

Martial Arts 351

Chapter 351: Scheming _2

His intuition told him that this must be the case.

The reason these beasts were called Commander-level Fierce Beasts was because they could command thousands of Fierce Beasts.

These two Commander-level Fierce Beasts came alone, likely not expecting anyone to be here. Now that they've seen people, they are probably calling for backup.

"Things are getting a bit tricky now, huh?"

Tang Qiang licked his lips.

"Yeah,"

Pei Yong understood what he meant.

Ahead, two Commander-level Fierce Beasts were watching them like hawks, and it wouldn't be long before hordes of Elite-level Fierce Beasts arrived.

Behind them was Shen Si, lurking in the shadows, looking for an opportunity to fish in troubled waters.

As for those small fry from the Martial Arts Association and the one holding a bow and arrow, they were not a concern.

Time ticked away, with only a few minutes left before the Celestial God Fruit reached full maturity.

The two Strong Demon Apes stood as if under a Body-Stabilizing Technique, motionless, staring fixatedly at the crowd.

The two sides were in a standoff; the scene was indescribably eerie.

"Old Tang, what if we strike first and see if we can drive away these two Strong Demon Apes?" Pei Yong whispered.

"Slim chance."

Tang Qiang shook his head without hesitation, "If this were on flat ground, each of us dealing with one Strong Demon Ape would be easier, but this is the forest, their main battlefield. The trees and rocks all around are their weapons; our chances of winning aren't great.

Besides, with Shen Si watching from the side, if we drain our strength fighting the Strong Demon Apes, it would benefit him even more."

"True."

Pei Yong nodded, gritting his teeth a little, "These two Strong Demon Apes came at the worst possible time. If they had shown up just a bit later, Shen Si would have already been driven away by us."

"Yeah, but there's no use in saying that now."

Tang Qiang sighed.

Knowing what was about to happen but being powerless to stop it was ridiculously frustrating.

Suddenly, a light bulb went off in his mind.

"Old Pei, I've thought of a way to keep Shen Si from taking advantage of us."

"Oh? What's the idea? Let's hear it."

"Cooperation."

Tang Qiang glanced at Shen Si, "Since we can't spare the effort to deal with him and he'll take advantage of us, we might as well bring him over and fight these two Commander-level Fierce Beasts together.

Think about it: the two of us taking on one each would be costly, but if there are three of us, it would be much easier. Meanwhile, our people could safely and boldly pick the Celestial God Fruit, don't you think?"

Pei Yong's eyes lit up after hearing this.

That's right, rather than letting Shen Si reap the benefits for free, it's better to have him contribute too.

Besides, since their people would pick the Celestial God Fruit, they would control how much to share afterward.

"Old Tang, I think your idea is good. Let's do it."

"Hmm."

Tang Qiang smiled and then looked at Shen Si, "Chairman Shen, didn't you say earlier that you were leaving? Why are you still here? Could it be that you're too scared of these two Strong Demon Apes to move?"

"Exactly, Chairman Shen. We heard you clearly before, you promised to leave. You wouldn't be going back on your word, would you?"

"Chairman Shen, weren't you martial artists always known for keeping your promises, with a promise that can't be broken by even four horses?"

Zhao Yan and the others, upon hearing this, showed a trace of anger in their eyes.

These Awakeners were too hateful, forcing them to leave against their will.

They were just too angry to speak up.

"Heh heh."

Shen Si laughed indifferently, "Brother Tang is right. I was indeed scared by the sudden appearance of these two Strong Demon Apes. I'll leave now."

Saying this, he winked at his companions.

Pretend to leave for now and jump back into the fight when the real battle starts.

After all, the Awakened Association and the Martial Arts Association have been increasingly at odds. These Awakeners don't respect them in the slightest.

Don't expect me to be loyal when you are not.

"Wait a minute."

Tang Qiang's voice rang out again.

"Brother Tang, is there something else?"

Shen Si turned around with a puzzled look.

"Since Chairman Shen didn't leave earlier, there's no need to leave now," Tang Qiang smiled, "With a formidable enemy in front of us, I think we're better off working together to deal with the Strong Demon Apes. What do you think, Chairman Shen?"

As soon as he said this, both Shen Si and the C-level Awakened showed a look of astonishment on their faces.

"Brother Tang, you've got to be kidding, right?" Shen Si said in surprise.

"Kidding?"

Tang Qiang smiled brightly, "Does Chairman Shen think I, Tang Qiang, am someone who jokes around? Strong Demon Apes are difficult to handle among ordinary Commander-level Fierce Beasts. Just the two of us alone don't have a sure win. If Chairman Shen is willing to help, our chances will increase. Then we can securely take the twelve Celestial God Fruits and not let the Fierce Beasts steal them, right?"

"Old Tang is right. If we let these two Fierce Beasts consume the Celestial God Fruit, their power will grow, which would be bad news for humans." Pei Yong said.

As his words fell,

Zhao Yan and the others exchanged looks of disdain.

These Awakeners were indeed fickle.

When there were no Fierce Beasts, they couldn't wait to kill them.

When Fierce Beasts appeared, they conveniently forgot their previous hostility and spoke about the greater good of the Human Race.

The few C-level Awakened felt similarly unhappy.

Even if there were twelve Celestial God Fruits, each person would barely get one.

And now they had to share with the Martial Arts Association? Why?

"Brother Tang, Pei Yong is right,"

Shen Si's eyes gleamed, "In the face of a formidable enemy, unity benefits us both while division harms us. But how do we collaborate?"

Pei Yong and Tang Qiang exchanged glances, "How does Chairman Shen propose we split it?"

"There are twelve Celestial God Fruits. We have four people here, one per person. How about that?"
Shen Si smiled.

"No way," Pei Yong immediately refused, "Only you are collaborating with us, and it's our people who will pick the Celestial God Fruits. Picking the Celestial God Fruits isn't easy, and four is too many."

"Old Pei is right, unless your people can pick the Celestial God Fruits like ours. Can they?"

Shen Si remained silent at this.

Zhao Yan and the others had low Spiritual Power and no defensive items; picking the Celestial God Fruits would be suicide.

"Then how do you two propose we collaborate?"

"One fruit."

Pei Yong raised one finger, "We'll handle the two Commander-level Fierce Beasts. Chairman Shen only needs to help slightly by distracting them."

"One fruit? Pei Yong, are you joking? Treating us like beggars?"

Shen Si sneered.

He could sneak in amidst the chaos and get more than one fruit.

"Two fruits then," Tang Qiang compromised, "Chairman Shen, we'll put in most of the effort. Giving away more means less for us."

"Three fruits," Shen Si bargained, "We have many people here and also took risks. We can't walk away empty-handed."

Pei Yong and Tang Qiang exchanged angry looks.

This Shen Si really knew how to push his luck.

But fine, let's agree for now. In the end, the fruits will be in their hands, and they control the distribution.

"Okay, Chairman Shen, three fruits it is."

"Deal."

Shen Si was elated.

Getting a quarter of the total, not bad at all.

At that moment, a beast's roar, like thunder, rolled in from afar.

Trees fell in succession as a Strong Demon Ape, nearly thirty meters tall—taller than the two they faced—rushed towards them.

Seeing this, Shen Si's smile froze.

Three Strong Demon Apes!

The newly arrived one looked even more formidable than the first two!

"No wonder the two Strong Demon Apes hadn't moved; they were waiting for a stronger partner to arrive."

Chen Fan looked up and witnessed the scene, his heart unmoved.

Chapter 352: Shall We Cooperate? No Need

"Dong! Dong!"

The heavy footsteps of the third Strong Demon Ape sounded like drumbeats, striking at the hearts of everyone present.

The two Strong Demon Apes that had initially been confronting the group slightly turned their bodies, their heads lowered, revealing a human-like expression of reverence on their massive faces.

The third Strong Demon Ape let out a low growl, its gaze sweeping across its two companions before finally settling on the crowd of people on the ground.

The two sides stared at each other, the atmosphere terrifyingly still.

Pei Yong and Tang Qiang, who were leading the group, seemed steady like old dogs, but their hearts had already begun to panic.

They had initially thought that these two Commander-level Fierce Beasts would summon some Elite-level Fierce Beasts over. Though the situation would be tricky, it would still be better than what was currently happening.

Three Commander-level Fierce Beasts!

And the newcomer stood nearly thirty meters tall, definitely a high-level commander. Even if it were a low-level commander, facing three against two, they wouldn't be able to manage.

As for Shen Si?

Does this guy have the strength to single-handedly fight a Commander-level Fierce Beast?

The four C-level Awakened behind them had long since lost all color in their faces, and some were even trembling in their knees.

What a joke?

Three Commander-level Fierce Beasts? And one of them is a high-level commander?

They had only two B-level Awakened among them, able to hold off two Commander-level Fierce Beasts. But against a third one, they couldn't possibly rely on the C-level Awakened to block it.

That's like lighting a lantern in the toilet, looking for death.

The most crucial point was that, judging by the situation, there might be one or two more Commander-level Fierce Beasts on their way.

"Brother Pei?"

One man looked at Pei Yong, trembling as he asked, "Should we retreat for now? There are three—three Commander-level Fierce Beasts here?"

He knew he might get scolded for saying this, but being scolded was better than getting squashed by these Strong Demon Apes later.

The other three C-level Awakened, though silent, shared the same thought in their eyes.

At the very least, they should leave this perilous place first.

Pei Yong remained silent.

His gaze was fixed on the central Strong Demon Ape, filled with unwillingness.

He had waited months for this day, and with the Celestial God Fruit about to mature, he was being asked to give up now? Impossible!

But if he didn't give up, the likelihood of fatal consequences was high.

After a moment of thought, Tang Qiang sighed, "Old Pei, maybe we should retreat."

He glanced at the three Strong Demon Apes, "These three are holding back, possibly because they're wary of us, or perhaps they're awaiting reinforcements. Regardless, fighting three Strong Demon Apes ourselves is unrealistic. It's better to pretend to leave and wait for an opportunity."

"Wait for an opportunity..."

Pei Yong muttered these four words.

It's not so simple.

These three Strong Demon Apes aren't stupid; they know that they might not genuinely leave and will stay vigilant.

"I should have called one or two more people from the start."

Regret filled his heart.

At that moment, a voice sounded.

"Friend, you see the situation now, why not consider collaborating with us?" Shen Si looked aside.

In an instant, everyone's gaze shifted over.

Seeing who Shen Si was speaking to left everyone incredulous.

Even Chen Fan was stunned, "You're talking to me?"

"Yes."

Shen Si forced a smile, "Friend, you see the current situation. There are three Commander-level Fierce Beasts opposite us, with one being a high-level commander. If we still want those twelve Celestial God Fruits, cooperation is likely the only way."

Hearing this, Pei Yong and the others showed disdain.

Shen Si was simply grasping at straws.

These are Commander-level Fierce Beasts, not just any high-level or Elite-level Fierce Beasts.

Could he really think that this mysterious guy has what it takes to fend off Commander-level Fierce Beasts?

Zhao Yan and the other martial artists felt immensely embarrassed.

Chairman Shen is really...

Actually, Shen Si knew this was a gamble.

Against Commander-level Fierce Beasts, martial artists at least need to be in the True Essence Realm, and Awakened need to be B-level or higher.

True Essence Realm Martial Artists were even rarer than B-level Awakened; even the headquarters didn't have many.

But this wasn't a blind gamble. He had reasons.

First, his Emperor's Qi Observation Skill couldn't detect this person's Qi. Either this person's power was unfathomable or he was skilled at hiding his Qi, making him extraordinary either way.

Second, he was arrogant.

When Shen Si arrived with others, this person was already there, plainly telling them to leave.

Even with Pei Yong's arrival, the person's attitude remained the same, with no hint of anxiety in his tone.

Could someone without real ability behave so confidently?

Thirdly, the most crucial point.

From the appearance of the first two Strong Demon Apes to the third, this person's demeanor hadn't changed at all. Shen Si had noticed the left hand holding the bow showed no signs of trembling.

Any one of these three points couldn't confirm the person's strength, but combined, he was 50-60% sure that this person wasn't weaker than anyone present.

Furthermore, there was a 10% chance this person's strength exceeded everyone's combined.

And the remaining 30% chance was just overestimating.

But still, betting right had a 70% probability, which was sufficient.

"Is that so."

Chen Fan smiled, scanning the area, "Sorry, but I want all those Celestial God Fruits."

"What?"

Shen Si froze.

He hadn't expected such a form of rejection.

"Such arrogance."

Pei Yong sneered, "I wonder who gave you the courage to say that."

"Indeed."

Tang Qiang coldly laughed, "Acting like we're begging to cooperate with him. He wants all the Celestial God Fruits? I'd like to see how he plans on getting them."

Everyone else inwardly laughed as well.

This person was as arrogant as ever. Did he think he alone could take down three Commander-level Fierce Beasts?

Sheer fantasy.

"Roar."

"Roar."

Several hundred meters away, the three Strong Demon Apes occasional low growls, seeming to discuss something.

Unlike the non-intelligent Elite-level Fierce Beasts, these intelligent beings couldn't discern whether the tiny figures below were truly powerful or just bluffing.

But the aura of the Celestial God Fruit was growing stronger, nearing maturity.

"Friend."

Despite his inner dissatisfaction, Shen Si didn't want to forfeit the chance to compete for the Celestial God Fruit unless absolutely necessary, so he patiently tried to persuade, "Friend, how can you alone fight against three Commander-level Fierce Beasts? Even if you're strong, can you guarantee no slip-ups? If something goes wrong, it'll be too late to regret.

But if you're willing to cooperate with us, with you included, we'll have four against their three Commander-level Fierce Beasts, which puts us at an advantage.

We'll hold them off while others pick the Celestial God Fruits. Once they're all collected, we'll retreat together and divide the fruits among ourselves. Isn't that good? And about the distribution, rest assured, we won't disappoint you, right, Brother Pei, Brother Tang?"

Shen Si spoke while giving Pei Yong and Tang Qiang a look.

He knew these two couldn't stand the arrogant guy, but neither could he.

But given the circumstances, what choice did they have?

They couldn't just give away so many Celestial God Fruits?

Pei Yong and Tang Qiang exchanged glances.

Shen Si was making sense.

But was this mysterious person a martial artist or an awakened? Did he truly have the strength to fend off Commander-level Fierce Beasts?

"Ahem."

Tang Qiang cleared his throat and finally spoke, "The Chairman Shen is right; three Commander-level Fierce Beasts, Old Pei and I can each handle a normal commander while you and Chairman Shen deal with the high-level commander."

"What?"

Shen Si's jaw dropped, his eyes filled with disbelief.

He was supposed to deal with the high-level commander?

That's a joke.

"Chairman Shen has concerns?" Pei Yong sneered, looking over at Chen Fan, "With him by your side, what's there to fear? Didn't you hear him say he wants all twelve Celestial God Fruits? Clearly, he doesn't regard the three Commander-level Fierce Beasts."

"Indeed."

"Chairman Shen, the high-level commander will be your task along with him."

"Chairman Shen, don't worry. As long as you hold them off, we will pick all the Celestial God Fruits and give you a satisfactory share."

Several C-level Awakened remarked cynically.

In their opinion, that bow-wielding guy and Shen Si couldn't possibly hold off the high-level commander.

If they attempted, they'd likely meet a swift end.

But if they managed to hold it off, it wouldn't be a bad outcome since they couldn't rely on the Meridian Refining Realm martial artists to pick the Celestial God Fruits.

Pei Yong and Tang Qiang felt the same.

Holding it off wouldn't be a loss; failing didn't concern their lives.

Shen Si looked awkward.

He thought he and the mysterious man would fend off one Commander-level Fierce Beast while Pei Yong and Tang Qiang handled the high-level commander.

Who knew Pei Yong and Tang Qiang had other plans, leaving Shen Si to face grave danger?

Agreeing was out of the question.

"Ahem, Brother Pei..."

He began but stopped, his eyes widening.

Because he saw that the man in the distance had already drawn his longbow, his right hand now held a thick long arrow.

In an instant, the bow was fully drawn.

The arrow tip aimed directly at the three Commander-level Fierce Beasts.

"What?"

Shen Si's jaw dropped wide open.

Chapter 353: I Want It All, Who Agrees? Who Objects?

What's going on?

This guy wouldn't think that with this bow and arrow in his hand, he could break the defense of a Commander-level Fierce Beast, would he?

Pei Yong and the others also noticed this scene.

At first, their eyes showed a trace of surprise, then they appeared deeply disdainful.

This guy really thinks he can take on three Commander-level Fierce Beasts all by himself?

It's the biggest joke in the world.

This arrow shot out, never mind whether it can hit the target, even if it does, can it even scratch the opponent?

And those three Strong Demon Apes in the distance also have a keen perception.

The moment Chen Fan drew his bow and notched an arrow, their gazes focused on Chen Fan.

Immediately, their lips curled up, revealing a trace of human-like contempt.

High-rise buildings of twenty or thirty meters tall are nothing to them, let alone a two-meter-long bow and arrow, not even worthy of being called a toy.

The next moment, a sonic boom sounded in the air.

A black arrow turned into a black streak, and the moment it shot out, it disappeared without a trace.

"!"

Shen Si was shocked.

What kind of speed is this?

He couldn't see it at all!

The expressions on Pei Yong and the other person's faces were the same.

Only there was still disdain in their hearts, so what if the speed is fast? Can speed break the opponent's defense?

But at that moment, an unexpected change occurred.

Suddenly, a spiral flame appeared in the air, the flame grew with the wind, and in the blink of an eye, the diameter of the tail flame extended from less than half a meter to three meters, with a destructive momentum, it rushed towards the chest of the Strong Demon Ape on the left.

The three Strong Demon Apes were stunned, seemingly not understanding what was happening.

By the time the one on the left reacted, it was too late.

With a "swoosh," the arrow imbued with Fiery Flame True Qi directly pierced through the chest of the Strong Demon Ape in front of it.

Next, with a loud "boom,"

The flaming Fire Attribute True Qi exploded, in a rain of fire, the chest of the Strong Demon Ape was blasted with a hole four or five meters wide, visible from front to back.

With another "boom,"

The internal organs, along with the heart, of the Strong Demon Ape were shattered, causing it to fall on its back, raising a cloud of dust.

The entire scene fell silent, everyone, including the remaining two Strong Demon Apes, were stunned.

Is their companion really dead?

The dust gradually settled.

The Strong Demon Ape lay on its back on the ground, limbs spread out, looking somewhat comical, but the gaping hole in its chest was shocking.

Shen Si's mouth was open wide, his eyes filled with astonishment.

A Commander-level Fierce Beast, dead just like that?

Died so suddenly, so quickly, he couldn't even see clearly what happened?

Pei Yong and the other one were the same.

In their impressions, it seemed that a wildly spinning spiral flame appeared suddenly in the air, hit the chest of the Strong Demon Ape, and then exploded.

Just like that, a Commander-level Fierce Beast was killed?

"Boom!"

Unexpectedly, another sonic boom sounded.

The spiral flame that appeared earlier reappeared, just like before, growing as the flame shot forward, the diameter extended to an exaggerated three meters in an instant.

"That's!"

Shen Si's eyes widened, as if he saw something incredible.

He saw that there was an arrow hidden within the spiral flame!

No, to be precise, the flame seemed to be enveloping the arrow.

"An arrow, how could there be an arrow? Is it an illusion? Or?"

Shen Si's mind buzzed.

This flaming arrow aimed at the Strong Demon Ape on the right.

Chen Fan's idea was simple, first deal with the two relatively weaker Commander-level Fierce Beasts among the three, then focus on the High-level Commander.

And the power of the Flaming Arrow did not disappoint him.

One shot was enough to take down an Ordinary Commander-level Fierce Beast.

So after shooting the one on the left, he immediately shot the second arrow.

"Roar!"

The Strong Demon Ape on the right roared angrily, waving its ten-meter-high hand towards the approaching flame.

With a "boom," the moment it made contact, the Strong Demon Ape's right palm was pierced through, and the vast Fire Attribute True Qi exploded, directly shattering its entire palm! Even part of its forearm was gone!

The arrow that pierced through the palm did not lose momentum, it pierced through its chest, the arrowhead extending more than a meter, blood flowing from the wound like a small stream.

It's a pity that the Fire Attribute True Qi on the arrow exploded the moment it made contact with the palm, so this shot only greatly reduced the Strong Demon Ape's fighting power, not even counting as a serious injury.

The Strong Demon Ape, looking at its halved hand, tears of pain streamed down its face.

As the saying goes, the fingers are connected to the heart, let alone five fingers.

But at this moment, the familiar sonic boom sounded again.

Another flaming arrow, with long flames trailing behind, came towards it.

"!"

The injured Strong Demon Ape's eyes instantly showed a trace of human-like fear.

Yes, it was afraid.

Having witnessed its companion die under this flame.

It instinctively extended its hand to swat away, only to have its palm and part of its forearm shattered.

So it turned and ran away.

But unfortunately, compared to the speed of the arrow, it was far too slow.

Chapter 354: I Want It All, Who Agrees? Who Objects? 2

Just as it was about to be hit.

A giant circular boulder, over ten meters high, smashed into the Flaming Arrow like a cannonball.

"Boom!" A loud explosion echoed.

The boulder, weighing dozens of tons, was shattered into pieces, the fragments scattering like a rain of shrapnel in all directions.

Many of the fragments flew towards the people present but were intercepted before they could hit anyone.

"Roar!"

The High-level Commander let out a roar, hot breath spouting from its nostrils, its eyes glaring at Chen Fan with palpable anger.

It was evident that the boulder that blocked the arrow earlier was its doing.

At this moment, one of its hands was still holding a giant boulder, seemingly ready to throw it again or keep it to block another arrow.

"What a pity."

Chen Fan sighed softly.

The third arrow, which he was so confident in, had been blocked.

It seemed that killing the ordinary Commander-level Fierce Beast would be quite difficult without first eliminating this High-level Commander.

Yes, not impossible, just a bit difficult.

Chen Fan's voice wasn't loud, but everyone present heard him clearly.

They looked at the fleeing Strong Demon Ape, the black arrow embedded in its chest, then at the corpse of another Strong Demon Ape lying in the distance, as if stricken by thunder, they stood dumbfounded.

There was only one archer at the scene.

So, was this masked guy in front of them the one who killed the first Strong Demon Ape?

He killed a Commander-level Fierce Beast with just one arrow?

Are you kidding me?

Pei Yong and another person exchanged looks.

A Commander-level Fierce Beast! Even for them, killing an ordinary Commander-level Fierce Beast wasn't impossible, but it would come at a significant cost.

Still, achieving a one-shot kill was beyond them, right?

Honestly, they were reluctant to believe it, but the evidence was right in front of them—second and third arrows to prove it.

If not for the quick reaction of the Strong Demon Ape blocking with its palm, the second arrow would have been fatal!

And now, the third arrow had also arrived.

It too would have been lethal.

At the crucial moment, the High-level Commander threw out a boulder, blocking the arrow and saving the Strong Demon Ape's life.

Each of these arrows had the power to kill the Strong Demon Ape in an instant.

"Who is this guy?"

Tang Qiang's eyes widened with fear as he stared at Chen Fan.

How had he never heard of such a powerful archer in Yan Country?

A figure capable of killing a Commander-level Fierce Beast with one arrow wouldn't be unknown!!!

In contrast, Pei Yong's feelings were extremely complicated.

On the one hand, he found it hard to accept; on the other hand, the facts were undeniable.

"Hmph, even if he can take out an ordinary Commander-level Fierce Beast in one shot, so what? What remains is a High-level Commander. Judging by the earlier events, his archery doesn't seem to work on this High-level Commander Strong Demon Ape."

Pei Yong's lips curled into a smirk as he cast a glance at the nearby Celestial God Tree.

In no more than two minutes, the twelve Celestial God Fruits would be ripe.

Three Commander-level Fierce Beasts—one dead, one injured, and one High-level Commander remaining—even if it was strong, teaming up with Tang Qiang would allow them to buy some time.

Crucially, the archer had killed two of its companions right before its eyes. Inevitably, the Commander-level Beast would fight that archer to the death.

Thinking this, the smile on his face grew thicker.

This was what you call "the mantis stalks the cicada, unaware of the oriole behind."

In the field, the High-level Commander Strong Demon Ape and Chen Fan were locked in a staredown, time seeming to freeze.

"Gulp."

Zhao Yan swallowed, looking at Shen Si in front of him, and whispered, "Chairman, who do you think will win, that archer or the High-level Commander?"

Shen Si smiled bitterly upon hearing this and shook his head.

How could he know?

If he had to guess, he felt the High-level Commander had a slightly better chance because its speed matched the speed of the arrows.

Furthermore, it could perfectly counter the Flaming Arrows by throwing boulders.

In other words, its attack methods had already been seen through by the beast. Without new techniques, it would be challenging.

Fortunately, with two ordinary Commander-level Strong Demon Apes—one dead and one injured—if they joined forces, they should not have too much trouble taking down the High-level Commander.

However...

He glanced at Pei Yong's side, noting some movement there.

It seemed they intended to steal the Celestial God Fruits while the archer was engaged with the beast.

At this moment, another arrow appeared in Chen Fan's hand, aimed at the High-level Commander.

"!"

Everyone's eyes widened abruptly.

Their faces were filled with disbelief.

What's happening?

This guy's target this time was the High-level Commander Fierce Beast?

But didn't his last arrow get blocked by the latter?

Could he succeed this time?

"Boom!"

The sound of an explosion.

A black streak flashed by in an instant.

"It seems faster than before!"

Shen Si's mouth gaped open.

He could barely see the trace of the arrow at the start earlier.

But this time, he couldn't see it at all!

Pei Yong's expression also darkened. He too noticed the arrow's speed seemed faster.

But what of it?

That was a High-level Commander on the other side!

And it had already seen through his attack method!

"Roar!"

The High-level Commander Strong Demon Ape roared, throwing the boulder in its hand straight ahead while crouching its hind legs, the ground beneath them sinking several meters deep.

Then, pushing off with explosive force, it looked as though it intended to jump.

Yes.

The whole time, it was waiting for an opportunity, a chance to counter an arrow.

If it jumped recklessly, it would become a sitting duck in the air, and the boulder would become a burden.

But once Chen Fan shot an arrow, it could use the boulder to block and then execute a Mount Tai Pressing Down to crush Chen Fan into a meat patty.

However, it miscalculated one thing—this time, Chen Fan was not using a Flaming Arrow but a Sun-Shooting Arrow with a hundred times more power!

The boulder, over a hundred tons, flew out at supersonic speed.

A flash of black light.

The entire boulder instantly shattered, the central stones turning to dust!

The black light's speed only slightly decreased.

The less than one hundred meters of distance vanished in a blink.

"?"

The Strong Demon Ape's eyes widened, its fur standing on end, an unprecedented sense of danger rising from its heart.

Too late.

In its jumping state, it couldn't pick up any nearby boulders or trees to block; it could only watch as the arrow neared, closer and closer...

"Thud!"

A crisp sound.

The arrow pierced its chest, violent True Qi tearing a hole nearly ten meters in diameter, splitting its upper and lower body.

In the stunned eyes of Shen Si and others.

The upper and lower halves of the Strong Demon Ape flew up, but only for a short distance before crashing heavily to the ground, blood and internal organs splattering everywhere.

Silence.

Time seemed to stand still.

All but Chen Fan were frozen, one thought occupying their minds.

Did the High-level Commander Strong Demon Ape just die like that? Was it killed by one arrow?

Even the injured Strong Demon Ape nearby forgot to flee, standing dumbfounded.

Until a Flaming Arrow came, blowing it up on the spot, snapping everyone out of their shock.

Only then did Chen Fan look at them, his tone calm as he asked, "As I said earlier, I want all twelve Celestial God Fruits. Now I say it again—who agrees? Who disagrees?"

Chapter 355: Something Special, But Not Much

Everyone fell silent after hearing Chen Fan's words. Their eyes lowered, none dared to meet his gaze.

Oppose him?

Do they even have the option to oppose him?

Three commander-level fierce beasts, with one being high-level commander, were nevertheless killed in one strike!

Honestly, if they hadn't seen it with their own eyes, they wouldn't believe it even if you beat them to death.

"Alright."

Chen Fan nodded slightly, "It seems you all agree with what I said. Then I will take these twelve Celestial God Fruits. As for you, you may leave now. Of course,"

His tone turned cold, and his gaze swept over Pei Yong and Tang Qiang, "If anyone is unhappy or has any crooked thoughts, feel free."

Pei Yong and Tang Qiang's faces turned pale with fright.

"F-friend," Tang Qiang quickly tried to explain, "We're leaving now, we're leaving right now."

"Yes, take the twelve Celestial God Fruits. We have no objections."

Even Pei Yong, who initially had an arrogant attitude, now spoke in a very humble tone.

Saying this, they turned and signaled to a few C-level Awakened behind them, then left without looking back.

The few C-level Awakened seeing this, quickly followed suit.

Seeing the Celestial God Fruits maturing soon, they were naturally unwilling to let go.

However, besides giving up, they had no other choice. Risking their lives was definitely a bad idea.

Thinking of this, they all felt a deep sense of relief.

Luckily, those two Strong Demon Apes appeared timely, preventing them from taking action. Otherwise, lying on the ground would not just be those three fierce beasts.

Chen Fan watched the Awakened leave, then turned his gaze to Shen Si and the others.

Zhao Yan and two others immediately felt an invisible pressure bearing down on them.

"Friend, I have a few words I want to say to you. After saying them, I will leave," Shen Si gritted his teeth and said.

He made a bold decision.

This decision carried significant risk, but once successful, he would be able to collect numerous treasures that he couldn't gather before.

Yet he trusted his intuition, believing the person before him, despite a mysterious aura in every move, didn't seem to be untrustworthy.

Nevertheless, just in case, he needed to have a backup plan.

Chen Fan frowned, not knowing what Shen Si was plotting.

Considering that they both belonged to the Jiangnan Sub-district Martial Arts Association, he reluctantly nodded, "One minute, I'll give you one minute."

"Enough, that's enough."

Shen Si nodded repeatedly, then turned to Zhao Yan and the others, "You guys go back to the city, I'll catch up later."

"President?"

Zhao Yan's eyes widened in confusion.

"Don't worry, I won't be in any danger."

After saying this, the three swiftly headed away.

Chen Fan captured it all in his eyes, squinting slightly.

This Shen Si seems to assume ill intentions on his part.

If he really wanted to take action against him, letting those three leave first wouldn't make a difference.

After waiting a few seconds, Shen Si finally spoke, "Friend, I wonder how you discovered the location of these Celestial God Fruits? If it's a secret technique, then forget I asked. But if you found them by luck, perhaps we could cooperate."

Upon hearing this, Chen Fan's heart skipped a beat.

The reason he found these Celestial God Fruits was thanks to Meng Xue.

The Awakened might have used some unique superpowers, like treasure detection.

But as a Martial Artist, how did Shen Si discover them?

Thinking of this, he responded calmly, "How do you propose we cooperate?"

Shen Si took a deep breath, "Friend, I won't hide it from you. I have a secret technique that can detect the presence of Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures in the vicinity, not just Celestial God Fruits but other treasures as well, all found using this method."

Saying this, he took out several items from space, showing punch-sized red fruits.

Also, finger-sized ones,

Some herb-like materials emitting fragrant scents, clearly extraordinary items.

Chen Fan scanned them briefly, growing increasingly curious.

"How did you find these?"

Shen Si smiled silently, "I can't reveal that, but if you agree to cooperate, I can take you to find numerous valuables."

Chen Fan frowned.

Shen Si's actions are understandable.

A normal person wouldn't casually reveal their trump card.

Yet his demeanor didn't seem deceitful.

Chen Fan felt a temptation to use the Soul Shifting Technique, though it was morally questionable, and using it could cause permanent mental trauma.

Thus, he probed cautiously, "Divination? Or is it perception? Or some other method?"

At the mention of divination, Shen Si's smile remained intact, but he flinched slightly at perception, though Chen Fan's high spiritual power easily noticed it.

Unaware, Shen Si continued smiling, "Friend, stop probing. Cooperation is mutually beneficial. You don't have to decide now; take your time."

He handed out a business card, "My contact info is here. If you decide to collaborate, call me anytime. If not, we can still be friends."

Chen Fan took the card, pondered briefly, then nodded, "Alright, I'll consider it."

"Great, I won't disturb you as the Celestial God Fruits are about to mature."

Shen Si bowed to Chen Fan, then left.

After watching Shen Si's figure disappear, a smile curled on Chen Fan's lips. It seems like perception martial arts.

The Celestial Response Technique can only sense humans or beasts.

So it's Emperor's Qi Observation Skill?

"Seems like it's Emperor's Qi Observation Skill."

Chen Fan's eyes showed anticipation.

President Shi Tao's expectation, he had seen and mastered nearly all supreme martial arts.

Shen Si, as vice president, should master supreme martial arts too, at worst top-level martial arts.

Perception martial arts are niche, top-level martial arts and supreme martial arts are few.

This narrows down the answer.

Looking at the business card, he shook his head.

Up to seven days, Emperor's Qi Observation Skill unlocks.

Unlocking means Perfection Realm.

Then, he can sense the Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures alone.

Besides, Shen Si's combat strength is limited, struggling even against an ordinary commander-level fierce beast, cooperation would mean carrying a burden.

Shaking his head, he waited.

With a series of cracking sounds, over ten Celestial God Fruits finally matured, filling the air with a rich fragrance.

Chen Fan put away his bow and arrow, swiftly approached a Celestial God Fruit, grasping it received a mental shock.

"Hmph."

Chen Fan snorted, easily dispelling the spiritual attack, plucked the Celestial God Fruit and stored it.

He then flashed to the second fruit.

At that moment, several tree roots, each two meters thick, erupted, whipping towards Chen Fan.

"Snap! Snap!"

Each root struck the ground, leaving deep trenches.

But none hit Chen Fan.

Predictable strikes were evaded by Chen Fan in bizarre ways.

Using top-level lightweight skill, Wave-Riding Step.

The roots, powerful enough to injure an ordinary commander-level fierce beast, were dodged effortlessly by Chen Fan.

He dodged and plucked several Celestial God Fruits.

Roots thrashed wildly, but Chen Fan always found the blind spots, easily dodging and plucking one fruit after another.

In a blink, he had collected most of the twelve fruits, leaving five.

The Celestial God Tree's leaves rustled furiously.

The roots abandoned Chen Fan, aiming to destroy the remaining fruits!

"As expected."

Chen Fan had anticipated the tree's desperate measures.

Fortunately, he hadn't used full power.

Instantly, his speed surged, agility attribute jumped from 30,000 to nearly 200,000!

The Celestial God Tree sensed danger and tried to destroy the fruits.

For the tree, growing so many fruits was difficult, meant to attract strong prey, instead faced a greedy collector.

Refusing to let go, it preferred to absorb the fruits rather than gifting them to Chen Fan!

But Chen Fan's speed, akin to a storm, easily evaded.

Soon, the branches were empty when roots arrived.

"Snap! Snap!"

Frustrated, the Celestial God Tree thrashed the ground.

Chen Fan appeared hundreds of meters away, smiling at the helpless tree.

Indeed, the tree had some skills, yet he triumphed.

Chapter 356: Above the Celestial Human Realm

"Finally, it feels like a weight has been lifted off my shoulders."

Chen Fan let out a sigh of relief.

Twelve Celestial God Fruits, six of them are to be given to Meng Xue to help her awaken again.

With Meng Xue's precognition ability, we can foresee the fate of Anshan City.

Of course, the most important thing is to enhance my own power. Otherwise, knowing what's going to happen but being unable to stop it would be the most painful thing.

As for the other six fruits, I plan to consume them myself. If the effect becomes less significant, I can consider selling them to the Awakened Association for points.

Doing so is a bit of a loss.

Because besides these twelve Celestial God Fruits, this time also yielded three commander-level fierce beasts.

One of them is even a high-level commander.

In addition to yesterday's Furious Barbaric Bull King and dozens of Frenzied Bulls...

Chen Fan took a deep breath. Selling materials is not urgent right now; returning to the village with the Celestial God Fruits is the immediate priority.

Incidentally, he also mentioned the matter of migration, so everyone could prepare in advance.

After collecting the materials, he glanced in a certain direction before turning to leave.

At the spot where Chen Fan's gaze fell, behind a leaf, Pei Yong and Tang Qiang were scared stiff, their backs drenched in sweat.

After a while, Pei Yong stuttered, "Old, Old Tang, d-do you think he discovered us hiding here?"

"What do you think?"

Tang Qiang's face was pale, his lips trembling as he said, "He clearly found us and looked over here. I told you to leave, but you wouldn't listen and dragged me back. Now look, we've landed in this mess."

"D-don't panic."

Pei Yong wiped the cold sweat from his forehead, his heart pounding, "So much time has passed, and he hasn't appeared. He must have left; I saw him leave."

"R-really?"

Hearing this, Tang Qiang looked outside through a gap and saw no one.

Summoning his courage, he turned to look behind, afraid to find a face right in front of him.

Luckily, there was no one, not even a shadow.

Still uneasy, he checked above and the ground beneath his feet, confirming that the man was indeed gone. Finally, he let out a long breath and sat down, his tone filled with resentment:

"Old Pei, it's all your bad idea. If we left with them, we wouldn't have been scared half to death like this. My clothes are soaked."

Pei Yong collapsed to the ground, giving Tang Qiang a disgruntled look, "Old Tang, neither of us is innocent. If you didn't have some desire, would you have listened to me and secretly come back?"

Tang Qiang felt a tinge of embarrassment at these words.

Indeed, he was unwilling to accept it.

Twelve Celestial God Fruits, and he couldn't get even one?

So, after leaving, he sneaked back to see if there was an opportunity.

After all, the Celestial God Tree was tough to deal with, and that guy's archery was remarkable, but his spiritual power and physical strength might not be as impressive.

If the guy were injured or killed by the Celestial God Tree, wouldn't the remaining Celestial God Fruits belong to them?

Turns out, it was wishful thinking.

All twelve Celestial God Fruits were taken by that man; not a single one was left for them.

The Celestial God Tree couldn't harm him at all, only raging impotently in place.

"Sigh," Pei Yong sighed, suddenly saying, "Old Tang, to be honest, that guy's strength is terrifying."

Tang Qiang was silent for a moment, then sighed, "You're right. Forget his archery; just his speed was beyond my perception."

"Indeed."

Pei Yong smiled bitterly.

He should have known better.

An archer typically has high attack and agility.

He previously entertained the illusion of taking advantage.

"Old Tang, what do you think? Who exactly is that guy? An Awakener? But he doesn't seem like one to me."

"He does seem a bit different."

Tang Qiang scratched his head.

Initially, he thought the man's superpower was flame, but unlike other flame Awakeners, he used the flame on his arrows.

Yet, the arrow that killed the high-level commander had no flame, but its power was greater than those with flames!

"Could he be a Martial Artist?"

They both spoke in unison.

"Old Tang, looks like we both had the same thought." Pei Yong pondered, "The flame on his arrow felt familiar, more like True Qi, Fire Attribute True Qi."

"I think so too."

Tang Qiang's eyes lit up, "So the arrow that killed the high-level commander was actually imbued with True Qi, which wasn't visible to us."

"Yes! It must be that!"

Pei Yong nodded repeatedly, then gasped, "In the Martial Arts Association, there aren't many with such power."

"There's only a few, and using a bow and arrow as a weapon."

"Should we go back and investigate?"

Pei Yong tentatively asked.

A Martial Artist with such distinct characteristics should be easy to find.

Nothing is absolute.

If he's not a Martial Artist but an Awakener, it's another matter.

"Forget it."

Tang Qiang smiled wryly, "Even if we find out, what then? Will you go ask him for some, or gather allies and try to snatch them from him?"

Chapter 357: Above the Celestial Human Realm 2

Pei Yong was stunned for a moment.

Going to demand it? Just them? How is that different from going to their deaths?

As for finding help, their intuition told them that even if they found the most powerful B-level Awakened, there was no guarantee they would win against this guy, let alone an A-level Awakened.

It's a joke, which A-level Awakened would care about this thing?

"Old Tang, you're right, we better not make fools of ourselves. It's late, we should go back and see if any other treasures have appeared. This time, let's just consider ourselves unlucky."

Pei Yong sighed, stood up, and brushed off the dirt from his clothes.

"Yeah, that's all we can do."

The two of them spoke and darted away to the distance, one to the left and one to the right.

Unbeknownst to them, a large tree behind them concealed a pitch-black dagger that vanished into the air.

A flicker of murderous intent flashed in Chen Fan's eyes but disappeared instantly.

These two men didn't have any bad intentions, and he was too lazy to make a move.

After all, his identity would definitely not remain hidden for long. If nothing unexpected happened, Shen Si would soon find out his identity.

...

At the same time.

The three people of Zhao Yan's group, standing in the wilderness, anxiously waited with their phones.

"It's been so long, and the President still hasn't replied. Could something have happened to him?" Zhao Yan was as anxious as an ant on a hot pan.

"Don't say such things."

The round-faced burly man said, "The President is always blessed, how could anything happen to him?"

"That's right, the President has always been cautious. He wouldn't put himself in danger. He just hasn't seen the messages yet. Let's wait a bit longer."

Another man also spoke up.

"Hmm."

Zhao Yan nodded heavily, feeling a bit better inside, but still looking in the direction they came from while watching the phone.

The other two men glanced at each other, their faces filled with worry.

They understood the President's intentions.

He was preparing for contingencies in case something happened to him, so they could return and inform the headquarters about what happened.

But why exactly did the President do this?

Wouldn't it be better if he returned with them together?

At that moment, a figure swiftly approached them.

"It's the President!"

Zhao Yan shouted excitedly.

The two men, upon seeing this, also showed joyous expressions and quickly went to welcome him.

"President!"

"President!"

"President, are you alright?"

"What could possibly happen to me?" Shen Si smiled at the three people in front of him and said, "I'm sorry to have worried you."

"It's nothing, President, your safe return is the best news."

"Zhao Yan is right. But, President, why didn't you leave with us earlier?"

"Yes, President, what did you say to that person? If it's inconvenient, you don't have to tell us."

"There's nothing inconvenient about it."

Shen Si smiled and said, "You all saw that person's strength - one word, strong, two words, extremely strong."

"Yes."

The three of them looked respectful upon hearing this.

Such a huge Commander-level Fierce Beast was taken down with a single arrow.

And the High-level Commander as well.

This kind of strength seems only the President in the headquarters has, right?

"So, President, you decided to stay?"

"I wanted to collaborate with him."

Shen Si didn't hide anything and said directly, "There are many Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures in the mountains. But the more precious the treasure, the stronger the Fierce Beasts guarding it. This time, three Commander-level Fierce Beasts were drawn out. Even without Pei Yong's interference, we wouldn't have been able to get those Celestial God Fruits alone."

Upon hearing this, the faces of Zhao Yan and the others became stiff.

"President, it's all our fault for holding you back."

"Yes, it's all because our strength is too weak."

"What does that have to do with you?" Shen Si shook his head. "I'm telling you this not to blame you, and besides, even I would have a hard time defeating a Commander-level Fierce Beast, right? I'm just being transparent with you all."

"President..." The three felt touched upon hearing this.

"Alright, let's get to business."

Shen Si waved his hand and said while walking, "Everyone saw that person's strength. He found the Celestial God Tree probably due to luck, which can't be replicated. We can continuously locate similar Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures, but we lack the strength to obtain them."

If we collaborate with him, it would be beneficial for both of us."

"That's true."

The three of them agreed after hearing this.

Even among Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures, the disparity can be as vast as heaven and earth. The value of a hundred of the former may not match one of the latter.

The President's actions were for the benefit of the Association, and he didn't hide anything from them, showing he regarded them as his own.

"President, did that person agree?"

Zhao Yan asked cautiously.

The round-faced burly man glanced behind Shen Si, feeling a sense of foreboding.

If that person had agreed, the President wouldn't be here alone now.

But, perhaps he agreed.

"Not yet."

Shen Si sighed softly and said, "He's still considering it. I gave him my business card. If he agrees, he'll contact me."

"Still considering?"

The three exchanged looks of worry.

"He should agree, right?"

"I think so. Without the President's Emperor's Qi Observation Skill, no matter how strong he is, he's merely depending on luck."

"Yes, luck is unpredictable. He should carefully consider how to choose."

"Hmm."

Shen Si nodded.

He also believed the possibility of collaboration was high.

That person most likely didn't have the means to find various treasures, otherwise, he would have refused outright instead of probing subtly.

Walking through the wilderness, the atmosphere was a bit quiet.

Suddenly, Zhao Yan curiously asked, "President, is that person an Awakener or a Martial Artist?"

The round-faced burly man and another man also looked over curiously.

"I'm not sure."

Shen Si shook his head.

From the arrows shot by Chen Fan, he felt the presence of True Qi, like the flames on the arrows, which didn't seem like real flames but more like Fire Attribute True Qi.

But this didn't prove anything.

Many Awakeners are also Martial Artists, they practice Martial Arts and condense True Qi.

Among B-level Awakeners, many are True Essence Realm Martial Artists.

Among A-level Awakeners, some are Celestial Realm Martial Artists!

It's said there's an even higher Realm above the Celestial Human Realm!

Martial Artists, however, are not necessarily Awakeners.

"Yanzi, it doesn't matter if he's a Martial Artist or an Awakener, as long as he agrees to cooperate with us." The round-faced burly man laughed.

"Yes, even if the President finds something good, with our strength, we can't obtain it. If he joins us, it will be different. Like today's Celestial God Fruits, if he was with us, we could have shared half."

"Half? You dare to think big."

Shen Si laughed involuntarily.

That person killed the Commander-level Fierce Beast effortlessly. Just because it looked easy, doesn't mean it was easy.

"Then he takes two-thirds, and we get a third?"

"That ratio seems fair."

Shen Si nodded.

After all, his use of the Emperor's Qi Observation Skill came with a cost.

Moreover, this Supreme Martial Arts requires a high talent for cultivation, and even within the Awakened Association, few can master it.

To ask for a third, he felt confident.

Chapter 358: Is it from Xiaofan?

At noon, the sun was still shining brightly, but the wind that blew carried a slight chill.

On the wasteland, a team of more than twenty people was advancing quickly.

This was a team of riders, each of the more than twenty people was riding on a wildebeest over two meters tall.

Each person held various weapons in their hands, such as bows and arrows, long spears, long knives, and even rifles and machine guns.

Some people were also holding ropes, dragging their prey.

All of them had happy smiles on their faces.

"We had a good harvest this time. We got more than ten low-level fierce beasts, and even two mid-level fierce beasts. A pound of mid-level fierce beast meat is worth three to five pounds of low-level fierce beast meat!"

"Really? If we eat mid-level fierce beast meat, wouldn't our cultivation speed be even faster?"

"Of course, I heard that high-level fierce beast meat is even more valuable! The martial artists over at Song Family Castle eat high-level fierce beast meat regularly."

"Really? That's so extravagant! The price of one pound of high-level fierce beast meat is ten times that of low-level fierce beast meat? Only the martial artists at Song Family Castle can afford that."

"That's nothing. I heard that the martial artists in Anshan City not only eat high-level fierce beast meat, but also take elixirs! They are so expensive, several thousand per pill!"

"Several thousand!"

The noisy discussions immediately quieted down.

"A single elixir can be sold for thousands of dollars? Impossible, right?" Someone said while looking around, but everyone around was also confused.

In the end, everyone's eyes fell on a few people at the front.

"Brother Wei, you have seen a lot and should know if such elixirs exist, right?"

The atmosphere quieted down as soon as the words were spoken.

Everyone looked at those in front with reverence in their eyes.

Those people at the front were not only the elders of the village but also the strongest martial artists, said to be on the verge of breaking through to the Muscle Refining Realm.

They were the ones who had just taken care of the two Gale Wolves they encountered earlier.

Otherwise, with the speed of those two mid-level fierce beasts, they wouldn't have been able to react in time.

"Yes, such elixirs do exist." Wei Tiangong nodded, looking mature and steady.

In contrast, his brother Wei Tianyuan seemed much more approachable.

With a broad smile, he turned to everyone and said, "The elixir I'm talking about is called a Qi Blood Pill. Even the cheap ones cost several thousand yuan each, while the best ones cost several tens of thousands of yuan each."

"What! Tens of thousands each!"

Everyone was stunned by his words.

"A low-level fierce beast is only worth a few hundred to a thousand, right?"

"Several thousand yuan is equivalent to several low-level fierce beasts. Tens of thousands mean dozens of them?"

"Dozens of low-level fierce beasts could sustain the whole village for one or two months. And yet, it's only enough to buy one elixir?"

"Expensive, isn't it?"

Wei Tianyuan smiled, squinting his eyes. "Even at that price, they are hard to come by."

Indeed, the crowd exclaimed again.

"Really? Tens of thousands of yuan each, and they are still in short supply?"

"If someone else said it, I wouldn't believe it, but since Brother Tianyuan said it, I believe it."

"That's right. Brother Tianyuan has seen the world, so it must be true. But, what makes these Qi Blood Pills so valuable?"

"Yes, Brother Tianyuan, why is that?"

Everyone looked eager for an answer.

"Why?"

Wei Tianyuan chuckled. "Do you want to know?"

"Brother Tianyuan, don't keep us in suspense at a time like this."

"Yes, please tell us! If you don't, I won't be able to sleep tonight."

"Okay, I'll tell you then." Wei Tianyuan said openly, "In fact, both Qi Blood Pills and fierce beast meat can enhance the qi and blood in our bodies. However, the boost from Qi Blood Pills is greater and faster than eating fierce beast meat. Let me give you an example. A regular person, practicing diligently, refining their body could take two to three years to break through to the Muscle Refining Realm. The

same individual, with the same dedication, if they were taking Qi Blood Pills, might take only a year, or even less if they have a high talent. Half a year would be enough."

"Half a year!"

"Oh my, the time is directly shortened by several times?"

"Is there such a big difference?"

Everyone was astounded.

Two years versus half a year, a fourfold difference!

In the post-apocalyptic world, what is needed most? Time!

"Of course." Wei Tianyuan said with a hum. "If not, why would a single Qi Blood Pill sell for several thousand or even tens of thousands each? Even so, martial artists in Anshan City are eager to buy them."

Everyone took a deep breath.

Again, if anyone else said it, they might not believe it, but if Wei Tianyuan said it, they had to believe.

"I wonder what a Qi Blood Pill looks like? I'm not trying to taste it, but I'd like to see it for my knowledge. Something worth several thousand or tens of thousands per pill, I probably won't be able to earn that much in my lifetime." Someone lamented.

"You saying that makes me want to see it too. However, such treasures are only found in Anshan City. Even Song Family Castle might not have it."

"Of course. Several thousand or tens of thousands per pill. People in Song Family Castle may not be able to afford it, let alone those in the smaller villages around."

"The price is high, but the effect is worth it."

"Yes, indeed."

Everyone echoed, filled with curiosity about the mysterious Qi Blood Pill.

Seeing this, Wei Tianyuan was about to say something when a familiar cough interrupted.

"Cough." Wei Tiangong turned his head and glanced at him, shaking his head slightly.

Wei Tianyuan instantly realized, giving an embarrassed smile and promptly closing his mouth.

Close call.

He had almost mentioned the Qi Blood Pills he had.

Thankfully, his brother stopped him in time. Though these were fellow villagers, one should always guard against others. The saying goes, "Don't show your wealth." holds true.

Moreover, the Qi Blood Pills he had were not ordinary, but top-grade Qi Blood Pills worth twenty thousand yuan each!

Yes, top-grade Qi Blood Pills!!!

Recently, after they were exhausted from training in the martial arts field and about to return for a bath and rest, Chen Guodong called them over and led them into a small room.

Zhang Ren was present too, and he smiled at them as they entered.

Then, Chen Guodong took out a small bottle and placed it on the table.

The brothers were stunned, not knowing what he was up to.

Two minutes later, they were shocked, staring at the small bottle on the table, almost terrified.

According to Zhang Ren, each elixir in the bottle was worth twenty thousand yuan, equivalent to dozens of low-level fierce beasts!

The bottle contained ten pills, translating to a total value of 200,000 yuan!

Unbelievable.

But Zhang Ren was an Entry Force Martial Artist, second to none besides Chen Fan in the village. Would he deceive them?

Despite this, they still asked repeatedly, and Zhang Ren just smiled and silently opened the bottle, taking out two pills for them to consume.

The moment they took it, they felt a burning sensation in their abdomen that spread throughout their bodies.

Then, a sound of something breaking inside their minds echoed.

They had just broken through a small realm!

They were dumbfounded, feeling like they were dreaming.

According to Zhang Ren, it was a result of accumulation, with the top-grade Qi Blood Pill triggering their breakthrough.

In their view, it was the Qi Blood Pill that played the decisive role.

Otherwise, why would they suddenly break through right after consuming the pill?

In the following days, they felt an endless supply of energy.

Usually, low-level fierce beast meat would be fully absorbed by the next day. Even mid-level fierce beast meat would last only one or two days.

They were incredibly grateful.

Elixirs worth 200,000 yuan? Chen Guodong just gave them away. If they worked for the village their whole lives, they wouldn't earn that much.

Chen Guodong waved it off, saying there was more, and it was Chen Fan's kind gesture, so they should accept it.

Hearing his name gave them a shock.

These elixirs were from Xiaofan? No wonder only he could have something so valuable in the entire village.

They were deeply moved, not knowing what to say.

Chen Guodong smiled, urging them to keep it a secret before sending them off.

"I wonder how Xiaofan is doing in Anshan City." Wei Tianyuan regained his senses, looking in the direction of Anshan City.

A bottle of top-grade Qi Blood Pills worth 200,000 yuan.

How hard must Xiaofan work to earn that much and buy such elixirs?

He must have intended to take care of his family, and Chen Guodong wasn't stingy in sharing the elixirs with them...

"I hope Xiaofan is safe and sound in Anshan City and nothing bad happens to him." Wei Tianyuan prayed in his heart.

Chapter 359: Pies Falling from the Sky

Chen Family Fortress, in the martial arts training field, hundreds of people are practicing martial arts.

There are men and women, adults and children.

Some are practicing posture stance, some are boxing, some are practicing close-combat saber and spear techniques, others are practicing archery or javelin throwing.

Occasionally, those who are tired dare not rest too long, seemingly afraid that prolonged rest would cause them to fall behind the others.

Alternatively, they might be afraid of the limping man walking back and forth in the field.

At this moment, a clear and melodious bell rings, slowly resonating through the field.

The Hunting Team has returned.

Everyone in the training field pauses their actions and looks towards the direction of the stronghold gate.

"Let's go have a look. It's a good time to take a break and get some water. In half an hour, we'll resume our practice," Zhang Ren said sternly.

"Yes!"

The crowd, looking as if relieved of a heavy burden, hurried towards the stronghold gate.

I wonder how the hunting went this morning?

Watching everyone leave, Zhang Ren's gaze softened.

Those who go out to hunt are heroes of the stronghold and should be treated as such. If they finally return home but are greeted by only a few people, it would be quite disheartening.

As for any incidents, the probability should be low.

After all, they are well-equipped, and as long as they don't approach the dangerous zones, nothing should go wrong.

"Let's go take a look as well."

Chen Guodong said with a smile.

"Yes, I wonder how Wei Tiangong and the others did this time. Did they catch more than what we brought back last time?" Liu Yong rubbed his bald head and chuckled.

The stronghold has a lot of people, so they divided into two Hunting Teams, taking turns to hunt.

On one hand, this allows more young adults in the stronghold to train, and on the other hand, it lets everyone spend more time improving themselves.

"Then let's go and have a look."

"Let's go."

Just as they were about to walk forward.

Suddenly, a very familiar figure appeared in front of them.

"!"

The few of them widened their eyes, staring at the person who appeared out of thin air, their faces filled with excitement.

Because this person was none other than Chen Fan.

"Dad, Uncle Zhang, Uncle Liu."

Chen Fan smiled and greeted first.

"Xiaofan, when did you come back?" Liu Yong asked, his mouth wide open.

Hearing this, Chen Fan couldn't help but laugh and said, "I just got back, of course."

"Ah, right, right, what silly words I said." Liu Yong looked embarrassed.

Chen Guodong was overjoyed, carefully examining Chen Fan from head to toe.

Anshan City is not the same as Chen Family Fortress; it is a mixed society, and in some ways, people can be more dangerous than fierce beasts.

In his idle moments, he would worry whether Chen Fan would encounter any danger there. If he did, as a father, he wouldn't be able to do anything to help.

And now, Chen Fan was standing right in front of him, completely fine.

Zhang Ren's eyes were filled with deep gratification.

Nowadays, he increasingly feels Chen Fan's boundless potential. Clearly, Chen Fan's current strength has reached a level that he can only look up to.

But not only did he not feel distressed by this, he was actually very pleased.

"Dad, I have something very important to say this time. I see Uncle Wei and the others have also returned. Let's gather them so I can tell everyone at once," Chen Fan said with a smile.

"Very important?"

Hearing this, everyone's heart skipped a beat.

For Chen Fan to describe something as very important, it surely must be significant.

"Alright, I'll go get them now," Chen Guodong said hastily.

"Guodong, let me go,"

Liu Yong chuckled, "You all go in first, I'll be there in a moment."

Saying that, he dashed out without waiting for a reply.

"Then we'll wait inside," Zhang Ren smiled.

The group entered the house, standing as the atmosphere grew a bit tense.

Noticing this, Chen Fan chuckled and said, "Everyone, please relax. There is no need to worry as what I have to say is actually good news."

The group's curiosity was immediately piqued.

"Good news?"

"Xiaofan, is it really good news? What kind of good news?"

"Hehe, since not everyone is here yet, why don't you try to guess for now? I'll tell you once Uncle Wei and the others arrive," Chen Fan said with a smile.

Everyone looked at each other.

How could they guess?

It was impossible to figure it out.

Fortunately, Wei Tiangong and the rest arrived quickly.

Nearly ten people were seated in the room, mostly from the original Chen Family Stronghold, with a few from the later Zhao Family Castle.

"Ahem, everyone is almost here, so I'll get to the point."

Chen Fan's gaze swept across everyone's faces as he spoke calmly, "I have been staying in Anshan City recently. I found out that Anshan City has lifted the residence policy threshold."

"Lifted the residence policy threshold? What! Lifted the residence policy threshold?"

Liu Yong exclaimed, his eyes nearly popping out.

Everyone else's expressions were also quite astonished.

This news was indeed shocking. If the residence policy threshold was lifted, wouldn't that mean anyone could now live in the city?

Is this possible?

"Yes, everyone heard correctly."

Chen Fan, having anticipated their reactions, spoke calmly, "I have confirmed this news, it's true. Previously, there were two camps outside Anshan City, and they couldn't meet the requirements to live in the city, so they had to stay outside."

Just a few days ago, the residents of these two camps moved into the city, and their original residences are now empty."

Chapter 360:: Pies Falling from the Sky _2

"Is this for real?"

Everyone looked at each other in astonishment.

Of course, they wouldn't doubt Chen Fan. Besides, Chen Fan had been staying in Shore City all this time. Among all the people present, no one had more say in the matter than him.

But, people from two camps? There must be at least tens of thousands of them, right?

Before this, even if you tried to squeeze in, you couldn't get in, but just a couple of days ago, everyone moved into the city?

Not even Anshan City or Song Family Castle would do such a thing, would they?

"Xiaofan, is there something else going on here?" Seeing everyone's eyes on him, Chen Guodong asked.

"Dad, you mean, did they pay some price to get the right to enter Anshan City, right?"

"Hmph." Chen Guodong nodded.

"No, they didn't." Chen Fan shook his head. "They didn't pay anything and got the right to live there. The reason for this is because of one person."

"One person?"

"Who?"

Everyone couldn't help but ask.

"The new president of the Anshan City Awakened Association." Chen Fan spoke each word clearly, referring to himself. Of course, he only said this in his heart.

"The new president of the Anshan City Awakened Association?"

"An Awakener?"

"And the president?"

Everyone's eyes instantly showed respect and awe.

Even if they hadn't seen an Awakener much, through hearing about them, they knew how powerful Awakeners could be.

Not to mention Mid-level Fierce Beasts. Even the terrifying High-level Fierce Beasts would seem insignificant in front of an Awakener.

Zhang Ren frowned.

The president of the Awakened Association?

Gao Jinming, that guy?

Would that guy have such a kind heart to let people outside the city live inside without paying any cost?

No, no, Xiaofan just said the new president of the Awakened Association? Not that guy Gao Jinming?

"That new president is named Li Ping," Chen Fan glanced at Zhang Ren from the corner of his eye and continued, "The first thing he did after becoming president was to order everyone outside the city to move inside.

Not only that, I also heard he sent Awakeners from the association to the surrounding camps to let them prepare to move into the city."

"He even notified the surrounding camps?"

At this, many people in the room stood up from their chairs.

The Chen Family Fortress was one of the camps around Anshan City, too, right?

If what he said was true, didn't it mean they would soon get a notice from the Anshan City Awakened Association?

Could their entire camp move into Anshan City like those two camps outside the city?

Their breathing suddenly became rapid.

Chen Guodong and Liu Yong's hearts started racing.

Although they were quite satisfied with their current living conditions, deep down, they understood this peace was fragile.

Sometimes, just a few High-level Fierce Beasts could destroy everything, as they had all experienced such things before.

But Anshan City was different.

Forget High-level Fierce Beasts, even Elite Level Beasts couldn't harm anyone living inside Anshan City.

It was said that during past Beast Tides, Anshan City had always held its ground. The safety level didn't need further explanation, did it?

Therefore, if there was indeed an opportunity for them to move into Anshan City, they would leave Chen Family Fortress despite any attachment to it.

Ten years ago, clinging to one's land was a sentiment, but ten years later, it was looking for death.

However, they still had doubts. Would such good things really fall from the sky? Was there really such a good person?

"Yes."

Chen Fan nodded and said, "After calculating the time, I estimate that by tonight at the latest, an Awakener from Anshan City will be here to notify us to relocate."

"Rea-really?"

"Xiaofan, if someone does come to notify us, should we really move?"

The atmosphere in the room quieted down.

Everyone trusted Chen Fan's words but found it hard to believe such a good thing could happen.

Zhang Ren felt the same.

Among the people present, aside from Chen Fan, no one knew more clearly than him how hard it was to get a living space in Anshan City.

Even a Martial Artist in the Muscle Refining Realm with enough money couldn't stand a chance!

But now, according to Chen Fan, not just martial artists, but anyone, regardless of age or gender, could live inside?

If that's the case, what was that guy named Li Ping aiming for?

"Yes."

Chen Fan nodded without hesitation and said, "I saw it with my own eyes. Tens of thousands of people moved into the city. This could never be fake. If possible, it's better for everyone in our camp to move into Anshan City because, in every way, Anshan City isn't comparable to Chen Family Fortress."

Most importantly, if a Beast Tide broke out in the future, Chen Family Fortress would be leveled overnight.

"Good!"

Chen Guodong was the first to agree, "Xiaofan, if someone really comes from Anshan City to notify us, we will move."

After all, Chen Fan was his son. How could he not support him?

"That's right. Since Xiaofan said so, there's no hesitation. I also agree. If there is such a chance, we should move to Anshan City." Zhang Ren nodded as well.

Honestly, he did have doubts.

After all, this sounded too much like a trap.

However, he knew very well that Chen Fan wouldn't joke about the lives of everyone in the camp.

Since he made such a plan, he must have thought it through, and they just needed to follow it obediently.

"Since Guodong and Old Zhang agreed, then we shouldn't hesitate anymore."

Liu Yong laughed, "I trust Xiaofan."

"Indeed, Anshan City is a city. Its safety far exceeds ours here. Since we can move there for free, why not?"

Everyone unanimously agreed.

"Okay, it's settled then." Chen Fan smiled and looked at Chen Guodong. "Dad, inform everyone to stop martial arts training for now and start packing their bags. By tomorrow morning, Awakeners will arrive to take us to Anshan City."

Of course, if anyone feels it's too troubling and doesn't want to move, it's not mandatory."

"Alright, I'll gather everyone and share the news." Chen Guodong responded quickly.

At that moment, his phone in his pocket suddenly vibrated.

Chen Guodong frowned and hung up.

But the phone rang again the next moment.

"Dad, you should answer. It might be something important?" Chen Fan smiled, having a vague guess.

"Alright."

Chen Guodong took out his phone and saw it was a call from someone at the camp gate.

He put the phone on speaker.

Instantly, excited voices came through.

"Guodong, Guodong, an Awakener master is here! An Awakener master is here!" The speaker's voice carried shock and deep respect.

"What!"

Upon hearing this, everyone in the room was shocked.

An, an Awakener master?

Here?

Suddenly, they seemed to realize something and instinctively looked at Chen Fan.

Could it be that the Awakener from Anshan City Xiaofan mentioned had come to notify them of the relocation?

"Don't, don't panic."

Chen Guodong said, his own voice trembling, "Do, do you know, what, it's about?"

"N-no idea."

The caller stammered, "Gu, Guodong, he wants to, to see you. You better, hurry, come over."

"Alright, alright."

Chen Guodong hung up the phone.

He looked at Chen Fan.

"Dad, just go, don't worry. I will protect you from the shadows. Nothing will happen." Chen Fan smiled.

Unless absolutely necessary, he didn't want to reveal himself yet.

Since his identity as a martial artist couldn't be hidden for long, he hadn't intended to keep it secret.

But it was better to keep his family's information confidential as long as possible, otherwise, some lowlifes might target the people in the camp when they couldn't deal with him.

"Okay."

Hearing this from Chen Fan, Chen Guodong regained his confidence. He took several deep breaths before standing up and walking outside.

Zhang Ren and the others quickly followed after seeing this.