

## King Hall 771

Chapter 771: Legend of the Heavenly Palace!

This Outer Sect Disciple, within the Inner Gate of the Heavenly Sword Faction, had some backing.

Therefore, he was privy to some insider information.

About the identity, name, and strength of the person who refused the Sect Leader's offer to take him as a disciple, he had learned something from an Inner Gate senior brother.

So when Mu Jinyu announced his name, it rang a bell for him, and after muttering it a few times, he remembered: wasn't this the peerless genius Mu Jinyu who he and his friends had just joked about, the one determined to pursue an invincible path?

Who would've thought that what started as a joke would actually bring them face to face with the man himself?!

How unlucky could he get?

The disciple wore a gloomy expression, gazing at Mu Jinyu with hopeful eyes, no longer daring to assume the air of a senior brother.

He was so frightened that he couldn't even speak.

After all, his own strength had not even entered the Divinity Transformation Realm; he was merely at the later stage of the Body Refining Realm.

Mu Jinyu noticed the man's nervousness and fear, and thought he must have recognized him.

Indifferently shaking his head, Mu Jinyu couldn't possibly trouble himself over such trifles and said with a light smile,

"Hmm, if the Heavenly Sword Faction hasn't had a second person decline the Sect Leader's offer to become a disciple, then the person you were discussing just now should be me, but..."

He paused, gave a wry smile, and continued, "I'm not as formidable as you say, no matter the rumors of reading a thousand characters by three or writing poetry by five, or the talk of joining the Heavenly Sword Faction specifically to walk an invincible path, battles unchallenged, ascending to the heavens... none of that is true..."

Mu Jinyu flatly denied, "I don't know who started such baseless rumors. There were no earth-shattering phenomena at my birth, I'm just an ordinary person, who only recently came here from the outside world of Huaxia, so I'm not very familiar with the various affairs of Kunlun Ruins. Thanks to the two senior brothers just now for clearing up my confusion."

The last sentence was to explain their previous question — why he knew "nothing" about the common knowledge of the Hidden Dragon Conference at Kunlun Ruins.

"Oh, I see..." After hearing Mu Jinyu's explanation, the two disciples broke out in cold sweat on their backs and said with a forced smile, "Whoever spread the rumors is really nasty, misleading us all... apologizing for laughing at you, junior brother..."

They spoke hesitantly, very afraid that Mu Jinyu would seize on this point and not let go, in which case they would definitely not be let off easily.

After all, this was someone the Sect Leader himself wanted to take as a disciple!

Even if he had refused the Sect Leader and had no significant backing in the Heavenly Sword Faction, his future was still boundless. If he really bothered to make an issue out of it, their days in the Outer Gate would be very tough.

Mu Jinyu said, "You don't have to be so tense, senior brothers, I'm not a bad person. It's just a small misunderstanding, nothing serious."

"Right, right, as long as the misunderstanding is cleared up, if junior brother has no other questions, then we'll take our leave..." said one of them nervously, smiling.

"No, no, no!" Mu Jinyu quickly waved his hand, saying, "I still have a question I'd like to ask the senior brother."

"What question? Junior brother, feel free to ask. If we know, we'll certainly tell you all that we can," the two hurriedly said, hoping to explain things clearly to Mu Jinyu and then leave to calm down properly.

Mu Jinyu smiled and said, "There are no big problems, I just want to know, you just mentioned that those who become part of the top ten on the Hidden Dragon List from the Hidden Dragon Conference will receive the blessing of the Kunlun Dragon Veins' Qi Luck, benefiting themselves, their sect, and their family in various ways. Are there any other benefits or rewards, like..."

He paused, arranging his words, and then continued, "Like, the profound methods of lost alchemy techniques, some lost pill formula, or what about some peerless divine skill, or methods of soul seizing and taking over bodies..."

"Are such rewards given out at the Hidden Dragon Conference?"

After finishing, Mu Jinyu looked at them calmly, yet his heart was quite anxiously watching their reaction.

"Hmm?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's inquiry, the two Outer Sect Disciples were slightly startled before replying, "Are you talking about rewards like cultivation techniques, divine skills, and certain secret techniques? Yes, there are such rewards for those who can make it into the top ten of the Hidden Dragon List in the conference!"

Another continued, "Of course, the best reward is the Heavenly Palace's Blessing!"

"Heavenly Palace's Blessing?!" Mu Jinyu's heart stirred upon hearing this, thinking that the Heavenly Palace must be the mysterious organization ranked first among the world's top ten organizations, yet no longer active on Earth.

"Yes, the best is still Heavenly Palace's Blessing!" another explained. "Generally, the rewards from the Hidden Dragon Conference for those ranked in the top ten aren't really all that impressive, far from comparing to the cultivation techniques they are already practicing."

"After all, those who can rank high in the Hidden Dragon Conference typically have significant backgrounds, being from great sects or noble families or perhaps the disciples of some reclusive powerhouse; their practiced techniques are anything but ordinary. So in reality, the rewards for ranking in the top ten of the Hidden Dragon Conference are rather insignificant!"

"However, if someone exhibits outstanding performance and catches the attention of the 'Heavenly Palace,' then 'Heavenly Palace' will invite them to join, which is the Heavenly Palace's Blessing!"

"It is said that there was once someone who ranked highly on the Hidden Dragon List that drew the attention of Heavenly Palace, and he was practicing an incomplete part of a divine skill. Heavenly Palace invited him to join and promised to complete it, and now he is a major figure at the Kunlun Ruins and holds a high position within Heavenly Palace!"

"To receive Heavenly Palace's Blessing, one doesn't necessarily have to stand out as the Dragon King in the Hidden Dragon Conference. As long as one's aptitude is good enough, they can also attract the Heavenly Palace's Blessing," another person added at last.

He obviously noticed that Mu Jinyu was asking so many questions because he really planned to participate in the Hidden Dragon Conference and hoped to obtain certain things.

But he thought it would be very difficult for Mu Jinyu to become the Dragon King, so he offered these encouraging words: people who rank in the top ten on the Hidden Dragon List also have the chance to receive Heavenly Palace's Blessing.

After saying this, he suddenly thought of something and hastily added, "That's right, you're not familiar with the Hidden Dragon Conference, so you probably don't know much about Heavenly Palace, right?"

Mu Jinyu nodded slightly and said, "Please enlighten me, senior brother."

Indeed, he had heard of Heavenly Palace in Huaxia, but he was not clear on the specific details, only knowing that when it came to the world's top ten organizations, the next nine combined were no match for Heavenly Palace!

At the time, he learned about it from Xiang Mantang and was somewhat skeptical, not quite believing it. However, as he came to understand this world better, he gradually perceived the unfathomable depth of Heavenly Palace!

"Heavenly Palace, we also aren't sure exactly what kind of organization it is. It doesn't belong to the sects, nor to the noble families, but it stands above all sects and families of Kunlun Ruins..."

"Heavenly Palace is very mysterious. No one knows who the Palace Master is; even the high-ranking members of Heavenly Palace are not clear. Their purpose and objectives are also unknown. Overall, it's very active in the Kunlun Ruins. Whenever a genius appears, they send someone to invite them to join as fresh blood for Heavenly Palace!"

"It is rumored that the Sect Leaders and Family Heads of the major sects and noble families currently in the Kunlun Ruins are all from Heavenly Palace. So whenever they make a move, it causes a great earthquake throughout the entire Kunlun Ruins!"

Chapter 772: Accidental Leak!

As the two of them spoke, there was no hint of wariness in their expressions, just a faint yearning.

Regardless of the purpose behind the establishment of the Heavenly Palace, they didn't care much, as it was too far removed from them.

They merely envied the prestige of the Heavenly Palace, along with the benefits of joining it, so in their hearts, they actually longed for the day when, due to their outstanding aptitude, they would be discovered by a scout from the Heavenly Palace and be invited to join.

Slightly distracted, the person came back to his senses, looked at Mu Jinyu, who seemed thoughtful, and continued, "So, with the vast resources of the Heavenly Palace, if you are looking for something extremely secretive, such as the pill formulas you just mentioned that have long been lost, you might not find them in other great families or sects, but by joining the Heavenly Palace, there is a high probability you could obtain them."

After speaking, the person sneered inwardly, adding in his mind, 'However, the prerequisite is that you can join the Heavenly Palace.'

After all, Mu Jinyu did not possess the cultivation of the Peak of Divinity Transformation Realm as they had jokingly said earlier, ready to step into the Fanxu Realm at any moment.

If he truly had such strength, his chances of joining the Heavenly Palace would indeed be great.

But he only had the strength of the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm, a level of power that was not even impressive at the Yan Kingdom's four grand martial gatherings, let alone the Hidden Dragon Conference?

The reason they spoke so much to Mu Jinyu was firstly because they were caught gossiping about him and feared Mu Jinyu might beat them up, and secondly, it stemmed from a feeling of superiority in showing off their knowledge to a 'country bumpkin.'

Otherwise, they would not have wasted so many words on Mu Jinyu.

"Alright, I understand," Mu Jinyu, unaware of their thoughts, was resolved to participate in the Hidden Dragon Conference after hearing their words.

It was not only to gain the blessing of the Dragon Vein Qi Luck of the Kunlun Ruins but also to see if he could find a way to restore Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou's bodies.

"Well, if the junior brother has no further questions, we will take our leave!"

Seeing that Mu Jinyu seemed to have no issues, the two exchanged glances and then spoke.

"Mm-hmm," Mu Jinyu came back to his senses slightly and nodded with a polite smile, "Thank you both, elder brothers, for enlightening me. I have taken much of your time. This is a small token of my appreciation."

After saying this, Mu Jinyu took out a few jade bottles from his pocket and handed them to the two men.

"How could we possibly accept this? Helping our junior brother is what an elder brother should do. You don't need to be so polite..."

As they spoke, they waved their hands in polite refusal while simultaneously taking the jade bottles, removing the red cloth stoppers, and sniffing the contents.

Their expressions suddenly changed, filled with astonishment.

One of them exclaimed in disbelief, "A top-tier first-grade elixir?"

The other added, "And it's even of fine quality!"

According to the classification of elixirs in Kunlun Ruins, first-grade low-level elixirs are used by Mingjin Martial Artists, first-grade intermediate elixirs by Dark Energy Warriors, and first-grade advanced elixirs by Energy Transformation Warriors. As for top-tier first-grade elixirs...

They are suitable for use by both Peak Energy Transformation Martial Artists and those in the early stages of the Divine Realm!

Exactly suitable for their current cultivation!

Having just a top-tier first-rank elixir might not seem like much; if they gritted their teeth and saved up their spirit stones, they could buy quite a few!

Not enough to be so astonished as to be floored!

But...

An elixir with Six Paths Elixir Patterns of fine quality was indeed of exceptional significance!

For alchemists obsessed with the art of alchemy, having the opportunity to research fine-grade elixirs, even if they are merely first-grade, would compel them to exchange their third-grade elixirs without hesitation!

Thus, the value of these few bottles of top-tier first-grade elixirs is truly extraordinary...

"Junior brother, this, this..."

Both held the bottles of elixir, eager to possess them, yet they felt like they were handling hot potatoes, too apprehensive to take them.

After all, these were valuable fine elixirs; they felt that Mu Jinyu might not sincerely be gifting them but could likely be joking with them.

Mu Jinyu, hearing their words and seeing their conflicted expressions, initially didn't understand their overreaction.

He thought, 'They're just first-grade elixirs, right? They were merely the elixirs I casually made while at Yinlong Mountain, specifically prepared for Lin Qiaoxia, Yu Linglong, and Xu Qingya who had not yet broken through to the Divine Realm.

Lately, these three women had also broken through to the Divine Realm, rendering these elixirs rather useless to him. So, he took them back into the Shennong Cauldron, seeing that they had yet to break through the Divine Realm, thus giving it to them in hopes they could achieve their breakthrough sooner.

But then, Mu Jinyu suddenly thought of an issue he had subconsciously overlooked during his normal days!

His heart instantly sank, and he inwardly cursed the situation.

Back when he first practiced alchemy, Jian Ruyan had mentioned that producing an elixir with three Danwen was ranked as fine quality. In Kunlun Ruins, that could qualify one as an Alchemy Master.

With four Danwen, that would make it a fine elixir. In the Kunlun Ruins, alchemists capable of producing fine elixirs were few and far between, each a notable figure.

Anyone needing their alchemy services had to go through great lengths just for them to agree to a single session.

He had been too casual at Yinlong Mountain and didn't treat an elixir with six Danwen as anything special, but in Kunlun Ruins, this was extremely valuable and sought-after merchandise. Who knew if revealing this would bring about trouble.

Mu Jinyu inwardly groaned at the trouble.

Originally, he thought nothing of first-grade elixirs and thus casually gifted them as a token of thanks. Now that they knew, it was truly troublesome. Could it be that he needed to kill them to keep it a secret?

'No, no, no...' Mu Jinyu shook his head internally, dismissing that impulsive thought and forming a plan. He smiled and persuaded them:

"Take them, senior brothers. Although the fine elixirs are indeed precious, compared to the information you've given me, I deem them of equal value. When I acquired these elixirs, I used every means just to get these few bottles. Now that I have no use for them, I'm giving them to you in hopes that it helps you break through to the Divinity Transformation Realm sooner."

The two hesitated for a while, truly reluctant to pass up the fine elixirs. Hearing Mu Jinyu's words, they quickly secured the jade bottles and assured him by patting their chests:

"Don't worry, junior brother. We won't let your expectations down and will strive to break through to the Divinity Transformation Realm soon!"

Mu Jinyu nodded, saying, "You both should also be aware of the value of the six-path marked fine elixirs. Consume them soon, lest they get discovered later on which could lead to serious trouble, making things difficult to explain."

"Mmm, we understand," they responded, shrinking their necks slightly.

Mu Jinyu didn't nag further to avoid making them even more suspicious about the origins of the elixirs, so he let them leave.

Watching their figures disappear from his sight, Mu Jinyu suppressed the thought of killing them and said to himself:

"Even if it gets discovered, it won't be a big deal. I'll adamantly claim I purchased them for a high price in Huaxia, what can they really do to me?"

A glint flashed in his eyes, and a sense of urgency intensified within Mu Jinyu's heart, "Still, just in case, I must quickly enhance my strength!"

"This is the only reliable way to make sure others can't mess with me!"

Chapter 773: Scripture Pavilion!

Mu Jinyu shook his head slightly, no longer dwelling on those needless thoughts. He recalled his recent conversation with the two individuals, muttering to himself, "Heavenly Palace, Hidden Dragon Conference..."

"It seems that to find a way to undo the Art of Snatching Souls, I must start from this angle."

Thinking thus, Mu Jinyu turned and walked toward the residence of the Outer Sect Disciples.

As he walked, a sudden thought slowed his steps.

"Hmm, they just mentioned that the Hidden Dragon Conference should be common knowledge in the Kunlun Ruins, so why has Little Yanzi never spoken of it?"

Mu Jinyu's eyes flickered uncertainly. The idea of going back to consult with Sister Ruyan began to waver.

Since Sister Ruyan had been separated from Xiang Mantang since childhood and grew up in the Kunlun Ruins, she couldn't possibly be unaware of the Hidden Dragon Conference, yet she never spoke of it to him, which was clearly suspicious.

There must be some secrets involved that she dares not share with him.

Mu Jinyu surmised that the Hidden Dragon Conference was not as straightforward as it seemed, or perhaps, it was the Heavenly Palace behind it that involved complicated matters.

"Forget it, I won't speak to Little Yanzi about it; I'll see for myself when the time comes."

In the end, Mu Jinyu decided not to discuss it with Sister Ruyan. He feared that if he spoke to Sister Ruyan, she might interfere and prevent him from attending the Hidden Dragon Conference.

"Alas..." With a deep sigh, Mu Jinyu resumed his walk toward his dwelling.

He felt annoyed; he initially thought that helping Sister Ruyan and Wen Rou switch back bodies and discovering the truth behind the murder of Xiang Mantang's parents were two separate issues.

One thing could be handled at a time.

But now, it looked like he might have to visit the Heavenly Palace eventually.

Soon, Mu Jinyu returned to his dwelling and went to find Wen Rou and Sister Ruyan.

"Knock, knock, knock."

He knocked a few times on the door of Sister Ruyan's room, but there was no response. Mu Jinyu then extended his divine sense into the room and found it empty.

Next, Mu Jinyu went to find Wen Rou, thinking perhaps the two were together.

"Knock, knock..."

After knocking twice, the door was opened, but only Wen Rou was present inside.

"Oh, where did Little Yanzi go?"

Mu Jinyu stepped into the room, curiously asking Wen Rou.

Wen Rou replied, "Sister Ruyan seems to have gone to the Scripture Pavilion. She said that her cultivation speed was too slow and she had too much free time, so she thought it better to study the Heavenly Sword Faction's Techniques and Supernatural Powers and Martial Techniques."

"I see," Mu Jinyu nodded in realization.

Joining the sect, although only as an Outer Sect Disciple, had its benefits. One could receive a few Low Grade Spirit Stones each month, and each month, one was allowed to borrow a Cultivation Technique, Martial Technique, or Magical Technique from the Scripture Pavilion.

However, Magical Techniques were for cultivators in the Divinity Transformation Realm; most Outer Sect Disciples were in the Body Refining Realm, so the Magical Techniques available for them to borrow were quite limited.

Generally, ordinary disciples didn't need Magical Techniques, so those who borrowed them were relatively few.

Naturally, to enjoy the benefits provided by the sect, one had to pay a price. As an Outer Sect Disciple, one had to regularly perform tasks assigned by the sect.

The Sect didn't support idlers.

Only by becoming an Inner Sect Disciple, and even more a Core Disciple, could one avoid these menial sect tasks and focus solely on cultivating to bring honor to the sect and help secure more resources in the Four Sects Martial Meeting.

Having heard that Sister Ruyan had gone to borrow books from the Scripture Pavilion, Mu Jinyu was moved to also go and take a look.

After all, although he had obtained top-grade cultivation methods like the "Green Emperor's Wood Emperor Art" and the "Heavenly Frost Profound Cold Qi" from the jade pendant left by Young Master Mu, he had hardly gained anything in terms of martial techniques, techniques, and divine skills.

Perhaps his master thought it was more important for him to lay a solid foundation?

As for martial techniques and magical powers, those killing methods could be learned anywhere, so there was no need to waste the storage space of the jade pendant, so maybe he didn't leave any?

Mu Jinyu wasn't sure, but whenever he fought with someone, he primarily relied on the robust power of his True Essence to push through.

In his previous battle with Ye Wushuang, it was the same; Ye Wushuang had many martial techniques and powerful moves, but he didn't, so he could only rely on his robust True Essence to clash with him head-on!

If he had had sword control techniques and other martial techniques at that time, he might have easily managed to kill Ye Wushuang across levels!

He wouldn't have ended up causing such an incident while pursuing Ye Wushuang.

Mu Jinyu considered visiting the Heavenly Sword Faction's Scripture Pavilion, then turned to Wen Rou with a smile, asking, "She ran to the Scripture Pavilion to borrow martial techniques, why didn't you go?"

Wen Rou explained, "I was waiting for you. If Sister Yan and I both went over, you wouldn't have found us when you returned, and you would have been anxious, so I waited to go with you."

By the end, Wen Rou's face blushed slightly, looking a bit shy.

"Hmm, my Xiaorou is indeed good." Mu Jinyu was happy to hear Wen Rou's explanation and reached out to pinch her cheek.

He thought to himself that Sister Ruyan's cheek indeed felt different when pinched.

After Mu Jinyu pinched her cheek, Wen Rou stepped back, blushing slightly and said softly, "Little Mu, don't be like this. If Sister Ruyan sees us, she will be upset again."

"Hmm, I know, she isn't here now," Mu Jinyu withdrew his hand and said with a smile, his tone slightly helpless.

Even though Wen Rou was already his woman, because of this situation, even being affectionate with her was inconvenient, let alone going further. He even had to be extremely careful touching her head for fear of Sister Ruyan blowing up.

When will these days end?

Shaking his head slightly, Mu Jinyu decided not to think about these annoying matters and said to Wen Rou, "Let's go, we should also visit the Scripture Pavilion."

"Okay," Wen Rou nodded obediently.

The two then left the house and headed towards the Scripture Pavilion.

During these days, Mu Jinyu had been discreetly inquiring about the Art of Snatching Souls and had also figured out the various locations within the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Soon,

Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou arrived at the entrance of the Heavenly Sword Faction's Scripture Pavilion together.

At the entrance of the Scripture Pavilion, an elderly man with white hair was sitting. Mu Jinyu took one glance and could faintly feel the Deadly Qi emanating from him.

This Elder, it seemed, was nearing his life's end.

"Greetings, Guardian Elder."

Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou stopped and respectfully greeted him.

"Hmm?" The Guardian Elder, hearing the sound, fluttered his eyelids and raised his cloudy old eyes to look at Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou.

When he saw the cultivation levels of Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou, which were at the third and fourth layers of the Divinity Transformation Realm, he was slightly puzzled because he had never seen them before.

In the Outer Gate, very few disciples had such strength, each able to join the Inner Gate at any time; IT was unlikely he wouldn't remember them.

After a brief thought, he realized they were the recently joined members of the Heavenly Sword Faction, who had also declined the Sect Leader's offer to take them as his disciples.

"Show your identity plaques." The Guardian Elder spoke, his voice hoarse and filled with endless oldness.

"Yes." Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou promptly took out their identity plaques that represented their status and handed them to the Guardian Elder.

The Guardian Elder took them and reached into them with his Divine Sense. As he learned their information, he knew that their borrowing privileges for the month were still valid.

Giving the plaques back to them, the Guardian Elder said, "Go in; you have two hours. You can only choose the techniques and supernatural powers you need from the first layer."

Chapter 774 - 774 Selection and Conflict!

The Guardian Elder explained the conditions for borrowing books from the Scripture Pavilion, then lowered his eyes again, sinking back into a dozy state.

"Thank you, Guardian Elder," they said.

Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou took back their identity plaques and, after respectfully addressing the Guardian Elder, carefully walked into the depths of the Scripture Pavilion.

Trying not to disturb him.

Once Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou had entered the Scripture Pavilion,

The Guardian Elder opened his eyes once more, a faint hint of satisfaction fleeting across his turbid gaze.

"If the Heavenly Sword Faction could have disciples like these join every year, our faction might well be eligible to participate in the Hidden Dragon Conference!"

"Then the sect wouldn't be confined to the small Yan Kingdom. Even if I died, I would rest with a smile in the netherworld..."

After a brief sigh, the Guardian Elder realized this was unrealistic and closed his eyes again, seemingly napping.

...

Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou entered the Scripture Pavilion to find that not many people were browsing for suitable secret manuals.

Mu Jinyu quickly calculated the time and realized that it was mid-month, and most people had already used their monthly opportunity to learn at the start of the month.

He picked up a secret manual from a nearby shelf and flipped through it.

"'Five Tigers Severing Doors Saber,' a Mid Yellow Grade saber technique, filled with murderous aura, extremely yang and rigid, domineering without equal..."

"A Mid Yellow Grade saber technique," Mu Jinyu said with a hint of disappointment after reading the brief introduction on the first page of the book.

Just as martial artists have ranks in cultivation, elixir pills are categorized into grades, and cultivation techniques, martial techniques, and supernatural powers are also ranked!

The grading of cultivation techniques goes from 'Heaven Earth Mysterious Yellow', and from highest to lowest, they're divided into 'Supreme Upper Middle Lower'.

The 'Five Tigers Severing Doors Saber' technique at hand is considered quite inferior, a Mid Yellow Grade technique, especially suitable for Dark Energy Warriors.

Mu Jinyu naturally looked down on it.

He would not waste his once-a-month learning opportunity on such a technique.

Wen Rou, standing beside Mu Jinyu, couldn't help but ask after seeing the introduction to the 'Five Tigers Severing Doors Saber,' "Why does the Heavenly Sword Faction have saber martial techniques anyway?"

As Mu Jinyu placed the 'Five Tigers Severing Doors Saber' back on the shelf and took another one, he answered, "It's probably because Yellow Grade martial techniques are quite cheap, so it doesn't matter which type, they just buy them all to fill the library, I guess?"

"Oh," Wen Rou said, finding the explanation reasonable, and nodded before searching nearby for martial techniques.

Mu Jinyu looked through the newly picked up book, flipping it open, "'Eight Extremes Fist,' an Upper Yellow Grade fist technique, unrivaled in ferocity, powerful enough to shake mountains, extremely potent. It is commonly said in the secular world that 'With Tai Chi, one can pacify the world; with the Eight Extremes Fist, one can stabilize heaven and earth'..."

"What? They even have 'Eight Extremes Fist'? And it's Upper Yellow Grade?" Mu Jinyu was surprised to read the introduction.

Then he thought that the Eight Extremes Fist widely circulated in the outside world must be genuine too, but they're probably incomplete, having lost their core. Otherwise, the renowned Eight Extremes Fist wouldn't have so little power.

In the Kunlun Ruins, however, the Eight Extremes Fist is regarded as an Upper Yellow Grade fist technique, which clearly indicates its true power is extraordinarily formidable, capable of killing an elephant with a single punch at its Completion Stage!

"What a pity..."

After a brief moment of surprise, Mu Jinyu put the 'Eight Extremes Fist' back in its place without choosing it.

Although the Eight Extremes Fist is mighty, it is still just an Upper Yellow Grade technique. Martial artists might still use it up to the Energy Transformation level, but for someone at the Sixth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm like him, it was unnecessary.

The Scripture Pavilion only allows one to choose a single secret manual for study each month; he couldn't possibly waste the opportunity on learning the Eight Extremes Fist!

After that, Mu Jinyu rummaged through several dozen secret manuals nearby, all of which were Mid-Upper Yellow Grade, and some were even worse, Lower Yellow Grade sword techniques.

"This is trash!"

Mu Jinyu instantly felt a wave of disappointment with the first-floor of the Scripture Pavilion.

He looked up at the staircase leading to the second level, thinking to himself that the upper floors should contain Profound Rank martial technique manuals, right?

The Heavenly Sword Faction's Scripture Pavilion was divided into four floors.

The first floor was open for Outer Sect Disciples to borrow from, and judging from what he had just searched through, most were Mid-Lower Yellow Grade, and there were only a few Upper Yellow Grade sword techniques. As for Top Yellow Grade ones, he hadn't seen any so far.

The second floor of the Scripture Pavilion was accessible to Inner Sect Disciples. It likely contained Profound Rank martial techniques, while the third floor, which was reserved for Core Disciples, had an unknown assortment of manuals of techniques and supernatural powers.

The very last, fourth floor, was where the high-ranking members of the Heavenly Sword Faction could go to borrow materials.

If he had agreed to the Sect Leader's offer and become the Sect Leader's disciple, then he would have been allowed to freely access the fourth floor of the Scripture Pavilion, which was one of the perks.

However...

"Alas!" Mu Jinyu sighed lightly, knowing that in order to keep his secrets, he truly couldn't become the Sect Leader's disciple. For now, he would just have to take a look around on the first floor of the Scripture Pavilion.

"Eh, that's right, where is Little Yanzi? Shouldn't she have come to the Scripture Pavilion early?"

Mu Jinyu suddenly remembered that he had been in the Scripture Pavilion for about ten minutes and still hadn't seen Jian Ruyan.

The time allocated for choosing secret manuals in the Scripture Pavilion was one shichen, which is two hours. He wondered if Jian Ruyan had already finished her selection and left early, maybe they just missed each other on the way, or was she still picking somewhere else?

Mu Jinyu looked around; the first floor of the Scripture Pavilion was quite spacious, but he couldn't find Jian Ruyan.

When he tried to extend his Divine Sense to search for Jian Ruyan, he found that inside the Scripture Pavilion, Divine Sense was suppressed severely, only able to stretch out a meter before he could no longer extend it any further.

After thinking for a moment, Mu Jinyu figured out what was happening.

This was to prevent others from standing outside the Scripture Pavilion and easily using their Divine Sense to peek into the Pavilion's secrets – hence, a formation had been placed to suppress Divine Sense, rendering his own Divine Sense unable to expand smoothly.

"If it can't spread out, then I'll have to search step by step."

Mu Jinyu frowned slightly, beginning to guess where on the first floor Jian Ruyan might be. Considering these Mid-Lower Yellow Grade manuals, Jian Ruyan would certainly not be interested in them.

Therefore, knowing that Outer Sect Disciples also had opportunities to select techniques and supernatural powers for study—although such manuals were rare, and generally Outer Sect Disciples who hadn't stepped into the Divine Realm and therefore lacked Divine Sense, couldn't use them—these would often remain untouched. Maybe Jian Ruyan was looking for something suitable for her over there?!

With that thought, Mu Jinyu glanced around and saw someone nearby flipping through secret manuals, so he walked over and politely asked, "Hello, Senior Brother, do you know where the manuals on techniques and supernatural powers are located?"

The man, upon hearing Mu Jinyu's question, looked up at him. Initially a bit irritated at having been interrupted, but seeing that Mu Jinyu had an extraordinary bearing and was probably at the Divinity Transformation Realm, suppressed his impatience and humbly pointed out, "They are over there."

"Oh, alright, thank you for the guidance, Senior Brother," Mu Jinyu expressed his gratitude.

Afterwards, he headed toward the area with the manuals on techniques and supernatural powers, dragging Wen Rou along.

Just as they approached the bookshelf, Mu Jinyu heard Jian Ruyan's uncompromising voice, "This was mine first, why should I give it to you?!"

"Hmm?!"

Mu Jinyu's eyes narrowed when he heard this.

Chapter 775 - 775 Chen Qiuqiao!

"I don't care who reserved it first," I had already reserved this "Thousand Water Cold" long ago, and it's only because I've been dealing with Sect missions this month that I've been delayed in coming back to get it. Now hurry up and put down the secret manual, or face the consequences!"

As Jian Ruyan's voice, unwilling to show weakness and confrontational, rang out, closely followed by another cold male voice.

It was apparent that this man was very goal-oriented, his heart unswayed by Jian Ruyan's beauty, and he didn't care about the bad reputation of forcibly taking something a junior sister had set her eyes on first.

"Face the consequences?" Jian Ruyan sneered and said, "Why don't you try? A mere cultivator at the Third Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm dares to act so arrogantly in front of me!"

"Alright, you want to fight? Then let's go outside and try!" The cold voice of the man now carried a hint of anger!

Clearly, he had been infuriated by Jian Ruyan's repeated non-cooperation and bold retorts.

Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu quickly walked forward, turned around a bookshelf, and saw Jian Ruyan and a young man with a proud look standing off against each other.

Mu Jinyu spoke up: "Bullying a woman, how impressive! Come on, let's go outside and have a try!"

"Huh?!" The young man turned to look at him upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, then noticing Wen Rou following behind, a flicker of apprehension crossed his eyes.

These were three cultivators, two at the Fourth Layer and one at the Third Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm, none weaker than him.

If he were only facing Jian Ruyan, he might not feel too pressured, confident in dealing with her, but with Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou added to the mix, he felt it wouldn't be easy!

"Who are you? I've never seen you in the Heavenly Sword Faction Outer Gate before," the young man asked with a serious expression, starting to calm down as he inquired about their origin.

Mu Jinyu replied, "My name is Mu Jinyu, these two are my friends, we just arrived at the Heavenly Sword Faction a few days ago. It's normal you don't recognize us. So what? No matter who came first, and you want to fight? Come fight me. I'll even let you have one hand free!"

"Just arrived a few days ago?" The young man, hearing Mu Jinyu's words, showed a flash of sudden realization and understood why he hadn't seen the trio before.

For the past half month, he had been dealing with a troublesome but highly rewarding Sect mission to earn some Contribution Points and had hastily returned to the Heavenly Sword Faction, disheveled without even changing his clothes and headed for the Scripture Pavilion, naturally not hearing the various rumors about Mu Jinyu that had been spreading far and wide.

The young man was unclear about the backgrounds of the trio of Mu Jinyu, but his several followers, after hearing Mu Jinyu's introduction and looking at the combination of one man and two women, all around the Third Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm, immediately realized they were the trio who had refused the Sect Leader's apprenticeship.

The followers' faces changed color, and they quickly stepped forward to tug at the young man's sleeve, then whispered in his ear, "Brother Chen, they are..."

The young man, originally named Chen Qiuqiao, upon hearing the followers' account, also had his expression change and his gaze towards Mu Jinyu became more apprehensive.

A genius with a Wood Element Spiritual Root, reaching the Middle Stage of the Divinity Transformation Realm at just eighteen, with the Sect Leader himself wanting to take him as a disciple...

Any of these conditions on their own were quite impressive, let alone combined, they seemed quite terrifying and exerted considerable deterrent power!

After all, even though Mu Jinyu had refused the Sect Leader's invitation, his remarkable talent meant the Sect Leader would still pay close attention to him; in fact, Mu Jinyu had the support of the Heavenly Sword Faction Sect Leader behind him.

Thinking this, Chen Qiuqiao immediately abandoned the idea of fighting with Mu Jinyu and said in a cold voice, "I am currently only at the Third Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm and not a match for you, a genius with a spiritual root. I concede; "Thousand Water Cold" is yours. However, I won't just let this go. Half a month from now, there's the half-yearly Outer Sect Disciple promotion exam for advancing to Inner Sect Disciple. We will see the truth on the stage then!"

"Oh, that sounds good." Although Mu Jinyu didn't mind having a fight with him, since the other party admitted defeat willingly, he wasn't going to pursue the matter further.

Moreover, the other party had set a date for a fair fight, not planning any sneaky tricks afterward, so naturally, he agreed.

"I'll take my leave."

Chen Qiuqiao saluted Mu Jinyu with folded hands and left the place with a cold face followed by his lackeys.

Once Chen Qiuqiao had left, Mu Jinyu muttered to himself, "Chen Qiuqiao, he sure knows when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em."

By then, he had also recognized Chen Qiuqiao's identity.

One of the three major Outer Gate disciples of the Heavenly Sword Faction already had the strength to be promoted to an Inner Sect Disciple. However, because the examination for promotion to the Inner Gate was only held once every six months, he and the other two had been delayed until now.

Such a person would undoubtedly be proud and arrogant. After all, in their eyes, he was already an Inner Gate Disciple. How could he possibly regard ordinary Outer Gate Disciples?

If an average person were in his position and provoked by a new junior, they would undoubtedly resist stubbornly to the end for the sake of their reputation.

Yet, upon encountering himself and finding it difficult to gain an upper hand, he weighed the pros and cons and surprisingly took the initiative to yield, merely setting a date for a duel during the Outer Gate examination.

Clearly, he intended to seriously improve his own strength and, at the time of the Outer Gate examination, severely defeat himself to reclaim the face he lost today.

In such a scenario, if he defeated himself, the Sect Leader could not possibly blame him. Instead, it was possible that the Sect Leader would look upon him favorably.

This was the reason for Mu Jinyu's admiration.

This fellow was definitely not your average brute warrior.

After Chen Qiuqiao left, Jian Ruyan looked at Mu Jinyu with a complex expression and said softly, "Thank you."

Although her strength had jumped from the Third Layer of the Divine Realm to the Divine Realm Fourth Layer after taking over Wen Rou's body, due to the short amount of time, she had not yet adapted to this change.

Moreover, the Cultivation Technique she and Wen Rou practiced differed, so if she had truly fought against Chen Qiuqiao earlier, she might not have been his match.

"Thank for what? It's my responsibility to take care of you after bringing you into the Kunlun Ruins. After all, your cultivation speed has slowed down a lot now. It is still a bit difficult to protect yourselves," Mu Jinyu said.

"Mhm." Jian Ruyan nodded slightly and did not say much else.

Mu Jinyu asked, "The secret manuals for Techniques and Supernatural Powers are over here, right?"

"Mhm," Jian Ruyan nodded and said, "I just saw a few that were quite suitable for the past me to practice. Take a look for Wen Rou..."

As she spoke, she picked up a secret manual from the shelf nearby, handed it to Wen Rou, and then softly began to explain it.

Seeing this, Mu Jinyu touched his nose in slight embarrassment and started to look for Techniques and Supernatural Powers suitable for his own learning!

...

Chen Qiuqiao and several of his followers stepped out of the Scripture Pavilion.

One of the followers carefully asked, "Brother Chen, are we really going to let it go just like that?"

Upon hearing this, Chen Qiuqiao, whose face was already grim, turned even more sullen and said, "Let it go? Of course, it's not possible to just let it go!"

With that, he sneered, his eyes burning with jealousy and a flame for battle.

"Didn't you just say that he actually came into the Kunlun Ruins from the outside Huaxia? Even though he has a Wood Element Spiritual Root, since he refused the Sect Leader's offer to take him as a disciple, the Martial Techniques and skills he knows definitely can't be more than mine. Although he is now one layer stronger than me, after I consume the 'Earth's Fire Red Lotus,' I will also be able to break through to the Fourth Layer of the Divinity Transformation Realm, and then, heh heh, I will step on him during the Outer Gate examination and let the Sect Leader know who the real talent is!"

The Earth's Fire Red Lotus is a Second-grade Spiritual Medicine, most suitable for cultivators at the Divinity Transformation Realm to consume, and extremely precious.

Chen Qiuqiao, in order to obtain it and have a greater assurance of breaking through his own strength, had deliberately wasted half a month's time to complete a Sect mission, earning Contribution Points, and had only recently returned to the Sect to finally get it!

Therefore, he was confident that after the upcoming Outer Gate examination, he would defeat Mu Jinyu!

"Haha, then let's advance congratulate Brother Chen on successfully advancing to the Inner Gate..."

The followers laughed fawningly upon hearing Chen Qiuqiao's words.

Chapter 776: "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi

When Chen Qiuqiao was determined to consume the Earth's Fire Red Lotus to break through his strength and utterly defeat Mu Jinyu in the Outer Gate's major examination to prove himself, Mu Jinyu had also selected a sword-based Divine Skill suitable for him.

Here, we need to first discuss, what is the difference between Divine Skills and Techniques?

The so-called Techniques, to put it simply, are spells like "Fire Control Secrets" and "Thunder Summoning Secrets" that are cast using True Yuan, and also require hand signs and silently reciting spells to unleash!

These Techniques have considerable destructive power, much stronger than martial techniques, but only cultivators in the Divinity Transformation Realm can use them when they have both True Yuan and Divine Sense.

Otherwise, without the guidance of Divine Sense, they can easily go out of control and lead to self-immolation!

However, even though cultivators can smoothly control Techniques after reaching the Divinity Transformation Realm, on the battlefield where situations change in the blink of an eye, and the next second could bring a lethal move, who has the time to slowly make hand signs and recite spells?

In such a situation, the opponent might be more proficient with martial techniques and could step forward while you're busy with hand signs and spells, and just punch you to death!

Therefore, under normal circumstances, powerful cultivators in the Divinity Transformation Realm tend to use their Divine Sense to control Magic Artifacts and Magic Treasures for long-range combat during battles, while they hide behind, sneakily casting spells for surprise attacks!

Divine Skills, on the other hand, do not require hand signs and spells to be recited in advance like Techniques do.

If Techniques are firearms that need magazine changes and cocking before use, which is cumbersome, then Divine Skills are like swords strapped to the waist, ready to be drawn and slash at the enemy!

Divine Skills are innate abilities that a cultivator can unleash with a mere thought after cultivation, just like using one's own limbs, as natural as moving one's arm; they don't require Divine Sense or Spiritual Thought to drive, truly moving as the heart desires.

It's just like Nameless's Invisibility Ability, which is not only an innate special power but also a type of innate Divine Skill.

Just like the Heavenly Vision discussed in the Buddhist Sect, it belongs to innate Divine Skills.

The only difference is the magnitude of their power.

And powerful Divine Skills can even grow stronger as the cultivator becomes more powerful, unlike Techniques such as "Fire Control Secrets" or "Water Avoidance Secrets," which inherently have limitations, no matter how proficient you become; even after a hundred years of practice, their power has its limits and cannot be enhanced further.

Unless improved, by transforming "Fire Control Secrets" into something like "Red Dragon Scorching Fire Secrets" or "Phoenix's Intense Flames Secrets," which just from the name, one can tell have become quite formidable.

The sword-based Divine Skill that Mu Jinyu found suitable for him is called "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi."

Just from the name, one can tell this is a wood attribute Sword Dao Divine Skill.

The conditions to cultivate it are quite stringent; aside from needing exceptional comprehension, one must also possess a Wood Element Spiritual Root.

As a result, this Divine Skill has been placed on the first layer of the Scripture Pavilion for many years, virtually untouched by Outer Gate disciples. They would skim through the beginning and then put it back in its place, ceasing to entertain the hope of learning it, letting it collect dust for years.

Mu Jinyu, on the other hand, was quite satisfied with it. Even though the "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi" did not specify its rank, he felt that its power should at least be at the Mid-Profound Rank Quality after only reading the description.

This "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi," at the beginning of cultivation, is just like the "Six Meridian Divine Sword," only shooting out wood attribute Sword Qi with astonishing force. However, as one progresses, a single Sword Qi can transform into a wooden sword, or even a tree.

Imagine, in combat with someone, without needing to make hand signs or recite spells, towering trees fly from all directions. If that doesn't pummel the opponent into mush, they're lucky, and if they somehow survive, they can be buried alive in a wooden coffin!

Mu Jinyu was quite pleased with the effects of this Divine Skill and felt that, with his Life Source Energy, the power of the "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi" he unleashed would probably increase even further!

After browsing it briefly, Mu Jinyu confirmed it was the secret manual he needed, so he put it away and then looked at Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou beside him, asking, "Have you both found what you were looking for?"

"We've been ready for a while now, just waiting for you," Wen Rou responded.

Jian Ruyan was nowhere to be seen.

"Oh, sorry, I was so absorbed in reading just now. Let's head out now," Mu Jinyu said, seeing that Jian Ruyan was no longer around, knowing her two-hour browsing time must have passed and she must have left earlier.

"Mm," nodded Wen Rou softly, whispering, "I wonder if Sister Ruyan has become anxious waiting outside."

"They must have gone back to practice by now," Mu Jinyu surmised, smiling faintly as he and Wen Rou walked out of the Scripture Pavilion together.

Indeed, there was no sign of Jian Ruyan outside the Scripture Pavilion.

Mu Jinyu felt no disappointment; it was typical of Jian Ruyan's character.

After Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou registered the secret manuals they wanted to borrow with the Guardian Elder, the elder looked up in surprise when he saw "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi," but he did not say much. He only warned, "Remember, you must return the manuals within a month. Do not transcribe them without authorization, do not divulge their contents privately, do not damage the manuals..."

After the warning, the Guardian Elder let them leave and closed his eyes again.

While Mu Jinyu and Wen Rou were walking back, they looked back curiously at the Guardian Elder.

Wen Rou whispered, "Strange, why didn't he let us copy the manuals to take back? Why did he let us take the originals instead? Isn't he afraid we might accidentally damage them? If that happens, even if he kills us in rage, the manuals won't be coming back."

Mu Jinyu replied, "Maybe the ones we have are not the original manuals, but transcripts instead. Otherwise, they wouldn't let us take them away like this."

"Hmm, that makes sense, but we still need to be careful. If we really damage them by accident, I guess we'll be in big trouble," Wen Rou added.

Time flew by, and ten days passed in a hurry.

Over those ten days, both Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou hadn't yet mastered the divine skills they were learning, whereas Mu Jinyu had already grasped the "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi," able to release strands of Heavenly Wood Sword Qi at will.

"Swoosh!"

Mu Jinyu stood motionless as sword qi burst forth, turning an old tree in front of him into a sieve on the spot.

"Boom!"

Finally, it collapsed with a roar, scattering into a cloud of wood shavings.

"The power is decent. Once I've fully mastered it, I reckon with the strength of the early stage of the Divine Realm, I could beat Ye Wushuang to death!" Mu Jinyu watched the falling wood shavings, muttering to himself.

Then, thinking of the sect tasks that Outer Sect Disciples had to complete, Mu Jinyu decided to take advantage of just having learned "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi." He planned to hunt ferocious beasts to test his skill while simultaneously accomplishing these sect tasks.

After explaining his plans to Jian Ruyan and Wen Rou, and instructing them not to wander off, Mu Jinyu set out alone, taking on three sect tasks, heading towards the nearby mountains rampant with ferocious beasts.

At the same time.

In another room of Outer Sect Disciples.

The two disciples who had received Mu Jinyu's gifts ten days earlier had finally broken through from the peak of the Body Refinement Realm to the First Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm after taking the First Grade Top-Quality Pills with Six Paths Elixir Patterns that Mu Jinyu had given them.

The two opened their eyes, exclaimed, "The medicinal effect of this fine elixir is really good!"

"Thump thump thump!"

Just then, a series of urgent knocks on the door came from outside.

"Who's inside? Open the door quickly, or I'll kick it down!"

Hearing this, the disciple with connections to the Inner Sect Disciples changed his expression, recognizing the voice of an Inner Sect Elder, and hurried to open the door.

As soon as the door opened, an old man with the appearance of a young boy, with white hair and a youthful face, glanced at them. As he twitched his nostrils, he said, "You've just broken through to the Divine Realm? What is this scent? The Fragrance of a Fine Quality Elixir? No, is it Fine Elixirs?!"

Upon saying this, the old man's expression changed, and he shouted excitedly, "What pill did you just take? Do you have more? Show me quickly!"

Chapter 777: The Truth Revealed!

Upon hearing the words of the Inner Sect Elder, their expressions involuntarily stiffened.

They were also aware of the preciousness of fine elixirs, and therefore did not dare to utter a word lest they be stolen.

But despite being cautious, having stayed in their room for over ten days without going out, they had not expected that the surge of qi during their cultivation breakthrough would still be detected by this Elder who was the most skilled in alchemy within the Heavenly Sword Faction.

'This dog's nose is really sharp!' they cursed silently in their hearts and thought about trying to conceal it.

Because they truly still had half a bottle of fine elixirs in their possession, and even if they had no use for them, selling them would fetch a good price. They of course were not willing to give them away to the Elder for nothing.

The old man saw their expressions and guessed their thoughts. He directly bellowed, "Don't think about hiding it. These fine elixirs are of great use to our Sect. If you bring them out now, the Sect will reward you, but if you remain obstinately ignorant, you will be dealt with as a traitor to the Sect!"

His shout was as thunderous as a roaring thunder, deafening to the ears, causing both of them to turn pale.

They knew that because of his alchemy talent, this Elder was highly regarded by the Sect Leader and others, in hopes of cultivating a true Alchemy Master.

That way, the status of the Heavenly Sword Faction would leap forward, completely breaking away from the stage of the Four Great Sects of the Yan Kingdom.

If this Elder and the Sect Leader learned of this, they would definitely support him, and that would mean their end.

Realizing this, they dared not conceal anything further and hurriedly took out the remaining half bottle of elixirs to give to the Elder.

The old man snatched the jade bottle from their hands and then unscrewed the cap to look inside; when he saw the full, jade-like elixirs inside adorned with six paths elixir patterns, he was like someone struck by lightning, astonished on the spot.

He was so shocked that he couldn't find his words, trembling hands nearly failing to hold the bottle steady.

Finally, he held it tightly, took several deep breaths, tears streaming down his face as he excitedly exclaimed, "To think... to think it's a Six Paths fine elixir! I never imagined that in my lifetime, I could see an elixir of this quality, my life is complete, my life is complete..."

He couldn't help but be moved, as in the current Kunlun Ruins, there were very few individuals capable of refining elixirs of this quality.

And with an unstable status, no one had heard of anyone who could consecutively produce so many first-grade elixirs with six patterns!

As for someone like him, he could only produce inferior quality elixirs, the kind without any Danwen, containing quite a bit of pill poison, and was only occasionally in the right state to produce a single Danwen elixir.

Now, today, he actually saw nearly half a bottle of six-patterned fine elixirs.

Who knows how many fine elixirs there were before these two disciples consumed them?

What a waste of heaven's gifts, a waste of heaven's gifts indeed!

The old man nearly couldn't resist the urge to beat them to death!

Afterward, his expression suddenly stiffened, and an even stronger look of disbelief shone in his eyes!

Because upon his examination, he found...

These more than half a bottle of Six Patterns fine elixirs had actually been refined recently, in no more than two months!

"How is this possible?!"

"This can't be real, can it?"

The old man felt it was unbelievable. In his knowledge, the few Masters of Alchemical Dao who could refine fine elixirs, and only occasionally produce a few Six Paths Elixir Patterns, would not bother refining these first-grade elixirs.

If they had such good luck, wouldn't it be better to refine three-grade elixirs or fourth-grade elixirs?

First Grade Elixirs have no significance for them, so why waste so many opportunities?

Moreover, he had never seen this First Grade Elixir in the Kunlun Ruins before, what was going on?

An unheard of Pill Formula, and Fine Elixirs made within no more than two months...

All sorts of doubts suddenly wrapped around his heart.

'Could it be, a new Alchemy prodigy? That's why I haven't heard of this Elixir?'

The elder suddenly raised his head, his gaze as sharp as an eagle's, piercingly staring at the two anxious people and demanded, "Explain clearly, where did you get this Elixir from?"

Originally intending to hand over these Fine Elixirs but conceal the news for Mu Jinyu, the two men, seeing the elder's gaze as sharp as a knife, piercing straight to the heart with vicious ferocity, instantly shook with terror, how could they dare to hide anything now?

Resolved to the mindset of 'better them than me', they spilled everything about Mu Jinyu to the elder without hesitation.

"Is it from the Spirit Root talent the Sect Leader wanted to take in?"

After listening to their story, a flicker of surprise and doubt crossed the elder's eyes.

In his heart, he felt somewhat relieved.

Of course, he had heard the name Mu Jinyu; when he learned that the Heavenly Sword Faction had gained a Wood Element Spiritual Root talent, he too had considered taking Mu Jinyu as a disciple to teach Alchemy.

Although he couldn't consider himself a true Alchemist, only managing to produce First Grade Elixirs with a single Danwen when luck was on his side, he was immersed in Alchemy for many years and had confidence in his teaching skills.

While Mu Jinyu's Wood Spirit Root might not be the most suitable for an Alchemy talent, the best being one with both Fire and Wood Element Spiritual Roots, having just a Wood Spirit Root was still a hundred times better than an ordinary person, certainly far better than him, and he was confident that under his guidance, Mu Jinyu would definitely become a true Alchemist.

However, since the Sect Leader had been refused when he wanted to take Mu Jinyu as a disciple, the elder thought to wait until Mu Jinyu truly adapted to the environment of the Kunlun Ruins and understood the harshness of the world, before taking him on as a disciple. He believed, faced with the temptation of Alchemical Dao, Mu Jinyu would not refuse.

But now...

"Heh, no wonder..."

The elder laughed bitterly, feeling like all his plans had gone to waste.

Mu Jinyu came from Huaxia, so it's no wonder he hadn't seen these Elixirs, made in the past two months, it indicated that Mu Jinyu possessed a Wood Spirit Root and knew of his talent for Alchemy early on, and had learned the ways of Alchemy.

How could he then possibly make Mu Jinyu willingly become his disciple?

Without further thought, the elder knew this matter was of great importance and must be reported to the Sect Leader at once.

Thus, the elder said to the two men, "Apart from me, you are forbidden to speak of this matter to anyone else, or I will hold you accountable. As for your honesty today, without any concealment, the Sect will remember your contributions. After I have discussed with the Sect Leader, you will be rewarded!"

After saying this, the elder hurriedly left to consult with the Sect Leader.

As for the two Outer Sect Disciples, seeing the Inner Sect Elder had left, they instantly heaved a sigh of relief, their backs soaked with cold sweat.

They had thought they might just get silenced by the elder, but after he left, they were truly promised rewards.

"Thud!"

The two men collapsed to the ground, no longer feeling any joy from their breakthroughs to the Divinity Transformation Realm nor any happiness from the imminent Sect rewards; their faces were filled with bitterness.

"Alas, how shameful, we had promised Junior Brother Mu not to tell anyone, but under the pressure of the elder's presence, we still let it slip, we have wronged Junior Brother Mu!"

Chapter 778: Co-opting and Rejecting!

The elderly man tossed aside his original plan to head to the Outer Sect Disciple residences for some official matters.

His urgent business now was to quickly deliver these fine elixirs to the Sect Leader and locate Mu Jinyu.

As swift as the wind, he soon arrived at the Sect Master Hall.

"Sect Leader, Sect Leader..."

Before even entering the hall, the elderly man began calling out loudly with a resonant voice, thunderous enough to make the entire hall tremble violently.

The Sect Leader, leisurely enjoying his tea, was so startled by the shout that he almost dropped his teacup.

Quickly regaining composure, the Sect Leader put down his teacup, slightly annoyed, and said to the elderly man, "Elder Cheng, why are you shouting so loudly?"

Elder Cheng did not answer immediately; he looked around, saw no one else, and then, seeing that only the Sect Leader was present, he cautiously took out the fine elixirs he had just snatched from those two disciples and handed them to the Sect Leader.

His actions resembled those of a shady figure outside a train station, who furtively calls someone over to sell a few freshly stolen cellphones, sleazily asking, "Want a cellphone?"

The Sect Leader almost laughed at Elder Cheng's antics; he had thought Elder Cheng had concocted some elixir and was presenting it to him as a treasure.

Feeling quite relaxed, he took the jade bottle, uncorked it, and glanced inside casually, only to be startled again.

He jumped up from his chair, eyes glittering with excitement as he exclaimed to Elder Cheng, "Holy shit, Elder Cheng, this...this is absolutely amazing! You've actually managed to produce elixirs with Six Paths Elixir Patterns..."

His expression turned very satisfied and relieved. Lately, things at the Heavenly Sword Faction were progressing smoothly; a spirit root genius had joined the sect and Elder Cheng, deeply devoted to the Alchemy Dao, had late bloomed, finally producing Six Patterns fine elixirs. With a few more such instances, why would the Heavenly Sword Faction have anything to worry about?

Hearing the Sect Leader's words, Elder Cheng's expression turned somewhat awkward. Although he wished he could have crafted such elixirs, he knew this glory wasn't his to claim, so he answered truthfully:

"Sect Leader, these... weren't crafted by me."

"What the heck?" Upon hearing Elder Cheng's response, the Sect Leader was taken aback, then his expression became even more animated with disappointment, suspicion, excitement, and urgency.

Then, he hurriedly asked, "Then who crafted them? You must be able to contact them, having obtained this half-full bottle. Tell me quickly, so we can hurry to recruit them before someone else does!"

Elder Cheng responded, "It's that spirit root genius who recently joined our sect..."

Saying this, he informed the Sect Leader of what he had just learned from those two disciples.

"What the heck?!"

Upon hearing Elder Cheng's words, the Sect Leader was stunned again.

He had always had high hopes for Mu Jinyu, knowing that if the Heavenly Sword Faction were to thrive, it would largely rely on Mu Jinyu. However, he had not expected that even without formal cultivation guidance, Mu Jinyu already had the capability to craft Six Paths Elixir Patterns fine elixirs.

With such skills, where couldn't he venture in Kunlun Ruins?

He felt very fortunate that Mu Jinyu, unaware of his Alchemy skills' value, had joined their Heavenly Sword Faction. Otherwise, not to undervalue himself, he feared that his sect would never have been able to attract a genius like Mu Jinyu!

Thinking so, the Sect Leader's expression changed again, and he promptly said, "Elder Cheng, this matter is of great importance and must not be leaked. Did you warn those two disciples not to spread the word?"

"Don't worry, Sect Leader, you know the kind of person I am. I had already made it clear to them and promised they would be rewarded," Elder Cheng reassured, patting his chest confidently.

"Good, then I am at ease. As for their rewards, we'll discuss that later. Let's first go find this genius and see what's going on. We must secure him..." the Sect Leader said.

Afterward, the two of them hurriedly left the Sect Master Hall and flew toward the residence of the Outer Sect Disciples.

Elder Cheng hadn't asked about Mu Jinyu's specific residence, unaware of where Mu Jinyu lived. Otherwise, he wouldn't have come to the Sect Leader first. Since the Sect Leader had once considered taking on a disciple, though he was refused, he still paid attention and knew exactly where Mu Jinyu lived.

He didn't need to ask Administrative Elder Lin Feng from the Outer Gate; he brought Elder Cheng straight to the row of stone cottages where Mu Jinyu and the other two were residing.

"Knock, knock, knock!"

After knocking on Mu Jinyu's room for several minutes without any response, the doors of the other two rooms finally opened.

"Who is it?" Wen Rou peeked out, curious and slightly displeased.

Upon recognizing the Sect Leader, her expression straightened, and she hurriedly walked out from her room, bowing to the Sect Leader and Elder Cheng, "I pay my respects to the Sect Leader and the Elder..."

Jian Ruyan did the same, albeit reluctantly; still, residing temporarily with the Heavenly Sword Faction, they had to show the necessary respect.

The Sect Leader waved his hand to indicate they need not be overly formal, then quickly asked, "That... where is Mu Jinyu?"

"He went out on a Sect mission," Wen Rou replied.

She thought to herself, was the Sect Leader here again to take Little Mu as his disciple?

"This..."

Upon hearing Wen Rou's words, the Sect Leader hadn't expected that Mu Jinyu had already left to carry out a Sect mission and was momentarily taken aback.

The first thought that popped into his mind was whether Mu Jinyu had run away?

But then, remembering that Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan were still there, he concluded it was unlikely and relaxed.

Afterward, he instinctively wanted to take out the jade bottle of the Fine Elixirs with Six Paths Elixir Patterns to ask them if they knew whether it was concocted by Mu Jinyu.

However, upon further thought, if they were unaware, such a question would inadvertently expose Mu Jinyu's secret; that wouldn't be good, as it might create unease for him, possibly making it difficult for him to willingly serve the Heavenly Sword Faction.

Therefore, he looked at the two women with a beaming smile and said, "Do you find the environment of the Outer Gate unsatisfactory? How about I arrange a different place for you to stay?"

"What?" Wen Rou and Jian Ruyan were somewhat puzzled by his implication.

The Sect Leader explained, "I think that, with your talents, there is no need to stay in the Outer Gate. That day, when my offer to take disciples was refused, I was a bit upset and made a hasty decision to let you temper yourself in the Outer Gate. Now thinking about it, it wasn't the best idea. I feel that with your cultivation levels, you are actually qualified to directly enter the Inner Gate. So I'm here to ask if you would like to go directly to the Inner Gate?"

"Oh, that won't be necessary," Wen Rou responded, suddenly enlightened by the Sect Leader's sincere and heartfelt explanation, and then shook her head in refusal.

"Why?" The Sect Leader was taken aback, somewhat unable to understand their choice.

Jian Ruyan said calmly, "The Outer Gate's major examination is only a few days away. With our strength, we are confident in directly advancing to Inner Sect Disciples. Furthermore, we can receive the rewards then; there's no urgency right now."

The Sect Leader, thinking they were just after the small rewards, chuckled and said, "Ah, there's no need for those minor rewards; I can give them to you right now."

"No need," Jian Ruyan flatly refused, then thought for a moment and shared the widely circulated rumor about Mu Jinyu choosing the Invincible Path and making a stunning entrance at the Hidden Dragon Conference.

"So that's it..." The Sect Leader, upon hearing this, instantly grew more respectful.

He had originally considered the rumor a joke, but now, seeing Mu Jinyu's talent in the Alchemy Dao, he felt it wasn't entirely impossible!

And if Mu Jinyu truly succeeded, then their Heavenly Sword Faction, as Mu Jinyu's Sect, would certainly also benefit immensely!

Considering this, he became even more resolved to not mistreat Mu Jinyu and to prevent him from leaving the Heavenly Sword Faction.

"All right, since that is the case, I won't disturb you further, but if you encounter any difficulties, please make sure to tell me," the Sect Leader said sincerely, and then took his leave.

Chapter 779: Yuntian Mountain Range!

Seeing the Sect Leader and the others leave, Wen Rou turned her head to look at Jian Ruyan and curiously asked, "Sister Ruyan, why did they suddenly become like this? Why do I feel like they harbor ill intentions?"

"You're overthinking it," Jian Ruyan glanced at Wen Rou, saying, "The reason they want to please us is probably because of the elixirs, right?"

When the Sect Leader and the others had approached, Jian Ruyan had smelled a faint scent of Dan Fragrance on them. She remembered this fragrance; it was unique to the pill formulas refined by Mu Jinyu, which Kunlun Ruins did not possess, so she guessed it must be that Mu Jinyu's premium-quality elixirs had been exposed, which excited them so.

However, she realized that the Sect Leader and his group did not have any malicious intent and did not wish to coerce Mu Jinyu into becoming their alchemist tool-person; otherwise, she would have acted subservient just now and then tried every possible means to escape from here.

'This fool, to be so careless and reveal the secrets of his alchemy so soon after arriving, it's really...'

Jian Ruyan said to herself in her heart, quite speechlessly.

Upon hearing Jian Ruyan's explanation, Wen Rou let out an "ah" and said, "The matter of the elixirs?"

She vaguely remembered the words Jian Ruyan mentioned back at Yinlong Mountain, knowing that the quality of Mu Jinyu's elixirs was extraordinary. To refine elixirs of his quality, there were only a few in Kunlun Ruins, which made her anxious.

"Then, Sister Ruyan, should we make a run for it?"

"There's no need. If they really had ill intentions, wouldn't they have just taken us when Jinyu wasn't here? Since they didn't make a move, it also shows that they prefer to be on good terms with us rather than to loot a burning house," Jian Ruyan shook her head.

"That's true," Wen Rou said upon hearing Jian Ruyan's analysis. She felt it made sense, and her previously anxious worry due to her concern dissipated.

It was far better for the Sect to be in good relations with Mu Jinyu, willingly refining pills for the Sect, compared to being coerced and harboring ill intentions while doing so.

Since they had already joined the Heavenly Sword Faction and were not its enemies, the Heavenly Sword Faction had no reason to risk forcing Mu Jinyu to refine elixirs for them.

"But we should still be more careful in the future," Jian Ruyan reminded.

"Mm," Wen Rou nodded.

Afterwards, the two women returned to their room and continued cultivating the Divine Skills they had acquired from the Scripture Pavilion.

...

Mu Jinyu, who had left the Heavenly Sword Faction, was still unaware that the elixirs he had given to two Outer Sect Disciples that day had accidentally been exposed and had attracted even more attention from the Sect Leader and others.

At that moment, he was in the Yuntian Mountain Range near the Heavenly Sword Faction to complete the monthly Sect mission required of all Outer Sect Disciples.

The Yuntian Mountain Range was known to be the place with the most ferocious beasts in the Yan Kingdom, named for its highest peak reaching into the clouds.

This range was teeming with ferocious beasts. It was said that in the deepest parts of the mountain range, there existed demon beasts at the "Unity Realm Stage!"

Because the ferocious beasts in the outer areas of the mountain range were not too strong and spiritual medicines were abundant, disciples from the Four Great Sects of the Yan Kingdom often hunted here for beasts and medicinal ingredients to complete missions handed out by their Sects.

Inner Sect Disciples and True Disciples also went deeper into the Yuntian Mountain Range to find rare materials suited for refining magic treasures and other artifacts, hoping to encounter rare ferocious beasts not found elsewhere.

"Boom!!"

A ferocious beast resembling a zebra, but covered in tough scales and sporting a spiral horn on its head, toppled to the ground after being struck by several of Mu Jinyu's Heavenly Wood Sword Qi.

With a few convulsions followed by the soaking of the soil with its crimson blood, the zebra-scaled beast lay silent.

"Lucky break. Although this zebra beast isn't the material required for the Sect mission, it seems like it could sell for quite a few Spirit Stones," Mu Jinyu walked over, crouched down, and took out a dagger forged from refined iron to pry out the spiral horn on its head.

The zebra beast's spiral horn was a fine material for artifact forging and rather valuable, making it the most precious part of the beast.

Having retrieved the spiral horn, Mu Jinyu left immediately in search of his next target.

A day later.

Mu Jinyu had entered over five hundred miles into Yuntian Mountain Range. This place wasn't the deepest part of the mountain range, but the ferocious beasts active in this region were no longer just at the Dark Energy or Energy Transformation levels; they all possessed the strength of the Divinity Transformation Realm.

They could be called Second Rank Ferocious Beasts.

Along the way, Mu Jinyu found quite a few spiritual medicines and practiced his "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi," slaying over a hundred ferocious beasts.

From each beast, he only took the most valuable parts for materials and left the rest of the bodies behind, seeing no need to waste his strength.

And of the three sect tasks he had accepted, he had completed one on this journey.

It was a poison snake fang that resembled the Zhu Yeqing but was better hidden and more toxic.

This poisonous snake beast was virtually a treasure trove. Apart from taking its fangs to fulfill the sect task, Mu Jinyu also collected its venom, swallowed the gallbladder himself, and skinned the hide...

Just then!

"Boom!!"

"Bang bang bang!!"

Leaves flew chaotically, wood chips scattered, the earth trembled, and giant trees that fell from the sky bombed the ground, blasting deep pits one after another.

The target surrounded by the giant trees was a beast that resembled a moose deer, but its eyes glowed with spiritual intelligence, and its body shimmered with five-colored divine light, looking incredibly majestic.

Facing the abrupt attack, its speed was lightning-fast; with a push of its legs, it dashed a hundred meters away like the wind.

Under normal circumstances, it would be almost impossible for anyone to hunt it down, unless a cultivator in the Fanxu Realm happened to encounter it; otherwise, cultivators in the Divinity Transformation Realm couldn't even touch it.

Unfortunately for it, this time it encountered Mu Jinyu, who had learned "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi" and had even achieved minor success through battle!

Hundreds of giant trees plummeted from the sky with terrifying force, forming a connected sequence like a copper wall and iron barrier. The Five-Colored Deer, whose attack power wasn't too strong, had no way to break through the wooden wall and escape, and after a few desperate dashes, it too was gradually encircled.

"Yoyoyo!!"

It let out a few unwilling cries, then pushed off the ground with its legs, trying to leap over the dozens of meters high wooden wall to escape the encirclement!

"Boom!!"

Unfortunately, before it could leap out, it was battered by several giant trees, inflicting heavy injuries, and fell from the sky.

"Bang!!"

The Five-Colored Deer crashed heavily to the ground, struggling to stand up on its hooves.

"Whiz, whiz!!"

At this moment, several pale cyan Sword Qi shot forth, one slicing its throat, another piercing its heart, and four severing its limbs...

Blood flowed in torrents, and the spiritual eyes of the Five-Colored Moose Deer began to fade, and after a few convulsions, it fell silent.

"Boom!!"

The city wall of giant trees suddenly transformed into a clean breeze and dissipated. Mu Jinyu stepped forward and began to dismantle the corpse of the Five-Colored Deer.

Soon, the most valuable deer antlers and the skin shimmering with five colors were peeled off by Mu Jinyu. He stood up, smiling, "At last, another sect task is complete!"

"Once the final task is done, I can go back and participate in the Outer Gate's grand examination."

Chapter 780: Call for 10 Trucks to Load the Money!

Mu Jinyu took on three tasks that, within the Heavenly Sword Faction's list of assignments, were relatively difficult; ordinary Outer Sect Disciples wouldn't dare to accept them. Only Inner Sect Disciples who were short on Spirit Stones or happened to be coming to the Yuntian Mountain Range would take them on in passing.

Therefore, the Contribution Points awarded for these tasks were very high.

This was why he had spent more than a day, killing over a hundred fierce beasts, including over thirty of the Second Rank Ferocious Beasts from the Divine Realm, and yet he couldn't complete them all.

However, Mu Jinyu didn't care much about these things. Completing Sect tasks was secondary; honing himself was the key.

Hadn't you seen how his originally awkward "Great Freedom Heavenly Wood Sword Qi" had become smooth within a day, evolving from merely releasing Heavenly Wood Sword Qi to now being able to manifest solid wood?

If by the time the Outer Gate's grand examination was about to start, the last task he accepted remained unfinished, then he could simply pick up a common task when he returned. With the fierce beast materials he had on hand, completing it would be a piece of cake.

"I'm a little hungry, let's see how this deer meat tastes."

After storing away the deer antlers and deer skin, Mu Jinyu had planned to leave directly, but seeing the corpse of the Five-Colored Deer still emanating a faint light, he felt it would be a waste to just discard it.

Since he hadn't resolved lunch, he might as well eat it.

With that thought, he immediately set up a grill, placed the deer meat on it to roast, and soon enough, a faint aroma of meat began to waft through the air.

After sprinkling some seasonings, the smell became even richer, tantalizing enough to pervade the surroundings and almost make Mu Jinyu drool.

"Awoo!"

The rich aroma of the meat not only made Mu Jinyu salivate, but also attracted the greed of nearby fierce beasts. Sure enough, a grey wolf, enticed by the scent, emerged from the underbrush, its eyes glowing green as it fixed its gaze on the roasted meat over the fire!

"I don't like wolf meat, another failed addition to the meal."

Seeing the appearance of the grey wolf, Mu Jinyu's eyes showed a hint of slight disappointment, then with a flick of his finger, a Heavenly Wood Sword Qi mercilessly snatched away its life.

Three days later.

Only the last day remained until the start of the Heavenly Sword Faction's Outer Gate grand examination.

And yet, the three tasks Mu Jinyu had accepted were still incomplete, with the last one remaining.

The first two tasks he took involved collecting certain materials from specific fierce beasts, while the last one was to find a particular Spiritual Medicine.

In these three days, he delved more than a thousand miles deep into the Yuntian Mountain Range. The active fierce beasts here all possessed the strength of the later stage of the Advanced Divine Realm, qualifying them as Second Rank High-Level Fierce Beasts—such distant locations were rarely visited by anyone.

And naturally, the Spiritual Medicines here were far more abundant than in the outer areas.

Regrettably, Mu Jinyu had searched for three days but was still unable to find the Spiritual Medicine required for the task.

"I didn't expect this Spiritual Medicine to be so hard to find. If I can't find it, so be it. It's time to go back and get ready for the Outer Gate grand examination."

Mu Jinyu was already quite satisfied with his gains over these four days. He had gathered countless amounts of Spiritual Medicines and various fierce beast materials—enough to fill at least ten hemp sacks, nearly overflowing the Shennong Cauldron.

He wasn't the type to be insatiable; having gathered so much treasure was enough for him. Venturing deeper into the Yuntian Mountain Range might bring him face to face with Third Rank Ferocious Beasts, which he, being in the Divine Realm, wouldn't be able to handle.

Hauling a crudely made Snake Skin Bag that was chock-full of valuable Spiritual Medicines, Mu Jinyu shouldered it and started heading back.

He had traveled over two hundred miles, killing quite a number of fierce beasts along the way and spotting numerous Spiritual Medicines.

However, Mu Jinyu couldn't be bothered to pick most of them up anymore; he had no more room to carry them. He would only stoop to pick up the really valuable ones.

Just then, Mu Jinyu suddenly stopped in his tracks, his ears twitching, faintly hearing sounds of fighting and cursing not far ahead?

"Tsk, all this fighting and killing over some trifle, how pointless,"

Mu Jinyu listened for a moment, then shook her head slightly, not bothering to get involved, and continued to walk on her own.

She didn't particularly intend to avoid them and didn't think she would run into them, but as luck would have it, that group of people, while fighting and cursing, stumbled their way toward her.

"Gu, you've got guts. We've already given you the 'Starblue Grass,' what more do you want? Do you really intend to wipe us out? Aren't you afraid of Mingyue Valley's revenge?!"

The two women running in front were wearing moon-white garments, stumbling toward Mu Jinyu and shouting back at a fierce-looking young man dressed in red.

Upon hearing the women's words, the young man in red laughed coldly, casually following behind them like a cat toying with a mouse, while sending out a four- or five-meter wave of Sword Qi to tear their clothes again, retorting:

"Afraid? By the time you die in the Yuntian Mountain Range, who will know you were killed by Gu Changqing?"

"Besides, what's Mingyue Valley in the grand scheme of things? The lowest amongst the Four Great Sects. If not for the various forces restraining each other, unwilling to break the balance, your Mingyue Valley would have been exterminated by our Blood Sword Sect long ago!"

"Even if you do let Mingyue Valley know it was I, Gu Changqing, who killed you, would your sect dare to seek an explanation from my Blood Sword Sect? Hmph!"

His tone was extremely arrogant, filled with disdain and contempt for Mingyue Valley.

Upon hearing this, Mu Jinyu realized they were from another of the Four Great Sects of the Yan Kingdom. The Blood Sword Sect was indeed as domineering and tyrannical as the rumors suggested.

This thought crossed her mind, and Mu Jinyu suddenly felt like helping the two women in front of her.

At this moment, the two stumbling disciples from Mingyue Valley also saw the stationary Mu Jinyu, and hope shone in their eyes.

To have ventured over eight hundred miles into the Yuntian Mountain Range, they must be masters of the Seventh to Eighth Level of the Divine Transformation Realm, and now there was a chance for them to be saved.

However, just as they were hopeful and about to call for Mu Jinyu's help, they saw her ability clearly, the Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm...

Their hearts immediately sank.

They weren't sure how someone of Mu Jinyu's strength had managed to go so deep and hesitated. Not wanting to involve others and have Mu Jinyu's death delay for them, they turned and ran in another direction!

"Whoosh!"

Their moment of hesitation had allowed Gu Changqing to catch up, and once he noticed someone ahead, he became cautious. Dismissing the notion of toying with them, he swung his sword, grievously wounding the two Mingyue Valley disciples, who fell in a pool of blood.

It was then that Gu Changqing finally put effort into evaluating Mu Jinyu, filled with caution and unsure how much she had overheard.

"Hmm? The Fourth Layer of the Divine Transformation Realm?" Gu Changqing sized up Mu Jinyu and quickly ascertained her strength. With a dismissive curl of his lips, he said, "I wondered who it was that made me feel nervous. Turns out it's just a waste from the Heavenly Sword Faction!"

"Hm? What's that smell?" In that moment, Gu Changqing's nose twitched, detecting a faint scent of medicine, and then his gaze shifted to the snake skin bag on Mu Jinyu's shoulder, demanding, "What's that on your back?"

Mu Jinyu, having been moved by the Mingyue Valley female disciples' decision to run in a different direction to avoid involving her, had already decided to help them.

Hearing Gu Changqing's words, she thought to herself with a laugh that his nose was truly as keen as a dog's and replied, "Oh, this? Just some money I picked up in there."

As she spoke, she placed the snake skin bag on the ground and loosened the opening to reveal a dazzling array of Spiritual Medicines inside.

Instantly, a rich fragrance filled the air, causing even the grievously injured ones from Mingyue Valley to feel a surge of spirit.

"Nine Leaf Soul Herb, Blue Green Flower, Heavenly Heart Wood Marrow..."

Gu Changqing was mesmerized, enumerating the various Spiritual Medicines inside.

Mu Jinyu sighed and said, "What a pity. I didn't bring enough sacks this trip. There's money everywhere, yet I can't carry much. What a waste. Next time, I'll bring ten carts to load it all!"