

“Divine Abilities are techniques unique to Fiendgod body refiners, like the Heavenly Transformation and Mountain Transforming Fist, they’re all formidable Divine Abilities that possess the might to burn mountains and bloody the seas. Normally, qi refiners are unable to learn this, but this isn’t an absolute, as some experts that possess both the techniques of a body refiner and qi refiner are naturally able to master Divine Abilities.

“Similarly, the techniques and profound arts qi refiners use that utilize True Essence to master also have their own terrifying might, and matched with a Magic Treasure or similar weapons, their strengths are not to be taken lightly either.

“However, there’s one thing that’s used universally, and that’s that regardless of martial skill or method of cultivation, they’re all unable to do without movement techniques. Moreover the utilization of a movement technique’s greatest effect is the ability to easily free yourself from the battlefield and be unlikely to fall into danger.

“Now, you know what martial skill you ought to cultivate, right?”

“Divine Ability, Sword Technique, Movement Technique!” Chen Xi replied without hesitation. After hearing Ji Yu’s analysis, he was suddenly enlightened on the problem that he’d been entangled with, as if he was filled with wisdom, causing him to instantly understand what he wanted.

He was dual cultivating both body refinement and qi refinement, cultivating Divine Abilities in the aspect of body refinement and mainly cultivating Sword Techniques in the aspect of qi refinement, whereas Movement Techniques were instead for protecting his life.

Ji Yu nodded and said, "Not bad, but the most important thing for you now is to temper your body's force exertion skill, as this is the foundation of all cultivation techniques."

As he spoke, Ji Yu walked over to before Chen Xi, then bent down to pick out the Grand Collapsing Fist from the 14 jade slips.

"These cultivation techniques are really shit, only this cultivation technique is comparatively comprehensive, but it still has quite a few flaws. I'll help you improve it." Ji Yu frowned as he judged, then stretched out his finger to touch the jade slip. After a short moment, he raised his hand to toss the jade slip to Chen Xi. "Once you've cultivated this fist technique to the point you're able to freely control everything, then it's sufficient for you to control the force exertion skill for every joint in your body."

Chen Xi received the jade slip but didn't hurry to read it, instead he pointed towards the other jade slips on the ground and asked, "What about these cultivation techniques? I don't have to learn them?"

"They're only of little value, it doesn't matter if you don't cultivate them." Ji Yu replied extremely decisively.

Chen Xi was slightly reluctant, as all these martial skills were gifted to him by Qin Hongmian, and were all the martial skills he possessed up till now. Throwing them away just like this was indeed a slight pity.

Most importantly, even though he'd determined the direction of his cultivation, he didn't have the proper cultivation technique books. When he thought that he still had to spend spirit stones to purchase a Divine Ability, a Sword Technique, and a Movement Technique cultivation technique, he felt a slight headache.

My pocket isn't bulging, worry will kill me!

Wait!

Isn't there an old monster that's lived for a million years by my side, does my head still have to ache over these problems?

Chen Xi's eyes shone as he raised his head to look at Ji Yu.

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Chapter 25: Grand Collapsing Fist

Ji Yu paid no attention to Chen Xi's burning gaze and instead casually waved his hand to make an emerald green rattan chair appear beside him. Then, he gestured from his waist and an azure skinned bottle gourd appeared in his hand. A dense wine fragrance floated upwards to fill the room with a fragrant smell.

He lazy lay onto the rattan chair then put the bottle gourd to his mouth before gulping down a few mouthfuls of wine and burped, then sighed in satisfaction. "After transforming into human form, I'm indeed able to enjoy things I had never enjoyed in the past."

"Senior, you like drinking wine?" Chen Xi asked.

“Wrong. I like drinking good wine.” Ji Yu corrected, then smiled faintly. “Not only do I like drinking good wine, but I also like eating good food. If you want to bribe me, then do it on these two aspects. The rate of success is extremely high.”

Chen Xi was extremely ashamed in his heart, yet in his mouth he said, “I just happened to be training in the culinary arts. Even though my skill is inferior to those great spirit chefs, but I dare guarantee I will make dishes that would satisfy you. As for good wine, there’s a wine called Drunken Pine Wine in Pine Mist City, it has a mellow flavor that continuously suffuses out into the mouth, and it’s presumably able to satisfy you as well.”

Ji Yu wasn’t surprised in the slightest and he nodded. “It’s precisely because I know your culinary skill is good that I would appear here. It can’t be helped, I had no special addiction while following Master to fight and conquer the world in my lifetime, and I’m only unable to escape the desire for good food.”

So that’s how it is!

Chen Xi was finally enlightened, but when he thought of how Ji Yu had appeared for the sake of drinking good wine and eating good food and not purely to guide him on martial skills, Chen Xi couldn’t help but be slightly at a loss of whether to laugh or cry.

“Senior Ji Yu, what do you want to eat?”

“Roast meat!”

“Okay!” Chen Xi stood up and walked over to the various ingredients, then started picking some demon beast meat with a delicious texture.

“The excellence of roast meat is completely contained within the word ‘freshness.’ The texture of those dead things are not acceptable. I’ll take you to a place.” Ji Yu instantly stood up from the rattan chair when roast meat was mentioned. His gaze was shining as he muttered, then he casually waved his hand. Chen Xi’s vision blurred, and in the next moment, he’d appeared in a dense forest.

Chen Xi looked around at his surroundings and said in surprise and bewilderment, “This is within the Southern Barbaric Mountain Range?”

Under the deeply dark night, numerous large trees were like solemn warriors of ancient times, with sturdy trunks, luxuriant foliage, and spreading branches. Dense creeping vines that were as big as the mouth of a bowl were on the treetops, seeming to be bodies of pythons that were hanging down by their tails. The faraway mountain range that rose and fell could be vaguely seen through the gaps in the leaves and branches.

Roar!

A burst of beast roars sounded out from afar, adding an extremely dangerous aura to the entire forest.

Bang!

Ji Yu appeared out of thin air, then casually swung his hand and an Azure Haired Wild Boar that was an entire 500kg fell onto the ground, emitting a terrified and miserable howl of grief.

“Hurry up and roast the meat.” As he spoke, Ji Yu once again lay on the rattan chair, then he picked up the bottle gourd and drunk down a few mouthfuls of wine. He smacked his lips in satisfaction and had a free and relaxed expression, as if he’d taken the entire extremely dangerous forest that demon beasts wreaked havoc in to be his own backyard.

Chen Xi didn’t sigh with emotion anymore and picked up the kitchen knife before starting to prepare the Azure Haired Wild Boar.

Hiss hiss!

Not long after, a campfire raged, and the oil flowed out from the meat pieces on the roasting rack to drop into the campfire to emit a hissing sound. After that, an enticing meat fragrance that made one’s mouth water suffused out.

“Mmm, after so many years, I finally get to taste the flavor of roast meat!” Ji Yu couldn’t refrain himself any longer as he scurried off the rattan chair to grab a piece of burning hot roast meat before chewing with large bites, and he still vaguely ceaselessly sighed with emotion.

Chen Xi felt extremely happy as well when he saw this, as he didn’t care about the problems of combination of spirit energy when he roasted the Azure Haired Wild Boar this time. He had purely sought after the deliciousness of taste for the sake of satisfying Ji Yu’s taste buds.

“Start cultivating your fist technique. Stand in the natural position, and conform your essence, energy, and spirit to the heaven and earth. This is the most suitable way to cultivate fist and kicking skills. Hiding within a room to cultivate is unable to attain this sort of effect.” Ji Yu ate meat and drank wine in great satisfaction, and therefore he didn’t stint in giving Chen Xi some advice.

What Chen Xi wanted was precisely this. He found an empty space and sat down cross-legged before carefully learning the Grand Collapsing Fist.

Grand Collapsing Fist, basic martial skill, the fist force moves like a drawn bow and explodes out like a thunderclap.

‘Moving like a drawn bow’ is the process of accumulating strength. The body is like a drawn bow that’s fully accumulated with force that’s transmitted to every joint within the body.

‘Exploding out like a thunderclap’ is the technique when exerting force, it stresses upon the collapsing force exploding out in an instant and swiftly like thunder. This is also what is called instant force and explosive force. When exerting force, the power is able to destroy anything within its path, and using one’s body as the axis, the fist force is condensed and is able to collapse mountains!

Furthermore, this Grand Collapsing Fist had been improved by Ji Yu, and the force exertion technique of the fist force was even more superior. The might of the fist force underwent a qualitative transformation as well and had completely broken away from the domain of basic martial skills to attain the level of high-grade!

According to Chen Xi’s understanding, cultivation of martial skills were divided into the basic-stage, advanced-stage, and unity-stage. They respectively corresponded to the low-grade, the intermediate-grade, and the high-grade.

Taking the Grand Collapsing Fist for example, it was originally a basic martial skill, and if cultivated to perfection, Chen Xi could merely be said to have mastered the basic-stage in the Martial Dao. If Chen Xi wanted to attain the advanced-stage, then he had to choose an intermediate-grade martial skill to cultivate.

However, there was also those people with shocking natural talent that relied on their own comprehension and a basic martial skill to comprehend an even higher stage in the Martial Dao, but these examples very extremely scarce. In the current cultivation world, so long as one's pocket was full, or perhaps one was within a sect that possesses deep hidden resources and reserves, one was completely able to obtain martial skills of even high grade with the slightest effort.

Bang!

Right at the moment Chen Xi intended to cultivate, Ji Yu called him over before a rock, then he struck his fist onto the rock, and the hard rock instantly transformed into a lump of small bits of rubble. The size of the rubble was like a longan, and their shapes were exactly similar. As they scattered onto the ground, they seemed like a pile of beads.

"This is the first stage of the Grand Collapsing Fist, collapsing a rock into beads."

Ji Yu once again arrived before a rock and struck out with his fist, the rock instantly transformed into a pile of powder, then lightly blew at it and the powder drifted out profusely and disorderly before naturally vanishing.

"This is the second stage of the Grand Collapsing Fist, collapsing a rock into powder."

Ji Yu once again arrived before a rock and struck out with his fist, and with a bang, the rock transformed into sharp rock needles that covered the sky, then he waved his sleeve and the myriad of stone needles emitted an ear piercing whistle from tearing through the air, and hit a nearby large tree, instantly penetrating through to cause countless small needle punctures!

"This is the third stage of the Grand Collapsing Fist, collapsing a rock into needles."

"Now, your soul is growing stronger with each passing day, it ought to not be difficult to cultivate this. If you're able to cultivate the Grand Collapsing Fist to attain the third stage, the nimbleness and force exertion technique of your body should be sufficient to cultivate Divine Abilities, Sword Techniques, and Movement Techniques." After he finished speaking, Ji Yu once again lay on the rattan chair, eating meat and drinking wine in delight, and didn't even glance a Chen Xi again.

Whereas Chen Xi had long since been stimulated by the might of the three successive fist strikes of Ji Yu to the point he was full of excitement, his entire body filled with fighting spirit. When he heard Ji Yu, he didn't hesitate in the slightest as he assumed a stance and started cultivating from the beginning.

Just like Ji Yu had said, Chen Xi's soul was strengthening and growing at a terrifying speed from visualizing the Fuxi Divine Statue all day and night. Under these circumstances, the changes within every move and every form of the Grand Collapsing Fist were like a gurgling stream as it flowed into his mind vividly and without error.

It wasn't long before Chen Xi was immersed within cultivating his fist technique, forgetting himself and everything around him.

The sound of blood violently flowing within Chen Xi's body faintly sounded out, like a great river. But contrary to his blood, his heartbeat grew slower and slower, but was extremely strong. The thumping sounds seemed like the sound of pounding on drums, and it shook the flesh, blood, and skin throughout his body.

Swoosh!

Chen Xi didn't notice that right when he was immersed within the fist technique, an azure star amongst that myriad of stars in the sky above him poured down numerous chilly Flexible Waterstar baleful qi that were like stream as it poured into his flesh, blood, and skin to slowly knead the tendons in his entire body...

Chen Xi suddenly opened his eyes three hours later and his figure leaped out before striking his fist onto a rock.

Bang!

The rock was hard like steel, only a few cracks split open on its surface, and a large amount of rubble fell off.

"What a hard rock. But the force of my fist has obviously increased as well. According to this speed, I ought to be able to attain the first stage, collapsing a rock into beads, within seven days."

Chen Xi withdrew his fist, and as he felt the roaring sounds of his blood that seemed to be boiling throughout his body and the tendons in his body that were flexible and white like jade, he felt another burst of pleasant surprise. "I never imagined that the Universe Starslayer Body Forging Technique would actually break through the third level in such a short amount of time to advance to the fourth level, tempering the muscles with earth!"

The slow advancement of his body refinement cultivation had always been a knot in Chen Xi's heart. Because he didn't have a shred of experience before, he only purely cultivated the Universe Starslayer Body Forging Technique, but utterly never thought of using other methods to help his body speed up his advancement. The benefits that cultivating the Grand Collapsing Fist brought to him at this moment had undoubtedly allowed him to have found a way to quickly temper his body.

"The principle is extremely simple, this is the beauty of martial skills. It can both strengthen the cultivation in the Martial Dao, nourish the body in return and use the circulation of cultivation within the body to draw upon the baleful qi of the universe to temper the physique." Ji Yu raised his head and said indifferently.

Rumble!

Chen Xi's stomach growled in hunger. Cultivating the fist technique earlier had already completely spent all the excess energy in his body. There was a little less than a half of the Azure Haired Wild Boar still remaining, and Chen Xi couldn't care about anything else as he sat cross-legged and started swallowing with large bites.

"Drink wine!" Ji Yu raised his hand and threw the azure skinned bottle gourd to Chen Xi.

Chen Xi didn't treat Ji Yu as a stranger in the slightest as he held the azure skinned bottle gourd and fiercely drank a few mouthfuls. The pungent wine transformed into a mellow and refreshing hot stream the instant it entered his throat, then surged into every corner of his body.

Bang!

It was as if a stone had exploded within his body, and vast pure energy roared out as it collided within his entire body, like numerous steel brushes that washed his blood, flesh, skin, and internal organs over and over again.

Chen Xi's face instantly flushed red, and intense pain struck his entire body, causing his features to become distorted and terrifying.

"I forgot that the energy within this wine is too terrifying, and isn't suitable for him to drink." Ji Yu was slightly startled, then he slapped his forehead before shouting out explosively. "Circulate your cultivation technique, keep your mind clear and maintain consciousness!"

Chen Xi didn't dare hesitate, and he gritted his teeth as he circulated his cultivation.

Bang! Bang!

It felt like there were countless raging bulls colliding within his blood, flesh, and skin. This vast energy that the strong wine transformed into was extremely violent and hard to tame, moreover it was scorching hot and difficult to endure. Chen Xi completely relied on his supreme will to completely absorb all this energy many hours later.

At this moment, it was just before the crack of dawn.

When Chen Xi stood up, the first ray of dawn passed through the dense leaves and branches to pour down.

He had a firm face that was very thin and a tall figure, and a layer of gentle lustre like jade arose on the pieces of clearly angular muscles underneath his clothes.

Under the shower of morning light, Chen Xi seemed to have been reborn, and didn't possess his frail appearance from before anymore.

"Congenital Realm in body refinement?" Chen Xi felt the changes in his body and his heart fiercely shook.

[Talisman Emperor](#)

Chapter 26: Redleaf Institution

One month later.

Deep in the night within the forest of the Southern Barbaric Mountain Range.

Chen Xi had a concentrated expression, and a white light suffused on his fist as he struck a rock.

Bang!

The hard rock that was the size of a millstone burst open and sprayed out before dropping all over the ground. It could be clearly seen that the rubble were each similarly the size of a longan and were all like beads.

At this moment, Chen Xi had shockingly already attained the first level of the Grand Collapsing Fist — collapsing a rock into beads!

“So it turns out that collapsing force exploding out in an instant is exerted through instantly condensing the hidden force that’s accumulated from twisting, winding, and kneading the muscles. The body is like a fully drawn bow and the fist is like an arrow that’s pulled extremely tightly, and at the moment that force is exerted, it’s precisely what is called ‘collapse’!” Chen Xi muttered to himself, then once again assumed the stance and cultivated every move and form.

During this half a month’s time, his life was monotonous yet substantial. During the day, he explored his culinary arts in the Quiet Room; at night, he followed Ji Yu to this forest to cultivate the Grand Collapsing Fist, while paying attention to meditation, tempering the body, and visualizing the Fuxi Divine Statue. Every single moment of time was fully utilized by him.

Under such a heavy load of bitter cultivation, changes silently occurred in Chen Xi’s imposing manner. He was full of spirit between his brows and he was like a treasured sword, concealing a sharp aura of slaughter within. The muscles of his entire body had line by line and piece by piece become even more clearly angular, and a jade-like lustre was suffused on the surface as if boundless energy was contained within.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

His fist tore through the sky and emitted a low and sharp sound of rending the air. This was the sound of the vibration in the air caused by the strength within the muscles being condensed to a certain degree.

When this type of vibration attained a certain degree, it would have already attained the second level of the Grand Collapsing Fist — collapsing a rock into powder. At that time, with a fist strike onto the rock, the shattered bits would be like powder and would scatter with the wind.

Sweat wound down his body and heavy gasps for breath were mixed with surges of howling wind from striking out with the fist, and it resounded for a long time in the air above the forest.

Six hours later.

Chen Xi fell flat on his back onto the ground, terribly fatigued. Every muscle in his body was aching and weak, and he was unwilling to even move a finger.

“Senior Ji Yu, my qi refinement cultivation has attained the 8th level of the Congenital Realm now, and my body refinement cultivation has already advanced to the Congenital Realm. According to this momentum, when do you think I can attain the Violet Palace Realm?” Chen Xi turned his head to gaze at Ji Yu who lay on the rattan chair and asked in a light voice.

Ji Yu was same as always, eating meat and drinking wine as he answered, “At least a year. Regardless of if it’s the school of fiendgod body refinement or the school of qi refinement, developing the Violet Palace is an extremely difficult barrier. Your cultivation has already advanced swiftly enough, you don’t have to cultivate so desperately.”

Chen Xi sighed. "I have too many enemies. If I don't cultivate desperately, how would I become strong?"

Ji Yu replied with an 'oh,' then raised the bottle gourd of wine in his hand and asked, "Do you want to have a drink?"

Chen Xi repeatedly shook his head. "No. The energy contained within the wine is too terrifying. Even if it's able to be used by me, it caused me to be unable to cultivate my fist technique for seven days. Moreover, the explosive increase in cultivation was of no benefit towards my training, so it doesn't matter if I don't drink it."

The facts were indeed like this, since drinking a few mouthfuls of the strong wine within the bottle gourd half a month ago, although Chen Xi's body refinement cultivation had broken through to the Congenital Realm in one go, the side-effects were extremely obvious as well. The explosive increase in his strength caused him to be unable to skilfully and easily use his body. For the sake of avoiding the state of his foundation being unstable, he spent another half a month worth of time to draw upon the Thick Earthstar baleful qi and Pure Woodstar baleful qi to temper his body once again, and the arduousness of the process caused Chen Xi to have a lingering fear in his heart.

Ji Yu said rather regretfully, "It's indeed like you've said, drawing upon the assistance of external forces to break through in your cultivation is the easiest way to cause the condition of your foundation to be unstable. And this would cause you to easily suffer qi deviation when charging towards a higher Realm in the future. However, once you've attained the Violet Palace Realm and have established your Dao Foundation, then you don't have to worry about the appearance of these problems."

Actually the principle was extremely simple and Chen Xi understood it as well. Before developing the Violet Palace, regardless if it was the Postnatal Realm or the Congenital Realm, they were both there for the sake of preparing for establishing the Dao Foundation. Only when the Dao Foundation was strong and firm would he be able to go further on the path of cultivation. Even though using the assistance of external forces would allow his cultivation to advance swiftly, compared to the future journey towards the Dao, it was obviously of more harm than benefit.

"Actually, if you want to increase your strength, live battle is undoubtedly the best choice." Ji Yu suddenly spoke, then slowly said, "The abundance of experience in live battle will be of great important while facing an enemy. An expert that was tempered through life and death battles would even be able to challenge an opponent of a higher cultivation than himself."

The attainment in cultivation didn't represent that one was able to utilize this strength.

Possessing profound martial skills, but having never experienced the tempering of blood and fire would only amount to fancy fighting.

Chen Xi deeply agreed.

"Numerous demon beasts walk about within this mountain range's forest, and the deeper you go, the stronger the demon beasts will be. There's no lack of greater demons with formidable strength within the forest, but with your current strength, it's better for you to look for some Congenital Realm demon beasts to train with." Ji Yu pointed towards the depths of the forest as he suggested.

After a wild beast possessed intelligence, it would be able to swallow and absorb the spirit energy of heaven and earth to transform into a demon beast. After going through arduous cultivation, it would be able to step into the Congenital Realm like humans and continue to step onto the path to seek immortality.

According to the difference in bloodlines, demon beasts were normally divided into demon beasts and divine beasts.

When ordinary demon beasts cultivated to the Congenital Realm, they were able to freely take human form, whereas it was extremely difficult for divine beasts to take human form. Some divine beasts needed to attain the Violet Palace Realm to be able to take human form, some instead needed to attain the Golden Realm, and some even required an even higher...

However, divine beasts possessed the bloodline of primordial demons and they were born possessing intelligence and extremely high natural talent. Their strength was much more formidable than ordinary demon beasts.

“Fight and kill a Congenital Realm greater demon? I seem to have not seen one during all these days?” Chen Xi couldn’t help but be startled. Battling a demon beast was no different than battling a human, and on the contrary, the imposing manner of a demon beast usually surpasses humans. Among demon beasts, a Congenital Realm greater demon that occupied a territory of its own would surely have slowly risen up from killing and battles. With the level and viciousness of its combat experience, it would usually be able to terrify its opponent to the point that their scalp went numb with a single glance, causing its opponent to be only able to exert 50% of their strength.

Ji Yu smiled then asked in response, “They dare come close to here?” His casual tone revealed boundless contempt.

Chen Xi came to a sudden understanding, he’d nearly forgotten that Ji Yu was the spirit of the manor that had lived for a million years, and his appearance is that of a Qilin with jet-black hooves and a single horn on his head. If those demon beasts dared to come close, they would simply be looking to be bashed!

Chen Xi didn’t say anything further and waited for his physical strength to recover before tidying up his clothes and directly moving towards the depths of the forest.

Under the night sky, the forest was extremely dark and unusually silent. After moving forward for the time it took an incense stick to burn, Chen Xi encountered a demon beast with a strength that was barely at the initial-stage of the Postnatal Realm.

However, Chen Xi instead became cautious, as ordinary Congenital Realm cultivators didn’t dare enter a dangerous place like this and a slight carelessness on his part might lead to suffering a sneak attack and dying from these ferocious and cunning demon beats.

He gradually moved deeper and deeper, killing a few more demon beasts on the way. Unfortunately, the strength of these demon beasts were weak and couldn’t arouse his interest in the slightest.

He once again moved forward a few kilometres, then Chen Xi suddenly stopped in his tracks and a trace of surprise flashed at the bottom of his eyes.

“There’s sounds of fighting!” Chen Xi’s soul was much stronger than an ordinary cultivator with the same cultivation as him, and it was already faintly arriving at the verge of breaking through. This also allowed him to be able to catch movements that ordinary people were unable to notice.

At this moment, he’d precisely relied on the strength of his soul to hear the vague sounds of battle that resounded out from far away.

He never imagined that there actually would still be people that dared to enter deep within this mountain forest late at night... Chen Xi followed the sound and silently rushed over.

Up ahead was a seemingly empty pile of rocks. Borrowing the starlight from above, he was vaguely able to see some figures flashing about, and besides this there were sounds of frightening beast roars.

When he was still 100 steps away from the rock pile, Chen Xi took a breath then leapt up onto a large tree before hiding himself within the crown of the tree to get a good vantage point to clearly see the faraway scene.

In the empty space at the centre of the rock pile, it was a complete mess, and at this moment, two men and a woman were waving about the weapons in their hands as they jointly attacked an enormous demon beast.

This demon beast was shaped like a tiger or leopard with a body that was over 7 meters long. Its fur was like silver and its limbs were thick and strong like poles. Sharp fangs that were the shape of saws filled its entire bloody mouth, and its claws were 1 meter long and sharp like knives.

This was an adult Silverwind Leopard with a strength comparable to the perfection stage in the Postnatal Realm. Its sharp claws were like knives and its speed was extremely swift like the wind, and it was extremely skilled in stealth and sneak attacks. What caused people to feel terror the most was that the sharp claws of the Silverwind Leopard carried a toxic poison, and if an infected person wasn’t treated in time the meridians in the person’s body would burn into nothingness and the person would become a cripple.

Chen Xi noticed the red leaf design on the sleeves of the three people, and the name of an inferior institution appeared within his mind — Redleaf Institution.

Redleaf Institution was situated within the institution district in Pine Mist City; it closely neighbored Skystar Institution and had 300 plus disciples. Amongst the numerous institutions, its strength was able to be ranked amongst the top ten.

What caused people to delight in talking about the most was the Redleaf Institution’s Dean Ye Qiu, who cultivated the Dao with a saber. The Redleaf Saber Technique he created was straightforward and simple, and it used simple moves to defeat skilful moves. According to the differentiation of grades, it could already be called a high-grade martial skill. Supposedly, the strength of Ye Qiu was formidable enough to the extent he was even able to battle the number one expert under the command of the General’s Estate, Luo Chong.

The strength of the three people that were jointly attacking the Silverwind Leopard wasn’t high, but their cooperation was quite tacit, and they ought to have cultivated a type of combination attack arts. The three sabers splashed out like the rain, seeming to weave an impenetrable saber net that firmly

trapped the Silverwind Leopard into a corner, to the point it would only be able to struggle and wait for death.

“Courting death!” The blue clothed young man that stood in the middle suddenly shouted out explosively when he saw the Silverwind Leopard wanting to strike regardless of if it was injured, he quickly swung out three saber strikes that whistled in the air, and the swift and fierce saber energy forced the Silverwind Leopard to retreat.

His companions by his side took advantage of this opportunity to suddenly launch an attack without the slightest hesitation, and the shiny and sharp saber lights were like rain droplets as they chopped towards the Silverwind Leopard.

Behind it was the hard rocks that stood tall and erect, thus it had no path of retreat.

Something’s not right!

When he saw the Silverwind Leopard about to be killed on the spot, Chen Xi who was concealed atop the tree crown instead perceived that something was off.

That Silverwind Leopard is too calm, even if it was deeply caught in a hopeless situations, its gaze is still calm and ferocious, and even emitting a trace of coldness and complacency occasionally.

There’s an ambush!

How strong was Chen Xi’s soul? At the instant he perceived something was not right, he’d quickly noticed that within the shadows surrounding the rocks, ten plus robust beast figures were silently approaching...

Roar! Roar! Roar!

The sounds of 10 plus beast roars mixed together was like the horn of attack, resounding out within the dense night sky.

[Talisman Emperor](#)

Chapter 27: Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area

“Oh shit! Junior Brother Qu, Junior Sister Duan, watch out around you!” The blue clothed young man’s face went pale when he heard the continuous sounds of beast roars that rose and fell, and he stopped attacking the Silverwind Leopard before assuming a defensive posture with his saber before his chest as he carefully prepared himself.

At practically the moment the blue clothed young man finished speaking, the other man and woman successively stopped their attacks before gathering by the blue clothed young man’s side, and their faces were already horrified.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Accompanied by the beast roars that resounded out, ten plus Silverwind Leopards appeared around the rock pile, completely surrounding the three of them in a tight ring.

Roar!

The Silverwind Leopard that was nearly forced to a corner and killed walked unhurriedly with an even pace to stand within the group of beasts, then it faced the three of them as it emitted a complacent roar.

“Dammit! I never expected we would fall into this dirty beast’s ambush!” The blue clothed young man’s expression was exceedingly unsightly. When faced with this scene, how could he not guess that the Silverwind Leopard from earlier was only bait, and it wanted to bait the three of them to here?

The other man had a round face and small eyes, and immaturity was contained between his brows, as he asked with a terrified and trembling voice, “Senior Brother Lu, what should... What should we do?”

A single Silverwind Leopard’s strength was comparable to the perfection-stage in the Postnatal Realm, and at this moment, there were over 10 Silverwind Leopards around them. With their cultivations, they didn’t have the slightest chance at victory.

“What else can we do? We have already been completely surrounded by these dirty beasts. It’s utterly impossible for us to flee.” Senior Brother Lu replied with a calm expression. He was similarly extremely anxious in his heart, as they were within the forest of a southern barbaric mountain and it was even deep within the night. Thus, it was impossible for them to seek help.

“Senior Brother Lu, Senior Brother Qu, I’m sorry. It’s all because of me. If it wasn’t for the sake of obtaining the skin, fur, and sharp claws of the Silverwind Leopard for me, the two of you wouldn’t encounter such danger. I’ll draw them away later, and you two seize the opportunity to flee.” The nearby young woman was delicate and pretty, yet thin and weak. As she spoke, tears welled within her eyes, and her expression was extremely remorseful and regretful.

“Junior Sister Duan, don’t talk nonsense!” Senior Brother Lu shouted out explosively, then he raised the long saber in his hand and said coldly, “We’ll attack together. Killing one beast is one beast. Even if we die, we will die together.”

“Right! The Dean always says that if you only think about fleeing when faced with danger, then you won’t be able to become a true saber cultivator throughout your lifetime. I support Senior Brother Lu!” Junior Brother Qu gnashed his teeth as he spoke, the terror on his face disappeared, and his immature round face was filled with a firm and vicious expression.

“Senior Brother...” Junior Sister Duan began to speak but stopped. She was moved to the point she was unable to speak.

“Kill!” Senior Brother Lu lightly smiled, he glanced the Junior Brother and Junior Sister beside him, and then his face revealed dense killing intent as he shouted out explosively with the long saber in his hand, attacking the Silverwind Leopards first!

“Kill!” Junior Brother Qu and Junior Sister Duan followed right behind him, holding their long sabers tightly with surging battle intent.

Roar!

The ten plus Silverwind Leopards moved out when they saw their prey still wanting to put up a last struggle, and their robust figures flashed past the night sky as they brandished their one meter long sharp claws to pounce towards the Senior Brother Lu’s group of three.

“These three people are in danger...” Chen Xi silently watched the faraway battle, and as he watched the three Redleaf Institution disciples that were like straw as they struggled bitterly within the group of beasts, he extremely admired the three of them for their courage and camaraderie to not abandon one another.

Ah!

A shrill cry of pain sounded out, as a Silverwind Leopard had seized an opportunity during the gaps in his defense, and its sharp claw fiercely tore open two deep wounds on Junior Brother Qu’s chest.

“Junior Brother Qu!” Senior Brother Lu shouted out explosively. He wanted to save Junior Brother Qu, but the three Silverwind Leopards before him were constantly harassing him, causing him to be unable to free himself, and his face distorted from rage and gloominess.

“Senior Brother Qu, quickly leave with Senior Brother Lu!” Senior Brother Lu saw Junior Brother Qu was about to be killed by the Silverwind Leopard, but he heard a delicate shout and Junior Sister Duan disregarded the attack in front of her as she turned around to swing her saber at the Silverwind Leopard beside Junior Brother Qu.

When Senior Brother Lu saw Junior Sister Duan disregarding her own safety to go save Junior Brother Qu, his face couldn’t help but go pale and he cried out involuntarily in alarm, “Junior Sister!”

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Three Silverwind Leopards seized this chance to rush over, and their sharp claws fiercely clawed towards Junior Sister Duan from behind.

“Senior Brothers, I still want to be your Junior Sister in my next life...” Junior Sister Duan knew that death was at hand, and she slowly closed her eyes.

“Junior Sister!”

“Junior Sister!”

The furious roars of her two Senior Brothers entered her ears, it caused her to feel happy yet sad, and she said in her heart, “I wonder when I can hear their voice again...”

Bang! Bang! Bang!

A burst of heavy and dull sounds suddenly echoed out, like a 500kg sandbag had fallen from the sky to smash down onto the ground, and there were miserable beast howls mixed within.

I’m not dead?

Junior Sister Duan opened her eyes in complete bewilderment, and when she saw the scene before her, she instead felt that she was dreaming.

Suddenly, an unfamiliar youth stood before her. The youth had a thin and tall figure, and a handsome and firm face. He silently stood there seeming like an immovable mountain, causing one to be unable to help from feeling safe and at ease.

Three miserable Silverwind Leopards that were howling in grief were shockingly beneath the youth's feet.

The youth was precisely Chen Xi, and the reason he saved them was extremely simple. While atop the three, when he saw that Junior Sister Duan willing to give up her life to save her comrade, he was extremely moved by this camaraderie that was strong as metal and stone. How could he watch on and see her die beneath the sharp claws of the Silverwind Leopard?

"The Grand Collapsing Fist is formidable as expected. With my current strength, I'm completely capable of killing this group of Silverwind Leopards by myself!"

Before he attacked, Chen Xi had never thought that he would only need three punches to shatter all the bones in the three Silverwind Leopard's bodies. At this moment, when he gazed at the three Silverwind Leopards that had lost their ability to fight, strong confidence couldn't help but be aroused within his heart.

Roar!

Chen Xi's sudden appearance caused the attacks of the Silverwind Leopard group to cease for a short moment. When they saw their companions howling miserably while lying on the floor and unable to stand up, the ferociousness of these Silverwind Leopard's were completely stirred, and they abandoned their opponents to howl as they dashed towards Chen Xi.

Bring it!

Killing intent flashed within Chen Xi's eyes, and his figure swayed before rushing straight at them.

Bang!

Body like a bow, fist like an arrow, Chen Xi struck out with his fist and strong winds howled out in all directions. A Silverwind Leopard was like a ball that was slapped flying with a rod, fiercely smashing deep into a rock 30 over meters away and was unable to stand up again.

Chen Xi didn't stop for a moment after successfully using a single move to deal with a Silverwind Leopard, then he leaned to the side and bent his waist to dodge the attack that pounced at him from the front. His right elbow shot out like lightning to fiercely strike his fist onto the abdomen of his attacker.

Pu!

His arm directly went through the stomach of the Silverwind Leopard, breaking upon a bloody hole the size of a bowl, and internal organs that were covered in blood splashed and flowed down.

Chen Xi waved his hand to toss the corpse away before once again pouncing at another Silverwind Leopard.

At this moment, battle intent surged in Chen Xi's chest. After his Grand Collapsing Fist had attained the first level, collapsing a rock into beads, his two fists were contained the twofold strength of both his body and True Essence, and were simply like two 150,000kg axe hammers. So long as a Silverwind Leopard was struck, the bones in its entire body would shatter and it would die on the spot.

The more Chen Xi fought, the more exhilarated he felt. Earlier, he'd always been cultivating by himself and the method of testing his strength was to use his fist to shatter a rock. How could it compare to being surrounded by dangerous attacks that could take his life, allowing him to release all his strength without holding back in the slightest?

This sort of feeling was like meeting his match. His battle intent ceaselessly rose, the more he fought, the more ferocious he became. He tempered the nimble and swift Grand Collapsing Fist and became even more proficient and skilled with it.

The three Redleaf Institution disciples had gathered together, as with the addition of Chen Xi, the pressure upon them instantly lowered greatly, even to the extent they were completely unable to interfere and could only obediently stand aside. At this moment, Junior Brother Qu couldn't help but let out heartfelt praise as he gazed at Chen Xi who was like a war god under the shroud of night, skilfully and easily killing the Silverwind Leopards successively. "So formidable! Is that the Grand Collapsing Fist?"

"It's indeed the Grand Collapsing Fist, but it seems to be even more simple and effective than the moves of an ordinary Grand Collapsing Fist. Not only has the strength increased a level, but even the might of it is extremely shocking." Senior Brother Lu had extremely sharp judgment, but with his cultivation, he was still unable to see through the profundity of Chen Xi's fist technique. Even so, he still couldn't help admire in his heart and he vaguely felt that Chen Xi's fist technique ought to enter the advanced-stage very soon.

The advanced-stage, that's a stage that only Violet Palace Realm cultivators were able to master!

What caused Senior Brother Lu to be bewildered was that the youth's cultivation seemed to have not attained the level capable of developing the Violet Palace. What's going on? Could it be that this fellow is a disciple of a great sect?

"I wonder who this fellow is? Why have I never heard of a figure as formidable as him within the younger generation of our Pine Mist City?" Junior Brother Qu exclaimed with admiration as he cleaned the injuries on his chest.

"Hmph, what fellow? Mind your words Senior Brother Qu, this Senior saved our lives." Junior Sister Duan fiercely glared at Junior Brother Qu.

Senior?

Senior Brother Lu cracked a smile. It looks like in the heart of Junior Sister Duan, that youth has already become an old monster with unfathomable cultivation.

Within the cultivation world, so long as one had developed the Violet Palace and established the Dao Foundation, not only would one's appearance not change anymore, even their lifespan would attain a qualitative leap. Some great cultivators were able to live for at least a few hundred years, and some were even able to live for thousands of years. So, when faced with an unfamiliar cultivator that possessed a higher cultivation, people would ordinarily call the unfamiliar cultivator as 'Senior.'

Bang!

Chen Xi struck the last Silverwind Leopard flying, then he looked around and saw the ground filled with corpses. He smacked his lips in dissatisfaction before turning around, intending to leave.

The strongest amongst these Silverwind Leopards only possessed a strength at the perfection-stage of the Postnatal Realm and were already unable to satisfy his combat needs. Moreover, it was only six hours before dawn, and dawn would also mean that he would once again return to the Quiet Room to train in the culinary arts. So he had to make the best use of his time and seek out a true Congenital Realm greater demon to temper his live combat experience.

“Fellow Daoist, please wait.” The lives of himself and his Junior Sister and Junior Brother had been saved. Senior Brother Lu wouldn’t watch on as their savior left, so he hurriedly chased him.

Lu Shaocong walked forward and said respectfully, “I’m the Redleaf Institution’s Lu Shaocong, this is my Junior Brother Qu Cheng and Junior Sister Duan Ying. Thank you Fellow Daoist for saving my life. May I ask for Fellow Daoist’s name, and where do you live? I will surely return the favor with lavish gifts once we return to Pine Mist City.”

“There’s no need. I only lifted a finger. Demon beasts roam without restraint within this southern barbaric mountain’s forest, all of you should leave as early as possible.” Chen Xi shook his head, but was unwilling to reveal his identity, then he walked off.

Lu Shaocong’s group of three were dumbstruck, and seeing that Chen Xi was gradually going further and was about to disappear on the shroud of the night sky, Duan Ying suddenly said, “Senior, are you heading to the Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area to hunt some greater demons? I have a map here, perhaps it would be of use to you.”

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 28: Violet Rhino Greater Demon

Forbidden area meant that it was forbidden to enter!

In the cultivation world, an existence that’s able to be called a forbidden area was usually a place that’s extremely dangerous.

The Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area was exactly so.

To the cultivators of Pine Mist City, not only were there various extremely terrifying greater demons living within that entire 50,000 km area of the Southern Barbaric Mountain Range, even the living environment was dangerous and complex. It was like a battlefield that devils roamed about freely within, and was completely not a place that a cultivator would step into with guts alone.

The Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area was situated deep within the 100,000 huge mountains in the Southern Barbaric Mountain Range.

Chen Xi had been living in Pine Mist City since he was young and had once heard of the rumors about the Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area. At this moment, when he heard that he would enter the Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area if he headed a little deeper, he naturally didn’t dare rashly move forward.

He was still able to guarantee the safety of his life if he hunted and killed demon beasts at the outer area of the southern barbaric mountains, but if he were to enter the forbidden area where greater demons roamed unrestrained, it would probably not be such a simple matter.

However, the map Duan Ying mentioned gave Chen Xi a reminder; if he possessed a map of the Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area, he would completely be capable of circumnavigating those dangerous place to avoid the places those terrifying greater demons stayed, and seek his intended target.

Duan Ying hurriedly chased up to Chen Xi when she saw him stop, then said respectfully, "Senior, the only reason the three of us dared to venture here was because I have a map that was handed down by my ancestors in my possession. It annotates in detail the geographical environment and distribution of demon beasts within the Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area. If you're unfamiliar towards this place, I can help show you the way."

Chen Xi was originally curious as to why these three people whose cultivation was only around the perfection-stage of the Postnatal Realm would actually be so brave as to dare hunt Silverwind Leopards within the southern barbaric mountain's forest at night. Now, he was suddenly enlightened when heard about the map Duan Ying spoke of.

"I want to hunt a Congenital Realm greater demon." Chen Xi said truthfully, as he wanted to hear Duan Ying's opinion.

Congenital Realm greater demon?

Lu Shaocong, Qu Cheng, and Duan Ying all let out a breath of cold air and were extremely shocked.

Compared to Congenital Realm cultivators, demon beasts that had experienced countless years of tempering to advance to the Congenital Realm were not only able to take human form, but also usually had cultivations that were much deeper and more solid than cultivators. Coupled with the baptism of slaughter all through their lives, a Congenital Realm greater demon was completely capable of dominating a cultivator of the same cultivation, and were really extremely formidable.

And it was precisely because of this that when they heard Chen Xi wanted to hunt and kill a Congenital Realm greater demon all by himself, the shock in their hearts was imaginable.

"Senior, there's a place called Spiritcave Lake at the outer area of the forbidden area, and a two-headed Violet Rhino greater demon that possesses a strength of around the initial-stage of the Congenital Realm occupies that place. Its skin and bones are as if made from steel, and it possesses boundless strength and shocking defense, but isn't good at speed. If you want to hunt and kill a Congenital Realm greater demon, then this two-headed Violet Rhino greater demon is extremely suitable."

Duan Yin withdrew a jade slip and looked through it a little, then a trace of excitement appeared on her delicate and pretty face as she swiftly said, "Even if you're unable to defeat it, you can still safely flee."

Spiritcave Lake? Two-headed Violet Rhino greater demon?

I currently possess a qi refinement strength at the 8th level of the Congenital Realm, and my body refinement has already advanced to the Congenital Realm, dealing with this initial-stage Congenital Realm Violet Rhino greater demon is extremely suitable.

Chen Xi pondered for a moment and directly asked, "Where's the location?"

"I'll take you!"

Duan Ying had a resolute expression as she said, "The three of us have all attained the perfection-stage of the Postnatal Realm. On one hand, we came to the southern barbaric mountain's forest this time to collect the sharp claws, fur and skin of the Silverwind Leopard; and on the other hand, we also hope to be able to temper our strength through hunting and killing demon beasts, as we aspire to be able to break through to the Congenital Realm."

"Senior, don't refuse straight away." Duan Ying didn't wait for Chen Xi to speak as she continued. "Don't worry, Senior. The three of us won't interfere in Senior's actions. On the contrary, if Senior encounters some danger, we can help as well. We only ask that Senior is able to allow us to witness a battle of the Congenital Realm."

Chen Xi was in a difficult position, if he took the three of them, Chen Xi would still need to take care of them in the event that they encountered danger, and it was very exhausting. If he were to not agree, he didn't know the location of Spiritcave Lake, and if he were to blindly search for it, he might counter a terrifying greater demon and it was extremely not worthwhile.

"Senior, take us along, leave life and death to fate. If we really encounter danger that we're unable to withstand, then Senior doesn't have to trouble yourself for us."

"Yeah, Senior, take us along."

Lu Shaocong and Qu Cheng changed the way they addressed Chen Xi, and looked at Chen Xi with eager eyes.

Madness!

I never expected that the disciples of Redleaf Institution were actually all so insane, they only just escaped from danger and they want to risk their lives again? Could it be that advancing in their cultivation is even more important than their lives?

Even though he thought like this, but a trace of enlightenment silently slipped through his heart. If you haven't gone insane, then you haven't lived. Cultivators defy the heavens to seek the Dao. Convictions like theirs were absolutely what was needed to seed the Dao!

In the end, Chen Xi agreed to the three of them joining him.

Lu Shaocong's group of three were extremely excited, they intended to share with Chen Xi some of the sharp claws, fur, and skin removed from the 10 plus Silverwind Leopard corpses on the ground, but were refused by him with a shake of his head. The sharp claws, fur, and skin were of no use to him, and bringing it along would only be a burden to him.

After the time for an incense stick to burn, Chen Xi's group felt alarmed on the way but still safely arrived at a low hill.

"Senior, please look." Duan Ying pointed ahead. "Spiritcave Lake is over there."

Chen Xi looked into the distance and saw a vast and boundless great lake that rippled peacefully 5km in the distance. Under the rays of dazzling star light from the night sky, a dreamlike hue appeared atop the lake.

The nighttime fog curled upwards where numerous demon beasts of various forms could be vaguely seen swimming about the luxuriant aquatic plants, and a bird with wings that were 30 meters wide glided atop the lake. This was the world of demon beasts!

This is Spiritcave Lake? I never imagined that it would actually be so beautiful... Chen Xi thought to himself.

“Senior, the two-headed Violet Rhino stays at the bottom of the lake, at the center.” Duan Ying explained in a low voice and with an even more respectful manner.

On their way here, although she had a map in her possession, they still encountered numerous attacks from demon beasts. The strength of these demon beasts weren't strong, but they were all adept in concealing themselves and launching sneak attacks. If it wasn't for Chen Xi consistently being able to notice them beforehand and killing these demon beasts on the spot; if solely relying on the three of them, it would be absolutely impossible for them to arrive here safely.

“It's relatively safer here. You three wait here.” Chen Xi's formidable soul swept the surroundings, and he didn't notice the tracks of any demon beasts.

“Okay.” Even though they were unwilling, Lu Shaocong's group of three could only respectfully comply. They knew that if they approached Spiritcave Lake with their strengths, it was essentially courting death.

Whoosh!

The tip of Chen Xi's foot touched the ground, his body was like an arrow that left the bow as he swiftly flashed down the hill and dashed towards Spiritcave Lake that was 5 km away.

The vast Spiritcave Lake seemed boundless and the abundant water vapor contained dense spirit energy of the heaven and earth. If it wasn't for the demon beasts that could be seen everywhere, this place would simply be like a Blessed Immortal Ground.

After a short moment, Chen Xi arrived by the lake and stopped to gaze into the distance.

His formidable soul's energy surged out like a large net to slowly search the surface of the lake.

Splash! Splash! Splash!

The demon beasts and aquatic animals that swam nearby seemed to have noticed something as they were alarmed to the point that they raised their heads to look around, then they instantly fled in fright and vanished.

“The strength of my soul is only able to search an area of few tens of kilometers with difficulty. This Spiritcave Lake just had to be so big, if I continue searching like this, I'm afraid I wouldn't be able to find that two-headed Violent Rhino even until dawn... Hmmm?”

Chen Xi suddenly noticed a trace of an irregularity, and he vaguely heard sounds of discussion coming from a hill that was extremely far from Spiritcave Lake.

Weird, it's the middle of the night, why would there be people within the Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area?

Chen Xi pondered slightly then silently snuck over towards the hill.

The hill was completely barren, exposing numerous smooth and sharp rocks. At this moment, over 100 people were gathered there, but only a few tens of people were standing. They all wore black clothes and carried various weapons, wearing frosty expressions. The other people had their hands and legs tied, and they were all lay on the ground in kneeling positions.

"When will Old Freak Violet Rhino arrive?"

"According to our information, it's around one hour from now."

"Hmph! What great airs this fellow puts on! If it wasn't for the sake of... Hmph! Hmph!"

A familiar voice sounded out, causing Chen Xi who was concealed in the shadows to be shocked inwardly, then he raised his head to look over, and the Li Clan's Manager Wu shockingly stood at the center of the group of people.

Why would this old dog be here?

Old Freak Violet Rhino... Could it be that he's come for the sake of the two-headed Violet Rhino greater demon as well?

"Old dog Wu! I never expected that our Pine Mist City would have such scum like you! You actually have no scruples to take our lives as tribute for the sake of getting on friendly terms with a greater demon! Truly throwing the face of your Li Clan!" A weak and small youth that was bound on the ground suddenly cursed loudly in rage.

"Bah! Scum that's willing to be the lackey of a demon beasts! Even if I'm killed by a demon beast, I won't fucking let you off even in death!"

"Your Li Clan is full of scum as expected! Fiends in human form! Worse than animals!"

Seeing the youth taking the lead in resisting, the other people that were bound on ground followed to start cursing out in rage, and their voice contained dense resentment and fury.

"Courting death!" A fellow in black clothes walked forward and fiercely kicked the youth then cursed. "So what if all you trash from the Commoners District die? What's with all the nonsense?"

Commoners District.... Could it be that these people are like me? They're all the poverty stricken people that occupy the lowest levels in Pine Mist City?

The killing intent in Chen Xi's heart boiled when he heard this. Old dog Wu actually taking the lives of others to curry favor with a demon beast and be the lackey of a demon beast. This was utterly heartless, contemptible, and malicious to the utmost limit!

"Who? Come out!" Manager Wu suddenly looked towards the spot Chen Xi was concealed. It was because of the fluctuation in Chen Xi's mood that had caused his aura to leak out, and it instantly drew Manager Wu's attention.

“Old dog Wu! I’ll kill you today!” When he was exposed, Chen Xi knew he couldn’t hide any longer, so he walked out from the shadows right away, then coldly stared at Manager Wu with a gaze that contained dense killing intent that raged like fire.

“Hahaha! I was wondering who it was, but it turned out to be you, jinx! Falling to your ambush a few days ago caused my Li Clan to lose three core disciples. I originally planned to get even with you later, but I never imagined that you would obediently hand yourself over. It’s truly the will of the heavens!”

Manager Wu was slightly startled when he saw Chen Xi, then he suddenly threw his head back and roared in laughter before waving his hand while ordering. “Go! Break all the limbs of this fellow and cripple his cultivation! I want to make him become absolute trash!”

“Yes!” A black clothed guard impatiently leapt out of the group, he had a terrifying expression on his face as he rubbed his hands together and walked towards Chen Xi.

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 29: Tribute

Chen Xi?

Jinx?

Everyone who was bound on the ground were from the Pine Mist City’s Commoners District. Even though they hadn’t seen Chen Xi before, they’d heard of Chen Xi’s name and nickname. At this moment, all of them couldn’t help but be stupefied when they heard about the youth that had suddenly appeared before them.

“Chen Xi, flee quickly! You’re not a match for him!” Someone shouted out anxiously.

“Right! Flee quickly! Tell everyone about old dog Wu’s evil deeds!” The others recovered from their shock and all suggested at once.

“Flee? Can he?” The black clothed guard that dashed over smiled even more terrifyingly, and he took a stride forward before raising his hand to grab towards Chen Xi’s shoulder.

Chen Xi didn’t even spare a glance as he clenched his fist before it shot out like an arrow to smash onto the black clothed guard’s chest.

Bang!

A low and deep sound echoed out, and the black clothed guard was directly blasted flying over 30 meters by Chen Xi’s punch. The black clothed guard’s terrifying smile instantly froze, his eyes sprang wide open and his face flashed red. He spat out a mouthful of dark red blood before falling limply on the ground and was completely unable to stand up again.

“You deserved death!” Chen Xi withdrew his fist and his expression was already extremely icy cold.

The atmosphere instantly became deathly silent.

Killing his opponent with a single punch?

No matter if it was the people who were bound on the ground, or those black clothed guards, they all looked at that tall and thin figure with disbelief.

“Idiot! All of you go together!” Manager Wu was the first to recover from his shock, and he shouted out in explosive rage.

He was extremely shocked in his heart as well. All these black clothed people by his side were core guards that the Li Clan had fostered and they all had strengths at the Congenital Realm. Moreover, they carried out sanguinary missions all through the year, and their martial skills and live combat experience had been tempered to become extremely abundant since a long time ago. Yet, unexpectedly, the black clothed guard had only just made a move when he was killed by a single punch from Chen Xi. If he didn't see it with his own two eyes, Manager Wu would almost not dare believe his eyes.

Didn't this kid only know how to craft talismans? When did his cultivation in martial skills become so formidable?

Could it be that he's already attained the Violet Palace Realm?

Impossible!

It's only been a few days. He only relies on crafting talismans to earn those meagre spirit stones, and he hasn't become a disciple of any great figure. It's utterly impossible for him to advance!

Perhaps, the attack from before was merely him seizing the opportunity to catch his opponent off guard, and his surprise attack was successful...

Although he thought like this, Manager Wu still felt slightly ill at ease and his gaze couldn't help but once again descend onto Chen Xi.

Meanwhile, all those black clothed guards had already moved out.

“Kill!” The miserable death of their comrade and the furious roar of Manager Wu completely caused these black clothed guards to be filled with rage, and they all transformed into afterimages as they fiercely pounced towards Chen Xi.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

Chen Xi stepped forward with steady and forceful steps that were neither fast nor slow, seeming to completely not notice the change in situation in his surroundings.

“Watch out!”

“Quickly flee! Do you not want to live?!”

Those people that were bound on the ground shouted out anxiously. Although Chen Xi killed a black clothed guard with a single blow, he was still only one person after all. These elite guards from the Li Clan were extremely skilled in group attacks, and the lone Chen Xi would have a close to zero chance to win when jointly attacked by them.

Bang!

Chen Xi completely disregarded the saber that was smashing towards him, and directly struck his fist towards the pit of his opponent's stomach.

"Kacha!"

The attacking black clothed guard's was full of smiles when he saw Chen Xi being so careless and his saber struck onto Chen Xi's shoulder. What caused him to be stunned was that his full force saber strike only left a faint white mark on Chen Xi's shoulder, whereas his own abdomen was thoroughly penetrated by Chen Xi's punch and he fell on the ground and exclaimed miserably a few times before breathing his last breath.

On the other hand, Chen Xi relied on this strike to break free of his situation of being surrounded. He was like a tiger that had escaped its cage, easily moving through the black clothed guards that surrounded him, and his fist was like dense raindrops that splashed out.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

A string of heavy sounds of a fist smashing onto the body echoed out, and the 10 plus black clothed guards were like kites that had their strings cut off as they flew out with deeply sunken chests, and thick blood flowed out from their five orifices.

"How could this be possible?!"

"My god!"

"This... this... This isn't real, right?"

Everyone present was shocked by the scene before them, and their pupils dilated as they gazed in disbelief at the tall figure that stood between the blood and corpses.

"You... We're the black clothed guards of the Li Clan!" The unsightly expressions of the other black clothed guards revealed a trace of terror. They were furious, but didn't dare arbitrarily move forward.

"I precisely want to kill all of you!" Chen Xi said in a cold voice. The Li Clan and the Chen Clan were originally mortal enemies, as the suspicion on the Li Clan was the biggest in the matter of Chen Tianli being ambushed to death and Chen Hao having his right arm crippled. So he naturally didn't hold back in the slightest when killing them.

Whoosh!

Chen Xi's body drew back like a bow before throwing himself forward once again, the formidable Grand Collapsing Fist was exerted by him at full force, and it transformed into layer upon layer of fist images that killed another eight black clothed guards in the blink of an eye.

"This fellow's body is utterly impenetrable by swords and sabers. He's obviously cultivated a profound body refinement technique. Flee quickly!"

"Flee!"

The remaining five black clothed guards shouted out in fright and they actually didn't bother about Manager Wu as they turned around, intending to flee.

How could Chen Xi allow his enemies to flee right before his eyes? His body swayed at once and was last to move but first to arrive. Fist images flashed as his swift and fierce fist shot out fist lights that were condensed from True Essence to tear through the air towards the black clothed guards.

Instantly, a hole that was the size of a bowl appeared on the backs of the remaining five black clothed guards and they fell down lifelessly.

“Huh?” Manager Wu wasn’t able to maintain his composure any longer and his face went pale. Those fist lights of Chen Xi’s that tore through the sky caused him to notice a trace of danger.

“So formidable!”

“So strong!”

“No wonder he’s so composed. So it turned out his strength is actually so terrifying!”

Those people that had long since lost all hope suddenly became excited, as when they saw Chen Xi’s straightforward killing methods, a strand of hope once again lit ablaze in their hearts.

“Hmph! I never imagined that you actually cultivated in body refinement to the Congenital Realm. If I’m not wrong, it seems that your fist technique is soon to advance to the advanced-stage. No wonder you dare be so arrogant. Unfortunately, I’m already halfway into the Violet Palace Realm, and the strength I control is something you’re utterly incapable of imagining.” Manager Wu’s triangular eyes slightly narrowed.

Although he spoke like this, he didn’t dare be careless in the slightest. He didn’t care about the miserable deaths of the black clothed guards, but Chen Xi’s strength instead caused him have no choice but to be cautious.

It was common knowledge that the school of body refinement was the most difficult cultivation pathway. The slowness of cultivation and the difficulty of advancing wasn’t inferior to climbing a towering mountain on foot. But the strength of a body refiner was extremely shocking, as a body refiner completely dominated all qi refiners of the same cultivation. This was indisputable!

What Manager Wu said wasn’t wrong, Chen Xi precisely relied on the strength of his body that was extremely strong and the Grand Collapsing Fist that was soon to break through to the second level to successively kill over 20 black clothed guards in a short amount of time. Otherwise, solely based on his cultivation, facing the attacks of a group of initial-stage Congenital Realm black clothed guards with his qi refinement cultivation that was at the 8th level of the Congenital Realm was only courting death.

“Cut the crap! I’ll be taking your fucking life today!” Chen Xi said coldly. The battle with the black clothed guards couldn’t be considered dangerous, but it instead allowed him to further confirm his strength. Under the combination of his 8th level Congenital Realm qi refinement cultivation and his initial-stage Congenital Realm body refinement cultivation, he completely didn’t fear any Congenital Realm cultivators.

So what if he’s halfway to the Violet Palace Realm?

He’s still at the perfection-stage of the Congenital Realm in the end, and is nothing to be feared!

“Hmph! Since you’re courting death, I’ll fulfill your wish!” Manager Wu grunted coldly. His large hands that were like bamboo were covered in a layer of thick black mist, then he fiercely slapped his hands onto the ground.

Kacha!

The ground suddenly split open, and a pitch-black windy fissure swiftly spread out to the surroundings like a bolt of lightning.

Huh? He wants to...

Not giving time to Chen Xi to recover from his shock, a loud bang echoed out, and countless amounts of sharp rubble shot out of the fissures on the ground that spread out like a spider’s web, like hidden weapons that whizzed as they shot out like a storm. The target of the rubble was shockingly those people that were bound on the ground!

“Shameless!” Chen Xi finally got his head around the matter, and he shouted out explosively at once. His figure then flashed to stand before the group of people and his fists were swift like lightning as he struck towards the approaching rubble that blotted out the sky.

However, the amount of rubble was in the tens of thousands and were dense like a swarm of locusts. Chen Xi went all out and was only barely able to protect the people in an area of 3 meters around him, whereas due to being bound on the ground and unable to move, the other people who were slightly further from him were instantly robbed of their lives by the sharp rubble.

“Hahaha! These tributes are the food of Old Freak Violet Rhino! Now that so many have died, you just wait to suffer his fury! I’m sorry, but I can’t keep you company!” Manager Wu laughed loudly in complacency from afar, then his figure leapt up and he’d vanished after a few leaps.

Watching helplessly as Manager Wu fled off caused Chen Xi to have no place to vent his bellyful of rage, and his expression became even more icy cold.

Bang!

After smashing the last piece of rubble, Chen Xi turned to look but he noticed that more than half of the bound people were dead, and only 30 over people remained.

Old dog Wu! I’ll fucking skin you alive one day!

Chen Xi took a deep breath and forcefully controlled the urge to give chase. The pressing matter of the moment was how to send all these people back to Pine Mist City from the extremely dangerous Southern Barbaric Forbidden Area.

Chen Xi pondered for a moment, then called over Lu Shaocong’s group of three that was concealed 5 km away and instructed the three of them to send these people back, whereas he instead chose to stay on the spot.

Lu Shaocong’s group of three had vaguely seen the earlier battle from the low hill, but their strengths were too weak so they didn’t dare arbitrarily take action and could only inwardly pray for Chen Xi to be victorious.

At this moment, when they saw the corpses and blood that covered the ground, and heard that all these people were tributes the Li Clan brought here to satisfy the belly of a greater demon, their hearts were filled with shock, fury, and indignation. Immediately, they didn't hesitate to protect the mere 30 plus people that remained and carefully left.

This is the place old dog Wu and the Violet Rhino greater demon were going to meet. For the sake of those so-called tributes, that Violet Rhino greater demon will surely turn up. I only have to wait here. After sending Lu Shaocong and others off with his gaze, Chen Xi sat cross-legged on the ground right away. The dense smell of blood caused his mood to be in an extremely stifling state and he urgently wanted to vent his feelings. So that Violet Rhino greater demon became his target.

Boom!

It wasn't even 15 minutes when the faraway Spiritcave Lake suddenly shot out sprays of water that flooded the sky. A large fellow that was 3 meters tall stepped on the sprays as he dashed over while booms echoed out.

The large fellow was bald with a single eye, his 3 meter tall figure had muscles that seemed hard like a rock, and the muscles on his body all bulged largely, seeming to contain terrifying explosive force.

Even though he's taken human form, the demonic qi on his body is unable to be concealed... It's surely him! Chen Xi abruptly stood up and a trace of icy cold killing intent appeared on the corners of his mouth.

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 30: Collapsing a Rock Into Powder

"Hmm?" In practically an instant, the single-eyed large fellow appeared on the hill and his gaze swept the surroundings. As he gazed at the Li Clan black clothed guards that had died miserably, his expression suddenly became unsightly.

"You killed all these people?" The single-eyed large fellow turned to gaze fiercely at Chen Xi who stood alone in the distance and his expression kept shifting irregularly.

Chen Xi didn't answer him, instead he coldly asked, "You're that Violet Horned animal?"

Animal?

The single-eyed large fellow was stunned, then he burst into a rage and shouted out explosively.

"Human kid! You dare insult me?"

"Not only did I insult you, I also want to kill you today!"

After confirming the identity of the single-eyed large fellow, Chen Xi didn't hesitate any longer and his figure flashed out. His fist contained a terrifying strength as it fiercely struck at the Violet Rhino greater demon.

"A Congenital Realm kid actually dares to be conceited before me? Truly courting death!" The Violet Rhino greater demon was completely enraged when he saw Chen Xi being more unreasonable than himself and he extended out his hand that was like a fan to fierce grab towards Chen Xi's fist.

A stupid cow, as expected!

Since the moment Manager Wu fled, Chen Xi had a ball of rage suppressed within his heart that he had no place to vent. When he saw the Violet Rhino greater demon at this moment, he wouldn't let himself suffer any longer and decided to attack right away with full force. At this moment, when Chen Xi saw the Violet Rhino greater demon being conceited to the point he wanted to use his hand to grab onto Chen Xi's fist, Chen Xi couldn't help but sneer in his heart.

Bang!

The fist and palm collided and emitted a terrifying loud bang. A stream of air rolled out and the air emitted buzzing sounds of vibrating, and numerous trenches instantly split open due to the ground beneath their feet being unable to endure the terrifying pressure from their attacks.

This fist strike contained Chen Xi's formidable strength of his body mixed with the terrifying strength of his 8th level Congenital Realm cultivation, and were shot out through the instant force exertion of the Grand Collapsing Fist to directly blast the Violet Rhino greater demon flying 10 over meters!

What caused Chen Xi to be surprised was that the Violet Rhino greater demon stood firmly the moment he dropped onto the ground and he was actually without the slightest injury.

"Your strength isn't bad, but it's still too weak to me!" The Violet Rhino greater demon's single-eye emitted a vicious and fierce expression and he had a face full of resentment as he said, "Next, I'll let you experience what is a true Congenital Realm greater demon!"

As he spoke, billowing demonic qi abruptly surged out from the Violet Rhino greater demon's body, and his entire body instantly transformed into an enormous rhino that was 30 meters tall. His brownish violet colored thick skin was suffused with demonic qi and his entire enormous body was like a small mountain. Chen Xi was like an ant before him, as Chen Xi's height wasn't even up to his knees. Most shocking of all was that atop its thick and strong neck was an astonishing two enormous heads.

Roar!

The Violet Rhino greater demon that had resumed his beast form roared towards the sky with a thunderous voice that caused booms to echo out in an area of tens of kilometers around him. The various demon beasts that cultivated underwater in Spiritcave Lake all raised their heads in fear and started to shiver.

Towering demonic qi?

There was no fear in Chen Xi's heart, and instead battle intent that was boiling like lava surged through his entire body. Only by killing such an opponent would I be able to allow my cultivation in the Martial Dao to improve!

"Kid! If you only know how to swing those two laughable fists, then you can wait to become my side dish for wine today!"

As he laughed wildly without restraint, the Violet Rhino greater demon abruptly lifted his hooves that were enormous like a center column of a house to fiercely descend down from above and directly trample towards Chen Xi.

Bang!

An ear piercing explosion sounded out from a stream of air shattering, seeming as if this stomp had stomped a hole through the sky. It hadn't even touched Chen Xi, when Chen Xi had already understood its might.

Bang!

Chen Xi leapt up, his fist that spewed an eye piercing shine of True Essence was like a whistling shooting star as it smashed onto the enormous hoof of the Violet Rhino greater demon with a loud bang. Yet, it only left a sunken fist print and caused very little injury.

Chen Xi instantly retreated.

Bang! Bang!

The fierce battle on the ground caused the ground to split into countless cracks, and an enormous chasm appeared at the heart of the cracks.

"It's no use. My Violet Rhino race possesses peerless defense by nature, and I've experienced thousands of years of tempering. My body has attained an extremely high level since long ago. If you were a Violet Palace Realm sword cultivator, I might still fear you. But unfortunately, you aren't. At most you're only a little kid who knows little fist technique. Hahaha..." The Violet Rhino greater demon couldn't refrain from roaring with laughter when he saw Chen Xi dodging in a sorry state, and his hooves stomped on the ground as he once again trampled towards Chen Xi's small body that was like an ant to him.

This stupid cow's strength is extraordinarily great, whereas I don't have a weapon in hand. If I want to kill him, it looks like I have to climb onto his body and concentrate my fist on a single spot on his head. I only need to break his skin and I might be able to kill him..." Chen Xi flashed backwards once again, and he madly pondered in his mind as he dashed violently.

"Afraid? Want to run? Hmph! You can't escape!" The Violet Rhino greater demon roared as he followed close behind Chen Xi. He moved swiftly with his thick and strong enormous hooves, completely disregarding everything in his path as he forced his way forward.

Kacha! Kacha!

Numerous large trees that required many people to encircle, seemed like straw that was extremely weak under the trampling of the Violet Rhino greater demon's enormous hooves and they collapsed onto the ground with a bang.

Swoosh!

Chen Xi reached the peak of a large tree with a leap, then he turned around to face the Violet Rhino greater demon that was dashing over in attack.

"Waiting for death?" The Violet Rhino greater demon roared with complacent laughter, then fiercely stomped towards the large tree.

Right at this moment, the top of Chen Xi's leg suddenly hit the tree trunk and using the rebound force from the tree trunk, his body was like an arrow that left the bow as he swished swiftly up high into the

sky, then his waist twisted and he moved into a windy arc to firmly descend onto the Violet Rhino greater demons back.

“Get the fuck down!” The Violet Rhino greater demon burst into rage when Chen Xi leapt onto his back, and his enormous body started to sway violently.

Chen Xi had seized this opportunity with great difficulty, how could he allow himself to drop off? His legs instantly exerted strength and his body was like an ancient tree that was rooted deep within the ground, no matter how the Violet Rhino swayed, he didn’t move in the slightest.

His two fists instead were like raindrops as they descended onto the head of the Violet Rhino greater demon with an extremely high frequency.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The strength of Chen Xi’s body was tempered by the baleful qi of five different stars, and couple with his condensed and dense True Essence, every fist strike of Chen Xi’s was like a 150,000 kg iron hammer smashing down. Instantly, a mark that sunk extremely deeply was smashed out on the Violet Rhino greater demons thick skinned and strong head, but unfortunately, it was still unable to break open his skin.

“I’ll eat you!” Suddenly, wind that smelt of dense blood came straight at Chen Xi’s face, the Violet Rhino greater demons other enormous head had turned around, and he opened up his bloody mouth that had crisscrossing fangs that were sharp like swords to fiercely bite towards Chen Xi.

Come at me!

Chen Xi had expected most of this since long ago, and he suddenly dashed out wildly, stepping onto the Violet Rhino greater demons neck right until the end, and like a small nimble monkey, his body leapt up to barely dodge the Violet Rhino greater demons bloody mouth. After this, an eye piercing fist light appeared on his right hand that had been accumulating force since long ago, and his fist was swift like a bolt of lightning as he fiercely smashed it towards the Violet Rhino greater demons eyeball.

Bang!

The skin and flesh on the Violet Rhino greater demons entire body was thick and rough, and his defensive ability was shocking, but that eyeball of his that was the size of a millstone was still extremely frail. Under Chen Xi’s fist that had been accumulating force for a long time, a large hole was instantly blasted out on his eyeball, and a ball of disgusting green fluid sprayed out.

Roar!

The Violet Rhino greater demon ceaselessly howled at the sky, and his enormous head swung about madly.

And Chen Xi seized this opportunity to swoop down like a hawk from mid-air, and firmly descend on the spot he was at earlier, then he once again fiercely smashed his fist towards the sunken spot at the middle of the Violet Rhino’s head.

The Violet Rhino greater demon had already been completely enraged, and if he didn't make the best use of his time to break open the defense on the Violet Rhino's head, then an unforeseen event might again if he were to be slow.

A strong sense of urgency caused Chen Xi's mind to highly concentrate, he only had a single thought in his heart, and that was to break open the skin and flesh before him, break open... He'd forgotten everything in his surroundings, forgotten the Grand Collapsing Fist that he'd already become skilled in, and he sunk into a type of obsessed yet chaotic state.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Chen Xi's fist sounded oppressive like thunder, within the chaotic sound of the fist strikes was a trace of a strange rhythm, and his fist strikes became rhythmic. Every time his fist descended, the force of his fist would slowly increase. Within Chen Xi's mind, the scenes of him cultivating the Grand Collapsing Fist during the past month appeared clearly, and traces of enlightenment silently accumulated...

"I'll kill you! I'll kill you!" The Violet Rhino greater demon was completely enraged from having one of his eyes injured and Chen Xi sticking onto him like sticky candy. He seemed to be in a frenzied state as his body that was enormous like a mountain lifted off the ground, then fiercely smashed himself towards the ground with his back facing downwards. Judging by his actions, he seemed to want to smash Chen Xi to death on the ground.

Om!

Right at the instant the Violet Rhino greater demon lifted himself off the ground, Chen Xi awoke from that strange state, and a trace of a radiant splendor suddenly flashed within his eyes. He lifted his right hand and the surrounding air was instantly shaken to the point circles of ripples could be seen with the eye, then it emitted a buzzing sharp whistle as he fiercely smashed his fist down!

Crack! Crack!

Countless cracks suddenly appeared on the enormous head of the Violet Rhino greater demon, then a cracking sound echoed out, and the enormous head transformed into countless pieces of flesh and bone bits that rustled as they fell onto the ground, seeming to be like it was raining bits of blood, flesh, and bones.

And at this moment, the enormous body of the Violet Rhino greater demon crashed onto the ground with a bang.

"AH!" The Violet Rhino greater demon lost a head and an eye of his other head was injured, and he lay on the ground as he emitted low and miserable howls of pain.

The vitality of demon beasts were extremely strong, and they were able to recover to their previous state even if their limbs were severed off, but their heads and hearts were their true weak points. And at this moment, having one of his heads blasted into pieces caused the Violet Rhino greater demon to be heavily injured.

"Tell me, why did the Li Clan want to offer tributes to you? I can let you die a swift death." Chen Xi stood in the distance as he said coldly.

“Don’t I still have to die even if I tell you? Be forthright and kill me!” The Violet Rhino greater demon said resentfully. The large amounts of blood that surged out of where his head was severed caused his vitality to become weaker and weaker.

“It doesn’t matter if you don’t tell me.” Chen Xi walked forward and mercilessly smashed out with his fist, and the remaining head of the Violet Rhino greater demon instantly transformed into a pool of blood and flesh mud.

A Congenital realm greater demon that had cultivated bitterly for thousands of years had died just like this.

As expected of the second level of the Grand Collapsing Fist, collapsing a rock into powder. Although it’s unable to cause the head of this stupid cow to transform into powder, but its might still exceeds my expectations.

Chen Xi silently felt the changes in the Grand Collapsing Fist’s might and he couldn’t help but slightly sigh with emotion in his heart. “Senior Ji Yu wasn’t mistaken. Sure enough, martial skills are only able to be tempered to achieve an even stronger might in life and death battles. I wonder what sort of might the third level of the Grand Collapsing Fist would have...?”

Killing the two-headed Violet Rhino greater demon caused the killing intent and rage within Chen Xi’s heart to be fully vented, and the most gratifying thing was that he’d attained the second level of his fist technique. Combined with his own cultivation, he’d already become fearless of anyone with a similar cultivation as him!

“This stupid cow had cultivated for thousands of years. I wonder what valuable things he has...?”

Swoosh!

Chen Xi instantly arrived beside the enormous corpse of the Violet Rhino greater demon, then his hands grabbed out to swiftly tear the thick skin of the Violet Rhino starting along the spot the head was severed.

After a short while, an inconspicuous storage ring fell onto the ground.