

Doctor 211

Chapter 211: Attack in the Rain

The door was still opened by the old butler of the Su Family, Su Fu.

"Miss, have you returned?"

Wearing a red Tang suit, Su Fu asked with a beaming smile. Then, his gaze shifted and paused upon spotting Fang Bai standing not far away. He added, "Did Mr. Fang bring you back? Won't you invite Mr. Fang to come in and sit for a while?"

"It's too late, he said he won't come in."

Su Linglong spoke softly, her face flushed with a tender shyness as she walked into the courtyard, passing by Su Fu.

Su Fu nodded at Fang Bai with a smile and then closed the villa's grand door.

Fang Bai savored that lingering sweet scent on his lips, suddenly laughed involuntarily, shook his head, and strode away.

Just past ten on a midsummer night, the streets and alleys of the city were still bustling with activity. Fang Bai walked among the crowds, and although he couldn't utilize his movement technique, his steps were much faster than the average person.

"It's going to rain..."

Turning around a street corner, Fang Bai looked up at the gloomy sky and muttered to himself.

No sooner had his words faded, a downpour descended from the heavens, instantly enveloping the entire Yanjing City in its grasp.

Soon, there were far fewer vehicles on the streets, and pedestrians vanished without a trace.

Fang Bai walked alone in the heavy rain without circulating True Yuan to shield himself from the downpour,

For Fang Bai, nature's harsh elements—wind, rain, thunder, frost—were tools for tempering the body. The wilder the wind and the heavier the rain, the more he enjoyed it. He simply didn't care about heavy rain like what was currently lashing down.

After briskly walking through the rain for a while, when he reached the outskirts, Fang Bai was about to deploy his movement technique to return to the courtyard house when suddenly, from the curtain of rain ahead, he sensed a thread of danger.

Fang Bai's sensory perception instantly heightened to the extreme, and he noticed a woman breaking rapidly through the rain, charging towards him from hundreds of meters away on the road.

This was a master close to the mid-stage Profound Level.

From the aura emanating from the woman, Fang Bai immediately gauged the stranger's strength.

At the same time, a greater sense of danger assaulted him from behind.

Fang Bai's pupils contracted slightly.

Another woman had appeared behind him, her strength similar to the one in front, except the woman behind seemed to be carrying firearms like handguns.

The strength of a mid-stage Profound Level Martial Artist itself would not be taken seriously by Fang Bai, and it was only the Martial Artist with firearms that would invoke a stronger sense of danger in him, though not enough to make him afraid.

Fang Bai's current strength had reached the Profound Level Perfection realm, closely approaching an Earth Level Martial Artist. Ordinary firearms like handguns could hardly injure him.

After Fang Bai's reincarnation through spirit possession and his return to the Martial Dao through body refining, his physical toughness was more than ten times that of an ordinary person. However, Fang Bai did not have absolute confidence to rely on his body to withstand bullets.

Against firearms like handguns, Fang Bai could completely rely on his sharp senses to make incredibly precise evasive maneuvers before the opponent could draw and shoot, or the moment a bullet left the chamber, thus causing the opponent's bullets to miss.

Who exactly wished to deal with him?

Fang Bai's brow furrowed slightly, then his figure flashed, and he landed on a tree at the side of the street with dense branches and leaves, all the while completely concealing his own presence.

Two Female Martial Artists dressed in black prepared to pincer-attack Fang Bai, but the dense curtain of rain concealed his figure. They could only judge Fang Bai's location based on the Killing Qi they sensed.

When Fang Bai retracted his aura, the two Female Martial Artists lost their target for attack.

The two Female Martial Artists soon encountered each other on the main street, exchanging a look that communicated shock.

Their strength was already very close to that of middle-tier Profound Level Martial Artists. Together, they could easily kill a middle-tier Profound Level Martial Artist. They originally thought that killing a twenty-something-year-old Martial Artist would be effortless but didn't expect to lose sight of their target so quickly, the person already vanished.

Knowing they had encountered a true powerhouse, the two Female Martial Artists had tense and solemn expressions on their faces.

Back to back, they were highly vigilant; one gripped her foot-long blade tightly, her gaze swiftly scanning the surroundings, while the other, gun in hand, pointed at various places that could serve as hiding spots.

The distance between Fang Bai and the two Female Martial Artists was about twenty meters. Due to the heavy rain, the two could only see clearly within a fifteen-meter radius; anything beyond that was blurred.

But Fang Bai, much stronger than them, peered through the gaps in the branches and could clearly see their figures.

"This woman, she appeared at Dongfang Ruhua's birthday party before. Who exactly is she? Why is she targeting me?"

Fang Bai's brow furrowed when he recognized one of the Female Martial Artists.

That Female Martial Artist, with ear-length hair and a delicate appearance, had a figure that was both slender and curvy. Fang Bai had seen her once in the Dongfang Family's grand hall. Although it was just a brief glance at that time, Fang Bai had a photographic memory, so he recognized her instantly.

As the two Female Martial Artists didn't see their adversary reappear, they grew increasingly tense, feeling as if eyes were watching them from every direction, an invisible pressure almost suffocating them.

"Go!"

One of the Female Martial Artists shouted softly, and then they prepared to escape back to back towards an alley by the side of the street.

"Thinking of running?"

With a body full of Killing Qi charging toward them, how could Fang Bai let them just leave without clarifying their identity and understanding their purpose?

Whoosh—

Whoosh—

Whoosh—

The sound of the wind was sharp and piercing as numerous leaves were shaken off by Fang Bai, turning into a barrage of green blades that enveloped the two Female Martial Artists in the center of the street; each leaf contained a strand of True Yuan.

The two Female Martial Artists, though tensed and on high alert, were caught off guard by Fang Bai's sudden attack with leaves as hidden weapons, completely unprepared.

Hundreds of leaves formed a green curtain of blades that pierced through the hazy veil of rain and struck like lightning toward the two Female Martial Artists, reaching them in an instant.

The two Female Martial Artists were terrified. The curtain of leaves formed from hundreds of leaves covered a range of several meters, dense as rain and swift to the extreme. With their movement techniques, they couldn't escape this curtain of blades and, in desperation, discarded their short blades and handguns. Joining their hands to form palms, they struck forward with all their strength, trying to stop the oncoming leaves with their True Yuan.

Both women were close to the strength of middle-tier Profound Level Martial Artists, and their palms carried formidable power, sweeping like a tidal wave that blew away a large swath of leaves.

Still, many leaves penetrated their defenses, slashing deep gashes on their bodies, causing blood to flow profusely.

Some of the leaves were even deadlier, spinning as they flew, slicing from behind and severing the tendons in their legs.

Both Female Martial Artists simultaneously showed horrified expressions, their legs weakened, and their bodies, as if losing support, collapsed to the ground.

Chapter 212: "Wrathful Beauties" of Lichun and Yushui

Just with leaves, they had reduced the fighting power of two mid-Profound Level Martial Artists by more than half. Just how formidable must their opponent be?

The two Female Martial Artists couldn't help but secretly regret their actions. If they had known, they wouldn't have greedily coveted the Luminous Pearls on the other party and rashly made their move.

Now, having failed to steal the chicken only to lose the rice, and with the other party already striking, they didn't know what fate awaited them.

Fang Bai's figure flickered as he leaped down from the tree, landing in front of the two Female Martial Artists.

"I'm not fond of nonsense! You have one minute to reveal your identities and the purpose of your attack, or else, I'll send you to hell! Don't take my words as a joke, what I say, I do!"

After Fang Bai landed, he stared at the two Female Martial Artists with a cold gaze, questioning them sternly.

Although Fang Bai was a man who appreciated beauty and cherished women, and both of the adversaries could indeed be considered beautiful, he would not be soft-hearted towards women who intended to harm him, no matter how beautiful they were.

"To die under the peony flower, even as a ghost to be like a romantic rover"—this saying did not apply to Fang Bai.

To exert psychological pressure on them, Fang Bai no longer deliberately concealed his aura but now fully released it instead.

The two Female Martial Artists felt as if a thousand-pound weight was crushing them, their hearts pounding with fear and their bodies quivering as they looked at Fang Bai with eyes full of terror and dread.

The two Female Martial Artists quickly exchanged a look, and one of them suddenly let out a "giggle" with a charming laugh, looking at Fang Bai with flirtatious eyes and said in a coaxing voice, "Mr. Fang, don't you recognize me? We met at Dongfang Ruhua's birthday party..."

"Fifty seconds left..."

Fang Bai spoke indifferently. He had no interest in hearing their nonsense. Once the minute was up, if they hadn't provided the information he wanted, he would strike without mercy.

Fang Bai would not be lenient with those who intended to assassinate him, leaving no future troubles for himself.

The countless millennia of cultivation in his previous life had honed Fang Bai's mind as firm as rock, giving him a resolute and decisive killer instinct.

Seeing that Fang Bai was unmoved, the Female Martial Artist's expression changed, and a hint of resentment flashed in her eyes as she quickly said, "My name is Zhou Xiang. I am a jeweler with business ties to the Dongfang Family... If you don't believe me, you can ask people from the Dongfang Family..."

After a pause, she continued, "At Dongfang Ruhua's birthday party, I overheard you talking about having a Luminous Pearl and was filled with greed. So I found a partner, planning to attack you on your way and snatch the Luminous Pearl..."

So it was the Luminous Pearl that caused the disaster!

After hearing what the Female Martial Artist said, Fang Bai was certain she was not lying.

When he and Lu Jianfeng discussed the Luminous Pearl at Dongfang Ruhua's birthday party, although they kept their voices low, it was all too easy for a Martial Artist who was nearly at the mid-Profound Level with keen senses to overhear their conversation.

Moreover, since his Luminous Pearl was extremely rare and valuable in the world, it was not surprising that the Female Martial Artist conceived a plan when she saw the opportunity for riches.

However, Fang Bai had felt a strong murderous intent from the two Female Martial Artists just now, signaling their readiness to kill him, and that crossed Fang Bai's bottom line.

"If I were just an ordinary person, I might have already been killed and robbed, right?"

Fang Bai's gaze swept over the two Female Martial Artists as he said coldly with a sneer.

"We're sorry, we were wrong! Please spare us!"

The Female Martial Artist who had attended Dongfang Ruhua's birthday party hastily apologized and begged for mercy.

Fang Bai shook his head and said, "Your willingness to kill an innocent person just for a mere Luminous Pearl shows a vicious nature beyond redemption. If I spare you now, you will go on to harm others in the future..."

Fang Bai stepped forward slowly, approaching the spot where the two female martial artists had collapsed and continued, "If killing you two can save more lives, I would be more than willing to do it!"

The tendons in the legs of the two female martial artists had been severed by leaves, significantly reducing their combat strength. For Fang Bai, killing them would be just a matter of lifting his hand.

The two female martial artists watched Fang Bai approach step by step, their faces showing expressions of terror and despair.

Just moments before, Fang Bai had sent hundreds of leaves flying, using them as hidden weapons for an intense attack. The black clothes and pants worn by the female martial artists bore dozens of cuts of varying sizes. From some of these cuts, blood was oozing out, but it was quickly washed away by the rain, revealing pale skin underneath.

On the upper arm of one of the female martial artists, several leaves had slashed across at the same time, ripping away a large section of cloth. After the oozing blood was washed away by the rain, a special tattoo became visible.

Fang Bai's gaze was sharp. Seeing the tattoo on the woman's arm, he blurted out in shock, "Wrathful Beauties?!"

Ye Wumei's kidnapping was perpetrated by the "Wrathful Beauties."

Fang Bai had once heard from Ye Wumei's father, Ye Xing, that "Wrathful Beauties" was an international crime syndicate primarily comprised of women. Each member had a tattoo of a long-haired woman holding a flame on their left arm and their code name tattooed on the right.

For example, the two "Wrathful Beauties" members who attacked Fang Bai and Ye Wumei in Qingdao City had the words "Yushui" and "Lichun" tattooed on their right arms, which were their code names.

Upon hearing their organization's name from Fang Bai, both female martial artists trembled, seemingly in disbelief.

The one whose identity was exposed followed Fang Bai's gaze to the patch of skin visible beneath the torn cloth on her left arm and realized the problem laid with her. Her complexion instantly turned ashen.

A "Wrathful Beauty" member, upon having their identity exposed during a mission and with no chance of escape, had only one choice left—suicide.

The two female martial artists exchanged glances, shared a bitter smile, and then a determined and fierce look flickered in their eyes.

Their legs were useless, but they still had their hands.

Suddenly, they raised their hands that had been propped against the ground. The female martial artist on the left threw out an egg-sized black object, while the one on the right produced a handgun, aiming it at Fang Bai and pulling the trigger.

The two female martial artists were gold-level assassins of "Wrathful Beauties," and they carried a variety of hidden weapons for either offense or defense, truly difficult to Guard against.

Bang—

The egg-sized black object exploded in front of Fang Bai, a cloud of white smoke rising that, upon contact with the rain, spread a strong, pungent odor.

Fang Bai, detecting the scent, knew that the white smoke contained a deadly poison; even a slight touch could be fatal.

Crack—

Crack—

Crack—

As the black object detonated, gunfire also erupted, with three bullets speeding out of the barrel towards Fang Bai.

With the poison cloud as a smokescreen followed by gunfire, and considering the short distance of less than ten meters between them, the female martial artists believed Fang Bai, no matter how strong, would struggle to avoid both the poison and the bullets.

If Fang Bai were injured, they hoped to turn the tables. Even though their legs were useless, as Profound Level mid-stage martial artists, they could still wield considerable combat strength with just their hands.

Chapter 213: Just Be Naughty!

The poison fog dissipated quickly, and Fang Bai's figure, once again, vanished; there was not even a speck of blood where he had been standing.

This meant that Fang Bai had successfully avoided the poison fog, dodged the bullets, and had not been injured.

"How is this possible?"

The two Female Martial Artists stared wide-eyed at the spot where Fang Bai had just been standing, their faces filled with astonishment.

They could not imagine what level of movement technique it would take to accomplish this.

If Fang Bai was not in front of them, then where could he be?

The two Female Martial Artists immediately thought of a possibility, and their faces changed color at the same time.

They turned around suddenly, only to find a palm rapidly enlarging before their eyes, softly chopping down on their necks.

The two Female Martial Artists grunted and, finding darkness enveloping their vision, passed out simultaneously.

"Knocking you out to prevent you from taking poison and committing suicide."

Fang Bai looked down at the two Female Martial Artists who had collapsed limply to the ground, squatted down, and took a rice grain-sized object from each of their mouths; after examining it, he found that they indeed contained a potent poison that would kill within a minute of being bitten.

Last time in Qingdao, Fang Bai and Ye Wumei faced an attack by two assassins of "Wrathful Beauties" named "Lichun" and "Yushui." Although they were subdued by Fang Bai, they both took poison and died, causing Fang Bai to sigh in regret.

This time, Fang Bai had learned his lesson and acted first by knocking out these two members of "Wrathful Beauties" before they had the chance to take poison.

Casually ripping open the sleeves on the right arms of the two Female Martial Artists, he indeed saw that their skin was marked with code names, one "Startle" and the other "Vernal Equinox."

"Wrathful Beauties" had twenty-four gold-medal assassins whose code names were the twenty-four solar terms, all reportedly more powerful than the next.

The "Startle" and "Vernal Equinox" they encountered this time were far stronger than "Lichun" and "Yushui" from the last encounter.

Fang Bai stripped the two Female Martial Artists of their cultivation levels, then gave Tang Wenrou a call, briefly explaining the situation.

Twenty minutes later, Officer Tang, dressed in a police uniform, drove to the scene.

"For these two women, I think it's better to hand them over to the Ye Family. The Ye Family now despises 'Wrathful Beauties' to the bone, and maybe they can extract some useful clues from these women's mouths."

Fang Bai helped Officer Tang load the two Female Martial Artists into the police car, offering his suggestion.

Officer Tang, looking at the two unconscious Female Martial Artists, excitement evident in her expression, nodded and said, "After I've interrogated them, I'll let the Ye Family come and pick them up. As far as I know, 'Wrathful Beauties' have committed quite a few crimes in the country, including some major cases. We hope to use this opportunity to completely eradicate them!"

"I'll say it again: if you need help, just say the word, preferably with a reward."

Fang Bai said with a smile.

Officer Tang couldn't help but roll her eyes and said, "I thought you were short on cash, but at Ruhua's birthday party, you casually gave away a Luminous Pearl worth tens of millions... With so much money, do you even care about a reward?"

Seeing a flash of envy in her eyes when she mentioned the Luminous Pearl, Fang Bai felt a pang, produced a Luminous Pearl with a flick of his hand, and stuffed it into hers, smiling, "For you."

"This..."

Officer Tang looked down at the Luminous Pearl in her hand and was speechless.

At the previous birthday party, Officer Tang had seen Fang Bai giving Dongfang Ruhua a Luminous Pearl and couldn't help feeling envious, even fantasizing about Fang Bai giving her one. Now that Fang Bai actually placed a Luminous Pearl in her hand, she was caught off guard and her heart began to race.

"What's the matter? You don't like it? Then give it back to me..."

Fang Bai made a grabbing motion toward the luminous pearl in Tang Wenrou's hand.

Tang Wenrou quickly retracted her palm, took a step back, and tightly clutched the luminous pearl in the center of her palm. She pouted and said, "Annoying, who said I didn't like it? Once something is given away, there's no reason to take it back, is there?"

As soon as she finished her sentence, she realized that her tone sounded like lovers engaging in playful banter. Her pretty face flushed red instantly. She saw Fang Bai's half-smiling face and understood that he was teasing her on purpose.

"You... You're such a bad guy! I'm not talking to you anymore!"

Tang Wenrou glared at Fang Bai, hopped into the police car, slammed the door shut, and sped away, leaving Fang Bai behind.

"I was actually planning to hitch a ride with her to get home. Who would have thought that she'd just drive off like that... Sigh, there goes the luminous pearl, worth millions, for free!"

Fang Bai looked at the disappearing police car in the rain and shook his head with a sigh.

After walking a dozen steps, he saw Tang Wenrou's police car speedily reverse back and stop beside him.

"Get in, I'll drive you!"

The car door opened, revealing Tang Wenrou's beautiful, flower-like face, with a teasing smile at the corner of her mouth.

"I knew it. Officer Tang, such a beautiful woman, wouldn't be so heartless as to leave me out in the rain!"

Fang Bai laughed out loud, climbed into the police car, and sat down next to Tang Wenrou in the passenger seat.

"What nonsense!"

Tang Wenrou hit the gas, focusing on the road ahead, the smile at the corner of her mouth growing wider.

In the following days, Fang Bai's life became regular again: getting up early to cultivate in the mountains, then going to the hospital for his internship, and meditating cross-legged in his room at night.

Although there were no major breakthroughs, Fang Bai could feel the ball of True Yuan in his Qi Sea steadily growing.

Fang Bai knew that in Martial Dao cultivation, one mustn't be impatient. Even without any fortuitous encounters, when the accumulation of True Yuan reached a certain level, the advancement in realm would naturally occur.

While cultivating himself, Fang Bai also took time to mentor Ghost Hand and Baili Mingyue.

Both lacking Innate Spiritual Roots, Ghost Hand's talent was slightly inferior to Baili Mingyue's, but his advantage lay in his early training, solid foundation, and double the effort in cultivation.

Finally, one morning, after being enlightened by Fang Bai's guidance, Ghost Hand sat cross-legged on the mountain peak, facing the rising sun, cultivating the Buddha's Fury Golden Staff Technique, and he suddenly had a breakthrough, ascending to the ranks of Profound Level Martial Artist.

Although Baili Mingyue had a shorter time in cultivation, she was a natural Martial Dao prodigy. She grasped the Azure Sea Wave Art instantly and, with Fang Bai's support using Essence Stones and Elixirs, quickly advanced and became a Yellow Level Martial Artist.

Moreover, every few days, Fang Bai would contact Su Linglong, Tang Wenrou, and Ye Wumei via phone, inquiring about their cultivation progress.

These three women had been identified by Fang Bai as possessing Innate Spiritual Roots, specifically Wood Spirit Root, Earth Spirit Root, and Wind Spirit Root, respectively, each with excellent potential.

Fang Bai believed that as long as they continued their cultivation, their future achievements in Martial Dao were immeasurable.

He taught Su Linglong the Wood System Skill, Heaven's Net, which could transform Wood True Yuan into countless branches at a certain level of mastery. It could be used for offense or to block attacks, a versatile Wood System technique with both offensive and defensive capabilities.

Tang Wenrou, on the other hand, learned the Earth Element Formula from Fang Bai, which could condense Earth True Yuan into various shapes for either offense or defense, with formidable power.

Ye Wumei was learning Fang Bai's Wind Art. Once cultivated to an advanced level, a punch could release a Wind True Yuan that transforms into a dragon-like storm, capable of sweeping heaven and earth with terrifying force.

Chapter 214: Spirits Lifted in Happy Times

Among these three ladies, Su Linglong was a blank slate, having never been exposed to martial arts before Fang Bai discovered she had an Innate Spiritual Root. However, precisely because of this, she practiced with utmost concentration and focus, free from distractions. In a short amount of time, she managed to make a breakthrough and reached the initial stage of the Yellow Level, officially becoming a Martial Artist.

Although Tang Wenrou had previously been exposed to martial arts, she had never achieved mastery. After cultivating the "Earth Element Formula," her progress was swift, and she also successfully broke through and advanced to become a Martial Artist.

Among the three ladies, Ye Wumei had the best foundation. Originally at the initial stage of the Yellow Level in martial arts, she actually advanced to the intermediate stage of the Yellow Level after cultivating the "Wind Cloud Art" for a period of time, which greatly surprised her father Ye Xing and brought him immense relief.

The Ye Family was facing many problems, struggling to cope with just the "Wrathful Beauties" alone. If Ye Wumei could become an Ancient Martial strong practitioner, she would have a certain ability to protect herself, greatly easing Ye Xing's worries.

Ye Xing still remembered what Fang Bai had once said, that if he entrusted his daughter to him for guidance, he promised to make her surpass her own strength within a year.

Although Ye Xing didn't completely believe Fang Bai's words, there was still a glimmer of hope in his heart. Once his daughter became a Profound Level Expert, it would be a significant addition of strength for the Ye Family, increasing their confidence when dealing with the "Wrathful Beauties."

Ye Xing knew that Fang Bai, despite his youth, was an extraordinary person. In order to have his daughter surpass him sooner, he often urged her to stay in contact with Fang Bai. For this reason, he specifically took his daughter to Yanjing, visiting the courtyard house Fang Bai rented every day, allowing her to receive direct instruction and guidance from Fang Bai.

The great star's visit to her home had thrilled Baili Mingyue for quite some time.

She and Ye Wumei were both considered "disciples" of Fang Bai. With similar temperaments and frequent discussions about cultivation methods, they quickly became good friends.

Baili Mingyue and Ye Wumei took many photos together, with each photo autographed by Ye Wumei. She treasured these photos, planning to show them off to her classmates once school resumed.

Fang Bai, who took time out each day to teach two beauties, one young and one not as young, consequently spent much less time at Yanjing Hospital. However, nobody dared to say anything, as they all knew that Fang Bai had saved the life of Lu Jianfeng, the son of the Yanjing Lu Family's Lu Xingping, and had a close relationship with the Lu Family.

Moreover, with the backing of the Great Buddha, Fang Bai became an extraordinary presence in Yanjing Hospital, where even the hospital director Zhang Chen greeted him with a smile.

After Ye Wumei left Yanjing, Fang Bai also ended his happy life surrounded by the two beauties and continued his regular routine.

One evening, just before finishing work, Fang Bai suddenly received a phone call from Xia Chenyu.

Ever since Fang Bai had given Xia Chenyu three beauty formulas, almost two months had passed without contact. This was the first time Xia Chenyu had gotten in touch with Fang Bai since then.

"Sister Xia, has there been good news about the development of the beauty formulas?"

Fang Bai had initially given Xia Chenyu three beauty formulas to help her Beauty Company out of a difficult situation, instructing her to develop them for large-scale production. Now that Xia Chenyu was calling, Fang Bai speculated that there might have been some progress in that regard.

"I wanted to surprise you, but I didn't expect you to guess it!"

On the other end of the phone, Xia Chenyu giggled, her tone revealing her excitement and enthusiasm.

"You should be getting off work soon, right? I came to Yanjing with Eldest Young Master Su. I'm already outside the main entrance to your hospital. When you come out, you'll see my car... I've changed cars; it's a black business vehicle."

Xia Chenyu continued.

"The two of you came to Yanjing together?"

Fang Bai knew that "Eldest Young Master Su," mentioned by Xia Chenyu, referred to Su Yifei from the Su Family of Zhongzhou.

Regarding Su Yifei's arrival, Fang Bai was not too surprised; it seemed to have been within his expectations.

Fang Bai had previously instructed Xia Chenyu that once the three beauty products he had provided were successfully developed, she could immediately seek Su Yifei to discuss a collaboration.

The Su Family possessed a strong sales network and connections in Huaxia, and the 'Beauty Company' had newly developed three beauty products with miraculous effects. For both parties to collaborate would result in a win-win situation, and they were sure to perform well in the market.

This was something Fang Bai was quite confident about, after all, the secret formulas for those three beauty products had been provided by him.

And letting Xia Chenyu seek cooperation with the Su Family, Fang Bai felt there was no reason for the Su Family to refuse because those three beauty products contained tremendous benefits and had a broad market outlook. As long as the Su Family were not fools, they would certainly choose to collaborate with Xia Chenyu.

Furthermore, since he was the one who had arranged their partnership, the Su Family should not refuse the 'Beauty Group' out of respect for him.

Fang Bai also knew that Xia Chenyu and Su Yifei must have been in contact before coming to Yanjing, and their joint visit to him was most likely related to the three secret formulas.

"Eldest Young Master Su has gone to arrange the hotel, and I'm in charge of picking you up. Hurry up and come out, Fang Bai, don't keep me waiting! Oh, and by the way, bring Su Linglong with you!"

"Alright, we'll be there soon!"

After ending the call with Xia Chenyu, Fang Bai immediately contacted Su Linglong and asked her to come to his office.

Five minutes later, Su Linglong, dressed in a white skirt, appeared in Fang Bai's office.

"Your brother has arrived in Yanjing, and he wants to treat us to a meal!"

"Hmm, my brother called me yesterday, saying he would visit Yanjing today. But...why does he have time to treat us to a meal now?"

Previously, when Su Yifei visited Yanjing, he was always accompanied by dozens of followers to discuss business, with a very tight schedule, leaving little chance to even meet and dine with his sister, which explains why Su Linglong would ask such a question.

"I'm not too sure either, but we'll find out when we meet him. Let's go!"

Fang Bai took off his white lab coat, hung it on the coat rack, and walked shoulder to shoulder with Su Linglong towards the hospital exit.

Upon reaching the hospital entrance, they indeed saw a black business vehicle parked outside, with the charming, black-suited Xia Chenyu standing elegantly beside it, waving at them.

"Sister Xia, long time no see, you seem much more spirited than the last time we met! Your skin looks better too!"

Fang Bai approached Xia Chenyu, his eyes settling on her stunningly beautiful face, smiling as he spoke.

"Of course, joy brings good spirits! I've been very happy lately, eating well, sleeping soundly, so of course, I'm looking better. Also, after some female employees at our company tried those three beauty secrets, their skin improved a lot. I feel like my skin is almost back to its eighteen-year-old state."

As she spoke, Xia Chenyu touched her fair delicate cheek, her voice exuberant with happiness.

Chapter 215: Getting Angry Makes You Ugly!

Xia Chenyu had recently been using beauty and skincare products that were created from beauty formulas provided by Fang Bai, undiluted, with the best effects.

And what "Beauty Company" was preparing to produce on a large scale and market comprehensively were products with the effects diluted by ten times. This way, they could save on costs and facilitate long-term sales while still being several times more effective than similar beauty and skincare products on the market.

Xia Chenyu was full of confidence in her company's three soon-to-be-launched beauty and skincare products. As long as consumers purchased and used them, they would see significant results in a short period and then would no longer choose other brands.

"This must be Su Family's Linglong, right? Wow, such a beautiful girl! No wonder Fang Bai often mentions your name. If I were a man, I would always have your name on my lips too!"

After exchanging a few words with Fang Bai, Xia Chenyu's gaze shifted behind him to Su Linglong, and she warmly took one of Su Linglong's hands in hers, chatting away as if they were good sisters who hadn't seen each other for many years.

"What nonsense are you talking about? When have I ever mentioned Su Linglong to you?"

Fang Bai couldn't help but roll his eyes upon hearing what Xia Chenyu said and thought to himself.

But he knew this was one of Xia Chenyu's tricks to close the gap in their friendship, so he didn't point it out on the spot.

Women all like to be complimented on their looks, and Su Linglong was no exception. Xia Chenyu's comment "such a beautiful girl" instantly made her feel kindly towards Xia Chenyu.

"Linglong, let me introduce you. This is President Xia, Xia Chenyu of Zhongzhou's 'Beauty Company,' a friend of mine, and soon to be a business partner with your Su Family. Your brother came to Yanjing this time to meet her."

Seeing Su Linglong's inquiring look, Fang Bai spoke with a smile.

"Hello, Sister Xia."

Being a well-bred young lady from a prominent family, Su Linglong had seen much of the world. She acted neither humble nor arrogant in the presence of the company president, Xia Chenyu, and began to warmly exchange greetings with a sweet smile.

Heroes admire each other, and so do beauties.

Su Linglong and Xia Chenyu, one sweet and youthful, the other alluring and full of charm. Although it was their first meeting, because of Fang Bai, they felt an affinity for each other, and within a few sentences, they were warmly calling each other 'sister.'

Especially after learning that both their lives had been saved by Fang Bai, the relationship between the two women grew even closer.

"Sister Xia, you might be three or four years older than me, but your skin looks even better than mine! Could you teach me your skincare secrets?"

Su Linglong asked enviously as she looked at Xia Chenyu's fair, smooth skin that was soft and tender like a newborn's.

Xia Chenyu let out a playful laugh, gestured towards Fang Bai with her mouth, and said, "Well... you should really ask Fang Bai about that. It's by using the beauty formula he provided that I've gotten such good skin."

Su Linglong turned to look at Fang Bai, her eyes filled with a tinge of plaintive longing as she wondered why he had given the beauty formula to Xia Chenyu but not to her. Could it be that...

Realizing this, Su Linglong's heart skipped a beat, and she took a few careful looks at Xia Chenyu.

"Not only is Sister Xia the president of a beauty company, but every move she makes, every smile she shows, has an indescribable charm. She's naturally alluring, definitely more popular with men than a girl like me. It's normal for Fang Bai to like her more!"

Su Linglong let out a soft sigh, her expression becoming somewhat downcast.

Fang Bai, who had been surrounded by beautiful acquaintances in Immortal Realm, was very clear about the nature of love and knew more than most. Seeing Su Linglong's dispirited expression, he vaguely guessed what was on her mind.

"Linglong, the matter of the beauty formula is a long story. Let's get in the car first, and when we reach the hotel and see your brother, I'll explain everything to you in detail," Fang Bai said gently to Su Linglong.

Su Linglong "Oh"ed, then perked up a bit and followed Xia Chenyu and Fang Bai into the black business van.

When Fang Bai saw that the driver was a woman in her thirties, and there was another woman of the same age sitting in the passenger seat, both exuding a fierce aura, he smiled at Xia Chenyu and said, "Your bodyguards?"

Xia Chenyu nodded, "Yes, they were introduced to me by Eldest Young Master Su, and they are all skilled in martial arts."

Fang Bai said, "You should have had bodyguards long ago. From now on, if you encounter harassment from men, you won't have to be afraid!"

The black business van drove along the wide boulevards of Yanjing and, twenty minutes later, arrived at the Four Seasons Spring Hotel.

The Four Seasons Spring is a high-end chain restaurant owned by the Su Family, with several branches in Yanjing, and this one was the most prestigious among them.

After getting out of the car, Fang Bai, Su Linglong, and Xia Chenyu immediately saw Su Yifei waiting at the hotel entrance.

"Brother Fang Bai, long time no see, I've missed you!"

Su Yifei laughed heartily as he stepped forward, spread his arms, and gave Fang Bai a bear hug.

Fang Bai sized up Su Yifei and smiled, "Brother Yifei, you look like you're thriving; business must be booming lately, right?"

Smugly, Su Yifei said, "Thanks to your good fortune, I've been doing quite well recently. Old Master Su has been praising me a lot and is even planning on increasing my responsibilities!"

Fang Bai knew that when Su Yifei talked about "increasing responsibilities," he was referring to Old Master Su, Su Hongyuan, preparing to hand over more of the family's businesses to him and giving him more power.

With a smile, Su Yifei nodded to Xia Chenyu and then stood in front of Su Linglong. Seeing her somewhat downcast, he gently scraped her handsome nose with his finger and said with a grin, "What's wrong, Linglong? Who provoked you? Tell me, and I'll take care of it for you!"

"It's you!"

Su Linglong glared at her brother and said indignantly, "You've been to Yanjing twice recently and haven't come to see me. Have you forgotten about your sister?"

Scratching his head, Su Yifei gave a sheepish laugh and said, "I've just been really busy..."

Glancing at Fang Bai, he added, "Besides, with Fang Bai looking after you in Yanjing, I can rest easy."

"In any case, you just don't care about me! I don't want to talk to you anymore!"

Su Linglong "hmpf"ed and turned away.

"My dear little sister, don't be angry! Being angry makes you less pretty! I promise, the next time I'm in Yanjing, I'll spend more time with you... Come on, give your brother a smile!"

Su Yifei held his sister's shoulders with a sleazy smile on his face.

Su Yifei's remark about anger making one less pretty had its effect; Su Linglong touched her cheek, and her expression softened significantly.

The private room Su Yifei had arranged was in Lingyun Hall on the eighteenth floor of the hotel, where they could enjoy the cityscape of Yanjing while dining.

The four of them entered Lingyun Hall and casually took seats without any particular order; Su Yifei immediately ordered the waitstaff to serve the food and drinks.

Chapter 216: Beauty Products

"Fang Bai, brother, you should know why I've come to Yanjing with President Xia this time, right?"

After having some drinks and dishes, Su Yifei spoke up.

Fang Bai said, "I'm not entirely clear on the specifics. I guess it's got something to do with the beauty secret formula? As for matters of cooperation, I've already set up the introduction for you two. You can just discuss it between yourselves, no need to involve me..."

"There's no problem with the beauty secret formulas; in fact, we're here precisely for cooperation matters," Su Yifei said with a smile, casting a meaningful glance at Xia Chenyu.

Fang Bai remained silent, waiting for Su Yifei to continue.

"This is the situation: for the three skincare products we plan to market together, the formulas are all provided by you, so after discussing it with President Xia, we've decided to give you thirty percent of the sales profit; President Xia and our Su Family will each also take thirty percent; and the remaining ten percent will be allocated to some of the staff at Beauty Company..."

"This won't do!"

Before Su Yifei could finish speaking, Fang Bai had already begun to wave his hands and shake his head, interrupting, "When I provided the beauty secret formulas and facilitated your cooperation, I did so as a friend, wanting to offer whatever help I could, with no other intentions..."

Xia Chenyu spoke earnestly, "Fang Bai, if it weren't for the beauty secret formulas you provided, the 'Acne Battle,' 'Scar-Removing Elixir,' and 'Snow Skin Beautifying Cream' wouldn't have come into existence. Morally and logically, this is your rightful share! If you refuse, we'd feel uneasy about it!"

"That's right!"

Su Yifei laughed and picked up, "We might even come to you for more formulas in the future. We can't just take advantage of you, can we? Even the emperor doesn't short-change his soldiers! Besides, you have parents and family who need financial support. So, don't refuse us! If you keep refusing, you're not treating us as friends!"

Fang Bai wasn't one to dilly-dally, and seeing that Su Yifei and Xia Chenyu were insistent, he no longer objected and nodded, "Alright, alright, I won't stand on ceremony then!"

Recalling the names of the three skincare products Xia Chenyu had mentioned, he laughed and added, "The 'Scar-Removing Elixir' and 'Snow Skin Beautifying Cream' are fine, but 'Acne Battle'... who came up with this name?"

"That was me!"

Su Yifei pointed to his nose and said, "How about that, the name's powerful, isn't it? President Xia came up with the names for the other two products and let me name the third one. With a flash of inspiration, I then had this stroke of genius!"

Though Fang Bai, Su Linglong, and Xia Chenyu scoffed at the name, they respected Su Yifei's opinion and did not change it.

In their view, the name of a skincare product was not important; what mattered was the effect of its use. As long as the product was effective and earned a good reputation among consumers through word of mouth, the product would become a hit.

Some of Xia Chenyu's staff and core members of the Su Family had already tried the three upcoming beauty products in advance and couldn't stop praising their effects, having one hundred percent confidence in them.

"Linglong, now you understand why I gave the beauty secret formula to Sister Xia, right?"

As the four of them chatted while eating, after a while, Fang Bai suddenly turned his head to ask Su Linglong.

Seeing his half-smiling expression, as if he saw through her little inner thoughts, Su Linglong couldn't help but blush and thought to herself, "He gave the beauty secret formula to Sister Xia... It has nothing to do with affection; it's to save Sister Xia's company from bankruptcy and also for our Su Family to make more money... Ah, I was overthinking it!"

As the meal was coming to an end, Fang Bai took out dozens of Blood Jade Vine, Frostflower Grass, and Purple Bamboo Leaf plants from his Spatial Ring and placed them on the restaurant floor for Xia Chenyu to take back to Zhongzhou.

"What is this...?"

Xia Chenyu looked at the pile of colorful flowers and herbs in front of her, completely bewildered.

"This is Blood Jade Vine, it's particularly effective at removing scars; this is Frostflower Grass, which has excellent whitening properties; and these are Purple Bamboo Leaves, capable of treating acne, pimples, and teenage spots," Fang Bai explained, taking out one plant of each spiritual medicine and describing their uses.

"These herbs are all over a hundred years old and fall under the category of 'Spiritual Medicine'. Take them back to Zhongzhou, try to cultivate them on a large scale, and add them to the three beauty recipes I gave you. The effects will be even better. In the future, you can use them to develop and produce more beauty products," Fang Bai said earnestly to Xia Chenyu.

Although the effects of these spiritual medicines would definitely diminish after being cultivated on a large scale, they were already sufficient for use in beauty and skincare products marketed to consumers.

Upon hearing Fang Bai's words, both Xia Chenyu and Su Yifei understood the dozens of herbs Fang Bai presented represented a vast fortune, and their eyes shone even brighter.

Next, Fang Bai carefully explained to Xia Chenyu the methods of large-scale cultivation and management of the three types of spiritual medicines, and reminded her to safeguard the three beauty recipes well to prevent them from falling into the hands of competitors.

"Don't worry, I've already burned the three beauty recipes," Xia Chenyu giggled, pointing at her head and saying, "I memorized them word for word in here, and nobody can take them away from me."

"Oh? Did you really remember them all?" Fang Bai asked, looking at Xia Chenyu in slight surprise.

The three beauty recipes included dozens of precious and rare herbs, and each herb's proportion in the recipes varied. Even a slight mistake in their preparation could greatly diminish the efficacy. If Xia Chenyu had memorized them flawlessly, it would be enough to show she was an exceedingly intelligent woman.

"Of course, although I don't have a photographic memory, this brain of mine is quite useful. After reciting them eight or ten times, I've got them all down. Even in old age, I will not forget," Xia Chenyu's sharp chin tilted up slightly, full of pride. To prove her point, she recited them from memory for Fang Bai on the spot.

After listening, Fang Bai was impressed, nodding his head repeatedly, and even contemplated giving Xia Chenyu a "bone-reading" test.

In Fang Bai's mind, a woman like Xia Chenyu, with her devastating beauty, extraordinary demeanor, and sharp intellect, had a high probability of possessing an Innate Spiritual Root.

After dining, Xia Chenyu took out three pre-drafted profit-sharing contracts, signed her name on them first, and then had Fang Bai and Su Yifei sign as well. They each kept a copy.

Fang Bai believed that a verbal promise between friends was enough and that there was no need for the formality of contracts, but both Xia Chenyu and Su Yifei, being business-savvy, valued this highly, so Fang Bai complied with their wishes and signed the contract.

After the meal, seeing that there was still plenty of time, the four of them didn't rush to leave. They sat in the restaurant, gazing out at the dazzling, enchanting night view of the city, sipping tea and chatting.

Chapter 217: Siblings Sparring

"Sister Xia, do you want to learn Ancient Martial Arts?"

Fang Bai suddenly turned his head to look at Xia Chenyu and asked.

"Ancient Martial Arts?"

Xia Chenyu was taken aback, clearly not quite understanding the term.

"Yes, it's the same thing as what ordinary people call kung fu."

"Of course, I do! If I knew kung fu, I'd like to see which man would dare to harass me! What about you, are you offering to teach me?"

Over the years, Xia Chenyu had, because of her beauty company's affairs, made connections and sought favors, being harassed by men numerous times. A few times, she had nearly been seriously taken advantage of, until recently when the Su Family provided her with two female bodyguards, which had improved the situation.

However, no matter how formidable the bodyguards were, they could never match the self-assurance she would gain from knowing kung fu herself, so at the mention of this from Fang Bai, Xia Chenyu felt a surge of enthusiasm.

Xia Chenyu knew that Fang Bai, despite appearing gentle and harmless on the surface, was actually very skilled in martial arts. If he really was willing to teach her, she would endure all hardships to learn from him.

"I can teach you. But first, I need to determine if you have the makings of a martial artist... Come on, give me your hand, I'll feel your bones to see!"

As he said this, Fang Bai gestured for Xia Chenyu to hand over her right hand.

If it had been any other man, Xia Chenyu would definitely have suspected he was trying to take advantage of her. But for Fang Bai, she had no such concerns, knowing he was not that kind of man.

Fang Bai had saved Xia Chenyu's life and offered her support; not only did she feel grateful to him, but she also harbored a crush on him. Deep down, she even hoped Fang Bai would take some liberties with her.

However, when Fang Bai was with her, their relationship was more like that of amicable friends, at most sharing harmless jokes, never crossing any lines.

Sometimes, Xia Chenyu even wondered if her charm was not strong enough to attract Fang Bai's attention.

Little did she know that in his previous life, Fang Bai was surrounded by female immortals and had many confidantes. He had seen all kinds of outstanding women and had reached a realm of calm indifference, where he was not easily moved.

As for Xia Chenyu, Fang Bai did have feelings for her; in fact, he liked her quite a bit, but when it came to matters between men and women, he preferred things to evolve naturally. He believed that when two people's fate was right, they would end up together and any forcefulness was rather pointless.

"I've heard that you have to start training in martial arts from a young age. I'm already so old, my physique is set in place; can I still hope to become skilled?"

Xia Chenyu extended her right hand confidently to Fang Bai, but asked somewhat nervously.

"Sister Xia, you're only a few years older than me. If I can become skilled, you definitely can too!"

Su Linglong had been listening to the conversation between Fang Bai, Xia Chenyu, and Su Yifei the whole time. Finally finding an opportunity to interject, she smiled and said, "Not too long ago, I started learning Ancient Martial Arts from Fang Bai. Now, I've become a real Martial Artist."

"What did you say?"

Upon hearing his sister's words, Su Yifei, who had just taken a sip of tea, nearly spit it out.

"I said I'm now a real Martial Artist... mhm, my realm is Yellow Level beginner stage."

Seeing the dumbfounded look on Su Yifei's face, Su Linglong giggled and said, "Brother, I'm better than you now!"

When Su Yifei and Su Linglong were six, Su Hongyuan had the Yellow Level Martial Artist butler Su Fu teach them the cultivation of martial arts. However, Su Linglong had no interest in fighting and didn't learn much, while Su Yifei, although fond of martial arts, was limited by his talents and had never crossed the threshold to become a Martial Artist. He remained a Quasi-Martial Artist until now.

What surprised Su Yifei was that his sister, who had always resisted martial arts, had been quietly learning Ancient Martial from Fang Bai. Now, she had even surpassed him, becoming a true, adept Martial Artist.

Su Yifei glanced at Fang Bai, and upon seeing a nod and smile from Fang Bai, he knew for sure that his sister was telling the truth. He was both shocked and delighted, and also deeply envious.

"Come on, sister, let's spar a few moves to see if you're just bragging!"

The restaurant was quite spacious. Su Yifei left the dining table and walked over to an open area, gesturing for Su Linglong to come over.

Su Linglong looked at Fang Bai, hesitating a bit.

When Fang Bai originally imparted the cultivation method to Su Linglong, he had cautioned her not to easily reveal her skills. Thus, faced with her brother's challenge and eager as she was to take it, she didn't dare to accept without Fang Bai's approval.

"We're all family here, there's nothing to worry about! But you must control your strength, don't injure your brother."

Fang Bai knew that without his say, Su Linglong wouldn't make a move, so he said to her with a smile.

"Okay."

With Fang Bai's consent, Su Linglong nodded excitedly and then walked up to Su Yifei.

"Your realm is higher than mine, I won't hold back! Take this punch!"

Su Yifei didn't wait for Su Linglong to get into position. He advanced with a sudden step and threw a punch.

Su Yifei's master, Su Fu, was a Yellow Level early-stage Martial Artist, and Su Yifei, in addition to training under Su Fu, had sparred with him several times, only to be utterly defeated each time, which showed him just how wide the gap was between a Quasi-Martial Artist and a true Martial Artist.

Therefore, he did not underestimate his sister, a newly promoted Martial Artist; as soon as he struck, he gave it his all to avoid an embarrassing defeat later.

Whoosh—

As he launched his punch, Xia Chenyu, sitting in the distance, faintly heard the sound of wind. Watching Su Yifei's fierce and swift punch about to land on Su Linglong's delicate body, she couldn't help but worry for Su Linglong.

The gap in strength between a Quasi-Martial Artist and a Martial Artist was like that between a three-year-old child and a ten-year-old youth; there was no comparison.

Although Su Yifei's punch was swift and powerful, to Su Linglong, it seemed to slow down several times, and it was full of openings.

Just as Su Yifei's fist was about to touch Su Linglong's clothes, she twisted her slender waist and rotated her body, moving from in front of him to his back in an instant. Then she raised her right hand and lightly pushed on Su Yifei's back.

Su Yifei felt a surge of great force, lost his balance, and his body lurched forward. If he hadn't managed to stop his steps in time, he would have crashed into the wall.

"Brother, your punch is too slow!"

Su Linglong giggled playfully.

Su Yifei's face reddened, he scratched his head, and then with a loud shout, he charged at Su Linglong with increased speed.

When he was about ten feet away from Su Linglong, he suddenly leaped into the air, unleashing a flurry of kicks.

These successive kicks were Su Yifei overperforming. Even with Xia Chenyu's vision, all she could see was a blur of kicks.

Su Linglong chuckled softly, and this time, instead of dodging, she quickly pressed down with her right palm, directly onto the sole of Su Yifei's right foot as it flew towards her.

Su Yifei felt as if his right foot had suddenly gained a few hundred pounds. In mid-air and having lost his balance, he plummeted towards the ground. If it hadn't been for Su Linglong's timely extension of her hand to support his arm, he would have fallen face-first.

Chapter 218: Does he like Sister Xia?

"Brother, I told you just now, I'm better than you now! Do you believe it now?"

Su Linglong couldn't help but laugh upon seeing her brother's face fall into dejection.

Su Yifei waved his hand and took his seat back at the dining table, giving Fang Bai a "resentful" glance.

"Why did you train Linglong to be so formidable? Now I'm doomed. At home, dad, mom, and my little sister will all be a step ahead of me, and I won't have any status at all!"

With a wretched look and a sigh, Su Yifei lamented.

He paused, then said, "Fang Bai, we're good brothers, you can't just give me some tips and help me become a martial artist too, right? Otherwise, as the older brother, I'll have no dignity left!"

Fang Bai said, "Making you into a martial artist isn't difficult, but with your talent, catching up to Linglong will be very hard, and she's only going to get further and further ahead!"

Su Yifei knew Fang Bai wouldn't lie to him, so upon hearing this, he sighed again. But then he said, "Becoming a martial artist is good enough! At worst, I just won't compare myself to Linglong anymore, I'll compare myself to others... Do you think I have a hope of surpassing my master?"

Fang Bai knew that Su Yifei's master was Su Fu, the current butler of Su Linglong's villa, and smiled, saying, "Your master is a Yellow Level beginner martial artist, right? Is your aspiration really just to surpass him?"

"You mean..."

When Su Yifei caught the implication in Fang Bai's words, his eyes brightened suddenly, and he said excitedly, "You mean I will be stronger than my master in the future?"

"If you cultivate diligently, becoming a Profound Level martial artist won't be difficult!"

Fang Bai patted his shoulder and said earnestly.

As long as Fang Bai's own martial dao cultivation kept increasing, and under his guidance, even though Su Yifei didn't have an Innate Spiritual Root, with the help of various elixirs to cleanse his marrow, it wouldn't be just Profound Rank he could reach, but even the Earth and Heaven Ranks revered by the Ancient Martial World could be within his grasp.

Of course, in the secular world of this realm, a Profound Rank martial artist is already a top expert. Earth and Heaven Rank martial artists are rumored to exist only within Hidden Sects. To Su Yifei, the Earth and Heaven Ranks were still a distant dream, so Fang Bai chose not to mention them to avoid overwhelming him.

Even so, Su Yifei was so excited he was rubbing his hands together, fully aware of how important it was for a prominent clan to have a Profound Rank martial artist at the helm.

In the Su Family, where Su Yifei already wielded considerable power, if he became a Profound Rank martial artist with substantial strength, his position in the Su Family as the next heir would undoubtedly be even more secure, and it would be challenging for anyone to shake his place.

Fang Bai gave Su Yifei a bottle each of Marrow Cleansing Pills and Creation Pills from his Spatial Ring, explained how to use them, instructed him to take them after returning to Zhongzhou City, and then imparted to him a set of basic beginner cultivation methods.

The Marrow Cleansing Pills could improve Su Yifei's constitution, and the Creation Pills could aid him in breaking through and advancing. In this way, within two or three years, Su Yifei could potentially advance to the Profound Rank.

"Fang Bai, don't just focus on talking! So, what about my constitution? Is it good or bad? Can I cultivate the ancient martial arts you mentioned?"

Xia Chenyu, envious after seeing Su Linglong's brief display of skill effortlessly defeating the tall and strong Su Yifei, couldn't help but ask.

Fang Bai had been occupied watching the Su siblings spar and talking with Su Yifei, and he had forgotten that he was still holding Xia Chenyu's hand. Hearing her, he gave a wry smile, calmed his mind, closed his eyes slightly, and began to "feel her bones."

"I knew it... I just knew it..."

After a moment, Fang Bai released Xia Chenyu's hand, his face showing delight as he told her, "You have an Innate Fire Spirit Root. Anyone with an Innate Spiritual Root is a martial dao prodigy, with limitless potential for achievement in the martial arts."

Xia Chenyu didn't understand what "Innate Fire Spirit Root" meant, but she did understand "martial dao prodigy" and "limitless potential for achievement," and said with a beaming smile, "So from what you're saying, I'm very suited for martial arts training, right?"

Fang Bai nodded and asked, "When do you plan to go back to Zhongzhou City?"

Xia Chenyu replied, "The company is really busy recently, so I can't stay in Yanjing for long. I'm planning to head back first thing tomorrow morning!"

Fang Bai said, "Well, then tonight I will impart the 'Redflame True Fire Technique' to you. After you go back, you can spare some time to cultivate... Where are you staying right now?"

Su Yifei chimed in, saying, "When you're in Yanjing, of course you'd stay at our 'Four Seasons Spring' hotel! I arranged for President Xia to stay in the presidential suite."

Fang Bai stood up and said to Xia Chenyu, "Imparting a cultivation method requires a quiet environment, so I'll come to your room!"

"Great! You are most welcome!"

Even though it was already 10 p.m., Fang Bai didn't think much of it, and Xia Chenyu didn't care at all about the fact that a man and a woman were alone together in a room at this hour.

"Fang Bai, it's getting late. I've arranged a room for you next to President Xia's. How about you stay the night here after you've taught President Xia the cultivation technique?"

Su Yifei glanced down at the time and asked for Fang Bai's opinion.

Fang Bai waved his hand and said, "No need. I'll just walk home when it's time!"

"Alright then, you and President Xia go ahead with your business. I'll have someone take Linglong back to the villa."

Xia Chenyu, with Fang Bai, left the dining room and headed to her own presidential suite.

Just as Su Yifei was about to escort his sister downstairs, he noticed her head hanging low, seemingly in a gloomy mood.

"What's the matter? You were triumphant today, beating your brother soundly. You should be happy!"

Su Yifei asked with a smile.

"Brother, do you think... do you think Fang Bai might... may like Sister Xia?"

Su Linglong lifted her head, sighed, and spoke without much enthusiasm.

Su Yifei paused, looking at his sister's downcast face, and suddenly understood why she was unhappy.

"I don't know if Fang Bai likes President Xia, but I do know for sure he must like you!"

Su Yifei sighed internally and started to think of ways to comfort and encourage his sister.

Su Yifei had long realized that his sister liked Fang Bai, and he was happy to see their relationship develop; however, he didn't expect Xia Chenyu to suddenly appear out of nowhere.

It was clear that Fang Bai had a good relationship with Xia Chenyu, otherwise, he wouldn't have given her three beauty secret recipes to manage, nor would he have taken the initiative to teach her ancient martial arts.

From the standpoint of family, Su Yifei really wanted to talk to Fang Bai, to get him to consider his sister more seriously.

But Su Yifei also knew that Fang Bai was a man of strong convictions and might not listen to his advice, which could even lead to a distancing between them.

So for this kind of thing, he couldn't go to Fang Bai; he could only try to guide his own sister.

"I know Fang Bai is also good to me. But... I feel he might like Sister Xia a little more..."

Su Linglong twirled the hem of her skirt and said softly.

"What makes you think that?"

"Because Sister Xia is beautiful and has a great temperament, and she's also the president of a company. She's much better than me..."

"My dear sister, please don't sell yourself short, okay? President Xia has her strengths, and you have yours too! I think you are in no way inferior to President Xia!"

"Really? I feel so unconfident in myself now..."

"Of course, it's true. Would your brother lie to you?"

Su Yifei clenched his fist and shook it in front of Su Linglong, saying earnestly, "Fang Bai is an excellent man, and excellent men are always liked by many women. If you really like Fang Bai, then compete with confidence and treat this as a battle! Your brother will definitely support you with all his might!"

"Okay!"

Stirred by Su Yifei's words, Su Linglong straightened her chest and clenched her little fists tightly.

Chapter 219: Don't Leave

"Four Seasons Spring" hotel, suite 108.

Fang Bai and Xia Chenyu sat cross-legged, facing each other on the sofa in the living room, under the dim light, both with slightly closed eyes, their expressions solemn and dignified.

"Did you remember everything I taught you?"

After a moment, Fang Bai slowly opened his eyes and looked at Xia Chenyu opposite him.

"Mm. I remembered."

Xia Chenyu also opened her eyes at this time, let out a breath, her beautiful eyes sparkling in the dim light, her exquisite face filled with boundless joy.

Not long ago, Fang Bai had passed on the fire-based technique, the Redflame True Fire Technique, to Xia Chenyu. After Fang Bai's explanations and her own absorption and digestion, she finally memorized it all.

Although she hadn't begun to formally cultivate, Xia Chenyu already knew that this technique was profound and mysterious.

If it really was as Fang Bai had said, and one could incinerate everything in the world with the Redflame True Fire upon reaching the higher realms, then it truly was a divine and mystical art. Just thinking about it made her blood boil with excitement and anticipation.

"Recite it back to me. This cultivation method is not like other things; not a single word can be wrong, otherwise deviation could occur, and the consequences would be unimaginable!"

Fang Bai said seriously.

Seeing Fang Bai's earnestness, Xia Chenyu concentrated her mind and began to recite it word by word.

"Mm, after you go back, just cultivate according to this method and you'll soon become a martial artist and have some self-protection ability."

Fang Bai, satisfied after hearing her recitation without a mistake, nodded and added, "If there's anything you don't understand during cultivation, you can call me at any time."

After finishing, he also gave Xia Chenyu some elixirs and fire-attributed red essence stones, and taught her how to use them.

"It's getting late, I should go! Tomorrow when you return to Zhongzhou, I won't see you off. Wish you a smooth journey! And may our beauty skincare products sell explosively!"

Fang Bai stood up, ready to leave.

"Fang Bai!"

Xia Chenyu called out to Fang Bai, slowly stood up, walked to him, her gaze surveying his handsome face, and sighed lightly, "You've been so good to me, how can I ever repay you?"

Fang Bai said, "What talk of repayment among friends?"

Xia Chenyu suddenly stepped forward with both hands, her arms wrapping around Fang Bai's neck, and whispered, "Can't you stay tonight?"

Her eyes were misty, seductive as silk as she gazed at Fang Bai, her breath as sweet as orchid.

"Although I also want to stay, doing so would harm you!"

Fang Bai sighed with a bitter smile.

Xia Chenyu was an exceptional woman, and now she was willingly offering her body to him. But he could only watch helplessly, indeed a tormenting experience.

"Harm me? What do you mean?"

Fang Bai seriously said, "A cultivator, before reaching the Innate Realm, will significantly impact their cultivation if they lose their prime yang or prime yin, and ascending the peak of Martial Dao will become exceedingly difficult."

Fang Bai's eyes were extraordinarily perspicacious, he could see at a glance that Xia Chenyu still had her prime yin intact, and the body he now inhabited also possessed prime yang.

When pure yin and pure yang bodies cultivate together, they often achieve twice the result with half the effort.

Upon hearing about cultivation from Fang Bai, the flame in Xia Chenyu's heart quickly extinguished. She sat beside him and asked, "So after entering the Innate Realm, can we... do that?"

Fang Bai nodded and said, "After entering the Innate Realm, all impurities in your body will be gone, the meridians throughout your body will be unblocked, and you will no longer be a mortal flesh. The Martial Dao is profound and vast, with many techniques that involve dual cultivation of men and women. At that time, cultivating together will not only be harmless but also mutually beneficial, greatly aiding in cultivation."

"Reaching the Innate Realm could be who knows how far off in the future. Maybe by that time, I'll have become an old lady with faded charms..."

Having heard from Fang Bai about the Martial Dao world's power hierarchy, Xia Chenyu knew that reaching the Innate Realm meant overcoming numerous obstacles, certainly not something achievable in a short period.

Fang Bai said, "With your Innate Spiritual Root and excellent aptitude, reaching the Innate Realm is not difficult."

He smiled and continued, "We cultivators have much longer lifespans than ordinary people. As long as you one day reach the Innate Realm, you can transform and rejuvenate, gaining a new life. Even if you cultivate to the Innate Realm at eighty, you can return to the appearance of an eighteen-year-old."

"Is it that miraculous? Wouldn't that be akin to divine and mystical arts?"

"In the path of Martial Dao, when you cultivate to a profound realm, you can indeed move mountains and seas, which is almost similar to what is considered divine and mystical arts."

Fang Bai answered cheerfully.

Xia Chenyu listened with brightened eyes, lost in thought.

"Alright, you should rest! I'm heading back!"

Fang Bai stood up from the sofa, straightened out his somewhat disheveled clothes, and strode towards the door.

"Fang Bai, if you desire my body, I will still willingly give it to you. Forget all this talk of Innate or not, I don't care anymore!"

Xia Chenyu's voice came from behind him.

"Am I someone who would disregard a friend's well-being for my own selfish desires?"

Fang Bai stopped at the doorway, turned his head to glare at Xia Chenyu, and said irritably, "Sister Xia, stop your wild thoughts, focus on your cultivation. If you dare to be lazy, be careful; I'll punish you!"

With that, Fang Bai closed the door behind Xia Chenyu without looking back.

"I've had it, that brat actually had the nerve to lecture me! Honestly... utterly disrespectful!"

Xia Chenyu watched the closed door, listened to his footsteps fade away, and murmured her dissatisfaction, yet her beautiful eyes quickly misted over.

...

Early the next day, Xia Chenyu and Su Yifei left Yanjing one after another and returned to Zhongzhou.

Upon their return to Zhongzhou, they planned to start mass production and release of Beauty Company's three types of skincare products, in addition, the large-scale planting of the three types of spiritual medicines was also on schedule.

As for Fang Bai, who owned a thirty percent profit share of the three skincare products, he acted as a hands-off manager, completely uninvolved with any affairs of Beauty Company, busying himself only with his own matters every day.

Chapter 220: Ruhua Goes Missing

During this period of cultivation, the elixirs and Essence Stones inside Fang Bai's Space Ring had been completely used up. He could only rely on absorbing Heaven and Earth Origin Energy every morning in the deep mountains to compensate, causing his cultivation progress to enter a slow improvement phase.

If there were no elixirs or Essence Stones to assist, relying solely on absorbing the sparse Essence Energy in the deep mountains for cultivation, stepping into the Innate Realm would indeed be extremely difficult.

For a Martial Artist, cultivation is like sailing against the current: one either moves forward or falls behind. Therefore, Fang Bai would rather put all other matters on hold than cease cultivating.

So Fang Bai temporarily stopped teaching Ghost Hand, Baili Mingyue, and others to cultivate. He had even taken a leave from Yanjing Hospital and plunged into the deep forests near Yanjing, searching day and night for cultivation resources.

However, to Fang Bai's disappointment, after searching restlessly for three days and nights, he hadn't found even a single hundred-year-old Spiritual Medicine in the vast forests.

Under the weight of his disappointment, Fang Bai had no choice but to leave the depths of the mountains and prepare to return to Yanjing City.

On this day, he reached the edge of the mountain area, and from atop one of the peaks, he could already glimpse the outline of Yanjing City.

The clouds in the sky were growing thicker, seeming somewhat gloomy. Fang Bai sensed an increase in the moisture in the air and estimated that a heavy rain would fall within the hour.

He leaped down from the mountain peak, rapidly making his way toward Yanjing City.

Suddenly, his ears twitched as he heard several people ahead, anxiously shouting someone's name; thus, he slowed his pace and began to walk briskly.

When he was still hundreds of meters away from where the shouting originated, he finally heard the name being called: "Dongfang Ruhua."

Fang Bai furrowed his brow, unsure if "Dongfang Ruhua" being called by those people was the same person as Dongfang Leiming's granddaughter.

Fang Bai accelerated his steps and quickly closed the distance to the group, finally seeing that they were a bunch of fourteen- or fifteen-year-old students, including two women around thirty, who seemed to be the students' teachers.

The group of teachers and students were laden with large and small bags, evidently having come to the mountain area for an excursion.

"Excuse me, sir, have you seen a girl wearing a pink T-shirt... She's fifteen years old, about one meter sixty-five tall, with big eyes, very fair skin, and very beautiful..."

Seeing Fang Bai suddenly appear, the two women resembling teachers hurriedly approached him, one of them wiping sweat from her forehead as she asked anxiously.

Upon hearing the woman's description, Fang Bai's heart skipped a beat, and he was certain that the girl she was talking about was Dongfang Leiming's granddaughter.

"I know Dongfang Ruhua; she is the granddaughter of a friend of mine. Don't worry, tell me what happened first... Oh, and what is your relationship to Dongfang Ruhua?"

Fang Bai guessed that something must have happened to Dongfang Ruhua; otherwise, the two women before him wouldn't be this anxious.

The two women were surprised that Fang Bai knew Dongfang Ruhua. They looked at each other, and the woman who had spoken earlier said, "We are Dongfang Ruhua's teachers!"

After a pause, she continued, "Today our class organized an excursion for the students. Everyone was having a good time, and Dongfang Ruhua wanted to go a bit further away to play by the mountainside. Seeing she was accompanied by two family members, I agreed. But after they went for over two hours, there was no sign of them returning. We've been searching up to now and haven't found them..."

As she spoke, the female teacher's eyes reddened, her voice becoming choked up, and she was on the verge of crying.

The other female teacher also looked worried, sighing heavily.

As teachers, they would bear undeniable responsibility if anything happened to their students.

Moreover, they had vaguely heard that Dongfang Ruhua belonged to a prominent family in Yanjing, and if that family took issue with them over this matter, they wouldn't know how to handle it.

Fang Bai had been so preoccupied with his own affairs lately that he only just remembered it was September, and students would typically be starting school around this time.

"What kind of clothes were Dongfang Ruhua's two family members wearing?"

Fang Bai pondered for a moment, frowning as he asked.

"Both of them were dressed in black suits, wearing sunglasses, with very burly figures, and they didn't like to talk much..."

Another female teacher recalled carefully before she spoke.

Fang Bai nodded, the female teacher's reply matched his own thoughts; those two "family members" accompanying Dongfang Ruhua must be bodyguards provided by the Dongfang Family for her.

Ordinarily, the bodyguards provided by the Dongfang Family for Dongfang Ruhua wouldn't be weak, and on the edge of these mountains, unless they had encountered a premeditated attack, they shouldn't have met with any trouble.

"Have you contacted Dongfang Ruhua's family?"

Fang Bai asked in a deep voice.

Intuition told him that Dongfang Ruhua and her two bodyguards must have encountered some mishap, and the Dongfang Family had to be notified immediately.

Moreover, the Dongfang Family was a major clan in Yanjing, capable of mobilizing extensive manpower and resources. Getting them involved in the search was absolutely essential.

"Ah... We were so anxious to find people that we forgot about this! I'll call her parents right now!"

The two female teachers, reminded by Fang Bai, were suddenly awakened and hurriedly took out their phones.

"Never mind, I'm quite familiar with Dongfang Ruhua's family; I'll contact them!"

Fang Bai said as he took out his cell phone, found Dongfang Leiming's mobile number, and immediately called it.

When Fang Bai called Dongfang Leiming, the latter was in the yard of his villa, playing Go with his granddaughter Dongfang Rushi.

Dongfang Leiming seldom carried his phone on him; in most cases, he would leave it with his old butler Dongfang Lu, and only when some close acquaintances called would he personally answer. Otherwise, everything would be handled by Dongfang Lu.

At that moment, Dongfang Leiming was intensely engaged in the game with his granddaughter, and upon hearing the ringtone of the phone, his eyebrows knitted slightly, his gaze still fixed on the chessboard, too lazy to ask who was calling.

Dongfang Lu was a distant relative brought from his hometown by Dongfang Leiming, young and having followed him through many battles, utterly loyal. Now that Dongfang Leiming had become a big name in the Huaxia business community, Dongfang Lu too had become the head steward of the Dongfang Family.

The reason Dongfang Leiming entrusted his phone to Dongfang Lu was that he knew Dongfang Lu would discern which calls he should take and which he could handle on his own, so that he would not be bothered with every little thing.

"Old Master..."

Upon seeing the caller ID "Divine Doctor Fang" displayed on the phone, Dongfang Lu's eyelids twitched, and he walked softly to Dongfang Leiming's side, whispering, "It's a call from Divine Doctor Fang, do you want to take it?"

Dongfang Leiming paused for a moment, then immediately took the phone from Dongfang Lu and pressed the answer button.

In Dongfang Leiming's contact list, there were a few calls he had to take, and Fang Bai was among them.

Sitting opposite Dongfang Leiming, Dongfang Rushi's usually impassive eyes showed a slight ripple upon hearing the words "Divine Doctor Fang."