

My Master 391

Chapter 391: No One Can Escape_2

The members of Thousand Caves Door also knew that the people from Hundred Peaks Sect had come to engage in the debate, but they were very confident, as they were far stronger this year than ever before.

In their anticipation, if Hundred Peaks Sect had a debate with Thousand Caves Door, the most likely to lose would certainly be Hundred Peaks Sect.

But when evening came, disciple after disciple from Thousand Caves Door, including Cave Masters and senior officials, received the results of today's debates, and nearly went insane!

Calligraphy, painting, poetry, lyrics, musical rhythm—all of their debates were utterly lost, and even to the same person.

They had been losing all day yesterday.

They couldn't believe it, could that same person continue to win? What other subjects could one person possibly excel in?

They didn't believe that today, the people from Hundred Peaks Sect could still defeat their Thousand Caves Door!

In other debates such as those on poetry and lyrics, musical rhythm, or calligraphy and painting, even those who were not experts could still appreciate them.

However, a debate on Agriculture, if not understood, really seemed quite uninteresting.

But today, even more disciples and Cave Masters thronged to the site of the debate.

Lan Pili was under great pressure, having stayed up all night pondering how to confront White Cave Master. If Cao Zhen won all day yesterday only to lose as soon as he entered the field today, what would that count for?

Although it was true that today he only lost one match, and it was just one aspect of Agriculture that Hundred Peaks Sect lost to Thousand Caves Door, overall, it was still Hundred Peaks Sect who had won more.

Yet, his own pride made him unwilling to lose, eager to struggle one last time.

Over the years, he had found his own path based on the heritage of Agriculture passed down by his master.

Lan Pili and White Cave Master, each could only look at one another over their own ruined Spirit Fields before moving toward the other's field without waiting for anyone to speak.

Both Spirit Fields were of the lowest rank, Rank One Spirit Fields. After all, the higher the rank of a Spirit Field, the more troublesome and time-consuming it was to restore.

Therefore, debates started with Rank One Spirit Fields, and only if no winner could be determined would they proceed to Rank Two Spirit Fields, then Rank Three and so on.

Standing among the crowd, Cao Zhen, who had not participated in the debate, noticed that the gazes of the Thousand Caves Door disciples didn't fall on Lan Pili but on him.

Cao Zhen ignored everyone else and looked towards the two Spirit Fields.

Destroying Spirit Fields did not mean turning the fields into a complete mess; destruction only targeted the soil of the fields.

A Spirit Field is so named because of its unique soil, which contains Spiritual Energy.

The Spirit Field White Cave Master faced looked overturned, revealing dark soil. This wasn't naturally black soil but originally yellow; it had turned black because it had been bombarded with the Great Thunderfall Technique by Lan Pili.

After much contemplation the night before, he decided to use his Divine Skills to cause sudden destruction, thinking only then would he have a slim chance of winning.

White Cave Master seemed to have anticipated what Lan Pili would do. He squatted down, gently touched the soil with his hand, and a victorious smile appeared on his face as he lightly chuckled, "So you changed the soil with Thunderbolt Proficiency? Your thought is good. If it were someone else, they might indeed be unable to repair the soil you destroyed, but alas, you've met me.

Even with the changes from lightning, it's merely a variation on the heritage. Repairing this soil couldn't be simpler."

White Cave Master quickly gathered various non-Spirit Grass plants and began planting them around the soil while he said, "These blue flowers, although not Spirit Grass, have a restorative effect, along with..."

He started planting various herbs across the Spirit Field...

Cao Zhen was somewhat speechless. So, White Cave Master's method of restoring the Spirit Field was to plant various grasses?

The problem is, this is at Thousand Caves Door, during the debate, where all sorts of herbs are ready at hand. But what if it were somewhere else, without sufficient herbs available? How would he restore the Spirit Field then?

The issue with the soil wasn't something that could only be solved by planting herbs; it could be addressed in other ways, too. White Cave Master's techniques were too ordinary.

Before long, the pitch-dark soil on the Spirit Field began to reveal its yellow color again.

White Cave Master looked down at the soil with the poise of a master and with a calm expression said, "In less than half a day, this Spirit Field will be restored."

Surrounding them, each disciple from Thousand Caves Door, watching the partial restoration of the Spirit Field, began to shout loudly.

"White Cave Master is indeed formidable, casually restoring the Spirit Field."

"This time, it seems we're going to win."

"That Lan Pili of Hundred Peaks Sect seems still clueless."

"White Cave Master's research on the disciplines of Agriculture ranks among the top three in our Thousand Caves Door."

Many disciples from Thousand Caves Door started celebrating wildly; they had been suppressed all of yesterday, and today they finally turned the tables. It seemed that Lan Pili was clearly unable to restore the Spirit Field damaged by White Cave Master.

Full of confidence, White Cave Master stepped away from his Spirit Field and walked to Lan Pili's side, asking softly, "Peak Master Lan, I have already restored your Spirit Field for you. I wonder, do you know how to restore mine?"

Chapter 392: No One Can Run Away_3

"I...," Lan Pili said, beads of sweat dripped down his forehead continuously. The spirit field seemed unturned, yet it had indeed suffered damage, and its nourishment had been considerably depleted."

Even the spiritual medicine on the spirit field seemed somewhat wilted.

Under such circumstances, what was needed first was to replenish the nutrients in the spirit field.

However, replenishing nutrients wasn't something that could be done haphazardly, especially since there was still spiritual medicine on the field. A careless move could affect the growth of the planted herbs...

Specifically, the spiritual medicine grown here was the first-grade Gathering Light Grass, which was particularly sensitive to an excess of nutrients.

He had thought of many methods but had not found the best solution.

"I..." In the end, Lan Pili let out a long sigh, admitting, "Someone like Lan is limited in knowledge and truly unable to restore this spirit field."

The moment his words fell, the surrounding disciples of Thousand Caves Door burst into cheers.

A smile finally appeared on Elder Huan Kong's face, as Thousand Caves Door had finally won a challenge. He looked at Lan Pili and announced loudly, "In that case, this 'Agriculture' debate challenge goes to Thousand Caves Door."

Although he addressed Lan Pili, his voice carried loud and far, alerting everyone nearby and even reaching distant places.

A victory for Thousand Caves Door was naturally something they wanted the disciples within their sect to know.

Cao Zhen raised a hand and gestured towards Elder Huan Kong, saying, "Wait a moment."

He couldn't understand why these people always liked to celebrate with champagne before the match was actually won.

Although Cao Zhen hadn't participated in the debate, his performance from the previous day meant many still paid attention him. As he spoke, all eyes quickly turned his way.

Elder Huan Kong's grizzled beard twitched as he asked, "Peak Master Cao, do you have any questions? Peak Master Lan has already admitted he cannot restore the spirit field."

"No, that's not what I'm talking about," Cao Zhen raised a finger and looked at Elder Huan Kong, "When debating, can only one person from each sect participate?"

Elder Huan Kong shook his head, "Of course not."

As he spoke, he suddenly realized something and looked at Cao Zhen in surprise, "Is Peak Master Cao implying...?"

Cao Zhen nodded confidently, "That's right, I also have some understanding of 'Agriculture.' Why don't I have a debate with the Cave Masters?"

He didn't have any desire to show off; he wanted to leave Thousand Caves Door quickly to make his way to Capital City.

But with Lan Pili defeated, he couldn't just stand idly by.

Upon hearing that Cao Zhen was going to step in, Elder Huan Kong's face instinctively showed a flash of panic. Just yesterday, Cao Zhen had completely overwhelmed their disciples from Thousand Caves Door in five challenges.

He was already starting to dread hearing the name Cao Zhen.

He remembered what Cao Zhen had said at the start, which seemed to suggest that he was indeed adept at 'Agriculture'.

This guy couldn't possibly...

Elder Huan Kong thought to himself, then suddenly shook his head vigorously, as if trying to throw all his fears out of his mind.

He couldn't believe it. Cao Zhen was already skilled in so many areas; could he really be adept at 'Agriculture,' too?

'Agriculture' was different from what Cao Zhen had debated yesterday, which was essentially about various paths of cultivation, or even the paths of art.

Cao Zhen was skilled in poetry, painting, and musical rhythm, which only meant that he possessed exceptional artistic talent!

'Agriculture,' on the other hand, was one of the Six Arts, requiring extensive study and cultivation.

How much could Cao Zhen, at his young age, possibly understand the art of 'Agriculture'?

No, it was impossible for Cao Zhen to be deeply versed in all Six Arts; he refused to believe that Cao Zhen could be so universally adept at everything.

Meanwhile, White Cave Master had already spoken, "Since Peak Master Cao wishes to compete, naturally, we have no reason to refuse. Peak Master Cao, how about this? We don't even need to change the subject. How would you like to continue restoring this side of the spirit field?"

Cao Zhen simply walked forward a few steps, sensing the breath of the spirit field and smelling the scent of the soil. He didn't even need to crouch down to inspect the dirt when he declared, "Restoring this spirit field is too easy; manure will be more than enough."

"Manure?" Upon hearing Cao Zhen's words, White Cave Master burst into derisive laughter, "Peak Master Cao, indeed manure can be used as fertilizer, a common knowledge among ordinary farmers, but you should know that this is a spirit field and not just any ordinary field. It isn't simply about adding manure or the like to replenish nutrients!"

Around them, many scoffed, "Adding manure to a spirit field, what was he thinking?"

"The spirit field has 'spirit' in its name; it contains spiritual energy. What is manure? It's the filthiest of substances; how could it be put into a spirit field?"

"Introducing such filthy matter to a spirit field would contaminate its spiritual energy, and if too much of this filth is added, the whole field could be ruined!"

"This Peak Master Cao clearly doesn't understand the way of 'Agriculture.'

"He's become too confident after winning so much yesterday; overconfidence can lead to hubris."

On the side of the Hundred Peaks Sect, those who overheard the conversation shook their heads as well. The knowledge of the Six Arts they had received indeed confirmed that one should not add something as vile as manure to a spirit field."

Cao Zhen was at a loss for words; these people, with their talk of filthy substances, who said that the spiritual energy of a spirit field would necessarily be affected by such misconceptions?

Chapter 393: No One Can Escape_4

As someone connected to the spirit of the land, he could responsibly say that the spirit fields are rich with spiritual energy because of the soil.

The impact of manure exists, but it is not irresolvable.

These people...

Nevermind, if they don't know, then they don't know, and since they are not disciples of Four Treasures Peak, he had no obligation to teach them.

If they fail to understand the wonderful uses of manure, then let them stick to their foolish methods.

Cao Zhen did not argue with these people and simply pointed out, "Forget it, it's no use explaining to you. Then let me mention another method. You can plant Pigeon Grass around here, but not too much, plant one every ten feet..."

Cao Zhen began to speak of another method.

The disciples skilled in agriculture around him heard this and started scoffing again.

"Pigeon Grass? That is one of the most notorious plants for absorbing nutrients, and the soil here is already low in nutrients. If you plant Pigeon Grass, it will absorb what little is left, and the spirit herbs on the spirit fields will be utterly destroyed."

"Peak Master Cao, do you even understand?"

"You're just talking nonsense!"

White Cave Master's face revealed a surprised look upon hearing about Pigeon Grass; to restore the damaged spirit fields he needed to use Pigeon Grass indeed!

It seemed that the soil's nutrients were indeed destroyed, but actually...

Listening to everyone's mockery, Cao Zhen himself chuckled, "Who says the soil's nutrients are completely destroyed? The spirit field's nutrients have only suffered minor damage, and most of the nutrients are still stored around the spirit field in the depths of the soil."

By planting Pigeon Grass only at the edges, it will not absorb the scant nutrients on the surface but will go deeper underground and draw nutrients from there.

At that time, between every two Pigeon Grass plants, you can plant..."

Around him, people hearing this still displayed looks of disbelief, "The spirit herbs are already wilting, and you're saying there's a lot of nutrients stored..."

"How could that be? This is clearly a sign of soil nutrient depletion, White Cave Master..."

When the crowd turned back to look at White Cave Master, they found him looking at Cao Zhen with a surprised expression.

"This... The look on White Cave Master's face seems rather unusual."

"Could it be that Cao Zhen is right?"

"Impossible."

Elder Huan Kong, upon seeing the change in White Cave Master's expression, felt his face change color and a bad premonition started to dawn on him; perhaps Cao Zhen truly knew how to rejuvenate a spirit field.

As he listened to Cao Zhen naming one plant after another, White Cave Master got more and more astonished. What Cao Zhen said was all correct, and indeed the methods to repair a spirit field...

Hm? What did Cao Zhen say? Jiao Lian Flower?

White Cave Master suddenly intervened, "Peak Master Cao, what do you mean by suggesting Jiao Lian Flower?" It was not included in his own restoration methods.

The crowd around, upon hearing this, let out a sigh of relief. That was where Cao Zhen's method had a problem, he was wrong, and consequently, it would mean he lost.

After all, in rejuvenating a spirit field, everyone only had one chance; one mistake meant defeat.

"Why can't Jiao Lian Flower be used? Next, one could use Half-mile Grass and Pure Fern," Cao Zhen did not answer directly about Jiao Lian Flower but instead mentioned two more plants.

Upon hearing this, White Cave Master's frown deepened, "Half-mile Grass and Pure Fern? They... I understand now, it's to neutralize the Cold Breath of Jiao Lian Flower, but Pure Fern... are you intending to use Erosion..."

"Correct, and then add Erosion Essence Miasma along with..." Cao Zhen quickly named two more plants, looking at White Cave Master and asking, "With this, can it be restored?"

White Cave Master did not respond but furrowed his brows, evidently lost in thought. After a long pause, he looked up at Cao Zhen with astonishment and exclaimed, "No problem, although it's not identical to my method, I have reasoned it out, and this method can certainly restore the spirit field."

Shock!

All around, the people of Thousand Caves Door were stunned.

This Cao Zhen, he really knew agriculture, and it seemed he was not just averagely knowledgeable. But then, what was all that he said about manure earlier?

White Cave Master was more surprised than anyone; the items Cao Zhen listed added up to be five fewer types of herbs, nearly a hundred plants less in total.

Although both methods achieved restoration, Cao Zhen's used fewer resources. If it came down to it, White Cave Master was actually disadvantaged.

Lan Pili was completely dumbfounded; he realized he was entirely unable to understand Cao Zhen now. Did Cao Zhen truly have knowledge in the art of "Agriculture"?

During the previous Hundred Peaks competition, not a single disciple from Four Treasures Peak had participated in the contest of agriculture.

What else did Cao Zhen know?

Seeing that the other party had admitted his method could rejuvenate the spirit field, Cao Zhen took a few more steps forward and asked, "White Cave Master, according to the rules of this debate, is it time for me to damage this spirit field and let you restore it?"

"That's only natural," White Cave Master nodded slightly and asked Cao Zhen in return, "Peak Master Cao, shall we choose another second-grade spirit field and then make preparations?"

"There's no need for that, this very spirit field beneath our feet is enough," Cao Zhen immediately crouched down, inserted his hand into the soil, and utilizing his own connection with the soil, began to alter the earth beneath him.

Choosing another spirit field would be needlessly complicated, and he needed to leave soon; he didn't have the time for lengthy delays.

Chapter 394: No One Can Escape_5

"The spirit field below?" White Cave Master was momentarily bewildered. Was Cao Zhen planning to inflict further destruction upon what he had already damaged? He was well aware of how the spirit field had been destroyed, since he was the one who did it.

Wasn't he merely handing himself a victory?

As he contemplated this, Cao Zhen had already stood up and looked at White Cave Master, "White Cave Master, it's your turn now, restore the spirit field."

"That's it?"

White Cave Master looked at Cao Zhen incredulously. If it weren't for Cao Zhen's recent instructions on how to restore the spirit field, he might even doubt Cao Zhen's capability in the agricultural aspect of the Six Arts. In such a short time, without using various plants or herbs, Cao Zhen had already finished the destruction. He merely stuck his hand in; what damage could that do?

He...

White Cave Master thrust his hand deep into the ground, and the next instant, he shuddered and quickly inserted his other hand as well, his face a mask of disbelief.

Around them, the members of Thousand Caves Door, who had previously shown no signs of panic, stared at the change in White Cave Master's expression, and sudden unease gripped their hearts. With that look on his face, White Cave Master clearly encountered trouble.

Could it be that they were going to lose again today?

Cao Zhen, having finished everything, didn't look at White Cave Master anymore but turned to the crowd and said, "Everyone, who among you wishes to debate with me on agriculture, go ahead. Look together with White Cave Master and study it."

Around him, the expressions of the Cave Masters and disciples darkened, their outrage evident. This was sheer arrogance.

What did Cao Zhen mean by this?

He was blatantly disrespecting White Cave Master, implying that White Cave Master couldn't solve it, and was even more clearly despising them, underestimating Thousand Caves Door, by suggesting they should study it together!

Was Cao Zhen challenging the entire Thousand Caves Door in the agricultural field all by himself?

Amidst the anger, White Cave Master's voice carried over, "Everyone, come and have a look."

His words hung in the air, and everyone was shocked. White Cave Master was one of the top three experts in the agricultural field recognized by Thousand Caves Door.

Now, after merely a glance, he was suggesting everyone look together, which clearly indicated his lack of confidence.

Cao Zhen simply reached into the soil and fiddled around, such a trivial motion; then what had Cao Zhen done exactly?

Many of the Cave Masters and disciples skilled in agriculture ran to the spirit field. At this moment, they didn't need to examine it further; they had already spotted the issue.

This spirit field, they could no longer sense any spiritual energy in it, feeling as if it was just ordinary farmland.

But just this alone shouldn't have made White Cave Master's face look so terrible. What was wrong with the soil underneath?

Many followed White Cave Master's example and reached directly into the spirit field, their faces turning blank the next moment.

The soil below was filled with spiritual energy, incredibly dense and full of vibrant life; the land was incredibly fertile.

"The spirit field above has no perceptible spiritual energy, yet the soil is so fertile... What's going on?"

"All the spiritual energy and nutrients are isolated below."

"To solve this, the nutrients and spiritual energy below need to be allowed to flow upward."

"But how to make it flow up? This dense spiritual energy and nutrients, with just a slight disturbance, as soon as there is an outlet, they will all rush out, and then the spirit grass above would be burnt alive due to excess nutrients."

"Divert a portion of the nutrients somewhere else?"

"How to divert? Haven't you realized? The spiritual energy and nutrients below are completely integrated. With just a slight touch, they will all flow out."

"This is simply baffling; how did he do it? White Cave Master, you were the one who destroyed the spirit field before. Surely you have a way to restore it, right?"

"I... I also cannot."

Everyone scratched their ears and cheeks, discussing what to do, but no matter how much they deliberated, they could not find a solution.

Cao Zhen was no longer watching them. In fact, under the current situation, restoring the spirit field was simple – using manure.

However, these people thought manure was dirty and had no idea how to use it to fertilize the spirit field even better. They were fixated on how to plant certain plants to cultivate the field.

With their theories, even if they tried for ten years, a hundred years, they wouldn't be able to solve the problem.

He didn't have time to wait for them endlessly.

Cao Zhen looked toward Lan Pili and asked, "Peak Master Lan, there should be a time limit for solving the puzzle, right?"

Lan Pili, unsure if Cao Zhen was intentionally mocking the others or genuinely didn't know, could only respond, "Indeed, there is a limit. For a first-grade spirit field, there are six hours. If the solution isn't found within that time, then it's a loss."

Six hours...

Cao Zhen shook his head; that was far too long.

His gaze then shifted aside. Enough people had come this time. After losing to him, the members of Thousand Caves Door would surely challenge him to debate again.

Instead of engaging in debates with different people over and over, wasting time, it was better to solve them all at once.

Cao Zhen gazed towards Elder Huan Kong and suddenly spoke, "If there are any others from Thousand Caves Door who wish to challenge me in a debate, no matter if it is Alchemy Dao, Talisman, Formation, Military Law... just come forth. I'll be here waiting, have them all come together!"

Chapter 395: Reincarnated Great Ability_1

As the day of the Qiankun small epoch drew nearer, the various Immortal Sects were not only sending out their genius disciples to engage in debates with others but also started organizing their own debate teams to venture out.

And the number of visitors received by the Immortal Sects began to increase.

Hundred Peaks Sect, at the entrance of the mountain gate.

At this moment, besides the disciples guarding the mountain gate, there was also a team specifically in charge of reception, remaining at this location.

Suddenly, a figure swiftly passed before everyone's eyes, and within the blink of an eye, he had already landed in front of the crowd.

The visitor was clad in white, with a longsword at his feet radiating a threatening sharpness.

"Wu Jianzi!"

The faces of the disciples of the Hundred Peaks Sect instantly changed; this man was the first to come to their Sect for debate, and moreover, he had directly killed all the disciples of the Sword Dao of the Hundred Peaks Sect and then calmly left.

Only, it was said later that Wu Jianzi claimed he was defeated at the Hundred Peaks Sect, yet nobody mentioned who had defeated Wu Jianzi.

Later on, it was heard from the Sect Leader that Wu Jianzi was defeated by Peak Master Cao of Four Treasures Peak.

But if Wu Jianzi had already debated at the Hundred Peaks Sect, why had he come to the Hundred Peaks Sect again?

Could it be that Wu Jianzi? On his journey of debate, he had some enlightening insights, feeling he could overcome Peak Master Cao, thus he made a special return?

But Peak Master Cao was not at Hundred Peaks Sect.

In a discourse on swords, who could stop him?

Although it's said that a debate usually occurs only once, there has never been a rule stating that debating twice isn't allowed.

What if Wu Jianzi truly came back to challenge them, not willing to concede? What then?

Everyone was immediately somewhat panicked.

Wu Jianzi landed in front of Hundred Peaks Sect's mountain gate, retracted the longsword beneath his feet, and cordially greeted everyone with a hand clasp, asking, "Gentlemen, is Senior Cao here? Previously, I had the honor of receiving guidance from Senior Cao. Now, having completed my debates, I have come specially to thank Senior Cao and to keep the appointment he offered."

At that time, upon his departure, Peak Master Cao had indeed told him to come to Four Treasures Peak at the Hundred Peaks Sect after finishing the debates to have a meal and get acquainted.

He had his master's orders to follow and couldn't go against them. He still had to continue debating, but he couldn't let Senior Cao keep waiting for him at Four Treasures Peak.

Therefore, during this period, he debated at the various Sects at an unusually fast pace. Especially after Peak Master Cao's guidance, he had found his future path in the Sword Dao and gained a deeper understanding. On his way to debate, he was crushing victories all the way, completing all the debates much sooner than anticipated and returned to the Hundred Peaks Sect.

"To keep an appointment?"

"To show gratitude?"

"Not to debate again?"

The crowd immediately breathed a sigh of relief. As long as he wasn't there to debate again, everything was fine. Their admiration for Peak Master Cao grew even more.

Other Sects, when facing Wu Jianzi, would certainly think about how to last a few more days, but Peak Master Cao not only had defeated Wu Jianzi but had also made him submit completely. After the debates, Wu Jianzi still wanted to come to thank Peak Master Cao. It was a pity, though, that Peak Master Cao was not in.

A disciple of the Hundred Peaks Sect returned the courtesy to Wu Jianzi and said, "Brother Wu Jianzi, your visit is quite untimely, for Peak Master Cao is currently not in the Hundred Peaks Sect."

"Senior Cao is not in Hundred Peaks Sect?" Wu Jianzi was slightly stunned.

"Peak Master Cao set out more than twenty days ago with Peak Master Lan, leading the disciples to Capital City to attend the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's coronation ceremony for the new emperor. Oh right, according to the most recent news we received yesterday, Peak Master Cao and the others went to the Thousand Caves Door and seem to be staying there for a while."

"Thousand Caves Door? Thank you, brother, for the information," Wu Jianzi nodded slightly, and the flying sword beneath his feet emerged in a flash. He turned and flew towards the distance, quickly disappearing from the crowd's sight.

Senior Cao had left; he must have grown impatient waiting. I had kept Peak Master Cao waiting for too long, even mistaking him for the Pathfinder. It was a considerable error on my part. I must go to the Thousand Caves Door to apologize and hope it's not too late.

The debate between Sects has always been such that a Sect sets up various Dao discussion platforms and then waits for the others to come and debate.

But now, Cao Zhen was doing the exact opposite—he was going to stand right there and let people come to him to debate.

Thousand Caves Door, disciple after disciple glared at Cao Zhen with burning rage.

This was the Thousand Caves Door, not his Hundred Peaks Sect!

Arrogant, too arrogant! They had never seen anyone so presumptuous.

What was Cao Zhen saying?

He wanted to debate with all of them alone, to challenge the entire Thousand Caves Door by himself!

This was a blatant disregard for their Thousand Caves Door!

Among the crowd, several quick-tempered Cave Masters immediately shouted out with dissatisfaction.

"Peak Master Cao, you are perhaps a bit too arrogant!"

"Do you think our Thousand Caves Door has no one worthy?"

"Since the founding of our Thousand Caves Door, there has never been such a challenge!"

Cao Zhen looked at everyone with a helpless expression and said, "Gentlemen, please don't misunderstand. I'm simply in a hurry."

"Fine, since Peak Master Cao is in a hurry, then we will grant his request!" Elder Huan Kong's face had completely turned icy. He had lived for thousands of years and had never encountered someone so arrogant before.

Although Cao Zhen had been winning continuously, even seeming likely to win this current debate, Elder Huan Kong didn't believe that Cao Zhen could keep winning indefinitely. Could Cao Zhen possibly know everything?

He turned to Lin Xuefeng, who had been following by his side and said, "Go, invite Cave Master Zhou from Ultimate Pill Cave to come and debate with Peak Master Cao!"

Chapter 396: Reincarnation of Great Ability_2

Pills!

Cao Zhen had said he was skilled at alchemy, but he didn't believe it. Even if Cao Zhen was proficient in alchemy, could he really surpass Zhou Juedan?

Although it was true that their Thousand Caves Door wasn't as strong as the Hundred Peaks Sect in the realm of alchemy, it also depended on who they were compared with.

Cao Zhen?

He could sense that Cao Zhen's life essence was very young, definitely not exceeding a hundred years old.

Alchemy was incredibly complex. Beyond the most important aspect of legacy, it required talent as well as the accumulation of years spent tirelessly cultivating, making constant mistakes, and becoming ever more adept at alchemy.

He just didn't buy it, that Cao Zhen, so young, could truly understand alchemy!

All around, the disciples burst into exclamations upon hearing this.

"Cave Master Zhou!"

"Cave Master Zhou, are we directly making a move with Cave Master Zhou?"

"Cave Master Zhou, he's among the top three alchemists within our Thousand Caves Door!"

"Within the Six Arts, alchemy is extremely complex. I just don't believe that Cao Zhen could be skilled at that too!"

"I think he's been winning so much he's gotten lost in it!"

Amidst the murmuring of the crowd, in about the time it takes half an incense stick to burn, a middle-aged man with a ruddy complexion and a portly figure, sporting a large belly, had already flew over.

Upon landing, he immediately raised his hand and waved it forward, instantly setting up a pill furnace in front of him.

All around, the disciples of the Thousand Caves Door burst into cheers.

"Cave Master Zhou has arrived!"

"Cave Master Zhou, we're relying on you this time."

"Let that Cao Zhen know what real alchemy is."

If it had been an ordinary day, they wouldn't cheer so loudly and indecorously, but Cao Zhen had been too arrogant, and their Thousand Caves Door had been consistently losing. They had to win this time!

Zhou Juedan's expression wasn't exactly cold, but he was far from smiling. Looking towards Cao Zhen, he said outright, "I heard Peak Master Cao is in a hurry, coincidentally, I'm also pressed for time.

For our alchemy competition, let's test the most fundamental pills. How about we compete on first-rank pills? Using the same ingredients, whoever can produce more pills and of a higher quality will be the victor.

Of course, Peak Master Cao, you get to choose which pill we make."

As he spoke, his face displayed absolute confidence. With his level of alchemy, it made no difference which first-rank pill he made.

He had already stated the terms of the competition, and if he also chose which pill to make, even if he won against Cao Zhen, others might gossip. Therefore, for the choice of pill, he let Cao Zhen decide.

"I get to choose which first-rank pill to make? Are you sure?" Cao Zhen immediately laughed. He didn't understand why these people seemed to enjoy being humiliated.

"Of course," Zhou Juedan confidently said, "Choose any first-rank pill, Peak Master Cao, at your leisure."

"Oh, then I choose the Clear God Poison Dissolution Pill." Cao Zhen directly named a pill. Indeed, it was a first-rank pill known for its detoxifying effects. His reason for choosing this particular pill was simple; during his time in this world, based on what he knew, it seemed no one else could make this pill.

To compete in alchemy, no need to waste time, right?

I just name a pill you can't make, and I win outright.

How easy.

"Clear God Poison Dissolution Pill?" Zhou Juedan was completely baffled, "What kind of pill is that? Why haven't I heard of it?"

The surrounding disciples of the Thousand Caves Door also shook their heads, saying, "Although there are many first-rank pills, we have never heard of such a one."

"Has anyone heard of that kind of pill?"

"I haven't heard of it."

"Peak Master Cao, no one has heard of this pill. You didn't just make up a name, did you?"

"I could do that too; I could make up some non-existent pill. Then nobody would be able to make it."

"If we are to compete, let's do so with a well-known and common pill, like the Tiger Bone Jade Marrow Pill. That's also one of the more difficult ones among first-rank pills, and it's quick to make."

Listening to the discussion below, Cao Zhen sighed helplessly. It was their own suggestion to let him choose the pill, but when they hadn't heard of it, they claimed it didn't exist.

Well, if they insisted on making a pill...

Following one disciple's suggestion, Cao Zhen said, "The Tiger Bone Jade Marrow Pill it is, then. Let's use that one."

"Fine."

Zhou Juedan promptly opened his Qiankun Bag, took out batches of herbs, divided them into two parts, then put them into two separate bags. With a wave of his hand, he controlled a portion of the herbs to fall in front of Cao Zhen.

If it had been any other herb, he wouldn't have been able to find it so quickly.

But sometimes, when he assessed his disciples, he would have them make Tiger Bone Jade Marrow Pills, and the ingredients were always ready at hand.

While everyone's alchemy techniques were different, the herbs they used wouldn't vary much. The herbs he provided were sufficient.

Cao Zhen didn't look at the herbs coming towards him but pointed towards the pill furnace in front of Zhou Juedan and said, "Cave Master Zhou, I don't have a pill furnace with me. Could you provide one?"

"A pill furnace?" Zhou Juedan was momentarily stunned. You're competing in alchemy without even preparing your own pill furnace? No, rather, you're an alchemist without your own pill furnace?

For an alchemist, a pill furnace is like a swordsman's sword or a calligrapher's brush, it's the tool of their trade.

Different pill furnaces provided different sensations when making pills.

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Using a more familiar and suitable pill furnace naturally leads to a higher success rate in alchemy, and it's also easier to refine pills of higher quality.

One could say that the pill furnace is the most important for an alchemist.

All alchemists are trying to get their hands on better pill furnaces; he had never seen any alchemist without their own furnace.

Even his disciples had at least one pill furnace each!

This Cao Zhen, being a Peak Master, claimed he didn't have a pill furnace!

From a distance, Elder Huan Kong heard Cao Zhen's words, and immediately remembered Cao Zhen's performance when discussing Musical Rhythm before; at that time, Cao Zhen also didn't have an instrument and had borrowed one.

Conspiracy, Cao Zhen was playing tricks again!

Fearing that Zhou Juedan would be deceived, Elder Huan Kong urgently transmitted a secret message: "Cave Master Zhou, you must not be careless. Previously, when that Cao Zhen debated with various masters of Rhythmic Cave, he also claimed to have no instrument and borrowed ours, yet he ended up winning the debate.

Even later, when he discussed with Liao Luoxia, he used our instrument too. He does this on purpose; he wants you to underestimate him. Once you let your guard down and don't perform at your true level, his opportunity will come."

"Don't worry, Elder. I understand, Thousand Caves Door can't afford to lose anymore. I will be careful, this time I will make him lose convincingly," Zhou Juedan responded through secret transmission, lifting his hand from his Qiankun Bag with a claw, and in the next moment, a giant hand's shadow appeared, revealing a pill furnace in Cao Zhen's line of sight.

"Which of these furnaces would Peak Master Cao like to use?"

"Any one will do," Cao Zhen said casually, pointing to one of the pill furnaces.

Immediately, the sky's giant hand shadow swept down, and the indicated pill furnace landed in front of him, letting out only a very faint sound; clearly, as a Cave Master, Zhou Juedan had a profound cultivation base, and his control was far from ordinary.

"Since this is a contest of the Way of Pill Refinery, for fairness, the pill furnaces we use must naturally be the same," Zhou Juedan said again as he grabbed another pill furnace from the Qiankun Bag, identical to the first.

Cao Zhen didn't care about which pill furnace Zhou Juedan used. He looked at the pill furnace in front of him and directly ignited it with a fire spell, then turned back and called out to Zhou Juedan, "Let's begin."

Zhou Juedan's expression became serious upon hearing this, and with a light of fire to ignite the furnace, he quickly took out some herbs and started to carefully weigh them.

Although they were only refining a first-grade pill, he was representing Thousand Caves Door in a discussion, and they had been losing for a long time. He couldn't afford to make mistakes.

He had just measured the weight of one herb when suddenly, a series of shocked exclamations erupted around them.

"What is this?"

"Can he even perform alchemy?"

"He... He threw all the herbs into the pill furnace at once!"

"What... What can he possibly refine from that?!"

"In pill refining, every single herb's weight must be meticulously measured, yet he threw them all in without even weighing!"

Zhou Juedan paused, glancing in Cao Zhen's direction, and at that moment, he saw all the herbs in front of Cao Zhen disappear, and the lid of the pill furnace was already closed.

All the herbs had vanished?

That means...

The surrounding disciples were still exclaiming in shock. Did Cao Zhen really throw all the herbs into the pill furnace at once?

Wasn't that just messing around!

Indeed, these herbs were meant to refine a certain pill, but not all at once, as per the required method of refinery!

He had prepared additional herbs for different refinery methods to avoid being caught off guard if Cao Zhen used a different technique.

Throwing all these herbs into the furnace could only lead to two outcomes: if he was lucky, nothing would happen except for a waste of materials; if he wasn't, the furnace would explode.

If his own disciples dared to perform alchemy like this, he wouldn't hesitate to expel them from the sect.

And this man was challenging him in pill refining?

It was far too ignorant. How did someone like that become a Peak Master of the Hundred Peaks Sect?

He was amazed that those from Thousand Caves Door had previously lost to Cao Zhen.

Around them, many disciples of Thousand Caves Door began to laugh openly: "Peak Master Cao, you should probably not compete. With what you're doing, I feel like the furnace might explode at any moment."

"Peak Master Cao, just admit defeat. Sure, you are excellent in calligraphy, poetry, and Musical Rhythm, but you are not up to the mark in the Way of Pill Refinery."

"Peak Master Cao, you're too arrogant for your own good, eventually losing sight of yourself."

Elder Huan Kong listened to the taunts of the disciples, finding the scene all too familiar. When Cao Zhen had previously participated in debates, it seemed to have been the same, especially during the Musical Rhythm debate where people laughed at him for not understanding Musical Rhythm, yet in the end even Liao Luoxia lost.

Could it be that Cao Zhen was again playing a trick, pretending to be a pig to eat a tiger?

Elder Huan Kong, still uneasy, transmitted another message to Zhou Juedan: "Cave Master Zhou, don't be fooled by that Cao Zhen. That guy is cunning to the extreme..."

Zhou Juedan was speechless: "Elder, you are too cautious. You also practice alchemy. Have you ever seen anyone refine pills like this? Tell me, how could it be possible to refine pills by throwing all the herbs in at once."

"Logically, such an approach should not allow one to refine pills, but Cao Zhen winning so many times against us means he surely isn't foolish. I'm worried he's playing some trick," Huan Kong insisted.

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Elder Huan Kong also knew that pills couldn't be refined this way, but he had truly lost his nerve from previous defeats, prompting him to remind Zhou Juedan again.

With no other choice, Zhou Juedan could only promise, "Fine, Elder, rest assured. No matter what, these materials are my own, and for their sake alone, I will give my all to alchemy.

Besides, I'm representing Thousand Caves Door right now, and we've lost too much already. The only way for me to restore some face this time is to win cleanly and decisively."

"That's good to hear. You don't need to bother with him; don't let him set the pace. Just act as if Cao Zhen doesn't exist, Cave Master Zhou."

No sooner had Elder Huan Kong transmitted his message covertly than he heard Cao Zhen's voice again.

"Elder Huan Kong, shall we continue?"

Elder Huan Kong was confused all over again, "Continue? Continue what?"

Cao Zhen looked earnestly at Elder Huan Kong and said, "Naturally, the discourse. Didn't I just say it? I'm also skilled in artifact refining, talisman making, formations, military law... Whoever wants to challenge me in a discourse, let's all come together."

Elder Huan Kong was thoroughly baffled, "What do you mean? You're busy with alchemy, aren't you? Why engage in a discourse?"

"Who says that alchemy precludes other discourses? I'm truly pressed for time here, mainly because I also need to craft a flying boat... Right, flying boats involve mechanical techniques. Anyone wishing to compete in mechanical techniques is welcome to join as well. We can also discuss formations, military law, and talismans all together."

Since these people all wanted to compete against him anyway, he might as well finish all the contests at once and then leave.

The cultivators of Thousand Caves Door were nearly exploding with anger!

So this was what Cao Zhen meant by inviting them all together: he wanted to engage in discourse with everyone simultaneously, not one at a time!

Arrogant!

So arrogantly beyond limits!

This was an outright insult to Thousand Caves Door; it was a direct slap in their face!

Lan Pili, on the other hand, was becoming anxious and even set aside covert communication to say directly to Cao Zhen, "Old Cao, although we're in a hurry, we're not that pressed for time. Once we've refined the flying boat and its speed is sufficient, we'll make it in time. Let us take our time with the discourse, one by one, slowly."

"Don't worry, I have it under control," Cao Zhen casually waved his hand. Alchemy? Talisman making? As long as you have hands, what's the issue?

Even when it came to crafting a flying boat.

He had previous experience in crafting one, and being familiar with the process, it wouldn't take much time or effort. Formations were slightly tricky, requiring a bit more concentration, but it was manageable.

Elder Huan Kong's face was an iron blue shade as he declared, "Fine, if Peak Master Cao wants to compete, then let's compete. Snow Peak, go find several Cave Masters..."

After a period enough to burn an incense stick, various Cave Masters gathered at the site.

Cao Zhen began by addressing each of the Cave Masters in turn.

"This Cave Master specializes in mechanical techniques, right? Until now, it has always been you who set the challenges. How about I issue a challenge this time? Let's compete in crafting flying boats over seven days, and whoever crafts the better flying boat wins, how about it?"

"As for formations... we'll set up a formation that can, well, conceal itself, and we'll install it on this flying boat."

With an abundance of materials arriving, Cao Zhen began the crafting process.

Next to him, the flames roared in the pill furnace, yet Cao Zhen scarcely attended to it, only occasionally casting an alchemy technique into the furnace.

The majority of his efforts were devoted to the formation and flying boat before him.

All around, the crowd watched Cao Zhen flit from task to task, utterly dumbfounded.

Cao Zhen was actually refining pills, creating formations, and crafting a flying boat all by himself!

Although his alchemy skills appeared lacking, and it was likely that the pills would be waste or blow up the furnace, it was clear that Cao Zhen truly understood formations, and was highly adept in that area.

The disciples of Thousand Caves Door grew more astonished as they watched.

"This Cao Zhen, his knowledge of formations is truly profound; just look at him when he's working on formations..."

"Even more terrifying is his expertise in mechanical techniques. Look at how adept his techniques are!"

"To use mechanical techniques that way, those movements... how did he come up with that?"

"This is bad; we might be losing in mechanical techniques."

Listening to the exclamations from the crowd, Elder Huan Kong grew increasingly alarmed. He had some understanding of the subject, albeit some more than others.

As for mechanical techniques, he might as well admit complete ignorance.

But according to these disciples, Cao Zhen was likely to win in the field of mechanical techniques.

Here was Cao Zhen, simultaneously competing in alchemy, formations, and mechanical techniques; if he won in this manner, Thousand Caves Door would lose face on this aspect alone, without considering anything else.

To be outperformed by a man multitasking would exhibit Thousand Caves Door in an even worse light!

While he pondered nervously, a middle-aged man approached in the distance. His robust body resembled a tower, and as he moved with the poise of a dragon and the stride of a tiger, people around him cleared a path.

"Cave Master Qian Jun."

"Cave Master, you're here for the discourse."

"Look behind him; Cave Master Po Jun has also arrived."

"And Cave Master Qi Bing too."

"All the Cave Masters of Military Tactics are here."

In Hundred Peaks Sect, only Military God Peak specialized in the military law, but in Thousand Caves Door, there were five caves dedicated to it.

All five Cave Masters joined forces and approached. They all exchanged bewildered looks upon seeing Cao Zhen concurrently working on formations, pills, and the flying boat.

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"He wants to debate military law with us?"

"How is such a debate even possible?"

"Military law is not to be taken lightly; during a debate, one must concentrate fully, scrutinizing every step. He's so distracted at the moment, yet he still wants to debate military law with us?"

"Gentlemen, should we wait for a while or leave first, and challenge him after Cao Zhen has finished?"

The five Cave Masters had heard that someone from the Hundred Peaks Sect had come to debate military law with them, and moreover, he intended to do it while simultaneously engaged in other debates.

Although the challenge had come from the other party, they were Cave Masters from the Thousand Caves Door—one of the top ten Immortal Sects!

Under such circumstances, even if they won the debate, they would feel no honor in it.

They had their pride and didn't wish to engage in a debate like this.

While Cao Zhen was busy forging a flying boat, he heard the voices of the disciples from below and immediately shouted, "Is it the Cave Masters from the Military Tactics Cave? Perfect, my mouth's still free, let's have our debate."

The five Cave Masters from the Military Tactics Cave instantly showed anger on their faces.

"Audacity!"

"We don't want to take advantage of him, yet he dares to provoke us on his own initiative!"

"Gentlemen, he provoked us first. If we don't respond, they might think the Thousand Caves Door fears him."

"Peak Master Cao, is it? Well, I would like to experience your understanding of military law."

The five Cave Masters from the Military Tactics Cave strode towards Cao Zhen.

Forging the flying boat, Cao Zhen spoke without even lifting his head.

"The military is a matter of vital importance to a state, a matter of life or death, the way to survival or ruin, and must not be neglected."

"The military is the way of deception."

"I have thirty-six stratagems, with the first being 'Deceive the heavens to cross the sea' ..."

"Getting away is the best plan ..."

Below, each Cave Master listening to those thirty-six stratagems seemed as if petrified, all standing rooted to the spot.

"This... so this is another way military law can be understood."

"I never imagined military law to encompass so much. Apparently, military law isn't just about generals and soldiers..."

Among the five Cave Masters, one suddenly had an epiphany, his body radiating golden light.

"Enlightenment!"

"The Cave Master from the Army-breaking Cave has achieved enlightenment!"

"Just by listening to Cao Zhen's words, he directly achieved enlightenment?"

"If the Cave Master achieved enlightenment from listening to Cao Zhen's words, does that not mean..."

"We've lost, we've lost again."

"There's no need to discuss formations; with just a few words, he prompted our Cave Master's enlightenment!"

"How does Cao Zhen understand military law as well..."

Amidst their shock, not far away, in the Spirit Field, several Cave Masters spoke: "Impossible, this Spirit Field cannot be restored."

"We can't restore the Spirit Field, may I ask Peak Master Cao, how can this Spirit Field be restored!"

They had discussed for a long time without coming up with a way to repair the Spirit Field.

According to the debate rules of "Agriculture," if one side could not repair the Spirit Field, then as the challenge presenter, one needed to restore the Spirit Field themselves; only then would it be considered a true victory.

"Restoring the Spirit Field is easy, just..." Cao Zhen began to say, then hesitated, realizing his mistake that he had forgotten he still had to restore the Spirit Field; this was going to let them learn of the wonders of manure.

Well, it's okay if they know it.

Cao Zhen pointed towards the Spirit Field and said, "You go find some cow dung and chicken manure..."

"Manure?" The crowd instantly frowned.

A moment later, one of the Cave Masters told the disciple behind him, "Do as he says and find the manure. I want to see how he uses manure to restore this Spirit Field."

Shortly afterward, the disciples of the Thousand Caves Door brought carts full of manure.

By now, due to the commotion caused by Cao Zhen, most disciples of the Thousand Caves Door had stayed behind. As the manure was brought in, a stench spread through the air, and the disciples were visibly disgusted, covering their noses and mouths.

They were people of Immortal Cultivation, and now they had to deal with manure!

"Wait for me for a moment."

Cao Zhen shot an Alchemy Technique towards the Pill Furnace in front of him, reducing the furnace's flames, then swiftly moved towards the Spirit Field, plunging his hands into the soil to alter its composition.

After a short while, he pointed at the carts of manure and said, "Alright, now just spread the manure over this Spirit Field."

Having said that, he quickly flew back to continue his alchemy, formation crafting, and making the flying boat.

Several disciples from the Thousand Caves Door, following their Cave Master's orders, reluctantly brought the manure to the front of the Spirit Field. Then, using Divine Skills, they scattered the cartloads of manure over the Spirit Field.

As the manure fell, the previously barren Spirit Field suddenly brimmed with Spiritual Energy.

"Did it work?"

"Has the Spirit Field really been restored?"

"Because of this manure? How could this be? Manure is clearly filth."

Without even needing to inspect it, just by standing aside, everyone could sense the rich Spiritual Energy over the Spirit Field.

"Have we lost?"

"We've lost again!"

"How is this possible!"

"So, up to now, we have not won against Cao Zhen in anything!"

"This Cao Zhen, is he truly the Peak Master of the Hundredth Peak of the Hundred Peaks Sect?"

"Military law, calligraphy, musical rhythm... What doesn't he know?"

The people from the Thousand Caves Door were completely baffled. How could someone be so proficient in everything? Such a person, how could he only be the Peak Master of the Hundredth Peak of the Hundred Peaks Sect!

In front of Cao Zhen, three of the five Cave Masters from the Military Tactics Cave had already retreated, and another one from the Army-breaking Cave, having given thanks for his enlightenment, had also left, clearly admitting defeat.

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Yet there was still a Cave Master who did not retreat but instead continued to step forward, saying as he walked, "I indeed admire Peak Master Cao's mastery of Military Law, but I still have some questions and would like to test Peak Master Cao."

"Cave Master Qi Bing!"

"He hasn't conceded yet?"

"This... Army-breaking Cave Master has had an Enlightenment because of the other party, what's there to compare anymore?"

Many from the Thousand Caves Door frowned; they had experienced Enlightenment because of someone else, which clearly meant that the other person was more adept in the way of Military Law.

Under such circumstances, continuing to challenge the other party seemed a bit like being a sore loser.

They, the Thousand Caves Door, were one of the top ten Immortal Sects; they could lose, but they could not afford to be sore losers.

As Cave Master Qi Bing walked, he continued to speak, "Our way of Military Law requires leading troops. To lead, one must calculate the number of soldiers, the number of enemy troops, and judge the strength of both sides.

Therefore, I believe that one versed in Military Law should also be proficient in arithmetic. I wish to discuss arithmetic with Peak Master Cao."

"Arithmetic?"

The disciples of the Thousand Caves Door below furrowed their brows even more.

On the side of the Hundred Peaks Sect, the disciples began to shout out loud.

"Thousand Caves Door, can't you accept defeat?"

"Arithmetic? If it was about discussing arithmetic in trade, we could understand. But discussing arithmetic in Military Law?"

"What are you playing at?"

At the back, hearing the commotion, the other Cave Masters shook their heads helplessly, one after another; Army-breaking Cave Master even called out, "My friends, it's not that we can't accept defeat, it's just that Cave Master Qi Bing truly believes that a Commander needs to understand arithmetic.

We have already lost in the way of Military Law, we concede. Peak Master Cao, there is no need to discuss arithmetic."

"No problem, discussing it isn't out of the question," Cao Zhen said with a friendly face as he looked at Cave Master Qi Bing. Before, he hadn't thought of arithmetic, and here was the Cave Master, practically offering him the chance to show off.

Arithmetic?

Even if he was just average in math in his previous life, he had completed nine years of compulsory education.

He was a science student, after all.

Discussing mathematics?

In this world, where multiplication doesn't exist, what could they use to compete with him?

Cao Zhen, somewhat curious, looked at Cave Master Qi Bing and asked, "How shall we engage in a discussion of arithmetic?"

"Simple, I will ask a question, and you will answer. If you get it right, it turns around, and if you get it wrong, then you have lost," Cave Master Qi Bing, walking in front of Cao Zhen, pondered for a moment before asking, "Suppose, if our barracks now have one soldier, and then on the second day, two more soldiers arrive, on the third day, three more soldiers, on the fourth day, another five soldiers... until the hundredth day, when a hundred soldiers arrive, how many soldiers do we have in total in our barracks now? Peak Master Cao, please answer within the time of half a stick of incense."

"Half a stick of incense?" Cao Zhen looked up at Cave Master Qi Bing; such a simple question and still half a stick of incense, who was he underestimating!

"Is half a stick of incense too short?" Cave Master Qi Bing shook his head gently and said, "Then, let's make it the time of a full stick of incense."

"There's no need for a full stick of incense, I tell you now, five thousand and fifty soldiers," Cao Zhen immediately gave the answer. It was too simple, one plus one hundred equals one hundred and one, two plus ninety-nine also equals one hundred and one, so it's one hundred and one times fifty.

"What!" Cave Master Qi Bing looked at Cao Zhen with full surprise, "How could you calculate it so quickly? Have you heard this question before, Peak Master Cao?"

How did I calculate?

I used multiplication, how else.

Cao Zhen didn't answer Cave Master Qi Bing's question as explaining multiplication would take more than a moment. He counter-questioned, "I got it right, does that mean it's my turn to pose a question for the discussion now?"

"Of course," Cave Master Qi Bing nodded affirmatively, his gaze focused intently on Cao Zhen.

Cao Zhen recalled an interesting problem and smiled, "Here is a problem: 'Today there is a cage with pheasants and rabbits mixed together. There are thirty-five heads in total, and ninety-four feet. How many pheasants and rabbits are there respectively? Answer within a hundred breaths.'"

"Thirty-five heads..." Cave Master Qi Bing immediately began to calculate with his fingers.

Not only him, but many disciples of the Thousand Caves Door also started calculating.

A hundred breaths might not be a short time, but it was certainly not long either.

Cao Zhen was simply carving a pattern on the material in front of him, and the time passed.

Cave Master Qi Bing was still doing calculations with his fingers.

Cao Zhen interrupted helplessly, "Cave Master Qi Bing, no need to calculate further; I'll tell you the answer: twelve rabbits, twenty-three chickens."

"How did you calculate this?" Cave Master Qi Bing looked at Cao Zhen with an eager face.

"Well, you can imagine, if the chickens and rabbits were very obedient and you commanded them to lift two legs each, those still standing would be the rabbits. With two legs each, divide the remaining legs... then split them evenly, and that's the number of rabbits."

"Split..." Cave Master Qi Bing deeply furrowed his brows, and in the next moment, rays of light burst forth from his body.

"Enlightenment!"

"Cave Master Qi Bing has had an Enlightenment too!"

All around, the disciples of the Thousand Caves Door didn't know what to say, their Cave Masters were having an Enlightenment, naturally, that was a good thing, but the issue was that they had it because of a member from the Hundred Peaks Sect, and moreover, it occurred after losing a debate.

Looking at the few who had experienced Enlightenment, Lan Pili suddenly turned his head towards Cao Zhen and called out, "Peak Master Cao, let's go back, how about you debate with me again? You... you can't just help people from other Sects have their Enlightenment and not help our own!"

"I... " Cao Zhen was speechless. How could I know they would have an Enlightenment just like that? It was just a math problem I mentioned, and then he had an Enlightenment; could it be that he just discovered division like this?