

Medical 1021

Chapter 1021: Do As You Please

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Soon, more and more people began to say similar things, among them seven or eight individuals. Besides, when they unleashed the incredible power of their cultivation base, it was evident that the strongest among them was at the seventh level of Qi Condensation.

These people were evidently fans of Zhou Xinqi, and also those famous individuals. Their presence at the scene caused the crowd to immediately quiet down and cease discussing the matter. However, inwardly, most people felt annoyed by what was happening, and disliked the young man even more than ever.

Although everyone liked Zhou Xinqi, she was just one person. The disciples present were not foolish, and actually admired those who could challenge Zhou Xinqi based on personal merit.

When Yan Xiaobao found himself the object of the young man's glare, he was not confident. However, considering that there were so many onlookers whom the young man dared not provoke, Yan Xiaobao glared back and said, "If you don't dare to do something, I'll fight you to the death."

At this point in the confrontation, a beam of light shot towards the sky in the direction of the 10,000 Medicines Pavilion, where a graceful figure could be seen. It was Zhou Xinqi.

"That's Sister Zhou."

"Sister Zhou has arrived." The confrontation ended. As soon as the Outer Sect disciples saw Zhou Xinqi, smiles appeared on their faces.

The seven or eight young people, as her fans, quickly withdrew their cultivation base. They looked very confident and relaxed, as they shook hands with Zhou Xinqi.

Zhou Xinqi came because she had heard about the change in the rankings on the second stele, and second, she had another matter to address. With just a glance, she easily guessed the cause of the

confrontation. She looked at the eight fans, her eyes flashing with feelings of displeasure and even disgust.

"Zhou Xinqi's matters have not reached the point where others need to intervene," she said coolly. "Furthermore, if a newly chosen disciple appears on Xiangyun Peak, it is lucky for the entire sect. If such a thing happens again, don't blame your elder sister for losing her temper." Her voice cut like the edge of a sword, and the eight fans looked angry. However, they dared not say a word.

Zhou Xinqi glanced up at the Little Turtle on the second stele, her heart full of indomitable spirit. She looked out at the crowd and, with a calm and arrogant voice, said, "Whichever young brother happens to surpass my first and second volumes of plants and vegetation stele, if you are still in the crowd and do not wish to reveal your true self, then so be it. Do as you please."

The surrounding Outer Sect disciples responded with cheers. For most of them, Zhou Xinqi was the true choice of Xiangyun Peak.

Yan Xiaobao stood in the crowd, thinking that Zhou Xinqi definitely deserved to be selected. Her words just now were truly outstanding. He looked up and thought for a moment. He could clearly hear the arrogance in her words, and what impressed him the most was his reluctance to reveal himself. No, it was the flashing intention to kill in the eyes of her worshiping fans.

Zhou Xinqi's expression was calm, as she coolly addressed the crowd. "Ladies and gentlemen, I am here today for another reason, I hope I can gain the support of each and every one of you."

Her words instantly excited everyone, and they respectfully waited to see what she would say next.

"The tranquility of Xiangyun Peak has recently been disturbed. My master Li Qinghou has had quite a few Spirit Tail Chickens go missing. He has currently withdrawn from the sect and likely doesn't care much about the matter. However, as his disciple, I have the responsibility to do something about it. I sincerely hope all my fellow disciples will make efforts to catch this Chicken Thief. If anyone manages to capture him, I will personally reward that person with a precious jade pendant!" As she spoke, Zhou Xinqi pulled out a green jade pendant from inside her robe. It emitted a gentle glow; it was obviously an extraordinary item.

"It's an item I encountered a few years ago, containing powerful defensive capabilities." As her voice echoed, countless Outer Sect disciples gazed at the jade pendant, excitement visible on many of their faces. Some even began to pledge various promises.

"Don't worry, Sister Zhou. That Chicken Thief won't have a place to hide!"

"How dare he steal the Peak Lord's chickens! This Chicken Thief is extremely bold. We'll definitely keep a close watch on this matter!" Soon, nearly everyone in the crowd shouted loudly, promising to help, especially Zhou Xinqi's fans, whose eyes burned fervently with passion as they shouted louder than others.

Yan Xiaobao stood in the midst of the crowd, somewhat shocked. The disciples around were feverishly working, and he felt a cold wind blowing down his spine.

However, he was still unwilling to give up. Even just the thought of the hunger caused by cultivating the Immortal Eternal Life Skill made sweat appear on his forehead. As he tried to come up with an idea, his thoughts started competing, and after a moment, his eyes lit up. Suddenly, he patted his chest and projected his voice into the crowd.

"Sister Zhou, I, Yan Xiaobao, will definitely complete this task, even if I have to climb a mountain of blades or swim to the bottom of a boiling pot of oil. I will capture this Chicken Thief!" His sharp voice was impossible to miss, and as he spoke, he stepped forward, standing at the front of the crowd.

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The manner of his entrance drew many eyes onto him, as if he had loudly slapped his own chest. Even Zhou Xinqi's fans were somewhat bewildered, and Zhou Xinqi herself couldn't help but watch him.

Seeing her disciples somewhat supporting her, a smile appeared on Zhou Xinqi's face. She nodded slightly and suddenly turned away, Yan Xiaobao's sharp voice pressing onto the crowd once more.

"Sister Zhou, I have a suggestion. Why don't we form a Chicken Thief Special Task Force? If we work together, it will be easier to catch this despicable traitor and protect the Peak Lord's spirit tail chickens!" From Yan Xiaobao's voice, there was a sense of righteousness, as if he was willing to spare no effort to complete the task proposed by Sister Zhou.

Zhou Xinqi was taken aback. As for the other crowd, many considered it a good idea and began to express their approval.

"Good idea," someone said. "But cultivation remains our priority, so this matter must be voluntary." Zhou Xinqi looked again at Yan Xiaobao. To her, this young brother of hers was not only fair and pure but seemed innately charming. Additionally, he appeared devoutly dedicated to her, leaving her with a very good impression. Nodding, she smiled.

"Since this idea was proposed by this enthusiastic young brother, I suggest he form a Chicken Thief Special Task Force. Take these ten ribbons as identification marks for the task force members." With that, she took out ten blue ribbons from her bag. With a wave of her hand, she sent them flying toward Yan Xiaobao, where they landed in his hands.

"Don't worry, sister, I will handle everything!" Standing there with the ribbons in his hands, he looked more proud than before. In fact, he looked as if he would surrender to anyone when he encountered chickens on the mountaintop, even willing to sacrifice his life for the cause.

Zhou Xinqi's gaze was full of admiration, and she couldn't help but think there were few young brothers like this in the sect. With one last look at Yan Xiaobao's charming appearance, she turned and left.

Zhou Xinqi's fans were unhappy to suddenly see her and Yan Xiaobao together. Moreover, they regretted not winning her favor in such a flattering way.

After Zhou Xinqi left, the disciples of the Elf Farm also departed, profusely thanking everyone in the process. They especially thanked Yan Xiaobao, who stood there swelling his chest as he cursed the chicken thief. Then, he organized the Chicken Thief Special Task Force, filling other cultivation bases with disciples that didn't surpass his own.

Finally, Yan Xiaobao hurried away, wiping sweat from his forehead. Sighing, he thought,

"That was close. I almost lost my food source. Yan Xiaobao, you're so clever and cunning, it's a good thing. Hehe." Reaching this point in his thoughts, Yan Xiaobao was very satisfied with himself. Humming a little tune, he headed back toward his courtyard. Back in the courtyard, the spiritual bamboo in the spiritual field grew taller, now three meters high, thicker than his calf, with an astonishing appearance.

That night, when dark clouds filled the sky and everything was black, Yan Xiaobao sat there with his eyes wide open, licking his lips.

"The night is dark, and I feel hungry again..." It was deep into the night, Xiangyun Peak was shrouded in darkness. If you put your hand in front of you, you couldn't even see your fingers. Besides the whispering wind, everything was silent. No peeping sounds from birds or beasts could be heard.

Yan Xiaobao hurriedly walked through the darkness, Zhou Xinqi's ribbons tied around his arm, along a path leading to one of the Spirit Tail Chicken Farms. As he quickened his pace, he occasionally dove into nearby bushes, continuing his stealth.

Soon, the spirit tail chicken farm appeared ahead. Most of the chickens were asleep, though some were moving about. There was even a chicken wandering in Yan Xiaobao's direction.

He crouched in the bushes, licking his lips until the spirit tail chicken approached the fence. Just as he pulled out his bamboo cicada, his heart flipped, his eyes filled with vigilance.

At the same time, shouting could be heard from behind him, as many people charged at him at nighttime. They even had flame balls, illuminating the night.

"Damn chicken thief! You've finally shown your face!"

"We've been waiting here for days! Now we've got you surrounded, let's see how you escape!" With the shouts, eight people surrounded Yan Xiaobao, encircling him completely.

These were the disciples responsible for taking care of the chickens. Even after days of arduous waiting, they never thought today would be the day everything paid off. As they prepared to execute justice on the chicken thief, their hearts filled with righteous fervor.

When their words rang out, Yan Xiaobao initially panicked. But then he pondered for a moment and coldly snorted.

"Shut up, you lot!" he said. "Maintain a low profile!" His words were without the slightest politeness, as if righteousness was on his side. He made no move to try to escape but arrogantly stood up, ensuring the ribbons on his arm were clearly visible.

"See that?!" he asked. "I am the leader of the Chicken Thief Task Force." Frowning, he looked around at the eight disciples, obviously displeased.

This sudden development left the eight intruders staring in shock. Some of the disciples had seen Yan Xiaobao earlier that day. After scrutinizing him carefully, they began to hesitate.

Chapter 1022 Do Whatever You Want (Part 2)

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Chapter 1023: Do It However You Like (Part 3)

One of the disciples seemed skeptical about the situation, "Oh, that's Brother Bai. Hmm... What are you doing here so late at night, right?"

His words made the other disciples look at Yan Xiaobao suspiciously.

Yan Xiaobao frowned, angrily saying, "Sister Zhou herself appointed me as the leader of the Chicken Thief Special Task Force, so of course, I am doing my utmost to catch the chicken thief. I even gave up my nighttime cultivation routine to come here and wait. However, considering how many rackets you have, I believe the thief has long escaped and died." He indeed looked like a person trying to catch a thief.

The disciples at the chicken farm glanced at each other in astonishment, some even looking a bit embarrassed. As for the most suspicious disciple, his expression softened a bit, though he still seemed not entirely convinced.

Seeing their doubts were not completely dispelled, Yan Xiaobao gave a cold scoff, deciding to take the initiative and assign them the responsibility before anyone could ask any more questions.

"No wonder you lost so many Spirit Tail Chickens! You completely neglected it. Look over there, your fence is even broken!" He pointed to a spot with a hole, not very obvious, but indeed there. It was actually pushed into the fence by a struggling Elf-tailed Chicken when he once stole for a while.

The disciples at the chicken farm looked in the direction Yan Xiaobao pointed, and their faces showed an expression of shock upon seeing the hole. Indeed, they hadn't paid much attention to such minor details in the past.

"Look at that spirit tail chicken. After you walk over here, how do you plan to protect it?" Yan Xiaobao seemed increasingly angry, even raising his voice, causing the disciples' faces to fill with shame.

"According to my investigation, this place here is the most secluded in the chicken farm. You should particularly guard this place closely. But look, before any of you showed up, I had been waiting here for years." The more Yan Xiaobao spoke, the angrier he became. Finally, he sighed deeply.

"How do you expect to catch thieves like this, right? Based on my experience in catching thieves, if my guess is correct, then this is the place where most chickens were taken." Once the words left his mouth, the disciples at the chicken farm started trembling inwardly. They exchanged glances, seeing the shock

in each other's eyes. According to the information they had, this was indeed the place where they lost the most chickens.

In fact, this was why they decided to stand guard here. Yan Xiaobao hit the nail on the head, leading the entire team to look at him with increasing admiration.

Even the disciple most doubtful of him now felt he had made a mistake. First, he thought about how Yan Xiaobao sacrificed his cultivation time to catch the thief, then remembered how enthusiastic and unhesitating he appeared earlier that day. Finally, the disciple took a deep breath, clenched his hands tightly, and bowed deeply.

"Brother Bai, please don't be too offended by what I just said. Thank you very much for your sacrifice. We will repair this place immediately and definitely increase the guarding around it!"

Others also clenched their hands tightly, thinking about how rare it was to find someone as dedicated as Yan Xiaobao. He was clearly trying to help them, making them even more regretful for their earlier impulsiveness.

Yan Xiaobao sighed and then solemnly offered them some advice before turning to leave. As he walked away, the eight disciples clenched their hands and bowed again, completely moved by what he just did.

"Brother Bai is a good person."

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Chapter 1024: Chicken Thief

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As soon as Yan Xiaobao saw it, a cold wind brushed against his back, and he realized that he had been in a daze for quite some time. However, his stomach was still complaining, so he decided to visit two other chicken farms to see if there was still an opportunity to take action.

He wandered the mountain paths, cautiously looking around to ensure he wasn't being followed. His expression was very serious as he contemplated how to steal chickens from the next farm. With the wind blowing, it wrapped around the ribbon on his arm.

Meanwhile, in the pitch-dark night sky, a woman stood on a piece of blue silk, completely undetected by everyone below as she inspected this part of Xiangyun Peak. Suddenly, when she saw Yan Xiaobao walking along, cautiously surveying his surroundings, her expression flickered. Her eyes gradually began to show approval.

"This little disciple really takes his duties seriously." Of course, the woman was Zhou Xinqi, who had been checking the area. Earlier, many disciples were on patrol, but as night fell, most had returned to cultivate. Yan Xiaobao was the only one genuinely trying to catch the thief.

"With him around, the chicken thief will surely have to watch out." Zhou Xinqi turned around and then returned to her Immortal Cave, feeling much better about the situation.

Two hours later, Yan Xiaobao circled back to his courtyard dwelling. After entering, he patted his travel bag and produced two Spirit Tail Chickens. He chuckled to himself, yanking them up and tossing them into the pot. Before long, the aroma filled the air, making his mouth water with desire. Then, he gobbled them up greedily without even waiting for them to cool.

Finally, he belched, patted his belly, and relaxed, looking quite satisfied, as if he was almost drunk.

A month later, during which Yan Xiaobao diligently went out at night and appeared very solemn because he randomly showed up at various chicken farms.

Nevertheless, the chickens kept disappearing. They seemed to vanish without a trace, a profound mystery. The disciples at the chicken farms increasingly felt they had lost face. Fueled by passion, they continuously vowed not to give up until the chicken thief was imprisoned.

Yan Xiaobao seemed to take the matter more seriously than them. He was utterly dedicated to protecting the chicken farms, as if he was unwilling to rest until the thief was caught. He even once guarded a chicken farm for four days and nights.

The hard work and dedication seemed to put a lot of pressure on the chicken thief, and the theft rate appeared to have decreased. However, the thief hadn't completely vanished. In the end, nearly half of the Elf-tailed Chickens on Xiangyun Peak had disappeared, leaving only the young ones behind.

Eventually, even the disciples at the chicken farms began to feel guilty, reflecting with emotion. They believed that if the other chicken thief task forces were as diligent as Brother Bai, then the thief would certainly have been caught.

Zhou Xinqi was particularly anxious. One afternoon, Yan Xiaobao sat cross-legged at one of the chicken farms, vigilantly surveying his surroundings, and a piece of blue silk descended from above; it was Zhou Xinqi.

Seeing who it was, Yan Xiaobao charmingly called out, "Sister Zhou."

As Zhou Xinqi's beautiful eyes fell upon Yan Xiaobao, she smiled and said, "You're working hard, Brother Bai."

Soon, other disciples in the area flocked towards them, gathering around Zhou Xinqi and Yan Xiaobao.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I recently express my deep gratitude for your assistance," she said softly. "I am truly grateful. However, the chicken thief remains as shameless as ever. Therefore, I will stand guard with you." After observing the group, she slightly frowned and continued, "I wonder if the chicken thief is linked to my master. Otherwise, why doesn't he steal Spirit Tail Chickens from other peaks? Instead, he seems to be targeting only my master's chickens!"

When Yan Xiaobao heard this, his eyes began to shine, and he almost slapped his thigh. What Zhou Xinqi said made sense, and as he thought about it, he couldn't help but gaze down toward Violet Peak's direction. Slowly, his eyes narrowed, hiding the deep cunning gleam.

Now that Zhou Xinqi had made an appearance, many of her admirers also began flocking to the area. Soon, a large crowd gathered at the Spirit Tail Chicken Farm of Xiangyun Peak.

The chicken thief could no longer do anything, and in the following days, not a single Spirit Tail Chicken was lost.

Even so, the mysterious and unfathomable chicken thief had become completely famous. In fact, many people began calling him the Chicken Stealing Demon. He caused such a stir among the disciples that he was regarded as ranking alongside the master of Little Turtle, becoming one of the most mysterious figures on Xiangyun Peak. In fact, even the Outer Sect disciples at Green Crest Peak and Violet Cauldron Peak had heard of him.

Since the chicken thief had evidently disappeared, Zhou Xinqi felt much better. Although he was never apprehended, when she thought about how hard Yan Xiaobao worked over the past month or more, in the end, she rewarded him with a jade pendant as an encouragement.

When the matter finally ended, Yan Xiaobao's sincerity and dedication made the different Outer Sect disciples realize how pure, charming, and dedicated he was. Yan Xiaobao sat in the courtyard of Xiangyun Peak, looking at the jade pendant in his hand. After activating it with some spiritual energy, the pendant began to emit a soft green glow, surrounding his body.

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Next, he made a spell gesture with his left hand, causing his wooden sword to appear. It hovered in the air, then shot towards Yan Xiaobao. However, once it lit up with a green light, it was as if it suddenly encountered a sheet of water, causing it to significantly slow down.

"What a treasure!" he whispered, putting the wooden sword away, holding the jade pendant, feeling a bit awkward.

"Ah, well, it doesn't matter. Li Qinghou is Zhou Xinqi's master, but he is also my mentor. In fact, considering our relationship, I should call him Uncle." Clearing his throat, Yan Xiaobao took off the jade pendant, then stood up and lazily stretched.

After eating more than half of Li Qinghou's chicken, his Immortal Eternal Life Skill was advancing by leaps and bounds. It was now over seventy percent complete. Of course, the Spirit Tail Chicken replenished his life energy, not his spiritual energy. Nevertheless, although his cultivation base was still at the fourth-level Qi Condensation, it had made some progress and was more refined than before.

He buried all the chicken bones in the spirit soil, which was now filled with so much spiritual energy it bordered on the absurd. As for his Spiritual Winter Bamboo, it was now over two meters high, no longer purely emerald green; black spots began to appear within the green.

Most importantly, the spirit tail could produce tricolor flames. Yan Xiaobao had been collecting them, now having several hundred. Whenever he thought of the tricolor flames the spirit tail could produce, his heart was filled with anticipation.

"I'm not in a rush for the cultivation base. As long as I can acquire enough pills, I can triple their spirit enhancement and advance at flying speed. The most important thing is to make some progress on my Immortal Skin!" Hardly at the thought of this, Yan Xiaobao's stomach started to grumble. Initially, he looked toward the chicken farm at Xiangshan Peak, then he turned towards Violet Peak.

"Big Brother is on Violet Peak, I wonder how he's been doing recently." Thinking of everything happening in the oven, he ran out of his courtyard, down the mountain, heading towards Violet Peak.

Among the three mountains on the South Shore of Spirit Stream Sect, Green Crest Peak focused on swords, Fragrant Cloud Peak emphasized Spiritual Medicine, and Violet Cauldron Peak specialized in Magic Skills and spiritual enhancement. Furthermore, the most basic technique of the South Shore, Violet Qi Cauldron Control Art, actually came from Violet Cauldron Peak.

Yan Xiaobao walked along the path towards Violet Peak, and when he arrived there, dusk was falling. He looked up at the mountain shrouded in mist and clouds. High above, he could barely see faint shadows flying around the prism beams. He sighed.

"I wonder when I will be able to obtain some sort of flying treasure and do that kind of thing. Then my world will truly open up, and I will really embark on the path to live forever." Eyes flashing with expectation, he started ascending Violet Cauldron Peak.

Although he was not a disciple of Violet Cauldron Peak, as an Outer Sect Disciple, he was eligible to go to any of the mountains. As he walked past, he asked some people where Zhang Dahai lived. Due to his charming demeanor, he received an answer almost immediately and hurried off in the indicated direction.

Big Fatty Zhang's residence was located in a different part of the mountain, while Yan Xiaobao was at Xiangyun Peak's location. It was situated on the sunny side of the mountain, where there was more powerful spiritual energy. There were not many residences here; they were scattered like stars in the night sky, clearly in some prescribed pattern.

Although it was nighttime, the light wasn't very clear, but the swirling mist and abundant spiritual plants could still be seen, all lending a celestial feeling to the place.

Taking a deep breath, Yan Xiaobao looked around with envy. "Big Brother truly has connections with the sect. I can't believe he has a place like this. It's better than mine."

It didn't take long to find Big Fatty Zhang's residence. The courtyard was overgrown with weeds, as if no one had tended to it for years. Yan Xiaobao chuckled with surprise, then knocked on the door. But there was no response.

"Am I at the wrong place?" he thought. As he stood there, baffled, the front door of the building in the courtyard slowly creaked open, and a gaunt figure emerged, holding a Flying Sword in his right hand. As he trudged forward, a faint silver light glimmered around his left hand. Looking exhausted, he lazily said, "Who's this?!"

Even as the words left the man's mouth, he suddenly saw Yan Xiaobao standing on the opposite side of the courtyard, a tremor ran through him. A look of joy appeared on his face, almost as if he had just seen a blood relative. Suddenly, he came flying out, pushing open the door, then stood there looking at Yan Xiaobao. Then, he laughed loudly and said, "Little Ninth Brother!"

"Who are you?!" Yan Xiaobao responded, backing up, eyes wide. Though for some reason this person seemed familiar, Yan Xiaobao couldn't recognize him at all.

He had average features and was extremely thin. Although he couldn't be described as merely skin and bones, he was almost like that. His eyes were full of energy, yet sunken in. From the ripple of his cultivation base, he seemed to be in the great circle of Level 4 Qi Condensation.

When the gaunt young man saw Yan Xiaobao's expression, he looked as though he might burst into tears.

"Ninth Fatty, it's me, Big Fatty!" he said, his face filled with intense sorrow, he continued, "Ninth Fatty, you don't know how much hardship I've endured in the past year. My master is so demanding! As soon as I got here, I was told she didn't like fatties, and I had to be starved for half a year!"

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"Half a year, the ninth Fatty! Do you know what I looked like half a year ago? It took me a long time just to gain this much weight." The haggard young man was none other than Big Fatty Zhang, standing there crying.

Yan Xiaobao looked at him cautiously. After hearing the story and confirming he was indeed his elder, Yan Xiaobao's jaw dropped. He remembered that big brother, and the person standing in front of him looked like two completely different people.

"Do you have some resentment with your master?" Yan Xiaobao asked sympathetically.

"That old hag! I..." Big Fatty Zhang said a few words but then shivered, not daring to continue. He pulled Yan Xiaobao into the yard and said, "Ninth little brother, I miss the oven! No one can survive in a place like this. My time here has never been fulfilling, plus I can't make any money." Ah, I'm so hungry!" Then he proceeded to tell Yan Xiaobao everything that had happened to him since he arrived.

When Yan Xiaobao heard this painful story, he suddenly realized he had made the right decision by choosing to start stealing chickens. He looked at Big Fatty Zhang's emaciated frame, sighed, and patted his bony shoulder.

"Since you've run into trouble, brother, naturally your young brother will help you. Wait here for the incense stick to burn. I'll be right back." As Xiao Baichun turned to leave the yard, Big Fatty Zhang was surprised.

On the way up the mountain, Yan Xiaobao had already noticed the location of the Spirit Tail Chicken farm on Violet Cauldron Mountain. Using the darkness of night, he suddenly vanished.

Big Fatty Zhang had no idea what was happening or what Yan Xiaobao might be doing. He waited by the front door for the incense stick to burn, and then Yan Xiaobao returned, holding a Spirit Tail Chicken in each hand.

When Big Fatty Zhang saw the Elf-tailed Chickens, his eyes widened. However, before he could say a thing, Yan Xiaobao hustled him into the yard. Ignoring Zhang Dapang, Yan Xiaobao skillfully crafted a wok, boiled some water, and threw the chickens inside. Then, he rolled up his sleeves, raised his chin, and looked at Big Fatty Zhang.

Big Fatty Zhang was panting, his eyes wide. He pointed at the chickens in the wok and then back at Yan Xiaobao, a look of disbelief on his face.

"You- you... don't tell me you're the Chicken Thief of Xiangyun Peak!?!"

Yan Xiaobao smiled. Then, as if he were very familiar with the process, he placed his hand on the wok, emitted some spiritual energy, ensuring the chicken was perfectly tender. Soon, an enticing aroma wafted through the air. Yan Xiaobao reached in, pulled out a chicken leg, and handed it to Big Fatty Zhang.

"Eat!" he said, imitating the way Mr. Fatty Zhang had handed him magic mushrooms when he first joined the oven.

As he stared at the drumstick, Big Fatty Zhang swallowed several times. Finally, he grabbed it and devoured it ravenously. From then on, no words were necessary from Yan Xiaobao. Big Fatty Zhang flew to the pot, practically burying his face in it. The two chickens were quickly devoured to the bone, and he couldn't stop even then; crunching sounds were audible.

Eventually, he patted his belly and lay back, looking almost blissfully satiated. Then he exchanged a look with Yan Xiaobao and started laughing heartily.

"Ninth Fatty, you're incredible," he said, looking very proud. "You really kept an eye on the oven. I never thought the renowned Chicken Stealing Demon King of Xiangyun Peak would become my brother."

"Cultivation is a heavenly thing by nature. As a cultivator, it's only natural to fight the sky and battle humans. You must rely on yourself! What's a few Spirit Tail Chickens?" Yan Xiaobao waved his hand, but couldn't hide how pleased he was with himself. He had kept his identity secret for so long; being able to share it, then seeing the look on Big Fatty Zhang's face, made him feel fantastic.

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Chapter 1027: Not Alone

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"The real regret is that I ate so many Elf-tailed Chickens on Xiangyun Peak, but only left a few small ones. They don't taste that good, otherwise, I would invite you to live there with me, we could eat our fill every day, and you would surely regain your weight." Yan Xiaobao sighed.

When Big Fatty Zhang heard this, his eyes sparkled, and he immediately perked up.

"Violet Cauldron Peak has them too. The west, south, and north sides of the mountain all have them. They change shifts twice a day, each shift is watched over by seven disciples!" Big Fatty Zhang continued to explain in detail. When he finished, he noticed Yan Xiaobao looking at him with a strange expression. Clearing his throat, Big Fatty Zhang said: "After hearing about the chicken thieves, I wanted to try and do the same. Unfortunately, the chickens were too hard to steal. As soon as you get close, they start making noise. Not only did I not succeed in stealing any chickens, I almost got caught." Big Fatty Zhang seemed a bit embarrassed about the whole thing.

Yan Xiaobao chuckled and then leaned in close to Big Fatty Zhang, speaking in a low voice. Gradually, Big Fatty Zhang's eyes widened brighter and brighter, and he was even a bit out of breath. Then Yan Xiaobao took out his bamboo cicada, and after a while, with smiles on their faces, they started chuckling quietly.

Soon, laughter echoed in the courtyard, sounding quite eerie.

From that day on, Yan Xiaobao started visiting Big Fatty Zhang more frequently, and gradually, the Spirit Tail Chickens of Violet Cauldron Peak began to disappear....

Every night, the two big chicken thieves would come. One would steal, the other would keep watch. Soon, the disciples of Violet Cauldron Peak were in an uproar, everyone was talking about it.

"Did you hear? The chicken thieves from Xiangyun Peak have set their sights on Violet Cauldron Peak!"

"I actually saw it happen! The chicken thieves aren't just one person, it's a two-man team!"

When the news reached Xiangyun Peak, the Outer Sect disciples there gasped, looking sympathetically in the direction of Violet Cauldron Peak.

"So, the chicken thieves have learned to balance. At least they aren't stealing chickens from our Xiangyun Peak anymore..." The situation had escalated to such an extent that a month later, rumors were flying like crazy. Even Xu Meixiang, the Peak Lord of Purple Lotus Peak, mentioned it, having discovered what was going on. Bai Xiaochun and Big Fatty Zhang had no choice but to stop their activities. After discussing the matter, they decided to recruit a third, Girly Hei.

So, the two of them went to Green Crest Peak.

The third, Girly Hei, was a bit thin, but not noticeably so. However, she now exuded a charming aura that left Yan Xiaobao and Big Fatty Zhang speechless. They almost didn't recognize her. Her previously dark face now appeared somewhat elegant. One could easily imagine that if she continued to lose weight, she would eventually transform into a true beauty.

However, as soon as she heard about Elf-tailed Chickens, her eyes began to shine.

From then on, the Spirit Tail Chickens of Green Crest Peak began to disappear....

By this time, the Chicken-Thieving Fiend was completely infamous on the South Shore. It was almost impossible to find anyone among the Outer Sect disciples who hadn't heard of him, even the servants knew the name.

Before long, the elders took notice of the matter. Although the chicken thieves ultimately vanished without a trace, never to appear again, the third Girly Hei and Big Fatty Zhang had noticeably regained a lot of weight. While they weren't as impressive as before, they were still much sturdier.

As for Yan Xiaobao, he finally... completed eighty-one cycles, finally satisfying his hunger. At that point, all three of them gave up on stealing chickens.

Although the eighty-one cycles of the Undying Live Forever technique were not completed consecutively, they gradually accumulated over time, but the results were identical.

One day, Yan Xiaobao sat in the courtyard of Xiangyun Peak, looking solemn. His skin emitted pulses of iron hue, even sparkling with flashes of black light. An incredible aura radiated from him, making him appear fierce and wild.

He endured eighty-one days of pain, and then another eighty-one days of hunger. This combination transformed into a shocking power, erupting again and again inside Yan Xiaobao.

Each eruption was filled with infinite life energy, which then surged into Yan Xiaobao's skin, making it increasingly iron-like. The black light grew more dazzling, and the toughness of his skin increased exponentially.

Eventually, it reached such a stage that if someone happened to see him standing there, they would think they were looking at an iron statue rather than a flesh-and-blood person.

As the energy bursts continued, his thoughts trembled. After the nineteenth time, he realized they weren't slowing down at all, but were actually increasing in intensity.

Yan Xiaobao didn't move a muscle, he didn't even seem to be breathing. However, if you looked closely, you would see all the pores on his body expanding, as he silently absorbed the area's heaven and earth energy.

"After eighty-one eruptions, my Immortal Skin will reach the initial stage of completion, and I will enter the Iron Skin stage!" The mnemonic of the Immortal Eternal Life Skill floated through Yan Xiaobao's mind, a resolute expression could be seen on his face. All his hard work over the past year, enduring all the pain and hunger... was for this moment!

Rumble!

The life energy inside him erupted once more, and the iron hue of his skin deepened. Every time the life energy surged into his skin, it was as if it were being struck by thousands of forging hammers.

Chapter 1028: Not Alone (2)

So far, he has been filled with energy during the forging process, like a sacred weapon!

RUUUUMMMMBLLE!

28 times. 30 times. 40 times. 48 times.....

Time flies. Three days later, Yan Xiaobao is still in the same place. Although no onlookers can hear any sound, to him, it sounds like endless thunder developing in his ears.

However, it was at this point that his inner life energy burst for the 49th time. Suddenly, the power doubled, and tremors passed through him. Meanwhile, tiny cracks began to appear on his skin, as if it could no longer endure.

Although the cracks were few, once they appeared, Yan Xiaobao's heart sank.

"So, the signs of imminent death have finally appeared..." Yan Xiaobao frowned. The introduction to the Immortal Eternal Life Skill had mentioned such cracks. At the initial stages of success, they were guaranteed to appear. How long each person could persist depended on their willpower and ultimately determined the quality of the future Immortal Skin.

Even if you did not endure for long, you could still successfully cultivate the Immortal Skin. However, the quality would naturally not be perfect.

If you could endure all 81 bursts of life energy, you could achieve a flawless state.

Yan Xiaobao's eyes flashed with determination, and he closed them once more. The rumbling explosions continued to erupt within him. 50 times. 60 times. 70 times... Unexpectedly, one breath allowed him to persist for five full days, during which he had endured 70 times.

The cracks covering him were so numerous that his skin almost looked like a turtle's. In many places, the cracks had connected, making him look like a pieced-together broken vase.

He seemed ready to shatter at any moment.

"Only seven more times!" he thought, his eyes filled with bloodshot streaks. Panting, he clenched his teeth as the vicious streak in his character surged.

74 times!

77 times!

79 times!

Yan Xiaobao leaned back and roared, though the sound was not very loud, more like a low growl. As he endured another burst, his body trembled, reaching a total of 80 times.

Life energy surged into his skin, and although it was covered with cracks, it felt like iron; anyone who saw it would surely be shocked.

"The last one!" he said. With the surge of the final burst of life energy, he suddenly extended his right hand and slammed it to the ground.

A wave of heat arose, creating a massive crater. As everything concluded, the last eruption of life energy occurred. Endless life energy surged into his skin, causing the cracks to vanish instantly, making him appear smooth and flowing. The dark glow disappeared, and he looked as fair and pure as before. However, now his skin was tougher than ordinary skin, although no one could tell by looking at him.

Yan Xiaobao stood there panting for a while, then raised his head to look at the crater he had just smashed into the ground. Then he looked at his skin, his expression brightening. Finally, he leaned his head back and laughed loudly.

He waved his right hand, causing his wooden sword to fly out, transforming into a black beam that cut over his forearm. With a strike, a metallic clinking sound echoed as the wooden sword unexpectedly flew backward. As for his arm, it felt like a mosquito had bitten him. When he checked the impact point, his skin was unharmed.

"Immortal Skin!" he shouted, unable to restrain his joy. It should be noted that his wooden sword was not an ordinary magical item; it received double spiritual enhancement. Although it was made from common materials, due to the spiritual enhancement, it could be considered a worthy magical item. Despite this, it caused him no harm.

Yan Xiaobao suddenly flashed into motion, shooting forward. When he suddenly appeared thirty meters away, a buzzing sound could be heard. Now he could move many times faster than before, greatly delighting him.

As for the power he could release, just looking at the crater on the ground, you'd find it was many times greater than before. Moreover, this was just the initial stage of successfully cultivating the Immortal Skin. Although it could not be said that he completely shed his mortal body, he was definitely different from before.

"With such defensive power," he thought, "I, Yan Xiaobao, will be much safer on the road to eternal life." Yan Xiaobao was very satisfied with himself. Next, he checked his cultivation base and saw that he had made quite a bit of progress in that regard as well. He was now in the grand circle of Qi Condensation Fourth Level.

Moreover, this was not an ordinary grand circle. Because of how spiritual energy was compressed inside him, its quality far exceeded that of ordinary cultivators in the same stage.

Feeling very satisfied, he ran around the courtyard a few times, suddenly stopping, his eyes sparkling. He stretched out his right hand in front of him, pinching his thumb and index finger in a U shape. Then he squeezed them together, causing black light to appear above them. Although nothing happened, a cracking sound could be heard in the air before him.

Eyes wide, he turned and rushed towards a nearby rock, where he made the black light flash from his two fingers again. Once he squeezed his fingers together, when the rock exploded like a piece of tofu, a cracking sound could be heard.

He flashed again, appearing beside the soul bamboo, now reaching over nine meters tall. After determining the hardest bamboo stem, he pinched his fingers together. When the bamboo shattered, a wave of heat could be heard.

Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath, sinking to the ground, looking down at his two fingers, the black light slowly dissipating from them. After a while, he exhaled a long breath.

"So, this is the mastery of the Throat Breaking," he calmly murmured. This was one of the secret magics of the Immortal Eternal Life Skill, only released after reaching the initial stage of success. It is said it could double a person's power and be uncounterable.

Just now, Yan Xiaobao only used fifty percent of his full strength. He couldn't even imagine how powerful and frightening the secret magic would be if it were released at full power.

From Yan Xiaobao's words, such secret magic must be used for killing. After a moment of silent contemplation, he concluded that although it was cruel, it still needed serious practice. Therefore, he began zipping around his courtyard, causing black flashing lights and cracking sounds to echo.

Time flies. In the blink of an eye, half a month has passed. During that time, Yan Xiaobao has not left his courtyard. He has been practicing there the entire time. Of course, he could not know that after several months away, Li Qinghou finally returned to the Spiritual Flow Sect, currently flying over on a ray of green light, heading directly toward Xiangyun Peak.

Upon landing, before he could even rest, two beams of light shot out from Green Crest Peak and Violet Cauldron Peak heading towards him. Soon, he was able to make out an old figure in one of the beams of light. He looked like a sharp, unadorned sword, exuding the unique pressure of a foundational cultivator.

In the other beam of light was an elegant woman. She looked like a natural beauty, and although she had an unusual expression on her face, she was still very delicate. It almost seemed she didn't know whether she wanted to laugh or cry. She landed with the old man together at the mountain top.

These two were the Peak Lords of Green Crest Peak and Violet Cauldron Peak. Upon reaching Xiangyun Peak, they privately discussed matters with Li Qinghou, then left.

Li Qinghou stood at the top of Xiangyun Peak, rubbing his nose. Finally, he emitted some divine senses, focusing them on the three Spirit Tail Chicken Farms at various locations on the mountain. When he saw that the only things left were chicks, he likewise seemed unsure whether to laugh or cry. After a sigh, he waved his sleeves and began walking down the mountain. From his direction...

He seemed to be heading directly toward Yan Xiaobao's courtyard residence. Li Qinghou had actually never visited the area where Yan Xiaobao's residence was located. After all, it was situated in a remote region of the mountains. As he continued onward, the courtyard residence soon became visible in the distance.

However, before he could approach very closely, a fair, clear figure appeared, holding a piece of roasted meat, walking and eating at the same time. He seemed completely focused on his meal, even humming a tune.

When he realized the meat currently being stuffed into Yan Xiaobao's mouth was definitely a chicken leg, Li Qinghou's face darkened. Anger burned instantly in his heart.

"Yan Xiaobao!!" he roared, his voice booming like thunder. While sucking on a chicken bone, Yan Xiaobao almost jumped into the air in fright.

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Chapter 1029: Forbidden Zone

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"Lord Li!" he gasped, his eyes wide open. He hadn't even thought about it, and just stuffed the entire chicken bone into his mouth, then fiercely crushed it into pieces and swallowed it, turning his face a deep purple in the process.

In the entire sect, he was most worried about Li Qinghou, especially after eating so many chickens. Yan Xiaobao actually felt a bit guilty. He wiped the sweat from his forehead and hurriedly approached, appearing very charming and also very sincere as he clasped his hands tightly, bowing in greeting.

"Disciple offers greetings, Lord Pike."

Li Qinghou looked at Yan Xiaobao, his face completely expressionless. Inside, he felt somewhat torn. Yan Xiaobao's ancestor had truly expressed some goodwill to him, and Li Qinghou was the type of person who deeply appreciated such things. Although Yan Xiaobao had clearly done something, he couldn't forget what had happened years ago.

Peak Lords from Green Crest Peak and Violet Cauldron Peak had already spoken to him about the Spirit Tail Chicken issue. Although the chickens weren't necessarily very expensive, Li Qinghou couldn't allow others to criticize his own disciple, so he compensated with an amount several times the chicken's actual value.

Now, he looked at Yan Xiaobao, feeling even more annoyed at how he failed to meet expectations.

Li Qinghou snorted and then said, "You've been an Outer Sect disciple for more than half a year, yet your training has only progressed from the third level of Qi Condensation to the fourth-level. Are you very satisfied with yourself?"

Yan Xiaobao blinked and then cleared his throat, unsure how to respond. However, he continued to put on a charming face, reassuring himself that as long as he maintained the right attitude, things should eventually be fine. But when he thought of just chewing on the Spirit Tail Chicken Leg, he couldn't help but sweat heavily.

Li Qinghou felt a headache coming on. After a while of thought, he calmly continued, "Considering how you've been messing around, you clearly have a lot of time on your hands. In that case, why don't you join the fourth-level and Level 5 Qi Condensation competition within three months? It'll be on Xiangyun Peak."

Yan Xiaobao's heart immediately began to race. He'd heard of the competition Li Qinghou was referring to. He knew there were prizes to be won, but he also heard the fighting was intense. If you're not careful, you could even get hurt. Yan Xiaobao frowned.

"Peak King, I'm only at the fourth level of Qi Condensation. If I enter the competition, what if one of them ends up defeating me? What will happen? What should I do...?"

Li Qinghou completely ignored his question. Looking very serious, he said, "This isn't a request. You will participate in the competition. Furthermore, if you don't make it into the top 5, then I..."

Yan Xiaobao sighed. "I know, you'll expel me from the sect, right...?"

Li Qinghou glared at him. Knowing how mischievous Yan Xiaobao was, he realized that the threat of expulsion from the sect might not be enough to keep him in line. Remembering Yan Xiaobao's fear of death, he suddenly threw his sleeve aside, sweeping him out of the courtyard and flying towards the mountaintop.

Yan Xiaobao's heart began pounding madly. Li Qinghou's expressionless face gave him a very bad feeling. As they flew through the air, the wind brushing past his face, before he had time to analyze the situation, Li Qinghou brought him to a place behind Xiangyun Peak.

This was considered a forbidden area, a place that only a few disciples had ever visited. The first thing he noticed was the dense vegetation everywhere.

As they flew towards the area, Li Qinghou pulled Yan Xiaobao into the valley. Almost immediately, an ominous aura could be felt, and various plant colors in the area brightened, even beginning to rustle.

Yan Xiaobao's heart raced as he looked at the plants, a sense of mortal danger rising within him. When he suddenly spotted a deep red venomous snake lift its head, he spoke abruptly, its tongue flicking menacingly as it stared coldly at Yan Xiaobao.

"Snake!" Yan Xiaobao had no choice but to follow Li Qinghou into the valley, his scalp numb as he realized the ground, plants, and even trees in this place were filled with countless snakes.

All of them were bright in color, clearly indicating they were venomous snakes. Moreover, all stared coldly at him, tongues flicking within their mouths.

Yan Xiaobao began to tremble. He had always been afraid of snakes, and the way they looked at him made him terrified. Although they actually seemed not intent on attacking him, their long, sharp fangs dripped venom in a very frightening way.

It was at this point that Yan Xiaobao suddenly remembered he had his immortal skin, and these venomous snakes might not be able to bite through it. Considering that, even with more snakes than now, they were no more dangerous to him than weak chickens. Ultimately, they weren't very scary at all.

However, his eyes fell into contemplation, realizing the risk of not being afraid was significant. If that happened, Li Qinghou might take him to an even more dangerous place. So, he immediately let out a sharp scream, trying to make himself appear as terrified as possible.

Li Qinghou sneered coldly and then released his cultivation base. The writhing snakes slowly shifted, opening a small path, leading to a black cave emitting a poisonous odor.

"Uncle Li, spare me, please!" Yan Xiaobao shouted in a trembling voice. "I haven't violated any sect rules!" Li Qinghou's face remained entirely expressionless as he grabbed Yan Xiaobao and dragged him into the cave. Once they reached the entrance, he waved his sleeve, filling the darkness with a bit of light.

Chapter 1030 Forbidden Zone (Part 2)

Yan Xiaobao could immediately see the cave filled with countless poisonous snakes, some of which were extremely large. The hissing sounds they emitted seemed to contain some strange, mesmerizing power, which immediately caused Yan Xiaobao's eyes to widen.

A sense of crisis arose, and he began to gasp for air as he realized that the cultivation base abilities of these snakes were unexpectedly high. There was even a Four-colored Viper equivalent to the fifth level of Qi Condensation.

The gaze of the snakes made Yan Xiaobao feel as if a cold wind had swept over his back. Then he thought of his Immortal Skin and realized he wouldn't last long against these snakes. This time, he didn't need to pretend; he was genuinely terrified.

"This is the 10,000 Snakes Valley," Li Qinghou said coolly, "the place on Xiangyun Peak where we harvest venom. Every one of these snakes is extremely poisonous. In fact, a single drop of their venom is enough to kill a hundred cows.

"Any cultivator under the Foundation stage bitten by one of these snakes who doesn't get the detoxification agent in time will die. Deeper in the cave lies the snake king, who is at the major circle of Qi Condensation. If bitten by that snake, even I would struggle to save you.

"If you don't make it into the top five in the Outer Sect competition, don't worry. I won't expel you from the sect. I'll bring you here to harvest venom." Li Qinghou looked at Yan Xiaobao.

"Uh... uh... Uncle Li, don't worry, it's just a small competition, right? Only the top five, you said, right? I'm sure I'll make it!" Yan Xiaobao's tongue felt as if it were glued to his lips, his face pale and weak. Upon hearing that there were even more terrifying venomous snakes deep in the cave, he swore he would never return to this place for the rest of his life.

When Li Qinghou heard Yan Xiaobao's declaration, he smiled inwardly. However, his face remained completely expressionless, and even as he led Yan Xiaobao away, he hummed. When they returned to Xiangyun Peak, he threw Yan Xiaobao onto the mountain path and then turned as if to leave.

But then he stopped and looked back. In a casual tone, he said, "Oh, by the way, what's going on with the Elf-tailed Chicken?"

Without even waiting for Yan Xiaobao's response, he turned and flew off into the distance.

Yan Xiaobao sighed and then turned to walk toward his courtyard, frowning. As he walked, the wind blew, rustling the sand, reminding him of the poisonous snakes.

Back in his courtyard, he sat there, gritting his teeth and frowning. "Li Qinghou... more like Li She! Ridiculous!"

"I absolutely won't return to the 10,000 Snakes Valley. If I get bitten, I will lose my poor little life." At that moment, Yan Xiaobao made a decision. "I will definitely go all out to make it into the top five!"

"If I'm joining that competition, considering my cultivation base level, I definitely need some spiritual medicine!" Taking a deep breath, Yan Xiaobao clenched his fists. He glanced around, a hint of wild determination in his eyes. Eventually, his gaze landed on the soul bamboo.

"Once I complete the soul bamboo mission and receive my reward, I'll have enough merit points to acquire some spiritual medicine. Unfortunately, the bamboo isn't even fifteen meters tall. I'm not sure if it meets the requirements..." Reaching this point in his thoughts, Yan Xiaobao was still unsure about the bamboo. However, he had no other choice. After doing some calculations, he confirmed that the deadline for the designated spiritual vegetation was rapidly approaching.

Yan Xiaobao spent several days frowning. On the fourth day at dawn, he got up early and headed toward the bamboo. Then he wrapped his arms around a stalk, pulling them out of the ground.

He found that although the bamboo didn't look very heavy, in reality, each stalk felt as if it were made of metal and was extremely heavy.

The ground shook continuously until ten stalks of bamboo were uprooted. Each stood nearly fifteen meters tall and was as thick as a person. Carrying them on his shoulders, he headed toward the mission office.

Unfortunately, the bag he had was not very large, and the bamboo didn't fit into it. That's why he had to carry the bamboo. Fortunately, he had grown stronger now, achieving the Immortal Iron Skin. Otherwise, he would never be able to complete the task.

As he walked, he muttered to himself miserably. But then he thought of the competition, the poisonous snakes, and the potential for his bones and tendons in battle.

"Why am I so unlucky...?"

The bamboo was very heavy, and he carried ten stalks. Coupled with the fact that he was climbing the mountain, Yan Xiaobao was soon out of breath. The more he thought about it, the more he felt he was in a very unfair situation.

"I started practicing immortality because I wanted to live forever. Why am I fighting and killing all the time, right?"

"This bamboo would obviously grow taller, but I need those merits now..." The more he thought about the situation, the more annoyed he became at the unfairness of it all. Sighing, he picked up his soul bamboo along the mountainous path.

Currently, quite a few Outer Sect disciples were gathered outside the Xiangyun Peak mission office, their hands filled with various medicinal plants they could exchange for merits.

Xiangyun Peak elders were present to inspect the delivered items. The number of merits given as a reward depended on the quality of the delivered items.

Outside the building was a wide, flat boulder, atop which sat a ruddy-faced elderly man with white hair in a cross-legged position. An endless line of disciples stretched out before him, each holding a spiritual plant in their hands. As the elder gave his evaluations, a young assistant recorded the information and issued merits.