

## Doctor 691

### Chapter 691: Prostrate in Admiration

"Divine Doctor Fang, do you mean that Jianfeng... he... there's still a chance to save him?"

Li Yujie wiped the tears from the corners of her eyes and asked with a trembling voice.

Although Lu Xingping did not speak, his expression also revealed obvious excitement.

Lu Jianfeng had sustained internal injuries and his meridians were completely severed, suffering extremely severe damage. Even though Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, the two National Doctors, joined hands to treat him, they could only temporarily keep him from death, incapable of curing him completely.

Although Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe had not spoken directly about Lu Jianfeng's condition, from their grave and serious expressions, Lu Xingping and his wife could vaguely guess that their son probably could not escape this disaster. Both were filled with grief and utterly desperate.

Latter on, Qian Haoduo suddenly mentioned Fang Bai and suggested letting Fang Bai have a try, saying that there might be a method. Lu Xingping immediately called Fang Bai and requested him to come to the Lu Family.

Fang Bai had a friendship with the Old Master Lu that transcended age differences, and was good friends with Lu Jianfeng. It seemed unlikely that he would refuse the request.

Indeed, after Fang Bai received the call, he arrived at the Lu Family even faster than they had anticipated.

Lu Xingping and his wife had two sons, the elder having died in line of duty. If the younger one were to meet with misfortune too, the couple's latter half of their lives would likely be immersed in grief, unable to extricate themselves. Now, hearing the tone in Fang Bai's words, it seemed there was still hope for their son's recovery. The couple, who had been in despair, suddenly felt the flame of hope reignite.

Upon hearing this, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe also looked at Fang Bai with surprise.

They had asked Lu Xingping to invite Fang Bai over because of Fang Bai's unique medical skills, holding onto a glimmer of hope. After all, Lu Jianfeng's meridians were completely severed, which was like a grand tree that had been cut at the roots. To heal such an injury would require near divine intervention.

"Brother Fang, this young man from the Lu Family hasn't just suffered a partial severing of his meridians, but rather the entirety of them, and his internal organs are also gravely injured. Do you really have a way to cure him?"

Qian Haoduo had once lost ten million in a bet to Fang Bai and felt somewhat embarrassed to meet him again. But from Fang Bai's recent remark, he sensed that Fang Bai might have a way to save Lu Jianfeng, and he couldn't help but ask.

Although Hua Tianhe did not speak, his expression was filled with doubt as well.

As fellow practitioners of medicine, if Fang Bai could heal an injury that neither Qian Haoduo nor Hua Tianhe could treat, it would mean that Fang Bai's medical skills surpassed those of the two National Doctors.

Fang Bai was only in his twenties, but in the medical community of Yanjing, his reputation was already on par with the four National Doctors. If his medical skills far exceeded those of Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, it would be truly astonishing.

In terms of seniority, Qian Haoduo could have been Fang Bai's grandfather, but like the Ancient Martial World, in the medical community, skill and achievements come first. Therefore, Qian Haoduo could not rely on his age, and he addressed Fang Bai as "Brother Fang" respectfully.

"As long as there is a breath of life left, I can treat it! Uncle Lu, rest assured, by tomorrow morning, Jianfeng will be jumping around again," Fang Bai said assertively, and then with a wave of his hand, he "ushered" Lu Xingping and his wife, Qian Haoduo, and Hua Tianhe out, telling them to stand guard outside the door and not let anyone disturb them.

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe had wanted to stay and see how Fang Bai would treat Lu Jianfeng, but to their surprise, they were "ushered" out by Fang Bai, who didn't even give them the opportunity to observe.

"This kid... has no respect for the elderly! Why won't he let us stay in the room to see what's going on?"

"He must have some extraordinary medical technique he fears we might learn,"

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe exchanged wry smiles and looked helpless as they were sent out of the house.

"Xingping, did Divine Doctor Fang just say that Jianfeng's injury will heal by tomorrow? I feel it's a bit... a bit impossible..."

Li Yujie asked with worry, her eyes fixed on the tightly closed door. She wanted to open the door and rush in to see her son several times, but she restrained herself.

"There's nothing impossible!"

Lu Xingping waved his hand and said seriously, "Back when Jianfeng had that car accident, the doctors had told us to prepare for the worst, but wasn't he cured by Divine Doctor Fang? My interactions with Divine Doctor Fang may have been limited, but I know he's not someone who makes empty promises. If he says he can cure it, then it's definitely possible!"

When Lu Xingping heard Fang Bai say the words "can be cured," he relaxed completely, knowing that the Lu Family owed Fang Bai a huge favor once again.

Having calmed down, Lu Xingping strode back to his own room, picked up the phone, and began arranging the work for his department.

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe sat on the couch in the living room, whispering to each other about Lu Jianfeng's injuries and speculating about what methods Fang Bai would use to treat him.

Li Yujie paced outside her son's room, her heart hanging heavily, her hands clenching and unclenching repeatedly, murmuring prayers under her breath.

As time ticked by, about two hours later, Lu Jianfeng's bedroom door made a light sound, and Fang Bai, looking somewhat tired, came out.

Hearing the door, Lu Xingping, Li Yujie, Qian Haoduo, and Hua Tianhe, who had been waiting in the living room, immediately went up to greet him.

"I know what you all want to ask... Jianfeng is fine now, but he just fell asleep. You can go in to see him if you want, but keep your voices down, don't disturb him..."

Fang Bai gave a weary smile to Lu Xingping and the others, then walked over to the couch in the living room, sat down heavily, closed his eyes, and began circulating his cultivation technique to recuperate.

The injury suffered by Lu Jianfeng was similar to the one Fang Bai had dealt with for Yang Xudong in America, but it was easier to treat. After all, Lu Jianfeng was just an ordinary person, whereas Yang Xudong was a Martial Artist. While treating Yang Xudong, Fang Bai had to also restore his strength, complicating things much more.

Soon after, Lu Xingping, Qian Haoduo, and the other four came out of Lu Jianfeng's room, each with a different expression on their faces.

Lu Xingping and his wife were overjoyed and excited, while the looks on Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe's faces were much more complicated.

"Brother Fang, I, Qian Haoduo, have never admired anyone in my life, but for you, I am truly filled with admiration!"

Qian Haoduo was known for his quirky personality, and there were very few people he held in high regard. However, at this moment, he was genuinely impressed with Fang Bai and spoke with a wealth of emotion.

Hua Tianhe was also sighing and said, "Heroes emerge from the young. Brother Fang, so young and yet your medical skills far exceed ours; it's hard to imagine what you will achieve in the future. Perhaps in my lifetime, I will witness the rise of a grandmaster who will be a monumental figure in medical history!"

Fang Bai smiled and, without modesty, said to Lu Xingping, "Uncle Lu, have someone come to Yanjing Hospital to see me later. I'll write a prescription for Jianfeng so he can get some traditional medicine brewed. After recuperating for a few days with the medication, Jianfeng will regain his vitality."

Lu Xingping nodded, giving Li Yujie a meaningful look.

Li Yujie turned and went upstairs. After a moment, she returned with a filled-out check and handed it to Fang Bai, smiling, "Doctor Fang, thank you for your help this time. This is the consultation fee, please accept it!"

Chapter 692: The Two National Doctors Who Lowered Their Stance

Fang Bai hesitated for a moment, took the check without looking at it, and casually stuffed it into the pocket of his clothing.

Fang Bai wasn't short of money at the moment, but he knew the Lu Family was wealthy. As for the consultation fee, it didn't matter to him whether the Lu Family gave it to him or not. However, since they had offered it, he accepted it; otherwise, the Lu Family would feel even more indebted to him, and that would be uncomfortable for them.

"The jade pendant I gave to Jianfeng, why isn't he wearing it?"

Fang Bai suddenly asked.

He had not seen the jade pendant he had given to Lu Jianfeng while treating his injuries earlier. If Jianfeng had the jade pendant to protect him, he could have avoided the calamity that almost cost him his life.

"The jade pendant you gave him? We don't know about that!"

Lu Xingping was startled and exchanged a glance with his wife, Li Yujie, both shaking their heads to indicate they had no idea.

Fang Bai had given the jade pendant to Lu Jianfeng privately, and Lu Xingping and his wife were unaware of it.

Fang Bai sighed, "When Jianfeng wakes up, remember to remind him to always wear the jade pendant I gave him when he goes out. That thing is a treasure, and it can save his life in critical moments! I had cautioned him when I first gave him the jade pendant; he probably just forgot to wear it this time when he left home."

After a pause, Fang Bai asked another question, "The injuries Jianfeng suffered were caused by a very powerful expert. If the perpetrators intend to hide, even if you send someone to investigate, it's not certain you'll be able to find any traces of them... By the way, were there any eyewitnesses when Jianfeng got beaten? Did they see what the attackers looked like?"

Lu Xingping said, "Jianfeng couldn't stand those two bullies harassing a girl and got beaten when he stood up for her. According to the girl, the attackers were a fat man and a thin man, both middle-aged with long hair, dressed in very basic traditional long gowns. Someone tried to take pictures with their cell phone, but the phone was snatched away by those two bullies and crushed. After they assaulted him, they disappeared without a trace. I've already sent people to investigate, hoping to get some news..."

Fang Bai nodded, knowing that even though the Lu Family had an extensive network, they were ultimately a wealthy prominent clan of the secular world. The attackers who injured Lu Jianfeng, Fang Bai deduced, were likely Earth Level Martial Artists. Therefore, even if the Lu Family managed to find them, they probably would not be able to apprehend them and seek justice for Jianfeng.

"You Lu Family can investigate this matter in secret. If you discover the culprits, do not act rashly, or it might result in significant casualties. Inform me immediately if that happens, and I'll deal with it personally. I'll also keep an eye out! In any case, we can't let the attackers escape the law unpunished!"

Fang Bai said with a grave voice.

"Understood."

Hearing Fang Bai say this, Lu Xingping knew that the matter might involve the Ancient Martial World, something they, as average secular individuals, couldn't easily resolve, and so he nodded solemnly.

As Fang Bai had a free clinic appointment in the afternoon at the People's Square, he declined the Lu couple's invitation to stay and got up to leave.

Leaving with Fang Bai were Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, two distinguished national doctors.

Lu Jianfeng's severe injuries, in the eyes of Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, were almost certainly fatal. Yet Fang Bai miraculously revived Jianfeng within just a couple of hours, completely overturning their understanding of medical skills, which deeply shocked them.

They believed that the techniques Fang Bai used to save Lu Jianfeng could have transcended the realm of medicine, even speculating whether he had used some kind of immortal magic.

Although they knew this notion was far-fetched, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe had just witnessed the miraculous healing of Lu Jianfeng by Fang Bai and couldn't help but let their imaginations run wild.

After leaving the Lu Family with Fang Bai, two of the leading figures from the Chinese medicine community followed by his side, ceaselessly inquiring how Fang Bai had cured Lu Jianfeng.

Not only were these two doctors highly skilled, but they were also obsessed with the study of traditional Chinese medicine, and if they couldn't get a clear explanation about Lu Jianfeng's case, they probably wouldn't be able to sleep well at night.

The two held a very humble attitude, devoid of the seniority often seen among medical professionals, displaying instead a sincere eagerness to learn.

Fang Bai, annoyed by the two old men's persistent questioning, finally said helplessly, "You want to know how I cured Lu Jianfeng, right? Fine, follow me to the free clinic at People's Square. After it's over, I'll tell you!"

"A promise from a gentleman is as weighty as nine tripods!"

"The word of a gentleman is a vow no horses can chase!"

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe both showed delighted expressions, fearing Fang Bai might go back on his word, they solemnly said.

Before Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe became National Doctors, they had participated in many free clinics. After they were granted the title, however, they gradually receded from the public eye, mingling only among the upper echelons of Huaxia society.

Once they became National Doctors, their consultation fees skyrocketed, often reaching several millions, affordable only to the rich and powerful, while ordinary people, even if willing, simply couldn't bear such extravagant costs.

Although the free clinic would mean exposing themselves and interacting with the most ordinary citizens for no charge, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe accepted it for the chance to learn from Fang Bai about the treatment of Lu Jianfeng.

Although they hadn't eaten lunch, the trio, being martial artists, didn't feel hungry and proceeded directly to People's Square.

When the three arrived at People's Square, the afternoon free clinic had already commenced.

The arrival of the two National Doctors, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, excited the doctors from Yanjing Hospital who were conducting the free clinic; they all stood up to greet them, feeling immensely honored just to shake hands or exchange a few words with the esteemed physicians.

Most of those seeking treatment were ordinary citizens. Since Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe had been out of the public eye for many years, almost none of the patients recognized them, so they continued to line up in an orderly manner.

Fang Bai waved his hand, telling the doctors to return to their tables to continue treating patients, and had Wu Tian and others bring two examination tables for Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe to sit at.

Distinguished National Doctors stooping to offer free treatment here, if such news spread, it would be met with disbelief by many in the medical community.

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe had no complaints; for if Fang Bai, whose medical skills vastly surpassed theirs, deigned to participate in the free clinic, what reason did they have to refuse?

Both Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe possessed unique medical skills and treated patients with both accuracy and speed. Soon, long queues formed in front of their tables as well.

At that moment, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe were like two students hoping to perform well, perhaps touching Fang Bai so much that he might share with them some profound medical knowledge.

Throughout the afternoon, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe sat earnestly treating patients, unlike other doctors who took breaks in between, they appeared tireless and hardly ever left their tables.

Chapter 693: Niu Ben

By around four in the afternoon, the number of patients in the square had not decreased but instead increased even more.

Many of those who came later were patients who had heard about the free clinic with renowned experts and had traveled from far places to get here.

When they found out that the free clinic was only for one day and that it would end in an hour, those who were still in line were greatly disappointed.

"Doctor, can you extend this free clinic event for a few more days?"

"Yeah, one day is too short!"

"Even extending it a little would be good! I've been in line for half a day, and you're ending at five, I'm afraid it won't be my turn by then!"

"Doctor, I traveled dozens of miles by bus to come here, please see me first!"

"Doctor, I beg you to have another day of free clinic tomorrow!"

"Yes! Yes! Please show some compassion!"

...

Many patients in line spoke up loudly, and a few of them, out of desperation, even ran to the front of the consultation desk, pleading earnestly.

"My friends, we doctors are human too, we need to rest! As you have seen, we've been busy all day long, treating one patient after another, we're almost exhausted!"

The person leading the free clinic this time was a vice president from Yanjing Hospital, who stood up and said with a wry smile to those emotionally stirred patients.

"You could rest for a few days and then organize another free clinic, how about that? Next time we will come earlier to line up!"

A patient suggested.

For any hospital, having a free clinic once or twice a year is already considered good, but patients hope for such clinics every month.

The vice president smiled helplessly and spoke loudly, "The hospital is not a charity. Salaries for staff, various instruments, medicine, and so on all cost money. If we held free clinics every day, where would the hospital's income come from? Without income, we can't pay salaries, and without salaries, how can doctors be motivated to treat patients?"

After a pause, he continued, "I understand the difficulties you all face, but please also understand the difficulties our hospital faces... After all, going to the hospital for treatment doesn't cost that much these days, and it can be reimbursed..."

"Minor illnesses are okay, but when faced with a serious illness that requires hospitalization, even with reimbursement, we can't afford it, we can only go home and wait for death..."

A patient muttered gloomily.

And more patients could only shake their heads and sigh.

Most of these patients were from poor families, without money or reluctant to spend money on hospitalization, otherwise, why would they bother traveling a long distance and queuing for a good part of the day?

Just then, a young man of medium height with an honest face pushed through the patients standing in front of Fang Bai's consultation desk and squeezed in. Seeing Fang Bai, he asked tentatively, "Are you... Divine Doctor Fang?"

Fang Bai glanced at the honest young man and nodded with a smile, "I am Fang Bai. And you are...?"

Upon hearing this, the honest young man "thump" knelt down, saying, "A neighbor of mine went to the acupuncture and massage department at Yanjing Hospital last month, and it was Divine Doctor Fang who cured her. My neighbor said that Divine Doctor Fang is highly skilled in medicine, capable of Miraculous Rejuvenation, and can cure all kinds of diseases. She told me to bring my mother to see Divine Doctor Fang as well. But we have no money at home, so I never went. Just now, a friend told me that Yanjing Hospital is holding a free clinic here today, and Divine Doctor Fang will be attending. So I dragged my mother here..."

As the honest young man spoke, he kowtowed repeatedly to Fang Bai, pleading, "Please, Divine Doctor Fang, save my mother! If you can cure my mother's illness, I, Niu Ben, will work like an ox and a horse to repay you for the rest of my life!"

Niu Ben's kowtows were forceful. After a few, his forehead was already bruised and swollen.

"Niu Ben, is it? Stand up first! What is your mother suffering from?" Fang Bai inquired, taking an interested look at the simple Niu Ben. Unexpectedly, this unremarkable honest young man turned out to possess an Innate Earth Spirit Root. What a pity that no one had guided him, leaving such a fine jade covered in dust. If it stayed this way for a lifetime, he would merely fade into the crowd, living only a bit longer than others.

"My mother has liver cancer!"

Without getting a definite response from Fang Bai, Niu Ben refused to stand up and continued to kowtow and plead, "I beg Divine Doctor Fang to have mercy and save my mother's life..."

"Liver cancer... hasn't your mother been hospitalized?" Fang Bai asked further.

Hearing this question from Fang Bai, Niu Ben's eyes reddened, and his voice choked up, "My dad died early, and we've always been poor. After my mother was diagnosed with liver cancer this year, she stayed in the hospital for a while. We spent all our money and borrowed from relatives and friends, until we had no choice but to leave the hospital and wait for death at home... Unable to borrow more money, I secretly went out to sell my blood. When my mother found out, she scolded me and even said if I did such a foolish thing again, she would...kill herself... I'm useless!"

As Niu Ben spoke, overwhelming sadness emerged, and he suddenly burst into tears like a child.

Fang Bai said, "A man should shed blood, not tears. Why are you crying? Go, bring your mother over for me to take a look..."

Niu Ben was stunned for a moment, then realized that Divine Doctor Fang had agreed to treat his mother. He wiped his tears forcefully, stood up, and squeezed through the crowd to pull a wooden cart where a middle-aged woman in her fifties lay beside the consulting table.

The middle-aged woman lay in the cart, wrapped in blankets, her complexion sallow, her eyes sunken, thin as a skeleton, with her hair already fallen out. She looked as if her life could extinguish at any moment.

Fang Bai knew this was Niu Ben's mother. He stood and walked to the front of the cart, examined Niu Ben's mother, then took one of her hands. Releasing his Divine Sense and with a strand of Chaos Origin Energy entering Niu Ben's mother's body, he began to examine her condition.

Leaning down, Niu Ben said loudly into his mother's ear, "Mom, Divine Doctor Fang is here to treat you."

Niu Ben's mother uttered a weak "Oh," her listless eyes finally focusing a bit more, showing a glimmer of hope. She looked at Fang Bai and whispered in a faint voice, "Thank you, Divine Doctor Fang... Thank you..."

Fang Bai nodded. His True Yuan moved through Niu Ben's mother's body once, and he had a rough idea. Patting her thin palm, he said with a smile, "Auntie, rest assured, your illness is not difficult to cure!"

Then he said to Niu Ben, "It's not very convenient to treat your mother's illness here. Here's what we'll do: tomorrow morning at eight o'clock, you bring your mother to the acupuncture and massage department at Yanjing Hospital to find me, and then I'll cure her!"

"Truly? It can be cured?"

Although he'd heard from his neighbors that Divine Doctor Fang Bai was extremely formidable, Niu Ben was still a bit too skeptical. After all, he had run to countless hospitals before for his mother's treatment, and all the doctors shook their heads, indicating they were powerless.

Seeing Niu Ben questioning his medical skills, Fang Bai said irritably, "I've cured diseases even more serious than this. What's more, this disease? Take your mother home first, and remember to find me tomorrow!"

Chapter 694: Fat and Skinny Men

Niu Ben was overjoyed to the point of tears after receiving Fang Bai's promise. He had wanted to kowtow several more times to express his gratitude, but Fang Bai stopped him.

Wiping away his tears, Niu Ben gratefully said, "If my mother's illness can be cured, my life from here on out will be Divine Doctor Fang's!"

Fang Bai couldn't help but burst into a helpless chuckle, "What would I do with your life? Go on! Take your mother and head home for now, I will be waiting for you at the hospital tomorrow."

Niu Ben nodded vigorously, bowed deeply to Fang Bai, and then left, pulling his handcart.

"Brother Fang, do you have a way to cure liver cancer?"

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, having overheard Fang Bai and Niu Ben's conversation, could no longer stay calm. After Niu Ben had left, the two of them got up and approached Fang Bai, their eyes shining as they asked.

Cancer is widely known as an incurable disease. To date, the global medical community has not found an effective treatment method. With Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe's medical skills, they could only prolong the lives of cancer patients for a time, but a cure was out of the question.

Not many people knew about Su Linglong's brain tumor being cured by Fang Bai. Although the four National Doctors had heard of it, they all expressed their doubts.

This time, when Lu Jianfeng suffered serious injuries, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, both National Doctors, believed that he had narrowly escaped death, but Fang Bai managed to pull him back from the brink of death, leaving both Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe deeply shocked and gave them a whole new understanding of Fang Bai's medical skills.

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe had heard clearly the conversation between Fang Bai and Niu Ben, and seeing Fang Bai so confident about curing Niu Ben's mother's liver cancer, they were itching with curiosity and desperately wanted to know what method Fang Bai would use.

If Fang Bai truly could cure cancer, it would undoubtedly be a major breakthrough in the medical field. If such news were to spread, it would surely shake the world's medical community.

By then, Fang Bai's reputation would completely surpass that of the four National Doctors, making him the most sought-after figure in the medical community of both Huaxia and the world. And the name Fang Bai would surely be etched deeply into history.

"Yes, I do indeed have a way to cure it."

In response to Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe's inquiry, Fang Bai did not beat around the bush; he nodded with a smile.

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe exchanged glances, seeing both surprise and eagerness in each other's eyes.

"I wonder if tomorrow, during the treatment of Niu Ben's mother, I could observe from the side?"

With his heart aflame, Qian Haoduo rubbed his hands together and asked with a sheepish laugh.

"Indeed, I too wish to witness firsthand, Brother Fang, how you miraculously rejuvenate and cure cancer tomorrow!"

Hua Tianhe, twirling a strand of his beard, said earnestly.

Fang Bai gave them a sidelong glance, saw through their little scheme, and laughed heartily, "If you want to learn how to treat cancer, just say so directly. We are all intelligent people, so why be secretive and beat around the bush?"

Upon hearing this, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe both blushed.

Hua Tianhe coughed a few times to hide his embarrassment, then spoke solemnly, "Brother Fang, to tell you the truth, I have spent decades researching how to treat cancer to no avail. If you truly have a cure, please share your knowledge, considering we are fellow practitioners!"

Hua Tianhe, who had reached a venerable age and was a distinguished National Doctor, was asking for "guidance" from a young man barely in his twenties. If someone else had heard this, they would have been astonished.

Not to be outdone, Qian Haoduo also said, "The whole world says that traditional Chinese medicine is on the decline, inferior to Western medicine. If Brother Fang can conquer cancer with Chinese medical techniques, that will greatly boost the prestige of our practice. Brother Fang, I have no other desire than to watch how you treat Niu Ben's mother tomorrow. If I can learn something, it will be my good fortune; if not, it is simply my own shortcoming! I hope that we, the medical practitioners of Huaxia, can together bring glory to Chinese medicine!"

He paused, then added, "Brother Fang, rest assured, even if I learn your method of treating cancer, I will not use it to make any money, or heaven and earth will not tolerate it!"

Fang Bai waved his hand and said, "You may go see if you wish. However, I must say in advance, the way I treat cancer is extraordinary, you may not be able to learn it even if you see it!"

Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe were both startled, and then they both said, "It doesn't matter if we can learn it or not, just going to see is good enough!"

Little did they know, within the sea of consciousness of Fang Bai, not only had Divine Sense been born, but within the Qi Sea, the Chaos Origin Energy also contained the Five Elements Origin Qi. The Divine Sense, coupled with the Five Elements Origin Qi, could heal all kinds of injuries and illnesses.

However, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe were not endowed with Innate Spiritual Roots; they could hardly play a significant role on the path of Martial Dao. Since medical skill is closely related to Martial Dao, their lack of progress in Martial Dao meant their achievements in medical skill would likely halt at this point as well.

Even with Fang Bai's careful guidance, their progress in both Martial Dao and medical skill would be limited by their own restrictions.

Thus, even if Fang Bai allowed them to observe the treatment process, it would be difficult for them to learn anything.

Nevertheless, since the two National Doctors insisted on observing and learning, Fang Bai did not refuse them.

Seeing Fang Bai nod in agreement for them to observe and learn, Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe were overjoyed, and their enthusiasm for the following free clinic soared even higher.

Moments later, a fat man and a skinny man came walking from a distant street and appeared in People's Square.

Seeing doctors treating patients in the square, the two men exchanged a look and approached with interest to watch.

After observing for a short while, the men showed disdain and began to discuss in low voices.

"To call this medical skill and dare to treat people?"

"Hehe, in our 'Ghost Doctor Valley,' any random disciple is much stronger than they are!"

"How can these mundane world people be compared with us from the Hidden Sect?"

"Let's go, there's nothing worth watching!"

"A few chicks in white coats do look pretty, shame they are just ordinary people without any knowledge of Martial Arts or Essence Energy, otherwise, they'd make good Furnace Cauldrons!"

"It's not easy to find women to be Furnace Cauldrons in the mundane world!"

"I've heard that in Yanjing there's a 'Doctor Pavilion,' a thousand-year-old Ancient Medicine Sect that only accepts female disciples. We could check them out! If we find any we like, we could capture a few for our cultivation enjoyment!"

"Wait until it gets dark! Valley Chief Li also has many powerful people in the mundane world; we should act as low-key as possible."

"Valley Chief Li is just being alarmist, powerful individuals in the mundane world are rare enough at the Earth Level Realm!"

"Valley Chief Feng, we must be careful in all matters! The disciples we sent out before to hunt down Baili Zhan have all disappeared without a trace; I think it's possible they met their end at the hands of mundane world experts!"

"The ones sent before were useless, the strongest among them, Nangong Ming, was merely at the initial stage of the Earth Level Realm, how could he compare to us?"

"In any case, it's never wrong to be cautious! Let's first get a sense of the 'Doctor Pavilion.' After dark, we'll capture their female disciples for our enjoyment!"

After exchanging words in low voices in the square, the fat man and the skinny man drifted away.

#### Chapter 695: Furnace Cauldron

This square covered an area of a kilometer, all within Fang Bai's divine sense, so the conversation between the thin man and the fat man didn't escape Fang Bai's ears.

"Disciples from 'Ghost Doctor Valley' again!"

Fang Bai narrowed his eyes and watched the receding backs of the thin man and the fat man, a flash of murderous intent passing through his eyes as he thought, "One at Earth Level Perfection, and one at a high rank of Earth Level, the disciples 'Ghost Doctor Valley' sent this time aren't weak... But just with these two people, to think they can kill Baili Zhan, they're still far from capable!"

As he watched the two men walk away, a sudden thought struck Fang Bai, and he muttered, "A thin man and a fat man... both middle-aged... with long hair... dressed in traditional long robes... Heh, it's truly like finding a needle in a haystack without effort! These two guys, they must be the ones who injured Lu Jianfeng at noon, right?"

After pondering for a moment, Fang Bai whispered to Qian Haoduo and Hua Tianhe, "I have something to take care of. I'll go ahead," then he got up and quickly followed the thin man and the fat man.

In this world, if Fang Bai's tracking techniques were considered second best, then no one would dare claim to be first, and his strength far exceeded that of the thin man and the fat man, so it was impossible for them to detect him.

The thin man and fat man moved along, chatting and laughing from time to time. Fang Bai learned from their conversation that not only were they from "Ghost Doctor Valley," their statuses were also quite high.

The corpulent man was named Feng Jiang, a Deputy Valley Master of "Ghost Doctor Valley," with a cultivation level of Earth Level Perfection.

The thin man was named Ji Chao, an Elder of "Ghost Foundation Valley," with a cultivation level of high rank at Earth Level.

This time, the two came from the Hidden Sect to the secular world mainly for two matters: one was to pursue and kill Baili Zhan and his family, along with Yang Xudong and his wife; the second was to verify who was the killer of "Ghost Doctor Valley" disciples like Nangong Ming.

After arriving in Yanjing, captivated by the hustle and bustle of the secular world, Feng Jiang and Ji Chao were in no rush to accomplish the mission tasked by Valley Master Li Ao. They indulged in eating, drinking, and merrymaking all day long, committing many atrocities both overtly and covertly.

Though prone to lust, thankfully they only thought of using female martial artists as furnace cauldrons for their cultivation, otherwise, there's no telling how many women in Yanjing would have been harmed by them.

It seemed that before they came to Yanjing, the two already had some understanding of "Doctor Pavilion," knowing the general location of its headquarters. After leaving People's Square, they headed straight for "Doctor Pavilion."

In Fang Bai's view, there were many female disciples in "Doctor Pavilion," and if these two men were to come knocking, undoubtedly many disciples would suffer because of it.

However, Fang Bai was in no hurry to take action. It had been a while since he had visited "Doctor Pavilion," so he decided to take this chance and follow the two men there, to see how Wang Miaomiao, the girl, was progressing in her cultivation.

Even though Wang Miaomiao did not possess an Innate Spiritual Root and had mediocre talent, Fang Bai had a destined relationship with her. Seeing her good heart, he imparted a set of martial arts techniques to her, which greatly benefited her.

Wang Miaomiao's cultivation had already reached Yellow Level Perfection. According to Fang Bai's estimation, she should now be a Profound Level Martial Artist and have entered the high-level core of "Doctor Pavilion."

"Doctor Pavilion" headquarters was located in a mountainous area outside the city, sparsely populated. Fang Bai had originally planned to eliminate Feng Jiang and Ji Chao after leaving the city, but when he swept the area with his divine sense, he unexpectedly found two more people walking not far ahead of them on the road, and they were two people he knew.

"It looks like she and her daughter are heading for 'Doctor Pavilion'! They appear to be in a hurry with their fast steps. Could it be that something has happened at 'Doctor Pavilion'?"

The two familiar people Fang Bai identified were Lin Ruoxue and Dongfang Ruhua, mother and daughter. Seeing them walking hastily, Fang Bai guessed they were headed to "Doctor Pavilion" for some urgent matter.

At that moment, Feng Jiang and Ji Chao both spotted Lin Ruoxue and her daughter, Dongfang Ruhua, and immediately pursued them, blocking their path front and back.

After getting a good look at the appearance and figures of Lin Ruoxue and her daughter, Dongfang Ruhua, both disciples of the Ghost Doctor Valley were dumbfounded, then overwhelmed with delight.

"Haha, Valley Chief Feng, we've been looking for a worthy furnace cauldron, and now one has come right to our doorstep!"

Ji Chao's gaze roamed over Dongfang Ruhua from top to bottom, his eyes brimming with lascivious desire, as if he saw her as a lamb waiting to be slaughtered.

"Tsk ts, her cultivation level is at Yellow Level Perfection, and what's even more rare, she's a virgin... Haha, indeed an excellent furnace cauldron!"

Deputy Valley Master Feng Jiang laughed heartily, turning his attention to Lin Ruoxue, and said to Ji Chao, "Elder Ji, although this woman is a bit older, her strength is not bad, and she still has charm. She

would make a fine furnace cauldron as well! Let's take one each, and right here, under the heavens as our cover and the earth as our bed, we shall cultivate together!"

Ji Chao, though disgruntled inside, was inferior in status and strength to Feng Jiang, and could only bow his head in submission, saying, "Fine. It's settled then!"

Lin Ruoxue had received an urgent summons from Pavilion Master Wen Yu of Doctor Pavilion and was rushing to the Doctor Pavilion headquarters, unaware of what could have happened there. Immediately setting out on her way, Dongfang Ruhua also wanted to talk to Wang Miaomiao and thus accompanied her mother, not expecting to be intercepted here.

Unable to sense the cultivation levels of Feng Jiang and Ji Chao, Lin Ruoxue knew that they were much more powerful than herself. Seeing their malicious approach, she couldn't help but worry.

"Who are you?"

Lin Ruoxue asked sternly, her face cold, as she secretly took out a signal flare specially made by Doctor Pavilion from her hand.

Ji Chao chuckled darkly, "Who we are... Of course, we are people who will cherish you both! Come on, let's merge and dual-cultivate together; we will make you know what true pleasure is! Don't even think about resisting because the only outcome of resistance is death!"

Lin Ruoxue knew what "physical merging and dual cultivation" entailed. She pulled her daughter behind her, her face darkening in anger as she shouted, "Doctor Pavilion headquarters isn't far from here. If you dare to do anything foul, the disciples of Doctor Pavilion will swarm out, and you won't have a chance to escape!"

Ji Chao laughed heartily, "A secular medical sect is nothing in our eyes! You woman, if you know what's good for you, come and serve me! Hand over your daughter to Valley Chief Feng!"

"Over my dead body!"

Lin Ruoxue was filled with both fear and anger, and with a flick of her hand, she launched the signal flare, sending a flame soaring into the sky, where it burst open high above.

Lin Ruoxue believed that the disciples of Doctor Pavilion, upon seeing the signal flare, would rush over to assist in the shortest possible time.

But could she and her daughter, joining forces, hold out until then?

Ji Chao mocked, "Sending a signal for help? Ha, we were actually planning to visit Doctor Pavilion anyway. By calling people here with your signal, you're playing right into my hands!"

Feng Jiang couldn't take his eyes off Dongfang Ruhua, eager to duo-cultivate with this excellent furnace cauldron and enhance his strength. Growing impatient with Ji Chao, he said, "Why the chatter? Just grab them already!"

Chapter 696: The Jade Pendant Exhibits Its Power

Ji Chao sneered and burst into motion, lunging toward mother and daughter Lin Ruoxue and Dongfang Ruhua.

"Ruhua, you go first! Go to the 'Doctor Pavilion' and ask for help!"

Lin Ruoxue could not gauge the full extent of the strength of the two enemies, but she knew they were definitely stronger than herself. Worried that her daughter was no match for them and would be injured, she urgently whispered.

"Haha, thinking of leaving? Stay right there!"

As an Earth Level High Rank Martial Artist, Ji Chao's strength far surpassed that of Lin Ruoxue and her daughter. His movements were as quick as lightning, and in the blink of an eye, he appeared in front of the mother and daughter. With a loud laugh, his ten fingers splayed out, he reached simultaneously with his left and right hands, grabbing for both of them.

Lin Ruoxue's face paled in shock, ready to rush forward and face Ji Chao alone, but unexpectedly, her daughter Dongfang Ruhua was already a step ahead, cried out sharply, and raised her right arm. Her right hand transformed into a blade, slashing fiercely toward Ji Chao.

As her right palm blade came down, there were faint flashes of lightning at the palm's edge, accompanied by the soft rumble of thunder, making for a rather startling display.

Dongfang Ruhua was an Innate Thunder Spirit Root, and Fang Bai had once imparted to her the Thunder Technique "Nine Heavens Divine Thunder Mantra" and the Martial Arts "Lightning Shock Slash". Her cultivation level had already reached Yellow Level Perfection, which was much stronger than that of her mother Lin Ruoxue.

Although Dongfang Ruhua had the capability to fight above her level, able to contend with Profound Level Martial Artists, the gap between her and Ji Chao, who possessed Earth Level High Rank strength, was still too great. Her "Lightning Shock Slash", despite its formidable power, posed no substantial threat to Ji Chao.

Ji Chao, catching sight of the lightning in Dongfang Ruhua's palm and the fleeting purple glint in her eyes, uttered a "Huh" in surprise.

Standing behind Ji Chao, Feng Jiang's demeanor changed drastically, followed by a burst of ecstatic joy as he shouted loudly, "Elder Ji, don't harm that young girl! Haha, she's actually an Innate Spiritual Root, the most perfect Furnace Cauldron. We've struck it rich! Haha..."

Upon hearing the words "Innate Spiritual Root", Ji Chao's body shook, and his eyes revealed extreme greed.

An Innate Spiritual Root is exceedingly rare even among the Hidden Sects, a Martial Dao genius that only comes once in a million. And to the disciples in Ghost Doctor Valley who practice Evil Cultivation Techniques, a pure girl with an Innate Spiritual Root is the optimal Furnace Cauldron. If they could make her their Martial Dao Companion, there's a great chance their cultivation level could advance, catapulting their strength dramatically.

Feng Jiang and Ji Chao were carrying out the orders of the Valley Chief Li Ao and didn't expect to encounter such a supreme Furnace Cauldron in the secular world. Even if they failed to accomplish what the Valley Chief had instructed, this discovery made their trip worthwhile.

Ji Chao very much wanted to claim this supreme Furnace Cauldron for his own enjoyment, but since Feng Jiang was the Deputy Valley Master of Ghost Doctor Valley and held a higher position and stronger power than him, Ji Chao couldn't compete with him and could only secretly feel jealous and envious.

Feng Jiang forbade Ji Chao from harming Dongfang Ruhua, and indeed Ji Chao didn't dare to violate the order. Upon hearing the command, he temporarily abandoned the attempt on Lin Ruoxue, twisted his palm, grabbing towards Dongfang Ruhua's shoulder to capture her alive and hand her over to Feng Jiang.

As he reached out with his palm, he released his presence, locking Dongfang Ruhua down firmly.

Dongfang Ruhua felt as if she were wrapped in chains, with her ability to move greatly limited, and even the flow of True Yuan in her body was somewhat sluggish. Her "Lightning Shock Slash", halfway through execution, seemed to sink into a mire, and its speed abruptly slowed.

"Ruoxue!"

Seeing her daughter's body trembling and her face turning pale, Lin Ruoxue knew the situation was dire. She bit her lip with anxiety, swung her palm, and struck at Ji Chao.

"Out of my way! I'll deal with you in a moment!"

While Ji Chao's right hand continued to reach for Dongfang Ruhua, he casually swept his left hand, repelling Lin Ruoxue several meters away.

Just as Ji Chao's palm was about to touch Dongfang Ruhua's shoulder, a sudden change occurred.

Whoosh—

A piercing sound of tearing through the air rang out, and a faint light gleamed from Dongfang Ruhua's chest. A three-foot-long golden gleam, like sword Qi, slashed diagonally at Ji Chao.

"Not good!"

As the golden light was unleashed, it was like the scythe of the Grim Reaper, boasting a power that could split the heavens and the earth, Ji Chao immediately felt a sense of lethal threat. His body shuddered, and with a weird cry, he desperately retreated at full force.

That streak of golden light was a murderous intent hidden within the Jade Pendant Fang Bai gave to Dongfang Ruhua for protection, existing in the form of Golden Essence Energy.

Golden Essence Energy is the most powerful among the Five Elements Origin Qi, and given that Fang Bai's strength was equivalent to that of a Heaven Rank Martial Artist, this murderous intent struck fear into Ji Chao's soul, making his liver and gallbladder split, as he tried to dodge.

But how could he, a High Rank Earth Level Martial Artist, and caught off guard, escape a strike equivalent to that of a Heaven Rank Martial Artist?

Ji Chao had barely moved when the golden light already grazed his left arm, severing it cleanly at the root, causing blood to spurt out.

Ah—

A prolonged and piercing scream erupted from Ji Chao's mouth, which, heard against the backdrop of the night, was particularly harrowing.

This sudden change left everyone on the scene stunned.

"The Jade Pendant big brother gave me is actually so powerful..."

Dongfang Ruhua touched the Jade Pendant hanging around her neck, her large eyes shining with boundless surprise and delight.

Lin Ruoxue felt both shock and joy as well, aware that her daughter wore a Jade Pendant gifted by Fang Bai, and although she had heard that the pendant could protect and save lives at critical moments, she never imagined it could be so powerful that it could grievously wound a formidable enemy.

With Ji Chao's arm severed, Feng Jiang, who stood behind, was also startled. Regaining his composure, he looked at Ji Chao, who kept screaming, then back at Dongfang Ruhua, whose face was lit with surprise. A speculative gleam flickered in his eyes as he surmised that the young girl must possess some treasure.

Remembering the astounding slash that had burst out from Dongfang Ruhua just a moment ago, and its formidable power comparable to an attack from the Valley Master Li Ao, Feng Jiang's scalp numbed at the thought, realizing that not just Ji Chao, but even if it had been himself, he would have been injured.

Ultimately, Ji Chao was a High Rank Earth Level Martial Artist. After screaming in agony for a while, he clenched his teeth to endure the pain, reversed his hand to seal the acupoints of his severed limb, stemming the flow of blood, then swallowed several Elixirs and sat down cross-legged on the spot to recuperate.

"Little girl, what is that you're wearing?"

Feng Jiang slowly approached Dongfang Ruhua, asking in a deep voice.

Wary of ending up like Ji Chao, he did not dare to get too close to Dongfang Ruhua, stopping about six feet away from her.

Emboldened by having the Jade Pendant for protection and seeing Feng Jiang's wariness, Dongfang Ruhua felt no longer afraid. She moved to her mother Lin Ruoxue's side and pouted, retorting, "Why should I tell you? If you have the guts, come and catch me!"

"Ruhua, let's go! To the 'Doctor Pavilion'!"

Lin Ruoxue, seeing Feng Jiang hesitant and not daring to make a move against them any longer, heaved a sigh of relief and instantly pulled her daughter, swiftly retreating towards the direction of the "Doctor Pavilion".

Feng Jiang glanced at Ji Chao and said sternly, "You wait here, I'll go after them!"

"That little girl severed my arm, it's truly detestable!"

Ji Chao said viciously, "Valley Chief Feng, once you catch her and have had your fill of tormenting her, hand her over to me for disposal! This arm must be avenged, and then I'll make her suffer the worst agonies in the world, wishing she could neither live nor die!"

Feng Jiang nodded, and seeing that Lin Ruoxue and her daughter were getting further away, he launched his body into motion and chased after them.

Chapter 697: Because I Want to Kill You

After Feng Jiang left, Ji Chao continued to sit in meditation at the same place, regulating his breath to heal his injuries.

"Who's there?"

The martial artist's senses were sharp; Ji Chao suddenly heard faint footsteps behind him. His heart chilled, and he immediately stood up and turned to look.

In the distance, under the veil of night, a white figure slowly emerged. As the white color gradually advanced, entering Ji Chao's field of view, it was a young man around twenty years old, wearing a white casual shirt.

A faint smile played upon the young man's face, yet within that smile lurked a hint of murderous intent.

Ji Chao furrowed his brows, feeling as though he had seen this young man somewhere before.

"Is it you?"

Ji Chao suddenly remembered. Not long ago when he and Valley Chief Feng had passed by a square, this young man had been treating some patients from the Secular World alongside many doctors.

But how did he end up here? Was it by mistake, or did he intentionally follow them?

Ji Chao watched as the young man steadily approached, his heart sinking continuously.

The way the other walked as silently as snow falling on the ground indicated he was surely a martial artist, and the absence of any detectable martial artist aura from him meant that his strength was at least a level higher than Ji Chao's.

Furthermore, the murderous intent in the other's eyes was undisguised, which suggested that he was an enemy rather than a friend.

Even at full strength, Ji Chao might not be a match for him, and now, injured as he was, he had no chance of victory and was utterly at the other's mercy.

"What is your honorable name, friend? We've never met before, so why are you following us here?"

Although Ji Chao tried to appear calm, his voice couldn't help but tremble slightly.

By this time, Feng Jiang had already gone far. Ji Chao knew that even if he yelled at the top of his lungs, Feng Jiang could not possibly hear him. If the other party made a move, he would be facing certain death.

"My name is Fang Bai."

The young man in the white casual shirt approached Ji Chao and said indifferently, "Although we have never met, I've long admired the reputation of 'Ghost Doctor Valley'!"

Fang Bai had followed Feng Jiang and Ji Chao all this way. Earlier, when Ji Chao had made a move against Lin Ruoxue and Dongfang Ruhua, Fang Bai knew that Dongfang Ruhua had a jade pendant he had given her to protect herself, so he didn't rush to reveal himself.

As expected, Ji Chao suffered greatly after retaliating with the killing intent of the jade pendant and was seriously injured. It was rather fortunate he wasn't killed on the spot.

"How do you know we're from 'Ghost Doctor Valley'?"

Ji Chao was startled to hear Fang Bai expose their origin and asked in a shocked voice.

Fang Bai said, "I heard everything you and that Valley Chief Feng discussed!"

Hearing this, Ji Chao's face turned ashen, his despair deepening.

If the other party had overheard their conversation, and they were completely unaware of his presence, it meant that his strength was likely even greater than Feng Jiang's. Even if Feng Jiang were here, he would probably stand no chance against him.

Could it be that his cultivation level had already reached the Heaven Level?

When did such a young and outstanding expert appear in the Secular World?

Even in the Hidden Sect World, such a young martial artist with such tremendous strength was utterly rare and unheard of!

"As to why I followed you..."

Fang Bai grinned, articulating each word, "It's because I want to kill you!"

He paused, then continued with a smile, "As for why I want to kill you... heh, it's because I am friends with Baili Zhan and Yang Xudong!"

Ji Chao's face changed dramatically, his pupils constricting as he lost his composure again, "You... how do you know Baili Zhan and Yang Xudong?"

Fang Bai said, "We met by a fortuitous coincidence... Oh, I forgot to tell you, the mother and daughter you were just tracking are also my friends, especially that little girl you wanted to capture for the Furnace Cauldron; she is essentially my disciple. Coveting her was asking for death!"

Knowing that Fang Bai would not let him go, Ji Chao peevishly said, "What will it take for you to spare my life?"

Fang Bai thought for a moment and replied, "Sparing your life isn't out of the question, but you must honestly answer a few of my questions."

Overjoyed, Ji Chao nodded eagerly, "Good! Ask away, I'll tell you everything I know!"

The questions Fang Bai asked were mostly about the Ghost Doctor Valley and the Hidden Sect World. Although he had learned some things about the Ghost Doctor Valley from Baili Zhan, Baili was not a core senior member of the valley and had no access to certain essential and secret matters. Now, hearing it from Ji Chao's mouth, he obtained much more detail.

And from what Fang Bai gathered, he formed a general impression of how the Hidden Sect World was distinct from the Secular World.

Fang Bai was not afraid of Ji Chao lying, because his Divine Sense was the best lie detector. If Ji Chao uttered even one word incorrectly, his emotions would fluctuate slightly and could be detected by Fang Bai's Divine Sense.

From Ji Chao's mouth, Fang Bai learned the precise location of the Ghost Doctor Valley, how to enter it, as well as that the Valley Chief Li Ao was a Heaven Level beginner Martial Artist. Above Li Ao, there was a Supreme Elder named Wei He, who was a Heaven Level intermediate Martial Artist.

It was precisely because of these two Heaven Level Martial Artists that the Ghost Doctor Valley could dominate as a mighty force within the Hidden Sect World.

"A promise from a great man is as heavy as a nine-tripod cauldron! I've told you all I know. You can let me go now, right?"

Ji Chao looked expectantly at Fang Bai, his greatest fear being that Fang Bai would break his promise and turn on him suddenly.

"I can let you go, but I need to collect some 'interest'!"

As he spoke, Fang Bai stepped forward and unleashed two palms, one heading for Ji Chao's Qi Sea and the other for the top of his head.

Ji Chao was horrified, knowing how formidable a Martial Artist like Fang Bai could be. If a palm struck him, how could he possibly survive?

Ji Chao wanted to dodge, but how could he match Fang Bai's speed? Two palms struck one after the other, first one hitting his Qi Sea, followed by another on the top of his head.

Ji Chao felt a thunderous shake within his Qi Sea as the condensed Essence Energy completely shattered and vanished. Then his head exploded with noise, as if cracked open, his vision went dark, and he became dazed and witless.

With those two palms, Fang Bai had first crippled Ji Chao's Cultivation Level and then scrambled his brain's neural system. Although it was not enough to take his life, his mental state would likely be abnormal from now on.

Fang Bai didn't kill Ji Chao, but now Ji Chao was no different from a dead man.

Fang Bai glanced towards the Doctor Pavilion, then vanished into the night, leaving Ji Chao grinning stupidly, aimlessly wandering the mountain road.

At that moment, not far from the Doctor Pavilion headquarters, on a mountain trail, more than a dozen female Disciples from the Doctor Pavilion stood shoulder to shoulder with swords in hand, angrily confronting Feng Jiang.

Feng Jiang had followed Lin Ruoxue and Dongfang Ruhua, encountering the group of female Disciples from the Doctor Pavilion who had come to support after seeing the Signal Flare.

In Feng Jiang's eyes, many of these Female Martial Artists remained virgins, prime Furnace Cauldrons. If he could enjoy them, he might very well advance to the Heaven Level realm in one stroke, and he couldn't help but be overjoyed at the prospect.

However, Dongfang Ruhua stood protectively in front of the Doctor Pavilion's women, confronting Feng Jiang, who harbored a wary respect for her and didn't dare to move forward to capture anyone right away.

Chapter 698: Silly Girl

""A thing that can release killing intent... what a fine treasure!""

Feng Jiang's eyes fixed on Dongfang Ruhua's chest, his gaze filled with greed."

In Feng Jiang's eyes, Dongfang Ruhua was an exceptional "Furnace Cauldron," and the thing on her body that counterattacked automatically when in danger was a precious item. If he could obtain both the person and the object, then his journey to the secular world would be greatly rewarding."

As for Ji Chao's arm being severed, Feng Jiang was not only not angry but secretly delighted."

In recent years, Ji Chao's strength had increased rapidly, and with the Valley Master Li Ao's favoritism, coupled with his ability to garner support, he had begun to threaten Feng Jiang's position within Ghost Doctor Valley."

Moreover, Ji Chao had always looked down on Feng Jiang, the Deputy Valley Master, and would often covertly defy Feng Jiang's orders, which had been a source of annoyance for Feng Jiang, who had been looking for a chance to teach Ji Chao a lesson. Now that Ji Chao's arm had been cut off by Dongfang Ruhua, his strength was significantly diminished—a sight for which Feng Jiang was quite pleased."

"Little girl, don't think that just because you have a defensive treasure, I have no way to deal with you. Naive!""

After confronting Dongfang Ruhua for a short time, Feng Jiang suddenly launched his right foot, kicking a stone in front of him."

The stone was the size of a fist, and upon being kicked by his True Yuan-charged right foot, it whistled as it flew, striking towards Dongfang Ruhua."

Feng Jiang was an Earth Level Perfection Martial Artist, immensely powerful. The fist-sized stone kicked by him carried the momentum of a small mountain crushing down."

"Ruhua, be careful!""

Wen Yu and others standing behind Dongfang Ruhua all felt an overwhelming pressure and could not help but cry out in shock and alarm."

Dongfang Ruhua's face showed not a hint of fear. Far from dodging, she thrust her chest out to meet the hurtling stone."

Whoosh—"

A golden glint emerged, as the killing intent within the Jade Pendant at Dongfang Ruhua's chest was once again triggered by the incoming threat."

This time, it wasn't sword intent but fist intent."

The golden glint transformed into a fist, striking out of the void, shattering the rock that was three feet away from Dongfang Ruhua's face into dust."

"This fist intent... its power is comparable to a strike from a Heaven Level Martial Artist!""

Murmuring to himself, Feng Jiang's eyes shone with ecstasy, thinking if he could possess such a treasure, wouldn't he be able to contend with Heaven Level Experts?"

In the Hidden Sect World, Heaven Level Martial Artists were revered. Martial Artists below the Heaven Level had to keep their heads down in humility. If he could gain the power to contend with Heaven Level Experts, not only would Feng Jiang's status in Ghost Doctor Valley rise, but also his standing within the entire Hidden Sect World would greatly increase."

"Little girl, hand over the treasure on you, and I'll let all of you go. How about it?"

Feng Jiang's eyes spun, and he suddenly said with a smile."

"Ruhua, don't believe him!"

Lin Ruoxue's delicate voice called out."

Just a moment ago, Feng Jiang was intent on capturing her mother and herself to serve as "Furnace Cauldrons," and now he was suddenly saying he'd let them go. Lin Ruoxue wasn't a naive child, how could she believe him? Besides, once her daughter handed over the Jade Pendant given by Fang Bai, these Doctor Pavilion disciples would lose their protection. If Feng Jiang were to go back on his word after receiving the Jade Pendant, these Doctor Pavilion disciples would be facing great danger."

Dongfang Ruhua nodded and said, "Don't worry, Mom. I won't give him the Jade Pendant! It's a gift from Big Brother, and I won't give it to anyone!"

"A treasure on your body is a Jade Pendant? And who exactly is your big brother?"

Upon hearing this, Feng Jiang was taken aback."

Feng Jiang had heard some legends before, which said that some supremely powerful individuals could infuse killing intent into specially refined jade artifacts, and when the person wearing the jade comes under a lethal attack, the killing intent encapsulated within the jade would be triggered, thereby inflicting heavy damage on the assailant."

The murderous intent released from the jade pendant on this young girl at least equaled the strike of a Heaven Level Expert. Could it be that the "big brother" who had given her the jade pendant was actually a Heaven Level Expert?

Could it truly be as the Valley Master said before entering the secular world that there were dragons and tigers hidden among the common folk, with the existence of Heaven Level Experts?

"You're a bad man, I'm not going to tell you!"

Dongfang Ruhua rolled her eyes at Feng Jiang before adding, "You should just leave! My big brother is very powerful. Once he gets here, you're as good as dead!"

"A joke! You think a mere few words will scare me off? Do you think I'm a three-year-old child,"

Feng Jiang laughed out loud, pointing at Dongfang Ruhua, "Little girl, if you're willing to come with me, not only will your strength increase by leaps and bounds, but you will also enjoy the ultimate pleasure of being a woman every day! How about it?"

Dongfang Ruhua hadn't spoken when Lin Ruoxue, her face cold with anger, rebuked him, "Pah! You shameless, filthy man! Ruhua, don't pay him any attention!"

Though Dongfang Ruhua was but a girl naive in affairs of the heart, she understood that what Feng Jiang said was indecent, and mimicking her mother, she lightly spat in disdain.

Feng Jiang's expression turned icy cold as he said viciously, "Unwilling? Little girl, you will regret it! After I capture you and have had my enjoyment, I'll throw you to Elder Ji! You severed one of his arms; he hates you to the bone. He'll torture and defile you, leaving you unable to live or die!"

Dongfang Ruhua was unafraid of his threats, her voice delicate, "I have the jade pendant my big brother gave me for protection; you can't harm me!"

Feng Jiang sneered ominously, "Little girl, don't think I don't know that the murderous intent contained in that jade pendant can probably only be used a few times, right? It can protect you momentarily, but not for a lifetime! You will eventually be caught by me!"

"You... how do you know?"

Dongfang Ruhua's face paled as she asked in shock.

She remembered Fang Bai telling her when he gave her the jade pendant that it could only save her life three times. Now that it had been used twice, as soon as the third stroke of murderous intent was released, the jade pendant would shatter, and she would have to face the opponent's attacks head-on.

"This silly girl!"

Lin Ruoxue stamped her foot, thinking to herself how her daughter lacked any cunning or strategy. Feng Jiang might have been merely speculating, but with her daughter's retort, it was as good as an admission.

Feng Jiang burst into "haha" laughter, "Was I right? Little girl, come quietly with me and save yourself the suffering!"

Dongfang Ruhua's eyes suddenly sparkled as she looked past Feng Jiang into the night behind him, her face showing delight as she murmured, "I have a premonition... big brother is about to arrive..."

Feng Jiang sneered, "What nonsense are you talking? If your big brother stood in front of me, I'd slap him dead with one palm!"

"Oh, really?"

An articulate voice suddenly rang out from behind Feng Jiang.

"Big brother! It's really big brother!"

Hearing that articulate voice, Dongfang Ruhua couldn't help but shout joyfully.

Behind her, Lin Ruoxue, Wen Yu, and the others exchanged glances, revealing a hint of joy in their expressions.

They had not expected Dongfang Ruhua's premonition to be so accurate. Although the speaker had yet to show himself, whose articulate voice could it be if not Fang Bai's?

"Who?"

Feng Jiang swiftly turned around, his gaze piercing into the distant night, his entire being emitting a powerful aura, on full alert.

As martial artists with exceptional eyesight on the scene, they could see objects dozens of meters away. There, a white figure appeared in their line of sight, approaching with the fluid grace of drifting clouds and flowing water.

Chapter 699: He's Escaping!

The white shadow moved at an extremely fast pace, one moment it was tens of meters away, and the next, it already appeared in front of Feng Jiang.

About twenty years old in age, with sword-like brows and starry eyes, his presence radiant as jade, his figure tall and straight. Dressed in a simple white casual shirt paired with denim jeans, his aura was extraordinary and transcendent...

Who else could this young man arriving at the scene be if not Fang Bai?

"Big brother!"

Dongfang Ruhua waved her hands excitedly at Fang Bai, her little face blooming with a delighted smile.

Fang Bai smiled back at her with a nod, then turned his gaze to Feng Jiang's face, and sneered, "I'm standing right in front of you now, come and slap me to death!"

Feng Jiang's face darkened, and he remained silent in despair, his eyes fixated on Fang Bai as his entire being entered a state of high alert.

To Feng Jiang, although the young man before him was merely in his twenties, standing there, he gave off the same feeling as facing the Valley Master Li Ao himself, not revealing the slightest inkling of his true strength.

This could only mean that the young man in front of him was even stronger than himself.

Especially when he heard Dongfang Ruhua call out "big brother," Feng Jiang's heart trembled even more, realizing that the young man before him was indeed the powerful individual who had given the Jade Pendant to Dongfang Ruhua.

Feng Jiang's body suddenly moved.

He shot out like a bolt of lightning, lunging toward Dongfang Ruhua, who was fully focused on Fang Bai.

"Ruhua, be careful!"

Wen Yu and Lin Ruoxue both cried out in alarm.

Dongfang Ruhua herself was also startled; she had not expected Feng Jiang to suddenly attack her. However, she then remembered that there was still a strand of killing intent within her Jade Pendant that had not yet been triggered. If Feng Jiang dared to attack her, he would definitely be met with the killing intent's counterstrike.

However, what no one had expected was that when Feng Jiang was just a few meters away from Dongfang Ruhua, his figure suddenly shifted to the left, and he swept toward the dense forest in front.

"He's trying to escape!"

Lin Ruoxue immediately understood Feng Jiang's intention. His attack on Dongfang Ruhua was a feint; his true goal was to flee.

Lin Ruoxue guessed correctly; Feng Jiang did indeed want to escape.

Facing someone like Fang Bai, a Heaven Level Expert, he had no other choice but to flee for his life.

A Martial Artist at Earth Level Perfection, Feng Jiang's speed was astonishingly fast when he fled with all his might, especially now in the darkness of the night. Apart from Fang Bai, no one else could even catch a glimpse of his fleeing silhouette.

At this moment, everyone's attention was on Feng Jiang, and no one noticed that at the very instant Feng Jiang's figure darted away, Fang Bai had also vanished from his original spot.

"Where did big brother go?"

Dongfang Ruhua glanced in the direction Feng Jiang had fled, then turned her head to look for Fang Bai, only to find that he too had disappeared without a trace, astonished, she asked.

"He must have gone after that despicable guy!"

Lin Ruoxue looked toward where Feng Jiang had disappeared, speculating thoughtfully.

Suddenly, everyone heard a burst of angry shouts and the sound of combat coming from a hundred meters ahead, but the noise lasted only a few seconds before coming to an end.

Moments later, they saw Fang Bai drag back a terrified Feng Jiang with his left hand, returning to the scene.

Feng Jiang's face was pale, his forehead covered with sweat, and the corner of his mouth bled, indicating he had suffered a serious loss in the swift exchange moments before. His limp body suggested Fang Bai had used some technique to seal his meridians and acupoints, leaving him unable to move.

"I've had my eye on this man and his accomplice for a long time!"

Seeing Lin Ruoxue and her daughter, Wen Yu, Wang Miaomiao, and others looking at him with faces full of questions and confusion, Fang Bai knew they were wondering why he had shown up here and explained with a smile, "They've got a deadly feud with a friend of mine, and it seems they came to Yanjing looking for trouble with my friend. They happened to run into me, so I followed them here."

After pausing, he spoke to Lin Ruoxue and her daughter, "The guy who attacked you earlier is named Ji Chao, and he, along with this Feng Jiang, come from a sect called 'Ghost Doctor Valley.' Ji Chao has already been crippled by me, now living a fate worse than death. In fact, I was keeping an eye on everything in secret when Ruhua had a conflict with Ji Chao, ready to intervene if Ruhua faced any danger."

Remembering the harrowing encounters they had been through, Lin Ruoxue, still shaken, smiled and said, "We owe it to the Jade Pendant you gave Ruhua, or else we wouldn't have been able to handle that guy. Well done on crippling them! Both of these men deserved to die!"

"Young man, do you know where I come from? I'll have you know it's the formidable Hidden Sect 'Ghost Doctor Valley' filled with experts! I advise you to release me now. Otherwise, when our best from 'Ghost Doctor Valley' make their move, not only will you be killed, but your 'Doctor Pavilion' will be flattened!"

Collapsed on the ground, although Feng Jiang couldn't move his body, his mouth was still functional. Hearing that Ji Chao had been disabled, he was shocked. His eyes darted around as he blustered threateningly, with his last sentence intended to intimidate Wen Yu, Lin Ruoxue, and the other "Doctor Pavilion" disciples.

Having been captured by Fang Bai with hardly a struggle during their encounter, Feng Jiang was horrified, thinking not even the Valley Master himself could match such prowess.

The strength of this young man from the Secular World named Fang Bai was so formidable that it could very well be compared to that of 'Ghost Doctor Valley's Supreme Elder Wei He, a thought that was nothing short of despairing.

"You're caught and you're still not behaving?"

Fang Bai said as he delivered a slap across Feng Jiang's face, causing Feng Jiang's mouth and nose to bleed, several teeth knocked loose, and though he looked at Fang Bai with eyes full of resentment, he dared not speak out again.

"Ruhua, I recently refined this Jade Pendant. It contains a few more strands of killing intent, and its power is even greater! When you get back, wear this new one!"

As he spoke, Fang Bai revealed a beautifully crafted green jade pendant in his hand and handed it over to Dongfang Ruhua.

"Thank you, Big Brother!"

Dongfang Ruhua, having witnessed the effectiveness of the jade pendant Fang Bai had given her earlier that night, knew such a protective charm was priceless. She took the new pendant with a little red flush of excitement on her face.

"Miaomiao, this is for you!"

Another identical jade pendant appeared in Fang Bai's hand, and he gestured to Wang Miaomiao to come over.

Wang Miaomiao walked up to Fang Bai with an excited face, took the jade pendant, and bowed to thank him.

Fang Bai had a close and affectionate relationship with Dongfang Ruhua and Wang Miaomiao, both as a teacher and a friend, so giving them the jade pendants was within reason. Although others envied them, they were not fortunate enough to receive one.

"I will take this man away, to be dealt with by my friend! Until we meet again!"

Having said that, Fang Bai nodded to Dongfang Ruhua and Wang Miaomiao, made a courteous gesture to Lin Ruoxue, Wen Yu, and the others, then grabbed Feng Jiang by the collar, turned, and strode away, disappearing from everyone's sight in the blink of an eye.

"Ruoxue, Ruhua, how did you mother and daughter come across those two men?"

Watching Fang Bai leave with many questions still on her mind, Wen Yu began to ask in detail.

Lin Ruoxue recounted the ordeal with Ji Chao and Feng Jiang, including their intent to capture her and her mother as "Furnace Cauldrons." Upon hearing this, Wen Yu frowned and said, "I've heard from some seniors in the pavilion that using women as 'Furnace Cauldrons' for cultivation is a very evil practice. In the end, those used as 'Furnace Cauldrons' often meet a very tragic death! Humph, those two men got what they deserved!"

Chapter 700: Hatred

Feng Jiang was subdued and taken away by Fang Bai, and the female disciples at the Doctor Pavilion sighed in relief, secretly glad that Fang Bai had arrived in time. Otherwise, they themselves might have suffered calamities.

"Pavilion Master, why have you called my daughter and me here so late? Is there something urgent?"

Lin Ruoxue asked.

Wen Yu said, "Tonight, I've summoned you disciples for two important matters: First, Elder Li has passed away, and the Pavilion needs to select a successor elder; second, I have decided to abdicate today to make way for the capable, to wholeheartedly cultivate martial arts, and the selection of the new Pavilion Master also needs your discussion..."

Lin Ruoxue had already received the news of Elder Li's passing, but Wen Yu's sudden announcement of abdication was somewhat unexpected to her.

Only to hear Wen Yu continue to say, "I recently seem to be showing signs of a breakthrough in my cultivation... For me, this is an excellent opportunity. If missed, I might never have hope in this lifetime. Furthermore, as I've grown older, serving as Pavilion Master has become somewhat beyond my strength. After stepping down as Pavilion Master, I'll be able to focus on cultivation."

Then Lin Ruoxue suddenly realized that Wen Yu's abdication was for this reason.

Wen Yu is a physician, and even more so a martial artist. For her, advancement on the path of Martial Dao is far more important than the position of Pavilion Master.

With each step forward on the path of Martial Dao, it isn't just an increase in strength; one's lifespan also vastly extends. Wen Yu's decision was thus not without justification.

The next Pavilion Master and Elder of the Doctor Pavilion are usually recommended by the previous Pavilion Master, followed by a discussion among other key disciples. As long as more than half agree, the election can proceed smoothly.

The next Pavilion Master and Elder that Wen Yu recommended were Wang Miaomiao and Lin Ruoxue, respectively.

These two candidates, both within and beyond the disciples' expectations of Doctor Pavilion, were also reasonable.

Unexpected because Wang Miaomiao was too young and inexperienced; no one had imagined she would be able to secure the Pavilion Master's recommendation to become the next leader.

While Lin Ruoxue was old enough and qualified, her strength was somewhat lacking, making the role of Elder a bit of a stretch for her.

Within reason, because in the past year, Wang Miaomiao's medical skills and strength had both improved greatly. Indeed, in the entire Doctor Pavilion, no one was more qualified for the role of Pavilion Master.

Although Lin Ruoxue's strength was somewhat weak, the support of the Dongfang Family behind her was worth relying on, especially since she had a very powerful daughter, Dongfang Ruhua.

In fact, the disciples of the Doctor Pavilion understood that the reason Wang Miaomiao and Lin Ruoxue were recommended by the Pavilion Master was chiefly because of their good relationship with Fang Bai. Doctor Pavilion needed to leverage their relationship to maintain friendship with Fang Bai, which was critical to the Pavilion's future development.

While the Doctor Pavilion disciples were busy with the selection of the new Pavilion Master and Elder, Fang Bai, along with Deputy Valley Master Feng Jiang from the Ghost Doctor Valley, also returned to their residence in the quadrangle courtyard.

"Is this... Valley Chief Feng?"

"Divine Doctor Fang, what's the matter?"

When Fang Bai threw Feng Jiang in front of Baili Zhan and Yang Xudong, both were greatly shocked, looking at Fang Bai with a clueless expression, wondering what on earth had happened.

Fang Bai said with a smile, "It's nothing; I encountered two disciples sent by Ghost Doctor Valley to hunt you down on my way here, and I took care of them. This Feng Jiang I've brought over for you to deal with. The other one, named Ji Chao, got slapped into an idiot by me. Let him fend for himself!"

"Just casually took care of them..."

Hearing Fang Bai's words, both Baili Zhan and Yang Xudong were rendered speechless.

Especially Yang Xudong, who couldn't help taking a sharp intake of cool air, feeling it was inconceivable and utterly astonishing.

Feng Jiang and Ji Chao, one a Deputy Valley Master with Earth Level Perfection strength and the other an Elder with High Rank Earth Level strength, were both considered formidable figures who dominated

their respective realms in the Hidden Sect World. Yet, in Fang Bai's words, they seemed like trash that could be easily disposed of.

Until now, Yang Xudong had always been unclear about just how powerful Fang Bai's strength was, but through today's events, he guessed that Fang Bai must have reached the level of a Valley Master; otherwise, how could he have so easily taken care of both Feng Jiang and Ji Chao?

Taking a deep breath to quell the tumultuous emotions in his chest, Baili Zhan looked at Feng Jiang, who was hanging his head low with a defeated look on his face, and said coldly, "Valley Chief Feng, it's been a long time. Do you even recognize us?"

Back when Baili Zhan was still in Ghost Doctor Valley, although he didn't have much interaction with the Deputy Valley Master Feng Jiang, he harbored an intense hatred for him.

This was because it was Feng Jiang who had discovered an Evil Cultivation Technique that used women as "Furnace Cauldrons" for practitioners and offered it to the Valley Master Li Ao, plunging Ghost Doctor Valley into a situation beyond redemption.

Originally, Ghost Doctor Valley was an upright and prestigious sect where disciples studied medical skills and cultivated Martial Arts without vying with the Secular World. However, since the acquisition of that Evil Cultivation Technique offered by Feng Jiang, the whole atmosphere of Ghost Doctor Valley changed for the worse. The disciples began causing harm everywhere, abducting Female Martial Artists to use as "Furnace Cauldrons" to cultivate, and eventually descended into depravity.

It was during that time that Baili Zhan, unwilling to be carried along by this corrupt tide, surreptitiously left with his wife Jiang Yuzhi to lead a life of hiding in the Secular World.

Yang Xudong and his wife also fled shortly thereafter.

One could say that Feng Jiang was entirely to blame for Ghost Doctor Valley becoming what it was today.

Therefore, both Baili Zhan and Yang Xudong harbored deep hatred for Feng Jiang. Now, seeing Feng Jiang captured by Fang Bai and brought here in such a pathetic state, both felt a sense of vindication.

Slowly lifting his head, Feng Jiang's eyes sharpened when he saw Baili Zhan and Yang Xudong, then he said bitterly, "You two... Baili Zhan, Yang Xudong, you traitorous disciples..."

Slap—

Before Feng Jiang could finish speaking, Baili Zhan already raised his hand and slapped him fiercely across the face, causing blood to seep from the corner of his mouth and one side of his cheek to swell up.

"This slap is for my wife and child! If it weren't for you, they wouldn't have had to flee Ghost Doctor Valley with me, living a life of constant fear and hardship!"

Baili Zhan said bitterly, then raised his hand for another slap.

Slap—

With this slap, Feng Jiang's other cheek swelled up as well, with fresh blood oozing continuously from his nose and mouth.

"This slap is for the women harmed by Ghost Doctor Valley! If you hadn't brought that Evil Cultivation Technique into Ghost Doctor Valley, how many women would have been spared from abduction and harm?"

Slap—

As Feng Jiang was speaking, the third slap came down hard. This slap hit Feng Jiang right on his left ear, causing him to hear a roaring sound and his vision darkened as he felt dizziness take over. Blood began oozing from both his eyes and ears.