

## Worth 121

### Chapter 121: The Only Divine Armament!

As the cruiser moved away, Wang Baole no longer saw Spirit Breath Village or the blurred fragment mountain.

When he closed his eyes, he felt the spirit meridians in his body. Wang Baole deeply understood the principle of 'the innocent man gets in trouble because of his wealth', so he needed to hide his real Spirit Root. After all, eight-inch Spirit Roots were the known limit. If he, as a person with a ten-inch Spirit Root, appeared, he would cause an unimaginable commotion.

If he had a powerful background, perhaps he might have been able to survive the storm. However, this was clearly not the case. If he got exposed, Wang Baole could imagine the kind of path that would be laid out before him.

*Believe in kindness, but don't bet on it!*

That was a line from the high officials' autobiographies. As a child, Wang Baole had not understood it, but as he grew older, its meaning had gradually become clear.

Not long later, Wang Baole sighed deeply and suppressed his thoughts. He took out a bag of snacks, eating while walking back into the cruiser. Snacks could make anything better. After finishing the bag, Wang Baole thought of his gains and thought of how he would enter Upper Academy Island soon, which put him in a good mood. He hummed a tune and went to look for people to chat with.

He first went to Chen Ziheng's room. However, Chen Ziheng was stabilizing himself after breaking through to the True Breath realm and did not have time to deal with Wang Baole. Not being able to do anything, Wang Baole decided to look for Du Min.

Initially, the both of them spoke calmly. The moment Wang Baole spoke freely, however, Du Min grew annoyed and finally yelled, "Stupid fatty, get lost!"

Wang Baole rubbed his nose, thinking that Du Min really had a bad temper, and quickly left. After thinking for a moment, he went to look for Zhuo Yifan, but he discovered that Zhuo Yifan was also in seclusion. Wang Baole scratched his head, then decided to look for Zhao Yameng.

But very soon, he also had to leave Zhao Yameng's place. When he went to Zhao Yameng's room, he found Zhao Yameng quietly sitting. No matter how Wang Baole spoke to her, she did not reply, making Wang Baole feel awkward and bored, as though he was speaking to himself.

Feeling helpless, Wang Baole felt that he had better just go back to cultivate himself, but just at that moment, he received a notification from the Chancellor to meet him to describe the area on fragment mountain in which he discovered the corpses.

When he arrived, he found that there were other people in the room too. The red-faced elder and a few unfamiliar cultivators were all looking at Wang Baole.

Other than that, Zhao Yameng, Zhuo Yifan, and Chen Mingyu also quickly arrived. As the Chancellor began to ask questions, the four of them swiftly spoke one after the other, describing the altar where the corpses had been found.

They also told them about how they had gotten hold of the corpse. Zhao Yameng had to rely on the mystic arts, paying a heavy price in order to retrieve it.

Wang Baole was less honest, however. He only explained that there was an unforeseen event in the area. The mist spread, the statue appeared, and the strange face became illusory and then was suppressed, causing the ground to become unstable. He then used his puppets to search for a path. He had already thought of all these excuses on the way back.

“That long, blue spear is fake. And I still thought it was a divine armament—how annoying.”

Most of what Wang Baole said was true, with the exception of the mask and the blue bead. It was difficult for other people to see through these kinds of half-truths. As for saying that the long spear was fake—there was no need to hide this, and Wang Baole was worried that the Dao College had a way to investigate this claim. So, there was no reason to lie about that.

“Long, blue spear?” The Chancellor was slightly moved. The cross-legged, red-faced elder sitting behind the Chancellor looked at the unfamiliar cultivators after hearing Wang Baole’s words. Seeing them nod, he smiled. If Wang Baole had not mentioned that the long, blue spear was fake, then there would have been a problem.

“That is truly fake!”

“Actually, this is not the first time that the four Dao Colleges have discovered an illusory long, blue spear,” said someone from among the few unfamiliar cultivators.

“Until today, we have already found three among the other fragments. Each place had a statue and that face with a strange expression!”

“The long, blue spears at the three altars disappeared after we retrieved the surrounding corpses. According to our research, they are images created from a power that we cannot control, and it has a suppressive power. It’s a pity that we cannot control it. As for the corpses, they are all incomplete. Although there is value in studying them, it cannot compare to our haul this time!”

Listening to them speak, Wang Baole felt shaken. He did not expect the four Dao Colleges to have discovered the altar where the long, blue spear was. At the same time, a strange feeling arose in him.

*Didn’t they get the blue bead? Am I the only one who got it?* Wang Baole’s heart started beating fast. He suddenly remembered that he had needed to use the devouring seed’s absorbing power to get the blue bead.

*Unless that long, blue spear didn’t vanish but condensed together under my devouring seed’s absorbing power. Is that why it melted the bead?* Wang Baole’s changing thoughts attracted the red-faced elder’s attention. He looked over in surprise.

Feeling the red-faced elder's gaze on him, Wang Baole inhaled and spoke. "Grandpa, if the long, blue spear is truly a projection, what if... there really is this spear that is hidden in a place that we don't know. If there really is one, this should be the divine armament."

The red-faced elder did not see through Wang Baole's deception. When he first learnt of this all those facts years ago, he had also been similarly surprised and doubtful, so he smiled upon hearing this.

"Divine Armament? How can there be so many divine armaments? Even today, the entire Federation only has one divine armament, which belongs to the four Dao Colleges and is used by the Federation President. That is our Federation's most prized treasure!" The red-faced elder laughed. Usually, he would not have said any of this. It was just that he liked Wang Baole, so he explained the matter.

"Only one!" Wang Baole's eyes widened. It seemed that it was also Chen Mingyu's first time hearing this, as he was stunned. However, Zhuo Yifan and Zhao Yameng did not seem surprised; clearly, they already knew about this.

The red-faced elder smiled. He did not continue talking about the divine armament. Instead, he asked the four of them about some details, then allowed them to leave.

Even by the time he reached his own room, Wang Baole was still shocked.

*There is only one divine armament in the entire Federation?*

Finally, Wang Baole understood the value of the divine armament. His gaze revealed his longing.

Currently, he knew information about the Federation that many regular people did not know. For example, the four Dao Colleges had formed an alliance, becoming a powerful force within the Federation.

Almost half of the officials in the Federation came from the four Dao Colleges. In addition, the current and previous the Federation Presidents had also come from the four Dao Colleges.

On some level, the four Dao Colleges could choose the President. Previously, Wang Baole did not understand the reason. Now, he knew that it was because... among all the powers in the Federation, the only divine armament belonged to the four Dao Colleges!

On a certain level, one could even say that the Federation President was the spokesperson for the four Dao Colleges, but a strong Senate also had the ability to check the four Dao Colleges' power!

Wang Baole was muddled on their overall usage, but he could still roughly guess. The four Dao Colleges decided on the President, and the Senate decided the Federation's national policy!

They were in opposition, yet they could not be separated from each other. This was because there were other powers constraining them from the inside, while there were countless beasts on the outside!

Wang Baole inhaled deeply as he thought about this. Although he did not understand most of it and could only guess, he knew that he would be able to raise the mysterious veil over the Federation once he entered Upper Academy Island!

*How much do they know of Enduring Clan? And how much do they know of this big sword's origin?*

*Since they discovered the corpse, then... have they discovered any living people?*

*And is there anyone from the Federation who has already stepped into... that ancient greenish-bronze sword which had stabbed the sun?*

The longing in Wang Baole's eyes increased. He had even asked Zhuo Yifan about the Five Generation Sky Clan's spells. Regarding this, Zhuo Yifan's explanation was a little profound. It was as though it was a mystic art that the Five Generation Sky Clan had discovered from a fragment. It was also the foundation of the world, calling forth the so-called previous world, and concerned with the origin of Spirit Roots!

Even though it was not True Breath, as long as the body had a Spirit Root, one could put it to good use. It was just that Zhuo Yifan's mastery was not as good as Zhuo Yixian, so he could not do this.

*Furthermore, there is obviously a large number of fragments from the old sword... I wonder how it looks on the moon and the other stars!* Wang Baole looked out the cruiser at the sky with anticipation.

Time flew, and one day passed. As the cruiser descended from the sky, one could see Green Forest Lake in the distance.

At this moment, in a place in Ethereal City, there was a thirty-foot-wide moat separating this land from Ethereal City. It circled the land, forming an... inner city!

This place was Ethereal City's inner city and also... the family business of one of the Federation's seventeen senators, Ethereal City's City Lord!

The size of the area enclosed by the moat was shocking. It was as big as dozens of large manors. From afar, the vintage castle in the center was even more eye-catching. There were birds singing and flowers exuding their fragrance.

There were ponds, artificial mountains, and many touched up ancient castles surrounding the center castle. Throughout the entire inner city, even the stone panels of the floor, the surrounding architecture, and the protective river all had hidden array runes, causing this place to be wrapped in array formations.

Furthermore, all this was only what the eye could see. One could imagine that there would be even more protection and killing tactics hidden in this inner city, undetectable to the eye.

At the same time, there was also a large number of guards wearing black armor patrolling the area. Each of them gave off a strong aura. There were also large numbers of attendants, cooks, musicians, retainers, and so on. They were all busying themselves in this inner city, as though their lives' meaning was to serve the owners till their own deaths.

At this moment, behind the castle, there was a forbidden place that no one could enter without the owner's permission. There was an old tree there, dozens of feet tall, with a flourishing crown that covered an area a hundred feet wide and countless drooping branches. Among the pervasive green, one could vaguely see some green, unripe fruits.

Under the old tree sat two people. One of them was Lin Tianhao. His expression was depressed. He looked forward, wanting to speak but stopping himself each time. As for the person whom he was

looking at, it was a middle-aged man wearing a black swallow-tailed jacket. His back was facing Lin Tianhao; he looked at the fruits on the tree, seemingly lost in thought.

This man's figure was tall and straight. Even though he was middle-aged, he only had wrinkles at the corners of his eyes. If one did not look closely, they would think that he was a youth. The aura emanating from him, however, was like an ocean, deep and unfathomable, with a hint of suppressive force. This caused the converging Spirit Qi in the area to fluctuate.

He was one of the Federation's seventeen senators, Ethereal City's City Lord, Lin You!

"Hao-er, these fruits will be ripe soon."

Looking at the fruits on the old tree, Lin You smiled. He had always been handsome, and with such a smile, it seemed that old tree had gained an abundance of vitality.

Lin Tianhao looked at his father. His expression was still depressed, and he did not speak.

"Do you still not understand?" Lin You turned, his eyes shining as he looked at his only son, who was also the successor whom he had placed the most hope in. However, with high hopes, there was also great disappointment. He knew that his son's greatest weakness was in making arrangements!

Hearing his father's words, Lin Tianhao could not stand it anymore and let out all the thoughts that he had suppressed.

"Father, I still don't understand why you don't let me return to the Dao College. With your standing, even if I did do those things, there's no problem with returning to the Dao College!

"And it's also because you didn't let me go back that I couldn't take part in this opening of Spirit Breath Village's mystic realm! That damned Wang Baole already went, and I received news that he actually has an eight-inch Spirit Root!"

As Lin Tianhao said that, he clenched his fist. This was what made him the most frustrated.

Looking at Lin Tianhao, Lin You's expression was calm. Under his gaze, Lin Tianhao's breathing grew faster, and he bent his head.

"Hao-er, as my successor, Ethereal Dao College is only an interlude, just to let you go through the motions, and yet you're treating it as something serious," Lin You said blandly. Although he did not raise his voice, there was a strange threatening force that covered the area, causing Lin Tianhao's heart to shudder. He bent his head even further.

"Such a small character actually made you so preoccupied. Hao-er, I'm disappointed in you." Lin You's gaze was still calm, but his words made Lin Tianhao shudder. He looked up with anxiety, wanting to explain.

Lin You's previously calm gaze turned fierce as though there was a sudden burst of lightning landing on Lin Tianhao. Lin Tianhao could not even explain himself, swallowing his words with a shudder.

Seeing this, Lin You's gaze revealed his disappointment, unseen by Lin Tianhao. He gradually dissipated his ferocity and raised his head to look at the sky. After a long time, Lin You spoke, his voice weary.

“Hao-er, this world is big, mysterious, and unpredictable. The Federation has the four Dao Colleges and the senate—we balance each other, but we also can’t rely on each other. At the same time, there are the Trilunaris Corporation, Five Generation Sky Clan, and the other two major sects watching, much less the sea of beasts outside.

“The Trilunaris Corporation is rich enough to compete with any country and is unfathomable. The Five Generation Sky Clan is rumored to have the most orthodox ancient sword legacy, and there is some evidence that the two major sects seem to have a sleeping ancient sword cultivator!

“The four Dao Colleges can choose to open up and accept any powerful people to join, but the Senate can’t!”

“All this is only in terms of the Federation. There’s still the moon, the other planets, and that seemingly endless territory on the ancient greenish-bronze sword.

“Even further, there are things that I don’t even dare to believe, things that nobodies can only shudder at as they dream of them,” Lin You muttered. It seemed like he was speaking to Lin Tianhao but also as though he was speaking to himself.

“With such a magnificent universe, can’t you have more foresight? As your father, I hope that you can quickly grow up. Don’t expend energy on these nobodies. Because of my existence, your life is completely different. Can you... understand this?”

Nervous, Lin Tianhao was even more shaken by his father’s words. As his brain buzzed, he felt that he could vaguely understand the hidden meaning in his father’s words, so he quickly nodded.

“Father, I... I understand!”

“You don’t understand!” Lin You shook his head. He raised his right hand and waved it. In an instant, there was a resplendent light exploding from his hand. In the blink of an eye, there were actually... eight figures!

These eight figures’ eyes were closed, and they floated motionlessly in midair as though they were restrained. However, their appearance caused Lin Tianhao’s eyes to widen suddenly, and his breathing became rapid.

These eight figures... seven of them were identical to Lin Tianhao, and they had Spirit Roots in their bodies, ranging from one inch to seven inches. As for the last faceless Spirit Root, it was eight inches long!

Other people needed to struggle hard and have great luck in order to get their Spirit Roots. But right now, in front of Lin Tianhao, from one to eight inches, they were all there!

“You don’t have to fight with other people in the first half of your life. I have already prepared everything for you.

“This is the difference between you and those nobodies, Hao-er. I have already arranged your life for you. If you just keep walking this path, you... will definitely reach the peak. In the future, when you become Ethereal City’s lord, when you become the new senator, that time... that is when you will need

to start working hard. If you truly understand this, then go to Ethereal Dao College's Upper Academy Island to study."

Lin Tianhao was shaken. This was the first time that his father had spoken so clearly about his future. He stayed silent for a long time, as though his entire person in deep thought. Then he spoke lowly.

"I understand."

At that moment, the returning cruiser from Spirit Breath Village had already landed in the Dao College's aerial port. Before they left, these students had still been in Ancient Martial Arts realm, but when they returned, most of them were True Breath experts. As they walked out, none of them could hide their emotions.

They were even more excited when they noticed that all the faculty's teachers and a large number of students had come out to welcome them. The Chancellor understood everyone's feelings, so he waved his hand and dismissed everyone. In that moment, all the True Breath students immediately dispersed. Soon, the aerial port was filled with the noisy sound of chatter.

There were also quite a number of people welcoming Wang Baole. Naturally, Liu Daobin and the others led the group, wearing the Inspector robes and enveloping Wang Baole. They laughed and congratulated Wang Baole the entire way, and Wang Baole returned to the Dharmic Armament faculty in high spirits.

"I, Wang Baole, have returned!"

As he stepped on the peak of the Dharmic Armament faculty, Wang Baole laughed at the sky.

After some small talk, Liu Daobin prepared a feast in honor of Wang Baole. Only when the moon was high in the sky did the drunk Wang Baole return to his cave abode. After burping, Wang Baole drank a mouthful of some Ice Spirit Water to sober himself up. He took out his voice transmission ring and sent a voice transmission to his parents, informing them that he was already a True Breath expert and that he had entered Upper Academy Island.

"Aren't I amazing, Old Wang?" Wang Baole said, pleased with himself.

His parents' delighted voices soon traveled out from the voice transmission ring. After talking to his parents for a long time, Wang Baole saw that it was getting late, so he stopped the voice transmission. Sitting on the veranda of the cave abode, Wang Baole looked at his surroundings, appreciating the silence. His feeling of not wanting to leave grew stronger.

*How time flies. One year ago, I'd just stepped into the Dao College, and now... I'm going to enter Upper Academy Island!* Wang Baole sighed, but after thinking of his gains in the Spirit Breath Village, his mood improved.

*Let's not speak about turning over the treasures to the Dao College first. When the Dao College is done recording everything and gives me their tabulation, I can take a portion of the items back or to exchange them for something valuable. Even if it's just that blue bead, it will be a huge gain!* Wang Baole thought, his heart starting to beat fast.

At this point, his right hand reached into his pocket. When he pulled his hand out, he drew out a gray bead. This bead had originally been blue, but after dimming, it had become gray.

When he held it in his hand, there did not seem to be anything special. However, Wang Baole knew its origins, and the fire in his eyes blazed.

*If I'm not wrong, this object is the long, blue spear that I condensed with my devouring seed... That means that there is only one of these in the entire Federation, right? Even though I currently don't know how to use this, this treasure is definitely special!*

After some research, Wang Baole wondered if he should ask the Little Missy in the mask. After all, if it was just what he had discovered in the Five Peaks, it was not important. But the clues from the Spirit Breath Village were also related to the mask. Wang Baole felt that he should sound her out.

As he thought this, Wang Baole immediately took out the Hallucination Pillow to enter the hallucination realm. After a while, when he returned, his gaze held some doubts. In the hallucination realm, that mysterious Little Missy had actually held her silence on this matter. No matter how he asked, there was no response.

*Not telling me?* Wang Baole rubbed the area between his brows. This Little Missy was too mischievous. He had a conjecture about the bead, however, and he planned to test it out when he reached Upper Academy Island.

After putting the bead away, Wang Baole closed his eyes and revisited his memories of fighting and using Dharmic Artifacts in the Spirit Breath Village. This was a habit that he had cultivated after reading the high officials' autobiographies, a way of concluding.

After a while, Wang Baole opened his eyes. He touched his chin and started to think.

*Learning how to create Spirit Qi waves is only one of the gains, but my Dharmic Artifacts are too monotonous. Other than exploding... they only explode. Other than injuring the physical body and eliminating enemies, perhaps Dharmic Artifacts could be used for greater effect on mental states!*

Deep in thought, Wang Baole thought of how Li Yi and the others had looked like they were about to break down when the puppets escorted them away.

*Hmm, this is a topic that I can research. Next time, I need to find a chance to experiment and create a Dharmic Artifact that can affect people's mental state. It will strike fear into people's hearts the moment they look at it, and they will surrender without fighting! Perhaps with this Dharmic Artifact, the weak can defeat the strong!*

Wang Baole's eyes lit up. He felt that he had truly gained too much from this trip to the Spirit Breath Village.

As he pondered, Wang Baole was happily cultivating himself. Gradually, the sky grew bright. When it was morning, he had just finished his meditation and discovered a crowd right outside the door of his cave abode. Visitors came and left in an endless stream, especially those True Breath students from the Dharmic Armament faculty who had just returned. Previously, the journey had been too rushed, so they did not have time to build friendly relations with Wang Baole. Now that they had returned, they immediately came to visit.



These visits continued for five days. Only when Wang Baole received the entrance letter from Upper Academy Island from the Chancellor did it become peaceful. Thus, he packed his bags and looked at the cave abode that he had lived in for a year, his anticipation growing.

At dawn on the sixth day, a gong resounded throughout the Lower Academy Island. This gong could be heard all over, and the sound continued for a full five minutes. No matter what they were doing, every student could hear the sound, and all of them walked out of their rooms. As the sound continued, they saw various True Breath figures from each faculty sprinting toward the Chancellor's peak.

"They are going to Upper Academy Island..."

"I wonder when we can also enter Upper Academy Island!"

Liu Daobin stood outside the accommodation for the Dharmic Armament faculty. Vaguely, he could see Wang Baole's figure from among the figures sprinting toward the Chancellor's peak. Although he looked normal on the outside, his heart was feeling melancholic.

"I have to work hard so that the distance between the Head Prefect and I won't be too large. If not, I won't be able to catch up to him!"

On the mountaintop behind him, Goatee had also walked out. He was also looking at the distant figure of Wang Baole, his gaze showing his encouragement and satisfaction. He could still picture Wang Baole's blood-covered image during the Hallucination exam.

On Alchemy faculty peak, Zhou Xiaoya also silently walked out of her accommodation and gazed at the Chancellor's peak. After a long time, her expression showed determination and longing. She tightened her small fist and muttered softly under her breath.

"Brother Baole, the alchemic recipe that I handed over has already gone for inspection. As long as it passes the inspection, I have the possibility of entering Upper Academy Island!"

Under the gazes of countless students from the Lower Academy Island, these few hundred students from various faculties who had ascended to the True Breath realm in the Spirit Breath Village gathered at the Chancellor's peak. Very soon they reached the square on the Chancellor's peak.

They were the people who had returned from Spirit Breath Village and the first group who would enter Upper Academy Island. There would be the second group later filled with people who took the make-up exams and those who had ascended in each Dao College's own mystic realm. They would subsequently be sent to Upper Academy Island.

Right now, at this square, the few hundred people stood without a sound. Their anticipatory looks were all directed in front at... the Chancellor!

"Upper Academy Island, please open the mountain gates!" The Chancellor turned and swung his sleeve. His voice was like thunder, traveling toward Upper Academy Island, which was shrouded in fog.

In an instant, the sky changed, the winds reversed, and a loud roar echoed in the firmament. The fog around Upper Academy Island parted. A stream of pure light, like a bridge, suddenly shot out from within Upper Academy Island's fog and connected to Lower Academy Island's Chancellor peak, forming a light path!

## Chapter 122: Light Path

“Hao-er, these fruits will be ripe soon.”

Looking at the fruits on the old tree, Lin You smiled. He had always been handsome, and with such a smile, it seemed that old tree had gained an abundance of vitality.

Lin Tianhao looked at his father. His expression was still depressed, and he did not speak.

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*How time flies. One year ago, I'd just stepped into the Dao College, and now... I'm going to enter Upper Academy Island!* Wang Baole sighed, but after thinking of his gains in the Spirit Breath Village, his mood improved.

*Let's not speak about turning over the treasures to the Dao College first. When the Dao College is done recording everything and gives me their tabulation, I can take a portion of the items back or to exchange them for something valuable. Even if it's just that blue bead, it will be a huge gain!* Wang Baole thought, his heart starting to beat fast.

At this point, his right hand reached into his pocket. When he pulled his hand out, he drew out a gray bead. This bead had originally been blue, but after dimming, it had become gray.

When he held it in his hand, there did not seem to be anything special. However, Wang Baole knew its origins, and the fire in his eyes blazed.

*If I'm not wrong, this object is the long, blue spear that I condensed with my devouring seed... That means that there is only one of these in the entire Federation, right? Even though I currently don't know how to use this, this treasure is definitely special!*

After some research, Wang Baole wondered if he should ask the Little Missy in the mask. After all, if it was just what he had discovered in the Five Peaks, it was not important. But the clues from the Spirit Breath Village were also related to the mask. Wang Baole felt that he should sound her out.

As he thought this, Wang Baole immediately took out the Hallucination Pillow to enter the hallucination realm. After a while, when he returned, his gaze held some doubts. In the hallucination realm, that mysterious Little Missy had actually held her silence on this matter. No matter how he asked, there was no response.

*Not telling me?* Wang Baole rubbed the area between his brows. This Little Missy was too mischievous. He had a conjecture about the bead, however, and he planned to test it out when he reached Upper Academy Island.

After putting the bead away, Wang Baole closed his eyes and revisited his memories of fighting and using Dharmic Artifacts in the Spirit Breath Village. This was a habit that he had cultivated after reading the high officials' autobiographies, a way of concluding.

After a while, Wang Baole opened his eyes. He touched his chin and started to think.

*Learning how to create Spirit Qi waves is only one of the gains, but my Dharmic Artifacts are too monotonous. Other than exploding... they only explode. Other than injuring the physical body and eliminating enemies, perhaps Dharmic Artifacts could be used for greater effect on mental states!*

Deep in thought, Wang Baole thought of how Li Yi and the others had looked like they were about to break down when the puppets escorted them away.

*Hmm, this is a topic that I can research. Next time, I need to find a chance to experiment and create a Dharmic Artifact that can affect people's mental state. It will strike fear into people's hearts the moment they look at it, and they will surrender without fighting! Perhaps with this Dharmic Artifact, the weak can defeat the strong!*

Wang Baole's eyes lit up. He felt that he had truly gained too much from this trip to the Spirit Breath Village.

As he pondered, Wang Baole was happily cultivating himself. Gradually, the sky grew bright. When it was morning, he had just finished his meditation and discovered a crowd right outside the door of his cave abode. Visitors came and left in an endless stream, especially those True Breath students from the Dharmic Armament faculty who had just returned. Previously, the journey had been too rushed, so they did not have time to build friendly relations with Wang Baole. Now that they had returned, they immediately came to visit.

These visits continued for five days. Only when Wang Baole received the entrance letter from Upper Academy Island from the Chancellor did it become peaceful. Thus, he packed his bags and looked at the cave abode that he had lived in for a year, his anticipation growing.

At dawn on the sixth day, a gong resounded throughout the Lower Academy Island. This gong could be heard all over, and the sound continued for a full five minutes. No matter what they were doing, every student could hear the sound, and all of them walked out of their rooms. As the sound continued, they saw various True Breath figures from each faculty sprinting toward the Chancellor's peak.

“They are going to Upper Academy Island...”

“I wonder when we can also enter Upper Academy Island!”

Liu Daobin stood outside the accommodation for the Dharmic Armament faculty. Vaguely, he could see Wang Baole’s figure from among the figures sprinting toward the Chancellor’s peak. Although he looked normal on the outside, his heart was feeling melancholic.

“I have to work hard so that the distance between the Head Prefect and I won’t be too large. If not, I won’t be able to catch up to him!”

On the mountaintop behind him, Goatee had also walked out. He was also looking at the distant figure of Wang Baole, his gaze showing his encouragement and satisfaction. He could still picture Wang Baole’s blood-covered image during the Hallucination exam.

On Alchemy faculty peak, Zhou Xiaoya also silently walked out of her accommodation and gazed at the Chancellor’s peak. After a long time, her expression showed determination and longing. She tightened her small fist and muttered softly under her breath.

“Brother Baole, the alchemic recipe that I handed over has already gone for inspection. As long as it passes the inspection, I have the possibility of entering Upper Academy Island!”

Under the gazes of countless students from the Lower Academy Island, these few hundred students from various faculties who had ascended to the True Breath realm in the Spirit Breath Village gathered at the Chancellor’s peak. Very soon they reached the square on the Chancellor’s peak.

They were the people who had returned from Spirit Breath Village and the first group who would enter Upper Academy Island. There would be the second group later filled with people who took the make-up exams and those who had ascended in each Dao College’s own mystic realm. They would subsequently be sent to Upper Academy Island.

Right now, at this square, the few hundred people stood without a sound. Their anticipatory looks were all directed in front at... the Chancellor!

“Upper Academy Island, please open the mountain gates!” The Chancellor turned and swung his sleeve. His voice was like thunder, traveling toward Upper Academy Island, which was shrouded in fog.

In an instant, the sky changed, the winds reversed, and a loud roar echoed in the firmament. The fog around Upper Academy Island parted. A stream of pure light, like a bridge, suddenly shot out from within Upper Academy Island’s fog and connected to Lower Academy Island’s Chancellor peak, forming a light path!

### **Chapter 123: Dharmic Armament Pavilion!**

The moment the light appeared, all the True Breath cultivators, who had been silently waiting, felt their hearts shake. Wang Baole stood in the crowd, looking at the gathering light coming from Upper Academy Island and at the bridge that the light formed, feeling his anticipation rising.

“Upper Academy Island isn’t your final stop but another stop on your life’s path! Next, I will personally escort you to Upper Academy Island. Follow me, and let’s go!” the Chancellor said before turning and stepping onto the light bridge.

Behind him, all the True Breath students immediately followed him onto the light bridge, walking toward Upper Academy Island, which was in the middle of Green Forest Lake.

As they neared, Upper Academy Island became clearer in their eyes. Upper Academy Island had always been mysterious to them, with mist covering it throughout most of the year. Even if they were currently walking on the light bridge, they still could not see past the opaque fog covering Upper Academy Island.

It did not take long. The Chancellor stopped upon reaching the edge of the fog and turned to look at all the students behind him.

“Upper Academy Island is the core of Ethereal Dao College. There is always a heavy gust of wind isolating it from everything else, so you can only see fog, but now, you will soon see... the real Upper Academy Island!” As he finished speaking, the Chancellor turned and took a step forward into the fog, disappearing into it.

Everyone’s anticipation grew even stronger and they stepped into the fog. Wang Baole inhaled deeply and followed, melding into the fog. It seemed as though he had walked into water—everything was blurry. Other than the light bridge below his feet guiding him, he could not see anything clearly.

Even though he knew that there was no danger, Wang Baole’s natural instinct was to be wary, and the Spirit thread circulated within his body. Before long, he suddenly heard the crowd in front of him gasp.

“Heavens, this... this is Upper Academy Island!”

“It’s completely different from what I imagined.”

“Is... is this paradise?”

Hearing the gasps from the front, Wang Baole’s eyes glimmered, and he increased the pace of his steps. Soon, he stepped out of the mist, and a wave of thick Spirit Qi hit him. The surrounding mist disappeared in that instant. As even more gasps traveled toward him, he saw... the world beneath his feet!

Below his feet, there was a huge platform floating in midair. If one looked at it from above, it seemed like a chess board. Standing on the platform, Wang Baole looked around him, feeling a wave of emotion in his heart.

The water in the lake below him was clear, but it was not how Wang Baole had imagined Upper Academy Island. Instead, in that azure sky, in the sea of clouds, there were huge floating islands!

Each island was about as big as the Lower Academy Island. If it was just that, however, it would not have been as shocking. The reason everyone was so shocked was because... these ten islands were more like ten enormous mountain peaks floating upside down in midair!

On each suspended mountain, there were mountain ridges, creating numerous mountaintops. In the sea of clouds, they could see countless buildings and structures, with strange flora and fauna all over these ten suspended mountains. There was even a fragrance pervading the air.

Under the ten suspended mountains were countless vines. The vines were thick and thin, their lengths alarming, and each of them was connected, stringing all ten suspended mountains together. There were even more flourishing vines that hung from Green Forest Lake.

This was Ethereal Dao College's Upper Academy Island, drastically different from the Lower Academy Island!

The fog in the area was the array formation hiding everything and isolating it. On some level, it was as though the space had contracted. Looking from the outside, the boundaries of the area were not too big, but in actuality, the land was much, much bigger than Green Forest Lake.

All of this shook the hearts of the people who had entered. Wang Baole's eyes were also wide, and waves of emotions rose and fell in his heart. Upper Academy Island had far exceeded his imagination.

The Chancellor, who had been walking in front, smiled. He was not surprised at everyone's shock. After giving them a moment, he coughed dryly, and the sound traveled into the students' ears like thunder, silencing them.

"Upper Academy Island's structure is similar to the Lower Academy Island. There are ten suspended mountains, each mountain representing each pavilion, each a counterpart to the Lower Academy Island's faculties! Actually, the Lower Academy Island's structure was modeled after Upper Academy Island."

After introducing Upper Academy Island, the Chancellor cupped his fists toward the ten mountains ahead.

With this gesture, the ten mountains immediately glowed, which produced ten beams of light shooting forward. These beams connected with the platform that they were standing on, forming ten bridges.

Vaguely, on each suspended mountain, they could see seven or eight figures standing at the other end of the bridge, greeting the Chancellor.

"Combat faculty's True Breath students, go to the first mountain!"

As the Chancellor spoke, Zhuo Yifan and the others stepped out. This time, the Combat faculty had the most people—almost two hundred people stepped onto the bridge. As they walked toward the Combat faculty pavilion, the Chancellor's voice resounded again.

"Each eight-inch True Breath graduate will be treated differently from other students by each pavilion. Not only will they receive a cave abode, they will also receive a cruiser, and a storage bag as encouragement. Zhuo Yifan, remember to collect them."

Zhuo Yifan stopped in his steps. He could not hide his emotions, bowing his head in acknowledgment.

Standing among the crowd, Wang Baole heard this. His eyes lit up, his anticipation rising.

In the remaining time, the Chancellor started to make arrangements for each group of True Breath students to continuously make their way toward different bridges, entering different mountains. When the Array Runes faculty's students started to leave, the Chancellor pointed at the distant Array Runes Pavilion.



“In the Array Runes Pavilion, there is a mystic realm that everyone can open. There is a legacy from a bolt of divine lightning hidden in there. You can enter to try it. So far, there has only been one person who has managed to earn all of it, but it’s good enough to obtain one of the five divine powers from lightning’s legacy.”

When he finished speaking, the Chancellor’s gaze landed on the seventh suspended mountain. His voice burst forth again.

“That is the Dharmic Armament Pavilion. Dharmic Armament faculty students, go over!”

His heart shaken, Wang Baole inhaled deeply and paid his respects to the Chancellor. Only then did he step out onto the light bridge. Immediately, the people behind him followed. A row of people walked on the light bridge, and gradually... they made their way toward Upper Academy Island’s Dharmic Armament Pavilion!

As they got closer to the Dharmic Armament Pavilion’s suspended mountain, the seven or eight figures at the head of the bridge became clearer. Most of them were youths wearing blue robes with extraordinary cultivation, giving off Spirit force. This was especially so for one of them, who was a middle-aged man wearing a purple robe.

His gaze was calm. Currently, he was looking at Wang Baole and the other students that were quickly walking toward them. His expression was not angry, his body giving off a suppressive force like an ocean wave. The moment one got closer to him, the Spirit Qi in one’s body would become unstable.

“Greetings, seniors!” After leaving the light bridge, Wang Baole quickly cupped his fists and bowed deeply. The people behind him followed his lead, greeting the seniors immediately.

“This is the Pavilion Head of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion!” A long-faced blue-shirted cultivator introduced the man in purple.

“Greetings, Pavilion Head!” Without waiting for other people to react, Wang Baole quickly bowed again. Other people quickly bowed, too.

The middle-aged man in the purple robe smiled. He nodded without saying anything and turned to leave. The long-faced blue-shirted cultivator who had introduced him, however, had clearly become more friendly. He reminded Wang Baole and the others to follow. He took a few more glances at Wang Baole, clearly aware that Wang Baole was the eight-inch Spirit Root graduate.

Wang Baole was a little nervous; the people behind him were similarly so, and they all quickly followed behind. As they walked, they looked at the surrounding mountain ranges and pavilions. Soon, they reached a large hall below the mountain range.

Here, the purple-robed middle-aged man stepped. He turned, his gaze sweeping across Wang Baole and the others, and his smile grew a little.

“Welcome to Dharmic Armament Pavilion. Not a bad batch of students—not only do you have two people with eight-inch Spirit Roots, one of you even became a Armament Disciple. Take a look.” The purple-robed middle-aged man smiled slightly. When he finished speaking, a person immediately walked over from outside the large hall.

This person wore a blue long robe. His face was handsome, his figure tall, with a dignified bearing and look. He walked over and bowed toward the purple-robed middle-aged man before turning and looking at all the students, Wang Baole included. All of these familiar faces had shocked expressions. His eyes flashed and laughed lightly.

“Long time no see, everyone.”

Wang Baole’s eyes flashed. *Lin Tianhao!*

## **Chapter 124: A Familiar Smell**

The expressions of the Dharmic Armament True Breath students changed. They had naturally recognized Lin Tianhao. Before Wang Baole had replaced Lin Tianhao, the Dharmic Armament faculty could be said to have been under Lin Tianhao’s control.

Most of them had interacted with Lin Tianhao in one way or another. Although he appeared easy-going, he was actually cruel and merciless. They had heard that he had been expelled, but he had suddenly appeared at Upper Academy Island and even become some so-called Armament Disciple.

Even though they did not know what an Armament Disciple was, since the Pavilion Head had pointed him out, it must have been an important status.

After a short silence, they immediately cupped their fists to greet Lin Tianhao.

Seeing the change in everyone’s faces upon seeing him, Lin Tianhao smiled. Regarding the conflict with Wang Baole, he understood his father’s meaning; it was just that he still felt a little bit uncomfortable. On the one hand, today’s appearance was merely a formality—after all, today was the day that Upper Academy Island received their new students—but on the other hand, he was also announcing his return.

As for Wang Baole’s intense stare, Lin Tianhao merely sneered.

*Father was right. This Wang Baole is only an ant, but if I can crush him without any effort, that would be even better!*

Wang Baole’s expression was dark. Nevertheless, while he was surprised to see Lin Tianhao there, it was still within his expectations. Previously, when the Chancellor had punished Lin Tianhao, Wang Baole had already expected this.

*So, it’s truly the case that Lower Academy Island and Upper Academy Island have different student rolls...* Wang Baole looked coldly at Lin Tianhao. He had no need to hide his conflict with Lin Tianhao. Furthermore, he could also see the fluctuations from Lin Tianhao’s eight-inch Spirit Root.

Regarding that, Wang Baole knew Lin Tianhao’s background, so he was not surprised. When the others noticed the fluctuations from Lin Tianhao’s eight-inch Spirit Root, all of them had complicated feelings. After all, they did not manage to get an eight-inch Spirit Root even after struggling, but it seemed that Lin Tianhao had easily surpassed all of them.

*What is this Armament Disciple that the Pavilion Head previously mentioned?*

This was what Wang Baole was wary of. He noticed that Lin Tianhao's clothes were the same as those seven or eight young cultivators. It was not convenient for him to ask, however. Wang Baole understood that this was a form of address, and he would understand what it meant very soon.

The purple-robed middle-aged man had also noticed Wang Baole's expression, but he did not pay too much attention. He did not know the situation between Wang Baole and Lin Tianhao, and he had no intention of learning about it.

Even though both of them were eight-inches True Breath experts, and there were only a few of them, there were still some in the Dharmic Armament Pavilion. Furthermore, this was not his concern, so he did not pay it any attention.

To him, he had only appeared that day because he was required to. Whenever new disciples arrived, the Pavilion Head had to appear to give them some direction—he would never waste his time on such things otherwise.

As for Lin Tianhao, he had only joined Upper Academy Island because of connections in the Dao College. Thus, he did not pay much attention to Lin Tianhao. He spoke blandly.

“There are many rules that differ between Upper Academy Island and the Lower Academy Island. The pavilions are stricter than the faculties—Lower Academy Island is a school, but Upper Academy Island is a sect. What you learned at the Dharmic Armament faculty was only the basics. Now that you have reached the Dharmic Armament Pavilion, you will get to interact with materials to forge artifacts and learn the ways of forging. Furthermore, you will learn recipes for advanced Inscriptions and Spirit Kernels. So be humble and work hard!”

All these words were what the Pavilion Head was required to tell the new disciples each year. Now that he had finished speaking, the purple-robed, middle-aged man made the blue-shirted cultivators handle the registration and turned to leave.

Very soon, these seven or eight blue-shirted cultivators each took charge of a group of people, bringing them away.

As for Lin Tianhao, he had arrived earlier and had clearly finished his registration. Right now, Lin Tianhao bowed to the surrounding blue-shirted cultivators, who immediately returned the greeting, before finally leaving. He waved his hand and actually drew out a small cruiser!

Seeing Lin Tianhao step onto the small cruiser and leaving, Wang Baole snorted.

*That's not a big deal, I will also have a cruiser soon!*

Looking away, Wang Baole decided to bury the issue deep in his heart. He followed the long-faced, blue-shirted cultivator for registration. Along the way, they engaged in small talk. The blue-shirted cultivator was also interested in making friends, and soon, Wang Baole understood the Dharmic Armament Pavilion even better.

Not long later, the registration procedures were finalized. Everyone had also retrieved their bags filled with their robes, jade slips, and identity tokens.

The blue-shirted youth pointed at the jade slips with a serious expression and said, “Junior Brothers, you may not leak these cultivation techniques. One of them is Dharmic Armament Pavilion’s cultivation technique to refine artifacts, the Technique of Infinite Armament Transformation! The other one is Ethereal Dao College’s True Breath realm foundational cultivation technique, Cloud Ethereal Technique!

“As for the mountain ranges where you belong, and the place where you will be living, you can find directions in the jade slip. You can begin moving out.”

Once he finished speaking, the blue-shirted cultivator cupped his fists toward everyone and left.

After returning the greeting, Wang Baole stepped forward to ask about the special treatment for eight-inch Spirit Root that the Chancellor had previously mentioned. After informing Wang Baole of where to obtain his cave abode and the other items, the blue-shirted cultivator smiled and nodded before turning to leave.

At this point, all the Dharmic Armament faculty students were feeling emotional. Upper Academy Island was treating them so lightly that they felt a little disappointed. After bidding farewell to Wang Baole, they dispersed, needing some time to get used to their new status and environment.

Wang Baole, on the other hand, did not feel disappointed. Instead, he felt even more competitive due to Lin Tianhao’s appearance. He inhaled deeply, changed into a regular disciple’s robe, and patted his stomach as he looked at the long, gray robe on himself.

*Although the color is different from Lin Tianhao’s robe, I’m more handsome than he is. This clothing gives me an extremely graceful bearing!* Wang Baole felt that he could defeat Lin Tianhao simply based on appearance and felt smug. He hurried in the direction that the blue-shirted cultivator had told him so that he could retrieve his cave abode.

He walked at a comfortable pace, looking at the surrounding mountain peaks and infrastructure. Through his previous conversation with the blue-shirted youth, he already had some understanding of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion. There were four main mountain ranges divided into north, south, east, and west, with each mountain range having numerous mountain peaks. However, these four mountain ranges were not separate but whole.

Regardless of whether it was the cultivation center or the office, each made up for what the other lacked, and they were all different.

*It feels like a city itself.*

Absorbed in thought, Wang Baole saw many gray-robed disciples, all moving around hurriedly.

As for the place that was in-charge of the cave abode and cruiser, it was called the Pavilion Administrative Department and was located in the northern section of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion.

Very soon, Wang Baole found the Pavilion Administrative Department. It was a large, three-story building. When he entered, he saw a blue-shirted, middle-aged man with a mustache. He was seated behind a large table, resting with closed eyes.

There were even a few gray-robed disciples around him. All of them were speaking in whispers. When they detected Wang Baole’s presence, they immediately looked over.

Wang Baole blinked, his gaze sweeping across the blue-shirted middle-aged man. He walked over and coughed, placing his identity token on the table.

“Senior Brother, I’m here to get my cave abode.”

The blue-shirted, middle-aged man slowly opened his eyes and looked at Wang Baole with some surprise. After examining the identity token, his expression changed slightly.

“Eight-inch Spirit Root?” The surrounding disciples looked over after hearing those words. Thereafter, they cupped their fists at the blue-shirted, middle-aged man. Knowing how to behave in a delicate situation, they left.

Only when everyone around them had left did the middle-aged man take out a jade scroll from the side. After examining it, he looked troubled.

“Junior Brother, the cave abode is currently still in use and so is the cruiser... but don’t worry, it will probably be available after five days. As for the storage bag, no problem, just wait a minute.”

The blue-shirted middle-aged man finished speaking and ascended to the second floor. Soon, he returned with a black bag and placed it politely in front of Wang Baole.

Wang Baole furrowed his brows. The man’s attitude was very good, and he did not mind waiting for five days. However, Wang Baole was a smooth person, so he took out a Rainbow Spirit Stone and placed it on the table with a smile.

“Senior Brother, please help me keep an eye out. When I move into the cave abode, I will give thanks.”

The blue-shirted middle-aged man’s eyes lit up. With a laugh, he warmly promised, “Don’t worry, Junior Brother. The cave abode will definitely be ready in a few days, but you might still have to wait for the cruiser. After all, you don’t want to use something that other people have used, do you? To make a new one, we will need some time.”

The blue-shirted, middle-aged man slid the stone into his pocket. With his sincere attitude, Wang Baole had nothing else to say and could only leave. He walked according to the directions given on the jade slip. When he was almost at his living quarters, he suddenly stopped. With some suspicion, he sniffed, and his eyes immediately grew bright.

*This smell... is very familiar!*

## **Chapter 125: Baole Is Angry!**

*This is... the smell of potatoes!*

Wang Baole laughed smugly, feeling that his nose was pretty great. No matter what food, he immediately knew what it was just from the smell.

When he raised his head loftily, he saw that there was a valley ahead and immediately followed a road outside the valley. As he approached, a fragrant smell and street noises traveled toward him, causing Wang Baole to increase his pace. Just as he was about to enter the valley, he suddenly inhaled.

*Heavens, it's actually my favorite soy egg!*

Wang Baole's body shook, and he immediately stepped into the valley. Once he saw everything clearly, the streets noises, the shouting, and the numerous fragrances enveloped him.

This was actually a market. Instead of selling pills and Dharmic treasures, it sold countless snacks. Surrounding this valley, there were even many shops with advertisements hanging on the doors. One of them was actually advertising a snack that Wang Baole had seen in Ethereal City.

*I can't believe Upper Academy Island actually has a place like this. Unless... could they be testing the determination of the disciples?*

Wang Baole's eyes were bright. He noticed that there were many gray-robed disciples walking in and out, and it was incredibly lively. Occasionally, he would even see a blue-robed Armament Disciple.

In actuality, each pavilion had a market like this. Even though they had broken through the Ancient Martial Arts to become True Breath experts and were real cultivators, they could not avoid having food. With so many people, there would naturally be many businesses catering to various daily necessities.

*I am a cultivator, and I have already swallowed the world's Spirit Qi, how can I become greedy for mortal pleasures? Furthermore, I want to lose weight, so I need to resist!*

Wang Baole shook his head and sighed. He wanted to leave, but just as he began walking, he passed a small food stall. He inhaled deeply, and after struggling with himself for a long time, he finally turned back.

"Senior Brother, I want thirty servings of this potato!"

"And pack a hundred servings of this soy egg for me!"

"Senior Brother, I want all of this Ice Spirit Water, and give me eight boxes of your snacks!"

After a while, Wang Baole walked out of the market. As he ate the potatoes, he swallowed one soy egg and drank Ice Spirit Water. His expression, however, was bitter.

*Forget it, forget it. I won't diet today. After all, I had to meet Lin Tianhao the moment I arrived, and now I have to figure out how to get rid of him, and this needs a lot of effort! Just blame Lin Tianhao!*

Thinking about this, Wang Baole tore off another chicken leg and bit into it viciously. As he slowly walked out of the market, he saw a row of buildings, not far from where he was, at the bottom of a mountain.

There were at least a few thousand buildings. Although they were densely packed, they were arranged neatly. People did not live together; instead, each disciple had their own building.

When he found his quarters, Wang Baole examined it. Although it was not as good as Lower Academy Island's cave abode, it was still clean and neat. The only problem was that when he opened the window, he could see the bustling market below in the valley and smell the fragrance, which was a struggle.

*Although this place is good, it's testing my determination!*

After struggling for a while, through a great effort, he managed to resist the urge to buy snacks and studied the cultivation technique jade slip that had been distributed by Upper Academy Island.

As time passed, and the moon hung high in the sky, the market outside began to close. The surroundings grew quiet. That was especially so given the season; in addition, with the positioning of the mountain in midair, the wind was extra cold. It passed through the window, blanketing Wang Baole's body, making him feel very comfortable.

Currently, Wang Baole was also absorbed in the cultivation technique from the slip. His gaze revealed him to be deep in thought, and he occasionally looked up and closed his eyes, as though digesting and deducing the information.

Just like that, Wang Baole's first night on Upper Academy Island slowly passed. Only when the sword sun in the sky rose, casting light on the earth, did Wang Baole finally inhale and end his research into the cultivation techniques.

"So, the True Breath realm is actually separated into five levels. According to the description, the Spirit Qi on the first level is as fine as silk. The mist on the second level becomes a stream, and on the third level, the streams become a river. Thereafter, the river becomes a larger river until finally... the streams and rivers flow into the ocean," Wang Baole muttered to himself with anticipation in his eyes. After researching through the night, he finally had a better understanding of True Breath.

"The Cloud Ethereal technique is Ethereal Dao College's cultivation technique. If I cultivate according to the instructions, I can rise to the top of the True Breath realm with some cultivation! Furthermore, other than the first level, the other four levels all have their own special spells!

"The most important change in this cultivation technique is to allow Spirit Qi to become like mist, to become flexible and easy to control. When one cultivates themselves to the limit, one can increase the speed while allowing them to become ethereal. The explosive cultivation, one can slowly meld into the Spirit Qi in the world, drifting from place to place."

Wang Baole inhaled deeply, thinking of the talisman that the Vice-Chancellor had taken out when he displayed his skills.

The jade slip had also introduced the talisman. The first level of True Breath was as thin as silk due to the lack of Spirit Qi, so it was difficult to display Dharma spells. It needed the help of talismans to condense the Dharma spells. In the second level, the strands of mist gathered into a river. Unless it was some Dharma spell that required an enormous force, regular spells no longer needed the piece of paper.

*Judging from this, the Vice-Chancellor is a first level True Breath expert. If he had reached the second level, he could display Cloud Ethereal technique's... Cloud Finger!*

Thinking of the jade slip's introduction to Cloud Finger, Wang Baole's heart burned. Bending his head, he took out the jade slip for the Technique of Infinite Armament Transformation, his eyes bright.

*I can also learn the Dharmic Armament Pavilion's Technique of Infinite Armament Transformation. This is actually the complete edition of the Qi Fostering Art. There is advanced Inscriptions study, advanced Spirit Kernel study, a section on fusing materials, and a section on refining artifacts! If I manage to study this deeply, I can transform all objects into treasures on some level!*

One night of research allowed Wang Baole to have a deep understanding of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion's curriculum. The jade slip even mentioned that in the Dharmic Armament Pavilion, disciples could visit designated areas to listen to their seniors' knowledge and also look at video lectures on Upper Academy Island's Spirit Intranet.

In conclusion, Dharmic Armament disciples did not prioritize studying like Lower Academy Island. In here, disciples spent most of their time alone, absorbed in their own refinement and experiments.

With new knowledge that he needed to understand and research, Wang Baole was in high spirits, immediately immersing himself in it. Soon, four days passed. In these four days, Wang Baole cultivated the Cloud Ethereal technique while studying the Technique of Infinite Armament Transformation, visiting the market the moment he felt hungry. Perhaps because it was too convenient to get food, while he was still fumbling with his cultivation technique, his weight had steadily increased every day. In the span of four days, it had increased by a lot.

*This can't go on!*

Early in the morning of the fifth day, Wang Baole patted his stomach, eating his sumptuous breakfast with a distressed expression. He looked back as he walked out of the market. With a long sigh, he took out a mirror, looking at his clearly plumper face.

*Although I'm still handsome, I need to be careful.*

Wang Baole touched his face, wondering if he ought to go to the Pavilion Administrative Department to retrieve his cave abode. Just as he put away his mirror, he noticed the reflection of a cruiser flying overhead. Wang Baole's eyes were sharp, so he noticed that the person on the cruiser was Lin Tianhao.

*It's him again. He's also in this mountain range?* Wang Baole raised his eyebrows. When he looked again, Lin Tianhao had also noticed him. Lin Tianhao lowered his head and met eyes with Wang Baole.

One of them was in the sky, and one of them was on the ground. Lin Tianhao seemed to have some sort of thought and sneered.

*Father was right. We're not from the same world. However... Wang Baole, whether or not you can find your footing in Upper Academy Island will depend on if you get caught in my plot!*

With this thought, Lin Tianhao arrogantly looked away, ignoring Wang Baole. He purposefully headed toward the cave abode area halfway up the mountain.

Wang Baole saw Lin Tianhao fly past toward the middle area of the mountain, landing right outside the door of a cave abode and entering. His eyes grew wide, his gaze turning icy.

*He has a cave abode!*

*Interesting. This Lin Tianhao has a cruiser and a cave abode... I have an eight-inch Spirit Root and have made great contributions to the Dao College, yet I have nothing?*

Wang Baole's expression turned dark. Previously, he had not paid much attention to the cruisers, but now he noticed that the cruiser had a number. With his current understanding of Upper Academy Island, he could see that the Dao College had issued it. Realizing that it had been five days since he had



spoken to the Pavilion Administrative Department, Wang Baole suppressed his inner fire, turned around, and headed straight toward the Pavilion administrative department.

When he had almost arrived, it seemed that there was no one else. As Wang Baole noticed the blue-shirted cultivator in charge of the Pavilion Administrative Department, this blue-shirted cultivator had also noticed him. The cultivator rubbed the area between his eyebrows. Without waiting for Wang Baole to speak, he sighed.

“Junior Brother Wang, just wait a little more. I’ve already gone to ask. It seems like the cave abode will be available in another ten days.”

Hearing this Wang Baole could hardly suppress his anger, but he felt that there was something odd about this situation, so he immediately took out ten Rainbow Spirit Stones and placed them on the table.

“Senior Brother, I want it today!”

The ten Rainbow Spirit Stones were a small windfall for the blue-shirted cultivator. He looked at them and gave a wry smile.

“Junior Brother, I’m not lying to you. You possess an eight-inch Spirit Root and were Lower Academy Island’s Head Prefect. Becoming an Armament Disciple is just a matter of time for you. I wouldn’t dare offend you out of all people, but I also can’t offend the other party. I’ve already chased them away several times.”

Wang Baole squinted. He waved his sleeve, and the Rainbow Spirit Stones on the table had increased to thirty pieces. He spoke calmly.

“Senior Brother, please make it clear!”

“This...” The blue-shirted cultivator hesitated. Although he was not willing to offend Wang Baole, he still had his duty to his job. The records for the cave abode were a secret, so he could not leak them. If it had been anyone else, he would have long chased them away. Even if Wang Baole raised his hand, he still had to abide by this principle. However, Wang Baole was too good at negotiating. He looked at Wang Baole for a while, his gaze finally showing his decision.

“Junior Brother Wang, I accept you as a friend!” As he said this, he collected the Spirit Stones on the table and took out a jade slip from the various scrolls beside him. He placed it to the side. After knocking it for a while, he stood to stretch.

“Junior Brother Wang, I still have a Dharmic Artifact that I’m refining in the back. I’m going to take a look. Wait for me, I’ll be back in about five minutes.” With that, the blue-shirted cultivator turned to leave.

Wang Baole saw the jade slip on the table and immediately understood his meaning. He picked it up and dusted it before his expression changed.

The jade slip recorded all of the owners of the cave abodes. They were definitely all full, but... under Lin Tianhao’s name, there were actually two cave abodes!

These two cave abodes were together. Along with the blue-shirted cultivator's actions, the meaning was self-evident!

*D\*mn you, Lin Tianhao, you dare to take my cave abode?*

The ice in Wang Baole's gaze exploded. He could no longer suppress his growing anger, but soon, he realized that something was not quite right—it seemed as though the other person's actions were too obvious.

*Wait, this guy isn't stupid. Wouldn't he be afraid of being beaten up by me after taking my cave abode so obviously?*

Although he was angry, Wang Baole did not lose his cool. Suspicious, he thought about it, wondering what would happen if the Senior Brother from the Pavilion administrative department did not show him the jade slip. With this thought, he slapped the table, understanding immediately.

*This... digging a pit for me? This rat is actually trying to scheme against me. I've read so many high officials' autobiographies! And I was just thinking of how to beat you up. Look at how I'll cripple you this time!* Wang Baole sneered, his eyes flashing coldly.

### **Chapter 126: How Dare You Take My Cave Abode?**

Wang Baole was seething with rage. He did not leave immediately, instead standing there as his thoughts swirled in his mind while he awaited the return of the blue-shirted cultivator. Before long, the blue-shirted cultivator returned, and with a single glance at Wang Baole's facial expression, he understood that Wang Baole had already understood the situation. Therefore, he put his jade slip away and stayed silent.

Looking at the blue-shirted cultivator, a flash appeared in Wang Baole's eyes. He cupped his fists and began to speak suddenly.

"Senior Brother, I was hot-tempered when I was on the Lower Academy Island. I was unfriendly with Lin Tianhao and once attacked his subordinates in front of him. He is well aware of my personality." Wang Baole's eyes flashed as he spoke from his heart.

As he spoke, the blue-shirted cultivator was taken aback, and his eyes narrowed into slits. Qualifying for a place in Ethereal Dao College, passing the major assessments to enter the Upper Academy Island, and making it to the ranks of someone in charge of the administrative office indicated that he was not ignorant. The cultivator understood instantly as he listened to Wang Baole's words, and he turned solemn.

He realized that he had most probably been taken advantage of by Lin Tianhao, who was plotting against Wang Baole. If Wang Baole was so provoked by anger that he lost control of himself and resorted to violence against Lin Tianhao, the situation would have turned ugly. After all, had it not been Wang Baole, who had excellent people skills, he would not have revealed the information. He had a duty and responsibility to fulfill, and issues implicating the cave abodes were secrets that should not be in the public eye.

Had conflict arisen, there would have been trouble in his own territory, which would have affected his reputation. Wang Baole would have appeared unreasonable, creating a terrible impression the moment he arrived at the Dharmic Armament Pavilion, which meant that he would be punished. As for Lin Tianhao, the most he would have needed to do was apologize as he was not the one who carried out the assault. When he was rushing Lin Tianhao on the cave abode a few days ago, he did not reject but instead simply said that there would be a delay of a few days.

“This Lin Tianhao is trying to push all the blame to me?” The blue-shirted cultivator revealed a cold, distant look in his eyes as he looked at Wang Baole and spoke. He was no simple character to be pushed around given his experience, which had landed him in his current position.

“Junior Brother Wang Baole, I have rushed Junior Brother Lin several times. This time, could you help me to remind him again?” As he spoke, he took out a jade slip and passed it to Wang Baole.

“Thank you, Senior Brother!” Wang Baole’s eyes lit up. He had clearly stated his wishes previously, and this was exactly the result he wanted. He accepted the jade slip and turned to leave.

Looking at Wang Baole leave, the blue-shirted cultivator raised his head and turned to look in the direction of Lin Tianhao. He snorted—to him, regardless of whether it was Wang Baole or Lin Tianhao, they were the same. However, now that he compared the both of them, he could immediately make a conclusion and was willing to help Wang Baole and give him a legitimate reason.

Now, as Wang Baole left the Pavilion Administrative Department, he began charging toward Lin Tianhao’s cave abode, the fury in his heart burning stronger than ever.

*Lin Tianhao, regardless of whatever evil plots you had previously, I will hit you till you cry like a baby! Plotting against me, taking over my cave abode?*

The more Wang Baole thought about it, the more furious he became. He picked up speed, dashing toward the cave abode zone.

From afar, he looked like a gigantic ball, kicking up dust as he charged past everyone. Many disciples within the Dharmic Armament Pavilion were taken aback after noticing the fuss.

“What is it?”

“What’s this fatty going to do, running at such a high speed?”

As curiosity arose in the disciples, Wang Baole had arrived at the cave abode zone, specifically to the edges of the zone where Lin Tianhao’s cave abode was. He raised his right hand and retrieved a big megaphone and screamed nonsensically, starting with calling Lin Tianhao names.

“Lin Tianhao, you bully! I’ll fight till the end with you!”

His voice was like the thunder, exploding in pulses within the cave abode zone. Lin Tianhao’s cave abode was the hardest hit, as the sound wave was so strong that it spread into the cave abode, straight through the insulation of the array formation.

Lin Tianhao, who was refining Dharmic Artifacts, jolted in shock. Hearing the voice, he laughed coldly, knowing that his ploy had worked. He guessed that Wang Baole had a conflict with the Pavilion

Administrative Department before coming, and now that he had come for himself, he pretended not to hear anything.

Seeing how Lin Tianhao had refused to come out from his cave abode, Wang Baole turned solemn as he stood in front of the cave abode. At the same time, as the sound waves continued spreading, people residing in the cave abodes a distance away emerged and began reprimanding Wang Baole.

“Who’s screaming and shouting?”

“So noisy!”

Listening to the scolding from a distance away, Wang Baole laughed coldly before holding up the large megaphone again to scream into it.

“Lin Tianhao, I’m not the one who separated you from Jiang Dalong <sup>1</sup>. Even though you cruelly and wickedly destroyed my Zhu Gangqiang <sup>2</sup>, but I really respected the love between the both of you!”

The scolding from afar stopped momentarily after he spoke before being replaced with even louder exclamations of shock.

“What’s the situation? There’s too much information from that message...”

“Who’s Zhu Gangqiang, and who’s Jiang Dalong? They sound like the names of strong, beastly males...”

“Holy shit. This is a scoop! To think that Lin Tianhao had such preferences...”

As the commotion spread, Lin Tianhao could not bear it any longer. He immediately opened the cave abode and rushed out, roaring with anger.

“Wang Baole, what nonsense are you blaring?”

“You’re finally willing to come out!” The moment the furious Lin Tianhao walked out, Wang Baole’s anger erupted, his body charging out immediately, and the Spirit thread within him spread. His speed was boosted to the maximum as he arrived in front of Lin Tianhao, raising his right hand and landing a punch on him.

Wang Baole put in all his strength into the punch without reserving a single bit of his energy. He controlled the Spirit Qi from within while drawing in Spirit Qi from the outside, resulting in a hurricane in front of his fist that erupted right before Lin Tianhao.

Despite being an impressive, capable individual who had broken through at the eight-inch state and had made ample preparations by deploying his Numinous Treasures for protection, Lin Tianhao had still underestimated Wang Baole’s prowess. Now, Wang Baole’s punch, accompanied by a loud boom, directly landed on his body, breaking apart all sorts of protective measures that he had prepared.

It was deafeningly loud, and his body was thrown into the air, out of the cave abode area, unable to withstand the impact. His utter disbelief was apparent on his face, but the shield-like protection afforded by his Numinous Treasures against Wang Baole’s punch merely made him pale-faced.

“B\*stard Lin, I’ve been wanting to punch you for a long time. It’s time we settle the matters from the Pond Cloud Rainforest!”

Releasing his anger, Wang Baole picked up speed as he rushed toward Lin Tianhao, kicking hard at his crotch.

“How could he be so fast?” Lin Tianhao was taken aback. He wanted to dodge, but Wang Baole’s speed was unbelievable. As he neared, Lin Tianhao was kicked into the sky, accompanied by a loud boom once again, before landing on the mountain rocks a distance away.

The moment he landed, Lin Tianhao had wanted to take cover at the side while bearing with his pain breathlessly. However, he was still too slow. In the blink of an eye, Wang Baole neared again, grabbing a fistful of Lin Tianhao’s hair and swinging him hard toward a corner. He then kicked his crotch strongly again, sending him toward the mountainous rocks in the opposite direction.

This tactic was something that Wang Baole had learned from the nine-inch Spirit Root. He was like a hurricane due to his speed and strength in order to block any opportunity for retaliation for the other party once they lost it!

As the loud boom reverberated, Lin Tianhao, despite being protected by his Numinous Treasures, was beaten to the extent that fresh blood spurted out from his mouth and pain radiated from every part of his body as a result of the repeated attacks. He was in a daze, but Wang Baole’s angry roar indicated that it was far from over.

“You still dare to take my cave abode? You have forced me into this. I did not originally intend to blurt out the information between you and Jiang Dalong, as well as my pitiful Zhu Gangqiang. You were too cruel and too overbearing!”

Between his words, Wang Baole dashed out again, attacking continuously. Regardless of whether he twisted Lin Tianhao’s arm or kicked his crotch, Wang Baole was extremely vicious. Furthermore, his strength was far too superior that Lin Tianhao’s, who, despite also having incredible strength, had no way to fight back or resist Wang Baole.

Right now, numerous Dharmic Armament Pavilion cultivators had gathered and were watching the commotion. After understanding what was going on, they were shocked.

“Wang Baole? I have heard of him before. He’s the new disciple this year, and he’s ferocious!”

“Is he from the Dharmic Armament Pavilion like us? Why does it feel like he belongs to the Combat Pavilion next door? This... what’s this combat power?”

“And this Lin Tianhao, is it true that he really likes men? However, why did Wang Baole mention ‘his Zhu Gangqiang’?”

As the surrounding crowd discussed, Lin Tianhao’s roared crazily. Instantly, it seemed like a red glow had erupted from within his body. It was obvious that he had activated his secret treasure, resulting in a light wave that allowed him to break free of Wang Baole’s hurricane-like attacks and gave him the chance to retreat swiftly.

Wang Baole’s pupils constricted. There were many people around, making it inconvenient for him to unleash his prowess. Seeing that Lin Tianhao had broken free of the tight situation, he did not chase after him but instead cleared his throat and cupped his fists while facing the onlookers.

“Good morning, Senior Brothers. All of you are witnesses that once I mention the incident about him and my Zhu Gangqiang, he went crazy with guilt!”

The onlookers looked at each other, bewildered. Lin Tianhao’s mind buzzed with activity. He had never experienced such an incident and had never been beaten so hard another. If that was it, he could still let it go, but with the mentioning of Zhu Gangqiang, he had lost all control.

Now, his body was in intense pain, and his finger was about to break off. The immense pain in his crotch resulted in blood shot eyes, but he did not lose logical control of himself as he forcefully calmed down.

“Wang Baole, there’s no use fabricating these things! The innocent will know that they are innocent!”

Between words, Lin Tianhao’s eyes revealed a cold, evil look. He retrieved a flying knife Numinous Treasure, and the moment it flew, it instantly created a suppressive force. Its quality was shocking, and it was at least a fifth-grade Numinous Treasure. It was obvious that other than the protective treasures, Lin Tianhao had another trump card.

Wang Baole’s eyes narrowed. He felt that it was not enough to simply attack Lin Tianhao. Since he had plotted against him, then he should tarnish his reputation, regardless of whether it was true or not. After all, once his reputation was tarnished, it would be difficult for him to deny anything. Therefore, he harrumphed.

“Fellow Daoists, I have proof!”

As he spoke, Wang Baole raised his right hand, instantly retrieving a puppet. It was a large puppet that was full of hair. With one look at it, anyone could tell that it was burly and strong, and the moment it saw Lin Tianhao, it became coy.

The puppet let out a disturbing sound as it ran toward Lin Tianhao, its arms raised as if wanting to hug Lin Tianhao.

That sound, crisp and clear, spread in all directions...

That figure, extremely alluring, extremely captivating...

“That’s my Zhu Gangqiang! After being tormented by Lin Tianhao for three days and three nights, it can only let out such sounds all day. Lin Tianhao, tell me, what exactly did you do to my Zhu Gangqiang?” Wang Baole screamed angrily.

### **Chapter 127: Bastard Lin, You Want to Fight Me?**

It was dead silent all around. Those disturbing sounds dumbfounded everyone, and very quickly, the sound of ragged breathing emerged, erupting suddenly in the cave abode region, like a ferocious wind sweeping the area and creating a hurricane.

“This... what’s this? A Dharmic Artifact puppet?”

“It’s sound, gosh, that disturbing sound! I’ve got goosebumps!”

“Such talent to be able to make a puppet like this!”

The words that Wang Baole had said previously especially reverberated in the ears of the onlookers at this moment as they breathed. Eventually, it created an even more shocking commotion among the people.

“Is that true? Regardless of whether it’s true or not, what exactly did Lin Tianhao do to this Zhu Gangqiang, wrecking the puppet to this extent! Three days and three nights? What a beast!”

“Look at the expression of this Zhu Gangqiang, bashful yet aggrieved... The way it walks also seems weird and perhaps a little painful. There must be a good story behind this. Hah! Interesting! Really interesting!”

Listening to the conversations between the people around him, Wang Baole gained an understanding as well. The words of the surrounding disciples made him realize that each of them was more talented and him, and none of them were good natured.

Lin Tianhao trembled; his eyes widened to such a degree that they were about to pop out as he looked at the bashful hunk that was running toward him with open arms while making disturbing sounds. His mind buzzed with so much activity that even the Numinous Treasure flying knife in front of him became unsteady and fell to the floor.

“Get lost, get lost! Don’t come near me!”

He was flabbergasted, especially since he had never experienced such an appalling incident in his life. He stepped back instinctively, and his breathing quickened as he felt his vision turning black due to how bizarre everything was.

However, Zhu Gangqiang was so fast that the instant Lin Tianhao retreated, it immediately neared. As the disturbing sound grew louder, it opened its arms wide and hugged Lin Tianhao tight.

That hug shocked Lin Tianhao so much that all his hair stood up, making him crazy. As he flailed his arms, Dharmic Artifacts flew out of his storage bag, directly toward Zhu Gangqiang.

With a loud bang, Zhu Gangqiang’s body vibrated violently, and it was instantly thrown off. When it landed, its body was severely damaged, and Wang Baole immediately approached it to give Zhu Gangqiang a hand as it struggled to pick itself up. Wang Baole looked extremely sad as he glowered at Lin Tianhao.

“Lin Tianhao, Zhu Gangqiang is already so pitiful, and you still attacked it? Was it wrong that it was so happy to see you and simply wanted to reunite with you with a hug?”

A commotion arose once again, and the people around added fuel to the fire. Everyone understood that the accusations Wang Baole made against Lin Tianhao were not technical, and some had even vaguely heard Wang Baole mentioning something regarding the Lower Academy Island previously. However, to them, they were not acquainted with the Lower Academy Island in the first place, so as long as there was a show to watch, a show whose content made their dull lives that much more interesting, they were content.

In reality, even if Lin Tianhao and Wang Baole switched positions, they still would have reacted in the same way, especially since the scenario involved the production of Dharmic Artifacts, which jolted everyone awake. Some of them even roared in an evil tone.

“Lin Tianhao, that’s too much. Come, share what you did that turned Zhu Gangqiang into this state!”

“Haha, Lin Tianhao, don’t be shy, tell us!”

Lin Tianhao’s eyes were red with fury. To him, what had happened that day was too much to handle. Previously, he had still been able to force himself to calm down, but now that Wang Baole had created such a commotion, which was intensified by the onlookers, he realized that it was not that no one understood the situation. However, even if they understood it, it was inevitable that news would spread.

When he thought about how everyone in the Dao College would recall the scene with Zhu Gangqiang and him in the future, Lin Tianhao was about to go crazy. He was trembling hard internally—far more than when Wang Baole attacked him like a hurricane.

“Wang Baole, I’ll kill you!” As he roared, Lin Tianhao’s body flew into midair. He had lost all logic as he charged toward Wang Baole.

Wang Baole closed his eyes and laughed to himself. He was someone that held a grudge and did not like to leave without taking revenge. Had Lin Tianhao watched his behavior on Upper Academy Island, he would have let it go, but since he had made the mistake of provoking him, he decided to retaliate fiercely in such a manner!

Not only did he want to physically attack Lin Tianhao, he wanted to bruise him both in terms of his reputation and in terms of his psychological state, such that he would not recover from the shame however hard he tried.

Now, as he watched Lin Tianhao approaching him like a lunatic, Wang Baole’s eyes flashed, and he clenched his right hand into a fist, preparing to attack as the Spirit thread inside him began spreading and the devouring seed started to turn.

However, at that moment, a massive suppressive force that no one was able to resist suddenly erupted like an giant, invisible hand from the middle peak of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion’s four mountains, directly suppressing and freezing the Spirit Qi in the environment.

Then, an angry, dull voice reverberated in the surroundings.

“Wang Baole, where do you think you are? How bold of you!”

The loud voice caused Wang Baole’s entire body to tremble. He had difficulty breathing, and as his expression turned awful, Lin Tianhao trembled as well. He was forced to stop thirty feet from Wang Baole, vibrating violently as he urgently tried to control it.

Even the onlookers who were watching the show were affected as well. Their facial expressions changed and did not even try to resist it as they all respectfully lowered their heads.

“Greetings, Pavilion Head!”

As everyone greeted, a long rainbow appeared, hanging in midair. Within the rainbow was a figure, that of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion Head dressed in purple. He was stepping on a green flying sword, his expression awful as he stared coldly at Wang Baole.



Wang Baole was unhappy, for the appearance and words of the Pavilion Head meant that all the blame had been pushed onto him. However, being extremely familiar with the high officials' autobiographies that he had read, he did not reveal a look of dissatisfaction and was instead as respectful as the people surrounding him. He even stepped forward quickly as an undetectable glimmer appeared in his eyes.

Those few steps were meant to convey his respect toward the Pavilion Head as well as to make the relationship between them rosier. However, he was even nearer to Lin Tianhao as a result. Regardless, Wang Baole did not care as he greeted the Pavilion Head in the skies with cupped fists.

"Please appease your anger, Pavilion Head. The disciple knows his mistake." After which, Wang Baole immediately put the puppet beside him away. However, when he touched the puppet gently, the disturbing sounds it was making grew louder, and it looked at Lin Tianhao with open eyes, its desire for a hug stronger than ever.

This very scenario was like adding fuel to fire. Lin Tianhao was a prideful person, viewing himself as an extraordinary individual. The shock that he had experienced that day had been so huge that he could not even maintain his logical side. The crazy rage that he tried hard to suppress was instantly unleashed. If Wang Baole had stayed thirty feet away from him, it would not have mattered, but the problem was that he was now less than twenty feet away.

Therefore, instantly, Lin Tianhao roared with rage in his eyes as he controlled the Dharmic Artifact flying knife and many other Dharmic Artifacts to attack Wang Baole.

Once he started his attack, he immediately realized that something was amiss. However, it was too late to take everything back.

His sudden movement was unexpected. No one had imagined that Lin Tianhao would dare to launch an attack under the watchful eyes of the Pavilion Head!

Instantly, his flying knife and other Dharmic Artifacts rained down on Wang Baole. Wang Baole sneered inwardly but revealed a look of shock on his face as he immediately deployed all sorts of protective gear. He tumbled strongly, landing on the ground a distance away, forcing out a mouthful of fresh blood in order to look pitiful. In reality, his tough physique was not even slightly affected by the attack, but he still faked a miserable look.

"Pavilion Head, I know that I am bold. Even though I have broken through at the eight-inch Spirit Root stage and did a good deed for the Dao College in the Spirit Breath Village, I had never thought that my accomplishments would give me any special privileges.

"According to the Dao College's rules, people who have broken through at the eight-inch Spirit Root should be rewarded with a cave abode and a cruiser, but I did not accept them. This Lin Tianhao has an eight-inch like me, and he has been bestowed with everything. I am grateful to the Dao College, for I, Wang Baole, would not be me without the Dao College. I have no unhappiness toward the Dao College at all, and I understand completely.

"Even if Lin Tianhao barbarically occupied two cave abodes, taking away what was rightfully mine, I have no unhappiness."

“Today, I’m here because the Senior Brother at the Pavilion Administrative Department sent me here to get things regarding the return of the cave abode moving, and this can be proven by the jade slip! If the Pavilion Head wants to mete out a punishment, I will take it wholeheartedly.”

Wang Baole struggled to stand up as he took out his jade slip, standing with his head lowered and his eyes revealing a look of sadness and anger.

The entire place fell silent instantly. Wang Baole looked at Lin Tianhao, whose expression was turning awful, his heart filled with immense delight.

*Bastard Lin, you want to fight me? If I can't force you to your wit's end, I am not Wang Baole!*

### **Chapter 128: What a Good Test Subject!**

Wang Baole was extremely delighted as he thought of how perfectly he had executed the entire thing and had pushed Lin Tianhao into a difficult position.

His delight was not apparent to the onlookers, but his back looked broad and reliable in the eyes of the masses. His words especially moved the surrounding cultivators, for they were all empathetic toward the disadvantaged. This was the pity tactic that Wang Baole was using!

The bold move by Lin Tianhao, who resorted to violence under the watchful eyes of the Pavilion Head, also dumbfounded everyone as they developed a certain hostility toward Lin Tianhao. Now, they all lifted their heads to look at the Pavilion Head.

Lin Tianhao, on the other hand, felt suffocated. He had never seen this side of Wang Baole and instinctively realized that the fellow was pretending to be disadvantaged, putting up a good show that was filled with vivid details.

“Pavilion Head, he’s just pretending...” Lin Tianhao grew anxious as he tried to speak. However, the middle-aged man dressed in a purple robe in the sky simply threw a cold gaze, causing Lin Tianhao to tremble with fear internally, as he was forced to shut his trap despite the anger that he was experiencing reaching the boiling point.

Seeing how Lin Tianhao fell silent, Wang Baole was even more gleeful. However, he understood that everyone was intelligent, and his acting could not be too exaggerated. Therefore, he lowered his head and did not speak.

The purple-robed middle-aged man in midair withdrew his gaze from Lin Tianhao. The violence that he had displayed previously made him unhappy. Even though the additional cave abode that Lin Tianhao had approved by him on the grounds that it would be used to refine Dharmic Artifacts, he had not thought much about it then. Now that trouble had arisen, if Lin Tianhao had not launched his attack, he would have put his main focus on reprimanding Wang Baole and simply chiding Lin Tianhao, seeing how everyone had greeted him respectfully.

However, now the entire situation had changed, given that Lin Tianhao had attacked and Wang Baole’s attitude was justified based on the flawless story that he had told and the proof that he had.

Furthermore, it was pivotal that Wang Baole had remained respectful and not willful throughout, despite having sensible arguments for his behavior.

On the other hand, Lin Tianhao...

What intensified the situation was that there were onlookers. As the Pavilion Head, he could not ignore the thoughts that people might have in their minds. Now, he narrowed his eyes, looking at Wang Baole several more times. He could see through Wang Baole's pretense and motives, but he had to agree that Wang Baole was a capable individual who knew how to maintain relationships!

"Both of you, don't you dare do this again! One more fight in the Dao College, and both of you would be severely punished!"

"And you, Lin Tianhao! Why on earth are you occupying a cave abode that belongs to others? Return it immediately!"

The Pavilion Head glanced coldly at Lin Tianhao before turning to leave.

Lin Tianhao's heart trembled. Wang Baole was pretending to be bitter and pitiful, but he was the one that was truly bitter and pitiful. He knew that he had lost this round.

As the Pavilion Head left, Wang Baole stood up, clutching his chest as he cupped his fist toward the people around him.

"Senior Brothers, everyone is from the same sect, and we would be neighbors in the future. I am new here, and I hope to gain valuable advice from all of you!" Wang Baole stepped up passionately, as he greeted all the Senior Brothers and Senior Sisters amiably. He even gave each of them one of his Rainbow Spirit Stones.

Even if they only received one Rainbow Spirit Stone, everyone present was pleased, and their impression of Wang Baole grew fonder. They started chatting heartily with each other—the earlier incident had left them with a good impression of Wang Baole. They understood that before them was a cunning, ferocious, yet extremely capable individual.

At the same time, the puppet was proof that Wang Baole was extremely proficient at refining Dharmic Artifacts. Furthermore, as someone who had achieved a breakthrough at the eight-inch state, he knew how to delicately handle tasks and interpersonal relationships. A person like him was an all-rounder in their eyes. They had been aware previously of the matters involving Wang Baole in the Lower Academy Island and the Spirit Breath Village, but they did not know the details. Now that they began checking the matter up and gained a better understanding of everything, they became even more passionate.

Even though they all realized that Wang Baole had been putting on an act just now, they did not care.

As the laughter all around inflicted pain to his ears, Lin Tianhao immediately turned and rushed toward the cave abode. Wang Baole glance at him, harrumphed silently in his heart, and did not care about him anymore. He continued chatting heartily with the people around, and after they had all left, Wang Baole stood in front of Lin Tianhao's cave abode.

Looking at it in detail, the two cave abodes there were situated at the extreme corners of the entire area. The distance between their doors was less than a hundred feet. After taking a look, he felt that the

one on the right carried a bad omen for it was the last in the line, while the one on the left was much better, being situated in the middle, and therefore began to speak loudly.

“Lin Tianhao, I want the cave abode on the right that you’re residing in. Get lost right away—I want it!”

The moment he spoke, blue veins immediately appeared on the forehead of Lin Tianhao, who was moving his items into the left cave abode. He had originally planned to give Wang Baole the cave abode on the right, but now he changed his mind. He turned and rushed into the cave abode on the left and cleaned up briefly before throwing out the cave abode identity token.

“Take it or leave it!” he said as he returned to his cave abode on the right.

“A grown up like you, still rebellious and mischievous!” Wang Baole caught the identity token and cleared his throat. In the right cave abode, Lin Tianhao gritted his teeth after hearing Wang Baole’s words. Then Wang Baole stepped dramatically into his own cave abode on the left.

Wang Baole was instantly satisfied the moment he stepped inside and took a look. Not only was it more than double the size of his cave abode in the Lower Academy Island, there was also a resting area, a seclusion area meant for meditation, and most importantly, came equipped with an Earth fire smelting furnace. That meant that he could refine Dharmic Artifacts in the comfort of his own cave abode and no longer needed to go to a designated area to do so like on the Lower Academy Island.

At the back, there was also a veranda where one could see the clouds in the sky and another mountain peak in the distance. Looking even further, it seemed like the sky and the lake had combined into a beautiful painting, making one rejuvenated.

At the same time, the Spirit Qi was much more concentrated compared to his previous room. That was accentuated by the fact that different kinds of flowers and plants were growing in the cave outside the balcony, and the scent of the flowers carried in the wind was refreshing to anyone who smelled it.

*What a good place.* Even though Wang Baole was a little disappointed that he was neighbors with Lin Tianhao, he was able to distract himself from that as he was satisfied with the cave abode. Delighted, he sat there and began munching on a bag of snacks.

*Next, I need to set aside time to refine and learn. I’m not here to battle Lin Tianhao. My goal is to become the President of the Federation!*

Thinking of this, Wang Baole put his snacks down and began accessing the Spirit Intranet of the Upper Academy Island. He familiarized himself with the structure of Upper Academy Island as well as information regarding higher-level inscriptions and the forging.

*Other than this, I also need to understand the structure of Upper Academy Island and the meaning of being an Armament Disciple...*

Wang Baole was deep in thought. He had understood a small part of everything and now began to look for information in detail.

At the same time, as Wang Baole was learning and researching, his neighbor, Lin Tianhao, was extremely depressed. He gritted his teeth as he sat inside, an evil look appearing in his eyes. As he took out his jade slip to pass some instructions, he laughed coldly.

“Wang Baole, how dare you tarnish my reputation! Let’s have both our reputations tarnished then!”

Time passed quickly, and three days flew by. The incident of how Wang Baole regained possession of his cave abode only spread slightly within the Dharmic Armament pavilion. After all, to the majority of the disciples in the Dharmic Armament Pavilion, both Lin Tianhao and Wang Baole were merely just newcomers that did not garner much attention. Even though Wang Baole’s performance in the Spirit Breath Village and Lower Academy Island was impressive, it simply meant that he had potential to be unleashed.

Right now, Wang Baole finally found the information that he was looking for on the Spirit Intranet and gained a deeper understanding of the Upper Academy Island and the Dharmic Armament Pavilion.

“The Dharmic Armament Pavilion takes charge of refining Dharmic Artifacts and Numinous Treasures internally and the maintenance of Dharmic Armaments for the troops situated within the borders. At the same time, Ethereal Dao College does not advocate individuality. Instead, the disciples from the different pavilions have to work with each other, practicing outside in small groups during semester time,” Wang Baole mumbled as he meditated with his head raised and his legs crossed.

Simultaneously, he also found information about the Dharmic Armament Pavilion’s structure.

The Dharmic Armament Pavilion was like a city. Going from top to bottom, there was the Pavilion Head, followed by the four Deputy Pavilion Heads and the Armament Soldiers, then the numerous Armament Disciples. An ordinary disciple was of the lowest rank.

At the same time, relative levels of authority lay in the hands of these people. To Wang Baole, the Pavilion Head was like City Lord of a city, ranked highly within it and controlling the entire place. He had great authority, able to not only control life and death but also wielding limitless power in the boundaries of the rules.

As for the Deputy Pavilion Heads, they could be thought of as the deputy city lords. They were assistants to the Pavilion Head and also wielded immense power. They were all in charge of their respective regions in the Dharmic Armament Pavilion, and if they collaborated with each other, they could possibly go against the Pavilion Head.

The Armament Soldiers belonged to the four deputy Pavilion Heads in name. Under the leadership of each deputy Pavilion Head were some Armament Soldiers who were in charge of the organizational management within the Dharmic Armament Pavilion. They were the supervisors of the various organization.

Lastly, the Armament Disciples shared a similar relationship as that between the Armament Soldiers and the Deputy Pavilion Head. There were many Armament Disciples under the lead of each Armament Soldier, and they assisted the Armament Soldiers in management. All these were similar structures seen in almost every pavilion within Upper Academy Island. The ordinary disciples, on the other hand, had no power at all.

*Not to mention the Pavilion Head, the Armament Soldier alone wields so much power that it’s unimaginable! If one becomes an Armament Soldier, they will be in charge of an organization. Furthermore, this is Upper Academy Island, the core of Ethereal Dao College! Every single Armament Soldier would make an ordinary City Lord bow in respect if they appeared in the streets!*

Wang Baole took a deep breath as his eyes revealed an unusual look.

*If I could become an Armament Soldier, not only will people be less likely to bully me, but I will also be a step closer to becoming the President of the Federation!*

Wang Baole was filled with emotions. As he thought of searching up ways to become an Armament Disciple on the Spirit Intranet, he suddenly noticed that a notice had appeared on the Upper Academy Island's Spirit Intranet, and his name was inside.

"Hmm?" Wang Baole reacted and immediately opened it. Soon, he began laughing.

"Today, let's introduce Wang Baole from the Dharmic Armament Pavilion. It's said that when he was in the Lower Academy Island previously, he cheated in order to rise to the ranks. He was despicable and shameless to the extreme..."

"So, this is it? I was wondering why he was so rich. It turns out that when Wang Baole was Head Prefect in the Lower Academy Island, he was violent and forcefully snatched what belonged to others. He was so greedy and such a thief, and that allowed him to amass wealth!"

Notices like these were few and far between initially, but they began to grow in number. That was especially so as the notices began to focus on issues of lust, wealth, and power, and they were extremely insulting.

Such lowly tactics made Wang Baole realize that Lin Tianhao only looked intelligent on the surface but was extremely childish. That was the conclusion that he came to after reading the notices, and he lowered his head slightly.

If this was the Lower Academy Island, Lin Tianhao's tactics could still work. However, they were on Upper Academy Island, and everyone was focused on their own cultivation. No one was stupid. Issues like that could hardly tarnish one's reputation and instead revealed how uncultured and sly one was.

*Culture... it seems like Lin Tianhao has hit puberty late. He's so narrow minded, like a clown.*

Wang Baole shook his head and felt that he should not bother himself with it. He had wasted too much time on Lin Tianhao, so he raised his right hand, where his storage bracelet was, and waved slightly to retrieve an object.

*However, I shouldn't waste the opportunity. Let's experiment with him... the limits of how much the human mind can withstand. It's nice that I can now research psychological Dharmic Artifacts!*

## **Chapter 129: The Insane Lin Tianhao**

Thinking of his research direction, Wang Baole was uncontrollably excited.

Holding the megaphone, which he had just retrieved, Wang Baole smiled slyly. He turned to the smelting furnace room to further refine the megaphone and adjust the inscriptions, causing the Dharmic Artifact to be even more powerful and changing the direction where the sound waves from it would spread.

As for the materials required, Dharmic Armament Pavilion disciples on the Upper Academy Island could use Spirit Stones to buy more refinement materials. Most of the materials were considered rare items on the Lower Academy Island, but that was due to differences in level. In reality, refinement materials that were really rare were present on the Upper Academy Island but were not possible to purchase with the Spirit Stones. Instead, they could only be exchanged after one completed a certain specified mission.

Soon, Wang Baole concluded his refinement process. He was satisfied as he looked at the thirty or so megaphones that he had refined and excitedly installed them on a wall of the cave abode.

Behind that wall was Lin Tianhao's cave abode.

After adjusting all of them, Wang Baole dusted his hands and sat down with crossed legs. Satisfied, he took out a bag of snacks and began munching on them.

*Next, it's time for the experiment. Let's first test the psychological impact of the noise.*

As he spoke, Wang Baole swept his right hand, and all the megaphones installed on the walls trembled and were activated. However, no sound emerged from his cave abode at all. Instead, all the noise was directed toward Lin Tianhao as a result of the adjustments that Wang Baole had made.

The noise pierced through the stone wall, erupting directly in Lin Tianhao's cave abode!

Lin Tianhao was assessing the Spirit Intranet within his cave abode, looking at the discussions smearing Wang Baole. His lips curled into a smile, and he had wanted to send out instructions again using his jade slip. However, suddenly, it was as if waves of thunder had appeared within his cave abode, resulting in shocking, deafening sound waves.

It was like an extremely large number of people made angry, disturbing sounds simultaneously, forming an extremely loud sound wave that violently vibrated his cave abode. Dust even fell as a result of the vibrations of the surrounding walls.

As his cave abode was located at the edge of the entire region, with the other side of it being a cliff edge, the noise was unable to affect other people, despite being extremely loud.

Lin Tianhao was taken aback, and he had not been able to react before his eardrums burst. He instantly turned dizzy and felt as if his world was spinning. His quiet secret chamber was instantly thrown into a world of chaos.

Screaming pitifully, Lin Tianhao's trembling body immediately stood up. He covered his ears, but the noise was too loud and reverberated continuously within his cave abode. The sound waves erupted, resulting in his breathing growing extremely rapid, almost as if his heart was about to burst apart. He rushed out of the cave abode, almost growing crazy. The hum in his ears was never ending, and he only recovered after a long while. He glared angrily at Wang Baole's cave abode.

"Wang Baole!" Lin Tianhao had never expected that Wang Baole's retaliation would be so perverse. Unable to control himself, he began screaming angrily.

His angry roars spread into the ears of Wang Baole, who was munching on his snacks while sitting cross-legged. He took out his jade slip and began recording.

“What a huge reaction. It is likely that the protective mechanisms within his body have been activated. The sudden eruption of sound waves challenges the limits of human behavior. It’s not useful for influencing one’s psychological state... I must record this result.”

Wang Baole recorded the results of his experiment with a look of seriousness on his face. He adjusted the megaphone, and seeing that he would not be able to obtain experimental results in a short time, he began researching on the Cloud Ethereal technique.

Lin Tianhao, who was standing outside the cave abode, was jumping with anger. His eyes were blood red, and he stood there, howling, for a long while. Even though Wang Baole refused to come out, the disturbing sound had grown much softer. Lin Tianhao gritted his teeth and returned to his cave abode once again. However, he had belittled Wang Baole’s psychological test. The noise had decreased in volume but then suddenly grew louder again, becoming more shocking than ever.

The loud boom was unbearable for Lin Tianhao. He immediately ran out of the cave abode, his anger and insanity pushed to the extreme. He began attacking Wang Baole’s cave abode but was unable to overcome the array formation. After a long while, Lin Tianhao was pushed to the limits and was going insane. After breathing rapidly a few times, he clenched his teeth.

“Wang Baole, you want to drive me away? Impossible!”

Lin Tianhao’s eyes revealed a cold look. He knew that it would be useless to approach the Pavilion Head regarding the matter since Wang Baole did not assault him. Furthermore, the Pavilion Head would not bother himself with insignificant matters like that. Therefore, he gritted his teeth before turning to leave. When he returned at night, he activated the many protective Dharmic Artifacts that he had brought, forming a dense protective shield to block out the crazy noise.

However, the noise came and went. Sometimes, it was completely silent, while other times, it would suddenly erupt. Even if Lin Tianhao could shield against it by activating the protection artifacts, activating them wasted a lot of his spirit energy. Therefore, after a few occasions, seeing that it has quieted down, he turned off the protective shield, only to have the noise suddenly erupting again, frightening him and putting him in a trembling state as his blood rushed, as if trying to burst both his brain and his heart.

After a few consecutive incidents, Lin Tianhao still could not figure out the pattern. He shouted angrily toward the sky. He felt that even if he was a True Breath cultivator, his heart could not withstand attacks like these. He was indignant, and even though he did not move out of the cave abode, he was unable to stay in the same place and had to seek temporary refuge elsewhere.

Seeing how his test subject had left, Wang Baole was a little disappointed. After a few sighs, he shifted his attention from Lin Tianhao. Everything on his mind was revolving around practicing the Cloud Ethereal technique and becoming an Armament Disciple in the shortest time. He had already thoroughly researched the methods to become an Armament Disciple on the Spirit Intranet.

*If I want to be promoted to the Armament Disciple, I must perfectly refine a hundred first-grade Dharmic Artifacts!*

A flash appeared in Wang Baole’s eyes. He knew that a first-grade Dharmic Artifact was defined differently on the Upper and Lower Academy Islands.



Dharmic Artifacts on the Lower Academy Island were stagnated at the Spirit Kernel stage due to the teachings of knowledge. There were no complete teaching materials regarding the refinement materials and the refinement process, resulting in the products that the students produced being of quasi-first-grade Dharmic Artifacts.

On the other hand, the standards set by Upper Academy Island were that the first-grade Dharmic Artifacts were perfectly refined using superior-quality refinement materials and refinement tools. This made the Dharmic Artifacts a lot more challenging to make, and at the same time, the Dharmic Artifacts made were not to be chosen freely by the disciples. Rather, it had to be one of the first-grade Dharmic Artifacts listed by the Dharmic Armament Pavilion in order to meet the requirements.

Picking from the approved list, one could be promoted if one managed to refine a hundred different Dharmic Artifacts!

This task was extremely challenging and difficult to fulfill within a short time, especially for those who had just managed pass the assessment to enter Upper Academy Island. There were also many who were unable to accomplish it even after several years.

However, even though it was also challenging to Wang Baole, it was not a major issue. After all, when he was on the Lower Academy Island, Wang Baole had long been exposed to the refinement materials and the refinement process, and he had successfully made some first-grade Dharmic Artifacts. He could even made artifacts a grade higher, just that they were not perfect.

He was confident that it would not take long for him to refine perfect, first-grade Dharmic Artifacts after learning systematically.

*It is definitely a challenge to become an Armament Disciple, but how did Lin Tianhao do it?*

After understanding the method to become an Armament Disciple, this question floated in Wang Baole's mind. However, he quickly recalled Lin Tianhao's background. He thought briefly and vaguely understood the reason.

*It seems like I need to find an influential character who will speak up for me quickly. If not, if I only work hard and train, I will definitely be disadvantaged in the future.*

Wang Baole scratched his head as he thought. His target was the elder who gave him the jade slip on the Chancellor's peak, someone whom he deeply respected.

Right now, the significance of the elder in the Dharmic Armament Pavilion seemed even greater.

*Someone who is superior to the Pavilion Head?*

Wang Baole thought about it briefly before collecting his thoughts. He understood that the basis for everything to work would be that he made it as an Armament Disciple at the very least.

*First, refine some Dharmic Artifacts, and rise to the rank of an Armament Disciple!*

As he trained in the Cloud Ethereal techniques, he also began to work hard in researching the Technique of Infinite Armament Transformation. He even bought materials in his attempt to refine the perfect, first-grade Dharmic Artifact.

As the days went by, Wang Baole's life became stable and peaceful. Other than practicing and refining, he spent his time watching lessons on the Spirit Intranet. Occasionally, he would head outside for classes, and everything seemed to return to normal.

His neighbor, Lin Tianhao, did not return, so even though it appeared that Wang Baole only had a single cave abode, he could practice and refine Spirit Stones in record time as the two cave abodes shared a spirit pool. Wang Baole was comfortable, but he began to miss Lin Tianhao.

*What a perfect test subject... It's such a pity that he left just like that. There are still many experiments that have not been carried out. My research on psychological Dharmic Artifacts has been forced to stop.*

Wang Baole felt like it was a wasted opportunity, but that thought did not linger for long. After half a month, Lin Tianhao returned...

The moment he returned to the cave abode, he retrieved numerous megaphones that he had gotten others to make within the time period that he was away. He installed them on the walls and turned them on to produce noise in order to retaliate directly against Wang Baole.

At the same time, he was also prepared, activating specially created protective measures. After blocking out the noise, Lin Tianhao sat down with crossed legs and laughed coldly.

"Want to force me to move away? Impossible!"

Noticing that Lin Tianhao had returned, Wang Baole was surprised. He had long prepared for the day that Lin Tianhao would copy his tactics and was able to resolve it easily. He also feared that he would run again, so he immediately carried out his next experiment. He swept his sleeve and bellowed with a deep voice, "Zhu Gangqiang!"

With a loud boom, a figure instantly flew out from Wang Baole's storage bracelet. As it fell to the ground with a bang, the figure raised its head and let out a low growl.

### **Chapter 130: The Recognition and Research Toward Psychological Attacks**

That was the Dharmic Artifact puppet that Wang Baole had refined!

On the surface, the puppet was a hunk, burly and extremely suave. It was especially hairy, which made it look rough and vicious. If not for the noise that it made, it actually resembled a metal tower standing there. Even its gaze was bright, making it very different from the other puppets that Wang Baole had made.

Speaking of this Dharmic Artifact puppet, it belonged to the earliest batch of puppets that Wang Baole had refined during his vacation at the Lower Academy Island a while back. It had accompanied him through the life-and-death battles in the Pond Cloud Rainforest and was the one who instilled indescribable fear into the men in black.

It was the one that had led Wang Baole to have a new understanding of Dharmic Artifact puppets!

During the incident back then, there had been three puppets that made the men in black fearful. In the Dao Enlightenment incident, the puppets had been further improved by Wang Baole when he installed

voice functions in them. However, even though Wang Baole had continued to refine more puppets after that, most of them had been severely damaged. That was especially so when he was in the Spirit Breath Village, where the array formation of the debris mountain killed a large number of them.

Therefore, this puppet was the only one remaining from the original batch. It had been damaged previously by Lin Tianhao's flying knife, but Wang Baole had completely repaired it. Now, Wang Baole stood there, all eyes on the puppet, with a look of satisfaction.

"Zhu Gangqiang, I'm using you for an experiment. Are you willing to do it?" Wang Baole pretended to speak softly.

The moment he spoke, the hunky puppet suddenly raised its head. It looked confused, but the bright glow from the Rainbow Spirit Stone replaced its gaze. If one did not look closely, one would think that the puppet had resurrected, even more suave and ferocious than ever. It then suddenly spoke.

"Emm!"

That sound instantly caused Wang Baole to tremble from head to toe.

"Alright, alright..." Wang Baole could not stand the sound at all. He touched his nose and cleared his throat before bringing the puppet into the smelting furnace room. He planned to make a few more of the puppet as well as to enhance and tweak Zhu Gangqiang a little.

Soon, when Wang Baole walked out, three hunks were following behind him. They all looked exactly like Zhu Gangqiang, strong and burly. They were topless, revealing their exaggerated muscles, and coupled with how hairy they were, they sure instilled fear in anyone timid just by standing there.

Satisfied with Zhu Gangqiang One, Two, and Three that he specially created, Wang Baole looked in the direction of where his neighbor, Lin Tianhao, was at from the corner of his eyes and delightfully flailed his arm.

"From now on, all of you are the protective guards of me, Wang Baole! Guard the door, and no one shall enter without my permission. At the same time, remember the task you have at hand—record the data regarding the emotional changes in our test subject."

"Emm!" the three hunky puppets roared simultaneously.

As the roar caused Wang Baole to tremble, the three puppets immediately turned and dashed toward the entrance of the cave abode. They stood outside the door of Wang Baole's cave abode, putting up an imposing front, and did not move at all.

Wang Baole was satisfied. He sat down with his legs crossed and did not care about anything that happened outside as he continued to research on the chapter regarding refinement materials in the Technique of Infinite Armament Transformation. Just like that, two days passed quickly. Lin Tianhao did not leave his cave abode in those two days. He felt comfortable, and in the pockets of time between refining Dharmic Artifacts, he looked coldly in the direction of Wang Baole's cave abode, his lips curling with disgust.

"Other than using a megaphone to create noise, this Wang Baole has no other tactics, unlike me. I have so many of them, so let's see who moves away first, Wang Baole!"

As he exclaimed, Lin Tianhao stood up, wanting to go outside to buy some materials for refining Dharmic Artifacts. He was in good spirits and stepped outside after opening the door of his cave abode.

However, the moment he stepped out, a familiar disturbing sound hit his ears even before he could realize it. Shocked, Lin Tianhao turned to look in the direction of the sound and immediately saw the three burly hunks standing outside Wang Baole's cave abode. They were even in awkward positions as they looked at him lustfully.

It was difficult to imagine three burly hunks making themselves so coy and seductive, and the entire scene was definitely refreshing and unconventional. It was even more difficult to imagine three hunks acting so bashful while making soft, disturbing sounds, and the combination of everything made one's hair stand on end.

They were even waving at Lin Tianhao, signaling for him to come.

If that was just it, it would not have mattered as much. However, Wang Baole's trump card was not to be belittled. Instantly, Lin Tianhao, who was standing there extremely confused, heard the high-pitched voice from the three burly hunks.

"Come on, uh... em... Little lover, come on!"

"Emm, come and catch me, come and spank me!"

"Baby... Emm..."

That scene immediately caused Lin Tianhao's mind to buzz with activity. He almost tripped on his feet, goosebumps covering every inch of his body, especially when he noticed that the three puppets all looked identical to Zhu Gangqiang. He instantly thought of the slander that Wang Baole had made against him previously, and his rage rose there and then as he subconsciously wanted to attack them.

However, he controlled himself after realizing that it was all Wang Baole's ploy. The moment he attacked, he would have fallen into a trap. Therefore, he forcefully restrained himself, pretending to look calm and to not have heard anything as he walked away.

The three puppets instantly returned to their normal state the moment Lin Tianhao left. They continued standing there like guards, and Wang Baole's eyes lit up as he stood in the cave abode.

*It seems like this kind of psychological warfare has the most effect. This result will be extremely useful for my research in the future.*

Wang Baole felt that he had found a direction to further research psychological Dharmic Artifacts. In reality, he was not at all concerned about Lin Tianhao's attacks. If he ever did attack, he would have violated the order by the Pavilion Head. After all, the puppets were also his Dharmic Artifacts. Attacking them was equivalent to attacking him, and until then, Wang Baole had no plans of driving this valuable test subject away—he needed to make the most out of it.

*Little Bastard Hao, work hard! I have high expectations of you.*

After he had finished recording everything, he felt that the experiment data would be immensely useful to him when he refined Dharmic Artifacts in the future. He was in good spirits as he continued to read up on refinement materials. In reality, the effort that he had put in all that while, coupled with the

understanding he had previously, had already allowed Wang Baole to grasp the majority of the concepts.

Next, he planned to begin trying to refine perfect first-grade Dharmic Artifacts after fully understanding the refinement materials. This was so that he could familiarize himself with the last chapter on refinement materials. He had not realized himself, but since arriving on Upper Academy Island, he had wasted no time in improving his skills and knowledge at breakneck speed. On the other hand, Lin Tianhao had not been able to concentrate on his cultivation as his mind was about to go crazy. This way, it would not be long before the Wang Baole and Lin Tianhao's standards grew further apart.

In the two weeks that followed, Lin Tianhao did not realize it, but there were many times when he was so angry that he flipped. However, unless he decided to never head out, every single time that he left and returned to the cave abode, Wang Baole's three puppets would cause green veins to bulge on his forehead. He could never get used to them.

On the other hand, it was impossible for him not to head out. Even if he tried his best to reduce the number of times that he had to go outside, there were still people who paid him a visit occasionally.

Very quickly, news began to spread. Lin Tianhao was helpless, and the thought of moving away arose in his mind. However, he was indignant and did not have the desire to learn and practice anymore. Therefore, he began thinking about how to retaliate.

Before he thought of a method of revenge, a youth dressed in a white robe appeared outside his cave abode. He was dressed differently from a Dharma disciple and carried an unusual air. One could see that he was someone of high status, someone who wielded considerable power.

He was extremely handsome and charismatic, making the white robe that he was wearing look even lighter.

He stood outside Lin Tianhao's cave abode with his arms akimbo. With a puzzled look, he gazed at the three burly puppets standing outside Wang Baole's cave abode.

The three hunks stood like guards, their eyes motionless and their manner imposing.

As he stared, the youth appeared a little touched. After throwing a quick glance at Wang Baole's cave abode door and then at Lin Tianhao's cave abode, he thought for a moment before flicking his sleeves, causing Lin Tianhao's cave abode door to vibrate instantly.

"Is Junior Brother Lin around?" the youth asked with a smile.

Inside the cave abode, Lin Tianhao was feeling awful. He had not planned to care about it after hearing the voice initially, but as he raised his head to look outside the cave abode, his pupils immediately constricted.

"Chen Yutong? Why is he here?"

Lin Tianhao recognized the white-shirted youth standing outside the cave abode. He knew that he was considered the true natural talent within the Dharmic Armament Pavilion. He had broken through to become a True Breath expert at the eight-inch Spirit Root stage, and after gaining admission to Upper

Academy Island, he had been selected by one of the five elders of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion as a personal disciple. He was a famous character on Upper Academy Island.

He was also extremely handsome and outstanding. Furthermore, he was also particularly proficient in the restoration of Dharmic Armaments. Even the Grand Supreme Elder had once nodded and praised the Numinous Treasure that he had refined!

Not only was he an Armament Soldier, he was the cream of the crop among them. There had also been news spreading that he would soon become a Deputy Pavilion Head of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion!

A highly regarded character like him was someone whom even Lin Tianhao, with his influential family background, wanted to acquaint himself with and was fearful of offending. However, ever since arriving at Upper Academy, he had not had the opportunity to interact with him much and was not chummy with him.

Seeing that he had arrived, Lin Tianhao immediately stood up to open his cave abode door. He stepped out and revealed a cheerful smile as he greeted him with cupped fists.

“Senior Brother Chen...”

At the exact moment that he appeared after opening the door to his cave abode, even before he could complete his sentence, the three puppets immediately turned their heads, their gazes instantly turning lustful and their bodies contorting awkwardly. They began making disturbing sounds and speaking in alluring voices.

“Little lover, you’re finally outside! Come on, emm!”

Blue veins immediately appeared on Lin Tianhao’s forehead. If it were someone else and not Lin Tianhao, they would have let it pass. However, now that he had been insulted in this manner when he had wanted to befriend Chen Yutong, who had personally made the visit, Lin Tianhao immediately went crazy. He roared angrily and wanted to attack before...

The white-shirted youth Chen Yutong suddenly turned his head to stare at the three puppets. They immediately returned to normal, but a look of undetectable surprise appeared in their eyes.