

My Master 35

Chapter 35: Moon and Ditch_1

Visiting the Taoist Institution's Jiazi number?

Chen Shizhi was more and more certain that the other party wanted to see him make a fool of himself; at this time, he absolutely couldn't lose face, so he hastily said, "I haven't renovated it yet! Once it's done, then you can come and see."

"Wasn't it said that the Taoist Institution would take care of the renovation for the Jiazi number Cave Mansion?" Cao Zhen actually didn't really want to visit, but since he had gotten along well with this person before, if he wasn't warm and polite, it would be inconsistent with his previous persona.

"That's just a baseless rumor," Chen Shizhi frowned, expressing dissatisfaction in a low voice, "I thought it was renovated too, but after I bought it, I found out... it wasn't renovated at all."

Not caring whether the other party was telling the truth or not, Cao Zhen saw an opportunity to skip the visit to the Cave Mansion, and quickly said, "Then let's just go to my place."

"I've just bought the Cave Mansion, haven't settled my belongings, and am quite busy..." Chen Shizhi quickly made up excuses, "Forget it then? Next time, next time I'll come over..."

"Then let's first go put your things in your Cave Mansion and then head out," Cao Zhen was still wrestling for the bundle when both of them pulled too hard, and the bundle suddenly ripped open, scattering various household items all over the floor.

Pillows... bedsheets... even underwear patched with pudding...

Looking at the worthless items scattered on the ground and then dubiously glancing at Chen Shizhi, Cao Zhen said, "Are you really taking away all this junk? Shizhi, don't tell me you didn't win my bet? That you lost? Went bankrupt?"

"How is that possible!" Initially intent on picking up the trash off the floor, Chen Shizhi stopped bending over as soon as he heard Cao Zhen's words, forcing himself to maintain his dignity as he said, "I've grown attached to these things after using them for so long..."

"Oh..." Cao Zhen nodded, feeling the logic made sense as he too didn't like to switch out things he was used to.

Seeing Cao Zhen slowly nodding but sensing he wasn't truly convinced, Chen Shizhi quickly claimed, "You're right though, once you have money, you should replace everything with better stuff! Might as well throw these things away..."

"What a waste to throw them away," Cao Zhen remembered that the students of the Taoist Institution had a hard life and then suggested, "Why not give them to the students who live in poorer conditions?"

"Sure!" Chen Shizhi agreed, gritting his molars so hard they nearly shattered! He had originally planned to pretend to throw the items away and then secretly pick them back up later.

But if he gave the items to the students, he couldn't possibly have the shamelessness to ask for them back after giving them away.

"I remember, the poorer students are in that cluster of thatched huts on the west side." Cao Zhen headed straight for the poor students' area, following his memory.

Hurriedly picking up his things, Chen Shizhi followed behind Cao Zhen, his heart burning with the desire to stab the man from behind, yet he had to maintain a happy smile on his face as if he was doing good from the bottom of his heart.

Pillows, blankets... cushions used for cultivation...

As the first item was given away, Chen Shizhi felt so pained that he nearly fainted. As more and more items were given away and he had fewer and fewer in his hands, he experienced for the first time what it meant to be numb.

Just give them away, give them all away... It's not like I can't sleep outside at night... Chen Shizhi reassured himself, after all, within the Hundred Peaks Sect, it was safe; there wasn't any of the Demonic Path's capturing for practice, draining people's blood essence, nor were there any man-eating monsters.

With the last item delivered, Chen Shizhi stepped out of the Taoist Institution's gate like a walking corpse, taking his seat for the first time in the luxurious version of the Immortal Cloud Carriage.

As the cold wind from on high blew, Chen Shizhi finally snapped out of his numb state, only to see Cao Zhen sipping on the carriage's special "Little Immortal Brew," reigniting the fury in his numb heart!

All because of the man before him! He had just given away even his sleeping and cultivation coverings, yet this man was so extravagantly riding in such an upscale Immortal Cloud Carriage, and even drinking "Little Immortal Brew" infused with an immense amount of Spiritual Energy, worth a full liang of Spirit Stone!

Chen Shizhi quickly grabbed a bottle of "Little Immortal Brew" and started drinking, feeling pure Spiritual Energy being absorbed into his body with the liquid, giving him the urge to cry.

It tasted so good! It felt so comfortable! He could have had the opportunity to enjoy all this too! If only Cao Zhen hadn't won, he might also have been indulging himself right now!

"Old Chen, you've thrown away your old stuff, and I'm planning to spruce up our Four Treasures Peak too," Cao Zhen said while drinking "Little Immortal Brew." "I hear that Many Treasures Pavilion's Gathering Spirit Bodhi Pillow is quite good, they say you can even enhance wisdom and enlightenment while sleeping, and their Ascending Immortal Pufutuano also sounds decent, with its Formation being quite sophisticated, and more..."

Chen Shizhi, listening to Cao Zhen list off household cultivation items like they were nothing, felt his eyes turn red with envy, almost bursting, and blurted out, "Buying all these you mentioned, wouldn't it cost several thousand liang of Spirit Stones? Are you insane? Just earned some money, can't you save a bit? Do you want to go bankrupt?"

No sooner had Chen Shizhi spoken than he regretted it. What did it matter to him if the other party went bankrupt? Shouldn't he be happier if Cao Zhen went bankrupt? Why was he advising him to save? Damn his loose tongue! How should he entice him to spend extravagantly again?

"It would probably cost more than several thousand liang," Cao Zhen said, counting on his fingers. "Including a set for each of my four disciples, it might not even stop at twenty thousand liang of Spirit Stones, right? I wonder if there's a discount for buying so many?"

Chen Shizhi, who had just stood up to grab another jar of "Little Immortal Brew," nearly lost his footing and tumbled from the Immortal Cloud Carriage upon hearing that Cao Zhen intended to buy the same items for his four disciples.

"None of my disciples are good at haggling..." Cao Zhen sighed to himself. "Looks like I'll have to try negotiating the price myself..."

Chen Shizhi instinctively began to advise again, but then his mind spun, and he said, "Buying so many is just too expensive! Cao Zhen, now that you're also in the Five Bridge Realm, you can refine your own artifacts. Why not buy some materials and do Artifact Refining yourself? With such solid foundations, wouldn't refining be quite easy for you? And it'll save money!"

"Artifact Refining, I do know how to..." Cao Zhen shook his head; this wasn't something he hadn't considered before, buying materials for Artifact Refining was naturally a lot cheaper, but it was too time-consuming! And with support items for cultivation life, even if he did the refining himself, the effects might not be much better than the bought ones.

After all, in the world of Immortal Cultivation for so many years, the auxiliary type of Magic Artifacts for daily life had already become a very mature system.

Chen Shizhi stared at Cao Zhen with eyes full of eager longing, hoping the other would be so carried away by his victory that he believed he could do anything, and would buy a batch of materials to refine himself! Artifact Refining, like Alchemy, was such that a single mishap could waste all the materials!

Chen Shizhi firmly believed that with Cao Zhen busying himself with cultivation over the years, his performance in the six arts of Immortal Cultivation must have been mediocre at best. If Cao Zhen attempted Artificing and failed, he would feel too embarrassed to give up and would keep buying materials to continue refining, much like a gambler! Eventually, he would end up betting away his entire fortune!

Their days as classmates had let Chen Shizhi understand that Cao Zhen was quite stubborn, intent on pursuing a task again and again without caring about failure. So if Chen Shizhi could entice him into Artifact Refining...

"Better not, it just takes too much time," Cao Zhen said, shaking his head, "Besides, it's not that much money. It's better to buy ready-made. Importantly, they also come with a guarantee... If I were to make them, and my disciples mishandled and damaged them, wouldn't I still have to repair them? That would be too time-consuming!"

Twenty thousand Spirit Stones referred to as 'not that much money'? Chen Shizhi felt he couldn't continue to be alone with this person any longer. If this went on... jealousy would turn him ugly!

As the Immortal Cloud Carriage arrived at the gate of the Peak Master's courtyard of Four Treasures Peak, Chen Shizhi, carrying a jar of "Little Immortal Brew", hurriedly alighted. Still, he couldn't help feeling envious; renting such a high-end Immortal Cloud Carriage was indeed great as it took riders directly to their doorstep without having to wait under a station sign.