

## Doctor 421

### Chapter 421: Divine Elephant Eight Desolate Steps

Fang Bai's movement technique speed was more than twice as fast as Nangong Ming's. With just a few leaps and bounds, he had closed the distance between them to within thirty meters.

While Nangong Ming was racing through the air, he suddenly had a premonition and turned his head to look, just in time to see Fang Bai rapidly approaching him. It was as if he had seen a ghost—his eyes bulged in terror, and his soul seemed to flee his body.

"Hadn't he already returned to Yanjing City? How could he appear here? Could it be... he predicted that I would ambush Wang Miaomiao? Pretending to go back to Yanjing City was a feint, luring me into action was his real intention? I'm seriously injured; my combat power is reduced by half. His appearance at this time..."

Cold sweat "swooshed" out of Nangong Ming. He didn't dare to think further, quickly took out several elixirs from his bosom, swallowed them, then exerted force on his feet and bolted desperately.

The elixirs Nangong Ming swallowed had been personally refined by the Valley Master of the Ghost Doctor Sect, Li Ao. They shared a similar miraculous effect to the "Explosive Essence Pill" that Fang Bai knew of, both capable of instantly stimulating a martial artist's potential and rapidly enhancing their True Yuan.

Although such elixirs, akin to the "Explosive Essence Pill," greatly assisted martial artists, they also had significant side effects. Nangong Ming had swallowed several at once, and once the effect wore off, he would fall into a state of extreme weakness, vulnerable even to the most junior martial artist.

Moreover, the elixir refined by Li Ao, the Valley Master of the Ghost Doctor Sect, seemed quite inferior even to a low-grade "Explosive Essence Pill" in Fang Bai's eyes and wasn't worth a sneer.

Of course, Nangong Ming was also aware of the great side effects of the elixirs he had taken, but at this moment, all he thought about was fleeing for his life. He couldn't care less about anything else.

Fang Bai was a supreme powerhouse capable of psychic level attacks. If Fang Bai caught up to him, he would face nothing but a dead end.

After consuming the elixir, Nangong Ming's True Yuan surged, and his flight speed greatly increased. He was secretly delighted, thinking that he should now be able to shake off Fang Bai.

He was fast, but Fang Bai was faster.

When Fang Bai unleashed the full force of his "Nine Heavens Soaring Dragon" technique, he stretched out a long afterimage in a space of over a dozen meters, resembling a dragon soaring through the heavens. The air where he passed, due to his extremely fast speed, generated sonic booms, emitting faint dragon-like roars—arrogant, domineering, and with an impressive posture.

Fang Bai crossed the dozens of meters between them in an instant. He reached out with his right hand, and his palm was already on Nangong Ming's shoulder.

"Stop right there!"

With a gentle press downward from Fang Bai's palm, Nangong Ming felt as if a mountain was bearing down on him. Unable to support his body, his knees bent, and he nearly knelt to the ground. His forward-skimming figure also came to an abrupt halt.

Nangong Ming was terribly frightened and tried to struggle, but he found that he seemed to be under some kind of immobilizing spell and couldn't move at all. He could only watch helplessly as Fang Bai moved from behind him to stand in front, looking at him with a mocking gaze.

"Fang Bai, what... what do you want to do?"

Nangong Ming didn't believe for a second that Fang Bai would chase him down in the middle of the night just to chat about life and discuss ideals. It was very likely that he had come to seek revenge for his attack on Wang Miaomiao.

"What do I want to do? Hmph, you should know better than anyone else what's in your own heart!"

Standing in front of Nangong Ming, Fang Bai patted his face a few times, then said, "Although Wang Miaomiao and I don't have an official master-disciple relationship, we share a bond like that of a master and disciple. How could I let you go after you tried to kill her?"

"I'll have you know, I'm a disciple of the Hidden Sect's Ghost Doctor Valley. If you dare lay a finger on me, the hundreds of disciples of our Ghost Doctor Valley will never let you get away with it!"

Nangong Ming said through gritted teeth, his threat sounding vicious.

Yet his expression and tone were clearly blustery and fearful on the inside.

Nangong Ming also understood that someone as strong as Fang Bai might have an even more powerful backing than the Ghost Doctor Sect. Mere name-dropping his sect was unlikely to intimidate him.

"Ghost Doctor Valley?"

Upon hearing these three words, Fang Bai's eyebrows shot up, his eyes gleamed sharply, and a surge of killing Qi rocketed to the sky.

Even though Nangong Ming was an Earth Rank early stage martial artist, more than enough to look down on the Secular Ancient Martial World, he now trembled uncontrollably under the oppressive aura suddenly unleashed by Fang Bai, nearly collapsing to the ground.

Nangong Ming only then realized Fang Bai was so powerful that he far exceeded his previous imagination. From the oppressive force exerted on him, he could infer that Fang Bai's strength was now comparable to his own master, the Valley Master of the Ghost Doctor Valley, Li Ao.

Nangong Ming was dumbstruck, petrified in place, staring at Fang Bai in a daze and hardly daring to believe that he was really only about twenty years old.

In the Hidden Sect World, though masters were as common as clouds, Earth Rank Martial Artists who were twenty years old were extremely scarce, let alone Heaven Level Martial Artists.

This Fang Bai was too defying of the natural order. Perhaps even words like heavenly prodigy or monstrous genius were insufficient to describe his monstrous strength.

"The Ghost Doctor Valley you spoke of, is its Valley Master named Li Ao?"

Fang Bai's gaze was sharp as a knife, intently fixed on Nangong Ming's face as he coldly asked.

Nangong Ming's eyelids twitched uncontrollably, wondering if Fang Bai held a grudge against his sect. Otherwise, why would he speak to him with such an expression and tone?

Where would Nangong Ming know that Fang Bai bore no grudge against the Ghost Doctor Valley, but the landlord of the Siheyuan where Fang Bai resided, Baili Zhan and his family, had a life-and-death feud with the Ghost Doctor Valley.

Baili Zhan was a traitor to the Ghost Doctor Valley. Intending to purge the sect of this disgrace, they sought to rid themselves of him swiftly, and the animosity between the two parties was such that they were sworn enemies.

"Yes... Li Ao is my master. He is a Heaven Level Martial Artist! Furthermore, our Supreme Elder is even more powerful..."

"Do you know Baili Zhan?"

Fang Bai cut Nangong Ming off, asking sternly.

"I know him..."

Nangong Ming subconsciously replied, immediately questioning in return, "What is your relationship with Baili Zhan? Where is he now?"

One of Nangong Ming's missions for descending the mountain this time was to follow his master's order and hunt down Baili Zhan. Hearing Fang Bai mentioning knowing Baili Zhan, he couldn't help feeling a sense of foreboding.

"Hand over the Wood Element Stones you have on you!"

Without addressing Nangong Ming's questions, Fang Bai demanded, his voice deep and serious.

The sudden shift in topic left Nangong Ming struggling to keep up. He blurted out, "Don't even think about it!"

No sooner had he spoken than Nangong Ming deeply regretted his words, wishing he could slap himself several times, thinking to himself that wasn't he admitting, by saying this, that he indeed had Wood Element Stones on him?

This Fang Bai was truly cunning and deceitful!

In fact, even if Nangong Ming had not said anything, Fang Bai had already sensed several waves of Wood Attribute True Yuan emanating from him—distinctive of the Wood Element Stone.

"What Wood Element Stone? I don't know what you are talking about!"

Nangong Ming immediately denied outright.

Taking several Wood Element Stones from the Ghost Doctor Sect was also one of Nangong Ming's tasks for this journey. If the Essence Stones were gone, Nangong Ming would have no way to explain to his master upon his return.

"Bring them here!"

Fang Bai couldn't be bothered with any more idle chatter with Nangong Ming, taking a step forward with his left foot, stomping heavily on the ground.

The step Fang Bai took was part of the "Dragon-Tiger-Lion-Elephant Technique," known as the "Divine Elephant Eight Desolate Steps." As his foot landed, it was as if a ten-thousand-pound giant elephant was trampling, causing the ground within several yards to tremble, while dust billowed and flew up, the momentum staggering.

#### Chapter 422: Pleasant Surprise

Nangong Ming was caught off guard, his body shaken by a force emanating from the ground, causing his blood to surge and his head to spin with dizziness. His body swayed unsteadily as if drunk, and he nearly collapsed to the ground.

Taking advantage of Nangong Ming's confusion, Fang Bai's right hand flashed forward like lightning, reaching for the small cloth bag hanging at his waist.

The small cloth bag was bulging, clearly stuffed with quite a few things, and the distinct fluctuations of Wood Element Qi characteristic of Wood Element Stones were emanating from it.

Fang Bai's palm grasped the cloth bag at Nangong Ming's waist and with a gentle tug, the bag was already in his hand.

"Give it back!"

As Nangong Ming came to his senses and saw his bag being snatched, his eyes immediately filled with bloodshot, madly lunging at Fang Bai.

"Scram!"

Fang Bai casually launched a "Tiger Roar Thunder Fist," and with that swift and fierce punch, carrying the sound of a tiger's roar and thunder, it struck heavily against Nangong Ming's chest.

Nangong Ming, who believed he could dominate the Secular Ancient Martial World with his early Earth Level strength, had never imagined that when it truly came to a confrontation, he was no match for Fang Bai.

Fang Bai's "Tiger Roar Thunder Fist" was many times more powerful than the "Swallow Dance Breeze Fist" he had taught to Wang Miaomiao. Even though he had not used his full strength with this punch, it still left Nangong Ming with a profound sense of despair as if he was facing the abyssal sea, completely unable to contend.

Fang Bai's fist smashed down, breaking through Nangong Ming's left arm block with overwhelming force, and landed directly on his chest.

Without a body strong enough and a cultivation level nowhere near Fang Bai's, how could Nangong Ming withstand the blow of his "Tiger Roar Thunder Fist"?

Crack—

As the punch landed on the chest, Nangong Ming's tendons snapped and bones fractured, his chest caved in deeply, and his internal organs instantly shattered. His body flew backward like a cannonball out of its chamber.

If Fang Bai hadn't considered being too cruel, that punch could have directly exploded Nangong Ming's body.

While Nangong Ming was still midair, blood furiously spurted from his mouth and nose, and he slammed hard against a mountain wall a few dozen feet away before slowly sliding to the ground.

His life force had already ceased completely, and after landing, his body twitched and contorted a few times, dying with a face full of unwillingness and resentment.

The moment Fang Bai first saw Nangong Ming, he sensed from the martial aura exuding from him that this man had taken many lives and was not a kind soul. From this, he inferred that his affiliated Sect, "Ghost Doctor Valley," was not as upright and honorable as it claimed to be.

In Fang Bai's view, a martial artist should not, if unable to eradicate evil and promote goodness or follow the path of chivalry, bully the weak or kill without cause. Otherwise, they would violate the essence of pursuing the Martial Dao, easily disturbing their state of mind, and perhaps even stray into the Demon Dao.

In his past life, although Fang Bai was the invincible Immortal Emperor and controlled the fates of countless beings, he never bullied the weak or was quick to anger, instead spending his days in the Immortal Realm's nine heavens, cultivating or frolicking with his beautiful consort, living a happy and carefree life.

When dealing with a martial artist like Nangong Ming, Fang Bai never showed mercy, nor did he have a shred of pity in his heart.

"Only five Wood Element Stones... it seems that the so-called Hidden Sects aren't as wealthy as the tales in the Secular Ancient Martial World make them out to be!"

Opening the cloth bag he had snatched from Nangong Ming, Fang Bai saw that it contained no more than five eggs-sized Wood Element Stones and nothing else, feeling somewhat disappointed.

He walked over to Nangong Ming's corpse, crouched down, and searched him. Aside from a few bottles of low-quality elixirs, he unexpectedly found a few stalks of "Spirit Fox Grass."

The elixirs Fang Bai received were of no interest to him; he casually destroyed them and threw them away.

However, the "Spirit Fox Grass" delighted him greatly.

"Spirit Fox Grass" was the main herb for refining Wood Element Pills, and the medicinal age of the few "Spirit Fox Grass" Fang Bai had in hand was several hundred years. They could be used to refine lower-grade "Wood Element Pills" that vastly aided in enhancing Wood Element Qi upon consumption.

In Fang Bai's mind, there were countless secret methods of elixir refining; it was just unfortunate that his current cultivation level was not high enough to refine them. Otherwise, with the help of elixirs, his strength would have increased much faster.

A true Pharmacist not only needed to have the most basic water and wood Spiritual Roots but also had to be able to solidify water and wood True Yuan from formless to tangible and achieve a realm of dexterous control. Only then, using a Furnace Cauldron, could they refine various kinds of elixirs.

Fang Bai's current practice, the "Dragon-Tiger-Lion-Elephant Technique," would allow him to freely release and manipulate True Yuan to refine elixirs once he reached the "Surging Essence Realm."

After putting the five Wood Element Stones and a few "Spirit Fox Grass" into his Spatial Ring, Fang Bai took out a bottle of "Corpse Disintegrating Powder" he had prepared and sprinkled some on Nangong Ming's corpse.

Wisps of light smoke rose up, and in the blink of an eye, Nangong Ming's body, along with his clothes, turned into a puddle of clear water, disappearing from the world.

He casually retrieved his cell phone from the Spatial Ring and saw that Wang Miaomiao had called him. Fang Bai let out a small smile, guessing her purpose, and after thinking for a moment, he dialed Wang Miaomiao back.

"Miaomiao, what's up with you calling me so late?"

Once the call connected, Fang Bai asked cheerfully.

In fact, Fang Bai had covertly observed the entire process of Nangong Ming's attempt to assassinate Wang Miaomiao earlier. Seeing that Wang Miaomiao wasn't in any life-threatening danger, he didn't intervene.

After Nangong Ming was injured and fled, Fang Bai tracked him down and finished him off.

Killing to silence someone is, after all, too dark a deed. Therefore, Fang Bai had no intention of telling the kindhearted Wang Miaomiao about it, considering it a form of protection for her.

"Doctor Fang, there's something I feel I need to tell you..."

Wang Miaomiao's voice was like falling pearls as she briefly recounted how Nangong Ming had ambushed her and how, after being injured by the murderous intent from a jade pendant, he had fled, to Fang Bai.

Fang Bai listened patiently until she finished, then he spoke indifferently, "Tell your Pavilion Master that I'll handle this matter, and 'Doctor Pavilion' shouldn't get involved anymore."

"Alright, I'll let the Pavilion Master know."

Hearing Fang Bai say this, Wang Miaomiao nodded understandingly. Knowing that Fang Bai had many matters to attend to, she dared not disturb him further and respectfully bid him good night before ending the call.

"That Nangong Ming was from the Hidden Sect; I should have inquired about the Hidden Sect World before taking him out!"

After hanging up the phone, Fang Bai suddenly felt regretful and tapped his forehead while murmuring, "I wonder if the so-called Hidden Sect is a world separated by barriers and formations from the secular world... Never mind, since Baili Zhan and his wife are also from the Hidden Sect, if I want to visit it someday, I can ask them to guide me there!"

With a long howl to the sky, Fang Bai's figure, like a wisp of smoke, darted towards Yanjing City.

The incident of Wang Miaomiao being ambushed by Nangong Ming was known to only a few in "Doctor Pavilion," and Wen Yu also issued a "gag order" that very night, forbidding any disciples to discuss or spread the word, as if the event had never happened.

Chapter 423: Invite Him to Join the "Dragon Guard"!

Nangong Ming was killed by Fang Bai, and Sikong Lieyang, the Sect Leader of the Ghost Doctor Sect, had no idea. He still thought that after Nangong Ming got a few Wood Element Stones from him, he had already returned to the Hidden Sect, "Ghost Doctor Valley".

The disciples of the Ghost Doctor Sect left Yanjing under the leadership of Sikong Lieyang that very morning, returning to their stronghold in the Tianshan Mountains.

Before leaving, Lei Bao, the direct disciple of Sikong Lieyang who had a conflict with Fang Bai not long ago, requested his master to step in and teach Fang Bai a lesson, to regain his own face.

As soon as Sikong Lieyang heard the name "Fang Bai", his face turned green with fear. He grabbed Lei Bao by the collar and sternly asked if he had provoked Fang Bai. Hearing that the two had only a minor conflict, he breathed a sigh of relief.

Nangong Ming had warned Sikong Lieyang to stay away from Fang Bai and not to provoke him. At that time, Sikong Lieyang noticed a deep fear in Nangong Ming's eyes when he spoke.

How could a person who even a distinguished Hidden Sect disciple and Earth Level expert feared, be someone the mere Ghost Doctor Sect could afford to provoke?

Although the conflict between Lei Bao and Fang Bai was minor and not enough to provoke Fang Bai into attacking their doorstep, Sikong Lieyang still decided to leave Yanjing immediately to avoid unnecessary trouble.

In Sikong Lieyang's eyes, all powerful individuals are ruthless and decisive in killing. Who knows if Fang Bai would suddenly get an urge to show up and cause trouble? If they left too late, they might not be able to leave at all.

Seeing his master's expression and demeanor, Lei Bao also realized that he had offended someone he should not have and dared not mention anything about regaining face again. He hastily packed his baggage and followed his master back to their stronghold in the Tianshan Mountains, "Ghost Doctor Sect".

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The conflict between Fang Bai and the Wang Family of Yanjing seemed to have subsided on the surface, but some interested parties were still keeping a close eye on Fang Bai after the incident.

That morning, in a secluded mansion in Yanjing City, a man and a woman wearing loose martial arts uniforms were sitting under an ancient banyan tree at a stone table in the courtyard, drinking tea served by a man in black Zhongshan suit, leisurely chatting, with their conversation revolving around Fang Bai.

The man sitting on the left had a rosy complexion and the youthful appearance of a white-haired elder. From his appearance alone, it was difficult to discern his true age.

The woman sitting opposite the elder was in her early twenties, with cherry lips and rosy cheeks, skin white as snow, and a figure that the loose martial arts uniform could not completely conceal, revealing her slender waist and long legs.

This was undoubtedly a stunningly beautiful young woman. What was most remarkable was that in her eyes, there was a mixture of the unique charm of a woman and the bold spirit of a heroine, giving off a distinctive vibe.

The white-haired, youthful-faced elder had an inconspicuous presence; at first glance, he seemed like an ordinary old man. But upon closer inspection, one would notice an air about him as profound and unfathomable as the depths of the sea.

And the spirited young woman, although she was trying her best to contain her aura, couldn't completely hide her strength — she was a Martial Artist at the middle stage of the Profound Level.

In the Secular Ancient Martial World, a Martial Artist at the middle stage of the Profound Level was already considered a first-class expert. Wang Huashan of the Wang Family of Yanjing, the "Sea-Calming Divine Needle", had strength that was only comparable to this young woman.

The white-haired, youthful-faced elder and the young woman called each other grandfather and granddaughter, although they had no blood relation.

The young woman grew up following the elder and learned all her skills from her grandfather. Only later did she find out that she had been taken from an orphanage and raised by her grandfather, a child abandoned by her parents.

"The challenge at the Ten Li Willow Grove, defeating Wang Huashan with one move... at the 'World Conference of Traditional Medicine', giving pointers that ultimately led Wang Miaomiao to win first place in the medical skills competition... This Fang Bai is truly an exceptional talent! Yet, it's strange, why was he unheard of before?"

Putting down his tea cup, the white-haired, youthful-faced elder twiddled his beard and mused.

"Rumors say that Fang Bai once received teachings from a reclusive master as elusive as a Divine Dragon. Grandfather, do you think this is true or false?"

The young woman leaned on the stone table with her hands propping her chin, blinking with curiosity as she asked.

The elderly man with a youthful face nodded and said, "There's potential everywhere in this world; it's not entirely impossible! Otherwise, Fang Bai's sudden emergence and rapid rise would be completely unexplainable."

"Hmm, if I have the chance, I'll go find Fang Bai for a little sparring session to see if he's as formidable as Wang Huashan said."

The young woman rubbed her hands together, an eager look of anticipation on her face.

"Absolutely not!"

The elderly man with a youthful face was startled and said sternly, "You are on par with Wang Huashan in terms of strength; if Fang Bai could defeat Wang Huashan with one move, he could defeat you as well! There are no certainties in a fight, and if you were to get hurt, your grandfather would be heartbroken! Sigh, I'm getting old, and in the future, I'm counting on you to take care of me!"

The young woman chuckled and said, "Grandfather, you're playing the sympathy card again! National Doctor Hua said last time he checked you that you're in great health, and you could live for several more decades without a problem! So, you really don't need to worry about being taken care of right now!"

The elderly man with a youthful face laughed heartily, extended a finger, and playfully tapped the young woman on the forehead, saying, "I'm playing the sympathy card for your own good! You girl, always looking to spar and practice with others. Nowadays in 'Dragon Guard', apart from a few old fellows who are devoted to their quiet meditations, hasn't almost everyone sparred with you?"

"Grandfather, you said that martial artists can become stronger through constant battle! I spar with others because I want to become stronger, so that one day I can be like you—the leader of 'Dragon Guard'!"

The young woman waved her arm excitedly as she spoke with a surge of enthusiasm.

"You're taking words out of context!"

The elderly man with a youthful face rolled his eyes and said irritably, "The continuous advancement and strengthening of a martial artist is influenced by many factors: personal aptitude, cultivation resources, and the understanding of Martial Dao, to name a few... It's unrealistic to think you can level up solely through constant battle!"

"Alright, alright, let's not talk about that! Actually... I'm just really curious and I want to meet Fang Bai to see what kind of freak he is. He's younger than me, yet so much more powerful... Don't worry, Grandpa. I'll just take a look from afar, I won't pick a fight with him!"

The young woman said with a mischievous smile.

After thinking it over, the elderly man with a youthful face nodded and said, "That's fine, I won't object to you meeting him. But, you must complete a mission for me!"

"A mission? What mission?"

The young woman's eyes lit up.

"Try your best to persuade Fang Bai to join 'Dragon Guard'!"

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Lately, Fang Bai had noticed that a pair of eyes seemed to be watching him from the shadows on his way to and from his job at Yanjing Hospital.

Through his Divine Sense Diffusion, Fang Bai found out that not only was he being watched by a young woman, but she was also a middle-ranked Profound Level Martial Artist.

Fang Bai now had many friends, but he also had quite a few adversaries, so he always remained vigilant.

However, the woman watching Fang Bai didn't seem to bear any ill intent, so Fang Bai didn't bother with her. Otherwise, he would have already brought her out into the open for a clear explanation.

#### Chapter 424: Dragon Maiden

As the number of patients treated by Fang Bai increased, the reputation of the acupuncture and massage clinic in Yanjing Hospital had spread, and more and more patients came for treatment. Every day, the number of patients registering for medical consultation almost filled the corridor outside the clinic.

The acupuncture and massage clinic at Yanjing Hospital had long ceased to be a deserted government office with scant patients and had become the most sought-after department in the hospital.

In the past, interns and doctors were unwilling to practice or work in the acupuncture and massage clinic, but now, they were using connections and going out of their way to gain entry.

The reason was nothing other than the presence of Fang Bai, the Divine Doctor.

It was said that as long as one could study under Divine Doctor Fang for a period or was fortunate enough to receive his guidance, medical skills would inevitably improve.

Take Wu Tian, an intern with a good relationship with Fang Bai, for instance, he was once the least noticeable person in the clinic, but now, Wu Tian had already gained the reputation of "Divine Doctor Wu," becoming the second most popular figure in the clinic after Fang Bai.

A few days ago, an elderly patient treated by Wu Tian had even brought a silk banner to express gratitude to "Divine Doctor Wu" for the Miraculous Rejuvenation, curing his chronic condition of many years.

Wu Tian was a smart man and knew where his honor came from. Therefore, in front of Fang Bai, he always maintained the courtesy of a disciple, calling him "Teacher Fang" at all times, even though Fang Bai had told him to just call him "Doctor Fang." He was not willing to change his address.

In the current acupuncture and massage clinic, whether clinic heads or interns, everyone looked to Fang Bai for leadership and no one dared to offend this popular Divine Doctor, whose name resounded throughout Yanjing City.

As more patients came to the clinic and Fang Bai personally attended to them less and less, he preferred to teach some of his medical techniques to doctors and interns with good medical ethics and character, like Wu Tian, allowing them to stand on their own.

One morning, not long after arriving at work, Fang Bai was performing acupuncture for an old comrade introduced by Old Master Lu, Lu Shengguo, when he suddenly felt a sensation and lifted his eyes to look outside the clinic. He saw a young woman in a yellow casual shirt standing at the end of the long queue, gazing intently at him through the glass wall, her eyes filled with curiosity.

The woman in the yellow shirt had her hair in a short ponytail, was about 1.7 meters tall with a slender, graceful figure, delicate lips, a beautiful complexion, and a pair of brows carrying a rare valiance uncommon among women.

Fang Bai's gaze swept over the woman in the yellow shirt, his lips slightly curving, thinking to himself that she appeared spirited and healthy, plainly not ill, yet pretending to be a patient to queue up for treatment—he wondered what she was up to.

The woman in the yellow shirt was none other than the person who had been secretly trailing Fang Bai these past few days.

What made Fang Bai curious was that despite having no ill intentions, this woman had been trailing him for so long—what could her purpose be?

Fang Bai decided to remain nonchalant and to observe quietly.

"Elder Zhou, you won't need to come anymore from tomorrow. I'll prescribe you a herbal medicine, and if you take it for a consecutive week, I guarantee that your chronic back pain won't bother you again!"

A moment later, having retracted the silver needles, Fang Bai smiled and spoke to the elderly patient surnamed Zhou he had been treating.

Elder Zhou got up, walked around a dozen steps, and joy lit up his eyebrows. He grabbed Fang Bai's hands, thanked him repeatedly, and warmly invited Fang Bai to come and share a drink with him when he was free.

This Elder Zhou and Old Master Lu, Lu Shengguo, from the Lu Family of Yanjing, were close comrades. Although he had also retired, his students and acquaintances were everywhere, and his family's influence was no less than that of Yanjing's Wang Family.

Ever since Fang Bai's reputation soared at Yanjing Hospital, the Lu Family of Yanjing, the Jiang Family, and the Dongfang Family, with good relations to him, would occasionally refer some friends to Fang Bai for treatment.

Even the Ye Family from Lingnan and the Tang Family from Anxi would recommend their kin and friends with difficult and miscellaneous diseases to come to Fang Bai in Yanjing.

These prominent clans had tremendous influence in various fields within Huaxia; the friends they referred were naturally among the powerful and famous elite. After Fang Bai cured their ailments, they were in awe of his medical skills. Some of those who got along with Fang Bai even became his confidants.

If anyone dared to offend Fang Bai now, then a third of Huaxia's influential families would likely stand up to support Fang Bai.

After seeing Elder Zhou off, Fang Bai temporarily returned to his office to drink tea and read the newspaper. As for the woman in the yellow shirt, he had cast her to the back of his mind.

Half an hour later, the intern Wu Tian suddenly came running in, his face embarrassed as he said to Fang Bai, "Teacher Fang, there is a patient who is really troublesome, refusing to let other doctors take a look. She insists on having you go over..."

"Oh?"

Fang Bai's heart skipped a beat and he asked, "Is it a woman wearing a yellow dress and quite pretty?"

Wu Tian nodded, "Yes! How come, Teacher Fang, do you know her?"

Fang Bai shook his head, stood up, and said, "Let's go and have a look!"

When they arrived outside in the acupuncture and tuina hall, they saw the woman in the yellow dress sitting on the edge of a massage bed, with her arms crossed and her chin held high, displaying an air of arrogance.

A few doctors with awkward expressions were surrounding the woman in the yellow dress, smiling and trying to explain something to her.

"Doctor Fang is here!"

Seeing Fang Bai come out following Wu Tian, those doctors looked as if they had seen a savior, and they all stepped aside to make way.

The woman in the yellow dress turned her head, saw Fang Bai in his white coat, and then slowly stood up. She looked Fang Bai up and down with her beautiful eyes and asked, "Are you Doctor Fang?"

Fang Bai responded with a smile, "The real deal!"

The woman in the yellow dress confidently extended her hand to Fang Bai and smiled, "My surname is Long, you can call me Dragon Maiden."

"Miss Long isn't here to seek medical advice, is she?"

Fang Bai shook hands with Dragon Maiden and noticed her fingers were slender and as white as jade, the warmth and smoothness of her palm against his felt like a piece of exquisite jade, and he couldn't help but inwardly praise her.

Most female martial artists, unless they practice special cultivation techniques or martial skills, tend to have somewhat rough palms. However, this Dragon Maiden's hands were delicate and smooth as jade—it had to be said, she was truly born with a natural beauty.

"How does Doctor Fang know that I'm not here to see you about an illness?"

Dragon Maiden withdrew her hand, blinked her eyes, and asked with a smile.

Fang Bai said, "Miss Long looks to be in perfect health, I don't see any illness."

Dragon Maiden's eyes shifted as she giggled and said, "That's not right, I do have an illness! I... I have a heart sickness!"

Fang Bai sighed, "I'm sorry Miss Long, but I'm very busy and don't have time to joke around. If there's nothing else, I'll go take a break..."

Dragon Maiden stomped her foot, "I really do have a heart sickness! Divine Doctor Fang, I'm your patient and I've already paid the consultation fee. Doctors are supposed to be benevolent; please take a look at it!"

Fang Bai said, "Heart sickness also needs the right medicine for the heart. I'm not acquainted with Miss Long, so I am unable to treat this condition."

"You are the medicine for my heart!"

Dragon Maiden blurted out. She had a straightforward and frank personality, and when she said this, she did not consider how flirtatious it might sound.

#### Chapter 425: The Enigmatic Man

Doctors and patients around them looked at the Dragon Maiden with odd expressions before turning their gaze to Fang Bai, their minds running wild with guesses about the relationship between this beautiful woman and the Divine Doctor Fang.

Wu Tian secretly complained, as earlier the Dragon Maiden had insisted that Fang Bai come out to see a patient. Fearing it might disturb Fang Bai's rest, he had argued with the Dragon Maiden for a few moments before finally bringing Fang Bai out. Now he was unsure whether his behavior might have offended this beautiful woman, who seemed to share a close relationship with Teacher Fang.

What if she were the spiteful type and, because of this, held a grudge against him, later whispering in Teacher Fang's ear? Then wouldn't he be in big trouble?

Everything Wu Tian had now could be said to have been given by Fang Bai, who with just a single word, could completely revert him back to his original state.

The more Wu Tian thought about it, the more frightened he became, and his eyes filled with a pleading look as he gazed at the Dragon Maiden.

"My grandfather asked me to find you, Divine Doctor Fang, to handle some matters. If I can't achieve this, it'll be difficult to explain when I return... this is my 'heart disease'! But if Divine Doctor Fang you agree, then my 'heart disease' will be cured!"

The Dragon Maiden then continued.

"Who's your grandfather?"

Fang Bai asked with a frown.

Recently, Fang Bai had become acquainted with several influential figures from the older generation of prominent clans. He wondered if the Dragon Maiden's grandfather might be the granddaughter of one of those great figures he had met.

Although that was what he thought, Fang Bai searched his memory and couldn't seem to recall anyone with the surname Long among the people he knew.

"Long Jingtian!"

The Dragon Maiden enunciated each syllable of the name, her pretty face filled with pride!

"Long Jingtian? Don't know him!"

Fang Bai shook his head and said.

"You..."

The Dragon Maiden's eyebrows shot up in anger, and her almond-shaped eyes widened, seemingly displeased by Fang Bai's ignorance of her grandfather's renowned name.

However, after giving it some thought, the Dragon Maiden let it go.

Her grandfather was a detached and reclusive Master who was also the famous leader of the Huaxia "Dragon Guard," low-key and mysterious. In the entire Huaxia Ancient Martial World, there likely weren't many who had heard of her grandfather's fame, not to mention Fang Bai, a young guy who hadn't been out and about for many years.

"This isn't the place to talk; let's go to my office."

Seeing that the doctors and interns in the acupuncture and massage room had stopped their work and were looking their way, and that there was a large queue of patients waiting outside, Fang Bai led the Dragon Maiden to his own office next door in order not to disrupt their normal work.

"Speak directly, I am really busy!"

Once inside the office, Fang Bai turned around to look at the Dragon Maiden and asked indifferently.

As he spoke, his Divine Sense swept over the Dragon Maiden, and his heart stirred slightly.

This mysterious woman with an unknown background was not only naturally beautiful, but also an exceptional cultivation genius. Her innate aptitude was so high that it was even stronger than those friends, dear ones, and beauties whom he had previously taught cultivation techniques and martial skills.

Although Fang Bai valued talent, he didn't have the inclination to forcibly take away talents to make them his disciples. Unless someone was well-understood and of good character, even if they were a prodigy, he wouldn't impart cultivation techniques or martial skills, so as not to bring calamity upon the world.

"Not even pouring a cup of tea, is this your way of treating guests? Forget it, I'll do it myself..."

The Dragon Maiden turned to close the door, poured herself a cup of tea, then sat elegantly on the sofa, lightly sipping from the cup with graceful poise.

Fang Bai stood with his arms crossed, quietly observing the soft yet spirited woman before him, filled with admiration.

This woman possessed superior innate genetics as well as acquired nurturing, which had endowed her with a transcendental and extraordinary temperament. Even the act of drinking tea seemed to carry a unique charm when she did it.

Even Fang Bai, who had experienced tens of thousands of years in his previous life and seen countless beauties, had to admit that this woman held a significant allure for men.

But Fang Bai also knew that such a woman usually had high standards, and an ordinary man simply couldn't tame her.

"Alright, I won't beat around the bush anymore... Divine Doctor Fang is a person of the Martial Dao, I wonder if you've heard of 'Dragon Guard'?"

The Dragon Maiden asked with a smile as she faced Fang Bai's gaze.

While Fang Bai was silently assessing her, wasn't she also sizing him up?

In terms of looks, Fang Bai might not be the most outstanding man the Dragon Maiden had seen, but the indescribable aura about him made him appear different from any other man in the world.

When Fang Bai smiled, the Dragon Maiden thought he was like a warm and likable boy-next-door.

But when Fang Bai was serious, she would feel an emperor's overwhelming power emanating from him, compelling her to become involuntarily tense.

Especially those eyes of his, brilliant as the stars, seemed to hold endless secrets. If one were to lock gaze with him for too long, it could even create a sensation of being trapped and unable to extricate oneself.

In short, Fang Bai gave the Dragon Maiden the impression—he was a man shrouded in mystery.

This man, when calm, was like a still well, approachable by anyone.

But when he got angry, he would surely be like surging waves crashing onto the shore, a volcanic eruption, swallowing and flooding everything around him.

"Is he really just a twenty-year-old young man? But why do I see in his eyes a sense of ancient and vicissitudinous depth that seems to stem from tens of thousands of years of experience? Such a strange feeling," the Dragon Maiden thought to herself.

Far from being frightened by the enigmatic Fang Bai, the Dragon Maiden found herself increasingly intrigued.

The Dragon Maiden was a stubborn person; the less she understood, the more she wanted to get closer and figure things out clearly.

"Dragon Guard?"

When Fang Bai heard the Dragon Maiden mention "Dragon Guard," his heart stirred again.

Before and after his conflict with the Wang Family in Yanjing, he had heard some mention of "Dragon Guard," aware that it was a mysterious organization, and Wang Huashan seemed to be one of its members—and not of low rank.

After Fang Bai had defeated Wang Huashan, some of his friends worried that the "Dragon Guard" would take revenge for Wang Huashan. Yet, the "Dragon Guard" showed no reaction.

From this matter, Fang Bai could tell that the "Dragon Guard" was not an organization that failed to distinguish right from wrong or good from evil.

"It seems Divine Doctor Fang does know about 'Dragon Guard'!"

The Dragon Maiden's beautiful eyes clung to Fang Bai's face, not missing a single expression.

From Fang Bai's facial expressions, the Dragon Maiden could tell that he definitely knew about "Dragon Guard," or at least it wasn't the first time he had heard of it.

Mmm, I've heard people mention 'Dragon Guard' before, but I'm not quite clear on what it actually does... Heh, Miss Long shares the surname Dragon, could it be that there's some connection with 'Dragon Guard'?"

Fang Bai asked with a chuckle.

The Dragon Maiden giggled, "Divine Doctor Fang has guessed correctly. My surname Long indeed comes from 'Dragon Guard'. My grandfather was the same. Both my grandfather and I were orphans, raised in 'Dragon Guard', prepared to fight for 'Dragon Guard' all our lives!"

Fang Bai asked with an indifferent expression, "Miss Long, why do you suddenly bring up 'Dragon Guard'? What does that have to do with me?"

Chapter 426: Like a Shadow

"My grandfather heard that Divine Doctor Fang is a prodigy with dual cultivation in medicine and martial arts and holds him in high esteem. He would like to invite Divine Doctor Fang to join the 'Dragon Guard' to fight for the fair and just cause of Huaxia!"

The Dragon Maiden put away the smile on her face and spoke earnestly and solemnly.

"I'm sorry, I'm not interested!"

Fang Bai shook his head without any hesitation.

His everyday work, life, an added cultivation, it filled his schedule to the brim, making his life quite fulfilling. He had no interest whatsoever in joining any organization or contributing any voluntary service.

"I know this invitation is a bit abrupt, and I don't expect Divine Doctor Fang to accept it right away. But could I persuade you to let me say a few more words?"

Seeing Fang Bai firmly refuse the invitation issued by her grandfather didn't dishearten the Dragon Maiden.

In fact, when the 'Dragon Guard' was first founded, they faced repeated rejections when inviting revered elders from the Ancient Martial World to join. In the end, it was the higher-ups of the 'Dragon Guard' who persuaded them with emotion and reason, and with sincere hearts, they touched those

people, allowing the 'Dragon Guard' to grow rapidly and become a critical and secret force for Huaxia's stability.

Fang Bai was a master of dual cultivation in medicine and martial arts, and at a young age full of vigor, a bit of pride was only to be expected. The Dragon Maiden hadn't planned on convincing him in their first encounter and was mentally prepared for a prolonged effort.

"Go ahead," said Fang Bai.

He glanced at the wall clock and continued, "But I'll give you only ten more minutes. As you can see, patients are waiting outside, and I need to go out and help soon."

"Thank you, Divine Doctor Fang," she responded.

Seeing that Fang Bai didn't outright refuse to converse with a look of impatience, the Dragon Maiden felt a surge of happiness.

"Decades ago, a master from the Hidden Sect, out of conflict with a martial artist from the Secular Ancient Martial World, in a fit of rage, slaughtered dozens of people, young and old, from that martial artist's sect, and also harmed many innocent civilians to vent his anger... That incident shook the whole of Huaxia and had a detrimental effect..."

As the Dragon Maiden spoke, she observed Fang Bai. Seeing that he was listening intently without any intention of interrupting her, she felt more confident that she could persuade him.

"After that incident, the then Prime Minister along with some senior individuals from the Secular Ancient Martial World who harbored chivalrous hearts, decided to establish a secret organization composed of Ancient Martial experts to counter the threat from the Hidden Sect and defend Huaxia's peace. Thus, the 'Dragon Guard' came into existence..."

It was undeniable that the Dragon Maiden was eloquent, and her voice was captivating. Listening to her was a double pleasure for both the eyes and the mind, and it never felt boring or tedious.

"Ten minutes are up."

The Dragon Maiden was reaching a passionate point in her speech when Fang Bai suddenly pointed at the wall clock and said with a smile, "I'm sorry, but I need to start working now."

"Divine Doctor Fang, as far as I know, as a doctor, you possess a benevolent heart; and as a martial artist, you have the heart of a chivalrous warrior. 'Dragon Guard' needs people like you. Don't you want to contribute to Huaxia's enduring peace and well-being, to the peaceful lives of its citizens? Divine Doctor Fang, with your presence, 'Dragon Guard' would be greatly empowered..."

Seeing no sign from Fang Bai that he meant to join the 'Dragon Guard,' the Dragon Maiden was not ready to give up. She had encountered many such situations before and had succeeded only after much persistent coaxing.

Seeing the Dragon Maiden's relentless demeanor, as if she wouldn't give up until she had convinced him, Fang Bai smiled wryly and said, "Miss Dragon, there's no need to keep persuading me. Just look, I'm already very busy, where would I find the desire to get involved in other matters? Alright, I need to get back to work. Please leave."

With that, he picked up the white coat he had taken off earlier, put it on, and walked into the acupuncture and massage hall outside, starting acupuncture treatment for a patient, no longer paying attention to the Dragon Maiden.

"I can't get angry... I can't get angry... Sincerity can move even metal and stone... Sincerity can move even metal and stone... I refuse to believe I can't persuade this guy!"

As the Dragon Maiden saw Fang Bai treating her as if she were thin air, ignoring her completely, her eyebrows slightly furrowed, her pearly teeth lightly nibbling on her lower lip, continuously comforting herself inwardly.

She had wanted to go over and continue to pester Fang Bai, but she was also worried it would annoy him and leave no room for resolution. After thinking it over, she walked to a spot that wouldn't interfere with the doctors' work and stood there, her beautiful eyes unblinkingly fixed on Fang Bai.

She decided that from now on, wherever Fang Bai went, she would follow him, persistently, until he agreed to join the "Dragon Guard."

Wu Tian was still unclear about the relationship between Fang Bai and the Dragon Maiden. Seeing the Dragon Maiden standing, he hurriedly brought a stool for her to sit on and even offered her a cup of tea to curry favor.

By the time evening arrived and it was time to leave work, the doctors and patients had left one after another, and soon only Fang Bai and the Dragon Maiden were left in the acupuncture and massage room.

Fang Bai seemed to have completely ignored the Dragon Maiden's presence. After returning to his office, he removed his white coat, put on his jacket, and prepared to close the door and leave.

"Hey, hey, hey..."

The Dragon Maiden, seeing Fang Bai about to close the door and leave, hurriedly stood up and walked quickly to the corridor outside, turning her head back and said discontentedly, "Didn't you see I'm still inside? Are you trying to lock me in for the night?"

Fang Bai just smiled, without a word, casually closed the room, and leisurely walked outside.

As he walked, the Dragon Maiden followed, matching his steps, like a shadow.

At Yanjing Hospital, Fang Bai was now the top character of interest, even his reputation overshadowing that of the hospital's number one beauty Su Linglong. It could be said that from the hospital director to the cleaning staff, there wasn't a single person who didn't recognize him.

On the way from the acupuncture and massage room to the parking lot, every doctor and nurse they encountered took the initiative to greet Fang Bai, respectfully calling him "Doctor Fang."

Because of Su Linglong, Fang Bai had a good relationship with a group of female nurses from the hospital's nursing department. The few female nurses he met on the road all respectfully addressed him

as "Brother Fang," and there were even some who believed they were quite attractive thrown winks at Fang Bai.

However, as soon as they saw the Dragon Maiden following behind Fang Bai, those nurses who had been throwing amorous glances instantly withdrew their gazes and walked away feeling inferior, thinking to themselves that it's a pity to be young and not romantic. Brother Fang has found a new love so quickly, and this woman is not the slightest bit inferior to Su Linglong!

Fang Bai had originally planned to drive home, but hesitated when he reached the parking lot and decided to walk instead.

The two of them, one in front of the other, silently advanced along the pedestrian path, passing through bustling streets, and soon the daylight began to fade, with the street lamps lighting up one after another.

"I'm getting a bit hungry... Divine Doctor Fang, let me treat you to dinner!"

The Dragon Maiden suddenly quickened her pace, walking shoulder to shoulder with Fang Bai.

Fang Bai laughed and said, "Taking things from others makes one soft-hearted, and eating from their hand makes one soft-tongued. If I ate the meal you treat me to, it would be awkward to not agree to any requests you might have afterward. So... I appreciate your kindness, but I'd rather go home to eat!"

The Dragon Maiden was so exasperated by Fang Bai that she couldn't help but laugh, speaking irritably, "It's just a simple meal, aren't you overthinking it?"

The Dragon Maiden inviting a man to dinner was a groundbreaking first for her, and to think that she would be turned down was a significant blow to her confidence, which had always been high.

Chapter 427: The Monk May Escape, but the Temple Can't.

The two continued on their way, and when they reached a crossroads ahead, the Dragon Maiden was about to say something more when she suddenly noticed hundreds of people standing densely packed under a building on the north side of the road, each one looking up at something.

Following the gaze of the onlookers, the Dragon Maiden looked up and saw the faint outline of a person standing on the edge of the rooftop of the ten-plus-story building.

As a Martial Artist, the Dragon Maiden's vision was much stronger than that of ordinary people. She looked intently and could make out that the figure was a young woman.

"This is bad, someone is going to jump off the building!"

The Dragon Maiden's expression changed slightly, and without waiting to speak with Fang Bai, her form blurred as she dashed forward at high speed.

Fang Bai looked up, his brow slightly furrowed, and he too quickened his pace until he arrived at the base of the building, becoming one of the onlookers.

After receiving the message that a person was preparing to jump off the building, personnel from the nearby police, fire department, hospital, and other relevant units began to arrive at the scene. Some were spreading out air cushions below, others took the elevator to the rooftop, and some were persuading the crowd to stay away from the scene...

When the Dragon Maiden arrived at the base of the building, a police officer stopped her outside the cordon that had been set up. Only after she showed the credentials she carried with her was she allowed to approach and observe from a closer distance.

Standing at the base of the building, the Dragon Maiden silently calculated the possible location where the person might fall and couldn't help but worry.

The building was over ten stories tall, and if the person jumped, the force of the fall would be very strong. Although the Dragon Maiden was powerful, catching the jumper safely was not an easy task. A single mistake could lead to the death of the person attempting suicide.

So, after a brief moment of contemplation, the Dragon Maiden decided to go up to the rooftop, thinking that with her speed of movement, she might be able to stop the woman before she jumped.

"She jumped! She jumped!"

Just as this thought crossed the Dragon Maiden's mind, she heard someone cry out in alarm.

The Dragon Maiden's heart skipped a beat, and as she looked up, she saw the woman on the rooftop leap outward, turning into a black dot as she plummeted down.

If the person fell onto the air cushion on the ground, the situation would be somewhat better, but what made the Dragon Maiden's heart clench was that, according to her observation, there was at least a ten-meter discrepancy between where the air cushion was placed and where the person was likely to fall.

In other words, it was very possible that the person would fall from the top of the ten-plus-story building straight to the ground.

The speed of the person falling was so fast that there was no time to move the air cushion.

But if she were allowed to just fall, the result would undoubtedly be immediate death.

"Never mind, I'll go for it!"

The Dragon Maiden gritted her teeth, circulated her Cultivation Technique, and drove her True Yuan, preparing to leap up vigorously to try to support the person in mid-air, to take off some of the force of the fall, and then push her onto the air cushion with all her might.

Although this method would result in unavoidable injuries, there was hope that the injuries could be minimized, maybe even saving her life.

Just as the Dragon Maiden was about to make her move, suddenly a figure, like the Nine Heavens Soaring Dragon, burst from the crowd with a swooshing sound like the roar of a dragon, and caught the falling body of the person in mid-air, about ten meters high.

The impact of the person's descent was immense, and amidst the gasps and screams of the crowd below, the figure, along with the jumper, continued to fall, but the speed was noticeably slower.

When they were about five or six meters from the ground, the figure suddenly pushed forward with both arms, and the jumper's body described an arc through the air, landing on the air cushion ten meters away.

The personnel from the relevant departments who had been waiting near the air cushion immediately rushed in, scrambling to rescue the would-be suicide.

Surprisingly, the person had only sustained some minor scrapes and was not seriously injured.

At this moment, few people paid attention to the person who had attempted suicide; instead, most eyes were turned toward the figure who had saved them.

The figure appeared out of nowhere, arriving like an immortal descending from the heavens, using unimaginable abilities to save the suicidal person. It was an act that greatly astonished everyone, and all wanted to see what this person with extraordinary abilities looked like.

After performing the astonishing feat, the figure did not land on the ground as the crowd had expected. Instead, while still in the air, he let out a long howl and took steps through the void. In the blink of an eye, and under the stunned gaze of hundreds of onlookers, he vanished into the vast night.

"Did you see clearly what that was all about? Who was that person?"

"Too fast, just saw a shadow!"

"Could it be one of those legendary Ancient Martial Artists?"

"Even Ancient Martial Artists aren't that amazing, right?"

"Ah, I forgot to record it with my phone just now..."

"Hahaha... I got it on video!"

"Tomorrow's news is definitely going to make the headlines!"

...

As they watch the figure disappear into the sky, a wave of regretful sighs fills the air. Some people stayed where they were, discussing fervently, while others, not willing to give up, chased in the direction where the figure had disappeared.

"That had to be him who saved the person! Such superb skills! Out of the hundreds of Martial Artists in the four squads of 'Dragon Guard', only a few could have easily saved the suicidal person like he did, right?"

Dragon Maiden looked left and right, not seeing Fang Bai's figure. She glanced in the direction where the figure had disappeared, her eyes shone with a peculiar light, knowing for sure it was Fang Bai who had saved the person and left immediately afterward, definitely not wanting to reveal his identity.

"Hmph, you can run from the monk, but not from the temple! Tomorrow, I'll go to the hospital and pester you. If I don't get you to join 'Dragon Guard', I won't give up!" exclaimed the Dragon Maiden, clenching her fist with determination in her demeanor.

In the time that followed, Yanjing Hospital's acupuncture and tuina therapy room had an unusual new presence.

Whenever Fang Bai was at work, she appeared on schedule; when Fang Bai finished work, she left with him; if Fang Bai dropped by another department to visit, she kept a close watch; even if Fang Bai went to the restroom, she waited outside... It could be said that wherever Fang Bai was, her figure was there too.

If it was any other man under the constant watch of such a beautiful and elegant woman, he might have been overjoyed to death, but Fang Bai couldn't wait to shake off this "clingy gum."

Soon, the medical staff at Yanjing Hospital began to talk about the matter, uncertain of the relationship between Fang Bai and that woman and daring not to ask him.

If people assumed that the woman was Fang Bai's newfound love, then Fang Bai's indifferent attitude towards her, not even sparing her a second glance, made no sense.

If that weren't the case, the woman's daily surveillance of Fang Bai, with no sign of disgust from him, allowing her to follow him unimpeded, seemed equally perplexing.

Su Linglong, who was also interning at the same hospital, could not be kept in the dark about such a thing.

Curious after hearing about the situation, Su Linglong made a point of visiting Fang Bai's office one afternoon after work and, as expected, saw a young and beautiful woman sitting on the sofa opposite Fang Bai's desk, doing nothing but resting her chin on her hands and gazing unwaveringly at Fang Bai.

Meanwhile, Fang Bai was drinking tea and reading the newspaper, treating the woman as if she didn't exist at all.

Chapter 428: I am not a savior!

Su Linglong knew that there were many outstanding women around Fang Bai, and although she had decided to openly compete with the other women, she still felt a bit nervous and slightly resentful when she saw a new, equally outstanding woman appear by Fang Bai's side.

However, Su Linglong soon realized that she was overthinking it.

Although Fang Bai and the woman were sitting in the same office, there was absolutely no communication between them, nor any secret glances or exchange of ambiguous signals, as if two strangers were sitting together.

"Linglong, you're here?"

When he saw Su Linglong come in, Fang Bai put down the tea and newspaper in his hands, glanced at the Dragon Maiden on the sofa, and said with a touch of annoyance, "Miss Long, I have something to discuss with my friend. Could you please excuse us for a moment?"

The Dragon Maiden paid no attention to Fang Bai; she looked at Su Linglong and then stood up, smiling as she extended her hand to Su Linglong, saying, "You must be Su Linglong, right? My name is Dragon Maiden, and I'm an old acquaintance of Su Fu, the butler of the Su Family."

"Ah, you really know Butler Su?"

Su Linglong said with a look of surprise.

Su Fu was the Su Family's old butler, possessing the strength of a Yellow Level Martial Artist, and was also the master of Su Yifei.

After Su Linglong started her internship at Yanjing Hospital, Su Fu was also assigned to a villa in Yanjing that belonged to the Su Family, where he, along with several Profound Level Martial Artists employed by the Su Family, collectively protected Su Linglong.

"Hehe, go back and mention my name to Su Fu; he will definitely know who I am," said the Dragon Maiden with a grin.

Su Fu was the old butler of the Su Family, but at the same time, he was also a member of the "Dragon Guard" Yellow Team; it's just that this identity was not convenient to mention here.

Between beauties, there are those who repel each other, and those who attract each other.

The relation between Su Linglong and the Dragon Maiden was the latter.

When the two women met, they did not spark any conflict, but rather, they had a good impression of each other.

Their conversation began with Su Fu and quickly moved on to the Su Family.

What Su Linglong did not expect was that the Dragon Maiden seemed to know a great deal about many affairs and members of the Su Family, as if she were listing her family treasures.

Of course, Su Linglong would not know that as a crucial force maintaining the stability of Huaxia, the "Dragon Guard" maintained intricate connections with the Huaxia government and could easily obtain detailed information on nearly all the prominent clans in Huaxia.

As a direct descendant of the Su Family, the number one prominent clan in Zhongzhou, Su Linglong was naturally one of the individuals of interest to the "Dragon Guard."

Therefore, it was not surprising that the Dragon Maiden knew so much about the Su Family.

In the blink of an eye, the two women's topic of conversation had shifted from the Su Family to beauty and skincare, and they enthusiastically started chatting about it.

"Sister Long came to see Fang Bai, is there something you need?"

When one topic came to a temporary halt, Su Linglong asked curiously.

"Yes, there is something very important!"

The Dragon Maiden put away her smile and said in all seriousness, "This matter relates to Huaxia's future stability, development, and long-lasting peace..."

Su Linglong, seeing the Dragon Maiden speaking so seriously, was startled and asked, "What's happening? Is there some significant event about to occur?"

Fang Bai, somewhat annoyed yet amused, said to the side, "Linglong, don't let her exaggerate the danger!"

"When have I ever exaggerated? What I'm saying is the truth!" the Dragon Maiden retorted earnestly.

She continued with conviction, "With your abilities, if you were to join the Dragon Guard, how many people in need could you help? How many lives could you save? Isn't this closely linked to the stability of Huaxia?"

"It sounds as though the Earth can't spin without me... I'm certainly not a savior!"

Fang Bai said, shrugging his shoulders.

"A physician has a compassionate heart, and a martial artist has the heart of a knight-errant. The greatest act of chivalry is to serve the country and its people. As a master who practices both medicine and martial arts, Divine Doctor Fang should unequivocally stand up to uphold fairness and justice!"

"In my opinion, martial artists should focus on pursuing the Martial Dao and should not interfere too much in mundane affairs. Otherwise, it only leads to greater unrest and chaos. Besides, I am a very selfish person – matters that don't concern me, I am too lazy to bother with!"

"Really? Then who was the one who stepped forward to save a person attempting to leap from a building? Who was the one who, upon seeing an elderly person fall, rushed to help them up? Who was the one who took a little girl, who had lost her parents, to the police station? There are many such incidents, but I won't list them all. I don't believe a selfish person would do these good deeds!"

"Those were just coincidences that I stumbled upon and dealt with as they came. Besides, such trivial matters can hardly bear any relevance to serving the country and upholding justice and fairness, wouldn't you agree?"

During these days, aside from sleeping at night, the Dragon Maiden had been following Fang Bai almost constantly and had witnessed many of his deeds herself.

"It's the small day-to-day deeds that best reveal a person's character and nature. If Divine Doctor Fang pays attention to the fate of common people, then I believe he would not stand idly by when it comes to matters crucial for Huaxia's stability, right?"

The Dragon Maiden was articulate and persuasive, but Fang Bai did not wish to argue with her. He simply stayed silent, assuming the unshakable demeanor of "let the storm rage on—I stand firm."

Having listened for a while, Su Linglong finally understood what was going on between the Dragon Maiden and Fang Bai. She found it amusing to see one insisting on a yes to stay, and the other adopting an indifferent attitude.

Although Su Linglong thought it would be good for Fang Bai to join the Dragon Guard, she knew he was a person of strong convictions. If he did not wish to do something, no one could persuade him.

In the evening, upon returning to the villa they were staying at, Su Linglong asked the old butler Su Fu about the Dragon Guard. Su Fu was amazed to hear that the Dragon Maiden herself had personally sought out Fang Bai, even resorting to persistence and strong persuasion.

After all, the Dragon Maiden was the granddaughter of Dragon Guard's leader, Long Jingtian; she only personally stepped in to invite influential elders and masters from the Ancient Martial World under Long Jingtian's direction.

Su Fu knew Fang Bai was powerful, but he hadn't expected him to be esteemed to the extent that warranted the Dragon Maiden's personal invitation. This surely indicated Fang Bai held an incredibly important place in the heart of Dragon Guard's leader, Long Jingtian.

That night, Su Linglong learned much about the Dragon Guard from Su Fu, gaining a deeper understanding of this organization primarily composed of Huaxia's Ancient Martial World martial artists.

Undoubtedly an intelligent woman, the Dragon Maiden, seeing that she couldn't persuade Fang Bai, and knowing the close relationship between Su Linglong and Fang Bai, stopped pestering him. She instead adopted a "roundabout rescue strategy," aiming to build a good relationship with Su Linglong.

Although Su Linglong was naive at heart, she understood the Dragon Maiden's purpose. Since the Dragon Maiden was a member of the Dragon Guard and Su Linglong had a favorable impression of the Dragon Guard, she didn't mind becoming friends with the Dragon Maiden. However, she made it clear that she was powerless regarding Fang Bai's decision; if the Dragon Maiden wanted to sway Fang Bai, she would have to do it herself.

## Chapter 429: Members of the Dragon Guard Earth Group

Despite this, as their interaction increased, the two women's understanding of each other deepened, and they eventually became best friends with whom they could talk about anything.

"Fang Bai, you seem to have some aversion to 'Dragon Guard!' Actually, the 'Dragon Guard' does things that benefit the country and the people. I think joining them isn't bad,"

Although Su Linglong always maintained neutrality between Fang Bai and Dragon Maiden, taking neither side, she could not help but casually bring it up during a private chat with Fang Bai.

"That Dragon Maiden is quite something, huh! She's managed to turn you against me so quickly."

Fang Bai teased Su Linglong with a smile.

Su Linglong's pretty face turned red as she said in a low voice, "I... I was just saying... no other meaning... Fang Bai, you don't have to listen to me... really!"

"Since you've mentioned it, I have to give you some face..."

Fang Bai thought for a moment and said, "Well, next time you see Dragon Maiden, tell her I won't join 'Dragon Guard,' but if they encounter problems they can't solve in the future, they can come to me. If I can help, I won't stand idly by!"

'Dragon Guard' generally followed the principle of voluntary membership for its internal members and didn't have any special constraints or rules, so what Fang Bai said was basically equivalent to joining 'Dragon Guard.'

Therefore, when Dragon Maiden heard this news, she was overjoyed. She reported back to Long Jingtian, the leader of 'Dragon Guard,' as soon as possible, and then processed a special 'Dragon Guard' ID for Fang Bai, delivering it to him personally.

A 'Dragon Guard' member's ID was endowed with certain privileges. With this ID in hand, travel throughout Huaxia would be much more convenient in the future.

'Dragon Guard' members were divided into four groups based on their strength: the Heavenly Group, Earth Group, Xuan Group, and Yellow Group.

Among them, the Yellow Group had the most members, around five hundred; the Xuan Group was next, with about a hundred; the Earth Group had only ten members; as for the Heavenly Group, it only had Long Jingtian, a loner.

The first leader of 'Dragon Guard,' Long Congyun, once had a fortuitous encounter and obtained a Heaven Rank Martial Arts technique, which made him a Heaven Level Martial Artist, causing a sensation throughout the Secular Ancient Martial World. After Long Jingtian took over as the leader of 'Dragon Guard,' he inherited the Heaven Rank technique and also advanced to become a Heaven Level Martial Artist.

In the Hidden Sect World, Heaven Level Martial Artists were considered top-notch experts who commanded respect, and even more so in the Secular Ancient Martial World, where they were regarded almost as land-based immortals.

Hence, when Long Congyun founded 'Dragon Guard,' many martial artists were willing to join and follow his commands willingly.

Today's 'Dragon Guard,' with the existence of Heaven Level Martial Artist Long Jingtian, also maintained strong appeal and cohesion within the Huaxia Ancient Martial community.

Although Long Jingtian never tested Fang Bai's strength, by estimating from Fang Bai's single move defeat of Wang Huashan, he should at least be at Xuan Group high rank or perfection. Coupled with Fang Bai's extraordinary medical skills, he was a rare talent; therefore, the card Dragon Maiden gave to Fang Bai indicated membership in 'Dragon Guard Earth Group.'

You should know, out of the hundreds of 'Dragon Guard' members, there were only ten in the Earth Group until then. The fact that Long Jingtian extended Earth Group-level membership to Fang Bai showed the great importance he placed on him.

What Long Jingtian never expected was that his estimation of Fang Bai's strength being Xuan Group high rank or perfection was a gross underestimation. Furthermore, Fang Bai, who was currently at the Earth

Level intermediate stage Martial Artist in terms of cultivation level, actually possessed combat strength even more formidable than Long Jingtian himself.

"Earth Group? Heh..."

When Fang Bai received the ID from Dragon Maiden, he saw the 'Dragon Guard Earth Group' annotation on it and couldn't help but smile indifferently.

For Fang Bai, who had been an Immortal Emperor in a previous life, who ruled across the nine Heavenly Domains of the Immortal Realm and could slap to death countless lower-rank Immortals with the flick of his hand, groupings like Heavenly Group and Earth Group were nothing but a joke.

While the martial artists of this world were still striving for Earth Level and even Heaven Level realms, they were unaware that Fang Bai's gazes had long since been cast toward the Cultivation and even Immortal Realms, whose whereabouts in the multiverse he was yet to ascertain.

"Divine Doctor Fang, I heard you defeated Wang Huashan of the Wang Family with a single move, right? Come on, let's have a friendly sparring!"

After successfully recruiting Fang Bai into 'Dragon Guard,' Dragon Maiden disappeared for a while. Just when Fang Bai thought he'd finally shaken off her "entanglement," she suddenly reappeared one evening, seeking to spar with Fang Bai.

Previously, Dragon Maiden had been persistent and annoying in trying to recruit Fang Bai into 'Dragon Guard.' Seeing her coming again, Fang Bai dreaded a repeat performance and reluctantly agreed.

According to Dragon Maiden's wishes, the two found a secluded, uninhabited spot to have a good battle of three hundred rounds.

"Three hundred rounds?"

Fang Bai looked at the eager Dragon Maiden and couldn't help but laugh silently, "Are you sure you're much stronger than Wang Huashan?"

Only then did Dragon Maiden suddenly remember that the young man in front of her, just twenty years old, had defeated Wang Huashan with a single strike. The boast of battling him for three hundred rounds seemed a bit exaggerated, causing her cheeks to redden.

"I've fought with Wang Huashan. I'm a bit stronger than him..."

Dragon Maiden, giving up her previous confidence, mumbled softly.

"I've got to go home for some things. I don't have the time to drag this on with you... So, if I can't defeat you with one move, you win,"

Fang Bai glanced at the time and said somewhat helplessly.

With the end of the year approaching, his sister Fang Yun in Zhongzhou City was facing some minor issues in her cultivation. Fang Bai was planning to go home early to bring her some cultivation resources and provide guidance, hoping to boost her strength to reach Yellow Level Perfection.

Additionally, a few classmates from Zhongzhou Medical College whom Fang Bai kept in touch with had called him a couple of days ago, suggesting a reunion and hoping that Fang Bai could join for a catch-up.

In both his past and present lives, Fang Bai was someone who cherished old ties, valuing both family and friendship. Even though he didn't have many close friends during his time at the medical college, they were classmates without grievances, and he was more than happy to sit down and chat with old classmates.

So, after receiving invitations from several classmates, he readily agreed without a second thought.

"Defeat you with one move? Okay, but remember, you said it,"

Although Dragon Maiden knew Fang Bai was much stronger than her, when she saw his confident demeanor and heard his arrogant tone, her pride took a hit.

"It's less crowded over there. Let's go there to spar!"

Dragon Maiden pointed to a small garden in the southeast corner of the hospital.

"No need to waste time. We can do it right here! Get ready; I'm about to make a move!"

Fang Bai gave Dragon Maiden a heads-up. Seeing her with a serious expression, fully alert, and in a defensive stance, he smiled faintly and slowly pushed his right palm forward.

#### Chapter 430: Palm Burning Ten Thousand Immortals

His palm strike appeared plain and unremarkable, as if it was a casual swat from an ordinary person, devoid of any True Yuan fluctuations, and it was not even fast, but the Dragon Maiden dared not underestimate it.

"You said you'd defeat me in one move, so if I dodge this palm strike, it means you lose!"

The Dragon Maiden circulated her True Yuan, ready to sidestep to avoid Fang Bai's sluggish palm strike.

However, just as she moved, Fang Bai's palm also moved.

Fang Bai's palm merely trembled slightly, and in front of the Dragon Maiden's eyes, there appeared hundreds and thousands of palms, overwhelming her from all directions.

What was even more terrifying was that each of these hundreds and thousands of palms carried a scorching heat, the passing palm wind seemed to ignite the very air itself.

The heatwave was intense, the scorching flame oppressive.

Before the palm even arrived, the Dragon Maiden's breathing halted, and she felt as though she was standing in a blazing furnace, her clothes drenched in sweat in an instant.

The Dragon Maiden even had the illusion that if those hundreds of palms landed on her body, even if her body were made of steel, it would still be burnt to ashes.

"I lost!"

Faced with inevitable defeat, the Dragon Maiden felt a sense of despair and simply closed her eyes, screaming out loud.

As her voice sounded, the hundreds of palms before her vanished in an instant, and the heatwave that was about to incinerate her dissipated as well.

The scene, which a moment ago was as ferocious as a stormy tempest, suddenly became calm.

After a few seconds, the Dragon Maiden, still with a lingering fear, slowly opened her eyes, only to find Fang Bai had already turned around to leave, making his way to the hospital's entrance.

"Fang Bai, what palm technique is this?"

The Dragon Maiden quickly followed a few steps, but realized she could not catch up to Fang Bai. Stamping her foot, she shouted loudly.

Fang Bai's palm strike just now was to the extreme, evoking despair. The Dragon Maiden had never felt this way even when sparring with her grandfather, Long Jingtian. She thought to herself that Fang Bai's strength was truly unfathomable, thinking that not just herself, but even an Earth Level Expert might fail to withstand it, right?

Is this Fang Bai, truly just a Profound Level Expert?

"Palm Burning Ten Thousand Immortals!"

Fang Bai's voice was faint and ethereal, as though it came from the distant horizon, reaching directly into the ears of the Dragon Maiden.

"Palm Burning Ten Thousand Immortals... such a domineering name! If I could learn such a palm technique, how imposing I would be!"

The Dragon Maiden gazed at Fang Bai's departing figure, murmuring to herself, her beautiful eyes shining bright.

...

The next day, Fang Bai took the Ghost Hand, bid farewell to the Baili family, and drove back to Zhongzhou City.

Before leaving, Fang Bai entrusted the Lightning Marten to Baili Mingyue for her to take care of.

The reason Fang Bai left the Lightning Marten behind was out of concern for the safety of the Baili family.

A few days ago, Fang Bai had killed the core disciple, Nangong Ming, from the hidden sect "Ghost Doctor Valley." Although he had used "Bone Dissolving Powder" to eradicate all traces of the incident, it was foreseeable that Ghost Doctor Valley would definitely send more people into the secular world to investigate Nangong Ming's whereabouts.

Even though the Baili Zhan family had been living incognito for many years, it only takes one oversight for disaster to occur. Should the disciples from Ghost Doctor Valley find their doorstep, the consequences would be unimaginable.

Don't be fooled by the Lightning Marten's usual lazy routine of eating and sleeping; its attack power now equates to that of an Earth Level novice martial artist. With this little creature guarding the courtyard, it could fight shoulder to shoulder with the Baili Zhan family in critical moments.

Baili Zhan and his wife, Jiang Yuzhi, are both Profound Level high-ranking martial artists, and Baili Mingyue has just advanced to a Yellow Level high-rank. The strength of this family of three is not to be underestimated. If you add the Lightning Marten, they would even stand a chance against Earth Level high-ranking adversaries in a fight.

The reason for bringing Ghost Hand was his urgent desire to take revenge for his sect after reaching the Profound Level realm.

In the past, Ghost Hand's sect, "Myriad Medicine Valley," was coveted by the three major secular Ancient Martial Sects - Qingcheng Temple, Misty Rain Tower, and Shaolin Temple - because they had obtained a treasure left by a Heaven Level martial artist, which led to the joint efforts of the three sects to annihilate Myriad Medicine Valley and divide the treasure among themselves.

In that battle, Qingcheng Temple and Misty Rain Tower played the main roles, and although the Shaolin disciples did not actively kill, they were complicit as well.

Thanks to his master's desperate protection, Ghost Hand had the good fortune to escape from the melee and was later saved by chance by Fang Bai, becoming his disciple.

The annihilation of his sect was a scene etched deeply into Ghost Hand's memory, too grim to forget. Waking up from nightmares, he often found himself in tears.

The three major sects of Qingcheng, Misty Rain Tower, and Shaolin were all well-known and prominent within the Secular Ancient Martial World. Previously, with Ghost Hand's meager strength, revenge was but a fool's dream. But now, he had joined the ranks of the Profound Level martial artists and possessed the power to seek justice for his sect.

Although Ghost Hand was only a novice Profound Level martial artist, the cultivation technique he practiced far surpassed any Heaven Rank Technique, giving him the ability to challenge opponents beyond his level.

In Fang Bai's words, Ghost Hand could now, as a novice Profound Level martial artist, challenge any Profound Level expert and remain undefeated.

Fang Bai's words had given Ghost Hand immense confidence and courage, pushing him to make the decision to take his revenge.

As martial artists do things according to their nature and desires, reveling in grudges and gratitude, rewarding friends and avenging foes, harboring hatred in one's heart can lead to inner demons, which in turn can affect Martial Dao cultivation.

Therefore, Fang Bai decided to bring Ghost Hand along this time when leaving, planning to find time to accompany him on a visit to the three major sects of Qingcheng, Misty Rain Tower, and Shaolin, allowing him to resolve this matter in his heart.

A Ghost Hand free of burdens will then face a plain path on his journey in Martial Dao.

The two set out from Yanjing early in the morning, driving on the highway, and finally reached Zhongzhou City around five in the afternoon.

Before arriving in Zhongzhou, Fang Bai had called his father and learned that the family was busy at "Fang's Traditional Chinese Medicine Clinic" at this time, so he drove straight to the clinic with Ghost Hand.

Today's "Fang's Traditional Chinese Medicine Clinic," in comparison to its opening half a year ago, had undergone significant changes: not only had the storefront expanded, but it had also recruited several batches of medical staff, clearly becoming the largest clinic in Zhongzhou aside from Rejuvenation Hall.

Fang Gang, Fang Bai's father, although temporarily unable to enter the path of Martial Dao due to his innate aptitude, had received thorough guidance in medicine from his son and was now enjoying a second spring in his career.

A short while ago, following a recommendation from Hua Family Patriarch Hua Chun, Fang Gang not only managed to join the Zhongzhou City Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine but also attained the title of vice chairman, boasting about it to his wife, Yang Mei, and daughter, Fang Yun, for quite some time.

Furthermore, the walls of the clinic were adorned with banners of appreciation from patients, with phrases like "Illustrious Physician of the Medical Forest, Miraculous Rejuvenation," "A Doctor's Benevolent Heart Wins The World's Praise," and other such laudatory slogans.

"What are you so proud of? Without our son, where would you be today? Just a few calls of 'Divine Doctor Fang' and you're floating on cloud nine? Your title of Divine Doctor is false; our son is the real deal!"

Every time she saw her husband's radiant and self-satisfied expression, Yang Mei couldn't help but roll her eyes and deflate him with a few words.

(PS: Tickets, please!!! A few of them!!!)