

## **My Master 451**

### Chapter 451: If You Don't Agree, Then Fight\_5

The Grand Preceptor had always taken a suppressive stance towards all the Immortal Sects.

Then, when Cao Zhen went to the Capital City for the first time, in just a few days, the Grand Preceptor actually wanted to directly appoint Cao Zhen as the State Preceptor.

To confer the title of State Preceptor on someone who had not yet condensed a Golden Core, but had merely formed seven cores—how absurd!

What was even more absurd was that, if it hadn't been for the emperor's intervention, Cao Zhen would be the State Preceptor by now.

She simply couldn't understand—what did the Grand Preceptor see in Cao Zhen!

While Chen Qingluan couldn't figure it out, Tu Zhuque returned to Vermilion Bird Peak with a flush of pride on her face, and soon summoned all her disciples to announce the matter of the All Immortals Martial Tournament.

After all the disciples had left, she even kept Li Ke behind and said with a smile, "Ke, at this All Immortals Martial Tournament, I only assign you one task, and that is to become the State Preceptor. Become the first female State Preceptor of our Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty!

Speaking of which, it has been quite a long time since you've seen your dao companion, Cao Zhen. This trip to the Capital City will also allow you to reunite with him."

Li Ke was completely dumbfounded—why was the All Immortals Martial Tournament being held all of a sudden?

Reunite with Cao Zhen?

There wasn't anything much for them to reunite over; they were fake dao companions, not real ones!

As she pondered this, her master's voice rang in her ears again.

"Right, once the All Immortals Martial Tournament is over, I'll pick a good day for you two. While I'm still awake and not yet in slumber, I will let the two of you hold the dao companion ceremony early."

"Ah? The dao companion ceremony?" Li Ke was completely flabbergasted. Didn't her master look down on Cao Zhen? How could she suddenly want to hold a dao companion ceremony for her and Cao Zhen?

The two of them were fake, fake!

Could it be that they were truly going to become dao companions?

In her panic, Li Ke hurriedly spoke up, "Master, why bring up the dao companion ceremony all of a sudden? It's rather early for the disciple to know him..."

"What? You don't want to become dao companions with him? Haven't you always said that you and he had a good relationship?" Tu Zhuque immediately frowned. What were these young people thinking? Why do they change their minds every day?

Seeing her master's furrowed brow, Li Ke hurriedly explained, "No, what the disciple meant is, you have said before that Cao Zhen's Four Treasures Peak is ranked too low; marrying him would be somewhat embarrassing for you.

Didn't you say you wanted to wait until Four Treasures Peak's ranking reached the Upper Fifty Peaks before letting your disciple become dao companions with him? Now, Four Treasures Peak is only ranked one hundred, still far from the Upper Fifty Peaks.

The disciple doesn't want to embarrass you, so I was thinking of waiting until Four Treasures Peak reaches the Upper Fifty Peaks before discussing the dao companion ceremony with Cao Zhen."

Telling her master directly that the two of them were pretending to be dao companions was absolutely not an option, so she could only use the issue of reaching the Upper Fifty Peaks.

Upon hearing this, Tu Zhuque's face immediately showed a benevolent smile, "You do have the Sect's interests at heart, even postponing your own life events for the sake of your master."

"It's not a delay, both the disciple and he are young," Li Ke assured. "Besides, you have seen the strength of Four Treasures Peak, Master. I believe that by the next Hundred Peaks Tournament, Four Treasures Peak will surely recruit more disciples and further improve its strength. By then, Four Treasures Peak will surely make it into the Upper Fifty Peaks."

"There's no need to wait for the next Hundred Peaks Tournament," Tu Zhuque shook her head with a chuckle. "Master, it isn't just for my own face, but also for you."

Think about it, if at that time you became dao companions with Cao Zhen, what would people say about you?

The most talented disciple of the Hundred Peaks Sect, marrying the Peak Master of the Hundred Peaks Sect's lowest-ranking peak—your master was afraid others would ridicule you.

But now, these issues are no longer there. Today, the Sect Leader True Person already said that, once the All Immortals Martial Tournament is over and Cao Zhen returns, he will take over as the Master of Hidden Dragon View.

When the time comes, you marrying the Master of Hidden Dragon View will naturally pose no issues. It's decided then; once the All Immortals Martial Tournament ends, and you return to the Hundred Peaks Sect, I will personally preside over your dao companion ceremony."

Tu Zhuque indicated that Li Ke should leave as she had just realized that her disciple had exceptionally good judgment.

Initially, nobody had high hopes for Cao Zhen.

Even Chen Qingluan had mocked her, saying not to find a 'Peak Master Cao'-like dao companion for her precious disciple.

In the end, Li Ke indeed chose Cao Zhen.

At that time, she didn't have a good opinion of Cao Zhen either.

But Cao Zhen? On the Hundred Peaks Tournament, he had already shown others his potential.

Once the Immortal Sects from all over the world began their discussions, Peak Master Cao repeatedly restored the face of the Hundred Peaks Sect, especially at Thousand Caves Door, where he engaged in discourse with the people there, unmatched by anyone.

It probably wouldn't be long before Cao Zhen became famous all over the world for his discourses.

Not only that, but the Sect Leader True Person also had high regard for Cao Zhen, and even the most powerful expert of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, the current Grand Preceptor, thought highly of Cao Zhen!

Although she didn't like the Grand Preceptor, she acknowledged that the Grand Preceptor was the foremost individual in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty—not just in terms of cultivation base but also in foresight, tactics, and all other aspects.

Such a person favored Cao Zhen, wanted Cao Zhen to be the State Preceptor, so what reason did she have not to think highly of Cao Zhen, or to prevent her disciple from becoming dao companions with him!

Li Ke walked out of her master's room with a look of utter desolation. She just couldn't understand—how did Cao Zhen cause such a big stir, and why did her master want her to become dao companions with him? Were these fake dao companions going to become real ones?

Chapter 452: If you don't accept it, then let's fight\_6

This...

She didn't particularly dislike Cao Zhen, in fact, she even found him quite interesting.

But to become Dao companions, she had never even considered that.

"What should I do? I can't really become Dao companions with Cao Zhen, right? Or maybe, I should talk to Cao Zhen about it, have him propose that Four Treasures Peak enter the Upper Fifty Peaks before we become Dao companions?"

Yes, let Cao Zhen speak to my master. Once it's said out loud, it has to be honored."

Then, by the time of the next Hundred Peaks competition, if necessary, they could let Four Treasures Peak lose on purpose again."

Capital City.

When Cao Zhen heard the news of the Martial Arts Tournament among the Immortals, he too was a bit stunned. Wasn't the position of the State Preceptor pre-determined? Why had it turned into a competition?

If he couldn't claim the first place in the competition, what would that mean?

After pondering for a moment, Cao Zhen quickly left the Immortal Reception House and made his way to the Grand Preceptor's residence.

Under the grape arbor of the Grand Preceptor's old mansion, Cao Zhen once again saw the Grand Preceptor.

He realized the Grand Preceptor truly loved drinking tea. As the Grand Preceptor personally brewed kung fu tea, he looked up at Cao Zhen and said, "What brings you here? Come, have a seat first, drink some tea."

Cao Zhen didn't stand on ceremony, sitting across from the Grand Preceptor. He picked up the teacup, took a gentle sip, and savored the lingering aftertaste in his mouth before looking up and asking, "Grand Preceptor, I heard there will be a Martial Arts Tournament among the Immortals. As you know, I am at

the stage of having formed seven cores. However, the tournament is to be held in a month, and I am afraid I won't be able to break through to the Perfect Completion Golden Core in this one month.

Alternatively, while I could force myself to reach Perfect Completion Golden Core if I really wanted to, it wouldn't be the Perfect Completion Golden Core that I envisage.

If I were to form the Golden Cores according to my plan, then by that time, at best, I could only succeed in forming four or five cores.

When the time comes for the tournament, if I fail to win first place, then what?"

Before, they had agreed that he would become the State Preceptor—and in return, when the Grand Preceptor went into his deep slumber, and when the Guardian Immortal Dynasty encountered danger, he would help watch over the Guardian Immortal Dynasty.

If he could not become the State Preceptor, the entire plan would be at risk.

"You won't be first?" The Grand Preceptor suddenly laughed, "If you can't secure the first place, I'll be the first to execute you."

Although the words of the Grand Preceptor were said with a smile, Cao Zhen suddenly felt a chill in the air around him plummet with the Grand Preceptor's words.

The Grand Preceptor was not joking.

The Grand Preceptor would not allow his plan to be interrupted.

But the issue was, within this one month, there was no way he could, just to forcefully break through to Perfect Completion Golden Core, actually go through with it.

Once a Golden Core was solidified, it could never be altered, and the loss would outweigh the gain.

Yet, following the method he envisaged, let alone the four or five Golden Cores he just mentioned, he wouldn't even be able to break through to the Golden Core Stage.

Unless, he could possess the formidable materials needed.

Then, he would have a chance to spur the Pill to maturity with strong ingredients and break through to form a Golden Core before then!

Besides that, he needed various materials to enhance his Heretical Golden Core!

Currently, he had only refined one layer of his Heretical Golden Core using medicinal herbs. He needed other materials to advance his Heretical Golden Core to the second layer.

Only then, at the Martial Arts Tournament among the Immortals, would he have a chance to compete for the first place against the mightiest beneath the Earth Immortals of the entire Guardian Immortal Dynasty!

He had no materials at hand, so he could only ask the Grand Preceptor for them again.

The materials previously given by the Grand Preceptor were abundant, but still not enough to mature the Pill within a month! Also, he needed materials for the Heretical Golden Core.

"Even if I haven't reached Perfect Completion Golden Core, I could still take first place. However, I need materials—various materials," said Cao Zhen, looking at the Grand Preceptor.

Feeling the confidence in Cao Zhen's eyes, an unexpected smile appeared on the Grand Preceptor's face as he said, "Interesting, very interesting. You are about to face all the experts below the Earth Immortals of the entire Guardian Immortal Dynasty, yet you have the confidence that, without reaching Perfect Completion Golden Core, you could take the top spot.

Your confidence, it very much resembles my younger self.

As I've said before, you caused me to have an Enlightenment, making Heavenly Dao take notice of me, you owe me one. But at the same time, you enabled me to resonate with heaven and earth, for which I must thank you, and so I owe you one as well.

Owe each other mutually, but they do not offset one another. So you will serve as the State Preceptor to repay me, and I will provide you with materials to repay you. Speak, what materials do you require?"

Cao Zhen had been waiting for the Grand Preceptor to say just this. He hadn't prepared a list of materials beforehand, so he could only verbally list the materials he needed, "I need the Ten Thousand Year Heavenly Bitter Beans and also..."

"Ten Thousand Year Heavenly Bitter Beans, Cloud Mountain Crystal..." The Grand Preceptor gently shook his head, "Most of the materials you require I have here, but I don't have those few you mentioned."

"Grand Preceptor, even you don't have them?" Cao Zhen's heart sank. If even the Grand Preceptor didn't possess them, it was likely that the entire Guardian Immortal Dynasty wouldn't either. Without these items, the Pills couldn't be matured ahead of time, nor could the Heretical Golden Core advance further. How could he then secure the first place?

"Indeed, I don't have them. These materials aren't produced by the Guardian Immortal Dynasty... but just because I don't have them doesn't mean others don't. Come, I'll take you to the Great Jin Dynasty. Those materials are all possessions of the Great Jin Dynasty."

"The Great Jin Dynasty?"

Cao Zhen felt perplexed. He hardly understood the situation within the Guardian Immortal Dynasty, let alone how far away the Great Jin Dynasty was from the Capital City of the Guardian Immortal Dynasty.

However, considering the size of the Guardian Immortal Dynasty, if he had to pilot a Flying Boat to the Great Jin Dynasty, it would likely take at least half a month to a month, or maybe even longer.

If the Grand Preceptor went to the Great Jin Dynasty, the Guardian Immortal Dynasty would be left without its guardian. If it were just a day or two, it would be alright, but if more time passed, wasn't the Grand Preceptor afraid that the Guardian Immortal Dynasty would encounter problems?

Soon, he realized he was wrong.

The Grand Preceptor's mode of travel was not by a Flying Boat, but by direct Gold Light Across the Land, Sword Flight. The Grand Preceptor took him along, flying by Sword Flight at an astonishing pace, a speed that with his current Cultivation Base, he couldn't even bear.

The Grand Preceptor had to cast a Body-protecting Golden Light for him.

In less than half a day, while in Sword Flight, the Grand Preceptor spoke, "Now, we have arrived at the Great Jin Dynasty."

"We're already here?"

Cao Zhen looked down below, hardly believing that without leaving his mountain, here he was not only in the Capital City but also abroad, and all this while accompanied by the number one expert of the Guardian Immortal Dynasty.

His purpose for leaving the country was to find materials, but he didn't know how the Grand Preceptor planned to procure them.

Chapter 453: Dragging a Grand Preceptor to Work as a Laborer\_1

Cao Zhen discovered that compared to the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, the Great Jin Dynasty was noticeably more desolate. At least, since arriving in the Great Jin Dynasty, the frequency of cities seen after every interval of the Grand Preceptor's flight was significantly slower than when in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty.

After entering the Great Jin Dynasty, the Grand Preceptor did not stop but continued flying, and in the blink of an eye, he brought Cao Zhen to the front of a mountain gate belonging to an Immortal Sect.

Full of curiosity, Cao Zhen looked at the mountain gate in front of him and asked, "Grand Preceptor, which Immortal Sect of the Great Jin Dynasty is this? Is it really alright to ask them for materials like this?"

"What's not alright about this?" The Grand Preceptor said as he strode towards the gate.

At the gate, several disciples responsible for guarding it saw the visitors and their expressions suddenly changed drastically.

"It's him!"

"The State Preceptor of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, why have they come again."

"Quick, go and report!"

"Hurry, ring the warning bell!"

In front of the gate, there were originally more than a dozen disciples, but after clearly seeing who was coming, they all ran inside the mountain gate as if they were mice scurrying away from a cat; this was not quite what Cao Zhen had expected.

He turned his head in astonishment to the Grand Preceptor and asked, "Grand Preceptor, it seems that you're not very welcome here?"

The Grand Preceptor laughed and said, "Every time I come here, I plunder them once. It would be strange if they welcomed me."

"Plunder?" Cao Zhen was completely stunned, "So, Grand Preceptor, you're here to plunder them as well? Did you not say..."

"What did I say? I said that the territorial expansion of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty is its own affair, and I would not participate in the wars between it and other dynasties.

The condition is that cultivators of other dynasties do not get involved either.

This time I have come here without troubling the mortals of the Great Jin Dynasty but have instead gone directly to their cultivators. Is there a problem with that?

Also, I have said that as long as the cultivators of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty are obedient, I will not trouble them directly. But are these people from the Great Jin Dynasty? Is there a problem with that?"

At a loss for words, Cao Zhen could only give a thumbs up and say, "No problem."

He truly learned something new.

With a cold sneer, the Grand Preceptor said, "It's just as well, the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty is about to go to war with the Great Jin Dynasty, and my visit this time is also a warning to the people of the Great Jin Dynasty not to break the rules and get involved in the war between dynasties."

As the Grand Preceptor spoke, he had already stepped into the Immortal Sect. *freewebnovel.com*

Cao Zhen followed the Grand Preceptor into the Immortal Sect.

Suddenly, a series of bell tones echoed, reaching his ears.

In the sky above, cultivators took flight, each swiftly heading towards him and the Grand Preceptor.

Each of these people exuded an incredibly surging aura, clearly indicating they were all beings above the Earth Immortal Realm.

But even though they were flying towards the Grand Preceptor, they did not dare to come close to him. At a distance of more than a mile away from the Grand Preceptor, they each stopped in their tracks, looking at him with caution and said from afar, "Grand Preceptor of the Guardian Immortal Imperial

Dynasty, you've come to our Golden Swan Sect again, do you think we have no one capable of standing up to you?"

"Indeed, I am bullying your Golden Swan Sect because you have no one capable," the Grand Preceptor replied without bothering to look the other way directly, showing clear impatience: "Enough talk, I need some materials, millennia-old Heaven Bitter Beans, Cloud Mountain Crystal..."

Cao Zhen listened as the Grand Preceptor reeled off a list of materials, each name sounding more worrisome. At first, the Grand Preceptor mentioned the materials Cao Zhen needed, but as he continued, many of the materials listed were ones Cao Zhen had never mentioned before.

"Grand Preceptor Zhang, don't go too far!" The leading person on the other side expressed a look of furious anger.

Grand Preceptor Zhang?

Cao Zhen glanced sideways at the Grand Preceptor beside him; back in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, everyone referred to the Grand Preceptor simply by his title, and this was the first time Cao Zhen realized the Grand Preceptor's surname was Zhang.

"So what if I'm going too far?" A chilling light faintly flickered in the Grand Preceptor's eyes.

"You..." The person on the other side seemed to want to say something menacing, but was at a loss for how to say it without losing face or provoking the Grand Preceptor's anger, and after only uttering the word "you," fell silent.

Suddenly, from a distance, an old voice came through.

"Grand Preceptor Zhang, we can give you the materials you want. But you should know that we do this for the friendship between the cultivators of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty and the Great Jin Dynasty, not out of fear of you."

Cao Zhen looked towards the direction from which the voice came, but could not see anyone; clearly, it was a Supreme Elder or a Grand Elder, someone like a Sect Leader of the opposing side speaking up.

Moreover, given that the other party didn't dare to show themselves and only dared to speak, it was very likely because their cultivation base was so high, they were nearly in a state of deep slumber, and so they didn't dare to show themselves carelessly.

Following the statement, the other side quickly began to prepare all kinds of materials, and in less than the time it takes an incense to burn, they flew towards him with a Qiankun Bag.

The Grand Preceptor didn't wait for them to speak and reached out into the void.

Despite no giant hand appearing in the sky, the Qiankun Bag held by the other side flew out on its own, directly landing in the hand of the Grand Preceptor.

Without a word, the Grand Preceptor turned and walked away.

Chapter 454: Dragging a Grand Preceptor to Work as a Laborer\_2

Cao Zhen discovered that he'd learned another term today—"brute force robbery."

He'd been waiting until the Grand Preceptor left; only then did the experts of the sect speak out in rage, "What does he think this place is?

A mortal bank where he can simply withdraw money whenever? He comes without materials and leaves with them! They say things shouldn't happen more than three times, yet this is already his third time robbing our sect of materials!"

"I refuse to believe that when the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth comes, he won't fall into slumber. Once he sleeps, I'd like to see how he plans to defend his Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty!"

Cao Zhen had thought that after plundering one sect, the Grand Preceptor would leave directly; however, he led Cao Zhen to another sect on his sword.

"Grand Preceptor, are we... going to rob them too?"

"Of course we are going to rob them. It's not easy to come here, how could we only target one sect."

Cao Zhen didn't know if the Great Jin Dynasty had something similar to the ten Immortal Sects of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, but this time, the Grand Preceptor robbed ten Immortal Sects before returning to the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty.

Every one of the ten Immortal Sects appeared to be very powerful, yet not a single one resisted the Grand Preceptor, all of them obediently handed over the materials he demanded.

This was the power of strength.

With enough strength, one could indeed do whatever he desired!

With this single trip, the Grand Preceptor had gathered all the materials Cao Zhen wanted.

After returning to the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, Cao Zhen immediately went back to the Immortal Reception House and found Lan Pili and others.

Because the Grand Preceptor wanted to appoint him as the State Preceptor of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, people from other sects somewhat isolated those from the Hundred Peaks Sect and didn't interact much with them.

Only Wu Jianzi, who had accepted him as the Pathfinder, and the Scholar Path enthusiast, Lu Yiren, stayed together with the people from Hundred Peaks Sect.

"Old Lan, I need a favor. I need to return to Hundred Peaks Sect and, also, I need to concoct some things on the flying boat. Can you help me navigate the flying boat?"

"Senior Cao is going back to Hundred Peaks Sect?" Wu Jianzi stood up upon hearing this and cupped his fists towards Cao Zhen, "Since I have no pressing matters at hand, why not let me take up this task?"

He had seen Lan Pili's cultivation base, which was merely at the Core Formation Stage, without even having condensed a Golden Core.

With such strength, navigating the flying boat to Hundred Peaks Sect and then back to the Capital City would certainly take quite some time. With the Immortal Martial Competition starting in a month, he was worried that Senior Cao's schedule might be too tight, so it would be better if he navigated the flying boat.

Lu Yiren also stepped forward and said, "I can help navigate the flying boat too."

"Good, let's set off now."

Cao Zhen nodded quickly; with the two of them piloting, the flying boat would indeed be much faster.

Soon after, the three of them took off directly.

As expected, Lu Yiren also possessed the cultivation base of ten Perfect Completion Golden Cores, and each core exhibited marvelous phenomena.

Lu Yiren and Wu Jianzi controlled the flying boat, while Cao Zhen sat on the floor in the lotus position in a separate room behind, taking out various materials.

He was going to concoct Heretical Golden Cores!

Heretical Golden Cores, although different from orthodox Golden Cores, could still achieve the Dao if continuously enhanced.

The first layer of Heretical Golden Core required various Spiritual Medicines for concoction; more than that, it needed to nourish the body. In essence, the first layer of the Heretical Golden Core could be regarded as the Five Element Wood.

But for the second layer, it wasn't just pills that were needed. Various metallic materials had to be added, representing the Five Element Gold.

The first layer of Heretical Golden Core had the power of a Golden Core.

Just an ordinary Golden Core.

However, the second layer of the Heretical Golden Core was beyond comparison, as if it had multiplied the power of numerous Golden Cores.

Because this layer of Heretical Golden Core was primarily focused on offensive and destructive power.

Cao Zhen sat cross-legged on the floor, exhaled the Heretical Golden Core, ignited a flame, and began the concoction with a series of hand seals.

The originally golden luminous Golden Core, with the addition of various materials, began to slowly darken.

One day later, the entire Heretical Golden Core had turned pitch black and had significantly increased in size.

Nine days later, with a crackling sound, the black core shell split open, and streaks of golden light shot out from the crevices, brightening the entire room.

"Heretical Golden Core, second layer!"

Cao Zhen looked at the sky, where the Heretical Golden Core was the size of a broad bean, inhaled, and drew the Heretical Golden Core into his body.

Instantly, a sense of indescribable comfort spread throughout his limbs and bones, sweeping away the fatigue from the continuous concoction of Heretical Golden Cores.

"It's finally done. With this, I have a greater chance of securing first place in the competition. Fortunately, this wasn't my first time concocting a Heretical Golden Core, but rather strengthening it, which didn't trigger a Heavenly Tribulation. Otherwise, just relying on myself, Wu Jianzi, and Lu Yiren, it's uncertain whether we could withstand the Heavenly Tribulation."

Next door, Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren sensed the terrifying energy emanating from the side. The two exchanged glances, their eyes revealing amazement.

"This aura, this is the aura of a Golden Core, and not an ordinary one at that. The strength of this aura, at the very least, is equivalent to that of four Golden Cores."

"Not just ordinary four Golden Cores, it should be the aura of Phenomenal Golden Cores!"

On this flying boat, there were only the three of them, and clearly, this aura was not released by them, so it must be Cao Zhen's doing.

But how could Senior Cao, with only seven Core Formation Golden Cores, release a power that only someone with four Phenomenal Golden Cores could possess?

Chapter 455: Dragging a Grand Preceptor to Work as a Laborer\_3

Moreover, this power hadn't even erupted yet; if it did, the force would be even more terrifying!

A puzzled expression crossed Wu Jianzi's face, followed by a sudden realization.

Senior Cao always showed the cultivation base of seven inner cores, but just because he displayed so many didn't mean that Senior Cao truly only had seven inner cores.

Ten days!

Originally, it had taken him a long time to reach the Capital City, but now, under the control of Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren, it only took ten days for him to return to the Hundred Peaks Sect from the Capital City.

At the Hundred Peaks Sect's gate, a few disciples looked at the approaching flying boat with perplexity.

"What's going on? Isn't the Grand Assembly of Immortal Martial Gathering being held right now? All the Immortal Sects have already been notified to send their debate teams directly to the Capital City, so nobody is coming here for debates anymore. Why is someone suddenly flying here?"

"No idea, that flying boat is clearly not one of our Hundred Peaks Sect's vessels."

The few disciples looked curiously at the flying boat.

The next moment, the flying boat opened and three figures flew out.

"Peak Master Cao?"

"And the Sword Sect's Wu Jianzi as well as Scholar Dao Sect's Lu Yiren! How are they together with Peak Master Cao?"

"Wu Jianzi had come to our Hundred Peaks Sect before, saying he was going to find Peak Master Cao."

"Didn't Lu Yiren also go to the Capital City to find Peak Master Cao before?"

"That's not right, shouldn't Peak Master Cao be in the Capital City? The Grand Assembly is about to start. Why would Peak Master Cao suddenly come back?"

"If I'm not mistaken, Peak Master Cao's cultivation base is at the Core Formation with seven cores. With the upcoming Grand Assembly, who knows how many Golden Core experts will participate.

Peak Master Cao, with his cultivation base in the Core Formation Stage, might not fare well if he went; probably Peak Master Cao himself is aware of that, so he came back."

"That doesn't make sense, does it? The Grand Preceptor had appointed Peak Master Cao to be the State Preceptor. If Peak Master Cao just withdrew like this, wouldn't it be slapping the Grand Preceptor in the face? How could the Grand Preceptor let Peak Master Cao off the hook!"

"Yes, and besides, if Peak Master Cao doesn't participate, what about Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren who are genius disciples of their respective sects? Are they also not participating in the Grand Assembly?"

"I can't make any sense of it at all, really can't figure it out."

Amidst the confusion, Cao Zhen had already stowed the flying boat away and walked to the Immortal Sect's entrance.

"Peak Master Cao!"

"Greetings to Peak Master Cao!"

One after another, the disciples of the Hundred Peaks Sect paid their respects. Despite their confusion, they still performed the proper greetings when they saw their Peak Master.

As they spoke, their respect for Cao Zhen was indeed much greater than before.

In the past, even though Cao Zhen was a Peak Master, many didn't take him seriously as the master of the Hundredth Peak, and he often had to remind them, almost having to flaunt his title before they would reluctantly pay respects.

But now, they truly admired him.

They had heard how Cao Zhen had debated away from the sect, greatly enhancing the reputation of the Hundred Peaks Sect.

Now, Cao Zhen's name had become famous throughout the world, and in the cultivation world of the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, there was hardly anyone who didn't know him.

Consequently, people also came to know about the Hundred Peaks Sect having the Hundredth Peak, called Four Treasures Peak.

After returning to the Hundred Peaks Sect, Cao Zhen went straight to Four Treasures Peak.

Having been away for many days, he found that Four Treasures Peak hadn't changed at all since he last left.

Although Wu Jianzi had visited the Hundred Peaks Sect twice before, he had never climbed Four Treasures Peak; this was actually his first time.

Looking at the barren peak, he couldn't imagine how such a distinguished person as Senior Cao could belong to such a dilapidated place...

Suddenly, he remembered that figure from his own Sword Sect.

Yes.

Senior Cao must be like that figure, with the mindset of a carefree wanderer; perhaps, Peak Master Cao really didn't care about these things.

Caught in his thoughts, he saw several figures appeared before him.

"Master!"

"Master, why have you come back!"

Ling Xi led the way, with Yan Yourong and Little Beiyan three disciples quickly surrounding him, their faces brimming with joyous smiles.

This was the first time since they'd come to the Hundred Peaks Sect that they had gone so long without seeing their master.

Soon, Little Beiyan showed confusion and asked, "Master, weren't you supposed to become the State Preceptor and attend the Grand Assembly? Why have you come back? Are you not going to the assembly?"

"I'll attend. Although I don't want to become that State Preceptor and am not interested in competing, there are some things I must do regardless," Cao Zhen replied as he patted Little Beiyan's head and then took a couple of steps back. Looking at Little Beiyan with bemusement, he said, "Little Bei, it's been so long since I've seen you, but it seems like you haven't grown taller, have you?"

Little Beiyan's face turned red, and he protested loudly, "I have grown taller! I've grown this much!"

Saying so, he stretched out his finger to show a height of about an inch.

"Really? I don't seem to notice it," Cao Zhen said, glancing back at Ling Xi. However, his senior disciple seemed to have grown taller after not seeing him for a while?

Cao Zhen turned to Ling Xi and inquired, "By the way, where is Yi Sheng? Still at the Five Element Pill Ground, right?"

Ling Xi quickly responded, "Yes, ever since you left, Master, our junior sister has been at the Five Element Pill Ground and hasn't left."

Cao Zhen nodded slightly and said, "Good, I will first go find your junior sister for alchemy. Prepare yourselves as well; in a few days, we will set out for the Capital City."

Chapter 456: Dragging a Grand Preceptor to Work as a Laborer\_4

"Capital City? Are we going there too?" Ling Xi asked, full of confusion, "Master, what are we going to do in the Capital City?"

Cao Zhen looked at his three disciples and said matter-of-factly, "Of course, to participate in the Immortals' Martial Competition."

"We are participating in the Immortals' Martial Competition?" Ling Xi pointed to herself, unsure and lacking confidence, "Master, your disciple is useless, with our current cultivation base, participating in the competition, I'm afraid we might bring shame to you..."

"It's alright." Cao Zhen comforted and gently patted the top of Ling Xi's head with a smile, "In a few days, come to your master's room, and I will show you how formidable your master is."

"Ah? Can we spend the night in Master's room again?" Ling Xi immediately showed an excited expression, and her face became even more flushed with excitement.

Adjacent, Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren instantly became unsettled. The two exchanged a glance but pretended to hear nothing and looked around.

"Brother Wu Jianzi, the surprise color of this place is really not bad."

"Indeed, look at that, the sun in the sky is both large and round."

They didn't hear, they didn't hear anything, they had been observing the scenery around them all along, they knew nothing.

Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren were not disciples of the Hundred Peaks Sect, naturally unable to enter Hidden Dragon Observatory, and so they stayed at Four Treasures Peak.

Cao Zhen alone flew towards the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace.

Soon, the news of Cao Zhen's return to the Hundred Peaks Sect spread throughout the sect.

"Peak Master Cao is back?"

"And he brought Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren back with him?"

"Looking at Lu Yiren's expression, evidently, Lu Yiren lost to Peak Master Cao in philosophical debate again."

"It seems like Lu Yiren, just like Wu Jianzi, has acknowledged Peak Master Cao as their Pathfinder."

"What's so surprising about that? Haven't you heard? Peak Master Cao is now acclaimed as the foremost philosopher in the world."

"Some say that whenever Peak Master Cao engages in a philosophical debate, the outcome is predetermined. Losing to Peak Master Cao is not a disgrace."

"What I heard is different, though. I heard that if you encounter Peak Master Cao, it's best to debate with him because you might achieve enlightenment through debating with Peak Master Cao!"

"That... seems to be true."

"Speaking of which, although Peak Master Cao is clearly one of us from the Hundred Peaks Sect, the number of people from our sect who have achieved enlightenment because of Peak Master Cao is actually fewer than those from the Thousand Caves Door. It seems as if the disciples of Thousand Caves Door have benefited more!"

"What's there to be anxious about? Peak Master Cao is one of our Hundred Peaks Sect and he won't be going anywhere. Isn't he back now? In a while, I'll go seek a debate with Peak Master Cao."

"Right, let's go, find Peak Master Cao for a debate."

"It seems like Peak Master Cao went to the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace, a place we can't enter."

"Then let's wait at the gate at the foot of Four Treasures Peak. That's how we show our sincerity."

Cao Zhen entered the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace and did not linger, heading straight into the Hidden Dragon Observatory, arriving at the Five Elements Land.

No one knew if it was because all the disciples skilled in alchemy in the sect had gone out for philosophical debates, or if the herbs in the Five Elements Land had been mostly used up by him, but now there were hardly any outsiders in the Five Elements Land, only Yi Sheng and Gai Su'e could be seen performing alchemy there.

"Master?" While engrossed in alchemy, Yi Sheng suddenly spotted the returning Cao Zhen, an astonished look crossing her face. Although she had always been in the Five Element Pill Ground, Ling Xi would occasionally contact her with a talisman and tell her about the outside world.

Even sometimes, her junior disciple brother Bei Yan would come to the Five Element Pill Ground and ask her when she would finish making the pills so she could return to Four Treasures Peak.

So she was aware of what was happening outside, knew that her master was in the Capital City, and even knew about the Grand Preceptor's desire to appoint her master as the State Preceptor, including the Immortals' Martial Competition.

Cao Zhen glanced at the Five Element Pill Ground and showed a look of surprise, asking with puzzlement, "Where is Elder Gu Chengyu? How come I don't see him?"

Before he left, he had asked Gu Chengyu to help him with making pills.

Now, Gu Chengyu was nowhere to be seen.

"Master," Yi Sheng said while attending to the pill furnace, "Elder Gu, along with Observer Lv and Elder Ai Yunqi, were ordered to lead our Hundred Peaks Sect's genius disciples to the Capital City to participate in the Immortals' Martial Competition.

They set off just ten days ago. They should be midway there by now. Oh right, Master, your wife has also gone to the Capital City."

"Your wife?" Cao Zhen was stunned for a moment, when did I find you a wife?

"That's Immortal Li Ke," Yi Sheng looked puzzledly at Cao Zhen, "Master, aren't you and she a Daoist couple? I thought you would reunite in the Capital City, but to my surprise, you actually returned to the Hundred Peaks Sect."

"This, although we are Daoist couples, we haven't held the Daoist union ceremony yet, we haven't truly become Daoist couples, so let's not refer to her as your wife just yet," Cao Zhen felt helpless in his heart, this time pretending to be a Daoist couple was a bit too long.

This required an extra charge!

"Alright, let's not talk about this now, I'll tend to the pill furnace while you go and pack up. Then wait outside the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace for your master, I will take you directly to the Capital City soon."

"The Capital City!" Yi Sheng didn't ask why they were going to the Capital City. Hearing those two words, her eyes already lit up with joy, and she hurriedly got up and ran outside.

About the time it takes two sticks of incense to burn later.

At the foot of Four Treasures Peak, various disciples gathered around, full of surprise, watching the disciples of Four Treasures Peak along with Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren leave together and fly off into the distance.

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"People from the Hundred Peaks Sect seem to have left."

"What are they up to?"

"They might be looking for Peak Master Cao Zhen."

"No matter what they are up to, let's just wait here. Peak Master Cao is the master of Four Treasures Peak; he has to come back."

"Exactly, today being the first day Peak Master Cao has returned to the Hundred Peaks Sect, he must have other matters to attend to. Once he's done, he will surely return to Four Treasures Peak."

After learning that several people had arrived, Cao Zhen quickly left the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace with several pill furnaces that were in the process of refining pills, and then right outside the Hidden Dragon Immortal Palace, he released his flying boat.

He needed to hurry back to the Capital City and didn't have the time to finish refining the pills here day by day before leaving.

To save time, he decided to refine the pills aboard the flying boat.

Moreover, since the pill refining had already begun and the fire under the pill furnace was still burning, he couldn't put the pill furnace into his Qiankun Bag and had to directly release the flying boat. Then he placed the pill furnace inside the flying boat and flew away from the Hundred Peaks Sect immediately.

In the Hundred Peaks Sect, sword flight was not forbidden, but there were not many who directly flew with flying boats.

Only the disciples of Puppet Peak among the Hundred Peaks Sect had the skills to refine flying boats, and furthermore, Puppet Peak was more proficient in creating various mechanized human puppets, not particularly in refining flying boats—hence, there were not many flying boats within the Hundred Peaks Sect.

Now that a flying boat was seen departing, it immediately caught the attention of many.

At the foot of Four Treasures Peak, disciples watching the flying boat soar overhead began to discuss amongst themselves.

"Which peak is this flying boat from?"

"Could it be from Puppet Peak?"

"This is not one of Puppet Peak's flying boats; ours don't look like that."

"Then whose is it?"

"I heard when Peak Master Cao returned, he came on a flying boat. Could it be Peak Master Cao?"

"Peak Master Cao? How is that possible? He has just arrived back at the Hundred Peaks Sect; why would he leave immediately?"

"Perhaps Peak Master Cao has other matters to attend to."

"What if it really was Peak Master Cao?"

"That's right, let's ask the disciples guarding the mountain gate. They have seen Peak Master Cao's flying boat; they must know whether it's his."

At the foot of the mountain, several disciples quickly ran out, reached the mountain gate of the Hundred Peaks Sect, and after inquiring, they learned that it was indeed Cao Zhen's flying boat and swiftly returned to inform everyone of the news.

"Is it really Peak Master Cao?"

"Peak Master Cao left again?"

"It seems that Peak Master Cao really had matters to attend to."

"Well, let's just wait a little."

"Right, we continue to wait; it's the way to show our sincerity."

"I say, ladies and gentlemen, let's all line up in an orderly fashion. When Peak Master Cao returns, we can quickly seek him out to discuss the Dao!"

"Naturally, but with so many of us, Peak Master Cao won't possibly be able to discuss the Dao one-on-one with everyone. We might need to have discussions in groups, or those proficient in calligraphy discuss the Dao together, and those skilled in musical rhythm do the same. Ultimately, whether one can achieve enlightenment depends on individual fate."

At the foot of Four Treasures Peak, the crowd gathered there did not dwindle despite Cao Zhen's departure; in fact, as time passed, their numbers started to grow slowly.

One day, two days, three days...

After three days had passed, the crowd finally started to grow restless.

"Why hasn't Peak Master Cao returned yet?"

"What could Peak Master Cao be doing?"

"Should we leave for now? Maybe leave a few people to wait here, then come back once Peak Master Cao returns?"

"Yeah, waiting here indefinitely is not a solution."

"Let's decide who will discuss the Dao with Peak Master Cao first."

"Naturally, it should be us from the Dao of Calligraphy first; the Daoist skill Peak Master Cao initially revealed was that of calligraphy."

"Why should it be you calligraphers first?"

"We don't agree with that either!"

"Perhaps this, let's compete in a discussion to determine the order."

"How do we discuss? Everyone's Dao is different."

"Then let's compete in a contest of skills to determine who is superior!"

"Contest of skills, then. Each Dao can present three representatives."

Soon, for the chance to discuss the Dao with Cao Zhen, the crowd started a contest of skills and determined the order of who would go first.

"Amitabha, it seems we from Zen Cultivation will be the first to discuss the Dao with Donor Cao," several monks from Zen Cultivation said, revealing a joyful look.

Their Zen Cultivation peaks were not the most combative.

However, on this occasion, nearly all the Golden Core experts from the Hundred Peaks Sect had left for the Capital City.

And coincidentally, their Zen Cultivation peaks still had Golden Core Stage experts remaining. In the contest of skills, they easily overpowered the others seeking fortuitous breakthroughs, securing the first spot.

The rest of the crowd, seeing that Zen Cultivation would be first to discuss the Dao with Cao Zhen, started to disperse.

The several peaks of Zen Cultivation each left one person to keep watch at the foot of Four Treasures Peak.

They were aware of some discord between their Zen Cultivation and Peak Master Cao Zhen of Four Treasures Peak, especially with Little Zen Peak.

Nevertheless, they were all part of the Hundred Peaks Sect. If Cao Zhen could help someone from the Thousand Caves Door achieve enlightenment, it stood to reason that he would help someone from the Hundred Peaks Sect; it would be unacceptable otherwise.

Besides, the Minor Era of Inversion of Heaven and Earth was drawing closer, and its impact was growing. Previously, the Sect Leader, a True Person, had convened the Peak Masters, which had taken place within the Cave Mansion.

Since then, there had been no news of the Sect Leader, and many believed the Sect Leader might have already entered a state of slumber.

Even more so, it was heard that the Peak Master of Flying Immortal Peak, upon returning, had swiftly entered secluded cultivation and hadn't emerged since. In this period, all matters of Flying Immortal Peak were being handled by the Vice Peak Master.

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The Peak Master of Flying Immortal Peak must be about to enter his slumber.

At a time like this, with every Disciple of the Hundred Peaks Sect attaining Enlightenment, their strength would be bolstered by a notch.

An increase in the strength of the Hundred Peaks Sect was also beneficial to Cao Zhen.

After all, the stronger the Hundred Peaks Sect, the safer Four Treasures Peak would be.

So they waited at the foot of Four Treasures Peak, waiting and waiting, but as the days passed, there was still no sign of the people from Four Treasures Peak returning.

It wasn't until ten days later that news came.

"What? Peak Master Cao Zhen has arrived at the Capital City?"

Upon hearing the news, they nearly fell apart.

"Cao Zhen and his group moved that fast? It took our people from the Hundred Peaks Sect eighteen days to reach the Capital City, and that was with three Earth Immortal Realm Elders leading the team. Cao Zhen made it in just ten days?"

"It's different... Although the three Elders are at the Earth Immortal Realm, their Flying Boat is too large, carrying too many people. Moreover, the Elders were responsible for everyone's safety, not necessarily for operating the Flying Boat.

Besides, that Flying Boat may not be better than Peak Master Cao's Flying Boat, so it makes sense that Peak Master Cao would take even less time to reach the Capital City."

"So what is Cao Zhen plotting? He returned to the Hundred Peaks Sect for no reason and then left immediately, just to take his Disciples with him?"

"Completely incomprehensible!"

"Are you saying we wasted these ten days for nothing?"

Ever since Cao Zhen boarded the Flying Boat, he had been concocting Pills with Yi Sheng. With enough Pills at his disposal, he began to frenziedly throw batches of them into the Pill Furnace.

His Disciples, unlike Xiang Ziyu, couldn't withstand the ferocious Pills. Therefore, he had prepared another kind of Pill for them—the Foundation Building Dragon Tiger Pill and the lesser Deception Pills.

Even though the effects of the Foundation Building Dragon Tiger Pill were somewhat inferior, he just prepared more of them.

This time, he had asked the Grand Preceptor for a substantial amount of herbal ingredients.

In ten days, he had concocted twenty Foundation Building Dragon Tiger Pills for each Disciple!

In ten days, just as the Flying Boat arrived at the Capital City, Cao Zhen had precisely completed concocting twenty Foundation Building Dragon Tiger Pills for each of his four Disciples.

After disembarking from the Flying Boat, Yi Sheng immediately turned to Cao Zhen with an expectant expression, "Master, my family is in the Capital City. We can go to my Family Head's place."

"Hmm? Visit your family?" It was only then that Cao Zhen remembered Yi Sheng's family was the wealthiest in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty; thus, being present in the Capital City was quite normal.

He was unclear, however, how Yi Sheng had been chosen by someone from the Hundred Peaks Sect to join them from the Capital City.

Considering that Yi Sheng might not have returned home for many years, longing for home was natural.

"Alright, we will visit your home," he agreed.

Visiting Yi Sheng's home would save them the trouble from other sects as well.

Cao Zhen thought for a moment and then turned to Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren, "Will you two join us?"

Time was indeed tight. After forcibly helping his Disciples increase their Cultivation Bases, they needed time to adapt. Having Wu Jianzi and Lu Yiren present could help the Disciples adjust faster.

"Your Disciple obeys."

Both agreed happily.

Soon, under Yi Sheng's guidance, everyone arrived directly at Yi Sheng's house in the Capital City.

Cao Zhen had been to the Grand Preceptor's residence in the Capital City before, but it was only when he entered Yi Sheng's home that he realized what truly defined grandeur!

Yi Sheng's residence was even bigger than ten of the Grand Preceptor's residences combined!

Moreover, this entire area was clearly comprised of merchants' homes, each estate built on an incomparably grand scale.

He discovered that although the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty's Grand Preceptor had always suppressed the various Immortal Sects, he had never suppressed the merchants. In fact, the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty even intentionally allowed people to conduct trade, which was different from many dynasties in ancient Earth.

The status of merchants was not particularly high, but neither was it that low.

At the very least, it was apparent from their mansions that if the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty had suppressed the merchants, these tradespeople would not have been able to own such large estates in the Capital City!

Yi Sheng returned to his mansion.

And since he had brought his master and sect mates, the entire Yi Family immediately came out to greet them.

However, Cao Zhen declined everyone's request to hold a banquet and directly asked Yi Sheng to arrange a room for him. Then he couldn't wait to have Ling Xi enter his room.

In his room, Cao Zhen first took out the already-refined Deception Pills and looked at Ling Xi, "Come, be a good girl, open your mouth."

With her previous experience, Ling Xi's vermilion lips opened wide at once, and she swallowed the pill in one gulp.

As soon as it entered her mouth, she immediately felt an exceptionally comfortable and soaring sensation spread throughout her body. Although it wasn't her first time, she almost couldn't help but let out a moan.

The feeling was simply too wonderful, making her feel as if she were floating on air, close to becoming an immortal.

As the pill took effect, an enigmatic character, completely incomprehensible to anyone, appeared on her forehead.

Ancient Talisman Mark!

The mark of the Ancient Talisman Immortal Body!

With the appearance of the mark, the power that had been suppressed within Ling Xi rapidly revived.

Sensing the changes in Ling Xi's body, Cao Zhen hastily took out a Foundation Building Dragon Tiger Pill and said, "Come, my good disciple, open your mouth again. Let's eat another kind of pill. After taking the pill, start operating your cultivation technique right away."

Hearing this, Ling Xi hurriedly opened her mouth wide again. As she swallowed a Foundation Building Dragon Tiger Pill, she instantaneously felt surges of overwhelming power. Cao Zhen then spoke again, "Open your mouth once more."

Having had the experience before, Ling Xi did not hesitate at all and once again opened her mouth wide.

Cao Zhen also opened his mouth, and the already condensed second-layer Heretical Golden Core flew out and fell into Ling Xi's mouth.

In an instant, Ling Xi felt a wave of intense heat in her lower abdomen. This burning sensation spread throughout her body, making her feel as if she had ascended to immortality and was so comfortable that she almost went limp on the floor.

With her previous experience, she knew that the thing she had swallowed was her master helping her, and at this time, she had to operate her power to cooperate with her master.

Ling Xi immediately began to operate her cultivation technique with her mind. Slowly, a golden light burst forth from an inner core on her back, and as the light grew stronger, the medicinal effects within her body began to dissipate.

Cao Zhen hastily took out another Foundation Building Dragon Tiger Pill and stuffed it into Ling Xi's mouth.

With the ingestion of the second pill, a surge of powerful energy soared within Ling Xi again.

A moment later, her first inner core had fully condensed into a Golden Core!

Chapter 459: Sun and Moon Appear Together\_1

Yi Mansion.

With the long-awaited return of Yi Sheng to her home, the Yi Mansion, while not extravagantly decorated with bright lights and festive ornaments, had been well-organized to receive her.

The Yi Mansion was large enough that private quarters had readily been arranged for Cao Zhen and the others.

Yi Sheng's parents hadn't seen their beloved daughter for many years and naturally had much to say to her. Moreover, since the daughter had come to Du Capital City with her master, they should entertain them properly.

However, before Yi Sheng could introduce them, her master, along with one of his disciples, hurriedly rushed into a room.

Yi Sheng and the others waited outside the room, each of them looking towards the room with eager anticipation.

Yi Sheng's father was completely beside himself.

As an Immortal, he was not beyond familiarity. Being the wealthiest man in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, how could he not recognize an Immortal?

Although it's true that many Immortals have rather peculiar tempers, those from the top ten Immortal Sects at least know the basic courtesies.

Shouldn't Yi Sheng's master have introduced himself first and engaged in brief conversation upon his arrival here?

What was he doing?

In broad daylight, simply dragging a beautiful disciple straight into a room?

He had originally consented to his daughter leaving because the Hundred Peaks Sect that came to select her was one of the top ten Immortal Sects.

But now, the more he thought about it, the more he felt his daughter's Human Teacher was unreliable.

Yi Sheng, standing with everyone else outside, glanced at her parents and then at her fellow senior and junior sect members before beginning the introductions, "Senior sisters, senior brothers, let me introduce them to you first."

Yi Sheng approached a well-dressed, stocky man and introduced him, "This gentleman is my father."

Yi Sheng's father, with a chubby face full of smiles, greeted everyone with a cupped-fist salute, "I am Yi Qiancheng." Although he was not a Cultivator without a Cultivation Base or holding official position, as

the wealthiest man in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, he spoke with a certain imposing manner, but without a hint of arrogance.

Yan Yourong and Little Beiyan greeted Yi Qiancheng with cupped-fist salutes as well.

Little Beiyan was even more curious as he asked, "A thousand cities? Why not ten thousand cities?"

The smile on Yi Qiancheng's face suddenly froze. What about ten thousand or a hundred thousand cities? The name was given by his father; how was he supposed to know why he was named Yi Qiancheng!

This half-grown kid, he's my daughter's senior brother?

The more he saw, the more unreliable he felt about his daughter's Sect.

Yan Yourong, noticing the change in Yi Qiancheng's expression, her eyes suddenly sharpened as she glared at Little Beiyan and said coldly, "Shut your mouth."

Bei Yan felt a chilling coldness approaching and involuntarily shrank back, immediately closing his mouth.

In the time that his master was away and Xiang Ziyu was not present, with his little junior sister busy with Alchemy, he had no choice but to practice with his two senior sisters often at Four Treasures Peak.

Practicing with the eldest senior sister was bearable; it was simply a matter of being outmatched.

The worst was practicing with the second senior sister. She struck with real venom.

Now, in Four Treasures Peak, the person he feared the most was not his master Cao Zhen, nor his eldest senior sister Ling Xi, but his second senior sister, Yan Yourong.

Yi Qiancheng's gaze settled on Yan Yourong, his face showing a shade of concern. His daughter's senior sister looked cold and unapproachable at first sight.

Although the little guy talked rudely, he was so young—a mere child really. If his senior sister could be so fierce with a half-grown child, how would she treat his own daughter?

Yi Qiancheng was filled with worry.

Yi Sheng had already moved to the side of a tall woman who still retained her charms in her middle age and introduced her, "This is my mother."

Aside from Yi Qiancheng, there were four or five other women dressed richly, clearly Yi Qiancheng's wives.

But without any need for introduction, Yan Yourong and the others could tell which one was Yi Sheng's biological mother.

After all, one needed only to compare their heights to see the resemblance. Yi Qiancheng was short and fat; for him to have a daughter like Yi Sheng, it must be thanks to her mother. Moreover, Yi Sheng greatly resembled her mother.

Yi Sheng's mother smiled at Yan Yourong and the others as she introduced herself, "Ji family, nice to meet you all."

In the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty, common women usually only mention their surname instead of their full name after getting married.

After introducing her parents, Yi Sheng quickly joined Yan Yourong and Little Beiyan, "This is my second senior sister, Yan Yourong, and my senior brother Bei Yan, who just entered the room with my master, is my eldest senior sister Ling Xi.

Also, I have a third senior brother who, with our Hundred Peaks Sect's Debate Team, has gone out for a debate and is not with us."

"The Hundred Peaks Sect's Debate Team? They arrived in Capital City several days ago; your senior brother should also be in Capital City by now."

As Yi Qiancheng spoke, his expression became increasingly odd. Ever since his daughter had arrived with her master and disciples, things had seemed strange—why were his daughter's master's disciples so few?

He knew that his daughter had joined the Hundred Peaks Sect, which boasted a hundred peaks, and his daughter had joined one of those peaks.

Then, his daughter spoke of coming here with her master and fellow disciples of that peak, but there were only a few people. In which peak had his daughter joined?

Chapter 460: Sun and Moon Appear Together\_2

He finally couldn't help but ask, "Little Sheng, you joined the Hundred Peaks Sect and didn't even mention to your father which Peak you affiliated yourself with. To this day, I still have no clue. Which Peak did you join?"

Yi Sheng's face immediately revealed a brilliant smile, "Father, I joined the Four Treasures Peak."

"Four Treasures Peak?" Yi Qiancheng's expression eased slightly. The name sounded familiar. Though not very involved with the Immortal Cultivation world, he had heard about this Peak; it must mean that the Peak his daughter joined was strong enough.

Yi Qiancheng continued to inquire, "Little Sheng, then, what is the ranking of your Four Treasures Peak? Hearing this name, it must rank quite high, right? Is it one of the Top Ten Peaks of the Hundred Peaks Sect?"

Yi Sheng waved her hand dismissively, "Father, the ranking isn't important."

"What is the ranking?" Yi Qiancheng grew even more curious.

"My Four Treasures Peak is ranked at one hundredth within the Hundred Peaks Sect," came Ling Xi's voice clear and cold, like the autumn wind sweeping through broken jade.

"One hundred?" Yi Qiancheng almost doubted his own ears. One hundredth? The Hundred Peaks Sect had just one hundred peaks, and his precious daughter joined the one ranked at the bottom?

His daughter was a prodigy, a True Yang constitution.

Back when the people from the Hundred Peaks Sect praised her talent, saying how bright her future would be, he had agreed to let her join the Sect.

Later on, he inquired and found out that the True Yang constitution was indeed a rare talent.

But what about now?

His incredibly talented daughter had actually joined the sect's lowest-ranked peak!

What did this mean?

What was Yi Sheng thinking?

His daughter wasn't foolish. Since she was little, she had always been ambitious, always striving to be first. Why would she join the lowest-ranked peak?

There must be a problem here!

Yi Qiancheng, in the presence of his daughter's senior brothers and sisters, couldn't just bluntly ask why she chose to join the lowest-ranked peak and could only indirectly ask, "Oh, then, Little Sheng, how did you end up joining Four Treasures Peak? Tell your father everything. Since you've been in the Hundred Peaks Sect, I haven't even seen you. I don't know how you've been living there. Can you tell your father about your days in the Sect?"

Hearing this, Yi Sheng immediately looked toward the tightly closed door ahead, a look of admiration spreading across her face, "Father, I joined Four Treasures Peak because of my master."

"Your master?" Yi Qiancheng's heart skipped a beat. A Peak Master of the hundredth rank, how strong could he be for his daughter to join Four Treasures Peak? Could she have been deceived?

"Yes, my master. Father, you have no idea how great and talented he is," Yi Sheng spoke with a gleam in her eyes when she mentioned her master.

"Oh? Your master?" A bad premonition cropped up in Yi Qiancheng's mind, and he asked, "By the way, what's your master's name? I still don't know it."

Yi Sheng said proudly, "My master's name is Cao Zhen."

"Cao... Cao Zhen... why does that name sound so familiar?" Yi Qiancheng paused slightly, then suddenly it dawned on him, "There's been talk around the Capital City that the Grand Preceptor is to appoint a State Preceptor, whose name seems to be Cao Zhen... I remember now, that Cao Zhen is from the Hundred Peaks Sect, apparently the Peak Master of Four Treasures Peak. So... he is your master?"

"That's correct, he is my master," Yi Sheng said with pride. "My master's reputation is now extraordinary, known throughout the world as the number one debater in the Guardian Immortal Imperial Dynasty."

"I've also heard these rumors," Yi Qiancheng hadn't expected his daughter's master to be Cao Zhen, who was so famous in the Capital City recently. But...

He looked at his daughter and after a moment's thought, asked, "Speaking of which, the Immortal Martial Assembly is about to be held. Daughter, did you come to the Capital City to watch the Assembly?"

Although not a part of the Immortal Cultivation world, Yi Qiancheng, with his substantial business in the Capital City, had also heard much about Cao Zhen.

There had been talk before that Cao Zhen must have been afraid to participate in the Immortal Martial Assembly, which was why he fled.

After all, Cao Zhen only had Core Formation of seven lotuses.

It was said that most participants in the Immortal Martial Assembly possessed a Golden Core.

He understood that above Core Formation was the Golden Core realm.

Yi Sheng's master, being only at the Core Formation stage, how could he compete with others? Running away seemed reasonable at the time, and he didn't pay much attention to it.

Who would have thought that Cao Zhen was his daughter's master?

Now, his daughter's master returned to the Capital City; was he really going to participate in the Immortal Martial Assembly?

"Attend the Assembly?" Yi Sheng shook her head, "Father, master didn't bring us here to watch the Immortal Martial Assembly, but to compete in a magical duel with senior brothers and sisters from other Immortal Sects."

"What? A duel? To go up and compete in martial combat? Wasn't it said that most of this Assembly's competitors have Golden Cores? Daughter, your... what is your Cultivation Base? How can you compete with them?" Yi Qiancheng became anxious. If his daughter's master was only at Core Formation with seven lotuses, how strong could his daughter be?

His daughter competing in martial combat would be incredibly dangerous!

"I..." Yi Sheng began to speak, just about to reveal her Cultivation Realm when an explosive boom suddenly erupted in front of her eyes.

The room that Cao Zhen and Ling Xi entered abruptly burst apart, and a tremendous force ripped forth like a deluge, the terrifying residual waves of energy reducing the entire room to dust in an instant, sending billows of dust blowing towards everyone.