

## Walker 341

### Chapter 341 - Fake Letter

Lin Mu was now standing near a place that he had avoided that very afternoon. It was none other than the Alluring wisteria pavilion. He peeked at its entrance and saw that there was no decrease in the number of people coming and going.

*~Sigh~*

"This will be a bit tough." Lin Mu said to himself.

He was a bit unwilling to use this location as there were a lot of people here, but on the other hand, the spatial channel here was at the perfect place. If he went a bit too far, there was a chance the letter may pass through before he got it.

"You should be able to change it a bit if you try it. You have a bit of experience with using the spatial attribute qi, so use that and try to perceive the changes in the teleportation channel." Xukong advised.

"Alright Senior, I'll try that." Lin Mu said while nodding.

He then found a different location that was a bit isolated but also had one of the black dots located in it. This place was in between a tree and a street stall. The stall was closed, and no one was there currently, making it easy for Lin Mu to hide.

He extended his hand over the black dot and focused. He was not using his spirit sense, but rather his spatial sense. It was much more difficult for him to use it, but after a minute he felt like he was able to get a grasp over something.

It was a thin layer that existed in front of him, but it was immaterial. He started using the spirit qi in his dantian and powered the ring with it, before forcibly changing the path of the teleportation channel.

*~Haa~*

Lin Mu grunted as sweat dripped down from his forehead. This had taken a toll on his mind, but he did not dare to lose focus even for a second. Finally, a minute later the Black dot started expanding and opened up into a rift.

"I DID IT!" Lin Mu said with excitement.

He looked at the spatial rift and found it to be relatively stable. But when he looked at his dantian, he was a bit surprised. It had taken him nearly fifty drops of liquid spirit qi to forcibly change the path of the teleportation channel.

This was even higher than when he forcibly put that servant into the ring. Which now that he thought of it, he needed to dispose of.

"Hmm, you should be able to reduce the consumption once your proficiency increases," Xukong said upon seeing the results.

Lin Mu nodded and turned his eyes back to the spatial rift. He closed his eyes and could feel something approaching fast from the teleportation channel. Lin Mu put his hand inside the rift and caught the object in his hand.

He pulled it out and opened his eyes.

"Hahaha! I got it." Lin Mu said before putting the letter into his ring.

He then withdrew the fake letter that he had written and put that into the spatial rift instead. Lin Mu then willed it, and the spatial rift started closing. A few seconds later it was gone and no traces of it could be found.

*~pew~*

"Finally, it is done," Lin Mu said.

The idea to replace the letter with a fake one had come to Lin Mu after remembering how he had taken the Four vessels restoration pills from the mayor and had put a small stone in it back then. He had seen the letter that the Tri cauldron peony sect had sent the mayor, and it was mentioned in it that the mayor had claimed to have received a stone instead of the pills.

This confirmed it for Lin Mu that objects that were traveling through a teleportation channel could be relapsed and that they will still reach their intended location. Another thing was that he no longer felt sad at having stolen the Four vessels restoration pills from the mayor, seeing how he was involved in the blood sacrifice.

In fact, if he got the chance again, he would do it again.

"Now to rest for a bit... today was a long day." Lin Mu said as he started to go back.

He was passing over the roofs when he spotted someone below. Lin Mu abruptly stopped and almost fell down, but was able to gain control of his balance.

"The man from that house?" Lin Mu said after seeing the old man called Lord Cai below.

He was entering the building, which was none other than the Alluring wisteria pavilion. He could see that the women there were quite excited upon seeing the old man, and even the workers that were from the establishment had come out to greet him.

Lin Mu could not hear what they were talking about clearly, but the old man was speaking something. Lord Cai pointed to a carriage that was standing to the side and whispered something in the ears of the manager who had walked from the Alluring Wisteria pavilion.

Then Lin Mu saw the door of the carriage open and out walked none other than the three disciples of the Tri cauldron peony sect, which he had hidden from inside a rock just an hour ago.

"What are they doing here? That too with the old man..." Lin Mu wondered.

He then thought over it a bit and realized that it could be something related to the incident he had caused earlier. That explosion was quite loud and the stronghold of the Tri cauldron peony sect was only two blocks from that house.

Lin Mu deliberated over it for a bit before deciding to check it out, regardless. But he knew that he would not be able to use the disguise he used before.

Lin Mu used phase and sank through the building he was standing on top of like a stone in water. He entered the grounds and went near the disciples of the Tri cauldron peony sect and Lord Cai. Luckily they were not checking everything with their spirit sense or they would have detected him being right below them.

"Let's see what they are here for..."

### **Chapter 342 - Entering The Alluring Wisteria Pavillion**

Lin Mu didn't have a hard time listening to the conversation of Lord Cai and the disciples of Tri cauldron peony sect. Though he was a bit anxious about being found out.

"Seniors, please come in and we'll discuss more about the situation. I hope my Establishment and its people will serve you well." Lord Cai said before taking the three disciples inside.

As soon as Lin Mu heard this, he knew he had to listen to what they were going to talk about.

'I stole the seal from the Tri cauldron peony sect and also killed one of their disciples, I need to know what they are going to discuss.' Lin Mu thought.

Lin Mu waited for them to enter the building before moving away. He had tried to go in directly using phase but found it to be impossible.

"They got barrier formations here too... Hmm considering it belongs to that lord Cai it makes sense." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

Lin Mu was a bit reluctant to go in but knew that it would be necessary as he wanted to know what kind of a risk he was in. He went to an alley to the side and came out of the ground. He straightened his clothes and ensured that he looked fine. He didn't want to give away that he was the 'thief' in any way.

"Ah! It's that Young Lord!" Suddenly someone shouted when Lin Mu got near the building.

Then he felt his arm being squished between something soft and felt it to be a bit familiar.

"Looks like Young Lord finally made up his mind," said the woman who had caught Lin Mu before.

*~Gulp~*

Lin Mu looked at the lascivious looking woman and gulped his saliva. The voice of his mother appeared in his mind once again, but he was able to reassure him that he was here for a proper investigation.

"Oh ho? Why doesn't the young Lord say anything? Do you not want to play with this little sister?" Spoke the woman.

'What 'little sister'? You are probably twice as old as me...' Lin Mu said in his mind.

"Umm, alright..." Lin Mu uttered in a low voice.

"Yay! Jun'er I'm taking this young lord in, you take the next one!" The woman said to another woman who was standing nearby.

"No fair Yue! I wanna take this young lord too, he's so handsome. Hehehe..." The woman named Jun'er spoke in a flirty tone.

Lin Mu felt the hair on the back of his neck stand as he heard the coy voice of Jun'er.

"Dangerous, these women are absolutely dangerous!" Lin Mu said in his mind.

"Ahaha! Look at you getting flustered. I thought humans were a bit more bold than this," Xukong teased.

"Well, if it's fine with the young lord, you can join too~" Yue spoke while stroking the chest of Lin Mu.

"Uhh... I'm fine with just you..." Lin Mu uttered awkwardly.

Lin Mu definitely did not want another person clinging to him. As it would make it only more difficult for himself. He had already made up a plan in his mind to get rid of this woman named Yue that was clinging to him right now.

"Alright, then let's go in~" Yue said while dragging Lin Mu into the pavilion.

Inside, Lin Mu could smell the aroma of the various perfumes that the women here were wearing. There were incense censers placed in multiple places that also gave out a calming scent. Lin Mu felt as if his eyes were getting dull.

"Hmm... this is... nice..." Lin Mu muttered as his eyes turned a bit glazed.

The woman named Yue looked at his face with a seductive smile on her face. She started letting her hand wander on his chest when suddenly, terror filled her body. At first, she couldn't tell where it was coming from, but then she looked in the eyes of Lin Mu.

The eyes which were dull and glazed a moment ago were now fierce and sharp. Lin Mu's eyes made contact with Yue's and she felt a pain inside her mind. It was as if thousands of swords were flying around in Lin Mu's eyes and they would shoot out at any moment.

But then a second passed, and everything went to normal.

*~huh~huh~huh~*

Yue's breathing became a bit labored as she reeled in from the fear that she had just felt.

'This boy... he's not simple.' Yue thought.

"Damn, I almost got drugged!" Lin Mu uttered in his mind.

"Indeed, that incense that is burning in the entire building has some kind of a drug mixed in. It dulls your sense and thinking, making you prone to reckless decisions. This is something that's used quite a lot in establishments like these." Xukong explained.

"But isn't this too strong? Won't the other people notice and be bothered by it?" Lin Mu asked.

"This is your first time coming in contact with it, that's why you felt the impact to be this strong. Most of the people here are habituated to it and would barely feel any effects." Xukong answered.

'Good, that I used severing heart sutra fast enough...' Lin Mu thought to himself.

"That's not all, your physique that has nearly become Xiantian also helped you. Once it completely becomes a Xiantian physique, your resistance to poisons and drugs like this should rise." Xukong added.

Lin Mu internally nodded this and took note of this point. He looked at the woman who was clinging to him and realized for the first time that she actually was a person with seventh stage body tempering realm cultivation.

"That's a bit unexpected..." Lin Mu muttered.

"What's unexpected, Young lord?" Yue asked upon hearing his words.

Since she was stuck so close to him, it was easy to hear whatever that he spoke. In fact, she had heard him chant the severing heart sutra too, but due to the fear she felt at that moment, her mind had not registered that.

Lin Mu thought for a moment before deciding to speak.

"You being at the seventh stage body tempering realm." Lin Mu replied.

### **Chapter 343 - Uniqueness Of The Pavilion**

Yue's eyes flickered for a moment but she was able to control her emotions well and did not show anything on her face.

"Indeed, the Young lord is perspective and his cultivation is profound," Yue said while skillfully dodging the questioned.

Lin Mu did not say anything further and turned took look at the rest of the things in the building. Seeing that he did not deny her words, Yue confirmed that Lin Mu was a cultivator.

'I thought he was one of the rich young masters seeing his clothes, but he's actually a cultivator...' Yue thought.

While it was not uncommon for there to be cultivators coming to the alluring wisteria pavilion, this was the first time Yue was seeing one that was this young. Looking at him she could tell that he was somewhere between seventeen to twenty, but then from his shy behavior, she was confused again.

The pressure that she had felt from him was also quite a lot than she had ever felt from other cultivators. She had once even had the chance to serve a core condensation realm cultivator and even he did not have the same bearing that this young man had.

'It can't be... is he perhaps a disciple of a sect?' Yue thought.

She had seen their owner bring the three disciples of the Tri cauldron peony sect here a few minutes ago and she couldn't help but compare Lin Mu with them. While they seemed to be young, they did not seem to have the same aura as Lin Mu either.

The more Yue thought about it, the more she found Lin Mu to be an enigma.

'Better to just serve him well and learn it eventually... perhaps I'll even get some reward.' Yue thought to herself while she guided Lin Mu to the inner area.

There they came to a stop in front of a desk. An old fat lady was sitting behind the desk and she seemed to be counting gold coins one by one. There were probably a few hundred of them kept on the table along with some silver ones as well.

If such a display of gold coins was done somewhere else, the people would have had been throwing some covetous gazes. Lin Mu's gaze wandered over to them as well, but no hint of greed or anxiety could be seen. Yue was closely watching him, and seeing his reaction confirmed her doubts.

'He is indeed no common young master from the city.' Yue concluded.

"Madam, I've brought this young lord today," Yue said in a happy tone.

The old fat woman who was counting the coins looked up and a crooked smile appeared on her face. Some of her teeth were old and mottled, which made the smile only look that much strange. Though Lin Mu was surprised due to something else.

'This old woman is a cultivator too... she's at the mid stage of the qi refining realm.' Lin Mu realized upon sensing the faint fluctuations of spirit qi from her.

"Ah! You've brought quite a handsome young lord here today. So what would the young lord like today?" The madam asked.

Lin Mu tilted his head in confusion as he didn't really know what they meant by that. Yue grasped this and quickly interrupted.

"Young lord, we have some exquisite food that I guarantee would like it. We also have some of the finest wines of the county. And... if you want entertainment, you always have me~~" Yue said in a coy voice.

"Huh, food? I can go with that, I can have some more dinner I guess..." Lin Mu said.

For Lin Mu, eating was really not something that limited him. He could eat whenever he wanted and as much as he wanted. He still didn't know what his limit truly was.

"Then I'll send some of our finest dishes to the room. Would the Young lord like more of our girls to accompany him in?" The old woman asked.

"No, just Yue would be fine," Lin Mu answered.

"Yay, Young lord called me by my name! Hehe~~" Yue spoke with excitement as she rubbed her chest against Lin Mu's arm even more, which only made him blush even more.

The two of them then went to one of the rooms was located in the western wing of the pavilion. On the way, Lin Mu was scanning the entire place with his spirit sense. He saw that there were actually hundreds of people in the building right now.

Most of them were enjoying the company of the women here and some were involved in a certain 'art' which made Lin Mu quickly divert his spirit sense from there. But out of all the rooms he scanned, he didn't find any cultivators, only some commoners in the body refining realm.

'If they are not here, then...' Lin Mu thought as he turned his head to the eastern wing.

Yue saw his attention change, and she followed his gaze.

"Oh? Does the young lord want to go to the eastern wing? But I thought you didn't want the company of more of my sisters?" Yue asked.

Lin Mu's spirit sense was only able to reach the outermost building of the eastern wing, and he realized that it could not penetrate it.

'There're barriers here too. Seems like the eastern wing has more security.' Lin Mu thought.

"Ah yes," Lin Mu answered Yue, seeing she had asked him something.

Lin Mu lightly shook his head and continued walking. Yue too gave up and simply took him to the room that was assigned to him. The western wing was made in a curved shape where its one end met the other end of the eastern wing. If one looked at it from the above one would see that the entire Alluring Wisteria pavilion was shaped like a wisteria blossom.

The eastern and western wing met to form the petal of the blossom. In the center of the two wings was the corridor, and there were gardens on both sides of it. There were incense censurs placed around here as well, with some hanging from the roof.

They finally reached the room and it was the one that was at the mid point where the eastern and western wings met.

"This should make it a bit easy..." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

#### **Chapter 344 - Willing To Serve The Young Lord?**

Yue opened the door of the room that was assigned to them, and Lin Mu finally saw the insides of it. The room was rather elegantly decorated, having some paintings and flowers placed around. There were even some expensive celadon vases kept on the shelves.

There was a large lamp that hung in the center of the room that had three layers and spread out wide. The lamp was made with polished brass and shone under the flicker of the flames. There was a skylight on the other parts of the room and the moon could be seen through it.

The skylights were made of wooden grills that had the patterns of vines and flowers carved on them. There was another attached room to this one and Lin Mu scanned it with his spirit sense only to find there to be a large bed there. In fact, half of the entire floor of the room was actually a bed.

In the main room though, a low table was placed on the ground and soft cushions embroidered with wisteria blossoms were placed for the people to sit on. While this room was not as luxurious as the one that was given to him by Loud Hei, it was still comparable just that it had a different feel to it.

The one that he lived in was more homely while this was something one would like for a couple of days perhaps, but after that, they may get bored of it.

"Please Young lord, take a seat. The food will be here shortly and then we can have some fun~~~" Yue said while gesturing with her hands.

Lin Mu went ahead and sat down without showing any change of expression. He realized that he was now getting used to the actions and behavior of Yue. While sitting down, Lin Mu discreetly moved his hand across his clothes as if he was straightening them.

Yue did not pay much attention to it and sat down beside Lin Mu.

"So young lord, would you give me the honor of knowing your name?" Yue questioned with a glimmer in her eyes.

The light of the lamps reflected off of her irises and made them look more attractive. She tilted her shoulder slightly, which made the short robe she was wearing to shift and reveal her bare shoulders even more. Perhaps if the robe shifted anymore, it may just fall off completely.

*~Gulp~*

"I am Mu Lin." Lin Mu gave the same name that he had given the guards before.

He had already talked with Lord Hei before, and he agreed with Lin Mu's decision of using a different name. Wu Hei even said that if everything went well, he will give the fake name for the tournament as well. This way the people will have less chance of knowing who he was.

"Ah! Such a beautiful name, the young lord is indeed a jade that everyone would admire...(1)" Yue said praising Lin Mu.

"Oh, is that so..." Lin Mu replied.

"Indeed," Yue said with a big smile on her face as she node her head.

*~Slide~*

The door of the room was slid open, and another woman walked.

"The food is here!" Yue exclaimed.

The woman who had walked in kneeled on the ground and gave a bow to Lin Mu before calling for the food.

"Bring the dishes in!" She said.

Then upon her command, a string of servants walked in carrying a lot of dishes in trays. Even the servants that were bringing in the food were beautiful women, but were a few notches low compared to the courtesans like Yue.

But even they gave Lin Mu seductive glances while putting the trays down on the table and bent enough to make sure that Lin Mu got to view the deep valleys that they all had. Lin Mu politely turned his eyes away and instead focused on the food that they had brought in.

There were nearly thirty dishes currently in front of Lin Mu, and all of them looked good. The ones that were aromatic gave out a tantalizing aroma that stimulated one's taste buds and increased their appetite. The ones that were cold had an impeccable presentation and made one admire it as if it were art.

Yue picked up a pair of chopsticks and took a small piece of steamed fish from one of the plates before taking it to Lin Mu's face.

"Young lord, say aaa..." Yue said.



Lin Mu felt a bit awkward at this, but seeing that Yue was getting closer to his clothes, he suppressed the feeling and opened his mouth. Yue gently put the morsel of fish in Lin Mu's mouth and Lin Mu closed it, chewing it a few times.

"MM! This is indeed quite delicious!" Lin Mu truthfully said.

While Lin Mu had been eating roasted spirit beast meat all this time, he had kind of become used to it and was bored. But that was the easiest method for him to prepare a large amount of meat and thus had no choice. Now that he was tasting some actually good food that was made by skillful chefs, he was of course amazed.

Still, if one compared the value of the spirit beast meat that he ate daily and these dishes, they would not compare. The spirit beast meat that he ate was at least ten times more expensive than this. In reality, perhaps only the cultivation sects could afford to feed their disciples spirit beast meat every day.

Besides, hunting spirit beast was actually not as easy as it was for Lin Mu. He had a big advantage due to his skills which allowed him to approach and kill spirit beasts covertly. But now Lin Mu wondered about one thing, what was this going to cost him?

Ever since he had walked into the Alluring wisteria pavilion, he had not paid a single cent.

'Do they not take payment or something?' Lin Mu wondered in his mind.

"I'm happy that the young lord is satisfied by our food." The woman who had brought in the food thanked.

Lin Mu looked at them and saw that they had not left the room yet. Even the servants were looking at him with expectant gazes. Yue noticed Lin Mu's confusion and helped.

"Would the young lord prefer if these sisters accompanied him for the night? They are willing to serve the young lord." Yue said.

### **Chapter 345 - Forget This!**

Lin Mu's mind went blank for a second after hearing the words of the woman. He looked at their faces and they were looking at him hungrily.

*~Gulp~*

"No, I'm fine with just Yue." Lin Mu stated after building up a little bit of courage.

The servants all had crestfallen and teary expressions after hearing Lin Mu say that. Lin Mu even felt bad in his heart and hesitated a bit. He was about to say something when his mind suddenly became alert.

'Wait, why am I acting like this? Why do I care about these servants?' Lin Mu questioned himself.

"Looks like you finally understood," Xukong spoke in Lin Mu's mind.

"Wha..." Lin Mu was going to ask but then realized it himself.

"The food! It's drugged too!" Lin Mu shouted in his mind.

Now Lin Mu was no longer feeling pity for the servants rather he was feeling angry. It was fine at first since the incense that was drugged was for everyone that visited the Alluring wisteria pavilion but now this... this was specifically targeting him.

A few suspicious points appeared in Lin Mu's mind; these people had not asked him for any payment and yet were offering all these services. He couldn't help but realize that their motive behind drugging him was for nothing good.

Thin red veins appeared in Lin Mu's eyes as his aura changed. The awkward expression that was on his face was changing. Yue was sitting the closest to Lin Mu and could sense all the changes. She had served plenty of cultivators and while she wasn't one, she was not unfamiliar to spirit qi.

If it were not for her inability to get a cultivation technique, she could even be said to have an above average talent for cultivation. She sensed the changes in Lin Mu and twisted her neck to look at him.

"Eek-" Yue had almost let out a cry but immediately calmed her mouth shut.

A dangerous aura was leaking out of Lin Mu, and Yue could see his eyes. She didn't know what had happened, but she was not feeling as inclined to serve this boy anymore. She traced his gaze and saw that he was looking at the servants.

The servants meanwhile were still kneeling on the floor, but a big difference could be seen this time.

'The servants! They're... in pain?' Yue realized, seeing their expressions.

The servants could not move and were frozen in their positions. Beads of sweat dripped off their foreheads as their clothes stuck to their body. Some of them that were a bit stronger could even be seen shivering. While the others were simply petrified in terror.

The leading servant who had brought the food was sitting upright and the pain could be seen in her eyes that had gone red with tears dripping down the corners.

"Young- Young Lord!" Yue said with hesitation.

*~Gulp~*

"Pl-please! I beg for forgiveness if we've offended you in any manner," Yue spoke while her hands trembled.

She could find the courage in her to touch Lin Mu either or she would have held onto his legs and begged him even more.

"Tame your mind!" Xukong suddenly said.

Lin Mu closed his eyes and took a deep breath. Gently chanting some words in a low voice, he dispelled the anger that had clouded his mind.

'The Burning heart sutra... it's still not fully controllable,' Lin Mu thought to himself.

*~Thud~*

*~Thud~*

*~Thud~*

Lin Mu opened his eyes upon hearing the sound of someone falling and saw that some of the servants had collapsed on the ground after the aura had been lifted off them.

*~Sob~*

*~Sniff~*

The ones that were weaker had directly fainted while the stronger ones were now crying, unable to hold back anymore.

*~Sigh~*

"Begone..." Lin Mu ordered and turned his gaze away from them to focus on the food instead.

He paid no more attention to them and the servants felt this. From the presence that he exuded, Yue could tell that they were nothing but dirt to him and that they had perhaps overstepped their boundaries. But she still could not find the reason behind the boy's anger.

'NO WAY! Can it be?' Yue suddenly thought of something.

She looked at the food and calmly picked up some of the rice and ate it. A few seconds after she swallowed it though, she understood the reason.

'DAMMIT! These bitches! Acting without knowing who the customer is, now they've ruined it for me too.' Yue thought with anger in her eyes.

She stood up and kicked the leading servant on her head.

"GO AWAY! Did you not hear the Young Lord?" Yue ordered.

"Ye-Yes mistress..." The leading servant stuttered and dragged herself out.

The other servants who were crying pulled out the three that had fainted as well.

"Know this... the owner will hear of this insolence you've done," Yue said will giving the leading servant a look of despise.

She then closed the door and sat beside Lin Mu again.

"Young Lord..." She whispered into Lin Mu's ear. Lin Mu tensed up for a bit as her breath tickled his ear.

"Yue will do her best to please you tonight for the blunder that happened..." she said and trailed her finger across his neck.

"So please... forget this~~" She muttered while her hand traveled down Lin Mu's body.

*~snap~*

"Eek"

The chopstick Lin Mu was using broke in his hands as Yue flinched. He looked into her eyes and spoke a few words.

"No , forget this-" He stated.

"Wha-" Before Yue could ask she felt her mind going dull and then she fainted.

Seeing that the woman was fully knocked out, Lin Mu stopped chanting the severing heart sutra and sighed.

"The night just keeps on getting worse... perhaps I should have just returned to the courtyard directly." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

Lin Mu was originally going to use the memory confounding powder to knock out Yue, but seeing that the situation would only get out of control, he simply used the severing heart sutra.

"At least I learned a new use of the severing heart sutra..."

### **Chapter 346 - Lord Cai Is Threatened?**

Lin Mu was moving Yue to the inner room and left her on the bed. He understood from her previous reaction that what had happened was perhaps not her fault entirely and it was most likely the servants acting on their own so as to convince him to bed them.

Lin Mu could understand their intentions behind this a bit and knew that this was just a method for them to elevate their status a little bit.

*~Sigh~*

Another sigh escaped Lin Mu's lips as he felt a headache approaching him.

"Let's just get this over with, I've already wasted quite a bit of time." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

His spirit sense extended out of his body and wandered out in the area. Since his room was adjacent to the eastern wing, Lin Mu was able to reach around half of the length of the wing. Still, he was unable to peek into the rooms due to the barriers that had been set up.

But Lin Mu was not looking to peek inside to verify their identity. Rather, he was looking at other signs. A few seconds later he determined the room in which the disciples of the Tri cauldron peony sect and Lord Cai were sitting in.

And how he found them? Shoes.

Lin Mu spotted the shoes that they had removed outside the room and could recognize them to match with the uniform of the disciples.

"There they are..." Lin Mu said as he sank into the ground with phase.

He was able to move rather easily as there was no bottom barrier restricting him. Lin Mu soon reached the room and it was as he had expected.

"So they really didn't bother to put a barrier to protect them from the ground." Lin Mu saw.

"Of course, just them setting up these many barriers must have been expensive. Besides, they probably would not have expected that someone would come through the ground, anyway." Xukong explained.

Lin Mu nodded as his spirit sense entered the room from a corner. He very carefully checked the entire room and got its layout. The room was much bigger than the one he was assigned to, and it actually had five separate inner bedrooms in it.

There was a long table placed in the main room and the three disciples were sitting at it with Lord Cai. Around ten servants and courtesans were serving them, while the disciples took plenty of liberties with them. Lin Mu could see their hands wandering and groping while the women said nothing and instead showed looks of pleasure.

"Now to hear what they are speaking..." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

He moved upwards and appeared inside a large decoration shelf that was kept in the room. His ear peeked out from the back side of it that faced the wall.

"The peak master would definitely like to discuss an investment and seeing the quality here..." The senior brother spoke.

"Ayah!" The courtesan uttered in a teasing voice as the hand of the Senior brother gripped her behind.

"Yes, yes... with the peak master's investment, I can assure you that the quality of service can be improved even more." Lord Cai replied, skillfully ignoring the women.

"What do you want as the profit share to be though?" The senior brother asked without moving his gaze from the courtesan.

"How can I dare to ask the peak master something like this... we'll just follow the other contracts that the peak master has with the pleasure pavilions." Lord Cai said shamelessly.

"Hmm," the senior brother nodded.

"So now that we have this behind us, tell us what you were unwilling to say back then..." Pei Lao questioned.

Lord Cai looked at the women and they all stood up immediately before leaving the room. He then gestured with his hand and formation runes appeared in the air. They glowed for a moment before fading away.

"Now we should have some proper privacy," Lord Cai stated as he clapped his hands.

"Oh, these are impressive formations. Looks like Lord Cai spared no expense for this establishment." Tie Dan praised.

"Of course, I want to make a pleasure pavilion of the utmost level that is possible for this place. Another reason why I want the support of a great man like peak master Yi Deng." Lord Cai boot licked.

'So Yi Deng is actually a peak master. Wait, didn't the Mayor have a conflict with a peak master according to the letter I read back then?' Lin Mu thought.

"It could be another peak master. Usually, in sects there are multiple departments that may be assigned to different peaks. It's likely for this elder to be the peak master of another peak." Xukong explained.

"I understand Senior," Lin Mu replied as he continued hearing their conversation.

But just as he was doing this, he realized something.

"Oh no! The formation that he activated, trapped me in here too! I can't go out unless the formation is deactivated." Lin Mu said in his mind.

"Just hide well, and you should be able to get away easily," Xukong said, calming Lin Mu down.

Lin Mu silently nodded and contained listening.

"I wonder if Seniors have heard of a certain group of people that have been causing a few incidents lately?" Lord Cai questioned.

"Hmm, which specific group are you talking about... perhaps you mean by the disappearance of the mercenaries and some people?" The senior brother replied.

"Yes, seniors are indeed well informed. You see, this particular group has had a couple of interactions with me..." Lord Cai revealed.

The expressions of the three disciples went serious, and so did Lin Mu's.

'Is he part of the Gu legion too?' Lin Mu wondered.

"And what is your involvement with this particular... group? And before you say it, know that we already have orders from the sect to capture or exterminate if anyone from that particular group is found." The senior brother threatened.

These words of the Senior brother confused Lin Mu as he had thought that they were involved with the Gu legion too.

*~Gulp~*

"O-of course not. My involvement with them is of a victim, Seniors. They... have been threatening me, you see." Lord Cai explained.

### **Chapter 347 - No Need To Pay?**

Lin Mu's ears perked up after hearing that Lord Cai was threatened. To be honest, he had not expected it to be something like this. From what Lin Mu had seen and experienced till now the Gu Legion usually killed their foes directly instead of threatening.

Still, this did not lift Lin Mu's suspicion and he wondered if Lord Cai was lying to save his own hide.

"What exactly happened, tell us in detail." The senior brother asked.

"Well, as Seniors know my Alluring Wisteria pavilion is the top most pleasure pavilion in the county and thus makes a decent amount of revenue. Not only that, but due to our clientele, we also have some good connections. This is what the Gu legion desires.

They were threatening me to give them half of the share of the Alluring wisteria pavilion, that too without any payment; The audacity! They threatened me with dire consequences and even acted on it a while ago. Some of my servant girls have disappeared in the past few weeks.

We were unsure of it as servant girls do run away from time to time, but this was far too many of them. Still, as long as it's just servant girls I'm fine with it, they're easily replaceable. But what I cannot bear are my courtesans. These women have been trained for a long time and a lot of resources have been poured into them.

As you must have seen, all of our courtesans are fifth stage of the body tempering realm and above. This allows our more affluent clientele such as cultivators to freely enjoy them. Any weaker and the women would break from time to time. Thus you can see the costs.

Still, tonight when I saw the thief that appeared in my House I think he was one of the members of the Gu legion. His clothes were the same as the ones that they wear, but the mask he wore was a bit different. I thought that the Gu legion finally could not hold back and sent someone to assassinate me.

But seeing that the thief spared all of my servants and guards, I'm not so sure anymore." Lord Cai explained.

The three disciples were lost in thought after hearing everything and could make sense of it after a while. It was obvious why the Gu legion would want the place as it would provide them with a lot of money for their operations.

"Did you talk to the city mayor about this?" The senior brother questioned.

"Yes, I spoke with mayor Wu Xun the very day it happened. He was concerned too and sent guards to look over the place. But after a few weeks, the disappearances still occurred and they could not find any proof. The guards are still assigned here and you must have seen them on the streets." Lord Cai answered.

Lin Mu remembered that he had seen the guards outside. It was one of the reasons why he was traveling over the roofs. Thankfully, there were barely any guards on the roof at nighttime. The Senior brother hummed in agreement but had a frown on his face.

"So this is why you want the peak master to invest in this Establishment? For our protection?" the senior brother asked.

"Yes... that was indeed one of the reasons. The city mayor does not have the same power that the peak master does and I believe under the eye of the seniors such as you all, this place would be safe. Of course, this is not without benefits.

All the Ladies here are open to your use as much as you want." Lord Cai said with a shameless tone.

"Alright, then. I'll talk with the peak master over this, but know that this is not a guarantee that he'll approve." Senior brother said.

"Of course, that's a give. It is up to the peak master to make the final decision, I'm merely a helpless old man with a small business." Lord Cai bootlicked.

*~Chuckle~*

Pei Lao and Tie Dan let out a chuckle, and Lin Mu almost did the same after hearing Lord Cai's words.

'What old and helpless? Who was fighting with vigor two hours ago?' Lin Mu scoffed.

"Since we're done here, we will not bear on you anymore. We need to report back to the elder." Senior brother said.

"Thank you for willing to listen to me Seniors," Lord Cai said while cupping his hands.

He then removed the formation that was covering the room, and all of them left one by one.

~Phew~

"Finally they're gone..." Lin Mu muttered and sank back into the ground.

A few seconds later, he appeared in the room he was assigned and looked around.

"Seems like no one came here, thankfully." Lin Mu said to himself before entering the bedroom.

He kneeled beside Yue, who was unconscious on the bed. Her robes were tilted to one side, revealing her shoulders and the deep valley on her chest. Lin Mu stared at her for a few seconds before deciding to leave.

He left the room and walked to the counter where he had seen the old fat lady.

"Oh, Young Lord is there a problem?" The madam questioned.

"I'm leaving now, what do I need to pay?" Lin Mu started directly.

"Why, young lord, did our ladies not satisfy you?" The madam asked with concern.

"I believe you can ask this to them." Lin Mu said before continuing, "now what do I need to pay?"

The old woman gulped after seeing the demeanor of Lin Mu. She had known that he was a cultivator too, and a strong one at that. It was quite obvious that he seemed to be angered as well.

"Young lord, there is no need for you to pay if you have not been satisfied. I just hope that you will give us a chance again in the future." The madam said in a courteous tone.

Lin Mu simply nodded and walked outside of the building and went to his courtyard.

After he was gone, though, the madam had a serious look on her face.

"GET ME YUE!" She shouted.

### **Chapter 348 - Laying Low**

The old fat lady was standing in a room along with a group of servants, Yue and some guards.

"Now tell me exactly what happened?" The madam questioned with a cold tone.

Yue was nervous and was still a bit dazed as she had just woken up. It had taken the others a few minutes to be able to wake her up. She couldn't remember how she had fallen asleep, and the last thing she remembered was kicking the servants out.

The first thing she did after waking up was checking her body and she was shocked to find out she was not touched at all. It wouldn't have been uncommon for a client to do something and they wouldn't really mind it either.



But this was the first time a client had gone away without doing anything at all. He had only eaten some of the food, which reminded her that the food was drugged.

'Wait, why did he continue to eat it even after he found out it was drugged? Seems like that was a warning, to show us not to try tricks like that on him.' Yue thought to herself.

The servants that had served Lin Mu were currently trembling in their place and didn't have the courage to speak.

"WELL DID THE CAT GET YOUR TONGUES? SPEAK!" The madam yelled.

"EEK" the servants flinched but still didn't dare to speak.

"Madam, let me tell you what happened. These bitches dared to act on their own and drugged the food that was served to Young Lord Mu Lin. Thankfully, he was merciful and did not punish us, which would have been valid considering his status." Yue said with spite while looking at the servants.

The expression of the servants only kept on falling the more they heard Yue's words, but they didn't dare to deny it either. The proof was already there as the food was still there. If they were found lying their punishment would only be more severe.

"WHAT! You dare!" The madam shouted and slapped the leader of the servants, knocking her to the wall.

*~Thwack~*

Her head struck the wall and started bleeding, but she made no voice for she had already passed out. The other servants only became more fearful.

"You have no idea what kind of person you offend. While we do not know his background I sensed the power in him. His aura was nothing that any common cultivator would have." The madam stated.

"This is true madam, we felt this first hand. When the young lord found out about the food being drugged, merely his gaze was enough to make us kneel." Yue agreed.

The madam only became more angry after hearing that they had potentially offended a strong cultivator.

"This is far too big that I thought then. Only the lord can decide now." The madam declared.

Two of the servant girls directly fainted from the stress after hearing this, while the others clapped on the ground helplessly.

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Lin Mu was sitting on the bed while calming thinking about all that he had learned today.

"Seems like Lord Cai was not lying about it, seeing his reaction from when he attacked me, he genuinely seemed shocked." Lin Mu muttered to himself.

"But the operation of the Gu legion is also strange in this case, why didn't they just attack him, unlike the others?" Lin Mu wondered.

"It's most likely because of his status. They can't really claim a well known Establishment like this in a city like this without suspicion. The people would not be calm. Besides, we already know that the Mayor may be involved in this." Xukong remained.

"Of course, how did I not realized this!" Lin Mu exclaimed.

"You are already tired, some times our mind plays tricks on us and makes things complex," Xukong replied.

Lin Mu was indeed quite tired, even if not physically but mentally he was. This was the largest amount of spirit qi he had used ever since reaching the peak stage of the qi refining realm.

"Looks like the mayor got the Gu legion to try to take over the Alluring Wisteria pavilion so that he can get their money for all his needs. Lord Cai is influential in the city too which means that even the mayor cannot act in a highhanded manner with him and would need to hide his real intentions." Lin Mu analyzed.

"What do you want to do now? Will you inform the Lord Hei?" Xukong asked.

"Hmm, I'm thinking to wait and watch for a couple of days. There are still many things we do not know and acting on our own may become problematic considering that we've already ruffled a few feathers today. The disciples of the Tri cauldron peony sect should find out about the missing servant too soon, and perhaps even the seal that I stole.

We'll lay low and watch the show, only acting when we have more information. Besides, the wife of the mayor is also alert from my mistake before. It would do us no good if we are reckless." Lin Mu replied after thinking for a bit.

"Good, this a well thought out plan," Xukong praised.

Lin Mu nodded his head and went back to cultivating. With all the basic qi pills he had replenishing all his qi would still take him an entire day as he had used a lot of liquid spirit qi.

'I need to get rid of the servant's body too...' Lin Mu remembered.

Hours passed by as the night turned to day and then back to night. Lin Mu heard a knock on the door and woke up.

"Master, would you like to have dinner?" The servant asked.

Lin Mu looked outside and saw the moon, knowing that he lost track of time, he nodded his head.

"I'll get it in a minute," The servant said before going away and coming back with trays of food.

"Tell me what has recently happened in the city." Lin Mu ordered the servant.

Lin Mu then calmly ate his food while hearing some news from the servant.

**Chapter 349 - Letter For Mu Lin?**

Apparently, the lock down had been called off after the guards offended a few influential cultivators. They had still been unable to find any culprit and even the mayor's wife had given her approval to stop the check. Then there was the news about the attack at Lord Cai's house.

But the strangest thing was the culprit they thought was the thief that came to Lord Cai's house was none other than the servant who went missing from the Tri cauldron peony sect's courtyard.

'Huh? How the hell did they come to this conclusion?' Lin Mu wondered, but showed no expression on his face.

Apparently, since the servant disappeared without a trace around the same time, the attempted robbery happened, they put the blame on the servant. People had thought that this would mean that there would now be a conflict between Lord Cai and the Tri cauldron peony sect, but it was not so.

Rather, the news of a collaboration was spread by them officially. The Tri cauldron peony sect would be investing in the Alluring Wisteria pavilion. The people were all shocked by this and wondered if Lord Cai had taken advantage of the robber and taken compensation in this form from the Tri cauldron peony sect.

"That's rather smart, I must say..." Xukong suddenly spoke.

"What do you mean senior?" Lin Mu questioned.

"We know that the old man was threatened by the Gu legion and was under watch by them. By taking advantage of their current situation and twisting a few facts, they made it seem as if it was now a collaboration under forced conditions.

This would also make the Gu legion think twice about attacking him and would perhaps even make the people think well of the Tri cauldron peony sect by showing the people that they are not unreasonable. This way they kill two birds with one arrow." Xukong answered.

Lin Mu thought over it and realized that it indeed seemed to be likely. This way a few future problems of theirs could be solved. Then another thing was that due to the new investment, Lord Cai would be organizing a celebratory banquet tomorrow night.

A lot of influential people were going to be invited, and the alluring wisteria pavilion was already getting ready for it. Lin Mu also heard that Lord Hei was invited as well, along with a lot of people that lived in this neighborhood. Which was obvious considering all the high class people who lived here.

"Oh and master, this letter came for you too. You were cultivating before, so I did not dare disturb you." The servant said before passing a letter to Lin Mu.

Lin Mu looked at the letter and found there to be a seal on it too.

"Who would send me a letter, though? No one knows me here, except for Wu Hei. But if it were him, he would simply send someone from the Hei corps." Lin Mu questioned.

"I do not know either master, the messenger simply said it was addressed to a certain Young lord Mu Lin. Which I believe is the name you gave." The servant said.

The servant was also a part of the Hei Corps and thus knew who Lin Mu was. They had already been informed of Lin Mu's fake identity.

"Mu Lin? Huh..." Lin Mu muttered as he broke the seal on the letter and unfolded it.

"To Young Lord Mu Lin,

I am Lord Cai, the owner of the Alluring Wisteria pavilion. I was informed that my people made a few mistakes when you visited my establishment and for that I am incredibly sorry.

I'm sending you this letter as an invitation to the banquet celebrating the new collaboration between my Establishment and the Tri cauldron peony sect.

I hope the young lord would give us another chance to serve him. We guarantee that you will be fully satisfied, so please do grace us with your presence tomorrow night."

"What the... how did he find this out?" Lin Mu said, feeling a bit surprised.

The servant simply shook his head, showing that he did not know.

"Well, it wouldn't have been that hard to figure it out with their connections I suppose. The name on this courtyard is set as Mu Lin, right? Then, considering that and your status as a cultivator, this Lord Cai must have found it out somehow." Xukong hypothesized.

Lin Mu didn't know what to do except nod his head at this.

*~Sigh~*

"Clean this up," Lin Mu said to the servant to take away the empty dishes.

"Now the question remains... do we go there?" Lin Mu stated.

"Hmm, the choice is up to you. But think of it this way, since we know that this Lord Cai is enemies with the Gu legion along with the Tri cauldron peony sect, perhaps you can take advantage of this." Xukong suggested.

Lin Mu stroked his chin as he thought over it for a few minutes.

"I guess we can attend the banquet. Perhaps we will get some more information there too, seeing as there are gonna be all the influential people of the city there." Lin Mu decided.

Lin Mu then called the servant again and told him to inform Lord Hei about it. The servant accepted it and immediately went to inform him about it. Thirty minutes later, the servant returned with Wu Hei's reply.

"Master, the lord has said that he will attend the banquet too since you are going to attend it. He will also be sending some things tomorrow that he said you should take a look over before going to the banquet." The servant reported.

"Alright, I understand." Lin Mu said and dismissed the servant.

*~Poof~*

Lin Mu's head hit the pillow as he laid down on the bed with his hands behind the head.

"So we have our plan for tomorrow cut out." Lin Mu spoke.

"Indeed, now you should just think of anything that may be necessary be for going there." Xukong replied.

"Yes, senior..." Lin Mu said before falling asleep and appearing in the Sleepscape.

### **Chapter 350 - Dressing Up**

*~Shing~*

*~Shing~*

*~Zonggg~*

Lin Mu was practicing with a long sword currently. The sword was rather oddly shaped and it took Lin Mu quite a while to get used to. The blade of the sword was wider at the base near the handle and stayed like that for about one third of the length before becoming narrower.

The widest part of the blade was about four fingers wide and the narrow part was two fingers wide. The blade was also about six feet long, which was taller than Lin Mu. The only weapon that Lin Mu had in his storage longer than this were a few spears and lances.

Lin Mu felt that this sword was a bit unwieldy but was getting used to it. He practiced for a few more minutes before stopping.

"That should be enough for today..." Lin Mu said before setting down under the spirit apple tree. He looked up at it and felt as if it had become a bit more vibrant.

"Did it grow a little bit? Hmm, perhaps not in height, but it has definitely become a little broader." Lin Mu said after checking it.

Pushing this thought to the back of his mind, he practiced the Nameless technique of the lost immortal. Even if he had reached his goal, Lin Mu did not really want to fully stop practicing the technique. He was still not at the limit and wondered what things were still hidden.

According to senior Xukong, the Lost immortal who created the technique was a great cultivator who should be stronger than even immortals. So considering that, this technique should be useful for him for quite a long time.

From what Lin Mu had learned, a lot of cultivation techniques were limited in the realm that a cultivator could reach with them. Their classification was similar to that of the spirit weapons and according to their grades could be used by cultivators of that level and could let them reach that level.

For example, a low tier spirit grade cultivation technique would allow one to reach the core condensation realm at most. A mid tier spirit grade cultivation technique up to nascent soul realm, high tier till Dao shell realm and finally peak tier till the Dao treading realm.

As for the immortal ascension realm, senior Xukong told Lin Mu that it didn't really need a cultivation technique to reach and it depended more on the cultivator's luck and comprehension.

Lin Mu had asked Senior Xukong what grade his cultivation technique would be, to which he simply said one thing- I don't know. The nine divine heart sutras were like the nameless technique of the lost immortal, they had never been practiced before and thus there was nothing to compare it with.

Besides, they were still doubtful whether it could even be classified as a full fledged cultivation technique or an auxiliary one.

Finally, before falling deep into sleep, Lin Mu went through all the things that had happened that day and the plans of the next day.

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The sunlight shined through the window as a gentle breeze blew, ruffling the curtains. Lin Mu woke up and stretched his body before walking outside. He could hear someone talking in the yard.

*~Slide~*

The door of the room opened and Lin Mu entered the yard. There he saw the servant talking with two men. Lin Mu didn't know who they were, but seeing that they were allowed entry freely like this, they must have belonged to the Hei corps.

"Ah, good morning, master. You came at the right time, Lord Hei has sent some gifts for you." The servant spoke.

Lin Mu looked at the packages that were kept on the stone table.

"What's in them?" Lin Mu questioned.

"Why don't you open and take a look," The servant said with a smile.

Lin Mu nodded and started opening the packages. Inside, he found a set of luxurious brocade robes. They were dark blue and had gold embroidery. In the other package was a silver coronet along with a Jade ribbed fan. Lin Mu could tell these were all the clothes of an aristocrat.

"So lord Hei wants me to wear these for the banquet?" Lin Mu asked.

To be honest, Lin Mu wasn't really feeling the appeal of these clothes. While they looked luxurious and were identity symbols, to him they were too gaudy. He preferred the more simpler clothes that he wore and felt that they were more comfortable.

"Yes, the Lord said that these would help match your identity. He said that since you have made a fake persona, he will present you as his friend from another kingdom." The man who had come to deliver these said.

Lin Mu nodded and understood the reason behind this.

"That makes sense. I'll wear them then." Lin Mu replied.

The two men bade him farewell before leaving the courtyard.

"I'll take these inside master, the banquet will be starting at 8pm tonight so you have quite some time till then." The servant said before asking, "Will you be going out?"

"No," Lin Mu shook his head. "Not today, I'll stay here. Just tell me when it's time to leave. I believe Lord Hei will be accompanying me?"

"Yes, Lord Hei will be coming with the carriage." The servant replied.

Lin Mu nodded and returned inside. He cultivated while the servant got the breakfast ready. Lin Mu felt that he was at least able to enjoy some good food while he was here. Then he was reminded of Little shrubby.

"Perhaps I should have brought him too. Then he would have been able to taste these dishes too..." Lin Mu muttered to himself as he finished the breakfast.

He sensed his connection with little shrubby and while there was no communication with Little Shrubby, Lin Mu could still feel that it was as strong as before. He spent the rest of the day in cultivation, and it was soon time for the banquet.

"Master, the carriage will be here soon, you should get ready." The servant informed.

Lin Mu nodded his head and entered his room to wear all the clothes and accessories. While he was able to wear the robes and shoes with no problem, it was still difficult for him to wear the silver coronet as his hair was a bit short for it.

*~Sigh~*

"I give up, this won't work." Lin Mu said before an idea appeared to him.

Lin Mu withdrew an item from his ring. It was a long metallic curving pin. This was actually one of the weapons that were included in the Thousand armament blade scripture. He had not practiced it till now and it was going to be used as an ornament now.

Lin Mu put his hair in a bun before using the pin to lock it in place.

*~Clack~Clack~Clack~*

The sound of cantering horses came from outside, and Lin Mu knew the carriage was here.

"Master, Lord Hei is here." The servant announced.

Lin Mu left the courtyard and saw the large carriage that was pulled by four white horses. The character for 'Hei' was carved on its sides and lanterns hung from its four corners.

*~Sigh~*

"Let's go..."