

Time 231

Chapter 231 - 231 Comprehending the Dao

When he saw Shun Long returning back inside the foggy place, Little Black looked at his master with a serious look as he said

"Master, although that little girl will have no issue advancing to the Spirit realm, based on the thick aura of death around her body, you must still be prepared for her to kill many people in the future.

After all, necromancers always walk near death, in order to comprehend the Dao of Death even further.

Which is why the Dao of Death is one of the most cruel, and yet, one of the most terrifying Daos at the same time."

Shun Long nodded his head once he heard Little Black's words, since this was something that he had already understood by himself as well.

Although the thick aura of death around Liu Mei was only apparent when she cultivated or when she summoned her undead army, Shun Long had still noticed it growing thicker, every time that Liu Mei's skeletons or her undead knights killed someone.

Additionally, Shun Long also knew that this was still something that Liu Mei had to do if she wanted to be a necromancer in the future.

After sitting cross-legged on the ground, Shun Long consumed another top-grade 'Spirit enhancing pill', as he continued to increase the power of his soul and his spiritual strength.

Although the increase in his soul was the most minimal, Shun Long also knew, that the soul was something that couldn't actually be tempered through normal means.

Medicinal ingredients and pills that could temper the soul, were much harder to find than things like the 'Golden Jade spirit tree' after all.

Shun Long continued to consume the 'Spirit enhancing pills' during the day, while he would try to comprehend the Dao of Time every second day as well, as time continued to pass?like this.

His rate of absorption also increased, from 5 pills a day to 6, and soon, Shun Long could already refine 8 'Spirit enhancing pills' in one day.

1 month...

2 months...

3 months...

Soon, half a year had passed for Shun Long inside the 'Stone of Time', when a popping sound was suddenly heard from his spiritual space.

It seemed as if a small explosion had occurred, as Shun Long's spiritual space started to slowly expand.

1 hour later, Shun Long could clearly feel that his spiritual space was now even bigger than before.

During the past half a year that he was in seclusion, both his soul and his spiritual strength had reached the absolute limits of the Heaven grade, while even his spiritual space seemed to have expanded by more than one-third of its original size.

Shun Long had already consumed more than 1000 top-grade rank 4 'Spirit enhancing pills' during this time.

And yet, although his spiritual strength and soul had reached their limits, and Shun Long was now just a step away from attempting his breakthrough to the Spirit realm, he still had a feeling of frustration in his heart.

After all, during this half year, no matter what he did, he was unable to further comprehend the Dao of Time.

It was almost like the further that he tried to tread down on this path, the further away from his grasp the essence of time seemed to go.

It seemed that no matter how hard he tried, he was just a step away from touching the Dao of Time, but in the end, it was still an ethereal feeling.

Sensing his master's emotions, Little Black looked at Shun Long who was still sitting cross-legged on the ground, as he said

"Master, you need to be patient. No matter what, there are certain Daos that may take hundreds if not thousands of years to comprehend them. Of course, there are also ways to hasten the comprehension of a Dao using some special treasures, but... I have never even heard anything about such treasures regarding the Dao of Time itself!

It will all be up to master in the end."

Shun Long nodded his head once he heard Little Black's words, before he finally cleared his mind and mumbled to himself

"Indeed, so what if I spend a few months or even a few years to comprehend the Dao. In the end, it is nothing but time..."

A few hours later, Little Black's eyes shone brightly as he looked at Shun Long, who seemed to have fallen into a state of enlightenment.

At the same time, in the House of Rankings in the Heaven's Dome city, a huge crowd of people seemed to have gathered inside it as they stared at a large screen of light.

This was the same screen of light that Shun Long and Liu Mei had seen the third princess of the Dark elf race, Yi Mingzhu, fight against the person who was ranked 147th in the rankings, Su Shanyuan.

In the screen of light, a handsome black-haired young man who was holding a snow-white sword on his hands and was dressed in white robes, stood opposite to a blue-robed man with brown hair and eyes, who was holding a large crimson saber with his right hand.

The black-haired man dressed in white had a pointy jaw and sharp eyebrows, while his deep blue eyes were staring at the brown-haired young man in front of him with a serious look.

His white robes fluttered with the wind, while the serious look on his face made the hearts of the young maidens in the House of Rankings skip a few beatings.

Instead, the brown-haired man in blue robes who was standing opposite to him had a relaxed look on his face, while he was resting his huge saber on his right shoulder.

The people in the crowd exploded in discussions when they looked at the 2 young men who were about to face each other, bringing more and more people to the scene.

A young man looking less than 16 years old, looked at a young woman next to him, whose eyes were glued on the white-robed man on the screen, and with a curious tone he asked

"Big sis, who are these 2 people? Why is there such a huge crowd here today?"

A young man who looked to be in his mid-twenties overheard the question, and taking a step forward he patted the young man's shoulder as he said

"Hey little brat, do you want to know who these 2 people are? Let me tell you then!

The blue-robed man with the crimson saber on his shoulder, is the person who is ranked 5th in our House of Rankings, senior Long Hong!"

The young man's eyes almost popped out of their sockets when he heard this, before he seriously stared at the brown-haired man in the light screen in front of him.

Then, his eyes involuntarily fell on the white-robed man who was standing opposite to him, and with an ashamed expression he turned his head to look at the man next to him as he asked

"Then, who is that person who is his opponent?"

The man in his mid-twenties smiled when he heard this question, and looking at the white-robed young man on the screen, he answered in a serious tone

"It's the young master of the White City and the son of one of the most powerful Dao Kings... the young white lord!"

Chapter 232 - 232 A peak fight in the rankings

The moment that the young man heard the words 'young white lord', his eyes widened even further, as he stared at the white-robed man with a look of reverence, astonishment and awe.

Looking at the man next to him, the young man couldn't help stammering as he asked in a disbelieving expression

"Th-is... is the young white lord?"

There was almost no one in the Night star continent who hadn't heard of the name young white lord.

Not only was he the son of a peak expert in the continent, but he was also a supreme genius, as well as an extremely handsome young man.

His father, the white lord, who was respected and feared by countless Dao Kings, had admitted that his son had even more potential than himself.

Ever since his son was young, the white lord had noticed his talent for cultivation, and had offered him the best resources for cultivation.

Middle-grade spirit stones, gold-grade weapons and armor, and even Dao King level protectors to follow him when he left the White city.

People in the Night star continent didn't have a doubt, that in the future, the young white lord would certainly become a peak level Dao King.

The man in his mid-twenties nodded his head when he heard the question of the young man next to him, while a look of respect had appeared in his eyes as he stared at the 2 men on the screen of light.

Then, with a serious tone, he said

"Although the young white lord is a genius, he is doomed to lose against senior Long Hong today."

The woman next to the young man immediately turned her head from the light screen when she heard this, and looking at the man who had approached her brother, she asked in a dissatisfied tone

"How do you know that the young white lord will lose?"

The woman hadn't kept her voice down, drawing the attention of the people around them, as all of them now stared at the young man in his mid-twenties.

The crowd immediately started throwing insults and mocking comments at the man in his mid twenties, the moment that they heard the young woman's words.

The man however didn't seem to cower in front of the crowd, and with a proud voice, he stared at the light screen as he said

"I am not saying that the young white lord will lose because I dislike him. Although many of you don't know it, senior Long Hong has already reached the peak of rank 1 in the Nascent soul stage!

Meanwhile, I observed the young white lord's battles yesterday, and the truth is, that although he is a supreme genius with the sword, he has only reached the early rank 1 in the Nascent soul stage.

Do you people really think that he can beat senior Long Hong? Senior Long Hong is one of the strongest saber users in our entire Heaven's Dome city! If they were on the same level, then perhaps the young white lord could win, but now?"

As soon as the crowd around him heard the man's words, everyone closed their mouths, as they quickly turned their eyes to the screen of light.

Indeed, although many of them had heard that the young white lord had come to the House of Rankings yesterday, only the people who were inside the House of Rankings had seen that he had participated in some battles.

Inside the screen of light, the brown-haired Long Hong looked at the young man in front of him, and with a smile on his face he said

"The famous young white lord, Bai Longtian... it's good to meet you here. People are always saying how you are unrivaled with the sword within the same realm, but very few can defeat me within the same realm as well.

Although my cultivation is higher than yours, I hope that you won't actually use it as an excuse once you lose.

After all, you are the one who initiated this challenge in the first place."

The black-haired Bai Longtian looked at Long Hong who had a confident smile on his face, and surprisingly, he nodded his head as he replied seriously

"Don't worry senior Long, I am definitely not a person who makes excuses like that.

As long as you can win, then of course I will accept it."

Long Hong's expression turned ugly when he heard this.

Originally, he was planning to anger Bai Longtian before he defeated him, but now, he was the one who looked petty.

Without another word, the brown-haired man held his crimson saber with both hands, and infusing his qi inside it, wisps of fire started appearing in the air around him.

Suddenly, the crimson saber was set ablaze, as a scorching fire had appeared on its surface.

Long Hong kicked the ground, and he almost instantly disappeared from the place he was standing on, quickly appearing in front of Bai Longtian, as he swung his saber towards his chest.

The crowd frowned when they saw Long Hong's sneak attack, but Bai Longtian calmly swung his sword in response, meeting with the incoming saber head-on.

Long Hong's eyes were wide open when he saw that Bai Longtian was merely forced a step back, after parrying his full-powered saber slash while holding his white sword with just a single hand.

And yet, there was still a smirk on Long Hong's face when he saw his crimson saber colliding with Bai Longtian's white sword.

The scorching flames from the saber quickly engulfed the white saber in the blink of an eye, as they moved towards Bai Longtian's body.

However, a shocked look soon replaced Long Hong's smirk.

The moment that his flames were about to reach Bai Longtian's hand at the hilt of the sword, a powerful white light appeared from the young white lord's hand, as it quickly extinguished the flames.

The flames were quickly purified as soon as they met the white light, while Bai Longtian simply smiled as he saw Long Hong stepping backwards.

Before Long Hong could even stabilize his footing, he saw Bai Longtian in front of him suddenly turning into a beam of light, before he disappeared on the spot.

The crowd watching from the main lobby of the House of Rankings immediately exploded in excitement, as people instantly understood what was going on

"The Dao of Light!"

"The young white lord has comprehended the Dao of Light?!"

At the same time, inside the screen of light, Bai Longtian appeared behind Long Hong, as he swung his white sword towards the back of his neck.

Long Hong snorted as he turned around and parried Bai Longtian's attack, but surprisingly, Bai Longtian's moves were much faster than Long Hong's.

Using the Dao of Light, Bai Longtian's hand moved at extreme speed, as his sword left a cut on the back of Long Hong's neck. The peak rank 1 Nascent Soul stage expert hurriedly parried the white sword near his neck with his crimson saber, as he looked at the young man in front of him with a horrified look in his eyes.

Everyone inside the House of Rankings were left speechless, while Bai Longtian looked at the brown-haired man in front of him, and with a calm smile on his face he said

"Senior Long, I win."

Long Hong wanted to object, but his hand involuntarily touched the back of his neck, where fresh blood was still dripping on the ground.

Chapter 233 - 233 The Heaven's Dome city heating up

After feeling the fresh blood on his fingers, a horrifying thought flashed through Long Hong's mind

"If his sword had cut just a little bit deeper, then wouldn't I...?"

Shivers run through the peak rank 1 Nascent soul stage expert's mind, as he looked at Bai Longtian's calm smile, before he sighed and nodded his head.

Bai Longtian had that same smile on his face, as he slightly bowed and cupped his hands at Long Hong, before he said

"Thank you for the fight senior Long."

Long Hong snorted, but he didn't reply to the man in front of him.

After all, as a peak rank 1 Nascent soul stage expert, he had lost when fighting against an early rank 1 Nascent soul stage cultivator, who hadn't even used a single martial skill during their fight.

The crowd inside the House of Rankings immediately exploded in excitement.

"The young white lord won in a single move!"

"Of course he did! Even against the person ranked 5th in the Heaven's Dome city, the young white lord wouldn't lose. With all those strong people entering the city, I don't even think that Long Hong will manage to stay in the top 20, let alone the top 10!"

The moment that people heard these discussions, a large crowd turned to look towards the man who had said that the young white lord would lose for sure.

However, the man seemed to have already fled the scene, not waiting to find out the crowd's reaction.

After the battle ended, Long Hong was the first one to come out from the Ranking gate.

Although no one mocked him, and people even looked at him with respect, he still had a determined look in his eyes as he walked forward.

Although he hadn't expected to lose against Bai Longtian today, he knew, that with so many geniuses entering the Heaven's Dome city, keeping his place in the top 10 would be nearly a dream for him soon, but this was also the best place for him to become stronger as well!

With so many geniuses to fight against, he was certain that his saber arts would rise, and once he was stronger, he could challenge Bai Longtian again, and perhaps... even the people who were even higher in the rankings.

Seeing the brown-robed man who was holding his crimson saber leaving the House of Rankings, nobody made a sound.

However, the moment that Long Hong left and Bai Longtian appeared from the Ranking gate, the crowd no longer held back its excitement.

People were quickly leaving the House of Rankings at the same time in droves, as the news of the young white lord becoming the 5th ranked person in the rankings started to spread throughout the Heaven's Dome city like wildfire.

Inside a majestic golden building, at the headquarters of the 'Golden Exchange firm', a young man with blue hair was sitting on a white couch, holding 2 enchanting women in his arms, fondling their b.r.e.a.s.ts and kissing them at the same time.

The 2 women were almost n.a.k.e.d, with only a cloth of undergarment half-covering their already exposed lower bodies, while their m.o.a.ns had filled the room.

Suddenly, knocks appeared on the door as a hurried voice sounded outside

"Young master! I have important news!"

The blue-haired man nodded his head, and without a change in his expression he said

"Come in!"

The 2 women next to him felt embarrassed with their chests exposed out in the open, but the young man didn't seem to mind, as he continued his actions, even when he had called for the person outside to come in.

The door of the luxurious room then opened, as a young man with short hair and a large forehead entered the room.

The moment that he raised his head to look at the blue-haired young man however, the young man's eyes were suddenly focused on the 2 pairs of pink pearls on the 2 women's chests.

The man's feet trembled for a second, and he even swallowed audibly, when the blue-haired man's voice once again sounded in his ears

"Xiao Tong, what did you interrupt me for?"

The young man quickly came back to his senses when he heard the blue-haired man's words, and with a serious look on his face he said

"Right! Young master, the young white lord has defeated Long Hong in the House of Rankings. This news has started to spread throughout the Heaven's Dome city already. The young white lord has become the 5th ranked person in the House's rankings!"

The blue-haired man nodded his head and smiled when he heard this. To him, it wasn't actually surprising to hear that the young white lord had defeated Long Hong.

As for the 'Golden Exchange firm', since they had their own intelligence network and owned a large part of the House of Rankings, he was actually among the first people to get this news.

The news continued to spread like fire throughout the Heaven's Dome city, and less than 20 minutes later, it had already reached the Shengtian dynasty and the 'Mercenaries' Association'.

Inside the 'Mercenaries' Association's; headquarters, Su Shanyuan was sparring with another middle rank 1 realm expert in the center of a large arena, while a young man in white robes seemed to be observing their fight without much interest in his eyes.

The young man had a chubby face and long silver hair, while the muscles on his arms and legs couldn't be hidden by his loose white robes.

The young man was still staring at Su Shanyuan's fight, when suddenly, an old man appeared in front of him like a gust of wind, kneeling on one knee on the floor as he greeted

"Young master!"

The old man had a black-colored badge on his chest with the letters 'SS' on it, indicating that he was an SS-rank mercenary.

Even as an SS-rank mercenary, someone who had reached the late stages of the Nascent soul stage, was actually kneeling in front of this young man.

The chubby-faced young man looked calmly at the old man in front of him, before he asked in a voice that didn't hold the tiniest bit of interest

"Elder Pan, what is it?"

The old man smiled when he heard this question, as he reported the news of Bai Longtian taking the 5th rank in the House of Rankings.

A smile appeared on the silver-haired young man's face as soon as he heard this report, before he stood up and walked towards the exit of the room, completely ignoring the ongoing fight as he left the 'Mercenaries' Association'.

At the northern part of the Heaven's Dome city' inside the majestic palace of the Shengtian dynasty, a peak rank 9 Nascent soul stage expert had also appeared outside of a secluded courtyard.

The courtyard was filled with countless formations, from Qi gathering formations that increased the purity of the qi inside it, to defensive formations that could destroy any Nascent soul stage expert that tried to trespass. Even Dao Kings would be repelled if they tried to enter inside this courtyard by force.

The moment that the gates of the courtyard opened, a wave of pure qi assaulted the peak rank 9 Nascent Soul expert's senses, who cautiously raised his head to look inside.

A half-n.a.k.e.d young man appeared from the courtyard, staring at the peak rank 9 Nascent Soul expert with a profound look in his eyes.

The young man had short, spiky black hair and a pair of sharp emerald eyes. His looks were actually on par with the young white lord's, while the upper part of his body, seemed as if it had been sculpted by the gods.

This young man's body wouldn't even be considered inferior in front of Shun Long's, whose body had been tempered by the rank 2 'internal destruction pill' in the past, and who had already reached the middle of the third stage in the 'Monarch's Eternal body'.

Looking at the young man in front of him, the peak rank 9 Nascent soul stage expert knelt down as he greeted hurriedly

"Young lord!"

The spiky-haired man nodded his head at the middle-aged man in front of him, as he then heard the report.

After hearing that the young white lord had defeated Long Hong, the young man nodded his head as he said with a deep look in his eyes

"Uncle Qiang, this was expected. Although I haven't fought with him yet, I have heard about Bai Longtian's prowess long ago.

It's not just him, but the descendants of countless experts are rushing into our 'Heaven's Dome city' as we speak.

The supreme geniuses of the entire continent will all gather here to fight against each other.

Only people at Bai Longtian's level can help me challenge myself and become even stronger, before the test of the Holy sect starts!"

The middle-aged man was silent, simply nodding his head in response to the young man's words as if they were the most natural thing in the world.

At the same time, inside the foggy place in the 'Stone of Time', time continued to pass as a bright blue light was now coming from Shun Long's body.

Chapter 234 - 234 Comprehending the Dao

Shun Long however was completely oblivious to this, while his eyes were closed and his mind had entered a state of enlightenment, as he tried to comprehend the Dao of Time.

More and more time passed, while the blue light around his body would sometimes become dim, while at other times it would be extremely bright.

One more year passed like this inside the foggy place in the 'Stone of Time', and yet, Shun Long was still sitting cross-legged with his eyes closed, while the blue light had completely covered his body.

"What is time? Is it the unstoppable river that sweeps all things, something that no one can touch? No..."

Time continued to pass like this as Shun Long tried to feel the passing seconds around him.

At the same time, back inside the inn's room, Liu Mei had closed her eyes, sitting cross-legged on top of a meditative cushion, as she consumed another top-grade rank 4 'Spirit enhancing pill', when she suddenly felt a rumbling in her spiritual space.

Although more than a year had passed inside the foggy place in the 'Stone of Time', 2 months had passed for Liu Mei inside the room.

During these past 2 months that she had spent in seclusion, her soul and spiritual strength had already been strengthened to their limits, while her cultivation had also reached the peak of rank 9 in Heaven grade.

The only reason that she hadn't attempted her breakthrough to the Spirit realm yet, was because Shun Long had told her to strengthen her soul and spiritual strength to the limit by consuming the 'Spirit enhancing pills'.

And today, Liu Mei finally felt her soul and spiritual strength reaching their limits, while her spiritual space had started to expand.

3 hours later, her spiritual space had expanded by almost one-third of its original size, while her soul and her spiritual strength were now many times greater than before.

Liu Mei had a joyful expression as she opened her eyes, but the moment that her gaze fell on the meditative cushion opposite to her, a worried and anxious look soon appeared on her face.

"Long-ge... are you okay?"

It had been almost 2 months since the last time that Shun Long had returned back. Since then, Liu Mei had already advanced from the early rank 9 all the way to the peak of rank 9 in Heaven grade, and she was ready to attempt her breakthrough to the Spirit realm.

And yet, Shun Long still hadn't returned.

After taking a deep breath to calm herself down, Liu Mei shook her head as she then thought

"No, Long-ge must be alright. After all, comprehending a Dao isn't easy.

I also took 2 months to comprehend the basics of the Dao of Ice, before breaking through to the Heaven grade, and that was still the first time.

If I tried to break through to the Spirit realm using the Dao of Ice as my foundation, I would surely need more than 2 months as well."

Once these thoughts flashed through her mind, Liu Mei's worries started to die down.

She knew that the best thing that she could do right now, was to bring herself to peak condition before attempting her breakthrough to the Spirit realm.

After all, after peering through the Abyss of Death and absorbing so much death aura in her missions with Shun Long, Liu Mei's comprehension of the Dao of Death was more than high enough to attempt her breakthrough.

She still remembered the scenes during her first mission with Shun Long, where her skeletons and her undead knights were unable to help, as a determined look appeared in her beautiful black eyes.

Closing her eyes, Liu Mei then took more than 200 middle-grade spirit stones from her spatial ring, before she spread them on the ground around her.

Then, as she circulated the 'Moonlight Sigil', the aura of death around her had quickly started to thicken.

Time passed as Liu Mei absorbed the power of the middle-grade spirit stones, while the aura of death inside the room became stronger and stronger with every passing second.

The black panther that was still sleeping in the courtyard, suddenly opened its eyes and looked at Liu Mei's and Shun Long's room.

The black panther's intelligence wasn't any lower than an a.d.u.l.t human's. Since the panther knew that this aura of death belonged to his master's wife, it once again closed its eyes before it spread its soul sense even further beyond the courtyard, making sure that no one would dare to disturb Liu Mei during this time.

The same moment that Liu Mei attempted her breakthrough to the Spirit realm however, Shun Long's eyes inside the foggy place abruptly opened.

He could suddenly feel a part of the flow of time around him, and even though it was an ethereal feeling, Shun Long was certain that it was still there.

It was like an invisible membrane hugging everything.

Shun Long could also feel, that once he focused hard enough, he could actually sense this ethereal feeling.

At that moment, he also knew that he had gained even deeper insights in the Dao of Time.

Every step forward in comprehending the Dao was hard, but the benefits would always be immense.

However, at the same time that Shun Long seemed to have gained comprehension in the Dao of Time, the 'Stone of Time' inside his spiritual space started to rotate in a clockwise motion.

The rotation speed was slow at first, but soon, it quickly sped up.

Shun Long could almost hear a buzzing sound from his spiritual space, that was also akin to a calling.

A feeling of urgency quickly filled his heart, but the 'Stone of Time' didn't seem to stop rotating.

Little Black could sense Shun Long's emotions that seemed to have suddenly changed, as the black dragon immediately coiled himself around his master.

However, as the buzzing inside his spiritual space reached its peak, Shun Long could feel the 'Stone of Time' releasing a powerful blue light that covered his entire body.

His vision then started to blur and under Little Black's shocked eyes, Shun Long abruptly disappeared from the foggy space.

Even though his vision was blurred and he couldn't see anything in front of him, he could feel a spatial distortion around his body, while the membrane of time around him was also being affected.

An unknown amount of time later, Shun Long found himself appearing in front of a majestic white palace, the likes of which he had never seen before.

However, before he could check his surroundings, as soon as the spatial distortion disappeared around him, Shun Long could feel a powerful pressure crushing his body, which forced him on the ground, leaving him barely able to breathe.

Chapter 235 - 235 Terrifying pressure

Shun Long tried to raise his head, but that was the only movement that he could do.

A few hundred meters ahead of him, he could see a jade-white palace, with dark gold runes covering its walls, while its gigantic palace gates were thousands of meters tall.

In front of the palace gates there were 2 enormous statues, that were almost as tall as the palace gates themselves.

The statues looked like 2 strong warriors, covered in armor that seemed to have been made from some kind of silver.

The statues' facial features were similar to humans', however, the difference was, that each statue also had a pair of gigantic silver wings on their backs.

Each of them was also holding a spear, and although they were just statues, Shun Long had a feeling that he was staring at 2 enormous monsters.

Crack

Crackk

Crackk!

Cracking sounds were heard from Shun Long's body in rapid succession.

The pain of his bones being crushed under the terrifying pressure around him, had left him in a miserable position.

Even though his body had already reached the middle of rank 3 in body refinement, it still couldn't endure the enormous pressure that was grinding his bones to dust.

The 'Monarch's Eternal body' then started to circulate by itself, as a gentle power had started to quickly heal Shun Long's fractured bones.

And yet, the all-encompassing pressure around him continued to destroy his bones at an even faster rate than before.

Even the healing from the 'Monarch's Eternal body' that had reached the middle of the third stage, couldn't keep up with the speed that Shun Long's bones were being destroyed.

Gritting his teeth, Shun Long activated the 'Monarch's Hourglass', as 81 bright balls of qi appeared above his head.

Circulating the qi inside his qi balls, he then covered his body from head to toe, as he tried to reduce the horrifying pressure around him.

As soon as he covered himself with his qi, Shun Long could feel the surrounding pressure drastically reducing in intensity.

The healing of the 'Monarch's Eternal body' now far outstripped the destructive power of the pressure around him.

And yet, the qi inside the 81 balls of qi in the 'Monarch's Hourglass', was being drained at an alarming rate.

The 'Monarch's Eternal body' however, was automatically circulating by itself, using the pressure around Shun Long to temper his body even further.

Although Shun Long felt immense pain as his bones were being broken over and over again, he still gritted his teeth as he endured the process.

He knew that his body was automatically circulating, in order to temper his strength and adapt to the environment around him.

Without any hesitation, Shun Long took out some middle rank 5 'Qi replenishing pills' that he had gotten from Xue Zhilan's spatial ring, and consumed them one by one.

This was the only way that he could keep replenishing the qi inside his qi balls.

Otherwise, his balls of qi were emptied out, he would no longer be able to face this pressure by using his 'Monarch's Eternal body' by itself.

Half a day soon passed, while Shun Long's body had been tempered countless times during this time.

Suddenly, from the depths of his body, a terrifying power exploded, which made even the pressure in the air around him halt for a second.

"Peak of the third stage in the 'Monarch's Eternal body'!"

Under the surrounding pressure that had crushed his body countless times, Shun Long had finally broken through to the peak of the third stage in body refinement.

He could now clearly feel that his body wasn't as strained by the surrounding pressure any longer.

Even without the help of the qi covering his body, Shun Long could now stand up.

He could finally take a look around him.

Shun Long noticed, that he was standing on a patch of golden soil, while in the distance ahead of him, was the gigantic palace that seemed to have been standing there for countless years.

On top of the palace, there were a series of words that he had never seen before. Even with the knowledge that he had absorbed from the golden book, Shun Long couldn't seem to be able to decipher these symbols.

After memorizing them in his mind, he then turned his head around to take a look at this unfamiliar place.

And yet, behind him, there was only a patch of red soil, while around him and around the palace, there was nothing but pitch-black darkness.

Shun Long could feel powerful spatial fluctuations from the darkness around him.

With his understanding of the Dao of Space, Shun Long could clearly tell, that the power of these spatial fluctuations could instantly kill even Dao Kings.

He didn't know when, but a path of golden stairs had appeared in front of him, that lead directly to the majestic white palace in front of him.

The path had more than one thousand stairs, that were shining radiantly with a bright golden color.

Shun Long noticed that he was now firmly standing on the first step of the stairs.

After deliberating for a while, Shun Long steeled his heart and once again circulated the qi inside his qi balls, before he took a step forward.

The moment that his foot touched the 2nd golden step however, Shun Long could feel an unstoppable power rushing inside his body.

This power was much stronger than the pressure that he had felt earlier, and even with the help of his peak rank 9 Heaven grade cultivation, Shun Long was unable to resist this power for long.

He quickly tried to retract his foot, but the rebound of the pressure sent him flying towards the patch of red soil behind him.

At that moment, the 'Stone of Time' inside Shun Long's spiritual space once again started to rotate, and before Shun Long could touch the patch of red soil, a familiar sensation enveloped his body.

The membrane of time covering his body started to expand while the familiar feeling of spatial distortion once again appeared around him.

Under Little Black's shocked eyes, Shun Long's body once again appeared inside the foggy place in the 'Stone of Time'.

Chapter 236 - 236 Golden stele

The Stone of Time stopped rotating, while Little Black looked at his master with both a relieved, as well as a curious look.

Although Shun Long had already mentioned to Little Black in the past, that such a situation had happened once again, back when Shun Long had appeared in front of that red palace, the black dragon still couldn't feel any relief.

After all, the 'Stone of Time' was still an unknown treasure, and no one knew its real capabilities.

If one day, Shun Long was sent to a dangerous place, with enemies far beyond what he could handle, wouldn't he then be doomed then?

"No! Master is my only family!"

The moment that these thoughts flashed through Little Black's mind, the black dragon shook his head immediately rejecting them, before he turned to look at Shun Long who was still looking around him.

Seeing that he had returned back to the foggy place inside the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long felt a sense of relief, but at the same time dissatisfaction deep in his heart.

He felt a sense of relief because he had returned back to this place while he had also managed to breakthrough to the peak of the third stage in the 'Monarch's Eternal body', but he also felt dissatisfaction because he couldn't control these outbursts when the 'Stone of Time' would suddenly rotate.

This was already the second time that this had happened.

The first time, Shun Long had appeared outside of a red palace, while the 'Stone of Time' seemed to have reacted to what was inside there.

A purple light had then burst from that palace, shooting high up in the sky, before booming thunderclouds had gathered in the air.

This time however, there seemed to be nothing that reacted to the 'Stone of Time'.

There was only the white palace, the 2 statues with silver wings and silver armor, the red patch of soil behind Shun Long... and of course the stairs of golden steps.

If Shun Long hadn't actually refined the rank 2 'internal destruction pill' in the past, and hadn't reached the middle of the third stage in the 'Monarch's Eternal body' by now, would he have managed to stay alive under that horrifying pressure?

After thinking about it for a while he then mumbled to himself

"The second golden step seemed to have been much more terrifying than the first. Does that mean that every successive step would be harder to climb than the last one?"

Shun Long's eyes lit up as this thought flashed through his mind, when suddenly, the foggy place inside the 'Stone of Time' started to rumble.

Shun Long and Little Black both looked around them, as a small part of the white mist that surrounded this space, was now swirling in a spiral pattern.

A small part of the mist started to recede even deeper inside the foggy space, while Shun Long stared at it with shock in his eyes.

In the past, Shun Long had tried to pass through the white fog, but upon contact with it he realized, that it was practically impossible to force his way through. No

matter what he did, whether he used the 'Thunderbolt finger' or attacked with the 'Staff of Obliteration', or even when he had simply infused his qi inside it, the white fog wouldn't budge even a single inch.

And yet, something entirely new appeared in Shun Long's eyes.

A golden stele less than 1m(3.2ft) tall had appeared on the ground in front of him, as it radiated a dim white light.

Shun Long's eyes widened when he saw the white palace with 2 guards that were engraved on the golden stele.

This was clearly the same palace that he had just been to a few minutes ago.

Little Black watched Shun Long's shocked expression, before his eyes shifted towards the golden stele as well, but only a look of confusion appeared in his eyes.

It was obvious that Little Black didn't recognize the white palace engraved on the golden stele.

Seeing Shun Long taking a few steps forward, walking towards the golden stele, Little Black had a serious look in his eyes as he appeared behind Shun Long in an instant.

The black dragon didn't stop Shun Long from examining the golden stele, but had instead taken all precautions in case they faced any danger.

After all, Shun Long couldn't leave something inside the 'Stone of Time' without knowing what it is.

Walking in front of the golden stele, Shun Long placed his hand on top of it.

Although the stele itself looked ancient, it had a very smooth feeling on his hand.

Shun Long had a serious look in his eyes, as his finger traced the drawing of the white palace on the stele.

Seeing that nothing had happened, Shun Long activated the 'Monarch's Hourglass', gathering his qi in his finger.

The moment that Shun Long's finger that was infused with his qi came in contact with the golden stele, the stele emitted a humming sound, before it fell completely silent.

The dim white light was still surrounding the stele however, but no matter how Shun Long tried to probe the stele, he was unable to get another reaction.

Turning his head around, Shun Long then saw Little Black who was behind him, as he stared at him curiously, before Shun Long explained everything that he had just been through.

Suddenly, Shun Long also remembered the mysterious symbols on top of the white palace, and using his qi to create a small flame on his finger, he replicated the symbols as he showed them to Little Black.

To his disappointment however, Shun Long saw Little Black staring at the symbols for a while, before he shook his head and said

"Master, I have never encountered such symbols before. At least this isn't a language that I know of..."

Although Shun Long felt some disappointment, he didn't find it too unexpected.

After all, the 'Stone of Time's' origins were something that neither Little Black nor anyone else knew of.

Shun Long could take his time in the future, to search for more things about the white palace in the golden stele, as well as that mysterious red palace that he had appeared outside of, the last time.

With these thoughts in mind, Shun Long's mind finally relaxed.

After all, the truth was, that he had certainly benefitted today from his 'trip' to the white palace.

Seeing the black dragon who was staring at him with a disappointed expression, Shun Long patted Little Black's head as he said

"It's okay. We can find more clues about these things together in the future.

For now, it is time for me to break through to the Spirit realm!"

Chapter 237 - 237 Breaking through to the Spirit realm

Little Black nodded his head, as he watched Shun Long walking towards his usual seat, before he sat down cross-legged and closed his eyes.

After clearing his head, Shun Long summoned the 'Heaven swallowing vine', before he took out more than 10.000 middle-grade spirit stones.

The vine then started to rapidly swallow the middle-grade spirit stones that Shun Long fed to it, before it turned them into pure qi that filled the air around him.

Shun Long circulated the 'Monarch's Hourglass', as 81 bright balls of qi appeared above his head.

Shun Long then started absorbing the pure qi that the 'Heaven swallowing vine' extracted from the middle-grade spirit stones, replenishing the enormous amounts of qi that he had expended on top of the golden stairs earlier.

Once the 81 balls of qi were once again brought back to peak condition, Shun Long focused his mind as he tried to compress the 81 balls of qi down to one, in order to successfully breakthrough to the Spirit realm.

Shun Long already knew that this breakthrough would be different than the last.

Unlike the breakthrough to the Heaven grade, to breakthrough to the Spirit realm, this time, aside from compressing the balls of qi into one, he also had to condense all of his spiritual strength together, creating his spirit sense.

Only then could Shun Long truly enter the early rank 1 in the Spirit realm.

Having his own spirit sense would also drastically help Shun Long in his alchemy as well, along with many other things in the future.

After all, the difference between touching something with spiritual strength and touching it with spirit sense was simply incomparable.

Touching a medicinal herb with spiritual strength gave you a feeling as if you were touching it with your own 2 hands, but touching it with spirit sense was more than that.

It gave you a feeling of examining the medicinal herb at the same time that you were touching it.

In a cauldron that had its lid closed during the final steps of alchemy, or when a formation master engraved runes on the inside of a weapon, spirit sense would allow the 2 of them to see what was happening inside, instead of just getting a rough feeling of the situation through their spiritual strength.

Endless amounts of qi were extracted from the middle-grade spirit stones, as they were converted into pure qi from the 'Heaven swallowing vine', before they filled the air around Shun Long and Little Black.

Absorbing the pure qi in the air around him, Shun Long then started to compress the 81 balls of qi in the 'Monarch's Hourglass', while at the same time, a stinging pain had filled his head as he compressed his spiritual strength, before it transformed into spirit sense.

3 hours soon passed, and 27 balls of qi, much brighter than before, were now left inside the 'Monarch's Hourglass'.

Droplets of sweat had formed on Shun Long's forehead, but gritting his teeth he continued compressing the qi balls.

6 hours later, a pair of blindingly bright balls of qi had appeared above Shun Long's head, inside the 'Monarch's Hourglass'.

The 2 balls of qi were so bright, that they actually resembled 2 miniature suns.

Shun Long's 81 balls of qi had been now compressed in these 2 balls.

At the same time, inside his spiritual space, his spiritual strength had also been compressed into small wisps of green light.

Although compressing his spiritual strength was extremely painful to Shun Long, who had much more spiritual strength than almost any other Heaven grade cultivator so the process was even lengthier to him, Shun Long could only grit his teeth and continue with the process.

He knew that this was the only way that he could successfully complete his breakthrough and step into the Spirit realm.

Finally, 4 hours later, a blindingly bright ball of qi hovered above Shun Long's head inside the 'Monarch's Hourglass'.

Shun Long's forehead was drenched in sweat, while a stinging pain was still torturing his head, but a light smile still crept its way on his face.

Not only was there a single ball of qi inside the 'Monarch's Hourglass', his spiritual strength had also been compressed into a single green ball inside his spiritual space.

This green ball was Shun Long's spirit sense.

It contained part of his own spirit, and was something that every cultivator who stepped into the Spirit realm needed to have.

Little Black who had coiled his 10m(33ft) long body around Shun Long's seat, had a look of joy in his bright blue eyes, as he said in a delighted voice

"Congratulations master!"

Shun Long smiled as he heard the black dragon's joyful words, and after patting Little Black's head an invisible green ball had appeared in his hand.

Little Black's eyes however were wide open seeing Shun Long experiment with his spirit sense.

Soon, Shun Long found out that he could only extend his spirit sense up to 1m(3.2ft) away from his body at most.

It was simply impossible to extend it anymore than that.

An invisible green field had completely covered Shun Long in a radius of 1m(3.2ft) around him.

Sensing the scene around his master with his soul sense, the black dragon could no longer hide his astonishment, as he said in a shocked voice

"Master! Your spirit sense... shouldn't be able to leave your body and scan the air around you directly."

Shun Long looked at Little Black with a shocked look, not understanding what he meant.

Nodding his head, the black dragon understood his master's confusion as he then continued

"Your spirit sense should only be able to enter an object that you have direct contact with. However, this is completely different.

Although it seems that master can only use his spirit sense in a radius of 1m(3.2ft) around your body, it is actually no different from an extremely weak soul sense!

Only soul senses can leave a cultivator's body and scan the area around them... but master's spirit sense seems to be able to do the same!

Shun Long nodded his head, but a shocked look also filled his eyes after hearing Little Black's explanation.

Did that mean that he had a soul sense?

No! Only Nascent Soul stage cultivators could unlock their soul sense.

Besides, even if Shun Long's spirit sense could be categorized partially as a soul sense, it was probably the weakest among any other soul sense out there.

Additionally, Shun Long was very clear that he was still in the Spirit realm.

The Spirit realm was the realm where a cultivator enhanced their soul sense, in preparation to enter the Nascent Soul stage after all.

But then, what was this situation?

Chapter 238 - 238 Liu Mei's decision

WARNING: There may or may not be a small scene filled with s.e.x.u.a.l content during the chapter.

After thinking about it seriously for a while, in the end, Shun Long could only come to the conclusion, that this had something to do with the Golden book.

After all, ever since he had absorbed the knowledge inside the Golden Book, the book had merged with his soul, becoming one with him.

Shun Long didn't know if there would be any changes when he broke through to the Nascent soul stage, but he could only speculate that his spirit sense was now like this thanks to the golden book.

Additionally, his soul had also been forcefully expanded while he was still in the Qi condensation stage, so it wasn't unnatural to assume that this had something to do with the golden book as well.

After he sorted out his thoughts, Shun Long took a deep breath, before he closed his eyes and imagined himself leaving the foggy place in the 'Stone of Time'.

Soon, he found himself back inside the room of the inn.

Taking a look around the room, Shun Long noticed that it was completely empty, while a thick aura of death was coming from the courtyard.

Opening the door of the room, Shun Long saw Liu Mei who had her back turned on him, while she looked at the army of undead creatures that was standing in a line in front of her.

More than 100 skeletons were being led by 6 undead knights, as they all faced Liu Mei like they were looking at their general.

Shun Long's eyes lit up when he noticed that the cultivation of the skeletons was at the peak of rank 9 in Heaven grade, while the undead knights had already reached the early rank 1 in the Spirit realm!

This meant that Liu Mei had also broken through to the Spirit realm during this time.

The moment that the door of the room open, almost as if she had sensed something, Liu Mei turned her head around, only to see Shun Long smiling at her.

"Long-ge!"

An excited expression appeared on her face, as Liu Mei quickly walked towards him.

Seeing the worried expression in her eyes as she hugged him, Shun Long hugged Liu Mei back with a gentle expression on his face.

For Liu Mei, it had been 2 months since the last time that she had seen Shun Long, but Shun Long had felt the passing of almost 2 years during this time.

Even if the foggy place in the 'Stone of Time' followed different laws, and his body didn't end up aging, his mind had definitely experienced 2 years of secluded cultivation, during the time that he increased his spiritual strength and comprehended the Dao of Time!

After hugging Liu Mei, Shun Long then pushed her back slightly, as he said "Mei'er, I need to take a shower first."

Then, with a smile on his face he continued

"Do you want to join me?"

Liu Mei's face immediately turned red at Shun Long's question.

Although they would frequently dual cultivate together, and being intimate wasn't something that was unfamiliar to the 2 of them, blatantly asking her to join him in the shower was still a first for Liu Mei, and it made her heart beat faster.

She looked at Shun Long with her face flushed red, but in the end, she still nodded her head as she agreed to his request.

Shun Long then smiled as he held her hand and returned back to the room.

Every room in the 'Golden pig inn' had a large bathtub, as well as a shower, and this one was no different.

After he took out his blue robes, Shun Long then unrobed Liu Mei, seeing her flawless body once again in front of him.

Opening the shower, Shun Long allowed the cold water to splash on his back, while his hands roved all over Liu Mei's body.

Soft m.o.a.n.s escaped her mouth as Shun Long hands lightly pinched her n.i.p.p.l.es, before he moved his hand towards her lower body.

At the same time, Liu Mei could feel Shun Long's hard erect rod on her back.

After 2 months of not feeling each other, sounds of pleasure filled their room, as Shun Long and Liu Mei underwent more than one round of arduous dual cultivation.

3 hours later, Liu Mei's body was entangled with Shun Long's inside the bathtub, as she laid on top of him, while her head was rested on his chest.

Shun Long explained to Liu Mei that he had spent this time comprehending the Dao, as well as advancing his own spiritual strength.

He also explained to her his own understanding in the Dao of Time, but Shun Long didn't mention anything regarding the 'Stone of Time', and the crimson or the white palace.

It wasn't because he didn't trust Liu Mei, but instead, because he knew that this would only worry her even more.

After all, even Little Black who had lived for thousands of years, felt worried for his master and powerless to help him with this matter.

Although the 'Stone of Time' was a peerless treasure, it was also a source of worry for Shun Long.

Liu Mei also narrated her cultivation experience of the last 2 months to Shun Long.

Shun Long also told her what he had learned from Little Black. That as long as she absorbed death aura inside her body, her comprehension of the Dao of Death would rise by itself.

When he finished his words, Shun Long saw Liu Mei falling silent, almost as if she was pondering over his words.

Aside from killing people, how else could someone absorb death aura?

Liu Mei had to choose, if she wanted to stay as a necromancer, or continue comprehending the Dao of Ice alone.

Shun Long didn't interrupt her after seeing that she had fallen in deep thought, but a few moments later, he noticed that the look in her eyes had changed.

A determined glint flashed inside her beautiful black eyes, as Shun Long saw her staring back at him.

"If I am a necromancer.. then I can help to protect Long-ge! So what if I have to kill? Cultivators kill each other every day!"

With these words in her heart, Liu Mei suddenly flashed Shun Long a dazzling smile, that left him stunned for a second.

After spending some more time with each other inside the bath, Shun Long and Liu Mei put on some fresh clothes, before they left their room.

After patting the black panther's head who seemed excited to see him once again, Shun Long and Liu Mei both got on the panther's back, as they left the inn.

With her arms wrapped around Shun Long's waist, Liu Mei then asked

"Long-ge, where are we going this time?"

Shun Long smiled lightly, and turning his head to the side to look at Liu Mei he said

"To the 'Golden Exchange firm'!"

Chapter 239 - 239 Finding the 'Purple wind ice fruit'

Although Liu Mei didn't know why Shun Long wanted to go to the 'Golden Exchange firm', she didn't choose to ask.

Instead, her hands were still wrapped around his waist as the 2 of them toured through the western part of the Heaven's Dome city.

As always, carriages that were dragged by powerful magic beasts would fill the vast roads of the Heaven's Dome city at all times.

Shun Long would sometimes notice the pedestrians stealing a look at the 'Silver-winged panther king', who was walking neither too fast nor too slow.

A few minutes later, the black panther had arrived in front of a large, luxurious building, that seemed to have been created entirely from pure gold.

3 shining, eye-catching words, were written in black on top of the building

'Golden Exchange firm'

This was the headquarters of one of the largest powers in the Heaven's Dome city, and perhaps even the Night star continent's.

Of course, the 'Golden Exchange firm's' building wasn't made from pure gold. Instead, it was gold that had been processed by powerful formation masters for

many years, before they engraved it with defensive runes, as well as many auxiliary runes that would make it more sturdy.

There was a rumor going around in the Heaven's Dome city, that the walls of the 'Golden Exchange firm' were even sturdier than the Shengtian dynasty's palace walls.

Without any delay, the black panther walked towards the 'Golden Exchange firm's' entrance.

The 10 golden-armored Nascent soul stage guards who were standing at the entrance, felt some apprehension after sensing the black panther's peak rank 5 strength.

After all, although they had seen peak rank 5 magic beasts enter the 'Golden Exchange firm' before, these beasts were always extremely rare.

But of course, unless someone broke the rules by trying to steal or they started a fight, the guards wouldn't do anything to stop them from entering inside.

A sea of people appeared in Shun Long's and Liu Mei's eyes as soon as they passed through the 'Golden Exchange firm's' gates.

The interior of the 'Golden Exchange firm's' was very easy to navigate through.

The counters and the private rooms each had a sign above them, indicating what was inside each room and counter respectively.

Shun Long and Liu Mei walked on foot, with the black panther following behind them, as they searched for counters and rooms that sold medicinal herbs.

The 'Golden Exchange firm' had 3 rooms dedicated to alchemy, that sold both medicinal herbs as well as parts of powerful magic beasts.

Soon, Shun Long and Liu Mei entered one of the 3 rooms that were selling these ingredients.

After searching through the first room however, Shun Long didn't seem to have found what he was looking for, and just a few breaths of time later he exited it as he continued towards the second.

The first room seemed to only contain rank 1 and rank 2 medicinal herbs, and neither of them was particularly attractive to Shun Long's eyes.

As for the rank 1 and rank 2 magic beasts, they were even worse off in Shun Long's eyes.

The second room instead contained rank 3, along with a few rank 4 medicinal herbs, while the corpses of magic beasts seemed to have been better than the previous room.

Although Shun Long wasn't interested in the rank 3 herbs, he did purchase 2 rank 4 medicinal herbs for 17.000 and 17.500 low-grade spirit stones each, before he moved to the last room.

Much fewer people were inside this room compared to the previous 2, while Shun Long noticed that every single medicinal ingredient in this room was at least at the rank 4.

There was even a single rank 5 herb that Shun Long instantly recognized as the 'Dreamy ash flower'.

Although the flower was priced at 300.000 low-grade spirit stones, Shun Long didn't hesitate to purchase it.

The use of the rank 5 'Dreamy ash flower', was mostly to grind it to dust and apply it to a person who is suffering from mental illnesses.

It could immediately expel the demons in a cultivator's heart, and help them restore clarity of their mind.

However, Shun Long also had another use of this flower.

After paying 300.000 low-grade spirit stones for the 'Dreamy ash flower', Shun Long also purchased a dozen more rank 4 medicinal herbs for almost 400.000 low-grade spirit stones, when his eyes were suddenly focused on a ruby-colored case at the far left of the room.

A purple-colored medicinal herb with stripped icy-blue lines was placed inside the jade case, which made Shun Long's heart, beat in excitement

"Rank 4 'Purple wind ice fruit'!"

Seeing Shun Long's reaction, Liu Mei turned her head towards Shun Long's field of vision, where the purple medicinal herb was placed.

Shun Long walked in front of the counter, and despite the high price of 170.000 low-grade spirit stones, he purchased the rank 4 'Purple wind ice fruit' and placed it in the 'Stone of Time'.

This was the last of the 3 main medicinal herbs that Shun Long needed, to refine the rank 4 'internal reconstruction pill'.

Now that he had already reached the peak of the third stage in the 'Monarch's Eternal body', as soon as he refined the rank 4 'Purple wind ice fruit' into the 'internal reconstruction pill', he would be able to enter the fourth stage of the 'Monarch's Eternal body'.

Shun Long hadn't expected to find the 'Purple wind ice fruit' in the 'Golden Exchange firm' today, since even the 'Alchemists' Guild' didn't seem to have one in stock, and had thought of putting up a mission in the 'Mercenaries' Association' if he had been unable to find it.

Of course, this didn't mean that the 'Golden Exchange firm' had more medicinal herbs than the 'Alchemists' Guild'. However, many mercenaries chose to sell the medicinal herbs that they found during their missions to the 'Golden Exchange firm', which was the reason that there were so many medicinal herbs for sale.

Of course, in front of the 'Alchemists' Guild's' herb garden, these 3 rooms were still nothing in comparison.

That garden was filled with top quality rank 4, as well as rank 5 medicinal herbs.

However, Jin Wenling had told Shun Long, that only after becoming a gold-grade alchemist of the guild would he be allowed to directly access these medicinal herbs.

In a way, this was still how the 'Alchemists' Guild' roped in the promising silver-grade alchemists as well.

After sweeping half the room clean from medicinal herbs, Shun Long had a satisfied look on his face, even though he had spent almost a million low-grade spirit stones in these herbs.

As for the magic beasts in the room, he didn't even take a single look at them.

Although there were 2 incomplete corpses of a pair of early rank 5 beasts, their beast cores had already been extracted, while the parts of their bodies that were still intact, weren't suitable for alchemy.

Although Shun Long had all the medicinal herbs that he needed, he didn't choose to enter seclusion and advance to the fourth stage of the 'Monarch's Eternal body' right now.

Instead, he and Liu Mei got on the black panther's back, as they headed towards the entrance of the 'Golden Exchange firm'.

ROAR

As soon as they arrived at the entrance of the firm however, Shun Long and Liu Mei were startled for a moment, when a furious roar was heard behind them.

The people at the entrance of the 'Golden Exchange firm', along with the 10 Nascent Soul stage guards were startled as well.

The crowd immediately scurried away from the entrance when they heard this roar, as everyone was terrified to the core.

The moment that the black panther heard this roar, it almost unconsciously turned around, and let out a terrifying roar in response.

ROARR

Chapter 240 - 240 Hu Liu

Shun Long and Liu Mei were stunned as they saw the scene in front of their eyes.

A handsome blue-haired man with sharp facial features and sword-like eyebrows was sitting on top of a yellow-colored magic beast.

The magic beast looked like a leopard, and was more than 1.7m(5.6ft) tall and 4m(13,1ft) long.

It seemed that its fur was standing up while sparks of lightning were cracking all over its body and its blue-colored tail, as it stared at the 'Silver-winged panther king' with hatred in its golden eyes, while its powerful aura had completely terrified the surrounding crowd.

Shun Long's eyes immediately recognized the magic beast that the blue-haired man was riding on as the rank 5 'Blue-tailed thunder leopard', and immediately understood what was going on.

With his knowledge, how could Shun Long not know, that the 'Blue-tailed thunder leopards' and the 'Silver-winged panther kings' were natural enemies.

As long as one saw the other, a fight was practically inevitable.

The young man had been startled at his 'Blue-tailed thunder leopard's' outrage, but the moment that he saw the black panther who was staring at the leopard with eyes that were ready to rip it apart, a smile replaced his confused expression as he mumbled

"A peak rank 5 'Silver-winged panther king'? Interesting..."

Inside the 'Stone of Time', Little Black's eyes narrowed as his voice suddenly sounded inside Shun Long's head

"Careful, master!"

The blue-haired man didn't seem to have given any commands to the 'Blue-tailed thunder leopard' when the leopard's feet blurred, as it quickly appeared in front of the black panther.

The blue-haired young man was still sitting on the leopard's back, staring at the scene in front of him in amusement, as the leopard tried to bite the black panther's neck.

Shun Long snorted as he sent a mental message to the black panther to fight freely.

An excited look flashed inside the panther's shining yellow eyes, as he completely released his aura at the peak of rank 5.

Bloodlust instantly exploded from the panther's body, as he opened his mouth, while his powerful white fangs also headed for the leopard's neck.

The leopard didn't seem afraid however, as its own aura burst out in response, making it obvious that it was also at the peak of rank 5.

Lightning cracked all over the leopard's fangs, while its eyes had turned completely red, as its fangs entered inside the panther's neck.

The panther however didn't even flinch, as his powerful jaws bit the leopard's neck in response.

Almost at the same time, blood spurted from the 2 beasts' necks, when a sudden snort was heard from the blue-haired man.

At the same time, the 10 golden-armored Nascent soul stage guards who were watching everything from the entrance, rushed towards the black panther and the 'Blue-tailed thunder leopard'.

The guards trembled slightly as they looked at the dissatisfied look on the blue-haired man's face, but one of them still gritted his teeth, and taking a step forward he said

"Young master please don't do stir up too much trouble at the entrance. You will make our job harder than it is."

The blue-haired man looked at the guard who had spoken just now, and the guard couldn't help taking a step back in fear.

"Tsk!"

The blue-haired man then clicked his tongue, before the leopard quickly retreated.

The look in the blue-haired man's eyes turned even more dissatisfied when he saw how much blood the leopard was losing compared to the 'Silver-winged panther king'.

Shun Long however, also had a cold look in his eyes as he stared at the blue-haired man in front of him.

Even though the leopard was losing more blood, in reality, both Shun Long and the blue-haired man understood, that the 2 peak rank 5 magic beasts were actually evenly matched.

Although the black panther's jaws were much stronger than the leopard's, cracks of lightning were also attacking the panther's neck.

The young man completely ignored Shun Long's look, as he headed deeper inside the 'Golden Exchange firm' without uttering a word.

Seeing the blue-haired man going deeper inside, the 10 Nascent Soul stage guards actually heaved a sigh of relief, before the guard who had spoken before, walked in front of Shun Long and said as he cupped his hands

"This young master, don't take this to heart. Young master Hu Liu can be a bit eccentric sometimes, and we couldn't step in earlier."

The guard had expected Shun Long to nod his head, agreeing with his words, but Shun Long had an expressionless, cold look on his face as he kept staring at the blue-haired man's back.

As for the guard's words, he couldn't care any less about their excuses.

In the end, just for his own amusement, the blue-haired man had told his leopard to attack the black panther.

The black panther wasn't just a random magic beast to Shun Long after all, nor was it a simple tool.

Under the guard's shocked eyes, Shun Long took out a peak rank 4 'Sun-healing pill', and fed it to the black panther.

Thankfully, aside from the cracks of lightning that the black panther easily dispersed, the bite was a little more than a flesh wound, and under the effects of

the top-grade 'Sun-healing pill', the wound started closing at a speed visible to the n.a.k.e.d eye.

"He is wasting a top-grade rank 4 pill for a magic beast? Who is this person?"

At the same time, the crowd didn't dare to approach Shun Long and the black panther, as everyone started discussing with each other

"Who is this young man? His black panther was actually fighting with young master Hu Liu's 'Blue-tailed thunder leopard'?"

"Maybe he has come from another city? There aren't too many young people in our city with peak rank 5 magic beasts as mounts after all, so I should have been able to recognize him if he was from our Heaven's Dome city!"

"Right! I heard a lot of geniuses are coming to our Heaven's Dome city lately!"

Shun Long ignored the crowd's discussions, as he thought to himself

"Hu Liu? I will remember this!"

Shun Long hadn't expected that the person he had met today on the 'Blue-tailed thunder leopard' to be Hu Liu.

He remembered that this name belonged to the person who was ranked 3rd in the House of Rankings the last time he had visited.

However, even if it was Hu Liu so what?

With these thoughts in mind, Shun Long sent a mental command to the black panther who spread his majestic silver wings, before he flew out of the 'Golden Exchange firm's' building.

Seeing Shun Long flying away, one of the guards looked at the main guard who had spoken just now, and with a worried expression he asked

"You don't think that young master Hu has actually invited trouble, right? After all, this man also had a peak rank 5 'Silver-winged panther king'."

The main guard looked at the guard next to him, and with a scornful expression he said

"Idiot. Even people who are crazily powerful, with very strong backings like the young white lord, are still beneath young master Hu Liu in the rankings. Very few people have the ability to find trouble with young master."