

Medical 801

Chapter 801: A Formidable Task (Part 2)

Yan Xiaobao didn't mind the new responsibility. He smiled when he heard the question. "If anyone wants to test our strength, we'll let them know we're not powerless," he replied. "We will fight for our position and ensure we don't lose any of the achievements we've made so far. If they try to test us, they must be prepared to give up their lives," Yan Xiaobao said calmly, but his words shook the other Saints.

Nodding, Xiao Ning wasn't disappointed with the answer. The other three experts felt a shock at their core. Although they had been used by Xu Yue before, they wondered how he took care of all the martial power warriors for them. Through how he ensured they could safely pass through the tunnel without asking them to give up their treasures or anything they would gain.

"Thank you," one of the three bowed to Yan Xiaobao. "My name is Ye Ling, the Clan Leader of the Ye Family in the Sun Kingdom. I will follow you through this tomb, and when we leave, I will owe you one," the expert said solemnly, looking into Yan Xiaobao's eyes. Although Yan Xiaobao was much younger than Ye Ling, he had this mysterious power that made him an advantage to Ye Ling.

Ye Ling wasn't the only one moved by Yan Xiaobao's answer; the other people's eyes turned red, and their hearts were filled with gratitude. Standing alongside Yan Xiaobao and Xiao Ning, they wouldn't be robbed or easily targeted, unlike when they were alone.

"I am Zhu Jun, the Clan Leader of the Zhu Family in the Sun Kingdom. I will never forget the kindness you showed me today."

"I am Luo Qiang, the Clan Leader of the Luo Family in Muchuan City. I will also remember this favor forever. If you need someone in the future, I will go to the Hell World and return for you. If I don't follow you, let Heaven strike me down!"

Seeing the three enthusiastic experts, Yan Xiaobao was taken aback. He hadn't expected them to react the way they did, but his heart warmed. He couldn't help but feel much better. With four experts supporting him, he had reached the requirements to become an important figure to return to Muchuan City.

Even Xiao Ning was grateful. He just kept it to himself, as there was no longer a need to express his gratitude between him and Yan Xiaobao; they had long been military brothers, but even so, Xiao Ning

was relieved. He remembered how Yan Xiaobao had warned him if he had to attack the Sun Kingdom's experts, and now he had brought them under his wing. Clearly, for the sake of their new friendship, Yan Xiaobao gave a lot of face to the Sun Kingdom's shield.

"Okay, okay, I'm grateful," Yan Xiaobao whispered. "But we need to keep a low profile. Although we can handle the creatures this tomb has abandoned so far, we don't know if something we can't handle will suddenly appear. Let's keep silent and move forward."

Agreeing, they remained silent and continued to move forward. The corridor ended, and a huge door was opened, leading to a vast room. The room was circular, with columns supporting the ceiling, and a strong medicinal pill scent filled the air. In this assembly hall, another group of experts was gazing at one of the pillars, their eyes blurry.

"This room must be full of greed," Lan Feng said in shock. "Every pillar stores pills, but if you take all the pillars, you'll never leave the room again; you'll be buried by the treasure you possess. Should we take half of the medicine pills and leave the other half? Who knows if taking half of the pillars will keep the ceiling intact before it collapses? It doesn't look like the other group has started taking any pills, so it's like I said. Take pills from the first and second, but leave the third pillar. Repeat this, then take two, then leave the sixth pillar. Always leave the third pillar to support the ceiling. Hurry! The other group will soon notice what you're doing and will do the same."

Nodding, Yan Xiaobao quickly told the experts his plan. "We'll split up, but if any of you encounter trouble, we'll immediately come to that person's aid. Staying alive is more important than some pills." He concluded before breaking one of the pillars, watching a large pile of golden pills disappear into his storage stone.

Seeing the pills, the other experts swallowed and immediately copied his actions, always making sure to leave the third pillar alone.

The experts in the assembly hall were shocked by Yan Xiaobao and his team's decisiveness, but they soon grasped the pattern they were using. Without facing Yan Xiaobao or any of his friends, they began occupying two-thirds of the pillars.

Everyone worked very efficiently, and they had consumed many pills in the room before the third group arrived in the chamber. Seeing Yan Xiaobao and his friends left each pillar, witnessing how many pills spilled out, their eyes filled with greed. Once they noticed the other group present, they controlled their greed.

"We won't cause more trouble. Let them pick up the pills because we'll steal them anyway. Let's steal the pills from the other group's pillars. They're unlikely to start a fight with us since they haven't started with the other groups present, but if they provoke us, we'll wipe them out!" said the oldest armed brother, grinning with martial strength as they rushed to the other group's room's end.

This led Yan Xiaobao and his friends to clean half the room, while the other two groups shared the other half. Even though they had more pills, no one took any action against them, making Yan Xiaobao remain vigilant. He knew they wanted to take their pills, but if they weren't attacking now, it only meant they would attack later.

"We'll stay here for a few days," Yan Xiaobao suddenly whispered. "Consume some golden pills and see if you can break through," he said to the three weaker Saints. "Don't worry about being attacked; Xiao Ning and I will protect you."

The gratitude was evident in the eyes of the three experts. They clearly wanted to increase their strength, but they also knew it wasn't something they could accomplish in a short time. Even two days were rushed, but hearing that the two would watch over them during their breakthrough was enough to make them grateful. They immediately found a quiet corner in the room, sat down, and took out a handful of golden pills.

The first pill suddenly appeared in their mouths, and as it rushed into their bodies, the energy within the cavity suddenly became chaotic. It filled the meridians, and they felt immense energy, different from what they had felt before. As they felt their energy rapidly rising, they were shocked at their core. While Yan Xiaobao and Xiao Ning quietly watched over the three older but lower-ranked Saints, the military brothers from the third group were excited. After finally disappearing from sight, they were ready to ambush Yan Xiaobao and his friends. The only question was how long they needed to wait, but whenever they thought of the large number of medicinal pills they had taken and all the core Emperor-ranked cultivators had, they were filled with greed and excitement. It was clear they would soon get what belonged to them. Although three of them were currently enhancing their strength, they were still far less powerful than his military brothers, and unexpectedly, they would soon get rid of that annoying group.

Yan Xiaobao watched the doorway leading deeper into the tomb, and although he knew speed was important, he also knew his team's strength was too low. Being just one person, he couldn't protect an entire group of Saints. They needed power to survive.

Time slowly passed, minutes turning into hours, and hours into days. Even after meditating for four days, Yan Xiaobao wasn't anxious for the three experts to rush their breakthroughs. Instead, he patiently waited for them to break through. As time passed, the energy fluctuations of the three experts became increasingly intense; it was as if a huge vortex was forming in them, absorbing the energy in this medicinal treasure trove.

For a while, these experts would place a white pill in their mouths, ensuring that the energy they absorbed remained balanced. If they only absorbed Yang Energy, then they would be shooting themselves in the foot, preventing them from advancing in their cultivation.

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Chapter 802: No Time to Waste

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During these four days, they waited for the three Saints to break through, and no one appeared in the room; no one managed to pass through the tunnel, which made Yan Xiaobao breathe a sigh of relief. If half of the Saints had already passed them, he would feel frustrated, but considering he was sure only two groups had passed them, he didn't feel too regretful.

Although Yan Xiaobao followed his own thoughts, he suddenly heard a loud banging sound, and his eyes were drawn to three experts. One of them radiated a golden hue from his body. The golden hue was martial power, which covered the whole body before it slowly slipped into his skin and merged into his body. Although it was absorbed, Wu Wei continued to glow, making his entire body look like a golden statue. The light slowly dimmed and then returned to its normal color.

After Wu Wei's last trace disappeared, expert Zhu Jun opened his eyes, a faint golden light flashing. He was no longer just a star Saint but advanced. The power he gained was immense. Although he couldn't be considered the cream of the crop, he was no longer a weak Saint. Thanks to the golden pill, his power increased more than double, and with the help of the white pill, he also managed to stabilize his cultivation foundation better than ever. He became stronger in every aspect.

After another half day, Ye Ling managed to break through, and a few hours later, Luo Qiang also broke through. Watching these three men and feeling the energy ripples from their bodies, Yan Xiaobao nodded in satisfaction.

"We have no time to waste," he said in a determined voice, though he didn't complain about the time they spent cultivating their power. "We're lagging behind the leaders, and thus, I believe they have already gathered quite a bit of treasure. Just the same, attack must come first, but stay alert. Anyone in the tomb is our enemy, even if they're from our Kingdom. This is survival of the fittest; the strong Saints prevail, and the weak will die or be trampled on. I don't want any of us to become someone else's stepping stone, so please remain vigilant."

"I'm quite certain that the second band of fools, the noisy ones, is planning to ambush us. It's the only explanation for why they'd choose to steal from another batch of pills and allow us to take pillar after pillar. Because they dared to oppose us, we must act without hesitation when we meet them. Kill first, ask questions later. If not, we will be the dead ones," he said, his voice harsh and eyes cold.

Hearing Yan Xiaobao's words, Ye Ling, Luo Qiang, and Zhu Jun felt a little nervous, but the feeling quickly faded. They were no longer as simple and weak as they were days ago. They had entered the ranks of ordinary Saints, and they were not as easy to handle as before. Their confidence had soared to the heavens. They could feel the depth of their newly discovered power more than anyone else.

"That's right," Yan Xiaobao grinned when he saw the confidence in their eyes. "That group has a Four-star expert, but we'll leave him to Xiao Ning, and the others are two or three stars at most, you won't fall behind them. Just fight for your own heart. We'll be fine for the sake of killing," Yan Xiaobao said, and at the mention of Xiao Ning, the old man almost snorted. It was clear he would be doing most of the work.

"Don't worry; I'll be their target. They are most likely to eliminate the weakest first. Not because I'll be the easiest target, but because they think I hold the most precious treasure. It seems everyone will see that the reason for coveting others' treasures is to not value their own lives," Yan Xiaobao grinned, and the others nodded in agreement.

"When you attack them, I want you to try something," Lan Feng suddenly said from the Lower Dantian. His voice hesitant but full of hope. Hearing this, Yan Xiaobao was curious about what happened, so he waited for the bird to continue. Seeing Yan Xiaobao deep in thought, no one interrupted him. All his new friends patiently waited for him, as he knew he might be thinking about something very important. When they suddenly felt a strange sense of danger coming from him, their assumptions proved correct. There was no energy ripple, no sign of him increasing his rank, they only felt the air around him growing turbulent. It was as if some invisible force was compressing all the air around, twisting and turning it, although oddly there was no energy causing this effect.

With both of his hands placed opposite each other, Yan Xiaobao's eyes were open and focused. A red fog slowly emerged in one palm, while a blue cloud of mist appeared in the other. These two small energy streams exploded forward, causing shockwaves to spread throughout the room, but the shockwaves couldn't penetrate the turbulent air around him. Yan Xiaobao forced the two energies together, slowly pushing them closer to each other.

The moment the red and blue energies touched, a loud roar exploded outward. A wave of heat triggered a shockwave that swept the newly advanced two-star Saints off their feet, even Xiao Ning was overwhelmed. Yan Xiaobao staggered back a few steps, a trickle of blood flowing from his mouth, but his eyes remained as focused on the energy as before. He clearly saw the stubbornness in his eyes.

Chapter 803: No Time to Waste

The two types of energy, blue and red, have merged into a small black energy ball. This ball is the size of a thumbnail on Yan Xiaobao's thumb. It's small, yet its fluctuations are extremely intense, making Wu Wei's energy ripples seem weak.

This tiny, nail-sized energy ball slowly entered Yan Xiaobao's body again, but it didn't enter the Upper Dantian, where Wu Wu was stored. Instead, it went into the Lower Dantian and positioned itself in the center of the Qi vortex. It seemed capable of storing such astonishing energy.

"Well done," Lan Feng said. "You can try using this little energy in the next battle. Although it requires quite a lot from you, you seem able to merge them, but never merge more than this amount at a time, or you'll end up a greedy man dead," Lan Feng warned, but Yan Xiaobao needed no warning.

The shockwave had already caused immense pain to his body. His internal organs were injured, the bones in his hand forcibly resisting, and these bones had been blown away by others.

Looking at the energy in his Lower Dantian, he glanced at a green pearl, larger than he remembered. However, he noticed no energy leaving it, clearly showing no sign of healing the injuries he suffered.

Yan Xiaobao sighed, but wasn't surprised as he popped a red pill into his mouth. Slowly, his body returned to peak condition. The energy in these red pills was truly mysterious. They would restore a cultivator to peak condition while replenishing energy; he didn't know how much they could heal and restore, but the fact they could do both made them invaluable. Yan Xiaobao was very grateful he had seized them.

After waiting a few minutes, Yan Xiaobao finally snapped his neck before smiling at everyone. "Let's go out," he said, not commenting on what just happened. Since he said nothing, the others didn't ask, and the group of five moved out once more, ready to face the ambush awaiting them before catching up with the experts far ahead. They had progressed and collected treasures from the tomb's inner chambers, something Yan Xiaobao hoped to be a part of.

Moving forward, Yan Xiaobao couldn't help but smirk. They were certainly waiting to ambush him and his friends, but who were they really chasing, he asked himself. His team might generally be considered weaker, but the black energy he created was so powerful that the scale of measuring power couldn't be used to gauge it. The only downside was that this energy, similar to what Lan Feng created, could only be used once before the cultivator needed to refine more. It didn't recover automatically like his Wu Wei, spiritual energy, and Qi. Yan Xiaobao had another hidden energy that was no longer underestimated.

Yan Xiaobao knew they would be ambushed at some point, and he found it laughable. The experts' reactions when Yan Xiaobao and his group were collecting medicines showed their intentions. It gave Yan Xiaobao plenty of time to prepare for the upcoming encounter.

"Boss, you said we're going to be ambushed..." Luo Qiang whispered, looking at the door they all headed toward. "Do you think we can easily defeat them?" he asked, a bit worried. The saints they'd seen were by no means pushovers. Although they weren't familiar with this group of experts, it was clear they were a powerful team who had been together for a long time.

Hearing the older man refer to him as boss left Yan Xiaobao at a loss for words, but he quickly shrugged off the surprise. "If you believe you'll lose, then you surely will. But if you think you'll win, then I'll make sure we win." His voice carried a hint of laughter. He had a backup plan he hadn't shared with anyone, but the new energy he discovered was something he couldn't wait to use.

Xiao Ning watched Yan Xiaobao with a complex expression. Hearing Yan Xiaobao assure they'd win made him believe the young man had an ace up his sleeve, but he didn't question him. He'd long since given up trying to understand his new friend.

Yan Xiaobao walked toward the door, seemingly unconcerned about the ambush he was sure awaited. While his back was straight, a knowing smile caused the three saints to stand straighter and hold their heads high. They would not be defeated, and their previous fears and worries now turned into adrenaline. The adrenaline pumped through their veins, giving them an appearance of excitement. The change was like night and day, all sparked by a few words from Yan Xiaobao. Seeing this, Xiao Ning looked at Yan Xiaobao with a strange expression, feeling a shiver.

Yet, Yan Xiaobao was very young; if he were older, he wouldn't be so unknown now. He had once been the Great Marshall of the Divine Origin Beast Army, but back then, he was just a King-level cultivator, and now he was still an Emperor. Judging by his appearance, his age couldn't be over twenty, although Xiao Ning knew better than to judge people by their looks. He had a strange impression that this person was truly as young as he seemed.

For someone so young to be so mature and able to influence saints to some extent, only one name was suitable for this young man, a monster. Yes, without a doubt, Yan Xiaobao was a terrifying monster.

Even as Xiao Ning thought this, Yan Xiaobao and the other three saints left the medicinal pillar room, Xiao Ning covering the rear. As they departed, they spread their spiritual energy like a blanket. This allowed them to sense anyone less than fifty meters away. Although fifty meters was nothing to experts at their level, just a distance that could be traversed in a second, it still gave them a second's preparation. Releasing more spiritual energy would eventually deplete them, which they couldn't afford before the battle began.

As soon as they left the Great Medical Treasure Vault, they entered another larger room. As they entered, they didn't notice any energy ripples indicating any treasures or traps. Since there was no sign of the experts, the group proceeded slowly at a steady pace, neither too fast nor too slow.

Although both Yan Xiaobao and Xiao Ning remained calm, the other three saints were clearly impatient. They were eager to fight, to see what victory looked like; they hoped to no longer be those bullied by stronger saints and gain some wealth for themselves. So far, Yan Xiaobao and Xiao Ning had given them everything, and they hoped they could acquire their own wealth too.

"Don't be too eager," Yan Xiaobao said with a smile. "Remember, this is an ambush. Even if we're prepared for them, they'll use their most powerful attacks at the start. Don't get complacent, use your martial power to protect your bodies. All you need to do is survive the initial attack, and it will be our victory," he explained, and the three experts nodded as serious expressions replaced their earlier excitement.

Wu Wei flowed from their bodies, wrapping them in a golden glow, quickly forming a set of armor. Although it took some martial power to maintain this armor, it would not last long as long as it wasn't attacked. The defense, like this, would lead to very high energy consumption if attacked.

The three looked at one another, with Yan Xiaobao doing nothing to protect himself; he still just stood at the front of their group, walking as if he had no care in the world. As they walked further, Yan Xiaobao slowed. Almost crossing the entire room, suddenly a flash of black light flickered around Yan Xiaobao, and a stream of black energy left his body, forming a thin black plate in front of him.

With such energy, Yan Xiaobao knew he could manipulate it as he wished inside and outside his body. For now, it wasn't being depleted, it was just serving as defense. Looking at the black energy, all the other saints in his group couldn't help but shiver, remembering the terrifying shockwave it produced, and the fact that no energy ripples appeared on the black plate in front of him was even more frightening. The eerie silence of the energy was something they'd never seen before.

Just when they were about to leave the room, they suddenly heard a loud bang, golden light flashed from all around. One attack after another descended upon them.

There were enormous hammers, slamming down from above. Sharp spears were thrown at them. Five beasts, a bear and a snake among them, all charged toward them, and finally, a large sun appeared above them. Every ray of its light would cause anyone it touched to start sizzling, as if it had touched acid.

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Chapter 804: No Shame, Only Survival

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The second martial power attack saw a flash of golden light in Xiao Ning's hand, while the Radiant Aegis appeared at the top of the five experts. Although it couldn't protect them from all attacks, it managed to block spears and hammers, and the two martial power beasts couldn't break through it. Unfortunately, the rays of the sun and their disintegration ability also affected Wu Wei, causing the dome to slowly begin collapsing from the top.

Despite the terror of this sun, Yan Xiaobao was not frightened. The consumption of Wu Wei by it requires immense strength, so its duration is limited. While it can penetrate the martial power shield created by Xiao Ning, there is one thing it cannot penetrate.

"Alright, let's give it a try," he said with a smile, the black energy in his palm once again transformed into a thin slab, appearing above them and completely blocking the sun's rays. No matter how powerful they were, they couldn't penetrate the black, bizarre energy shield created by Yan Xiaobao.

"You are just an Emperor, how can your shield withstand the might of my ice waste's blazing sun?!" A roar suddenly echoed throughout the room, causing the pillars supporting the ceiling to recover from the sound.

"You're too noisy, continually activating one trap after another," Yan Xiaobao replied in a low, gentle voice, but everyone in the room heard it.

The oldest Martial Brother felt a moment filled with contempt when he heard Yan Xiaobao's voice, as if he would vomit blood. He didn't dare rebuke for being noisy, but he didn't shout again either. Instead, he poured Wu Wei into the sun without reservation, muttering to himself: "My ice waste's sun will melt like the winter snow to the sun. Even if he has a strange item to protect him, there must be a limit," he reckoned, his eyes filled with determination.

The oldest Martial Brother wasn't wrong. When nothing was attacking it, the black energy was unused, but now energy was being wasted to protect them from the sun's rays, and the size of the black slab had decreased significantly, now barely covering all five experts.

Seeing the progression of events, the smile on Yan Xiaobao's face turned cold. Since they all knew the ice waste's sun didn't care about friend or foe, none of the ambushers advanced. Anyone stepping into a ray of sunlight began to disintegrate, but when they looked at their Martial Brother, they also saw his complexion wasn't good. His skin was pale, and sweat drenched his face. Unlike him, Yan Xiaobao showed no signs of fatigue. The energy had been generated, and he no longer needed to control it with energy; however, he couldn't create more energy like this, so what he had was limited.

"Oldest Martial Hero, let's deal with them!" one of the opponents suddenly pleaded, seeing their oldest Martial Brother had exhausted his energy. The oldest Martial Brother also realized their mistake, so he didn't wait long to nod. The sun gradually became smaller, its rays ever fewer until they disappeared into the air.

Yan Xiaobao breathed a sigh of relief. The slab protecting them was now only half of its original size, and this black energy was their only countermeasure against the sun's rays. Despite his relief, he didn't have much time to celebrate, as one Saint after another rushed towards them. Wu Wei passed through their bodies, and they launched attack after attack on the experts.

"One-on-one or two-on-one," Yan Xiaobao calmly said. "No shame, only survival," he continued, remembering his time in the military, laughter escaping his lips. "I don't care what you do, just don't die." His last words were spoken as the black energy in his hand extended and took the shape of a whip.

With the whip in his hand, Yan Xiaobao managed to rid themselves of the common Saints, moving towards the position where he heard the oldest Martial Brother's voice calling. His eyes were cold, his face icy. This time, it was clear he had no intention of sparing the expert he was hunting.

Yan Xiaobao strode towards the column where the oldest Martial Brother stood. Although many Saints noticed his movements, none tried to stop him. The oldest Martial Brother was the strongest among them, and Yan Xiaobao was merely an Emperor. How could their brother possibly need help? Even if his energy was depleted, a simple blow should be able to make this arrogant Emperor succumb.

Although they were a bit surprised to see the black whip in Yan Xiaobao's hand, they paid it no real heed and returned to their battles. Truth be told, their performance wasn't as expected.

Xiao Ning captured two of them, while the other three gathered around the last two experts. With one expert as surplus, they had some leeway in battle, so despite not being powerful individually, they still managed quite well. Their abilities had always been among the weakest of the Saints, so this was a new experience for them, igniting their fighting spirit and making them fiercer and more dangerous to their opponents.

Yan Xiaobao knew that once he reached the column, he could leave the other experts to his friends. The whip lashed out, black energy flying through the air, landing on the column in front of him. The hard jade of these columns did not stop the whip; instead, it cut through like a hot knife through butter.

Chapter 805: No Shame, Only Survival (Part 2)

Once again an attack, the pillar suddenly collapsed. As it crumbled, it revealed the pale expert hidden behind it. His face was terrifying, but his eyes were filled with anger, arrogance, and greed. He looked at Yan Xiaobao with a slight slender smile on his face. "So, you've delivered yourself to my table to be slaughtered like a lamb?" He laughed loudly as he stood and absorbed Wu Wei into his body. Once again, he began, and Wu Wei charged out, twisting and stirring, forming a giant hammer.

This wasn't the first time they'd seen this hammer attack. However, unlike last time, these hammers seemed as if they were not crafted by Wu Wei, but they looked very real. This time, the expert was very serious about his attack, and one could feel the intense energy radiating from it.

The hammer was clearly made by Wu Wei, yet the hammer looked real. Inscriptions and patterns were engraved on both sides of it, and it seemed as though it was cast in gold, rather than by the fleeting Wu Wei.

Despite facing such a powerful attack, Yan Xiaobao wasn't panicked. Instead, he raised the whip to meet the incoming hammer, a slight smile on his lips. He allowed the black energy to pass directly through the martial power hammer.

The whip could be seen contacting the martial power hammer, sparks of martial power could be seen, but the whip did not stop, as it passed directly through the hammer. Wu Wei immediately dissipated into the air on one side, while the other side began to reassemble into a pair of smaller hammers.

"That whip..." The oldest martial brother finally felt something was wrong. His hammer shouldn't be easily cut, let alone be forced to disassemble, but it happened right before his eyes. All he could do was stare greedily at the black whip while he formed some small hammers.

Although this oldest martial brother was at a disadvantage, he didn't seem hurried. He had nearly exhausted all of his Wu Wei. He was confident it would be enough to deal with Yan Xiaobao. After all, Yan Xiaobao was merely a simple emperor. An emperor with various treasures allowed him to do many things, but in the end, he was still an emperor. He was someone below him. He couldn't fail.

"Such a fool," Yan Xiaobao looked dazedly at the expert before him, seeing the denial in his eyes. Without waiting, the whip in his hand shot out like a snake. This time it wasn't heading for the martial power hammer, but for the expert ahead.

The black snake-like whip suddenly changed shape, and just as it reached the expert before him, it turned into an arrowhead, deeply embedding into his arm.

At first, the expert didn't think much of it, but soon he felt a disturbing cold sensation engulfing his entire body. His eyes blurred, and quickly all light disappeared before him.

"What did you do?!" he shouted loudly as he staggered forward. When he tried to grasp the young man, his hand reached out in front of him. Suddenly, the world became silent as he realized his hearing had vanished, then everything went dark. The oldest martial brother was overcome by darkness. Nothing

existed in his life, no colors, no emotions, nothing. A few steps forward, the Saint could no longer hold on, and he fell to the floor. He was still breathing, and his body was intact; however, his senses no longer worked. There was nothing to hear, nothing to see or feel. In such a situation, everything disappeared from his world. His entire body was taken over by a droplet of black energy.

The battle between the other Saints came to a halt. They surrendered, hoping their oldest martial brother would return to them and save them from the other experts, yet as they looked at their oldest martial brother, their hearts filled with fear. He sat on the ground, with black eyes, his body exuding a strange black hue.

"What have you done to our brother?!" one of the experts shouted loudly, but Yan Xiaobao did not answer. He was curious about this ability, but he thought it unimaginable that it would devour a person's senses.

"There's a good chance it can do more than this," Lan Feng commented by the Lower Dantian. "When you launched the attack, your intention was to defeat this person. So now he's defeated. Completely defeated. If you had thought of something else, then the result might have been different. Nonetheless, this merged energy is still very powerful. We need to improve it as soon as possible," Lan Feng said before falling silent.

Sighing, Yan Xiaobao looked at those subdued experts, wondering what to do. Killing them seemed excessive, as they were clearly no match for his group, but letting them go wasn't an option either. After considering for a moment, Yan Xiaobao went to the oldest martial brother and, going through his pockets, gathered the stones one by one.

"I'll let you all go." He finally spoke slowly, clearly still thinking as he spoke, "But before leaving, give us your storage stones, then take this Saint and leave the tomb. Whether he regains his normal appearance, I really don't know. Only time will tell." He shrugged. To him, whether this Saint would regain his senses, or lose them for the rest of his life, was irrelevant.

The four Saints looked at each other, their expressions terrible, but no matter how much they thought, they had no way out of their current predicament. It was they who started the fight, and if they won, then the others would be the ones to die. Undoubtedly, it was the style of their oldest martial brother. At least they were allowed to leave with their lives, but handing over their hard-earned treasures and Memory Stones was enough to make them spit blood.

Ignoring their actions, Yan Xiaobao took all the stones and casually kept those stones from their oldest martial brother, while sharing the others equally among his friends. No one complained about this, for Yan Xiaobao personally handled the oldest martial brother, thus the treasures naturally belonged to the young man.

Watching Yan Xiaobao and his friends move further into the tomb, the four remaining Saints were filled with regret. Unfortunately, it was now too late to change their fate, and all they could do was pack their bags, grab their oldest martial brother, and slowly exit the tomb. If they encountered weaker ones along the way, they would be robbed, but that was the reality. Entering the tomb now was impossible.

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As Heaven began to rob them, many experts returned to the gate of Heaven once more, turning around and running off. They left the tomb for a while before entering again, only to follow in the footsteps of the Saints. They all hoped to leave behind some treasures, for although most Saints were very careful not to leave anything, it was impossible for them to take everything. Thus, lower-ranking cultivators were still searching for some treasures.

Among them included Deng Wu and his team, Sha Yun and her team, the medical team to which Wang Julong belonged, and finally the group of merchants assigned by the Ma family, led by Ma Kong.

Although these groups frequently encountered each other, none of them truly helped each other, although they didn't hinder each other either. The Beast Group was somewhat divided into two factions: one sided with Sha Yun due to her relationship with Yan Xiaobao, and the other supported her. As many members were too busy arguing, this group had not found many treasures currently, but they still advanced at such a slow pace.

Another well-operating group was the group of Deng Wu with the Rong twins and Gao Yan. The Rong twins were supposed to travel with the Rong Family people; however, they were allowed to follow Deng Wu, hoping they could develop their personalities and become more mature. Their father hoped that in the tomb, they would encounter dangerous situations and learn from them. This group was rather lucky in obtaining treasures, as they were all friends, sharing was simple for them.

Ma Kong came from a family focused on trade and selling items, and while in the tomb, he was busy conducting business. Although he wasn't currently trying to find treasures, he managed to exchange many items for secret treasures in the tomb. Everyone needed medicinal pills, and their family had many such medicines. As the only active trade group traversing the tomb, they monopolized the market,

and the farther they went, the thicker their wallets became. Although they were obviously very wealthy, no one dared to oppose them. Everyone knew that the Ma family had several hidden experts, so robbing them was extremely dangerous.

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Chapter 806: The Most Worrisome Thing

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As she walked forward, Wang Julong was still very worried. With each step, she feared that the bodies she saw near the tomb belonged to Yan Xiaobao or one of her friends. This was what she feared the most, but as time passed, there was no dead Yan Xiaobao or her friends. She gradually calmed down and perfectly completed her work. With a sigh, she began to imagine what Yan Xiaobao was doing. Thinking of him, her eyes became stern, and she found a place she could cultivate. She vowed that from now on, she would be by Yan Xiaobao's side, helping him in dangerous moments. If she wasn't strong enough, how could she stand by him? With this in mind, the young woman once again focused as her entire body filled with energy and the desire to improve for Yan Xiaobao. "Are you sure it's like this?" Rong Xing asked Deng Wu for the fourth time this hour, though the man loved her, he started to have a headache. "Trust me," he sighed. "I can feel Yue's energy from here; he must be like this. The reason we can't find any treasure is obviously because he's taken them all. Whenever we catch up to him, I believe he'll share with us."

Hearing Rong Xing, she was quiet for a moment before speaking again. "You said you can sense Yan Xiaobao's whereabouts. How can that be? It's been days since he last came here, and it's not like he's a skunk that everyone can smell his scent. How can you be so sure?"

Looking at Rong Xing, he sighed deeply and covered his blue hair with his hand while looking at the person he loves most in this world. "Have you ever wondered why my appearance has changed so much?" he suddenly asked her, causing Rong Xing to be surprised. She suddenly realized that she was busy with work and genuinely concerned about the changes in Deng Wu's appearance due to what happened with the King and the Deng family. Although she noticed the change, she never asked why it changed. When they finally escaped the holy underground city and returned to Rong Xing, she had to tell him the bad news about his family, and she returned everything else aside. After that, she never thought too much about it and assumed it was something he did on his own.

"Yan Xiaobao and I have something in common," he said seriously. "I can't explain in detail, but it connects and binds us, which allows me to track Yan Xiaobao. As long as he passes through the area I'm in, I can still see his energy dim and follow them."

Hearing this, everyone fell silent. Indeed, Yan Xiaobao and Deng Wu looked different from others; their appearance made others think they were mixed-blood, but they never thought there would be some kind of connection between them.

"That troublemaker didn't even ask if I wanted it; he just forced it on me," Deng Wu continued, recalling the room at the Dragon Company headquarters.

As he recalled the pain he experienced, a shiver ran through his body, but even so, he was very satisfied with the results. Sharing a body with Little Dragon was not a bad thing. With this holy beast by his side, even if they encountered the mightful Emperor who hoped to bully them, he could feel safe. Little Dragon might even be strong enough to deal with a star saint, because his foolishness cost him his body and the ability to elevate his cultivation level, he was once a nine-star saint. Although his level had significantly decreased over the years, especially after encountering Deng Wu, Little Dragon was still far beyond ordinary Emperors. Almost no Emperor was his match. It was precisely due to this understanding that Deng Wu dared to enter the tomb following Yan Xiaobao's trail.

"It's a shame we can't change it," Deng Wu mused slowly as he walked forward, with his friends following behind him. No one asked more questions, and Rong Xing no longer had doubts about him.

"We are not here to acquire wealth but to assist Yan Xiaobao. When he entered the tomb, he was a King, though he possessed some strange powers to elevate his cultivation base very high, it's not something he can always use. We need to be there to help him!" Deng Wu was resolute in his mission. He and his friends were fully committed to Yan Xiaobao, and even if they were used as living shields, it was worth it. If it meant extending Yan Xiaobao's life, they were willing to sacrifice their own. They were friends, and although Yan Xiaobao had a certain goal in life, they all knew he would give up anything to help them.

As they slowly traversed the tunnels, the group was very focused. They had long left the Gate of Heaven, entering a long and winding tunnel system. They were not experts at traversing the tunnels; instead, they stayed in the middle position, allowing other groups to trigger traps and handle casualties.

They were not in a hurry because although they knew Yan Xiaobao was somewhere ahead of them, he was not easy to deal with. He couldn't die as simply as those saints. Had he been so easily killed, he would have died many times over.

Their progress was not difficult. All they saw were people fallen from traps or killed in conflict. "We have no reason to rush to the front line," Deng Wu muttered as he looked at the three more bodies lying on the ground. He didn't know why they died. Their ranks while alive were impossible to guess because their internal energy had dissipated after their lives left.

Chapter 807: The Most Worrisome Thing

When they reached a particularly gruesome spot, they had been walking for several days. What killed these experts, they did not know; however, what remained was a bloody chaos of flesh and broken bones. There was no way to see how many experts had fallen, nor could they say if this was done by humans or something else. If a trap had accomplished this, it would be terrifying!

Rong Xing detected the nauseating metallic scent, and seeing the chaotic flesh and bones, she immediately stepped aside to vomit. Seeing this, Deng Wu quickly found a gourd bottle filled with water and handed it to her, gently stroking her hair. Gratefully, the woman took the bottle to her lips, rinsing her mouth before taking a gulp.

"Let's get out of here," Deng Wu said hastily, as he ensured to walk beside Rong Xing so she wouldn't see the bodies reduced to pulp. Deep inside, Rong Xing felt grateful to this old friend of hers. Even though she never accepted his courtship, he never lost focus on her. He always treated her as if she were his princess, and suddenly a soft spot emerged in her heart. Seeing him treat her gently once again, she felt a tender warmth.

Gao Yan and Rong Ming were also very pale, but they were men. Though they felt like vomiting as well, they continued onward, looking out as they walked.

"The energy ripple here tells me this was not a trap, but something done by Yan Xiaobao or those with him," Little Dragon said casually. "The energy here isn't just his, but Lan Feng's presence is strong too."

"How do you know Lan Feng is here? I mean, he might be your friend, but sensing Yan Xiaobao's energy ripple just because he has Lan Feng with him isn't normal? I'm not even able to follow the energy ripple of the team ahead of us.

"It's easy," Little Dragon laughed. "Yan Xiaobao and Lan Feng are closer than you and I. We merely share your body, yet Lan Feng and Yan Xiaobao share a soul. No, it's not like that. I don't know how they do it, but somehow, their souls manage to merge. Although each of them has a soul, these two souls are interconnected. If one dies, they both die; if someone dies, they all live. See, if you die, I won't die with you. Actually, I can take over your body, but if it's gravely injured, I might perish just the same. If I don't have a body to enter at that time, then I'll be fearless. Though I will die, not because you've died, but

because I'd lack a host. Lan Feng and Yan Xiaobao are different. This is also why Yan Xiaobao and Lan Feng cooperate better than we do, and even more so, Lan Feng can take his beast form, whereas I cannot. At most, I can alter parts of your body, but without a beast core, my complete form will never be realized, as your body cannot withstand the stress.

Upon hearing this, Deng Wu kept a straight face, and while listening to Little Dragon, he gently guided Rong Xing and the other two youngsters away from the horrific spot they had just left.

His eyes were steadfast, and though his smile usually marked his presence, it didn't reach his eyes, which were often vigilant and observing the surroundings. Though when approaching other experts, he let Little Dragon warn him, he still knew he couldn't let himself become complacent. He had a goal in this tomb, and he would do everything he could to achieve it.

"Oh, who do we have here?" A loud voice suddenly echoed from the tunnel, and Deng Wu turned around in an instant. His eyes were sharp, and his heart began to race. He hadn't heard any warning from Little Dragon, nor had he noticed anyone himself. From the shadows behind them, an expert stepped out. Looking at this person, Deng Wu felt a surge of murderous intent within, but he firmly forced this intent to subside.

"Your Highness!" He bowed deeply and shouted. The others also bowed in respect. "We are honored to encounter such a distinguished individual on this journey. However, please forgive me, but shouldn't our gifted Prince avoid wandering this tomb alone? There are many greedy experts around, and though our Prince is immensely talented, it might become dangerous," Deng Wu said politely. Even though the Prince was the sole person he truly despised, Deng Wu would never allow his feelings to surface.

After pondering for some time, the Prince looked at the group and slowly nodded. "You are right. I happened to become separated from my protective group, but knowing that you are all loyal citizens of the Sun and are good friends with my friend Yan Xiaobao, I believe traveling with you would be beneficial for both of us."

Hearing these words, a sour taste filled Deng Wu's mouth as the Rong twins and Gao Yan all looked at Deng Wu, their eyes full of worry. These three friends were worse at hiding their emotions than Deng Wu, but the blue-haired young man smiled at the Prince. His emotions were buried so deep that no one could see them. No one but Little Dragon felt bad for his master, but for now, he too remained completely silent. He was extremely concerned that this so-called expert managed to sneak up on them. His power was absolutely not what an ordinary expert could perceive.

"We are honored to travel with you," Deng Wu bowed once more. "We are not as strong or as useful as your guards, but we will do our utmost to ensure your safe travel. Our goal is to meet Yan Xiaobao again and venture within the tomb. While I'm here, I wish to support him."

Before he fell in line with the group, the Prince nodded in satisfaction, and the five experts silently began walking toward the end of the tunnel. Little Dragon wasn't the only one worried about the Prince's strength, but Deng Wu's face didn't show anything. "Bringing him to your side and letting him follow us is beneficial. Our revenge is just ahead."

"Don't worry," a red-haired young man said to Sha Yun, smiling as he patted her head. "Though some of them are crude, it's only because they're jealous. For people like us, knowing the Great Marshall is like a dream come true. He created a world specifically for Magic Beasts and us mixed-blood beasts. We can feel normal in a world where the rest might feel like outsiders."

"At first, they pitied you for contracting with someone, but later they suddenly found out the contract was with someone they want to be associated with. They feel their initial emotions were wasted," the red-haired man continued, but Sha Yun wasn't listening. She knew he was trying to console her, but she no longer felt happy to be part of this group. She felt the people around her were only with her now because of her connection to Yan Xiaobao, and everyone who was against her was also because of Yan Xiaobao.

She couldn't truly trust any of those she had previously considered friends; a longing suddenly resurfaced in her heart. A familiar face suddenly appeared in her mind, and she felt tears welling in her eyes. Though the sudden change in her friends was due to Yan Xiaobao, there was nothing better than being by his side. Although he didn't love her as a woman, he always treated her well, genuinely caring for her.

Forcing her tears back, Sha Yun calmed herself once more, and when she opened her eyes, the determination in them was evident. "If I want to meet him, delve further into the tomb, then I have no choice but to push forward. Wait for me a bit more!" she murmured softly, hoping her wish could echo further into the Huiyue Tunnel.

She raised her head and stepped resolutely into the group of beast and mixed-blood experts, all of whom looked at her in shock. Some had hostility in their eyes, some had complex expressions, and some even had expressions of admiration. Meeting so many eyes, Sha Yun didn't intend to back down, and without paying any heed, she walked forward. As she passed through the gates of heaven, everyone followed behind her, each step filled with determination. Every expert behind her, even those with hostile eyes, slowly followed with conflicting emotions.

As she passed through the door, she noticed many tunnels before her, unsure of what to do. She randomly chose one, beginning down the path. She chose the far-left tunnel and started walking, not allowing anyone else to question her decision. She finally left them to decide for themselves if they wished to follow.

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Chapter 808: The Most Dangerous Person

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Everyone paused hesitantly, but soon a group of experts followed behind Sha Yun. After some consideration, everyone chose the same tunnel—the one the Snake Woman had taken. They all moved quickly, catching up with her.

The atmosphere within the group had completely changed. From being very close and joking with each other, now no one spoke, and the heavy tension was palpable above them. This was all because they now knew who Sha Yun's contractor was.

As they moved within the small tunnel, the dim light from the worn light stones flickered. Though it was faint, it was enough for the group to see what lay ahead of them. The tunnel was eerily silent, as if no one else was there except them, but they occasionally found traces of blood and corpses here and there.

Like Deng Wu's group, these beasts and hybrid experts couldn't determine whether the corpses were Saints or lower-grade experts. Once they died, their internal energy dissipated, making every corpse appear the same.

Seeing the corpses did nothing to improve the mood. Although some experts searched their pockets, they found no treasures that could lift their spirits.

Though days passed without anyone speaking, the group was intensely focused on their surroundings. When a trap was triggered, they all fought together and managed to overcome the obstacles with few wounds, but even so, after overcoming these traps, no one felt excited or joyful. The more they fought, the heavier the atmosphere felt.

Despite being viewed as completely different within the group, everyone had to admit that Sha Yun knew how to fight. Using her entire body, especially her snake tail, she was a master of defense and offense. Those who looked at her with hostility soon realized that the reason they could easily defeat the traps was largely due to Sha Yun and her ability to quickly adapt to any situation. She was undoubtedly the most dangerous person in their group.

Days passed, and the group ventured further into the tunnels. The distance between light stones grew, leaving most of the tunnel in darkness. This made it nearly impossible to see where they were going or what was happening around them. Sha Yun was prepared for this, rummaging through her storage stone before taking out her own light stone. The moment light shot out, it seemed oppressed by the darkness, making it almost impossible to see even a foot ahead. This was a clearly intentional tactic.

As they passed through the tunnel, Sha Yun felt uneasy. The darkness surrounding them was full of danger, but fortunately, they had not yet fallen into any traps. Although Sha Yun knew it was just a matter of time, they would inevitably face trouble sooner or later.

Stopping, Sha Yun wondered if they should return the way they came and take another tunnel, but this was a fleeting thought, for Sha Yun understood that all tunnels, if not equally dark, would be filled with other dangers.

Everyone stayed close, with Sha Yun still in the front. As the first to encounter anything ahead, she suddenly froze, standing completely still. Her reaction caused the others in the tunnel to stop in mid-motion behind her, some cursing, others surprised.

"What's wrong?" one expert asked Sha Yun, his voice carrying a hint of hostility, but Sha Yun paid no attention; instead, her tail moved incessantly from side to side, her eyes filled with vigilance. "Someone is here," she murmured. "I see shadows in the darkness," she continued. Her voice was utterly calm, yet her words conveyed a terrifying message to the rest of the group.

"Is everyone here?" Sha Yun suddenly asked, her voice low and loud as she bit her words through her teeth. Something was amiss, and though she didn't know if this was a trap, they were currently in a dreadful position. The person they opposed was far more powerful than them.

"Is everyone here?" The question continued to be asked and passed around the group. At first, it seemed everyone was present. Unfortunately, the calm before the storm was shattered by a scream echoing throughout the tunnel.

"I... I'm sorry!" someone screamed, his voice trembling with apology. "There's someone who didn't survive," he said.

"Who?" the others asked, but all the screaming man could do was shake his head. "I don't know," he said. "How can you not know? The person was right beside you, so light up the fallen with your light stone and tell us who it is!" The voice was firm, stating the matter wasn't open for discussion, but the screaming man only shook his head once he spoke. A closer look revealed his face to be extremely pale, sweat beads dripping from his forehead, soaking his entire face in sweat.

"No head," he whispered. "Without a head, I can't tell who it is." Those words stirred discomfort in everyone, and they all gathered around the screaming person. Just as he said, the corpse had no head. It had been ripped off, yet there was no sign of a struggle. The killer had used immense strength, and not only that, he was so quick that no one noticed anything. Every beast and hybrid expert trembled, even Sha Yun felt uneasy about what was unfolding around them.

Chapter 809: The Most Dangerous Person

"Let's charge ahead," she finally said, and the others quickly agreed. No one wanted to stay in the place where they sat like headless chickens waiting for their turn.

Unlike before, although Sha Yun wanted to stand at the front, many other experts rushed past her, delving deeper into the darkness of the tomb.

Screams echoed from time to time as her former friends fell into traps or searched for their mysterious shadows. Although they were once a team, no one thought of the team anymore. Everyone was busy saving themselves, and Sha Yun could only sigh once again. She felt she had previously given them the wrong impression before she became interested. Even so, there was nothing she could do now, but she refused to give up her life. She had things she needed to do, and now she needed to reach Yan Xiaobao.

With skilled movements through the tunnel, her tail did not touch anything except what she allowed it to touch. She avoided traps, and it seemed she wasn't the target of the shadow killing them one after another.

Although Sha Yun regarded these experts as her friends, she had long understood they did not share her feelings. Because of this, she felt no strong grief as their team kept dwindling. However, what concerned her was that the time would come for her. She couldn't be so lucky as to be the only one not slaughtered by the shadows.

With such thoughts, Sha Yun charged through the tunnel and finally found the pressure on her from the light stone slowly lifting. The area visible ahead of her became much larger than before, and visibility almost returned to normal at last.

A faint smile appeared on her lips, carrying a trace of hope. She passed through the tunnel's darkness without any shadow touching her, perhaps truly lucky enough to make it to Yan Xiaobao.

Thinking as such, the smile on her face hardened when it appeared behind her. No sound. No movement. No one. Not even a beast or hybrid seemed to celebrate the light with her. Panic slowly crept in again, spreading through her body as she turned once more to look at her path ahead, seeing shadows hunting them in the tunnel.

The cloak belonged to the Crusaders, yet it was different. Although the cloak appeared the same, a small symbol was visible on the chest. In front of this creature, Sha Yun prepared to fight. Unfortunately, before she had the chance to release energy, a black, cold sensation enveloped her. Darkness engulfed her, and her body went limp.

"I'm not ready yet!" she tried to scream, "Don't kill me again!" Although she tried to scream, with darkness swallowing her, no words could leave her lips. Surviving the ambush, the three Saints were ecstatic, laughing out loud. They finally no longer felt like easy targets for others. With their newfound strength, they had enough power to stand even in this dog-eat-dog world.

Seeing their joyful expressions, Yan Xiaobao said nothing because he understood their feelings; however, he also knew that if they became overly complacent, they might encounter trouble later. When Xiao Ning watched their backs, he ensured to warn them while they kept an eye on everything in front and beside them.

Realizing their behavior was awkward, they resumed their vigilance again about ten minutes prior.

"Let's go, remember not to be noisy. I'm sure there's a group ahead of us, and while they may have already triggered some traps, I'm sure they haven't triggered all of them. We can't become complacent, or we'll end up like the just-defeated Saints, if not dead. Just because we spared them doesn't mean others will do the same for us if we fall; being careless when entering this tomb is likely to end in death."

Everyone nodded, for what was said made sense. They couldn't let the battle get to their heads. After all, they were nothing more than second-star Saints. Although they were no longer as easily bullied as before, they were still at the average level of Saints in this realm.

Moving forward through the tomb, they finally reached an area teeming with energy. Clearly, something major had happened previously, whether a battle or some astonishing treasure was seized by the earlier group. The energy was so chaotic that it was impossible to determine what occurred.

"We're getting close to the core," Lan Feng suddenly commented, which made Yan Xiaobao snort. Of course, as they moved forward, they got closer to the core. The snort didn't seem to affect Phoenix, who simply shook his head and began to laugh. "You really should listen to me. Soon, we will enter the actual tomb, the place where his body rests.

"Unfortunately, we haven't acquired as much treasure as possible," Yan Xiaobao said dejectedly, but this time, Phoenix snorted. "You've acquired a whole load of medicinal pills. You have a heap of beast cores from the stone beasts, not to mention you forcibly absorbed the energy of Wu Wei the warrior. You also gained supreme techniques by successfully merging energy, generating unprecedented terrifying black energy. If you think this is just some treasure, you're too greedy. Not to mention all the weapons and armor you took back from the tunnel. While you don't need to change your weapon, I can guarantee some of these weapons were not forged in this world. They are at least equal to your Ice Cold Storm Sword.

These words left Yan Xiaobao completely silent, a bit hesitant. Thinking this way, he understood Lan Feng was right. Not even considering they might become precious because they were unavailable in their world. Because the expert came from another world, anything he left behind was truly valuable. Nodding, he finally felt ready to enter the tomb.

Though he realized he had obtained quite a few gains, he still had some hesitance in his heart. While he found many things, he still hoped to find some magical treasure he had never seen before. He couldn't help but wish for such an encounter: the innermost Sanctuary was where the most profound and rarest treasure lies.

Passing through one ornate room after another, they finally arrived at a door made of translucent jade. The door had just opened, allowing the experts to pass through and enter the room.

Looking around, Yan Xiaobao immediately signaled the group to remain silent; no one moved, no one spoke, and the three experts even tried not to breathe. They feared even breathing would disturb either Yan Xiaobao or something beyond the door.

What Yan Xiaobao saw inside was columns formed by translucent jade, placed in a circle according to the curvature of the room. In the center of the room was a staircase that seemed to extend to the ceiling, allowing Yan Xiaobao to see the corner of a massive monument and a beautiful tombstone.

Approaching the staircase, Yan Xiaobao carefully observed everything happening around, but nothing seemed to move, and even stranger, there was no sign of the group entering before them. This made Yan Xiaobao even more concerned.

As he got closer to the stairs, he noticed that though the tomb's other stones were significantly darkened, the stones in this room were very bright. They illuminated the stairs made of white jade. As he stepped on the first step, the energy seemed to pull him towards the platform overlooking the entire Sanctuary, and even though Yan Xiaobao wanted to stop, he couldn't.

"Don't struggle; I won't harm you," a voice echoed in the room. Yan Xiaobao immediately identified it as the voice of the heavenly expert who created this tomb. Feeling bitter, he couldn't help but mutter. "Sure, just as if you'd tell me that." But the low growl reverberated through the room, "Yes, you're right, little friend; I indeed won't tell you that, but this time you can trust me. I am the strongest soul mark in this tomb, connected to every other soul mark triggered. I know you are the one who passed the trials, testing one's speed and being sent to the Gate of Heaven. I spoke from the Gate of Heaven, and I know you're there; I saw you cherish the treasure with your wit and varied techniques.

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Chapter 810: A Special Gift

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"I'm really not that interesting," Yan Xiaobao said as he thought about the possible outcomes of this situation.

"The group that was here before did very well," the voice suddenly changed the subject. "But they didn't try to step onto the stairs leading to my tomb; instead, they went directly to the treasury."

"Haha, please don't be so disheartened. This is just one of many such treasuries. On the other hand, you actually showed your face politely to the almighty me, so, I have a special gift for you."

"Do I really want this gift?" While Yan Xiaobao moved one foot in front of the other skeptically, he found himself ascending the staircase at a speed he couldn't control. The conversation between the top of the stairs and him could be heard throughout the room. Below, the gazes of the four experts he left behind showed uncertainty about what to do.

"It's alright," Xiao Ning whispered to the three experts. "This young man has a kind of power we can't comprehend; I'm sure he'll be fine." As for whether this assurance was for himself or for the others, no one really knew, even Xiao Ning was unsure, but his eyes were glued to him. Going up the stairs.

After Yan Xiaobao questioned if he wanted the gift, no one spoke, but even so, he still proceeded forward. Finally, he reached the peak and, like him, he took a deep breath.

The platform he stood on was made of pure white jade. In the middle of this platform, seemingly a hundred meters, was a beautiful monument and a stone grave. The monument was a large statue that seemed to be of an old man, clearly the master of this tomb.

When he reached the top of the platform, the energy that compelled him forward completely vanished, but even as he reached the top, Yan Xiaobao still walked toward the monument as if in a daze. Then he knelt in front of it to pray for the tomb's master. Although he wasn't sure about the soul mark, he still felt that since he was here, he should at least show the most basic respect. In this expert's tomb, he had benefitted immensely after all.

The voice speaking with Yan Xiaobao had been quiet for a while, and Yan Xiaobao remained kneeling silently in front of the tomb. As time passed, he finally stood up, nodded toward the monument and the tomb, and finally began to look around the platform he had reached.

"I didn't expect you to show common courtesy," the voice said, audibly pleased, though his tone remained evident, he seemed satisfied with Yan Xiaobao's behavior.

"Even if your traps made it hard for all of us to access the treasures here, we've benefited in the end," Yan Xiaobao said. "It would be terrible not to show any respect."

"Another group showed no respect," the voice commented in a neutral tone, not displeased, merely stating a fact. "I like you better now. You're quite bold. Quite a daredevil; I'm still amazed, you walked into a room with no energy presence in the outer tomb, and then managed to complete here. You're obviously not a simple Emperor."

"Thank you for the compliment," Yan Xiaobao said cheerfully. He implied this soul mark couldn't control any power, it was just a mark of the soul; a part of the soul of the highest expert left in this world, communicating with people who appeared.

"I have four precious treasures here," the voice continued. "There's one in each corner. Take these. Then head to the door to the east. That's another treasury; one I believe you'll very much like," the voice continued.

"For being so kind to me, what do you want in return?" Yan Xiaobao tentatively asked. He felt uneasy about the sudden friendliness.

"I mentioned before, I was compelled to hand my treasures to others," the voice reminded him. "Given that, I might as well choose whom to give them to. Since you indeed showed me some respect, I will choose you as my successor."

"So you would choose anyone who shows reverence upon coming here?" Yan Xiaobao asked dumbfoundedly, once again getting a hearty laugh. "Yes." The voice said. "I'm dead; I don't care if the things I respect most are passed to a murderer if they're respectful to me. However, I've decided on you, so don't worry about whom else I might choose! Now head to the lower left corner and pick up the box there, then return to me and I'll help you open it."

Upon being told this, Yan Xiaobao wasted no time chatting with the soul mark; instead, he excitedly moved to the corner to see what was inside. Yan Xiaobao moved to a corner of the platform and found a small wooden box. This wooden box seemed very ordinary. It had some medicinal herb and flower carvings, and the box's size perfectly fit his palm.

The box was small but when he picked it up, all the energy in the surrounding area became chaotic, but not long after, it subsided. This made Yan Xiaobao wonder if the sudden change of energy ripple truly happened.

Yan Xiaobao decided not to think about it any further, shook his head, and returned to the tomb where the soul mark was. "Ah, I see you've found the box. Well, it wasn't very hard for you to find," the voice of the long-dead said as Yan Xiaobao reached the monument. Hearing the voice sound friendly and even a bit excited, Yan Xiaobao was once again surprised.

"You previously obtained two pill formulas," the voice said. "Those two formulas are not the best ones I've ever made. I created countless pill formulas, even better than the ones you've seen. All of these are stored within this Universal box. Open it, and you'll gain access to numerous medicinal herbs and formulas."