

I Just Won't Play By The Book

Chapter 61: Could the Sect Leader Hiding Something?

Nyoi-Bo Studio

Jiang Beiran immediately rejected Zhang Heqing's request for him to be more attentive at the friendly match. The exchange condition was very simple, that was, he would still secretly set up a bridge between the two orders.

And today, in the morning class, Jiang Beiran was once again convinced of how wise his decision was.

The hormones released by this group of animals almost polluted the air. Some disciples got up early in the morning to do their hair styles, switched their machetes to folding fans, and slapped the white stone powder on their faces. They were like animals trying their best to find a mate.

Jiang Beiran could completely imagine that whenever Liu Zijin and the others waved at him and shouted, "Brother Jiang, long time no see" or something like that, the system notification would definitely explode in an instant.

"But there's a problem with coming here..." Jiang Beiran thought as he looked at Shi Fenglan who kept begging him with a disdainful look.

"Come and play! Come and play! This is really fun!" Shi Fenglan grabbed Jiang Beiran's sleeve with one hand and shouted with the other hand holding a dice cup.

Jiang Beiran sighed helplessly and said, "As the Order Master, you should do your responsibility like the other Order Masters. It's still not too late to go to Yan Peak."

"No way!" Shi Fenglan rejected decisively. "It's not like I want to be the Order Master."

Hearing this, Jiang Beiran raised his eyebrows, but he didn't intend to understand in detail.

“Then, Order Master Shi, just wait for your disciples to come back and play with them. I still have business to attend to.”

“They don’t even dare to look at me. How would they dare to play with me?”

“I don’t dare either.” Jiang Beiran said very sincerely.

“No way! You’ve clearly played with me! And you didn’t go easy on me.”

“Order Master Shi, please have some self-respect. I still have to continue teaching Xiao Duo how to take care of these flowers.” After saying that, Jiang Beiran squatted down and continued to tell Xiao Duo how to take care of this pot of cold moonlight.

“Humph! Just you wait!” Seeing that Jiang Beiran was really ignoring her, Shi Fenglan turned around and ran back into the house.

Although he didn’t know what she was going to do, Jiang Beiran didn’t pay too much attention to it. He continued to focus on teaching Xiao Duo.

Ten minutes passed. Jiang Beiran was teaching the jade fan and Kang Ping, the two small leave plants the required light intensity. Suddenly, he heard Shi Fenglan run out with a wild laugh.

“Little Beiran, look at what this is!”

Shi Fenglan opened the brocade box in her hand as she spoke.

Jiang Beiran turned his head to look and saw three options pop up in front of him.

[Option 1: Name the soul baby fruit. Reward for completion: Six Pentagon Slash (black grade, high tier)]

[Option 2: Act surprise. Reward for completion: Scroll Axe (yellow grade, high tier)]

[Option 3: Act confused. Reward for completion: Random basic attribute points + 1]

“F*ck! It’s actually a soul baby fruit!”

Jiang Beiran was shocked. This fruit bloomed once every twenty years and bore fruit once every twenty years. Its long growth period was not only the

keys that made it special, but also the specific locations that it grew. Its habitats were all belonged to a few relatively powerful forces.

“Who exactly is this Order Master Shi?”

Although Jiang Beiran’s heart was in turmoil, he still pretended to be at a loss with his many years of acting skill and asked, “This is...2”

[Chosen quest completed. Reward: Physique + 1]

“Hehe, you don’t know, right? This is called the soul baby fruit. It can make people live and die. It’s a very powerful treasure. Here, let me show you.” Shi Fenglan said as she took out the soul baby fruit and placed it in front of Jiang Beiran.

“This smell... just smelling it makes me feel like I’m going to ascend to heaven. As expected of the excellent tier material on the rare book list.”

However, before Jiang Beiran could smell it for the second time, Shi Fenglan put it away.

“Hehe, do you like it very much?” Shi Fenglan said proudly.

“Yes.” Jiang Beiran nodded directly.

From the system option just now, he knew that this soul baby fruit definitely came from a strong force. Jiang Beiran was determined to get what he really needed. After all, his ultimate goal was to prevent the system from giving any reward above basic attributes.

As for how to do it. He just had to be the strongest being.

A few years ago, Jiang Beiran had already discovered that as his strength increased, the difficulty of the options began to deteriorate. For example, when he first joined the Sect of Returning Hearts, he could easily trigger more than ten options every day. Unlike now, he had to walk through several peaks before he could barely trigger five.

This meant that there were fewer and fewer people and objects in the Sect of Returning Hearts that could threaten him. Then, by analogy, as long as his strength was so strong that no one could threaten him, he would naturally no longer have to worry about the world’s full of malice towards him.

Therefore, Jiang Beiran had decided to take some risks with these natural treasures that could greatly increase his strength.

“Haha, I knew you liked these strange things.” Shi Fenglan put the soul baby fruit back into the brocade box and covered it again. “How about it? As long as you have fun with me, I’ll give it to you.”

Although he had not spent much time with Shi Fenglan, she did keep her words. Therefore, Jiang Beiran believed that she would definitely keep her promise and give him the soul baby fruit.

However, giving him a soul baby fruit was simply a waste of money.

However, this could not help but cause Jiang Beiran to think. From the first time they met, this Order Master had already triggered the system option once.

At that time, Jiang Beiran thought that this Order Master was testing him. If he tuned back or reacted in advance, then his powerful observation would be exposed, and it might cause a series of trouble.

However, after interacting with Shi Fenglan, Jiang Beiran really didn’t think that she would do such a thing. Instead, it was more likely that she wanted to scare him.

Now, if he revealed that he knew this soul baby fruit today, he would immediately cause trouble. Then, he quickly came up with a guess.

He suspected that Order Master Shi had a very powerful background, and she had a very trusted and scheming person by her side. She was very capable.

Shi Fenglan would tell this person what she had seen and heard every day. Then, that person would take action as soon as they heard the slightest hint and investigate the doubts in their heart.

In addition, Shi Fenglan possessed of a soul baby fruit and could become the Order Master of the Sect of Returning Hearts without having to fulfill his obligations.

“Was Order Master Shi a daughter of some super sect that sneaked out to play, it can’t be right?”

The higher-ups of the Sect of Returning Hearts were obviously aware of this as well, so they could only let her do her own thing. In any case, she can play

however she want, as long as she didn't harm Sect of Returning Hearts. If he continued to analyze in this direction...

"Some super sect is related to the Sect of Returning Hearts? I really didn't know that the Sect of Returning Hearts actually had such a backer. Sect master has hidden it so deeply, I like it."

Chapter 62 I Have No Reason to Refuse

"Big! Big! Big! Big!!! Aiya!!!"

The sky was turning dark, and the setting sun emitted its last ray. Yu Manwen dragged her tired body back to the Mirror Garden. Then, she heard her Order Master's incomparably excited shout.

She thought about how tired she was when hosting the friendly match for the entire day, and how uncomfortable she was after socializing for a long time. Yu Manwen clenched her fists and rushed in.

"Order Master!"

With a loud shout, the two people who were shaking the dice cup stopped at the same time. "Ahem..." Shi Fenglan's face was covered with papers. She coughed lightly and turned her face to look at Yu Manwen and said, "You're back! Thank you for your hard work today."

Taking a deep breath, Yu Manwen walked quickly to Shi Fenglan and said, "Order Master, didn't you promise me that you wouldn't mess around with your disciple again?"

"I'm not messing around... I'm just playing around. Besides, I listened to you and didn't drink today."

Xiao Duo, who was at the side, held back her laughter when she heard this. Shi Fenglan didn't drink the wine because Jiang Beiran only agreed to play with her if she didn't drink. It was clearly not because of her promise with Yu Manwen.

Seeing that Shi Fenglan had given in, Yu Manwen glanced at Jiang Beiran and said, "And you! Why are you messing around with Order Master again? What did I tell you before?"

Jiang Beiran heard this and shook the dice cup twice. With a bang, he smashed it on the table and looked at Shi Fenglan. "Big... or small?"

"Hiss..."

Realizing that Jiang Beiran had completely ignored the angry Yu Manwen, Shi Fenglan's eyes widened, not knowing whether she should reply or not.

Seeing that Shi Fenglan did not reply, Jiang Beiran released his hand from the dice cup and said, "You don't want to play anymore? Then I'll leave." After saying that, Jiang Beiran got up and was about to leave.

"Hey! Wait, wait! I bet big! This time, it must be big!"

After hearing that, Jiang Beiran opened the cup, and the dice inside were displayed as 1, 3, and 5 respectively.

"It's 9 points, which is small." Jiang Beiran picked up a piece of paper and pasted it on Shi Fenglan's face without mercy.

"Damn it! It's my turn to shake!" Shi Fenglan had just reached out her hand to grab the dice cup when she felt an aura burst out from behind her that made her heart tremble.

"How about... Manwen, you play with us too?" Shi Fenglan smiled and turned her head to ask.

Without answering Shi Fenglan's words, Yu Manwen directly went forward and slapped the table and said to Jiang Beiran, "Jiang Beiran, what are you doing?"

Jiang Beiran calmly drank a mouthful of tea, he then waved his hand at Shi Fenglan and said, "It's your turn."

However, before Shi Fenglan could reply, Yu Manwen stood in front of Jiang Beiran and said angrily, "Jiang Beiran, I'm talking to you!"

Jiang Beiran looked up at Yu Manwen and said, "Oh, I don't want to talk to you."

Shi Fenglan, who had no idea what had happened, was already hugging the maid, Xiao Duo. She asked in a muffled voice, "Are they fighting?"

“Yes... They should be.” Xiao Duo nodded.

After listening to Jiang Beiran’s direct answer, Yu Manwen, who was on the verge of exploding, calmed down instead.

“Are you angry about the cooperation between the two orders?”

“That’s right.” Jiang Beiran nodded.

“I’m doing this for your own good, so you can impress Order Master Zhang.”

After hearing this, Jiang Beiran smiled slightly, put down the teacup, and said, “Well, I don’t like it.”

“You!” Yu Manwen choked again. “Then I apologize to you.”

“I don’t accept it.” “Why!” “Why do I have to forgive you just because you apologize?” Faced with Jiang Beiran’s question, Yu Manwen thought for a while before answering, “But I didn’t do anything too overboard, did I?”

Jiang Beiran stood up and replied, “First of all, I’m grateful that you care about me so much, but I’ve once talked to you open-heartedly and expressed that I want to continue at my own path. You also agreed with my decision and said that you won’t interfere anymore.”

“So, I don’t care what is your reason this time, but I don’t like what you have done. At the same time, I don’t plan to treat you as an elder that I can talk to with my heart again.”

Although Jiang Beiran’s tone was very flat when he said this, it made Shi Fenglan and Xiao Duo, who were hugging together, tremble as they listened.

Gulp...

After swallowing her saliva, Shi Fenglan asked in a faint voice, “Would a normal person say it so directly...”

Xiao Duo shook her head after hearing that.

Yu Manwen was also stunned by Jiang Beiran’s words. The reason why she agreed to the cooperation between two orders sessions this time was to play a prank on Jiang Beiran. Also, she did have the intention to encourage Jiang Beiran to perform well.

However, she didn't expect Jiang Beiran's reaction would be so big.

"I..."

Yu Manwen did not know what to say, because Jiang Beiran had indeed repeatedly emphasized that he did not want to stand out in public, but she did not seem to take it seriously. She always thought that she should push this smart disciple.

Seeing that Yu Manwen did not speak anymore, Jiang Beiran looked at Shi Fenglan and asked, "Order Master, do you still want to continue?"

Shi Fenglan looked at Yu Manwen, then at Jiang Beiran, and finally said, "Quarreling... quarreling is not good." Jiang Beiran shook his head. "This is not quarreling. We're just make things clear."

"But..."

Before Shi Fenglan finished speaking, Yu Manwen said to Jiang Beiran in a very serious tone, "This time, I was too self-centered and let down your trust in me. I apologize to you."

"I'm sorry."

After saying that, Yu Manwen continued, "If I make the corresponding compensation, can you forgive me this time?"

"Oh, that will do." Jiang Beiran nodded decisively.

"Ah!?"

Shi Fenglan plead for Yu Manwen, but she was surprised by Jiang Beiran's unexpected answer.

Yu Manwen was also a little stunned, but soon she revealed a smile and said, "Okay, I will prepare this compensation well."

"Then... Law Protector Yu, do you want to play a few rounds?" Jiang Beiran picked up the dice cup and spoke. "Yes, yes, let's play a few rounds together." Shi Fenglan also took the opportunity to shout.

Yu Manwen first laughed, and then suddenly shouted, "No more games!"

“Okay, then I will leave.” As Jiang Beiran spoke, he cupped his hands toward Shi Fenglan and quickly walked out.

“Hey! Jiang Beiran! Don’t leave me alone! Hey!!!”

Hearing Shi Fenglan’s miserable howl, Jiang Beiran laughed happily. Regarding Yu Manwen’s actions this time, Jiang Beiran was actually very angry. This was because in the Sect of Returning Hearts, he rarely opened up his heart to anyone, but Yu Manwen had betrayed his trust.

However, when Yu Manwen apologized just now, she was very sincere. She did not put on any airs as a law protector. This caused Jiang Beiran’s originally hardened heart to soften again.

After all, what Yu Manwen did this time was indeed not too overboard and did not cause him any trouble. Furthermore, after this incident, Jiang Beiran believed that she would finally understand his decision of staying low profile.

“Moreover, she said that she would give compensation. She’s a law protector, so she must have some good stuff. I have no reason to refuse at all.”

Chapter 63 The Temptation of the Bass

“Little Beiran, Little Beiran, what are we playing today?” In the Mirror Garden, Shi Fenglan rushed into the garden and shouted at Jiang Beiran, who was watering the flowers.

Jiang Beiran looked at Shi Fenglan and asked, “Order Master, are you interested in fishing?”

“Fishing? No way. What’s the point of sitting there and wait for the fish?” Shi Fenglan shook her head. “I want to play Pai Gow!” After spending a week together, Jiang Beiran realized that Shi Fenglan was really an interesting “giant kid”. She would end up miserably every time she drank, but she always insisted on drinking. She held a rose pipe all day long, but the pipe was filled with plum powder. Although it tasted like tobacco, it was not addictive at all.

Her gambling skills were obviously terrible, but she still insisted on gambling every day. She looked like a rebellious girl who wanted to forcefully integrate into the “adult” world. “Xiao Duo, are there any fish in the kitchen?” Jiang Beiran looked not far away and shouted.

“Ah?” Xiao Duo was stunned at first, then she thought for a moment and answered, “Yes, there are a few basses in the water tank.”

“Alright, Bring me to the kitchen.” “Eh? Little Beiran, you can cook?” Shi Fenglan asked curiously.

“Yeah, do you want to try my dish?”

“Yes, yes, let’s go.”

Shi Fenglan said as she pushed Jiang Beiran toward the kitchen with an impatient look on her face.

The three of them went to the backyard. Xiao Duo asked the servants and chefs to leave. Then, Jiang Beiran walked into the kitchen.

When they came to the stove, Jiang Beiran first took out a set of knives with different shapes from his storage ring. Then, he took out seven porcelain bottles of different colors.

Shi Fenglan was very curious and asked, “What’s in this bottle?”

“You can open it and smell it,” Jiang Beiran replied while making a fire.

Shi Fenglan just helped herself. She casually picked up a blue porcelain bottle, opened it, and took a sip.

“Wow, what a fresh and fragrant smell.” Shi Fenglan said as she passed it to Xiao Duo. “Smell it.”

Xiao Duo immediately came over to smell it and revealed a surprised expression. “I’ve never smelled such a fragrance before. Brother Jiang, what is this?”

Jiang Beiran smiled slightly. “It’s a secret recipe.”

After all the preparations were done, Jiang Beiran fished out a bass that weighed about two catties from the tank.

After placing it on the chopping board, Jiang Beiran took out a Santoku knife and started to prepare the fish’s body as well as the seasonings such as onions, ginger, and garlic.

“Da da da da da da...”

Watching Jiang Beiran instantly cut open the fish’s stomach and minced all the seasonings, Shi Fenglan and Xiao Duo couldn’t help but exclaim, “Wow!”.

Following that, a hot pot was heated up and oil was poured in. After adding onions, ginger, garlic, fragrant leaves, and Jiang Beiran’s own secret sauce. An alluring fragrance immediately floated out from the pot.

“Gulp...” Shi Fenglan and Xiao Duo swallowed their saliva at the same time. They were clearly not very hungry just now, but at this moment, they felt their stomachs rumbling.

After a while, Jiang Beiran’s red braised bass came out of the pot. When it was placed on the plate, it was sprinkled with some chopped green onions. Immediately, Shi Fenglan picked up her chopsticks and kept asking, “Can I eat it now? Can I eat it now?”

“Yes, try it.”

With a cheer, Shi Fenglan reached out her chopsticks to pick up a piece of fish belly meat and put it into her mouth.

“Wu... hu... hu...”

Under the crispy skin, the fragrant and scalding fish meat exploded into an unparalleled delicacy. The fresh fragrance of the fish meat, which was sealed by the hot oil, instantly filled Shi Fenglan’s entire mouth.

Without saying anything, Shi Fenglan directly picked up another piece of fish belly meat with her chopsticks. Seeing that her Order Master was enjoying the fish, Xiao Duo also picked up a piece of meat near the fish tail and put it to her mouth.

“Hu ~ hu “

After blowing the fish meat slightly to cool it down, Xiao Duo put it into her mouth.

In the next second, Xiao Duo’s eyes instantly widened. This was completely a brand-new delicacy that she had never experienced before.

Xiao Duo's brain was instantly occupied by the words "too delicious". She wanted to pick up another piece, but she realized that only the head of the bass was left in the plate. "Order Master, don't eat the bones too." Jiang Beiran tried to dissuade her.

"It's okay. The bones won't hurt me, and they smell good."

"Then you should at least leave some for Xiao Duo."

"Oh..." Shi Fenglan looked at little duo apologetically. "It's too delicious. I didn't notice..." Xiao Duo quickly waved her hand and said, "I'm fine. Order Master, just eat it."

However, when Shi Fenglan saw that there was only the fish head left on the plate, she could only bite her chopsticks and say to Jiang Beiran, "Little Beiran, make another one... No, two!"

Seeing that the plan had succeeded, Jiang Beiran, who was already wiping his knife, replied, "The fish caught in the river is even more delicious. How about it? Do you want to go fishing now?"

"Alright, alright, let's go fishing! We'll go fishing today!"

As soon as Shi Fenglan finished speaking, she heard Yu Manwen's crisp voice coming from the door. "Wow! What a nice smell! What did you cook?" Seeing that Yu Manwen had entered, Shi Fenglan quickly ran up to her and said, "It's Xiao Beiran's bass! It's really delicious! Now, we're going fishing. Do you want to come along, Manwen?" Yu Manwen was slightly taken aback when she heard that.

"Fishing...? Why would my own Order Master, who couldn't stay on a chair for more than five seconds, want to go fishing?" Yu Manwen was very shocked as she thought.

At that moment, Jiang Beiran, who had already stored all the spices and props into his storage ring, looked at Yu Manwen and asked, "Do you want to come along?"

"I would like to, but I still have something to do in the afternoon." After saying that, she waved at Jiang Beiran and said, "Come, come out with me. I want to show you something

good.”

“Okay.” Jiang Beiran wiped his hands and said to Shi Fenglan and Xiao Duo, “Then wait for me for a while.”

Walking out of the kitchen, Yu Manwen took out a square box from the storage ring and said to Jiang Beiran, “This is the seed of peacock grass. I think you’ll like it.”

“Peacock grass?” Jiang Beiran’s expression couldn’t help but be shocked.

Although this peacock grass wasn’t as precious as the soul baby fruit, it had a high demand for its growing environment. So, its quantity was decreasing, and it was hard to get it now. “Well, I spent a lot of effort to get it. Is it enough as compensation?”

“It’s enough. Thank you, Law Protector Yu.” Jiang Beiran smiled brightly while holding the box.

He had two pill formulas that he could not refine because of the lack of peacock grass. This “compensation” was indeed surprisingly good. Seeing Jiang Beiran’s shining eyes, Yu Manwen not only heaved a sigh of relief in her heart, but she finally understood that everyone had their own path. Imposing her own path on Jiang Beiran would only hinder his growth.

After she relaxed, Yu Manwen first looked at the kitchen, then looked at Jiang Beiran and asked, “I want to eat your bass too.”

“No problem. I’ll cook it for you when I come back tonight. I’ll make a big one!”

Chapter 64 Someone Came After the Treasure Too?

“You are my little apple. No matter how much I love you, I can’t get enough of you.”

At the back of the mountain of the Sect of Returning Hearts, Jiang Beiran buried the seeds of peacock grass in the newly obtained training ground.

Just as he was about to sprinkle some more black scale powder on the ground, a small black shadow suddenly flew towards him at an extremely fast speed.

Jiang Beiran turned his head and took a look. He extended an index finger and stopped in front of his chest.

In the blink of an eye, a silver-gray Ying Feng Bird appeared and stopped on his index finger.

He skillfully pulled out a rolled-up piece of paper from the Ying Feng Bird's feathers. Jiang Beiran pulled it open and found that it was sent by Wu Qingce.

[The birch forest's mystic beasts have reached three.]

"Hmm, I think it's about time."

"Giao – Giao -"

Just as Jiang Beiran was looking at the note, the Ying Feng Bird couldn't wait to open its mouth and chirp. "Got it, got it."

Jiang Beiran replied and put the note into his storage ring. Then, he took out a piece of snake jerky and threw it into the air.

"Giao!"

With a chirp, the Ying Feng Bird flew into the air at lightning speed and took the jerky away.

After finishing the jerky in two bites, the Ying Feng Bird flew in front of Jiang Beiran and chirped twice.

"One piece at a time." Jiang Beiran said as he took out a small piece of paper and wrote a line of words on it. Then, he stuffed it into the feathers of the Ying Feng Bird. "Giao..." the Ying Feng Bird cried out in disappointment. Knowing that Jiang Beiran would not give more snake jerky, the Ying Feng Bird turned around and flew down the mountain.

It was almost dusk. After making all kinds of preparations, Jiang Beiran left the Sect of Returning Hearts and arrived at a small town outside the birch forest.

"Hey, sir, please come in. What would you like to order? The specialty of our shop is the green smoke produced by the Qing Feng Villa. Their tea is rich and refreshing, and the fragrance is pleasant. I guarantee that you will be satisfied."

Facing the enthusiastic waiter, Jiang Beiran nodded and said, "I'm looking for a friend. His surname is Liu."

"Oh..." the waiter immediately understood. "The customer is upstairs. I'll take you upstairs. Come, the floor is dirty. Be careful when you leave."

Looking at the waiter's eagerness, Jiang Beiran knew that Wu Qingce must have ordered a good tea or gave him a reward.

Following the waiter up to the second floor, Jiang Beiran quickly saw Wu Qingce sitting by the window.

"Thank you. You can go back to your work." Jiang Beiran said as he took out two copper coins from his wallet and handed them to the waiter.

"Thank you, master. Thank you, master." The waiter who took the copper coins was overjoyed. He bowed and then returned to the first floor.

Seeing Jiang Beiran walking towards him, Wu Qingce, who was wearing an ordinary green shirt, stood up and shouted, "Brother Wang, you're finally here. Sit down, sit down."

Jiang Beiran nodded and sat in front of Wu Qingce.

Just as he was about to speak, he saw three options pop up in front of his eyes.

[Option 1: Ask about the mystic beasts. Reward for completion: Seven Star Ancient Moon Saber (black grade low tier)]

[Option 2: Talk about the Sect of Returning Hearts. Reward for completion: Coiling Dragon Silver Mace (yellow grade middle tier)]

[Option 3: Casually chat with him. Reward for completion: Random basic attribute points + 1]

"Is someone come after the treasures as well?"

Jiang Beiran wanted to ask Wu Qingce which mystic beasts he saw entering the forest, but it seemed like there was person with ulterior motive.

After choosing option 3, Jiang Beiran said, "Did you hear that there's a disaster in Hedong City again?"

Wu Qingce was stunned at first, but he quickly reacted and said, "What disaster?"

"A plague of locusts. Some old people have died. I hope they don't fly towards us."

While they were chatting, Jiang Beiran used his mind power to scan the teahouse and found that there was a level 4 great mystic practitioner sitting on the first floor.

"Strange, is this great mystic practitioner has also discovered the treasure in the birch forest? This doesn't make sense..."

In his confusion, Jiang Beiran chatted with Wu Qingce for about ten minutes when he heard the system notification sound.

[Chosen quest completed. Reward: Agility + 1]

After signaling Wu Qingce with his eyes to find another place to chat, the two of them went downstairs and walked out of the teahouse together.

"Take care, masters!" the waiter at the door waved his hand and called out.

When they arrived at an empty pavilion, Jiang Beiran checked that there was no great mystic practitioner around and said, "There's a great mystic practitioner in the teahouse. I wonder if he's here for the birch forest."

"Great mystic practitioner!?" Wu Qingce was very surprised. After all, the chances of meeting a great mystic practitioner in such a dilapidated town were not very high.

"Hmm, anyway, be careful. Tell me about the current situation in the birch forest first."

"Yes." Wu Qingce replied, "Apart from the previous level two Thunder Patterned Leopard, there's also a level two Demon Beast and a level two Blood Shadow Beast."

"Very good, my divination is finally correct."

As one of the special skill points, the success rate of Jiang Beiran's [divination] was not too low and not too high. However, as long as he was correct, he would be able to get a good harvest.

“Let’s rest for a while. We’ll enter the forest at 11 am.”

“Yes!” Wu Qingce took out a chessboard from his storage ring and asked, “Then... Brother Jiang, do you want to play two games?” Looking at Wu Qingce’s expectant eyes, Jiang Beiran laughed, “Okay, then you go first.”

“Thank you!”

Wu Qingce found an inn and played until late at night. Although he had been losing, he was getting more excited as he played. As he wanted to start a new game, he felt a slap on his forehead.

“Ouch.” Wu Qingce covered his forehead and shouted. He looked at Jiang Beiran with a wronged look, his eyes full of confusion. “You forget the time.”

Wu Qingce came to his senses after hearing that. “Is it already 11 pm? But I remember that the watchman only knocked once not long ago. Is it two hours already?”

Just as Wu Qingce finished speaking, he heard the sound of a gong outside.

“Dong! Dong! The weather is dry. Be careful of the fire.”

“Brother Jiang, you’re even more accurate than the watchman.” Wu Qingce immediately put the chessboard into the storage ring after he was done admiring.

“Let’s go.”

Taking advantage of the night, Jiang Beiran brought Wu Qingce along the gravel path out of the town. They had only taken a few steps when they saw the system notification appear in front of them.

[Option 1: Go directly to the birch forest. Reward: Dragon Flexibility Skill (black grade middle tier)]

[Option 2: Go to the birch forest after midnight. Reward: Sharp Fire Sword (yellow grade middle tier)]

[Option 3: Let Wu Qingce emit mystic energy. Reward for completion: Random basic skill points + 1] “It seems like that person in the teahouse was indeed problematic...”

Jiang Beiran sighed and chose option 3. He turned to Wu Qingce and said, "Use mystic energy to speed up the journey." Although Wu Qingce did not understand his senior brother's intention, he still replied with a "Yes". He then used his Qi to gather mystic energy at his feet. "Let's go."

I Just Won't Play By The Book - Chapter 65 - Why Sneak Attack Us?

Chapter 65 Why Sneak Attack Us?

"Oh, it's coming, it's coming."

When Wu Qingce released his mystic energy and started to run, Jiang Beiran's mind sensed that the level 4 great mystic practitioner that he saw at the teahouse in the afternoon had quietly caught up to them.

"He's not releasing his mystic energy and quietly following behind us? He's sneaky."

[Chosen quest completed. Reward: Planting+

After listening to the system notification, Jiang Beiran also released his mystic energy to follow Wu Qingce to the birch forest.

On the other side, Ma Bojun, who was on sentry duty at the southeast corner of the birch forest, suddenly heard a voice.

"Que Ma, there are two cultivators coming to the birch forest."

Ma Bojun, who had been resting, suddenly opened his eyes and asked via voice transmission, "What's their strength?"

"One is a level nine mystic practitioner, and the other... is only at level five of Qi refining." "Okay, I'll ask boss how to deal with it." After saying that, Ma Bojun sent a voice transmission to the northwest direction of the forest, "Boss,

the vet said that a level 9 mystic practitioner is coming to the birch forest. How do we deal with it?”

In the forest, Qin Zian was observing the Thunder Patterned Leopard and the Demon Beast. After hearing Ma Bojun’s report, he replied, “These two mystic beasts are probably going to start a fight soon. Don’t cause any unnecessary trouble. Just kill them directly.”

“Yes.” After answering, Ma Bojun sent a voice transmission to the vet, Mao Quan, “Boss said to kill them directly.”

“Ha! I like this reply. Leave it to me.”

A moment later, Ma Bojun once again used the voice transmission to look for Mao Quan. Ma Bojun was going to ask Mao Quan to kill them directly. He didn’t want Mao Quan to slowly torture his target to death. They still had important matters to attend to.

“Eh? Why is his aura gone? What’s going on?”

Sensing that something was wrong, Ma Bojun immediately sent a voice transmission to Qin Zian, “Boss, it seems like...”

Before he could finish his sentence, Ma Bojun saw a fist the size of a casserole smashing towards him.

“Ah!”

After a miserable howl, Ma Bojun fell down from the tree.

“Que Ma!” Hearing Ma Bojun’s miserable howl, Qin Zian felt a chill sweep through his entire body.

When Ma Bojun sent a voice transmission to him, his voice was normal and did not sound like he was in a fight. In other words, it was very likely that Ma Bojun was killed without even noticing the other party.

“The intruder is very stealthy, very fast, and very strong!”

After confirming these three points, Qin Zian quickly shouted to his other three companions in the forest, “All of you, gather here. We have enemies.”

This time, he did not use voice transmission technique to transmit his voice. Instead, he directly roared. Although he had exposed his position, it was also to attract the attention of the two mystic beasts under the tree, hoping to create an even more chaotic opportunity.

Hearing their boss's roar, the disciples of the Palace of Killing, who were scattered in every corner of the birch forest, immediately rushed in Qin Zian's direction.

The first to arrive at the meeting point was Bao Huo, but the scene in front of him made his heart go cold from the soles of his feet to the top of his head.

In front of him, Qin Zian had already fallen to the ground without any signs of life. The two mystic beasts were also hiding at the side, shivering as if they had just seen something very scary.

"Don't go over..." Bao Huo was just about to turn around and warn his seniors. However, his vision suddenly turned dark, and he lost all consciousness.

Xu Panqing, who had just arrived, happened to see the scene of her second senior brother being killed. She hurriedly took off her mask and revealed a beautiful face as she shouted, "We have no ill intentions. We are just on the road... er... you..."

Xu Panqing had just finished speaking when she saw a flash of white light. When she covered her neck again, she could only feel the fresh blood that was gushing out.

"Junior sister! Ah! i'll kill you!"

Looking at the brawny man who was charging at him while shouting at the top of his lungs, Jiang Beiran sighed softly in his heart.

"You're making me look like a big villain..."

However, even though he thought about it, Jiang Beiran's actions were not slow at all. His index finger poked the brawny man's forehead, and the latter collapsed to the ground. [Chosen quest completed. Reward: Strength + 1]

"Hu..."

Following the system notification, Jiang Beiran let out a breath and said to Wu Qingce, who was carrying a corpse behind him, "Dispose of the corpses and find out where they came from."

"Yes!"

Wu Qingce didn't show any signs of surprise when the six great mystic practitioners were all killed by his senior brother in an instant. He obediently ran over to check them one by one.

"Hey! Hey! Hey! Who told you to run away? Sit there."

Seeing that Thunder Patterned Leopard and Demon Beast were about to sneak away, Jiang Beiran casually picked up a stone and threw it at them.

Thunder Patterned Leopard and Demon Beast immediately stopped when they felt the power of the stone. They turned around and looked at Jiang Beiran with a fawning expression. There was a total of nine tails waving desperately.

Not long after, Wu Qingce, who had gathered all the corpses in one place, ran over and reported to Jiang Beiran, "Senior brother, they are all disciples of the Palace of Killing. In addition, I took out a killing token from the storage ring of the man in black. He should be a powerful disciple. But isn't the Palace of Killing a faction on the Anjiang Island? Why are they here?"

"Hmm, what else do you see?" Jiang Beiran nodded and asked.

"Also..." Wu Qingce rolled his eyes a few times before he answered, "Oh! Brother Jiang, your control of your strength has become more accurate. That strong... er..."

Wu Qingce lowered his head and stopped talking when Jiang Beiran stared at him angrily. "Sigh..." Jiang Beiran could only shake his head after letting out a long sigh.

"Don't be angry, don't be angry. I am the one who take him in."

After comforting himself, Jiang Beiran dragged Wu Qingce to the six corpses and said, "Come, I'll give you three chances. Tell me the solution that is most suitable for the current situation that I've taught you."

Wu Qingce started to think crazily after he heard that. A moment later, he raised a finger and said, "Remember to destroy the corpses of people you don't know after killing them in the wild! Ah!"

As soon as Wu Qingce finished speaking, he screamed and covered his poor forehead.

"I'll give you a hint. You have to do things step by step. You still have two more chances."

Rubbing his swollen forehead, Wu Qingce thought hard and shouted, "I know!"

"Speak."

"There will be many answers I want to know on the corpses!"

"Well, at least you're not stupid. So, what did you see?"

"I..." Wu Qingce stared at the six corpses for a long time and then said, "That strong man should be a combat master. From the distribution of his muscles, he should be good at leg skills. Also... er..."

Looking at the gradually narrowed eyes of Jiang Beiran, Wu Qingce knew that he was wrong again.

"Why do you always forget everything I taught you to me?" Jiang Beiran asked in confusion.

"Because Brother Jiang is much smarter than me. I really can't learn it."

"Flattery is useless."

"Yes!"

"Ah!"

Just as Wu Qingce finished answering, he felt another knock on his forehead.

"Why!?" Wu Qingce looked aggrieved.

"Because I read from your expression. You're saying 'flattery is not useless. Didn't you not knock on my forehead this time', right?"

“Brother Jiang... do you know how to read minds!?”

Chapter 66 It Was Hard to Communicate with a Beast

“Come and take a look.”

Jiang Beiran waved at Wu Qingce. He squatted down and used his index finger to wipe the lips of the female disciple.

“Smell it. What’s that smell?”

Wu Qingce came forward to smell it. After thinking for a while, he answered, “It seems to be... The purple sunflower?”

“Give me a definite answer.”

“It’s the purple sunflower!”

“Stick your head out.”

“Ah...”

“What? Hurry up.”

“Brother Jiang, be gentle...” Wu Qingce lowered his head as he said, “Ah!”

After Wu Qingce let out a scream, Jiang Beiran said, “This is the smell of hibiscus. It’s a rouge made with the juice of blue flower. I’ve visited Mingcui Town before and there isn’t a market. I don’t think they will sell the high-grade rouge made by hibiscus. Let me ask you another question. Where do you think they bought this kind of high-grade rouge?”

“Anhuo City!” Wu Qingce, who was still rubbing his forehead, immediately replied. “Yes, you finally got it right.” He rubbed his fingers twice, Jiang Beiran continued, “Even though we’re not sure they bought it from the Anhuo City, you can still go there to try your luck and see if you can find any clues. Come, recite the mnemonic formula I taught you. What is the purpose of the investigation?” “Oh, oh.” Wu Qingce immediately shook his head and answered, “If there are benefits, then we’ll go for it. If there are no benefits, then we’ll take precautions.”

Jiang Beiran nodded. He then took off the two money bags at the waist of the black-shirted man and poured out the copper coins inside. “Take a look, which

places are they from?" "Yes." Wu Qingce squatted down and carefully examined the copper coins. He replied, "There's one from Anhu, one from Shangtang, and one from Ning Yi. Ah, there is one from the Rivernorth District. Judging from the design of the coin, it should be from the North Mountain Fu."

"So, do you understand the route they took from Anjiang Island to here?" "I do. They probably came in from Wusong Gate."

"Well, that's a good answer." Jiang Beiran nodded with satisfaction. "Keep these copper coins properly and tell me why we should do that."

"Don't use your hometown's money to buy things when you're outside."

"Good, let's pack up."

After saying that, Jiang Beiran checked the storage ring of the man in black again and took out a scroll. He opened it and saw that it was a portrait.

"Sigh... it's really ugly." Jiang Beiran never understood the aesthetics of the mainstream painters here. They didn't pay attention to the likeness of the appearance of the object at all, including the criminal's portrait on the wanted posters. He even doubted that anyone could catch a fugitive based on the portrait on the wanted poster.

Just like the one he was holding now, the man in the painting had protruding cheekbones, a hooked nose, and thin lips. He looked like a monster.

However, Jiang Beiran, who was used to the drawing style here, saw something from the painting "It looks a little familiar...?"

Wu Qingce, who had put away the copper coins, also came over to take a look. "Brother Jiang, do you think they are looking for the people in this painting?"

"That's too unprofessional."

The few people from the Palace of Killing were obviously not good people. The ones they targeted were most likely the targets of their assassination. However, as a professional assassin team, they should have burn the portrait of the target after looking at it.

Jiang Beiran threw the portrait to Wu Qingce. Just as he was about to speak, three options popped up.

[Option 1: Let Wu Qingce investigate the person in the painting. Reward for completion: Jade Finger (black grade middle tier)]

[Option 2: Investigate the person in the painting yourself. Reward for completion: Seven Bird Legs (yellow grade middle tier)]

[Option 3: Treat it as if nothing had happened. Reward for completion: Random special attribute points + 1]

“Eh? It’s actually special attribute points? The system is really generous this time.”

Jiang Beiran chose the third option happily. He then stood up and said, “Alright, I’ll teach you today. I see that your thoughts have already flown to those two mystic beasts.”

[Chosen quest completed. Reward: Breathing +

“It’s actually breathing. It’s really been a long time.” looking at the special attribute point reward, Jiang Beiran was slightly delighted. This breathing point was very helpful to the recovery of stamina. Even if Jiang Beiran’s stamina was exhausted while he was practicing, he could recover at an extremely fast speed.

Hearing Jiang Beiran’s words, Wu Qingce hurriedly shook his head. “I didn’t!”

Jiang Beiran, who was in a good mood, couldn’t help but tease him. “Alright, then you continue to examine the corpses here. I’ll go and take care of those two mystic beasts.”

“Hey! Brother Jiang! I...”

“What?” Jiang Beiran turned around and asked.

“I admit that I want to fight with the level two mystic beasts as soon as possible...” “So, can’t you be more honest?”

“That’s because Brother Jiang is too...” Wu Qingce said halfway, but looking at Jiang Beiran’s fierce eyes, he still smiled and said, “Nothing... nothing, Hehe.”

“Keep up.”

Jiang Beiran brought Wu Qingce to stand in front of Thunder Patterned Leopard and Demon Beast, and said, “You two, any one of you can fight with him. If you win, you can leave.”

The Thunder Patterned Leopard and Demon Beast had an inexplicable look on their faces when they heard that.

“No way... you’re already at level two. Can’t you even understand human language?” Jiang Beiran sighed with disappointment.

Hearing Jiang Beiran’s sigh, the two mystic beasts were so scared that they repeatedly bowed and begged for mercy. They let out low growls of “Wu... WU... WU...”.

“Sigh, troublesome.” as Jiang Beiran said that, he walked forward and dragged Thunder Patterned Leopard out.

“Awoo! Awoo...% #@#” This scared the Thunder Patterned Leopard so much that it cried out in panic. It looked pitifully at Demon Beast as if it was asking for help, but the Demon Beast silently turned its head and pretended not to see it.

The Thunder Patterned Leopard that had fallen into despair let out another miserable howl.

“Stop whining!” Jiang Beiran said as he glared at the Thunder Patterned Leopard. The Thunder Patterned Leopard was terrified by his powerful mind power that it only cried in a muffled voice.

Jiang Beiran dragged Thunder Patterned Leopard to Wu Qingce. He first pointed at Thunder Patterned Leopard, then pointed at Wu Qingce, and then punched his two fists.

“Do you understand?” Jiang Beiran looked at Thunder Pattered Leopard and asked.

Thunder Patterned Leopard, who still didn’t quite get the idea, realized that it would not be killed for the time being, so it quickly nodded.

Therefore, Jiang Beiran then used his body language to speak to Thunder Patterned Leopard. After about ten minutes, it finally understood.

“Brother Jiang... Thunder Patterned Leopard is not in a good state. Can it use its full strength to fight with me?”

Looking at Thunder Patterned Leopard’s trembling appearance, Wu Qingce suddenly felt like he was being a great villain.

“You have so many demands.” After saying that, Jiang Beiran turned around and used his body language to express to Thunder Patterned Leopard like he was saying, “If you can’t beat him, I will kill you directly.”

Thunder Patterned Leopard nodded repeatedly after looking at Jiang Beiran, and its eyes looked at Wu Qingce with a fierce light.

“Yes, that’s the aura. Kill him!” Jiang Beiran nodded to Thunder Patterned Leopard. Seeing Thunder Patterned Leopard’s killing intent getting more and more intense, Wu Qingce hurriedly pulled Jiang Beiran and said, “Okay, okay, Brother Jiang... This is enough. Don’t provoke it anymore.”

Chapter 67 A Tough Nut to Crack

“Hu...”

Standing in front of the level two Thunder Patterned Leopard, Wu Qingce closed his eyes and took a deep breath. When he opened his eyes again, his pair of black eyes had already fixed on his “prey”.

Facing Wu Qingce’s eyes that were filled with fighting spirit, the Thunder Patterned Leopard did not show the slightest fear. It waved its four tails and emitted a wild aura that was unique to mystic beasts. Its pair of eyes gradually turned from black to red.

Seeing that the tension between the man and the beast was about to explode, Jiang Beiran acted as the judge, and shouted, “Let’s begin.”

“Roar!!!”

Facing this battle that might cost its life, Thunder Patterned Leopard directly pounced towards Wu Qingce with all its strength. At the same time, its pair of front claws lit up with a blood red light.

A level 2 mystic beast was equivalent to a great mystic practitioner. However, Thunder Patterned Leopard wasn't in the least bit afraid of challenging Wu Qingce who was above its level.

After activating the Rhymed Formula of Returning Hearts to disperse the wild aura that was trying to make him lose his cool, Wu Qingce used all his strength to activate the Rolling Cloud Technique and jumped back into the air.

“Boom!”

The Thunder Patterned Leopard missed, but its movements didn't stop at all. After locking onto Wu Qingce's retreating direction, its hind legs immediately exerted force and chased after him in the air.

“Here it goes.”

When Thunder Patterned Leopard jump into the air, six Crescent Flying Knives suddenly appeared between Wu Qingce's fingers and were thrown at Thunder Patterned Leopard at the same time.

Seeing the small six Crescent Flying Knives flying towards it, Thunder Patterned Leopard did not care at all. It swung its tail and swept it over.

“Ao!!!”

However, in the next second, Thunder Patterned Leopard let out a miserable howl. The seemingly ordinary Crescent Flying Knives directly pierced through his tail and pierced into his body.

“The Aura Concealment Technique taught by Brother Jiang is always so useful.’

When cultivators fought, each move would emit a corresponding amount of mystic energy. The opponent would also judge the power of this move based on the amount of mystic energy released by this move.

However, after learning the Aura Concealment technique taught by Jiang Beiran, Wu Qingce's every move looked like a 'normal attack', which made the opponent lower its alert. Hearing Thunder Patterned Leopard's miserable cry, Wu Qingce immediately pulled out his Green Edge Sword and attacked the Thunder Patterned Leopard. Then, he used Sishui Sword Technique and descended from the sky!

As the Thunder Patterned Leopard was in midair, it couldn't adjust its posture. Therefore, even though it saw Wu Qingce charging at it with the momentum of a torrent, it could only barely raise its claws to receive Wu Qingce's attack.

"Clang!"

When the Green Edge Sword collided with Thunder Patterned Leopard's front claws, it made a metallic sound. However, even though Thunder Patterned Leopard's claws were as hard as iron, they were still cut in half in an instant.

"Ao!!!"

Wu Qingce's face flashed with joy when he heard Thunder Patterned Leopard's miserable cry.

"As expected of Brother Jiang's sword. Even the transformed body of a level two mystic beast is unable to block it."

However, just as he was feeling pleased with himself, two thick and long tails suddenly lashed out at him.

"Sh*t!"

Wu Qingce didn't expect Thunder Patterned Leopard to actually counterattack despite it was injured. He could only block with his Green Edge Sword since he didn't have the time to dodge.

However, how could a strike from a level two mystic beast be so easy to block? Wu Qingce felt a huge force coming at him when he blocked Thunder Patterned Leopard's sword. He then spat out a mouthful of blood. He also smashed down onto the ground like a kite with its string cut.

Bang!

Seeing Wu Qingce crash into a giant spruce tree and broke its tree trunk, Jiang Beiran slapped his forehead.

"Is this the number one disciple of the Rivernorth District, really?"

On the other side, Thunder Patterned Leopard, who had also crashed heavily onto the ground, quickly turned over and stood up. At the same time, it activated the mystic energy in his body and began to recover its front claws at a fast speed.

“Cough... cough...”

While Thunder Patterned Leopard was recovering from his injuries, Wu Qingce also pushed away the spruce tree that was pressing down on his body and stood up.

“It’s over... Brother Jiang will definitely criticize me later.” Wu Qingce thought as he took out a bottle made of blue rocks from his storage ring. He poured a pill into his hand and swallowed it.

“Cough!” Wu Qingce coughed again and wiped the blood from his mouth. He walked to the side and was about to pick up the Green Edge Sword that had fallen to the ground. However, just as he was about to bend down, a sharp killing intent suddenly approached him.

Turning his head, Wu Qingce discovered a fiery red figure had already arrived in front of him. It opened its bloody mouth and bit at him.

At this moment, Wu Qingce felt the shadow of death looming over his head. The mystic beast that was attacking him was very strong. Even if he were to face it head-on, there was a high chance that he wouldn’t be able to win. Let alone launched a sneak attack on it, he couldn’t put up any defense against it at all.

However, just as Wu Qingce’s pupils contracted due to fear, a figure blocked in front of him.

“Hey, at least react a little. Did you freeze?” Jiang Beiran turned his head to look at Wu Qingce and asked.

Wu Qingce, who had almost recovered from his shock, sat down on the ground and panted heavily before saying, “Than... Thank you Brother Jiang.”

“You still need to gain more experience.”

Shaking his head, Jiang Beiran turned around and looked at the Blood Shadow Beast whose chin was pinched by him. He said, “You are quite brave. I thought you were going to hide behind that rock.”

“Roar!”

The Blood Shadow Beast whose chin was pinched seemed to be very unconvinced. It tried to pry Jiang Beiran's right arm away with its front claws, but found that no matter how hard it tried, Jiang Beiran did not move at all.

"Don't pull, don't pull. You ruined my cloth."

However, the Blood Shadow Beast did not have any intention of paying attention to Jiang Beiran. Its pair of claws were still desperately pulling at Jiang Beiran's arm.

"I told you to behave yourself!" Jiang Beiran glared at the Blood Shadow Beast, and his mind power surged towards the Blood Shadow Beast like a raging wave. The Blood Shadow Beast was stunned at first, but then it seemed to have been stimulated and struggled even harder. "Oh, what a tough guy. Interesting."

Jiang Beiran loosened his grip on the Blood Shadow Beast as he spoke, and said to it, "Come on, I'll give you a chance to attack me with all your strength."

The Blood Shadow Beast, who had finally regained its freedom, took a few steps back, and the red fur all over its body stood up.

"Roar!"

With a furious roar, a red wild aura burst out from his body.

"Red wild aura? It's quite rare." After saying that, Jiang Beiran turned to look at Wu Qingce. "Didn't you say you wanted a mystic beast as a mount last time? What do you think of it?"

"I want to... but I can't control it."

"Take it slow. Just train it for a while more."

Seeing Jiang Beiran completely ignoring him, the Blood Shadow Beast's anger reached its peak. Red veins bulged on its originally black skin, the red wild aura that burst out had already spread to Jiang Beiran's side.

"Roar!"

With an angry roar, the Blood Shadow Beast pounced at Jiang Beiran with all its strength like a red lightning bolt. It opened its bloody mouth and prepared to bite Jiang Beiran into two pieces.

“Pa!”

Just as the Blood Shadow Beast’s two fangs were about to bite Jiang Beiran, a lightning-fast slap landed on its face.

The Blood Shadow Beast was a little stunned when it was slapped. It suddenly didn’t know what to do next.

At this time, Jiang Beiran slapped it again.

It was also unable to defend in time, so the Blood Shadow Beast’s left face was hit again.

“Wu!”

The Blood Shadow Beast was anxious as its teeth were broken from the slap. It took two steps back and shook its head, letting out a very wronged “whimper” sound.

Chapter 68 Did the Thunder Spirit Flower Bloom?

“Are you done?” Jiang Beiran took a step forward and asked the Blood Shadow Beast.

“Awooo...”

The Blood Shadow Beast raised its two front claws and waved them wildly. It also kept roaring at Jiang Beiran.

Seeing the Blood Shadow Beast acting like this, Jiang Beiran couldn’t help but think that it looked like a “husky”, and a really dumb one. At this time, Wu Qingce, who had already recovered, walked to Jiang Beiran’s side and said, “It seems that it is still very unconvinced, but it knows that it absolutely can’t beat you, so it can only go crazy there.” “So, do you want it or not? The red wild aura should be quite special, and it feels like it has a lot of potential.”

“Yes... Of course I want it, but how can I subdue it without you?”

“Can’t you just train it a little?” Jiang Beiran said as he walked forward. Just as he was about to reach out his hand, the Blood Shadow Beast was so scared that it kept backing off.

“Don’t run, don’t run, I won’t hit you this time.” Jiang Beiran tried his best to show a friendly look as he slowly walked towards the Blood Shadow Beast. However, the Blood Shadow Beast obviously didn’t believe him, so it turned around and hid behind a tree.

Just as it was about to poke its head out to see if Jiang Beiran had walked over, it heard a voice behind it that made its body tremble. “Hey, I told you not to run. You can’t run away anyway, right?”

“Gulp...”

After swallowing a large mouthful of saliva, the Blood Shadow Beast turned its head with a tremble. Its eyes were full of fear.

“Judging from your performance just now, you seem to understand human language. Come, shake hands.” After saying that, Jiang Beiran extended his right hand towards the Blood Shadow Beast.

“Wu...” looking at Jiang Beiran’s extended right hand, the Blood Shadow Beast blinked its eyes twice, hesitating about what to do. With a slight smile, Jiang Beiran’s palm broke the spruce tree that the Blood Shadow Beast was leaning against. Then, he extended his hand again and said, “Come, let’s shake hands.”

Feeling the power of that palm just now, the Blood Shadow Beast’s entire body trembled. Looking at Jiang Beiran’s friendly smile, it finally reached out its claws and grasped it.

“Hmm, good boy, good boy.” Jiang Beiran nodded in satisfaction and touched the Blood Shadow Beast’s furry head.

Then, he turned to look at Wu Qingce and Thunder Patterned Leopard who were watching from the side and said, “Why are you looking at me? You guys continue to fight. The only factor outside the ring has been eliminated. You guys can continue to fight to your heart’s content.”

“Oh...”

Wu Qingce nodded and walked toward Thunder Patterned Leopard. He used his body language to express his intention to continue fighting.

n.

Finally, it took a look at the Blood Shadow Beast whose head was touched by Jiang Beiran. Thunder Patterned Leopard rearranged its stance and stared at Wu Qingce. It had to win this battle, or else it would die!

After a while, Jiang Beiran brought the Blood Shadow Beast to Wu Qingce, who was already exhausted. Jiang Beiran looked around at the large area of fallen spruce trees, he nodded slightly and said, "Not bad, you actually won."

"Cough... cough..." Wu Qingce, whose chest had almost completely caved in, coughed out two mouthfuls of blood. "But I barely win, I have disappointed you."

"There's nothing to be disappointed about. You were very outstanding to be able to defeat Thunder Patterned Leopard, but you did make a lot of mistakes in the process. Go back and practice more." After saying that, Jiang Beiran took out a small jade bottle from his storage ring and poured a pill that was emitting a green light into Wu Qingce's mouth.

"Lie down for a while more. Your injuries are a little severe this time. Let the energy recovery pill protect your heart meridian first." After eating the energy recovery pill, it felt like a breeze blowing into his body through his throat. Wu Qingce was much more comfortable. He nodded and said, "Thank you, Brother Jiang." After lightly patting Wu Qingce's shoulder twice, Jiang Beiran walked to the side of Thunder Patterned Leopard, whose four tails were all broken and no longer had any strength to recover. He squatted down next to him.

"You fought well. Thank you for your hard work."

Although Thunder Patterned Leopard did not understand, it felt that the person in front of it did not intend to kill it, so it quickly cried out.

After taking out a green jar from the storage ring, Jiang Beiran opened Thunder Patterned Leopard's mouth and poured half a bottle of ancient spirit wine into it. "Take a rest." touching Thunder Patterned Leopard's face, Jiang Beiran stood up and walked towards the Demon Beast.

When so many things happened just now, the Demon Beast sat on the spot and didn't dare to move at all. Now that it saw Jiang Beiran walking over, it immediately showed a fawning smile, because it knew that the human in front of it didn't seem to intend to kill them. Of course, the prerequisite was that they didn't act recklessly.

Touching the Demon Beast's belly, Jiang Beiran said somewhat regretfully, "Actually, the mystic fire essence in your body is a very good material, but you're really too weak. I reckon you haven't even condensed it yet. What a pity, what a pity."

The Demon Beast didn't understand what Jiang Beiran was saying. After being touched on the belly, it lied down and showed its belly in front of Jiang Beiran.

This made the Blood Shadow Beast, who could understand what Jiang Beiran was talking about, worried for Demon Beast. At the same time, it was glad that it was weak enough. Otherwise, if it had formed the inner core, it would probably be dead by now.

"Good, good, good, good, good." Jiang Beiran touched the furry belly of the Demon Beast twice and turned to look at the Blood Shadow Beast and asked, "Has the Thunder Spirit Flower bloomed?"

After hearing this, the Blood Shadow Beast shook its head and stretched out its claws to point at the depths of the forest.

"It hasn't bloomed?" Jiang Beiran was a little surprised.

The Thunder Spirit Flower was the treasure that Jiang Beiran had divined this time. This kind of flower could naturally condense the lightning energy between heaven and earth. If it was consumed, it could greatly increase the resistance of one's body to lightning attack. Moreover, one's attack move would also contain the power of lightning. However, directly consuming it orally was the most wasteful method. If the Thunder Spirit Flower could be made into a medicinal pill, then the effect of the Thunder Spirit Flower would multiply, and Jiang Beiran just happened to know how to refine it.

"Then let's wait a little longer. We can let them recover for a little while."

As Jiang Beiran spoke, he took out another blue-colored storage ring from his pocket and took out a few pieces of big meat from it.

"Are you hungry?" Jiang Beiran looked at the Blood Shadow Beast and asked.

The Blood Shadow Beast wanted to shake its head, but when it smelled the meat, it immediately nodded.

“Okay, let’s wait for a while.”

Jiang Beiran took out some tools from the ring and made a simple barbecue rack. Then, he skewered two pieces of meat that were about the size of a round table.

Then, he prepared the charcoal, lit a fire, put meat on the rack, and sprinkled seasonings.

A mouth-watering aroma of meat instantly spread out.

“Brother Jiang is cooking!”

Wu Qingce immediately opened his eyes when he smelled the aroma. He did not care that the injuries on his body. He directly sat up and began to use the Rhymed Formula of Returning Hearts to heal his injuries.

“Ha... ha... ha...”

The Blood Shadow Beast standing behind Jiang Beiran had already drooled all over the ground. It stuck out its tongue with a face full of anticipation.

After sprinkling a handful of fennel powder, Jiang Beiran moved closer and took a sniff.

“Yes, it’s perfect. I’m so good.”

After saying that, he took out a small knife and cut off a piece of meat. He put it to his mouth and tasted it.

“Awesome. The meat of Soul Devouring Beast is so fragrant.”

As soon as Jiang Beiran said that, the Blood Shadow Beast, which was still drooling with its tongue sticking out, suddenly trembled. It looked at Jiang Beiran with a much more fearful expression.

Chapter 69 You Want to Transcend the Tribulation?

“Katz... Katz...”

Sitting around the barbecue rack, Wu Qingce and a few other mystic beasts were eating the Soul Devouring Beast crispy roasted meat. Every bite was an extreme enjoyment.

“Brother Jiang, do you have any more chili?” Wu Qingce, who had swallowed another big mouthful of meat, looked at Jiang Beiran and asked. Jiang Beiran, who had finished the meat and was drinking sour plum soup to digest his food, glanced at him and said, “Don’t be greedy for a moment of pleasure. Have you forgotten the last time you stayed in the toilet for an entire day?”

“I can’t care about it anymore. Your roasted meat is a heaven match with chili. It’s a waste of God’s gift if I don’t eat it with chili.”

Jiang Beiran sighed and smiled. He then grabbed a handful of chilies and handed it to Wu Qingce.

“Thank you!” Wu Qingce took the chili with both hands. Just as he was about to take the meat, he found that there was only one piece left on the plate.

Without any hesitation, Wu Qingce’s right hand reached out towards the meat, but he did not expect the other three claws to also grab it.

One hand and three claws were competing in the air, and a low growl came out of his throat.

Jiang Beiran did not intend to stop him. It was always a pleasant experience to see his own food being snatched by others.

In the end, one man and three beasts tore the meat into four portions and ate them separately.

“Ah! Brother Jiang’s delicious food is the best in the world!” Wu Qingce rubbed his round tummy and shouted.

“Come, drink some sour plum soup to relieve the spiciness.” Jiang Beiran said as he handed a porcelain bowl to Wu Qingce.

Wu Qingce, who was so full that he did not want to move, reached out his hands and took it. “Thank you, Brother Jiang.”

“Gulp... gulp...”

After taking two mouthfuls of the refreshing sour plum soup, Wu Qingce shook his head and said, “Brother Jiang, this sour plum soup has a strong taste. It’s cold on the mouth and moderate in sweetness and sourness. It tastes like a pure mash in your mouth. It’s really wonderful!”

“These are all the words I taught you.” Although Jiang Beiran said so, he was secretly happy.

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Seeing that Wu Qingce was enjoying himself so much, the three mystic beasts couldn't help but look at Jiang Beiran with a fawning expression, wanting to ask for a taste.

“I only brought a pot. There's no share for you guys.” After ruthlessly rejecting the three mystic beasts, Jiang Beiran stood up and started to pack up the barbecue tools.

“Oh, I almost forgot.” Jiang Beiran, who was packing up the pitchfork, suddenly raised his head and shouted to the Blood Shadow Beast, “Open your mouth.”

The Blood Shadow Beast, who was still feeling regretful about not being able to drink the sour plum soup, thought that there must be something else delicious, so it immediately opened its bloody mouth. “Whoosh!”

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A white pill flew into its mouth and instantly melted into its saliva.

“Gulp...”

Before Blood Shadow Beast didn't taste anything, it looked at Jiang Beiran with a pair of puzzled eyes.

Jiang Beiran looked at the confused Blood Shadow Beast. He answered casually as he tidied up the supporting frame, “The pill that I gave you is called Dead in A Month Pill. It's made from seven different poisonous insects and the red crane crown. After you eat it, it won't cause any trouble at first. But after a month, your mystic energy will flow backward, and your body will explode and die. Oh, maybe if your body is strong enough, you can still die with your body intact.”

As it listened to Jiang Beiran's casual words, more sweat appeared on the Blood Shadow Beast's head. In the end, it hurriedly put its claws into its mouth and dug at its throat. “Don't waste your energy. The poison has already spread throughout your body. You can't spit it out.”

“Awoo, awoo... #@* & Amp;”

When it heard that the poison could no longer be spat out, the Blood Shadow Beast rolled on the ground anxiously. Its voice was full of grievances and complaints. Although Jiang Beiran could not understand what it was saying, he could roughly guess from its tone. “Don’t be anxious. If there is poison, there is an antidote. If you come to this birch forest every other month, he will come and give you the antidote.” Jiang Beiran said as he pointed at Wu Qingce.

“Ah? me?” Wu Qingce pointed at himself and asked.

“Of course!” After burying the charcoal with soil, Jiang Beiran clapped his hands and looked at the Blood Shadow Beast. “The poison will be completely cured after you consume 17 or 18 antidotes, it will be over before you know it. Now, let’s go and see the Thunder Spirit Flower.”

Although Blood Shadow Beast was extremely wronged, it definitely could not beat Jiang Beiran in a fight, so it could only follow obediently.

Therefore, the two people and three beasts slowly walked to the depths of the birch forest. Under the lead of the Blood Shadow Beast, Jiang Beiran quickly saw the Thunder Spirit Flower that was about to bloom.

“Wow... What a rich lightning energy.” Wu Qingce moved a little closer to the Thunder Spirit Flower and felt his hair stand on end. Even his hair had exploded.

Just as Jiang Beiran was about to go up and check the status of the Thunder Spirit Flower, two options suddenly popped up.

[Option 1: Observe the Thunder Spirit Flower at close range. Reward for completion: Five Thunder Palm (black grade high tier)]

[Option 2: Retreat to fifty meters. Reward: Random Basic skill point + 1]

“Huh!?” Jiang Beiran was stunned when he saw the two options. He only knew there was a Thunder Spirit Flower, but he did not know much about its details. From the option, it seemed to be quite dangerous.

After choosing option 2, Jiang Beiran shouted, “Everyone, retreat!”

Wu Qingce and the Blood Shadow Beast who understood Jiang Beiran's words quickly stepped back. Although the Thunder Patterned and Demon Beast didn't know what Jiang Beiran said, they quickly followed after them when they saw them step back. When Jiang Beiran retreated fifty meters away, a "boom" and the system notification (Chosen quest completed. Reward: Go playing + 1] sounded at the same time.

Raising his head, Jiang Beiran saw a black cloud slowly drifting over.

"F*ck... Tit's tribulation!?"

Jiang Beiran could understand what was going on. This "tribulation cloud" was obviously attracted by the Thunder Spirit Flower.

Jiang Beiran was lamenting that this flower really had a card up its sleeve when a bolt of lightning cut through the night sky and struck down.

"Boom!"

With a loud bang, the lightning struck the Thunder Spirit Flower that was still in its bud state. After being struck by the lightning, not only was it fine, but it even began to bloom.

"Amazing."

Although Jiang Beiran did not know much about the Thunder Spirit Flower, he still knew that normal Thunder Spirit Flowers did not need to undergo a 'tribulation' when they bloomed. From this, it could be seen that the flower in front of him was definitely a special species.

Although ordinary Thunder Spirit Flowers couldn't be listed on the rare flower list or the rare flower list, this one... might be a special one.

While Jiang Beiran was thinking, the second bolt of lightning struck down again.

"Again!?"

Seeing the second bolt of lightning strike the Thunder Spirit Flower steadily, Jiang Beiran and his companions were stunned. This flower was too sturdy.

After nine consecutive bolts of lightning, the dark clouds slowly dispersed, and the Thunder Spirit Flower finally bloomed.

This was also the first time Jiang Beiran saw such a miraculous blooming process. The top of the Thunder Spirit Flower, which had its petals fully unfolded, was blue. The lower it went, the lighter it became. When it reached the stamen, it was almost white. The flower's center was a rare silver-gray color. It was straight and upright, like a lightning rod. At the same time, three options appeared in front of Jiang Beiran.

[Option 1: Pick the flower later. Reward: Dance of the Thousand Lanterns (earth grade middle tier)]

[Option 2: Directly consume the Thunder Spirit Flower. Reward: Mystical Steps (black grade middle tier)]

(Option 3: Pick the Thunder Spirit Flower and leave immediately. Reward: Random basic skill points + 1]

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After choosing option 3, Jiang Beiran turned his head and said to Wu Qingce, "Go and clean up those corpses. I'll be back in a while."

Although Wu Qingce really wanted to see how his senior brother would pick this Thunder Spirit Flower, he still cupped his hands and said, "Yes."

"You guys go and help too." Jiang Beiran looked at the three mystic beasts and spoke.

The Thunder Patterned Beast and the Demon Beast were still in a daze when they heard what Jiang Beiran said, but they were taken away by the Blood Shadow Beast. "As expected, such a big commotion will attract some strange big shots."

Jiang Beiran thought as he put on a pair of asbestos gloves.

Even though he was standing fifty meters away, Jiang Beiran could clearly feel the lightning energy contained within the Thunder Spirit Flower. If he grabbed it with his bare hand, it would probably be like touching a high-voltage wire. Although Jiang Beiran felt that he could endure the electric shock, there was no need suffer the pain.

He quickly walked to the front of the Thunder Spirit Flower. Jiang Beiran squatted down and took out a shovel and began to dig the soil beside it.

“This flower was really something.”

While digging the soil, Jiang Beiran discovered that the Thunder Spirit Flower did not emit the lightning energy it absorbed at all. It was all absorbed by it as nutrients.

After finished digging the soil, Jiang Beiran skillfully used his middle finger and index finger to pinch the stem of the flower and brought it out from the ground.

After putting it into the storage ring, Jiang Beiran came to Wu Qingce’s side.

“Let’s go.” Jiang Beiran looked at Wu Qingce who was carrying the two corpses and spoke. “Okay.”

Soon, the two people and three beasts left the birch forest, after waiting for Wu Qingce to clean up the six corpses, Jiang Beiran looked at the three beasts and said, “Alright, go back and do your own business.” After saying that, he looked at the Blood Shadow Beast and said, “Don’t forget to come over next month.”

The Blood Shadow Beast cried out aggrievedly and nodded, indicating that it understood.

“Go.”

With a wave of Jiang Beiran’s hand, the three mystic beasts dispersed. They had come to the birch forest because they had sensed the aura of the Thunder Spirit Flower. Now that the Thunder Spirit Flower was taken by Jiang Beiran, there was naturally no reason for them to continue staying here. Moreover, the human in front of them who could take their lives at any time was still very terrifying. Who knew if he would suddenly change his mind in the next second.

After the three mystic beasts had dispersed, Wu Qingce handed over nine storage rings and said to Jiang Beiran, “Brother Jiang, the belongings of those assassins are all here.”

“Well, the weapons and medicine inside are still worth some money. Take them and let Qinghuan sell them.”

“Yes.” Wu Qingce nodded and kept the nine storage rings. Glancing in the direction of the Birch Leaf Forest, Jiang Beiran turned around and said, “Let’s go back.”

He skillfully walked through the mountain paths. From time to time, Jiang Beiran would send out his mind power to check if there were any special treasures around.

“Brother Jiang... Wait, you’re too fast.”

Hearing Wu Qingce’s shout from behind, Jiang Beiran slowed down a little and waited for him to catch up. He asked, “Why haven’t you made any progress in your speed?” “I feel like I’ve improved a lot... You’re just too fast.”

“Oh? Is that so?”

Seeing the smile on Jiang Beiran’s face, Wu Qingce quickly waved his hand and said, “No, I’m too slow! I’ll go back and practice the Rolling Cloud Technique 800 times more.”

Only then did Jiang Beiran nod his head in satisfaction and continue on his journey.

During the day, Jiang Beiran would walk around all kinds of villages and towns and farm a few attribute points. Along the way, he had fought all over the place and triggered option for a total of 11 times, which could be considered quite a bountiful harvest.

[Option 1: Directly go up the mountain from the main gate. Reward for completion: Thirteen Gods Sword (black grade middle tier)]

[Option 2: Take a detour to the back of the mountain. Reward for completion: Random basic attribute points + 1]

“F*ck... why do I have to do this once I return?”

As soon as he returned to the bottom of the Sect of Returning Hearts Mountain, two options lit up in front of Jiang Beiran’s eyes. After choosing option 2, Jiang Beiran stood still and said to Wu Qingce, “You can go up by yourself. I have some matters to attend to when I return to the back of the mountain.”

After saying that, he took out three porcelain bottles from his storage ring and threw them over.

“The white bottles contain the antidote while the blue and gray bottles contain the things that mystic beasts like. It is up to you to tame the Blood Shadow Beast.”

After steadily catching the three porcelain bottles, Wu Qingce first said, “Thank you, Brother Jiang.” Then, he asked worriedly, “Brother Jiang... You’re not planning to let me go see that Blood Shadow Beast alone, are you?”

“Why? Do you still need someone to accompany you?”

“No... The main thing is that I can’t beat it. If it goes berserk, I...”

“I’ve given you the things that scare it. I’ve also prepared the things it likes. If you’re still bitten to death by it, then you can die there. It’s not a pity at all.”

“Brother Jiang...”

“Answer properly!”

“Yes! Senior brother, I promise to tame it until it’s docile.”

“Mm, that’s more like it.” Just as Jiang Beiran was about to walk towards the back of the mountain, he heard Wu Qingce call out to him again.

“Is there anything else?” Jiang Beiran turned around and asked.

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“This is the material you asked me to look for the last time. I’m still searching for marrow silver ore, but I’ve already collected the rest.” Wu Qingce said as he took out a storage ring and handed it to Jiang Beiran.

Jiang Beiran took the ring and nodded. “Well done, but why don’t you give it to me after you’ve collected all the materials?”

“After the fight with Thunder Patterned Leopard, I felt that I was very close to breaking through, so I decided to seclude myself for a week. I was afraid that

you might need these materials urgently, so I thought of giving them to you first.”

“Oh? You’ve comprehended it very quickly. Go back to the hall and report to me later. I’ll help you set up a spirit gathering array. It’ll be good for your breakthrough.”

Wu Qingce was stunned when he heard that. Then, he immediately cupped his hands and bowed. “Thank you, Brother Jiang!”

However, when he raised his head again, he realized that his senior brother had disappeared.

“He has both virtue and talent, yet indifferent to fame and fortune. He is truly a perfect senior.”

[Chosen quest completed. Reward: Strength + 1]

[Chosen quest completed. Reward: Music + 1]

“What is so dangerous at the main gate? I just stood there for a while and three more options popped up.”

After sighing in his heart, Jiang Beiran changed his clothes and went to the backyard to put on asbestos gloves to take out the Thunder Spirit Flower.

After admiring it for a while, Jiang Beiran was ready to plant it in the flower bed. He didn’t directly use it to make alchemy because he wanted to get its seeds first.

However, just as he was digging up the soil, the system’s three options suddenly appeared in front of him.

(Option 1: Plant the Thunder Spirit Flower here. Reward for completion: Four Deadly Strikes (black grade high tier)]

[Option 2: Plant the Thunder Spirit Flower in the Mirror Garden. Reward for completion: Evil Slaying Sword (yellow grade high tier)]

[Option 3: Find another place. Reward for completion: Random basic skill points + 1]

“Hiss...” Jiang Beiran couldn’t help but scratch his head when he saw these three options. “Could it be that this Thunder Spirit Flower can continue to attract lightning?” Jiang Beiran put the Thunder Spirit Flower back into his storage ring after he chose option 3. He wasn’t in a hurry anyway, so he would just plant it the next time he found a more suitable place.