

## The Eternal 41

### Chapter 41: Uncle Li

Meng Bai fell to the ground with his left cheek swollen like a steamed bun and his mouth full of blood. Astonished, he froze in place while Meng Wu covered her mouth in fright and hurried forward to help him up.

“You...Who are you to slap me!” Meng Bai pointed at Yunxiao and screamed.

“Who am I to slap you? I’m your Master!” Yunxiao said coldly. “I told you to practice hard the first three styles of the Tyrant Body Tempering Technique. Have you done as I bid?”

“I...I need to earn money to support my family!” Meng Bai puffed out his chest and said. “I’m a man, and I can’t let my sister work alone to make money. I want to support my sister!”

Meng Wu felt a sting in her nose as she quickly grabbed Meng Bai and said, “Stop talking, brother! Apologize to Young Master Yun now!”

“Apologize? Why should I apologize? He slapped me for no reason, and as a Master, he doesn’t teach me anything good! He only teaches some useless stuff! What kind of master is he?” Meng Bai shouted in an agitated tone.

“You ungrateful little sh\*t!” Yunxiao said coldly. “Kneel!”

He flicked his finger and sent out two streams of force, hitting Meng Bai on the knees. Blood spurted out as Meng Bai felt a sharp pain in his legs and fell to his knees uncontrollably.

“I refuse to obey! You are just one year older than me! In another year, you will be no match for me! You’re merely bullying me! Kill me if you can!” A grievance welled up in Meng Bai’s heart, making him roar uncontrollably.

A trace of killing intent flashed through Yunxiao's eyes. "Do you think I dare not kill you? A useless disciple like you is a disgrace for me! It's no big deal to kill you!"

The killing intent immediately spread from him, causing Meng Wu to be scared out of her wits. She knew Yunxiao's temper very well, and he might actually kill her brother. "Young Master Yun, don't!" She burst into tears.

She kept slapping Meng Bai on the head and said, "You piss me off! What did I raise you up for? Apologize to your Master now! Otherwise, I won't recognize you as my brother!"

"Sis!" Meng Bai, looking aggrieved, but he still refused to give in.

"What's all this noise about?"

From outside the door came a strong voice, and then a burly fellow strode into the house.

"Uncle Li...It's Uncle Li!" Meng Bai was overjoyed and cried out hastily. "Uncle Li, save me!" He struggled to stand up, but Yunxiao's forces had burst the blood vessels and veins on his legs, causing him to struggle several times and then kneel back down on the ground.

"Meng Bai? What's going on here?" Uncle Li walked over. "Meng Wu, what happened?"

Meng Bai pointed to Yunxiao and said, "Uncle Li, this guy forced me to acknowledge him as my Master, and now he says he wants to kill me!"

"Oh?" Uncle Li looked up at Yunxiao with a flicker of surprise in his eyes, but he quickly sneered, "A three-stars warrior? Boy, you are quite gifted, but you are wrong to be so domineering."

"Who are you? Why do you interfere with me teaching my disciple a lesson?" Yunxiao said coldly.

Uncle Li said angrily, "What an arrogant boy! Don't you think you are too young to be someone's Master? It seems I must teach you a lesson today!"

Meng Wu was very anxious. She hurried up to Uncle Li and grabbed his hand as she said, "That's not the way it is, Uncle Li! Don't listen to Meng Bai! He's making things up!"

Meng Bai said loudly, "I'm not making up a story! This is the truth! If I ever want to acknowledge a Master, I'll find an expert like Uncle Li!"

A flicker of pride flashed across Uncle Li's face. "Good! Meng Bai, I'll take you as my disciple today! When you break through and become a warrior, we will form a mercenary group, and then your income will be hundreds of times higher than you digging in the mine now!"

"A mercenary group?" Meng Bai's eyes gleamed with excitement. "That's great! Uncle Li, you'll be the leader of the group and I will be your assistant! Also, I want to learn Tiger Knuckle Fist!"

"Haha! Good! In fact, I know not only Tiger Knuckle Fist, but also Clenched Fist and Iron Palm. I'll teach them all to you!" Uncle Li seemed very happy, but when he turned to look at Yunxiao, his face slowly became gloomy. "But first, let me get rid of this unwelcomed Master of yours now!" he sneered.

"No, Uncle Li!" Meng Wu was terrified as she knew Yunxiao's strength. Although Uncle Li was a five-stars warrior, there was no way he could withstand a strike from Yunxiao!

Uncle Li sneered, "Don't worry, Meng Wu! I'll just teach him a lesson and won't really hurt him." He could tell that Yunxiao had an extraordinary cultivation base at such a young age, and was worried that he might have some unusual background. So, he did not dare to use all his strength.

With a trace of disdain in his eyes, Yunxiao said coldly, "I'll just stand here without moving, dodging, or fighting back, and not even use my Primordial Qi. If you can hurt even just one of my hair, I'll kneel in front of you and lick your shoes today!"

Without moving, dodging, fighting back, and not even use Primordial Qi...

Uncle Li was struck dumb, but then he flew into a rage and bellowed, "Boy, you really don't know the height of the sky! You won't move, dodge, and not even use your Primordial Qi? Ha! Even if a Martial

Sovereign of the Nine Heavens realm was here, I'll beat him to the ground with my Clenched Fist and Iron Palm!"

Meng Wu, too, was stunned, and did not know how to react for a moment.

Just then, Uncle Li had already rushed forward and threw out a Clenched Fist. Initially, he only intended to use seventy percent of his strength, but had used up to ninety percent now. The more he looked at the boy, the more he disliked him; so, he planned to give him a hard lesson.

However, at the moment he threw out his fist, his heart suddenly shook. He saw Yunxiao's pupils began to change strangely, twisting into two blood-red crescent moons.

Yunxiao cried out softly, "Universal Soul Suppressor, Forbidden Expansion!"

Uncle Li's soul trembled violently; his mind was lost in an instant, and he coughed out a mouthful of heart's blood!

"Uncle Li!" Meng Wu and Meng Bai were terrified. In their eyes, Yunxiao did not move, dodge, or use Primordial Qi, and yet Uncle Li coughed out a mouthful of blood for no apparent reason, seeming to have suffered a serious injury.

"Hmph! Get down on your knees!" Yunxiao cried out.

Uncle Li seemed to have lost his soul and his eyes were vacant. At Yunxiao's voice, his knees fell directly to the ground.

Meng Bai was thoroughly dumbfounded. His mind was blank and he had no idea what was going on. "Uncle Li, stand up! Stand up!" he suddenly shouted. "Hit him with your Clenched Fist! And your Iron Palm! Slap him and make him vomit blood!"

"Come and lick my shoes!" Yunxiao ordered again.

Uncle Li did not resist at all. He crawled to Yunxiao's feet obediently, then lowered his head and stuck out his tongue to lick his sole.

"Oh no!" Meng Wu covered her mouth anxiously and screamed.

"Hmph!" Just as Uncle Li stuck out his tongue to lick Yunxiao's sole, he kicked him in the chest and sent him flying away. "You are not worthy of even licking my shoes!"

Meng Bai was completely stunned!

Uncle Li, who was extremely tough in his mind, was kicked away by Yunxiao like a puppy...

Yunxiao stared coldly at the absent-minded Meng Bai and said coldly, "I thought you said you wanted to die? Now it's your turn."

A sense of death immediately enveloped Meng Bai, making him shiver with fear. "No, don't come here!"

Meng Wu hurried up to Yunxiao and stopped him while crying, "Young Master Yun, please forgive him! My brother is young and ignorant. If you want to blame, blame me for not teaching him well as his sister!"

Yunxiao sighed and said, "I thought he is gifted. Forget it! I don't need this disciple!" When he had finished, he turned and was about to leave.

Meng Bai froze for a moment, then he suddenly saw the light. "Wait, don't go!" he shouted. As his legs were injured, he still could not stand up, so he quickly crawled over and hugged Yunxiao's leg. "I don't want you to go! I want to learn martial arts from you! Master, please teach me! I was wrong!"

"Hmph! I don't have a good-for-nothing disciple like you."

"I'm really sorry! Master, please forgive me for once!" When he had finished, he hurriedly kowtowed several times.

Meng Wu also said hastily, “Young Master Yun, please forgive him. I promise that I will never let him go mining again. I will definitely make him practice at home.”

“Sis, I can no longer let you earn money to support us alone,” Meng Bai said. “I’ll still go mining, but as for what Master has taught me, I will certainly practice with all my heart. Please forgive me, Master!”

Yunxiao said coldly, “I will give you another chance. If you can open all seven chakras and become a warrior of the Origin realm in five days, I will still recognize you as my disciple. Otherwise, scram as far as you can!”

“Five days?” Meng Wu was dumbfounded. “Young Master Yun, my brother has only opened five chakras. How can he open seven chakras in five days?”

Meng Bai was also startled, but then he put on a determined expression as he gritted his teeth and said, “Fine! I’ll do it in five days! Since the Master has given me five days, he must think that I can!”

Yunxiao snorted coldly and left without looking back. “I’ll come back to check your result in five days.” His voice came from a distance.

Initially, he was angry that Meng Bai dared to disobey his orders. No disciple of his had ever dared to disobey him. But then, he felt that this kid’s heart was good and worth cultivating, so he decided to give him another chance.

He found a random hotel near the suburbs and stayed in it. In the room, he took out the Black Girl and activated ten times the force of gravity before beginning meditation.

The Primordial Qi he absorbed from Meng Bai’s body last time had been digested almost completely, leaving only a mass of toxin wrapped in his dantian. Coupled with his recovery after refining in the Alchemist Association, his Primordial Qi had now reached the peak of the three-stars level. Yunxiao did not dare to be careless, so he cautiously controlled the Primordial Qi in his body and began to circulate it over and over again.

Five days passed in an instant, but an unusual event took place during this period, except that it had nothing to do with ordinary people.

Xu Han, the president of the Alchemist Association, and Zhang Qingfan, the chief alchemist of the imperial palace, suddenly announced that they would be cultivating in seclusion for an indefinite period of time. For the first time in decades, two third-tier alchemists were cultivating in seclusion for a long time.

During normal times, there must be a master presiding over the work outside. Hence, all the affairs of the Alchemist Association were handed over to Liang Wenyu, a second-tier alchemist. As for Zhang Qingfan's affairs, they were handed over to Shi Zhen, another second-tier alchemist.

The news immediately set the outside world abuzz, and the higher-ups of the state were all analyzing the significance contained in it. They even sent out men to find out more details about it, but found nothing. Before the two masters began cultivating in seclusion, they said nothing and did not let others ask any questions.

Compared to the news of the two masters entering seclusion, the news that Jia Rong, who was known as the most promising first-tier alchemist, also entering seclusion was insignificant, and hence, did not attract any attention.

## Chapter 42: A Man In Black

Yunxiao had not taken a step outside during the five days of secluded cultivation, so he naturally did not know what had happened.

Five days later, he finally came out of his guest room, and his aura had risen to another level—he had successfully broken through and become a four-stars warrior.

When he stepped into Meng Wu's house again, he immediately heard Meng Bai's screams and Meng Wu's sobs.

“Brother, stop practicing! Stop immediately!”

“No, I feel like I’m on the verge of breaking through!”

“The poison in you is scaring me! If you continue like this, you will die!”

“Even if I die, I want to break through! AHHH!”

A cry of pain rang out. Meng Bai’s body was covered with countless green spots, making him look like a moldy radish while many parts of his skin were festering. However, the Primordial Qi in him was growing stronger and stronger, while cyclones formed directly outside of his body, rotating and converging toward his dantian.

“AHHH!”

All of a sudden, he threw his head back and roared. A mighty force instantly exploded out from his seven chakras and converged into a line, rushing toward his dantian. A loud boom rang out of his body as his dantian was blasted apart and began to rotate slowly like a nebula—his Qi Sea was born.

“I...I’ve made it! Haha! Sis, I’ve made it!” Meng Bai was delirious with joy.

With tears hung on her cheeks, Meng Wu said pitifully, “Look, you are covered in poison. I’ll go get Young Master Yun now! Only he can get rid of the poison on you!” As soon as she turned around, she found Yunxiao already standing at the door.

“Tsk, tsk! You have produced a lot more poison again. Not bad, not bad at all! I can enjoy a great tonic once more!” Yunxiao clicked his tongue as he walked over while smiling.

“Master, I’ve broken through! I’ve really broken through and become a warrior in five days!” Meng Bai was still in a state of extreme excitement.

“Yes, you did well! I saw it all...Now, you should sit cross-legged down and let me suck the poison out of you.” Without waiting for an answer, Yunxiao placed a palm on Meng Bai’s shoulder and pressed him down, then exercised the One Qi of Destiny and began crazily absorbing the poison.

After enough time went by for an incense stick to burn, Meng Bai's painful expression was completely relieved, and all the green spots on his body disappeared. His skin now looked as smooth as jade.

"Master, why do I feel that although the pain is gone after you have absorbed the poison in my body, I've lost a lot of strength at the same time?" he asked curiously.

Yunxiao smiled and said, "That's because your physical constitution is the Heaven Earth Venomous Body, and your poison is the source of poison which contains innate energy. The stronger the poison, the stronger your strength will be. But, your current cultivation base simply cannot withstand the poison. With the improvement of your cultivation base, your endurance will become stronger, and the poison will become stronger as well. When the balance is reached, you will not only not be eroded by the poison, but will be able to exert this source of poison as well."

He narrowed his eyes and said seriously, "The day you can use the source of poison in your body, you will be absolutely invincible among those of the same rank as you, unless you meet someone who was also born with other extremely strong physical constitution like you!"

"Other extremely strong physical constitutions?" Meng Bai asked in surprise. "So, the poison in my body is actually a good thing?"

Yunxiao laughed. "Of course, it's a good thing! Why else would I absorb it? In addition to your Heaven Earth Venomous Body, there are many special physical constitutions in this world, and they all have great power. As long as you keep going along the road of martial arts, you will naturally meet them in the future."

Meng Bai's eyes widened as he said, "It turns out that the Master has been taking advantage of me..."

Yunxiao blushed as he quickly took out the ten detoxification pills from his ring and gave them to Meng Bai as he said, "Each of these detoxification pills can suppress the poison in you for three days. When I am not by your side, you can use them to suppress the poison in your body. However, the fundamental solution is to improve your strength and rely on your cultivation base to suppress it."

"Hurry up and thank your Master!" Meng Wu said with great joy.

Yunxiao took out an origin impacting pill and handed it to her. “You, too, are gifted. But, because you are busy working every day to make money and do not practice, you have been stuck in the realm of apprentice warriors. After taking this origin impacting pill, you will become a warrior immediately.”

“An origin impacting pill?” Meng Wu was shocked, but then she took the pill joyously and said gratefully, “This thing is very expensive, and even the worst quality one on the market can sell for more than a thousand gold coins.”

‘You can’t even buy the pill I refined in my previous life for ten million supreme-grade Primordial Stones,’ Yunxiao thought to himself.

“Meng Bai! Meng Bai! Are you going to mine today?” A familiar voice came from outside the door and then Uncle Li came in. But when he saw Yunxiao, his face turned pale instantly and he was frozen at the door.

“Uncle Li, look, I’ve broken through and become a warrior!” Meng Bai said excitedly.

Uncle Li was stunned, and his eyes flashed with shock as he said with a wry smile, “You are really a little monster!” Then, he muttered in a low voice, “Your Master is a monster, too!”

Yunxiao said coldly, “You, come here!”

Uncle Li trembled, and there was a look of fear in his eyes. Not daring to disobey, he walked over obediently. The atmosphere in the room suddenly became tense.

“Master, don’t make things difficult for Uncle Li,” Meng Bai said nervously.

“What’s your name?” Yunxiao asked.

In fear and trepidation, Uncle Li said hastily, “Everyone calls me Uncle Li, so you can call me Uncle Li as well.”

Yunxiao's face immediately darkened, and he said in a fit of slight anger, "No one has ever dared to call himself 'uncle' in front of me. Do you want to die?"

Startled, Uncle Li said in a shaking voice, "Li...Li Dayuan, my name is Li Dayuan."

Only then did Yunxiao nod. "Where do you usually mine?"

"It used to be in Fivepeaks Vein, but the place was taken over by the official later on," Li Dayuan answered honestly. "Now, we are all digging in some small veins next to Fivepeaks. As the deposit is meager, the officials pay us no mind. However, it is also because the officials pay us no mind that the competition there is quite fierce. But, I'm a five-stars warrior, and no one dares to steal from me usually."

'As a five-stars warrior, he still went to mine. This guy is indeed quite different.' Yunxiao asked again, "Have you ever come across the raw ore of Purple Sun Stone after digging for so many years?"

Meng Bai quickly described the shape and characteristics of the Purple Sun Stone. After hearing Yunxiao say that this kind of stone was valuable last time, he also went to look for it, but never came across any.

Li Dayuan cocked his head and thought for a while, then said, "I think I've seen it in Fivepeaks Vein before, but that place is now sealed up by the officials."

Yunxiao asked while frowning, "Sealed up by the officials? Is it His Majesty who sealed it?"

"No," Li Dayuan shook his head and said, "The order came from the Mansion of Duke Jingguo. It is the Li Family who sent people to seal it. They said it is a strategic reserve vein and no private digging is allowed."

Meng Wu gave Yunxiao an astonished look.

“...Li Dayuan, you don't have to go mining in the future. I'm giving you a job now. I want you to sneak into the Li Family's mining team and find Purple Sun Stones for me. All you need to do is provide me with clues. No matter what the result is, I'll give you five hundred gold coins a month.”

“Five hundred gold coins a month!” Li Dayuan and Meng Bai were both taken aback. If he had not known Yunxiao's terrifying strength, Li Dayuan would have thought that he was lying to him. He became excited immediately as he said while slapping his chest, “Rest assured, little Master! Many of their miners are acquaintances I used to work with. They invited me several times, but I didn't go because they only pay ten gold coins a month. Don't worry, as long as there are such stones in the vein, I'll find them for you!”

Yunxiao nodded and said, “You can leave now. I have something to discuss with them.”

Hearing that, Li Dayuan left in high spirits.

Yunxiao glanced at the brother and sister. “Go and change into cleaner clothes and come to a feast with me.”

“A feast?” Meng Wu was shocked. “Where's the feast?”

Yunxiao said calmly, “The palace.”

The brother and sister, “...”

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Women were troublesome.

Meng Bai had changed into a random but clean suit. Meng Wu, on the other hand, had already taken out all her clothes and changed into them one by one, yet was not satisfied. As a result, she pestered Yunxiao and Meng Bai to accompany her to the market for most of the day before finally buying a pink dress.

Just when Yunxiao and Meng Bai breathed a sigh of relief, she dragged them out again to buy cosmetics, earrings, hairpins, embroidered shoes...

Yunxiao's forehead was dripping with cold sweat. "It occurs to me that I have some very important thing to deal with. I'll meet you at the front gate of the palace in the evening."

He turned and ran away as soon as he finished speaking, and only after speeding across several streets did he breathe a sigh of relief. Then, he bought a stick of roasted beef balls from a stall on the roadside and walked leisurely along the street while eating. "I'm still more relaxed by myself."

Suddenly, a figure clad in black appeared behind him and shouted softly, "Li Yunxiao!"

When Yunxiao turned back, the man in black stepped out and quickly disappeared into the crowd.

"Hmph! Trying to play a trick on me?"

He ate the last beef ball and lightly flicked the skewer out of his hand. Although there were many people nearby, the bamboo skewer was chasing straight at the black figure as if it had eyes.

The black-clad man's eyes filled with horror. He had already mixed into the crowd, but the bamboo skewer could still find him so accurately! He quickly turned and mustered his strength as he threw out a palm, trying to break the skewer.

"Ouch!"

However, the man let out a muffled cry of pain in the next moment, and was horrified to find that the skewer had pierced through the wind created by his palm and penetrated his palm!"

"How's that possible?" He stared blankly at his palm—an ordinary bamboo skewer was stuck in it, still smelling of roasted beef balls...

He suddenly felt a cool breeze blowing on his face, and when he looked up, he saw Yunxiao's face approaching. He cried with terror and hurriedly retreated.

"Hmph!"

Yunxiao gave a cold snort and lightly kicked on the ground, arriving in front of the man in black in the blink of an eye. Under the frightened glance of the man, he stabbed his five fingers like claws into the man's shoulder, then lifted him and glided away.

The man felt a sharp pain on his shoulder before the circulation of his Primordial Qi seemed to be interrupted by an external force, which made him unable to muster any strength. That was why Yunxiao lifted him like a chick.

Bam!

In an empty alley, Yunxiao threw the black-clad man on the ground like a bag of rubbish and said coldly, "Who are you? What do you want from me? Speak!"

At the moment of falling to the ground, the man felt that his shoulder was loosened and the external force in his body had been withdrawn. Subsequently, his Primordial Qi began to circulate smoothly again. He was instantly shocked, and his eyes were full of incredulity.

#### Chapter 43: Palace Feast

Originally, the black-clad man was trying to lead Yunxiao to a deserted place to deliver a message, but unexpectedly, he was caught and brought away by him instead. With a bitter smile, he said helplessly, "Young Master Yunxiao, it's me."

He took off his black mask, revealing a helpless face and a wry smile.

Yunxiao squinted at him and said, "Oh, it's Li Xian! Why aren't you with Fourth Uncle? What do you want from me?" Li Xian was a member of the Li Family's branch. As his strength was pretty strong, he was promoted to work beside Li Baifeng, one of Yunxiao's uncles.

"Young Master, it turns out that the rumors about you are true!" Li Xian said with shock in his eyes. "You have defeated Lan Xuan, a peak nine-stars warrior with just one move, and saved the Princess by stimulating her acupoints with gold needles! Young Master, you were hiding so deeply from all of us!"

"Go straight to the point."

"Are you going to attend the palace feast tonight?"

"If you don't cut the crap, I'll leave." Yunxiao gave him an indifferent look, obviously without much patience.

Li Xian shook his head and said with a wry smile, "Young Master, you know the current situation of the Li Family. The rumors about you have caused a lot of uproar recently, and have attracted Li Yi's attention. Fourth Master has received news that he will certainly find some way to deal with you if you attend the feast tonight. Now is not the time for us to contend with him, so Fourth Master hopes that you can absent tonight and not clash with Li Yi."

Yunxiao smiled faintly and said, "Boring! He is just a clown, and I have never put him in my mind." His eyes narrowed slightly as he said in a cold voice, "However, if he is stupid enough to jump in front of me, I don't mind crushing him to pieces."

'Crushing him to pieces...'

Li Xian shook his head and thought to himself that Yunxiao was too young after all. "Li Yi is by no means as simple as he appears," he said gravely. "Right now, almost the entire Li Family is under his control. Young Master, since you've been patient for so long, you must not act in a rush now! Fourth Master and several family elders are also secretly planning things. We will fight this thief when the time is right!"

Yunxiao sneered, "As an adopted son who was given the family name because he had done a good job as a slave, what trouble can he cause?"

“Young Master, you must not underestimate him!” Li Xian said seriously. “This Li Yi is not only strong in his own strength, but there must be some power supporting him from behind! Master is worried about Old Master and you, Young Master, so he has not dared to act. Young Master, you just need to get out of his way for a while. When Master and Fourth Master have finished their preparations, we can naturally annihilate these thieves in one stroke.”

The Master he mentioned was Yunxiao’s father, General Feilong-Li Changfeng.

“Hmph! I’m not interested in your child’s play. As for the power behind Li Yi, I can’t say about others, but His Majesty the King must be a part of them. Otherwise, how could a clown have the ability to control a famous family with incomparable credit, whose Old Master is a peak-level Martial Lord of the Four Quadrants realm?”

Li Xian was dumbfounded by what Yunxiao had said, and was so horrified that his forehead was dripping with cold sweat.

He had been following Fourth Master Li Baifeng for some time and had heard some information, but it was not until recently that he heard Li Baifeng talk about the possible involvement of His Majesty’s power behind this matter. At that time, everyone was shocked and could not believe it. He did not expect Yunxiao to have guessed it so easily...

He cried out involuntarily, “Young Master, how...how did you guess it?”

“It’s obvious!” Yunxiao said calmly. “My grandfather has the greatest military achievements, so many men will respond to his call. Moreover, my father is in charge of a million troops, guarding the western border. Right now, the military of the whole state is almost the private army of my family. If you were the king, could you sleep soundly under such circumstances? The rapid rise of the Lan Family in recent years tells us that it is a pawn used by His Majesty to restrict us. Even so, Qin Zheng was not at ease, so he created a puppet, Li Yi, and used this puppet to divide my family from within while restricting my father. This is the situation His Majesty would like to see.”

“This...” A huge wave surged in Li Xian’s heart. He did not think Yunxiao could analyze such a complicated situation so clearly. “Are you going to give in without a fight?” he asked in shock.

Yunxiao smiled faintly and said, "You don't have to worry about it. Go back and tell Fourth Uncle not to worry either, and ask him to do whatever he usually does. My grandfather and father will naturally find a way to deal with this matter. Isn't the situation very good now? The King is comfortable enough not to bother us. When he leaves us alone, my grandfather and father will be comfortable as well. It was not easy for everyone to get a balanced and happy situation, so don't make a mess out of it."

Li Xian's eyeballs almost fell out when he heard that as he said in shock, "Could it be...could it be that this matter..."

"That's enough!" Yunxiao interrupted him impatiently with a wave of his hand and said, "I'm not interested in participating in your affairs. However, if Li Yi is stupid enough to mess around with me, or Qin Zheng is tired of being the King, I don't mind...helping him to change into a better position."

Li Xian was so terrified that he almost fell to the ground, gasping as his head went black for an instant. As he watched Yunxiao's figure fade away, he felt his head buzzing as he was left completely stupefied!

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It was soon evening, and there was an endless stream of people in front of the palace, all of whom were important officials and pillars of the state. Many students of Jialan Academy also came to the feast with their elders in the family. Every palace feast was an excellent opportunity for these people to network and get closer to each other.

"Young Master Yun?"

Chen Zhen and Han Bai came together; their families were also important military officials. Dissatisfied with the King's attitude toward the Li Family, their elders seldom participated in such palace feasts, and usually sent juniors to attend.

"Where have you been these days, Young Master Yun?" As soon as Chen Zhen came over, he punched Yunxiao hard on the shoulder.

But, his face fell instantly. Looking at his red and swollen fist in horror, he cried out, "What's the matter with your body? Why is it hard like iron? My hand is swollen!"

Yunxiao smiled faintly as he took out two origin impacting pills from his ring before handing them to the two. "After taking this origin impacting pill, you two should be able to break through and become warriors directly."

Chen Zhen said incredulously, "How is this possible? I've just opened four chakras."

Han Bai picked up a pill and glanced at it, then said in doubt, "Is this really an origin impacting pill? Young Master Yun, don't lie to us! I have seen them before. Most of them are grayish-white, while some of the best ones are milky white. How can there be origin impacting pills as transparent as glass beads?"

Yunxiao laughed, "Give them back to me if you don't want. They are refined by Master Zhang Qingfan."

"What!" Both of them were taken aback. They hurriedly looked at the pills over and over again, then each took out a jade box and carefully put the pill inside.

Han Bai suddenly said mysteriously, "Young Master Yun, is Master Zhang and Master Xu's sudden announcement of secluded cultivation related to you?"

"Oh? Are they cultivating in seclusion? Why do you think it has something to do with me?" Yunxiao asked in surprise.

Chen Zhen felt dizzy. "Heavens! Don't you know such big news? Where have you been these days? The two of them began cultivating in seclusion as soon as the Princess recovered from her illness, and Master Zhang gave you the origin impacting pills. So, we guess this has something to do with you."

Yunxiao just smiled but did not say a word. It was reasonable for Zhang Qingfan and Xu Han to cultivate in seclusion. That day, he had solved all the problems and questions they had accumulated over the years, so they needed a long time to comprehend.

"Young Master Yun, let's go in! It seems that most of the guests have arrived," Han Bai urged.

"Wait a little longer. I'm waiting for someone."

“Waiting for someone? Who is it?”

“Well, here they come.”

The figures of Meng Wu and Meng Bai came from a distance, leaving everyone stunned. Staring at Meng Wu, who was dressed in a very different way, Chen Zhen frowned and said, “Why do I find this pretty girl familiar?”

The way Meng Wu dressed herself up captivated the few guys. During normal times, she always dressed plainly. How could she have the time and money to dress up when she was busy working all day to make money? But, she was like a pure and fresh daffodil today, fascinating them all.

“Oh, it’s you!” Han Bai recognized her at last and said in surprise. As if something had dawned on him suddenly, he pointed to Yunxiao and laughed, “Well, well...No wonder we haven’t seen you for days, and no wonder you don’t know anything about the two masters cultivating in seclusion. Young Master Yun, can you still walk now?”

Chen Zhen also recognized Meng Wu now. He was surprised and said, “A short girl without bosoms can become so beautiful just by casually dressing up? Wow! Young Master Yun, you sure have a pair of keen eyes! I didn’t know you are so good at finding a pretty girl!”

Meng Wu’s face was red and she was very nervous. She never thought that she would have a chance to come to the palace. Looking at all kinds of luxurious carriages outside the palace, she felt as if she was dreaming.

Yunxiao laughed. “Let me introduce you again. This is my friend, Meng Wu, and this is her brother and my new disciple, Meng Bai.”

“Dis...disciple?” Han Bai exclaimed. “Young Master Yun, you really do everything you can to pick up girls!”

Meng Bai said angrily, “So your purpose of taking me as a disciple is to pick up my sister!”

“Meng Bai!” Already flushed with shame after being teased by them, Meng Wu stamped her foot in anger when she heard her brother speak.

The group of five walked into the palace while talking and laughing. The banquet hall was held in a beautiful garden. Although it was just the beginning of spring and the flowers had not bloomed yet, they were still greeted by a refreshing fragrance. In the courtyard, Meng Wu and Meng Bai were dazzled by all the small bridges and flowing water, the soft music that lingered in the air, and the scenery that looked like an immortal realm on earth.

The banquet hall had been filled with tables arranged on both sides according to the officials’ levels, stretching over a hundred meters long. Many people had already taken their seats, and everyone was talking with smiles on their faces.

There were only two rows of eight seats in the main banquet hall, and behind each were placed the many seats of the attendants. All those who could enter the main banquet hall were the most central figures in the state’s inner power circle.

Although Zhang Qingfan had given Yunxiao the invitation card, it did not indicate the seat. The seat belonging to the Li Family in the main banquet hall had been occupied by a splendidly dressed, handsome young man, who was talking and laughing with other guests. Yunxiao’s uncle, Li Baifeng, actually sat behind him.

The arrival of Yunxiao and his friends immediately attracted everyone’s attention, not only because they were only teenagers, but also because Yunxiao, a good-for-nothing in the capital, had become famous in recent days. Not only had he crippled Lan Xuan, who was praised as a genius, with only one move, but also cured the princess’s illness by stimulating her acupoints with gold needles.

Yunxiao would certainly be one of the main characters today.

Under all kinds of gazes from the crowd, Yunxiao walked calmly through the middle of the banquet. However, he suddenly sensed something, so he looked up and saw Li Yi—who was sitting in the main banquet hall—giving him a cold look.

He gave a light snort as a slight expression of contempt appeared on the corners of his mouth, and then sat down in the seat belonging to the Chen Family. Meng Wu and Meng Bai were sitting on both sides of him while Chen Zhen and Han Bai sat together on a table to his right.

The Chen Family and the Han Family were military families attached to the Li Family, and their titles were not low. So, their seats were in the front position in the secondary banquet hall.

Li Yi's eyes went cold instantly and his pupils were full of killing intent. Li Baifeng, who was sitting behind him, looked worried.

In addition to Li Yi's hostile gaze, a long-bearded old man in the seat opposite the Li Family also stared at Yunxiao coldly. He was the leader of all the civil officials—Lan Hong. Behind him, Yunxiao saw Lan Xuan with a gloomy and resentful face. His injury seemed to have healed, but his air of arrogance and pride was completely gone.

The people in the other two tables also stared at him curiously. One of them had a facial complexion that looked like iron, his air as mighty as mountains and rivers, and he sat there like an immovable mountain. He was Xiao Qingwang, the commander-in-chief of the Guardians of the State. Sitting opposite him was Liang Wenyu, a second-tier alchemist of the Alchemist Association. He gave Yunxiao a friendly smile.

The other two tables were occupied by two men in dragon robes. One of them looked in his forties while the other was only in his teens, with a slightly childish face. They were the Eldest Prince, Qin Yang, and the Second Prince, Qin Yue. They were both men of exceptional ability and hailed as the most likely princes to ascend the throne. They were also studying Yunxiao carefully.

The last two empty seats were reserved for today's main characters—Luo Yunshang and Qin Ruxue.

“Since you have also come to attend the feast, come and sit here. You are a member of the Li Family, so how can you sit at the table of another family?” said Li Yi suddenly, looking up at the ceiling of the banquet hall with an arrogant look on his face. Although he did not look at Yunxiao, everyone knew who

he was talking to. The whole banquet hall quieted down. The situation of the Li Family was well known to them all.

Yunxiao did not seem to hear that as he was admiring Meng Wu's girlish manner. While smiling, he asked, "Do you know why people are born with their nostrils facing down?"

Meng Wu, who had been looking nervous, was surprised to hear the question. "Why?" she asked involuntarily.

All the officials and ministers present were startled, and they began to guess the answer.

Yunxiao burst into laughter and said, "Haha! Because if one's nostrils faces up, they will be filled with water during rainy days!"

"Haha!"

The whole crowd erupted into laughter as all eyes turned to Li Yi, who was looking up at the ceiling arrogantly with his nostrils facing up. Even the men of the Lan Family, who had been hostile to Yunxiao, smiled sardonically.

Chen Zhen and Han Bai laughed the loudest, and Meng Bai kept slapping the table as he laughed. Meng Wu was shy, so she covered her mouth and bowed her head slightly as she chuckled.

"Haha!" Xiao Qingwang laughed without the slightest hesitancy. "This boy is interesting!"

Pa!

Angry from embarrassment, Li Yi smashed a wine glass to the ground and bellowed, "Li Yunxiao!"

All the laughter stopped. The whole venue was instantly quiet, and the atmosphere grew tense.

Yunxiao's eyes turned cold. He took a sip of wine, and said without lifting his head, "Who are you?"

Li Yi clenched his fists tightly in anger. All of a sudden, a Martial Master standing beside him stepped out and rushed in front of Yunxiao with a few flashes. Pointing at him, he cried out, "How unbridled! As a member of the Li Family, why don't you salute when you see the acting family head? Kneel now and beg for forgiveness!"

His Martial Master's aura exploded out instantly, pressing down on Yunxiao like rolling waves. He was ready to break Yunxiao's legs at any time and force him to kneel in order to establish authority for Li Yi.

"Kneel? Kneel my a\*s!" Yunxiao's figure suddenly flickered and disappeared in front of the Martial Master.

Pa!

A crisp noise rang out. The Martial Master only saw something flash in front of his eyes and was slapped hard on the left cheek. Everyone's heart gave a jerk while Xiao Qingwang's pupils constricted and his eyes burst with a glimmer of light.

"Kneel, you slave!"

Yunxiao made a sudden move. A golden light flashed and changed several forms in the void, and then a fist was thrown at the Martial Master's dantian. Terrified, the Martial Master quickly retreated, but he was horrified to find that Yunxiao's fist had covered all areas within a few meters of him. There was no way he could avoid the attack!

A dull thud echoed out as the punch smashed accurately on the Martial Master's dantian. He spewed out a mouthful of blood, and a hole was opened on his back where the force came bursting out! He suddenly became dispirited and fell to his knees when Yunxiao hit him hard again on the back, prostrating at the latter's feet.

Everyone was stunned. With only one move, Yunxiao had broken a Martial Master's Qi Sea, completely crippling him!

Xiao Qingwang's eyes sparkled while Lan Hong had a thoughtful look on his face; horror pooled in Lan Xuan's eyes and the two princes frowned in astonishment. Carrying a blank face, Li Yi said foolishly, "How could... how could you..."

"How my a\*s!" Yunxiao kicked the Martial Master on the head. He immediately flew out like a football and fell directly on the table in front of Li Yi, spilling wine and dishes all over the floor.

The Martial Master did not utter a sound, and his pupils were dilated. Clearly, he was dead.

"Watch your dog, 8527," Yunxiao clapped his hands and said indifferently. After all this, he calmly sat back on his seat as if nothing had happened.

8527...Everyone's expression changed while traces of cold sweat oozed out of their foreheads.

"YOU!"

Li Yi was so angered that his eyes seemed about to pop out! 8527 was his number when he was a servant in the Li Family. Later on, he was given the family name because he did a good job as a servant. Over the years, no one had dared to mention this figure again.

"Old Eight, you should behave yourself as a servant, and the master will naturally give you bones. Otherwise, you will be chopped to pieces and fed to the dogs," Yunxiao said coldly. "His Majesty is giving a feast today. I don't want to chop you to pieces in front of all the civil and military officials!"

"You!" Li Yi could not bear it any longer as he jumped to his feet wildly in a fit of rage. A sword bloomed with colorful light shot out of the main banquet hall. His eyes were full of towering killing intent, and his mind had only one thought—cut Yunxiao into pieces!

Suddenly, an invisible force descended from the sky and stopped Li Yi. No matter how he roared and struggled, he could not move a single inch, trapped inside the main banquet hall.

Xiao Qingwang flicked his index finger lightly, and the invisible force immediately burst like a bubble. Li Yi's body bounced back as if he was struck by a hammer and landed on his seat. The former raised his

head slightly and said, "Today is a big day. His Majesty is giving a feast to his subjects. Don't cause any trouble."

"What Commander Xiao said is true," agreed the Eldest Prince, Qin Yang. "Somebody, clean up the place and set Young Master Li another table!" Immediately, many eunuchs and maids trotted in and carried the Martial Master's body out, soon serving Li Yi another table full of wine and dishes.

Li Yi's face became extremely ferocious as he roared, "Li Yunxiao, prepare yourself for my wrath!"

Sitting behind him, Li Baifeng was first shocked by Yunxiao's swift strike. But when he heard Li Yi's words, his face turned pale and eyes showed a deep anxiety.

As if he did not hear that, Yunxiao poured himself a glass of wine and sniffed it, then said, "Well, I thought a dog who likes to bite doesn't bark!"

Bam!

Li Yi's face was so red with anger that he sank back into his chair and never spoke again. He was afraid that he would die of anger here!

The whole banquet hall quieted down after the commotion. Everyone had different expressions on their faces as they were silently weighing the situation in their minds. No matter who they were, they could sniff a smell of 'disturbance'. Yunxiao's sudden show of power would definitely bring great turmoil to the Li Family, and this turmoil would definitely cause chaos in the state!

Xiao Qingwang squinted at Yunxiao. Of all the people present, his eyes were the sharpest. He clearly saw all the moves Yunxiao had just made. It was a series of swift moves, as smooth as floating clouds and flowing water, without any delay!

How could a warrior be able to use this kind of fist art that followed one's will, as well as the martial intent that moved as one's heart? It was powerful as if he had trained it thousands of times! Even Xiao Qingwang himself did not dare to say that his understanding of martial arts could reach such a deep level!

Just when the atmosphere was somewhat awkward, a eunuch shouted outside. Soon afterward, His Majesty the King, Qin Zheng, led Luo Yunshang and Qin Ruxue into the banquet hall, accompanied by a crowd of ministers. Seeing him, everyone stood up and bowed.

Although Yunxiao did not want to, he bowed his head reluctantly.

What was so great about the king of a small state? Even the emperors of those super empires in the Heavenly Martial Realm would have to be polite and smile on seeing him!

Qin Zheng was old. His hair was all white and his pace was extremely slow. With Qin Ruxue's help, he walked into the main banquet hall smilingly and sat above all the officials, looking down at his subjects.

Yunshang and Ruxue sat down on either side of the king. When they came in, they both gave Yunxiao a surprised look. He smiled back at them and made a gesture of victory.

Ruxue secretly made a face and stuck out her tongue to mean 'old-fashioned!'.

The most old-fashioned thing in the world was to make a gesture of victory.

As soon as Qin Zheng sat in his dragon chair, an aura of someone who had remained as a superior for a very long time immediately spread out of him. He laughed in a slightly deep and thick voice, then said, "The reason why I am hosting this feast today is that there are two happy events. One is that Commander Yunshang has been promoted to become an alchemist. She is really a great talent! And the second is that the illness which troubled Ruxue for more than ten years has finally been completely eradicated. These two events make me very gratified and happy."

#### Chapter 45: A Demon Beast Egg

Lan Hong stood up and said, "Your Majesty, this is the blessing of the heavens that Tianshui has so many talented people. This subject would like to congratulate Commander Luo and Princess Ruxue."

"Thank you, Lord Prime Minister!" Yunshang quickly rose to her feet and said.

Lan Hong smiled and waved. Immediately, two servants, each holding a jade box, walked up to Yunshang and Ruxue while he laughed and said, "It had taken me a great effort to find these two Moon Pearls from the East Sea. They are my gifts for Commander Luo and Princess Ruxue."

The two servants opened the jade boxes and shafts of light shot out of them, turning the main banquet hall as bright as daylight.

All beautiful girls loved jewelry. So, the two girls were very happy with the gifts and hurriedly put them away.

"Haha! Lord Prime Minister is so wealthy! These two beads should have cost you hundreds of thousands of gold coins, right?" Xiao Qingwang laughed. "I'm not as rich as my lord, so I specially prepared two martial skills. One is a pure Yang martial technique called the Smashing Axe Sun, and the other is a water-element martial technique called the Tranquil Sutra. They are my gifts for the two ladies."

Yunshang's face flashed with surprise. "The Smashing Axe Sun left behind by a Martial Grandmaster of the Six Directions realm hundreds of years ago? Thank you, my lord!" Her mystic weapon was an axe, and the martial path she walked was also of the pure Yang. So, this martial technique was just right for her.

Ruxue also accepted the Tranquil Sutra and said with a smile, "Thank you, Grandpa Xiao!"

The value of the two martial techniques was far beyond Lan Hong's Moon Pearls, but the two beauties were not as excited as before.

'Well, women love those flashy things more than anything else!' Everyone shook their heads and sighed in their minds.

Liang Wenyu also stood up and presented two pills. "These are the second-grade Staying Youth Pills this humble one has refined. They can keep my ladies young for twenty years."

"AHHH!"

Yunshang and Ruxue cried out at the same time as if they had found a great treasure. They took the pills in their hands and looked at them for a long time before putting them away. Ruxue even took out the jade box where the Moon Pearl was stored, took out the pearl, and put the pill in.

Her action instantly highlighted the importance of the two treasures in her heart.

Lan Hong smiled and shook his head.

At this moment, Li Yi also got up and stepped forward to offer his congratulations. “Commander Luo, your outstanding charm is equivalent to that of a fairy. This humble one has specially ordered someone to make a hairpin for you with the Tranquil Jade. This humble one wishes Commander Luo remain young and beautiful forever.”

“Tranquil Jade?” Liang Wenyu said in surprise. “Young Master Li really put his mind to this gift. When wearing it, this Tranquil Jade can focus and calm one’s mind, while helping one defend against mental demons during meditation. It is a rare treasure. In those days, I wished to buy it at a high price, but couldn’t find it anywhere.”

Upon hearing Liang Wenyu praise him, Li Yi immediately had a good opinion of him. He laughed and said, “Isn’t it? Even I am reluctant to use this treasure myself. Only someone like Commander Luo is worthy of it.”

A hairpin carved of white jade, inlaid with gold and silver and giving off a faint luster, was brought in front of Yunshang. Li Yi chuckled and said, “I’ve asked Shi Wenjiang, the number one sculptor of Tianshui, to make it for me.”

Yunshang was slightly shocked. She had also heard of this Tranquil Jade, and since even Liang Wenyu said so, it must be extremely precious. She thanked Li Yi solemnly.

Li Yi’s heart was filled with satisfaction. He then walked up to Ruxue and said, “Princess Ruxue, this humble one has always admired your peerless beauty and graceful temperament. This humble one can’t think of anything in the world worthy of you.”

His confession stunned everyone, and Ruxue's face was slightly red while her eyes flashed with anger. However, she was soon shocked by Li Yi's gift.

"Therefore, this humble one specially sent someone to purchase a demon beast egg from the Firecrow Empire with a large sum of money. This humble one hopes Princess Ruxue will like it."

Everyone was startled. Even Xiao Qingwang was slightly taken by surprise, then shook his head with a wry smile. He sighed in his heart that young men nowadays were really willing to spend a lot of money to pick up girls.

Demon beasts were extremely powerful creatures on the Heavenly Martial Continent. Even warriors would stay away from them when they chanced upon them. Many people had tried to subdue them, hoping to turn them into their strong aids. Although there were successful attempts, most of them ended in failure.

After all, demon beasts' demonic Qi was too strong, and their violent and cruel character made them extremely difficult to be tamed by humans.

Later on, someone finally came up with a wonderful method—when the demon beast was still in the egg, the owner began to spend every day with it, and then fed and raised it with care after it hatched. By doing so, when the demon beast grew up, it would be absolutely loyal to the owner.

After the discovery of this method, the price of demon beast eggs soared by at least one thousand times!

The crowd stared quietly at the egg on the tray. It was all red and slightly transparent, as if there was a monster inside which might break through the shell at any time.

Although Ruxue did not like Li Yi, she was slightly moved. "Thank you, Li Yi! I like this gift very much," she said softly.

Li Yi was exulted. However, in the midst of his great triumph, a discordant voice burst in.

“Hmph! This is indeed a demon beast egg, but what’s the use of a dead egg? Roast and eat it? Please, it stinks inside and is not edible.”

“Who is talking nonsense here?” Li Yi froze for a moment, then shouted furiously.

He turned to look out, and then saw that the voice belonged to Yunxiao, whom he hated so much that he wanted to kill by slicing him into pieces!

“Li Yunxiao, you don’t know anything, so stop uttering nonsense here!” No longer caring about his image, he roared, “Do you know how much this cost? Damn it, it can buy one hundred or even one thousand of you!”

Yunxiao sneered leisurely, “No matter how much it’s worth, it’s a dead egg!”

“YOU!”

Li Yi was fuming as he turned to Qin Zheng, then cupped his fist, and said, “Your Majesty, this man is deliberately disturbing the feast. Please order him to be cast out!”

Qin Zheng frowned and asked, “Li Yunxiao, how do you know this is a dead egg?”

“No matter what I say, he will deny it. Just cut the egg open and everyone will know.”

“Hmph! Cut open? Can you afford such a valuable thing if it is cut open?” Ruxue, too, looked suspicious and unwilling.

Yunxiao sneered, “Ruxue, when you have worked so hard to incubate this egg for several months and find it hasn’t even moved, you will know that I am right.”

“You are still uttering nonsense!” Li Yi said furiously. “Your Majesty, this humble one begs you to order this man to be beaten and kicked out of here!”

Qin Zheng said solemnly, "Li Yunxiao, be careful in your speech. Don't speak randomly without evidence. For your credit of saving the Princess, I'll let this matter pass. But, you mustn't utter any nonsense again."

Yunxiao shook his head speechlessly. The demon beast egg was undoubtedly a dead egg, no matter one went by its color or with the perception of divine sense. But this thing was too precious, and not many people had seen it, so no one knew about this.

When the situation finally calmed down a little, Qin Yang, the eldest prince, smiled and clapped his hands. His men immediately brought two trays and walked to Yunshang and Ruxue.

As soon as the trays were brought up, everyone's eyes suddenly lit up and they were all shocked.

With a look of complacency on his face, Qin Yang laughed loudly and said, "These ten pieces of supreme-grade Primordial Stones are my gift for Commander Luo. I wish you an early breakthrough to become the third Martial King of Tianshui. Meanwhile, these ten Longan Pearls are for my dear sister Ruxue. I wish you become more and more beautiful, and marry a suitable husband as soon as possible!"

Longan Pearls were not as expensive as Moon Pearls, but they also cost at least tens of thousands of gold coins apiece. The fact that Qin Yang was able to take out ten pieces at once showed how rich he was. But, what shocked everyone was the ten pieces of supreme-grade Primordial Stones.

The higher the level of a warrior's cultivation, the more dependent he became on Primordial Stones. In the market, the exchange rate of Primordial Stones was one hundred superior-grade Primordial Stones for a supreme-grade Primordial Stone, one hundred medial-grade Primordial Stones for a superior-grade Primordial Stone, and one hundred inferior-grade Primordial Stones for a medial-grade Primordial Stone.

Ignoring the fact that inferior-grade Primordial Stones were all used by ordinary warriors, even if one offered one million inferior-grade Primordial Stones, no one would want to exchange ten supreme-grade Primordial Stones. After all, the deposit of supreme-grade Primordial Stones was extremely scarce, and they had a wide range of uses.

The value of these ten supreme-grade Primordial Stones was far higher than that of the demon beast egg.

Now, not only Yunshang, but even Xiao Qingwang's face was flickering as he was slightly tempted.

On the other hand, although the ten Longan Pearls were precious, they were nothing when compared with the ten pieces of supreme-grade Primordial Stones. It also reflected Qin Yang's mindset in one way. Although Ruxue had a prestigious status, she was useless in his eyes, and that was why he simply gave her a few pearls. But, Yunshang was completely different!

She was not only one of the five commanders of the State Guardians, but she had also become a Martial Lord of the Four Quadrants realm at such a young age. Her future achievements were bound to be limitless. Moreover, she had now made a breakthrough and become an alchemist. In short, she was the most gifted person in the state of Tianshui in the past one thousand years, in addition to Yang Di.

Qin Yang was the eldest prince, so he must think like an emperor. In his view, wooing Luo Yunshang was not only of great help to his accession to the throne, but also an important factor to the stability of the state in the future. There was why he spent so much of money to get these ten pieces of supreme-grade Primordial Stones!

In addition, Yunshang was a rare beautiful girl, and Qin Yang had long been in love with her. He sent people to express his thoughts to her many times, but all he got was cold replies.

Yunshang naturally knew what he wanted, so she turned him down in a light tone, "My lord, your gift is too expensive. I dare not accept it."

Qin Yang got up from his seat and tidied up his clothes, then strode up to Yunshang as he reached out his hands and said, "Yunshang, don't you understand my feelings for you? Today, in front of all the civil and military officials, I would like to propose to you! Marry me, Yunshang!"

Suddenly, he was down on one knee, his eyes blazing!

"Waa!"

The banquet hall broke out into an uproar. No one was expecting that the eldest prince would propose in public, let alone see him kneel on one knee! No matter in appearance or strength, Qin Yang was the

best choice. Although his strength was not as good as Yunshang, there were not many men in Tianshui who could surpass him. Moreover, he was able to lower himself to propose even as a prince.

His proposal of marriage on one knee had immediately broken the hearts of countless girls.

Yunshang was also struck dumb by it. Her face flickered while a gentle Primordial Qi spilled from her hands, lifting Qin Yang to his feet. "My lord, if you are so presumptuous again, don't blame me for turning against you!"

Qin Yang's expression changed dramatically as he found it hard to believe. He had already gone so far, and yet he was still rejected by Yunshang. For a moment, he forgot himself and said angrily, "Yunshang, I know I don't deserve you! But in Tianshui, no one is worthy of you except me!"

#### Chapter 46: Luo Yunshang's Unrequited Love

"My lord, you've forgotten yourself!" Yunshang said coldly.

Qin Yang's eyes filled up with anger as he roared, "Do you have someone in mind? Who is he? Tell me! I'll fight him!"

"Someone?" Yunshang was taken aback and immediately fell silent.

The whole banquet hall was silent, everyone holding their breath and not daring to say a word. Even Qin Zheng's eyes narrowed slightly, and his cloudy eyes became somewhat clear.

"I knew it! Who is he?" Qin Yang gave a miserable smile and then said angrily, "I will be convinced if he can defeat me!"

Everyone pricked up their ears to listen, eager to know who was that someone in the mind of the state's number one proud beauty.

Yunxiao also stopped drinking and looked at Yunshang with great interest, wondering who was the expert that had captured the heart of such a beauty.

Yunshang's expression suddenly became a little lonely. She raised her head slightly, and her eyes seemed to look out into the endless distance. A scene from fifteen years ago which she had buried deep in her heart came to her mind...

At that time, she was only a five-year-old girl who did not know what love was all about, and was cultivating day after day in the Shenxiao Temple on the Snowfall Peak.

She had always felt that her talent was not very good, at least many were better than her among her companions. However, she had never been unhappy, and for some unknown reason, she was more loved by her master than any of her sisters. In such an environment, she lived a very regular life, cultivating day and night while thinking that this was how her whole life would pass.

But on one occasion, her master seemed to become another person after she came back from a trip, losing her temper all day. The once amiable and beautiful master had become sentimental, harsh, and increasingly dissatisfied with the progress of her disciples' cultivation. She always lost her temper with them. Even Yunshang, her most beloved disciple, was not less punished.

Since then, she often heard her master gnashing her teeth and muttering a person's name. She was very naive at that time, and she thought that she would definitely give the person a good beating when she had the strength in the future, no matter who made her master cry.

She remembered that the name was 'Gu Feiyang'.

One day, when she had just finished her training, she heard noises from outside, as if many people had come.

Apart from her master and sisters, only her fellow disciples from other peaks had been to the Snowfall Peak. She had never seen a man before. But this time, she saw more than a dozen men who also brought many followers, and were discussing some matters with her master in the reception hall.

She felt very curious, so she hid in a corner of the reception hall and secretly looked at them.

“Who dares to not obey the Shenxiao Decree? Master Qu, if you want to summon us, you just need to give us the order. Why give us such a generous gift?” An old man with a blue beard, Fu Qishui, said with a cupped fist. He obviously had great respect for Qu Hongyan.

Clad in a blue dress and sitting on her throne, Qu Hongyan waved her hand and sighed softly, “The Nine-five Supreme Pill is one of the best ninth-grade medicinal pills in the world. It contains the natural law of the supreme combination between nine and five[1], and its refining method has long been lost. They are of great help even to a Martial Sovereign of the Nine Heavens realm. Although there are only a dozen or so left in Shenxiao Temple, I have nothing else but these medicinal pills which are worthy of your help.”

Mu Yangxu stood up and said, “Master Qu, the gift is too valuable. However, as my current cultivation happens to be stuck in a bottleneck, I can certainly succeed in breaking through with this amazing pill. Hence, I will not stand on ceremony with you. After we are done dealing with Gu Feiyang, I will not hesitate to assist if Master Qu needs any help in the future.”

Luan Junhao stroked his beard and chuckled, “To deal with Gu Feiyang, you are willing to pay the price of ten Nine-five Supreme Pills. Master Qu, you have overestimated him.”

“Don’t be careless, Junhao,” said Kong Yuankui. “Gu Feiyang is ranked third on the latest Heaven and Earth Power Chart. None of us is a match for his strength.”

There was a trace of contempt in Luan Junhao’s eyes as he snorted coldly and said, “When the latest Heaven and Earth Power Chart was reshuffling, I happened to be cultivating a very powerful divine ability in seclusion, so I missed it. Now that I’ve mastered the divine ability, I need someone to test its power on.”

“So, when Gu Feiyang comes, you will be able to cope with him alone?” Kong Yuankui said coldly.

“Haha! I will try my best, but it is safer for all of us to fight him together.”

Chen Feizhou asked in surprise, “Junhao, what divine ability have you mastered that makes you confident to fight Gu Feiyang alone?”

Luan Junhao smiled without saying a word. Under the gaze of all the people, he said at last, “Have you ever heard of the Great Ganges Seal?”

“The Great Ganges Seal?!” Everyone was astounded while Chen Feizhou immediately said with awe, “Is it the Great Ganges Seal of Ganges Martial Sovereign, the strongest man in the continent ten thousand years ago?”

A cold gleam burst out of Luan Junhao’s eyes as he said confidently, “Yes, it is none other than the Ganges Martial Sovereign’s supreme martial technique! Even if Tyrant Martial Sovereign comes, his imperishable golden body will be crushed to pieces under my Great Ganges Seal, let alone Gu Feiyang!”

Shitu Hai burst out laughing and then said, “I was a little worried at first, but now that brother Junhao has mastered the Great Ganges Seal, I am relieved. Although I am not as talented as you, I was lucky enough to have found a super ninth-grade mystic weapon not long ago—the Transmigration Spear. Together with my Seasoned Spear Techniques, I’m almost invincible!”

Wen Guohou also nodded and said with a smile, “The ten of us are all Martial Sovereigns of the Nine Heavens realm, added with Master Qu. Even if the top three in the Heaven and Earth Power Chart are here, they will not be able to go back alive, let alone Gu Feiyang.”

Shitu Hai sneered, “What worries me now is that Gu Feiyang knows we’re all here and he’s afraid to come to this fight.”

Qu Hongyan still looked calm, but there was a gleam of weariness in her eyes. “Please rest assured that if Gu Feiyang does not dare to come, I will regard him as defeated, and will still keep my promise to give you the Nine-five Supreme Pills,” she said lightly.

Luan Junhao’s eyes lit up as he smiled and said, “That’s great. I reckon he’s afraid to come. Nevertheless, to be able to visit this wonderland of the Shexiao Temple, the time we spent to come here is not wasted.”

Shexiao Temple was a famous wonderland on earth, and the Snowfall Peak was located at the end of the sky, on top of the sea of clouds. Looking outside from the temple, the scenery was beyond words. In addition, the entire Shexiao Temple was full of beautiful women. Without invitation, no man dared to set foot here.

It was unprecedented for Shexiao Temple in ten thousand years to have so many men gathered on the Snowfall Peak at one time.

The group of men stood in the reception hall, tasting the best wine in the world while listening to the immortal music and admiring at the billowing sea of clouds outside the temple. It was a pleasant experience, and everyone was smiling.

Fu Qishui drank up the glass of wine in his hand and then said happily, "Haha! This feels great! Shexiao Temple is indeed a wonderland on earth! I don't think that Gu Feiyang will come, and a swig of drinks won't waste the trip!"

Everyone raised their glasses and drank heartily, talking and laughing with one another. "What Vanquisher Martial Sovereign, what number three on the Heaven and Earth Power Chart? He is nothing but a coward!" Luan Junhao sneered.

Shitu Hai laughed and said, "We can't blame him either. Knowing that there are eleven Martial Sovereigns waiting here, no one would have the courage to come! Haha!"

Yi Yuan, who had been silent all the while, suddenly said, "Do you think Gu Feiyang will invite helpers to come with him? If he brings ten Martial Sovereigns to help him, the battle would be intense."

Everyone was shocked as they thought of the possibility. All of a sudden, their cheerfulness was suddenly tinged with anxiety. "Even if it were ten against ten, we might not lose. When that happens, leave Gu Feiyang to me," Luan Junhao said coldly.

Qu Hongyan leaned against her throne, resting one hand on her forehead, as she watched the group of men with a hint of disgust in her heart. "Gu Feiyang will not ask for help," she said coldly.

Shitu Hai asked, "Why is Master Qu so sure?"

There was a trace of perplexity in Qu Hongyan's eyes as she sighed softly, "Because he's already here."

“What? He is already here? Where is he?”

They all were startled and alarmed. Their divine sense spread out in all directions like waves, but they could not sense the existence of anyone above the entire sea of clouds.

Luan Junhao said in a cold voice, “Master Qu, have you guessed wrongly?”

Qu Hongyan sighed. “I didn’t guess. Can’t you feel that the wind is already rising?”

“The wind is rising?” Mu Yangxu frowned and said, “This place is located on the top of the mountain. It is normal for the wind to blow.”

All of a sudden, everyone in the reception hall felt a slight breeze blowing in their faces, and the corners of their clothes were all gently blown up. All faces fell instantly as they raised their vigilance.

Outside the reception hall, a golden ray spread from the distant sky, casting a golden glow over the sea of clouds. Suddenly, the clouds began to roll and rumble as if a pot of hot water had begun to boil between the sky and the earth.

‘A great wind comes forth, the clouds rise high!’

The water vapor all over the place was pulled by a mighty suction and gathered toward the sky. Soon, the sea of clouds surrounding Shexiao Temple was stripped, allowing the luxuriant and magnificent mountains and rivers to emerge from the clouds for the first time in tens of thousands of years. High up in the sky, a vast and boundless golden cloud palm gradually formed, so bright that it stung all eyes and made it difficult for anyone to look directly at it.

Like a god descending on earth, the colossal palm suddenly slapped down with a mighty aura.

‘The wind and clouds rose high all because of me!’

Looking at the rolling aura that was falling toward them like a meteor, everyone's expression changed dramatically. Fu Qishui hurriedly cried out, "What a powerful force! Let's all fight together and not hide your strength!"

Luan Junhao's pupils constricted as he said in horror, "How could he be so strong? Great Ganges Seal, blow it away!" A Ganges River conjured up in his palm and then suddenly swelled so huge that it seemed capable of accommodating all the rivers in the world!

Shitu Hai's forehead also began to ooze traces of cold sweat as a golden spear pierced through the air and was caught by him with one hand. "Super ninth-grade mystic weapon, Transmigration Spear!"

The other eight men also dared not to be careless as they hurriedly exercised their strongest martial techniques!

"Ink Frost Tyrant Finger!"

"True Dragon Seal!"

"Heavenly Martial Buddha Hand!"

"Formless Thunder!"

"Mysterious Ice God Fist!"

"Seasoned Flame Blade!"

"Traceless Ghost Palm!"

"Spirit Dragon Emperor Finger!"

For a moment, the light of martial techniques towered into the sky from the Snowfall Peak, and the whole world began to tear under the collision of these energies.

Bam!

Just when all the energies collided with each other, a huge black hole suddenly appeared in the sky, swallowing up all the light. The Heaven and earth seemed to crumble, and the surrounding void seemed about to collapse!

Chapter 47: For Whom Does The Beauty Dance

“HA!”

A loud cry came from the horizon, and the dim sky suddenly became radiant as all the energies were blown away in an instant. Then, a beam of golden light fell from the clouds and crashed on the Snowfall Peak.

Strangely enough, when the beam of light crashed down, it did not make any sound. There were only ten screams, and then ten figures could be seen being knocked flying away. The internal organs of ten Martial Sovereigns were all crushed as they fell to the ground, unable to move anymore.

All eyes were full of horror. They were all Martial Sovereigns of the Nine Heavens realm, but why was there such a huge gap between them?

During the whole process, Qu Hongyan did not move, just leaning quietly on her throne and watching the golden light all over the sky gather over the sea of clouds. Her eyes showed infatuation, and surprisingly, the corners of her mouth curved upward into a smile. “He is still the most handsome man.”

Only her smile was full of bitterness.

After condensing into that huge palm, most of the sea of clouds had dissipated. The rest of the water vapor slowly condensed into a long flight of steps and fell straight from the horizon to the Snowfall Peak. The while sky had become empty, with only a dazzling halo hanging over the horizon, shining brilliantly.

A pair of eyes that looked as magnificent as stars slowly emerged in the halo.

Hiding in the corner, Little Yunshang was completely struck dumb. The pair of eyes was so charming that, although she had only looked at them once, she could never forget them for the rest of her life. Her pupils slowly enlarged, but the halo suddenly turned into specks of light and dissipated into the void.

Dressed in white, the owner of the eyes slowly walked down from the steps.

Luan Junhao, who had fallen somewhere not far from the temple, watched as Gu Feiyang slowly walked down the steps, his heart beginning to fill with dread. At the thought of his arrogant words before, he suddenly broke out in a cold sweat. "Lord...lord Gu, I didn't mean it!" he cried desperately. "A great man like you should not stoop to pettiness or harbor grievance for past wrongs! Please forgive me! I will never do it again!"

His cultivation base did not come easily, and he was unwilling to perish here. Therefore, he anxiously began to beg for mercy.

Gu Feiyang walked down from the top of the cloud step by step, his eyes shining like the stars. Looking at Qu Hongyan, he suddenly sighed, "Hongyan, why are you doing this?"

Only then did Luan Junhao realize that Gu Feiyang did not even look at him. It was entirely the sense of existence that he, a puny man, had come out with on his own. It was like a little ant thinking that everyone was watching it, but in fact, it was just a poor little ant. The feeling of humiliation from being despised immediately welled up in his heart, making him clench his teeth in fury. But he did not dare to say a word, and could only stare at Gu Feiyang with resentment.

Qu Hongyan sighed lightly as a tiny drop of tear glistened at the corner of her eye. "For whom does the beauty dance, who will overturn the world for the beauty? Let me perform another dance for you."

With a touch of sadness on her beautiful and spiritual face, she stood up and began to dance. Her red dress gently held up her graceful figure like the sunset clouds.

At this moment, all the noises that filled the surroundings fell silent, and the rocking sea of clouds and murderous aura also calmed down. The world seemed to be left with only a beautiful figure dancing in the clouds.

Gu Feiyang sighed, "You'll lose if you take it seriously."

Qu Hongyan said with a wry smile, "I've already lost." She wiped away the tears from her eyes and suddenly snapped, "Gu Feiyang, either you or I will die today!"

"You are no match for me, and these ten worms are no match for me either. How are you going to kill me?"

Qu Hongyan sneered, "I only invited these ten men here to consume some of your Primordial Qi. However, I didn't expect them to be so useless that they couldn't even withstand one strike from you!"

She slowly raised a sword and a beam of purple light rose up into the sky, before the whole Snowfall Peak was instantly enveloped by a cloud of purple mist.

Far away on several other peaks, a few women in palace suits were each guarding an ancient array. Suddenly, they opened their eyes at the same time and said in surprise, "It's Master's signal! Has it started?"

A total of seven women performed various hand seals and sent them into the ancient arrays they were guarding. Immediately, seven rays of light shot straight into the sky, then turned into a boundless mass of purple light and sped through the void. The light that blotted out the sky then transformed into a purple cloud in an instant, revealing the flicking stars in the sky while enveloping the whole Shenxiao Temple.

"The Purple Stars Formation!" Gu Feiyang's face flickered before he sighed. "It seems that you really want to kill me."

With a sad smile on her face, Qu Hongyan snapped, “The mountain protection formation constructed by Shexiao Temple tens of thousands of years ago has not been used for thousands of years. Today, this unfilial disciple, Qu Hongyan, will use this formation and the Purple Cloud Sword in her hand to slay Gu Feiyang on this Snowfall Peak!”

The stars all over the sky emitted an immeasurable amount of purple mist, which turned into tiny fallen flowers and began to rotate wildly in the void, sweeping toward Gu Feiyang. In response, he lightly kicked the ground with one foot and his body drifted back gracefully like a fallen leaf.

“The Purple Stars Formation can draw the power of the stars, and the Purple Cloud Sword in my hand can absorb the power of the mountains around Shexiao Temple. On the Snowfall Peak and under the purple stars, I am the god here! Gu Feiyang, no matter how mighty you are, you will surely die today!”

Gu Feiyang stood straight and unmoving like a mountain while his jade-white sleeves were flowing like clouds around him even without any wind. He did not seem troubled by any of this, focusing his eyes on his right hand. At some point, a simple-looking sword had appeared in his hand. “Old friend, it’s your turn to shine,” he whispered.

A stream of satin-like light slowly flowed out of the sword to the sky, as if a river of stars had poured down from the cosmos. At this moment, Gu Feiyang looked like a god holding a sword as he was about to ascend to heaven.

All of a sudden, the sword let out a dragon roar and then began to transform rapidly into a broadsword. The blade rippled like water, and was engraved with the patterns of the sun, the moon, mountains, rivers, flowers, insects, birds, and animals. Dragon roars rang incessantly out of it while shafts of bright light broke out of the blade.

“You may have hundreds of millions of stars, but I will destroy them all with a single slash of my sword! Starlash Sword, Reigns Supreme Over the World!”

Qu Hongyan’s expression changed slightly. The Purple Cloud Sword emitted a plume of purple mist that soared into the sky while her extraordinary face overflowed with tiny dots of light as if she had transformed into a sword spirit. “A mysterious snowfall covered the sky overnight, ask not the mortals but the Ghost and the Gods! The Purple Cloud Sword, Ask Not the Mortals!”[1]

One sword reigned supreme over the world, one sword asked not the mortals!

Thousands of stars disillusioned and dissipated in little Yunshang's pupils as an uncontrollable pressure of the heaven and earth filled the entire void. As a result, she felt an abnormal tightness in her chest and began to lose her consciousness.

She tried hard to keep her eyes open, just to take one more look at the man and his eyes that shone like stars. However, the pressure was too strong. No matter how hard she tried, her eyes eventually closed...

Yunshang's memory ended there because she had fainted. By the time she woke up, she heard that her Master had entered a secluded cultivation, and all her other sisters had left and turned into uncles on other peaks. There was no one else on the entire Snowfall Peak.

At that moment, she resolutely chose to leave Shenxiao Temple and began to wander on the continent in order to see that pair of eyes again.

She subsequently knew that, at the end of that day, her Master was defeated.

The Vanquisher Martial Sovereign—Gu Feiyang—had defeated ten Martial Sovereigns of the Nine Heavens realm with just one move, and then went on to defeat the Master of Shenxiao Temple, Qu Hongyan. Such an ending caused an uproar throughout the continent, and his reputation was at its peak!

But then came the news that Gu Feiyang had fallen in Tiandang Mountains...

Yunshang could not believe that the man with a pair of god-like eyes would die. Who could kill him in this world?

Later on, she arrived at the state of Tianshui and stayed at Jialan Academy, because it had the most vivid statue of Gu Feiyang in the whole continent.

...

When her thoughts pulled away from fifteen years ago, Yunshang's eyes showed an infinite loneliness. Her gaze seemed to sweep over Yunxiao, as if she was looking for something.

On that day in the martial arts arena, this young man's demeanor was exactly the same as Gu Feiyang's statue.

Yunshang muttered with a wry smile, "It's a pity that you are not him."

She still remembered the forlorn look in her Master's eyes. "For whom does the beauty dance, and who will overturn the world for the beauty? Even Master, who is as beautiful and mighty as an immortal, is not worthy of him, let alone me?" she muttered to herself.

Yunxiao seemed to feel something in his heart and his face flickered slightly.

After waiting for a long time and not getting the answer, Qin Yang said coldly, "Who is he? Am I not even qualified to know his name?"

Yunshang came to her senses. Looking at Qin Yang, she gave a wry smile and said, "He's dead."

"Dead...dead?" Qin Yang was stunned, and everyone was shocked.

Qin Yang's anger gradually faded away. "No matter who he is, since he is dead, then I have a chance," he said in a low voice. "What did he do to make you fall in love so much? If he can do it, I can do it too!"

Yunshang looked up and smiled a very lovely smile. "You can do it, too? Then listen..."

"In the Soul Formation Sea, he refined a super-grade mystic weapon, Starslash Sword, became the youngest ninth-tier Sovereign Alchemist in the continent, and was employed as an honorary elder by the headquarters of the Alchemist Association!

"In Redmoon City, he overturned the city with a sword for a beauty and eliminated one of the three superpowers from the continent!

“In the East Sea, he slaughtered everything within eight thousand miles for a friend and was ordered to be killed by the King of all seas!

“In the Holy Realm, he defeated numerous mighty figures and ranked third on the Heaven and Earth Power Chart, being conferred as the Vanquisher Martial Sovereign!

“At Snowfall Peak, he came on the clouds and effortlessly defeated ten Martial Sovereigns with one move!

“Even the most beautiful woman in the world, the Master of Shexiao Temple—Qu Hongyan—failed to make him love her!

“There’s so much more,” Yunshang said, raising her eyes slightly to look at Qin Yang’s glazed expression and chuckling. “Now, do you know who that someone in my heart is? I’ll marry you if you can achieve just one percent of what he has done!”

Qin Yang naturally knew who this person was, and so did everyone present. The name had disappeared for fifteen years, but it was still on everyone’s mind, and none of them dared to mention it at will.

Yunshang gently pushed away the servant standing beside her, then lightly kicked the floor with one foot and floated up into the air, flying away in a beam of light. Her faint voice full of endless weariness came through the air, “I’m a little tired, so I’ll take my leave to rest. I beg your pardon!”

As soon as she left, the banquet hall fell silent again.

Stupefied, Yunxiao sat in his chair with his eyes wide open, and his hand that held the bronze wine glass frozen in mid-air.

Chapter 48: The Flowers Bloom At The Guangling Melody

After a long silence, Qin Yang finally let out a deep sigh. Just then, Qin Zheng suddenly said, "Commander Luo is not well. Let's continue!"

"Young Master Yun, what's wrong with you?" Meng Wu noticed Yunxiao's strange behavior and pushed him with her hand. Hearing that, the latter came to his senses with a sudden shudder. He touched the cold sweat on his forehead as he looked at Yunshang, who had disappeared into the horizon.

Xiao Qingwang laughed, "It takes patience for young men to pick up girls. All little girls love heroes, but Gu Feiyang has been dead for more than a decade after all. You have to be persistent and shameless...beautiful girls generally can't stand being pestered."

"Thanks for the advice, Commander Xiao," Qin Yang said bitterly, then sank back into his seat dejectedly.

The second prince, Qin Yue, secretly breathed a sigh of relief; his heart had jumped into his throat just now. If Luo Yunshang had agreed to the other's proposal, Qin Yang would not only have the help of an alchemist and Martial Lord, but also the support of an army of State Guardians. It was a very powerful force.

After seeing Luo Yunshang reject Qin Yang's proposal, Qin Yue's heart relaxed slightly. Then, he stood up with a smile and began to present his gift for Ruxue.

Such an episode did not affect the feast, and the crowd continued to eat and drink happily. Although Qin Yang was a little upset, he was not troubled by the rejection, because losing to Gu Feiyang in love was not a shame.

Meng Bai, who was nibbling a leg of lamb, suddenly asked, "Master, I've been thinking about this for a long time, but I don't know who the man that pretty girl mentioned just now is. Do you know? Could it be Lord Yang Di?"

Yang Di was from Tianshui. Everyone here knew about him, and his status in their hearts was like a god.

Meng Wu glared at him and said, "He is Lord Yang Di's mentor, Lord Gu Feiyang, the most powerful man. The statue in Jialan Academy was made after his image."

“Oh, it’s him...I have seen the statue before. Although he looks awe-inspiring, he is not handsome!” Meng Bai was puzzled and said, “So why did he reject the most beautiful in the world? Is he a fool?”

“Ahem, ahem!”

Yunxiao choked on a mouthful of wine and coughed violently. “You know sh\*t! This is called ‘walking through clusters of flowers but not getting caught by any of the leaves’!” he said angrily.

“Bullsh\*t! I think he’s either a fool or a homosexual!” Meng Bai cried out. “Brother Chen, Brother Han, what do you say?”

Chen Zhen laughed. “Haha! Yeah, I also think that guy is a homosexual. Although I have never met the Master of Shexiao Temple, since she is praised as the most beautiful woman in the world, she must be a very attractive woman. How could a normal man not be tempted by her? Hey, Young Master Yun, why is your face growing so dark? Don’t tell me you had an affair with that homosexual? You didn’t pick up soaps in front of him, did you? Haha!”

His repeated references to homosexuality made Yunxiao turn livid. “How can you be so disrespectful to a senior of martial arts?” he said while fuming.

“Respect my a\*s!” Chen Zhen shouted. “Isn’t he just a little stronger than us? Isn’t he just a little fiercer than us when killing people? Look at these beautiful women! Every one of them seems to turn nymphomaniac when they hear the name ‘Gu Feiyang’! Fu\*k! With this alone, he is the public enemy of men all over the continent! Han Bai, don’t you think so?”

Han Bai nodded seriously and said, “Of course! Even the world’s most beautiful woman had fallen in love with him, and I think he deserved to die for this alone! Don’t you think so, Young Master Yun?”

Yunxiao, “...”

“Don’t you slander Lord Gu Feiyang!” Meng Wu said crossly. “If you say one more bad word about him, I’ll tell Teacher Luo! Hmph! With Teacher Luo’s admiration for Lord Gu Feiyang, you know the consequences you will face!”

Chen Zhen and Han Bai immediately pulled their tongues back in fear. Meng Bai, on the other hand, was not afraid and said loudly, "What are you afraid of? He is a homosexual! There, I said it! So what? Don't be afraid, Brother Chen and Brother Han, I support you!"

Pa!

Yunxiao slapped him under the table and said angrily, "You are going to Jialan Academy's ten-fold gravity chamber tomorrow and stay there for ten days!"

"What? Come on, Master! Ten days!" Meng Bai howled under the table.

"Hmph!" Meng Wu also said in fury, "From today on, you will cook and wash your own clothes. You will do all the housework! This is your punishment for slandering Lord Gu Feiyang!"

"Sis, I was wrong, please forgive me!" Meng Bai wailed, but no one paid him any attention.

People kept walking into the main banquet hall to present their gifts, and Ruxue was already a little tired. Yunxiao made quite a noise when he slapped Meng Bai over, which immediately attracted her attention. Her eyes lit up at the sight of Yunxiao as she cried out, "Li Yunxiao! What gift have you prepared for me?"

The eldest son of one of the counts, who was standing in front of her triumphantly and eloquently introducing his gift, froze in an instant and stood in the banquet hall with great embarrassment. His father, the count sitting in the secondary banquet hall, helplessly gave his son a look. The man immediately left behind the gift and walked out despondently.

Startled, Yunxiao looked at Chen Zhen and Han Bai for help. "Do you have to bring a gift for a meal?"

Together, Chen Zhen and Han Bai each took out a small box and placed in on the table, tapping it a few times. They both looked at Yunxiao with sympathetic eyes, as if to say: 'You didn't even prepare a gift, did you?'

Yunxiao's face turned blue instantly...

“Hmph! Don’t tell me that someone is here to be a freeloader?” Li Yi ridiculed in a cold voice.

“A freeloader? Ha! You are really good at imagining things!” Yunxiao snorted.

“Damn, this guy is looking down on us! Master, take out the gift you have prepared so that everyone can have an eye-opener!” Meng Bai shouted crossly.

Ruxue said happily, “Li Yunxiao, what gift have you prepared for me? Bring it up quickly!”

All the people were curious as their eyes were fixed on Yunxiao. Qin Zheng opened his cloudy eyes and chuckled, “Ruxue, if Yunxiao hadn’t saved you, how could you still be alive and kicking like this?”

Ruxue snorted and said, “That’s two separate things! If I’m not satisfied with the gift he gives me... hmph!”

Yunxiao’s mind was racing. Before long, he rose to his feet and smiled. “You know that I am poor,” he said. “I have nothing better to offer you than these nobles and sons of dignitaries...oh, and this prodigal servant. Therefore, I only intended to play a melody for you today. May the Princess be healthier and more beautiful.”

Upon hearing this, Li Yi burst into laughter. “Play a melody? Haha! You poor guy, who wants to listen to you play the zither? There are hundreds of musicians in the palace! You better not shame the Li Family!”

“Old Eight, is it your turn to speak now? Mind who you are!” Yunxiao’s voice was cold.

“You!” Li Yi was fuming with anger. He hated it when people exposed his scars, especially when all the powerful figures of Tianshui were here today. In his heart, he had already sentenced Yunxiao to death.

Ruxue clapped her hands and cheered after a brief moment of pause. “Great! I didn’t know you knew how to play the zither! I want to listen to you play!”

All the people present were shaking their heads secretly. Comparisons were odious. The princess had hardly smiled when they offered the gifts they purchased with a lot of money, but the boy's performance, which did not cost a penny, actually made her extremely happy.

Soon, court musicians put the zither table, zither, ambergris incense, and other things in the main banquet hall. Meanwhile, Qin Zheng laughed, "Duke Jingguo is a military officer all his life, and General Feilong is also good at martial arts. I didn't expect that their descendant is proficient in music."

Yunxiao walked slowly toward the zither, and his aura suddenly began to change. Seeing that, Xiao Qingwang's pupils constricted slightly. Although he knew nothing about music, he was shocked by the aura of a grandmaster emanating from Yunxiao.

As he sat down in front of the zither, Yunxiao's face grew solemn. A dreamy look appeared in his eyes as if he was staring into the endless distance. Without saying a word, he closed his eyes slightly and began to recall the empty, cold bamboo forest.

He was handsome and smart like a god and dressed in white. The pure-white sleeves of his robe fluttered without wind, making it look like clouds were flowing around him.

Gu Feiyang of that day, Li Yunxiao of today!

He gently raised his hand and stroked it on the zither. It was a good zither, but only a good zither. It was nothing compared to his Heaven Melody Divine Zither.

A ray of light fell and slowly flowed down the zither, shining on Yunxiao's fingertips. All of a sudden, the whole world quieted down, and a shaft of moonlight poured on him. It made him look cold and lonely, and yet he did not seem to be aware of it as he just stared at his hands.

"This is...Guangling Melody!" Ruxue's eyes grew wider and wider. When the zither was played, all sounds stopped, including the chirping of insects and frogs.

The soft moonlight enveloped all around, changing the color of the world like thousands of flowers suddenly blooming as the melody cut through the dim light of the night and echoed throughout the heaven and earth.

After a time that no one seemed to know how long it was, the music had already faded away. It was as if it had come with the moonlight, and now it had returned to the night sky filled with boundless loneliness.

There was not a sound in the banquet hall, as if no one had ever been there. After a long time...

Suddenly, a man outside the hall shouted, "Your Majesty! Your Majesty! All the flowers in the courtyard are blooming!"

"What? How can flowers bloom at night?" Everyone was shocked. On both sides of the corridor, all kinds of flowers bloomed and sent forth a rich fragrance, making everyone feel relaxed and refreshing upon smelling it.

The flowers bloomed at the Guangling Melody!

Under the starry sky, the moonlight rippled like water and the flowers bloomed to contend in beauty and fragrance.

"This..." Everyone came to their senses and stood still from the shock.

Ruxue's eyes gleamed as she murmured softly, "How beautiful...The flowers under the moon are so beautiful...It's a pity that Teacher Luo has already left. Otherwise, how would she feel if she heard this melody?"

Xiao Qingwang gave Yunxiao a complicated look and said in a faint voice, "Legend has it that Gu Feiyang had played this Guangling Melody in Qionghua Island's purple bamboo forest when they first met. At that time, it was already frosty and snowing, but this divine music awakened the Flower God, who ordered the flowers to bloom. I didn't expect ordinary people like us to be lucky enough to hear this melody today. It only belongs to the heavens, and hardly be heard on earth."

Yunxiao, too, was struck by a chord, and the beautiful face flashed through his mind as he sighed.

'For who does the beauty dance, and who will overturn the world for the beauty?'

"Ha! Amazing! You played too well!" Qin Zheng took the lead in clapping his hands as he laughed. "I've lived for so many years, but only now I know there is such a beautiful melody in the world. All the court musicians I keep are rubbish. I'll have them all packed up and scam tomorrow!"

Now that the king had spoken his praise, all present applauded and cheered loudly.

#### Chapter 49: The Pill Is Poisonous

Li Yi's face became extremely gloomy. "What's the big deal if he plays the zither well? He didn't spend a coin, and the Princess didn't get any actual benefits. Compared with my demon beast egg, his gift is far from good!"

A hint of disgust suddenly flashed across Ruxue's face as she spat out a word coldly, "Vulgar!"

Even Xiao Qingwang could not help feeling sick. "Today's most valuable gift is this melody. If I can listen to it again, I'm willing to pay no matter how high the price is."

Li Yi gnashed his teeth with jealousy. "Commander Xiao, if you want to listen to it again, you can just ask him to play a few more times."

Yunxiao chuckled and said, "A divine melody must be played under the most favorable circumstances. On that day, there was the world's most beautiful woman in that purple bamboo forest, and today there is Princess Ruxue right here in the palace. Only then can this piece of music move the Flower God. Haha! Of course, you don't understand these things. Old Eight, you didn't have time to learn before, but you must learn more in the future."

Li Yi flew into a rage. Fortunately, Yunxiao had offended him many times today, so he quickly regained his composure. He gave a cold snort, and his eyes were full of unconcealed killing intent.

On the other side, Ruxue couldn't help but blush. Yunxiao equating her with Qu Hongyan, the world's most beautiful woman, filled her heart with joy and her eyes with tenderness.

After calming down, Li Yi stood up from his seat and said in a loud voice, "Today, I have not only prepared gifts for Commander Luo and Princess Ruxue, but also a small gift for Commander Xiao."

Xiao Qingwang did not like him now, so he said in a faint tone, "I did nothing to deserve a gift. Young Master Li, you don't have to give me anything."

There was a flicker of anger in Li Yi's eyes. Nothing seemed to go right with him today, and it was all caused by that damn Li Yunxiao.

He forced a smile on his face and said, "I heard that Commander Xiao had suffered an internal injury when fighting Yi Xiaoshan of the state of Baizhan many years ago, and the injury has not been healed even by now. This time, I found a Blue Water Dragon Eye Pill by chance, and I wish to offer it to Commander Xiao."

Xiao Qingwang's eyes burst into light, and he was visibly moved as he said, "A sixth-grade pill, the Blue Water Dragon Eye Pill!"

All the others also showed shocked expressions. Qin Zheng, too, had his eyes flashed, and he seemed more eager than Xiao Qingwang. "Li Yi, is what you said true?"

Looking at all the shocked eyes, Li Yi felt that he had finally breathed a sigh of relief and suddenly became very energetic. He laughed and said, "Of course! Fang Zhen, why don't you bring the pill to Commander Xiao?"

Fang Zhen was Li Yi's confidant, a first-tier alchemist he had recruited. With a smile on his face, he stepped forward and took out a jade box before gently opening the lid. A glittering and translucent green pill lay quietly in it.

"Commander Xiao, your internal injury will be healed completely after taking this pill, and you can definitely improve further in your cultivation of the martial arts!" Fang Zhen laughed and said.

Xiao Qingwang picked up the pill, his burly body shaking with excitement. Although he had narrowly won the battle that year, it had left him a serious injury. Because of that, he had not only failed to advance in martial arts in the recent years, he was going backward, which greatly distressed him.

Low-level pills had been unable to suppress his injuries, which had now begun to erode his life. If he allowed this situation to continue, he probably could only live for a few more years. This was exactly what Qin Zheng and he were most worried about. If he died, then Tianshui would only have one Martial King left—Zhong Lishan—and the state's strength would definitely greatly reduced!

Over the years, they had never stopped sending people everywhere to look for medicinal pills, but found nothing. Unexpectedly, just when they were losing all hopes, Li Yi had found the Blue Water Dragon Eye Pill that could completely cure Xiao Qingwang. How could they not be excited?

Qin Zheng was extremely happy. "Li Yi, you've done a great job this time! Whatever reward you want, I will give it to you!" he said loudly.

In his wild joy, Li Yi quickly bowed and said, "Your Majesty, this subject wishes to marry Princess Ruxue!"

"What!"

Everyone was shocked, and Ruxue turned pale instantly as she bellowed, "Li Yi! How dare a mere servant like you crave for what you are not worthy of! Father, you must not agree with him!"

Li Yi's eyes sparkled. Because of his humble background, although he now apparently controlled the Li Family, not many people obeyed him from the bottom of their hearts. He was surrounded by dangers. If he wanted to turn the tables completely, he must have a good status, and becoming the princess's husband was undoubtedly his best choice. Besides, Qin Ruxue was a beautiful girl, and he had long coveted her.

Qin Zheng paused and suddenly became silent. In his heart, he secretly blamed himself for being too impulsive and promising too much. What should he do now?

It was because he had seen this opportunity that Li Yi had made his request. "Your Majesty, this subject's feelings for Princess Ruxue are sincere, and this subject hopes Your Majesty can make us husband and wife."

When she found that Qin Zheng did not speak, Ruxue became anxious. "Father, father, you can't really..."

There was a look of reluctance in Qin Zheng's eyes, but he made up his mind at last and said in a deep voice, "Ruxue, you can't be willful in this matter! Li Yi's contribution to the state is enormous, and besides, I never go back on my words. I'm relieved to marry you to him, because I believe he is sincere to you. Otherwise, he wouldn't find such a precious demon beast egg for you!"

He had figured out everything, and he also needed Li Yi to keep the Li Family in check. Although a daughter was precious, she meant nothing when compared with his reign!

"What!" Ruxue felt a chill run from her head to toes as if she had fallen into an icy cellar. Her father, who had always loved her most, actually...

In her grief and indignation, she took out the demon beast egg and threw it into the air. "I don't want what he gave me!" A beam of cold light burst from the sword in her hand.

The egg was split in half in mid-air and then fell to the ground.

A pool of extremely smelly slime spilled all over the floor, and the entire main banquet hall was immediately filled with a foul stench. Everyone hurried to cover their noses and looked at the broken egg in surprise.

It was really a bad egg?

Everyone's eyes grew strange.

Li Yi himself was stunned as well, and his face was covered in shame and anger. He hoped there was a hole where he could hide now...

“Father, this is really a bad egg!” said Ruxue, suddenly very happy. “He had deceived me, and yet he said his feelings for me are sincere? Father, I hope...”

While frowning, Qin Zheng said, “This thing is extremely rare and precious, so how can ordinary people tell whether it’s good or bad? Buying a bad egg proves that Li Yi was cheated by someone.”

“Yes, yes, Your Majesty is right! This subject is the victim of deception! That damn seller!” Li Yi gnashed his teeth and said.

Qin Zheng cleared his throat and said, “One flaw cannot obscure the splendor of the jade. Li Yi has made an enormous contribution to the state, so I hereby decree that Ruxue...”

“Wait!”

Suddenly, a very discordant voice interrupted Qin Zheng’s words. Yunxiao smiled lightly and said, “This Blue Water Dragon Eye Pill is fake.”

“What!”

Qin Zheng was angry that Yunxiao had dared to interrupt him, but as soon as he heard those words, he suppressed his anger. At the same time, all the people present were startled and their pupils constricted!

Offering a fake pill in front of all courtiers and the king was a great crime that would lead to beheading, let alone this pill was meant for Xiao Qingwang. No one would dare to resort to such deceit. For a moment, all eyes were on Li Yi.

Ruxue suddenly screamed, “A fake pill! This must be a fake pill! Father, behead him!” She seemed to have caught a lifeline and cast a grateful look at Yunxiao as two lines of tears trickled down her cheeks.

Li Yi froze for a moment, then said angrily, “Li Yunxiao, don’t you utter nonsense! This is a sixth-grade pill I bought at a great price! How dare you mislead people! Your Majesty, this man is uttering nonsense again, his heart is incredibly wicked!”

Yunxiao said contemptuously, “Again?”

Li Yi was stupefied and rendered speechless when he looked at the puddle of rotten egg on the floor. However, the anger in his eyes was enough to burn Yunxiao to ashes!

Qin Zheng’s face darkened. He turned to Liang Wenyu and asked, “Master Liang, please have a look at this pill.”

Liang Wenyu stepped forward and studied the pill carefully for a while, then said dejectedly, “Your Majesty, this pill does not look fake to me. But, its grade is too high for me to be sure.”

Holding back his emotions, Xiao Qingwang said, “Li Yunxiao, do you have proof that this pill is fake?” In the past, there were indeed people from enemy states who deliberately gave him fake medicines which had nearly killed him several times, so he was still frightened.

Yunxiao chuckled and said, “It is very easy to confirm. The pill itself is non-toxic, but when it comes in contact with blood, it will produce a deadly poison. If you take it, you will surely die on the spot!”

“What!”

Qin Zheng lurched to his feet and cast his furious eyes on Li Yi. If what Yunxiao said was true, then Li Yi must be...

Li Yi’s forehead broke out in a cold sweat as he quickly turned to look at Fang Zhen. Seeing the latter frowning and shaking his head, he summoned up his courage and said, “Your Majesty, don’t listen to this man’s nonsense. As long as Commander Xiao’s injuries are fully healed after taking this pill, it proves that the pill is real.”

Yunxiao sneered, "If Commander Xiao dies after taking this pill, can we bring him back to life by beheading you?"

Li Yi said furiously, "There's no way anything bad will happen to him!"

Yunxiao pursued him relentlessly, "It will be fine for a period of time after taking this fake pill, but Commander Xiao has internal injuries in his body. If the pill comes in contact with his blood...hehe, then the matter will become serious. If you don't believe me, you can give it a try!"

"Try? How?" Li Yi sneered. "A sixth-grade pill is so precious that if we consumed it with the test, you can't compensate it even with your life!"

Yunxiao smiled calmly. "It's very simple. Dip this pill in someone's blood and feed it to a dog. If the dog dies, it proves that it is a fake pill and highly toxic. If the dog does not die within ten breaths, it proves that what I said is false. By that time, you can kill the dog and take out the pill."

Qin Zheng said, "Well, that's a good idea. Someone, go get a dog here! One of you must have deceived me today! I'd like to see who is so bold!"

Ruxue's eyes showed strong worry and uneasiness. She feared that she would bring Yunxiao into trouble because of her affairs. The latter gave her a comforting look, then walked over and picked up the Blue Water Dragon Eye Pill. "Old Eight, bring your dog blood here!"

Li Yi said angrily, "Why not use your own blood? This is your idea!"

Yunxiao smiled coldly and shouted, "8527!"

Li Yi flew into a rage and said in a trembling voice, "B\*stard! What did you just say?"

Yunxiao pointed his hand at Meng Bai and said, "I'm calling him, a new lowly servant I've recruited. His number is 8527."

He shouted, "8527, come here quickly!"

## Chapter 50: Insanity

"Young Master, I'm coming!" Meng Bai trotted over in cooperation and stood beside Yunxiao with a timid look.

Yunxiao sneered, "8527, work hard in the Li Family. This guy is your predecessor."

Meng Bai obediently shouted to Li Yi, "Senior!"

Li Yi was so dizzy with anger that he almost fell down, but Fang Zhen caught him in time. All the people present looked at the two with a smile, each with his own calculation. The Li Family was finally beginning to become chaotic.

Yunxiao said, "Little Eight, drop a few drops of blood on this pill."

With his eyes growing wide, Meng Bai pretended to be afraid as he said, "Why do you want my blood? Can't you use your own?"

Yunxiao slapped him on the head angrily and scolded, "You are a servant, and you must behave like a servant! You must do whatever your master asks you to do and ask no questions! Learn from your predecessor!"

Aggrieved, Meng Bai picked up a small meat knife from a nearby table and cut a little skin on his finger with a sad face, squeezing out a drop of blood as small as a green bean before dripping it on the pill. "Is that enough? There's a lot of blood already."

Yunxiao kicked him flying away. "Scram! You don't look like a servant at all!" He glanced coldly at the pill and said leisurely, "This pill will produce fatal toxicity when it comes into contact with blood. Although there is only a small drop, it is enough to kill a Martial King."

At the same time, he was deeply relieved. With Meng Bai's blood on this pill, Li Yi's charge of offering a poisonous pill could not be exonerated under any circumstances. The poison in Meng Bai's body was the source of all poisons, and it was so potent that even his previous life, a ninth-tier alchemist, could not dissolve it and had to find ways to force it out of his body.

Soon, several court guards brought over a big wolfhound.

Yunxiao picked up the blood-stained pill and was about to feed it to the dog when Li Yi shouted suddenly, "Hold on!"

He gave Yunxiao an alert look and said coldly, "Keep your distance and let these guards feed the dog!"

Yunxiao made an indifferent gesture and put the pill on the table. Only then did Li Yi direct a guard to go forward and feed the pill to the wolfhound.

After taking the pill, the dog did not seem to have much reaction and still barked loudly, as if it wanted more. The guard who trained the dog bowed his head and listened for a while, then reported back to the crowd, "Your Majesty, he said it was delicious and he wants more."

Qin Zheng's expression changed as he glared at Yunxiao. Meanwhile, Ruxue turned pale and sank back in her chair with all the strength leaving her body. She was crying on the inside as she told herself that she must save Yunxiao's life later no matter what the cost would be, even if she had to agree to marry Li Yi.

"Haha!"

Li Yi burst out laughing as he pointed to Yunxiao and said, "Little bast\*rd, how dare you deceive the king! I'll see how you die today! Ha! Haha!"

He laughed heartily, and the depression that had been suppressed in his heart all night seemed to be released at this moment. But after laughing for a while, he suddenly felt a little cold. The temperature in the banquet hall seemed to be dropping sharply, and traces of cold air were seeping into his skin.

Then, he found Yunxiao looking at him coldly and smilingly, as if he was looking at a clown and a dead man.

Li Yi flared up again. 'How dare a piece of rubbish who is dying look at me like this! I must dig out his eyes later on!' he thought to himself. But, he suddenly felt something was wrong, because he noticed that everyone around him was looking at him exactly like Yunxiao.

A sense of death came over him, making his heart sink instantly. He looked back and saw that the wolfhound, who was barking just now, had turned black, green, yellow, red, and many other colors. In short, it had turned into a colorful dead dog, completely dead!

"Ah!" Li Yi let out a cry of terror while his legs went limp, causing him to fall to the ground. Pointing to the dog, he said in a trembling voice, "Where did you...Where did you get this colorful dead dog?"

A fierce murderous aura burst out of Qin Zheng's body as he said, "What do you think?"

Li Yi yelled in despair, "How? How is that possible?" He pointed to Yunxiao and growled, "It's you, it must be you! You must have hidden the healthy dog, it must be! Take out the healthy dog and take away this dead dog!"

Everyone in the banquet hall was silent, watching in astonishment as Li Yi rolled on the ground like a clown. The members of the Li Family, on the other hand, had their eyes lighting up and their faces filled with excitement and joy. By offering a poisonous pill, Li Yi's death was inevitable. They did not think that the problem that had plagued their family for such a long time was solved so easily! Every one of the family looked at Yunxiao with awe.

"Your Majesty! Your Majesty! Li Yunxiao must have hidden that healthy dog! You must punish him and execute his whole family!" Li Yi seemed to be out of his mind. It was not easy for him to get to where he was today, but it was all falling apart now, causing him to go a little insane and start talking nonsense.

Qin Zheng was fuming, too. He had spent a great effort cultivating a puppet to restrain the Li Family, but now this puppet had made such a serious mistake! If he did not kill the latter, how would he explain it to Xiao Qingwang? However, if he killed him, how would he restrain the Li Family?

In a fit of rage, he bellowed, "Somebody, drag Li Yi and this Fang Zhen away and put them in jail!"

Li Yi and Fang Zhen were dragged out in front of everyone. Both of them shouted that they were innocent, but no one paid them any heed. Anyhow, Qin Zheng's attitude made everyone suspicious in their minds.

No matter who, even the princes and heirs of aristocrats, would be sentenced to death for trying to kill the commander-in-chief of the State Guardians, let alone Li Yi, a mere servant who had gained power for a short period! After committing such a crime, he should have been executed directly on the spot and not put in jail. It seemed that the king had other thoughts in his mind.

Xiao Qingwang's eyes flashed with a hint of unhappy anger as he stood up and said, "Your Majesty, my old injury has kicked back again. I'll take my leave now." Without waiting for Qin Zheng's approval, he went straight out.

Qin Zheng knew that Xiao Qingwang was dissatisfied with his handling and said hastily, "Commander Xiao, you have worked hard and are the pillar of the state. You must take good care of yourself. I'll immediately send one hundred Nourishing Pills to your residence."

"En," Xiao Qingwang answered without even looking back. No more than five people in Tianshui dared to put on such airs in front of the king.

"Wait a moment, Commander Xiao!" Yunxiao suddenly cried out, "May I look at your internal injuries?"

Xiao Qingwang halted his steps, and Qin Zheng also said happily, "Yes, Yunxiao knows how to stimulate acupoints with gold needles! He had cured Ruxue's Five Yins terminated meridians, and maybe can cure your internal injuries too!"

Ruxue was visibly moved. She looked at Qin Zheng at this moment and found that the kind and amiable father who doted on her was no longer there, leaving only the king of this state. Her eyes were full of sadness and disgust.

"In that case, Yunxiao, you can help me check it out." Xiao Qingwang agreed. He did not have any hope either, and was merely making a last attempt.

Yunxiao stepped forward and laid his fingers gently on Xiao Qingwang's wrist, pretending to begin diagnosing. At the same time, he secretly turned his divine sense into a fine stream, making it swim along Xiao Qingwang's main meridian and probing all the way.

The whole banquet hall became unusually quiet as no one dared to disturb them. About fifteen minutes later, Yunxiao pulled back his hand and sighed softly.

Xiao Qingwang frowned and asked, "How is it, kiddo?"

Yunxiao's eyebrows twitched as he said coldly, "Kiddo?"

Xiao Qingwang said indifferently, "Why? Even Li Chunyang is a kid in front of me, so what should I call you if not kiddo?"

For a moment, Yunxiao did not say a word, then nodded slightly before saying, "Do you feel like ants biting your humerus, ulna, and radius three times a day, but you can't get rid of that feeling no matter how you scratch?"

Xiao Qingwang's eyes lit up as he said hastily, "Exactly!"

"Do you feel like there is ice covering your Fengmen and Shendao acupoints at midday and midnight every day, giving you a chill all over?"

"Yes!"

"A year ago, did your Qi Sea often show signs of losing cultivation base at dawn and early morning? And now the signs also appear after midnight and late morning?"

"Yes!"

“When you are circulating your Qi, do you feel a numbness in your Pericardium meridian and Sanjiao meridian, as if electric currents are passing through them?”

“Yes!”

“Well, then I know your condition.”

“Kiddo, you are really good! You’ve mentioned every single one of my pains! Then you must also know the solution?” Xiao Qingwang said excitedly as his eyes shone brightly. “Wait, kiddo! Hey, where are you going?”

Yunxiao went straight out of the main banquet hall, then sat back in his seat and began to nibble on a leg of lamb. “I want to eat,” he mumbled. “How could a kid like me have a good solution? I was only asking randomly, and I didn’t expect you really have those symptoms. Don’t take it to heart, just pretend I didn’t ask.”

Everyone almost fainted while Ruxue covered her mouth and chuckled. She finally showed a little happiness.

Xiao Qingwang also felt his head spinning. No one had ever dared to show such an attitude in front of him. “Kid...Hey, I call your grandfather old kiddo, and your father kiddo. If I don’t call you kiddo, then what should I call you? Little kiddo?”

Yunxiao took a sip of the wine and said seriously, “You can call me Young Master Yun.”

Puke!

Han Bai, who was sitting next to him, coughed out a mouthful of wine while his eyes were full of fear.

Young Master Yun...

Traces of cold sweat oozed from everyone's foreheads. Was this boy out of his mind? How dare he let Xiao Qingwang call him Young Master! Was he tired of living?

Xiao Qingwang's face grew dark as he said coldly, "Do you know who you are talking to, kiddo? No one has ever dared to call himself a young master in front of me."

Pa!

Yunxiao placed his bronze wine bottle heavily on the table said coldly, "Whatever, no one is forcing you. If you feel it too troublesome to call me that, there is plenty of mutton on the table. You can use it to plug your mouth."

Everyone present was shocked. No one had ever dared to offend Xiao Qingwang like this, not even the king. Qin Zheng also wiped the cold sweat on his forehead.

Xiao Qingwang was startled for a moment, then he flew into a rage. He suddenly released his aura as he strode toward Yunxiao; with each step, the bluestone brick on the ground broke into pieces.

"Young Master Yun! Quickly admit your mistake to Commander Xiao! Don't you want to live?" Han Bai gave Yunxiao a few quick pushes.

At this moment, Xiao Qingwang had already walked up to him, staring at him with a gaze that was as sharp as a knife, as if to see through the other's heart. All the people around them felt the domineering aura and were unable to adapt to it. Hence, they quickly left their seats one after another.