

King Hall 1221

Chapter 1221: The Heaven-reaching Spiritual Treasure Unleashes Its Might! The Traitor's Fate!

"Whoosh!"

The Eight Desolations Cauldron was activated, targeting the Master of Purple Gold Mountain, and instantly shot out like a cannonball.

"Boom!!"

The Eight Desolations Cauldron shimmered with radiant treasure light, suddenly striking out, instantly solidifying the void, and dismantling the stable order of the Heaven and Earth Laws around.

At this moment, in the eyes of the Master of Purple Gold Mountain, time seemed to freeze, everything in the world stood still, and the only thing moving was the Eight Desolations Cauldron flying directly towards him.

The world lost all color, except for the Eight Desolations Cauldron, which carried an overwhelming aura of supremacy over all under heaven, flying fiercely towards him.

'No!'

The Master of Purple Gold Mountain couldn't even change his expression, his heart roaring and struggling desperately to break free from this desperate captivity, but he couldn't manage it at all.

At this moment, he couldn't even move a finger!

"Boom!!"

The disciples of Purple Gold Mountain, rushing down from the mountain, saw their most revered Mountain Master completely without a trace of struggle or resistance, letting that treasure cauldron smash his body.

Like an iron ball falling from the sky, smashing a coal ball on the ground into dust.

Blood petals scattered across the sky, crimson and bleak, chilling their hearts!

"Master..."

"Mountain Master!"

They were filled with despair and disbelief, unable to imagine that the Master of Purple Gold Mountain would fall so easily.

Wasn't he just standing in the air, with one hand behind him, proudly letting Wen Rou and Gu Xiyan attack together?

How did he suddenly get torn apart just by someone throwing a single magic treasure?

"Pathetically weak."

Wen Rou's tone remained soft, but the words made the people of Purple Gold Mountain feel incredibly uncomfortable.

Gu Xiyan stopped activating her Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure, also taken aback.

She couldn't believe the power of this Heaven-reaching spiritual treasure was so formidable, Wen Rou killed the Master of Purple Gold Mountain with a single strike.

Originally, she was worried whether she and Wen Rou, even joining forces, could defeat the opponent.

"We didn't prepare to extinguish all of you hastily, we're here today to settle old scores, merely targeting the upper echelons of Purple Gold Mountain and the original Seven Great Families of Jiangnan and Medicine Alliance..."

"If you want to leave Purple Gold Mountain quickly, then go find them out."

Mu Jinyu remained calm from beginning to end, never worried that the Master of Purple Gold Mountain would cause Wen Rou and the others any harm, so after his death, he didn't spare a glance, directly speaking to the stunned disciples of Purple Gold Mountain.

"The people from the Medicine Alliance and the Seven Great Families of Jiangnan?"

"They're the ones who caused the trouble, hurry and drag them all out!"

The disciples of Purple Gold Mountain quickly snapped out of their daze upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, then acting, they surged towards the mountain, eager to pull out these people.

No one thought to leave Purple Gold Mountain.

They didn't dare, fearing they might anger this group of Gods of Killing and end up leaving their lives behind.

Similarly, Mu Jinyu's words reminded them, providing a potential chance to redeem themselves, maybe even join Dragon King Hall.

Which would be far better than leaving Purple Gold Mountain like frightened stray dogs?

Mu Jinyu stood before the mountain gate without moving, but his Divine Sense unfurled, covering the whole Purple Gold Mountain to prevent anyone from escaping through the back hills, patiently waiting for news.

Soon, a group pressed a disheveled-haired woman down the mountain, their faces somewhat anxious and uneasy, stumbled before Mu Jinyu, softly saying, "Dragon Master, we found her..."

"Just one person?"

Mu Jinyu raised his brows, feeling as if they were joking with him?

His slight anger unleashed a terrifying aura, pressing everyone to the ground, trembling, almost crushed into meat paste.

As his aura retracted, everyone barely caught a breath, explanations eventually clarified for Mu Jinyu why there was only one person left from the large Seven Great Families of Jiangnan and Medicine Alliance.

It turned out, these people were lured by the Master of Purple Gold Mountain into betraying Dragon King Hall, after tricking Gu Xiyan and her team, naturally fled Jiangnan Province to Jinling seeking refuge under the Master of Purple Gold Mountain.

But Purple Gold Mountain was a person intolerant of deceit, much like how Zhao Chenlong was killed by Mu Jinyu upon their arrival, even though the Seven Great Families of Jiangnan and Medicine Alliance followed his orders to harm Dragon King Hall, but ultimately it was a betrayal, he certainly didn't keep them.

Thus, after betraying Dragon King Hall and hoping to join Purple Gold Mountain as promised, they received no benefits and were mostly slain by the Master of Purple Gold Mountain.

Only the Saintess of Medicine Alliance, Yao Bilian, remained due to her beauty, serving as a maid to the Master of Purple Gold Mountain.

Therefore, when they heard Mu Jinyu's order, returned to Purple Gold Mountain, sought out the Seven Great Families of Jiangnan and Medicine Alliance everywhere, hoping to redeem themselves, in the end realized, it was only Yao Bilian left.

Thus, they hesitantly pressed Yao Bilian down, worried about whether Mu Jinyu might just repeat history, claiming to spare them, but ultimately, they might end up wiped out...

"So that's it?"

Mu Jinyu, after listening to their explanations, despite feeling no direct ties between Seven Great Families and Medicine Alliance with them, had no reason to entirely trust their words.

Therefore, his Divine Sense extended, directly merging into everyone's Sea of Consciousness for a Soul Search, verifying their words.

Finally, he arrived at Yao Bilian's Sea of Consciousness, conducting a Soul Search.

Indeed, they didn't deceive him.

From Yao Bilian's memory, Mu Jinyu witnessed the brutal scene of the Seven Great Families of Jiangnan and Medicine Alliance, after betraying Dragon King Hall, joining Purple Gold Mountain only to face slaughter.

Yao Bilian saw her grandfather, Yao Liangbi, die right before her eyes and eventually became a maid to the murderers, enduring an unbearably miserable life.

"Hehehe..."

Mu Jinyu couldn't help but laugh coldly after seeing these memories, showing no sympathy for their miserable fate.

"Deserved what they got."

He said indifferently, serenely accepting the situation.

Though he regretted not personally dealing with the Seven Great Families and Medicine Alliance, he realized he couldn't charge into the Underworld, pulling their souls out to reckon with them?

"Thud!"

At this moment, Yao Bilian struggled, breaking free from the few people holding her limbs, and knelt before Mu Jinyu with a thud, clutching his leg, crying and begging, "Dragon Master, I was wrong, please forgive me... I want to return to Dragon King Hall... I dare not do it again..."

She no longer wanted to live such a life, regretting her betrayal of Dragon King Hall, leading to her current existence worse than death.

"If only you knew the consequences then, why act recklessly?"

Mu Jinyu, listening to Yao Bilian's pleas about her miserable life over the past six months, remained unmoved, his expression chillingly cold.

He said indifferently, "How had Dragon King Hall wronged you?"

"You, the Medicine Alliance and those Seven Great Families, first tried plundering Spiritual Medicine from Yinlong Mountain, tried to kill me after I stopped you, I defeated you, forgave your wrongs, inviting you to join Dragon King Hall, yet how did you repay me?"

Feeling pained and guilty recalling how Gu Xiyan and Lin Qiaoxia almost died due to their betrayal, Mu Jinyu's expression turned cold, full of fear and self-blame, then kicked Yao Bilian away, turning towards Gu Xiyan and Lin Qiaoxia, and asked:

"Handle her yourselves as you see fit."

Chapter 1222: Yao Bilian Dies! Purple Gold Mountain Disbands! Yang City's Su Family!

Over the past year, Gu Xiyan had become resolute and decisive in her killings, hardened by countless slaughters.

However, hearing Yao Bilian's lament, she couldn't help but feel a twinge of compassion, sighed slightly, and turned to look at Lin Qiaoxia and Yu Linglong, saying, "What do you think?"

Yu Linglong, being Gu Xiyan's close friend, naturally understood that Gu Xiyan was somewhat reluctant to kill Yao Bilian. She gently shook her head and finally looked at Lin Qiaoxia.

Seeing everyone looking at her, Lin Qiaoxia thought for a moment, then shook her head and said, "Forget it; after all, she's the only one left, so she probably won't pose a threat to us. It's best to let her fend for herself and let her die on her own."

Yao Bilian originally had a cultivation of dark energy, and now after a year in this era of spiritual energy revival which brings earth-shaking changes from time to time, her cultivation was still only at dark energy level, indicating her aptitude was not particularly strong.

Even if they let her go, it would not lead to a situation where a tiger returns to the mountain and becomes a threat later; hence Lin Qiaoxia suggested this.

"Alright."

Mu Jinyu originally brought them here to vent, and seeing that they had decided how to deal with Yao Bilian, he didn't interfere, simply nodded, then coldly looked at Yao Bilian and said indifferently, "Take care of yourself."

Then he said to the women, "Let's go."

The group then turned to leave Purple Gold Mountain.

The disciples of Purple Gold Mountain breathed a sigh of relief upon seeing this.

Afterwards, they looked at Yao Bilian, who wore a dull expression with a hint of resentment, exchanging glances with each other, their eyes flashing with ferocity.

Mu Jinyu and the others chose to abandon that woman to her fate, but Purple Gold Mountain had suffered greatly because of them, and they were not willing to let Yao Bilian go so easily.

"Splat!"

Mu Jinyu and the others had just walked a distance when suddenly a strange noise came from behind with a whiff of blood spreading. They couldn't help but look back to see Yao Bilian's body still kneeling on the ground, but her head had rolled like a ball.

Seeing this, Gu Xiyan and the others were all somewhat shocked, and then Lin Qiaoxia frowned and said, "Why did you kill her!"

The people of Purple Gold Mountain shuddered upon hearing Lin Qiaoxia's words, their faces showing a look of terror.

They had attacked Yao Bilian, thinking they wouldn't care if Yao Bilian lived or died, even assuming it was an implicit signal for them to act.

Yet, seeing this situation, it seemed Lin Qiaoxia wasn't implying they should kill her!

One person quickly realized the danger and hurriedly said, "Honorable ones, didn't you just say to let this woman fend for herself? It is generous of you to forgive her, but we cannot forgive her. Moreover, given her miserable situation at Purple Gold Mountain, if we let her leave, she might not dare target Dragon King Hall, but she might target us instead. So, for the sake of our lives, we had to kill her to protect ourselves."

"Sigh..."

Lin Qiaoxia gently sighed, turned around, and said nothing more.

Her previous words weren't meant to stand up for Yao Bilian or to seek justice for her. She spared Yao Bilian because she pitied her, not because she truly forgave the Medicine Alliance and Yao Bilian.

Now that the other party was dead, it was settled, and she couldn't be bothered to say more.

Gu Xiyan and Yu Linglong also sighed lightly, linked arms, and followed Mu Jinyu away from Purple Gold Mountain.

"Whew..."

Watching Mu Jinyu and the others disappear from sight, those who survived on Purple Gold Mountain sighed in relief, realizing that moments ago their backs were soaked with cold sweat.

"You were too hasty, if you were going to kill that woman, you should have waited for them to leave!"

"You were the one who acted first, yet you have the nerve to blame me!"

They complained to each other.

Then, they looked up at the aura-shrouded Purple Gold Mountain and sighed, "Sigh, cultivating at Purple Gold Mountain is far better than the outside world, but now the Mountain Master is dead, and only we remain. If someone comes to claim this famous mountain, we probably can't hold on to Purple Gold Mountain..."

"It's better to pack up and leave quickly. Just surviving today is already a blessing."

As they spoke, their expressions changed drastically, and they hurriedly returned to their residences on Purple Gold Mountain to scramble for the relics left behind by the Mountain Master and the elders after their deaths.

There were so many valuable things in there.

...

After Mu Jinyu and the women left Purple Gold Mountain, they didn't directly return to Yinlong Mountain but continued their journey to Yang City.

The matters at Purple Gold Mountain were settled, but the account of Yang City's Su Family detaining Zhou Yi was yet unresolved.

Since they were already out, they might as well settle everything clearly.

...

Yang City, Su Family.

In the hall, two rows of armchairs were lined up.

At this moment, all the high-ranking members of the Su Family and the handsomely paid guest elders were seated, all with solemn expressions.

At the top, a middle-aged man dressed in a Zhongshan suit was seated.

This person was none other than Su Zhengrui, the Head of Yang City's Su Family.

"According to reliable information, the Dragon King of Dragon King Hall has returned, with great advances in strength. Yesterday, he wiped out the five major Fanxu Realm experts who invaded Dragon King Hall in one fell swoop, with his power at least at the later stage of the Fanxu Realm!"

Su Zhengrui's expression was extremely solemn as he slowly scanned the people below, saying in a deep voice, "What should we do now? Should our Su Family return Zhou Yi to the Dragon King Hall and apologize with generous gifts?"

Dragon King Hall has always been formidable and aggressive.

However, over the past year, due to the revival of spiritual energy and the evolution of all beings, Dragon King Hall has been struggling on various fronts, battling ferocious beasts and foreign enemies, so its development has not been particularly rapid.

In contrast, many forces have surpassed it, with more prestige than Dragon King Hall.

Yet, our Su Family is not among those that have surpassed Dragon King Hall's power.

Last year, when Zhou Yi returned from Yulong Snow Mountain and wanted to leave the Su Family, we naturally disagreed and in a fit of anger, imprisoned Zhou Yi.

However, later we learned that the force Zhou Yi wanted to join after leaving the Su Family was Dragon King Hall, which immediately made us anxious and almost led us to release Zhou Yi and let him go.

But at that time, Dragon King Hall was no longer as formidable as it initially was, besieged on all sides, with even Yu Shenfeng, who was on good terms with Zhou Yi, nearly falling under the assault of multiple enemies, so we hesitated to let Zhou Yi go.

Now that the Dragon King of Dragon King Hall has returned, recalling his retaliatory nature, we are all frightened, fearing that our imprisoning Zhou Yi might provoke Dragon King Hall to retaliate against the Su Family.

So as soon as we got the news, we were all alarmed, immediately gathering the Su Family high-ups to discuss countermeasures.

An elder clad in a centipede robe, gently stroking his white beard, said calmly, "Family Head, there's no need to be overly concerned. Zhou Yi only had a brief encounter with the Dragon King; even though the Dragon King promised him a place at Dragon King Hall to learn alchemy, Zhou Yi never went. They might think Zhou Yi himself gave up that opportunity, and with so much talent at Dragon King Hall, why would they bother to investigate this deeply?"

Chapter 1223: Returning Your Freedom! Mu Jinyu Comes Knocking!

The words of the elder in the Centipede Garment received nods of agreement from many, all believing that the Dragon King Hall might not even remember Zhou Yi.

After all, Zhou Yi's cultivation at the time was the Second Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, and although he was a rare talent for the Dragon King Hall then, the Dragon King Hall doesn't lack people of such cultivation these days.

"I think we should quickly release Elder Zhou...."

At this moment, a middle-aged man hesitated and spoke, "The Dragon King might not remember Elder Zhou upon return, but Yu Shenfeng probably won't forget him. We shouldn't rely on wishful thinking, or it might lead to a disaster."

These words plunged everyone into silence.

Indeed, they all understood deep down that hoping Mu Jinyu had forgotten about Zhou Yi and wouldn't come looking for trouble was somewhat far-fetched.

However, there was nothing they could do about it. In the past, alchemists were rare, and elixirs were priceless. Their desire for alchemy wasn't too strong.

Yet, with the revival of Spiritual Energy, countless spiritual medicines, thought to be extinct, are regrowing, and elixirs once thought impossible to concoct can now be made. To ensure maximum utilization of these spiritual medicines, they naturally couldn't easily let Zhou Yi go.

They had also negotiated with Zhou Yi, stating that if he left behind some pill formulas, they would allow him to leave and join the Dragon King Hall.

But the stubborn old man Zhou Yi fiercely declared that even if they killed him, he would never give them the pill formulas.

This infuriated them, so they imprisoned Zhou Yi in hopes of breaking his spirit until he willingly handed the formulas over.

One person, silent and unwilling, spoke out: "Wasn't Yu Shenfeng nearly killed in that siege? After half a year of secluded recovery with no news, he might have perished in the secret chamber, unable to convey messages to the Dragon King!"

The middle-aged man glanced at him and said blandly, "Regardless of whether Yu Shenfeng perished in the healing chamber, his two disciples are still alive. Could they forget Elder Zhou, a well-known friend of their master?"

These words shattered everyone's wishful thinking completely, leaving them in silent contemplation.

"Sigh..."

An endless sigh resonated among the people, filled with unwillingness and a helpless fear.

They were unwilling to leave Zhou Yi to leave the Su Family like this, yet feared the Dragon King Hall's impending reckoning, their hearts caught in a painful tug-of-war.

Seeing the situation, Su Zhengrui could guess what everyone was thinking and said, "Let's have a show of hands please; those who do not support Elder Zhou leaving the Su Family, please raise your hands."

No hands were raised.

It was naturally understood that Zhou Yi would be allowed to leave.

Su Zhengrui smiled bitterly and sighed, "In that case, let us adjourn, I will go find Elder Zhou."

The members of the Su Family dispersed in disappointment.

After everyone had left, Su Zhengrui stood up, left the hall, and went to his study, pressing a few spots on the wall. Instantly, a wall turned, revealing an underground passageway.

Entering the underground passage, Su Zhengrui took several turns before arriving at an underground prison.

In the dark and deathly silent cell, lay a disheveled old man. Hearing the movement, the old man opened his eyes and glanced at Su Zhengrui indifferently, asking:

"Been a long time since you've come, Su Family kid, did you bring me anything good to eat this time?"

"Sorry Elder Zhou, I came in a hurry this time and brought nothing," Su Zhengrui said with a slight hoarseness, swallowing a little.

The old man in the prison was naturally Zhou Yi. Hearing Su Zhengrui's words, he glanced at him a few more times, surprised, "Hmm, why does your voice sound weird?"

Then, with a sudden realization, he continued, "Oh, I see! You're trying to trick me again, aren't you? I'm telling you, there's no use trying this with me. If I was going to give you the pill formulas, I would have done it a year ago, why drag it till now?"

"You might as well just kill me, or let me go quickly; grinding it out with me for ten years would be pointless."

Su Zhengrui sighed, skipping the discussions about how difficult it was for the Su Family to nurture him in alchemy, "We've figured it out; we're letting you go now, Elder Zhou."

"What?!"

Hearing Su Zhengrui's words, Zhou Yi's indifferent expression tightened, his eyes suddenly gleaming.

"Whoosh!"

In an instant, he sprang up from the straw pile, grasping the cold iron bars with both hands, astonished, "Is this for real?"

"Yes, I'll open the iron gate now."

Su Zhengrui completely calmed his mind, saying softly, then took out a key to unlock the cell door forged from special metal.

Seeing the cell door truly open, and that he would regain his freedom, although perplexed at why the Su Family suddenly came around, he didn't bother thinking too much since regaining freedom was a definite positive.

Moreover, during his confinement, people occasionally came to threaten him. He'd heard the news that the Dragon King was absent and that Yu Shenfeng was critically injured half a year ago, now his life uncertain. Despite these rumors not shaking his resolve, now he wanted to immediately head to the Dragon King Hall to confirm their truth.

Laughing heartily, Zhou Yi shook off the chains on his hands, swaggered out of the cell, and swiftly ran toward the exit of the underground passage!

...

As Zhou Yi regained his freedom.

Mu Jinyu and his group also arrived in Yang City, and following the information provided by Mu Hongchen, found the address of the Su Family.

Standing before the lavish Su Family Mansion, Mu Jinyu gazed at the vermilion gates and the two imposing stone lions, retracting his gaze, and walked straight inside.

"Who goes there?!"

"Halt!"

The guards stationed at the Su Family gates, all with Energy Transformation cultivation, had already noticed Mu Jinyu and his team lingering in front of the mansion and became alert. As Mu Jinyu's group approached the gates, they shouted angrily.

"Boom!"

When the guards drew their weapons, Mu Jinyu remained motionless, but an invisible force burst forth, pressing out like a mountainous wave.

In a flash, all the guards spewed blood and were sent flying.

However, considering their Energy Transformation level, they wouldn't suffer severe injuries.

"Ring-ring!!"

Fortunately, not all guards charged at Mu Jinyu—some perceived the overwhelming aura of his group and rang the alarm in advance.

The alarm blared, echoing throughout the entire Su Family.

Instantly stirring everyone in the Su Family.

"What's happening? Is someone intruding on our Su Family?"

"Could it be... the Dragon King Hall?!"

The Su Family Elders, who had just returned to cultivate after adjourning the meeting, opened their eyes wide at the sound of the alarm, their faces shifting minutely, filled with apprehension at the notion of speaking of the devil.

And accompanying Zhou Yi out of the underground passage, Su Zhengrui was filled with extreme unease hearing the incessant alarm.

Chapter 1224: Staying True to Conscience! Zhou Yi's Dilemma!

"What is going on?!"

Zhou Yi, just emerging from the underground passage and arriving at Su Zhengrui's study, heard the alarm and looked back suspiciously at Su Zhengrui, saying: "I say, kid, has the Su family provoked some great enemy, and without enough hands to resist, you want to drag me out to face it?"

"No..."

Su Zhengrui's face was pale, his expression just barely calm as he shook his head and said, "That's not what I meant. I'm not sure what's happening either. Let's go out and have a look."

Zhou Yi gave Su Zhengrui a deep look and said, "Forget it, after all, I've been a guest elder here for a while, considering that the Su family treated me fairly well over the years, if the Su family faces trouble today, I won't just stand by idly!"

"Let's go!"

With that, Zhou Yi took the lead, rushing out of the study and heading with the crowds towards the Su family front yard!

He knew the current situation of Earth's spiritual energy revival; a year ago, the Su family already had several God Realm figures, not weaker than him in strength.

However, over the past year, without any spiritual medicine or resources to enhance his cultivation, he could only rely on absorbing nature's spiritual energy to cultivate, raising his cultivation merely from the Second Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm to the Third Layer.

Meanwhile, the Su family's God Realm experts, under the generous nurturing of the Su family's resources, should have at least reached the Fifth or Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm by now.

If the Su family is really facing such a great calamity that even those elders from the Fifth and Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm can't withstand it, Zhou Yi knew that even if he rushed over, it would be like a moth to a flame.

His most favorable choice at the moment should be to leave the Su family and quickly return to report to the Dragon King Hall.

After all, the Su family had already agreed to let him go, and he was no longer a guest elder of the Su family.

But just as Zhou Yi had said earlier, the Su family indeed treated him quite well over the past years. If the Su family faces great difficulty now, and all those God Realm experts have already fallen, even if he rushes in he would be like a moth to a flame, but he couldn't just walk away, leaving them in the lurch...

That would be against his conscience!

Su family front yard.

Mu Jinyu was confronting a group of people from the Su family.

Not long ago, with his imposing air, he had sent flying that group of security guards, smashed the Su family gate, and after striding straight into the Su family, a group of Su family elders who hurriedly rushed to the front yard in response to the loud alarm bell, confronted him.

"Dra...Dragon King?!"

The former head of the Su family, now the Great Elder, recognized Mu Jinyu at a glance, and his heart sank straight to the bottom of the sea, his face pale, unable to speak clearly.

They hadn't expected that after just discussing whether Mu Jinyu would come to trouble them because of Zhou Yi, with whom he had a fleeting acquaintance, Mu Jinyu would swiftly arrive.

And judging by his aggressive appearance, he was clearly here to cause trouble for the Su family.

This time... the Su family is in trouble!

The Second Elder, barely managing to maintain his composure, suppressed the fear and despair in his heart, bowed to Mu Jinyu, and asked, "We don't know what brings the Dragon King here to our Su family with such a great commotion? Is there anything urgent?"

Mu Jinyu stood with his hands behind his back, coldly sweeping his gaze over the numerous elders of the Su family who had rushed to the front yard.

The Su family is indeed formidable; even before the spiritual energy revival, their power far exceeded organizations like the Medicine Alliance or the Dan Pavilion, with quite a few God Realm experts.

However, after the spiritual energy revival, their development was not particularly impressive. Now, they don't even have a Fanxu Realm cultivator, and the strongest coming to stop him is only at the Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm!

With a cold smile, Mu Jinyu spoke, "You really don't know why I've come to your Su family?"

"Release Zhou Yi, or I don't mind flattening your Su family today!"

As the words fell, an invisible Qi force radiated out like ripples.

"Boom!"

The group of Su family people who were confronting Mu Jinyu, upon hearing his words, were filled with shock and anger, about to say something, but were hit by the Qi force, immediately vomiting blood and flying backwards.

'How could this be?'

'Too strong! What level is the Dragon King really at?'

'Where is the family head? Why haven't they brought Zhou Yi out yet?'

The people of the Su family lay helplessly on the ground, filled with terror in their hearts, with no more wishful thinking. Even when thinking about the Dragon King coming to trouble their Su family, they now understood the gap between their Su family and the Dragon King Hall.

And realized clearly, that unless they extinguish the Dragon King's wrath today, their Su family truly faces the risk of being eradicated.

"Whiz!"

At this moment, the sound of something tearing through the air came.

"Who dares cause trouble at the Su family!"

The voice was old yet firm, tinged with anger, and carried a resolute intent to die!

Mu Jinyu, with an indifferent expression, was about to casually send the newcomer flying as well, but upon raising his head and seeing the newcomer's appearance, his expression paused slightly, recognizing it as Zhou Yi.

He quickly stopped himself.

Though Mu Jinyu had only met Zhou Yi once, he remembered his appearance quite clearly, albeit not his voice. Thus, when Zhou Yi shouted, Mu Jinyu didn't have much impression and almost struck him away.

"Elder Zhou, long time no see."

After stopping, Mu Jinyu smiled and greeted Zhou Yi.

"It's... Dragon Master..."

Zhou Yi naturally recognized Mu Jinyu as well, the fury on his face and the resolute intent in his eyes vanished instantly, replaced with immense emotion, tears welling up in his eyes.

He never imagined that Mu Jinyu would come to the Su family specially for an insignificant old man like him, to help him escape!

At this moment, he finally understood why Su Zhengrui suddenly decided to let him go, with such a complex expression in front of the prison cell.

It was because the Su family had learned of the Dragon King's return, fearing that forcibly detaining him would lead to an attack by the Dragon King Hall, and thus reluctantly chose to release him.

Looking at the incredibly emotional Zhou Yi, Mu Jinyu smiled slightly and said, "Elder Zhou, I came to take you back."

"Mm." Zhou Yi nodded dumbly, then, realizing, raised his hand with a solemn expression and said, "Dragon Master, I swear henceforth to be loyal to the Dragon King Hall, to repay the Dragon Master's great justice of today."

Mu Jinyu chuckled softly, "No need to be so serious. This was my promise to you years ago; I came today simply to fulfill it."

Speaking, he turned his cold gaze to the Su family people lying prone on the ground. "What do you want to do with these people? I'm standing up for you today, and I will make them pay the price!"

"People of the Dragon King Hall are not to be detained as they please!"

"Dragon Master... Dragon Master..."

At this moment, Su Zhengrui also rushed over, hearing just the last of Mu Jinyu's words, his face turned extremely pale, trembling as he said.

"Dragon Master, over the past year, our Su family indeed let greed get the better of us and wronged Elder Zhou. We certainly intend to compensate him for what he deserves. But we really haven't harmed him or done anything terrible to him..."

Mu Jinyu, with a cold expression, said nothing, not even sparing Su Zhengrui a glance, merely staring silently at Zhou Yi, awaiting his decision.

Seeing this, Su Zhengrui anxiously turned to Zhou Yi, saying, "Elder Zhou, tell the Dragon Master, in the past year, after we kept you, have we laid a hand on you? Have we subjected you to severe interrogation?"

Zhou Yi hesitated.

Judging from Mu Jinyu's attitude, he guessed Mu Jinyu intended to take action against the Su family to seize their cultivation resources.

Thus, if he wanted to join the Dragon King Hall, gain Mu Jinyu's favor, and receive his alchemical guidance, his best choice would naturally be to accuse the Su family of its crimes.

Allowing the Dragon King Hall to stand morally justified and outrightly seize the Su family's resources.

But...

To turn against an old employer who treated him not badly, for the sake of his path in alchemy, ruthlessly pitting against them, is it really right?

Chapter 1225: Atonement! Do I Still Deserve to Be Human?

A trace of confusion flashed in Zhou Yi's eyes, but soon, his gaze became firm again.

He shook his head and said to Mu Jinyu: "Dragon Master, actually, I haven't really suffered much in the Su family this past year..."

Su Zhengrui and all the fallen members of the Su family felt a huge relief upon hearing Zhou Yi's words, their hearts filled with gratitude and guilt towards him.

Indeed, the Su family had not tortured Zhou Yi much this year, trying to force his pill recipes from him.

But the real reason wasn't that they didn't want to; another individual might really have done so.

They were just afraid that if they tortured Zhou Yi too severely, he might produce a seemingly harmless, yet actually deadly pill formula. If they successfully refined and took such a pill, would it not be self-inflicted harm?

After all, they couldn't understand the pill formula. Who could guarantee that they wouldn't force a tampered and incomplete formula from Zhou Yi's mouth?

So they chose to gently and persistently implore, occasionally appealing to Zhou Yi with emotions and logic, hoping to persuade him to hand over the pill formula voluntarily.

No one expected that this decision, made at the time, would spare their lives today, leaving the people of the Su family filled with relief alongside overwhelming guilt towards Zhou Yi.

"Alright."

After Zhou Yi said those words with an uneasy heart, to his surprise, Mu Jinyu did not look grim or furious; instead, he nodded with a smile and said nothing more.

This made Zhou Yi delighted, yet a bit puzzled.

Could it be that he was mistaken, and Mu Jinyu was really just standing up for him and not eyeing the Su family's cultivation resources, using this as an excuse to extort them?

Mu Jinyu had an agreeable smile at the corner of his mouth as he turned to Su Zhengrui and said calmly: "Since Elder Zhou has pleaded for you, I will spare your Su family this time."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Su Zhengrui finally breathed a genuine sigh of relief, full of joy.

But then, Mu Jinyu's tone changed, he continued: "However, a death penalty can be avoided, but a living penalty is unavoidable. People from my Dragon King Hall aren't so easily detained; since you have done so, you will have to pay a certain price!"

"Alright... Dragon Master, whatever you say, we will fully comply..."

Upon hearing this, Su Zhengrui's heart tightened again; he then gritted his teeth and said in a deep voice.

His guess was similar to Zhou Yi's earlier, imagining that the price Mu Jinyu mentioned would likely be demanding a portion of their cultivation resources to compensate the Dragon King Hall and cover Zhou Yi's mental loss and other expenses.

Unexpectedly, Mu Jinyu didn't demand these so-called resource compensations in the following moment; instead, he pointed out various famous mountains in the Southern Yue Province, ordering them to sweep away the demonic aura!

"These demon beasts have greatly enhanced their strength following the spiritual energy revival, committing evil deeds in your Southern Yue Province and causing widespread bloodshed and destruction. Yet, your Su family, residing in the Southern Yue Province, held a passive stance, remaining indifferent. Now, you shall attack these famous mountains and let these fierce beasts pay the price as a punishment!"

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Su Zhengrui was astonished, not expecting Mu Jinyu to make such a decision.

However, the demon beasts occupying these famous mountains named by Mu Jinyu are merely at around the sixth or seventh level of the Divinity Transformation Realm. Even if their Su family fights desperately, they can still conquer them.

It wasn't like they were attacking a Fanxu Realm demon beast like the Golden-Winged Roc occupying Kunlun Mountain, which would be a death sentence for them.

So, Su Zhengrui gritted his teeth and said: "Alright, we won't let everyone down, we will atone for our sins!"

"Hmm."

Mu Jinyu nodded and said nothing more, turning to Zhou Yi: "Elder Zhou, shall we go?"

"Yes..."

With a slightly confused and melancholy expression, Zhou Yi responded to Mu Jinyu's call and followed him out of the Su family mansion.

'Is this matter really over just like that?'

Even after leaving the Su family, Zhou Yi found it hard to believe.

Afterward, he realized why and felt ashamed.

He had just suspected Mu Jinyu's malicious intentions, thinking he was using his name as a pretext to extort the Su family.

Thus, Zhou Yi hurriedly apologized to Mu Jinyu, "Dragon Master, I am sorry, I did think you were..."

Mu Jinyu halted his steps, turned his head to look at the ashamed and regretful Zhou Yi, and smiled, "It's alright, your final decision was in line with my intentions; I can now entrust the Alchemy Hall of the Dragon King Hall to you in confidence."

Initially, when Mu Jinyu came to Yang City, it was just to stand up for Zhou Yi.

Simultaneously, to announce to the world that the Dragon King Hall's strong comeback wasn't something anyone could easily bully anymore!

Later, when he inquired how Zhou Yi wished to deal with the people of the Su family, he noticed Zhou Yi's hesitant expression. Upon reconsidering it, he discerned Zhou Yi's hesitancy's cause.

Therefore, Mu Jinyu did not show any indication regarding Su Zhengrui's earnest pleas and explanations, pretending to take advantage of the situation to extort the Su family, to test Zhou Yi's character in the meantime.

If Zhou Yi, for his own future, said he suffered tremendous torment in the Su family over the year, insisting on killing them for revenge and subsequently handing over their resources to the Dragon King Hall,

then he would perform a Soul Search on the Su family to confirm the truth.

If it were true, he would understand Zhou Yi's immense hatred towards the Su family and allow him to join the Dragon King Hall. Whether he could gain significant importance would still depend on his abilities.

But if the Soul Search results showed Su Zhengrui was not lying, and they treated Zhou Yi decently over the past year with no torture, while Zhou Yi falsely accused them,

such a person who bites the hand that feeds and betrays others to achieve their goals wouldn't be allowed to join the Dragon King Hall. However, for the sake of Yu Shenfeng, he wouldn't kill him outright but let him fend for himself.

But seeing the situation, while Zhou Yi faced occasional difficulties in the Su family, under his hints, he did not choose to betray his former master but chose to forsake the significant opportunity he mistakenly thought he would gain to save the people of the Su family.

Such a character naturally won Mu Jinyu's admiration, and it made him decide to entrust Zhou Yi with significant responsibilities by assigning him as the head of the Alchemy Hall when it would be established in the future at the Dragon King Hall.

"What?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Zhou Yi was instantly stunned, then displayed a face full of surprise and gratification, "Dragon Master... this... I am utterly unworthy..."

Mu Jinyu patted Zhou Yi's shoulder, smiling, "Elder Zhou, you don't need to bear any psychological burden; your performance just now was excellent. If it were some others, they might not choose to preserve the Su family but seize the chance to step over them for a position; your disposition makes me very satisfied, assigning the Alchemy Hall to you is very fitting."

Zhou Yi said with a complex expression: "I indeed thought Dragon Master wanted to use the opportunity for me to accuse the Su family falsely, so you could justifiably seize their cultivation resources."

"But the Su family has indeed treated me well; half of my Pill Scripture was taught by my master, and I couldn't hand it over to them upon leaving. Throughout the years, I've relied on the resources provided by the Su family to ponder on alchemy; they truly have shown kindness to me!"

Zhou Yi looked up at Mu Jinyu and sighed, "In such circumstances, if I were to betray the Su family for the sake of my future, would I still be worthy of being human?"

Chapter 1226: Zhou Yi's Shock! The Overseas Curse World Master!

"So, your choice is what satisfies me. Alright, don't overthink it. I won't trouble the Su Family anymore, rest assured."

Mu Jinyu smiled reassuringly at the startled Zhou Yi, then took out a scroll, handed it to Zhou Yi, and said, "Take it and study it well first."

"This is..."

Zhou Yi had many things he wanted to say, but seeing Mu Jinyu's gesture, he swallowed those words and took the scroll handed to him.

With a look of confusion and speculation, he slowly opened to the first page. After a closer look, his eyes suddenly lit up with an intense gleam.

"This... could it all be pill formulas?"

Zhou Yi was full of shock and joy, and exclaimed without bothering to ask Mu Jinyu, quickly flipping through the scroll.

The more he flipped through it, the more shocked he looked.

"All pill formulas, at least a hundred, and none of them are first-stage formulas; they're all second-stage formulas, with a few third-stage formulas mixed in..."

Holding this scroll was like holding a hot potato for Zhou Yi. He suddenly looked up at Mu Jinyu, hastily shaking his head and said, "Dragon Master, this is too precious. You could give me one or two formulas to study. If you give them all to me, I really don't dare to take them..."

Although he was obsessed with the Dao of Alchemy to the point of abandoning martial arts cultivation in its pursuit, it didn't mean he was without principles. Just because Mu Jinyu gave him the formulas, he didn't go crazy with joy and accept them all.

Because these formulas were too precious—none were first-stage, all were second-stage, and there were even a few third-stage formulas.

First-stage elixirs are for cultivators of the Qi Refining Realm, second-stage elixirs are for Divinity Transformation Realm cultivators, and third-grade pills are for those of the Fanxu Realm.

What does this signify?

It signifies that whoever obtains these formulas and finds the required herbs under the grand setting of Spiritual Energy Revival will get a head start in this grand era and achieve an unbeatable position in the future.

Faced with such trust from Mu Jinyu, Zhou Yi really couldn't receive it without concern.

Seeing Zhou Yi trying to return the Pill Scripture, Mu Jinyu did not take it. Instead, he pushed it back to him, smiling, "This is not a test for you. Just take it. These formulas aren't very important to me; Elder Zhou, feel free to research them."

"This..."

Zhou Yi felt extremely conflicted and tangled in his heart.

On one hand, he really wanted to study these pill formulas, but on the other hand, he felt they were too valuable. If lost in his hands, even suicide wouldn't redeem his guilt!

Mu Jinyu said, "Take them; I have the originals of these, and I even have better third- and fourth-stage formulas in hand. These are the simplest formulas. Once you've comprehended them, I'll consider passing the other formulas to you."

"What?!"

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Zhou Yi's eyes burst with shock, disbelief, and desire.

A fourth-stage elixir formula—it would be for those cultivating at the Unity Realm Stage?

Mu Jinyu has them in hand?!

He so wished to have a glance!

Moreover, the Dragon King said these formulas are the simplest and he has the originals...

Zhou Yi's heart was stirred.

He then gritted his teeth and carefully stored the scroll containing over a hundred pill formulas, solemnly saying, "Dragon Master, rest assured. Even if it costs my life, I will destroy these formulas beforehand to prevent any leakage!"

"No need, no need!"

Seeing Zhou Yi taking it so seriously, Mu Jinyu, slightly helpless, urged, "It's really not necessary. To me, your life is far more important than these formulas. Should an unexpected situation arise, try to save yourself and feel free to give the formulas to others. I will retrieve them later."

These formulas were found in the storage bags of individuals and sects like the Blood Sword Sect, which he had obliterated, so they weren't considered valuable.

Mu Jinyu had also passed these formulas to Elder Cheng of the Heavenly Sword Faction in Kunlun Ruins.

This included a large number of third and fourth-stage formulas.

So in his eyes, even if some second-stage and minor third-stage formulas given to Zhou Yi got lost due to unforeseen circumstances, it wouldn't be a major loss. Zhou Yi didn't need to worry so much.

Finally persuaded, Zhou Yi accepted that these pill formulas were regarded as being on the same level as third-rate secret manuals in Mu Jinyu's eyes.

This left him somewhat disappointed.

The second-stage formulas he longed for were seen as insignificant by others.

Indeed, Zhou Yi's half Pill Scripture contained all first-stage formulas, suitable only for creating elixirs used by those at the stage of handling dark energy, energy transformation, and early Divine Transformation Realm.

For cultivators at the mid-stage of Divinity Transformation, even the top-grade elixirs within half of this scripture had limited effects.

Even so, the Su Family coveted it immensely.

After his moment of disappointment, Zhou Yi regained his enthusiasm.

The excitement he felt was akin to when he first entered the Martial Arts World, full of anticipation every day, knowing that with a little more effort, he could delve deeper and study more profound aspects.

"I will not let down the Dragon Master's high expectations!"

Zhou Yi stated solemnly.

Mu Jinyu nodded with satisfaction, "Hmm, you should return to the Dragon King Hall first. This time, I brought a vast number of spiritual medicines which have been planted in the medicine field on Yinlong Mountain. You can go back and try them for practice."

"Alright."

Hearing this, Zhou Yi was exhilarated and eager to head to Yinlong Mountain to practice alchemy with the spiritual medicines.

After bidding farewell to Mu Jinyu, he quickly departed.

After Zhou Yi's figure disappeared from sight, Mu Jinyu turned back and smiled at Gu Xiyan and the others, "Let's go. Yang City has lots of delicacies; since we're here, let's stay for a few days and enjoy the local cuisine."

"Hmm, hmm."

Gu Xiyan, Wen Rou, and others all nodded in agreement.

"Puh!"

At this moment, the Divine Silkworm Princess, hearing their conversation and realizing Mu Jinyu had concluded his important business, suddenly flew out of his embrace.

"I want ice cream!"

Yin Li blinked her bright eyes at Mu Jinyu and said.

"Alright, alright, alright..."

Mu Jinyu looked around and saw a dessert shop by the roadside, then led the group towards it.

...

Overseas.

On a desolate island.

At the heart of the Desolate Sea lies a blood-colored lake spanning ten miles.

The Blood Lake is boiling hot, dense, and rich, barely visible are countless white bones drifting within, appearing extremely demonic.

"Shoo!"

At this moment, a tiny figure suddenly appeared on the horizon, flying straight towards the desolate island.

Getting closer.

It became clear that the figure was a middle-aged man in a magnificent tailcoat, with a pale face, seemingly long deprived of sunlight.

Behind him grew a pair of giant bat wings, adorned with many purple-black patterns, appearing very distinctive.

The newcomer was none other than the new generation Curse World Master of the Fallen Splendor!

Chapter 1227: Heaven's Pride of the Famous Mountains Emerge! Zhao Yingshu, the College Roommate!

The Curse World Master flew from afar to the desolate island, saw the blood-colored lake in the center of the island, and his gaze appeared fervent yet fearful.

Due to fear, his figure involuntarily halted in mid-air, not daring to continue flying forward.

Then, a hint of hatred flashed in his eyes as he recalled the grudge of his clone being slain by Mu Jinyu. He knew Mu Jinyu would definitely not spare him upon return, so he gritted his teeth and continued flying forward.

"Boom!"

Just as he flew above the blood-colored lake, the Curse World Master's body could not be controlled at all, and he was directly suppressed by a terrifying force, plunging into the lake.

"Bang!"

The Curse World Master fell into the lake without causing any ripples, as if it were a leaf drifting into the lake.

"Ugh ah..."

The blood-colored lake continued to churn and boil, but a piercingly mournful scream echoed within it.

If someone were nearby, they would surely be terrified, thinking they had encountered a ghost.

Soon, a few hours passed.

The blood lake surged.

The Curse World Master's head emerged from the lake surface.

At this moment, his complexion had changed from a pale white to a crimson red like intoxication, flushed.

His pair of scarlet eyes now had less rationality, more wildness and madness, with a surging killing intent.

"Kill kill kill kill..."

The Curse World Master kept mumbling, and the killing intent in his eyes grew stronger.

He then had a moment of clarity, and his scarlet eyes regained some lucidity. He reached out to cover his head and roared, "Who am I?!"

"I am the Curse World Master!"

"I am the Fallen Splendor Lord!"

"I am Cain of the Blood Clan!"

"I want to become stronger, I cannot die at the hands of Dragon King Hall! Become stronger!!"

With one last furious roar, the Curse World Master's entire body submerged into the blood lake again.

"Glug glug glug..."

...

Huaxia, Yang City.

Mu Jinyu, fearing Yin Li's Divine Dragon appearance might cause trouble, directly bought all the ice cream in the dessert shop and stored them in the storage bag, planning to give them to Yin Li later.

Yin Li was also sensible, although drooling with desire, she did not clamor to feast right away.

Faced with a storage bag, a magic treasure like carrying Mt. Sumeru in a mustard seed, the shop attendants and customers all had eyes shining bright with shock and treated Mu Jinyu's group with greater respect.

With the revival of spiritual energy, various hidden masters have emerged successively. Some had been to the Kunlun Ruins and brought back storage bags, so people in the world now know about such magic treasures.

The public also understands that those who can carry storage bags must have terrifying backgrounds.

As Mu Jinyu and the seven left the dessert shop, the customers inside let out a long sigh of relief, calming down.

They then began to excitedly discuss.

"Goodness, seven people, all with storage bags at their waists, who are these people?"

"Their background must be immense, probably not people from the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow, but maybe from Mount Song or Dragon Tiger Mountain!"

"Indeed, ordinary martial arts schools or sects, even their leaders don't have storage bags, how could they afford to equip young disciples with storage bags?"

"Seeing as they're so young and equipped with storage bags by their sect, they must be very powerful, probably in the God Realm!"

"Yes, I heard recently that young people from famous mountains have emerged one after another, not sure what they're planning. Perhaps they are the leaders of these young generations?"

"There might be major events happening soon, sigh, hopefully, it won't bring devastation to the world again!"

...

After Mu Jinyu and Gu Xiyan's six women left the dessert shop, they strolled around nearby, buying and tasting many gourmet foods.

These foods were not made from ordinary chicken, duck, or fish, but from exotic beasts following the spiritual energy revival. Prices are exorbitant for ordinary people, but the taste was unparalleled.

Of course, it was nothing for Mu Jinyu and the others, even though his Jinyu Group had already closed down this year, the money earned previously could be spent for generations.

As the sky darkened, Mu Jinyu took out his phone and dialed a number.

Soon, an extended version of the Hongqi L5 sedan slowly drove to the street side, stopping steadily in front of Mu Jinyu and the others.

Mu Jinyu waved off the driver, gesturing him not to open the door, then opened the car door himself, letting Gu Xiyun and Wen Rou in, and finally sat inside himself.

Once the door was shut, the car steadily left the street, heading towards the Shangri-La Hotel they had booked.

Upon arriving at the hotel entrance, Mu Jinyu and the others got out of the car and walked towards the hotel.

At that moment, a young woman standing at the hotel entrance as if waiting for someone, casually glanced at Mu Jinyu and the others before retracting her gaze. Then her eyes condensed again, looking at Gu Xiyun.

"Hey, isn't this General Gu of Face of Jade Group? How come you didn't tell me you're in Yang City?"

The young woman glanced at Gu Xiyun, then at Mu Jinyu surrounded by the women, issuing bizarrely sarcastic greetings.

"Hmm?!"

Upon hearing this voice, Gu Xiyun slightly frowned and turned to look.

Soon, she recognized the identity of the other person.

Zhao Yingshu, her college classmate, once shared a dorm room, but they had already fallen out when she and Yu Linglong established the Face of Jade Group.

Later, when she served as CEO of Jinyu Group, Zhao Yingshu, seeing the Beauty Pill and other products selling like hotcakes with unlimited prospects, sought her out wanting to be a distributor for Beauty Pill but was rejected.

Afterward, Gu Xiyun was unclear about the other person's situation.

She thought Zhao Yingshu might have died in the dark chaos, but didn't expect to meet her in Yang City today.

"Hmm, it's you, long time no see."

Gu Xiyan said lightly, with a cold expression.

If Zhao Yingshu hadn't sarcastically greeted her, seeing a familiar face by coincidence, Gu Xiyan might have felt nostalgic, choosing not to dwell on past grudges.

She would have reminisced with Zhao Yingshu.

But the other person opened with the Great Yin-Yang Technique, so she had no need to speak kindly.

Zhao Yingshu, unfazed by Gu Xiyan's coldness, said with a smile, "Is General Gu on a business trip in Yang City? Oh, wait a moment, I forgot Jinyu Group has been bankrupt for a while..."

She laughed scornfully and then looked at them with disdain, saying, "But seeing you all still have money to come to Shangri-La Hotel, you must have pocketed quite a bit last year."

Upon hearing Zhao Yingshu's sarcasm, Gu Xiyan and the others couldn't help but chuckle, not bothering to respond.

They found it genuinely amusing that Zhao Yingshu couldn't figure out whether the Jinyu Group was bankrupt or closed.

Jinyu Group did not collapse due to a lack of business. Although during the dark turmoil, things did become bleak as demons ravaged the world, which did affect business. After all, amid chaos, who cared about beauty?

Even later with spiritual revival, business wasn't booming. However, if it continued operating, the Beauty Pill would still make money.

But Mu Jinyu deemed it too time-consuming. Plus, with spiritual energy revival, mortal skin would improve under its nourishment, and those who achieved cultivation wouldn't need the Beauty Pill. If the company continued, other elixirs had to be produced, but he was too lazy for such trouble, thus advised Gu Xiyan and the others to simply close the company and focus on cultivation.

Who knew this act would be misunderstood by Zhao Yingshu as Jinyu Group failing due to the spiritual energy revival era?

This indeed seemed a bit funny.

Chapter 1228: Past Grievances with Zhao Yingshu! A Great Opportunity to Rise Rapidly!

"What are you laughing at? Did I say something wrong?!"

When Zhao Yingshu saw Gu Xiyan and her friends laughing, their gaze had a deep meaning, as if looking at a fool, which instantly made her feel embarrassed and angry.

"Your Beauty Pill isn't anything special, nor does it require much technique. You just happened to seize the moment to make a fortune nationwide. Now that the Spiritual Energy on Earth is reviving, pills with effects like your Beauty Pill are everywhere. Isn't this money made with a guilty conscience?"

Gu Xiyan nodded continuously, saying, "Hmm, hmm, you're absolutely right, but we managed to make quite a bit of money. Now that we're financially free, it's no big deal even if the company no longer operates, so don't worry yourself about it."

Gu Xiyan's response left Zhao Yingshu's anger and sarcasm on her face stagnant; the pent-up resentment was instantly dissipated.

Zhao Yingshu initially intended to mock them thoroughly after meeting Gu Xiyan, then flaunt her current status to awe Gu Xiyan, hoping she would beg for her support like she did last year, only to kick them away in contempt and let them fend for themselves.

Instead, Gu Xiyan's reaction caught her off guard, as if a punch landed on cotton—her strength dissipated entirely but didn't hurt the opponent.

Gu Xiyan didn't bother to exchange more meaningless words with Zhao Yingshu, nodding to Mu Jinyu before heading into the hotel.

"What's her deal?"

Mu Jinyu glanced at Zhao Yingshu, retracting her gaze while recalling their conversation, stepping forward and softly asking Gu Xiyan.

Gu Xiyan chuckled, not allowing Zhao Yingshu to affect her mood, and gently shared some grievances between her and Zhao Yingshu with Mu Jinyu.

Initially, they were roommates and their relationship was naturally quite good. Although Zhao Yingshu was decently attractive, she appeared ordinary compared to Gu Xiyan's campus beauty-level figure and looks, so no boys pursued her.

Most pursued Gu Xiyan.

When Zhao Yingshu realized that the boys she liked were also pursuing Gu Xiyan, jealousy arose. Upon seeing Gu Xiyan frequently riding luxury cars, she secretly spread rumors at school suggesting Gu Xiyan was clinging to a wealthy sponsor, acting as a mistress...

Gu Xiyan knew that Zhao Yingshu was spreading rumors, but didn't bother to explain, instead directly revealed her status as a Gu Corporation heiress, and the rumors were instantly shattered.

Although the Gu Corporation wasn't considered a major conglomerate, it had assets worth tens of millions. With her figure and appearance, marrying into a wealthy family wouldn't be hard; why act as someone's mistress?

This marked the first feud between Gu Xiyan and Zhao Yingshu. However, Gu Xiyan didn't say much nor did she warn her intentionally, their relationship merely became much more tepid.

After the panic subsided, Zhao Yingshu grew even more jealous of Gu Xiyan.

At a later time, during a birthday celebration for one of their dorm mates, Zhao Yingshu orchestrated getting the birthday girl's boyfriend drunk, coaxing him into confessing truthfully. While intoxicated, he boldly confessed his love for Gu Xiyan, ignoring his girlfriend's displeasure.

The birthday girl stormed out in anger on the spot, and Gu Xiyan was left awkwardly hanging, finally escaping with Yu Linglong's help.

From then on, Gu Xiyan completely broke with Zhao Yingshu.

Later, when Beauty Pills were selling hotly, Zhao Yingshu enviously eyed the profits and shamelessly approached Gu Xiyan, hoping to act as a distribution agent.

Originally, Gu Xiyan didn't want to care about her, but Zhao Yingshu continually cried about her difficult life over the years, expressing regret over past foolishness, asking Gu Xiyan to consider their past roommate relationship and help her.

Softened by sympathy, Gu Xiyan prepared to let her join the Jinyu Group, offering a salary of over ten thousand per month, with meals and accommodation included, generally enough to ensure her basic needs.

However, Zhao Yingshu wasn't aiming to work diligently; her goal was quick wealth, naturally disagreeing with Gu Xiyan's offer.

She begged Gu Xiyan to make an exception and give her Beauty Pills at a low price so she could earn some money as a distribution agent.

Upon hearing her intention, Gu Xiyan clearly understood her schemes, leading to a bitter breakup and having secret techniques escort her away.

In hindsight, these were all rather minor incidents.

After experiencing dark turmoil and demon-infested despair, when old friends reunited, such small grievances could easily be forgiven and forgotten with a smile.

But Zhao Yingshu opened with the Great Yin-Yang Technique, leaving Gu Xiyan indifferent—she surely wouldn't warm up to a cold reception, right?

Mu Jinyu chuckled after hearing the story, finding Zhao Yingshu quite amusing.

"Judging by her demeanor, she must be doing well after the Spiritual Energy Revival; otherwise, she wouldn't have just arrogantly attempted to show off to us."

"Who cares, we're not doing badly either." Gu Xiyan smiled serenely, unperturbed by the encounter with Zhao Yingshu.

Behind them, Zhao Yingshu stared at their backs with resentful eyes, utterly furious.

Just then, her phone rang, shaking her, she hastily grabbed the phone from her pocket to answer.

"Hello, yes, I'm coming, okay, okay..."

After hanging up, Zhao Yingshu's face lit with excitement and eagerness, sensing her opportunity had arrived. If she could latch onto a powerful figure, her days of glory were imminent.

She quickly dispelled the bad mood from meeting Gu Xiyan, turning to look around.

"Screech."

Soon, several sports cars zoomed to the hotel entrance and elegantly stopped, followed by a group of casually dressed young people stepping out.

Some wore Taoist robes, monk's robe, suits, Hanfu...

Upon seeing them, Zhao Yingshu's eyes gleamed; she rushed forward and greeted, "Hello, esteemed guests, I'm Zhao Yingshu, the appointed host from Yang City's Otherkind Martial Arts School. Welcome esteemed guests to Yang City."

The variously dressed young people tossed their car keys to waiting attendants for parking, while turning to glance briefly at Zhao Yingshu.

Noticing Zhao Yingshu's ordinary looks, they maintained indifferent expressions. Most withdrew their gaze, some nodded slightly, one person responded, "Hmm."

Zhao Yingshu felt a chill inside, sensing trouble, but could only take a deep breath, preparing to serve them well, hoping to catch their attention.

"Esteemed guests, the trip must've been tiring, so please have some rest first. We've prepared rooms, this way please..."

Zhao Yingshu gestured, inviting them into the Shangri-La Hotel.

The group nodded, not refusing, following Zhao Yingshu toward the hotel.

Just as they entered, they saw Mu Jinyu and others stepping into the elevator.

The young man in Hanfu noticed the notable beauty of Gu Xiyan's group, his eyes brightening instantly.

Just then, the elevator doors closed.

The young man regretfully withdrew his gaze, then turned to Zhao Yingshu guiding them, eyes swirling, saying to Zhao Yingshu, "Did you see those six women who went up just now?"

"The six women from earlier?" Upon hearing the Hanfu young man's inquiry, Zhao Yingshu paused slightly, then immediately thought of Gu Xiyao and her friends, her face turning somewhat unsightly.

She hadn't expected that she wouldn't catch their eye, but must she make way for those wretched Gu Xiyao lot?

"Don't cause trouble." The Taoist-robed young man glanced at the Hanfu young man, speaking indifferently.

He knew the person was always fond of women, unsurprised by such a reaction, but their trip was highly important; he didn't want any unexpected complications.

The Hanfu young man jokingly scratched his head, chuckling, "Eating and mating are natural desires, it's no big deal. Moreover, those six women earlier are really attractive. Just seven of us, how about I take the hit, those six beauties accompany you, and I'll take Little Zhao."

Saying this, he reached out and wrapped an arm around Zhao Yingshu's slim waist.

Zhao Yingshu's body stiffened slightly before quickly relaxing.

Her initial jealousy and desire to undermine the Hanfu young man's plans vanished completely.

She saw it as a great chance—one that could fulfill her ambitions, allowing her to latch on to a powerful figure and swiftly rise to prominence!

Chapter 1229: Zhao Yingshu Pays a Visit! A Golden Opportunity Arrives!

Shangri-La Hotel, 36th floor, presidential suite.

Mu Jinyu sat in a chair by the floor-to-ceiling window, overlooking the Pearl River night view while making a phone call to Mu Hongchen, asking if Zhou Yi had arrived at the Dragon King Hall.

"Not yet, maybe he's still on the way." Mu Hongchen said.

"Alright, when he arrives, allow him to enter the Inner Valley and select spiritual medicine from the Medicine Field for alchemy. Don't stop him." Mu Jinyu instructed.

He estimated that Zhou Yi should be near Jiangnan Province, fearing Mu Hongchen and others wouldn't know the details and might refuse to let him take medicine for alchemy, so he specially took time to call Mu Hongchen while Gu Xiyan and others were bathing, giving some guidance.

"Okay, understood. Anything else, Dragon Master?" Mu Hongchen asked.

"How are Senior Yu and the others?" Mu Jinyu asked.

Mu Hongchen replied, "San Liu recently just exited seclusion; his cultivation level has reached the Ninth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, and then he went back to prepare to breakthrough to the Fanxu Realm. Senior Yu, his disciple Chen Xiuying, Qiu Bai, and Zhu Yeqing have been quiet, probably preparing to directly push to the Fanxu Realm."

"Okay, I get it, that's all. Good night." Mu Jinyu nodded, softly said.

"Good night." Mu Hongchen smiled.

The call ended.

Mu Jinyu put away the phone, looked up at the night view outside the window, thinking, even San Liu has reached the Ninth Layer of the God Realm, Yu Shenfeng and others refining their cultivation technique with the resources should have a similar cultivation level.

Thinking about it, soon they would all be breaking through to the Fanxu Realm together.

Then they'd be free to deal with Curse World Master, Withered Wood Taoist, Amalia and others.

"Nom nom nom..."

In his ear, the sound of Yin Li devouring ice cream continued to ring.

Mu Jinyu glanced back, seeing Yin Li feverishly clearing through the pile of ice cream they had bought.

A slight smile tugged at the corner of his lips, Mu Jinyu spoke, "Little Princess, is this enough for you? If not, I'll have them send some more up."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Yin Li slowed her pace of eating ice cream, and murmured while eating, "Okay, hurry up."

Mu Jinyu nodded, then picked up the room phone to have the front desk send some more ice cream.

After making the call, Mu Jinyu glanced at Yin Li, saying, "Actually, I think you've had enough ice cream today, if you keep eating, I'm afraid you'll get tired of it, then you might lose your only hobby."

"No worries, I won't get tired." Yin Li didn't even lift her head while finishing ice cream, responding.

"Alright." Mu Jinyu smiled, nodding, not saying anything further.

"Ding dong."

At this time, the doorbell rang.

"So soon? This hotel's efficiency is off the charts."

Mu Jinyu raised an eyebrow, then got up, walked to the door, and opened it.

Outside the door was not a server with ice cream; it was Zhao Yingshu, whom he had just seen briefly at the hotel entrance.

"It's you?"

Seeing Zhao Yingshu, Mu Jinyu's smile slightly diminished, asking, "Anything?"

Zhao Yingshu ignored Mu Jinyu, craning her neck to peek inside the room, not spotting Gu Xiyan and others, then hearing some faint sounds of water, guessing they were showering.

Her expression slightly soured, then she raised her head to look at Mu Jinyu, eyes scrutinizing, saying, "Were you once the chairman of the Jinyu Group? Gu Xiyan and Yu Linglong followed you?"

Zhao Yingshu found nothing odd about Gu Xiyan, Yu Linglong, and other women being with Mu Jinyu.

Nor would she, like ordinary people, wonder what qualifications Mu Jinyu had to dominate them.

After all, a year ago, Mu Jinyu, as chairman of the Jinyu Group, was young, wealthy, extraordinarily rich, the epitome of high society.

She reckoned, if she had the chance back then, she wouldn't hesitate to follow him.

However, now Zhao Yingshu couldn't understand why Gu Xiyan and others continued to follow Mu Jinyu.

Especially after Hanfu youths expressed interest in Gu Xiyan and others, she felt Mu Jinyu was wasting Gu Xiyan's chance and her own opportunity, naturally despising him.

"Yes, what about it?" Mu Jinyu's smile again slightly receded, asking indifferently.

A hint of arrogance surfaced on Zhao Yingshu's face, slowly saying, "An extraordinary fortune has fallen upon you, if you seize this opportunity, perhaps you'll rise to prominence; it's up to your willingness."

Though she said it was up to Mu Jinyu to seize the opportunity, even if he chose to reject, she wouldn't let Mu Jinyu ruin her good chances.

"Oh? What's the matter?"

Mu Jinyu, bored, didn't mind bantering with Zhao Yingshu, seeing what tricks she wanted to play.

Hearing Mu Jinyu, Zhao Yingshu's lips curled into a mocking cold smile, bluntly stating, "Earlier at the hotel entrance, I'm sure you noticed I was waiting for someone, right?"

"To be honest, I'm now a special envoy of the Yang City Otherkind Martial Arts School; ordinary people aren't privileged to have me greet them."

"This time, I'm here to welcome people from various Famous Mountains, youths from Mount Mao, Mount Jiuhoa, Zhongnan Mountain..."

Saying this, Zhao Yingshu paused, raising her eyes, with suspicion looking at Mu Jinyu, "With your past status, you shouldn't be unaware of their significant stature, right?"

"Hmm, very impressive." Mu Jinyu nodded.

The mountains mentioned by Zhao Yingshu indeed were impressive, Mount Mao as the Taoist sacred mountain, a top Taoist blessing ground, Mount Jiuhoa among the four great Buddhist mountains, though Taoist Law and Buddha's Light chose Dragon Tiger Mountain and Mount Song for their altars, it didn't mean these sacred mountains were inferior.

These individuals coming down from these famous mountains indeed had significant standings.

A mocking smile appeared on Zhao Yingshu's face, she said indifferently, "Just as I was receiving these young masters earlier, they happened to see you all getting on the elevator, then they showed interest in Gu Xiyan and others, so..."

"Isn't this a huge opportunity for you?"

Zhao Yingshu ended her words with a tone marked by jealousy and reluctance.

But she failed to notice Mu Jinyu's expression turning suddenly gloomy at her words.

Impatiently, Zhao Yingshu urged, "Let's go, I assume you've decided, quickly get Gu Xiyan and others to meet those young masters with me!"

She didn't believe Mu Jinyu would refuse such a golden opportunity.

As the saying goes, women are like clothes; with Mu Jinyu's former status, he wouldn't pay much mind to letting Gu Xiyan and others entertain these young masters.

Just by letting Gu Xiyan and others entertain them a few times, Mu Jinyu could latch onto these young masters, and any ambitious man wouldn't miss such a good opportunity.

She believed Mu Jinyu, once at the corporate zenith, now with the spiritual energy revival leading to his downfall, wouldn't be content with merely lazing around.

"Yes, I've decided."

Mu Jinyu spoke, a grim cold smile in his tone.

When Zhao Yingshu felt disdain yet delight, she suddenly realized something seemed off in Mu Jinyu's tone.

Yet before she could pinpoint the issue...

"Smack!"

Mu Jinyu's palm fiercely slapped across her face!

Chapter 1230: Overbearing! Returning One's Own Path Upon Them!

A sound like a sudden clap of thunder erupted in the room, and even though the hotel's soundproofing was excellent, Gu Xiyan and the others heard it in the bathroom.

So, they quickly wiped themselves dry in their respective bedroom bathrooms, put on bathrobes, and rushed out.

"What's wrong?"

Gu Xiyan stepped out of the bedroom and came to the living room. As soon as she asked the question, she saw a headless corpse lying at Mu Jinyu's feet.

As well as the dismembered body staining the carpet crimson, she couldn't help but be startled.

Soon, she calmed down, took a closer look at the corpse, and recognized the body. Wasn't it Zhao Yingshu, whom they had just run into at the hotel's entrance?

Why did she come to their room?

And why was she struck down by Mu Jinyu?

Gu Xiyan had many doubts swirling in her mind.

Mu Jinyu completed his soul search of Zhao Yingshu and slowly opened his eyes. Then, with a flick of his fingers, a spark flew from his fingertip.

"Sizzle!"

The spark landed on Zhao Yingshu's headless corpse, instantly igniting a raging fire.

But strangely, the blazing fire only burned Zhao Yingshu's body, not spreading to the carpet beneath.

Quickly, Zhao Yingshu's headless body and the scattered blood-covered skull were all consumed by the fire, with the carpet remaining intact, not even showing a burn mark.

It seemed as if Zhao Yingshu had never been in the room.

Mu Jinyu did this not to destroy the evidence.

He simply didn't want to frighten Gu Xiyan and the others, and with the service staff set to bring ice cream soon, he deliberately burned Zhao Yingshu's corpse.

After incinerating the body, Mu Jinyu slowly turned back and looked at Wen Rou, Lin Qiaoxia, and the others who had come out of the room.

Seeing Mu Jinyu's grim expression and killing intent in his eyes, everyone felt a bit bewildered and worried.

"What's wrong?" Gu Xiyan asked again with concern.

Mu Jinyu slowly spoke, "This woman just came over to pimp, and advised me that if I want to rise again, I should take you all over to entertain some big shots..."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's cold words, Gu Xiyan and the others immediately understood why Mu Jinyu had killed Zhao Yingshu.

They knew Mu Jinyu liked them.

And Zhao Yingshu dared to directly approach Mu Jinyu with such talk, it's like going to a poverty-stricken filial son and persuading him to kill his mother, claiming she was a burden!

Wasn't this a death wish?!

"Heh heh..."

At this moment, Mu Jinyu suddenly laughed, his eyes cold, then said to them, "Come, I'll take you to meet these young lords and see how they plan to help me rise again... hehehe..."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Gu Xiyan and the others couldn't help but roll their eyes at him and then said, "Let's change clothes first."

After that, they returned to the bedroom, quickly changed clothes, and applied light makeup, looking stunningly beautiful.

...

On the other side.

In another presidential suite.

The young generation of Heaven's Pride from various famous mountains had gathered in this room.

The monk-robed youth was not in the living room chatting with others but was sitting cross-legged on the floor of the secondary bedroom, gently twirling Buddha Beads, chanting with eyes closed, ignoring the outside world.

The Taoist-robed youth sat by the floor-to-ceiling window, watching the night view of the Pearl River, smiling contentedly.

While the suited youth and Hanfu youth, among others, were holding a map, discussing something.

The Hanfu youth absent-mindedly added a sentence before turning to glance at the door, whispering, "Why aren't they here yet, what the hell are they doing..."

The suited youth noticed this, frowned, and said, "Wang Ye, are you still thinking about women? We are out here looking for Dragon Nest, the mission is heavy. If you mess it up, your old man won't spare you, he'll skin you alive!"

"Yeah, it's just because the pressure is too great, that's why," Wang Ye smiled casually, not taking it seriously.

In his view, their mission out here this time was somewhat absurd, with too little chance of finding Dragon Nest.

Why not take this rare opportunity to have some fun instead.

"Boom!"

Suddenly.

The room door exploded unexpectedly.

Countless fragments burst out, wrapped in fierce energy, shooting toward everyone in the room.

"Who is it?!"

Wang Ye and the others, all fixed their eyes sharply, the brilliance flashing, simultaneously waving their sleeves to intercept the shot remnants of the door using True Yuan.

Amidst the swirling dust.

Mu Jinyu entered the room with Gu Xiyan and the six women, hands behind back, walking in slowly.

"It's you guys?!"

Wang Ye didn't recognize Mu Jinyu but did recognize the six behind him, Gu Xiyan and the others. His eyes narrowed, his heart skipped a beat, silently thinking things had gone awry.

When they entered the hotel earlier, he had only glimpsed Gu Xiyan and the six women's beauty, instructing Zhao Yingshu to give them a greeting, without paying attention to their cultivation level.

Now, he realized that their cultivation wasn't weaker than the seven of them, likely also young Heaven's Pride from famous mountains, which was a real problem.

However, Wang Ye wasn't overly worried.

After all, he too was a young Heaven's Pride from famous mountains, and although Zhao Yingshu's greeting wasn't ideal, it wouldn't necessarily lead to a life-and-death conflict between them, at most an apology or two.

And as they say, fighting leads to acquainted, although tonight he couldn't get closer to the six women's beauty, knowing them would be quite enough.

Mu Jinyu entered the room calmly, his gaze sweeping over the five shocked faces in the living room, then locking onto Wang Ye in Hanfu.

With a sly smile twisting at the corners of his mouth, Mu Jinyu coldly laughed, "Young lords from famous mountains, I've personally brought them to you. Are you satisfied?"

"Misunderstanding, misunderstanding, haha... don't take it too seriously."

The shock on Wang Ye's face disappeared; he glanced at Mu Jinyu. Though he couldn't perceive his cultivation level, he realized Mu Jinyu's relationship with the six women was not shallow, likely their brother, and hence apologetically laughed.

"Oh? Just a misunderstanding?"

Mu Jinyu slowly approached, lowering his voice, "Then I've brought them here, do you not want them?"

Wang Ye saw Mu Jinyu's somewhat aggressive manner, his smile stiffened, thinking even if you're their brother, talking to me without much cultivation like this is a bit too much, isn't it?

With a wry smile, Wang Ye shook his head, "Dare not... dare not... it's just a misunderstanding, I'll apologize to you..."

Upon hearing, Mu Jinyu chuckled, stepping closer to Wang Ye, casually saying, "Since you don't want them, then call your mother and let her come over to serve me!"

"You?!"

Wang Ye's face turned utterly dark at Mu Jinyu's words, his expression grim enough to drip water, killing intent flashed fleetingly in his eyes, barely containing himself, and said in a deep voice, "Young man, you went too far with your words!"

"Too far?" Mu Jinyu turned his head slightly to regard Wang Ye, with an innocent and puzzled look in his eyes, asking, "My words, aren't they almost the same as yours? I've brought the people you wanted; you don't want them. Now I ask your mom to come play with me, how do you say it's too much?"

"Seeking death!"

Wang Ye couldn't contain his killing intent anymore at Mu Jinyu's mockery, roared angrily, and suddenly swung a fierce punch toward Mu Jinyu's face!

"Boom!!"

Mu Jinyu's expression remained unchanged, standing with his hands behind his back, watching Wang Ye's fist approach with a faint smile, "Can't endure anymore, huh? Hehe..."

The laughter ceased, and Wang Ye's punch, capable of shattering mountains, abruptly halted just an inch away from Mu Jinyu's face.

Then, Mu Jinyu slowly reached over, snapped Wang Ye's arm with a crunch, and gently gripped Wang Ye's neck.