

Medical 1161

Chapter 1161: The Correct Method

...

Yan Xiaobao indeed knew nothing about sword techniques. But he understood the control art of the Violet Qi Cauldron, light in weight, light in weight. He knew that although leaves couldn't lift wood, if you rolled them up, they might lift a small stone. Moreover, if you tore the leaves into strips and wove them together, they could lift heavier rocks!

He knew the correct method of manipulating spiritual power!

Sometimes, mastering one technique is better than knowing thousands. At the Qi Condensation stage... his skill combined with his immortal silver skin made him invincible!

BOOOOOOOOMMM!

A deafening explosion shook the entire area, and countless stones were thrown into the air. Yan Xiaobao's single blade strike became the storm for Shangguan Tianyou's Five Sword Dragon. The Sword Dragon twisted and then exploded into countless pieces, and the storm continued, directly striking Shangguan Tianyou's face.

Yan Xiaobao stood there, his hair whipping in the wind, his expression calm. He didn't clutch his back or flick his sleeve. He just stood there, as calm as ice. This was a scene forever engraved in the minds of all disciples on the North and South Shore.

"Is that really... Yan Xiaobao?" Everyone felt like their minds were about to burst. The South Shore was shaken. All the disciples who truly knew Yan Xiaobao felt like they suddenly didn't know the person standing in front of them. He seemed like a stranger. The Yan Xiaobao they remembered liked being called Uncle Bai. He was someone a bit annoying, making everyone feel like giving him a good beating. This person was completely different.

Sighs could be heard from the North Shore audience. The disciples there stared blankly, their minds spinning. Although they hadn't known Yan Xiaobao for long, he had given them the impression of being completely shameless. In stark contrast, the person they saw now shook them to their core.

On the balcony, Zheng Yuandong's eyes shone with extraordinary light. The expressions on the faces of other Peak Lords were extremely serious, while Li Qinghou smiled as he watched. A warm feeling filled his heart, accompanied by a sense of pride.

All the other elders also looked on with solemn eyes.

Shangguan Tianyou soared over the arena floor, coughing up blood, his eyes blank. He couldn't believe that he and everyone else had lost to the Yan Xiaobao he utterly despised. He was injured, but the humiliation he felt exceeded the pain of his wounds. Just as he was about to leave the arena floor, he let out a strong shout.

"The battle isn't over yet, Yan Xiaobao!" With that, he clenched his teeth and spat out a mouthful of fresh blood. His hair instantly withered, and at the same time, he used his hands to form a spell. After a moment, he trembled as a light of blood shot out from the top of his head!

The light soared above him, transforming into a Blood Sword!

Many disciples in the audience immediately recognized what they saw. "One of the Ten Great Secret Magic! The True Self Sword!"

"Hellfiend Formation!" Shangguan Tianyou's hands blurred as he cast another spell and then pointed towards Yan Xiaobao. In an instant, the Blood Sword transformed into countless drops of blood, swirling into a massive sword before shooting towards Yan Xiaobao with a piercing whistle.

Yan Xiaobao merely extended his right hand and pointed with his index finger.

In front of him, the air twisted as a gigantic pot appeared. Although it was ethereal, it seemed nearly tangible. The intricate designs covering its surface were clearly visible, making it look very realistic.

"Violet Qi Cauldron Summoning!? Heavens!"

"This is too real! That's not an ordinary Violet Qi Cauldron Summoning, that's level two!" Surprised cries could be heard from the South Shore audience, especially from the disciples of Violet Cauldron Peak.

As the violet cauldron and the blood sword collided, gasps from the North Shore audience could be heard, leading to a deafening boom that filled the air. Shangguan Tianyou let out a tragic scream as he was sent flying back, blood spurting from his mouth.

Yan Xiaobao's expression was as indifferent as when he stood on the arena floor, watching as the gigantic cauldron gradually disappeared. Meanwhile, Ghostfang's eyes suddenly began to flicker, and without another word, he flew across from Yan Xiaobao.

He said, "Shangguan Tianyou is too weak to continue fighting." "Let's make things simple... start the battle now!" Even as these words left his mouth, black mist began to surge around him, forming numerous sinister ghosts that emitted silent screams.

The ghosts' appearances were utterly evil. Some had disheveled hair, some had green skin, and some looked like rotting corpses. Some even held their own heads. They were terrifying to the extreme.

The entire arena floor began to fill with an aura of death, causing the disciples on both shores to feel a chill in their hearts.

As things happened, countless figures flew out from the crowds on both sides, their faces extremely serious. They were not Outer Sect disciples, but inner disciples from the South Shore and the North Shore, who were very interested in the final battle of the election!

Even the divine senses of the main elders at the top of Daoseed Mountain were fully concentrated on the arena floor.

All eyes were on Yan Xiaobao and the ghosts!

Yan Xiaobao slowly turned to face the ghosts, his expression serious. During the selection battle, he had seen Ghostfang fight multiple times, each time astonishing. His single finger nearly killed Lu Tianlei, and that was with only seventy percent of his power.

Chapter 1162: The Correct Method (Part 2)

It's hard to imagine what it would be like if he unleashed all his combat abilities.

The moment Yan Xiaobao laid eyes on Ghostfang, Ghostfang's eyes sparkled with a mysterious light. Then he waved his hand and pointed at Yan Xiaobao, causing a rumbling sound that filled the heavens and the earth. A giant claw ghost hand appeared beside Ghostfang, filling half of the arena floor. It surged with astonishing power and soared towards Bai Xiaochun.

In the blink of an eye, it was upon him. Yan Xiaobao clenched his right fist, silver light flashing, making him resemble a silver statue. Then he reached out towards the approaching claw ghost hand.

From a distance, Yan Xiaobao's slight frame seemed completely insignificant compared to the shocking claw ghost hand. However, once his fist made contact, a booming explosion erupted.

BOOOOOOOOMMM!

The thunderous explosion sent disciples on both sides of the arena tumbling backward, expressions of shock on their faces. Some even saw stars swimming in their eyes.

As the shockwave spread from the point of contact, the claw ghost hand trembled. Cracking sounds echoed as the cracks spread, filling the entire surface. A rush of Qi flowed through, then the massive claw ghost hand shattered into countless pieces.

Black mist exploded in all directions, the entire arena floor shaking violently. Ghostfang's eyes gleamed brightly as he stumbled back a step, then planted his foot to stop himself.

Cracks spread from where he stepped on the ground. As for Bai Xiaochun, he too retreated a step, his face flushed, and silver light flickering on his hands. If one looked closely at that hand, it could be seen to be slightly trembling.

The surrounding disciples gasped, and both sides of the arena immediately erupted in cries of shock and amazement.

"I simply can't believe it... Yan Xiaobao... is too strong!!"

"He is actually at the same level as Brother Ghostfang! When the Luo Chen Family turned traitor, I heard he barely escaped with his life, but killed a bunch of them in the process. I thought those stories were exaggerated, but now..."

"This is the first time I've seen anyone destroy Ghostfang's claw ghost hand!"

The Inner Sect disciples were equally astonished as they looked at Yan Xiaobao and Ghost Buddha at that moment, all of them filled with deep shock. To them, these two could no longer be considered Outer Sect disciples. Typically, years pass without even one extraordinary disciple rising from the ranks. Yet now... two appeared at the same time.

On the balcony, the Sect Leader's eyes twinkled, and the brows of the other elders raised in shock.

Yan Xiaobao frowned at the tingling sensation he felt on his hand, but it quickly disappeared. Looking at Ghostfang, he realized he was facing a formidable opponent.

Ghostfang's eyes seemed joyous. "I only used fifty percent of my power, yet you still destroyed my finger attack. That means you are much stronger than anyone I've faced. Then, in that case... I can safely use eighty percent of my strength."

His right hand flashed with a spell gesture, and he again waved his hand, pointing at Yan Xiaobao.

In an instant, black mist enveloped Yan Xiaobao. The air tore, and unexpectedly, another giant ghost hand appeared.

Its sound was even louder than the one that almost killed Lu Tianlei, and as it descended like a mountain towards Yan Xiaobao, it caused rumbling sounds to echo in all directions.

Yan Xiaobao raised his head, clenched his right fist, then launched into the air, turning into a bright beam, shooting straight at the claw ghost hand.

Silver light spread in all directions as the force of his fist caused the heavens and earth to tremble. Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Skin exploded with power, causing the ghost hand to tremble, then start to split just like the previous one!

As Ghostfang executed more spell gestures, his face flickered, rapidly releasing the third, fourth, and fifth finger attacks in quick succession.

In the blink of an eye, Yan Xiaobao faced four giant claw ghost hands.

Though it takes time to describe all this, it happened in the briefest of moments. As all four ghostly hands flowed down upon Yan Xiaobao, the Outer Sect disciples screamed in terror, and even the Inner Sect disciples were completely shaken.

On the balcony, the Sect Leader and others stood up, Li Qinghou's eyes flashing. However, a moment later, they all realized there was no need to intervene and rescue Bai Xiaochun.

As sparks flew from a piece of Fire Stone, a massive roar sounded, because all the ghost hands descended on Yan Xiaobao, and the arena floor was nothing but dust. A cloud of dust filled the air, obscuring Yan Xiaobao.

However, after a moment, in the dust, flashes resembling lightning could be seen, like a figure shooting at high speed towards Ghostfang.

"Throat Crushing Grasp!" All that could be seen was the flickering silver light. Then, two fingers appeared directly in front of Ghostfang, filling him with a deadly crisis like he had never felt before. He let out a hoarse shout as fog surged around him in the form of a defense shield. Meanwhile, he staggered back.

However, at that moment, Yan Xiaobao's two fingers erupted with a powerful gravitational force. Not only could Ghostfang not retreat, he was actually pulled towards the fingers.

As his defense shield made contact with the fingers, it was crushed in the briefest of moments. His subsequent defensive measures did nothing, not even the three slams he summoned. The first was immediately crushed, the second split in two, the third, although remaining intact, was sent flying away.

None could stop Yan Xiaobao!

The two fingers crushed anything in their path, as easily as a hammer destroys ice. Ghostfang let out a tragic scream, shocked as over thirty percent of his hair turned white as he paid a shocking price to suddenly turn transparent and disappear! Yan Xiaobao's two fingers cut through him, grasping air.

As the air was crushed and shattered, a hot roar echoed. Moments later, Ghostfang appeared at a distance from Yan Xiaobao, coughing blood, with wrinkles on his face as if he had aged.

Gasping for breath, he said, "You forced me to use one of my life-saving spells, Yan Xiaobao... I underestimated you!"

He actually seemed intent on continuing the fight rather than retreating. However, he was unsure of what divine ability had just been used on him, which seemed far beyond the Qi Condensation Stage's combat ability.

As he stood there, blood seeping from Yan Xiaobao's mouth corner, sizzling with cracks, his skin showing lacerations; even his aura was in chaos.

He managed to stand up against five ghost hands, but it was extremely difficult. If not for his Immortal Skin being at the silver level, he certainly would have been defeated.

Sadly, his last powerful attack had been avoided. Up to this moment, all the disciples in the audience stared blankly at the arena floor, their minds spinning, a tsunami of shock overwhelming their hearts.

The South Shore audience thundered. Only at this moment did they finally realize why Yan Xiaobao was able to survive the battle against the Luo Chen Clan, and why he was appointed a Reputation Disciple!

"He is truly... too strong!!" This was what all the shocked disciples were thinking.

As for the North Shore audience, their minds were in chaos.

On the balcony, various elders had bright light flashing in their eyes as they mentally recreated the moment Yan Xiaobao unleashed that incredible strike, and the silver light covering him.

"This is the Immortal Eternal Life Skill! He has reached the Silver Level!"

"The final strike was... Throat Crushing!"

"I cannot believe someone actually succeeded in cultivating the Immortal Eternal Life Skill! It's almost impossible! It's an extraordinary technique, but unfortunately, its origin is a complete mystery, moreover, our version is incomplete..."

"I very much look forward to seeing one of these two end up at the Legacy Echelon in the coming years!" the Sect Leader sighed. Such events only occur after many years pass. Reaching the Legacy Echelon is extremely, extremely difficult. Even just thinking about it made him glance at Li Qinghou. "Achieving Gold Core Stage in two sixtieth cycles, that gets you into the Legacy Echelon," he thought. "Our only hope for this generation is Li Qinghou."

Back on the arena floor, Ghostfang waved his hand, causing green light to flow out, transforming into a huge green wooden banner anchored beside him to the ground.

Then he sat cross-legged, his eyes shining with the desire to fight.

"Yan Xiaobao, you are worthy. I now break the seal!"

...

Chapter 1163: Foundation

...

"Level-1 seal, open!" Afterwards, his right hand flickered with the gesture of a spell, he pushed his fingers down to his forehead. A humming sound could be heard as numerous black lights exploded from within him, causing him to visibly tremble. As they swirled, he grew slightly larger, and a powerful aura erupted out, this aura swiftly entered the Foundation Establishment stage.

"Sixth finger! Seventh! Eighth! Ninth! Tenth!"

Roaring, he pointed five times consecutively at Yan Xiaobao, each time unleashing a greater force than before. As five massive ghostly hands began descending from above, the heavens and earth trembled, emitting a shocking level of energy.

The audience could hear gasps.

"That... is it still a Qi Condensation magical technique? It looks like something from Foundation Establishment!!"

"This is my first time seeing a Qi Condensation disciple release magic that's so astonishing!"

"Only some kind of secret magic can perform such feats! All secret magics in the Spirit Sect can be used to some extent within the Qi Condensation phase!!"

Yan Xiaobao's pupils contracted. The pressure he felt from Ghostfang now seemed even greater than that which he faced during the struggle with the Luochen Clan crown prince.

Of course, this was not a battle to the death. Recalling his fight with the Luochen Clan... his life was on the line!

Although he wasn't fighting for his life right now, he still didn't want to lose. If he didn't have a chance to obtain first place, he wouldn't even try, but now with first place in sight... he wanted it!

Not because it would earn him so-called fame, but because of the recognition he knew he would see in Li Qinghou's eyes.

That was already enough for him!

With bloodshot eyes, he waved his hand to perform a spell. The spiritual power within him surged, and a violet-colored crucible appeared. Then a second, a third... until five crucibles swirled around him!

In the blink of an eye, the five violet crucibles materialized, shooting toward the five claw ghost hands. Simultaneously, the Golden Crow Sword appeared in a series of golden rays, summoning a golden crow that let out a piercing cry as it shot toward the ghosts!

In the meantime, Yan Xiaobao shot forward, ignoring the ghostly hands, as he moved directly toward Ghostfang.

A loud boom resounded when the five violet crucibles struck the five ghostly hands. The crucibles shattered. As for the claw ghost hands, they faded slightly but continued to approach Yan Xiaobao at maximum speed. A rumbling sound could be heard as the divine crane shield appeared, surrounding Yan Xiaobao with a massive crane.

When the ghostly hands slammed into it, a cracking sound could be heard as they faded further. The crane let out a sharp screech, vanished, and returned to the shield itself, unable to provide any further defense.

The five ghostly hands rushed unimpeded toward Yan Xiaobao. Yet, just before they touched him, a burst of dark light spread and enveloped him, a gift of life-saving magic given by Li Qinghou.

As the claw ghost hands hit the dark light, they couldn't withstand its power. A deafening roar sounded as they were destroyed. Yan Xiaobao coughed up a mouthful of blood but remained uninjured. The dark light vanished, and Yan Xiaobao's eyes sparkled as he closed the distance to Ghostfang with the Golden Crow Sword. He was only fifteen meters away now, while the Golden Crow Sword was just three meters from Ghostfang.

Ghostfang held up his green banner and leaped backward, a gleam flashing across his face. The golden crow sword sliced past his shoulder, cutting open a wound as it passed by. Blood spurted out, but Ghostfang ignored the pain. His hair disheveled, with bloodshot eyes, he waved his banner and declared, "Second level seal, open! Ten ghosts... sinister and stealthy!"

As two scaling ghostly weapons pulled the banner open, a terrifying howl rose from the Green Forest Banner. A vicious green ghost emerged, horns extending from its head, a fierce smile on its face.

As sinister clouds swirled, the sky suddenly darkened, almost as if night had fallen.

More vicious ghosts appeared within the banner, totaling ten. Each one was filled with energy equivalent to the great circle of Qi Condensation. As they began rushing towards Yan Xiaobao, his face flickered, and his heart started pounding. Even if he was stronger than he currently was, he couldn't possibly fight against 10 ghosts with combat strength equivalent to the great circle of Qi Condensation.

Ghostfang let out a sigh of relief. He couldn't maintain his second seal for long, knowing all his hopes for victory rested on these ten ghosts.

He stood behind them, gazing coldly at Yan Xiaobao.

The fight between the two was like a battle between dragons and tigers, eliciting alarming and astonished cries from the audience. Now everyone could see just how powerful Ghostfang truly was, with the North Shore audience eagerly engaged. As for the disciples from the South Shore, they began to grow extremely nervous.

As the ten ghosts encircled him, Yan Xiaobao completely retreated. Their cultivation bases were shockingly strong, so powerful that even the Golden Crow Sword couldn't withstand them.

"Ten ghosts... sinister night..." Suddenly, he looked up at the dark clouds in the sky, which made everything seem like night. His eyes flashed thoughtfully as his right hand flickered with gesture spell, sending the golden crow sword shooting towards the clouds. Clearly, Yan Xiaobao aimed to open the clouds so that the night would no longer cover the arena floor.

Chapter 1164: Foundation_2

In response to Yan Xiaobao's quick reflexes, Ghostfang frowned slightly. The best time to use his divine ability was at night, when it was nearly invincible. During the day, it was definitely possible to break it... unless he released the Hundred Demons Level.

"That cloud coverage is beyond ordinary," Ghostfang thought with a sneer. "Only a treasure with spirit enhancement could possibly break it. Even if Yan Xiaobao discovers its weakness, he's absolutely not strong enough to open it!"

It was at this point that the Golden Crow Sword pierced into the cloud, a rumbling sound echoing. The cloud seemed to weaken, but oddly, it was absorbed by the Golden Crow Sword, rendering it unusable.

Feeling tense, Yan Xiaobao stumbled again, pulling out two spirit-enhanced flying swords. After launching them, they were also absorbed by the cloud, though the cloud further weakened in the process.

Ghostfang's jaw dropped. "Spirit-enhanced treasures...?"

Next, even before Ghostfang could react, Yan Xiaobao suddenly sent out eight more flying swords, all of them flashing silver as they shot into the sky. Each one had dual spirit enhancement, and as they pierced the cloud, it weakened so much that sunlight began to shine through, causing ten ghosts to shriek and dodge to the side.

Ghostfang's eyes were wide open, and despite his strong willpower, he couldn't help but let out a shocked cry. "S-so... many!! Damn it, he can't possibly have more, can he?!"

He wasn't the only one reacting this way. Outer Sect disciples from the South Shore and North Shore all watched with incredulous eyes and began shouting loudly.

"Heavens! How many spirit-enhanced items does Yan Xiaobao have?!"

"Most disciples struggle to master one. But he... has so many? Who strengthened them for him!?"

As people exclaimed in surprise, Big Fat Zhang was in the crowd. However, he inclined towards being a backseat presence, cheering for Yan Xiaobao without anyone really paying attention to him.

Now, seeing Yan Xiaobao use all his flying swords, he raised his chin high and said, "All of them were enhanced by me, Big Fat Zhang!"

Even as Ghostfang tried to convince himself that Yan Xiaobao couldn't possibly have more spirit-enhanced items, Yan Xiaobao was delighted to find that his swords were actually affecting the cloud. He

immediately burst into laughter, then summoned two more flying swords. As the spirit-enhanced swords shot towards the cloud, a silver glow flashed.

"Impossible!!" Ghostfang shouted in shock.

The rumbling sound emanated from the cloud, unable to withstand so many attacks from soul-enhanced swords. As sunlight poured down, ten ghosts screamed as they retreated with the banner.

As that happened, Yan Xiaobao began to laugh happily, moving closer to Ghost Fang and flexing his power again to release his throat-crushing grip.

Ghostfang's face twisted into an extremely displeasing expression. Just as he was about to retaliate, blood spurted from his mouth, and he shivered. The side effects of opening his second seal were now starting to affect him. He showed an unyielding expression on his face and began to fall back as quickly as possible.

"I concede!" he gritted his teeth and said. He knew that in his current state, he was no match for Yan Xiaobao. Even so, he still refused to admit he was truly defeated. If Yan Xiaobao hadn't had so many spirit-enhanced treasures, he would never have been able to defeat Ghost under the Night.

Moreover, if they had actually fought at night, he would have been defeated more easily.

The moment Ghostfang admitted defeat, the South Shore disciples erupted into excited cheers.

"We won! The South Shore won!!!"

"Hahaha! We claimed first place! We got two people into the top three!"

"We avenged ourselves! Uncle Bai is invincible!" The South Shore disciples were cheering for a storm, while the North Bank disciples looked on bitterly. They could all see the problem wasn't that the ghost was weak but that Yan Xiaobao... had too many treasures.

"How do you have so many spirit-enhanced treasures, Yan Xiaobao?!" Ghostfang asked, wondering why he had been defeated so thoroughly.

"My big brother Big Fatty Zhang is a spirit enhancement genius," Yan Xiaobao proudly responded. "You see such a person only once in a thousand... no, ten thousand years! All the treasures I use are gifts from him. If you want to blame someone, then blame my brother for being a spirit enhancement genius." The South Shore disciples exclaimed in shock, and the turmoil among the Violet Peak disciples was particularly loud.

"Big Fat Zhang? Who is this godlike person?"

"Big Fat Zhang. He's... he's a disciple of Violet Peak!"

"He's the apprentice of the Peak Lord... Heavens, he usually keeps such a low profile. Who could have guessed he's so incredible!?!?"

Excited, Big Fatty Zhang turned around and roared at the top of his lungs, "I am Big Fatty Zhang! All the flying swords Yan Xiaobao used were strengthened by me!"

Big Fatty Zhang's excited words echoed for all to hear. Even the Sect Leader and others on the balcony turned to look at him curiously.

As the chaos continued to grip the crowd, Yan Xiaobao stood there blinking. Finally, he lifted his chin, swung his sleeve, and looked like the ultimate hero. Slowly turning, he walked off the arena floor.

"Ah. Life is a lonely thing. With a snap of the fingers, I reduce all choices to ashes... The chosen battle... has drawn the attention of many to Big Fatty Zhang, even the Sect Leader."

"The power of will!" he said, expressing serious solemnity. Other Peak Lords appeared surprised, and their eyes began to glow.

Xu Meixiang took Lu Tianlei away to start treating his injuries, but if she were present, she wouldn't have believed it.

Sounding very happy, the sect leader said, "Miss Meixiang seldom brings this chubby child out to the public. But now his future prospects are clear. His spirit enhancement has developed his will. With strong willpower and a formidable spirit, this child is one that must be trained very well!"

The Peak Lord from Green Crest Peak smiled and said, "Now that you mention it, his friend, the girl from the oven too, Lingrou, is actually quite impressive. She might not match up to Heavenly Protection, but she has her own special destiny. She seems to be connected with the Green Crest Peak's mountain defense sword. She's currently seeking enlightenment in Green Crest Cave, and if things progress well, Green Crest Peak will soon have another spirit sword guardian!"

While the South Shore audience went wild, the disciples from the North simply sat quietly, as the sect leader officially announced the results.

Yan Xiaobao achieved first place in the united Southern and Northern Shores election battle! He will now join the Inner Sect!

As a reward, he can visit Mount Daoseed's Heavenhorn Pavilion to select a Qi Condensation level treasure!

Moreover, he will have the opportunity to enter the Spiritual Flow Sect's mysterious pocket kingdom, where he can gain enlightenment of divine abilities! Of course, using such an opportunity at the Qi Condensation stage would be a waste. Any disciple who achieved first place in the chosen battle would almost certainly reach the Foundation. That is when it's time to use such an opportunity.

The ultimate reward was a prize of 10,000 spiritual stones!

Next, Zheng Yuandong formally awarded the titles to the top ten electors, promoting them to the Inner Sect. Gradually, the crowd began to disperse.

The disciples from the North Shore weren't very happy, but the South Shore disciples were brimming with excitement. As for the electors, their expressions were mixed. Ghostfang watched as Yan Xiaobao walked away and sighed. Deep down, he still couldn't believe he had truly lost.

As for the Gongsun brothers and other North Shore electors like Xu Song, they clenched their fists, all wanting to return to their respective peaks and enter secluded meditation!

Zhou Xinqi still found it hard to believe everything she had seen, looking a bit confused as she watched Yan Xiaobao leave. Shangguan Tianyou found it even harder to believe.

He stood there, dejected and ignored by almost everyone. His attack on Yan Xiaobao, marked by ignorance, was something forever etched in the hearts of the South Shore disciples.

Smiling bitterly, he clenched his fist.

"We're just in Qi Condensation. Wait until the Foundation is established... I will definitely be number one at that stage. I will surpass Yan Xiaobao and Ghostfang both!" he proudly lifted his head with confidence, a beam of light shining on him.

Gradually, everyone left the arena. The chosen battle was over. However, the true struggle between all the electors had just begun.

...

Chapter 1165: The Mysterious Art

...

Everyone on both the north and south shores knew Yan Xiaobao's name, and although it was on the North Shore, it became a forbidden name!

He was the great enemy of the North Shore, a shameless villain who brought humiliation to all the disciples there!

Beihan Lie was especially so. After being taken away by his master, he immediately went into secluded meditation, not daring to show his face. As for his big dog, he left it at some place on the North Shore, abandoning ownership of it altogether.

Although the Nightstalker Beast was extraordinary, no one could control it, and it quickly turned into a wild dog. Occasionally, people would catch a glimpse of it wandering near the four peaks of the North Shore...

Countless North Shore disciples went back and devoted themselves madly to cultivation. Everyone vowed that one day, they would cleanse the stain of humiliation caused by Yan Xiaobao with blood!

The disciples even formed an organization called Slay Xiaochun Society, dedicated to eradicating Yan Xiaobao!

Due to what happened in the chosen battle, Big Fat Zhang became very famous. Everyone was shocked by the number of spiritual enhancement treasures Yan Xiaobao had used in his final fight against Ghostfang.

Fatty Zhang became an elector of Violet Cauldron Mountain, and soon, countless disciples began visiting him, hoping to befriend him and obtain spirit enhancement items.

Big Fatty Zhang was very pleased with this, but didn't let it show. He refused to provide spiritual enhancement for anyone else. Naturally, the more he acted this way, the more people scoffed at him. Eventually, Xu Meixiang called him in for questioning. She could barely believe what she heard and was even more shocked by the willpower she felt within him!

In the end, she forbade him from providing spiritual enhancement to anyone, at least until he could perform a fivefold enhancement for Yan Xiaobao.

Fatty Zhang found this a bit strange but nodded in agreement nonetheless.

"Spiritual enhancement is the most mystical art," she mused. "Perhaps Yan Xiaobao and Big Fatty Zhang have some special connection... If they help each other, the results could be astounding." Xu Meixiang watched thoughtfully as Fatty Zhang left. She did not investigate further into the matter. Within the Spiritual Flow Sect, everyone has their own destiny, and greedily trying to exploit others can harm the foundation of the sect. Such actions are strictly prohibited. Furthermore, Yan Xiaobao's unique status made him particularly difficult to deal with.

The Spirit Sect has persisted for ten thousand years, partly due to its firm and swift rules.

A few days later, Yan Xiaobao received his inner-sect uniform and command medallion. Moreover, he received orders from Elder Xu, who led the inner sect of Xiangyun Peak, to pack his belongings and leave the courtyard residence that had been his home for the past few years.

The inner disciples all received Immortal Caves filled with powerful spiritual energy!

The so-called Immortal Caves were like heavenly abodes, their own world. Having secured first place in the chosen battle, Yan Xiaobao selected the best available Immortal Cave. It was located at the back of Xiangyun Peak, at the end of a narrow path, in a quiet place brimming with intense spiritual energy.

The cave itself had five rooms, with luminous stones embedded in the ceilings, bathing everything in a soft light. There was a large main hall with a small hot spring in the center. The warm water bubbled up to form a little pond, where a few hot spring fish lazily swam about.

The Immortal Cave was simple yet impressive. It had a medicine concoction studio, secluded meditation facilities, a spiritual plant nursery, and a place for practicing magic.

There were also two puppets, their cultivation base equivalent to the fifth level of Qi condensation, which took care of Yan Xiaobao's daily affairs. Each room in the Immortal Cave had a spell formation, as did the main hall. Once activated, the stone walls and ceiling would disappear, revealing images of the sky above. At night, even the moon and stars could be seen. There was an even larger spell formation covering the entire Immortal Cave, which, once activated, even a Middle Cultivator with an early Foundation Establishment would not be able to break in.

This Immortal Cave was even suitable for cultivators at the Foundation level, in fact, it was one of the best among all Xiangyun Peak.

Yan Xiaobao looked delighted, his heart nearly bursting with joy. Now that he thought about it, his previous courtyard residence had been too rough and simple. When he saw Elder Xu, Elder Xu repeatedly reminded him to visit the Inner Spirit Spiritual Hall to find the techniques suggested by Li Qinghou for him. Finally, Elder Xu left.

Once he was sure Elder Xu had gone, Yan Xiaobao stripped naked and jumped into the pond, where he floated, sighing contentedly. Occasionally, a fish would float over his skin and nibble him lightly. It was a sensation he had never experienced before.

"Too bad Lingfei isn't in this sect. It would be great to have her bathe here." Sighing, he thought of Hou Xiaomei, then laughed happily. From that moment, he vowed to find an opportunity to bring her over to watch the stars with him in the hot spring.

After much contemplation, he concluded that his previous way of thinking was too limited. "As an ambitious man, I should have Hou Xiaomei and Du Lingfei join me in the hot spring together."

Early the next morning, Yan Xiaobao awoke, leaving his Immortal Cave. As he strolled along the narrow pathway, he noticed another Immortal Cave not too far away.

Chapter 1166: The Mysterious Art (Part 2)

It was just a few meters away, almost directly opposite him. Its spell formation was activated, seemingly occupied. Yan Xiaobao curiously studied it for a few minutes, then gazed into the distance.

As he strolled, he realized that no disciples from the Outer Sect were visible, only a few from the Inner Sect.

Most people didn't venture out or meditate, but rather meditated. The only time they came out was to continue executing sect tasks. Of course, whenever Yan Xiaobao saw someone, he would clear his throat and strike a pose. After watching for a while, the disciples of the Inner Sect would inevitably greet him as Uncle Bai.

The way he resolved things as he walked boosted his spirit. He continued through Xiangyun Peak until he reached the Spiritual Hall of the Inner Sect. That was the place where disciples of the Inner Sect practiced various techniques and abilities.

Whenever a disciple was promoted to the Inner Sect, they could receive a technique from the sect for free. As soon as Yan Xiaobao arrived, the disciple in charge greeted him with a handshake. Yan Xiaobao felt more delighted than ever, patted the disciple on the shoulder, and then went to see his options in techniques.

"Heaven and Earth?"

"Waterflame Theorem!"

"Nine Heavens Earth Destruction Spell?"

After checking the available options, these techniques began to blur, and he didn't know which to choose. They all seemed incredible. Finally, he found the technique that Li Qinghou suggested he cultivate.

"Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture?" He picked up the jade sliding plate and channeled some spiritual power into it. After checking the introduction, his eyes widened and his scalp began to tingle.

"Everyone is bound by shackles. Whether in cultivation foundation or flesh, there are chains of life essence that cannot be broken... I created this technique, suitable for cultivation at the Qi Condensation Stage, not to break the shackles, but to enlighten them!"

Yan Xiaobao took a deep breath, recalling the man in black who saved his life, the one who claimed to be from the graveyard. The words introducing this scripture reminded him of what that man had said.

"The five volumes of the Immortal Codex. Break the five chains of death. The five volumes of the Live Forever Codex. Break the five seals of eternity!"

Suddenly, he felt that this Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture was ordinary. However, after further examination, he frowned. Based on the description, nothing seemed particularly surprising. In fact, it didn't even seem to reach the level of some other powerful magic technologies he had just seen. After a while, when he realized that it perfectly matched the Violet Qi Cauldron Control Technique, his expression brightened, and at the same time, it increased the chances of establishing a foundation!

Yan Xiaobao had dreamed of establishing a foundation for many years, and just thinking about it made his heart race.

The Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture had only three levels. The first led to the ninth level of Qi Condensation, the second led to the great cycle of the tenth level of Qi Condensation. The final level led to... the establishment of the Foundation!

At the peak, the body would possess the strength of dragons and mammoths, and one's spiritual power would form a vast ocean. Most importantly, after creating such an unparalleled foundation, once reaching the Foundation, it would be easier to learn any Divine Power without worrying about compatibility issues.

This was extraordinary!

"This is for me!" Whether because the introduction mentioned shackles, or because the scripture could help him enter the Foundation, it made Bai Xiaochun's heart race. With the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture in hand, he left the Inner Teaching Spiritual Hall and headed back towards his Immortal Cave.

Just as he was almost there, the door of the Immortal Cave beside him opened, and a young woman walked out. As soon as she saw him, her jaw dropped, and she tried to step back, but wasn't fast enough.

"EEE?S Niece Xinqi!" He instantly beamed. Ever since the selected combat, Zhou Xinqi had been keeping her distance from him. He wanted her to speak to him as Sect Uncle, but never found the opportunity. Who would have thought he now lived across from her!

Zhou Xinqi's face showed a pained expression. She never expected to choose an Immortal Cave opposite Yan Xiaobao. She was well aware that back in the Outer Sect, Yan Xiaobao loved to walk around, making everyone call him Sect Uncle. Unable to bear the thought, she always avoided him.

But now, he stood in her path.

Taking a deep breath, she coldly said, "Sect... Uncle Bai!" Then, without looking at him, she leaped onto her blue flying silk and soared into the sky. Her beauty made her appear almost like a female Immortal, hence she frequently flew around this way to avoid greed and cunning. This was because such behavior made her appear relatively distant and unapproachable.

As he watched Zhou Xinqi fly away, Yan Xiaobao cheerfully put his hands behind his back, just like a seasoned gentleman. He didn't mind her attitude; all he wanted was to be called Uncle Bai.

After she left, he returned to his own Immortal Cave, feeling as if he had reached a milestone that day. Back inside, he took out the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture and began to examine it carefully. As he did so, he recalled how powerful Ghostfang was in their battle, and suddenly his expression became very serious.

"How did Ghostfang cultivate, anyway? He was so incredibly... particularly his ghosts. He controlled them almost like combat beasts. If I could have my own beast, that would be amazing." Reflecting on the battle, lingering fear made his heart tremble. Suddenly, he remembered something, then patted his satchel to produce a wooden box.

"Beastbirth Seed... if I have a chance to go to the North Shore, then maybe... I could get a beast of my own. Moreover, such a beast would naturally be created by me and for me!" Thinking of the magical Beast Seed made his heart excited. A long time passed, then he shook his head. To curb his excitement, he put the box away.

"I hate battles and killing more than anything. I need to focus on entering the great circle of Qi Condensation as soon as possible. That way, I can enter the Foundation Establishment." With these thoughts, Yan Xiaobao began to cultivate the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture.

Although the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture could be used to perfect the Violet Qi Cauldron Control Technique, their cultivation techniques were entirely different. The description in the scripture contained three illustrations, rather than depicting various postures. The first depicted an immense primal mammoth. It appeared immensely powerful, enough to crush a mountain. The idea of such incredible physical strength immediately shook Yan Xiaobao. It felt as if all his flesh and blood were bursting forth from the image, as if it possessed its own strange power...

The second illustration depicted a cerulean dragon, twisting and turning in the clouds, partially obscured. As Yan Xiaobao looked at it, it seemed to embed itself into his mind. Suddenly, he could mentally depict the image. However, once that happened, the image gradually faded, his mind filled with rumbling sounds. Meanwhile, the spiritual power within his body seemed to spiral out of control painfully. He regained control, breaking into a cold sweat.

"What kind of cultivation technique is this!?" Taking in a deep breath, he refrained from looking at the third illustration. Instead, he went back to re-examine his memory of the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture.

After a while, he lifted his head, his eyes shining with enlightenment.

"Cultivate through visualization!" he murmured.

This was a very mysterious form of cultivation. Depending on the level achieved, one would observe various illustrations, thereby cultivating oneself. Reportedly, these three illustrations contained some mysterious heaven and earth energy, which would influence the body when observed.

For disciples who had just joined the sect, this method wasn't suitable for cultivation. Moreover, attempting it would certainly be harmful to the body. However, upon reaching Level 8 of Qi Condensation, and after already having established a considerable amount of spiritual power, it became possible to cultivate it.

After some thought, Yan Xiaobao decided not to set his goals too high. He started with the first illustration, observing it until he began to tremble noticeably, his vitality flowing at the fastest speed. As he did, due to his Immortal Skin, his skin began to shine with a silver light. Gradually, Yan Xiaobao had the feeling... when combined with Immortal Skin, the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture could make him significantly stronger.

Time passed. Over the past half month, Yan Xiaobao occasionally concocted some medicine while cultivating the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture. Slowly but surely, his cultivation grew. Additionally, the silver hue of his Immortal Skin deepened. Clearly, he made progress in both aspects.

...

Chapter 1167: Rapid Progress

...

Soon, he realized that due to the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture, he didn't even need to cultivate his Violet Qi Cauldron Control Technique to improve his Violet Hero Summoning. It naturally advanced by leaps and bounds.

Yan Xiaobao was shocked by this, but after considering it for a while, he came to a conclusion about what had happened.

"The Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture is a practical technique. With its help, all other divine abilities and magic technologies become more powerful. As for the shackles mentioned in the introduction..." After some thought, he waved his finger, creating an illusory violet cauldron appearance.

It looked quite realistic, larger than before, and exerted massive pressure. Yan Xiaobao could even feel that if he wanted, he could disperse the cauldron and absorb the resulting spiritual power back into his body.

With this thought, he did so, the spiritual energy rushed back into his core, replenishing most of what he had wasted to utilize the divine abilities.

Yan Xiaobao was delighted. Being able to easily release and retract the crucible was a sign of significant progress in the Violet Qi Cauldron Summoning.

"With the aid of the Dragon Mammoth Sea Formation Scripture, I can actually develop the human-control Great Magic I had thought of before!" Even in his moment of happiness, his expression suddenly flickered. Looking at the gate of his Immortal Cave, he performed a spell gesture and pointed. The gate disappeared, becoming invisible from his perspective, allowing him to see outside.

That night, he could see over a hundred people flying in from afar. There were dozens who arrived at his Immortal Cave faster than the others.

Among them was a young man with a cheerful disposition. Unfortunately, his face was a bit pale and his eyes were bloodshot as if he had gone mad. He seemed unstable, as if the slightest prod could drive him into a frenzy.

Yan Xiaobao immediately recognized the young man. He was... Beihan Lie from the North Shore!

Beside him, dozens of others had cultivation bases exceeding the ordinary Level 9 Qi Condensation. There were even about ten people in the large circle of Qi Condensation. It was shocking, as currently catching up with all the rest of the group, most of them were in the ninth level of Qi Condensation!

Beside Beihan Lie was a tall, muscular man, who looked like a miniature mountain. His features were very similar to Beihan Lie's, and he had long, flowing hair. He stood there beside Beihan Lie, motionless, full of energy, which even shocked Yan Xiaobao.

His aura seemed like something from the Qi Condensation stage, surrounded by an invisible vortex constantly gathering the surrounding heaven and earth energy.

"Over a hundred inner disciples... all at the ninth and tenth level of Qi Condensation!" Yan Xiaobao's eyes widened, and he felt his scalp tingle. Without a moment's hesitation, he performed a spell and pointed, fully activating the spell formation of the cave.

Each of these hundred people was an inner disciple. More accurately, they were from Sunset Peak, coming here for revenge for their junior brother, Beihan Lie.

The actions of this large group attracted the attention of the inner disciples of Xiangyun Peak. Zhou Xinqi was the first to appear from her own Immortal Cave, and soon, a large number of inner disciples flew over from different places. As they surrounded the hundred people, people quickly recognized the burly man standing beside Beihan Lie.

"Spiritual energy transformed into a vortex. That's... this is an energy beyond Qi Condensation. It's close to the Foundation! He has stepped into the Foundation Establishment!"

"That's the top inner disciple of Sunset Peak, Beihan Peak!"

As everyone shouted in surprise and fear, Yan Xiaobao sat inside his Immortal Cave, listening with the help of the spell formation. Soon, his eyes widened even further.

"Fellow disciples," Beihan Peak said, "I cannot blame the South Shore for winning the battle in the tournament. In fact, I extend my congratulations. My purpose for coming here today has nothing to do with the issues between the South Shore and the North Shore. This is a private matter of the Beihan

Clan. The shameless and despicable Yan Xiaobao caused a wound to my clan's junior brother that can never heal. As his brother, how can I simply sit back and do nothing!?

"I have come here today to compensate my junior brother!" Before any Xiangyun Peak inner disciple could even respond, he looked at the Immortal Cave of Yan Xiaobao.

"Yan Xiaobao, come out here now!"

Beside him, tears seemed willing to pour from Beihan Lie's bloodshot eyes. He stared at Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave, hysterically screaming, "Yan Xiaobao, get your ass out here!"

After the words of the Beihai Brothers gradually faded, Yan Xiaobao spoke, sounding extremely aggrieved. "You people are too unreasonable! Didn't I give you the chance to retreat? You can't blame me. When that big dog lunged at you, I even thought of splitting up you two..."

"Shut up, Yan Xiaobao!" Beihan Lie shouted. "Come out right away! My dispute with you is irreconcilable!" It's as if Yan Xiaobao had just reopened an old wound. Beihan Lie looked crazed as he charged forward and slammed into the Immortal Cave spell formation, seemingly intending to unleash all his pent-up anger then and there.

Yan Xiaobao's heart trembled with fear, but he calmed down a bit when he saw the surface of the spell formation only slightly rippled, apparently not even close to breaking. Vowing not to go outside, he looked at the frenzied Beihan Lie and sighed.

Chapter 1168: Rapid Advancement (Part 2)

"Beihan Lie," he shouted. "Listen, this really isn't a big deal. Just think about it. Since you have a closer relationship with that big dog, you could say you've profited from the disaster. From now on, your beast control magic might become even more incredible..." Yan Xiaobao indeed wanted to comfort Beihan Lie, but before he even completed his speech, Beihan Lie erupted with fury.

Beihan Feng's face turned grim as he stepped forward, smashing his palm into a spell. The formation trembled, and Yan Xiaobao's heart started pounding.

At this point, Xiangyun Peak's inner disciples couldn't stand by idly any longer. Even though they weren't very familiar with Yan Xiaobao, if they just stood aside while a group of Sunset Peak disciples did whatever they wanted, Xiangyun Peak's internal prestige would plummet.

"Put your hands down!" people started shouting.

Xiangyun Peak's inner disciples flew forward to intervene, but before they reached the Immortal Cave, Sunset Peak's disciples blocked their path. No fatal combat broke out; all the Sunset Peak disciples had to do was obstruct the path of Xiangyun Peak's disciples long enough for Beihan Feng.

The situation had reached the point of conflict between disciples of the two peaks, which violated sect rules. However, Beihan Feng didn't care. The Beihan Clan was also a prestige clan, so as long as he didn't kill anyone, he wouldn't face very harsh punishment.

As the spell formation began to warp and twist, a rumbling could be heard, and the ripples became more intense. However, this wasn't an ordinary Immortal Cave. Initially, Yan Xiaobao was concerned, but he soon realized nothing else was happening, and he relaxed.

Nevertheless, as a well-intentioned person, he really felt terrible, so he decided to offer more suggestions on how to resolve the situation.

"You can't really blame me... How would you use that dog for stew? That way, everyone will know Beihan Lie is masculine and tough, willing to eat anything that falls in front of him..." At that point, he realized he might have gone too far, and things were nearing a turning point when Beihan Lie spat a huge mouthful of blood. His hair was completely disheveled, almost entirely detached from his mind, and he lunged at the spell.

Yan Xiaobao's heart continued to pound in horror. He felt more wronged than ever before. Of course, he had long realized that whenever he needed to explain himself the most, he would go overboard and end up with egg on his face.

This wasn't his intention, nor was it his wish...

Yan Xiaobao's explanation further angered Beihan Feng. He took a deep breath and waved his hand, instantly forming a black light pulse in his palm, rapidly shaping into a black crescent!

It was like the moon on the darkest night, pulsing with terrifying power, causing a loud thump. Beihan Feng instantly pushed the moon into the cave's spell formation.

A wave of heat reverberated, causing the entire Immortal Cave to shake. The spell formation shield outside twisted frantically, even seeming to be on the verge of breaking in multiple places. However, in the end... it didn't break. In the blink of an eye, it returned to normal.

Even Beihan Feng could hardly breathe. The power of the spell formation left him with a severe headache. He clenched his teeth in anger, ready to continue attacking when suddenly a cold snort could be heard in the distance.

"Beihan Feng, what are you doing? Put your hands down immediately!" The voice echoed like thunder, causing everything to tremble, especially around Beihan Feng. Trembling, even Beihan Lie stopped his frenzy and backed away, filled with fear.

All the other inner sect disciples of Sunset Peak shrank back, feeling a sense of impending doom. Looking up, they saw six paths of light flying toward them from the Dao Seed Mountain.

The person who had just spoken was a middle-aged man in a black robe. His face was filled with anger as he emitted a terrifying destructive aura.

Beihan Lie and Beihan Feng murmured, "Master..."

They trembled, clenching their hands in greeting, and as for the other inner sect disciples of Sunset Peak, they all lowered their heads, trembling.

"Greetings, Peak Lord."

This middle-aged man was none other than Beihan Lie's master and the Sunset Peak's Peak King. As he brought Beihan Lie out of the electing conflict, he glared angrily at Yan Xiaobao.

"You disrespectful curse!" he shouted. "Can you lose any more face? Stand aside with your donkey, I will deal with you later! As for the others, when you return to the mountain, you will enter secluded meditation for three years as punishment!"

The Beihan siblings felt their hearts tremble, unsure of what had truly happened. They knew their actions violated sect rules, but they couldn't imagine what had angered their normally kind and gentle master. After all, when the original incident occurred, their master had also been angry with Yan Xiaobao.

The Beihan siblings both thought something must have happened that they were unaware of, filling them with fear. Stepping back anxiously, they looked up at the masters hovering in mid-air, and their scalps began to tingle. Beside the peak of Sunset Peak were three peak lords from the North Shore. The elder lady from Irispetal Peak's peak lord looked particularly displeased as she coldly glared at the disciples of Sunset Peak.

Besides the four peak lords from the North Shore, Sect Leader Zheng Yuandong was also present, along with another person. The last person had a calm expression on his face, as if he didn't care at all about the dispute happening below. He was... the Peak King of Xiangyun Peak, Li Qinghou.

In the hearts of the Sunset Peak disciples, a sinking feeling rose, and as for Xiangyun Peak's inner sect disciples, they were completely taken aback. Everyone suddenly felt as though something strange had happened... the fact is, the North Shore usually acts in a dominant manner. When situations similar to this have arisen in the past, the North Shore usually quickly puts the South Shore in its place, even if significant issues exist.

It was rare for them to be provoked as they were today.

Yan Xiaobao sat in his Immortal Cave, staring at the crowd outside, stunned.

In mid-air, the four peak lords from the North Shore watched the scene below. Then, the elder lady from Irispetal Peak cleared her throat and looked at Li Qinghou.

"Mr. Li, about what we discussed earlier, do you think...?"

Li Qinghou slightly shook his head and said, "If it weren't for this small unfortunate event, I would agree. But this complicates things. You are now on your own."

He then looked down at Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave, a faint smile appearing on his face.

"Uh..." The elder lady glanced at the peak lord of Sunset Peak, looking a bit despondent. The peak lord of Sunset Peak sighed, realizing the trouble stemmed from his own peak's disciples. This meant he had to resolve the issue. He let out a smile, looking down at Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave.

"Little Chun little brother..." The words almost got stuck in his mouth on the way out, but he managed to say them. There was truly no choice. After much discussion, the Northern Shore leadership concluded that Yan Xiaobao's aphrodisiac was crucial to them. After further study of the affected war beasts, they realized the medicine even affected level-1 bloodlines.

This practically drove them insane. On the Northern Shore, Yan Xiaobao's pills were almost like a sacred relic. For various reasons, some of the most powerful fighting beasts were usually difficult to breed. There were even beasts with level-1 bloodlines that would only go into heat every few decades, or even once every hundred years. Over the years, this had been one of the Northern Shore's most frustrating problems.

A perfect example was the blue-eyed nethermoon ape, one of Sunset Peak's two Holy Beasts. It had reached the end of its lifespan, still without producing any offspring. It was a very critical situation.

But then Yan Xiaobao brought his Heavenly Gifted Pills, and the four peak lords of the Northern Shore were determined to obtain them. Unfortunately for them, no amount of research provided any description of the pills, and eventually, they had no choice but to acknowledge the pills... were invented by Yan Xiaobao.

After that, they went to Sect Leader Li Qinghou requesting his help.

If it was any other disciple, even one from the inner sect, all they would have to do is express their desire, and it would be fulfilled. There were countless ways to pressure such a disciple into obediently handing over the pill formula. But Yan Xiaobao was different... he was a prestige disciple, and under such status, they had no choice but to offer him some form of compensation.

...

Chapter 1169: Peak Lord

...

Moreover, without Yan Xiaobao's consent, they would never be able to get the pill; forcing him to hand it over was not an option... The Peak Lords all discussed this matter. They even agreed to some requests proposed by Li Qinghou, but before they could formally reach an agreement, they learned that the disciples of Sunset Peak had already caused trouble for Yan Xiaobao. The four Peak Lords from the North Shore were immediately infuriated.

Their biggest concern was that the disciples of Sunset Peak would not control themselves and end up offending Yan Xiaobao, thus making it even harder for them to obtain his pill.

This is what led to the current scene.

"Young Brother Xiao Chun, would you mind coming out to discuss?" The Peak Lord of Sunset Peak tried his best to act as friendly as possible, keeping his voice calm and gentle. Around him, the disciples of Sunset Peak were trembling, and the Beihan siblings widened their eyes, mute like wooden cocks.

In his Immortal Cave, Yan Xiaobao looked up and pondered for a moment. What was happening outside seemed strange, to say the least, especially considering Li Qinghou's expression. After some thought, he couldn't pinpoint exactly what was happening, but he had some guesses.

Finally, he spoke in a sorrowful voice. "Your disciples are too fierce. I just lost my poor little life. I really don't dare to go out..."

The heartbreaking manner of his speaking caused a chill to strike the backs of the Beihan siblings. As for the other disciples of Sunset Peak, their faces flashed with various emotions. They could all see the attitude of the four Peak Lords towards Yan Xiaobao and how they were trying to curry favor. After hearing Yan Xiaobao's response, they could only imagine what kind of fate awaited them.

Li Qinghou and Zheng Yuandong's faces twitched slightly, and the Peak Lord of Sunset Peak angrily turned to the disciples and shouted, "Apologize to your Uncle Bai immediately!"

On the verge of tears, the disciples of Sunset Peak immediately clasped their hands in apology towards Yan Xiaobao's Immortal Cave.

In his sorrow and indignation, Beihan Lie was about to argue, but when he saw the fierce glint in his master's eyes, he lowered his head, clasping his hands towards the Immortal Cave.

"Uncle Bai... I... I... I apologize!!"

Beihan Feng looked up gloomily at his master, only to find the man's gaze becoming fiercer with the second glance. Heart trembling and veins bulging on his forehead, he had no choice but to clasp his hands and apologize.

Everyone was trembling, glaring angrily at the Immortal Cave.

The Peak Lord of Sunset Peak said, "Young Brother Xiao Chun, what's going on?"

After a moment, a spell formed an opening, and Yan Xiaobao stuck his head out. After looking around, he cleared his throat and walked out swaggering, his chin stuck out, looking as arrogant as ever.

"Let the past be the past. As a senior, I won't allow myself to quarrel with these sect nephews." With that, he swung his sleeve.

Beihan Lie stood there, eyes bloodshot, trembling violently. It seemed he could barely restrain himself from leaping forward to strike Yan Xiaobao in the face. However, he dared not do such a thing. His brother, Beihan Feng, felt as if the world was spinning around him, as if he was going mad.

The expressions in their eyes provoked Yan Xiaobao, who glared at them fiercely. Who's afraid now? he thought. Not me! I'm not afraid of anyone!

The Peak Lord of Sunset Peak took a deep breath. In a calm voice, he said, "Xiao Chun, that aphrodisiac... did you create it yourself?"

As those words left his mouth, the other Peak Lords from the North Shore all lowered their heads, anticipation shining in their eyes. When they suddenly realized what was happening, the Beihan siblings were enlightened. In their agony, their hatred towards Yan Xiaobao intensified.

Yan Xiaobao blinked a few times as he too realized what was happening. He puffed out his chest, nodding loudly.

"That's right. This powerful pill was created using a secret formula that I devised myself. No one but me can concoct it!"

The four Peak Lords' hearts were filled with joy, but they did their best to prevent it from showing on their faces. The Peak Lord of Sunset Peak smiled and nodded.

"Young Brother Xiao Chun," he said in the most enchanting way possible, "being able to create such a pill formula at such a young age shows that you truly should be hailed as chosen. This pill formula is vital to the Spiritual Flow Sect. How about I offer you 100,000 contribution points as a reward? What do you say? Young Brother Xiao Chun, giving me that pill formula would be an excellent service. As a disciple of prestige, you know that our sect is your home."

"Very well!" Yan Xiaobao replied, looking as if he had just been through hell and high water with the sect. Then, he began to explain the pill formula to the four elated Peak Lords.

"The ingredients are Brightburst seeds, Heavenwood flowers, spiritwinter bamboo, and... err? What else? Why can't I remember? Could I have just forgotten in such fear?" Yan Xiaobao stood there, frowning in thought.

The corners of Li Qinghou's lips curled into a smile, and Zheng Yuandong helplessly shrugged his shoulders. The four Peak Lords immediately realized what happened, and they chuckled painfully. The Peak Lord of Sunset Peak gritted his teeth, glaring angrily at his disciples.

As his gaze passed over them, the disciples of Sunset Peak, including the Beihan brothers, trembled. The Peak Lord of Sunset Peak unleashed a cold whirlwind, waving his right sleeve. Instantly, a powerful force descended upon the trembling disciples of Sunset Peak. For them, it felt as if mountains were being pressed upon them, causing painful wails of agony.

Chapter 1170: Peak Lords (Part 2)

The Beihai siblings felt more pressure than anyone else. As their cultivation bases trembled, their faces contorted with pain. Although their hatred for Yan Xiaobao surged, they couldn't show it.

"All of you had better return to the North Shore immediately! Enter secluded meditation and don't come out for ten years!" Although it was the Peak Lord of Sunset Peak who took action, they were disciples from his peak, so he was somewhat protective of them. Though he seemed very harsh, he actually sympathized with their plight. With a flick of his sleeve, he sent a powerful gust of wind that swept the disciples of Sunset Peak away.

Looking back at Yan Xiaobao, he displayed another smile, speaking slowly: "Xiao Chun, do you remember this?"

Yan Xiaobao knew he shouldn't push things too far. Matters had already turned favorable for him, so he cleared his throat in satisfaction.

"Hahaha! Brother, there's no need for that. As a disciple of prestige and the younger brother of the Sect Leader, how can I lower myself to the same level as those noisy sect nephews? So many mischievous and naughty children." Yan Xiaobao acted as if he was truly on the same level as his generation, causing the Peak Lord of Sunset Peak to secretly pull a face. Beside him, Zheng Yuandong cleared his throat, wishing he could retract his impulsive decision from years ago.

Ignoring the strange looks, Yan Xiaobao gasped for air. To suppress his pride, he prepared to finish explaining the pill formula.

At that time, Li Qinghou cleared his throat.

"A self-made pill formula is precious to a Pharmacist," he said coldly. "I wonder what the Northern Bank is prepared to offer in exchange for this formula."

Yan Xiaobao blinked, then stood there looking up at the four Peak Lords of the North Shore.

The Peak Lords exchanged glances. Then, the old lady from Irispetal Peak took out a green pearl filled with swirling mist. The magnetic pulse it emitted sent ripples through all the objects in the area.

"This is a Protomagnetic Pearl," she explained, "extracted from the heart of an original giant. It even contains a bit of pure original magnetic ability. Used alone, it can influence all magic items within a certain area. Even for Foundation Establishment cultivators, it can be considered an extraordinary treasure. Using just the Qi Condensation cultivation base, it's difficult to use directly. However, the Heavenly Pavilion happens to have a pair of magnetic spirit wings, and if used in conjunction with the Protomagnetic Pearl, it can become a powerful trump card in the Qi Condensation stage. With these wings, you can move so fast that even a Foundation Establishment cultivator would struggle to keep up with you!

"Yan Xiaobao, being first in the chosen battle, you have the right to select any treasure you desire from the chosen pavilion. I have taken the liberty to bring you these magnetic spirit wings and the pearl, in exchange for the pill formula!" As those words left her mouth, the old lady waved her right hand, causing a pair of green wings to appear. They, along with the pearl, flew over to hover in front of Yan Xiaobao.

Yan Xiaobao's eyes began to shine. He could already move at an incredible speed, but if a Foundation Establishment cultivator truly wanted to chase him, he wouldn't be able to outrun them. However, with the Protomagnetic Pearl and magnetic elves' wings combined with his speed, his mobility would be unbelievable. Such life-saving items filled him with yearning.

"Besides," the old lady continued with a smile, "if luck is on your side, you might even sense the manifestation of original magnetic ability. With this, you might gain enlightenment in one of the Ten Great Secret Magic of the Soul Sect, the arcane gravity repulsion!"

Yan Xiaobao licked his lips and was about to agree when he suddenly paused and looked over at Li Qinghou to see if he consented. He had long regarded Li Qinghou as one of his own elders, so he would follow his lead. If Li Qinghou instructed him to hand over the pill formula, Yan Xiaobao would do so without hesitation.

To him, it was just a pill formula. On the North Shore, it was like a sacred relic. As a matter of fact, Yan Xiaobao had many mysterious pills at hand. In fact, he concluded that he should begin testing some of them to see what wondrous effects they might have.

Li Qinghou glanced at the Protomagnetic Pearl and the magnetic spirit wings, then looked at the four Peak Lords of the North Shore. Ultimately, his gaze settled on the old lady. With eyes sparkling, he

suddenly said, "Include another of the Ten Great Secret Magic, the heritage of the North Shore... the Water Swamp Kingdom!"

Without a word, the eyelid of Sect Leader Zheng Yuandong twitched.

"Impossible!" cried the Peak Lord of Sunset Peak, angry. He wasn't the only one to oppose so strongly. The old Peak Lord of Akwei Peak widened his eyes and stared at Li Qinghou.

"Trickster Li reappears!" he sneered. "This is ridiculous! The Waterswamp Kingdom is the heritage of the North Shore, one of the Ten Great Secret Magic of the Spirit Sect! It is top-tier technique on par with Ghosts Haunt the Night. We will never hand it over to the Southern Bank people!"

Yan Xiaobao looked up at the uproar above, and when he heard the Peak Lord of Arched Peak call Li Qinghou 'Trickster Li,' his jaw dropped.

"Is this supposed to be a joke?" Li Qinghou said coldly, flicking his sleeve. "A thousand years ago, Ghosts Haunt the Night was the heritage of Violet Cauldron Peak! You Northern Bank people were all too happy to take it, yet now that the Southern Bank wants to exchange for one of your remaining secret magic, you refuse? Ridiculous!"

The North Shore Peak Lords were speechless.

The peak of Ghostfang Peak was partially translucent, with indistinct features. He sighed and said, "Ghosts Haunt the Night is a perfect fit for Ghostfang Peak. Besides, it happened years ago. It's not worth mentioning now. As for the Waterswamp Kingdom, only a few have ever successfully cultivated it, such as Patriarch Tianyi eight thousand years ago. Besides producing some useless spirits, no one else has done anything with it. It's too difficult. Peak Lord, why are you pressuring us?"

"No Waterswamp Kingdom? No pill formula," Li Qinghou said decisively, as though cutting through nails and slicing iron.

As the Peak Lords debated the Water Swamp Kingdom, Yan Xiaobao anxiously looked up. Although the Waterswamp Kingdom had always sounded intriguing to him, his impression had already been good.

Meanwhile, he had a newfound understanding of Li Qinghou. He truly provided a shining example of how to outmaneuver others. Is that why he's called 'Trickster'?

Reaching this point in his thoughts, Yan Xiaobao looked up at Li Qinghou, awe shining in his eyes.

The North Shore Peak Lords grumbled for a while but eventually agreed to the demand. Though their traditional secret magic was important, the pill was more precious to them.

A moment later, Li Qinghou instructed Yan Xiaobao to explain the complete formula for the aphrodisiac. Considering the pill's importance, the Peak Lords had long since sealed the area, ensuring no one could eavesdrop.

Once Yan Xiaobao finished, the four Peak Lords took some time studying the complete formula. Then they nodded, and the old lady from Irispetal Peak tossed Yan Xiaobao a blue jade.

"The Waterswamp Kingdom is one of the most powerful of the Ten Great Secret Magic. It is a Holy Power that requires you to observe various types of beasts and use that knowledge to create your own life essence spirit. Create something from nothing, using the water surface to form it, and summon a physical kingdom.

"In the past ten thousand years, everyone in the Spirit Sect who tried to form a life essence spirit produced simple, ordinary creatures. The only exception was Patriarch Heavenwing, who created a domineering Heavenwing Gargoyle, along with a few others like him.

"As for what kind of life essence spirit forms, it depends on the cultivator's understanding of spiritual creatures. If there are a hundred people cultivating the Waterswamp Kingdom, then there will be a hundred different life spirits, some powerful, some weak. Some, like the Sky Wing Stone Statue Ghost, are very powerful. Others only produce rabbits or snakes.

"Yan Xiaobao, you are a disciple of the Southern Bank. Although there is competition between the North and South Banks, we are all family. I truly hope you succeed in cultivating your own life essence spirit." Of course, despite her words, neither she nor the other three Peak Lords believed that Yan Xiaobao would have any success in cultivating the Waterswamp Kingdom.

