

Doctor 371

Chapter 371: Do You Still Remember Fang Bai?

Lei Bao knew that, given his master's protective nature, if he found out that Fang Bai had tampered with him, he would definitely find a way to seek justice on his behalf.

As long as he could deal with Fang Bai, the exceptional woman named Su Linglong might just fall into his hands. Then, he could press her beneath him, savagely ravage her, and vent all his pent-up resentment to his heart's content.

"Just you wait, Fang Bai, it won't be long before I crush you underfoot and take your woman for myself!"

Standing in front of the massive glass window, looking out at the brilliant lights outside, Lei Bao ground his teeth, his eyes brimming with hatred.

At the same time, an almost identical scene was playing out for Wang Dong.

"Get out!"

After shoving aside a third-rate movie starlet who had cost him a pretty penny, he looked down at his dispirited "little brother," flushed with shame and filled with both shock and fear.

Wang Dong was no fool. He quickly realized that the trouble with his body must have been Fang Bai's doing.

Regrettably, although Wang Dong loathed Fang Bai, he lacked Lei Bao's background strength to dare to confront him.

The first thing Wang Dong thought of was to go to Yu Xiaorong first thing in the morning, even if it meant kowtowing and begging her to take him to Fang Bai, Su Linglong's boyfriend, to ask Fang Bai to remove this unspeakable curse from him.

For a man like Wang Dong, who spent his days among a bevy of women, life was devoid of pleasure if his virility was compromised.

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"Lei Bao got into a conflict with a martial artist named Fang Bai?"

"That Lei Bao arrived in Yanjing not long ago and hasn't done anything good, but he's caused plenty of trouble—such a troublemaker!"

"As a disciple of the Ancient Medicine Sect, he has no manners or decency... Hmph, if it weren't for the sake of his master, I'd have him expelled from this 'World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference' immediately!"

"That Fang Bai, I've heard Ruoxue mention him before. It's said that the Old Master Dongfang's heart disease was cured by him."

"Recently, there's been a famous traditional Chinese medicine practitioner at Yanjing Hospital who's also named Fang Bai!"

"Could the two Fang Bais be the same person?"

"This Fang Bai emerging suddenly with both medical and martial skills, maybe he has an extraordinary background. He shouldn't be underestimated!"

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After seeing off Lei Bao, Gu Xie, Lin Yinghua, and Hua Yi—four disciples from the great medical sects—Wang Miaomiao and Han Lin returned to the Doctor Pavilion overnight to report the situation to the Pavilion Master and the elders.

After deliberation, the Pavilion Master of the Doctor Pavilion, Wen Yu, decided that first thing in the morning, they would call Lin Ruoxue, a core disciple married into the Dongfang Family, to ask in detail about Fang Bai and then figure out how to appease Lei Bao.

What kind of character the Ghost Doctor Sect was, Wen Yu knew very well. If Lei Bao wasn't properly pacified, the guy could return and exaggerate the story to Sikong Lieyang, the Sect Leader of the Ghost Doctor Sect. Sikong Lieyang would certainly muster his forces to seek justice for Lei Bao.

If Fang Bai had been an ordinary person, this matter could have easily been resolved. However, with his dual cultivation of medicine and martial arts and his inscrutable depths, should he also have the backing of an ancient martial sect, a clash between the two parties would break the constraints of mundane rules and laws, inevitably leading to bloodshed and involving many innocents.

As the organizer of this "World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference," the Doctor Pavilion didn't want to see any accidents happen. If possible, they hoped to act as mediators between Fang Bai and Lei Bao to resolve the conflict between them.

The next morning, Lin Ruoxue was having breakfast in the dining room with her husband Dongfang Yun, her eldest daughter Dongfang Rushi, and her younger daughter Dongfang Ruhua when she suddenly received a phone call from her mentor.

"What's wrong, Ruoxue?"

Seeing the peculiar expression and frown on his wife's face after she answered the phone, Dongfang Yun couldn't help but ask.

"Do you remember Fang Bai?"

Lin Ruoxue let out a breath and counter-asked without answering.

Upon hearing the name "Fang Bai," Dongfang Yun had not reacted yet when Dongfang Ruhua, who was quietly eating porridge, suddenly looked up, her big eyes fixed on her mother.

Dongfang Rushi also stopped eating her porridge, slowly raising her head to look at her mother as well.

"Is that the Fang Bai who cured Old Master Dongfang's heart disease and saved Ruhua's life?"

Dongfang Yun asked in surprise.

Although Dongfang Yun was nearing fifty, he looked to be only in his early forties due to his good maintenance. Dressed in white casual home wear, his handsome appearance and refined demeanor were proof that in his youth, he had been an undeniably handsome man.

The extraordinarily beautiful sisters, Dongfang Rushi and Dongfang Ruhua, had a figure and temperament similar to their mother, but their features resembled their father more, inheriting the best genes from both parents.

Compared to his brothers and sisters, Dongfang Yun's intelligence and emotional quotient were not outstanding; he couldn't even be compared with his wife Lin Ruoxue and daughter Dongfang Rushi.

In his youth, Dongfang Yun had entered the political scene, but after being implicated in an incident, he resigned and later took over some family businesses. However, several mistakes led to significant losses, attracting criticism and disapproval from the family members.

Feeling disheartened, Dongfang Yun simply relinquished all his powers and stopped interfering in family affairs, spending his days gardening and enjoying a peaceful and leisurely life.

Though Dongfang Leiming felt frustrated by his youngest son, Dongfang Yun, he was comforted that Dongfang Yun had married a commendable wife and had two delightful daughters.

After marrying into the Dongfang Family, Lin Ruoxue quickly showed her extraordinary talent in business management, earning great expectations from Dongfang Leiming. Lin Ruoxue and Dongfang Yun's daughter, Dongfang Rushi, made a sensation in her youth and was hailed as a "Business Prodigy Lady," bringing great comfort to Old Master Dongfang.

In recent years, Dongfang Leiming gradually entrusted the family business to Lin Ruoxue and her daughters, who—with their impressive track records in the business world—left those disapproving family members speechless.

Setting aside the fact that Lin Ruoxue was Dongfang Yun's wife, she was also one of the core disciples of the Doctor Pavilion, which alone made the hostile members of the Dongfang Family wary, not daring to harm her in any way.

Lin Ruoxue had focused on managing the family business and raising her daughters since her marriage into the Dongfang Family and had seldom involved herself in the affairs of the Doctor Pavilion. Yet, to her surprise, she received a sudden call from her master Zhu Ying today.

In the call, Zhu Ying briefly described the conflict between Lei Bao and Fang Bai, then asked Lin Ruoxue to immediately come to the Doctor Pavilion to discuss Fang Bai.

Lin Ruoxue had only met Fang Bai twice, and she hardly knew him; what could she say? But since her master had summoned her, she had to go.

"Yes, that's Fang Bai!"

Lin Ruoxue answered her husband and, in a glance, noticed her younger daughter Dongfang Ruhua staring at her; a thought struck her and she asked, "Ruhua, you've spent more time with Fang Bai, so you should know him well, right?"

Chapter 372: The Proud Dongfang Ruhua

Dongfang Ruhua blinked her beautiful eyes and said with a voice like silver bells, "Mm, I understand! Big brother is a good person! He's the best person in the world!"

Lin Ruoxue gave a wry smile and said, "I know he's a good person! What I mean is... about his other aspects, like what's his family background, personality, temperament, how brilliant his medical skills and martial arts are, and so on, do you understand these things?"

Having gone through hardships together with Fang Bai and having had their opportunities, Dongfang Ruhua knew quite a lot about him. But even though she was young, she knew there were things she couldn't reveal, not even to her own parents.

For instance, the martial arts techniques big brother had taught her were not to be taught to others; like the valley that resembled a paradise, she couldn't let others know about it; and big brother's treasures like the spatial ring, the Luminous Pearl, and so on, she definitely couldn't talk to others about those...

"Mom, why are you asking these questions? Is something wrong with big brother?"

Dongfang Ruhua saw her mother inquiring about Fang Bai and worried something might have happened to him, she asked anxiously.

"Mm, Fang Bai has encountered some trouble... Look, Ruhua, come with mom to Doctor Pavilion, and tell the Pavilion Master and a few elders what you know about Fang Bai," Lin Ruoxue said and, taking Dongfang Ruhua with her, they hastily left.

Watching the retreating back of her mother and sister, Dongfang Rushi's heart suddenly became a bit chaotic. She lost her appetite and thought, "What could happen to him? He's a powerful ancient martial artist, even if there's trouble, he should be able to resolve it smoothly, right?"

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"Lei Bao is a big villain! If he dares to cause trouble for big brother, I'll definitely help big brother fight him!"

Inside the Doctor Pavilion, after listening to Wang Miaomiao relay the details of the conflict between Fang Bai and Lei Bao, Dongfang Ruhua's face flushed with anger, and she clenched her little fist in the air.

"Silly girl, even though Lei Bao is bad, he's a disciple of the Ghost Doctor Sect, an ancient medical sect. Ordinary people can't afford to provoke him, or they'll suffer endless troubles!" Wen Yu, the Pavilion Master of Doctor Pavilion, heard Dongfang Ruhua's reference to "big brother" as Fang Bai and saw her righteous indignation. She smiled and spoke.

"I'm not afraid! If he bullies big brother, I won't allow it!"

Dongfang Ruhua said with a serious face.

Wen Yu sighed and said, "Below the Sect Leader of Ghost Doctor Sect, there are over a hundred disciples, all of whom practice both medical and martial arts and are quite strong. If they truly plan to deal with Fang Bai, like you, a common person of the secular world, even if there are thousands willing to help Fang Bai, you couldn't stop the Ghost Doctor Sect's retaliation!"

"I'm not a common person anymore, I am a martial artist! Big brother said that with my current strength, as long as I don't encounter a Profound Level Martial Artist, I won't have to worry about not being able to fight!"

Dongfang Ruhua said with pride.

Wen Yu heard this, looked at Dongfang Ruhua intently, and didn't sense any martial artist aura from her, shook her head, and said to Lin Ruoxue, "Ruoxue, you need to discipline this little daughter of yours! Being fond of boasting isn't a good trait."

Lin Ruoxue glared at her daughter Dongfang Ruhua, then respectfully said to Wen Yu, "Pavilion Master, Ruhua has indeed learned ancient martial arts... from Fang Bai himself. However, I don't know about her cultivation level..."

"Oh?"

Wen Yu took another look at Dongfang Ruhua, still unable to find any trace of a martial artist on her, and said, "Having learned ancient martial arts doesn't mean that you can gain mastery and become a true martial artist! Ruoxue, if your daughter truly likes martial arts, why not find some time to teach her? If she is talented, then that would be even better!"

The martial arts of the Doctor Pavilion are not to be passed on without the permission of the Pavilion Master, and with Wen Yu's words, she expressed her consent for Lin Ruoxue to teach the Doctor Pavilion's martial arts to Dongfang Ruhua in private.

Lin Ruoxue was overjoyed upon hearing this and said to Dongfang Ruhua, "Ruhua, aren't you going to thank the Pavilion Master quickly?"

Dongfang Ruhua shook her head and replied to Wen Yu, "Thank you for your kindness, Pavilion Master! But I have already learned martial arts with Big Brother, so I can't learn yours anymore!"

Everyone at the scene, including Wen Yu, didn't expect Dongfang Ruhua to actually refuse to learn the martial arts of the Doctor Pavilion; they found it quite inconceivable.

As one of the five ancient medical sects in Huaxia, the Doctor Pavilion's martial arts also have a thousand years of heritage, forming a unique style. Although they can't compare to the heritage and depth of sects like Shaolin and Wudang, they are still considered a cut above in the secular world of the Ancient Martial World.

Of course, Wen Yu and the others would never have thought that Dongfang Ruhua and Fang Bai were practicing the Nine Heavens Divine Thunder Mantra, a Thunder Technique created by Fang Bai when he was the Immortal Emperor. The level of this Cultivation Method is something that low-level techniques in the secular world cannot match.

Wen Yu, whose cultivation level is far above Dongfang Ruhua's, wouldn't be able to detect her unless she willingly released her aura.

So in Wen Yu's eyes, Dongfang Ruhua is nothing more than a pretty and adorable girl in the bloom of youth, completely disconnected from the term "martial artist."

Wen Yu would never imagine that with Dongfang Ruhua's current level of cultivation, if she were to exert her full strength, even Wen Yu herself, who has a Profound Level early-stage, might not be able to suppress Dongfang Ruhua.

In Huaxia, anyone who knows about the Doctor Pavilion considers it an honor to work there.

And those who work for the Doctor Pavilion take pride in being able to learn the medical skills and martial arts of the Doctor Pavilion.

Dongfang Ruhua's mother, Lin Ruoxue, being from the Doctor Pavilion, would naturally give Dongfang Ruhua a good understanding of it, and having the opportunity to learn the martial arts of the Doctor Pavilion should have made her ecstatic. Yet, unexpectedly, she refused the goodwill offered by Wen Yu.

Wen Yu was encountering such a situation for the first time. Unable to save face, her expression turned cold as she couldn't help asking, "Girl, tell me, what martial arts did Fang Bai pass on to you?"

Dongfang Ruhua shook her head and said, "I'm sorry, Pavilion Master, although Big Brother didn't tell me to keep it a secret, I think it's better not to say. The cultivation technique he taught me is quite special and very powerful..."

"Then let me try what you have learned from Fang Bai!"

Wen Yu, upon hearing Dongfang Ruhua's words, couldn't help feeling both amused and annoyed, thinking that the martial arts of the Doctor Pavilion were being belittled. She wanted to show off her skills to let this young girl see the power of the Pavilion's cultivation method. Thus, as she spoke, she gently sent a palm strike towards Dongfang Ruhua.

Dongfang Ruhua didn't expect Wen Yu to suddenly attack her, and caught off guard, how could she maintain the concealment of her own aura?

The Nine Heavens Divine Thunder Mantra instantly circulated within her body, and a surge of thunderous True Yuan burst forth with the raising of Dongfang Ruhua's right palm, clashing against the palm that Wen Yu had sent towards her.

Chapter 373: This is a secret between Big Brother and me!

"Yellow Level High Rank... This little girl wasn't lying, she is indeed a Martial Artist!"

Wen Yu sensed Dongfang Ruhua's suddenly surged Martial Artist Aura, and was secretly shocked in her heart.

At this moment, Wen Yu no longer had time to wonder why she couldn't sense Dongfang Ruhua's aura before, and to avoid injuring herself, she raised the True Yuan that was originally concentrated at the palm, from ten percent to fifty percent, and continued to attack Dongfang Ruhua.

In Wen Yu's mind, even if Dongfang Ruhua possessed the strength of a Yellow Level High Rank Martial Artist, she was still separated by a Profound Level realm from her own strength. Using only fifty percent of her power, she believed she ought to be able to suppress her.

However, as soon as their palms came into contact, Wen Yu knew something was terribly wrong.

Thump—

A muffled sound echoed through the Doctor Pavilion's hall, as a burst of energy rippled and surged.

Dongfang Ruhua's delicate jade hand seemed to carry the force of overturning seas and moving mountains, and it even faintly conveyed an electric current. Upon the clashing of their palms, Wen Yu felt as though she had been struck by lightning, her body violently trembling, and then she was sent flying backward.

Fortunately, Wen Yu had powerful strength and was an experienced old Martial Artist with abundant real combat experience. Though taken by surprise, she managed several flips in the air to remove most of the force and then lightly landed on the ground.

Despite that, she still appeared very disheveled, with her clothes in disarray and hair standing on end after being casually counterattacked by Dongfang Ruhua's single palm.

Actually, with Wen Yu's cultivation level, she was entirely capable of matching Dongfang Ruhua, but it was her underestimation and carelessness that had led to this outcome.

Looking at Wen Yu's disheveled appearance, then at Dongfang Ruhua, whose face bore a hint of apology, the Doctor Pavilion's hall fell so silent that one could hear a pin drop, with everyone hearing their own rapid breaths and heartbeats.

"Pavilion Master, I'm sorry! I saw you suddenly coming at me, and I just reacted in self-defense. I didn't do it on purpose! As I said before, the Cultivation Technique taught to me by Brother is quite special and very powerful..."

Dongfang Ruhua saw the stunned look on Wen Yu, and her own hand had disheveled her clothes and hair, so she felt somewhat apologetic and spoke in penitence.

"Youngsters are terrifying... youngsters are terrifying..."

Wen Yu tidied her slightly disordered clothing and hair, gazing at Dongfang Ruhua as if she had discovered a treasured gem, continuously expressing her admiration.

It was uncertain if her exclamation, "youngsters are terrifying," was directed at Dongfang Ruhua or at Fang Bai, who trained Dongfang Ruhua to be so formidable.

Upon calming down and giving it a bit of thought, Wen Yu realized that if Dongfang Ruhua was indeed trained by Fang Bai, then, just by this fact alone, one could infer that Fang Bai's cultivation realm might be even higher than her own, the Pavilion Master of the Doctor Pavilion.

"Ruhua, I remember you haven't been learning Ancient Martial for long with Fang Bai! How did you become so powerful? How did he teach you?"

Lin Ruoxue looked at her younger daughter with unexpected joy and couldn't help but ask.

Although she knew her younger daughter had learned Ancient Martial from Fang Bai, she had never seen her daughter demonstrate her strength in front of others. Only at that moment did she realize that her gentle and delicate younger daughter had become so strong that she could contend with the Pavilion Master of the Doctor Pavilion, herself.

"Mom, this is a secret between me and Big Brother, and I can't tell! What if Big Brother gets angry and ignores me then?"

Dongfang Ruhua kept mum about the process of learning Ancient Martial with Fang Bai, unwilling to reveal a single word, even to her own mother.

"Okay... okay, if you don't want to tell, then Mom won't ask anymore."

Upon hearing this, Lin Ruoxue showed a bitter smile, feeling somewhat uneasy in her heart.

As someone who had been through it all, she could tell that her younger daughter had already developed feelings for Fang Bai, and now Fang Bai's position in her heart had apparently risen to be even more important than hers as a mother.

Lin Ruoxue was a very open-minded mother, and she did not object to her daughter dating, but that was only said concerning her grown-up elder daughter, Dongfang Rushi.

Her youngest daughter, Dongfang Ruhua, was only fifteen or sixteen years old, still at the bloom of youth, a time when an early love could potentially impact her physically and mentally. Lin Ruoxue felt she needed to find time to sit down and have a serious talk with her daughter.

However, despite her young age, Dongfang Ruhua had become an extraordinarily strong Martial Artist, thanks to Fang Bai's training, and this made Lin Ruoxue happier than worried.

Moreover, according to Lin Ruoxue's ability to judge people, Fang Bai didn't seem like someone with ill-intent. Her daughter's liking for Fang Bai was likely just a young girl's one-sided feelings born from her first brush with love.

"Girl, was your Martial Arts really taught to you by Fang Bai? You're not lying to me, are you?"

After recovering from her initial shock, Wen Yu asked again, eager to confirm the authenticity of this fact.

Upon receiving a positive response from Dongfang Ruhua, Wen Yu was once again deeply shaken.

In the current Secular Ancient Martial World, Martial Artists of Dongfang Ruhua's age possessing Yellow Level High Rank strength were rare, not entirely unique, but definitely an extreme rarity. Describing them as Martial Dao prodigies or geniuses was not at all an exaggeration.

And such a prodigy had an even more monstrous "master." It was hard to fathom just how much of a natural-born genius and how formidable a twenty-year-old Fang Bai could be.

"Girl, when you counterattacked my palm strike earlier, how much of your strength did you use?"

Wen Yu suddenly asked.

Dongfang Ruhua thought for a moment and said, "About sixty percent, I suppose!"

Wen Yu sighed and fell silent for a long while.

Wen Yu didn't know what to say. She had used fifty percent of her strength in the palm exchange with Dongfang Ruhua, who had used slightly more but sent her flying, nearly causing her to embarrass herself on the spot.

From this, it could be inferred that if both were to go all out in a real fight, the outcome would likely be evenly matched, and neither could confidently claim victory.

If Dongfang Ruhua was already so formidable, how astonishingly powerful must Fang Bai, the one who trained her, be?

Wen Yu felt that Fang Bai's Cultivation Level was at least at the Profound Level mid-rank, or perhaps even higher.

How could such an excessively young and powerful practitioner of both martial and medical arts not have an extraordinary and powerful backing?

Wasn't Lei Bao looking for trouble by opposing such an individual?

What about the Ghost Doctor Sect? Sikong Lieyang's strength was only on par with her own, merely at the initial stage of the Profound Level. If he insisted on taking a stand for his disciple Lei Bao, he might well end up battered and bruised.

"Could Fang Bai be a disciple of a Hidden Sect?"

The thought sent a shiver of fear through Wen Yu.

In the eyes of ordinary people, Martial Artists of the Secular Ancient Martial World were mysterious and powerful beings.

Similarly, to the Martial Artists of the secular world, individuals from the legendary Hidden Sects were seen as equally mysterious and powerful, inspiring awe and reverence.

In the secular world, Martial Artists with Profound Level strength were already considered top-tier, but within the Hidden Sects, it was said that Profound Level Martial Artists were merely at the lower rungs, with Earth Level Martial Artists being the most common.

Some powerful Hidden Sects even had Heaven Level Martial Artists in residence.

Chapter 374: Mind Connection

Heaven Level Martial Artists are unimaginably powerful to those in the secular world, who can only understand that they are as insignificant as ants before such beings. An effortless flick of the Heaven Level Martial Artist's finger could easily crush them.

As the Pavilion Master of the Doctor Pavilion, Wen Yu had heard secrets about the Hidden Sect, knowing that they did not truly avoid worldly affairs and live in complete isolation. Instead, they maintained a tenuous but persistent connection to some ancient clans in the secular world through special channels.

Similar to the secular Ancient Martial World, the Hidden Sect also encompassed various sects practicing Ancient Martial Arts and Individual Cultivation Martial Artists, with their own set of rules and a world of their own.

The strength of Hidden Sect Martial Artists is generally formidable and their whereabouts unpredictable. Even if they appear in the secular world occasionally, they are as elusive as a divine dragon seen in flashes, with few able to catch a glimpse of them.

In Wen Yu's opinion, it was incredible for Martial Artists in the secular Ancient Martial World to possess the strength of a High Rank Yellow Level before the age of thirty. Fang Bai was only around twenty years old, yet he had already greatly surpassed her own capabilities, which was truly unbelievable.

Therefore, Wen Yu speculated that Fang Bai might be from the Hidden Sect, as only Earth Level or even Heaven Level Martial Artists within it would have the ability to train such a prodigiously young expert.

With that thought, Wen Yu's heart surged with excitement.

She sat back in her chair and asked Dongfang Ruhua some more about Fang Bai, focusing particularly on his medical skills.

After learning about Fang Bai's equally astonishing medical and martial skills, Wen Yu discussed with a few Elders in the pavilion, and they finally decided to have Lin Ruoxue and her daughter deliver the invitation, asking Fang Bai to join the "World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference" as a renowned traditional Chinese medicine practitioner.

Wen Yu and the Elders unanimously agreed that regardless of whether Fang Bai was from the Hidden Sect, with his age and his achievement in the field of medical martial arts, he was worth the effort to establish a closer relationship with.

As for Lei Bao, the Doctor Pavilion would still send someone to appease and persuade him. If Lei Bao was willing to let bygones be bygones, that would be for the best, but if he insisted on his folly and sought revenge on Fang Bai, they would leave him to his own devices.

Soon, holding an invitation personally written by Wen Yu, Lin Ruoxue and Dongfang Ruhua left the Doctor Pavilion together.

"Ruhua, we'll have to rely on your help for the mission the Sect has given to Mom!"

Lin Ruoxue waved the invitation letter with a faint scent of herbs, smiling wryly at Dongfang Ruhua.

Wen Yu's order to Lin Ruoxue was to persuade Fang Bai by all means to accept the Doctor Pavilion's invitation and attend the "World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference." Since Lin Ruoxue and Fang Bai were not well-acquainted, she had to involve her daughter in the task of approaching him.

Dongfang Ruhua took the invitation from her mother's hand and said, "Mom, I can accompany you to meet Big Brother, but whether he accepts the invitation is up to him."

"It's clear that the Pavilion Master really hopes to invite Fang Bai. Let's do this: when we see Fang Bai, I will speak highly of him, and you—beg him! You have both a teacher-student and a friendly relationship with Fang Bai. He should not refuse!"

Lin Ruoxue touched Dongfang Ruhua's head and instructed carefully.

"Oh, got it,"

Dongfang Ruhua nodded.

Checking the time, Lin Ruoxue guessed that Fang Bai would still be at Yanjing Hospital, so the mother and daughter drove directly to the Acupuncture and Tui Na Department there.

As expected, Fang Bai was indeed busy inside the Acupuncture and Tui Na room.

Before, Lin Ruoxue had only been preoccupied with managing the family business, hardly paying attention to Fang Bai's affairs. It was only during her time in the "Doctor Pavilion" that she learned from Pavilion Master Wen Yu and Wang Miaomiao that Fang Bai had made quite a name for himself at Yanjing Hospital and had become the "Divine Doctor" who was widely talked about by numerous patients.

Once she arrived at Yanjing Hospital and personally visited the acupuncture and massage department, Lin Ruoxue realized how popular Fang Bai was there.

Looking at the long lines of patients patiently waiting for treatment, Lin Ruoxue thought that among all the major hospitals in Huaxia, the acupuncture and massage department was probably only this popular here.

And seeing those patients who had been treated by Fang Bai, when they got up from the sickbeds, they all wore expressions of relief and joy, and each of them would sincerely say "Thank you" to Fang Bai before leaving.

From this, it could be seen that Fang Bai had garnered not only the name of "Divine Doctor" but also the heartfelt respect of the patients.

Lin Ruoxue stood outside the acupuncture and massage room, looking through the thick glass window. She watched Fang Bai, who always maintained a kind smile for his patients, and felt somewhat dazed.

The Fang Bai before her didn't look like just a young man in his early twenties; his demeanor and presence gave Lin Ruoxue the impression that he was a seasoned and highly esteemed senior practitioner of traditional Chinese medicine who had been immersed in the field for decades.

Dongfang Ruhua was also watching Fang Bai as if she had just seen the idol she was infatuated with, her hands clenched into fists in front of her chest, with sparkling stars shining in her clear and bright eyes, filled with joy, excitement, and admiration.

Lin Ruoxue turned her head to glance at her daughter, who seemed utterly enchanted, with eyes that seemed to see only Fang Bai. She let out a soft sigh, touched her daughter's head, and said gently, "Ruhua, Doctor Fang... Doctor Fang is too busy, we shouldn't disturb his work. Let's wait here for a while!"

Just then, Fang Bai handed his patient over to the intern, Wu Tian, and quickly stepped out of the acupuncture and massage room.

Lin Ruoxue wasn't aware that as soon as they arrived, Fang Bai had sensed the familiar Essence Energy emanating from Dongfang Ruhua.

Lately, Fang Bai had clearly felt that as his cultivation level increased, the telepathic connection between him and those like Dongfang Ruhua, whom he had once taught special cultivation techniques, had become tighter and more intense.

He believed that people like Dongfang Ruhua felt the same way as he did.

A Martial Artist's cultivation method is to absorb Essence Energy and connect with the universe. Therefore, Martial Artists who practice the same cultivation method easily develop a telepathic connection, allowing fellow sect members to sense and respond to each other's troubles instantly.

"Aunt Lin, Ruhua, what brings you here?"

After stepping out of the acupuncture and massage room and facing Lin Ruoxue and her daughter, Fang Bai asked with a smile.

Knowing that Fang Bai was a Master of both medicine and martial arts, Lin Ruoxue couldn't help but feel a sense of reverence for him. Despite his respectful demeanor towards her, she didn't dare to put on any airs of seniority.

"Doctor Fang, hello! We are here because we have something to ask of you," Lin Ruoxue said with a smile as she shook Fang Bai's hand.

"Aunt Lin is joking. With the influence the Dongfang Family wields in Yanjing, what could they possibly need help with? Of course, if there are patients who need my treatment, I am duty-bound to help!" Fang Bai said cheerfully.

Chapter 375: Waiting for You to Grow Up

Lin Ruoxue didn't beat around the bush, she briefly described how the Doctor Pavilion was about to hold its once-every-five-year "World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference," a major event inviting well-known traditional Chinese medicine practitioners from all over the world. Then she respectfully handed the invitation personally written by Pavilion Master Wen Yu to Fang Bai.

Receiving the invitation, Fang Bai opened it and took a look before saying, "Your World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference is inviting renowned traditional Chinese medicine practitioners from

around the world, and I am just an unknown intern. Shouldn't I avoid making a spectacle of myself by attending?"

"Doctor Fang is too modest!"

Hearing the tone of Fang Bai's response, Lin Ruoxue realized he seemed to have no interest in attending the "World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference." She hurriedly said, "Initially, when our family's elder was suffering from heart disease, we consulted world-famous doctors to no avail. It was thanks to you, Doctor Fang, and your magnificent healing skills that he was cured. The only reason you're not well-known is that you choose not to be. If it were otherwise, your fame would have spread far and wide by now. The World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference is a grand occasion for those in the traditional Chinese medicine community. Please honor us with your presence. We insist you attend!"

As she spoke, Lin Ruoxue signaled her younger daughter, Dongfang Ruhua, with a glance, indicating for her to quickly plead with Fang Bai.

"Big brother!"

Dongfang Ruhua tugged at Fang Bai's sleeve, batting her clear, bright eyes, and said in an appealing tone, "Being able to invite you to the 'World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference' is a mission given to my mom by the Pavilion Master of the Doctor Pavilion. If you don't accept the invitation, my mom will be punished. So, big brother, please help!"

Lin Ruoxue hadn't expected her daughter to say something like that, feeling both amused and irritated, she thought to herself, is this child serious? Why is she telling the plain truth? Couldn't she have used the unbeatable charm of a youthful and beautiful girl, clinging to Fang Bai's arm and acting coquettishly?

"You child..."

Lin Ruoxue looked at her daughter with an embarrassed expression, at a loss for words.

Laughing, Fang Bai said, "With Ruhua putting it that way, I really can't refuse! Alright, I'll accept the invitation and will definitely attend on time! Aunt Lin, please thank Pavilion Master Wen on my behalf when you return."

"Certainly! Certainly!"

To Lin Ruoxue's surprise, Fang Bai agreed so readily. She was overjoyed and realized that Fang Bai had accepted the invitation entirely for the sake of her young daughter.

Delighted, Dongfang Ruhua hugged one of Fang Bai's arms, and said, "Thank you, big brother! You're the best!"

Dongfang Ruhua's feelings for Fang Bai were not only those of a girl's innocent infatuation but also a kinship and intimacy similar to that of a family member. In her excitement, she clung to Fang Bai's arm, her body nearly pressing against his. These actions were completely natural for her, and she saw nothing inappropriate about them.

However, both Fang Bai and Lin Ruoxue, who had more experience, felt somewhat awkward, one guilty and the other with a peculiar expression.

Under Lin Ruoxue's strange gaze, Fang Bai very much wanted to extract his arm from Dongfang Ruhua's tight embrace but didn't want to upset the girl and, smiling wryly, shook his head and simply let her hold on.

As for what Lin Ruoxue might think of this afterward, Fang Bai couldn't be bothered to care.

"Ruhua, stop fooling around!"

Lin Ruoxue gave her daughter a stern look, then smilingly said to Fang Bai, "Doctor Fang, we won't disturb your work any longer. We await your presence on the opening day of the 'World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference'!"

Seeing that the mother and daughter were about to leave, Fang Bai didn't attempt to keep them, nodded, and casually reminded Dongfang Ruhua, "Martial Arts is like rowing against the current; if you do not advance, you will fall behind. Remember to diligently cultivate the technique I passed on to you, and don't be lazy!"

Very seriously, Dongfang Ruhua responded, "Big brother, I've always been very diligent! Um, if I perform well, will you reward me, big brother?"

Fang Bai smiled and said, "Alright, what reward would you like?"

With her eyes shimmering, Dongfang Ruhua tilted her head in thought, then slightly blushing, she shyly said, "I haven't thought of anything yet. I'll tell you later, big brother!"

After saying their goodbyes, Lin Ruoxue left Yanjing Hospital with Dongfang Ruhua, who was reluctant to leave, and headed home.

All the way, Lin Ruoxue turned her head from time to time, looking at her younger daughter with complex emotions as if deep in thought.

"Mom, why are you looking at me like that? It feels so weird..."

Dongfang Ruhua touched her little face, full of curiosity as she asked.

"Tell Mom, do you like Fang Bai?"

Lin Ruoxue asked.

"Huh?"

Dongfang Ruhua hadn't expected her mother to ask such a question suddenly. It felt as if a well-hidden secret in her heart had been exposed, causing her to panic slightly. Her cheeks blushed, and she stuttered, not knowing how to respond.

"Silly girl, if you like him, you like him; if you don't, you don't. Just answer honestly, Mom won't blame you."

Lin Ruoxue looked at her daughter, who resembled a startled little rabbit, and couldn't help but feel a mix of frustration and amusement, rolling her eyes as she spoke.

Dongfang Ruhua hung her head, fiddling with the hem of her clothes, and with her cheeks flushed, she softly murmured a "mm-hmm."

Lin Ruoxue sighed, caressing her daughter's little head affectionately, and said, "Ruhua, you're still young now, both physically and mentally immature, lacking the ability to think calmly. When it comes to the love between a man and a woman, you are also in a stage of confusion, mostly driven by novelty and curiosity. Mom doesn't oppose you liking Fang Bai, but you mustn't get carried away and you should know how to protect yourself..."

"Big Brother is a good person, he won't hurt me!"

Dongfang Ruhua clearly misunderstood the meaning of her mother's words about "knowing how to protect oneself."

Lin Ruoxue took her daughter's hand, speaking earnestly and with deep feeling, "What Mom means by 'protecting yourself' is not that. What I mean is... you need to stay vigilant, not let other men touch you carelessly or take advantage of you... do you understand?"

"Oh..."

Dongfang Ruhua finally understood, her face turning bright red, and her chin nearly buried in her burgeoning chest.

On the way, Lin Ruoxue continued to educate her young daughter with patience, to prevent her, only fifteen or sixteen, from having her still delicate body ruined through interaction with Fang Bai.

Though Fang Bai's eyes seemed clear and he exuded an air of decency, not appearing to be a person of ill intent, who can guarantee that young men and women, with him being full of vigor and her beginning to feel the stirrings of young love, wouldn't end up doing something unexpected?

So, Lin Ruoxue felt it was absolutely necessary to instill some self-protective thoughts into her daughter as a precautionary measure.

As for whether her teachings would have an effect, Lin Ruoxue was not sure, but seeing her little girl listening attentively, she felt quite reassured.

"... Time can change many things, and perhaps in a few years, once you've grown up and your mind has matured, you'll find that the Fang Bai you like now might not necessarily be your ideal partner."

Lin Ruoxue finally said.

Dongfang Ruhua suddenly looked up and said, "Mom, what if I still like Big Brother after I've grown up?"

Chapter 376: Not Afraid of Dragon Guard's Investigation?

Lin Ruoxue hadn't expected her daughter to ask such a question, and she paused momentarily before offering a wry smile, "You've grown up, and you'll have the right to choose for yourself; then, your mother will have no reason to stop you. But... with a man as outstanding as Fang Bai, there will surely be many women who like him, and you'll need to think it over carefully."

"I understand that. The more girls who like big brother, the more it shows how outstanding he is! If I still like big brother when I grow up, I will fairly compete with the other girls and win him over!"

Dongfang Ruhua clenched her little fists, cheering herself on.

.....

Crack—

Ah—

The crisp sound of a bone breaking resonated, followed by a scream that was both shrill and agonizing, echoing in the skies above the Wang Family Manor in Yanjing.

"Stop yelling!"

Wang Huashan, known as "The First Master of the Yanjing Wang Family" and "The Sea-Calming Divine Needle," sat grimly on the sofa in the living room of a villa in the Wang Family Manor, glaring at his grandson, Wang Dong, whose legs he had just broken, and shouted sternly.

His voice wasn't loud, but it contained a whisper of True Yuan, piercing through the eardrums and causing Wang Dong to shiver as if someone had suddenly grabbed his neck, cutting off his screams abruptly.

The severe pain from his broken leg bones was so excruciating that Wang Dong clenched his teeth hard; his face turned pale, and large beads of sweat rolled down his face like pearls off a broken string.

Jiang Fenglian, who sat by the side, watched her son's legs getting broken with wide eyes, tears of pain streaming down her cheeks, yet she dared not step forward to plea due to the imposing presence of Wang Huashan.

Wang Jingzhong had his eyes closed, tilting his head to the heavens, his face dark and changing expressions, chest heaving unevenly, fists clenched tightly, filled with resentment.

Although Wang Jingzhong was heartbroken for his son Wang Dong, the old man was determined to punish him this time to mitigate a huge potential threat to the Wang Family, and as a father, he dared not show any dissatisfaction.

Compared to the couple Wang Jingzhong and Jiang Fenglian, other members of the Wang Family present revealed a look of relief on their faces, as if a burden had been lifted, upon seeing Wang Dong being punished.

Naturally, the reason for Wang Dong's punishment was related to Fang Bai.

After the battle in the ten-mile willow forest in the West Suburb, where Wang Huashan was defeated by Fang Bai with a single move, he was greatly alarmed and knew that if the matter was not handled to Fang Bai's satisfaction, Fang Bai would not let it go easily.

Immediately upon returning to the Wang Family, Wang Huashan instructed Wang Jingzhong to summon the core members of the family for an urgent internal meeting.

In the meeting, Wang Huashan frankly recounted the event of his duel with Fang Bai in the ten-mile willow forest in the West Suburb and his defeat by a single move, leaving all members of the Wang Family, including Wang Jingzhong, pale-faced.

With mid-level Profound Realm strength, Wang Huashan was the top expert of the Wang Family, and in the entire Ancient Martial World of Huaxia, he was considered a first-class powerhouse, only likely to be defeated in one move by some major Sect leaders or powerful individuals from the Secular Ancient Martial World.

According to Wang Huashan, the fact that Fang Bai had defeated him with just one move indicated his formidable strength; if the Wang Family did not severely punish Wang Dong, the consequences would be unimaginable once Fang Bai took his revenge on the Wang Family.

In a prominent clan like theirs, individual honor or disgrace amounted to nothing compared to the interests of the family. Therefore, when Wang Huashan sought the family members' opinions, the majority agreed on punishing Wang Dong to give Fang Bai an explanation.

Breaking Wang Dong's legs and confining him to a wheelchair for the rest of his life was a consensus reached by the core members of the Wang Family after deliberation, hoping to appease Fang Bai's anger.

With Wang Dong's legs crippled, it was Jiang Fenglian and Wang Jingzhong who suffered the agony, while other members of the Wang Family either sympathized, remained indifferent, or took pleasure in the misfortune.

"Alright, disperse!"

Wang Huashan looked at his grandson, whose legs had been crippled and who was in unbearable pain, and seemed to age considerably in an instant. With a forlorn wave of his hand, he dispersed other family members, leaving only Wang Jingzhong's family of three on the scene.

"Dong'er, do you blame me in your heart?"

Wang Huashan walked over to Wang Dong, reached out to wipe the sweat off his forehead, and sighed as he asked.

"No... no blame..."

Despite Wang Dong's efforts to grit his teeth and endure, the intense pain in his legs still made him shiver all over, speaking intermittently, "I know Grandfather is... is doing it for my own good..."

"If you understand, that's good."

Wang Huashan sat back down in the sofa, looking out the window with a few traces of fear lingering in his expression, he said in a deep voice, "You have no idea how strong that Fang Bai is! If I hadn't crippled your legs, once he came for revenge, you might not have even been able to save your own life!"

"Even if he is a Martial Artist, he still has to abide by the secular laws, right? Doesn't he fear the 'Dragon Guard' will hold him accountable if he dares to kill someone so brazenly?"

Jiang Fenglian said unconvinced from the side.

Wang Huashan shook his head, with a helpless expression, he said, "Ordinary Martial Artists would certainly fear the 'Dragon Guard,' but Fang Bai's strength is such that very few within the 'Dragon Guard' can defeat him. Moreover, the most powerful members of the 'Dragon Guard' are all detesters of evil and rigidly upright; even if I went to them, having understood the ins and outs of the incident, they might not be willing to help!"

"Our Wang Family has stood for a hundred years and never feared anyone. Do we have to swallow our pride this time? If so, our Wang Family's face will be lost completely!"

Jiang Fenglian muttered under her breath.

Wang Huashan knew his daughter-in-law was deliberately provoking him; a surge of anger immediately rose in his chest, and he rebuked her without mercy, "Dong'er ended up like this today; you, as a mother, bear a great responsibility! Don't concern yourself with the family's business affairs lately, stay at home and reflect on yourself!"

With that sentence, he effectively stripped Jiang Fenglian of her management rights over some of the family businesses she was handling.

Jiang Fenglian was too angry to speak and felt incredibly aggrieved; she covered her face and burst into tears.

"A woman of your age, what are you crying about? Isn't that shameful!"

Wang Jingzhong, hearing his wife's crying, felt his already troubled mind grow even more irritable, and he yelled at her.

"Wang Jingzhong, why are you so tough on me? If you have the gall to be fierce at home, why don't you go take revenge for our son?"

Jiang Fenglian, who was afraid of her father-in-law Wang Huashan but not her husband Wang Jingzhong, got energized by the words, suddenly stood up from the sofa, hands on hips, eyes wide open, ready to argue.

"You..."

Wang Jingzhong was so angry he almost spat out a mouthful of old blood, pointing at his wife, he found himself at a loss for words.

"Enough! You two, an old husband and wife, quarrelling in front of the child; what kind of decency is that! Instead of arguing, it would be better to reflect more on this incident, and think about how to diminish the unfavorable impact of this event on the family!"

Wang Huashan, frustrated as if hating that iron cannot become steel, looked at the Wang Jingzhong family of three, snorted, and got up to leave.

Chapter 377: Humiliation, I Can't Bear It!

Upon reaching the door, Wang Huashan suddenly thought of something and turned to Wang Jingzhong and the other two, saying, "Let's put an end to this matter. Under no circumstances should you take revenge against Fang Bai on your own, or you'll bring about a disaster that no one can save you from! Remember this! Remember this! Jingzhong, take Dong'er to the hospital!"

He left after uttering these earnest instructions, his mind full of concerns.

Once Wang Huashan had left, only Wang Jingzhong, Jiang Fenglian, and Wang Dong remained in the spacious villa living room.

Wang Jingzhong stood frozen in place, lost in thought; Jiang Fenglian, wiping away tears, sobbed quietly; Wang Dong, lying on the floor, continued to whimper from the pain.

A moment later, Wang Jingzhong snapped back to reality and summoned four family bodyguards to bring in a stretcher for Wang Dong, preparing to take him to the hospital.

"Dong'er, your grandfather is right, crippling your legs is for your own good, don't hate him!"

From his son's eyes, Wang Jingzhong saw a thick hatred be it towards Wang Huashan or Fang Bai, and he consoled him at the side of the stretcher.

"I hate myself! I hate Fang Bai!"

Lying on the stretcher, Wang Dong clenched his fists, his eyes already bloodshot.

"I hate myself for being too weak, no match for Fang Bai! I hate Fang Bai for making me end up like this!"

When Wang Dong mentioned "Fang Bai", he did so through gritted teeth, as if he wanted to bite and tear the name apart, showing the depth of his hatred for Fang Bai.

"Hatred cannot solve any problems!"

Wang Jingzhong's expression was serious, his eyes gleaming with intensity. At that moment, he had regained his usual composure and said in a deep voice, "A gentleman's revenge can wait for ten years. Fang Bai is too strong right now. We must avoid his sharp edges, and in time we will find an opportunity to wash away today's humiliation. But for now, you must keep this hatred in your heart, and avoid causing any more trouble, or even I won't be able to protect you! Understand?"

Wang Dong, hearing the implication of revenge in his father's tone, perked up and nodded, "I understand!"

"Let's go!"

Wang Jingzhong waved his hand, signaling the four family bodyguards to lift Wang Dong and take him to the hospital.

"Jingzhong, I knew it, you wouldn't let that kid off! Dong'er's legs were crippled because of him, we must make him pay back double!"

Hearing the conversation between her husband and son, Jiang Fenglian felt somewhat less resentful towards her husband and came forward to speak.

"Shut up!"

Wang Jingzhong turned around and glared at his wife, saying, "All of this started because of you! From now on, you'd better behave!"

"What's so great about you? I get it! I'll accompany my son to the hospital!"

Jiang Fenglian pursed her lips, got up, and followed her son to the car, heading to Yanjing Friendship Hospital.

Wang Jingzhong sat alone on the sofa, lit a cigarette, and took several deep drags, his gaze drifting through the curling smoke in front of him.

After a short while, he seemed to have made a decision, forcefully stubbed out the cigarette in the ashtray, and then dialed a phone number.

"Family Head, your instructions, please!"

As the call connected, a low, hoarse voice devoid of any emotion answered from the other end.

"How are your investigations on Fang Bai coming along?"

Wang Jingzhong tried to calm his emotions and asked in a low voice,

"Is it almost ready?"

"Very well. I now order you, by any means necessary and no matter the cost, to make Fang Bai disappear from this world! Can you accomplish that?"

"This... Family Head, to be honest, I am not very confident! As far as I know, Fang Bai's strength is profound and unfathomable. Ordinary Profound Level Martial Artists are no match for him!"

"If you can't handle it, then hire someone who can!"

"If we're to hire someone, the most famous and reputable killer organization in the world today is none other than 'Wrathful Beauties'. It's just that 'Wrathful Beauties' charge an astronomical fee..."

Upon hearing the words "Wrathful Beauties," Wang Jingzhong couldn't help but twitch.

The organization "Wrathful Beauties" had risen to prominence years ago and was well-known. It was said that all its members were women, ranging from high-ranking officials to ordinary folks of all walks of life, infiltrating numerous sectors in many countries around the globe, conducting businesses both overtly and covertly, and were described as omnipresent.

And people's opinions about "Wrathful Beauties" were polarized to two extremes.

Some said that the members of "Wrathful Beauties" were kind and just, gentle and beautiful, akin to angels in white descending to earth. Wherever they went, they fought against the strong and supported the weak, saved lives and healed the wounded, earning the gratitude and admiration of countless people.

Others said that the members of "Wrathful Beauties" were embodiments of evil, like demonesses from hell, causing harm and committing atrocities. What one felt in their presence was nothing but coldness, indifference, and slaughter.

There were also rumors that since its inception, "Wrathful Beauties" had split into righteous and evil factions, opposing and battling each other.

In any case, from the day "Wrathful Beauties" was born, they became both a beloved and despised target for police forces around the world.

Regarding the benevolent side of "Wrathful Beauties," police forces from various countries maintained a positive and welcoming attitude, while for their malevolent actions, a firm crackdown was enforced. However, "Wrathful Beauties" was not only mighty but also had quick access to information and were elusive; attempts to subdue them often had very little effect.

"First, make contact with 'Wrathful Beauties'. As long as they can guarantee Fang Bai's death, money is no object," Wang Jingzhong said after a moment of contemplation.

"The Family Head can rest assured, as long as 'Wrathful Beauties' is willing to take on our job, they will relentlessly pursue the target until his death. To my knowledge, so far, no one on 'Wrathful Beauties' hit list has ever escaped death."

"That's good. I'll leave this matter in your hands! Do it well, and I assure you a life of worry-free luxury for the rest of your days!"

"Thank you, Family Head. I will do my utmost!"

After hanging up the phone, Wang Jingzhong took a deep breath, a sinister expression flitting across his eyes as he muttered to himself, "My wife was humiliated, my son crippled... Fang Bai, don't blame me for being ruthless. For such a disgraceful insult, I, as a husband and father, cannot endure!"

...

The next day, a rumor spread like wildfire, shocking the entire Yanjing City.

Wang Dong, the son of Wang Jingzhong, the Family Head of the Wang Family in Yanjing, had his legs broken by Wang Huashan, all because he provoked someone named Fang Bai.

The Wang Family of Yanjing was a first-class family in Huaxia, with enormous influence in Yanjing. Who exactly was this Fang Bai, that even the Wang Family could not afford to offend?

In no time, countless people following this incident used various channels to inquire about everything related to Fang Bai, hoping to understand what remarkable background this person had to make the Wang Family wary of him overnight.

Even the mysterious and powerful "Dragon Guard" was stirred, as one of their Xuan Group members, Wang Huashan, was implicated in the affair.

Chapter 378: Ghost Hand's Promotion

The tranquil Yanjing City was stirred into a whirlwind because of a man named Fang Bai.

The core figure of this matter and the center of public attention, Fang Bai, had suddenly disappeared in the past few days. He could not be found in Yanjing Hospital, nor was he present in the courtyard house.

Together with Fang Bai, his disciple Ghost Hand and the adorable Lightning Mink had also vanished.

Apart from a very few individuals, no one in the world knew where they had gone or what they were doing.

"Let's go, we're returning to Yanjing. I've accepted an invitation from 'Doctor Pavilion' to attend the 'World Traditional Chinese Medicine Conference' tomorrow."

That evening, as the last ray of the setting sun pierced through the mountain crevices and shone into the small valley that was lush with flowers and seemed like a paradise on earth, Fang Bai concluded a day of cultivation, slowly walking out from a little bamboo building in the valley.

This valley was precisely the one where Fang Bai and Dongfang Ruhua had encountered the Lingnan Poison Venerable and discovered the relics of a cultivator after being caught in a mudslide.

The valley was concealed with a formation, invisible to martial artists who did not understand formations, and undetectable by ordinary people.

Although small, the valley was rich in Essence Energy and abound with Spiritual Medicine, truly a cultivation treasure spot in the secular world.

Fang Bai came here with Ghost Hand and the Lightning Mink this time purposely to avoid the noisy and chaotic environment of the mundane world, to focus on cultivation for a period.

Indeed, cultivating in this environment rich in Essence Energy and tranquility proved far more effective than in the outside world, with both disciples and mink showing obvious progress in this time.

Especially Ghost Hand, who had been cultivating in the courtyard house in Yanjing without stepping outside. Although his True Yuan and mentality had reached a stage ripe for a breakthrough, it always just eluded him.

After Ghost Hand followed Fang Bai to this valley, with Fang Bai's guidance and several days of secluded cultivation, he finally achieved a breakthrough at dawn, entering the realm of Profound Level Martial Artists and joining the ranks of first-class experts in the Secular Ancient Martial World.

As for the Lightning Mink, the little fellow was born a glutton. Upon seeing the Spiritual Medicine covering the valley floor, its round eyes turned green. Ravenous, it pounced into a large cluster of Spiritual Medicine, gobbling them up without any concern for taste.

The Spiritual Medicine in the valley were at least hundreds of years old. Fang Bai had originally planned to use them to concoct Elixirs when his own cultivation level grew stronger and able to freely control the two types of True Yuan within his Chaos Origin Energy. Seeing the Lightning Mink spoiling quite a few, he couldn't help but feel distressed.

However, due to the Lightning Mink's peculiar physique and special bloodline, its strength improved every second. Given enough cultivation resources, its progress would be even more astonishing, and it would certainly become a significant aid to him in the future.

With this in mind, Fang Bai, though loathe to part with them, allocated a densely populated area of Spiritual Medicine in the valley as the "food" for the Lightning Mink from then on.

Furthermore, Fang Bai made a pact with the Lightning Mink, instructing it not to damage the Spiritual Medicine in other areas, otherwise, it would be punished.

The Lightning Mink belonged to the category of Spirit Beasts, who are naturally proud and intractable. They will not easily bow down, but once they do choose to submit, they are utterly loyal.

When the Lightning Mink agreed to follow Fang Bai away from the Mysterious Pit, the strength and status between the man and the mink were equal, with the mink even carrying a hint of arrogance.

But with Fang Bai's rapid growth in strength, the Lightning Mink was subdued by his power and further enticed by the prospect of obtaining more cultivation resources from him, gradually becoming tame and docile. Sometimes, it would even resort to acting cute and seeking favor in front of Fang Bai.

Towards Fang Bai's three rules, the Lightning Mink dared not disobey or ignore, for now its strength had been entirely surpassed by Fang Bai. Even its prized speed held no advantage against Fang Bai's "Dragon Soaring to the Heavens" movement technique. If Fang Bai truly wanted to punish it, escape was impossible.

Although the relationship between Lightning Mink and Fang Bai was not that of master and servant, and it could leave his side at any time, the Lightning Mink wasn't foolish. Without Fang Bai, who else in the world could provide it with cultivation resources?

Hearing Fang Bai say he was going to leave, the Lightning Mink, which was nibbling on spiritual medicine, was somewhat reluctant. But seeing Fang Bai and Ghost Hand moving toward the exit of the valley, one in front and one behind, it reluctantly cast a glance at its own patch of spiritual medicine and then leapt onto Fang Bai's shoulder.

"You think the cultivation resources in this little valley are already quite abundant, right?"

Fang Bai patted the little head of the Lightning Mink and then looked at Ghost Hand, gazing toward the distant horizon, and said leisurely, "Just wait. One day, I will take you to another world. In that world, Essence Energy is ten to a hundred times denser than here, and the cultivation resources are as vast as the sea, more than you can imagine!"

Fang Bai's words were intended for Ghost Hand, who then repeated them to the Lightning Mink using the Beast Taming Scripture.

After hearing this, both Ghost Hand and the Lightning Mink's eyes shone with excitement.

Essence Energy ten to a hundred times denser than this small valley, and countless cultivation resources... Just these two aspects alone were enough to create an irresistible temptation for Ghost Hand and the Lightning Mink.

Ghost Hand did not ask where the "another world" Fang Bai mentioned was, thinking that when the time came, he would simply follow his master wherever he went. His master was a true Master, and following him promised an endlessly bright future.

After breaking the Formation and leaving the small valley, the two men and one mink moved quickly through the mountains under the remaining glow of the sunset. In a moment, they had left the deep mountains and could vaguely see the majestic and prosperous Yanjing City.

Upon returning to the courtyard, they saw Baili Zhan and his wife, Jiang Yuzhi, sitting in the courtyard with angry expressions on their faces. Baili Mingyue stood in front of them, pouting her lips high, looking aggrieved.

"Brother Baili, what's going on here?"

Fang Bai approached with a smile and asked.

The Lightning Mink "whooshed" from Fang Bai's shoulder into Baili Mingyue's arms, rubbing its little head against her full, soft chest a few times.

Baili Mingyue's chest tickled by the rubbing, and she couldn't help giggling, "Hehehe," where was there any hint of grievance in her now?

Ghost Hand walked into the room, brought out a stool for Fang Bai to sit on, and then stood respectfully behind Fang Bai.

"You girl, you hurt someone and yet you can still laugh? What if they come to our door, what will you do! You're really driving me mad!"

Baili Zhan glared at Baili Mingyue and scolded her, showing his disappointment.

"Hmph, it's that man's fault for dumping my classmate after leading her on. He deserved a beating!"

Baili Mingyue retorted defiantly.

"What do I usually tell you? Be modest and low-key in life, don't meddle in affairs that don't concern you, otherwise, what will you do if you cause trouble? I've told you this countless times, why can't you remember!"

"But you've also said that we shouldn't provoke trouble, but we also shouldn't be afraid of it! Besides, Fang Bai also said that as Martial Artists, we don't just cultivate Martial Arts Techniques, but also our state of mind. If my classmate is bullied by that man and suffers so much, if I don't step in, it will affect my state of mind, which is very detrimental to cultivation."

"This..."

When Baili Zhan heard his daughter bring up Fang Bai's words, he was immediately deflated and did not know how to respond.

Chapter 379: Being Low-Key Does Not Mean Tolerating!

Fang Bai instantly grasped what had happened when he heard the conversation between father and daughter.

Baili Mingyue was rebellious by nature and liked to stand up against injustice. She earned the nickname "Little Witch" during her middle school years, and carried it with her into the university campus.

The issue at hand seemed to involve Baili Mingyue witnessing a classmate being bullied and, unable to stand by, she intervened, hurt someone, and then fled back home.

"Here's what happened..."

Jiang Yuzhi could only offer a bitter smile, laced with helplessness, as she briefly recounted to Fang Bai the trouble her daughter had caused.

It turned out that earlier that evening, as Baili Mingyue and a female classmate named Aling were walking home from school, Aling encountered her boyfriend being intimate with another girl. Aling confronted her boyfriend, only to be slapped by him, followed by his declaration that he wanted to break up with her.

Upon seeing Aling slapped and crying from the humiliation, Baili Mingyue was instantly enraged, without saying a second word, she stepped forward and landed a kick squarely between the boy's legs.

Although Baili Mingyue had not been practicing martial arts under Fang Bai for very long, her strength had already reached the intermediate Yellow Level. Even though the kick she delivered did not employ True Essence Force, it was not something an ordinary person could endure, causing the boy to faint on the spot from the pain.

Realizing the situation was bad, Baili Mingyue grabbed Aling and they both fled the scene. They separated on the way and went their respective homes.

Facing the criticism and scolding from her parents, Baili Mingyue felt no unease, but when she saw Fang Bai arrive, she became somewhat nervous, her eyes looking down at the ground, not daring to meet Fang Bai's gaze.

Although she feared neither heaven nor earth, Fang Bai held a very special place in Baili Mingyue's heart; he was not only a teacher and a friend but also like a brother to her. Moreover, his formidable and enigmatic strength naturally instilled a sense of awe in her.

To Baili Mingyue's relief, Fang Bai did not criticize or scold her like her parents had after hearing about the incident. Instead, he smiled at her and said, "You did the right thing with this matter! Had I been in your place, I would have beaten up that guy as well!"

Upon hearing this, Baili Mingyue's eyes shone with excitement, she almost cheered out loud.

Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi, to their surprise, did not expect Fang Bai to take their daughter's side, and they exchanged looks of astonishment.

"For us martial artists, being low-key is good, but being low-key is not equal to submitting!"

Fang Bai's expression turned serious, and his tone became stern as he continued, "As martial artists, our way is to live by the principle that if no one offends me, I will not offend them; but if someone offends me, I shall return the favor. If this time Mingyue had seen her friend humiliated and remained

indifferent, next time it might be the same, and in the long run, she would lose her spirit and dull her ambition, which is a great taboo for a martial artist!"

After hearing Fang Bai's words, Baili Zhan and his wife looked at each other again, both deep in thought.

"Brother, we have learned a lot from you!"

Suddenly, Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi both stood up and, with a salute folding their fists, paid their respects to Fang Bai.

What Fang Bai shared was insight into the cultivation of a martial artist's mind, indirectly offering guidance to Baili Zhan and his wife. Although it was just a few words, it benefited them greatly.

"But Mingyue always seems to be causing trouble; it won't do not to teach her a lesson!"

Jiang Yuzhi expressed her concern, "I worry that if we let her go on like this, she could cause some serious trouble in the future, and that would be problematic."

"Mingyue is not the type of person who bullies the weak or acts unreasonably. I believe she won't stir up trouble on her own. As long as she stands on justice and morals, no matter what she gets into, I can carry the burden for her!"

As Fang Bai uttered those final words, his aura suddenly burst forth, sending the four people and one marten present trembling. They couldn't help but feel an urge to kneel and submit.

At that moment, Ghost Hand and Baili Mingyue gazed at Fang Bai with eyes full of envy and admiration, while Baili Zhan and his wife were struck with shock and awe.

When Fang Bai first moved into the courtyard, his strength had been inferior to Baili Zhan's. But in just half a year's time, the mere release of Fang Bai's aura now exerted tremendous pressure on Baili Zhan. This rate of power advancement was simply beyond Baili Zhan's imagination.

However, upon closer thought, Baili Zhan came to a realization. His own daughter had been an ordinary person, but under Fang Bai's guidance, she had now become a Yellow Level mid-rank Martial Artist. This was a testament to the miraculous nature of Fang Bai's methods.

"Hm?"

Fang Bai's brows suddenly furrowed slightly. Then, he slowly turned around to look towards the large gate of the courtyard, his eyes flashing with a sharp gleam that vanished in an instant.

"Little brother, what's wrong?"

Seeing that Fang Bai seemed off, Baili Zhan was taken aback.

Fang Bai said, "There are a few Martial Artists heading this way, and they're not coming with good intentions!"

"What?"

Upon hearing Fang Bai's words, the faces of both Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi changed drastically. Their first thought was that the assassins sent by their sects to hunt down their family had discovered their whereabouts and were coming to seek retribution.

Both Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi were disciples of the Hidden Sect, one from the "Ghost Doctor Valley" and the other from the "Yunnv Sect".

Both "Ghost Doctor Valley" and "Yunnv Sect" were major sects within the Hidden Sect with numerous disciples and many powerful experts. Although Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi were Profound Level high-rank Martial Artists—top experts in the secular world—they were only ordinary disciples in their respective sects.

The Hidden Sects had extremely strict rules. After the couple eloped from their sects, they were placed on the kill list. As long as they were alive, no matter where they fled—even to the ends of the earth—they would face relentless pursuit.

The assassins Cuihun and Life-Snatching from "Ghost Doctor Valley", and Mo Ling and Mo Ming from "Yunnv Sect" were the ones sent after Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi, and their strengths were slightly superior to that of the couple.

It could be said that if not for Fang Bai's intervention, Baili Zhan's family would now be dead souls under the sect killers' blades.

After joining forces with Fang Bai and eliminating the four assassins from "Ghost Doctor Valley" and "Yunnv Sect", they used corpse disintegrating powder formulated by Fang Bai to destroy the bodies and erase all traces. If the sects sent more assassins, it would be very difficult for them to find the family's location again in a short period.

However, Baili Zhan and Jiang Yuzhi understood that once the sects realized that the previously sent assassins may have fallen, they would certainly dispatch even more powerful disciples to continue the pursuit.

Cuihun, Life-Snatching, Mo Ling, and Mo Ming, these four Hidden Sect disciples, were already Profound Level high-rank Martial Artists. If the sects decided to send more assassins, they might be disciples with Profound Level Perfection or even Earth Level initial rank strength. By then, if they were found, even with Fang Bai's help, it would be difficult to escape unscathed.

Although Fang Bai had just demonstrated a level of strength that made Baili Zhan tremble, Baili Zhan guessed that Fang Bai might be an Earth Level Martial Artist, but alone he would find it difficult to contend with several equal opponents. Once Fang Bai got involved, he might even lose his life in the process.

Chapter 380: Boss Qin's Great Pomp!

In that moment, Baili Zhan had many thoughts and silently made a decision—if he discovered that the approaching Martial Artists were Disciples sent by their sect, he would ask Fang Bai to take his daughter and flee, while he and his wife would stay behind to cover their escape.

With his far superior strength compared to the Baili couple, Fang Bai was the first to sense the auras of those Martial Artists. After a moment, the Baili couple then began to feel their presence.

What allowed them to breathe a sigh of relief was that the aura of the approaching Martial Artists suggested they were all Yellow Level, clearly not Disciples of the Hidden Sect, but possibly Martial Artists from the Secular World.

"Could it be that the person Mingyue injured today has a background in the Secular Ancient Martial World? Are these Martial Artists here to cause trouble for Mingyue?"

The aura released by those Martial Artists did not carry a strong Killing Qi, but more a sense of anger, leading Baili Zhan to surmise that these people had come to the courtyard in connection with the trouble his daughter had stirred up that day.

If that was the case, Baili Zhan had nothing to worry about. While he dreaded the thought of a High Rank master from the Hidden Sect coming to their doorstep, he did not fear Martial Artists from the Secular World.

Bang—

A loud crash suddenly resounded as the gate to the courtyard was kicked open, and several figures rushed in, lining up and staring down Baili Zhan and the others with menacing looks.

It was twilight, with the sun already set and the sky dimming, but the eyesight of the Martial Artists, including Baili Zhan and his family, was excellent, and they clearly saw that there were five people in total. Four of them were older, wearing moon-white traditional Tang attire, and one looked only sixteen or seventeen years old, dressed in the same Yanjing University uniform as Baili Mingyue.

The one leading the group was a pot-bellied middle-aged man in his fifties. His strength was the strongest among them, a high-ranking Yellow Level Martial Artist. He appeared amiable and kind, but his expression at the moment was clearly marked by anger.

Behind the middle-aged man were four others, all around thirty years of age, their faces also full of anger, aside from the teenager.

The youth had a slicked-back hairdo and a flashy appearance, and at a glance was clearly a no-good student.

Of the five, only the teenager was not a Martial Artist.

"Qin Yujie, how did you find out where we live? What are you doing at our house?"

As soon as Baili Mingyue saw the slick-looking teenager, her eyebrows shot up in anger, her face turned frosty, and her fists clenched tightly.

"How hard could it be to find your house? I just threatened Aling a little, and she told me everything! Why did I come here? You're playing dumb, aren't you? I came for revenge for that kick!"

The teenager named Qin Yujie, upon spotting Baili Mingyue, immediately had his eyes flare up with rage as he shouted resentfully.

Listening to the exchange between his daughter and Qin Yujie, Baili Zhan knew his earlier guess was right—the person his daughter had injured had indeed come to their home looking for trouble.

"Hmph, it seems my kick was too light; it didn't teach you a lesson!"

Baili Mingyue said as she took a step forward, her beautiful eyes fierce, coldly staring down Qin Yujie, and said with a threatening aura, "If I had known, I would have put more strength into it and made you incapable of taking care of yourself for the rest of your life!"

Qin Yujie, seemingly intimidated by Baili Mingyue and afraid of being attacked by her, got a fright and quickly hid behind the kind-faced middle-aged man.

"Uncle, she's the busybody who kicked and injured me! You have to teach her a lesson for me!"

Qin Yujie pointed at Baili Mingyue and said to the middle-aged man in front of him.

In Qin Yujie's memory, his second uncle was someone who always stood up for his family. Knowing that he had been kicked and injured by someone, his uncle did not utter another word and immediately brought several disciples of the Qin family to seek justice on his behalf.

Qin Yujie had thought that after he finished speaking, his second uncle would take action to teach Baili Mingyue a lesson, but to his surprise, the man remained indifferent and instead focused his gaze on the young man a few years older than himself standing behind Baili Mingyue, his expression unusual.

"I was wondering who's so brazen, bursting in like a robber. It turns out to be the jade tycoon Mr. Qin! Ha, Mr. Qin really carries quite the clout!"

Fang Bai crossed his arms and eyed the middle-aged man, his look carrying a hint of chill.

"Brother Fang... How come you're here?"

The middle-aged man, embarrassed by Fang Bai's comment, replied with an awkward smile.

The middle-aged man was none other than Qin Yaorao's second uncle, Qin Shan.

Qin Shan had met Fang Bai at a charity auction organized by Jiang Xiaoyu. He took a fancy to the Luminous Pearl Fang Bai had put up for auction and happily spent a large sum to acquire it.

Fang Bai originally had a good impression of Qin Shan, but his image plummeted in Fang Bai's eyes after he led people into the Bai family's siheyuan, even damaging the front door.

If it were not for the fact that Qin Shan was Qin Yaorao's second uncle, Fang Bai might have already been impolite to him.

Although Qin Shan was a renowned jade tycoon in Huaxia and backed by the prominent Qin Family of Jinling, he still harbored a certain wariness towards Fang Bai.

After getting to know Fang Bai the last time, Qin Shan learned from various sources that not only was Fang Bai's medical skill divine, but his strength was also formidable. The incident between Wang Dong of the Wang Family and Fang Bai, which ended with Wang Dong's legs being personally crippled by his grandfather Wang Huashan, only intensified Qin Shan's sense of Fang Bai's inscrutable depth.

Qin Shan had come to "seek justice" for his nephew Qin Yujie, who had been beaten by Baili Mingyue, and he never expected to encounter Fang Bai; moreover, it appeared that Fang Bai had a good relationship with this family.

Confronting Fang Bai's cold gaze, Qin Shan felt as if there was a thorn in his back, and cold sweat involuntarily broke out.

Wang Huashan of the Wang Family, a high-rank expert in the Secular Ancient Martial World, even had to swallow his pride in front of Fang Bai, which showed how formidable Fang Bai was. To someone like Qin Shan, a mere Yellow Level Martial Artist, he was probably no different from an ant in Fang Bai's eyes.

After Wang Dong's legs were crippled, many elders of the wealthy and influential families in Huaxia trembled with fear, repeatedly warning their younger generations not to provoke Fang Bai.

The Qin Family of Jinling had always had a good reputation in Huaxia, and Qin Shan was not a wicked person. He came with his nephew Qin Yujie to "seek justice" against Baili Mingyue because Qin Yujie had distorted the truth, depicting Baili Mingyue as a "witch" who bullied others due to her martial prowess. This led to Qin Shan bursting in angrily and kicking down the door.

Although Qin Shan felt that his act of seeking justice for his bullied nephew was justified, he knew things would be troublesome once he saw Fang Bai present.

"Why can't I be here? Let me tell you, this is my residence in Yanjing!"

Fang Bai, looking at Qin Shan who now had sweat on his forehead, said expressionlessly, "Mr. Qin, what brings you here?"