

Ability 31

Chapter 31 Who Can Endure This Injustice?!

"You're asking for death!"

Hearing this, the thief instinctively wanted to turn his head to see which fool wanted to catch him.

However, before he could do anything,

he felt his arm being clamped down like it was in a vise, rendering him immobile. At the same time, his knee was bumped hard, and a powerful force pushed him from behind.

"Thud--!"

The thief fell heavily to the ground.

A strong man, wearing a casual jacket on top and dark gray slacks on the bottom, firmly pressed the thief's arms to the ground, kneeling on one knee with his knee digging into the thief's waist.

"Damn it!!!"

The thief struggled angrily but quickly realized that his strength was no match for the person pinning him down. It was a total waste of effort!

Frustrated, he gritted his teeth and tried to lift his upper body, twisting his neck as much as he could. Finally, he managed to see the person holding him down.

Their eyes met!

His eyes were filled with malice, and with a flushed face, he grinned sinisterly and said, "Kid, I can see you clearly. Even if I'm caught, I'll just serve three years at most. When I get out, you better be careful. But if you let me go now, I'll..."

"Shut up!"

The man pressing down on the thief cut him off sharply. After disarming the thief and removing the knife from his hand, he pinned the thief's hands with one hand and unzipped his jacket with the other.

Suddenly!

A sky-blue uniform was revealed.

It was a police uniform!

"If I were afraid of people like you seeking revenge, I wouldn't be a cop!"

Thief: ...

Originally, seeing the man holding him down using only one hand, the thief had thought about trying to break free. But the instant he saw the police uniform, he felt utterly subdued. The very thought of resisting evaporated, and he didn't even dare to make a sound, let alone continue with his threats.

At the same time,

the passengers, having seen the police uniform, found their backbone, and their morale soared!

"Quick, quick, help the officer hold down this thief!"

"Damn it, who are you trying to scare with that knife?!"

"You ran right into it, huh?"

"..."

As they spoke, they rushed forward and pinned the thief firmly to the ground.

The officer, now free, quickly took out his phone and called his colleague: "Xiao Zhang, it's me. I was on my way home to pick up some things and ran into a thief threatening passengers with a knife. He's been subdued, now heading to Taoyuan Station..."

After a couple of brief sentences, he hung up the phone. He then squatted beside the thief and searched him, finding only a wallet. After confirming and returning it to the unfortunate owner, the officer frowned slightly, glanced at Lin Beichen, and then questioned the thief sternly, "Where did you hide the stuff you stole from this student?!"

Thief: ?

He wanted to steal from him!

The thief, losing his earlier arrogance, protested with an aggrieved look: "Officer, I intended to steal, but I didn't succeed!"

"Still lying?!" The officer's face turned stern, "You've been moving around behind this student for a long time. You clearly look like a habitual thief. If you didn't succeed, how can you call yourself a thief?"

Thief: ???

It's not like he didn't want to succeed! Now even his professionalism was being questioned? Even though the profession itself wasn't respectable!

Where's the justice in this?!

He felt like crying but had no tears, and argued: "Officer, even if I'm a thief, you can't slander me! I really didn't manage to steal anything from him. This kid is really weird, like he's leaking electricity. Every time I touch him, I get shocked! I couldn't get my hands on anything!"

Everyone: ??

For a moment, all eyes turned to Lin Beichen.

The passengers looked skeptical, thinking the thief was just making excuses for his failure. Who could constantly carry electricity on them?

The classmates wore expressions of surprise. Are you kidding, man? What, did you become the Thunder King? Are you carrying static electricity on you all the time?

Feeling all the eyes on him, Lin Beichen felt like he was sitting on pins and needles. If he could foresee this situation, he would have preferred to just hand the thief his phone as soon as he got on the bus!

What carelessness!

Although he had only recently discovered that he was carrying electricity, Lin Beichen was already aware of the inconvenience and trouble it brought. He was increasingly desperate to resolve this issue.

Better settle this quickly!

Then go home and continue meditating!

...

Pretending to be clueless, Lin Beichen shrugged, indicating he didn't understand what the thief was saying. Then he fumbled through his pockets and said to the officer, "Uncle police officer, this thief might be spouting nonsense, but my things are all here. Nothing's been stolen."

Thief: ????

Who's spouting nonsense?!

That's the truth!

He felt like his lungs were going to explode. This kid's words were infuriating!

But before he could say anything, the officer spoke first: "It's good that nothing was stolen."

The officer smiled gently and didn't bother to investigate the thief's claims. He was a seasoned cop and had heard too many excuses from thieves trying to explain their actions. He didn't take it to heart at all.

Seeing that no one in the bus took his words seriously, the thief felt a tear of regret fall in his heart.

No one believed him!

Just because he was a thief, did that mean he couldn't be trusted?

He was a thief, not a liar!

...

Unable to bear the injustice, he secretly vowed that once he got out of jail, he'd turn over a new leaf and never be a thief again.

This profession...

It's truly aggravating!

Soon, the bus arrived at Taoyuan Station.

A police car was already waiting there.

The officer took the knife and the thief and finally brought this event to an end.

"What a thrill, encountering something like this while riding a bus!"

"My heart is still pounding!"

"Hey? I saw you recording with your phone just now. Send it to me, I want to post it on my Moments."

"..."

The passengers were still excited, chattering nonstop.

At this moment, Li Yang looked at Lin Beichen and said, "Brother Chen, you seem to have static electricity on you all the time. What's going on? Doesn't it need to be checked out at the hospital?"

With this prompt, the other classmates turned their eyes to Lin Beichen, looking curious.

Lin Beichen spread his hands and said nonchalantly, "What's there to go to the hospital for? Maybe it's just the clothes I'm wearing today, generating static electricity. I'll change my clothes later, and it should be fine."

Sounds logical!

The classmates, feeling it made sense, didn't think much of it anymore.

Soon, the bus arrived at Qingquan District station.

Qingquan District was where Lin Beichen's home was.

Lin Beichen waved goodbye to his classmates and hurried home. After greeting his parents, he locked himself in his bedroom and immediately began meditating.

In the "Illusion Becomes Reality" envisioning.

The dense arcs of electricity still resembled a web.

He continued trying to direct the arcs to the "expand" position.

Failed!

Repeatedly, it still failed!

...

Over and over, day after day!

In the blink of an eye, more than a month passed, and the nearly three-month holiday had just over twenty days left!

During this time, Lin Beichen had completely turned into a homebody, not even leaving the house when his friends called him to hang out. He stayed in his room, studying how to eliminate the electricity on him.

But the outcome...

He was making no progress!

He had tried many methods, but in the end, he felt his initial idea was correct, yet he was powerless to do anything about it.

He simply couldn't envision the arcs moving!

"What should I do?"

"There's only a little over twenty days left until school starts..."

"I can't go to college with this electricity all over me, right?"

"I can't just stay in my room forever, can I?"

Chapter 32: Lin Beichen Says, "Let There be Light!"

Lin Beichen lay on the bed with a look of utter despair, staring at the ceiling. He was so frustrated, wondering if his Heaven-defying Comprehension had disappeared. Otherwise, why hadn't he gained any insights after so long?

Just at that moment...

Suddenly!

The room light turned off by itself!

Lin Beichen: ??

What's going on??

Could it be because of me??

I didn't do anything just now, did I??

While he was lost in wild thoughts...

Suddenly, the light turned on again!

Lin Beichen: ???

Is the light bulb possessed?

Is it playing tricks on me?

He stared at the bulb, waiting to see when it would turn off again.

However, before long...

He didn't wait for the bulb to turn off again, but instead, he heard a knock on the door.

Next came the voice of Zheng Xia.

"Chenchen, is your room's light broken?"

"No."

Lin Beichen opened the door. Outside the room was pitch black, and Zheng Xia was standing at the door with her phone flashlight on. He glanced at her and asked, "Mom, what's up?"

"Oh, the circuit breaker tripped just now and several lights at home flickered and died."

Lin Beichen: ...

So it was a power trip!

Zheng Xia saw the bright room and nodded, turning towards the ladder placed under the living room light. Without looking back, she said, "Chenchen, go to the storage room and get mom those three bulbs. I'm going to replace the light bulbs."

"Oh, okay."

Lin Beichen went to the storage room and found a box containing six light bulbs. As he was about to take out three bulbs and hand them to his mom...

At the moment his hand touched the bulb...

It turned on!

The bulb lit up!

Lin Beichen: ?????

The white light shone on his bewildered face.

At this moment, Zheng Xia's voice came from the living room.

"Chenchen, have you found the bulbs? I've taken out all the broken ones, just waiting for you to bring the new ones."

"I found them, I'm bringing them over now, mom!"

While speaking, Lin Beichen quickly put the glowing bulb back into the box, not wanting to walk out holding a glowing bulb—how could he explain that?

He carried the box full of bulbs to the ladder and raised the box high.

"Mom, here you go."

"Thanks... uh?"

Zheng Xia thought he was handing over a bulb but was surprised to see the whole box. She chuckled and said, "Chenchen, help mom take one out."

Lin Beichen: ...

If I could, I would have already done it!

He placed the box on the table, lied, "Mom, you'll have to come down and get it yourself. I need to go back and study!"

He knew that as soon as he mentioned studying, his mom wouldn't say much more.

Sure enough!

Zheng Xia watched him go back to his room and then climbed down the ladder to take a bulb herself. Shaking her head with a smile, she muttered, "This kid..."

Meanwhile, in the bedroom...

Lin Beichen lay on the bed feeling agitated and frustrated.

"This thing about having electricity in my body is seriously hindering my daily life."

"If it continues for much longer..."

"How could it not be a big deal?"

"I can't let this go on!"

Lin Beichen immediately started to meditate, but the result was the same as it had been recently—no changes, despite his emotional and mental fluctuations. In four words: powerless and helpless!

Over and over again, he meditated, and each time he failed.

...

Lin Beichen felt more and more depressed.

"I fail every time!"

"Just how can I get rid of these electric arcs?"

"What do I need to do?"

"What can I do?"

He kept asking himself.

As he continued to question himself...

A flash of insight appeared in his mind.

"Maybe..."

"I should go out and explore!"

"Relax a bit, and treat it as a journey!"

"Isn't that what all the novels I've read suggest?"

"Traveling is the best way to break through oneself!"

At this thought, Lin Beichen's mood lightened considerably, and he began to make plans. Even though it was about relaxation, the key was the journey itself. How could he go without preparation?

And a crucial point in his plan was—

The weather!

No matter where the journey took him, the weather at the destination had to be thunderstorms!

The plan was soon completed.

Lin Beichen found his parents and said with a smile, "Dad, Mom, with school starting soon, I was thinking of using the last bit of my vacation to have some fun, and then go straight to university. Is that okay?"

The couple, watching TV, were stunned for a moment before reacting. They looked at each other, their faces breaking into genuine smiles.

For over a month, they had seen Lin Beichen shut himself in his room without going out, and they were quite worried.

"Of course, honey."

Zheng Xia didn't hesitate, agreeing immediately: "Where do you want to go? I'll have your dad book the tickets tonight, and we'll set off tomorrow!"

Lin Beichen had anticipated his parents wanting to travel with him.

At that moment, he launched into a long-prepared speech, confusing Zheng Xia and Lin Xiangdong so much that they agreed to let him travel alone, even giving him a large sum of money for the trip!

"Dad, mom, you're the best!"

Lin Beichen gave them a thumbs up and then headed to his room: "I'm going to book my flight now!"

"Son, where exactly are you planning to go?"

Zheng Xia suddenly realized she didn't know his destination.

Lin Beichen turned and paused for a moment before continuing to his room, saying, "Oh, plenty of places."

"But you should at least tell us!"

Zheng Xia gave Lin Xiangdong a look, urging him to say something.

Lin Xiangdong got the hint and added, "Yes, if you have too many destinations to remember, you can write them down or message us!"

"Fine, fine, I got it!"

With that, Lin Beichen returned to his room, swiftly booked his flight, packed his luggage, and then had a sound sleep until it was time to leave. He was driven to the airport by his parents.

Zheng Xia held Lin Beichen's hand, repeatedly reminding, "Son, you must be very careful out there. Don't cause trouble, don't fight, take care of yourself, eat three proper meals a day, don't eat junk food..."

"Yes, yes, I know, mom."

Lin Beichen smiled, patiently responding. Unlike in his previous life where he found such concern to be nagging, he now greatly cherished this care.

It warmed his heart!

"Dear passengers, flight MJ5556 is now boarding. Please proceed to gate 4."

The announcement in the waiting room rang out.

Lin Beichen glanced at his ticket, which matched the flight.

"Dad, Mom, I'm boarding now, bye~"

After waving goodbye, he dragged his small suitcase towards the security check.

Reaching the security check, Lin Beichen wasn't worried about passing through due to the electricity in his body.

Over the past few days, he had come to realize that the electricity in his body wasn't exactly static electricity. It felt more like the thunder depicted in cultivation novels.

It was very special, not within the known range of current human science.

That's why scientific knowledge gradually proved ineffective against it.

This unique kind of thunder didn't affect electronic devices, so he could use his phone without any issues.

At this moment, his parents watched him enter the boarding gate.

Zheng Xia's eyes turned red, and she said sadly, "It's the first time our son is traveling far away. After this, we won't see him until winter break in six months. What am I going to do, Old Lin... I already miss our son!"

Chapter 33: Thunder Skill to the Ultimate Realm!

"Oh my, now that transportation is so advanced, if you miss him that much, we can go to the Imperial Capital to see him!"

Lin Xiangdong handed her a tissue, then thought of something and said, "Honey, didn't our son say he sent you the places he plans to visit on the way here? Why don't you check where he's going?"

"Oh, right, right!"

Zheng Xia quickly took out her phone and opened the message her son had sent her.

It was a screenshot of his booking page on the travel app, showing all the flights Lin Beichen had booked.

She opened the screenshot and started looking at it together with Lin Xiangdong.

"Oh my, our son is going to so many places!"

"Isn't this practically touring half of Huaxia?"

"Do we have enough budget for this trip? I thought we gave him more than enough money, but now it feels like it might not be enough."

"..."

Seeing the numerous destination names on the screenshot, the old couple was truly stunned.

Just then, Zheng Xia thought of something and quickly opened the weather app: "These places are so far apart, with such broad spans. I wonder what the weather is like in those areas. Is the clothing our son brought suitable? We don't want him to be too hot or too cold."

A mother's worry knows no bounds, especially since Lin Beichen was going on his first long trip alone. She wanted to be sure she had thought of everything.

"His first stop is Tanying City in Ganpo Province... and it's supposed to be a thunderstorm? Did our son bring an umbrella? You should quickly tell him to buy one at the airport."

"The second stop is in two days... hmm? Another thunderstorm??"

"The third stop... still a thunderstorm???"

"..."

When they finished checking the weather for all the destinations, the old couple found that while the temperature at all destinations varied, the weather condition was consistently...

Thunderstorms!

They looked at each other.

In complete bewilderment!

What's going on?

Did their son not check the weather before going out?

How come it's thunderstorms everywhere he goes?

Did he land right in the middle of thunderstorm season?

While the old couple was worrying about Lin Beichen, elsewhere, Lin Beichen was already on a plane soaring through the clouds.

When choosing seats, Lin Beichen had specifically picked a window seat. He rested his head against the window frame and gazed outside.

Endless whiteness stretched out before his eyes.

Layer upon layer of clouds stacked, shifting in between billows, with wisps of clouds drifting unpredictably.

"Phew—"

Lin Beichen's eyes brightened as he exhaled deeply, feeling much of the month's accumulated frustration dissolve away, leaving him in high spirits.

"I believe this journey will be fruitful!"

Throughout the journey, the sky was vast and filled with pure white clouds.

He had no idea how much time had passed.

Gradually...

As far as the eye could see.

Gray patches began to appear on the once pure white cloud layers, and the cloud mist between the clouds and the sky turned murky and dim.

The plane began to experience slight turbulence intermittently, unlike the previous smooth flight.

"Why is it shaking continuously? Could something be wrong?"

"What's happening? Why does the plane keep jolting?"

"..."

The murmurs of concern grew louder.

Just then.

The in-flight announcement sounded.

"Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention, please! Our plane is currently over Ganpo Province. Today, there is rainfall across the province. We will intermittently pass through rain clouds, causing unstable air currents and brief periods of mild turbulence. During this time, please remain seated, fasten your seat belts, and refrain from moving around."

The stewardess's gentle voice instantly calmed the anxious passengers.

The cabin quieted down in an instant.

But the peace didn't last long.

About ten minutes later.

"Boom—!"

"Boom—!"

"..."

With the rumbling of thunder coming from outside the cabin, the plane jolted violently, and the passengers became agitated again.

"Was that thunder just now? It's thundering??"

"What's happening??? Why is the plane shaking so much?"

"Didn't they say mild turbulence? You call this mild??"

"What's going on? Can this shaking cause an accident??"

"..."

The passengers frowned, their faces full of worry and panic. The severe turbulence even scared some children to tears.

"Waa—!"

The sharp cries filled the cabin, escalating the already tense and chaotic atmosphere.

Lin Beichen seemed to be in a different realm. His expression remained calm, with even a hint of a smile as he focused his bright eyes on the view outside the window.

The scene outside had drastically changed in just ten minutes!

The once white cloud sea had turned almost entirely dark gray, with cloud mist swirling like smoke in the air.

Columns of clouds rose from the cloud sea like mighty tornadoes surrounding the plane, with the surrounding air appearing to stiffen. Occasionally, lightning flickered within the cloud columns, leaving fleeting bright white streaks!

"This is the right place!"

"Watching this weather from up high..."

"These thunderstorms are no small matter!"

Contrary to the gloomy weather outside, Lin Beichen's heart was beaming with sunshine, and his mood couldn't have been better.

Just then.

The stewardess's voice came through the cabin speakers again.

"Ladies and gentlemen, please pay attention! Our plane has reached its destination - the airspace above Tanying City. Due to the severe thunderstorm, we will descend beneath the thunderstorm clouds and circle around to land. Expect strong turbulence due to the airflow, causing continuous strong shaking. Please remain seated, fasten your seat belts, and refrain from moving around."

No sooner had the announcement ended.

The passengers felt the plane descending, and in the next second, the severe turbulence mentioned in the announcement arrived on cue!

"Rumble-rumble—!!!"

"Boom—!!!!!"

"..."

The jittering combined with loud thunder filled the cabin, and the strong descent tested everyone's nerves.

In their panic, they were drawn to the thunder and instinctively looked out the window to see what was happening. What they saw only heightened their alarm!

It was like the end of the world!

Cloud columns loomed so low that they seemed ready to crush the plane. Through the bases of the cloud columns, they occasionally saw thick lightning strikes colliding wildly, slashing fiercely and appearing to split the cloud columns in half!

"Waa—!!"

The children's cries grew more distressed and relentless, causing everyone's nerves to fray further.

The cabin grew increasingly chaotic with voices clamoring.

"This is terrifying. Why on earth is the weather like this?"

"Is it safe? Let's fly to another airport first!"

"I can't breathe properly, I need oxygen!!"

"..."

The scene became more and more chaotic!

Only Lin Beichen!

Unperturbed like an ancient well!

All the noisiness around him felt irrelevant.

He leaned against the window frame, straining to see the lightning within the cloud columns, eyes filled with yearning and anticipation.

"This is the power of nature!"

"Such immense lightning..."

"It comes and goes at will!"

"When will I be able to reach this level myself?"

Chapter 34: Tense, Thought Lightning Had Struck

Lin Beichen didn't fail to seize this opportunity to gain some enlightenment, but maybe because of certain conditions, there was no sign of any realization. All he could do was sigh and encourage himself to keep going!

However, he didn't notice...

As the thunder outside became more rampant, the electricity in his body started to agitate inexplicably. It wasn't strong but also not calm, like ripples on a calm water surface caused by dragonfly touches.

While he was encouraging himself.

The cabin was on the verge of chaos!

At this moment, the flight attendants latched onto the seat backs and stepped out from behind the curtain with professional smiles on their faces.

"Everyone, don't panic, it's okay."

"Before our plane reached this thunderstorm area, the radar had already detected it. According to the analysis, the plane will safely bypass it, please don't worry."

"..."

This wasn't just comforting words, it was the truth.

That's why they could still smile, despite the turbulence, and handle various sudden situations in the cabin.

Soon, under their maintenance, the chaotic scene in the cabin was brought under control.

The plane gradually diverted away from the thunderstorm area. Although it was still turbulent, it was not as severe.

"That was truly terrifying!"

"Who wouldn't say that? I thought I would meet my end here today!"

"In hindsight, the turbulence wasn't that bad, it's just the outside scene that looked terrifying!"

"Yeah, even now...the lightning striking down makes my neck tense, and I'm uncomfortable all over."

"..."

Recalling the recent events and looking at the current view outside, the thunderstorm area was now overhead. They could see the interiors of the cloud columns completely, with lightning raging more rampantly, striking down without the clouds blocking it, almost hitting right in front of them. It left them with lingering fears!

At this point, a flight attendant approached Lin Beichen's row.

Next to Lin Beichen sat a young man, about twenty-five or twenty-six years old, fumbling around with his tray table and the seat back pouch, organizing his belongings.

Seeing this, the flight attendant stepped forward and asked, "Sir, hello, do you need any help?"

"No, no, thank you."

The young man hastily waved his hand.

The flight attendant nodded with a smile and continued forward.

He then resumed organizing.

However, at the moment he withdrew his arm.

His elbow got particularly close to Lin Beichen's, almost touching.

In an instant, the agitated electricity in Lin Beichen's body seemed to find an outlet, sparking across the small gap to the young man's arm.

The sudden electric shock made the young man shudder and cry out involuntarily, "Ah!!"

If it weren't for the seatbelt, he might have jumped up directly.

Passengers: ???

What's he yelling about?

They looked at him, puzzled.

The young man himself was also stunned.

Why did it feel like getting electrocuted??

He looked at his arm, then instinctively turned to Lin Beichen.

They locked eyes.

Each having their own thoughts.

Lin Beichen thought it couldn't be that he accidentally electrocuted him, right? But it seemed he hadn't touched him!

Recalling the incident a few nights ago when the light bulb in his home went out due to a circuit breaker trip, and he initially suspected it was his issue, Lin Beichen shook his head. It was likely the young man had bumped into something inadvertently. He shouldn't be so paranoid all the time.

"I need to solve this electrical issue in my body quickly!"

Lin Beichen understood the root of the problem.

He was clear about it.

But the young man beside him didn't understand what just happened!

His first reaction was indeed thinking he got shocked by someone nearby, but after careful thought, it seemed the person didn't touch him, and the other's hand had no electrical items, not even holding anything!

What's going on??

What's wrong with me??

At this point, hearing his cry, the flight attendant returned with a puzzled look and asked, "Sir, are you okay?"

"Um..."

The young man also didn't understand what was wrong with him, looking at the distant lightning outside, muttered, "It's okay, maybe I was too nervous, thinking the lightning hit here."

Flight Attendant: ?

Passengers: ?

Lin Beichen: ?????

Was it really me who shocked him?

But I didn't touch him!

He quickly sensed the electricity in his body and finally discovered its agitation!

What's going on??

Why did it suddenly become agitated?

Lin Beichen unconsciously also looked towards the distant lightning outside, a thought emerged in his mind—

Could it be they triggered the electricity in his body?

He couldn't be sure for now.

But...

As the plane flew further away from the thunderstorm area above, he noticed the electricity in his body gradually calming down.

It was indeed the case!

Having figured it out, Lin Beichen felt distressed. The electricity in his body could be triggered by external lightning, now it even started to shock people through air gaps. What about next time? What else would trigger it, what other situations would arise?

The previous thought in his heart grew stronger—

He must solve the electrical issue in his body quickly!

No delays!

After the plane bypassed the thunderstorm area not long afterward.

Quickly, the plane landed.

As soon as he got off, he boarded the special bus to Dragon Tiger Mountain.

Dragon Tiger Mountain is the ancestral land of Daoism's Zheng Yi sect and the birthplace of Daoism, surrounded by peaks and clear water, a true treasure of Feng Shui.

The reason why he chose this place as the first stop.

After the idea of creating a cultivation method came up, Lin Beichen suddenly realized that such methods might have existed in the world for a long time?

Hence he specially sought confirmation through various channels and methods.

Among these...

Daoism, considered mystical by secular standards, became the primary subject.

After extensive online research, he gained a deep understanding of Daoism, finding that while Daoism might not have specific cultivation methods, some of its concepts seemed to carry profound meanings.

This piqued his curiosity about Daoism.

As the birthplace of Daoism, he thought there might be some opportunities here, possibly combining the experience of thunderous days to help gain some enlightenment!

Even if not, it might still provide some indirect insights.

When Lin Beichen stepped off the tour bus, standing at the foot of Shangqing Ancient Town under the main peak, wisps of thin clouds drifted by with the wind, sparse raindrops fell gently, and the fresh air was filled with a strong earth smell.

"It looks like that thunderstorm area will drift here soon!"

"The thunderstorm won't be small!"

"Hurry up the mountain!"

The irritability Lin Beichen felt on the plane was soothed by the imminent arrival of the rainstorm. He walked on the uneven cobblestone path, heading into Shangqing Ancient Town with the crowd.

"Hiking sticks for sale, hiking sticks for sale, five dollars, five dollars, they'll be twenty dollars on the mountain!"

"Ancient town famous food, Shangqing tofu, come in and have a taste!"

"Fortune telling, fortune telling, no charge if inaccurate!"

"..."

Street vendors' cries were endless.

At this moment, he saw a stall.

A stall selling umbrellas, looking as if it came from ancient times, with a long plank covered in yellow burlap, and oil paper umbrellas opened and displayed.

Lin Beichen walked to the stall, casually picked up a brown oil paper umbrella, examined it a bit, and asked, "Boss, how much is this umbrella?"

"Young man, this umbrella usually sells for sixty, but there are fewer customers today because of the bad weather, I'll sell it cheaper to you, fifty dollars will do!"

"Bad weather?"

Lin Beichen let the raindrops fall on his hand, smiling, "Today is good weather."

Boss: ???

What kind of good weather is this?

There are barely half the usual number of tourists!

Before he could say anything.

Lin Beichen handed over the umbrella, saying, "Alright, Boss, help me wrap this, I'll scan to pay."

Seeing that Lin Beichen didn't haggle and bought the umbrella cheerfully, the Boss didn't care what he said, regardless of the weather, he sold an umbrella, even if it were the end of the world, if he said it's good weather...

Then it's good weather!

Chapter 35: Almost, Yet Missed an Entire Starry Sea

"Alright!"

The vendor took out an umbrella case made from bamboo from beneath the table, placed the oil-paper umbrella inside, then handed it to Lin Beichen. "Here you go, young man."

"Thank you, sir."

Lin Beichen displayed his payment interface, then took the oil-paper umbrella and headed towards the mountains.

He hadn't walked far.

A crisp voice whispered, "Grandpa, that big brother is so strange!"

A young girl and an elderly man appeared in front of the oil-paper umbrella stall.

The young girl was about twelve or thirteen years old, not very tall, wearing a white sports tracksuit. She looked cute and playful, with a bit of baby fat on her face, looking very much like a middle school student.

The elderly man beside her was around seventy years old, slim and energetic, with a kind and amiable face. He wore a casual hat, a black sports tracksuit, and held a trekking pole in his hand.

The elderly man, full of love, asked, "What's the matter? Why is that big brother strange?"

"He said this weather is good weather."

The young girl tilted her head, her face full of confusion. "How can rainy days be good weather?"

Earlier, she and the elderly man were at the stall opposite the oil-paper umbrella stall, buying a trekking pole. She had heard the entire conversation between Lin Beichen and the oil-paper umbrella vendor.

"You!"

The elderly man chuckled and patted the young girl's head. "Everyone has a different definition of good and bad, each has their own standards. You like sunny days, so sunny days are good weather, and rainy days are bad weather. But for those who like rainy days, rainy days are good weather, and sunny days become bad weather. It's not good to judge others' rights and wrongs casually. Don't do that next time."

"Oh."

The young girl bit her lip in grievance and nodded, "I understand, Grandpa."

"Good girl."

The elderly man nodded in satisfaction. He looked at the overcast sky, which seemed to be brewing a heavy rain, and said to the vendor, "Sir, I'll take two oil-paper umbrellas."

"Alright!"

The vendor was overjoyed, having sold three oil-paper umbrellas within a short time.

He wrapped the oil-paper umbrellas.

The elderly man took the umbrellas, held the young girl's hand, and they walked towards the mountains.

Soon, the one large and one small figure disappeared into the misty rain.

Only their conversation occasionally drifted from afar.

"Grandpa, why did we buy umbrellas?"

"Because it might rain heavily soon."

"If it rains, can't we just go back? Why do we have to go up the mountain?"

"Today is the day when Daoists of the Celestial Master's Mansion recite the Dao. Grandpa is taking you to experience it and temper your temperament."

"Can't we come another day?"

"Hehe, you'll be back in school by then."

"Boohoo... Grandpa, you're so mean, why bring up school all of a sudden!"

"..."

The main peak of Dragon Tiger Mountain soared into the clouds. The Celestial Master's Mansion was situated near the summit. If one were to rely solely on their legs, even professional mountaineers would need two days and nights to climb up.

Fortunately, there was a cable car!

The elderly man and the young girl sat in the cable car, enjoying the expansive view as the peaks on either side retreated. The lush green leaves covered the mountains and forests, soothing the heart. The young girl's mood, previously dampened by the mention of school, began to relax at this moment.

Soon, the cable car reached its destination.

The endpoint was fifty meters below the Celestial Master's Mansion, but the surroundings were already shrouded in clouds and mist, making it seem as though one could reach out and touch the clouds above.

At this moment, although the rain wasn't heavy, the sky above was a solid grey mass of overlapping clouds, thick and oppressive, with occasional flashes of light illuminating the dark sky, accompanied by thunderous sounds.

"Boom—"

"Boom—"

"..."

The elderly man glanced up at the sky, then opened the oil-paper umbrella for the young girl first, and then for himself. "Let's go. The rain is about to start. Let's try to reach the Celestial Master's Mansion before it pours."

The remaining journey wasn't particularly difficult. Holding the young girl's hand, the elderly man steadily ascended the steps, and after more than half an hour, they finally arrived at the square in front of the Celestial Master's Mansion.

Just then.

A bolt of lightning, having brewed for a long time, broke through the clouds, jaggedly flashing across the sky.

"Crack—!!"

The crisp sound of tearing fabric echoed as if the sky itself was splitting apart.

The rain, seemingly unable to hold back any longer, poured down instantly!

"Grandpa, the rain is getting heavy!"

The rainwater pelted the umbrella. The young girl felt like she could barely hold onto the umbrella.

The elderly man chuckled, reached out to steady her umbrella, and said, "Yes, we made it just in time. Let's go inside the Celestial Master's Mansion to take shelter from the rain and wait for the Daoists to recite the Dao."

"Okay."

The young girl followed him towards the Celestial Master's Mansion, her curiosity piqued by everything around her. Her wide eyes darted around, taking in the sights.

Suddenly!

She saw something, her eyes widened even more, a flash of puzzlement crossed her gaze, quickly replaced by surprise.

"Grandpa, Grandpa, look, it's that strange big brother!"

"Strange big brother?"

The elderly man stopped and turned to look in the direction the young girl was pointing.

Beside the square in front of the Celestial Master's Mansion, about five or six meters high, there was an open observation platform.

Tourists on the platform moved briskly, hurrying down the mountain.

Only one man stood at the edge of the platform, holding an oil-paper umbrella, completely still, as if rooted to the spot.

He stood out prominently!

If it wasn't Lin Beichen, who else could it be?

It's him?

The elderly man remembered that the "strange big brother" his granddaughter mentioned was the young man who bought an oil-paper umbrella at the foot of the mountain.

At this moment.

"Attain utmost emptiness, maintain steadfast quietude. All things arise together; I observe their return. All things flourish and then return to their roots. Returning to the root is tranquility. Tranquility is returning to the way. Returning to the way is eternal. Knowing constancy is enlightenment, not knowing constancy brings misfortune. Knowing constancy allows acceptance, acceptance leads to impartiality, impartiality leads to kingliness, kingliness leads to the way, the way to eternity. And to the end of life, one is free from danger."

The powerful chanting voice of Daoists resonated from the Celestial Master's Mansion.

It echoed across the mountaintop.

The elderly man quickly withdrew his gaze and looked at the young girl. "Grandpa saw him. Let's go. That big brother is enjoying the mountain scenery in the rain. We should go inside to listen to the Daoists chant."

The elderly man held the young girl's hand and walked into the Celestial Master's Mansion. Meanwhile, all the people around Lin Beichen had left, and only he remained on the observation platform.

He didn't want to go inside to listen to the Daoists' chanting because he couldn't control his body at that moment. His mind was entirely immersed in the scene before him.

Lin Beichen's eyes fixed forward.

The mountains stretched endlessly.

The torrential rain cascaded down like mist.

Lightning occasionally broke through the thick grey clouds, illuminating the sky briefly.

...

Everything came into view!

As he watched...

He was entranced.

Enthralled!

In an instant!

His empty mind filled with countless thoughts!

Flashes of insight sparked all around in his mind!

Utter chaos!

He couldn't grasp any specific thought, yet he felt that the epiphany he sought was within reach, just barely, yet as distant as the entire star sea!

"Where is it?"

"What exactly is it?"

Chapter 36 Changes in the Mental Realm

"Swish—swish—"

The rain grew heavier.

The heavy, dark clouds pressed ever lower, with flashes of light intermittently within, seemingly unending.

Lightning streaked across the sky in chains!

Worsening weather seemed to mirror Lin Beichen's deteriorating mood.

Lin Beichen had been trying to gain insight, but always felt he was just short of reaching that state.

This feeling, as if it were within reach yet miles away, was the most frustrating!

His mood grew more irritable, his mind increasingly chaotic!

No one knew how much time had passed.

Just when he was about to snap.

Suddenly!

He heard a series of loud, majestic voices.

"The Tao is infinite, yet it can be utilized without being exhausted. Deep like the progenitor of all things; profound, seemingly existent..."

It was the voices of Daoist masters from the Celestial Master's Mansion chanting!

Lin Beichen had always been in a state of undistracted focus, not sensitive to external perceptions; the chanting naturally filtered out.

But now...

The chanting seemed to appear at his ears, or perhaps directly in his mind!

In his current state, he couldn't tell where it emerged from, but the location was irrelevant; what mattered was...

The appearance of the chanting interrupted his recent bout of negativity.

Looking at the scenery before him, his heart began to stabilize and calm.

"Rarely speaks naturally. Therefore, gusting winds don't last all day, and sudden rains don't last all night. Who causes this? Heaven and Earth. Even Heaven and Earth cannot last long..."

The chanting did not vanish.

Initially, Lin Beichen thought he might be on the brink of enlightenment, but soon realized...

The chanting did nothing to aid his understanding of the Thunder Skill!

It merely became part of his perception.

Not filtered out, that's all!

In other words, listening to Daoist chanting, Buddhist scriptures, or certain music can indeed help adjust one's mood.

That's the only function.

At this moment, Lin Beichen's mental realm felt a sudden inexplicable sensation surging to his crown!

Instantly!

Wind, rain, thunder, chanting...

All sounds seemed magnified!

Lin Beichen was immersed within, yet felt detached from this realm.

Unknown when.

The wind did not cease, rain did not stop, thunder did not fade.

Wind, rain, thunder remained, but the chanting from the Celestial Master's Mansion no longer echoed atop the mountain.

"There's a form, vague and complete, born before Heaven and Earth. Silent and empty, standing alone, unchanging; it moves, yet doesn't fade..."

He looked at the mountains, the rain, and seemed to still hear the chanting in his ears.

This scene, feeling overwhelmingly tranquil!

In a daze!

The mountains seemed small, the rain tender, and the heavy, low clouds felt like they were high up in the heavens!

In his view...

The world appeared broader!

"Even with heaven-defying comprehension..."

"It's not easy to defy fate!"

"Creating a cultivation method is like crossing a river by feeling for stones. Rushing too hastily will lead to a dead end. Following one's nature and fate, one can reach the other shore, enjoying the journey immensely!"

"..."

Lin Beichen's perspective broadened, his mental realm achieved enlightenment!

This journey to Dragon Tiger Mountain was not in vain; listening to the Daoist chanting, although offering no help to studying the Thunder Skill, greatly enriched Lin Beichen's mental realm.

Furthermore, his entire demeanor had changed significantly.

This was partly due to cultivation, and partly due to changes in his mental realm.

The thunderstorm gradually subsided.

He held an oil-paper umbrella, standing at the edge of the Observation Platform, feeling the mountain wind brush his face, his hair swaying, lightning darting across the sky, the switch between light and dark making this moment seem timeless!

Transcending the mundane!

Meanwhile.

Down at the plaza below the Observation Platform.

"Has he been standing there for a long time? From my recollection, since the Daoist masters of the Celestial Master's Mansion began chanting, he has been standing there. What is he doing there?"

"Coming here in this weather, he must be here to hear the Daoist masters chant, right? Can he hear them clearly from there?"

"Maybe he's just enjoying the scenery; is the view there really so enchanting? Maybe we should go up and take a look too!"

"..."

Many noticed Lin Beichen standing atop the Observation Platform.

The vast Observation Platform had only one standing figure; anyone looking up at the mountain top couldn't help but notice him.

And with just one look...

Lin Beichen's aura inexplicably drew their gaze to linger on him.

Anyone seeing Lin Beichen for the first time felt an inexplicable sense of ease and freedom emanating from him, uplifting their own moods.

At that moment, a crisp voice rang out at the entrance of the Celestial Master's Mansion: "Grandpa, look, that big brother is still there!" freewebnovel.com

A little girl, holding an elderly man's hand, pointed to Lin Beichen on the Observation Platform with her other hand.

After leaving the Celestial Master's Mansion with her grandpa post-chanting, she instinctively looked towards the Observation Platform and saw the same figure she'd noticed before entering the mansion.

"He... he seems... seems..."

At that moment, the little girl seemed to rummage through all the words in her mind, unable to find the right one to express her feeling.

After struggling for a while, she finally said, "He seems like an elusive master!"

"You watch too much TV, talking about elusive masters!"

The elderly man lovingly patted the little girl's head, his gaze remaining fixed on Lin Beichen, silently sharing the sentiment of others captivated by his unique aura.

"Raising the cup, white eyes gazing at the blue sky, as graceful as jade trees facing the wind!"

The elderly man had a deep impression of the youth he'd encountered three times among the vast sea of people.

Indeed, his aura was extraordinary, with a special elegance.

At that moment.

Not only did he see it, but everyone looking at the Observation Platform saw it too.

A Daoist master, about seventy years old, with neatly tied silver hair under a wide-brimmed hat, dressed in a faded navy Daoist robe, descended the pathway beside the Observation Platform and approached the youth holding the oil-paper umbrella.

"The Celestial Master Guan?"

Many instantly recognized the Daoist master!

The Celestial Master Guan was currently the most respected Celestial Master in the Celestial Master's Mansion at Dragon Tiger Mountain, the former Sect Leader of the mansion, and the mentor of the current Sect Leader!

What did the Celestial Master intend to do?

Under their curious gazes.

The Celestial Master Guan approached Lin Beichen from behind.

At that moment, the Celestial Master Guan extended his hand intending to lightly pat Lin Beichen's shoulder, but halfway through, he smiled and retracted his hand, simply standing behind Lin Beichen.

Lin Beichen gazed at the mountains beyond, the Celestial Master Guan watched Lin Beichen.

One in front, one behind, one young, one old, one tall, one short.

The two standing in the rain, surrounded by mountains, clouds, and mist, formed a natural painting of mountain river rain scenery.

No one knew how long it lasted.

The rain stopped, clouds dispersed.

The first ray of sunlight pierced through the rising mist, shining upon Lin Beichen.

Finally, at that moment, Lin Beichen snapped out of his inexplicable mental state.

"Phew—"

He exhaled deeply, releasing all the pent-up frustration, feeling refreshed and relaxed!

Though this observation of thunder and rain didn't advance his Thunder Skill and he couldn't clear the electricity on his body, he wasn't disappointed because he clearly felt a significant improvement in his mental realm!

He also realized that haste in cultivation leads to failure; he needed to maintain a calm mindset and avoid rushing.

Everything has its destiny, including cultivation.

"It wasn't a wasted trip after all!"

Lin Beichen could feel that his enhanced mental realm would provide a profound, albeit indirect, benefit to his future creation of Thunder Skill!

Though it hasn't fully manifested yet.

Seeing the sky clear.

He decided not to continue viewing the scenery but intended to wander inside the Celestial Master's Mansion.

Chapter 37 Observing Dao Scripture, the Dao is not the same

Just as Lin Beichen was about to turn around.

He finally noticed the Celestial Master Guanyi standing behind him.

"?"

Lin Beichen instinctively took a step back, thinking to himself how anyone would be startled if someone suddenly appeared silently behind them!

"This old Daoist is really something!"

"This observation platform is so large..."

"Why did he have to be standing right behind me."

"It's so frightening!"

The next second.

He realized his faux pas, quickly apologized with a smile to the old Daoist in front of him, nodded in greeting, and then turned sideways to move away from the Celestial Master Guanyi to leave the observation platform.

As they brushed past each other.

The Celestial Master Guanyi exclaimed loudly, "Infinite Heavenly Honorable Blessings!"

This shout stopped Lin Beichen in his tracks.

Lin Beichen turned his head to look at the Celestial Master Guanyi, who was also looking at him, his face full of confusion, wondering if he was calling him?

At this moment, the Celestial Master Guanyi stretched out his left index finger and pinky, pressing his thumb against his middle and ring finger, making a hand gesture in front of him, slightly bowed, and said, "Young friend, this poor Daoist has been observing you for a while and found that you have exceptional bone structure and extraordinary temperament. You are a rare talent for cultivation. This poor Daoist is overjoyed to see such talent and thus stayed to wait for you to come to your senses to specifically inquire if you are interested in returning to the Daoist sect, joining the Celestial Master's Mansion, and promoting Daoism?"

Lin Beichen: ????

Why does this sound so familiar?

Wait a minute, could he be trying to sell me a Tathagata Divine Palm for ten bucks?

He instantly thought he had encountered a fraud, but upon closer inspection, he saw that the Celestial Master Guanyi appeared calm and composed, his eyes clear and pure, which did not seem like the demeanor of a fraudster.

If the Celestial Master Guanyi knew his thoughts, he would likely spit out three liters of old blood.

He is the Sect Leader of the prestigious Celestial Master's Mansion!

Countless disciples aspire to join his ranks!

And yet his genuine invitation is mistaken for a fraud?

Where is the justice in that?!

Luckily, he did not know this.

At this moment, seeing Lin Beichen still hesitating, the Celestial Master Guanyi mistakenly thought he was contemplating joining the Daoist sect and did not rush him, giving a calm smile while patiently waiting for his answer.

In the end, Lin Beichen concluded that the old Daoist was not a fraud. After all, the Celestial Master's Mansion was just below the observation platform, only a few steps away. If he wanted him to join, a fraudster would be exposed in no time?

Fraudsters can't be that dumb, right?

This also caused his impression of the Celestial Master Guanyi to make a complete 180-degree turn.

"This old Daoist can see my extraordinary nature..."

"Could it be that he really has some skills?"

This thought made Lin Beichen curious, so he asked, "Daoist Master, may I ask some questions?"

Upon hearing this, the Celestial Master Guanyi's eyes lit up and he hurriedly said, "Ask away without hesitation."

Lin Beichen pondered for a moment and then asked, "Daoist Master, do you know any spells? Does Daoism have Thunder Skills?"

The Celestial Master Guanyi: ???

He initially thought that Lin Beichen would inquire about some philosophical aspects of Daoism, feeling that this child was extraordinary, but did not expect him to ask such... interesting questions?

The Celestial Master Guanyi carefully examined Lin Beichen to confirm he was not mistaken, then awkwardly said, "Young friend, considering your age, you must be a student of literature. You must remember to believe in science!"

He did not answer directly but conveyed the truth.

Lin Beichen was slightly taken aback, a hint of disappointment crossing his eyes.

Seeing Lin Beichen stay silent, the Celestial Master Guanyi took the opportunity to invite, "Young friend, if you still don't have an answer, why not come with me to the Celestial Master's Mansion? There, I can show you the Dao Scriptures and let you experience the realm of 'Dao'?"

Lin Beichen's eyes lit up.

"Dao Scriptures?"

"The Celestial Master's Mansion, being the origin of Daoism, might have many treasures that are not available online?"

"This is great, this journey would be very rewarding."

He agreed immediately, then, under the guidance of the Celestial Master Guanyi, walked along a small path, didn't pass through the square below, and directly entered the Celestial Master's Mansion, arriving at the Scripture Pavilion - Imperial Decree Pavilion.

They went straight up to the top floor.

Compared to the lower floors, the top floor space was smaller, with only a few bookshelves, and not many books on them.

The Celestial Master Guanyi said, "Young friend, these are the Dao Scriptures of the Celestial Master's Mansion. Feel free to browse through them."

There was a tone of immense confidence and pride in his voice.

These Dao Scriptures were his foundation.

They were also the essence of the Celestial Master's Mansion!

One could even say...

They are the most precious treasures of Daoism!

After entering the Celestial Master's Mansion, seeing the numerous Daoists respectfully greeting the Celestial Master Guanyi, Lin Beichen realized that he had indeed met a truly esteemed Celestial Master, giving him a sense of respect.

"Thank you, Celestial Master Guanyi."

Lin Beichen slightly bowed, expressing his gratitude, then carefully picked up a Dao Scripture and started reading attentively.

One book...

Two books...

...

Before long, Lin Beichen had read five or six books, and by this point, he had started to frown slightly.

Because...

He discovered that these Dao Scriptures contained only Daoist philosophies similar to what he had known before, with no mention of cultivation methods, which was somewhat disappointing but understandable, as this was reality after all.

Moreover, the content of these scriptures was something he had already found online before, so they were not some extremely mysterious texts kept hidden by Daoism.

One could say that these ancient books from Dragon Tiger Mountain were mostly reproductions, quite old, and valuable historically, but their content... in this modern internet age, almost everything could be found online.

However, there were some obscure books that he had not read before, which piqued Lin Beichen's interest.

After some time, as he finished reading a Dao Scripture, he found that the content in these Dao Scriptures was not entirely without reference value, with plenty of material worth borrowing from.

Chapter 38: Observing Dao Scripture, The Dao is Not the Same_2

But...

It is not something that can be applied to the Thunder Skills he is currently studying.

As for where it can be applied?

He himself is not very sure. After all, he has just embarked on the path of unique self-cultivation and his understanding of the journey ahead is quite vague.

But there is this feeling that maybe he will use it in the future, who knows?

Besides this.

He also had new insights.

In the long history of Daoism, there have been Celestial Masters who attained enlightenment through a sudden flash of insight. The Celestial Masters who wrote these Dao Scriptures at least all had a moment of spiritual realization.

For example, the famous Dao Scriptures such as "Baopuzi" and "Taiyi Jinhua Record," and notable Daoist Celestial Masters like Chen Tuan and Lv Dongbin.

They all had moments of profound enlightenment, after which they created various famous Daoist classics, inspiring the evolution of Daoist thought for hundreds or even thousands of years.

And this is just within Daoism. There are notable figures in Buddhism and other ideological schools who likely experienced similar moments of enlightenment, leaving behind great works of literature.

It can be said that these ancient sages were quite impressive. Just a moment of enlightenment was enough to open the gate of spiritual wisdom, leaving behind classic masterpieces for future generations.

However...

The difference between them and Lin Beichen is that their state of enlightenment where they grasped celestial secrets was just fleeting. It could range from a moment to several seconds, or at most a few minutes. For the rest of their lives, they would strive to attain that state again, but never succeeded in experiencing a second enlightenment.

The books they wrote about pursuing this state of enlightenment became these Dao Scriptures, forming the foundational thoughts of their religion.

Unfortunately, they never truly embarked on the path of cultivation!

"It seems that Daoism really doesn't have a Cultivation Method."

"These highly insightful Daoist ancestors might have grasped some celestial secrets during their moments of enlightenment, but because they could not re-enter that state, they couldn't extend those points into a full system, resulting in the absence of a Cultivation Method."

"Just think, if such a method existed, how could it not have been passed down for thousands of years? How could the state not know about it?"

"I have Heaven-Defying Comprehension, conditions that my ancestors did not have..."

"In the end, it's a unique path for me alone, I walk alone."

Lin Beichen couldn't help but feel a lot of emotions, mostly disappointment.

The idea of drawing reference and inspiration fell apart.

This path of cultivation and enlightenment is destined to be lonely.

He looked at the Celestial Master Guan Yi nearby, with an unextinguished hope in his heart, he couldn't help but ask, "Celestial Master Guan Yi, since Daoism has no Magical Techniques, what does it cultivate?"

"It's the heart and the mind."

Celestial Master Guan Yi pondered for a moment and gave his answer.

Lin Beichen found it reasonable upon hearing it, and without much hesitation declined politely, "Celestial Master Guan Yi, thank you for your appreciation, but I will consider joining Daoism later. My studies are not yet complete, and I have unfinished matters in the mundane world."

If Daoism could aid him in his Thunder Skills, joining it wouldn't be a problem.

But...

Currently, it doesn't help with Thunder Skills at all.

So why bother becoming a Daoist for the sake of pure cultivation?

If in the future his cultivation reaches a point where Daoist thoughts could serve as enlightenment, he would come to Dragon Tiger Mountain again...

Celestial Master Guan Yi was somewhat taken aback by Lin Beichen's sudden decision. After a brief thought, he seemed to have a realization and said, "Young friend, you seem to have a deep obsession with 'Magical Techniques.'"

"But such things do not exist, and in this new era, one should trust in science more."

"However, this doesn't conflict with Daoist thoughts and secluded cultivation. I think you might want to practice Martial Arts?"

"Although Daoism doesn't have so-called spells, it does have martial arts, which is also a form of cultivation. I can teach you."

"Martial Arts? That's not what I seek." Lin Beichen smiled politely, shaking his head. After pondering for a moment, he said, "That's not what I want."

Celestial Master Guan Yi was slightly stunned, a bit puzzled, "Then what do you seek..."

Lin Beichen pondered his words for a moment and then said, "The path is different!"

With that, he looked towards the staircase, his meaning was implicit but clear, it was time for him to leave!

Seeing this, Celestial Master Guan Yi didn't say more.

Daoism values non-action and non-contention.

That is, following destiny.

Since there is no destiny, there is no need to be persistent.

He smiled and personally sent Lin Beichen out of the Celestial Master's Mansion, watching him leave with a smile, shaking his head slightly with a sigh.

"What a pity, what a pity."

"Celestial Master Guan Yi."

At this moment, an old man with his granddaughter came over. He originally planned to take his granddaughter for a walk and then descend the mountain, but unexpectedly encountered Celestial Master Guan Yi.

Celestial Master Guan Yi turned his head and looked, his expression was one of pleasant surprise, clearly, he and the old man were old acquaintances.

"Infinite Blessings to the Great Celestial Master!"

Celestial Master Guan Yi made a hand gesture and slightly bowed, "Patron Cai, what brings you here today?"

"My granddaughter is on summer vacation, so I brought her here to listen to the Daoist priests reciting the Dao, to temper her temperament."

Saying this, the old man signaled to the little girl.

The little girl got the message, bowed slightly, and sweetly said, "Good day, Celestial Master Guan Yi!"

"Good, good, good."

Celestial Master Guan Yi was all smiles at the little girl's greeting.

At this time, out of the corner of his eye, the old man saw the disappearing figure of Lin Beichen and immediately recognized who it was.

He wasn't one to inquire into things usually, but for some reason, after seeing Celestial Master Guan Yi approach Lin Beichen, he was curious about what happened.

"Celestial Master Guan Yi, I saw you earlier at the Observation Platform talking with that young man, then you left with him, and now I see you sighing here alone. What's going on?"

Chapter 39: Observing Dao Scripture, The Dao Differs_3

"Sigh!"

Upon hearing this, the smile on Celestial Master's face became somewhat unnatural, and he sighed: "Today, when coming down from the mountain top, I saw that young man with exceptional demeanor at a glance. I immediately went to ask if the young man had the heart for cultivation and wished to join Daoism... but alas, it is a pity!"

While speaking, he couldn't help but shake his head and mutter, "Different paths, different paths, the boy's gentle refusal is full of Dao intent, truly a pity!"

Cai Lao: ?

He didn't expect Celestial Master to give Lin Beichen such a high evaluation. He couldn't help but look over again.

But the person had long since disappeared.

But at this moment...

The impression of Lin Beichen in his mind became even deeper!

...

On the other side.

Lin Beichen soon took the cable car to return, looking at the scenery outside the cable car, his mental realm was completely different from when he came.

When he came, his heart was full of anxiety and urgency, with no time to care about the beautiful scenery outside the window.

But at this moment, his heart was calm and peaceful, not anxious nor impatient, taking in all the scenery and enjoying the leisurely time.

"This trip is not just about exploring..."

"It's also about relaxing and unwinding!"

"Failing to master Thunder Skill, there are still opportunities in the future, there is no need to disrupt the rhythm or spoil the essence of life because of this."

Soon, the cable car reached the end.

Lin Beichen got off the cable car.

Just about to step out of the mountain gate of Dragon Tiger Mountain.

Suddenly!

He saw...

At the bottom center of the mountain gate, there was a square stone tablet, and next to it was a bright red flag!

"What is this?"

Lin Beichen curiously walked over and looked at the stone tablet.

On it was engraved with lines of text.

The beginning was - "Huaxia Religious Report"

Then there was the content - "As the only native religion of Huaxia, Daoism is the carrier of Huaxia's traditional culture, do not blindly believe!"

Lin Beichen: ...

With the progress of science and technology, the theory of awakening the heavenly secrets was regarded as metaphysics and gradually marginalized and considered superstitious. Even later generations with exceptional perception found it difficult to achieve enlightenment, only learning from the thoughts of predecessors, unable to make progress, even being assimilated by scientific thought.

Isn't Celestial Master the same?

As the most profound Dao practitioner, he talks about believing in science.

At this moment, his heart was filled with mixed feelings, not knowing what to feel.

"In this world, there is no cultivation method, nor is there Thunder Skill."

"But because of me..."

"This world should have 'skills'!"

Regretfully shook his head, but felt ambitious again.

Lin Beichen's mental realm underwent a tremendous transformation, then confidently stepped out of the mountain gate of Dragon Tiger Mountain, heading towards the real world to explore the truth!

...

On the bus.

Lin Beichen, having nothing to do, finally took out the phone that he hadn't used throughout the journey, planning to reassure his parents. Without even unlocking it, he saw the screen filled with numerous message boxes.

All of them were sent by Zheng Xia!

["Son, I just looked it up. Why did all those places you visited have thunderstorms on the same day? Should you refund the tickets and plan again?"]

["Son, have you reached Dragon Tiger Mountain? Is the rain heavy?"]

["Are you having fun?"]

[...]

Lin Beichen carefully read each message. Although they were simple concerns, each one touched his heart. He could even imagine his mother nagging all this.

["Mom, I'm having a great time, just checked my phone!"]

["Yes, as expected of my mom, observing so keenly. I see it too; it's all thunderstorm days, I'll study this later!"]

[...]

While Lin Beichen was sending messages, Zheng Xia immediately replied.

Mother and son chatted back and forth, and soon the bus arrived at the airport.

Lin Beichen briefly bid farewell to his mom and got on the plane, flying to his next travel destination.

But unfortunately...

It wasn't as smooth as the first stop at Dragon Tiger Mountain. After arriving at the destination, the originally forecasted thunderstorm turned into a sunny day, failing to achieve any enlightenment.

Moreover...

Not only was the second stop like this, but similar situations kept happening in subsequent travels.

Of course, it wasn't the case for every stop.

But...

Even encountering thunderstorms, there was still no progress in enlightenment.

However, luckily Lin Beichen's mental realm improved, not becoming impatient due to this, actively seeking other ways to attempt enlightenment, and at the same time enjoying the journey.

Today, in Hang City.

At Four Seasons Hotel.

Lin Beichen lay on the bed.

Looking at the night sky outside the window, the clouds were thin, with no stars visible.

With an expectant smile on his face, he murmured: "Looks like tomorrow will definitely be a heavy thunderstorm as the weather forecast says. Witnessing the tides in this weather... I wonder if I'll achieve any enlightenment?"

Chapter 40: Netizen of Yin and Yang

"We'll find out tomorrow."

Lin Beichen himself did not want to indulge in meaningless speculations. He reached out for the phone on his bedside table and started browsing.

[How is electricity formed?]

[What is the essence of electricity?]

[Is ball lightning really a macro electron?]

[What is the speed of lightning in meters per second?]

[What colors can lightning be, and why do these colors occur?]

[How high is the temperature of lightning?]

[Why doesn't static electricity, which reaches thousands of volts, harm people?]

[How to get rid of excess static electricity in the human body?]

[...]

His browsing history was full of information about electricity, covering lightning, static electricity, and even the electrical industry, encompassing all aspects of electricity!

This was one of the methods Lin Beichen found to attempt realization—

Learning all the knowledge related to electricity!

Whether domestic or foreign!

Whether basic or profound!

Learn it all!

Although his multiple experiences entering states of realization made him skeptical about the effectiveness of this method, since he had thought of it, and indeed had not expanded his knowledge of electricity much beyond skimming some surface information at the beginning, why not give it a try?

Of course, the reason for picking up this idea of learning scientific knowledge again was an inspiration he got from a comment by a netizen while surfing the web a few days ago.

Thus, the routine of studying knowledge about electricity for about an hour before sleep had been maintained by Lin Beichen for a long time, without fail, and tonight was no exception.

While reading...

It had only been half an hour, not even half the usual time.

Suddenly!

His eyes brightened.

He had realized!

He had realized it thoroughly!

"Learning this knowledge about electricity..."

"Is utterly useless!"

"Purely a waste of time!"

Lin Beichen put down his phone and shook his head helplessly, feeling exasperated at having persisted in such a meaningless activity for this period.

"I should have trusted my initial judgment right after those first few days when I realized it brought no help to realization, just learning some knowledge!"

"Daoist texts might come in handy someday, but current scientific technology is completely useless for the Creation Technique!"

"Come to think of it..."

"If obstacles could be overcome simply by catching up on scientific knowledge, then... would the professors of renowned universities, the Nobel laureates... wouldn't they have already realized the cultivation method?"

"What is meant by the 'Only My Unique Technique'?"

"Absurd!"

Lin Beichen reflected on himself, feeling like an idiot.

Studying all kinds of scientific knowledge really has no use, otherwise would it be his turn to have the unique technique now?

When he first started to comprehend the Thunder Skill, he had looked up various disciplines for it.

From astronomy and geography to psychology, he had searched for all, being a top scorer in the college entrance exam, learning with comprehension, few could beat him.

Contemplation seemed somewhat similar to mental hypnosis and meditation at the time, he thought this might be a path.

In the end, however, he found out it was not the same thing.

Hypnosis only affects the subconscious, but contemplation involves vividly imagining things in a very conscious state and making those imaginations manifest in the body.

How could that be achieved through hypnosis?

If it were really that simple, hypnosis masters would have long discovered the mysteries of cultivation.

Contemplation, though somewhat like meditation, upon researching related religious meditation methods, also turned out to be different.

Meditation indeed includes contemplation but falls far short of the level needed for true contemplation.

"It seems that to give birth to the Thunder Skill in this world, I can only rely on my 'heaven-defying comprehension' talent and keep exploring."

"The road is long and arduous, I will search high and low."

Lin Beichen felt that netizens were just spouting nonsense, and none of the suggestions found through searches were reliable.

It seems there is no shortcut he can take, being the only extraordinary of the Only My Unique Technique means he has to rely on himself!

Afterward, he stopped overthinking, pinning all his hopes and expectations on observing the tidal waves of the Qiantang River tomorrow, and fell into a deep sleep. When he opened his eyes again, it was the alarm clock that woke him.

Ten in the morning.

The city of Hang outside the window was just as Lin Beichen had imagined last night.

Dark clouds gathering, electric flashes and thunder rumbled.

The wind howled, driving the rain through the city.

Looking at the rain-blurred windows, Lin Beichen stretched lazily, a satisfied smile appearing on his face:
"It's really great weather!"

The best time to observe the tidal waves was at twelve o'clock.

Not wanting to miss it, he quickly washed up and went out, catching a cab to the observation pier.

The city roads were particularly congested in the rain.

A journey that was less than an hour ended up taking over an hour.

When Lin Beichen arrived at the observation pier, it was already crowded with people!

"Soon, soon, only about twenty minutes to the best time for observing the tides!"

"I heard today was going to have a sky-high tide, I wonder if it's true, hope so!"

"So excited, remember to stay safe, watching the Qiantang River tidal waves every year, every year people get swept away!"

"Move forward a bit, standing too far back we can't see anything, what's the point of coming here then?"

"..."

People pressed against people, squeezing forward!

And why so many people...

Not just because it was the best time for observing, but also because today was the best day of the month to observe the tides, with a rare sky-high tide!

Lin Beichen, holding an oil-paper umbrella bought from Shangqing Ancient Town, stood on the outskirts of the crowd with a face full of despair.

"Damn it!"

"So many people..."

"How to squeeze to the front to see the tides!"

However, time waits for no one.

He didn't have time to think, so he braced himself and squeezed into the crowded mass, pushing forward.

"Ah!"

"Ouch!"

"..."

Suddenly, screams rose and fell in the crowd!

Tourists watching the tides who had been standing well suddenly felt an electric shock, startled and unconsciously giving up the spot where they stood.

Lin Beichen: ???

He stood among them, looking at the wide space around him, dumbfounded.

"It has such a use??"

Lin Beichen shook his head with a helpless smile and quickly moved forward while no one noticed.

With screams continuing from behind to the front.

A few minutes later.

He had successfully squeezed to the forefront of the crowd before anyone noticed him.

"Wow!"

Lin Beichen's view suddenly opened up.

On the Qiantang River.

First, small white dots appeared in the distance, then in the blink of an eye, turned into wisps of thin, silver threads!

"Boom——!!!"

"Boom——!!!"

"..."

It was unclear whether the sound came from the sky or the waves.

As the booming sound echoed.

Silvery lines rolled forward, racing each other to the shore, crashing against the embankment, raising waves of one to two meters, like a thousand waves of snow!

"This is just the appetizer!"

Lin Beichen marveled at the scale of the Qiantang River tides, anticipating what the "main event" would bring.

A minute...

Two minutes...

Three minutes...

...

Short twenty-some minutes felt like forever!

The rain poured harder, large raindrops falling into the Qiantang River as if adding strength to the impending tide.

Dark clouds gathered like ink, clearly seen in the thick canopy, with bright lightning streaking through.

Lightning seemed to hide in the gloomy sky, flashing one after another, leaving jagged bright trails, then slowly dissipating.

The air was stifling!

The crowd became increasingly restless!

At this moment.

Suddenly!

A thunderous boom!

"Crack——!!!!"

A thick bolt of lightning twisted and thrashed, striking down from the sky, stretching to the junction where the river and sky met, seemingly striking directly into the Qiantang River!

Everyone was instantly energized!

Immediately thereafter.

Deafening thunder roared, eclipsing all previous sounds, coming from the distant river-sky junction.

"Boom——!!!!"

"Boom——!!!!"

"..."

What appeared on the distant river were no longer white dots, but clusters of white beans!

The white beans instantly formed thick silver bars, rushing forth, even before reaching the shore, waves over half a meter high were already surging.

Until...

The first wave struck the dike.

"Smash—!!"

Stone shattered and the tide surged upward!

Soaring five meters high!

Even before the first wave fell, another surged, cresting over seven meters!

In the blink of an eye...

One wave after another, each higher than the previous!

At that moment, no need to check the time.

Witnessing the sudden events before them, they understood...

The great tide was here!!