

Temptation 201

Chapter 201: Why Not Dual Cultivation

When she met Su Fan's teasing gaze, Chen Ruoshui finally realized her own loss of composure and wished she could find a crack in the ground to crawl into.

"Bastard, let me go, let me go."

Su Fan reached out and pressed down on the acupoint that was blocking Chen Ruoshui, allowing her to regain her freedom instantly.

"Bastard."

The moment she regained her freedom, Chen Ruoshui raised her delicate hand and swung it toward Su Fan's face.

Su Fan reacted quickly, grabbing Chen Ruoshui's wrist.

In an instant, he completely pressed down on Chen Ruoshui's delicate body.

"Ah, it hurts, it hurts..."

Chen Ruoshui cried out in pain from the pressure.

Straddling her, Su Fan pinned Chen Ruoshui's hands above her head, his eyes filled with mischief.

"Miss Chen, what are you doing bringing me to bed? Could it be that you haven't been satisfied just now?"

With a face as red as a monkey's butt from humiliation, Chen Ruoshui retorted angrily.

"You bastard, I, how am I satisfied?"

"Clearly you are the scoundrel who took advantage of the situation to cop a feel."

"You've made me a laughing stock, I won't rest until I've slaughtered you today."

Chen Ruoshui struggled fiercely, but she could not break free from Su Fan's control.

"Miss Chen, stop messing around. Why don't you feel your body's condition now?"

Upon hearing his words, Chen Ruoshui calmed her mind and felt her body.

As a martial artist, she knew well how to sense her body's condition.

"My stomach doesn't hurt anymore, and my meridians are full, the blood flows smoothly, my body seems much better."

A hint of surprise appeared on Chen Ruoshui's pretty face.

Seeing this, Su Fan climbed along the conversational pole and spoke.

"I wasn't deliberately teasing you; I had to resort to that method to help cure you."

"Just two or three more treatments, and your illness will be completely cured. Without the burden of injury, your Tai Chi skills will improve significantly."

Listening to Su Fan's words, Chen Ruoshui's expression softened a bit.

Could it be that she had really misjudged Su Fan?

He hadn't meant to, he just wanted to help cure her illness.

"No, you said, you need two or three more times, does that mean you're going to take advantage of me three or four more times? No, you're not allowed to do it like today ever again. Isn't there any other way?"

Su Fan pretended to ponder.

"Oh."

"There is actually a simpler and more direct method that can help you be done with chillness once and for all."

"Speak quickly."

Chen Ruoshui was eagerly surprised.

A sly smile appeared at the corner of Su Fan's mouth.

"I suffer from a heat poison condition, which happens to match yours perfectly. If we cultivate together, it's certain that both parties will benefit."

"Dual cultivation, you, you can go to hell."

Chen Ruoshui immediately realized that Su Fan was just teasing her under the guise of seriousness.

She turned her head and bit hard on Su Fan's arm.

"Ah."

Su Fan yelped in pain and jumped off the bed.

"I'm going to kill you."

Chen Ruoshui, now free, quickly pulled up her pants.

"Big Sister, it's terrible, it's terrible."

Just then, a shout came from outside the door.

Chen Ruoshui and Su Fan were both startled.

If this scene were to be witnessed, it would be impossible to explain.

If Chen Tai found out his precious daughter was being teased by Su Fan right under his nose, he'd surely fight Su Fan to the death.

And Chen Ruoshui would be too embarrassed to face anyone.

Su Fan quickly said to the door.

"I'm just treating your big sister's illness, do not disturb us needlessly."

Chen Ruoshui also hurriedly fastened the buttons of her shirt.

"It's truly urgent; people from the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall have come to challenge us."

"What?"

Upon hearing that, Chen Ruoshui, who was buttoning her shirt, showed a drastic change in complexion.

Chapter 202: Challenging the Establishment

After hearing what the apprentice outside said, Chen Ruoshui could no longer afford to be angry with Su Fan.

She got dressed while anxiously asking,

"How many people have come?"

"More than a dozen, with Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall's headmaster Xu Lie himself leading them. There are also people from other martial arts halls fanning the flames. Master... he's been surrounded."

"What?"

Hearing this, Chen Ruoshui's expression became stern.

"Alright, you go on ahead; I'll be out immediately," she said.

The apprentice scurried off in a panic.

"Isn't Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall the biggest martial arts school in Yang City? Our Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall is much smaller compared to them. Why would the headmaster of Fiery Fire lower his status to provoke a small martial arts hall that's far beneath them?" Su Fan asked curiously.

He had done some preliminary research on the various forces within Yang City over these days.

Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall had been established in Yang City for two generations, over forty years, with more than a thousand registered disciples. Headmaster Xu Lie was one of the top experts in Yang City and also served as the vice chairman of the Yang City Martial Arts Association. Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall, on the other hand, had been rooted in Yang City for just over ten years, with less than a hundred disciples. They were simply not on the same level as Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall.

The commotion that Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall was causing was indeed somewhat perplexing.

By now, Chen Ruoshui had finished getting dressed.

"Did you see the recent news about that mysterious expert who took on a hundred men alone and thrashed over a hundred members of the Blood Wolf Gang?" she asked.

Su Fan nodded.

"But, how is that related to Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall causing trouble for Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall?"

As Chen Ruoshui tied her hair, she explained.

"Of course it's related. Although no one knows the origins of that mysterious expert, he used Tai Chi martial arts. There's only our Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall that teaches it in Yang City. Ever since the video went viral, business at our Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall has boomed. Countless people are fighting to enroll, and even disciples from other martial arts halls are willing to defect to learn with us as apprentices. The other martial arts halls are definitely envious."

"You do understand that being outstanding draws attention, right?"

"That damned mysterious expert really knows how to make trouble for us," Chen Ruoshui said through gritted teeth.

Mysterious expert?

Wasn't that himself?

He had not expected that standing up against the riffraff of the Blood Wolf Gang would cause such ripples in Yang City's martial arts world.

However, wasn't Chen Ruoshui's words equivalent to cursing him?

Su Fan immediately felt aggrieved.

"Miss Chen, you're being a bit unreasonable here. That mysterious expert essentially gave Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall a sensational free advertisement. If you're not going to thank him, that's one thing, but why blame him instead?"

"What do you know? It's precisely because of that expert that our whereabouts and my dad's have been exposed. We might now face assassination and a life of fleeing. You..."

Midway through her sentence, Chen Ruoshui realized she had said too much and quickly changed the subject.

"Forget it. What's the point of telling you all this?"

"Anyway, I don't want to see you, this big hooligan. Keep your distance from me," she said as she strode out the door, hurrying towards the front courtyard.

"Being hunted, a life on the run?"

Su Fan furrowed his brows. Could it be that there were more stories behind Chen Tai and Chen Ruoshui?

"Forget it. Whatever the case, this matter is intrinsically linked to me. I'd better go and see what's happening," he thought.

After a moment of deliberation, Su Fan followed her.

Chapter 203: Bullying Too Much

Su Fan had stepped outside to find the front courtyard already overrun with people.

In the yard, which was three to four hundred square meters, stood seventy to eighty individuals.

There were very few people on the side of the Taiji Martial Arts Hall, aside from Chen Tai and his daughter Chen Ruoshui, there were only a few youths with inexperienced faces.

On the opposing side, there were as many as fifty or sixty people.

Young and old alike were there, some dressed in black, others in white or green, clearly not from the same martial arts hall.

The leader was a middle-aged man in his fifties wearing a dark red long robe and exceptionally vigorous, as if he was enveloped in blazing flames, exuding an overwhelming aura. He was followed by more than a dozen young men in uniforms similar to his own.

This man was none other than Xu Lie, Vice Chairman of the Yang City Martial Arts Association and master of the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall.

At that moment, Chen Tai was negotiating with the opposition.

"Master Xu, as a prominent figure in the martial arts community of Yang City, don't you think it's a bit disgraceful to lower yourself to create trouble here at our Taiji Martial Arts Hall with so many people?"

"Hehehe."

Xu Lie sneered dismissively.

"Master Chen, being a martial artist yourself, have you forgotten the rules of martial arts?"

"In our martial arts community, it has long been a tradition to challenge other halls. What rules are you talking about?"

"If you have the ability, the doors of the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall are always open to you, welcoming you to challenge us."

"You..."

Chen Tai was left speechless.

Xu Lie was right; it indeed was an old tradition in the martial arts community to challenge other halls.

There is no first in literature, but there is a definite second in martial arts.

For martial artists seeking fame, the best way is to challenge other halls.

"Master Xu, we've had no past grievances; perhaps there's been some misunderstanding today?"

Chen Tai still wanted to ease the tension.

However, Xu Lie had no intention of backing down.

"Hehe, Master Chen, someone from your Taiji Martial Arts Hall has become famous in Yang City. Can't I come to learn just how good your Taiji skills are?"

"Or are you saying your Taiji skills are nothing more than mediocre tricks? Fine, just offer me a cup of tea as an acknowledgment of defeat right now, and I'll turn around and leave. How about that?"

"Nonsense."

The quick-tempered Chen Ruoshui immediately snapped upon hearing this.

Pointing at Xu Lie, she rebuked him sharply.

"My Taiji skills are a revered tradition passed down for hundreds of years. When did it become your place to insult them? If it's a fight you want, bring it on. Who's afraid of you?"

"Ruoshui, hold your tongue..."

Chen Tai tried to stop his daughter, but before he could finish speaking, Xu Lie cut him off.

"Very well, such a fierce response from a young lady, not even giving me any regard. It seems that today, I must see for myself just how capable your Taiji skills are."

"Master Chen, today, if anyone loses, should they not remove their martial hall's placard, wash their hands with a golden basin, and retire from Jianghu?"

"Master Xu, aren't you taking things a bit too far?"

The expression on Chen Tai's face grew cold; he had thought Xu Lie had come today merely to flaunt his power, but now it seemed he intended to completely eradicate the Taiji Martial Arts Hall from the martial arts community of Yang City.

Su Fan was also quietly observing.

Xu Lie's demeanor was undeniably domineering, not befitting a high-level martial artist but rather resembling an unprincipled rogue of the martial world.

However, the old fellow indeed possessed substantial strength.

Su Fan's divine eye could clearly see a fiery flow of qi circulating within Xu Lie's meridians.

Though not as strong as his own, it was clearly superior to everyone else present, including Chen Tai.

It seemed that, at the appropriate moment, he would have to step in and lend a hand to the Taiji Martial Arts Hall.

At that moment, Chen Ruoshui had already stepped forward.

"If we're going to fight, let's fight. Why all this nonsense?"

"Let me test your so-called superior skills."

With that, Chen Ruoshui assumed her stance and launched an attack with the move "White Crane Wing" towards Xu Lie.

Chapter 204: Cultivating Qi

"You, a reckless youngster, I'll educate you for your dad,"

Xu Lie sneered coldly.

Seeing Chen Ruoshui attack, he didn't rush; he stood still, not moving a muscle.

"Snap."

Chen Ruoshui's palm struck Xu Lie's chest.

Her face initially showed joy, but the next moment, it turned to shock,

as Xu Lie maintained his calm and composed demeanor, extremely at ease and completely unharmed, with a faint cold smile still on his face.

"It seems, Tai Chi is just this after all."

"Now, let me give you a taste of my Iron Sand Palm..."

Immediately, he fiercely struck a palm toward Chen Ruoshui.

The martial arts of Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall are fierce and domineering, and Xu Lie's signature move is the Iron Sand Palm.

Mastering this tough technique requires years of immersing one's hands in heated Iron Sand steel pellets, and it's rumored that Chen Lie even bakes his body with high temperature flames, making his body as sturdy as refined steel.

When Xu Lie struck, his palm actually emitted whiffs of heat waves.

Seeing this, Chen Ruoshui quickly switched from defense to offense, trying to neutralize Xu Lie's palm force with a Tai Chi move.

"Ridiculous."

"Bang."

Xu Lie sneered coldly.

The next moment, Chen Ruoshui was struck in the chest, blood spewing from her mouth as she staggered back several steps and was caught in Chen Tai's arms.

"Daughter, how are you?"

Chen Tai looked worried.

Chen Ruoshui stubbornly wiped the blood from the corner of her mouth, coughed twice, and shook her head.

"I can still hold on."

"The Tai Chi technique didn't work?"

"What happened?"

"In Tai Chi, the soft should overcome the hard, using four ounces to deflect a thousand pounds is a clever trick, why did it fail?"

Some knowledgeable people about Tai Chi were extremely astonished.

A disciple of the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall praised Xu Lie, saying,

"The Tai Chi method of using four ounces to deflect a thousand pounds, the soft overcoming the hard is impressive, but, the force of my master, how could it be merely a thousand pounds?"

"In the face of absolute strength, all techniques are in vain."

Immediately, others from the martial arts hall also hastily flattered Xu Lie.

"Truly worthy of being the vice-chairman of our Yang City Martial Arts Association, his skills are indeed powerful."

"Eye-opening, even if you gave me a hundred years, I fear I could never cultivate to even a third of Master Xu's skill."

"Chen Tai, why don't you hurry and offer a tea to apologize to President Xu?"

The crowd deliberately dropped the word 'vice' from his title.

Everyone's sycophantic true colors were evident.

However, modern society is inherently a survival of the fittest, and the martial arts world is no exception, where the strong rule as kings.

The weak are destined to be devoured.

"You're going too far, Xu Lie, you're going too far."

"Bullying a junior, what skill is there in that? Let me clash with you."

Chen Tai, amidst the mockery of the crowd, could not help but make his move.

Chen Tai's steps were steady and nimble.

His external martial arts moves were extremely skilled; with various Tai Chi techniques in Chen Tai's hands effortlessly transforming, if judged solely by external skills, Chen Tai was certainly a top-notch master.

Unfortunately, Chen Tai lacked that vital energy.

Although Su Fan did not know exactly what that energy was, he understood it was an extremely terrifying force.

Chen Tai's defeat was just a matter of time.

Sure enough.

After a minute of deadlock,

Chen Tai's decline became apparent.

"Bang."

The two exchanged a palm strike.

Chen Tai immediately felt a strange force strike his organs, forcing him to retreat several steps, with blood spilling from the corner of his mouth.

Meanwhile, Xu Lie was fiercely unyielding.

The outcome was decided.

"You, you're already a master of cultivating energy?"

Chen Tai clutched his chest, looking at Xu Lie in astonishment.

"Cultivating energy?"

"President Xu, you, you've cultivated True Qi?"

A group of martial artists looked at Xu Lie with eyes full of shock and admiration.

Xu Lie stood with his hands behind his back, his expression arrogant.

He said airily,

"Heh, after three years of seclusion, I finally managed to cultivate some True Qi, just at the early stages of energy cultivation, but still far from the next level, the explosive energy master."

"Actually, to really cultivate True Qi, how strong."

The martial artists gazed at Xu Lie with fervent eyes.

To cultivate True Qi means taking a huge step forward on the martial path.

That is what countless martial artists aspire to their whole lives.

"True Qi, is that the name of that energy flow? Then, my current strength should be far beyond the early stages of energy cultivation, shouldn't it?"

Su Fan thought quietly.

The admiring looks from the crowd made Xu Lie even more proud.

"Chen Tai, you've lost, now, destroy your own signboard and leave Yang City."

The faces of Chen Tai and his daughter Chen Ruoshui showed pain, yet they were helpless.

Just then, a cold voice rang out.

"Do you really think Tai Chi has no successors?"

Chapter 205: Please Advise

The crowd's gaze shifted to see Su Fan standing in the corner.

His figure was slim and frail-looking, as if a gust of wind could knock him down.

"Hahaha."

The people from Xu Lie's group were the first to burst into laughter.

A young disciple from the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall mocked Su Fan.

"Kid, you're barely grown, and you dare challenge the authority of our master? Even your headmaster is no match for my master, so what are you supposed to be?"

Another headmaster from a different martial hall seized the opportunity to ingratiate himself with Xu Lie, sneering at Su Fan.

"Master Xu is a true expert in cultivating True Qi, you naive brat don't even stand a chance against one of his moves. Do you think your life is too long or what?"

Xu Lie himself just sneered without giving Su Fan another look, as if he thought it worthless.

Chen Ruoshui gave Su Fan a meaningful glance, obviously not expecting him to have the guts to step forward in this critical situation.

She felt a sudden surge of respect for him.

"I from the Tai Chi Martial Hall thank you for your good intentions, but, Xu Lie is too powerful, you're no match for him, there's no need to humiliate yourself."

Chen Tai coughed twice and said weakly to Su Fan.

"Young fellow, I appreciate your kindness, but this task is out of your league, and you don't need to muddy the waters."

Then he looked back at Xu Lie.

"Master Xu, today it is Chen Tai who is inferior in skill, I will pack my bags within three days and leave Yang City."

"Heh."

Xu Lie let out a cold laugh.

"I originally thought you would fight to the death with me. I didn't expect you to be so spineless, just like your Tai Chi martial arts, unremarkable."

"You... "

Though grief and anger filled Chen Tai's heart, he felt helpless before Xu Lie, a master of cultivating True Qi.

"After three days, there will be no more Tai Chi Martial Hall in Yang City, let's go."

Victorious, Xu Lie planned to leave with his head held high.

"Master Xu, you claim to be a first-rate expert, yet you're afraid to accept even the challenge of a junior like me?"

At that moment, Su Fan, whom everyone looked down upon, spoke up again.

"You arrogant little brat, my master has chosen not to stoop to your level, and you really think you're something?"

A group of people looked at Su Fan with eyes full of disdain.

Because they all thought Su Fan was way out of his depth.

That a master like Xu Lie didn't bother with him seemed only to inflate his hubris.

Chen Ruoshui was getting angry.

"Su Fan, do you think our Tai Chi Martial Hall hasn't been humiliated enough?"

"Wanting to challenge Xu Lie? Do you really think your Tai Chi skills are better than my father's?"

"Do you insist on dragging our hall's dignity through the mud?"

Chen Tai sighed without energy.

"Little Su, I know you mean well, but let's stop here."

Su Fan looked calmly at Chen Ruoshui as she lost her temper, speaking with composure.

"My Tai Chi skills may not be a match for Master Chen, but to defeat Xu Lie, it's more than enough."

Then, he simply turned to look at Xu Lie.

He extended his hand forward, making a welcoming gesture.

"Master Xu, please enlighten me."

Xu Lie frowned as he looked at Su Fan's serious expression.

Next to him, a disciple charged forward.

"Master, there's no need for you to deal with this ignorant fool personally, I will take care of him."

As he spoke, the disciple rushed at Su Fan

The martial arts of the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall were fierce and domineering, favoring direct attacks that overpower all techniques.

Without many sophisticated or fancy moves, just one powerful punch, the disciple aimed a heavy blow at Su Fan.

The punch was loud and powerful.

The flagstones under the disciple's feet shattered, and the fist came with a whistling wind.

"This man is Xu Lie's proudest student, the chief disciple of the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall; although he hasn't cultivated True Qi, he is nevertheless one of the top experts in Yang City, and this punch alone is enough to cripple the youngster."

"It's his own fault, he's beyond help."

The crowd looked at Su Fan with eyes full of mockery and indifference.

Chapter 206: Take It Hard

Just when that fierce punch was about to land on Su Fan's face,

the stationary Su Fan finally moved.

This punch was fast and fierce, but under Su Fan's divine sight, it was slowed down by dozens of times, so slow that it was almost explosive, and Su Fan could even clearly see the trajectory of the dust stirred up by the punch.

With a slight turn of his body, the punch brushed past his ear.

"Dodged it?"

As everyone was surprised, Su Fan suddenly spun around.

It was a move from the basic skills of Tai Chi—Tai Chi Turning Body Whip Kick.

A vicious kick landed on the left rib cage of the chief disciple of Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall

"Crack"

A crisp sound, the opponent's ribs were broken in several places, and like a kite with its string cut, he was sent flying back.

He landed heavily in front of Xu Lie and the others

"You, cough cough cough..."

Clutching his ribs, the man looked at Su Fan with a mix of shock and resentment, and before he could speak, blood gushed from his mouth, and he fainted.

"Big brother, big brother."

A group of disciples hurriedly checked on him.

Su Fan said lightly,

"Don't worry, I only used twenty percent of my strength, he won't die."

"What?"

As soon as these words came out, the crowd fell silent,

then boiled over.

"Only twenty percent of his strength and he seriously injured the chief disciple of the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall?"

"This?"

Shock filled everyone's eyes.

The Chen father and daughter were the first to come to their senses.

Chen Ruoshui asked somewhat astonished,

"Dad, was that Tai Chi Turning Body Whip Kick that Su Fan just used?"

Chen Tai nodded his head belatedly, saying appreciatively,

"Indeed, it was Tai Chi Turning Body Whip Kick. His movements were casual and natural, no worse than mine. Could it be true that he memorized all the routines after watching them once, as he said that day?"

"But even if he memorized all the moves after watching them once, how could he be so cunning and skilled after only three or four days?"

The Chen father and daughter looked at each other, astonished.

"Nonsense!"

Xu Lie, who had been very calm, suddenly erupted in anger.

His own chief disciple had been seriously injured by someone using only twenty percent of their strength, and that person had only learned Tai Chi a few days ago—wasn't that a slap to his own face?

"What novice at Tai Chi, what twenty percent of your strength?"

"You're just putting on a play."

"My chief disciple lost solely because he was careless."

"He only used thirty percent of his strength earlier, afraid to hurt you, but you, you used a hundred percent of your strength right from the start and that's why you injured my disciple."

"Lowly tactics, utterly despicable, acting smug after gaining an advantage."

"Today, I will teach you a lesson."

Saying so, Chen Lie put aside his pride and, filled with anger, charged towards Su Fan.

"Kid, take my palm."

The moment he made a move, it was his signature technique, the Fiery Fire Palm.

And he used nearly all his strength, even more ruthless than when he had made a move against Chen Tai.

In that instant, Chen Lie seemed as if his body was truly engulfed in flames, with the hot air forcing the crowd to step back.

"Is this the true power of a master who has cultivated his True Qi?"

"External techniques and cultivating True Qi are on two completely different levels, with too vast a difference."

"This ignorant kid has angered Chen Lie; he's doomed."

The crowd looked at Su Fan with eyes full of pity.

Chen Tai and Chen Ruoshui, father and daughter, both shouted simultaneously.

"Su Fan, dodge!"

But Su Fan did not dodge, instead planting himself firmly in a horse stance.

It was the Steady Sea Needle from the twelve routines of Tai Chi!

"Is this kid going to take that palm head-on?"

"Has he gone mad?"

At this moment, everyone was shocked.

Chapter 207: Exposing Identity

No one expected Su Fan to be so crazy as to actually not fight back and take the palm strike directly.

"Bang."

The next moment, Chen Tai's palm struck hard against Su Fan's chest.

"Crack..."

Beneath Su Fan's feet, the stone slabs shattered with a loud crash, scattering pebbles everywhere and startling people into covering their heads and ducking for cover.

"What?"

When people took a closer look, they were astonished to find.

Xu Lie's palm landed on Su Fan's chest, Su Fan's clothes burst open to reveal his muscular physique, but that was it, Su Fan hadn't taken a single step back, and he was completely unharmed.

"You?"

"How is this possible?"

Xu Lie, his hand still on Su Fan's chest, was dumbstruck.

His palm strike, given with ninety percent of his strength, didn't hurt a younger generation in the slightest?

Su Fan cracked a smile at Xu Lie.

"I said I only used twenty percent of my power earlier, did you believe me?"

"I've let you make your move, now it's your turn to take mine."

As he spoke, Su Fan shifted his footing, moved his fists, spun his body, and took a half step forward, unleashing a ferocious punch towards Xu Lie's chest.

"It's Flash Arm!"

Chen Tai identified the move.

"Ah"

Xu Lie felt a tremendous force flood from his chest into his body. He tried to protect himself with his True Qi, but in an instant, his defenses were shattered as easily as if they were rotten wood, and then

his internal organs were severely injured. He couldn't stand on his feet, was sent flying back more than ten meters, and hit a plum blossom pile used for practice, breaking it in half.

"Hiss!"

In an instant, the sound of sharp intakes of breath echoed throughout the front courtyard.

Xu Lie was defeated.

One move?

Just one move and he was beaten so miserably?

All eyes were fixed on Su Fan as if they had seen a ghost.

Crack crack crack!

Xu Lie, sitting paralyzed on the ground, held his chest and looked at Su Fan in shock.

Xu Lie was a Martial Artist in the early stages of Qi cultivation.

If Xu Lie could be defeated so easily, then what level was this young man in front of them?

"You've lost."

Su Fan was indifferent to the stares of the crowd and simply stared calmly at the severely injured Xu Lie on the ground.

Three simple words pierced Xu Lie's heart like a knife.

He had lost.

The owner of the martial arts studio, renowned for many years, defeated by a nameless young man.

It was an immensely humiliating defeat.

Xu Lie's morale shattered.

"No, this can't be possible, even Chen Tai is no match for me, how could you, a mere martial arts apprentice, defeat me? Who are you, who are you exactly?"

All of a sudden, a sharp voice rose.

Chen Ruoshui covered her mouth, looking at Su Fan in disbelief and exclaimed.

"Are you the mysterious Tai Chi master who fought alone against a hundred men of the Blood Wolf Gang in the rain, crippling their three leaders including Zhao Wei?"

Su Fan touched his head with a somewhat embarrassed gesture.

"Not a hundred, just seventy or eighty or so..."

Just seventy or eighty?

Listen, are those even the words of a human?

But everyone's attention was not on that.

"It was really you?"

Chen Tai was dumbfounded.

Others might not know, but he was completely clear, that day when he taught Su Fan the twelve basic movements of Tai Chi, Su Fan had learned by watching only once, and it had only been a few days since then.

And Su Fan had already completely mastered it to perfection, which was utterly unbelievable.

"That mysterious master, so young?"

"It's too incredible."

The others, too, stared at Su Fan in utter amazement.

They had already witnessed Su Fan's strength; nobody doubted it.

But in their wildest dreams, they never imagined that the mysterious master who fought one against a hundred would be so young.

As martial artists who had practiced for decades, they could not even compare to a single finger of Su Fan's.

It was downright embarrassing.

"Xu Lie, do you have anything to say?"

Su Fan's cold gaze turned towards Xu Lie.

Chapter 208: President of the Martial Arts Association

Although he was much older than Su Fan, as a martial artist, he respected only the strong.

Xu Lie's face turned red for a moment.

"You, what level of martial artist are you exactly?"

Su Fan thought for a moment and said,

"I should be just a step away from the 'Exposing Qi' level you just mentioned."

"What?"

Upon hearing this, people were shocked again.

"Cultivating Qi to the peak?"

"So young, and already at the peak of Cultivating Qi?"

"Unbelievable."

Xu Lie, at the age of fifty, had only just managed to produce his True Qi, reaching the early stages of Cultivating Qi, which was already considered very impressive. Now, this young man in front of them was already at the peak of Cultivating Qi, one could imagine how shocking this was to the people.

"So, that's how it is."

First, Xu Lie was shocked, then his face turned to one of deep regret and loss.

"Hahahahaha..."

He burst into laughter as if he had gone mad.

"It turns out that the martial arts speed I prided myself on is so laughable. I am truly foolish and arrogant."

"Hahaha."

He laughed until tears came out.

Then, he clasped his fists towards Su Fan and said,

"Senior, I have lost, I admit defeat, I will leave Yang City within three days."

Saying this, he was assisted by his disciples to leave.

"Wait."

Su Fan called out to them.

"Senior, my master has already admitted defeat, do you still need to drive us to death?"

A disciple from the Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall asked, trembling.

Su Fan shook his head.

"What I mean is, you don't need to leave Yang City."

"What?"

As soon as these words came out, everyone again couldn't believe what they heard from Su Fan.

"You, what do you mean?"

Xu Lie looked at Su Fan, puzzled.

Su Fan calmly said,

"I believe martial arts should be used to support justice, not to compete for strength."

"So, you don't need to leave Yang City, just stop harassing the Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall, and everyone can live in peace."

As he spoke, he took out two healing pills from his pocket and handed them to Xu Lie.

"This is a healing pill I made myself, you and your disciple should each take one, the injuries can heal within three days."

Xu Lie was stunned at first, then suddenly knelt down, tears streaming down as he clasped his hands at Su Fan,

"Senior, I am convinced, I am truly convinced."

"I, Xu Lie, swear never to bully the weak again. Your kindness, I will always remember in my heart."

"In the future, whenever you need me, Xu Lie, I will go through fire and water, and never shy from dying."

"Also, I would like to invite you to be the chairman of the Yang City Martial Arts Association. Please, do accept."

"Please, be our chairman of the Yang City Martial Arts Association."

The heads of other martial arts halls also knelt down in the same manner, pleading with Su Fan.

Su Fan was taken aback.

Wasn't this too sudden?

He looked at Xu Lie and asked,

"Aren't you the vice-chairman of the Yang City Martial Arts Association? Then you must have a chairman, I can't just take someone's place."

Xu Lie immediately explained,

"The previous chairman was killed in a martial arts competition, so the position of chairman has been vacant. To take up this position, it must be unanimously agreed upon by all the martial arts halls in Yang City. Although I am the strongest among them, my domineering style is not well-received, so the position has been vacant for years."

"You not only possess impressive martial arts skills but also have a broad-minded heart. You are the most suitable person to be our chairman."

"Yes, we all agree on this."

Many hall owners echoed this sentiment.

Having a peak level Cultivating Qi martial artist as their chairman was definitely their pride.

"I'm afraid I might not be up to the task."

Su Fan was still hesitant.

He came to the city to be a doctor, aiming to fulfill his grandfather's dream of completing the hospital, not to get involved in the martial arts world.

"Senior, if you don't agree, we will kneel here until we die."

The crowd was resolute.

Su Fan, seeing this scene, felt a headache coming on.

"Well, how about this, I'll take up the position temporarily, and once there is another suitable candidate, I'll step down and hand over the role, how's that?"

"Good, good, we'll do as you say."

Xu Lie was the first to nod, thinking to himself, once Su Fan was in, he would not think about getting out.

The crowd also agreed.

"Then it's decided, I agree to your proposal."

"Gentlemen, you may leave now."

"Great, great, I will go back and prepare for the chairman's inauguration ceremony. The elite and big businesses of Yang City will gather, you must come."

"Senior, farewell."

Then, with feelings of awe, the crowd left the Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall.

"Senior Su, thank you for saving our Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall. I thank you so much."

As soon as the other martial artists had left, Chen Tai knelt in front of Su Fan, expressing his endless gratitude.

Chapter 209: The Secret Compartment in the Jade Pendant

Chen Ruoshui spoke reluctantly.

"Dad, why are you thanking him? The trouble at our Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall was all because of him in the first place. Now that he's solving it himself, isn't that expected?"

"Besides, he accidentally became the president of the Yang City Martial Arts Association, and now he has significant influence in Yang City. He must be secretly delighted."

"What nonsense are you spouting? Kneel down and thank President Su right now."

Chen Tai's manner of addressing Su Fan had shifted from 'young brother' to 'president'.

Su Fan quickly helped the kneeling Chen Tai to his feet, speaking with a hint of bashful fear,

"Director Chen, there's no need to be so formal. Your daughter is right; this matter originated from me, and it's only right that I resolve it."

"Moreover, although we do not have the formal ties of master and disciple, I have, after all, learned Tai Chi skills. If Tai Chi Martial Arts Hall faces difficulties, I definitely should lend a hand."

Chen Tai stood up and scolded his daughter.

"Ruoshui, my Tai Chi skills emphasize more on inner cultivation and demeanor, something you lack greatly compared to President Su. You really need to improve your temperament."

"Dad, can't you save me some face?"

Chen Ruoshui stormed back to the backyard, huffing.

Chen Tai looked somewhat awkwardly at Su Fan.

"President Su, please excuse my daughter's rudeness."

Su Fan, blushing, said,

"Master Chen, please just call me 'Little Su.' I'm not really interested in being the president of the Martial Arts Association; I was just appeasing those people earlier."

Chen Tai's expression immediately became serious, and he advised Su Fan,

"Divine Doctor Su, you may not realize, but the Martial Arts Association has significant influence everywhere. Yang City has over thirty martial arts halls. The smaller ones have around thirty to fifty disciples, and the big ones like Fiery Fire Martial Arts Hall have thousands of disciples. If unified, it would become the largest force in Yang City, incomparable to even the likes of the Blood Wolf Gang."

"If you were to assume the presidency of the Yang City Martial Arts Association, you would become one of the top figures in Yang City. Even the city's mayor and the head of the Chamber of Commerce would have to show you respect."

"This is a supreme honor. Besides, Yang City's martial arts community has been like scattered sand, unorganized, and badly in need of a president of good character to lead everyone to prosper in martial arts. With your profound martial art skills and high moral character, you are indeed the perfect candidate."

Su Fan was secretly astounded upon hearing this.

It was unbelievable that the president of the Martial Arts Association held such a lofty position, akin to a martial sect leader from those martial arts TV dramas.

Considering this, he started to think it over.

"Divine Doctor Su, are you interested in my Tai Chi skills?"

As Su Fan was lost in thought, Chen Tai hesitated before asking.

"Of course, I am interested."

"Would you like to learn more advanced Tai Chi skills?"

"More advanced?"

Su Fan was startled.

"What do you mean?"

"Come with me."

Chen Tai clenched his teeth as if he had made some sort of determination, led Su Fan into the main room, and locked the door behind them.

Then he climbed the altar adorned with figures of the Three Pure Dao Lords, lifted the hanging painting of the Dao Lords, revealing a hidden compartment behind it.

Chen Tai took out a Jade Pendant from the compartment, jumped down, walked over, and handed it to Su Fan.

Su Fan took it and held it in his hand, immediately feeling an indescribably wonderful sensation surge through him.

Chapter 210: Tai Chi Jade Pendant

The Jade Pendant was about the size of half a palm, its shape reminiscent of a Taoist Yin and Yang symbol, one side white, the other black. Around the edges, there were many ancient and obscure characters, densely packed, but Su Fan could not recognize them.

Clasping it in his hand, he felt an all-encompassing warmth and a sense of serenity. The fatigue from the recent battle had been swept away.

"Sect Leader Chen, what is this?"

Su Fan asked Chen Tai with curiosity.

Chen Tai spoke with a grave expression.

"This is the token that has been protected by the Chen family's Tai Chi lineage for over three hundred years. According to our ancestors, this pendant conceals the true art of Tai Chi, a supreme Tai Chi heritage. No one has been able to decipher it yet, but I believe with your talents, Divine Doctor Su, you will surely comprehend it."

"A supreme Tai Chi heritage?"

Su Fan was stunned, and he hastily offered the object back to Chen Tai,

"Sect Leader Chen, this item is too precious. I—I cannot accept it."

Seeing Su Fan's humility, Chen Tai's gaze grew even more appreciative.

"Not to mention, this Jade Pendant once incited bloodshed in the martial world a hundred years ago. Countless martial artists went mad for it, yet you remain calm. Such a temperament is indeed the prime candidate for cultivating the divine art of Tai Chi."

"Let me be frank with you, the founder of our Chen Tai Chi came from a mysterious sect. This pendant was brought from that mysterious sect and has existed as the token of our Chen Tai Chi. Later, it came into my father's hands. Before he died, he chose me to be the new Sect Leader of Chen's Tai Chi and passed this item to me."

"However, my branch is isolated and weak within our family, and given that my father died a violent death, other branches of our family rebelled, wanting to seize this token. I had no choice but to escape the family with my daughter and settle down in Yang City."

"When Ruo Shui found out you were the mysterious person who fought against a hundred, she lost her temper because your earlier actions might have revealed our whereabouts to those traitorous family members and led them to pursue us."

"Keeping this item will only bring trouble. It is better to give it to you, Divine Doctor Su. You merely glanced at the basic Tai Chi techniques and mastered them immediately. Coupled with your pinnacle cultivation of nurturing energy, perhaps, you are the fated one for this item."

"This?"

Upon hearing this, Su Fan was deeply shocked. He had not expected such a tumultuous story behind Chen Tai and his daughter, Chen Ruoshui.

If it was something that drove countless martial artists to fight over it for a hundred years and caused a martial arts family to turn on itself, then surely this Jade Pendant must hide an immense secret?

"But, this is..."

Su Fan still felt it was inappropriate.

Chen Tai said,

"Divine Doctor Su, I am not giving you this item for nothing. First, I hope you will inherit the mantle of Tai Chi and spread the art far and wide. Second, there are martial artists beyond the nurturing energy realm in my family. If they come looking, with your current strength, you won't stand a chance against them. Only by understanding the Tai Chi heritage within this pendant will you have hope."

"I hope you will be able to defeat those family traitors when they come, take control of the Chen Tai Chi Sect Leader position for me, restore order from chaos, otherwise, I will have no face to see my Chen ancestors after death."

Moved by these words, Su Fan felt compelled.

He no longer had any reason to refuse.

Since he had stepped onto the path of martial arts, he must move forward with resolve.

This Tai Chi Jade Pendant, representing the forces of Yin and Yang, was a perfect match for his constitution, and it would undoubtedly be a tremendous aid to him.

"Very well, then. I accept it humbly."

Su Fan accepted the Jade Pendant.

At this moment, Chen Tai spoke again,

"Divine Doctor Su, may I make an additional small request?"