

I Can Grant Origin Powers To Anything

Chapter 91: I just started thinking about you, and you already knew?

[1,240 words]

Chapter 91: Chapter 91: I just started thinking about you, and you already knew?

"I'm sorry, we won't suck your blood anymore. I'm sorry, Xiaoqing... Ahhh... From now on, we won't make you turn in all your earnings."

At the police station.

Upon receiving the news that their daughter attempted suicide, Su Huanqing's parents rushed to the station immediately.

Father Su cried bitterly, holding his daughter and wailing.

Their words seemed to imply that they hadn't valued this daughter much, treating her as their wallet, squeezing money out of her pockets, and if she didn't give, they stole from her.

"I never thought I'd actually push my daughter to the brink!"

Su Huanqing's father was clearly the type of middle-aged man with a strong chauvinistic streak.

But at this moment, he was crying with tears and snot, gripping Xu Lingjun's hand tightly, choking up, "Thank you for saving my daughter, I know I was wrong, really, I really know I was wrong... I won't gamble anymore..."

Meanwhile, Su Huanqing's mother slapped her husband hard, one slap after another, crying out, "All you do is gamble, gamble, gamble, never caring about the life or death of our daughter. When you're out of money, you steal from her to gamble. Xiaoqing could have gotten into the Four Great Academies, she's a top student. Now, under your oppression, she can only be a tutor at a lousy school. How could you be so cruel..."

Principal Zhang Chuyun of Yunmu High School: "....."

After being stunned for a while, he finally came to his senses.

He sighed, "Sigh, Xiaoqing, if there are difficulties at home, you could have told me. Why handle everything by yourself to the point of doing something as extreme as jumping off a cliff... Sigh, seeing you smiling every day, I never expected you to be carrying such a heavy burden in your heart, it's my fault, it's our negligence. Rest assured, we've already been discussing your permanent position issue, I will let them speed up the process. Once it's confirmed, your salary will be upgraded three levels, but..."

He earnestly advised, "But you can't be a doormat to your parents, everybody has their own legs and feet, no one owes anyone. Parents have a nurturing grace, but it's just that. You should be filial where it's due, but don't overindulge, understand?"

Saying this, he gratefully looked at Xu Lingjun.

He said, "Thank you for saving someone so significant to our school. Rest assured, we'll present you with a banner under Yunmu High School's name as a gesture of sincere gratitude."

Xu Lingjun thought to himself, not even a bit of Origin Value for me, this sincere gratitude seems quite diluted.

And Su Huanqing was completely dazed throughout.

Only upon hearing about the banner did she blink her vacant eyes and ask, "Principal, did the school know about my suicide? Can you help suppress it?"

Zhang Chuyun lamented, "Suppressed it? The police were involved, such a big deal, and the bystanders have already spread the news."

Su Huanqing chuckled, her smile full of despair.

It's over... I'm done for.

This time, my reputation is completely ruined.

Even though my parents have acknowledged their mistakes, and my salary increased by three levels because of this, why can't I seem to feel grateful to this culprit?

She fiercely glared at Xu Lingjun, her eyes full of smoldering hatred.

Could this bastard be her destined nemesis?

"Alright, you don't need to thank me."

Xu Lingjun earnestly comforted, "You're still young, there's a lot more beautiful things waiting for you in the future, why get stuck on such a trivial issue..."

"Is that the only line you guys know?"

Suddenly, Su Huanqing started breathing heavily, interrupting Xu Lingjun's words.

She raised her hand in frustration, saying, "I was wrong, I won't do it again, but I have to report, someone was littering at the cliff top, too inconsiderate. Do you armed police handle this?"

"Achoo."

Xu Lingjun couldn't help but sneeze.

The female armed police hesitated, "Well, that's actually the responsibility of the environmental office, of course, if you have conclusive evidence of who it was, we can make a decision, impose a fine of two hundred bucks along with a reprimand."

Saying this, seeing Su Huanqing's face suddenly flushed red, she tentatively asked, "How about I find another reason to add another two hundred to the fine?"

Su Huanqing: "....."

"Forget it, pretend I didn't say anything, officer, I'm not going to commit suicide anymore, don't worry, I've completely figured things out, so, can I go home now?"

"Hmm, if you've figured it out, you can leave, after all, it's not that big of a mistake."

She dejectedly started walking back.

Following behind, were Father Su and Mother Su, still a bit worried and guilty.

Just a few steps out, she fiercely turned back and said to Xu Lingjun, word by word, "Xu Lingjun, I don't care what your reasons are, starting tomorrow, go to class honestly, got it?"

Zhang Chuyun's eyes brightened, pleasantly surprised, "You're actually a student of our school?"

Xu Lingjun explained, "I actually come from Qingzhou City..."

"That's great, I never expected our school to even produce a hero."

Zhang Chuyun delightfully said, "I initially thought our school's tutor's suicide would make the media mistakenly think we're oppressing the tutors, leading to unbearable pressure, but never thought it was a student who saved someone... Now, we can actively publicize this..."

Xu Lingjun said, "Forget it, better not. It seems Instructor Su really doesn't want people to know about this. What if we publicize it and she can't think straight again?"

"True, then let's handle this matter quietly."

Zhang Chuyun sighed, "Sigh, Xiaosu's stress tolerance is still a bit weak. I hope this experience with you can slightly increase her ability to handle pressure."

He began to slowly consider that he shouldn't give Instructor Su too much work in the future.

Otherwise, what if she tries to commit suicide again just to show him?

.....

Su Huanqing couldn't remember how she got home.

Just thinking about facing the students' strange glances at school tomorrow.

She couldn't help scratching her head, wishing she could find a time machine to go back two hours ago, she definitely wouldn't care about that bastard then.

Although his embrace was quite warm, and... broad, much broader than the father who only knows how to exploit me, and looking at his face up close, it was quite handsome.

It's said that some men's skin looks good from afar, but up close, it's all pockmarked. Unexpectedly, lying in his arms and looking at him, his skin was still so delicate and pretty, even better than my skin... If dad stops exploiting me, maybe I can buy some cosmetics for myself to maintain the skin?

Thinking this.

The phone suddenly rang.

Only then did Su Huanqing wake from her daze.

Seeing the name Xiaoya displayed on it.

She couldn't help showing a bit of panic in her eyes.

Just now, she had unknowingly started fantasizing about her friend's fiancé.

The nature of women.

She suppressed the panic in her heart.

Answered the phone.

Wang Qingya's voice immediately came through from the other side.

She said, "Xiaoqing, I really didn't expect you to do such a thing!"

Instantly, a wave of inexplicable panic surged within Su Huanqing. Heaven... I was just fantasizing in my head, and Xiaoya already knew?

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Chapter 92 Let's First Eliminate One Truth

[1,356 words]

Chapter 92: Chapter 92 Let's First Eliminate One Truth

"I really can't believe it, you actually pretended to commit suicide just to help Xiaojun get extra points on the Dragon Gate Exam, playing a whole act with him!"

Wang Qingya said emotionally, "I just wanted to take care of him, I didn't expect you to be so attentive."

Su Huanqing was stunned on the other side.

Meanwhile, at Zhanzheng College.

The single stall in the women's restroom.

Wang Qingya sat on the toilet, looking emotional and worried as she made a call to her close friend.

These past few days she had been so busy her feet barely touched the ground.

And the results were extremely gratifying.

Zhanzheng College had officially submitted documents to the Great Xia Empire regarding general-purpose combat robots.

And the first phase was named Zaku!

As for the previous Mecha, in Wang Qingya's words, even though it seemed powerful, it was on the brink of disassembly from the moment it was deployed. She kept bouncing up and down in the cockpit, almost being thrown out several times, and the physical challenge was so great that she was almost drenched in sweat when she came down.

It was an unfinished product, many theories on it were still in the experimental stage.

To achieve mass production, it's best not to rush things but to begin research anew, given that the direction and model were already set.

Step by step, it wouldn't take much time.

Anyway, Zhong Yuebai was nearly infatuated with the design drawings provided by Xu Lingjun, holding onto them even when sleeping.

Although Xu Lingjun had repeatedly expressed that he did not want such fame, Wang Qingya's previous bragging couldn't be taken back, so she had to continue boasting for him...

Of course, everything she mentioned was the absolute truth.

Upon learning that all these designs came from Xu Lingjun's hand.

In no time, Zhong Yuebai revered Xu Lingjun as if he were a Celestial Person.

We can only thank Life No.1 for greatly improving Xu Lingjun's memory, and further appreciate those diligent anime companies in his past life, who even for a fake model, provided a lot of standard data – let alone the inner workings, the external proportions and design were absolutely perfect.

During this period, Wang Qingya was extremely busy and only managed to call her friend while using the toilet.

She said emotionally, "When I heard Xiaojun talk about getting extra points for rescuing someone, and heard him describe the woman's appearance, something seemed off – couldn't afford cosmetics, had a flat chest, and could only afford sportswear. Other than you, I can't think of anyone else. But I didn't expect you to take such a risk to help him."

In truth, she did not want to think this way, but she knew her friend too well. She couldn't possibly be someone who would commit suicide.

It wasn't as absurd as her accidentally slipping from a high place, right?

After eliminating all possibilities, no matter how absurd the remaining one might be, it had to be the truth.

Getting extra points on the Dragon Gate Exam for rescuing someone in crisis.

This required the rescuer to endure life-threatening danger without retreat, and have an extremely noble character to be eligible to apply for extra points.

Moreover, the approval rate was less than one in ten.

At that moment, even the armed police noticed the deep pit behind Xu Lingjun and knew that to save someone, he must have borne immense pressure. You have to understand, with a woman on his back falling down from above...

No matter how light that woman was, when the height reached a hundred meters, the weight was enough to completely break any man.

Honestly, even the armed police didn't expect that when reviewing Xu Lingjun's photo, the approval process would go through so smoothly.

In just less than half a day.

The review was successfully completed.

Thirty extra points for the Dragon Gate Exam.

Sometimes, even a single point can change a life, let alone 30 points?

Though she didn't understand how Su Huanqing managed to hide from those armed police... knowing that if this got exposed, she would face an almost ruinous life.

If she wasn't sure her friend was strong and wouldn't commit suicide, she might actually think she had attempted suicide.

"It was too risky, I really didn't know you dared to do such a crazy thing. Don't do it next time, if it gets exposed, I wouldn't be able to compensate even if I died a hundred times over."

Wang Qingya felt both grateful and remorseful.

Su Huanqing, however, was concerned with a different perspective, angrily saying, "Did that Xu Lingjun say I'm flat?"

"Well, he was just describing your physique to me..."

Wang Qingya paused for a moment, then laughed, "You should think positively, no matter how much you eat, you don't get fat, that's a body many girls wish for."

"Being slim is good, but a flat chest is just unfortunate."

Su Huanqing complained, "What's to brag about, they say women undergo a second development after marriage. I'll definitely find an amazing husband who will cultivate me daily, and I'll show off in front of all of you every day."

"Speaking of which, isn't Xiaojun super brave? Interested?"

Wang Qingya grinned mischievously.

Su Huanqing's heart couldn't help but skip a beat.

She laughed it off, "What, have you experienced it?"

"Of course not, I don't go for young boys; Xiaojun hasn't even come of age yet. I can wait, just some unintentional physical contact, I only sat on him for a little while."

"Oh, sitting... Xiaoya, you're too dirty..."

Su Huanqing thought, so what if you sat on him? I sat on him too.

Statistics show that women are dirtier than men when they're alone with each other.

Like now, in front of Su Huanqing, Wang Qingya spoke without any reservation, making bold jokes, while Su Huanqing had no hesitation in responding.

Wang Qingya laughed, "Seriously though, Xiaoqing, what about Xiaojun, interested?"

Su Huanqing couldn't help but breathe a bit faster, annoyed, "Xiaoya, you shouldn't disregard your fiancé. I think he's actually pretty good."

"What do you mean pretty good, he's amazing, you know?"

Opposite, Wang Qingya sighed lightly and said, "It's just that Xiaojun has always seen me as a sister. Although I don't mind being close to him, in my eyes, he's still like a little brother who needs gentle care and nurturing. We're destined to be together, but I've told him I don't mind if he meets a girl he likes out there and has something with her..."

"After all, though we're meant to marry, I don't have the heart to make him step into the grave with me without experiencing a passionate love."

She laughed, "Actually, I think you are quite good."

Su Huanqing's heart pounded fiercely.

Stammering, she said, "You... you you're so generous?"

Wang Qingya laughed, "He's like my brother."

"Annoying... I'm not talking to you anymore."

Su Huanqing quickly hung up the call, covering her chest with her hand, trying to calm her pounding heart, annoyed, "Xiaoya is getting more and more annoying, really... it's too much, trying to pimp me out, it's too much, annoying, annoying."

She blushed and pulled her blanket over her head, muttering, "Xiaoya praised me, she can't be serious about pushing me to her fiancé, can she? What a joke, as a school tutor, how could I possibly lower myself for someone else? It's impossible, absolutely impossible... Even if it's for my best friend, I won't agree, yes, definitely won't agree."

At this moment.

Xu Lingjun stood once again on the edge of the cliff.

This had taken too long, but he had already grasped the trick the second time around, feeling he wasn't far from success.

Just as he was about to jump, he inadvertently noticed a squashed bottle on the ground, thinking to himself who tossed this bottle here, someone might accidentally step on it and fall over?

He picked up the bottle and, intending to jump, threw it into the trash can.

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Chapter 93: I don't believe you're just reviewing

[1,425 words]

Chapter 93: Chapter 93: I don't believe you're just reviewing

On that day, Xu Lingjun jumped off the cliff several more times.

With each jump, he gained more understanding.

Xu Lingjun felt that his perception might not be that poor; it was likely due to the efficacy of Life No.1. Anyway, each time was noticeably better than the last.

After a day of hard training...

Xu Lingjun could comfortably feel the breath of the wind and even use it to slightly alter his position.

Although he couldn't use it in actual combat yet...

But when it comes to cultivation, there are no shortcuts. The "Infinite Divine Demon Body Refining Technique" doesn't enhance the light body technique much, so Xu Lingjun could only persevere on his own. Still, reaching this level of a legendary light body technique in just one day made him quite satisfied.

It's like asking if you need a bicycle when you have already got a limousine.

He planned to continue jumping off the cliff the next day.

As for school, he just mentioned it to Principal Zhang Chuyun, who generously said that since he needed to train martial skills, he should focus on cultivation first. With the Dragon Gate Examination coming up, everyone has different strengths and weaknesses. In this last period, hit your weaknesses hard, broaden them to hold more water.

It's a very reasonable thing.

Then he generously gave him three more days off.

So...

The next day, when Su Huanqing sadly faced the strange glances of everyone and came to school,

she was comforted one by one by her friendly colleagues...

Even the usually chaotic class would quiet down the moment she stepped in, everyone looking at her with eyes full of pity and injustice.

"I heard Teacher Su's parents are very selfish. Because she's a girl, they bullied her. They stole her tuition fees back then, so she couldn't enter the Four Great Academies and had to go to a normal college instead. Even now that she's a school mentor, they still won't leave her alone, bleeding her dry, forcing her to live in the school dormitory."

"Right, it's such an outdated notion to favor boys over girls, even though the casualty rates at the Polar Star Battlefield have made gender ratios extremely skewed. It's not like we women don't serve in the army. It's just that due to our identities, we mostly do logistical jobs. We've contributed a lot too. Why should we be exploited?"

"They pushed Teacher Su to this extent. I heard if it weren't for someone saving her, she would have been smashed to death."

"Alas, who would have thought that Teacher Su, who looks so lovely, has such a tragic background."

.....

The low whispers made Su Huanqing so frustrated that she wished she could grab Xu Lingjun and bite him a hundred times.

Ahem...of course, a proper bite. Causing me to fall so low, I definitely don't fantasize about you.

And throughout the day,

she deliberately stayed in her office under everyone's strange gaze for longer, fearing that someone would come looking for her but not find her.

Unfortunately, Xu Lingjun didn't come to school.

That jerk didn't take my words seriously at all...

But for some reason, Su Huanqing couldn't muster the courage to visit Xu Lingjun's home again. Well, the last visit caused such a big commotion. If I go again this time, who knows what might happen.

Of course, my reluctance has absolutely nothing to do with what Xiaoya said last time.

I, Su Huanqing, am iron-willed, how could I fall for a man's charms?

In the blink of an eye...

Three days had passed.

Three days of hard training.

How many times did he fall off the cliff?

Xu Lingjun couldn't remember. He only knew that from initially feeling some slight pain from the falls, in the end, he was almost numb to it. His physique had indeed strengthened again.

Xu Lingjun felt that while his body might still struggle against laser weapons, bullets would have a hard time hurting him now.

More importantly, the transformation of Qi Force into True Qi inside his body had become much more rapid.

It seemed like the external skills were driving the inner strength.

Very good.

If it continues like this, I have a good chance of reaching the late stage of Qi Gathering before the Dragon Gate Examination.

And good news didn't stop there. Father Wang sent word that the prototype of the Vibranium Armor had been completed and successfully distributed. He even helped promote it by saying it was his daughter's latest research project.

Xu Lingjun even went to the company specifically for it.

Hmm...there weren't many men wearing it, but through the revealing collars of those women, he could already see the intriguing black underneath, looking particularly enticing, and they deliberately stretched in various poses in front of him.

Xu Lingjun couldn't help but secretly sigh, although men prefer tight suits, wearing them out in public really takes a lot of courage...

No wonder in Marvel, Black Panther and Captain America have to cover their faces to wear tight suits outside, despite having identities they can't hide. Otherwise, it's just too embarrassing.

Next, all he needed to do was wait.

And after the three-day break ended...

Xu Lingjun finally went to school, having been absent for more than a dozen days, with only ten days left before the Dragon Gate Examination.

Even necessary procedures needed to be done.

So...

When Xu Lingjun suddenly appeared in Su Huanqing's office...

Su Huanqing couldn't help but be shocked, only to be surprised by Xu Lingjun: "You...how did you jump out of my heart?"

After speaking, that fair and lovely face couldn't help but turn red.

She hurriedly explained: "I...I didn't mean that, I mean you weren't coming to school, and I kept worrying about it. You suddenly showed up, and I just...just..."

Xu Lingjun smiled and said, "I understand what the teacher means. I just didn't expect the person I saved by chance to be my homeroom teacher. It's really amazing when I think about it."

"If you dare mention that again, I will kill you, understand?"

Su Huanqing stared hard at Xu Lingjun and seriously said.

"Oh, I understand what the teacher means."

Su Huanqing gritted her teeth and said, "And, it wasn't a coincidence. I went looking for you, I especially went to find you alone, got it?"

"Got it."

Xu Lingjun thought, specifically coming to find me and then seeing the favorable environment, decided to jump a cliff?

Su Huanqing waved her hand and said, "Okay, let's not discuss these boring questions. You should know my relationship with your Sister Yaya, right?"

"Yeah, she said you two are good sisters, very open with each other, and I don't need to be polite with you, we're all family, and I can always come to you for anything."

Xu Lingjun's glance unintentionally swept across Su Huanqing's chest, thinking that this Teacher Su is really brave to be so open with Sister Yaya at such a level...

He experienced it a few days back, and the difference is huge.

Su Huanqing didn't notice Xu Lingjun's glance.

She was just deeply moved by that "we're all family."

Especially matched with Xu Lingjun's face that made her heart flutter.

Could it be that Xiaoya is serious? If she is, does that count as NTR?

No, no, my complex feelings for him are entirely due to yesterday's suspension bridge effect...causing my judgment to have some minor problems.

I, Su Huanqing, will not steal my best friend's partner, even with her consent.

Su Huanqing shook her head and said, "Later, I'll have someone take you to the class. There are only ten days left until the Dragon Gate Examination, and time is already very tight. You've been absent for so long. Although you're a martial arts student, martial skills also have certain academic requirements. During this time, the instructor is

reviewing the past three years of content, which is crucial for you martial arts students who generally don't have optimistic academic scores."

Xu Lingjun said, "No worries, Sister Yaya has already helped me do in-depth reviews. We've been reviewing every night until two or three in the morning."

In-depth? How deep?

Su Huanqing glanced at Xu Lingjun, thinking two or three in the morning, young man and woman, even with a fiancé relationship...

Are you only reviewing in bed?

I believe you're lying, Xu Lingjun seems so righteous but probably long tasted the forbidden fruit.

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Chapter 94: How Could Someone Be This Useless?

[1,470 words]

Chapter 94: Chapter 94: How Could Someone Be This Useless?

"Teacher Su, did you need something from me?"

Zong Xiaoping quickly arrived at Su Huanqing's office.

He saw Xu Lingjun.

A glint suddenly flashed in his eyes, then he remembered something, and the scrutinizing look quickly turned friendly.

Su Huanqing said, "This is Xu Lingjun, the last transfer student from Qingzhou City. Take him to the class and help him arrange a seat, put him next to you so you can easily guide him."

As she spoke, she looked at Xu Lingjun and said, "This is Zong Xiaoping, our class president of Class 3-7, outstanding in Martial Tao. If you have any doubts about Martial Tao during this time, you can consult him. For cultural subjects, you can ask me."

"Xu Lingjun?"

Zong Xiaoping's eyes lit up and he said, "You're the student who saved Teacher Su a few days ago?"

Su Huanqing: "....."

Seeing Su Huanqing's unusual expression.

Zong Xiaoping quickly said, "Let's go, Xu Tongxue, I'll take you to the class to get familiar with the routine."

Saying this, he warmly dragged Xu Lingjun and left.

Out of the office.

Out of Su Huanqing's sight.

He finally let out a light breath and sighed, "That was close, I mentioned her forbidden topic in front of Teacher Su again. She hates it when people bring up her jumping off a cliff these days."

Saying this, he gratefully looked at Xu Lingjun and said, "Anyway, thank you for saving Teacher Su. You're Teacher Su's savior, hence my savior too. If you need anything in the future, just let me know, I won't refuse if I can do it."

He then politely added, "Not to boast, but my father is the Vice President of the Fangyi City Martial Arts Association, and is a Martial Artist at the Profound Realm. I had access to Martial Tao knowledge earlier than you, so generally speaking, I know more than you. At present, I'm lucky to be the top of the senior year in Fangyi City. It's not about who guides whom, we can just discuss any doubts together as friends."

"Really?"

Xu Lingjun's eyes lit up, delighted, "Honestly, I've been distressed about not knowing how to break through recently, after all, my parents are Martial Artists too but passed away early; there's really no one to guide me."

Zong Xiaoping asked, "Oh, do you have any particular confusion?"

Xu Lingjun sighed, "In fact, my cultivation has been stuck at the middle stage of Qi Gathering for a whole month now. Actually, I felt like breaking through a few days ago, but it feels like something's blocking me. Huh? Zong Tongxue, why did you stop walking?"

Zong Xiaoping paused in his steps, staring at Xu Lingjun, gasping, "You... you've been at the middle stage of Qi Gathering for just a month and already feel like breaking through?"

Xu Lingjun sighed, "It's quite long, maybe because I've been focusing on practicing Martial Skills lately, ignoring the cultivation technique. I know it's wrong to have a partial focus, but without guidance, I'm like a blind person feeling an elephant."

Zong Xiaoping, who has been stuck at the middle stage of Qi Gathering for two years, remained silent for a moment, then continued walking, "By the way, Xu Tongxue, can I ask you something?"

Xu Lingjun asked, "What is it?"

"Do you know why Teacher Su attempted suicide?"

"I really don't know."

Xu Lingjun thought why has the topic shifted?

Zong Xiaoping said indignantly, "Because Teacher Su has a scumbag fiancé, seemingly arranged by her parents... Actually, her parents have always been exploiting her; arranging a fiancé is surely to receive gifts. The other party might be a scumbag or rubbish. We want to help her, but we don't know who it is."

Xu Lingjun wondered, "Teacher Su also has a fiancé?"

But thinking about how that fiancé could drive the seemingly spirited Teacher Su to attempt suicide, he understood that not every engaged couple is as harmonious as he and Sister Yaya.

Why say also?

Zong Xiaoping gave Xu Lingjun a strange look, ignoring the details, and said, "So, Xu Tongxue, I want to ask you a question."

"What question?"

"Is there anyone in Qingyang High School from Qingzhou with a wealthy family background, ugly appearance, and a perverted, twisted personality? Mainly rich..."

Xu Lingjun thought for a moment and replied, "Yes, his name is Guo Zheng, his father is the school's principal, and his mother is on the board. He's basically a second-generation rich kid and a crown prince at school, with no real flaws, just a bit lecherous and narcissistic. He's tried to pursue fifty girls in a row but failed each time, so eventually, his mind became a bit twisted, a normal kind of pervert."

"Fifty?"

Zong Xiaoping clicked his tongue, thinking this guy is quite generous in love.

Xu Lingjun nodded, "Yes, I was there to witness each time, counted, so I'm sure."

"Ahchoo."

Qingzhou City.

In a dilapidated City Lord's Mansion.

Guo Zheng, who was in school, couldn't help but sneeze, thinking which beauty was talking about him?

Can't, can't, although it's my time since Old Xu left, I can't let it be 2, 4, 8, 16...

I need to strive, rise, prepare so that someday I can confidently stroll into places with two buddies instead of being a lackey that pays the bill.

He rubbed his nose and continued to memorize his knowledge points.

Zong Xiaoping asked, "Which class is he in at our school?"

Xu Lingjun answered, "He didn't transfer here, he's still in Qingzhou City."

"Oh, maybe I wasn't clear. I mean the student who transferred from Qingzhou City to our school."

Zong Xiaoping sighed, "I learned about it by coincidence, didn't get the name, just that he's one of the Qingyang High School transfers to Fangyi City... That's my only clue. I've been looking for him all this time, but can't find him."

"Sorry, I don't know either. Quite a few people transferred to Qingyang High School, but I'm the only one who joined our class. I don't know the others, you know I'm pretty ordinary, not a remarkable figure at school, so I don't know many people."

Xu Lingjun asked, "Maybe you could ask around?"

"Everyone's a suspect, I'm afraid of asking the wrong person and causing trouble for Teacher Su. So, I'm only asking you now."

Zong Xiaoping gritted his teeth, "I want to know how much he paid Teacher Su's dad. If he's willing to break the engagement, I'd pay ten times more..."

Noticing the odd look in Xu Lingjun's eyes.

Zong Xiaoping's originally handsome, now utterly ordinary face reddened.

He awkwardly said, "I admit, I do have a bit of admiration for Teacher Su. I want her to find her own happiness... If I could give her happiness, that would be best. But even if it's not me, she shouldn't be buried by such despicable materialism. She should bravely pursue her happiness. Many female teachers in school or her friends, all want to introduce someone to her, but she always refuses. I think she should seriously consider her good friends' opinions."

Xu Lingjun said, amazed, "From what you say, I don't seem to be a suspect. You're that confident?"

Zong Xiaoping's gaze swept over Xu Lingjun's face and said confidently, "If Teacher Su's fiancé were really you, even if you were a useless guy addicted to all vices, I doubt she'd be pessimistic enough to attempt suicide."

Xu Lingjun, moved, said, "Thank you for the regard."

No wonder he was so eager to guide me when he just met me.

"You're welcome."

Xu Lingjun suddenly remembered what he was about to ask and said, "Oh right, about what I was saying earlier, you have more experience than me; how do I break through when I'm stuck at a bottleneck?"

"Well..."

Zong Xiaoping's eyes wandered again, vaguely, he said, "In such cases, I think being too hasty is wrong, um... cultivation requires a balance of tension and relaxation, perhaps you're too impatient... theoretically, breaking through just one month after isn't anything; perhaps you're just in haste, wanting to break through to the late stage Qi Gathering before the Dragon Gate Examination, but maybe you're just too anxious?"

"How could one stay stuck for two years without progress? Zong Tongxue, you don't need to comfort me."

Xu Lingjun started, eyes lit up, understanding, "I see, you're telling me I've been cultivating too diligently, advising me to stop and hone my current cultivation, right? Indeed, I might be too eager, rushing to break through before the Dragon Gate Examination, perhaps I'm a bit too impatient?"

"Ahaha, yes, precisely correct."

Zong Xiaoping laughed, scratching his head, but his smile seemed forced no matter how you look at it.

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Chapter 95: Chives Are Not So Easy to Find

[1,343 words]

Chapter 95: Chapter 95: Chives Are Not So Easy to Find

A brand-new class.

Yet Xu Lingjun blended in perfectly without a hitch.

As soon as he stepped through the classroom door, he gained MAX affection from more than half of the female classmates.

As for the displeasure from the other half of the male classmates... once Zong Xiaoping informed everyone that it was this Xu Lingjun who saved Teacher Su, their looks immediately turned to approval.

Yes... daring to save someone from the cliff's edge.

And since the person saved was their teacher, if it weren't for him, they probably wouldn't be able to see Teacher Su every day.

Thus.

Through the monitor, watching Xu Lingjun not being excluded by the male students due to appearance issues or harassed by the female students, but instead being surrounded enthusiastically as they chatted about something.

Su Huanqing nodded contentedly.

Despite the various accidents in between, he finally integrated into the class. With this, I can face Xiaoya without guilt.

.....

A new environment.

Aside from the absence of a certain perverted friend's daily harassment, it doesn't feel much different from being in Qingzhou City.

The class content is nothing to write home about; there's not much worth mentioning.

Just regular Martial Tao course dueling, of course, at this point, with the Dragon Gate Examination so near, no matter how hurriedly intense the special training, it would be pointless.

Instead, more time is spent reviewing and explaining cultural studies.

Understand that to cope with the Dragon Gate Examination, these martial students have been preparing for nine years in Martial Tao, what needed to be done was long done, no amount of review can make a great leap in progress in short order.

In comparison, the minimum score threshold for the cultural class is rather their biggest hindrance.

Don't let it be that the Martial Tao score is okay, but the cultural class doesn't meet the minimum standard line... then you still won't get into a desired Martial Mansion.

Therefore, the teachers focused more on classes like Spiritual Energy, cultural studies, and interstellar classes, all subjects the martial arts students also need to minor in.

Lifting the martial exams score from 500 to 600 versus lifting liberal arts from 100 to 200, even the pigs know which is easier to improve, a person's shortest board ultimately determines how far they can reach.

If it were in the past, Xu Lingjun would probably study very seriously...

After all, his goal is the Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion.

One of the Four Great Martial Mansions, the difficulty is naturally not ordinary.

But now, with Wang Qingya studying day and night with him for that one month, particularly with the extensive intake of Life No.1 during this period, though it consumed a significant amount of Origin Value, correspondingly, his mind is becoming increasingly clear.

Those fleeting memories from the past now seem to be etched into his heart like a template.

Even without reviewing, he understands those knowledge points more and more thoroughly.

So...

Xu Lingjun took out his phone and opened Taobao again.

He intends to pick another set of powerful martial skills for himself.

Now that his Light Body Technique is almost fully cultivated, that earlier suggestion from Zong Xiaoping was quite right, he may indeed have been a bit anxious lately, and although he didn't put down daily cultivation, he took a large amount of Blood Replenishing Oral Liquid, and even finished all the nutritious products Father Wang prepared for him every day...

And correspondingly, his True Qi purity and quantity have been continuously growing, even when cultivating Light Body Technique, the Infinite Divine Demon Body Refining Technique continuously enhances his physique.

He might have been a bit too anxious indeed.

Let's just pause and slow down for now.

Learn a martial skill to change things up, which can work as a buffer too...

He earnestly browsed through the sales records, thinking that the best-selling must surely be the most well-hyped.

The female instructor who was lecturing earnestly glanced at Xu Lingjun, who was diligently browsing his phone.

She couldn't help but shake her head helplessly, such a waste of looking so good, it seems there is no hope for the Dragon Gate Examination, so he has simply given up.

She wanted to remind him, yet understood that for those poor students, sometimes it's not because they don't want to study, but because they truly don't have time anymore.

Forcefully awakening their sense of responsibility or their fear of the future is not a good thing... lingering in confusion, even if just self-deceit, at least for now, it can be a bit easier.

Although this ease must be accounted for with a lifetime of responsibility in the future.

Yet at this time.

Xu Lingjun suddenly remembered, oh right, at this time, it should be time to clock out.

He took out a punch card and pressed it, earning a daily salary of 30,000.

He couldn't help but sigh, the pressure on students these days is huge.

Here I am, clocking out, and I'm still not done with school.

That night.

He studied until nine in the evening.

On his way home, he specifically took two extra turns and encountered a lost five-year-old girl; leveraging his external advantages, he quickly coaxed her into laughter and then refused to fulfill her request to take her home, instead, sending her back to her own house, gaining 13 Source Value from her parents!

He rescued a stray dog and took it to an animal lover's shelter, but for some reason, despite his efforts, he didn't earn any Source Value.

He saw a couple fighting, seemingly about to break up.

Xu Lingjun tried to talk them down, but somehow, the female, who was initially calming down, went hysterical upon his intervention, deeply displeased with her boyfriend, and they broke up for sure.

Xu Lingjun thought perhaps it was just because there was no Resentment Value to gain, otherwise, the man would absolutely hate him.

Never mind... today's harvest isn't especially bountiful.

He didn't bump into any elderly people falling, so there wasn't a chance to help.

In this unfamiliar landscape, finding suitable chances isn't as easy.

If not for saving Qingzhou City earlier and gaining a lot of Source Value, it probably would've been a deficit by now.

But merely idling away the leftovers is no solution; seems I need to quickly develop some downlines.

That night.

Xu Lingjun didn't eat any of those nutritious supplements specially prepared by Father Wang, nor did he drink any more Blood Replenishing Oral Liquid. He didn't even practice martial skills; instead, he lay in bed early, exchanged several routine messages with Wang Qingya, and then slept early.

This made Wang Tiancheng, who wanted to chat with Xu Lingjun about his accommodation habits during this period, feel guilty.

He heard young people nowadays definitely don't sleep before midnight, and Lil' Jun actually goes to bed so early; could it be he's always worn out from worrying about clocking in...

Maybe he should get him an auto-punch card machine?

In fact, as Xu Lingjun fell soundly asleep.

He'd developed a habit of renewing a large amount of Qi Blood and tonic intake at this time of day, and none of these happened today...

Even his body seemed slightly uncomfortable.

His True Qi was stirring, seemingly yearning for something...

But the daily routine wasn't forthcoming.

True Qi began to clash more frequently against Xu Lingjun's internal organs, forging his body.

An entire night...

Xu Lingjun did not get up throughout the night.

Upon waking up.

He excitedly felt the strong True Qi inside him, which had transformed from being vague and ethereal to a gaseous state like smoke.

Late stage Qi Gathering.

He broke through just like that, progressing smoothly.

"Truly a worthy family inheritance."

Xu Lingjun exclaimed with joy, "This time, I really have to thank Zong Xiaoping when I go to school, never expected to try his suggestion just a bit and actually had a breakthrough."

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 96: We Have Hostages in Our Hands

[1,520 words]

Chapter 96: Chapter 96: We Have Hostages in Our Hands

Inside Zhanzheng College.

Unlike the Four Great Martial Mansions that focus solely on martial arts, the Four Great Academies each have their specific roles.

Among them, Zhanzheng Academy serves as a massive academy supplying an entire Polar Star Battlefield and even the entire Great Xia Empire with weapons.

Its resources, capabilities, funds, and even channels are among the best in the Empire.

Under full operation.

In just a few days' time.

A Zaku robot with a completely green body was already standing in the experimental field.

The fierce sound of artillery fire clashing.

The heavy machine gun mounted on Zaku's arm continuously spewed flames outward, the heavy recoil completely ignored by the robot... The giant target in front, originally neatly arranged, fell like a wheat field swept by a violent wind.

The flat ground turned into a chaotic mess in the blink of an eye, as if it had been plowed by artillery fire.

And it kept changing targets according to the experimental plan, turning directions, charging and stopping abruptly, and no matter how intense the movements were, the accuracy of the weapons was not affected in the slightest.

"Try its melee ability."

Zhong Yuebai watched as weapons suitable for armored vehicles were used so flexibly on Zaku.

Her eyes gleamed, and she instructed through the intercom to the pilot inside.

"Understood!"

Accompanied by the earth-shaking tremors, Zaku strode forward, each step bringing a shuddering rumble.

Wang Qingya stood from a distance, thinking that this is much heavier than a Mecha... if it wants to fly, the energy for the thrusters might still be a problem.

But after all, this is just a Zaku for experimental use temporarily built in just a dozen or so days; as long as its applicability is confirmed, it will suffice.

And during the run, the robot's hand flipped out a huge thermal axe, accompanied by energy heating.

The gigantic Zaku suddenly came to a halt, and the thermal axe slashed downward, carving a huge gap in the massive titanium alloy steel plate in front of it, then used both arms to grip the crack forcefully, tearing it apart...

The gaping crack was torn apart, creating a passage large enough for the giant robot to enter.

.....

Half an hour later.

"Alright, that's the end of the experiment, you can come down now."

Zhong Yuebai said to the Zaku that had wreaked havoc on everything around it.

"Instructor, can I stay inside for a little longer?"

An excited voice came from inside.

Exclaimed, "It's awesome, really awesome... God, I feel like piloting this thing, I could take down a warship; if the speed of flight could be resolved, this would be the perfect killing machine!"

"Suit yourself."

Zhong Yuebai had no objection to the request of this student who had been unwillingly drafted temporarily.

Men, liking these machines isn't a bad thing.

She turned and smiled at Wang Qingya, asking, "Was the previous Mecha like this?"

Wang Qingya replied, "Not exactly, that one might be a bit more advanced, and the technology applied was also a bit more high-end, so it already exploded; perhaps because I took too large a step."

"It's fine, this time we'll step together, then the step won't be so big. Just wait, I'll go report to the Pavilion Master."

Zhong Yuebai looked at Pavilion Master Zhang of Zhanzheng Academy, who had been watching the experiment from the stands.

And the dozen or so elderly professors with white hair.

Elder House Master Zhang is already over eighty years old, but he is spirited, looking like an elder in their fifties or sixties... And now, these old fellows, whose combined ages exceed a thousand years, are all staring intently at the Zaku.

Watching Zhong Yuebai walk up, Pavilion Master Zhang praised, "A truly perfect killing weapon, the recoil of the heavy machine gun is extremely strong, and coupled with its massive size and ammunition capacity, it makes it impossible for a small human to operate solo; aside from armored vehicles and miniature starships, I've never seen anyone that could so flexibly handle this heavy machine gun."

"This is just the most basic weapon, so if we can solve the energy problem of spiritual weapons, then these weapons can be upgraded to spiritual energy or light energy laser weapons. By then, even in the cosmos, these robots can perform exceptionally well, unlike now, where they can only be used internally on planets."

"It's already enough; every beginning is difficult, and the subsequent development can be done slowly."

Pavilion Master Zhang looked at Wang Qingya and asked, "Are all these ideas from that little girl alone?"

"In fact, Xiaoya had the idea for such broadly applicable combat robots a long time ago, but it didn't match the current state at all back then; her ideas were very immature, so I dismissed them."

Zhong Yuebai glanced apologetically at Wang Qingya in the distance and sighed, "That was my mistake, almost allowing a pearl to be covered in dust. If the broadly applicable combat robot were researched successfully, there's no doubt it could exhibit remarkable combat power both inside and outside of planets, especially in confrontations between two armies."

With firepower no less than a tank, yet more flexible and suitable for both ranged and melee combat, if there is any downside, it might be that its energy consumption is too high. But a war is inherently a money burner, so this problem is not really a problem.

Zhong Yuebai earnestly said, "So, Dean, what about my proposal?"

"This..."

Pavilion Master Zhang looked troubled and sighed, "Director Zhong, you should know that as early as the sophomore year, each student's personal profile is transferred to the

academic library. He has expressed interest in Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion, so his student record is naturally filed with Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion as well. For me, a dignified head of the academy, to bow to the Martial Mansion to ask for someone is quite embarrassing. But of course, if Xu Lingjun's brain is valuable enough for me to lose face once..."

"I believe this Xu Lingjun absolutely has this value, and his value far exceeds your imagination. Even if you, Pavilion Master, have to lose face a hundred times, and make a hundred requests, it would be totally worth it."

Zhong Yuebai said resolutely.

Pavilion Master Zhang gave Zhong Yuebai a resentful glance, thinking to himself, truly it's not you losing face, and yet you speak of it so lightly as if a hundred times is nothing.

But recalling the rivalry between the Four Great Academies and the Four Great Martial Mansions...

It's actually not really a rivalry.

It's just that people on the technology side generally think martial artists are simple brutes with muscles but no brains, while those on the martial arts side generally think scholars on the technology side are bookworms who have learned themselves dumb.

Both sides just look down on each other

If he were suddenly to ask Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion for someone, surely he'd be ridiculed, with people saying, aren't we all brutes, why are you coming to ask for someone?

"By the way, this is Xiaoya's previous report. I have always kept a backup, and this is the new report Xiaoya made under Xu Lingjun's guidance. Take a look at it."

Zhong Yuebai said seriously, "Of course, the suggestions Xu Lingjun made are actually quite amateurish, but it's precisely because of this outsider perspective that I am even more impressed by his boundless imagination. Humans created airplanes because they saw birds flying. To us who delve into technology, rich imagination is the most important, especially when these outsider suggestions are very reliable, and can be achieved with our current technology."

Pavilion Master Zhang flipped through Wang Qingya's first document, glanced a few times, nodded approvingly, and said, "Brilliant ideas, though they are fraught with difficulty, for someone to think this far is impressive, Director Zhong, you were hasty before."

With that said.

He then turned to the second document.

After reading it, he paused, and read it again from the beginning.

Looking up, he seriously said, "Rest assured, Director Zhong, I'll do whatever it takes to steal Xu Lingjun from Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion. Xu Lingjun is a talent, and it's too much of a waste for him to just be a brute. This matter I'll have to carefully figure out a way. But after all, it concerns someone else's life, he might have to agree first..."

"Don't worry, Pavilion Master, his fiancée is here."

Zhong Yuebai glanced at Wang Qingya below who was seriously calculating data.

Smiled and said, "Based on my years of experience, Xiaoya is still a girl, you know, men like novelty. If it's both novel and legal, it's irresistibly enticing. From this point of view, we already have a hostage in hand."

"But strictly speaking, Xu Lingjun is just as much Wang Qingya's hostage."

Zhang Zhiheng couldn't help but sigh softly, thinking to himself, hopefully, we don't lose both the bride and soldiers in this deal.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 97 You Are Too Impure

[1,353 words]

Chapter 97: Chapter 97 You Are Too Impure

Afterwards.

Xu Lingjun's life became quite routine.

Attending classes, studying, and returning home to diligently review and consolidate the potential contents of the Dragon Gate Examination.

There were indeed some unexpected events during this period...

For instance, he set a small goal for himself.

He planned to strive for a breakthrough to the late stage of Qi Gathering before the Dragon Gate Examination.

After all, although the ninth rank Body Tempering allows one to participate in the Four Great Martial Mansions' assessments, it's just the minimum standard for these assessments.

And since it's called an examination, there are too many unpredictable elements involved.

Even at the middle stage of Qi Gathering, if luck isn't on your side, it's highly possible to fail the exam.

To be safe, reaching the late stage of Qi Gathering is imperative.

But he absolutely never expected...

The small goal he set that morning was mysteriously achieved after just a night's sleep.

Because of this, Xu Lingjun specially went to find Zong Xiaoping to express his gratitude, saying it was thanks to his help.

Though he couldn't understand why Zong's face twisted after hearing his words... it seemed as if he didn't want to say a word to him.

Probably because he hasn't found Teacher Su's fiancé yet.

Xu Lingjun didn't really take it to heart; Teacher Su is indeed very pretty, almost the dreamgirl of most students in high school... but to Xu Lingjun, she didn't quite fit his aesthetic criteria.

You can't let a kid suffer, after all.

Having endured hardships as a child, Xu Lingjun didn't wish for his own child to experience the same.

In the blink of an eye.

Four or five days passed.

Now, there were only a few days left until the Dragon Gate Examination.

During this period, he rode in the special car Father Wang arranged for him to and from school... Along the way, Xu Lingjun began to sense a tinge of tension around him.

The floating projections in the sky started broadcasting policies nonstop. All shops had to close no later than eight o'clock to ensure students got the best quality sleep. Starting now, anyone holding an admission ticket could eat, stay, or do anything without queuing and enjoy priority treatment.

This was to enable students to dedicate all their time to studying.

Meanwhile, texts began scrolling continuously atop major star-level hotels.

"Welcoming all students from Jinxing High School, Yuxu City, to stay at Lanmeng Hotel!"

"Yu Cheng Grand Hotel wishes all students of Yunhua High School, Songchui City, great success in the Dragon Gate Examination."

"Before the troops move, provisions must come first. Taoyuan Grand Hotel offers complimentary meals and lodging for all students, providing the most stable support so you face challenges with boundless energy."

.....

Nobody is foolish.

The Dragon Gate Examination differs from the college entrance exam in the past life. Those who pass and enter the academies here are truly talented; they may charge at the frontline, stabilize the heart at the rear, join the military, or contribute to research institutions.

These individuals could be called the true heroes of the future.

A slight investment now, if it results in even one person coming out from their hotel, can instantly elevate the hotel's level. Using the person for advertising later on means profit would multiply a thousandfold.

"It's convenient for me; at least I don't have to make long journeys anymore."

Sitting in the car, Xu Lingjun sighed.

It's important to know that Dragon Gate Examination has long become a tradition, and even in the whole Great Xia Empire, there are only six main examination sites.

Fangyi City, being a flat plain with advantageous topography and convenient transportation, has been one of the six main examination sites for years.

The driver, who was driving, smiled, "President Wang is really attentive to your matter, son-in-law. Miss only barely mentioned it, and he immediately contacted the City Lord of Fangyi City, treated him to a meal, and arranged for you to be settled here, at least occupying a geographic advantage..."

Xu Lingjun responded with silence.

Inwardly, he sighed with emotion, realizing that one's own strength is truly the foundation of all stability.

Had it been in the past, he would never have so easily accepted Father Wang's help... Not that he resisted the marriage contract, since Sister Yaya is beautiful, wise, and cute, sometimes even endearingly naïve.

After all, which man wouldn't like her.

But financial assistance...

As someone reborn, his self-esteem couldn't tolerate living off someone else.

Yet now, although still living off someone else, it's solely because he himself possesses the strength and potential for greater heights.

He can accept Father Wang's assistance with a clear conscience.

"Just drop me here; I'll walk the rest myself. After all, I'm still a student, and I'd like to keep a low profile."

Xu Lingjun stepped out of the elongated, luxurious, globally limited edition business car, saying: "Thank you for the ride."

"It's my honor to serve you, son-in-law."

The driver replied with a wide smile.

From previously enduring long commutes, traveling thousands of miles a day, to now simply chauffeuring the son-in-law to and from school daily, his salary tripled, reflecting the sincerity of his smile.

Even though the son-in-law didn't go to the company often, astute people already realized that any help they could offer the son-in-law would please the boss more than helping the boss directly... It's heard that someone named Zheng Hongbin has already been assigned to a new department, specifically tasked with developing and producing toys for the son-in-law.

Whatever the boss invests in, is there anything that doesn't yield huge profits?

These people are surely being taken care of.

.....

The entire day.

Xu Lingjun was diligently attending classes, and though he was fully confident, as the Dragon Gate Examination approached, he couldn't help feeling a little apprehensive...

This is his one and only chance to pave his path in Martial Tao.

Should he fail the exam, he might have to join the Sun and Moon Bright Sect and become a Sect Leader's Direct Disciple, heading a sect in the future.

That's not the life he desires.

Wandering before a Martial Artist whose strength far exceeds the upper realm, what if his golden finger is exposed?

It's his greatest secret, a secret he plans to take from birth to death and into the grave.

Hence, he must study diligently, revisiting the key points previously highlighted by Sister Yaya once more.

Then, his smart mind surprisingly revisited these old truths and gathered a lot of new knowledge.

"This kid really does attend classes properly."

Su Huanqing had to patrol the various classes daily, though she didn't teach any particular subject. She was more in charge of managing class order.

And ever since Xu Lingjun appeared, she focused her patrols particularly on the elite class...

Upon discovering Xu Lingjun was no longer skipping classes, attending on time every day, though he didn't listen to the lectures but read his own books earnestly,

she was suddenly taken aback.

On that day... after school...

"Teacher Su?"

Seeing Su Huanqing who was specifically waiting for him,

Xu Lingjun called out in surprise, looked around for a moment, and asked in amazement, "Are you waiting for me?"

"Yes, come with me, I have something to discuss with you."

Su Huanqing said, turning to leave.

Xu Lingjun followed her.

In the office.

"Here."

Su Huanqing took out a card, saying: "There's five million in this card, take it."

Hearing this, Xu Lingjun's pupils suddenly shrank. He couldn't help but cross his arms in shock, exclaiming: "Teacher, you suddenly giving me five million, what are you intending? I'm not that kind of person... Besides, you are also my fiancée's good friend, how can you have such impure thoughts about me, you... you're too unclean."

And now, I'm at least a millionaire with a monthly income in the millions. You're offering just five million to try to... Isn't that a bit low?

Xu Lingjun inexplicably felt a little aggrieved.

Su Huanqing: "....."

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Chapter 98 Reputation + Authenticity = Talent Source

[1,583 words]

Chapter 98: Chapter 98 Reputation + Authenticity = Talent Source

The next morning.

Xu Lingjun woke up.

Out of habit, he caressed all of his treasured collections once over.

Then, a sudden shift in the screen in front of him revealed a line of small text.

[Detected the false item Vibranium Armor. Would you like to grant it a true source? This will consume 800 Source Value points!]

Xu Lingjun's eyes couldn't help but light up.

He looked back at the neatly placed Infinite Justice Mecha, Frost's Sorrow, and other items on the nightstand. At the very edge was the inconspicuous Vibranium Armor, or rather, right now it's just a black tight-fitting garment.

It was just a junior.

But now, it had surpassed the rest.

Becoming the third item, after Assault Freedom Mecha and Transformation Capsule, to be capable of being endowed with a Talent Source.

It's barely been ten days.

Xu Lingjun's eyes gleamed, gently caressing the silky tight-fitting garment, his heart was overwhelmingly excited.

To him, this armor wasn't just armor; it represented an attempt...

And with this attempt.

He finally confirmed something with absolute certainty.

A Talent Source can be artificially created.

But it requires two critical elements.

One is popularity; the object must be known by a sufficient number of people.

The second is authenticity.

People must truly believe that this thing is real. Otherwise, even if many people know of it, it's useless. Just like Frost's Sorrow, during this period at work, even though Xu Lingjun had been quite inconsistent, he noticed that among his Talent Source items, Frost's Sorrow was the most popular.

But even the most imaginative employees didn't believe Frost's Sorrow was real.

Being able to slay enemies and bind their souls to the sword... it just sounds too far-fetched.

On the contrary, the Mecha, the Capsule, and even the now Vibranium Armor, all greatly benefited from Sister Yaya's influence.

Because of Sister Yaya, these things were believed to truly exist.

"Authenticity, huh?"

Xu Lingjun muttered to himself, thinking that as long as he knew the pattern, it would be much easier to get whatever he needed in the future.

But...

He glanced down at the Vibranium Armor, no, the tight-fitting undergarment.

He didn't grant the Talent Source immediately.

Better wait a little longer...

He could make another attempt.

He took a cold shower to stimulate his excited emotions.

His mind was already filled with countless chaotic thoughts, more thrilling than being admitted to the Bei Xuanwu Martial Mansion.

Sister Yaya, you are truly my lucky star.

Thinking this, he unhesitatingly took out his phone and sent Wang Qingya an "I love you" emoji.

Imperial Capital.

While Wang Qingya was intensely debating something with her mentor, her phone rang.

She glanced down.

Her fair face suddenly turned red at a visible pace.

For a moment she was at a loss, frozen mid-action, unsure whether to speak or gesture first.

Zhong Yuebai couldn't help but smile.

She laughed and said, "What, did your little husband message you?"

"No... no, it was my best friend. She said she's taking good care of my brother,"

Wang Qingya hurriedly explained, feeling her heart in turmoil; she wondered what he meant, whether Ji Roufeng had sent it from afar, or if Su Huanqing had offered herself willingly?

Did he recognize my effort and feel grateful to me?

But... it's fine, as long as he doesn't dislike me. After all, we are meant to spend a lifetime together.

Xu Lingjun hadn't pondered much.

He just expressed his gratitude.

After freshening up, he came out to see Father Wang in a proper suit, sitting at the table gnawing on a pork knuckle.

"Come on, Xiaojun, it's time for breakfast."

Xu Lingjun nodded.

He looked at the auspicious three-treasure roast, braised pork knuckle, yam stewed ribs on the plate, and a bowl of shiny bullwhip soup.

He sat down and tore into the food with Wang Tiancheng face to face.

The two carnivores quickly polished off all the food on the table.

Xu Lingjun placed a card on the table and said, "Father Wang, take this card back."

Wang Tiancheng was surprised and said, "Isn't this the bank card I gave to Xiaoqing? How did it end up in your hands?"

"She didn't want it, and asked me to return it to you."

Xu Lingjun looked at Wang Tiancheng speechlessly, thinking to himself that it doesn't matter if he skipped classes or took leave before, it brought a bad influence anyway, yet even the principal didn't care.

It turned out that Father Wang had already arranged everything.

All the teachers, even the cleaning aunt, could get a generous red envelope.

And if it weren't for Su Huanqing's words, Xu Lingjun wouldn't have known that Fangyi City was urgently expanding examination halls these days, and the funding was actually provided by Father Wang.

He had already arranged all the connections in advance, almost to the point of buying the school for himself, though even without buying it, he had already become one of the school board members.

"So, the girl is willing to take care of you without wanting money?"

Wang Tiancheng praised, "That's truly Xiaojun, remarkable, just like me when I was young."

He laughed, "Don't worry, your Father Wang has nothing else but lots of money. I've made up my mind. Once the examiners from various academies arrive, we'll throw money, a hundred million per person first, if that's not enough, throw more...your Father Wang guarantees to arrange everything properly for you."

Xu Lingjun said speechlessly, "There's no need, money isn't meant to be burned like that, and there will be seven examination halls in total. Do you know which one I'm in?"

"Just throw it all."

Wang Tiancheng said indifferently, "It does burn money, but it's just this once, right? Money is meant to be used at critical times, you know? Right now is the critical time."

"No need, Father Wang, giving money can easily leave a handle for others. If someone seriously investigates, and the Empire holds you accountable later, you'll be in danger, really, don't take risks."

Xu Lingjun said seriously, "I am fully confident, don't worry about this, I promise to give you a good ranking."

"That's true, giving money can easily leave a handle, if discovered by competitors, that wouldn't be good."

Wang Tiancheng nodded and said, "Xiaojun thinks things through so thoroughly, truly impressive."

Xu Lingjun felt grateful he didn't grow up under his watch, otherwise, he would have been praised into extinction...and this tone, felt as if a three-year-old child just learned to stack two blocks together, and the elders praised him for being so smart.

He nodded, secretly grateful, all thanks to Teacher Su, otherwise, if Father Wang continued to mess around like this, he might get himself into trouble.

At this time...

Wang Tiancheng began to think.

Giving money? It really isn't appropriate, too vulgar... those academies, most examiners of Martial Mansion are proud senior students, if he sends money, they might feel insulted.

He needs to send something else.

What are the specialties of Fangyi City?

Oh right, it's jade!

Send jade, a piece of high-grade spirit jade, infused with spiritual qi, looks sophisticated, and can also nourish the body. No martial artist can refuse such a temptation.

Thinking of this, he picked up the phone without hesitation and said, "Is it Old Li? Go and collect some high-grade spirit jade for me, yes, I need the best ones, the ones without flaws that can be given as gifts. Price is not an issue, money is meant to be spent at critical times, isn't it? As for quantity, um, get a few hundred pieces, there might be quite a number of people to send to, kids going to school for exams, you know, all the way up and down needs to be smoothed out."

"But...but President Wang, jade prices have just gone up. A jade mine was just discovered around Fangyi City, buying now would be a losing deal."

"No choice, urgent need, spending more is fine, the child is important."

"Yes."

Across the phone, Wang Tiancheng's capable assistant, Li Chenggong, could only comply.

Indeed, many times... when something is essential, no matter how expensive, it must be bought.

And seven days later.

When it was seen that a jade mine near Fangyi City suddenly collapsed, causing the deaths of several spirit jade miners, the higher authorities in Fangyi City, after deep reflection, determined that excessive jade mining over the years was to blame, thus decided to temporarily ban jade mining.

When the previously invaluable spirit jade in the market became extinct.

Li Chenggong's admiration for Wang Tiancheng went up another hundred levels.

Truly remarkable as the boss, with just one move, these pieces of jade immediately became irreplaceable.

Once he holds these jade pieces for a while, their value can at least tenfold.

Yet Wang Tiancheng couldn't be happy, instead, he held onto a message temporarily sent back by his daughter, engulfed in fear.

After all, being father and daughter, Wang Qingya still understood her father. The information she sent was about a parent trying to bribe, resulting in the child's lifelong deprivation of martial tao rights, leading to the parents' imprisonment, and the examiner who accepted the bribe getting expelled.

In an instant, cracking down on backdoor deals became the Empire's main theme!

He excitedly embraced Xu Lingjun, giving him several fierce bear hugs, indeed, he had saved his life.

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Chapter 99 Your Husband is Such a Hassle

[1,431 words]

Chapter 99: Chapter 99 Your Husband is Such a Hassle

[You helped Wang Tiancheng avoid imprisonment and received his sincere and earnest thanks, thereby gaining the favor of the world's essence will, Origin Value +182!]

Xu Lingjun was stunned.

He stared blankly at the ecstatic Wang Tiancheng, who was beyond himself with excitement.

For a moment, he couldn't help but feel a bit inexplicably delighted.

Father Wang contributed so much Origin Value to me all at once?

This, this, this...

Could it be because he's someone close to me... no, it's probably related to Father Wang's luck.

Remembering what Father Wang said excitedly just now, he planned to buy jade, and then just after buying it, the jade mountain collapsed, making jade mining forbidden.

As long as he holds these jades for a while.

Needless to say, the tens of millions he invested without hesitation will return at least billions.

This is simply more lucrative than speculating in real estate... and all this is just a whim of his in the moment.

Does it mean that this so-called Origin Value is not only related to strength but also to luck?

Xu Lingjun wasn't sure, such things couldn't be verified...

Anyway, the Origin Value was collected in hand.

Suddenly dropped by two hundred points.

Father Wang is really generous to me.

In every aspect...

Xu Lingjun laughed and hugged Father Wang tightly and celebrated for him.

A few more days passed.

[Detected a fake item: Vibranium Armor, would you like to grant it true essence? Needs 780 Xiaoyao Source Value!]

Woke up once again in the morning.

Still habitually caressing all his beloved items, then pleasantly surprised to find that the Origin Value required for the Source Vibranium Armor had decreased by 20 points.

Although 20 points is very little... at least, this proves that with the increase in popularity and authenticity, the Origin Value consumed for granting essence can be reduced.

Probably it's considered a piece of good news.

After all, just a few hundred points of Origin Value, even if reduced, can't be reduced by much... but not every granting of essence can be as cheap as a Divine Demon Level Technique.

Xu Lingjun, after several times of granting essence, has started to have suspicions.

Back then, when he looked at the "Infinite Divine Demon Body Refining Technique," he felt it was quite a plausible fabrication... but now it seems, maybe it's like the Tathagata Divine Palm he saw in a previous life, perhaps there's some real mystery within after all.

As for the specifics, he might have to wait until he meets the old beggar to be sure.

Xu Lingjun thought for a moment and chose to grant essence.

It's just 780 points of Origin Value... now Xu Lingjun still has over 6000 in Origin Value remaining.

Use it when needed.

You know, his body now is not invincible yet; falling from five hundred meters hurts, what about falling from a thousand meters?

Wouldn't he break arms and legs?

And although live ammunition can't pierce the body, what if a laser weapon hits and breaks the skin?

Xu Lingjun didn't know... he didn't want to take that risk.

And the Vibranium Armor can absorb energy and even rebound the energy. In a sense, once he wears this thing, by then, the enemy really won't be able to hit me.

Xu Lingjun chose to grant essence without hesitation.

By nature, he's actually a pretty reckless person, otherwise, he wouldn't have leaped from a hundred meters high without hesitation, and with this Vibranium Armor, plus the protective effects of the "Infinite Divine Demon Body Refining Technique"... he felt that his life was at least secure.

So moments later.

When coming out from the room.

Xu Lingjun already had a Beast Tooth Necklace on his neck, with a flamboyant design that added a touch of wild attraction to his neck.

He opened the door.

Said: "Father Wang, I'm off to school."

"Go ahead."

Wang Tiancheng still seemed a bit downhearted.

He had originally planned everything perfectly, but didn't expect the plan to completely fall through, just purely earning tens of billions more...

But now, what's the use of money?

For a man like him, he favored most when his children relied on him.

But now, he couldn't do anything.

Xu Lingjun thought Father Wang really worries too much.

He said: "Also, next time, help me get a Vibranium Bodysuit."

After granting essence once...

I should be able to grant essence a second time.

It can be tried once, if possible, I can give this Vibranium Armor to Sister Yaya.

She doesn't know martial arts and always likes to stand in front of me.

Having a battle armor for her to wear, Xu Lingjun could be more at ease... though it's the bond of siblings, it is also an identity as an engaged couple, with dual identities, safeguarding carefully is much needed.

Wang Tiancheng nodded.

Xu Lingjun picked up his backpack and walked out the door.

By now, there's only three days left until the Dragon Gate Examination.

Being one of the six major examination centers in the country.

Especially with the convenient transportation in Fangyi City, nearly over ten cities' students are taking the Dragon Gate Examination in Fangyi City.

Nowadays in Fangyi City, it's a crowded, bustling scene, and taking a car might not be as fast as walking.

In just a few days.

In Fangyi City.

There are already tens of thousands more people, all staying in the most prosperous hotels.

Now everywhere you can see students of similar age with Xu Lingjun strolling and shopping outside.

Coming to a completely unfamiliar city.

With a few days left until the examination.

They naturally all come out for a stroll to relieve stress.

Xu Lingjun chuckled lightly, wondering if Guo Zheng might be assigned to Fangyi City for the examination... if so, maybe they could even meet up.

Yunmu High School.

Even though there are only three days left before the Dragon Gate examination.

They are still continuing classes.

"You're more fortunate than others, because you don't need to travel long distances, you don't need to go to an unfamiliar place, and you have more study time than they do."

Su Huanqing stood on the platform, seriously said: "Don't slack off in the last stretch of time either. Three days left, memorize once more the formulas and content you're not yet familiar with. This is a one-time chance, if you don't show particularly outstanding potential, there will be no retake opportunity. It's the deciding time of your life, the closer it gets to the end, the less you should slack. Today is self-study."

Saying that.

Her gaze lingered on Xu Lingjun's necklace for a moment.

And turned to leave the class.

In the class.

All the students took out their books... indeed, while other students arrived in a foreign place wasting days traveling, they could still sit in the classroom for their final sprint.

This is the benefit and opportunity that Fangyi City, as the most prosperous city in the entire Great Xia Empire, provides them.

And they should not squander this benefit and opportunity, as just a few more points might surpass thousands or even tens of thousands of people.

Xu Lingjun also took out his book and began to study earnestly.

It's just that for the cultural courses, there's really nothing worth reviewing for him now.

He turned to look at Zong Xiaoping who sat beside him, and asked: "Zong Tongxue, I actually still have some questions about Martial Tao I'd like to ask you. Last time, you just gave me a little hint, and that very night I broke through to late-stage Qi Gathering, seems your experience in Martial Tao is indeed above me, can we exchange ideas more often in these few days, is that alright?"

Zong Xiaoping couldn't help but shiver, glanced at the amiable and friendly smiling Xu Lingjun.

Showing a forced smile, he nodded awkwardly.

At this moment.

Su Huanqing had already arrived at the largest conference hall in Yunmu High School.

Inside.

In this large conference hall that could hold hundreds of people, it was already crowded.

Representatives and examiners sent by various Martial Mansions, even people from the Inspectorate, had all arrived here in the past few days.

And in that bustling crowd...

A graceful and slender young girl with long hair was sitting in the corner, smiling charmingly at Su Huanqing.

"Grandma, you're finally back."

Su Huanqing couldn't help but heave a small sigh, "Grandma, your husband... is such a trouble."

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Chapter 100 Sudden Increase in Difficulty

[2,691 words]

Chapter 100: Chapter 100 Sudden Increase in Difficulty

"Alright, everyone is here."

As Su Huanqing sat down.

The principal of Yunmu High School, Zhang Chuyun, stood up with a smile and said, "First of all, a warm welcome to all the elites from the Martial Mansion Academies visiting our Fangyi City. In this, Zhang extends best wishes for all of you to receive excellent students."

The conference room was packed with several hundred people, all of whom were elites from various academies from all over.

Among them were mentors and high-level students.

The Dragon Gate major exam, though a very serious and solemn event, was indeed an annual occurrence, and as such, had already formed a scale.

Just like Martial Mansions.

Applying to any Martial Mansion required senior students or mentors from the Mansion itself to personally serve as examiners.

To fully showcase one's learning in front of these senior mentors...

One, it allows the Martial Mansion a more direct understanding; two, it minimizes the chances of cheating to the greatest extent.

"This is the order of assessments this time, starting with second-tier high-level academies, to first-tier, then the Four Great Academies and the Four Great Martial Mansions."

Zhang Chuyun handed out a thick stack of papers.

Seriously, he continued, "We have set up seven exam sites in Fangyi City, and each site can accommodate three Martial Mansions simultaneously for testing. At that time, we will reorganize the students according to the applications to different academies... so I will need to ask for your patience."

The Four Great Martial Mansions and Four Great Academies were scheduled last.

But no one had any objections; those daring to apply to the Four Great Martial Mansions were either determined to push forward for a miracle or, more commonly, absolutely confident in their strength.

They were the most elite individuals from various colleges.

Letting them test alongside ordinary students would likely completely erode the latter's confidence.

Thus, moving from weak to strong had been an unspoken rule for many years.

"The admission scoreline for this session has already been set."

Zhong Yuebai stood up.

She was the Dean of Zhanzheng Academy, and with her status, she didn't have to attend.

Yet since she was here, naturally, she was the most authoritative voice.

She said seriously, "Just like before, the main subjects are 900 points, and the auxiliary subjects 700 points. The minimum standard for the Four Great Martial Mansions is 1000 points, and the auxiliary subjects cannot be lower than 370 points!"

"370?"

An uproar ensued from the crowd below.

The auxiliary subject, for Martial Artists, meant a cultural assessment, whereas for students, it meant a Martial Tao examination.

It seemed not much, but given they weren't specialized in this, and had poured their efforts mainly into their respective fields, they hadn't even given a tenth of that effort to auxiliary subjects. Now they needed to score over half of it at minimum.

"Wasn't it 350 points before?"

Lan Xinyue, representative of the Martial Detective Academy, stood up, her navy blue police uniform exuding a certain heroic air.

She frowned and said, "A sudden increase of 20 points; wouldn't that place immense pressure on the students?"

"This is a question for the Martial Mansions."

Zhong Yuebai shrugged and said, "In recent years, the number of Upper Realm Grandmaster breakthroughs has been dwindling. Our statistics show that merely blindly cultivating Martial Tao cannot lead to Upper Realm Grandmaster status. Cultural and martial advancement must progress together. You don't need exhaustive understanding, but you can't be completely ignorant. A certain vision and thinking are necessary. For the future of our high-tier Martial Artists, attention to auxiliary subjects must increase, as should academic institutions. Heading to the front lines without even the most basic means of self-preservation, such individuals are not needed by any academy."

She glanced at the lively discussions among the Martial Mansions and academies' representatives below.

Earnestly she added, "You should know, Sects have begun expanding their reach. They intend to replace Martial Mansions as the new standard for cultivating Martial Artists, while the Empire has always encouraged competition. I won't hide that in the future, the requirements for auxiliary subject scores will continue to rise. You can specialize within the academies or Martial Mansions, but in high school, both areas must advance concurrently."

The crowd started calculating.

The auxiliary subject cannot dip below 370; this means that aspiring to join the Four Great Martial Mansions or academies necessitates a minimum of 630 in main subjects. If one merely scores 630, joining any of the Four Greats would mean remaining at the bottom.

So, is the true standard 730 or 830?

No one knew.

Yet, the significant pressure was evident.

In both main and auxiliary subjects, the pressure was much greater than in previous years.

"Therefore, over the next three days, there will be a chance to change preferences once. This opportunity has been requested by our Pavilion Master from the education bureau. Given the increased difficulty of this assessment, to prevent students with sufficient ability from missing opportunities due to high aspirations and low skills, we offer this chance to reassess themselves."

Zhong Yuebai continued, "And the minimum standard for first-tier academies is 900 points, 800 for second-tier academies, but if one's score falls below 800 even in main subjects, then Martial Mansion or academy paths are not advisable. They should focus

on fundamental knowledge to become civil servants or grassroots employees, contributing to the Empire."

Everyone was silent.

Re-selecting academic paths?

It seems these students will have a tough time over the next three days...

If a certain academy is chosen but the assessment fails.

Unless exceptional potential is displayed, they will not be allowed a retake opportunity.

The chance only comes once.

You choose yourself.

The meeting went on for a long time.

Regarding discipline, examination questions, and admission standards, among other things.

The standards had been set, but the academies were still discussing furiously.

Especially the first-tier and second-tier academies.

Their admission standards weren't much lower than those of the Four Great Martial Mansions or academies, and if they exactly met the standards of the Four Greats, it might be better to attend a first-tier academy instead.

After all, it's better to be the head of a chicken than the tail of a phoenix.

Thus, they proposed to the Four Greats, asking whether application transfers could be changed to post-assessment. Generous offers might allow them to enroll more top students.

Unfortunately, Zhong Yuebai rejected it without hesitation.

The change of registration is only permitted before exams. A correct understanding of one's true abilities is a crucial step.

People were useless with high aims and low skills.

Su Huanqing remained silent throughout, merely staring at Lan Xinyue from the Martial Detective Academy.

In her eyes was a look of envy.

Martial Detective Academy was once her dream too.

Even if it was just a desk job, she dreamed of wearing that police uniform... Alas, her dreams were stifled by her parents.

Seeing her former classmate achieving her dream now brought an indescribable bitterness to her heart.

When the meeting finally ended.

Everyone was already parched and tongue-tied.

"Meeting adjourned. We've covered almost all necessary topics. If there are any concerns, please note them down and bring them up at tomorrow's meeting. For now, the meeting is adjourned."

Everyone rose, stretching lazily, having sat the entire day and feeling utterly exhausted.

Zhong Yuebai glanced at Wang Qingya and said with a smile, "Xiaoya, now that you're here, you must be eager to get home... go ahead, I have some matters to address here and can't accompany you for the moment."

"Yes."

Wang Qingya had actually taken leave to attend.

Given her credentials, she wasn't eligible as a representative.

The real representative was Zhong Yuebai.

Yet, she was grateful Zhong Yuebai granted her leave, especially at a crucial time when Zaku Revision Research was happening.

Wang Qingya looked at her confidante.

Happily, she took hold of her friend's arm, smiling, "I'm treating you to dinner tonight, Xiaoqing, and we won't split the bill today. Don't refuse, Xiaoqing; you have no idea how grateful I am."

Su Huanqing: "....."

And after getting her best friend's consent.

She joyfully sent Xu Lingjun a message.

"Wait for me at the school gate after school."

Surely, Xiaojun will be thrilled to know I'm back?

Thinking back on that perplexing message.

She couldn't help but chuckle softly.

This child relies on her too much; it's quite the headache.

As she watched Wang Qingya, she turned to another mid-twenties woman with mature curls.

In her eyes, Lan Xinyue of the Martial Detective Academy.

With a serious expression, she said, "Words worth knowing: the Sect has already started steps of expansion. They intend to replace the Martial Mansion and become the new standard for training Martial Artists. The Empire has always held an attitude of encouragement towards competition, and I'm not afraid to tell you, that in the future, the requirements for ancillary subject scores will be even higher. You may focus on different disciplines inside the academy or martial mansion, but during high school, progress must be balanced."

Everyone calculated silently.

The auxiliary subject cannot be lower than 370, meaning to get into the Four Great Martial Mansions or Academies, the main subject score must be a minimum of 630. However, scoring just 630 means merely scraping through for these four top-tier institutions.

So, is the realistic benchmark 730 or 830?

Nobody knows.

But the pressure is heavy, no doubt.

Pressure in both the main and auxiliary subjects was much greater than in previous years.

"So, within these three days, we can offer a one-time opportunity to change your preferred choices, an opportunity our Pavilion Master obtained from the education bureau given this year's higher assessment difficulty. This is to prevent some students from missing out due to aiming too high and underperforming. It's a chance to reassess themselves."

Zhong Yuebai concluded, "The minimum standard for a first-tier academy is 900 points. For a second-tier academy, the minimum standard is 800 points, and if they score below 800 points, even for the main subject, they don't need to consider the path of the Martial Mansion or Academy; instead, they should study some basic knowledge, get a job as a government employee or a grassroots worker, and contribute to the Empire."

Everyone remained silent.

Changing subjects?

It seems these students will have a hard time in the next three days...

If they choose a specific academy but fail the assessment.

They won't have the opportunity for a redraw unless they show extremely outstanding potential.

This is a one-time chance.

Your choice.

The meeting lasted for a long time.

Discussions covered discipline, assessment topics, admission standards, and more.

The standards were set, yet the academies continued to argue intensely.

Particularly those first-tier academies and second-tier academies.

Their admission standards aren't much lower than the Four Great Martial Mansions or Academies, but if they barely meet the highest standards, it might be better to attend a first-tier academy.

It's better to be a big fish in a small pond, than a small fish in a big pond.

Thus, they proposed to the Four Greats, whether academic transfer could be made after the assessment. At that point, by offering great incentives, it might be possible to recruit some of the best students.

Sadly, this was unhesitatingly denied by Zhong Yuebai.

Changing registration is only allowed before the exam, to ensure a correct self-assessment is made. If they are unable to do this effectively, these students will miss out on the opportunity.

They only get one chance.

They have to make their own choice.

The meeting dragged on for quite some time.

Discussions raged regarding the regulations, the assessment topics, and the enrollment standards among others.

The standards were set, but the different academies were still fervently debating.

Especially the first-tier and second-tier academies.

Their entry thresholds were not much lower than the Four Great Martial Mansions or Four Great Academies, yet if just meeting the minimum standards, it might be better to attend a first-tier academy instead.

After all, it's better to be the head of a cat than the tail of a lion.

As a result, they all proposed to the Four Greats whether it was possible to shift registration until after the assessments, offering attractive benefits and hoping to attract some of the top students.

Unfortunately, Zhong Yuebai flatly declined.

Switching registration is only allowed before the exam. Students must be given correct self-awareness so they won't miss great opportunities due to unrealistic expectations; we can offer them a chance to recognize themselves anew."

Mumurs filled the room as academy and martial mansion representatives calculated their chances.

With the auxiliary scores needing to be at least 370, aiming for the Four Great Martial Mansions or Four Great Academies requires no less than 630 for the main subject. However, if they score only 630 points, they will end up at the bottom even if they get into one of the top universities.

So, is the true benchmark 730 or 830?

Nobody knows.

But the pressure is immense, that much is clear.

The pressure in both main and auxiliary subjects exceeds that of all previous years.

"Therefore, we are providing a chance to change their preferences within these three days. This is an opportunity our Pavilion Master applied for from the Education Bureau. Since this year's assessment is much harder, to prevent some students with adequate

ability from missing out on good opportunities due to aiming too high, we are granting them the chance to reevaluate themselves during these three days."

Zhong Yuebai stated: "The minimum requirement for first-tier academies is 900 points, while the second-tier academies have a minimum requirement of 800 points. If someone scores below 800, even in the main subjects, they need not contemplate a path in either a martial or regular academy and should instead focus on learning some fundamental knowledge to become bureaucrats or grassroots employees, contributing their part to the Empire."

There was a heavy silence among all present.

Considering changing their field of study again?

It seems these students will have a hard time over the next three days...

If they choose a particular academy but fail the assessment.

Unless they showcase exceptionally outstanding potential, they won't get a chance for a retake.

They only have one shot.

The decision is theirs to make.

The discussion went on for quite some time.

Covering discipline, exam topics, and enrollment standards, among other things.

The standards have been set, but the discussions among the academies remain intense.

Especially among first-tier and second-tier academies.

Their admission standards are not much lower than the Four Great Academies or Martial Mansions, but if their scores just barely meet the threshold for the Four Great Mansions, it might be better for them to choose first-tier academies.

After all, it's better to be a big fish in a small pond than a small fish in a big pond.

Therefore, they all suggested to the Four Greats whether transfer of registration could be changed to occur after the assessments. By then, offering great benefits could potentially allow them to enroll some of the best students.

But unfortunately, this was unhesitatingly vetoed by Zhong Yuebai.

Changing registries is only allowed before the examination. Students should have a proper recognition of themselves, and during high school, they need to advance in parallel.

Such was the discussion among all the academies' representatives about discipline, assessment questions, and admission standards and so on.

The standards had been set, yet discussions among the various academies remained intensely ongoing.

Particularly concerning were the first-tier and second-tier academies.

Their admission standards aren't much lower than that of the Four Great Martial Mansions or Academies, but if students are exactly meeting the minimum standards for the top four, it might be better to target a first-tier academy.

After all, it's better to be a big player in a smaller arena.

Unfortunately, Zhong Yuebai unhesitatingly denied their proposal to allow certificate transfer post-evaluation.

Opportunity, there is only one shot.

It's their choice.

""

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