

I Just Won't Play By The Book

Chapter 41: Return the Heroic and Valiant Order Master to Me!

“Tat...” “Tat...” “Tat...”

In the quiet room, there was only the sound of black and white go stones falling on the board. Both players were really focusing on the game, their eyes and minds were fixed on the go board.

After an hour of silence, the entire go board finally filled with stones.

“Huh...” Etiquette Protector Cheng let out a long sigh. He picked up the ceramic cup and took a sip of the hot tea that had just been refilled, while Jiang Beiran was counting the go stones.

He cleared all the dead pieces of both sides out of the go board, and then he began to round it up.

“Black has a total of 177 stones, and white has 343 stones. Etiquette Protector Cheng, you have won.”

“Hahaha.” Etiquette Protector Cheng laughed loudly after hearing this, “Well, you have no clue how to counter my tactic, right?”

“Your move is really powerful. I thought that I would be able to resist your attack in this position. Although you didn't save your stone group with this move, you caught me by surprise with your forcing move. It's really powerful. ”

“Hahahaha!”

Jiang Beiran's praise was obviously very useful to Etiquette Protector Cheng. He twitched his beard and said, “I have a lot of fun to play with you. You know where you're losing. You're not like other idiots.”

After hearing this, Jiang Beiran cupped his hands and replied, “I only know where I made my mistakes, but I don't know how to solve it. I hope you can give some pointers.”

“Okay, let’s do another round then!”

At three o’clock in the midnight, with the bright candlelight, Jiang Beiran was still fighting with Etiquette Protector Cheng.

After losing two more rounds, Jiang Beiran wiped the fine sweat oozing from his forehead and said, “This move really opens up your path and tackle my pieces, I’m amaze! Please allow me to retreat for a month and study this board carefully.”

The so-called retreat is actually equivalent to “asking for leave”. For example, a disciple feels that he is going to break through this month, so he can apply for a retreat from his master. If he was allowed to, then he didn’t need to carry out his duty in this month. He also did not need to go down the mountain for the trial. However, this “leave” was only allowed once a year, which makes Jiang Beiran quite regretful.

Seeing Jiang Beiran’s admiring expression, Etiquette Protector Cheng burst into joy, and he nodded immediately and promised, “Good, I agree to this matter.”

“Thank you, Etiquette Protector Cheng.” Jiang Beiran smiled happily.

“Another game?” Etiquette Protector Cheng stroked the go board and asked.

“Yes, I would like to!”

As the saying goes, meeting an opponent is one of life’s great joys. Jiang Beiran and Etiquette Protector Cheng just “battled” all night, and even at dawn, they were still not sleepy.

“Dong dong dong!”

“Liangji, is Beiran here with you?”

Just as Etiquette Protector Cheng was frowning and thinking about the meaning of Jiang Beiran’s play, there was a sudden knock at the door, followed by a voice that both of them were very familiar with.

“No way... Order Master came?” Jiang Beiran thought nervously. Although Jiang Beiran had expected that someone would come to look for him today, he did not expect that the Order Master himself would come.

Cheng Liangji naturally did not know what Jiang Beiran was thinking, so he answered directly, "He's playing a game with me."

"Then I'll help myself in." After Zhang Heqing finished speaking, he pushed open the door and entered.

"Greeting, Order Master." Seeing Zhang Heqing coming in, Jiang Beiran immediately stood up and saluted.

"Hmm." Zhang Heqing nodded with a smile, and then said, "Beiran, pause the game and come out with me."

Jiang Beiran and Cheng Liangji stunned for a while after hearing this. They were really surprised because there is an unwritten rule in Order of Blue Heart. They must wait the players finished a game before they could interrupt unless it was a critically emergency. However, as soon as Order Master came in, he immediately asked them to "pause" the game.

"Beiran, have you committed a crime?" Cheng Liangji looked at Jiang Beiran and asked. Otherwise, he really could not think of why the Order Master would even stop his game.

Jiang Beiran shook his head hurriedly and said, "No way, I have always been honest, how could I do something wrong?"

Zhang Heqing laughed and patted Jiang Beiran's shoulder. He said, "No need to be nervous, just come with me."

Looking at Zhang Heqing's warm smile, Jiang Beiran had already guessed the Order Master's intention. He cupped his hands and said, "Master, I have an enlightenment when I played against Etiquette Protector Cheng, and I asked Etiquette Protector Cheng to allow me to retreat for a month..."

Jiang Beiran was just halfway through speaking when Zhang Heqing's voice suddenly interrupted him, "Don't use this as an excuse to prevaricate me. Come with me now, or you won't get any benefits from me in the future."

Jiang Beiran stunned for a moment, then looked at Zhang Heqing, who was still smiling and did not move his lips.

"Voice transmission?"

At the same time, three options appeared in front of him.

[Option 1: Refuse and quit. Completion reward: Sea Mantra (Black Grade High Tier)]

[Option 2: Ask Cheng Liangji to intercede. Completion reward: Seven Steps Technique (Black Grade Low Tier)]

[Option 3: Agree to Order Master. Reward: random basic skill points +1]

“Well... It seems that the Order Master is serious this time.”

Realizing that the Order Master’s attitude was very tough this time, Jiang Beiran immediately chose the third option. He turned to Cheng Liangji and said, “Etiquette Protector Cheng, then I will go out with the Order Master first.”

“Well, just go, come back soon.”

Seeing Jiang Beiran agree, Zhang Heqing immediately smiled and said, “We’ll be back soon.”

With a sigh in his heart, Jiang Beiran followed Zhang Heqing and walked outside the room.

They walked all the way to Floating Sea Pavilion, which was usually used for hospitality. Zhang Heqing, who did not say a word on the way, immediately cupped his hand and walked in with a smile, “Law Protector Yu, I brought you the person you want.”

Yu Manwen, who was standing in the center of the hall, smiled slightly when he heard the Zhang Heqing. He returned his salute to Zhang Heqing and said, “Thank you, Order Master Zhang.”

“No need to thank me, Law Protector Yu.” After speaking, he moved the chair diligently and said to Man Wen, “Why is Law Protector Yu standing? If the others saw you, they will mock me for doesn’t know how to treat a guest. Sit down, sit down.”

Looking at Zhang Heqing’s flattering smile, Jiang Beiran’s mind collapsed.

“Sh*t! Where is the personable and valiant Star Luo Sword, Zhang Heqing that I know?”

When Manwen sat down, Zhang Heqing looked at Na Moman who was standing at the door and shouted, “Why haven’t you make a cup of tea for the distinguished guest yet?”

When Na Moman was about to speak, Yu Manwen said first, “Master Zhang, don’t blame him, I told him not to.”

“That won’t do. You must drink the tea. I just bought some nice tea a few days ago, and they are fragrant. You must have a taste.” Zhang Heqing saw that Moman as still standing, so he yelled at him, “What are you still doing her? Go and make a pot of tea.”

“Oh, yes!” After Moman finished speaking, he hurried out.

“Thank you, Master Zhang.” Yu Manwen nodded slightly towards Zhang Heqing.

“You rarely come to the Order of Blue Heart, so I have to treat you nicely.” After speaking, Zhang Heqing waved to Jiang Beiran and shouted, “Why aren’t you coming over here? What are you doing there?”

Watching Zhang Heqing move a chair and sit next to Yu Manwen while talking, Jiang Beiran sighed heavily in his heart.

‘Master, you can’t get a girl like this!’

Chapter 42: There’s No Way That I’ll Believe In You!

In fact, when Jiang Beiran came back, he had already thought that Yu Manwen would definitely come to find him again. To prevent more troubles, Jiang Beiran decided to “retreat” directly, and let her wait for a month to exhaust her curiosity towards himself. Eventually, the incident would naturally subside.

But what Jiang Beiran never expected was that the wise Order Master, who used to be heroic and always covered for him, had actually become...

Seeing Zhang Heqing peeking at Yu Manwen’s “shy” expression from time to time, Jiang Beiran was desperate.

“The pretty flower of the Sect of Returning Hearts...how terrifying!” After putting away his thoughts, Jiang Beiran stepped forward and said, “I, Disciple Jiang Beiran pays my respects to Law Protector Yu.”

Yu Manwen nodded slightly and said, “Beiran, you hid in the Pavilion of Blue Heart when you came back. Were you hiding from me?”

Jiang Beiran was about to answer when he saw three options appear in front of him.

[Option 1: “No, I wouldn’t dare.” Completion reward: Blood Refining Slash (Black Grade Low Tier)]

[Option 2: “Law Protector Yu, you have been thinking too much. I just suddenly got inspiration and wanted to further improve my go skills, that’s why I went there.” Completion reward: Three-pointed and four-edged Blade (Yellow Grade Mid Tier)]

[Option 3: “Yes.” Completion reward: random basic skill points +1]

Jiang Beiran was taken aback when he saw these three options, but he chose the third option and replied, “Yes.”

[Optional task completed, reward: Drawing +1]

After hearing this, Zhang Heqing was stunned, and he hurriedly shouted, “Jiang Beiran! What nonsense! Are you asking for a beating?” After speaking, he turned his head and smiled at Manwen, “Law Protector Yu, I apologize for my inability to teach my disciple properly. That’s why he has no respect, and I will punish him well afterwards.”

“No need.” Yu Manwen raised her left hand and waved towards Zhang Heqing, then said, “Can Master Zhang let me chat with him alone?”

“This...of course.” After Zhang Heqing finished speaking, he stood up and walked towards the door, but when passing by Jiang Beiran, he used a voice transmission and said, “Don’t be angry with Law Protector Yu anymore, otherwise I will punish you.”

Jiang Beiran nodded immediately to show his understanding.

With the “squeak” sound of wooden doors, Zhang Heqing closed the door and left the hall.

“Beiran, I really didn’t see you wrong.” Yu Manwen said, standing up slowly and walking towards Jiang Beiran, “Zijin and the others have told me what happened along the way. You had helped the five children grown so much, and you’ve done an excellent job.”

“Thank you for the compliment.”

“But since you rejected me so strongly just now... that means you don’t want to be involved with them anymore, right? Or are you afraid that I will force you to embark on a journey of cultivation?”

“I...”

Just as Jiang Beiran was about to speak, Yu Manwen stretched out her hand to block him and said, “I understand. You are way more mature than your age. You know what you should do and what you shouldn’t do, and you are very determined. You’re walking on the path of your own choice. I appreciate this tenacity.”

Saying that, Yu Manwen patted Jiang Beiran’s shoulder lightly, “A person’s value does not necessarily have to be reflected in the cultivation. I was narrow-minded, and I was a little too hasty. I always felt that I couldn’t waste a good seedling like you. But I now understand that you have your own ideals and noble sentiments in life, so I will not impose my ideas on you in the future, don’t worry.”

Law Protector Yu’s long speech made Jiang Beiran bewildered.

“The ideal of life? Noble sentiment? What did those girls say about me?”

But no matter what the process was, Jiang Beiran still happy how things ended, so he cupped his hands and said, “Thank you for your understanding, Law Protector Yu. I will remember your commendations.”

“Okay, that’s all I have to say. In addition, I owe you a favor for helping me. If you have any needs in the future, just tell me. I can still say a few words in this Sect of Returning Hearts.”

“Thank you, Law Protector Yu!”

“Well, do your best, I’ll go first.” Yu Manwen pushed the wooden door and walked outside.

“This is really the end... it’s a bit abrupt.” Jiang Beiran thought.

It was a good thing for Jiang Beiran that Law Protect Yu to be so reasonable. At least he didn’t have to worry about how she would “torture” him.

Outside the door, Yu Manwen went out and nodded at Zhang Heqing who was waiting there, “Sorry for disturbing Order Master Zhang today.”

“Don’t apologize, you’re too polite. So, you and Beiran... finished talking?”

“Yeah.” Yu Manwen nodded, “He is a good disciple. It seems that Order of Blue Heart is really good at teaching. We Order of Water Mirror need to learn more from you.”

After hearing this, Zhang Heqing smiled modestly, “No, Law Protector Yu, we need to learn from you.”

“I still have something to deal with in the hall, so I will leave first. I will come to you next time to ask you for a lesson or two.” Yu Manwen was about to leave.

At this moment, Na Moman walked over with a tray full of teacups. Seeing that Yu Manwen seemed to be leaving, he didn’t know what to do for a while.

When Zhang Heqing saw it, he immediately took the teacup on the tray and handed it to Yu Manwen, “Law Protector Yu, drink the tea before you go. It’s just brewed, and it’s very fragrant.”

“Okay.” Yu Manwen took a sip from the teacup and commented, “It’s really fragrant, good tea.”

“I’m glad you like it. I have quite a few more. You can bring some back home and give Order Master Xu a taste.”

“That’s no need, but thank you for your kindness, I’ll leave first.” After speaking, Yu Manwen put the teacup back on the tray and walked outside.

“Then I’ll send it to you...!”

Looking at Zhang Heqing's chasing figure, Jiang Beiran shook his head and sighed. The handsome image of the Order Master was completely shattered in his heart.

"Love makes people crazy!"

After about a stick of incense, Zhang Heqing finally walked back with a little excited expression on his face.

Seeing Jiang Beiran, who was still waiting at the entrance of the hall, Zhang Heqing coughed lightly, "Beiran, your iron seal this time is very good, you have raised the reputation of Order of Blue Heart, and I will remember your credit."

"Thank you, Order Master."

"Law Protector Yu seems to have a good impression of you. If you have the opportunity, you should get to know her more... Eh? Why are you looking at me like that? We should maintain a good relationship with them, maybe we can help each other in the future."

Hearing what the unbelievable speech from Order Master, Jiang Beiran lowered his head and cupped his hands, "I understand."

"Well...then you can go back and continue the game."

"Yes."

Just as Jiang Beiran wanted to go back to Pavilion of Blue Heart, he heard Zhang Heqing calling him again, "Beiran, please ask Law Protector Yu come here again if you have the chance. It is for the future development of our order."

"There's no way that I'll believe in you!"

Resisting the urge to complain, Jiang Beiran nodded and agreed. But of course, he would only do this according to his mood..

Chapter 43: You Guys Are Ignorant

At the same time, outside of Luoxia Town, three wandering heroes dressed in short shirts were drinking in a private room of an inn.

One of them with a blue kerchief at a fried peanut and said, “Da Leng, have you scattered the net on that side?”

The wandering hero who was being called Da Leng, burped as he poured himself another jug of wine and said, “Of course! I will definitely obey the orders given by the leader. I’ve already scattered them all out.”

“That’s good. I think Third Brother is very interested in this matter, and so we should put in more effort.”

“Don’t worry, I know what I have to do.” Da Leng took the jug back in the middle, rolled his eyes and said in a low voice, “Hey, have you two found out why is that person get arrested? Why so much movement?”

After hearing that, the wandering hero, who hadn’t spoken for a while, moved the jug of the wine forward and smiled.

Da Leng understood the meaning at a glance, and quickly picked up the jug and filled it up, “Xie Zi, you always have the latest news. Hurry up, tell us, what did you hear?”

Nodding with satisfaction, Xie Zi picked up the wine and drank, “I will tell you because we are good brothers, but don’t pass it on.”

“Don’t worry!” Da Leng patted his chest and roared, “We are notoriously tight-lipped, so hurry up and shoot.”

“Okay, come closer, and I’ll tell you.” Xie Zi beckoned to the two of them.

Da Leng and another wandering hero cooperated very well and immediately got closer.

Xie Zi no longer appealed to the two of them, and whispered softly, “I heard that Boss Gu was defeated.”

“Boss Gu!?” The two of them were shocked, and Da Leng even asked directly, “Boss Gu was defeated even with his skills? Which sect master did he meet?”

“That’s our job to figure it out. But I heard that there didn’t seem to be any major conflicts, so we are just gathering the information. We need to find out who the other party is.”

“Tsk, this is crazy, I must be overwhelmed with shock.” Da Leng said and took a sip and drank the wine, “But I heard that Boss Gu is a level 8 Mystic Practitioner. If he was defeated, then his opponent must be a Great Mystic Practitioner. If we were going to investigate this strong master, isn’t it too...?”

According to Da Leng’s knowledge, anyone who practices Qi would be very powerful. After that, the Mystic Practitioners, Great Mystic Practitioner, and the Superior Mystic Practitioners are all extremely strong beings. The Mystic Spirit and the Mystic King were even more terrifying.

So, when Da Leng heard that the gang was provoking a person who was might be a Great Mystic Practitioner, he suddenly felt a little scared.

“What’s the point to be afraid!” The blue-kerchiefed wandering hero patted the square table, “Our leader is a Superior Mystic Practitioner!”

“But that person might be the same level as leader. After all, we don’t who is he yet.”

“Huh.” At this moment, Xie Zi suddenly let out a sneer.

When the two heard it, they looked at Xie Zi at the same time and asked, “Why are you laughing?”

Xie Zi shook his head, “Laugh at your ignorance.”

“Oh? Why do you say it?” Da Leng asked while pouring another jug of wine for Xie Zi.

“Do you really think that the Yellow Gang, which only have one Superior Mystic Practitioner as the leader, can take root at the Rivernorth area and thrive in two years?”

“This...” Da Leng took a breath, thinking that what Xie Zi said was very reasonable.

There were many sects in Rivernorth, and the disciples in these sects like to being chivalrous and fighting for justice. If Yellow Gang didn’t have enough foundation, it would be exterminated long ago.

“We admire for your knowledge. It’s amazing. Then tell us, who is behind the Yellow Gang?”

"I don't know about that." Xie Zi also answered very succinctly, but after drinking the wine, he added, "But I can be sure that it has a strong background."

"How so?" the blue-kerchiefed wandering hero hurriedly asked.

"Well..."

Seeing that Xie Zi was selling off again, the blue-kerchiefed wandering hero became anxious, "I'll pay for the drinks! Brother, hurry up."

"Hahaha, okay, I'll tell you." Xie Zi rolled up his sleeves, propped his right hand on the table and said, "Luo Yan Dance-Shen Tingyun, Mountain Breaking Palm-Lin Yun. Have you heard of these two before?"

"No." The other two shook their heads at the same time.

"Tsk." Xie Zi shook his head, "You guys are ill-informed, how do you do your job later?"

"We have you, right? Just say it already."

"Then Sect of Soaring Sky and Wenshi Valley, have you heard about them?"

"I know these two!" Da Leng quickly replied: "There are well-known sects in East Commandery, I heard that there are many masters."

"Yes, you have some knowledge. Shen Tingjun and Lin Yunjian were the disciples of these two sects. They have made a name for themselves in Rivernorth District at a youthful age. It can be said that their future is limitless, but now... ..these two have already..." Xie Zi said and made a gesture of wiping his neck.

"Dead!?" Da Leng asked in shock.

"Yes, and do you know why they died?" Seeing the two shaking their heads, Xie Zi continued, "It's because they interfered our Yellow Gang's affairs!"

"Huh!" Da Leng shouted, and suddenly became excited, "Are we really that powerful?"

"I'm afraid it's not that we are powerful, it's the forces behind us. So, I think that we are just bait used by some great demonic cults, specializing in

catching those pretentious and talented disciples. Then, they wait for the right time and... kill them!”

“This, this...” Da Leng stammered, “Our gang killed those elite disciples of the sect, didn’t those sects send people to trouble our gang?”

“Bullsh*t!” Xie Zi laughed disdainfully, “It’s not our gang who killed them. Remember, our gang leader is just a Superior Mystic Practitioner, how could we dare to provoke these big sects? If they want to kill us by force, then they are killing innocent people indiscriminately. How is it different from the demonic cult? Alright, alright, that’s all I have to say, and the rest is for you to comprehend. Of course, these are all my guesses, beware of losing your head if you spread it out.”

“I understand. You are really something. I didn’t expect it at all. Come on, let’s drink.”

After speaking, the three brothers pushed the cups for a while.

“Dong, dong, dong.”

When the three of them were drinking and shaking their heads, there was a sudden knock on the door.

“Who is it?” Bie Niu shouted.

“Boss, it’s me, Dou San, I’ve brought news.”

“Come in.”

With a “squeak” sound, the door was pushed open, and Dou San walked in and cupped his hands, “Oh, the three bosses are all here, greetings to you all.”

“Say it.” Bie Niu said directly.

“Okay, just now the Tian Shu informed that he saw six people entering the town. They were all wearing straw hats, with the same characteristics as the bosses said.”

“Oh? Where are they!?” Bie Niu’s eyes shone brightly.

...

On the other side, Li Fucheng and other five people were looking for a place to rest in Luoxia Town.

“Maste... Oh, senior brother, this straw hat is too ugly, and I’m not used to wearing it.” Tang Tingshuang said with an awkward expression.

Li Fucheng looked around, and found that he didn’t attract attention before replying, “Next time, don’t call it wrong again, remember that I’m your senior brother! Look at Brother Wang. He also wearing it, it must be useful. We have been too high-profile along the way, which has caused us so many troubles, we should be careful in the future.”

“Okay...” Tang Tingshuang nodded obediently..

Chapter 44: This Face Seems Familiar...

“Boss, it’s them.” In front of an herbal tea shop, Tian Shu and the Xie Zi found Li Fucheng’s group.

“Well...the six of them all wore straw hats and sandals, and the women’s stripes were also very smooth. They were all foreigners.” Xie Zi turned his head and said to Da Leng, “You and Bie Niu keep watching them, I will report to Third Brother.”

“Okay, don’t worry, leave it to us.” Da Leng patted his chest and assured.

Xie Zi turned around and mixed into the crowd and slowly left.

After a while, in a large manor outside the town, Xie Zi reported a signal to see Chen Yuanzhou who was consuming dazzling moth powder.

“Third Brother, we found them”

“Oh?” Chen Yuanzhou, who had a flushed face, let out a mouthful of turbid blue air, “Are you sure?”

“There are six people in total, all wearing straw hats and sandals, just as you described.”

“Very good.” Chen Yuanzhou stood up and straightened his messy hair. He then packed a bag of gray-white powder next to him and stuffed it into his arms, “Let’s go, show me.”

“This way.”

Through a few special contact codes, Xie Zi brought Chen Yuanzhou to the town’s market, and found Da Leng and Xiao Niu who were still stalking Li Fucheng’s group.

“Third Brother.” As soon as they saw Chen Yuanzhou, Yan Niu and Da Leng hurriedly saluted.

“Where are they?” Chen Yuanzhou asked.

The Bie Niu immediately replied, “They went to the pickle shop, and Tian Shu followed them inside.”

Nodding, Chen Yuanzhou walked directly into the pickle shop and saw Li Fucheng and the others.

“Senior brother, this pickle looks crispy, let’s buy some and try it.”

“Okay. It did look pretty good.”

After picking up a jar of pickles, Li Fucheng’s group left the store.

Just when the boss was about to put the money into the cash box, he suddenly heard a voice shouting, “Wait.”

The frightened boss raised his head, but when he saw the person coming, he quickly put on a smile and said, “Mr. Chen, you came. Welcome, welcome.”

“Stop talking nonsense, give me the copper coins that they paid you just now.”

After listening to this, the boss was frightened, but he didn’t hesitate at all. He immediately handed the money out with both hands, “That’s all, Master Chen, take it.”

Taking a copper coin from the boss’s hand, Chen Yuanzhou’s eyes widened, “It really is the three treasures coin from Huainan area.”

After confirming, Chen Yuanzhou threw the copper coin back into the boss’s hand, glared at him and said, “Don’t tell anyone that you’ve seen me, or you’ll know what happens.” After speaking, he turned and left the shop.

Tian Shu hit the table and roared, "Did you hear me, old guy, if you dare to say it..." After speaking, he showed his fists to the boss.

The boss who was threatened by them repeatedly said yes, and he felt relieved after the two evil stars had left, feeling that his back was completely soaked.

"What the hell happened..."

Chen Yuanzhou, who walked out of the pickle shop, found Xie Zi and the others again, and said, "Go find two people and make some trouble."

"Yes, I'll do it right away." Xie Zi nodded, then quickly turned and left.

Although Chen Yuanzhou was already 70% sure that the group of people in front of him were the ones Gu Louqing met before, he wanted to double confirm it. Gu Louqing mentioned that there was a girl who was easily fooled, she should be helping the hothead.

After a while, Li Fucheng and others who had visited the entire market were about to find an inn to stay. Then, they heard a loud noise coming from the front.

"Bang!" "Dang!" "Boom!"

Various tables and chairs fell down, and the sound of broken dishes sounded one after another.

"Ouch! Mr. Wu! Don't smash it, don't smash it! I'm kowtowing to you! I beg you."

"F*ck! You dare to these unpalatable sesame pastes. I'm tearing down your shop for the people of Luoxia Town! Bah! You f*cking scammer." That Mr. Wu knocked down some chairs again.

The boss couldn't do anything except kowtow and beg for mercy.

Li Fucheng, who came over to see this scene, frowned, and Tang Tingshuang, who was behind him, was already frowning. Her eyes widened. If it wasn't the young master told her to keep a low profile, she would have rushed forward already.

Thinking about what happened to them along the way, and Tang Tingshuang's unhealed wound, Li Fucheng was about to tell his group to leave. Then, he suddenly remembered what his Brother Wang said to him at that time.

"You can safely travel all the way from Huainan to Rivernorth, do you really think you are skilled enough?"

Thinking of this, Li Fucheng suddenly said, "Tingshuang, Xiao Ni, you go up and help."

Tang Tingshuang was stunned for a moment, but she raised her brows and said happily, "Yes!"

The reason Li Fucheng made this decision was to make sure that Third Uncle was really around. If he was, Li Fucheng would really like to see him and tell him about the hardships along the way.

"You! Stop it!" Tang Tingshuang shouted and rushed up.

Not far away, Chen Yuanzhou, who saw Tang Tingshuang rushing up, was completely sure that this group of people was definitely the same group that Gu Louqing met before. So, he stopped looking and said to the Xie Zi, "Keep watching them." he then turned and left.

...

"It's too disrespectful to our Yellow Gang!"

In a magnificent hall, after listening to what Chen Yuanzhou described, a tall and thin man shouted loudly.

Gu Louqing thought about it for a while and said, "Even though they have suffered losses, they still have to deal with such nosy things. It seems that they are really confident in their own strength."

"Huh! They thought that they have won our Order Master Gu. They thought that we have no other experts in the Yellow Gang, that's why they are so arrogant."

Hearing this sarcastic tone, Gu Louqing immediately pulled out the copper knife around his waist and shouted at the man with a folding fan on the

opposite side, “Meng, stop mocking me. If you have the ability, just go out and fight with me.”

“Let’s go! I’m not afraid of you!” The man closed the folding fan and stood up abruptly.

“What are you arguing about!”

Seeing that the battle was about to break out, a middle-aged man slowly walked into the hall.

As soon as they saw the person coming, the two, who were fighting with each other, turned around and bowed and said, “Greeting, Deputy Leader.”

“I heard that you found them, right?” Cheng Qingheng glanced at Chen Yuanzhou after asking.

“Yes, a group of six people should come from Huainan. I have already sent someone to find out their details.”

“How old do they look?”

“The leader is about sixteen or seventeen years old, and the few who follow are about the same.”

Cheng Qingheng pondered for a moment after listening to it, “How can he suppress Louqing at the age of sixteen or seventeen? What kind of genius disciple is this?”

Gu Louqing’s face fell, but he did not dare to refute, so he could only lower his head and not speak.

“Yuanzhou.”

Hearing the deputy leader calling him, Chen Yuanzhou hurriedly said, “Yes.”

“Take me there to see them, this kind of young genius is rare, I have to confirm it myself.”

“Yes!”

Cheng Qingheng acted resolutely, and after speaking, he asked Chen Yuanzhou to take him to the town.

All the way to the market, Chen Yuanzhou found that the Li Fucheng's group had not left yet, and there was a young man in a white long shirt beside Li Fucheng. The two sides seemed to be very happy chatting.

"Deputy Leader, those with straw hats are the ones we're looking for."

Cheng Qingheng nodded and looked towards Li Fucheng.

At this moment, Li Fucheng just took off his straw hat, and said to the young man in white shirt, "I am Gu Qingyue from Sect of Skies and Clouds. Thank you, for your righteous action just now."

"It's nothing. I originally wanted to act, but I didn't expect Brother Gu stole the show, but it's not a loss to get to know a chivalrous person like you, hahaha! It's a pleasure to meet all the heroes."

"Heavy Cloud Sword – Zhou Guican!? Why is he here?" Chen Yuanzhou was stunned after hearing this. This Misty Sect disciple has been in the limelight recently. He has picked up a lot of gangs in the Xiajin district, and now he has come here.

Although Cheng Qingheng was a little surprised by appearance of Zhou Guican, what was even more surprising was Li Fucheng's face.

"This face is so familiar.... Where have I seen him before?"

Chapter 45: After Meeting Brother Wang, We Become Luckier

Watching Zhou Guican and Li Fucheng leave together, Chen Yuanzhou asked Cheng Qingheng next to him and said, "Deputy Leader, Zhou Guican is also a troublesome person, do you want me to keep an eye on him?"

But Cheng Qingheng's mind was no longer here, because he finally remembered who the young man in the straw hat was in front of him!

"Yuanzhou, stay here and keep watching him. I will come back soon." Cheng Qingheng was gone instantly after leaving these words.

"Um? Why did Deputy Leader have such a big reaction? Did we catch a big fish?" Chen Yuanzhou thought.

After a short while, Chen Yuanzhou was about to follow Zhou Guican and Li Fucheng into a restaurant. Suddenly, he saw Cheng Qingheng suddenly appearing in front of him. At the same time, there was a somewhat familiar figure beside Cheng Qingheng.

“Leader!?”

Chen Yuanzhou was shocked. In his impression, their gang leader has always been a mysterious person. Many members have never seen the true face of the leader for many years, and even Chen Yuanzhou himself has only seen him three times in total. He didn't expect to see the leader today.

After a while, Cheng Qingheng turned around and said to Chen Yuanzhou and the others, “Song.”

“Yes.” Without further ado, Chen Yuanzhou and others obeyed Cheng Qingheng's retreat order. They quickly blended into the crowd and dispersed.

After a long while, Shen Lingwan, the leader of the Yellow Gang, said, “It's the third son of the leader of the Church of Blood Inferno. I talked to him last time at the Lions Conference, and I'm very sure.”

“But why are these three young masters coming to our small place? No one sent us a letter or anything. Our brats almost got into a big trouble.” Cheng Qingheng said with lingering fear.

Shen Lingwan thought for a moment, then said, “Maybe someone is starting to worry about us and wants to use the hands of these three young masters to get rid of us.”

“What!?” Cheng Qingheng was taken aback, “Could it be that the incident was exposed? But we clearly...”

Cheng Qingheng had just finished speaking when he saw Shen Lingwan's eyes swept over, so he quickly shut up.

“But these three young masters don't seem to intend to be our enemy. Otherwise, they won't do so many stupid things as you reported. I'm afraid he is secretly reminding us of his existence, or... something else.”

“Then... do I need to get in touch with this third young master?”

“No, since this young man wants to remind us in this way, it means that he doesn’t want to meet us yet, so let’s wait for him to come to us. Send some smart guards to follow them, never let him have an accident on our site.”

“Yes, I’ll arrange it right away.” Cheng Qingheng quickly turned and left.

Looking at Li Fucheng laughing in the tavern, Shen Lingwan fell into deep thought.

“What went wrong... Could it be a mole among us? Looks like I have to figure it out.” Thinking of this, Shen Lingwan instantly disappeared, as if he had never appeared before.

...

At night, Li Fucheng was reading the “Book of Eight Palaces and Four Rivers” on the bed, while Tang Tingshuang asked, “Senior brother, you have been studying every night for several days in a row. Is this book really so interesting?”

“It’s not interesting, but it’s very powerful. If I meet Brother Wang one day, I must thank him very well. Third Uncle once said that we would meet some kind people who would help us in the outside world. Maybe Brother Wang is a kind person.”

Tang Tingshuang looked at Li Fucheng’s bright eyes and couldn’t help covering his mouth and smiled, “Since we met that Brother Wang, our luck has changed. We didn’t encounter anything dangerous on the way to Luoxia Town. We did not cause much trouble when we’re helping people in the market, and we also met a chivalrous person.”

“Yeah!” Li Fucheng nodded repeatedly, “When we have established a firm foothold here in the future, and we have something to offer, we must go to the Sect of Returning Hearts to thank Brother Wang.”

...

“Achoo!” Jiang Beiran, who was refining medicinal pills in the back mountain, sneezed.

“Really, why do people keep saying I’m handsome behind my back recently?”

With a sigh in his heart, Jiang Beiran continued to activate the blue-purple flame under the pill stove in front of him.

Today, he triggered [Alchemy] +1 five times in a row during his daily “mountain patrol”, which made him suddenly feel empowered. So, he hurriedly found the “secret base” in the back mountain of Order of Blue Heart.

After stabilizing the flame, Jiang Beiran took out various materials from the storage ring and threw them into the pill furnace.

He kept doing it until dawn, and Jiang Beiran nodded with satisfaction when he smelled the herbal fragrance coming from the pill furnace.

“Dang~” “Dang~” “Dang~”

Suddenly, a long bell rang through the various peaks of the Sect of Returning Hearts.

“Um? The bell to summon the disciples, what happened? Forget it, it’s none of my business.”

Jiang Beiran had already applied for a retreat before. During the period, except for major events such as the crisis of the sect, he would not participate any other events. Refining this pot of [Insect Gu Pill] was the priority for him now.

...

On the other side, not long after the bell rang, all the young disciples in the Sect of Returning Hearts gathered on the Lotus Peak and lined up orderly.

And just when all the disciples were guessing what was going on, they suddenly found five figures on the stone high platform under the leadership of Xiang Chang.

“Senior Brother Wu and the others have come back. Judging from this situation, our sect must have a good record this year.”

“Who is Senior Brother Wu?”

“You don’t know him? You’re new to the sect, right?”

“Oh! He is the escort of the King of Hell! I have heard his name. When I went down the mountain a few months ago, Mr. Storyteller was talking about him. He said that the targets could not escape from Senior Brother Wu no matter what. They would be killed by Senior Brother Wu no matter where they hide because their names have been named by the King of Hell.”

“You did know something about him.”

“Senior, do you know who the senior sister standing beside Wu Qingce is?”

After the senior brother heard it, he immediately hit the back of the junior’s head.

“Ouch, it hurts, what are you beating me for?”

“Look, your eyeballs are about to fall to the ground.” the senior looked at the eyes around him and whispered, “I’ll tell you slowly when it’s over, stop now.”

“Yes...”

...

Amidst of the discussion, Wu Qiufang walked to the high stage and said, “In this year’s Rivernorth District Sect Tournament, five disciples of my Sect of Retuning Hearts performed outstandingly and won excellent results. Wu Qingce, a disciple of Sect of Chaos Star, has won the championship!”

“Wow!”

All the disciples in the audience seat let out a burst of exclamation.

The Rivernorth District Set Tournament was an annual event, and the major sects attached foremost importance to it. After all, it was about reputation, and reputation meant the source of students. In Jiang Beiran’s words, this tournament was the “college entrance examination” in Rivernorth District.. Whichever disciple of the sect won the championship was equivalent to taking the “Scholar of the College Entrance Examination”, which was extremely beneficial to the sect.

Chapter 46: I’ll Beat You to Death

An hour later, the grand ceremony ended. Five elite disciples led by Wu Qingce slowly walked down the high platform.

“Brother Wu is now the number one among the young disciples in Rivernorth. He’s too amazing.”

“Sigh, I’m so envious. I wonder when I’ll be as strong as Brother Wu.”

“Brother Wu’s aura is so strong... I don’t even dare to look at him directly.”

Looking at Wu Qingce, the group of Sect of Returning Hearts disciples discussed animatedly. Their tone was filled with envy and respect. However, other than these ambitious disciples, there were also many other disciples kept looking at the girl that was behind Wu Qingce. Her black hair draped over her red windbreaker, and a charming smile on her snow-white face.

That smile was like a lake full of stars, causing one’s gaze to sink deeply into it, unable to extricate themselves.

It was not until the five elite disciples completely disappeared from sight that all the disciples gradually withdrew their gazes.

However, a name had been carved in their hearts.

Order of Ink and Language – Lin Yuyan.

After leaving Lotus Peak, the five elite disciples waved goodbye and returned to their respective halls. However, Lin Yuyan stopped and looked around a few times. After confirming that there were no other disciples around, she immediately turned around and ran in the direction of the Order of Blue Heart.

She hid herself while running all the way to the entrance of Jiang Beiran’s hut. After confirming that there were no other people around, Lin Yuyan raised her hand and knocked on the door three times before quickly retreating to a small hill beside her.

A moment later, the door was not opened. She felt a little regretful. “Looks like senior has gone to patrol the mountain again.”

When she was receiving the prize on the high platform just now, Lin Yuyan was searching for Jiang Beiran in the crowd. Unfortunately, she could not find

him. That was why she ran towards Jiang Bairan's hut right after the ceremony.

"Then let's wait for him to come back."

On the other side, after Wu Qingce returned to the hall to greet his master, he also came to the hall of the Order of Blue Heart and headed straight for the back mountain.

The mountains of the Sect of Returning Hearts were all supported by a formation. Clouds and mist lingered all year round, twining around the mountainside like elegant silk.

After passing through layers of mist with ease and familiarity, Wu Qingce stopped between two oddly shaped rocks.

Taking out a jade flute from his pocket, Wu Qingce was just about to blow it when an idea popped up in his mind.

"I've finished studying the Four Polarity Symbols Formation that senior gave me, and I've also successfully set up the Thousand Antelope Gates Formation. This time... I might try it myself so that Senior Jiang can see my progress.'

After confirming his thoughts, Wu Qingce put away his jade flute and stepped into the middle of the two mountain rocks.

In an instant, Wu Qingce felt that the fog around him had become thicker, and there was a faint fragrance that made people feel dizzy.

After holding his breath, Wu Qingce warned himself that he had to calm down first.

"Don't panic, don't panic. First, remember the chant that senior taught you. Loosen the wrist and focus the fingers, lift the wrist up to the chest, close the eyes, and interlock the fingers. The chant is directed to the heart."

After reciting the chant once, Wu Qingce immediately became much calmer.

"Probing Formation."

As Wu Qingce spoke, he pinched the second section of his index finger with the thumb of his left hand.

“Wood!”

Then, his hand gesture changed. He pinched the third section of the ring finger of his right hand.

“Gold!”

In the next second, Wu Qingce’s two hands emitted different faint lights at the same time.

“Prepare, the formation, the person, the array! Six armors, nine chapters, the sky is round, the earth is square, four seasons, five elements, green, red, white, and yellow!”

After reciting the chant, Wu Qingce opened his eyes again to see that the surrounding fog had disappeared, and the scenery also showed various colors.

For example, all the rocks were yellow, all the trees were red, and all the bronze was black, and so on.

After quickly scanning the surrounding various artifacts, Wu Qingce already had an idea in his mind.

“Eight palaces big cauldron, four symbols counter-shock, the heavenly wind and silver rain formation, spirit in plants, death in scorched land, step on the seven north stars.”

Wu Qingce was delighted when he thought of this. He turned around and walked towards the southwest direction.

Just like that, he passed through several small paths consecutively. Wu Qingce became more confident as he looked at the scenery around him was kept changing.

However, the confidence and joy on Wu Qingce’s face had faded after a while. Instead, it was replaced by confusion and bewilderment.

“I should have left the formation... something must have gone wrong. Could it be the double gate array? It’s possible. Let’s walk again.”

Therefore, Wu Qingce followed the sequence from before. However, he felt dizzy halfway through this time, and the surrounding scenery gradually became unchanged.

“Sigh, I can’t figure why. Senior Jiang is too powerful.”

Wu Qingce was panting heavily. He decided not to be stubborn anymore. Just as he was thinking of how to ask his senior for help, a black shadow suddenly attacked him.

“Who is it?!” Wu Qingce shouted loudly. At the same time, the eight darts in his hand had already been thrown out.

However, the black shadow did not dodge or give way. It directly blocked the darts and slashed at him!

Wu Qingce did not expect the other party to be so reckless. He hurriedly ran away. However, the figure was not going to let him go. It chased after him and kept hacking at him.

When Wu Qingce was being chased and hacked, his breathing became increasingly hurried. He knew that he could not fight for long, so he directly took out six Fire Dragon Darts.

“Star picking hand!”

Wu Qingce threw the six Fire Dragon Darts with a special technique. They drew six perfect red arcs in the air and hit the black shadow at the same time.

However, the darts had no effect on the black shadow at all. It did not even have the intention to pause. It raised its saber and slashed at Wu Qingce!

“Ah!”

At the critical moment, Wu Qingce roared and pulled out the soft sword at his waist to meet it.

“Dang!”

The two weapons collided. Wu Qingce only felt a huge force coming down, and he knew that he was absolutely unable to resist it.

However, when the big saber struck his head, he didn't feel any pain at all. Instead, it was a little bit bouncy.

"Hey, wake up."

"S-senior?" Wu Qingce's expression was almost distorted as he blinked his eyes twice. There was no more black shadow in front of him, only Senior Jiang who was wearing a long sect robe.

"You're awake?" Jiang Beiran went over to confirm.

"I'm... I'm awake." Wu Qingce was about to nod when he felt a heavy slap on his head.

"Didn't I tell you to stand at the door and play the flute when you came? Why are you rushing around blindly?"

"I was wrong..." rubbing his forehead that was about to swell up, Wu Qingce quickly lowered his head to admit his mistake.

"Besides, if you knew you couldn't get through, you should have asked for help. You insisted on forcing your way through and triggering the Eight Asura Formation. If I didn't come quickly, you would have died here, do you understand?" As Jiang Beiran spoke, he slapped Wu Qingce on the head again.

Feeling a wave of dizziness, Wu Qingce hurriedly shouted, "Senior, stop hitting me. Stop hitting me. I'll faint."

"I'll beat you to death!" Jiang Beiran said as he took out a small jade bottle from his storage ring and handed it to Wu Qingce. "Take a sip quickly. The poison is almost spreading to your internal organs."

"Ah!?" Wu Qingce cried out in surprise. He quickly took the small jade bottle and sucked hard.

"Pa!"

There was another crisp sound. Wu Qingce touched his swollen forehead and looked at Jiang Beiran with a wronged expression.

"I said just take a sip, why did you drink so much? Have you forgotten everything I taught you in the past?"

Chapter 47: I'm the One Who Carried Sect of Returning Hearts

As an all-rounded master, Jiang Beiran had to go out during the day to trigger the option. At night, he had to work on his pills, formations, forging, and so on. Most of the time, he had his hands full. He did not have the time to go down the mountain to collect all the rare materials that were difficult to obtain in the sect.

Therefore, Jiang Beiran had no choice but to carefully select a few outstanding "errand boys."

Wu Qingce was the first person that Jiang Beiran selected. Firstly, this second-generation hero had a head-on battle with him. So, Wu Qingce was one of a few who knew a small part of Jiang Beiran's true strength.

Secondly, a year after the incident, Wu Qingce had indeed kept his mouth shut and had never revealed Jiang Beiran's strength to anyone.

Of course, the most crucial point was that when Jiang Beiran was going to beat him, the system did not give him any dangerous option, which meant that exposing a part of his strength to Wu Qingce would not cause any danger.

Therefore, Wu Qingce, who had passed the tests without his knowledge, was invited by Jiang Beiran to the back of the mountain for a deep conversation. He had an inexplicable admiration for Jiang Beiran and thought that Jiang Beiran was a trustworthy senior. Therefore, he agreed to Jiang Beiran's condition right away.

This condition was that Jiang Beiran would provide him with all kinds of weapons, pills, formations, and venomous insects. In contrast, Wu Qingce had to help him run errands.

...

"Senior... you almost knocked me out just now." Wu Qingce said as he wiped the two big bumps on his head with medicinal wine.

Jiang Beiran glanced at him after he heard that. "Will you learn your lesson if I don't beat you?"

"I was wrong. I won't barge into your formation again next time."

“You!” Jiang Beiran raised his hand and wanted to hit Wu Qingce again, but he stopped when he saw the two big red bumps, “Do you think that I’m angry because you broke into my formation? I’m angry that you still made all the mistakes that you shouldn’t have made even though I’ve taught you so many times. First of all, what did you do after you smelled the strange smell?”

“I held my breath,” Wu Qingce replied.

“Sigh, do you think that if I really wanted to use the smoke to put the person down, I would let it emit a smell?”

“Ah...” Wu Qingce was stunned for a moment and asked, “So your purpose letting me smell the strange smell is to make me hold my breath?”

“What else? For many experts, a little trick like the incense was nothing. Once they found that something was wrong with their bodies, they would use all kinds of ways to expel the harmful things. However, if they deliberately let them smell it, they would hold their breath just like you. It would not be a big deal if a Mystic Practitioner did not breathe for two hours. However, if they did not inhale oxygen... if they did not breathe for a long time, their mind would gradually become dull, and they would lose their usual rationality and judgment.

“In the end, they will become as foolish as you were just now. You know that you can’t leave the formation, but you still insist on going in.”

“I see...” Wu Qingce came to a sudden realization. When he couldn’t leave the formation earlier, he was indeed a little intoxicated. Without thinking much, he went in again. Now that he recalled it, it was indeed as if he was possessed.

“You...!” Jiang Beiran couldn’t hold it in anymore. He wanted to hit Wu Qingce again, but he still calmed himself down first.

“Don’t be angry, don’t be angry.”

Jiang Beiran had the right to be angry. He had repeatedly told Wu Qingce to play the flute when he came, and not to enter the formation by himself. It was extremely dangerous inside the formation. After all, the Eight Asura Formation just now was legitimately a killing formation. It was specially used to deal with those uninvited guests who tried to break into the formation by force. If he

hadn't arrived in time, his number one subordinate would have become the first one to fall into the formation.

Letting out a long breath, Jiang Beiran changed the topic and asked, "Why are you looking for me this time?"

Seeing that his senior had finally let him off this time, Wu Qingce quickly replied, "I have won the title of champion in the sect tournament of the Rivernorth district. I came here to tell the good news to you."

When Jiang Beiran heard it, he understood. No wonder this kid suddenly drifted away. As the name implied, the sect tournament of the Rivernorth district was a competition between the young disciples of the various major sects. As long as they were not twenty years old, they could participate. If they could get first place in this tournament, then they would be worthy of being the best young disciple.

"So, this is the reason why you dare to challenge the formation?"

After hearing this, Wu Qingce quickly put away his proud expression. "I want to let you see my progress. On the way here, I've already read the Four Polarity Symbols Formation several times. I thought I figured it out, so..."

"Forget it. Winning the championship is quite a good achievement. I won't say much about it. But next time, remember that the most complacent time is also the easiest time to fall. Do you understand?"

"Yes."

Nodding his head in satisfaction, Jiang Beiran couldn't help but sigh in his heart as he looked at the number one young disciple in Rivernorth.

"As expected, I'm the one who carried Sect of Returning Hearts."

Jiang Beiran was naturally clear about Wu Qingce's strength. After "working together" with Wu Qingce for a year, Jiang Beiran gradually began to truly treat him as his junior. Therefore, he would often give Wu Qingce some medicinal pills to improve his physical strength or martial arts. Occasionally, he would even act as a sparring partner for Wu Qingce, pointing out his weaknesses in battles.

However, he didn't expect that Wu Qingce would become the "best disciple of the Rivernorth district" under his teaching.

"Oh right, there's one more thing. The birch forest that you've asked me to go to has undergone some changes recently. A level two Thunder Patterned Leopard has suddenly moved in."

Jiang Beiran's figure paused when he heard that. He nodded and said, "Very good. Continue to observe and see if there are any more mystic beasts moving in. If there are more than three, notify me at once."

"Yes." after receiving the order, Wu Qingce hesitated for a moment before asking, "Senior, can I ask you what your plans are?"

"What is it? Is there something wrong?" After a long time "working together", Wu Qingce would not ask Jiang Beiran about the orders. He would just do as he was told.

"Yes." Wu Qingce cupped his hands towards Jiang Beiran. "My cultivation has increased a lot during this period of time, so I want to challenge a level two mystic beast and break through to the Great Mystic Practitioner in one go."

"Oh? You're finally about to break through? Alright, I'll bring you along when I go to the birch forest. I'll help you with the formation."

"Thank you, senior!" Wu Qingce cupped his hands happily.

As they spoke, the two of them had already arrived at the "secret base" at the back of Jiang Beiran's mountain.

Normally, it was impossible for an unofficial disciple like Jiang Beiran to have a training ground at the back of the mountain. However, he still managed to get one by using his superb Go skill and offering help to Order Master to solve some "small troubles".

"Every time I come to here, I feel more comfortable than the last time. Senior, how do you keep these bamboos?"

Wu Qingce remembered that these purple bamboos were at most less than two meters high when he first came to the purple bamboo forest, but now they were almost reaching the sky, covering the sky and the sun.

“Don’t ask what you shouldn’t ask. Come and have some tea..”

Chapter 48: It’s Better to Teach Harshly

“Hu ~”

Blowing away some steam, Wu Qingce picked up the teacup and took a sip.

“Mmmm... as expected of the tea made by senior. The color of the tea is reddish orange and clear, the fragrance is like orchids. The taste is full and pure, smooth like a poem, and the aftertaste is mellow. There was a fragrance left on the teeth and cheeks, and the flavor is ten...”

“Enough.” Jiang Beiran waved his hand and interrupted Wu Qingce, “Aren’t all these words taught by me? Why are you showing off to me? Is It good?”

“Excellent!” Wu Qingce nodded very seriously.

“Here, take this.” Jiang Beiran said and threw two paper bags in front of Wu Qingce.

“This is...?”

“The tea leaves that you are drinking. Remember to drink one cup after every meal.”

Wu Qingce had a puzzled look on his face after hearing that.

“It’s used to detoxify poison. If you accidentally consume poison, this tea will immediately make you spit it out.”

“Senior, do you think someone will poison me?”

“It’s best to be careful. Now that you’ve become the number one disciple of the Rivernorth district, the Sect of Chaos Star will definitely allocate a large number of resources to you. When that time comes, your seniors and juniors may not be as close to you as before. Do you know Luo Bei of the Order of True Martial Arts? He has taken the first place in the hall’s trials in the past two weeks. Now, he’s already paralyzed on the bed.”

“Ah?” Wu Qingce was surprised at first, but then he took the tea leaves and cupped his hands. “Yes, thank you for the reminder.”

When Wu Qingce first entered the Sect of Returning Hearts, he actually believed in “taking care of each other” very much. He felt that everyone was in the same sect and the same hall because of fate, so they should get along well.

However, he had seen too many “unpleasant things” in the past four years, so he gradually began to approach Jiang Beiran’s path of survival.

“And this, try to see if it’s suitable.” Jiang Beiran said as he placed a black cloth bag in front of Wu Qingce.

“Thank you!”

Wu Qingce, who knew that his senior’s products must be of high quality, decisively thanked him first before opening the cloth bag.

“Empty?” Looking at the inside of the cloth bag, Wu Qingce could not help but ask.

“Reach in and touch it. Also, be careful when touching it.”

After hearing Jiang Beiran’s words, Wu Qingce carefully reached his hand in.

“It’s darts!”

The moment he touched the cloth bag, Wu Qingce knew what he had touched.

“That’s right. This is the Shadowless Dart that I made a few days ago. It’s invisible and silent. Take it back and practice it well.”

“Senior, you’re too powerful... I’ve never heard of this kind of dart. Even my father doesn’t have it.”

Wu Qingce took out one of the Shadowless Darts from the cloth bag. He put it in front of his eyes and looked at it repeatedly. He could barely see the outline of the darts. If they were used in a sneak attack, the opponents would not be able to guard against them at all.

“Thank you, senior!” Wu Qingce, who had been addicted to darts since he was young, immediately stood up and bowed to Jiang Beiran. He was genuinely admired Jiang Beiran with all his heart.

“Alright, sit down. Tell me what’s new in this tournament.”

Wu Qingce sat back in his seat happily. He straightened his back and reported, “Many elders from other sects have come this time. Lan Qi, the guy who led us, also said that the major sects in Rivernorth are paying more and more attention to this martial arts tournament.”

Jiang Beiran smiled disdainfully when he heard that. It was such a good tournament. It would be a waste to just show it to a group of old men. It was a pity that the time was not ripe yet. Otherwise, he would let the people on this continent see what a real tournament was.

Then, Wu Qingce began to describe his journey to win the championship, and he mentioned a name many times, “Zhou Guican.”

“This Zhou Guican is really very strong. If you never teach me how to fight against the opponents who are very fast, I would have almost lost.”

“Oh? Is he also at the peak of level 9?” Jiang Beiran asked.

“Yes, in terms of cultivation, he is on par with me. At most, he is just slightly lower than me.”

Jiang Beiran couldn’t help but think after listening to it. Wu Qingce’s cultivation had improved so quickly in the past four years because he had eaten quite a number of pills from him. Interestingly, Zhou Guican was on par with Wu Qingce in terms of cultivation. Jiang Beiran reckoned that Zhou Guican was extremely talented and had received special training in his sect.

After silently memorizing the name Zhou Guican, Jiang Beiran took out an envelope after listening to Wu Qingce’s report and threw it to him. He said, “This is the material you need to help me find next month.”

“Yes!” Wu Qingce received the order gladly.

“Okay, then you can go back. I still have things to do.”

“Senior... I still have a presumptuous request. I don’t know if I should say it.”

“Oh, then don’t say it.” Jiang Beiran waved his hand.

“ ... ”

Although he had been with Jiang Beiran for so long, he was still not used to his senior's way of talking.

"Senior, please let me speak..."

"Sigh..." Jiang Beiran sighed, "What's the matter?"

"I recently learned a new set of moves. I would like to ask for pointer."

"Pointer? You sound quite confident. Alright, I'll exchange a few moves with you, come on."

After saying that, Jiang Beiran stood up and walked to the open space beside him.

"Thank you!" Wu Qingce quickly cupped his fists at Jiang Beiran and walked to the opposite side of him to get ready.

"Senior, sorry for attacking you!"

After shouting, Wu Qingce took out six Crescent Flying Knives from nowhere and threw them at Jiang Beiran one after another. Then, he pulled out the Green Edge Sword from his waist and launched an attack.

Wu Qingce's attack was extremely fast. In the blink of an eye, he had already arrived in front of Jiang Beiran, and at the same time, he launched his latest move, "Dazzling Hundred Blossoms".

"Too slow."

As Jiang Beiran spoke, he reached out two fingers and caught Wu Qingce's Green Edge Sword. At the same time, he waved his left hand and confiscated all the Crescent Flying Knives that were attacking him from six different directions.

"..."

After staying silent for about a second, Wu Qingce silently released the hilt of his sword and walked to the side of purple bamboo. Then, he squatted down.

"Don't do that. I won't cheer you up. Hurry up and stand up."

Wu Qingce knew that his senior meant what he said, so he was extremely disappointed. However, he still forced himself to stand up and cupped his hands towards Jiang Beiran as he shouted, "You're the strongest!"

Jiang Beiran handed the Green Edge Sword and Six Crescent Flying Knives back to Wu Qingce. He then commented, "This move has an advantage. You want to use multiple angles to disrupt the opponent's judgment, but you're really too slow. Moreover, why do you have to stand still and throw darts? Wouldn't it be more effective if the sword and darts were used together?"

Wu Qingce could not help but blush when he heard that. "I... I can't do that yet."

"Then why did you tell me that you've mastered it?"

"..."

"It's my fault for not being good at learning! I'll go back and practice it eight hundred more times!" After saying that, he rushed out of the purple bamboo forest as if he was fleeing.

"Be careful not to enter the formations by mistake again when you go out, or else you'll be deducted a month's worth of medicinal pills."

"Got it." Wu Qingce's voice came from afar.

"Sigh, winning the championship is giving this kid a boost. If I praise him a little more, won't he go to heaven? It's better to teach him harshly."

After thinking about it, Jiang Beiran shook his head and returned to his room to sit in front of the alchemy furnace..

Chapter 49: You Are Abusing Your Power!

In the dead of night, Jiang Beiran walked towards the Order of Blue Heart with light steps. On the way, he looked up at the sky and saw that the sky was filled with shining stars, like fine quicksand that covered the night sky.

"I can't get tired of seeing the starry sky."

Jiang Beiran admired the scenery in his heart. He then picked up the wine jug hanging by his waist and poured a mouthful of wine into his mouth.

Jiang Beiran's footsteps became faster as he quickly returned to his own small house. However, just as he was about to open the door, a familiar voice sounded in his ears.

"Senior."

Turning his head around, with his excellent night vision, Jiang Beiran immediately saw Lin Yuyan hiding on the small hill.

"What's the matter?" Jiang Beiran also used voice transmission to reply.

"I just came back from Nanwang County. I brought some local specialties for you. I have put them in the old place."

"Thanks." Jiang Beiran opened the lid of the water tank beside him and took out a beautifully wrapped brocade box.

"Then I'll go back first. Good night."

Seeing Lin Yuyan's figure quickly disappear into the night, Jiang Beiran, who was used to this scene, turned around and opened the door.

Jiang Beiran placed the brocade box on an old wooden table and gently lifted the lid.

"Nine-leaf mica mushroom, to think that she could find this..."

Looking at the umbrella-shaped purple mushroom that was faintly emitting a green fluorescent light in the box, Jiang Beiran could not help but sigh inwardly. Looking at the thick layer of spiritual powder on the mushroom lid, Jiang Beiran already knew what he should refine for the next batch of medicine.

He closed the brocade box. Then, he thought about what gift he should return to this junior sister in a few days.

As a "top beauty" who had triggered the lowest yellow grade option before, Jiang Beiran was actually very afraid of Lin Yuyan for a period of time. However, the intelligence and enthusiasm of this junior sister was something that he had never thought of.

“She is getting more and more aware of how to not trigger the system option.”

On the other side, Lin Yuyan, who had just seen Jiang Beiran, was walking back happily. Her eyes were shining with a light that even the dark night could not hide.

“Senior said a whole sentence to me today! He even took out the gift I gave him in front of me. This must be love!?” While thinking, Lin Yuyan slapped the camphor tree next to her, causing the leaves to fall down.

Over the past four years, through all sorts of careful observation and multiple analyses, she gradually understood her senior’s likes and dislikes.

She knew that she could not approach Senior Jiang when there were many people around, she could not call him out in public, and she could not suddenly rush out to give him a surprise. If that happened, she would be stared at by her senior with a terrifying gaze.

For this reason, she specially practiced voice transmission for a year.

“But it was all worth it!”

Lin Yuyan waved her fist, and after swatting away the leaves all over her body, she silently recited in her heart ten times, “Midnight is one of the times when senior is in the best mood.”

She continued walking back after she had completely memorized it.

...

The next morning, Jiang Beiran went to the Pavilion of Blue Heart as usual to greet Etiquette Protector Cheng and play a few games with him.

After pleasing Etiquette Protector Cheng and made him laughed, Jiang Beiran stood up and bade farewell. However, just as he opened the door, he saw Junyu standing in front of the door.

“Senior, Order Master was looking for you.”

After hearing this, Jiang Beiran sighed in his heart and said, “Okay, lead the way.”

Jiang Beiran followed Junyu all the way to Zixi Garden in the hall. Then, the two of them came to a sandalwood door and knocked on it.

“Come in.”

Hearing Zhang Heqing’s summons, Jiang Beiran immediately pushed the door open and walked in.

“Greetings, Order Master.”

Zhang Heqing, who was sitting at the crescent table, first took out a cup and poured some green snail tea into it. Then, he waved at Jiang Beiran and said, “No need to salute. Come over and have a seat. Have some tea with me.”

“Yes.”

After replying, Jiang Beiran sat across from Zhang Heqing and took the teacup from him.

However, when he took the teacup, he suddenly caught a glimpse of a jade teacup on the shelf behind Zhang Heqing. Jiang Beiran had been here several times. He was sure that he had never seen it before.

“Could it be...”

Jiang Beiran instantly remembered that this jade teacup was used to serve Law Protector Yu last time. Moreover, he was sure that this teacup was 99% unwashed...

“Order Master! Don’t be a pervert!” Jiang Beiran roared in his heart and took the teacup without batting an eyelid.

“Thank you, Order Master.”

Seeing that Jiang Beiran had finished the tea, Zhang Heqing took the initiative to refill the cup for him and said, “Beiran, how’s the progress on the matter that I asked you to do?”

Jiang Beiran was wondering why Order Master was so attentive today. He almost wanted to return the tea that he had just drunk.

“I can see that you are really anxious!” Jiang Beiran thought.

Zhang Heqing had asked him to do many things, so how could Jiang Beiran not understand what he meant? He was asking if Jiang Beiran had gone to Law Protector Yu.

“But it has only been a day!” After ridiculing Order Master in his heart, Jiang Beiran replied, “Order Master, I don’t know what to say if I go and find Law Protector Yu so rashly.”

“Didn’t I tell you last time, it is to deepen the relationship between the two halls so that we can develop together?”

“Order Master... I didn’t teach you this word to use it in this place...” Jiang Beiran thought.

Jiang Beiran forced a smile and continued, “But our order is focused on Go skill, and the Order of Water Mirror is focused on music. How should we develop these two together?”

“Why can’t we? They’re both elegant things, and they have something in common. Moreover, we can exchange pointers in martial arts. The Myriad Dance of Order of Water Mirror is worth learning.”

“Order Master, but this...”

“Enough.” Seeing that Jiang Beiran was still going to refuse, Zhang Heqing said directly, “Just take it as me asking you for a favor. Didn’t you say that you want to apply for a new cultivation place at the back of the mountain last time? If you get it done, I’ll approve your application.”

“You’re abusing your power!” Jiang Beiran cursed in his heart.

There were so many disciples in the Sect of Returning Hearts, and everyone wanted to apply for a cultivation place at the back of the mountain because the mountain was full of spiritual essence, and it was very suitable for cultivation. As for why Jiang Beiran liked the back of the mountain, it was because he wanted to use the spiritual energy to nourish the herbs he planted and the “little pets” he kept. Naturally, he would feel that his current place was not big enough. But every time he applied for a bigger place, he would be rejected by the Order Master. Order Master said that he already made an exception by giving him a place. It was out of line for him to apply for a second one!

Jiang Beiran originally thought that he would have for a longer time, but he did not expect that...

“Love can really drive people mad.”

Although Zhang Heqing’s conditions were already very tempting, when he thought of those junior sisters from the Order of Water Mirror who could trigger the earth grade option at any time, Jiang Beiran still decided to bear the pain. However, just as he was about to speak, three options appeared before his eyes.

[Option 1: Reject Zhang Heqing once again. Reward: Heavenly Fire God Seal (black grade middle tier)]

[Option 2: Change the topic with Gu Poison. Reward: Fu Yao Seal (yellow grade high tier)]

[Option 3: Agree to Zhang Heqing’s request. Reward: random basic attribute points + 1]

“Sigh, I knew it...” As expected, the options had been triggered.. Jiang Beiran sighed deeply in his heart.

Chapter 50: Go and Queue Up.

In the Leisure Heart Square of Order of Water Mirror, a melodious lute was playing.

When the last flute sound faded away, the disciples of the Order of Water Mirror clapped one after another.

Liu Zijin bowed to the audience and walked off the stage with the lute in her arms. Just as she was about to return to her seat, she saw Kong Annan walk up to her, waving the folding fan in his hand and praising her, “Your performance is magnificent.”

Immediately after, the other seniors also sent their compliments.

“Thank you for your compliments.” Liu Zijin smiled and bowed to the senior brothers. However, she felt a sense of loss in her heart. She had deliberately

played a few wrong notes just now, but no one had mentioned it. They were still complementing her.

However, she didn't want to hear any compliments at this moment. What she wanted to hear was Jiang Beiran's cold and emotionless words. It would be even better with his sharp and cold eyes.

"If Senior Jiang was here... He would definitely say that I'm clumsy."

Liu Zijin sighed in her heart and returned to her seat under the escort of her senior brothers. She couldn't help but think of Jiang Beiran's disdainful gaze, his attitude that kept others at a thousand miles away, and the words he said when they parted, "After we return to the sect, we'll go back to our respective halls. If there's nothing else, we should stop interacting with each other."

This was the first time in her life that she had been so annoyed by someone else.

"I should be mad when he said that... But why, why does my heartbeat so fast every time I think about it? I really want to... see Senior Jiang again."

These few days, Liu Zijin had the urge to secretly go to the Order of Blue Heart to see her Senior Jiang. However, her Senior Jiang was too capable. She was very worried that she would be discovered, and then she would never be able to see him again.

While she was thinking, the music teacher announced the end of the class and walked out of the Leisure Heart Square. Liu Zijin rejected Kong Annan's invitation by saying that she wanted to practice the lute.

"Sister Zijin, Sister Zijin!"

While walking on the stone path back to the house, Liu Zijin suddenly heard three familiar voices. She turned around and saw that they were indeed the three Yu sisters.

"Sister Zijin! Big news!"

"Guess what we found?"

"You'll never guess it!"

Hearing the three sisters of the Yu family taking turns to speak, Liu Zijin asked, "What did you find?"

"Guess."

"Three chances."

"There's a surprise if you guess it right."

Liu Zijin smiled slightly. "Stop fooling around. I still have to rush back to practice."

"Okay." Seeing that Liu Zijin didn't seem to be interested in guessing, Yu Guishui directly announced the answer. "We saw Brother Jiang come to Order of Water Mirror."

"Really?!" Liu Zijin asked in surprise.

"Yes!"

"We saw it with our own eyes."

"I think he went to the Mirror Garden."

"The Mirror Garden?" Hearing this name, Liu Zijin looked a little disappointed.

The people living in the Mirror Garden were all high-ranking officials of Order of Water Mirror. This meant that Jiang Beiran was definitely not here to look for them.

"Sister Zijin, should we go and take a look?"

"Just treat it as a surprise encounter."

"Yeah, it's normal for us to bump into him in Order of Water Mirror."

"This..." looking at the three Yu sisters' expectant eyes, Liu Zijin thought for a moment and replied, "Then let's go and take a look."

"Yes!" the three Yu sisters cheered in unison.

"Wait, let's go and call Qiu Yao First."

The three sisters followed Liu Zijin and ran towards the Autumn Water Pavilion, where they usually practiced martial arts.

...

“Sigh, I really want to change order...”

Walking in the Order of Water Mirror, Jiang Beiran sighed repeatedly. When he first met Zhang Heqing, he had admired Zhang Heqing’s imposing manner and the meticulous way he negotiated conditions. However, all of this had now come to naught. Zhang Heqing had been intoxicating in love and lost all his striking aura.

However, Jiang Beiran wouldn’t change to another order even if he could. Jiang Beiran had spent a lot of effort to be able to live so comfortably in the Order of Blue Heart with his identity as an outer disciple. How could he give up what he had built and start from the beginning again?

After asking the passing disciples for directions a few times, Jiang Beiran finally braced himself and came to the front of the Mirror Garden.

“Hello, may I know why you are here?” A middle-aged man who seemed to be a guard came up and asked Jiang Beiran.

“Hello, I am a disciple of the Order of Blue Heart. I am here to look for the Order of Water Mirror’s Law Protector, Yu Manwen. I would like to trouble you to inform her my arrival.”

“Law Protector Yu?” After listening to him, the guard sneered and then looked at Jiang Beiran from head to toe for a few times before pointing to the side and said, “You are a new face. Go and line up over there.”

“Line up?”

Jiang Beiran was stunned and looked in the direction the guard pointed to. He saw eight male disciples lined up neatly outside a pavilion.

“This... they’re all here to look for Law Protector Yu?” Jiang Beiran asked in confusion.

“Heh.” The guard sneered. “They’re all the same as you. They were instructed to come here.”

“The upper beam is not upright, and the lower beam is crooked as well!”

No wonder those male disciples were easily attracted to their pretty junior sisters. They were all learned from their masters! Was everyone in the Sect of Returning Hearts that horny?

Slapping himself on the forehead, Jiang Beiran was too lazy to explain that he was different from those disciples. After all, the guard would not believe him.

However, in the next second, Jiang Beiran smiled in relief. Wasn't this just what he wanted? When he returned at night, he would explain the situation to Order Master. Order Master would not blame him, right?

Jiang Beiran was suddenly in a good mood. He was thinking about where to spend his time. Then, he heard a clear voice that he didn't want to hear at the moment.

“Beiran? Why are you here?”

“This world... is really full of malice toward me.” Jiang Beiran sighed in his heart.

Jiang Beiran turned around and saw that the person who spoke was the person he was looking for, Yu Manwen.

“I...” Jiang Beiran was just about to find an excuse to escape when he heard the guard reply in a fawning manner, “This disciple is here to look for you, Law Protector Yu. I was just about to send you a message.”

“Damn you...” Jiang Beiran really wanted to give the guard the middle finger.

“Looking for me?” Yu Manwen's tone was a little surprised, but she soon seemed to have understood something as she looked at Jiang Beiran and said, “I understand. Follow me.”

“What do you understand now...” Jiang Beiran thought.

Looking at Yu Manwen's loving expression, Jiang Beiran wanted to cry, but he had no tears. However, just as he had a flash of inspiration and was about to speak, two options popped up.

[Option 1: “Law Protector Yu, I’d better queue up. The disciples over there seem to be looking for you.” Reward: White Crane Twin Springs (black grade low tier)]

[Option 2: Follow Yu Manwen in. Reward: random basic attribute points + 1]

“F*ck, is the system denying my intelligence? Damn it!”

Helplessly choosing option 2, Jiang Beiran obediently followed Yu Manwen into the Mirror Garden.

[Chosen quest completed. Reward: Strength + 1]

Following the sound of the system notification, Jiang Beiran suddenly smelled a strange fragrance, which made people feel extremely comfortable.

“Good stuff..” Jiang Beiran’s eyes lit up and he began to search for the source of the fragrance.