

The Doctor 471

Chapter 471: Incapable

The sky glowed brightly when they walked past Heaven's Canopy.

Chu Liuyue raised her hand to cover her eyes. After she adjusted to the light, she looked up.

Clouds covered the light-blue sky, and they floated with the wind.

The black ground was endless, and it looked like nothing lived here when she looked across.

A line of marble white appeared on the horizon that connected heaven and earth. A bright-orange color shone from behind the clouds and made them look warm.

On the ground, the countless transportation formations slowly started churning.

An indescribable suppression spread.

Chu Liuyue held her breath. This scene is all so familiar, but I don't have the same mindset now that I've come here once again. My identity has also completely changed.

"This is the Tianling Dynasty's northern region, and there are a total of 108 transportation formations that can lead to different parts of the Tianling Dynasty." Jian Fengchi walked out from behind and stood still beside Chu Liuyue. He pointed at the biggest transportation formation in front of them and smiled. "The biggest is this one, which brings us to the Tianling Dynasty's capital—Xi Ling. It can carry up to thousands of people at once."

Xuan Masters and warriors needed to collaborate to construct a single transportation formation, and it exhausted a great amount of strength.

An average transportation formation could only transport around ten people or so.

A formation of this scale was rarely seen. Even in the entire Tianling Dynasty, there were only five such formations, and every one of them had exhausted unimaginable manpower and materials.

Chu Liuyue lightly heaved a sigh of relief. I've used this transportation formation to come and supervise Heaven's Canopy, so I'm very familiar with this.

"Well, is it like what you imagined?" asked Jian Fengchi in a teasing manner.

To Jian Fengchi, someone with Chu Liuyue's background must have lots of expectations and dreams about the Tianling Dynasty.

It wasn't just the people outside Heaven's Canopy. Even some of the experienced people within Heaven's Canopy would be shocked by this transportation formation the first time they came here.

Chu Liuyue's lips curved up, and she nodded. "The Tianling Dynasty... is indeed like what the rumors say."

Jian Fengchi raised his brows. "This isn't worth much. When you reach Xi Ling, you will discover how much fun there is in life!"

Chu Liuyue looked at him strangely. She had no interest in the fun he mentioned.

Jian Fengchi felt guilty for some reason as he clenched his fist and coughed. "Ahem, it's getting late. We should get going."

As he spoke, he walked toward the transportation formation.

But at this moment, cold air suddenly came from behind them.

Two figures quickly flashed across and rushed to them as they jumped on that transportation formation.

Chu Liuyue squinted her eyes.

They were precisely the two people that came behind them.

Chen Xiyuan completely ignored Chu Liuyue and Jian Fengchi as he spoke to Zhao Yunzhi loudly. "Yunzhi, don't worry. When we use this transportation formation, we can quickly reach Xi Ling. We'll definitely make it in time."

Zhao Yunzhi widened her beautiful eyes, and surprise filled her face. "I can't believe there's such a huge transportation formation in this world..."

"This transportation formation isn't only huge; it's also very safe. There are hundreds of Xuan formations set up inside here, and they're enough to block the turbulence outside. Hence, it's similar to walking outside," said Chen Xiyuan nonchalantly, but his face was filled with pride.

"The Sky-Soaring Clan's first clan master personally participated in the construction of this transportation formation."

Once he said this, Zhao Yunzhi's eyes indeed brightened up, and she said in admiration, "The Sky-Soaring Clan is indeed amazing! You must be formidable to be able to enter and be accepted as the clan master's disciple."

Chen Xiyuan felt great, and his eyes were overflowing with delight. "When we reach Xi Ling, I'll bring you around the Sky-Soaring Clan personally."

"Thank you, Cousin."

As he spoke, Chen Xiyuan was about to activate the transportation formation and leave.

The smile on Jian Fengchi's face had long dissipated, and his icy eyes were much colder than before. "Hold on."

His voice seemed to have ice shards, which made one feel cold unwittingly. Even though his tone was lazy, he still had a high and mighty aura.

Chen Xiyuan paused in his actions and looked over. He sized Jian Fengchi up and knitted his brows slightly. I have never seen this person before, but this man's aura makes him seem like he's not someone ordinary...

"Who gave you the guts to go ahead of me forcefully?"

Chen Xiyuan sneered. "This isn't called going ahead forcefully. Whoever can use the transportation formation is based on who reached it first. We reached it earlier than you, so we'll use it first."

Jian Fengchi dug his ears. "What did you say?"

Is this person crazy?

Chen Xiyuan sneered and said, "Oh, yes. We don't like sharing transportation formations with other people, so you have to wait. Yunzhi, let's go!"

Before the two of them could move, they heard mocking laughter from behind. "Are the Sky-Soaring Clan's people this shameless?"

Jian Fengchi's single sentence successfully made Chen Xiyuan's blood boil. He suddenly turned around and angrily hollered, "What did you say?"

Jian Fengchi immediately said, "What, are your ears not working?"

"How dare you! How dare you insult my clan! I think you must be tired of living!"

Everything that happened previously didn't amount to much, so he didn't plan to continue fighting with these people. But once those crazy words that insulted the Sky-Soaring Clan came out of Jian Fengchi's mouth, he couldn't tolerate it anymore.

Chu Liuyue thought to herself, This is nothing. When Jian Fengchi was young, he had once cursed the Sky-Soaring Clan's nine elders in front of them, and he was just short of insulting their clan master. He didn't even care to insult those people with low cultivation levels. Chen Xiyuan didn't recognize Jian Fengchi, which means that his cultivation level is too low.

To be serious, Jian Fengchi thought highly of Chen Xiyuan for him to go against him like this.

But Chen Xiyuan clearly didn't think of it in this way.

He stepped forward and circulated his force. "What clan are you from? Report your name!"

Jian Fengchi touched his chin. "You have no right to know my name."

Chen Xiyuan snorted as he didn't expect this person to be this arrogant.

He took a deep breath in and boomed, "It seems like you didn't hear me clearly before. Let me tell you again. I am Chen Xiyuan, a disciple of the Sky-Soaring Clan's clan master. If you're going to continue to act against me stubbornly, don't blame me for being merciless!"

"Oh..." Jian Fengchi acted as if he realized something major as he lifted his chin and told Chu Liuyue, "Did you hear? There are a total 197 disciples under the Sky-Soaring Clan's clan master, and he's one of them! He is indeed formidable!"

Even though he said so, anyone could hear the mockery in his words.

Chen Xiyuan's face darkened, and he sneered. "It seems like you look down on my identity. May I know what sort of distinguished status you have? Why don't you tell me and let me know what kind of major character I have offended?"

As he spoke, his gaze landed on Chu Liuyue. Then, he chuckled in disdain. “Coincidentally, I also really want to know what kind of person is so incapable that they found a stage-three warrior only.”

Chu Liuyue’s eyebrows rose slightly. Is he... looking down on me?

Chapter 472: Wait and See

Jian Fengchi’s expression became interesting. Pfft, if this guy finds out that Mu Qinghe brought Chu Liuyue here... His expression would be amazing.

He smiled and looked at Chu Liuyue. “It seems like he really doesn’t look up to you.”

Chu Liuyue glanced at him. His personality of fearing that the world doesn’t burn cannot be changed.

Chu Liuyue looked at Chen Xiyuan and smiled lightly. “Since I could come, I naturally am good enough. Young Master Chen, you don’t have to worry about this.”

Chen Xiyuan was suddenly dazed, and surprise flashed across his eyes.

He had previously focused all his attention on that man, so he didn’t notice that the woman in red beside him was extremely beautiful.

Zhao Yunzhi—who was at the side—was also stunned when she saw Chu Liuyue’s appearance. She was pretty herself, and many handsome and talented young men liked her. But compared to this woman, she paled in comparison.

She almost instinctively looked at Chen Xiyuan, and as expected, his expression was amiss. His eyes landed on that woman for quite some time, and he didn’t retract them.

Her heart instantly felt suffocated, and her expression turned ugly. “Cousin, one less matter is better than creating more matters. Why don’t we just... leave it? We can let them go first. Anyway, it won’t take too much time.”

She pulled Chen Xiyuan’s sleeves, bit her lips, and talked. Her eyes had a tinge of grievance, and she looked pitiful.

Chen Xiyuan then recovered his senses and instantly felt his heart ache when he looked at her.

He had liked Zhao Yunzhi for many years, and he finally managed to bring her over to the Tianling Dynasty after making a little name for himself after much difficulty.

But he made her suffer when they had barely crossed into Heaven’s Canopy.

If I really take this lying down, what kind of a man am I? He patted her hands. “Don’t worry. I won’t let you get bullied.”

Then, he suppressed his thoughts and looked at the duo again. Initially, he wanted to mock them, but he didn’t expect the two of them to not care at all. It’s fine with the tall man as he should have some capabilities. But that girl...

“Hah, I really don’t know since when a mere stage-three warrior could be so cocky,” teased Chen Xiyuan.

Chu Liuyue sighed in her heart. My cultivation level is indeed rather eye-catching in the Tianling Dynasty.

“I’m just speaking the truth,” said Chu Liuyue straightforwardly with a calm expression.

Chen Xiyuan’s blood was originally boiling. Since he decided to help avenge Zhao Yunzhi, his tone wouldn’t be good at all. “Oh? Since you’ve said so, why don’t you report your name? When we get to Xi Ling, we’ll see if you’re as formidable as you mentioned.”

“Country Yao Chen’s Chu Liuyue.” Chu Liuyue’s eyes sparkled. I normally don’t cause trouble for others, but if it comes knocking on my door, I will not be afraid.

“Country Yao Chen? Cousin, why haven’t I heard of this place before...” said Zhao Yunzhi in a seemingly accidental manner, but she was quite jealous of the woman’s beautiful appearance.

“It’s just a lowly country not worth mentioning.” Chen Xiyuan laughed out loud. The person sent to such a place wouldn’t have a high status. I was just being overly worried previously.

Thinking of this, he was even more fearless. “I’ll give you a chance. If you’re willing to kowtow and apologize, I’ll let this thing pass, and I won’t take it to heart. If not—”

Jian Fengchi laughed out loud as if he had heard a joke. “Hahaha, what did you say?! You want me to kowtow and apologize?”

Chen Xiyuan—who was interrupted—felt offended again and felt that the laughter was piercing to his ears. “Why? Are you reluctant?”

Chu Liuyue couldn’t help but laugh out loud. I haven’t come back in more than a year, but why did the Sky-Soaring Clan’s disciples become so arrogant and brainless? Even the Sky-Soaring Clan’s clan master wouldn’t dare to speak to Jian Fengchi in this manner, yet a mere disciple climbed all over his head. The ignorant are truly fearless!

Jian Fengchi said, “What a coincidence. I was just about to say that, but it seems like you won’t do it.”

Who does he think he is? How dare he speak to me like that? Chen Xiyuan just felt that the man in front was unreasonable. “It seems like this negotiation isn’t working out. The strong ones are respected, so let’s exchange blows and see who is capable!”

Chen Xiyuan then jumped up and flew toward Jian Fengchi.

Beginner stage-seven warrior! He looked like he was around 28 or 29 years old, and it was indeed decent for him to reach such a level.

But to Chu Liuyue and Jian Fengchi, he was just so-so.

Chen Xiyuan crossed his arms, and orange force quickly gathered.

Very quickly, a giant force ball appeared in front of him.

“Thousand Earth Jun!” Following this roar, he raised his hands above his head and threw the ball out.

That circular ball rapidly flew toward Jian Fengchi, and the thick suppression came for him.

The surrounding air seemed to be much heavier.

Chu Liuyue's shoulders seemed to be suppressed by a hill. A stage-seven warrior's suppression was indeed quite unbearable for the current her.

Jian Fengchi waved his sleeves, and that heavy suppression instantly disappeared.

That circular ball stopped around three steps in front of him.

Chen Xiyuan's face changed. This man's cultivation level is above mine!

Jian Fengchi raised his arm and opened his palm. Then, he gently clenched it. "Go!"

That circular ball immediately reversed and went toward Chen Xiyuan. In addition, its speed was even faster than before.

Chen Xiyuan had a bad feeling and immediately moved backward. But that circular ball was even faster than him, and the distance between them shortened very quickly.

It was as if an invisible hand kept moving it to fly ahead, and the suppression around it was even stronger than before.

Chen Xiyuan's chest felt heavy, and his movements became much slower. He felt uneasy and immediately drew out the knife from his waist, slashing it forward.

Choo—bang!

The circular ball suddenly exploded, and the terrifying force spread in all directions.

Chen Xiyuan was very close to it and unavoidably felt its effects. His chest vibrated, and his body uncontrollably flew backward before falling onto the floor.

Poof!

He held his chest with much difficulty and spat out blood.

"Cousin!" Zhao Yunzhi gasped and hurriedly ran forward as she picked him up worriedly. "Cousin, are you okay?!"

The corner of Chen Xiyuan's mouth was bleeding, and his face was way paler than before. "I-I..."

The other party's attack had directly broken his ribs. The most important thing was that his internal organs seemed to be injured as well.

Upon seeing him like this, Zhao Yunzhi's heart ached, and her blood boiled. She couldn't help but turn around and angrily yell, "You guys are too much! You hurt my cousin like this, so the Sky-Soaring Clan will definitely not let you off!"

She clenched her teeth and looked at Chu Liuyue. "Chu Liuyue, right? Don't be delighted! When we reach Xi Ling, just wait and see!"

Chu Liuyue's lips curled up. "I'll wait for you."

Chapter 473: The King Returns!

From start to end, Chu Liuyue had been very polite and didn't even say any offensive words. But the others had clearly included her in the debt and planned to take revenge on her.

There is no use for further explanations. Besides, I'm too lazy to tell them anything. Since the other party wants to take care of me, I have to face it and accept it bravely.

But to Zhao Yunzhi, this reaction made Chu Liuyue seem arrogant. Isn't she just doing this because that man's capabilities are better? But when she reaches Xi Ling, this man definitely won't protect her at every moment. At that point, I must return all the humiliation and grievances we suffered today.

Jian Fengchi stepped onto the transportation formation, and he paused when he walked past Chen Xiyuan.

Chen Xiyuan instinctively shrunk himself.

Jian Fengchi glanced at him and lightly laughed. "The people in the Sky-Soaring Clan... One generation is worse than the previous."

Chen Xiyuan's face flushed red, and he wanted to say something, but he had to swallow his words when he thought of that man's terrifying aura.

Chu Liuyue followed him.

Jian Fengchi activated the transportation formation, and the duo's figures disappeared very quickly.

After confirming that the two people had left, Chen Xiyuan then forcefully stood up with Zhao Yunzhi's help.

"Cousin... It's all my fault. If I wasn't rushing the whole time, all of this wouldn't happen, and they wouldn't deal with you so severely." Zhao Yunzhi was on the verge of tears.

Chen Xiyuan swallowed the blood in his mouth, stared at the transportation formation, and said carefully, "It's never too late for a gentleman to take revenge! When I find out his identity... I'll show him who's boss! We, the Sky-Soaring Clan, aren't that easily bullied!"

...

Both Jian Fengchi and Chu Liuyue didn't even care about this small matter.

After the duo entered the transportation formation, the whole way was smooth. As this transportation formation was of high level, it was very fast.

Even though Bei Jiang and Xi Ling were very far away, it didn't take too much time. But to Chu Liuyue, every second and minute as they approached Xi Ling was especially long.

Coincidentally, the surroundings were pitch black, so Jian Fengchi couldn't see her expression.

"When we reach Xi Ling, I'll send you to Mu Qinghe first," said Jian Fengchi slowly.

Chu Liuyue was suddenly awakened and acknowledged his words. After pausing for a while, she finally couldn't help but ask, "It seems like there are quite a few Dijing Yuan meridian cultivators coming from outside Heaven's Canopy."

This was quite weird. The Tianling Dynasty didn't lack such talents, so it was weird that they spent so much effort and manpower to look for them outside Heaven's Canopy.

Jian Fengchi laughed lightly with a tinge of displeasure. "They're always doing something messy. Who knows what they're planning this time?"

Chu Liuyue's heart harshly skipped a beat, and she tentatively asked softly, "...They?"

She originally thought that Jian Fengchi wouldn't answer, but he was rather honest this time. "The Tianling Dynasty's current Third Princess and her husband."

Shangguan Wan and Jiang Yucheng—it really is them! Chu Liuyue was more grateful than ever that they were in the tunnel, so Jian Fengchi couldn't see her expression.

Hearing that Chu Liuyue didn't speak, Jian Fengchi explained again, "Oh, the Third Princess's current identity is equivalent to the person in control of the entire Tianling Dynasty. You will know when you reach Xi Ling."

He didn't say this earlier because he was unfamiliar with Chu Liuyue, and they were at Country Yao Chen. But now, she was going to reach Xi Ling very soon. Even if he didn't say it, she could find out about this from someone else.

In addition, the duo had spent some time together, and he did admire Chu Liuyue quite a bit. Thus, he took the initiative to talk more.

An idea popped up in Chu Liuyue's mind. She restrained her emotions and asked in slight shock, "What does that mean? Does the Tianling Dynasty not have..."

"His Majesty is severely ill, and he's stuck in bed. Hence, many things have been given to the Third Princess to handle." Jian Fengchi spoke lightly, but his tone was filled with disdain and contempt.

Chu Liuyue knitted her brows slightly. Father is actually alive?! I thought that Shangguan Wan and Jiang Yucheng would definitely not let Father off after I committed suicide back then. I didn't expect them not to completely take action after so long.

She hesitated for a moment before lightening up her voice and asked, "Young Master Jian seems to... Toward this Third Princess..."

Disdain? Contemp? Hatred?

Chu Liuyue didn't finish her question.

But Jian Fengchi suddenly laughed. "Did anyone tell you that your wits are quite annoying sometimes? You're especially like—"

Jian Fengchi suddenly stopped in his sentence.

Chu Liuyue coughed.

"They're all matters of the past, and we don't have to talk about it, but your guess isn't wrong."

He did hate Shangguan Wan.

Chu Liuyue blinked in curiosity. From what I know, Jian Fengchi had a rather good impression of Shangguan Wan. He had once caused trouble for me because of Shangguan Wan. Of course, I didn't realize that Shangguan Wan did it on purpose back then and felt that Jian Fengchi had gone crazy. Hence, we quarreled. I didn't expect his attitude toward Shangguan Wan to have such a drastic change.

Chu Liuyue was planning to ask more and find out Shangguan Wan and Jiang Yucheng's motives for doing this when the space in front suddenly lit up.

She clenched her fists tightly. We're here!

"Let's go!" Jian Fengchi walked out first.

Chu Liuyue took a deep breath in and quickly followed him, taking a step out.

The skies and ground changed, and the darkness faded away as the bright sunlight shone in.

But this time, Chu Liuyue didn't use her hands to cover her eyes. She opened her eyes and looked in front determinedly.

The large and majestic Xi Ling City was like the head of a ferocious fiend. It stood in between heaven and earth, looking solemn and grand.

The sunlight shone harshly and made her eyes hurt to the point that a few tears dropped out.

Xi Ling! I'm finally back!

Chapter 474: Came at the Right Time

This was Ping Liang Square outside Xi Ling City. The entire square was made with expensive and rare marble, which formed much of the ground.

This square also had many transportation formations. The one that Chu Liuyue used was in the centermost position.

When the duo walked out of the tunnel in the middle, the originally lively square quietened down instantly.

Countless pairs of eyes looked over.

Here, many people rushed over from all sorts of places every day. Many people also left Xi Ling, so there had always been a flow of people coming in and out. But as the central transportation formation was connected to Bei Jiang's Heaven's Canopy, it normally wasn't used.

Now that two people suddenly appeared, they attracted quite a few people's attention.

When they saw the duo's appearance, the square became even quieter.

The man was tall and was wearing a blue robe, with a white jade belt around his waist that enunciated his smooth contours. Besides, his eyes were actually blue. Just one glance at them, and they would appear to be the cleanest and purest icicles.

But his face looked sweet, which made his originally icy eyes more dimensional.

He surveyed the surroundings lightly, and quite a few women blushed.

Such an outstanding appearance was indeed rare, but the woman standing beside him didn't pale in comparison. In fact, she was more eye-catching.

Her figure was thin and petite, together with her red clothes and her hair simply tied up. There were no other extra accessories on her, but her skin was as white as snow, and her brows were like a distant mountain. Her nose was high and straight, and her eyes were especially charming like a black gem.

The sunlight shone into her eyes and reflected a dazzling river of stars. But the elegance that faintly exuded from her brows made her look even more mesmerizing, causing one to fear and respect her.

Such a woman was very beautiful and was very distinguished. Even though quite a few men looked at her and blushed, and their hearts beat wildly, they didn't dare to move forward.

"They came out from that transportation formation. Did they come from outside Heaven's Canopy?" A soft question sounded from the crowd.

That sentence finally broke the silence.

The crowd exchanged looks among themselves. "I think so. Isn't this the transportation formation that connects to Bei Jiang...? Recently, quite a few people have arrived from there."

"That man looks rather familiar... Blue eyes... Sweetness in them... Isn't that Young Master Jian?!"

"Which Young Master Jian?"

"The one from Dragon Teeth Mountain! Did you forget—"

Quite a few people suddenly took a deep breath in.

Jian Fengchi! He always traveled mysteriously, and with his distinguished status, not many people had seen him. However, he was very famous in Xi Ling City.

Even though they couldn't confirm, that man looked very similar to what was described in the rumors.

It's 80% him!

"If that's really Jian Fengchi, the woman next to him—Ah! She's actually just a stage-three warrior? She looks like she's around 15 or 16, but why is she just a stage-three warrior?!"

The crowd quietened down.

The gazes that were originally filled with surprise and curiosity instantly became strange.

"She definitely came from outside Heaven's Canopy!" said someone confidently.

"Ah? Cultivators of that level can come in as well? The ones that previously came were at least peak stage-four..."

"She is quite pretty, but it's a pity that she's nothing much..."

"She dares to come to Xi Ling with these abilities. She must have a backing, right?"

“Perhaps her face is her biggest backing!”

Some women spoke softly, and they laughed out loud.

Jian Fengchi raised his brows and chuckled. “They praised you for being pretty.”

Chu Liuyue glanced at him lazily. This person’s focus is always different from others.

“Why are you looking at me? I’m handsome, and I won’t be jealous of your appearance.” Jian Fengchi smiled with even deeper meaning, looking as if he were watching a good show.

But Chu Liuyue looked calm as if she didn’t even care about this. In actual fact, she had already expected this.

Coming from outside Heaven’s Canopy and being a stage-three warrior—just these two factors alone would already bring her quite some trouble.

Besides, she basically came here alone to fight without any backing or background.

This would be even worse.

As the imperial capital of the Tianling Dynasty, Xi Ling City had the most distinguished status, richest resources, and... Strongest cultivators!

In this place, strong warriors were respected. No weak person could survive here.

Everyone that could survive in Xi Ling City was harsh.

Thus, Chu Liuyue had already mentally prepared herself before she came.

This little bit didn’t amount to much.

She looked at the few women that were giggling. Her facial expression didn’t change, but her pair of clear eyes was filled with a certain suppression that made one uneasy.

The few women’s laughter softened, and they felt guilty for some reason as they respectively avoided Chu Liuyue’s gaze.

Chu Liuyue retracted her gaze in satisfaction before walking forward.

“Hold on!” A middle-aged man suddenly walked forward and blocked Chu Liuyue’s path.

He looked burly, and his skin was coal black, while his tense muscles looked like they were going to burst out of his shirt.

Chu Liuyue looked up and saw the person coming. “What’s the matter?”

That middle-aged man sized her up and boomed, “When people that come from outside use our Tianling Dynasty’s transportation formation, you have to pay us! The one you’re using is the biggest, so it’s worth ten white crystals.”

Inside Heaven’s Canopy, silver and gold weren’t their currency. The even more precious white crystals replaced them.

A white crystal outside Heaven's Canopy was worth 10,000 gold coins.

Ten white crystals amounted to 100,000 gold coins. This was clearly extortion!

Chu Liuyue squinted her eyes dangerously and smiled. You came at the right time!

Chapter 475: Showing Off Mightiness

"It's not impossible for me to hand over the money, but you have to let me know your identity first, right?" said Chu Liuyue calmly.

Seeing Chu Liuyue's attitude, that man thought that she was afraid and acted even more arrogantly. "I'm Eight Direction Clan's disciple, Wu Zhao!"

Chu Liuyue squinted her eyes. Eight Direction Clan... is just a lowly clan in Xi Ling. I didn't expect their people to dare to be arrogant in Ping Liang Square.

"I didn't ask for your name. I asked: Based on what do you deserve to collect my money? You don't sound like someone from the magistrate."

Wu Zhao was dazed for a while before understanding what Chu Liuyue meant. He clenched his fists and moved in closer.

Compared to his bulky figure, Chu Liuyue looked even more petite and small.

"Based on what? Of course, it's based on my hard fists! If you don't hand over the money, don't even dream of leaving this place!" He was clearly snatching money from her.

There were many transportation formations in Ping Liang Square, and all of them belonged to the Tianling Dynasty's royal family. Under normal circumstances and as long as it wasn't something special, these transportation formations could be used by cultivators.

But maintaining these transportation formations exhausted a large amount of manpower, so they would symbolically collect some protection fees.

Even if she was using the biggest transportation formation, it would only cost ten people one white crystal under normal circumstances.

Wu Zhao asked for ten of them once he spoke up; he was basically extorting money.

The key point was that even though the Black Guard was in charge of guarding this place, they basically only maintained the peace here. Collecting the fees was left to some clans in Xi Ling City.

These clansmen would treat the transportation formations particularly well when they were using them. They could also get some benefits from it, so it naturally was harmonious.

So even though there were quite a few Black Guards patrolling, none of them stepped up when they saw Wu Zhao finding trouble with Chu Liuyue.

Normally, the Black Guards wouldn't care as long as they didn't kill anyone.

Jian Fengchi crossed his arms and watched the scene happily. This Wu Zhao is just a stage-five warrior. It won't pose a problem if I take action, but... It seems like Chu Liuyue doesn't intend on letting me

intervene. Coincidentally, I also want to see how Chu Liuyue plans to deal with these troubles after she arrives at Xi Ling City.

Chu Liuyue raised her brows. Jian Fengchi can help me once, but he can't help me the second time, third time, or Nth time. Besides, I know Xi Ling's rules. If I can't settle this matter myself, then I will forever be a weakling in front of the crowd.

"What if I say no?" retorted Chu Liuyue slowly.

Wu Zhao sneered. "Lady, it seems like this is your first time here in Xi Ling, and you don't know some of the rules. I advise you to give your money obediently. If not... it would be a pity if such a pretty face was ruined..."

"I say... no," said Chu Liuyue definitely once again.

The smile on Wu Zhao's face quickly disappeared, and he revealed a vicious expression. "You don't need to hand it over, but you have to win against me first!"

Then, he looked down and sized Chu Liuyue up once again. His surrounding aura exploded and wrapped Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue smiled and nodded. "Sure!"

The moment she said that, the surroundings quietened down.

Wu Zhao knitted his brows. "What did you say?"

"I said... okay!" Chu Liuyue pointed at herself. Not to mention that I don't have any white crystals with me. Even if I did, I wouldn't waste them in such a place.

Wu Zhao was so angry that he laughed. "Great, great! You said this yourself! You can't regret it later!"

Chu Liuyue surveyed her surroundings and lifted her chin toward an empty space. "Over there!"

Then, she walked over herself.

The crowd exchanged looks among themselves.

"Is she crazy? She actually wants to challenge Wu Zhao?!"

"Even though Wu Zhao can only be considered inferior-class in Eight Direction Clan, he is a beginner stage-five warrior after all. That woman is just a stage-three warrior. Isn't she courting her own death?"

"Who knows what she's thinking... Anyway, she came with Jian Fengchi. She must've thought that Wu Zhao wouldn't dare to attack her."

"Ping Liang Square has always had its rules... As long as you challenge one-on-one, nobody can intervene. Even though Jian Fengchi has a distinguished status and is very strong, he must know that if he intervenes halfway, that woman will never be able to lift up her head in the entire Xi Ling City!"

"Now, I just hope that Wu Zhao, that violent fellow, won't hurt that woman's face. Such a pretty woman hasn't appeared in Xi Ling City for a long time..."

The crowd partook in heated discussions, but Chu Liuyue completely ignored them. She walked to the vacant land and faced Wu Zhao. "Country Yao Chen's Chu Liuyue came here to challenge you!"

Wu Zhao loosened his shoulders and stared at Chu Liuyue deadily. "Eight Direction Clan's Wu Zhao accepts the challenge!"

Once he said that, his figure moved, and he rushed to Chu Liuyue first.

Even though he was big, he was very agile. He was also very fast, like a moving hill.

In the blink of an eye, he was right in front of Chu Liuyue!

An ever so simple straight punch was launched. To him, dealing with such a petite stage-three warrior didn't even deserve him to use his warrior techniques.

One punch is sufficient!

The loose strands of hair by Chu Liuyue's ear flowed with the wind.

The strong wind from the fist caused her clothes to fly, and the suppression went straight for her face.

Seeing the fist that was almost as big as Chu Liuyue's face almost land, quite a few people shook their heads in regret. This woman must be scared silly. She doesn't even know how to dodge.

Looking at her previous behavior, she still had some confidence, but I guess it was just a pretense...

At this moment—

Chu Liuyue moved her legs, bent her soft waist, and moved backward, barely avoiding that punch. Then, she raised her right hand and clutched Wu Zhao's wrist.

Wu Zhao was shocked. How did this woman avoid it just now?

Without waiting for him to think properly, he suddenly felt excruciating pain in his wrist.

Chu Liuyue moved her fingers in before harshly twitching them up. Almost at the same time, she raised her leg and kicked Wu Zhao's wrist.

The extremely numbing and sore feeling crept up to him, causing the strength in Wu Zhao's arm to be lost.

His arm instantly turned soft.

He was very shocked and angry as his other hand immediately came out and clutched Chu Liuyue.

But Chu Liuyue directly used that leg to lock Wu Zhao's arm and turned her body.

Her entire body turned in the air.

Wu Zhao's arm was stuck, and it was almost broken.

Chu Liuyue then landed on the floor light, while Wu Zhao slammed harshly against it.

Bang!

The heavy body slammed against the floor, and Wu Zhao let out a deep moan.

“You...” Wu Zhao clenched his teeth tightly and was about to retaliate, but Chu Liuyue already rode on him and harshly stepped on his chest.

The thin and straight legs looked extremely beautiful, but they encompassed shocking strength.

One foot down—

Kacha!

Wu Zhao’s chest actually caved a few inches in.

Chapter 476: Concede Defeat, or Continue

Is this woman’s leg made of iron?! Wu Zhao thought to himself briefly as his face turned pale!

The people who were watching sucked in a breath. That Chu Liuyue managed to break Wu Zhao’s bones! From the looks of it, he has at least three broken ribs!

When did stage-three warriors become this strong?!

It must be made known that stage-five cultivators didn’t have the right to collect money at Ping Liang Square.

Wu Zhao was an exception because he was extremely powerful! His muscles weren’t for show, but... he was easily taken down by that skinny girl!

Chu Liuyue looked down at Wu Zhao with a grin. “You’re not as hardy as I thought...”

Wu Zhao was frustrated and reached for Chu Liuyue’s ankles with his hands!

Chu Liuyue pressed down with her leg again!

Kacha!

The sound of bones breaking came through even clearer!

Overwhelming pain radiated from his chest, and cold sweat quickly appeared across Wu Zhao’s forehead.

He wanted to get up, but it felt like a mountain was on his body and prevented him from moving! Before this, he had never imagined losing to such a weak-looking girl!

It looks like I can’t win based purely on muscle! Wu Zhao changed his mind and decided to activate his martial art techniques!

Chu Liuyue raised her eyebrows after she felt the force around Wu Zhao spinning. If I don’t activate the water droplet in my dantian, there is no way I can hold my own against Wu Zhao with the force in my body alone. Therefore... I can never give him that chance!

Choo!

A streak of force flew out from Wu Zhao’s palm!

Chu Liuyue stepped aside and backward simultaneously!

Wu Zhao was delighted as he pushed himself off the ground with his palm! But after he stood up, he realized that Chu Liuyue was nowhere to be found!

He was stunned.

A cold breeze came from behind him!

Without thinking, he lunged and rolled forward!

Chu!

A paper-thin throwing knife directly pierced into where he had been standing! About one-third of the blade was embedded in the ground!

Wu Zhao looked back, and his eyelids twitched after he saw the knife that was still trembling.

The square grounds were forged from exceptionally strong stone. There was no way an ordinary Yuan instrument could leave any marks behind, but Chu Liuyue's knife split it wide open easily!

He knew that this was something he could not accomplish!

It wasn't hard to imagine what things would've been like if he had been a second slower!

Chills ran down Wu Zhao's spine, and he felt a tinge of regret. Someone who is able to produce such a knife definitely came from a strong background! But I will be the butts of Xi Ling City's jokes if I concede now!

At this thought, he drew the saber that hung by his waist!

The bigger the weapon, the stronger the weapon!

Wu Zhao refused to believe that he couldn't beat a stage-three warrior!

Just as he was frantically inserting his force into his saber, Chu Liuyue threw another throwing knife out.

The urgency of the situation forced Wu Zhao to stop his actions and face it head-on with his saber!

Huala!

The small throwing knife heavily scratched against the saber! There were sparks everywhere!

Alongside the shrill noise, Wu Zhao was stunned to see a clean crack appear across his saber!

Then—

Crack!

The blade broke into two pieces!

The force in his body was affected and became entangled!

At this moment, Chu Liuyue stepped forward and rushed straight toward Wu Zhao! She raised her legs and kicked toward his chest!

Wu Zhao was stunned. He threw away the handle and clenched his fists, crossing them across his chest to brace himself for her attack!

Chu Liuyue's foot landed accurately on his slightly injured wrist!

Ka!

His wrist immediately presented itself in an eerie position.

Wu Zhao let out a muffled cry as he stepped back, his eyes burning with rage. "Despicable!"

But Chu Liuyue bounced off of him!

Wu Zhao was frustrated as he grabbed Chu Liuyue's calf without regard for his injuries! She then fell heavily on the ground!

Bang!

Chu Liuyue's back landed heavily on the ground. Her body shook as she spat out a mouthful of blood!

Wu Zhao's eyes were red as he dragged Chu Liuyue backward!

Chu Liuyue's body left a bloody trail on the floor!

Just as she was figuring out how to get away, Wu Zhao suddenly stopped. He then picked Chu Liuyue up and threw her down heavily!

There was a cold glimmer on the floor!

It was the throwing knife that Chu Liuyue had thrown out earlier! If she landed on it, she would be dead!

"Die!" Wu Zhao cried out!

At this moment, a ball of red flew across!

Wu Zhao felt a sharp pain on his arm, and he instinctively loosened his grip!

Looking down, it was a third-grade blood ferret that had bitten a piece of his flesh off!

His arm was bloody!

Chu Liuyue took the chance to break free. She rolled aside, avoiding Wu Zhao's attack!

The next instant, she moved her wrist, and a cold reflection flew from her hands!

Wu Zhao looked at it—it was a dagger!

He quickly avoided it!

But just as the dagger was about to fly past his ear, a throwing knife dislodged from the dagger!

Wu Zhao widened his eyes as he immediately tried to avoid it! However, he was still too late!

The throwing knife cut through his shoulder!

Chu Liuyue had managed to pull out the throwing knife when she got up from the ground earlier, and she had managed to reattach it to the dagger!

Wu Zhao pressed down on his shoulder, but blood still flowed freely from it!

Chu Liuyue rushed forward again!

Wu Zhao was anguished! He wanted to use his martial art techniques, but Chu Liuyue's attacks were quick and urgent, leaving him no time to muster any force!

Every time he prepared to attack, Chu Liuyue would strike first! It was like she was fighting for her life, no holds barred! It was as if she wasn't worried about the consequences if she slipped up!

He looked up at Chu Liuyue.

Her raven eyes were burning with fighting spirit! It was like she was ready to fight him to the death!

Her injuries weren't any better than his. She was covered in blood, but her desire to fight only seemed to grow stronger!

Wu Zhao's heart skipped a beat as fear grew in his heart. Even though he had been cultivating and battling for many years, he had never seen such willpower and fighting spirit.

It was like Chu Liuyue was putting her life on the line!

Ability was important in a battle, but one's perseverance wasn't to be trifled with!

Once one gave in, they would lose continuously!

That was the state Wu Zhao was in!

In the face of Chu Liuyue's constant advances, he instinctively backed away!

Suddenly, an eerie sound came from behind him!

He turned and saw the blood ferret with a dagger in its mouth!

It shook its tail and flung the dagger out!

Chu Liuyue rushed forward and grabbed it.

By the time Wu Zhao realized what was happening, he felt a cold sensation coming from the back of his neck!

"Surrender? Or would you like to continue?"

Chapter 477: What do I have to be afraid of?

Admit defeat? There was no way Wu Zhao could ever utter those words.

Continue? The sharp knife is closing in on my throat! Wu Zhao knew without a doubt that Chu Liuyue could end him there and then if she wanted to!

Countless pairs of eyes looked over.

Wu Zhao felt so embarrassed that he wanted to crawl into a hole!

“Hm?” Chu Liuyue flicked her dagger, which made a clinking sound.

Wu Zhao shivered, and as if resigning himself to his fate, he said with closed eyes, “You win!”

There was pin-drop silence.

Wu Zhao actually... conceded defeat?! He, a stage-five warrior, actually lost to a stage-three warrior?! If the news spreads, it's bound to make waves in Xi Ling City!

“Have I lost touch? When did stage-three warriors outside Heaven's Canopy become this strong?!” mumbled someone in the crowd.

“Or maybe Wu Zhao's ability as a stage-five warrior... is fake?”

Wu Zhao's face turned red and white. His veins were popping, and he wanted to yell at them. My ability is faked?! They can come up and give me a try! This Chu Liuyue... She isn't normal! It's not like I've never fought with other stage-three warriors, but none of them were like her! First off, her strength and speed are at least on par with mine! Where did this freak come from!

“You admit defeat?” Chu Liuyue smiled with satisfaction. “Sure, I'll take ten white crystals then.”

Wu Zhao was stunned. “What did you say?”

Chu Liuyue explained with a smile, “I said: Give me ten white crystals since you've admitted defeat, and we can call it a day.”

Wu Zhao was confused. “W-why should I give you so much money?! I've conceded! What else do you want?”

We didn't bet any white crystals up for taking!

Chu Liuyue blinked. “Oh? So you're not going to give them to me?”

“You're dreaming!” Wu Zhao cried out angrily.

Having spent so many years in Xi Ling City, he had never seen anybody who not only refused to pay but even asked for money!

“Chu Liuyue, right? I'm warning you; this isn't your lousy, puny country. You can't do as you please here! You better rein it in, or else...”

Chu Liuyue flicked her dagger forward impatiently, and the sharp dagger immediately pierced Wu Zhao's flesh!

Warm blood trickled down the dagger's blade.

Wu Zhao's voice came to a screeching halt!

“Admit defeat and give me ten white crystals, or continue,” stated Chu Liuyue again. “I'm asking you again: Which one are you choosing?”

Wu Zhao was so angry that he felt like steam was going to come out of his head! “You! You—how dare you!”

“It seems like you think that your life isn’t worth ten white crystals?” Chu Liuyue shook her head regretfully. “What a pity.”

With that, she moved her wrist, about to take action!

“I’ll pay! I’ll pay!” Wu Zhao shouted out anxiously. He had a feeling that Chu Liuyue really had the guts to kill him!

He stiffly took out ten white crystals from his Cosmic Bag and passed them to Chu Liuyue. “Here!”

Chu Liuyue eyed Tuan Zi.

Tuan Zi immediately went forward, grabbed the white crystals, and flew toward Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue only backed away after she took a glance and made sure it was ten white crystals.

Sensing that the dagger was finally away from him, Wu Zhao was relieved. However, he couldn’t help but turn back to look at Chu Liuyue with anger and resentment.

He pointed at her. “I’ll remember this! You’d better pray that you don’t run into me next time!”

Chu Liuyue smiled and shook the crystals in her hands. “You’re most welcome.”

Wu Zhao’s expression was stiff, but he turned and left!

Even after he left, the square was still silent. Given the disparity between their expectations and reality, it wasn’t hard to imagine their shock.

Chu Liuyue put the ten white crystals away. She then walked over to Jian Fengchi and patted her Cosmic Bag. “My first bucket of gold!”

Even though this wasn’t much money to her, it was better than nothing. With this money, her life in Xi Ling City would be a little better.

Jian Fengchi felt the corners of his mouth twitching. Fi-first bucket of gold?! How does this girl have the face to say this?! I felt that my skin was thick enough, but Chu Liuyue has proven me wrong! Taking money from the people guarding the transportation formations... She is probably the first! No matter what, Chu Liuyue’s name is bound to spread quickly in Xi Ling City after this battle!

“You... Would you really have killed that Wu Zhao?” Jian Fengchi asked. “No matter what, he is a clan’s disciple.”

Chu Liuyue looked at him and beamed. “I have your protection, don’t I?”

Jian Fengchi was stunned. “When did I say...”

Jian Fengchi was about to rebut her, but he instantly understood when he saw the teasing in Chu Liuyue’s expression. That’s right; I brought her here! This means that Chu Liuyue is with me! The Eight Direction Clan will never have the guts to go against me publicly. Even if Chu Liuyue killed Wu Zhao

today, they would never dare to do anything. Besides, so many people saw that Chu Liuyue had won the battle herself!

Survival of the fittest! No wonder she was so confident... Jian Fengchi squinted his eyes. "You know to borrow influence, huh... We haven't even entered Xi Ling, but you've offended two clans already. I'm not sure whether to say that you've got guts or..."

"I had nothing to do with the first one."

"Don't worry. They've included you in the grudge anyway."

"So we're even now."

"..." Jian Fengchi suddenly felt that something was off. This girl really refuses to take any losses!

"Since the matter has been resolved, we should go too." Jian Fengchi raised his chin.

Chu Liuyue agreed.

The pair left Ping Liang Square, leaving the peering crowd behind.

After walking a distance, Jian Fengchi turned and glanced at Chu Liuyue several times before he asked her curiously, "Even though you do have the ability, aren't you afraid of offending so many people?"

"What is there to be afraid of?" Chu Liuyue looked at the heavy city gates before her and smiled. The people I'm going after are the most revered in Xi Ling City! What do these small fry count as? They are just appetizers! Since I've returned, I'm bent on turning the entire Xi Ling upside down!

Jian Fengchi paused when he saw the ripples in Chu Liuyue's eyes. For some reason, he felt that something about Chu Liuyue's aura was off... It seemed murderous!

Chu Liuyue smiled and headed for the city gates!

"Xi Ling is going to be exciting!"

Chapter 478: Liu Xingyi

Xi Ling City's gates were made using gilt bronze, which was very heavy and huge. Rumors had it that even a stage-eight warrior could only leave a few light marks on it at best, but the door couldn't be broken open.

The walls were made from greenish-grey marble and were very sturdy.

Thousands of years of wind and snow caused the ancient and holy imperial capital to look even more aged.

The city gates had three entrances, and the middle one was the largest. Only the most distinguished people of the Tianling Dynasty could enter through there.

Normally, this gate would be tightly shut.

A golden plaque was hung on the door, and it wrote: Xi Ling. It was majestic, solemn, and grand.

The two entrances at the side were for civilians to enter. Even though they were smaller than the middle entrance, all of them could take up to hundreds of people entering and leaving at the same time.

There were hundreds of Black Guards guarding near every entrance. Anyone who entered Xi Ling had to go through strict checks.

Even so, there were still many people coming in and out.

As the Tianling Dynasty's imperial capital, countless cultivators came forward as if they were going to heaven.

Chu Liuyue and Jian Fengchi followed the crowd and walked in.

But as the two of them had extraordinary appearances and many people had seen the commotion at Ping Liang Square, there seemed to be an invisible barrier surrounding the two of them, blocking others on the outside.

Walking to the entrance, a guard standing in front looked up and saw Jian Fengchi before he respectfully said, "Greetings—"

Jian Fengchi waved his hands and threw his plaque over. "I brought one person with me."

That guard looked at Jian Fengchi's humble manner and couldn't help but find it amazing. In the entire Xi Ling, this master is definitely the one that loves crowds the most. It's rare for him to be so low-key.

His gaze landed on Chu Liuyue beside him, and he looked surprised. "This is..."

Chu Liuyue passed her plaque over. "Country Yao Chen's Chu Liuyue."

So she's from outside Heaven's Canopy... and she's just a stage-three warrior? But since she could come with Jian Fengchi, I must give her face. He checked Chu Liuyue's plaque and was shocked.

This is clearly Lieutenant Mu's plaque! It seems like this woman's background is even more complicated than I imagined... He respectfully returned the plaques to the duo and looked at Chu Liuyue. "You came at the right time; the Wan Zheng Competition will start tomorrow. You just have to sign up at Xin Li Garden, and you can officially join the competition tomorrow."

Chu Liuyue was dazed. Wan Zheng Competition? I've never heard of it before.

Seeing Chu Liuyue's gaze, that guard thought that she didn't know where Xin Li Garden was. Hence, he said, "Do you need me to get someone and bring you over?"

Chu Liuyue instinctively shook her head. "... I can get Young Master Jian to help me. I don't need to trouble you."

Jian Fengchi raised his brows. This girl seems to make use of me very easily.

That guard was shocked before he glanced at Jian Fengchi carefully. Seeing that the latter didn't get angry, he became slightly more relaxed.

"That's right. I'll bring her there." Jian Fengchi curled his fingers at Chu Liuyue. "Follow me."

Chu Liuyue smiled lightly and followed him.

...

Xin Li Garden was a famous imperial garden in Xi Ling City, and it had already existed since their grand ancestor's time.

Chu Liuyue liked to go there when she was free. She didn't expect to go there once she came back.

Jian Fengchi walked in front, and he held a jade fan in his hand. "Xin Li Garden is a good place. You can go in and take a look later. In the past, not everyone could go in there."

Chu Liuyue could tell that he had something else to say, so she acted curious and conveniently asked, "In the past?"

"In the past, that garden was... Forget it. There's not much point in telling you all of this. Anyway, the view isn't bad."

Chu Liuyue sensibly changed the topic. "Then... What's up with the Wan Zheng Competition? Lieutenant Mu hadn't told me about this before."

Jian Fengchi paused in his actions, put away his fan, and lowered his chin. "That... It's just some boring competition. You'll find out yourself when you go there tomorrow."

Anyway, in his eyes, this was just Shangguan Wan and the others' way of saying things.

They set up this Wan Zheng Competition for no rhyme or reason in the name of cultivating talents, but who knew what they were up to?

Seeing Jian Fengchi's face of nonchalance, Chu Liuyue lightly nodded and didn't ask further.

The duo went forward and quickly reached Xin Li Garden.

But after they reached Xin Li Garden, Chu Liuyue sensitively noticed that there were quite a few strong warriors here.

Countless judging gazes swept across her.

Chu Liuyue acted as if she didn't know and followed behind Jian Fengchi obediently.

Two servants stood in front of Xin Li Garden.

Chu Liuyue quickly scanned them, and as expected, they were two unfamiliar faces.

But the two of them clearly recognized Jian Fengchi since their originally cold and solemn faces immediately revealed kind smiles. "Greetings, Young Master Jian."

Jian Fengchi waved his fan in frustration and asked, "How do we sign up for the Wan Zheng Competition?"

The duo's gazes landed on Chu Liuyue. Without asking, they knew he wanted to sign someone up. But... Jian Fengchi doesn't seem to be on the list of people bringing candidates over.

But they didn't dare to ask as they respectfully said, "Please come in. The reporting place is in Xiao Fu Garden. When you reach there, someone will naturally help you."

Jian Fengchi winked at Chu Liuyue, and he walked in first.

Chu Liuyue's expression didn't change as she stepped across the entrance.

A light fragrance wafted toward her nose. It contained some bitter notes, but it rejuvenated one's soul.

Xin Li Garden was very big, and it had all sorts of herbs and plants. Thus, this smell filled the entire garden.

Herbs that were rare outside could be found everywhere here.

Chu Liuyue's gaze lightly swept across every plant and wood as she sighed in her heart. I committed suicide, and my subordinates were all dismissed. However, these herbs were left behind in one piece.

Oh, I almost forgot that Shangguan Wan is also a heavenly doctor. I meticulously grew all these plants, but they all benefited Shangguan Wan in the end. Upon thinking of this, Chu Liuyue's eyes turned cold, but they returned to normal the next moment.

This was because there was something that she couldn't ignore—There were even more cultivators hidden in this Xin Li Garden!

Walking over, she felt that she had been scrutinized over and over.

Jian Fengchi clearly noticed this, and his expression turned cold. He walked across the front yard and passed the Seven Stars Bridge.

The duo finally arrived at Xiao Fu Garden.

A man that looked like he was in his thirties sat quietly behind a square table. Hearing the footsteps, that man looked up and smiled when he saw Jian Fengchi. "I was wondering who it was. So it's you."

Jian Fengchi knitted his brows. "Liu Xingyi? Why are you here?"

Enemies meet each other everywhere!

"The Third Princess sent me over. Where can I be if I'm not here?" said Liu Xingyi as he looked at Chu Liuyue with much interest. "This is the person you brought over?"

Chapter 479: Meeting Again

"Stage-three warrior... Hah, Jian Fengchi, can't you find stronger cultivators? You must know that before you came here, the warrior with the lowest cultivation level registered was peak stage-four. I think... You shouldn't participate in this Wan Zheng Competition anymore," said Liu Xingyi mockingly.

A tinge of hatred surfaced in Chu Liuyue's heart. This Liu Xingyi is one of Shangguan Wan's most trusted subordinates, and he is very scheming. Back then, I already disliked him, but Shangguan Wan always put in a good word for him because he saved her life in the past. Thus, I turned a blind eye to him.

He also has a bad relationship with Jian Fengchi. This was because Liu Xingyi once liked a woman a lot, but that woman was devoted to Jian Fengchi. And because she was rejected by him, she shaved her hair and became a nun in the end. Due to this, Liu Xingyi has a grudge against Jian Fengchi.

Actually, after thinking about it carefully, Jian Fengchi really had nothing to do with it. Even though he's flirtish and frequently has all sorts of romances, all of them involve willing parties. He is also very gentlemanly about it.

He didn't like that girl, so he directly rejected her. Who would've known things would come to that point? Liu Xingyi caused him small troubles repeatedly. At the start, Jian Fengchi didn't calculate it against him, but he was annoyed when the troubles never ended.

The two of them completely fell apart. When the two enemies met, sparks would fly.

"How can you decide if we want to participate or not? I already brought her over. You should know clearly what you should do," sneered Jian Fengchi.

Liu Xingyi was frustrated upon seeing his face, but there were many people watching in the dark. Thus, he naturally couldn't do anything absurd in public.

"Background, name, age." He flipped open a booklet and picked up a brush.

Chu Liuyue spoke. "Country Yao Chen, Chu Liuyue, 14."

Liu Xingyi paused in his writing and looked up at her. She is quite young...

"Warrior cultivation level."

"Stage-three."

Liu Xingyi laughed in mockery and disdain.

Chu Liuyue completely ignored him.

"Alright. Bring this and report to Xuan Ji Square tomorrow morning to join the Wan Zheng Competition." As he spoke, Liu Xingyi handed over a red string with a bronze pearl the size of a dragon's eye. "This represents your identity. If you lose it, it'll automatically be considered as you giving up."

Chu Liuyue took the bracelet. "Thank you, Lord Liu."

Liu Xingyi's gaze flashed, and he looked at Chu Liuyue determinedly as he laughed weirdly. "You are pretty sensible."

Even though she followed Jian Fengchi over, she is indeed a beauty. Perhaps I can find a chance...

Chu Liuyue pretended not to see the intention in his eyes.

Jian Fengchi already pulled her elbow. "Go, go, go! This place is filled with nastiness. I can't stay here for another minute."

Chu Liuyue was pulled until she staggered backward, but she wasn't dissatisfied with Jian Fengchi. Her lips curled up instead, and she softly said, "Thank you."

Does this girl know what kind of person Liu Xingyi is?! Jian Fengchi looked at her in exasperation. "Be careful of this person next time!"

Chu Liuyue felt that Jian Fengchi was pleasing to the eye for once, and she smiled with deep meaning. “I know.”

Jian Fengchi felt a little guilty from her unknown smile. He let go of her arm and quickly walked forward.

Chu Liuyue walked behind slowly and said, “Young Master Jian, don’t walk so fast. You still have to send me there!”

Jian Fengchi suddenly stopped in his tracks. Did I owe Chu Liuyue and Mu Qinghe in my previous life?

“Walk quickly!”

...

The duo’s figures gradually went far away.

Liu Xingyi slowly retracted his expression and became much more respectful. “Everyone, what do you think of this... Chu Liuyue?”

The entire Xiao Fu Garden was quiet, and one could only hear the winds rustling.

In the next moment, a hoarse voice sounded. “Dijing Yuan meridian—intermediate!”

Liu Xingyi was taken aback. That Chu Liuyue—who is just a mere stage-three warrior—actually has such a good Yuan meridian? Since she’s this talented, how can she only become a stage-three warrior when she’s 14? This doesn’t make sense at all, but even if I’m given all the guts in the world, I don’t dare to doubt this judgment.

He flipped open the booklet and added a tiny ‘intermediate’ under Chu Liuyue’s name.

...

Chu Liuyue and Jian Fengchi arrived at the Mu Residence.

Looking at the familiar door, Chu Liuyue was dazed for a while.

As the lieutenant of the Black Guard, Mu Qinghe held a high position and was long given a residence.

He was always frugal and didn’t care much about these types of things. At the start, Chu Liuyue was the one who helped pick this place, and most of the interior design was done according to her likings.

She didn’t expect him to still stay here obediently after so long.

Chu Liuyue’s lips moved slightly. She originally wanted to laugh, but she could not.

This scene was too offensive.

Two guards wearing black armor stood outside the Mu Residence entrance. When they saw Jian Fengchi, one of them immediately went forward. “Greetings, Young Master Jian!”

Jian Fengchi asked, “Where’s your Master? I personally brought his person over. Why doesn’t he want to come out?”

That soldier respectfully said, “Young Master, Lieutenant isn’t in the residence. But before he left, he instructed that you can just go in directly if you brought someone over.”

“He’s not in? Where did he go?” asked Jian Fengchi casually.

The two soldiers glanced at each other and looked like they were in a difficult position. “I... don’t know either.”

Jian Fengchi lightly grunted. Even though Xi Ling City is big, Mu Qinghe only goes to a few places.

He waved the jade fan. “I still have something on, so I’ll go first. Your Lieutenant personally brought this Ms. Chu over, so you must take care of her. Do you understand?!”

The two of them glanced at Chu Liuyue, but they looked very composed. “Yes!”

Chu Liuyue thought to herself in a mocking manner: These are indeed the soldiers Mu Qinghe personally trained. Even after seeing my appearance and cultivation level, they didn’t show the same expression as others at all. They looked at me as if they were looking at a block of wood.

Mu Qinghe trained soldiers in a disciplined and strict manner. This was also why he could win every battle he fought.

Jian Fengchi turned around and winked at Chu Liuyue. “Go yourself.”

Chu Liuyue thanked him again and stepped into the house when Jian Fengchi left.

A soldier quickly walked up. “Ms. Chu, follow me.”

Mu Residence had no servants or pageboys. All the people serving here were Black Guards.

Chu Liuyue slightly nodded and followed him.

The moment she took two steps, a strange commotion sounded beside her.

As if sensing something, Chu Liuyue looked up.

A green figure quickly flew over—it was Hong Yao!

Chu Liuyue smiled. “Hong Yao, long time no—”

Before she could finish her sentence, her smile suddenly froze.

Hong Yao’s wings had bloodstains!

Chapter 480: Acknowledge You as Owner!

But Hong Yao quickly landed on Chu Liuyue’s shoulders and retracted its wings.

The soldier who was leading the way did not notice this abnormality.

The other shoulder sank slightly, and it was Tuan Zi that came out.

It crossed its arms and glared at Hong Yao. Just when Chu Liuyue thought it was going to cause trouble for Hong Yao, Tuan Zi curled its tail and sat on her shoulders obediently.

Chu Liuyue heaved a sigh of relief. It's rare to see the two of them not fight.

Chu Liuyue looked at the soldier in front and saw that he was looking at her in shock.

"Is there something on my face?" asked Chu Liuyue.

"Ah? No—nothing!" That soldier suddenly recovered his senses and hurriedly lowered his head, but the turmoil in his heart couldn't be appeased. Hong Yao is actually so close to this Ms. Chu! One has to know that other than Lieutenant Mu, others can't even touch it. I wonder how Ms. Chu did this...

All the soldiers who entered Mu Residence were all trained and disciplined.

Even though he was very shocked and curious about this, his expression quickly returned to normal.

"Ms. Chu, please head here—"

Chu Liuyue followed him to a small yard at the Mu Residence's back.

"Lieutenant said that when you come, you'll stay in Feng He Garden first. The interior and exterior have been cleaned and tidied, so you can just live here without any worries. During this time, I'll be in charge of everything related to you."

Chu Liuyue slightly nodded and smiled. "Thank you... May I know how I should address you?"

"I'm Duan Ziyu, Black Guard military officer!" said Duan Ziyu confidently with his back straight.

"Thank you, Officer Duan."

"You're welcome, Ms. Chu!"

Chu Liuyue pointed toward the inside. "Then, I'll go in first?"

Duan Ziyu said, "Go ahead."

Chu Liuyue then walked toward Feng He Garden. Without turning around, she also knew that Duan Ziyu was standing outside the garden.

Actually, she could feel that quite a few people were hiding in all directions of Feng He Garden, not just Duan Ziyu.

Chu Liuyue didn't care if they were protecting her or watching her. Either way, she had a lot of things to do since she was at Xi Ling.

She walked into the room, closed the doors and windows, sat down, and went to examine Hong Yao.

She let Hong Yao hug her obediently.

Chu Liuyue pulled open its wings and saw a light wound as expected.

The bloodstains had dried, and the wound just formed a scab. It looked like it was a recent wound, but it was lucky that it wasn't lethal.

But the key point was: Hong Yao was a high-level fiend itself, and everyone knew that it was Mu Qinghe's fiend. Who would be so daring as to injure it?

“Who?” asked Chu Liuyue shortly with knitted brows.

But Hong Yao just hugged her hand and leaned its forehead close to her palm. Its clear ruby eyes had a rare tinge of sadness and melancholy.

A hot tear silently dropped.

Chu Liuyue felt pain in her heart. She always doted on Hong Yao and couldn't bear to see it this sad.

“What's the matter? Who bullied you?” Chu Liuyue gently wiped its tears and gently asked. In Xi Ling, Hong Yao is known as the number one bully. There really aren't many people who dare to bully it...

Hong Yao just shook its head.

Chu Liuyue pondered for a moment. If it got injured because of normal fighting, it definitely wouldn't have this reaction. It seems like it has more to do with... Mu Qinghe.

“Where's your Master?” asked Chu Liuyue.

Hong Yao did not move and did not say anything.

Chu Liuyue was helpless and could only pat its head lightly. Mu Qinghe's situation shouldn't be great...

Hong Yao quickly fell asleep in her hands. Chu Liuyue then carefully put it down.

Tuan Zi squatted beside it, a rare occurrence.

Chu Liuyue felt slightly more relaxed, glanced at the bracelet on her wrist, and hesitated for a moment before taking it off.

She sat cross-legged, and her hands were on her knees. She gently closed her eyes and started to cultivate.

Everything happened too suddenly when she broke through and became a stage-three warrior, so she didn't have the time to check her condition properly.

Now, she finally could calm down.

In her dantian, the three lines on the water droplet quietly floated.

The transparent fire in the Heavenly Square Cauldron kept burning, and the soul trapped within it was on its last breath.

Chu Liuyue knew that it still had to burn for some time, so she didn't care much about it.

“Purplish-gold Buddha leaf,” said the legendary three-eyed eagle suddenly.

Chu Liuyue was dazed. “What?”

“If you want to recover my physical body, you need purplish-gold Buddha leaf. The garden that you went to today had this thing,” explained the legendary three-eyed eagle.

Chu Liuyue frowned. “Xin Li Garden? There isn't such a thing there.”

“Yes, there is. My instincts won't be wrong.”

“No—” Chu Liuyue instinctively wanted to deny it. She had personally taken care of many of the herbs in Xin Li Garden, so she naturally knew what they contained. At the very least, the garden definitely didn’t have any purplish-gold Buddha leaf when she was around.

This was because this herb was only a rumored existence in the entire Tianling Dynasty.

Besides, the purplish-gold Buddha leaf was a very rare herb. Rumors had it that the leaf’s fragrance could travel for hundreds of miles. If Xin Li Garden really had it, why couldn’t she smell it?

“Did you get it wrong?” asked Chu Liuyue.

The legendary three-eyed eagle’s voice was kind of cold. “The purplish-gold Buddha tree is a legendary tree in my clan. Why would I recognize it wrongly?”

Chu Liuyue instantly couldn’t retort. The legendary three-eyed eagle really has no need to lie to me. Then... Did someone put it there after my death? But do Shangguan Wan and Jiang Yucheng have the ability to get a purplish-gold Buddha tree?

“Then, do you know where the purplish-gold Buddha leaf is?”

“I know the rough position, but... There’s a challenge apart from that. Besides, the thousand-year purplish-gold Buddha leaf has its own spiritual energy. Not only is it very good at defense, but it can also hide itself very well. Even if normal people see it, they won’t be able to recognize it, much less get it. Based on your current abilities... Dream on.”

Chu Liuyue was speechless. What’s the use of you telling me that?!

She slowly said, “So you’re telling me this to insult me?”

“Of course not. I don’t have that luxury.”

“...”

Can’t you talk properly then?!

“An average person can’t even get close to a purplish-gold Buddha leaf, let alone take it. But you have my aura, so all of this isn’t a problem.”

Chu Liuyue frowned. “You’re in my dantian. As long as there’s no need to hide, my body has your aura. Isn’t this enough?”

“Of course not.” The legendary three-eyed eagle paused for a while and said, “My physical body is now ruined, and only my legendary soul is left, which has nothing to do with you. Even though my aura can exude from your body, it has nothing to do with your aura on its own.”

Chu Liuyue asked, “What should we do then?”

The legendary three-eyed eagle did not speak for a long time.

Just as Chu Liuyue thought it wasn’t going to speak, its voice finally sounded. “If I acknowledge you as my Master, you can take the purplish-gold Buddha leaf!”