

I Am Overlord

#Chapter 1: A Genius Only Seen Every Hundred Years? - Read I Am Overlord Chapter 1: A Genius Only Seen Every Hundred Years?

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Cloud Margin City, Wu Town, Martial Hall Palace.

Martial Hall Palace was the only place in Wu Town that recruited foreign martial cultivators as disciples. Every spring, their recruitment of new disciples would start. Because of that, the children and youths from the numerous nearby villages would rush over to participate in the entrance exam for Martial Hall Palace, seeking the path of the mighty.

This year, Martial Hall Palace's disciple recruitment period was already over. Today, however, there was a youth dressed like a scholar standing in front of the main gate of Martial Hall Palace, pleading to be allowed in.

This youth seemed to be about fifteen to sixteen years old and had finely chiseled features, a handsome and brilliant kid; the only flaw was that his body was rather skinny and his clothes were rather tattered, as if he'd been through a lot, like a powerless scholar.

"Boy, I've been repeating myself over and over again, why are you so stubborn? Martial Hall Palace's disciple recruitment period has already passed. If you really want to join our palace, wait for next spring and come again," said a guard standing watch in front of Martial Hall Palace while impatiently staring at the youth.

Another fierce-looking guard at the scene stared daggers at the youth and snapped, "You've been coming here for three consecutive days. If you don't get lost soon, don't blame us for being impolite."

The two guards were well versed in dealing with people who would do whatever it took to get in without knowing shame. The youth flashed a brilliant smile and laughingly said, "Brothers, please don't do this. I, Xiang Shaoyun, am a genius only seen every hundred years in martial cultivation! So long as the two of you can compromise and allow me entry inside, I will most certainly become a disciple of Martial Hall Palace. Not only that, I will become the palace's most outstanding disciple in history! When that happens, I will definitely not mistreat the both of you!"

“Bullshit! You call yourself a genius only seen every hundred years? Look at how skinny you are? I bet you can’t even take one of my fists!” the fierce-looking guard berated the youth, sending a fist his way.

Looking at the incoming fist, the youth called Xiang Shaoyun shouted, “Stop!”

Xiang Shaoyun’s shout seemed to have quite the effect. It carried a certain power with it, as if he was a person of authority with tens of thousands of people under his command. The fierce-looking guard stared blankly at him for awhile. The youth seemed to be exerting a strange, unexplainable pressure whenever the guard laid eyes on the youth. Despite that, the guard still coldly mocked, “Scared now ain’t ya? Quickly get lost. If not, I’ll be letting you see blood today.”

Pah, what a joke. This young master has seen all kinds of situations, why should I be scared of you? Xiang Shaoyun thought to himself. However, continuing his pitiful and weak act, he once again showed a brilliant smile and said, “Look at what this is!”

Within his hand appeared a shiny piece of stone. The stone looked pure and unblemished, greatly stirring those who looked at it. The guard suspiciously looked at the stone. Once he got a clear look, his expression shifted as if something had happened.

Xiang Shaoyun smugly laughed, “Hehe, you want this, right? As long as you give this young master a chance of entering the palace, this piece of stone—”

Pa!

Before Xiang Shaoyun finished speaking, the guard’s palm swung at him, instantaneously slapping away the shiny stone in Xiang Shaoyun’s hand.

“You dare to use this piece of trash stone to bribe me! I think that if you don’t see your coffin, you won’t cry!” the furious guard shouted at Xiang Shaoyun. After he finished speaking, the guard raised his right fist at Xiang Shaoyun and sent a furious punch towards the youth’s face.

“Shit, I’ve come across someone who doesn’t know a good thing when he sees one,” Xiang Shaoyun cursed to himself. He closed his eyes without putting up a fight because he himself knew that he lacked the ability to resist.

Just as the fist was about to greet the youth’s face, a deep, sonorous voice sternly commanded, “Stop!”

The voice sounded as though there was a demon nearby, instantly freezing the guard’s fist in place. Xiang Shaoyun opened his eyes and hurriedly retreated backwards, clutching his chest while muttering to himself, “That scared me to death! Good thing I have good luck!”

As the two guards turned around, they noticed a well-built man about 30 years of age riding on a wolf and approaching them. Upon seeing this, the two guards trembled, fearfully kneeling on the floor, saying, "We offer our greetings to the nineteenth elder!"

This young man was actually an elder of Martial Hall Palace, Elder Zi Changhe.

Zi Changhe was an outstanding individual in the present generation of Martial Hall Palace. He came from an unknown family. After entering Martial Hall Palace, he began to display flashes of brilliance and steadily marched forward, eventually becoming the fastest outer disciple to reach the Astral Realm in that generation.

It did not take him long to be taken in by the then Vice Palace Master to be his personal disciple. Under the Vice Hall Master's tutelage, he became the quickest to break into the Transformation Realm, subsequently becoming an overseer of Martial Hall Palace and now, the youngest ever elder in its history.

All martial cultivators started at the Basic Realm—the lowest level of cultivation. Cultivators in this realm focused on training and refining their physical bodies to be in top condition. After reaching the peak of the ninth stage of the Basic Realm, they then began to draw power from the stars in the heavens, forming their own stars within their personal natal charts. This stage was known as the Astral Realm. After reaching this realm, cultivators could draw from the might of the stars, allowing them to manipulate qi and to separate it from their bodies to attack externally. The strength of such attacks was not to be underestimated and was certainly not something someone in the Basic Realm could hope to match up to.

As for the Transformation Realm, this was when one's astral energy was solidified, forming a protective barrier that would protect one's physical body. Normal knives and spears would be unable to pierce through such barriers; hence, cultivators were only acknowledged as true experts in the world of martial cultivation upon reaching this realm.

For each individual realm, there existed nine stages—the higher the achieved stage, the higher one's combat prowess. Being able to reach the Transformation Realm at such a young age, Zi Changhe was well-known throughout Martial Hall Palace, signaling that a bright future was ahead of him.

Ignoring the two guards, Zi Changhe picked up the piece of stone from the ground. After briefly examining it, his eyes flashed with astonishment, and he said, "This is indeed a high-grade spirit crystal!"

"Aha, finally, someone who knows good stuff when he sees it!" Xiang Shaoyun gleefully shouted.

"Th-that's a high-grade spirit crystal?!" gasped the guard who had knocked the piece of crystal, his mouth wide agape.

Spirit crystals were formed by the natural energy of the world. These crystals were a huge help to any cultivator, and they contained pure energy, allowing cultivators to increase their strength with each one used.

Spirit crystals were separated into three different grades of quality—low, middle and high. High-grade crystals were of the highest grade and contained the highest amount of natural energy per crystal. The efficacy of one high-grade crystal was equal to that of ten middle-grade crystals, or one hundred low-grade crystals.

“Of course. The natural energy present within this stone is so pure and unblemished; what else could this be if not a high-grade spirit crystal?” Zi Changhe indifferently replied.

Hearing this, the guard who had knocked away the crystal felt deep regret. He was merely at the third stage of the Astral Realm. If he was able to obtain one high-grade spirit crystal, the energy within it would be enough to help him reach the sixth stage. One must know that spirit crystals were not easily obtained; even one low-grade spirit crystal would require quite a significant price to obtain it.

“Damn, why didn’t the brat say so earlier?” the guard silently cursed to himself.

“Is this spirit crystal yours?” Zi Changhe asked, turning to Xiang Shaoyun. He could see that Xiang Shaoyun was merely a third-stage Basic Realm cultivator; it was no wonder he found it strange that the boy had a piece of high-grade spirit crystal on him.

Cultivators at the Basic Realm were the most ordinary cultivators; furthermore, the third stage of the Basic Realm was at the bottom of the cultivation world, only being slightly stronger than a regular mortal. This piece of high-grade crystal would not only throw Astral Realm cultivators into a bloodbath, even late-stage Transformation Realm experts would have their eyes turn red.

Facing Zi Changhe, Xiang Shaoyun put on a fawning smile and said, “Greetings, elder. This piece of high-grade spirit crystal indeed belongs to this young one, but since it is now in your hands, this young one would like to offer it to you to pay my respects.”

“Paying your respects? Brat, you really are generous.” Zi Changhe dryly laughed then asked, “What are your motives?”

Rubbing his hands together, Xiang Shaoyun sheepishly grinned and said, “Elder, this young one has no motives. I just wish to take you as my master.”

Chapter 2: Master, I Will Broaden Your Horizons!

“Haha. You wish to take me as your master? Do you even know who I am in the first place?” Zi Changhe laughed, his purple hair whipping around. The wolf that he was mounted on also let out a howl, as if it were seconding Zi Changhe.

"I know that you are Martial Hall Palace's heroic genius. With outstanding skill and peerless technique, you are the omnipotent nineteenth elder," Xiang Shaoyun shamelessly flattered. Nineteenth elder, that seemed to be what the two guards had called him.

"Then what makes you think that I would take in a third-stage Basic Realm practitioner to be my disciple?" Zi Changhe asked as he developed a tiny sense of curiosity towards this unbridled bootlicker.

"If it was any other ordinary third-stage Basic Realm cultivator, they would naturally not be worthy of your attention. However, I, Xiang Shaoyun, am not any ordinary person! When I was born, auspicious clouds descended from the heavens, purple clouds filled the sky, tens of thousands of beasts roared, and hundreds of flowers bloomed—all at my birth!" Xiang Shaoyun bragged without restraint.

Before he had even finished speaking, black lines appeared on Zi Changhe's forehead, and Zi Changhe cut him short. "Enough, stop bragging. If you truly are as impressive as you've mentioned, you wouldn't have been stuck at the Basic Realm."

"Sigh, nobody believes me when I speak the truth." Xiang Shaoyun sighed to himself.

"Speak, where did you get this piece of high-grade spirit crystal?" Zi Changhe changed the subject.

Xiang Shaoyun momentarily hesitated before saying, "I picked it up from the river."

"Since when was such a spiritual crystal so easy to find?" Zi Changhe said with a straight face. He did not trust Xiang Shaoyun's words one bit.

Looking slightly gloomy, Xiang Shaoyun lowered his hands and said, "If you don't believe me, then forget it." Bowing his head, he said, "Since you seem to have no intention in taking me as your disciple, please return the spirit crystal to me."

Seeing that this youth dared to ask Martial Hall Palace's nineteenth elder to return the spirit crystal, the two guards silently thought to themselves, This brat truly does not know the immensity of heaven and earth, daring to ask for something that is already in the hands of the nineteenth elder!

The two guards knew that the nineteenth elder was renowned throughout Martial Hall Palace to the point that others called him the "Purple Lightning Marquis".

With a surprised expression, Zi Changhe asked, "Brat, I thought that you were offering it to me?"

"That was on the precondition that you take me as your disciple," Xiang Shaoyun unyieldingly said to Zi Changhe.

Zi Changhe's expression slowly turned cold, showing traces of anger. As an expert in the Transformation Realm, most people were unable to withstand his pressuring gaze. However, Xiang Shaoyun stood there calmly and returned his gaze, as if he was completely unaffected.

"Even if you don't want to take me as your personal disciple, at least give me a chance to enter Martial Hall Palace," Xiang Shaoyun negotiated.

"Hoho, interesting. Fine, I shall grant your request," Zi Changhe laughed. He found that the young man standing in front of him was slightly interesting and decided to give this young man a chance; that could be considered as the payment for the high-grade spirit crystal.

"Many thanks, master!" Xiang Shaoyun joyfully laughed, heaving a huge sigh of relief.

"Slow down, I'm not your master just yet. Wait until you pass the entrance exam into Martial Hall Palace. If you are unable to pass it, don't blame me when I throw you out later," Zi Changhe told him the ugly truth before everything began.

"You don't have to worry about that at all," Xiang Shaoyun confidently said as he beat his chest. Following that, he muttered softly to himself, "Just don't go back on your promise to take me as your personal disciple."

Although Xiang Shaoyun was whispering, Zi Changhe had heard every word with clear clarity. He unhappily said, "What a narcissistic brat. Okay! I, Zi Changhe, will see for myself if you are truly an amazing genius!"

After he finished speaking, Zi Changhe signalled to his wolf which then stood up. Like lifting a chicken, he lifted Xiang Shaoyun up with one arm before rushing through the main gate of Martial Hall Palace.

"Hey hey, how could you do this to me? You could've just let me mount your wolf to ride inside," Xiang Shaoyun complained, dissatisfied.

"Brat, this great wolf is not something that you are qualified to ride," the wolf said fluently.

"Wah, it's a demonic beast that can speak!" Xiang Shaoyun shouted in amazement. Bending down, he then said, "However, it's not like I've never ridden trash like you before. In fact, I've even mounted kings of demonic beasts before!"

"Tsk, I really want to swallow this brat in one bite," the wolf angrily complained.

The wolf was a mighty demonic beast, yet he had been called trash by this young boy. What's even more infuriating was that this brat was even bragging that he had ridden the kings of demonic beasts before; that was unforgivable.

Shooting a glance at Xiang Shaoyun, Zi Changhe had a complicated expression in his eyes as he thought to himself, Does this brat really have some amazing background?

The area occupied by Martial Hall Palace was extremely vast, as if it were a small village inside the town. Inside, there was a large open space—the outer disciples' cultivation area. A little further inside, there were various large trees planted closely together, forming a small forest from which roars of demonic beasts would occasionally sound. Within the forest were also numerous old halls, some of which had mist coming out from them, carving out an extremely imposing image.

After they arrived at an open area, one would be able to see a stone tablet. There, Zi Changhe flung Xiang Shaoyun toward the stone tablet.

Peng!

"Aiyoh, are you trying to kill this young master?" Xiang Shaoyun pitifully cried out. He shouted like he was a pig being slaughtered, creating a ruckus that attracted the attention of numerous outer disciples who were cultivating in the area, causing each and every one of them to turn in the direction of the commotion.

"Eh, isn't that the Purple Lightning Marquis? I'm finally able to see my idol!"

"It really is the nineteenth elder! Look at what he's straddling, a giant demonic wolf! Such an amazing demonic beast!"

"The Purple Lightning Marquis is well known along with his trademark spear. Together, they've terrorized the demonic beasts of the Hundred Beast Mountain to the point where the beasts do not dare to come close to Wu Village. How I wish I could be as strong as him one day!"

"Wait, the scream came from that boy that the Purple Lightning Marquis brought right? Who is he?"

"They're right in front of the Evaluation Stele, could it be that the nineteenth elder is taking in a disciple?"

The outer court disciples were all simultaneously talking about what was happening right in front of them.

"This is the Evaluation Stele. It can test not only your strength, but also the innate talent you have. Give it a shot," Zi Changhe spoke as he crossed his arms, looking down at Xiang Shaoyun on the floor. He wanted to see just how heaven-defyingly amazing this boastful brat was.

"Okay, then I will allow master to broaden your horizons!" Xiang Shaoyun said full of confidence as he climbed up from the floor. He then closed his eyes, entering a state of

tranquility. He stood there unmoving, as if it was the prelude to an expert about to unleash his signature move.

Close to a thousand disciples were holding their breath, eyes glued to the youth in front of them. They were all curious as to how amazing the Purple Lightning Marquis's personal disciple was. After a period of time, Xiang Shaoyun opened his eyes, thrusting one of his fists into the Evaluation Stele.

Peng!

The Evaluation Stele had a reaction to Xiang Shaoyun's punch, rippling a greyish color, following which three thin lines barely condensed in front of everybody. The crowd was stunned.

"Am...am I going blind? He...he's only in the third stage of the Basic Realm!"

"You're not. I also saw only three lines, and they're grey! He really is in the third stage of the Basic Realm!"

"Is...is he really the Purple Lightning Marquis's personal disciple? I can beat him to a pulp with one hand."

"Is there still justice in this world? Even this piece of trash can become the personal disciple of the nineteenth elder, unbelievable!"

"He's not the illegitimate child of the nineteenth elder, is he?"

Chapter 3: Five Stars Illuminating the Sky!

The more the disciples speculated, the more ridiculous their theories became. Black lines started appearing on the face of Zi Changhe, and he bellowed, "All of you, shut up! If you don't want to keep watching, go back to practicing!"

Hearing his shout, the entire courtyard became completely silent. Who among the disciples did not fear the fiery temper of Zi Changhe?

At this moment, a voice that sounded like a pig being slaughtered pierced the air, "Ouch, my hand hurts so much!"

Turning to look, one could see Xiang Shaoyun constantly waving his hand back and forth while prancing around, an extremely comical sight to behold. Seeing this, many of the disciples at the scene wanted to laugh but didn't dare to do so in front of Zi Changhe, resulting in them forcing themselves to restrain their laughter.

"Tsk, unable to bear this little pain...he really is a piece of trash," said Zi Changhe's wolf with contempt.

"He's already at this age, yet he's only a third-stage Basic Realm cultivator. He indeed is trash." Zi Changhe echoed the wolf's sentiments. "I will activate the Evaluation Stele to see how talented you are. Stand before the Evaluation Stele and empty your mind."

Hearing this, while still clutching his throbbing hand, Xiang Shaoyun walked over and proudly declared, "The result of my evaluation will definitely produce a natural phenomenon!"

Using both hands, Zi Changhe proceeded to form seal after seal, causing purple rays of light to appear around him. The purple rays condensed into crackling bolts of lightning filled with raw energy.

"Awaken!" Zi Changhe shouted, sending a bout of power towards the Evaluation Stele.

Having been stimulated by this rush of power, the Evaluation Stele lit up, shining like a precious gem, appearing very extraordinary. At this moment, a penetrating wave of power rushed toward Xiang Shaoyun, making him feel extremely relaxed in both body and mind. The Evaluation Stele, however, had no further reaction and left Zi Changhe extremely disappointed.

"There's not even the slightest bit of reaction from the Evaluation Stele. He really is a piece of trash."

"I don't understand. This pathetic bit of ability and he dares to have the Purple Lightning Marquis to preside over his examination? What a disappointment."

"Indeed. One's natal chart can contain up to nine stars. One star is weak, two stars is somewhat bright, three stars is extraordinary, and four stars enters the night sky. This brat doesn't even have any stars in him; he really is too ordinary!"

"Haha, he even said just now that he would cause a phenomenon, what a joke!"

The disciples present started to chatter, their eyes full of disdain towards Xiang Shaoyun. Just as Zi Changhe was about to throw Xiang Shaoyun out of Martial Hall Palace, there was a sudden bout of change. The Evaluation Stele became shrouded in light, and a stream of light pierced through the clouds as if breaking the firmaments of heaven and joining the heavens and the earth.

"There's a reaction from the Evaluation Stele!" Zi Changhe said, his curiosity piqued.

Shing shing!

As the clouds above the nine heavens began to part, one could see a single star light up and pierce through the heavens.

"So he isn't trash after all—he has a one-star physique!" some disciples exclaimed, surprised.

Before they had finished speaking, another star in a different direction began to illuminate. And before they could even react to that, yet another ray of starlight pierced through the nine heavens.

Three stars was extraordinary. A three-star physique could only be found once in every hundred thousand physiques, and its owner would undoubtedly reach the Transformation Realm eventually.

Zi Changhe's eyes were sparkling, one could find traces of astonishment inside them. "This brat really is slightly talented."

Three-star physique was rarely seen Wu Town, and the owner of this physique was more than qualified to be an outer disciple of Martial Hall Palace, with the chance of eventually becoming an inner disciple.

Shing shing!

Amid all the clamor, astral power from yet another star flew over. This time, however, two stars had simultaneously appeared at once. The light resulting from all five stars illuminated all of Martial Hall Palace, and the bright light filled the sky, visible to even people outside Wu Town.

If four stars entering the night sky was regarded as king, then five stars illuminating the sky was like a dragon transforming into an emperor!

After the appearance of the five stars, Xiang Shaoyun felt as though all five stars were resonating within him, causing waves of heat to rise in him, raising his cultivation directly into the fifth stage of the Basic Realm.

"Five stars illuminating the sky!! It's a five-star physique! Who on earth is this matchless genius?" an old man in Martial Hall Palace dressed in blue said, staring in shock at the power of the five stars in the sky. Hastily, he leapt into flight from his original position, heading toward the outer courtyard.

Somewhere else, another elderly man came out from his house, his hazy eyes becoming clear. "Five stars illuminating the sky! Such an auspicious sign! Could it be that one of our elders has had a fateful encounter?" Upon finishing his monologue, he also began heading for Martial Hall Palace's outer court.

While all this was happening, numerous similarly mighty figures started coming out of their abodes, rushing toward the direction of the Evaluation Stele.

"Five...five stars illuminating the sky! I'm not going blind, am I?!" Zi Changhe spluttered, his face full of shock. Above the skies, additional astral energy seemed to still be gathering. However, before the energy could fully condense, the Evaluation Stele split cleanly in two.

Peng!

Xiang Shaoyun, who was still immersed in the feeling of relaxation, was startled by this sudden change. He jumped in fright, running away from where he was originally standing.

"My gosh, must a genius going through a test have this hard a time?!" Xiang Shaoyun yelled, feeling wronged.

"The Evaluation Stele has broken in two! Could some problems have occurred?"

"It's possible. Maybe the energy from the five stars was not because of him, but because the Evaluation Stele itself had some issues?"

"That must be the case. If not, how could someone like him gather the energy of five stars? In our Martial Hall Palace, something like this has only been accomplished by Senior Sister Gong Qinyin! And she is the number one genius of Wu Town!"

"But all of us definitely saw the power of the five stars descend upon him, showing that he has a five-star physique, did we not? Could this be incorrect too?"

The thousands of disciples who had just witnessed what had happened had a hard time believing their own eyes. A five-star physique! Such a cultivation monster would be able to surpass them in no time at all!

At this moment, Zi Changhe finally regained his senses and firmly swore to himself, "I must take this brat as my personal disciple!"

Just as he was about to say something, numerous shadows appeared one after another right in front of them.

"The Evaluation Stele is broken! What exactly happened here?!" an age-worn old man asked. This old man was one of Martial Hall Palace's vice palace masters—Qing Xiuhe, a peak Transformation Realm expert.

The disciples who were present did not dare to hide anything from him, narrating to him what had happened. But the place was too rowdy; no one could make out anything that was being said.

Annoyed, Qing Xiuhe shouted and pointed to one disciple, "Quiet! You, tell me what happened here."

Stunned, the disciple was unable to immediately form a coherent sentence. Zi Changhe then stood up and said, "Vice palace master, I'll tell you what happened instead."

Thus, Zi Changhe gave Qing Xiuhe a simple and concise recap of everything that had just happened. At first, he was unwilling to speak of what had happened, at least until he had taken Xiang Shaoyun as his personal disciple. However, due to the scale of the commotion caused, he knew that this matter could not be kept under wraps for long.

"You say it's this brat who attracted the power of five stars?" Qing Xiuhe asked excitedly, his eyes shining as he looked at Xiang Shaoyun. Not just him, all the elders present looked at Xiang Shaoyun, their eyes full of fire.

Chapter 4: Fighting for a Disciple!

Hidden deep within a cultivator's body, one's natal chart could have up to nine stars.

One star is weak, two stars is somewhat bright, three stars is extraordinary, four stars ascend into the night sky, five stars illuminate the sky, six stars fill the halls with jade, seven stars lower the big dipper, eight stars is a celestial crossing the great ocean, nine stars shake the heavens.

Every star awakened was a testament to one's ability to cultivate. Ordinary people were unable to awaken these stars; hence, they would forever be hidden within them. A person capable of waking one star was considered weak, barely able to be considered a cultivator. Somebody capable of waking two stars was like unpolished jade, possibly having a bright future. Awakening three stars signified extraordinary accomplishments, glorifying one's family and sect.

The owner of a four-star physique could reach extraordinary heights and be able to ascend the night sky and traverse the heavens and the earth. As for five-star physique owners, these were the blessed children of the heavens, able to illuminate the sky and spread their glory everywhere.

As for people who were able to awaken six or more stars, they would be classified under high-end physiques. Such miracles were only seen once in a thousand years in such a small place like Wu Town.

Since Xiang Shaoyun had attracted the power of five stars, it proved that he possessed a five-star physique. His accomplishments would be boundless, illuminating and resonating through the skies! In such a tiny place as Wu Town, Xiang Shaoyun indeed possessed the qualifications to be a genius only seen once every hundred years! Even throughout the whole of Martial Hall Palace, there was only one person who could compare—the number one beauty of Martial Hall Palace, Gong Qinyin.

All the outer court disciples stared at Xiang Shaoyun, their eyes full of admiration as well as envy. As for the elders, all of them were shivering with excitement. Such a genius must be taken as a personal disciple!

“Boy, what is your name? Are you willing to be a disciple of me, Lie Huo? I have a scroll containing the Burning Heaven Flame Technique! With this technique, you will be able to burn the high heavens and dry up the vast sea!” a red-haired elder excitedly said. This was the seventh elder Lie Huo, who commanded immense prestige in Martial Hall Palace.

“Brat, his Burning Heaven Flame Technique is incomplete. Here, I have a complete scroll of the Flowing Wave Technique, which will allow you to command fierce winds and treacherous waters, leaving you nothing to fear!” This old man was Jiang Lingzi, the sixth elder.

“Their techniques are all not worthy. This old man has the Indestructible Diamond Scripture, allowing you to train your body to ignore blades and spears, to withstand fire and water,” a golden-haired man said. He was the fifth elder, Jin Ye.

“I have a complete Shadowless Technique, a technique allowing you to travel anywhere without leaving a trace. Furthermore, if you join me, you will have two beautiful senior sisters under you. You will not lose out by joining us~” a sexy middle-aged woman coquettishly said, exuberating waves of seduction. She was the eleventh elder, He Yinghua.

At this moment, numerous Martial Hall Palace elders were extending olive branches to Xiang Shaoyun, completely overshadowing how he had been made fun of for having a third-stage Basic Realm cultivation. He now had an extraordinary status in the Martial Hall Palace, with the various elders trying to snatch him up.

The outer disciples stared blankly at this scene, their eyes red. They would give anything to have this opportunity presented to them. Unfortunately, they did not have Xiang Shaoyun’s talents, their natal charts sorely lacking.

“Cough cough,” Xiang Shaoyun cleared his throat and was about to speak when the Purple Lightning Marquis stepped in front of him, cupping his hands.

Zi Changhe said, “My apologies to all the elders here, but disciple Shaoyun here has already pledged to become my disciple. I was only testing his innate talent earlier. It was not our intention to startle everybody here, our sincerest apologies.”

“What? He’s already pledged to you?” seventh elder Lie Huo choked, unreconciled with what he had just heard. He then said, “Changhe, you are still young and your future is bright. You shouldn’t waste your talents by splitting your time fostering a disciple. How about this, I’ll exchange this infernal lotus for your disciple!”

“Lie Huo you shameless old man! You dare to use a low-tier spirit medicine to barter for a five-star physique?! Kudos to you for daring to say it out loud!” Jiang Lingzi snorted before looking to Zi Changhe, and smiling, he said, “Changhe, I know that you cultivate astral lightning energy. I just so happen to have this thing here—a middle-tier medicine, Purple Lightning Vine! I trust that you know its benefits to your cultivation, so could you let me have that brat learn cultivation under me instead?”

Zi Changhe replied without hesitation, “No need. The brat has already completed the ceremony to take me as his master, so it would be improper to hand him over to you now.”

Facing all of Martial Hall Palace’s elders, Zi Changhe faced quite a bit of pressure. However, for a five-star physique, he would be willing to offend all of them. Behind Zi Changhe, Xiang Shaoyun gloated to himself, “See? I already said that you would fight to take me in as a disciple, but you didn’t believe me. Hehe, now you know of this young master’s genius!”

Upon hearing Zi Changhe’s words, the elders could not help but have a tinge of disappointment. They knew that trying to fight for this disciple would not be an easy task at all. At this moment, Qing Xiuhe lightly coughed before speaking, “Changhe, this boy was able to attract the power of five stars before breaking the Evaluation Stele. It’s possible that his talent is even more terrifying than that! Such a fine seedling being under your tutelage is undermining his innate talents; how about leaving him under me personally?”

That caused a ruckus among the outer disciples.

“Th-the vice palace master wants to take him in as a personal disciple?! Is there still justice in this world?!”

“One’s fate is in the stars, one’s fate is given by the heavens. This guy has a five-star physique; no matter where you go in Cloud Margin City, there will be some expert who would want him as a disciple!”

“Indeed. If the palace master himself was here, he would also fight over this disciple! It’s a pity that he has business in the city. No one knows when he’s coming back either.”

“He’s born a genius. We should just work hard; maybe we will have extraordinary achievements some day.”

The outer disciples were all gloomy after witnessing what had unfolded. They practiced all their lives just for the chance of becoming an inner disciple, yet this third-stage Basic Realm brat had gained the recognition of not only the elders, but even the vice palace master himself. This was the unfairness of life.

Zi Changhe unhappily replied, "Vice palace master, I'm only taking him as a disciple on behalf of my master. In truth, he can be considered my junior brother, and he will come under my master in the future."

Hearing Zi Changhe, Qing Xiuhe's expression slightly changed. Following that, he lightly sighed and said, "Since this is the case, forget it. He'll be a disciple of Martial Hall Palace from now on, so allocate some resources to him. Everybody disperse!"

Even though they were all unwilling to let Xiang Shaoyun go, the elders left the area one by one after hearing Qing Xiuhe. The outer disciples also proceeded to go about their own business again, but from now on, the scene of Xiang Shaoyun attracting the power of five stars would remain deeply etched within their minds.

People possessing this level of talent would definitely not turn out to be just some commoner; hence, even if they could not befriend him, they definitely could not offend him. After the crowd had dispersed, Zi Changhe heaved a sigh of relief.

"Hehe, I told you that you'd fight to take me in as a disciple! Now you know of my prowess!" Xiang Shaoyun said, his smile full of pride.

Before he had even finished talking, Zi Changhe firmly hit him on the head before sternly saying, "What's there to laugh about? From now on, you will call me senior brother, if not master. Just at third-stage Basic Realm, what is there to be proud of? You'll be under me from now on. If you can't hit the standards I set for you, see how I'll deal with you!"

"Damn, since when was there such a fierce senior brother such as you?" Xiang Shaoyun said, dissatisfied.

"Hoh, so you think you can disregard everyone because you have a five-star physique? Let me tell you first that it's the geniuses who will fall most easily. If you don't listen to me, then don't blame me for anything that happens to you in the future!" Zi Changhe coldly said.

"Okay okay, from now on I will definitely work hard to become the number one person in all of Martial Hall Palace!" Xiang Shaoyun said seriously, showing no trace of his prior arrogance.

Chapter 5: What a Cute Little Girl!

In one of Martial Hall Palace's elder residences, an old man was feeling extremely unreconciled and spat, "A five-star physique was snatched by that brat Zi Changhe! God damn him!"

This old man was someone who had numerous feuds with Zi Changhe—the thirteenth elder, Li Xuemeng. He was one of the more senior elders, yet he had recently suffered

defeat to Zi Changhe. Since then, he was constantly thinking about how to take him down a notch.

And since Zi Changhe had taken in a disciple with a five-star physique, he was more unhappy than usual. Even though Zi Changhe had claimed to be accepting a disciple on behalf of his master, how would Li Xuemeng believe that?

Since I cannot take him as my own disciple, I must eliminate him and not give him the chance to mature, Li Xuemeng thought to himself as he started crafting numerous schemes in his mind.

Around Wu Town, there were also several experts who had witnessed the five stars illuminate the sky phenomenon. One of them lived inside the most luxurious residence in Wu Town, an old expert whose teeth were falling out.

"Find out who caused the phenomenon of the five stars illuminating the sky at once!" the old man hoarsely shouted.

"Father, this phenomenon seemed to have arisen from the Martial Hall Palace," a middle-aged man answered the old man.

With a greedy expression on his face, the old man told the middle-aged man, "I know those old bastards at Martial Hall Palace. None of them are capable of causing such a phenomenon. One year ago, there was a young girl who did it; it was a pity that she was taken by the palace master as a personal disciple. It seems like it was a new disciple who caused the phenomenon. Quickly go find out who caused it!"

"Yes father." The middle-aged man did not dare delay, setting off at once.

"Hehe, this old man has waited a very long time for this. I never would have imagined that I would come across such a genius before the end of my lifespan. When I get ahold of him, I will be able to refine him into a Yang Restoration Body Sculpting Pill. Not only will I be able to extend my lifespan by ten years, I will also be able to escape from this prison!" the old man maniacally laughed to himself.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun had no idea that the phenomenon he had produced had caught the attention of these two experts. Today, he was with the other outer disciples, training his physical strength. He had initially thought that by following this senior brother Zi Changhe, he would have some form of special care and guidance. Never had he imagined that Zi Changhe would only pass him a simple cultivation method before throwing him to the outer court!

Back then, Xiang Shaoyun had complained, "How can you make me cultivate with all these outer court disciples?! No matter what, I'm the junior brother of an elder, which makes me a half elder! I don't really mind, but I feel embarrassed for you!"

Sadly, Xiang Shaoyun's complaint merely resulted in Zi Changhe coldly answering, "You dare to call yourself a half elder when you're still in the Basic Realm? Come find me only if you can reach the Astral Realm within half a year! If you can't accomplish such a simple task, then you really are the disappointment of your mother, a disgrace to your five-star physique!"

Xiang Shaoyun could not refute Zi Changhe and could only meekly obey.

"Hmph. Half a year? I'll do it within three months!" Xiang Shaoyun resolved to himself.

It went without saying that Xiang Shaoyun was extremely narcissistic. However, when it came to cultivation, he worked harder than anybody else. Right now, one could see him madly sprinting while carrying a rock weighing 200 kilograms on his back.

Every cultivation realm was split into nine stages of proficiency. Xiang Shaoyun, with the strength of a third-stage Basic Realm practitioner, could initially lift a weight of 150 kilograms. However, after he produced the five stars illuminating the sky phenomenon, having undergone the cleansing of astral energy, he had broken through to the fifth-stage of the Basic Realm. Carrying 250 kilograms of weight was no problem for him, much less 200 kilograms.

Many outer disciples were unaware that Xiang Shaoyun had already broken through to the fifth stage of the Basic Realm and thought that he was still at the third stage. Hence, they were stunned to see him sprinting so effortlessly with 200 kilograms on his back.

"A five-star physique indeed is marvellous! He's able to do what a fourth-stage Basic Realm cultivator can do at merely the third stage, truly amazing!" some disciples murmured, their faces green with envy.

"Talents are determined by the heavens. Although he possesses a five-star physique, his cultivation is lower than ours, despite being older than us by one or two years. He's nothing much at all," other disciples nearby said.

The outer disciples at Martial Hall Palace were mostly between 13 and 15 years of age, so there were disciples who were much younger than Xiang Shaoyun. That being said, all of the said disciples had cultivations at the fifth stage of the Basic Realm at the very least, which was the minimum standard to become a disciple at Martial Hall Palace.

Xiang Shaoyun did not take their words to heart and continued to full-heartedly sprint with the rock on his back. About two hours later, he put down the rock weighing 200 kilograms and made his way towards another rock weighing 225 kilograms.

"He can't be trying to lift a heavier weight, right? Has he already broken through to the fourth stage?" somebody whispered.

"This is possible. With the Purple Lightning Marquis's capabilities, breaking through several minor realms might not be a challenge," several disciples speculated.

Paying no attention to any of them, Xiang Shaoyun lifted the 225 kilograms rock onto his back and continued sprinting until noontime. He was sweating profusely. His hands, which were originally fair as snow, were covered with cuts and bruises from carrying the rock.

Spreading his arms, he shook his head as he mockingly said, "I really am too used to living life comfortably; just exerting this bit of effort gets me injured." After a short pause, he faced the heavens and lightly exclaimed, "Ten years! I am willing to wait ten years before going after those so-called geniuses. What I say I will do! You two thieves just wait. The day this young master returns will be the day I come to retrieve your dog heads!"

A vicious glint flashed across Xiang Shaoyun's eyes, a stark contrast to the cheerful simpleton that he usually was. Needless to say, this young man was one with quite the history.

"Hey, what are you still standing there for? Quickly go to the canteen to get your food! If you keep dilly-dallying, there won't be any left!" a clear yet graceful voice rang out beside Xiang Shaoyun.

Turning around, Xiang Shaoyun looked in the direction where the voice came from. Upon spotting his target, his eyes momentarily flashed as he uncontrollably said, "What a cute little girl!"

"Y-you're a bad person!" the girl angrily scolded, her cheeks flushed red with embarrassment.

Immediately afterward, her slender figure turned away and furiously stomped off.

She was Lu Xiaoqing—the number one beauty of the outer court's 10 great beauties. Her cute and graceful appearance charmed many males of the outer court. Furthermore, her talents were not lacking at all. Able to attract the power of four stars, her future was bright. She was also most likely to soon become an inner court disciple, having caught the eye of the eleventh elder, He Yinghua.

Lu Xiaoqing did not approach Xiang Shaoyun because she had fallen for him. Rather, she had noticed his vicious eyes as she passed by and couldn't help but call out to him. She never imagined that Xiang Shaoyun would tease her at the first opportunity he got, causing her impression of him to drop straight down.

Xiang Shaoyun stared at her round buttocks swinging as she walked. He lightly touched his lower chin as he laughed, "This young master was only speaking my mind. Is there anything wrong with that?"

“Brother, stop staring so hard. Or else, you really will be doing something wrong,” another voice came from beside Xiang Shaoyun. The person who had spoken had an extremely unassuming appearance. Apart from the cunning look in his eyes, one could tell that he was an uncouth person from first glance.