

## King Hall 701

Chapter 701 - Chen Mo's Arrival!

Qiu Bai's face stiffened, and he stammered, "I don't ask for help from others, that's why I want to duel with you. If you lose, you'll craft an elixir for me..."

Mu Jinyu, hearing Qiu Bai's words, felt this guy was really inexplicable, his own sense of superiority so mistakenly good, said in displeasure, "Stop, stop, stop!"

Qiu Bai closed his mouth and fell silent.

Mu Jinyu sized up Qiu Bai, noticing that he possessed the cultivation of the Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, and said, "First, why should I duel with you? Second, if I lose and have to craft an elixir for you, what will you do if you lose?"

"I won't lose!"

Qiu Bai, casting a wary glance at the resplendent sword shadows covering the sky and gathering back his gaze, declared confidently, "As long as you don't use any formations and truly fight me with your strength, I won't lose!"

"As for why you should fight me!" Qiu Bai continued, addressing Mu Jinyu's first question with arrogance, "After all, although you have no chance to defeat me, but what if, just in case I make a mistake, wouldn't you then become the tenth-ranked on the Divine Rankings? That honor is surely worth a try for you, isn't it?"

Mu Jinyu responded, looking at him as if he were looking at an idiot, "Is being tenth on the Divine Rankings something to be proud of? Heh, it's too bad, but I am indifferent to fame and fortune. If I really wanted to compete, a spot in the top five of the Divine Rankings would have been mine long ago, so I don't want to duel with you."

Qiu Bai, hearing this, was extremely irritated. His hard-earned honor of being tenth on the Divine Rankings was belittled to nothing in Mu Jinyu's words—how could he not be annoyed?

Staring at Mu Jinyu, his eyes blazing as if with fire, he declared, "Dragon King, you're just afraid of losing to me and losing face, aren't you?"

Pausing, Qiu Bai let out a mocking laugh and jeered, "Why bother with that? After all, you're just at the bottom of the Divine Rankings, so losing to me isn't that surprising, is it? Who's going to laugh at you?"

"Save your attempts to provoke me, it won't work on me. You don't want to give anything in return and you expect to get something for nothing, asking me to craft an elixir for you? There's no such thing as a free lunch," Mu Jinyu replied, shaking his head lightly, unmoved by Qiu Bai's mockery.

Changing his tune, Mu Jinyu then said, "If you want me to craft an elixir for you, it's not impossible. Come to my Dragon King Hall, serve me for three years, and I will craft an elixir for you."

"Make me your subordinate?" Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Qiu Bai immediately flared up in anger. What was his identity? He was a powerful tenth-ranked warrior on the Divine Rankings, far stronger than Mu Jinyu, and he was expected to become his subordinate?

"Dragon King, aren't you afraid of biting off more than you can chew, swelling up until you burst?" Qiu Bai clenched his teeth, looking at Mu Jinyu with great dissatisfaction!

Mu Jinyu replied indifferently, "Thanks for the concern, but rest assured, my Dragon King Hall can handle small fries like you just fine."

"Huh?!" Qiu Bai, hearing Mu Jinyu's words, felt so angry he could spit blood.

Was saying he would burst a sign of concern for him? And what did he mean by calling him a 'small fry'?

He was a powerful tenth-ranked warrior on the Divine Rankings!

In the whole of Huaxia, there were only nine stronger than him, and Mu Jinyu dared to call him a small fry?

"Ah ah!!"

The more he thought about it, the angrier Qiu Bai became, and he could no longer hold back his shout, "Dragon King, you can't refuse to fight me today!"

With that, he abruptly raised his hand, and a dazzling divine radiance immediately appeared, conjuring arrows of True Essence like arrows, and with a wave, a dense swarm of True Essence Arrows shot towards Mu Jinyu, an impressive sight like a volley of thousands of arrows!

"Hmph, ignorant junior, is the Dragon King Hall a place for you to be presumptuous?!"

Seeing Qiu Bai make a move, Mu Jinyu remained calm, hands clasped behind his back, not the least bit perturbed.

Then, as his words fell, the myriad sword shadows scattered across the sky like a giant net suddenly rushed down with a whoosh, moving at an incredible speed.

In the blink of an eye, right when Qiu Bai's True Essence Arrows were about to strike Mu Jinyu, they fell in front of him. The sword shadows intersected and directly shattered Qiu Bai's True Essence Arrows into inch-sized pieces!

Ultimately they turned into Spiritual Power currents, which didn't scatter with the wind but were rather drawn away by the Spirit Attraction Formation of Yinlong Mountain!

Become a part of Yinlong Mountain's Spiritual Energy!

Qiu Bai, witnessing this scene, was stunned and extremely shocked!

Originally he knew that the Mountain Protection Array Mu Jinyu had activated was terrifying, so he was apprehensive, but he had not expected it to be this strong!

In his plan, the unexpected onslaught of True Essence Arrows he launched was supposed to be unstoppable by Mu Jinyu in such a hurry...

Who knew this Mountain Protection Array would operate far beyond his imagination? Trapped in this Misty Formation, wouldn't he be like fish on the chopping board, with his life no longer in his own hands?

Thinking of this, Qiu Bai's face turned even paler!

"Huh!!"

Counts of sword shadows shredded Qiu Bai's barrage of True Essence Arrows and, under Mu Jinyu's control, surrounded Qiu Bai with a roaring sound, then trembled to a halt.

All that awaited was Mu Jinyu's command, and Qiu Bai would be torn to pieces!

"Ha, do you still think that I must fight you even if I don't agree? Sorry, you've never had the right to force a duel on me. I could crush you at any moment if I didn't wish to fight!"

Mu Jinyu said indifferently, looking at Qiu Bai, who was like fish caught in the interwoven sword shadow

Qiu Bai's complexion alternated between green and white, changing constantly and quite embarrassingly.

He knew that, with Mu Jinyu inside Yinlong Mountain, able to control the terrifying Mountain Protection Array, he indeed had no right to forcibly initiate a battle or push him into a duel.

From the moment he stepped into Yinlong Mountain, his life had been in Mu Jinyu's hands all along!

Only think of the Elixir he needed...

Qiu Bai was also very unwilling to return empty-handed.

Clenching his teeth, Qiu Bai said, "How about this, Dragon King, you don't use the Mountain Protection Array and fight me fairly. If I lose, I'll serve under you, but if you lose, you'll refine a furnace of Elixir for me, how about it?"

"Alright," Mu Jinyu thought for a moment, then nodded, "However, the term is no longer three years, but five years."

"You..." Qiu Bai's face suddenly turned very ugly, feeling that Mu Jinyu was taking advantage of the situation.

Mu Jinyu's expression remained calm as he said, "What's the matter? Don't want to accept it? But you don't have the right to bargain with me. The moment you acted against me just now, your life ceased to be yours and became mine. Is it not worth it to spare your life in exchange for serving me five more years?"

Upon hearing this, Qiu Bai's expression fluctuated, and finally, with no other choice, he could only sigh, "Fine, I agree to your terms. If I lose, I will serve you for five years!"

"Huh!"

With a wave of Mu Jinyu's hand, the myriad sword Qi surrounding Qiu Bai immediately dispersed into Spiritual Energy with the wind.

"Shall we begin now?"

Seeing the sword shadows vanish, Qiu Bai's confidence partly restored, he eagerly asked Mu Jinyu!

Mu Jinyu was about to agree when his expression changed slightly, and with a somewhat playful look in his eyes, he said, "Wait a moment!"

Just as Qiu Bai wondered what to wait for, a barely audible voice arose behind him:

"Where is the Dragon King? I am Chen Mo, the chief disciple of Ye Wushuang, specially here to seek justice for the death of my junior brother, Ye Chen..."

Chapter 702:

After receiving the reward from his master, Chen Mo took the pill and, after more than a day, his cultivation officially broke through to the Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm.

Afterward, he bid farewell to his junior brothers and sisters, taking the Leopard Gall Sword Pill, and headed to Yinlong Mountain to find Mu Jinyu, to avenge his junior brother!

And to complete the task assigned by his master, to retrieve the Nine Heavens Mystical Murder Sword Formation Map!

After half a day's journey, he finally arrived at the entrance of Yinlong Mountain. From afar, he could see a thin mist shrouding the peak of Yinlong Mountain.

However, strangely, this thin mist, which should have become clear upon closer inspection, remained opaque even as he reached the foot of the mountain, leaving him unable to discern the scenery within.

He hesitated but walked in, only to find himself instantly enveloped in thick fog, so dense that he couldn't see his hand in front of him; this scared him terribly, involuntarily shouting,

"Dragon King, where are you? I am Chen Mo, the chief disciple of Ye Wushuang, here to seek justice for the death of my junior brother Ye Chen..."

His voice echoed far and wide, but there was no response; likewise, Chen Mo could only hear his own heartbeat, with no sounds of insects or birds from within the mountain; it was as if this were a mountain of death!

Even Chen Mo, not the brightest, understood that he must have fallen into an Illusion Array.

And having no knowledge of formations, if no one led him out, he would be trapped and die within!

"Damn, I was too careless!"

Chen Mo cursed in his heart, deeming the Dragon King extraordinarily deceitful. Knowing that Ye Wushuang might come seeking revenge, he had laid such a trap, despicably vile!

"Sigh..."

As Chen Mo seethed inwardly, suddenly, a breeze arose, causing the fog before him to automatically scatter to both sides, revealing a clear path.

Seeing this, Chen Mo was overjoyed, knowing that Dragon King Hall must have heard what he had just said and made way for him to enter.

"Indeed, not many in the world dare to disregard the reputation of my master!"

Chen Mo joyfully muttered to himself and then stepped onto the path, walking straight forward.

Soon,

an open space came into view.

Standing there were two people.

One was Mu Jinyu, whom Chen Mo had been pondering over all this time and was very familiar with.

The other was Qiu Bai, who had risen to prominence suddenly; Chen Mo had also investigated him.

Feeling an immediate sense of alarm, Chen Mo maintained a poker face and addressed Mu Jinyu, "I am Chen Mo, the chief disciple of Ye Wushuang, greetings to the Dragon King."

"Hmm," Mu Jinyu, with his hands clasped behind his back, nodded slightly to Chen Mo, "You are here to avenge Ye Chen?"

Without waiting for Chen Mo to respond, he continued, talking to himself: "You must have investigated his death, right? If you're unclear, let me tell you again. He attempted to kill someone for their treasure, specifically targeting my friend's possession. I intervened, he refused to yield, dared to strike, and met his death by my hand, entirely at fault for his own demise. Yet you dare to seek revenge for him?"

By the end, his words were fierce!

With an aura of immense authority!

Mu Jinyu's black hair fluttered in the light breeze, his eyes fixed on Chen Mo, brilliance flashing within them like two sharp swords thrusting forth, which made Chen Mo's eyes painfully sting!

Chen Mo was terribly shocked, struggling to keep himself from tearing up, yet he was extremely astonished by Mu Jinyu's strength.

He is at most the Fourth Layer of the Divine Realm, isn't he? Even if there was a mistake, it would only be the Fifth Layer. How could there be such terrifying and oppressive power?

It seemed more dreadful than facing his own master directly!

Impossible, this New Dragon King couldn't possibly possess such strength!

That's it, he must be using the power of a formation to intimidate me; his true strength couldn't possibly be this formidable!

Chen Mo could not accept that Mu Jinyu had the strength of the Advanced Divine Realm, nor the boundless and vast oppressive power. He had never seen such pressure even from Li Zhexiong, ranked first on the Divine Rankings, so he concluded that Mu Jinyu was bluffing with the help of a formation's power!

Actually, he wasn't wrong. Mu Jinyu's strength hadn't reached the Advanced Divine Realm; he was still in the Sixth Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm, comparable to both of them. However, unlike them, Mu Jinyu had undergone incredible transformations at the Land of Creation by Ruiyan Mountain!

Not only had his thin dragon blood been elevated to a terrifyingly high level, but with the help of the Mystical Little Tree, he had successfully cultivated the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art" and attained the Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Body!

This was a powerful constitution possessed by the Five Ancient Emperors, a body of a great emperor, naturally boundless and terrifying!

Chen Mo, unaware of the incredible fortune Mu Jinyu had acquired in just a few days, convinced himself otherwise and adjusted his breath. Then he spoke in a neither overbearing nor servile manner,

"Dragon King, these words are mistaken. Although my junior brother is stubborn and indeed likes to act recklessly, if he makes a mistake, it shouldn't be for Dragon King Hall to handle, right? If you take him down, hand him over to our master, and he will surely discipline him well. It shouldn't be that the Dragon King, without discussion, directly becomes an assassin!"

After pausing, Chen Mo looked up at Mu Jinyu, not daring to meet his eyes, only gazing at his neck as he continued, "I believe if a similar situation occurred in Dragon King Hall, such as your senior brother encountering trouble, and someone else acted as an assassin without dealing with you, Dragon King, you would definitely seek justice for him, right?"

Mu Jinyu, initially wanting to refute what Chen Mo said, thought about how Ye Chen wanted to kill for treasures; should he not just subdue him and hand him over to Ye Wushuang for dealing with him? Would Ye Wushuang kill his own disciple? Impossible! Then how would he explain it to Zhu Yeqing?

Ye Wushuang himself failing to discipline, on what grounds did he ask for an explanation from him?

But hearing what Chen Mo said next, he was left without an answer. If Ruoxiang Man Hall was killed just like that, he definitely wouldn't say it wasn't Ruoxiang Man Hall's fault for its own errors, the death deserved, and he wouldn't seek revenge...

Would he act so morally upright?

Impossible!

The chaos was caused by Ruoxiang Man Hall itself, right? They indeed owed the common people, but in the end, they also never provided an explanation!

Taking a deep breath, Mu Jinyu shook his head, saying, "At this point, there's no use talking so much anymore. Let's speak with our swords."

"Fine, let's talk with our swords then!"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Chen Mo immediately agreed without any politeness, then suggested, "Let us talk with just our swords, without using anything external, how about that?"

Since he was convinced that the imposing air previously shown by Mu Jinyu was due to the formation, unless he pushed Mu Jinyu to fight with swords, letting the opponent use the Mountain Protection Array would leave no chance for him to survive!

Otherwise, why would he provoke Mu Jinyu?

"Fine." Mu Jinyu, noting Chen Mo's cultivation, also disdained using the Nine Heavens Mystical Murder Formation or the Dragon Bone Method Ring to kill him!

He agreed straightforwardly!

Chen Mo felt secretly delighted, preparing to make a move when...

Qiu Bai, who had been silently watching, suddenly spoke up, "Wait!"

"Hmm? What do you want?" Chen Mo responded with displeasure, turning to look at Qiu Bai.

With his hands behind his back, Qiu Bai said, "The Dragon King has already agreed to a duel with me. If I win, he will craft a furnace of elixirs for me. Your duel with him can wait for another day!"

Chapter 703 Chen Mo Dies!

Qiu Bai naturally wouldn't let Mu Jinyu confront Chen Mo first.

After all, listening to their conversation, they were about to duel to the death. If Mu Jinyu was really boasting with the power of the formation to intimidate others, and if once he dies at the hands of Chen Mo, how could Qiu Bai have Mu Jinyu refine pills for him?

Therefore, he had to intervene to prevent it, insisting that Chen Mo fight Mu Jinyu another day!

At least, until the Elixir Mu Jinyu promised him was refined, he wouldn't allow Mu Jinyu to die at the hands of someone else!

"Another day? Hmph!"

When Chen Mo heard Qiu Bai's words, he paused, then laughed in anger and bluntly pointed at Qiu Bai's nose, rebuking, "Do you really think you, Qiu Bai, being ranked tenth in the Divine Rankings, are invincible and can disrespect anyone? I am Ye Wushuang's senior disciple, and my cultivation has also reached the Sixth Layer of the Divine Realm, what right do you have to dictate me?"

"Oh? So, you want to try a hand with me first?"

Qiu Bai, looking at the somewhat flustered Chen Mo, scoffed coldly.

"I don't mind warming up a bit before fighting the Dragon King!" Chen Mo said gravely.

By saying this, he implied that defeating Qiu Bai wouldn't take many moves nor would it drain much of his True Yuan, so it counted as warming up!

"Haha, good, then today I'll let you witness the strength of someone ranked tenth in the Divine Rankings!"

Seeing Chen Mo's arrogance know no bounds, Qiu Bai couldn't help but scoff coldly, "Also to teach you that your title as a disciple of Ye Wushuang is utterly worthless!"

"Presumptuous!!"

Upon hearing Qiu Bai's ridicule, Chen Mo's face changed instantly, and he burst into rage, "How dare you insult my master, die!"

With those words, he made his move, pouring True Yuan into the Leopard Gall Sword Pill in his hand, which he stimulated, turning it instantly into a sword that glittered with cold light!

"Swoosh!"

Chen Mo drew his sword and slashed fiercely at Qiu Bai, his divine radiance brilliant, and the intensely bursting Sword Light shot up into the sky, causing the fog outside the small clearing specially made by Mu Jinyu to almost burst open!

"Hmph, insignificant skill, you dare show off in front of me!"

Qiu Bai stood with his hands behind his back, watching Chen Mo boldly attack himself, a flash of surprise in his eyes followed by disdainful mockery.

That trace of surprise was for the Leopard Gall Sword Pill, not for Chen Mo's strength.

Because that Leopard Gall Sword was indeed a rare Magic Treasure!

As Qiu Bai's mocking words fell, Chen Mo's sharp and piercing Sword Light, already approaching a foot away from him.

Qiu Bai, with his hands behind his back, then leisurely raised them, striking fiercely straight forward!

"Eight Extremes Burst!"

As Qiu Bai's arms swung out, they burst forth in dazzling golden light, as if his arms were cast from gold-iron.

His arms stretched out like Twin Dragons Going to the Sea, soaring into the sky, directly striking the heavens, causing the surrounding void to tremble faintly!

"Bang!!"

"Boom!!"

What a move, Eight Extremes Burst, Qiu Bai's fists thundered out, no hint of dodging or attempting to catch the sword, but instead attacked fiercely, directly confronting the Leopard Gall Magic Sword!

The clash of fists and sword instantly released extremely shocking collision sounds, the metallic clang deafening!

"How is this possible?!"

Chen Mo, pained, fell back, but saw that Qiu Bai's arms, cast like gold-iron, had not even a scratch from the hard clash with his Leopard Gall Sword!

He was suddenly so shocked that he almost felt his soul flying out!

It was unimaginable how solid Qiu Bai's fists could be!

"Ha, 'bang bang', come again!!"

When Chen Mo was shocked and horrified, Qiu Bai gave a slight shout, raised his fists, and clanged them together twice, producing a sound like metal striking metal; then he charged at Chen Mo again!

Mu Jinyu stood aside, watching the two bicker for a few sentences without bothering to ask for her opinion before starting to fight, her expression became somewhat bizarre.

This feeling was like two ugly women confessing to a male god, asking him to agree to a date with them only to find out that the other ugly woman also dared to dream of a toad eating swan meat. Before the male god could speak, they started fighting themselves.

You scratch my face, I pinch your thigh, I pull your hair, you kick my butt...

It was hilarious!

Stretching out her hand to rub her somewhat itchy nose, Mu Jinyu said, "Hey, hey, hey, is it really necessary? After all, no matter who's first or last, the outcome is the same defeat; this is just a waste of my time..."

Indeed, if she let them fight her one after another, they would certainly beg for mercy in no time.

But by letting them start by fighting each other for the chance to fight her first, it actually consumed more time since they were of equal strength—it was anybody's guess how long they would fight!

"Crackling!"

"Clanging!"

"Thudding!!"

Unfortunately, by the time Mu Jinyu spoke up, both Qiu Bai and Chen Mo were already fighting fiercely, determined not to stop until they had decided a winner for the day!

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu sighed in resignation, but considering she didn't have anything urgent to do recently, she might as well enjoy the monkey show.

Waving her hand, she took out the Shennong Cauldron, flipped it upside down on the ground to use as a small stool, sat down on it with a munch, rested her chin in her hands, and began to watch their fight!

"Bang!"

Qiu Bai, with true fire burning and murderous aura skyrocketing, his True Yuan surged violently like a tidal wave, causing the surrounding fog to swirl as if it would be blown away any second, tearing open a wider battlefield!

His True Yuan reached its limit, stirring the Earth Vein Qi beneath his feet. He swung his fists together with the force of a falling mountain, aiming directly at Chen Mo!

Seeing this, Chen Mo's blood-drained face drastically changed. He then clenched the Leopard Gall Sword Pill in his hand, gritted his teeth, and stiffly thrust with his sword.

His True Yuan also surged to its limit, the Sword Light bursting forth from the tip of his sword like a venomous snake's tongue, slashing towards Qiu Bai's fists!

"Clang!"

"Clank!"

The clash of fist and sword took place. Though the Leopard Gall Sword Pill was a Magic Treasure, its master was inadequate, emitting a mournful cry of the sword after which Chen Mo could no longer hold on tightly. His hand loosened, and the Leopard Gall Sword retreated back into its pill form, flying out of his grasp!

It just happened to land at Mu Jinyu's feet.

"Bang!!"

With a ferocious face too terrifying to look at, Qiu Bai punched, sending the Leopard Gall Sword that intended to sever his fists flying away. Gaining the upper hand, he ignored the intense pain in his fists. He folded both fists together and struck directly at Chen Mo's chest!

"Bang!!"

Chen Mo couldn't unleash the full potential of the Sword Light and was struck flying back, receiving backlash already. Vomiting scarlet blood, his body oozing blood from every orifice, he couldn't dodge Qiu Bai's relentless pursuit in time and was directly hit in the chest!

"Puff!!"

After spewing out a large mouthful of fresh blood, Chen Mo fell backwards like a broken kite, smashing through several large trees along the way with a series of cracking sounds until he finally heavily hit the ground!

"Huff...chhhh..."

He lay defeated on the ground, his eyes devoid of light, his face showing pain and despair, his breathing going from rapid to faint, and finally... he was completely silent.

Chen Mo was dead!

Not managing to fight Mu Jinyu or dying under the fists of the enemy who killed his junior brother, but in the hands of the completely unrelated Qiu Bai!

Chapter 704: One Whip Defeats Qiu Bai!

Chen Mo had died.

His eyes were wide open, filled with despair and disbelief.

It seemed he couldn't accept that he had died at the hands of someone completely unrelated, without even fighting Mu Jinyu.

He had let down his master's high expectations of him!

With reluctance, he eventually took his last breath.

Mu Jinyu, watching Chen Mo die unwillingly, also felt at a loss for words.

This guy had clearly come to avenge his junior brother by finding and confronting him.

Yet, out of pride, he insisted on being the first to make a move against him and ended up fighting Qiu Bai, only to be outmatched and killed by him in the end.

Had he traveled all this distance just to show Mu Jinyu how he would die?

Oh, and also, to inadvertently give him a magic treasure.

Mu Jinyu casually picked up the Leopard Gall Sword Pill that had flown to his feet with Chen Mo's death and toyed with it carelessly.

"Huff... Wheeze..."

Qiu Bai's muscles relaxed after forcefully ending Chen Mo's life with a punch, and he stood there, sweating profusely, panting heavily.

The murderous intent in his eyes dissipated as he looked at the motionless body of Chen Mo, his gaze empty and gradually filling with fear and regret.

'I was impulsive...' he mentally lamented.

If Chen Mo had merely been a Sixth Layer Divine Realm martial artist, killing him wouldn't have been an issue. But behind this guy stood Ye Wushuang, the seventh-ranked powerhouse in the Divine Rankings.

His disciple was able to fight on par with him, forcing him to use a devastating killing move that hurt himself as much as the enemy in order to settle the fight; this suggested how terrible Ye Wushuang's power must be.

He had killed Chen Mo in a rush to bring Mu Jinyu to make the elixir to save someone, and Ye Wushuang certainly wouldn't let him off the hook.

Thus, Qiu Bai was a bit regretful; he shouldn't have been so impetuous and killed Chen Mo with one punch. A severe injury would have resulted in the same outcome.

'Well, what's done is done, regret is useless. If the Dragon King really could concoct the elixir and revive the master, then Ye Wushuang, no matter how formidable, wasn't worth worrying about,' Qiu Bai consoled himself inwardly.

Mu Jinyu fiddled with the Leopard Gall Sword Pill for a bit and discovered that the craftsmanship wasn't particularly impressive. It didn't compare to the Dragon Bone Bracelet, let alone the Nine-Eyed Pellet Drum, so he lost interest and tossed it to Qiu Bai, saying, "Here, your spoils of war."

Qiu Bai was stunned for a moment, instinctively catching the Leopard Gall Sword Pill, and after a moment's realization, he felt a mix of laughter and tears.

The Leopard Gall Sword Pill was a magic treasure after all, truly a valuable item. Had he found it in an ancient ruin, he would indeed be happy, but it was obtained by killing Chen Mo, and he vaguely remembered it was probably Ye Wushuang's personal sword. Consequently, it wasn't a good item at all, but a hot potato.

However, the man was already killed, and throwing away the Leopard Gall Sword now would be meaningless, merely a case of burying one's head in the sand. After some thought, Qiu Bai still gripped the Leopard Gall Sword Pill tightly.

Mu Jinyu said, "You should adjust your condition first, then we can proceed."

"Alright," Qiu Bai agreed immediately upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words.

He looked at Mu Jinyu with surprise in his eyes.

Qiu Bai had thought Mu Jinyu would take advantage of the fact that he had just fought Chen Mo and wasn't in good condition to attack and fight him, which would increase his chances of winning.

However, Mu Jinyu wasn't planning to take advantage of someone in a weakened state but openly allowed him to adjust himself before their fight.

This was unexpected for Qiu Bai, and it made him feel less resentment towards Mu Jinyu.

After a deep look at Mu Jinyu, Qiu Bai sat down cross-legged and began circulating his Qi to recover.

His fight with Chen Mo had been a full-force battle, with neither holding back, and his True Essence was significantly depleted. Fighting Mu Jinyu in such a state would likely not leave him much chance of victory.

Since that was the case, he openly adjusted his condition in front of Mu Jinyu.

After all, if Mu Jinyu really wanted to harm him, by harnessing the power of the formation, he could have easily erased him; there would be no need to coax him into regulating his breath and then taking the opportunity to strike.

"Boom boom!"

As soon as he started to practice cultivation and regulate his breath, Qiu Bai was terrified to discover that the spiritual energy from nature surging into his body was overwhelming, almost causing him, who was unprepared, to lose control and have his meridians burst!

Then he remembered that the spiritual energy around Yinlong Mountain was indeed dozens of times thicker than the outside world, no wonder this was happening.

If he were to cultivate and absorb spiritual energy outside, it could only be compared to a small stream flowing into his Dantian. In contrast, cultivating at Yinlong Mountain was like the mighty rivers of the Yangtze and Yellow rivers crashing down, easily capsizing him if he was not careful!

After a moment of panic, Qiu Bai quickly began to adjust the frequency and speed of absorbing spiritual energy, and suddenly the agonizing sensation that his meridians were about to burst was gone.

He felt somewhat helpless, never expecting that one day he would be frightened because there was too much spiritual energy.

Then, he put aside all distractions and began to immerse himself in the process.

In just a short while, he felt his depleted True Essence Power had been fully replenished!

Qiu Bai opened his eyes and estimated the time; it had only taken three minutes!

Unknown until calculated, he was shocked to find what would typically require at least thirty minutes to recover about ninety percent of his True Essence Power had taken merely three minutes to fully recover at Yinlong Mountain!

This uncontrollably gave rise to a terrifying thought in Qiu Bai to stay at Yinlong Mountain.

Really, once accustomed to the vast ocean-like concentration of spiritual energy at Yinlong Mountain, he feared that the thin spiritual energy of the outside world would not appeal to him at all, for it was too slow!

Qiu Bai suddenly had a thought, whether to deliberately lose to Mu Jinyu and serve under him?

Wouldn't that mean he could break through to the Advanced Divine Realm within a few years?

"No, no, the spiritual energy here is good, but saving the master is more important!"

Qiu Bai shook his head, casting aside the wavering thoughts from his mind.

"Dragon King, I've recovered my breath, we can start now, right?"

Qiu Bai's gaze regained its firmness as he spoke to Mu Jinyu in a deep tone.

"Hmm, come on!"

Mu Jinyu was still sitting lazily atop the Shennong Cauldron, speaking in an unconcerned manner.

Seeing Mu Jinyu's indifferent attitude, Qiu Bai was extremely irritated.

This guy didn't take him seriously at all, speaking to him as if he were a grown-up addressing a child.

"No offense taken!"

A flash of ferocity in Qiu Bai's eyes, he bellowed and his entire body burst into a dazzling golden light, making him look as if he had turned into a golden statue.

Afterward, Qiu Bai rushed towards Mu Jinyu and threw a punch at him.

"Go!"

Mu Jinyu paid no attention to Qiu Bai. As Qiu Bai made his move, Mu Jinyu still sat on the Shennong Cauldron, lazily crossing his legs. Then, with a pinch of his left hand, the Dragon Bite Tail Bracelet on his wrist loosened its grip, leaving his wrist and taking flight, swelling in the wind!

In no time, it turned into a three-meter-long Bone Whip that lashed straight towards Qiu Bai!

"Snap!"

A crisp lash echoed, and the splendid golden light radiating from Qiu Bai's body was harshly scattered by Mu Jinyu's Bone Whip, sending him flying backward, vomiting blood!

"Bang!!"

Qiu Bai crashed heavily to the ground, his body twitching slightly, his face pale as death, bleeding from every orifice, with a deep and bone-exposing wound from the whip on his back, nearly breaking him in half!

Chapter 705: Qiu Bai's Desire to Return!

"Uh..."

Qiu Bai lay on the ground, blood streaming from all seven orifices, the whip injury on his back nearly breaking him in half and causing him extreme pain, making him feel as if he had lost all sensation in his lower body.

But even though his spine wasn't actually snapped in half, the fresh blood gushing out from the wound on his back, along with his shattered internal organs, deeply conveyed to him that his life was ebbing away!

"Uh...hiss..."

Qiu Bai's breathing grew faint, inhaling more than exhaling now.

His heart was filled with fear and amazement, unable to imagine how Mu Jinyu, standing still without lifting a finger, managed to nearly cripple him with just a Bone Whip Treasure.

Had he secretly employed the power of the Mountain Protection Array?

Qiu Bai questioned in his heart.

But soon, as his life force drained away, he scoffed at himself, because even if Mu Jinyu did cheat, what did it matter? He was about to die; how could he still accuse him?

It was just a pity that he hadn't been able to fulfill his master's wish to have Mu Jinyu craft elixirs for his healing!

"Huh? So frail?"

After whipping Qiu Bai half to death with one lash of the Bone Whip and reeling back the Bone Ring, Mu Jinyu looked at the dying Qiu Bai on the ground and couldn't help but express his surprise.

The dire state Qiu Bai was in wasn't the worst it could be because Mu Jinyu, the moment he struck Qiu Bai with the Bone Whip, sensed something amiss and promptly dissipated most of the True Essence Power from the whip. Otherwise, Qiu Bai wouldn't just be nearly snapped in half.

He would have been whipped until not a trace of him was left, his soul scattered!

"Enough."

Seeing that Qiu Bai was on the brink of losing his last breath, Mu Jinyu sighed lightly and then started to apply the Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art to treat Qiu Bai's injuries.

After all, having made a bet with him, Qiu Bai would serve him for five years upon losing. If Mu Jinyu simply whipped him to death, what would have been the point of their wager?

Qiu Bai, barely conscious, did sense Mu Jinyu approaching his side and crouching down, doing something. He didn't care to ponder whether Mu Jinyu was just searching the body and paid it no mind.

But soon, he noticed something was off; the previous numbness from the excruciating pain in his back gave way to a warm current that made him feel incredibly comfortable all over.

It was as if he had returned to his mother's womb, floating in the warm amniotic fluid, greedily absorbing nutrients to grow at an accelerated pace!

"Uh-huh..."

The comfort was so profound that Qiu Bai couldn't help but groan softly.

Then, he realized something was wrong—hadn't he been supposed to die? Why was he so comfortable, feeling no pain at all? Was this what being dead felt like?

Qiu Bai opened his eyes just in time to see Mu Jinyu lift his hand from his back and stand up.

"Hmm? I'm not dead? Did you save me, Dragon King?"

Seeing Mu Jinyu, Qiu Bai knew for certain that he wasn't dead; otherwise, Mu Jinyu wouldn't have perished with him or been in hell together.

"Of course, who else would save you?" Mu Jinyu replied indifferently.

"Why would you save me, Dragon King..."

When Qiu Bai heard Mu Jinyu's words, his heart swelled with complex emotions, thinking that for an injury as severe as his, Mu Jinyu would have had to use precious elixirs to save him.

If it were up to him, he definitely wouldn't be willing to use such invaluable lifesaving pills to save a worthless cripple.

Yet Mu Jinyu had done just that, eliciting complex feelings within him.

Mu Jinyu gave a faint smile and said, "Why? If I didn't save you, wouldn't my wager with you be for nothing?"

Qiu Bai was stunned at the words. So, Mu Jinyu had saved him just so the wager would stand, and he would have to serve him.

Realizing this, Qiu Bai couldn't help but bitterly smile and said, "If that's the case, Dragon Master, why did you have to hit me so hard just now?"

The tone carried traces of grievance and confusion.

Mu Jinyu said righteously, "How was I to know you were so weak that you couldn't even take one of my moves?"

Qiu Bai: "..."

Qiu Bai reflected on the scene of Mu Jinyu's One Bone Whip striking him just moments ago, his eyes involuntarily filling with fear.

Mu Jinyu was right; he truly was too weak to take even one of his moves.

"Sigh..."

Qiu Bai sighed dejectedly, feeling uncomfortable in his heart again.

He couldn't even withstand a single move from Mu Jinyu, yet he had laughably thought about competing in a wager with Mu Jinyu, hoping that if Mu Jinyu were to lose, he would create a Pill Elixir to save his master.

Now, not only had he failed to defeat Mu Jinyu, but he also had to serve Mu Jinyu for five years. How would he save his master this way?

Qiu Bai was utterly disheartened, thinking that it might have been better to have died under Mu Jinyu's whip, even though it would have been equally futile, at least he wouldn't have to live with a guilty conscience.

Mu Jinyu observed the changing expressions on Qiu Bai's face, from the initial surprise of narrowly escaping death to the subsequent despondency and despair as he seemed lost in thought.

After a moment's reflection, Mu Jinyu guessed it must be due to his losing the wager with him.

With concern for his subordinate, he asked, "You insisted on wagering a bet with me, asking me to create a Pill Elixir for you. What was your purpose?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Qiu Bai explained with some despair, "My master was recently corrupted by a demon during the dark turmoil. Half of his body is almost like a zombie's, exuding a gloomy and evil chill, getting worse every day."

"After the dark turmoil ended, although his condition improved, his constitution is special — he is of an extremely cold and evil nature. It used to be suppressed by the Red Limit Warm Jade, preventing any trouble from arising."

"However, the shock of the demon's evil Qi seemed to have triggered his extremely cold and evil body, and the Red Limit Warm Jade can no longer suppress his cold energies, rendering him unable to even speak. In order to save my master, I began to challenge others to wagers everywhere, winning objects of extreme yang!"

"Oh?" said Mu Jinyu upon hearing this, "Is this why you've been charging up the Divine Rankings to the tenth position and then came to wager with me?"

"Yes, I wagered with that senior and finally won a Magic Treasure of extreme yang, which just barely suppressed the evil chill in my master's body. Then, when I learned that Dragon King, you were skilled in alchemy, I thought maybe you could make a Mysterious Yang Pill that might save my teacher..."

Qiu Bai sighed.

Mu Jinyu carefully observed his expression, discerning that he wasn't lying, and nodded, saying, "Out of respect for your filial piety, although you lost, I can still make you a Mysterious Yang Pill. Of course, you must provide your own Pill Formula and materials!"

"Oh, huh? Really?!"

Qiu Bai initially didn't hear Mu Jinyu clearly, but once he realized what was said, he immediately jumped up from the ground, his face vibrant with excitement as he looked at Mu Jinyu.

"Of course," Mu Jinyu said with a nod, "I certainly don't want your work efficiency to be affected because of your master's situation while you serve under me."

"Thank you, Dragon Master!"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Qiu Bai immediately knelt without hesitation, kowtowing several times vigorously in gratitude.

At that moment, he was ecstatic, wholeheartedly devoting himself to the Dragon King Hall, no longer feeling the slightest discomfort about serving under Mu Jinyu.

What could be better than the Dragon King Hall, where he could cultivate in such a heavenly Heaven Cave Blessed Land, with a Dragon Master who cared for his subordinates?

He resolved to persuade his master to join the Dragon King Hall upon his return!

Chapter 706: The Hidden Risks of Spiritual Energy Revival!

"Dragon Master, here, this is for you."

After his excitement had subsided, Qiu Bai handed the Leopard Gall Sword Pill to Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu did not reach out to take it but looked at him curiously, saying, "Isn't that your spoils of war, why give it to me?"

Qiu Bai chuckled, "Dragon Master, you know I don't use any weapons. Otherwise, I wouldn't have ended up fighting you with my fists even after obtaining this magic sword. So, it's useless for me; please take it as a token of gratitude for helping your subordinate with the alchemy."

Seeing that Mu Jinyu still seemed reluctant, Qiu Bai continued to persuade, "Think about it, Dragon Master, this isn't really my spoils of war; I just got it earlier. If Chen Mo hadn't died by my hand just now, with your strength, taking him down would have been a breeze, so this actually is your spoils of war!"

Upon hearing Qiu Bai's reasoning, Mu Jinyu thought for a moment and felt it made some sense.

Had they not conflicted earlier, and had he defeated Qiu Bai first, given Chen Mo's hatred towards him, Chen Mo was bound to die by his hands eventually, making the Leopard Gall Sword Pill his anyway.

And alternatively, had he not saved Qiu Bai just now, with Qiu Bai dead, the Leopard Gall Sword Pill would still have been his, wouldn't it?

"Alright then," Mu Jinyu finally reached out and took the sword pill.

Although the Sword Pill Magic Treasure didn't mean much to him compared to the Nine-Eyed Wave Drum and the Dragon Bone Bracelet, it was still a magic treasure, suitable for self-defense for his ladies.

At the very least, it could be a good gift for a loyal subordinate in the future.

Seeing Mu Jinyu accept the sword pill, Qiu Bai breathed a sigh of relief.

If Mu Jinyu had insisted on refusing, he really wouldn't have known how to repay Mu Jinyu.

It was he who lost the duel, yet the other party, bearing no grudges, was willing to help him concoct an elixir. This kindness and favor were so immense, he feared even lifelong servitude might not repay it!

"So, Dragon Master, shall we set off now?"

After seeing Mu Jinyu accept the Leopard Gall Sword Pill, Qiu Bai immediately urged impatiently.

"What's the hurry?"

Mu Jinyu glanced at Qiu Bai and said, "I've been away for several days and just got back today. I haven't even greeted my wives yet; I came straight to deal with you, and now you want me to leave with you immediately. Do you think I am Yu the Great, who passed his own house three times without entering?"

After a pause, seeing the embarrassed look on Qiu Bai's face, Mu Jinyu softened his tone, "Anyway, your master will probably be fine for a while. Let's set off later."

"Mm, alright, Dragon Master. I was thoughtless just now, forgetting that as the Master of the Dragon King Hall, you have countless matters to attend to after just arriving back. You go ahead with your tasks; we can leave once you're done."

Qiu Bai immediately said with an awkward smile.

He felt he had indeed been a bit anxious, overlooking that Mu Jinyu was not idle.

Considering his master's situation was not that severe, he let Mu Jinyu go ahead and deal with his miscellaneous tasks first.

"Mhm."

Mu Jinyu responded and, gathering the sword pill and Shennong Cauldron, turned to leave.

Immediately, a path opened in the surrounding misty formation, leading directly to the outer mountains of Yinlong Mountain.

Qiu Bai followed behind Mu Jinyu obediently, vaguely seeing a cluster of buildings in the mountains ahead.

'So that must be the new site for the Dragon King Hall?' he thought to himself.

Soon, Mu Jinyu brought Qiu Bai to the outskirts of Yinlong Mountain and took him to Mu Hongchen's office.

"Knock knock."

"Come in."

A voice tinged with tiredness and irritation came from inside.

Mu Jinyu, upon hearing this, frowned slightly and then opened the door, gesturing for Qiu Bai to follow him in.

"Dragon Master, you're back. Is this the newly ranked tenth in the Divine Rankings, Mr. Qiu?"

Mu Hongchen looked up to see Mu Jinyu entering and managed to suppress her irritation, forcing a smile as she spoke.

She also glanced at Qiu Bai, vaguely guessing he must be the one who had been shouting in the Misty Formation these past few days.

Mu Jinyu had just gone to deal with him, so why was he bringing him back now?

Mu Hongchen felt somewhat puzzled and confused.

Mu Jinyu said, "Yes, that's him. From now on, he will be our colleague."

"Huh?" Mu Hongchen was startled upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, but then he understood what Mu Jinyu meant; he had brought Qiu Bai under his command.

"Oh, okay... Mr. Qiu, come here so I can register you..."

Having realized this, Mu Hongchen gestured for Qiu Bai to come over.

Qiu Bai turned his head, feeling a bit uneasy, and said, "Big sister, just call me Little Qiu, no need for 'Mr. Qiu'..."

Mu Hongchen looked at Qiu Bai, nodded, and said, "Alright."

After all, Mu Hongchen was almost thirty years old, while Qiu Bai was only in his twenties. Calling him Little Qiu was not excessive.

Moreover, since they were going to be colleagues from today, there was no need to be so formal with honorifics like 'Mr.' and 'Ms.'!

Soon, Mu Hongchen and Qiu Bai sat in front of a computer, one asking questions and the other answering, entering Qiu Bai's information into the database.

"Sit down for a while. I'll call someone over to familiarize you with the new environment, as well as the dormitory and clothing. He will take you to get them."

After finishing the registration and formalities for Qiu Bai, Mu Hongchen had him sit aside and then took out her phone to make a call.

Soon, a man arrived. He stood at the doorstep and saluted Mu Jinyu and Mu Hongchen, saying, "Dragon Master, Sub-hall Master."

Mu Hongchen pointed at Qiu Bai and said, "This is Qiu Bai, the tenth ranked powerhouse in the Divine Rankings. He has now joined our Dragon King Hall. Take him to get his uniform, check into the dormitory, and familiarize himself with the new environment."

"Yes!" The man agreed, his look towards Qiu Bai filled with added reverence.

A tenth ranked powerhouse, huh? Did that not mean he was stronger than the Sub-hall Master and second only to the Dragon Master?

The two quickly left then.

Only Mu Jinyu and Mu Hongchen remained in the office.

With no outsiders around, Mu Hongchen sat back down, her beautiful face inevitably showing signs of fatigue. She then looked up at Mu Jinyu and sighed, "Dragon Master, things have been a bit troublesome lately."

"What happened?"

Mu Jinyu had sensed something was off with Mu Hongchen's emotions the moment he had entered the room. He guessed she had an issue to report to him, but it probably wasn't urgent, so he had dealt with Qiu Bai's formalities first before speaking to her.

Mu Hongchen said, "Come take a look at these videos, and you'll see."

"Alright," Mu Jinyu, curious as ever, moved over to sit beside Mu Hongchen.

Mu Hongchen started playing a video, and they saw a scene of the tranquil and beautiful West Lake suddenly disrupted by an enormous snake head that flicked its tongue lightly, staring intently at a tiny figure in front of it.

"Eh, isn't that the Buddha Head?"

Mu Jinyu recognized the tiny figure confronting the white snake; it was none other than the Master of the Buddha's Light, Victorious Buddha, Sheng Rulai!

"Yes, that's him," Mu Hongchen confirmed.

"And what is this? A water monster? Such a tourist spot as West Lake, having such a monster?" Mu Jinyu further inquired, frowning at the sight of the white snake.

He thought the nearly fifty-meter-long great python he encountered in the Hundred Thousand Great Mountains while searching for the Spring of Life was a rare anomaly. He had not expected that in a bustling place like West Lake, an even larger, nearly hundred-meter-long giant snake would appear!

Mu Jinyu felt that the person responsible for this area was indeed negligent!

Fortunately, due to the recent dark disturbances, there were fewer people out and about, otherwise, a major disaster might have occurred.

Hmm?

The dark disturbances!

Mu Jinyu suddenly thought, with the end of the dark disturbances and the revival of nature's spiritual energy, various spirit plants and Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures were appearing and growing wildly.

It made no sense that the ferocious beasts wouldn't undergo changes as well...

Could this white snake be a danger brought about by the revival of the spiritual energy?

Chapter 707: The Ferocious Beast Incident!

As Mu Jinyu pondered why the White Snake had appeared, the scene on the video shifted. Sheng Rulai activated the Pagoda's divine might, sending forth a dazzling divine light to subdue and suppress the White Snake.

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu let out a slight sigh of relief, thinking that it was fortunate the Buddha Head was at West Lake; otherwise, the emergence of this snake demon could have caused a calamitous disaster!

Just as Mu Jinyu thought that this was the only incident of a ferocious beast emerging, Mu Hongchen turned off the video and opened another one.

This video also depicted a ferocious beast incident, unlike the West Lake White Snake that was eventually subdued by Sheng Rulai. The video showed a wild wolf, as huge as a rhino, that had slaughtered an entire village, then left the village with a murderous aura and reeking of endless blood.

Afterward, Mu Hongchen opened several more videos, all similar to the one with the wild wolf attacking the village. Some showed unrestrained ferocity and a sky-high murderous aura, departing with corpses strewn all over; others were merely a scare to the witnesses before leaving...

Upon closing the last video, Mu Hongchen said somewhat wearily, "Dragon Master, some of these videos are top secret while others have too many eyewitnesses. They have already spread online, and the situation is escalating. The public is clamoring for the military to step in with heavy weaponry and bombard these monsters..."

"Did these start appearing in the last few days?" Mu Jinyu asked in a stern voice.

When he had set out for Rong City, Mu Hongchen hadn't mentioned these things to him. Clearly, these ferocious beast attacks had only started in the past few days.

"Yes," Mu Hongchen nodded, her expression one of helplessness.

Mu Jinyu asked, "Have you sent anyone to the places where these ferocious beasts appeared?"

Mu Jinyu knew that sending the military with heavy weaponry to exterminate these ferocious beasts was impractical unless it involved nuclear bombardment.

Otherwise, with just the speed and strength of ordinary people, they would be torn to shreds before they could even get close to these beasts.

This was because, from the videos, he could tell that these ferocious beasts all possessed the strength of the First Layer of the Divine Realm, and some were even more ferocious, reaching the Second Layer of the Divine Realm!

Divine Realm Warriors were already immune to heavy weapons, even missile attacks. With the power of Divine Sense and the ability to manipulate nature's spiritual energy, they could directly interfere with the missiles' trajectories, making it impossible to hit them.

These ferocious beasts, once they reached the Divine Realm, almost all had some form of spiritual wisdom. How could ordinary people cope with them?

"Yes, some." Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Mu Hongchen thought he was blaming her for mishandling the situation, as she had been slow to dispatch people to subdue these beasts, and she nodded immediately.

"Foolish!"

Upon hearing Mu Hongchen's response, Mu Jinyu's expression changed abruptly, and he couldn't help but scold her, "Aunt Mu, you're also a Divine Realm Warrior now; how could you not see that these beasts all possess the strength of the Divine Realm? Sending Martial Artists with Dark Energy or Energy Transformation against them is just adding to their meal, isn't it?"

"Call them back immediately!" Mu Jinyu said gravely.

Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Mu Hongchen's expression changed as well. She apologized, "These beasts have the strength of the Divine Realm? I'm sorry, Dragon Master, I really didn't see it. I'll call them back right away!"

As she spoke, Mu Hongchen immediately took out her mobile phone and began to contact people, instructing them to retreat and stop tracking these beasts.

Mu Jinyu watched Mu Hongchen make calls anxiously, his expression changing from anger to some helplessness.

Judging from Mu Hongchen's reaction, it seemed he had misunderstood her. Although Mu Hongchen was also a Divine Realm Warrior, she had recently advanced and had always been managing affairs in Dragon King Hall without ever taking action herself. She likely didn't have a clear grasp of the strength of the Divine Realm.

Watching the brief footage of these beasts in action, she subconsciously assumed they were only at the Energy Transformation level, not the Divine Realm, for after all, Divine Realm Warriors were not as common as cabbages found by the roadside.

But evidently, times have changed now, and Divine Realm strength seemed to become as common as cabbages you could grab by the handful along the roadside.

It's like people from the last century, where an average man was around one meter seventy in height, and one meter eighty was considered quite rare. But now, most young men are already hitting one meter eighty by middle school, making one meter seventy appear short...

For various reasons, Mu Hongchen made a mistaken judgment and only dispatched several Energy Transformation Warriors to go out.

"I hope nothing has gone wrong,"

was all Mu Jinyu could sigh and say.

Mu Hongchen quickly finished the phone call, quietly breathed a sigh of relief, and then cautiously looked at Mu Jinyu, timidly saying, "Dragon Master, I've notified everyone to retreat, there are no casualties..."

"Hmm, that's good," Mu Jinyu responded upon hearing this and also breathed a sigh of relief, then told Mu Hongchen, "You also go notify the related departments, have them all evacuate, and do not proactively track these ferocious beasts."

"Understood," Mu Hongchen agreed.

She understood that if even the Energy Transformation Warriors from Dragon King Hall needed to retreat when facing these ferocious beasts, there was no reason to think that ordinary members would be of any use; it would be a sure way to send them to their deaths. Mu Jinyu would not let them needlessly sacrifice themselves; it was pointless.

After Mu Hongchen notified the relevant departments, since the request came from Dragon King Hall, although the leader was reluctant, he finally agreed.

He then asked Mu Hongchen how Dragon King Hall planned to intervene and how long it would take to resolve the issue?

Mu Hongchen held the phone slightly away from her ear, looked at Mu Jinyu, and sought guidance with her eyes.

Mu Jinyu said somewhat helplessly, "We can only say as soon as possible, nobody can guarantee that these are the only ferocious beasts around."

Mu Hongchen then relayed the message to the other party.

After a few more words of back-and-forth, she hung up the call.

"Dragon Master, I'm sorry..."

After hanging up the phone, Mu Hongchen looked at Mu Jinyu with eyes filled with fear and apology, as she apologized again.

"Forget it, the next time something like this happens, consult with me first. Or you could discuss it with Third-Rate Unknown and the others," Mu Jinyu said.

After finishing, he took out his phone and sent a message to San Liu and Nameless, asking them to come over.

Thinking it over, Mu Jinyu felt that it would be too difficult for just the two of them to confront these ferocious beasts, and it would not be efficient. In the end, he bit the bullet and also sent a message to Gu Xiyan and the others, asking them to come over.

Soon, Third-Rate Unknown, Gu Xiyan, Wen Rou, Mei Yinxue, and Jian Ruyan arrived one after the other.

As for Yu Linglong, Xu Qingya, and Lin Qiaoxia, it was not only because their strength was still at the Energy Transformation level but also because they had not undergone life-and-death training like Gu Xiyan and the others. Having them also join would likely not only be unhelpful but might also cause more trouble.

Therefore, Mu Jinyu didn't call them over.

"Dragon Master!"

"Jinyu!"

"Little Mu..."

When everyone arrived at the office, San Liu and Nameless greeted Mu Jinyu with respect, while Gu Xiyan and the others cheerfully called out. They then saw that Mu Jinyu didn't look quite right, and the joyous expressions that had lit up their faces faded away.

They knew that if Mu Jinyu had called them over, it must be for something serious.

Chapter 708: Allocating Magic Treasures!

"Everyone has arrived, let's get to the point!"

Having seen that everyone was present, Mu Jinyu turned her head and motioned with her chin for Mu Hongchen to start playing the videos from earlier.

"Hmm?"

As the videos began playing, the expressions of Gu Xiyan and the other women, who were previously only somewhat worried, became one of shock and horror.

Even San Liu and Nameless, who had been somewhat nonchalant, now had grave expressions on their faces.

They were just a few short videos, which ended quickly.

After the videos finished, Mu Jinyu looked at the crowd and said, "The situation is a bit tricky now. With the revival of Spiritual Energy, not only has the cultivation environment improved and resources have become more abundant, but these ferocious beasts, after consuming some Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures, have also begun to transform. These beasts now possess the strength of the Divine Realm."

As she spoke, Mu Jinyu paused, her expression somber as she continued, "You all probably know how formidable the Divine Realm is. Ordinary firearms can't harm them, so it's impractical to rely on troops to hunt them down. We can only use Divine Realm martial powers to confront them..."

Hearing this, Gu Xiyan understood and nodded, "So, Dragon Master, you called us here to lead people to hunt down these ferocious beasts?"

Gu Xiyan's voice was calm and not very panicked, but thinking about facing those savage beasts that could single-handedly wipe out a small village or a small town, she couldn't help but break out in a cold sweat.

After all, she had only once experienced a life-and-death battle with another person, and although she eventually succeeded in subduing her opponent, at that time, she had Mei Yinxue, Jian Ruyan, Wen Rou, and Mu Jinyu behind her.

With them protecting her from behind, she was able to face danger and muster the courage to confront her adversaries time and again!

And from the many ferocious beasts that appeared in the video, Mu Jinyu calling them here probably meant they were to act independently.

If she were to act alone, Gu Xiyan worried that if something went wrong and no one was available to support her immediately, it would be disastrous.

So, although she acted very calm and did not want to complicate Mu Jinyu's plan, she was still somewhat concerned.

Mu Jinyu naturally heard the faint unease in Gu Xiyan's calm voice, gave her a glance, and also discerned the worry in her composed expression. He then scanned the rest of the crowd.

Apart from Gu Xiyan, Wen Rou felt the same way. Even Mei Yinxue had these concerns, albeit not as obviously as Gu Xiyan and Wen Rou.

Only seasoned veterans like Jian Ruyan and Third-Rate Unknown were completely unconcerned about these Divine Realm newbie ferocious beasts.

After all, having been battle-tested, both Jian Ruyan and San Liu had reached the Third Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm. While Nameless was currently only at a Half-Step Divine Realm due to the sequelae of Soul Seizing, her combat experience alone would make it easy for her to deal with beasts at the First Layer of Divine Realm.

So, they had no fear of facing any of the ferocious beasts from the videos on their own!

Mu Jinyu withdrew his gaze, not offering comfort to Gu Xiyan and the other women, and nodded, "Yes, you will head out and connect with the vanguard personnel in various places first. They have been tracking these beasts for a while. Let them help guide you. Then you can proceed to eliminate these beasts. Any questions?"

"No problem," everyone shook their heads.

Mu Jinyu nodded, "Good, Third-Rate Unknown, you both should depart first. Go to..."

Mu Jinyu designated two beasts out of those in the video that appeared to be the least ferocious and assigned San Liu and Nameless to deal with them!

This was to take care of them. After all, Nameless was only at the Half-Step Divine Realm, and although she could rely on her experience to handle beasts at the beginner Divine Realm, she might struggle with the more ferocious ones.

Plus, for some reasons, San Liu was also given the task to take on one of the weaker ferocious beasts.

Hearing Mu Jinyu's command, the expressions of Gu Xiyan and the four women did not change, while Mu Hongchen's lips moved slightly, but she eventually remained silent.

San Liu could tell that the beasts he and Nameless were to confront were the weakest amongst those shown, glancing at the expressionless Gu Xiyan and others. His lips moved as he spoke, "Why not, Dragon Master, let me switch to a different target?"

Mu Jinyu scanned him and shook his head, "What's the matter? Are you looking down on someone?"

San Liu's strength was only at the Third Layer of Divine Realm. Which among Gu Xiyan and the four women was weaker than him to warrant his special care?

"No, no, no..." San Liu hurriedly shook his head and said, "I just feel that the ferocious beast I am dealing with is rather formidable, and I, being weak, might not be able to handle it. I was hoping for a bit of your pity..."

"Quit the nonsense and get moving," Mu Jinyu said irritably.

Seeing this, San Liu dared not persuade any further and left the office with Nameless.

Gu Xiyan and the others showed no change in their expressions, standing still, waiting for Mu Jinyu to assign them to confront the ferocious beast.

However, Mu Jinyu did not immediately assign them their targets; instead, he quietly took out the Nine-eyed Wave Drum, the Dragon Bone Bracelet, and a piece of Rock after making sure that San Liu and his group had truly left Yinlong Mountain.

Gu Xiyan and the others were curious about what Mu Jinyu was doing when they saw his actions.

Mu Jinyu handed the Nine-eyed Wave Drum to Gu Xiyan, the Dragon Bone Bracelet to Mei Yinxue, and the Rock to Wen Rou.

"What is this?"

Gu Xiyan and the other women curiously asked as they took the items handed to them by Mu Jinyu.

Jian Ruyan recognized that these were Magic Treasures. After glancing at the Magic Treasures in the hands of the three women and then at Mu Jinyu, she didn't say a word, but her expression was somewhat displeased and upon closer inspection, also carried a hint of grievance...

Mu Jinyu said, "These are Magic Treasures, a higher tier than Magic Artifacts. With that, he explained the functions of the three Magic Treasures..."

The Nine-eyed Wave Drum dealt spiritual attacks, while the Dragon Bone Bracelet was a pure embodiment of extreme destructive power, and as for that piece of Rock, it was a Magic Treasure that Mu Jinyu had crafted with great effort, a small piece of raw material he painstakingly obtained from the Tai Sui Stone.

It had the same effects as the Tai Sui Stone and was named the God-Hitting Stone.

Hearing Mu Jinyu's explanation, Gu Xiyuan and the other women immediately showed expressions of surprise and delight.

The worries and unease in their hearts were swept away in an instant.

They were already at the third layer of the Divine Realm with their power, and Wen Rou was even at the fourth layer. Compared to the ferocious beasts, they were likely able to capture them with ease.

Yet, a lack of combat experience led them to lack confidence, but with these Magic Treasures, even without much combat experience, they were not afraid of danger. A mishap in operation could have led to the total annihilation of the team.

"How about that, can you set out with confidence now?"

Mu Jinyu looked at the delighted Gu Xiyuan and her companions and smiled.

He didn't dare to tell Gu Xiyuan that the pellet drum she held was made from a giant toad.

That would certainly make Gu Xiyuan explode!

Hearing that, Gu Xiyuan looked up at Mu Jinyu with a somewhat melancholic tone and said, "You were just trying to scare us just now, weren't you?"

"No," Mu Jinyu immediately denied, "These are the only Magic Treasures I have, and since all of you need to take action, of course, I need to favor you a bit. But if they saw it, they might get a bit upset, so naturally, I had them set out first, then I could take care of you separately."

He didn't feel he did anything wrong. Favoring his women a bit, what's wrong with that? He wasn't about to let them face dangerous situations without acting to resolve them.

However, after all, Gu Xiyang and the others could not compare with San Liu and his group in terms of combat experience. When allocating the ferocious beasts, they had to either solve the weaker ones or resolve it this way.

And Mu Jinyu thought it was safer to provide them with Magic Treasures by their side, so he arranged it that way.

"Ah, that's true. San Liu and Nameless didn't see you distributing Magic Treasures to us alone. They must still think you, the Dragon Master, are very fair. Even to your own women, you are so cold and heartless, showing no favoritism. They'll probably fear you even more..."

Gu Xiyang nodded in sudden understanding, then thought of something and glanced at Jian Ruyan before turning to Mu Jinyu with a strange look. "But by doing this, aren't you afraid Sister Ruyan will have some ill feelings?"

She felt like Mu Jinyu was being foolish, fearing that giving all the Magic Treasures to them would cause San Liu and Nameless to get upset, so he sent them away before distributing the Magic Treasures to them. But why didn't he send Jian Ruyan away as well? Wouldn't this just infuriate Jian Ruyan?

Chapter 709: Retirement

Mu Jinyu heard Gu Xiyang's words and glanced at Jian Ruyan, who had an expressionless face but was emitting an icy chill, and chuckled:

"It's fine. Little Yanzi isn't someone who values external things. Besides, with her rich combat experience and the extraordinary sword she carries close, she naturally doesn't need my special care."

"Is that so?" Gu Xiyang and Wen Rou, having heard Mu Jinyu's words, cautiously looked at Jian Ruyan.

They noticed that although she was expressionless and seemed normal, with no excess emotion showing on her face, it seemed she truly had no objections to Mu Jinyu's arrangement. Yet, an increasingly cold aura kept emerging from her...

It seemed that she actually did have some objections!

"Hmm, I have no objections. My sword isn't a Magic Treasure, but it is a Superior Grade Magic Artifact. Using it against a few ferocious beasts is overkill."

Seeing Gu Xiyan and the others looking at her with fear, Jian Ruyan realized she had lost her composure. She quickly suppressed the dissatisfaction and grievance in her heart and said calmly.

Mu Hongchen, seeing this, said to Gu Xiyan with a self-mocking tone, "Haven't you noticed? After all, you are Dragon Master's women, and he adores you immensely. He wouldn't want you to receive even a slight injury. As for me and Ruyan, we are just outsiders; how could we receive the Dragon King's favor like you, haha..."

Gu Xiyan, Wen Rou, and Mei Yinxue, hearing Mu Hongchen's words, looked somewhat embarrassed on their faces but felt more sweetness and joy.

Mu Jinyu rolled his eyes at Mu Hongchen, saying grumpily, "Oh please, Aunt Mu, if you don't know what to say, then don't speak. How can you say you're just outsiders, which is why I favor Xiyan and the others more?"

"I already call you Aunt, do you still feel like an outsider? Besides, you don't need to go out and fight ferocious beasts, so giving you a Magic Treasure is meaningless."

Mu Hongchen cheerfully said, "I'm just standing up for Ruyan here."

Jian Ruyan didn't say a word and didn't interfere in their conversation, but she coldly said, "Dragon Master, tell me which ferocious beasts I need to deal with, and I'll set out now."

"Ah, how boring."

Mu Jinyu sighed, shaking his head and said, "Little Yanzi is Ah-Xiang's sister, do you think I'd mistreat her? Forget it, I'm not teasing you anymore."

With that, he took out an Iron Pellet from his pocket and tossed it to Jian Ruyan.

Jian Ruyan was momentarily startled and instinctively caught it.

"What is this?" Holding the Sword Pill, she could feel the mana fluctuations from it, indicating it was a Magic Treasure, and she asked curiously.

Mu Jinyu said, "Don't worry, it's not just any ball. Infuse it with True Yuan, and you'll see what it is."

Hearing this, Jian Ruyan infused the Sword Pill with True Yuan, and immediately a clanging sound of a sword rang out as the Leopard Gall Sword Pill unfolded into a sharp sword full of Sword Qi.

"Sword Pill?" Jian Ruyan immediately recognized what it was, examined the Leopard Gall Sword Pill for a moment, and looked at Mu Jinyu with a softer gaze.

"I don't want it; you can take it back." Jian Ruyan felt much better, but remembering what Mu Hongchen had just said, she was unwilling to accept Mu Jinyu's gift of a Magic Treasure. She withdrew her True Yuan, allowing the Leopard Gall Sword to revert to its Sword Pill form, and tossed it back to him.

Mu Jinyu flicked his hand, sending the Sword Pill flying back to her, and said, "Take it. Although it feels like you really don't need this Sword Pill Magic Treasure, to avoid accusations of favoritism, you should take it. It's of no use to me, anyway."

Jian Ruyan followed by flicking it back and said, "I don't want it."

Mu Hongchen watched them toss the Leopard Gall Sword Pill back and forth, saying grumpily, "Are you playing ping pong here?"

"Uh..."

Jian Ruyan felt a bit embarrassed when she heard Mu Hongchen's words. When Mu Jinyu tossed the Sword Pill back to her again, she caught it and didn't throw it back.

Mu Hongchen looked at Jian Ruyan and smiled, "Ruyan, if you don't want it, give it to me, I could use a weapon."

On hearing this, Jian Ruyan subconsciously said, "No."

Mu Jinyu looked at Mu Hongchen and said speechlessly, "Aunt Mu, why are you snatching the Sword Pill? You don't even need to fight, holding it is just a waste."

"Old me?" Mu Hongchen got a bit angry when she heard Mu Jinyu's words, she was upset but couldn't do anything since she couldn't beat Mu Jinyu. She just glared at him furiously and said, "I'm going to tell Sister Zijin later!"

"No, no, no!"

Mu Jinyu hurriedly pleaded for mercy and then turned to Jian Ruyan who was still hesitating about whether to give the Sword Pill to Mu Hongchen, "Little Yanzi, you go find which ferocious beast, Xiyan, you go look for which one..."

"Alright!"

Gu Xiyan and the other two girls nodded in agreement, looked at Mu Jinyu with both annoyance and amusement, and then left the office, pulling Jian Ruyan with them.

After leaving the office, Jian Ruyan came to her senses. She shouldn't have refused when Mu Hongchen asked for the Sword Pill; she should have just handed it over to Mu Hongchen. But why had she refused?

Finally, she hesitated and followed Gu Xiyan and the others out.

Once she calmed down, Jian Ruyan shook her head, looked down at the Sword Pill in her hand, her eyes filled with complex emotions, and sighed, "Oh well, I'll use it for now and return it to him later!"

...

In the office.

After Gu Xiyao and the other two girls dragged Jian Ruyan out,

Mu Hongchen's furious expression suddenly vanished, and she looked at Mu Jinyu with boredom, scolding as though he was hopeless,

"Oh, Dragon Master, you shouldn't have said that. You should have said: 'I just love my women, Ruyan, you are not my woman, unless you become my woman, why would I bother giving you a Magic Treasure?' That would have been right!"

As she spoke, she shook her head with a sigh and said, "There, I gave you a chance, but you are useless."

"What!" Mu Jinyu looked at Mu Hongchen incredulously and said, "Are you trying to get me killed, Aunt Mu? If I said that to Little Yanzi, wouldn't she chop me up?"

After a pause, he looked at Mu Hongchen very confused and said, "Besides, why would I want Little Yanzi to be my woman? I already have six wives who are causing me enough headaches, adding her would just be asking for more trouble!"

"Moreover, she is Ah-Xiang's sister, and I am Ah-Xiang's senior brother. Marrying Little Yanzi would make me her brother-in-law, I would be lowering myself, it's just not worth it!"

Mu Jinyu, imagining certain scenarios, shook his head in horror.

"Sigh..." Mu Hongchen sighed lightly and said, "I was initially trying to matchmake you two, seeing how Ruyan's attitude toward you isn't as cold as before, but it seems I was meddling too much."

"Yeah, you better meddle less from now on and think about your own lifelong issues," Mu Jinyu agreed, nodding.

"Sigh, it seems Aunt Mu really is getting old, needing you to remind me. Well, never mind, I don't fancy anyone. In the future, while you take care of Sister Zijin in her old age, you might as well take care of Aunt Mu too,"

Mu Hongchen said with a smile.

Chapter 710: The National Martial Cultivation Plan!

The two exchanged jokes, and Mu Jinyu turned serious, stopping further discussion on that topic.

He said seriously, "By the way, Aunt Mu, please contact those leaders; I have some matters to discuss with them."

"Oh, alright..."

Mu Hongchen promptly agreed and began contacting the secretaries of those leaders to schedule a time for a remote video conference.

Given the reputation of the Dragon King Hall, those leaders could not ignore Mu Jinyu's opinions; they postponed their original schedules and plans and had their tech teams prepare a secure video conference setup within about ten minutes to prevent eavesdropping.

They took this video conference very seriously, as it was unlikely for the Dragon King Hall to contact them suddenly with no urgent matter; the last time they had initiated contact was due to the chaos of darkness, indicating clearly that this meeting was addressing the current crisis of ferocious beasts.

"The video will connect in a minute. Is the Dragon Master ready?"

Ten minutes later, Mu Hongchen ended the call and turned back to Mu Jinyu, asking.

"Yes." Mu Jinyu nodded.

"Then let's go to the smaller conference room inside," Mu Hongchen suggested, pointing to a small meeting room in the office, ushering Mu Jinyu to prepare for the video call with the leaders.

It seemed she was prepared to exclude herself from the meeting.

"Aunt Mu, come in with me. It's not a confidential matter; much of the subsequent arrangements will need your involvement. How can you not be there?" Mu Jinyu took a few steps, then turned back and looked at Mu Hongchen as he spoke.

"Oh, okay then..."

Hearing Mu Jinyu say this, Mu Hongchen followed him into the meeting room.

"Crack!"

Shortly after the two entered the small conference room, the screen in front of them flickered, turning into a snowy picture, flickered a few more times, and finally connected successfully.

On the screen, the display split into several smaller frames, each showing an elderly person.

Mu Jinyu looked at these leaders, did not show signs of weakness, smiled, and directly addressed the matter, "Thank you, leaders, for taking the time out of your busy schedules to talk to me. I'll skip the pleasantries. In this video call, I merely wish to suggest an idea that could better stabilize our nation in this revival of spiritual energy and prevent us from being overwhelmed!"

"What suggestion?" asked one elderly leader with a solemn face, his voice heavy.

Mu Jinyu said, "As you know, with the end of the dark chaos, nature's spiritual energy is gradually reviving. For cultivators like myself, martial artists, the environment for cultivation has improved, and wild beasts, mutating with the revival of spiritual energy, now possess tremendous destructive power. It's impossible for the Dragon King Hall to have soldiers guarding every city, town, and village at all times; we simply do not have enough personnel. Once a ferocious beast appears, bloody carnage is inevitable, and support cannot arrive in time..."

"So... I propose, let's disseminate the cultivation methods, let everyone engage in martial cultivation, turning the whole populace into soldiers!"

Mu Jinyu spoke in a calm and collected tone.

"This..."

"Impossible!"

The elderly leaders' expressions instantly turned anxious upon hearing Mu Jinyu's suggestion, clearly showing how greatly his words impacted them, causing their emotions to fluctuate and making it hard for them to remain composed.

Mu Jinyu continued, "I know what you are worried about—martial cultivation among all citizens has its pros and cons, and it's likely to lead to martial law violations and be difficult to control. But the situation has already become hard to control..."

"Look at this video!"

Mu Jinyu spoke, took Mu Hongchen's mobile phone, and flipped through it to show a video.

The screen showed a boy of about seven or eight years old, taking his four or five-year-old sister out to play when suddenly a car lost control and headed straight for the siblings.

Without a doubt, a car accident was bound to occur, and the siblings would either die or be permanently disabled!

However...

The next scene was completely unexpected.

The young boy sensed something was wrong, stood in front of his sister to protect her, and raised his hand to push the car away to prevent it from hitting his sister. At that moment, his arm radiated a hazy glow. When the car hit, instead of sending the boy flying, it was as if it had crashed into a massive rock, resulting in the car being totaled and the drunk driver dying instantly!

"This..."

Several elders, after watching the video, had their expressions slightly altered, turning rather unsightly.

This video had been released a few days ago and had caused quite a stir online at the time.

It was eventually controlled and deleted. Coupled with various incidents of ferocious beasts running rampant, the issue had gradually faded into obscurity.

Mu Jinyu handed the phone back to Mu Hongchen, saying, "Seeing this video, you all must have some idea, right? It's not just cultivators whose speed of cultivation has dramatically increased in this grand era. Ferocious beasts that consume Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures also mutate. In fact, among humans, there are quite a few who, even without practicing any Cultivation Techniques, have begun to show extraordinary abilities..."

"Even if you disagree with passing down the Cultivation Techniques, do you really know how many people secretly possess superhuman strengths?"

"Some time ago, I went to Luo City to fight over a Strange Stone. Do you know how many Energy Transformation Warriors were there?"

Not waiting for the elders to respond.

Mu Jinyu coldly scoffed, "A total of over a hundred!"

"What?"

"How is that possible?"

The elders, hearing Mu Jinyu's words, altered their expressions drastically, and a hint of horror could be seen in their cloudy eyes.

The number of Masters of Energy Transformation within the country is unknown to the common people, but they were very clear about it. Whenever a Dark Energy Warrior broke through to Master of Energy Transformation, they would immediately send someone to contact them and register their information, closely monitoring their actions.

As long as these Masters of Energy Transformation didn't cause any widespread negative impacts, they would usually turn a blind eye to the life-and-death struggles among personal warriors.

Now, the mere appearance of a Strange Stone in Luo City had drawn over a hundred unregistered Masters of Energy Transformation, which was indeed shocking for them.

They kept track of the actions of the masters; when the news arrived, they knew that four Divine Rankings powerhouses and about ten registered Masters of Energy Transformation were present.

But Mu Jinyu said that the number of people who had gone there was actually in the hundreds. If their information wasn't wrong, then either those Masters of Energy Transformation had teleported there that day, or many unregistered Masters of Energy Transformation had emerged unexpectedly.

From what Mu Jinyu said and the clues they had gathered, it was clearly the latter!

The dark turmoil had only passed a little more than a month ago, and already so many Masters of Energy Transformation had appeared; how many more would appear as time passed?!

This was the reason they couldn't help but lose their composure!

Mu Jinyu said, "In such a short time, without your knowledge, sects, Martial Arts Families, and those power organizations, they all have developed rapidly, and some of their quite capable people have risen quickly during this Spiritual Energy Revival!"

"Our Dragon King Hall now also has dozens of Energy Transformation Warriors, which can be said to be even more splendid than at its peak in the past. The number of God Realm powerhouses has reached a dozen, but I can't guarantee that we can always recruit cultivation geniuses to serve as the core force to suppress these forces and sects!"