

I Am Overlord

Chapter 46: You're Courting Death!

"Yes, exactly. I'm looking to kill some Mad Lion Hunting Group members!" Xiang Shaoyun yelled and started approaching the person. The person was already scared out of his wits, and he directly turned to flee. Unfortunately, his speed was incomparable to Xiang Shaoyun's. Xiang Shaoyun soon caught up with him and slashed with his Golden Wolf Sword.

The golden sword energy trailed across the air before landing on the person's back, killing him then and there. After killing him, Xiang Shaoyun glanced at Little White only to see that Little White had turned large again and that his opponent was already mauled to death. As for his opponent's mount, it had been scared off with its tail between its legs.

Little White turned back to his miniature form before he ran back to Xiang Shaoyun and started meowing flatteringly. Xiang Shaoyun rubbed Little White's head and said, "We can't stay here any longer. Let's gather our loot and leave."

Shortly after, Xiang Shaoyun was done gathering his spoils of war from all four corpses. Apart from some weapons, he had also gotten several parcels. These were the parcels containing the group's harvest in the Hundred Beast Mountain Range.

Xiang Shaoyun opened a random parcel, and joy immediately filled his face. "These are all demonic beast materials and some old medicines of differing ages. Wow, there are quite a lot of them. When I return to the Martial Hall Palace, I will be able to get a lot of points from these."

However, Xiang Shaoyun was distressed to find that all these materials gathered would form a very large luggage. It would be very inconvenient to carry such a big luggage around. Moreover, he would look extremely eye-catching doing so. What should he do now?

After pondering for a bit, Xiang Shaoyun muttered, "Should I try stowing them into that single drop I formed and see how it goes?"

At that thought, Xiang Shaoyun sent his senses into the drop of astral liquid within him before glancing at the pile of materials before him. He said, "Come!"

The astral cosmos sea was able to store all things except living beings.

The drop of astral liquid within Xiang Shaoyun, which was smaller than a finger, started shining. Instantly, an odd power formed a connection with Xiang Shaoyun. He could

vaguely sense the existence of a certain space, a space that was trying to absorb the pile of materials. Alas, the space failed in its task.

"Shit! The space is only the size of a fist? What the hell is this?" Xiang Shaoyun was madly furious when he sensed the storage space within that drop of astral liquid. To be precise, at its current form, the drop of liquid could already be called an astral cosmos sea.

Unfortunately, this astral cosmos sea only had the storage space the size of a fist. Even storing just a stalk of medicine would be somewhat difficult, let alone the large pile of materials before Xiang Shaoyun.

But no matter what, Xiang Shaoyun had still successfully created an early form of the astral cosmos sea. It was worth noting that even a Transformation Realm expert might not necessarily be able to create an astral cosmos sea with storage space as large as an entire world. Generally, only those at higher cultivation levels were capable of that.

Xiang Shaoyun was merely a first-stage Astral Realm cultivator. Forming an astral cosmos sea with the storage space the size of a fist was already an extraordinary achievement. As he grew in strength, the storage space would naturally expand.

At that thought, Xiang Shaoyun's mood improved. He directly poured out all the materials and picked out the old medicines and some healing pills from the pile. He also picked out the more valuable demonic beast materials, and finally, after keeping the tier-2 saber and the tier-2 spear, he discarded everything else.

Sure, Xiang Shaoyun could earn a considerable number of points or gold coins with these materials, but there were too many of them, and they would only slow him down. He was a great young master who did not care too much about these materials. When he grew stronger in the future, he could get as many of these materials as he wanted.

If someone else saw how little Xiang Shaoyun cared for all these materials and the two other weapons he had discarded, they would most likely curse Xiang Shaoyun for being a wastrel.

After Xiang Shaoyun was done dealing with his loot, he glanced at Little White and said, "Little White, don't keep staying on me like that. Come on, grow large and let me ride you around for a bit. I'm dead tired."

He had truly exhausted a lot of his energy from the battle earlier.

"Meow!"

Little White protested, but unfortunately, Xiang Shaoyun completely ignored the protest. Thus, Little White could only helplessly grow larger. His body was as tall as half a grown

adult when standing on four limbs, giving him a rather heroic look, and the "King" written on his head gave off a tyrannical aura.

Xiang Shaoyun picked up his bag and hopped onto Little White. He said, "Let's go!"

At Xiang Shaoyun's command, Little White sped off in the direction of the Hundred Beast Mountain Range's outskirts. Three days later, they arrived outside the Hundred Beast Mountain Range.

"Finally, I'm out. Haha!" Xiang Shaoyun roared with laughter in his excitement. He had encountered many dangers during this trip, had learned about how cruel this world was, and had grown stronger in the process. If anyone dared to make a move against him, he would return the favor with ten times the ferocity.

Riding Little White, Xiang Shaoyun resumed his journey back to Wu Town.

"I wonder if the people from Wu Clan are still waiting for me. If they are, things will get rather troublesome," Xiang Shaoyun muttered to himself. But shortly after, he continued, "I believe they won't be there waiting anymore. It has been quite a while. I just need to keep a low profile and everything will be fine when I'm back at Martial Hall Palace."

With Little White acting as his mount, Wu Town was already within view before the sky turned dark. There, Xiang Shaoyun told Little White to turn small again. Carrying Little White, he carefully headed toward Wu Town.

The Wu Clan was the local tyrant of Wu Town. They had numerous informants everywhere, and Xiang Shaoyun had to tread carefully. However, right after he stepped foot in Wu Town, he sensed that someone was observing him. He thought to himself, Are they still waiting for me?

Sure enough, as he was heading toward the Martial Hall Palace, a group of people rushed out from several different directions and headed straight at him.

"Bastards!" Xiang Shaoyun cursed and immediately pulled back from them. However, the newcomers were very powerful, with late-stage Astral Realm cultivators among them. Xiang Shaoyun stood no chance of escaping.

"Surrender or you shall suffer," said the leader of the group as he sent a kick at Xiang Shaoyun. Before Xiang Shaoyun and Little White could even react, the kick sent them flying. Xiang Shaoyun was in quite a sorry state currently.

"Wu Clan, if you dare touch even a hair of mine, my Senior Brother Zi Changhe will spare none of you!" Xiang Shaoyun had no choice but to bring Zi Changhe's name out.

"Not even the palace master of Martial Hall Palace will be able to save you today!" the leader replied before sending another kick at Xiang Shaoyun. He planned to kick Xiang Shaoyun unconscious then and there.

Swish!

The kick contained quite a strength behind it, directly causing Xiang Shaoyun to start coughing blood. The enemy was at least a sixth- or seventh-stage Astral Realm cultivator.

"Meow!"

Little White yelled before pouncing the person, trying to land a bite.

"Where did this little animal come from? Piss off!" the person bellowed and slapped Little White away.

"Take him with us," the person then commanded the people around him.

"You are courting death!" a voice suddenly rumbled like a thunderclap. From the intersection of the street, a person riding an elder wolf rushed over. At the same time, spear energy shot forth like a lightning bolt.

Swish!

Before the Astral Realm cultivator stepping on Xiang Shaoyun could react, the spear pierced his body. He died with his eyes wide open in indignation.

"You dare to lay hands on the junior brother of I, Purple Lightning Marquis? You are courting death!" bellowed the figure seated on the elder wolf with his back straight.

Chapter 47: I'm Still Hurting!

When Zi Changhe appeared, the masked men were greatly frightened and immediately tried to flee. Unfortunately for them, not a single one of them was able to leave. Zi Changhe was a late-stage Transformation Realm expert. He moved at a remarkable speed, and only flashes of his body could be seen before all the masked men were already dead.

After killing the masked men, Zi Changhe arrived before Xiang Shaoyun. He lifted Xiang Shaoyun and placed him on the elder wolf.

"Little White." Xiang Shaoyun was still awake and did not forget Little White even as Zi Changhe was taking him away. Little White wasn't injured too badly so he directly hopped onto the elder wolf as well.

"Where did this brat come from? Get off me!" the elder wolf scolded.

"Howl!"

Suddenly, a tiger's roar escaped Little White's mouth. At that instant, the elder wolf sensed a peculiar aura of kings. The aura caused him to tremble, and he quickly shut his mouth in fear. When Zi Changhe saw Little White, he was somewhat astonished. "Striped tiger cub?"

"Senior brother, s-stop bothering about Little White for now. Give me a healing pill. I'm hurting badly!" Xiang Shaoyun said. Zi Changhe did not hesitate and immediately fed Xiang Shaoyun a healing pill. Shortly after, they started their journey back to the Martial Hall Palace.

Zi Changhe brought Xiang Shaoyun straight toward his elder's estate. There, he allowed Xiang Shaoyun to sit down in meditation and heal. As for Zi Changhe, he stood guard nearby. Inwardly, he thought to himself, This kid sure is growing quickly. It has only been a month or so and he's already a first-stage Astral Realm cultivator. Looks like his trip to the Hundred Beast Mountain Range has been a bountiful one.

After about two hours, Xiang Shaoyun finally stopped meditating. He felt much better now.

"Thanks, senior brother, for your help!" Xiang Shaoyun thanked Zi Changhe gratefully.

"I'm your senior brother. Can I leave you there to die?" Zi Changhe said. He paused for a bit before continuing, "I also need to thank Lu Xiaoqing. If it wasn't for that girl, I wouldn't have known what the Wu Clan did to you."

"Lu Xiaoqing?" Xiang Shaoyun cried out in astonishment.

"Yeah, about a month ago, she told the eleventh elder about what had happened. Then, the eleventh elder managed to contact me. At that time, I paid the Wu Clan a visit, but they insisted that they hadn't done anything so there was nothing I could do. I eventually found out that all the people sent for you were dead. That was how I found out you had survived their hunt. Someone must have saved you, right?" Zi Changhe asked.

"Someone saved me? I don't think so?" Xiang Shaoyun muttered before proceeding to give Zi Changhe a rough description of what had happened that day. "And that was how this young master escaped—with my wits. Do I even need to be rescued?"

Zi Changhe sank into a short silence before saying, "No, someone must have helped you in secret. Otherwise, with the speed of those people, they would've been able to catch up with you."

Xiang Shaoyun found Zi Changhe's argument logical, and a figure surfaced in his mind as he thought to himself, Is it him?

"Looks like you must have guessed who that person is. But I won't ask too much about your private affairs. Just make sure to be careful in everything you do. The Wu Clan is quite influential within Wu Town. Even I wouldn't dare to move casually against them. Try not to leave the Martial Hall Palace unless you have to," Zi Changhe warned.

"They are the ones provoking me, and I have to sit around idly? That is not the kind of person I am," Xiang Shaoyun grumbled unhappily.

"Sure, you can do something if you want. But first, you need the strength to do so. Although the Wu Clan does not have as many Transformation Realm cultivators as the Martial Hall Palace, they still have a considerable number of them," Zi Changhe said.

"Just you wait. If they dare try something against me again, I will definitely exterminate their entire clan in the future," Xiang Shaoyun declared with a ruthless glint in his eyes. Just because he had defeated Wu Mingliang, they were trying to kill him? That was too vicious! But since they were so vicious, they couldn't blame him for remembering this grudge.

"Talk after you deal with your present troubles," Zi Changhe said. He then continued, "After you defeated Wu Mingliang, his two elder brothers have been preparing to make a move against you. Unlike the outer court disciples, we don't prohibit private battles between inner court disciples. Furthermore, they are both personal disciples of elders, making their status similar to yours. It won't be proper for me to interfere in this conflict."

"Private battles between inner court disciples are not prohibited? Great!" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed joyfully.

"You are too overconfident. Of the two elder brothers of Wu Mingliang, one is a second-stage Astral Realm cultivator on the cusps of reaching third stage. The other is one of the most remarkable personal disciples within the Martial Hall Palace," Zi Changhe reminded. He then continued, "I once told you that I would impart something to you when you reached the Astral Realm. Now, it's time for me to fulfill my promise."

"Wait, I'm still hurting!" Xiang Shaoyun cried out in alarm.

"I'm not starting immediately. We'll start tomorrow. And when you reach late-stage Astral Realm, I will take you to meet our master. At that time, not even the Wu Clan will dare to try anything against you anymore," Zi Changhe said. Then, he turned around and left Xiang Shaoyun.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, he sank into contemplation as he muttered, "So Wu Mingliang still has two elder brothers here? Looks like I won't have an easy time here for now. But that is also good for me. I can use them as my stepping stones!"

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Wu Clan Estate.

Wu Hongxi was bellowing furiously at the main hall, "Damn that Zi Changhe! He dares to spoil our plan? Is he looking down on the Wu Clan?"

The few underlings Zi Changhe had killed were all Astral Realm experts. Coupled with those killed a month ago, the Wu Clan had suffered quite a bit of losses trying to capture Xiang Shaoyun. Wu Hongxi placed all the blame squarely on Zi Changhe.

"Father, it is pointless to be angry now. That Zi Changhe is clearly protecting Xiang Shaoyun. Should we give up?" said Wu Mingliang. His injuries had mostly healed by now. After a month, his injuries had healed and his strength had also increased, reaching first-stage Astral Realm.

"Forget? How can we forget about it! Who does that Zi Changhe think he is? He is merely relying on his identity as a disciple of a master already at the Cloud Margin City. He really thinks we are scared of that old fool? If he pushes us too far, we will kill him as well!" Wu Hongxi said with a ruthless light in his eyes. After a slight pause, he added, "Since Xiang Shaoyun is back, you should return to the Martial Hall Palace as well. Tell your two elder brothers to capture Xiang Shaoyun and bring him home at all cost!"

"Yes, Father. I will go right now," Wu Mingliang answered and left. Wu Mingliang had barely left when Wu Hongxi arrived at the rear court of their estate. This was where their patriarch resided.

Wu Hongxi entered the room, and with shame, he said to the old man seated on a praying mat, "Father, your child is useless for failing to capture Xiang Shaoyun two times in a row."

The old man looked to be about 80 years old, but in truth, he was over 100 years old. This was Wu Fuxiang, the head of Wu Town.

"I know your capabilities well. You have handled this poorly." Wu Fuxiang sighed with disappointment before adding, "Contact the thirteenth elder of Martial Hall Palace. Let me have a talk with him. There are things we definitely can't afford to wait for."

"Yes, Father," Wu Hongxi complied.

Chapter 48: My Senior Brother Sure Has an Attitude

The night passed quickly. By the time morning arrived, Xiang Shaoyun was already fully healed. Facing the rising sun, he absorbed the purple qi that came with the first ray of sunlight. His entire body felt cozy and snug while his internal energy became even thicker.

To increase one's astral energy, one needed to absorb the energy of the stars and moon. But due to recent weather, the moon and stars were rarely seen. In such a situation, the sun became the best source of energy.

In the legends, some experts could even cultivate right by the sun. There, one's cultivation would rise quickly, and one capable of cultivating there possessed the power to split worlds, as mighty as gods.

As Xiang Shaoyun had grown in strength, the number of purple qi strains he could absorb had increased too. Each one of these strains contained a seemingly boundless power within. When the energy he absorbed from the purple qi entered his stars, his stars grew even brighter. Some of the energy spilled out of the stars, and the spillage went on to wash over the 365 acupoints within his body, causing all the acupoints to shine resplendently as well.

In fact, Xiang Shaoyun's entire body seemed to be slightly glowing, giving off a rather mystical aura. After the energy revolved one round within his body, they were pulled into the astral cosmos sea. The astral cosmos sea then fused with the new energy, and after the fusion, the drop of astral cosmos sea grew slightly in size.

"Hu—"

Xiang Shaoyun heaved a long sigh, feeling much weaker as if the energy he had absorbed earlier had all been emptied.

"Growing the astral cosmos sea is actually so exhausting. No wonder most people can only do it when they grow stronger. Looks like I have been forcing it after all," Xiang Shaoyun muttered to himself.

"I clearly saw you absorbing the purple qi. Why is your energy weakening instead of growing? Have you forgotten even your qi refining method?" Zi Changhe suddenly appeared not far away. It was unknown how long he had been there.

"Senior brother, don't you know that appearing without a sound like this will scare someone to death?" Xiang Shaoyun complained as he was given quite a fright by Zi Changhe's sudden appearance. He then said, "That's an accident. I just hadn't been consolidating my foundations properly."

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't tell Zi Changhe he was forming his astral cosmos sea. Even if he did, his senior brother might not believe him anyway.

"Fine. Just be careful in the future and make sure to not get distracted. The purple qi is the energy that can grow your astral energy the fastest. Try to waste as little of it as possible," Zi Changhe advised. He added, "I'll start teaching you a battle technique today. A martial cultivator without a battle technique is the same as a toothless tiger that can't hurt anyone."

"Ok. What battle technique are you teaching me? A tier-5 or tier-6 battle technique?" Xiang Shaoyun rubbed his hands gleefully.

Zi Changhe's face was immediately filled with black lines, and he said, "Do you think battle techniques are like common vegetables you can get anywhere? Tier-5? Tier-6? Not even the palace master has one of those!"

"Fine, fine. How about a tier-4 battle technique? You should have one of those, right?" Xiang Shaoyun decided to settle for something less.

"Peak-grade, tier-2 battle technique, Lightning Spear Technique!" Zi Changhe named the technique directly as he no longer wished to continue babbling with Xiang Shaoyun.

Even among battle techniques of the same tier, there were weak and strong ones. The Lightning Spear Technique was a peak-grade, tier-2 battle technique, one that was much more powerful than ordinary tier-2 battle techniques.

"Only tier-2? That is totally an insult to your identity as both my senior brother and an elder. Fine, I'll pass you some tier-4 battle techniques when I have the time. I promise you will be unequaled among all elders then," Xiang Shaoyun said, his voice laced with contempt.

"I will only say the mantra once, and I will only demonstrate the moves once as well. Learn if you want!" Zi Changhe could no longer be bothered about anything this narcissist fellow had to say. After the short announcement, he proceeded to chant the mantra of the Lightning Spear Technique.

Next, his body started moving along with the mantra. The spear was stabbed forward again and again, emitting crackling electrical currents with an extremely destructive power that one would be hard-pressed to defend against.

Although Xiang Shaoyun acted like he was above learning a tier-2 battle technique, he still paid full attention to the mantra Zi Changhe was chanting. He also memorized each move Zi Changhe demonstrated. As he listened and watched, his gifts of instincts and visualization were both activated.

By the time Zi Changhe was done teaching, Xiang Shaoyun had completely memorized the mantra and the moves to heart.

"Do you remember them all?" Zi Changhe asked strictly.

"Yes." Xiang Shaoyun nodded.

Naturally, Zi Changhe did not believe him. "Read them out loud then."

Xiang Shaoyun proceeded to chant the entire mantra without missing a single word. By the time he was done, Zi Changhe was already completely stupefied. The mantra wasn't exactly long, but an ordinary person would only be able to memorize it after more than 10 attempts. This kid had memorized it after listening to it once.

"Senior brother, don't look at me like that. I know, I know, I am a genius with a photographic memory," Xiang Shaoyun said vainly.

That earned him a slap on the back of his head. Zi Changhe said, "What are you being all proud about? If you can unleash 3 percent of the Lightning Spear Technique's power in a day, I will acknowledge that you're a genius."

"Don't hit my head!" Xiang Shaoyun protested before he assumed a solemn look and said, "What? Only 3 percent? You are looking down on me! I can comprehend at least 10 percent of a trash technique like this in one day!"

"Sure, you said it yourself. If you can do it, I will teach you a tier-3 battle technique and give you something nice as well," Zi Changhe said and left.

Zi Changhe had always been a straightforward person who would never dilly-dally. Even Xiang Shaoyun couldn't help but praise his senior brother. "My senior brother sure has an attitude. It's a pity he's quite weak. Oh well, I'll just impart him some of my knowledge in the future to help him grow stronger. I suppose with his increased strength, even seducing a few young married women would be nothing difficult for him then."

Zi Changhe had yet to completely leave. So when he heard Xiang Shaoyun's words, he staggered and nearly crashed into the ground. He, Zi Changhe, needed Xiang Shaoyun to impart him some knowledge? So that he could seduce some young married women? That kid truly knew how to talk big!

After Zi Changhe left, Xiang Shaoyun lifted a spear. This was a tier-2 spear called Lightning Spear, which Zi Changhe had left before leaving. The spear had a matching name with the battle technique he was about to practice.

Xiang Shaoyun did not start practicing directly. Rather, images of Zi Changhe's demonstration appeared in his mind one after another, as if Zi Changhe had appeared before him once again. As the images flitted through his mind again and again, Xiang Shaoyun gained a comprehensive understanding of all the moves. He had even discovered all the openings of the moves as well.

About an hour later, Xiang Shaoyun finally started practicing. Initially, he moved slowly. Each stab of his was extremely textbook-like. After he familiarized himself with the Lightning Spear Technique, he started moving faster.

One time, two times, three times...

In the span of one morning, Xiang Shaoyun repeated the moves of the Lightning Spear Technique countless times. He even fixed some of the openings of the moves, further perfecting the spear technique.

"The Lightning Spear Technique's essence is in its lightning-fast speed, able to attack when the opponent least expects an attack. It can also transform astral energy into lightning to unleash extremely destructive attacks. This technique focuses not only on speed; similar emphasis is placed on strength as well. It is not easy to perfectly fuse both speed and strength," Xiang Shaoyun muttered as he pondered the technique after having some smoked meat for lunch.

At present, he had already grasped the technique's key moves. He only needed to add his astral energy into the equation, and he would be able to see how much of the technique's power he could unleash for now.

After a short break, Xiang Shaoyun started practicing for real. He stabbed his spear repeatedly while his astral energy surged into the spear, unleashing streams of purple spear energy.

Chapter 49: I Might as Well Smash My Head Against a Tofu and Kill Myself

The day passed quickly. The next day, Zi Changhe appeared in the courtyard again. When he saw Xiang Shaoyun meditating instead of practicing the moves, he mused, Has this kid forgotten the moves I showed him? Hah, that's what you get for bragging so much!

"Shaoyun, this tier-2 battle technique is not as easy as you thought, right? Yes, you are talented. But you are also too conceited." Zi Changhe started giving Xiang Shaoyun his heartfelt advice. He hoped to see Xiang Shaoyun maintain a realistic expectation and learn seriously instead of being the current self-important narcissistic person that he was.

Xiang Shaoyun opened his eyes, and when his gaze landed on Zi Changhe, he shouted, "Senior brother, watch my move!"

The moment he said that, he pounced forward like a tiger with an imposing momentum. He rushed forward with the might of a lightning bolt, and his spear shot forward like a rainbow travelling across the sky. With a purple flash, the spear instantly arrived before Zi Changhe's chest.

Lightning Spear Technique! Fast as lightning, mighty as thunder! This was a stab of someone who had gained a basic mastery over the essence of the spear technique. Zi Changhe raised his brow and bellowed, "Audacious! Show me how capable you are, then! Bring it on!"

As Zi Changhe said that, he sidestepped and dodged the stab. However, Xiang Shaoyun seemed to have seen it coming, as he immediately shifted his spear and sent the other end of the spear on the offensive. This attack with the shoe of the spear chained off the first stab perfectly and was almost impossible to guard against. An astonished light surfaced in Zi Changhe's eyes as his palm glowed with a faint purple radiance. Zi Changhe blocked the second attack.

"Ahhhh!"

Xiang Shaoyun yelled and started stabbing his Lightning Spear forward madly with all his power, as if he wouldn't stop before defeating Zi Changhe. The spear stabbed forward unendingly with an astonishing momentum; crackling electricity whipped around in the air.

Pa! Pa!

A purple glow filled the area while sounds of thunder rumbled in the air, a proof of just how powerful these stabs were. However, no matter how hard Xiang Shaoyun attacked, he failed to break through Zi Changhe's defense. In fact, Zi Changhe was only using one hand to block all of Xiang Shaoyun's attacks. Zi Changhe might seem like he was doing that easily, but inwardly, he was greatly shocked.

T-this...in one day, he is already able to unleash 30 percent of the technique's power? No, for some reason, this spear technique feels somewhat different from the Lightning Spear Technique. But this version of Lightning Spear Technique seems much more powerful? Zi Changhe was practically yelling in his heart.

After a while, Xiang Shaoyun stopped attacking. He grumbled sullenly, "What a weak offensive power."

But of course, he was a first-stage Astral Realm cultivator attacking a Transformation Realm cultivator. The gap between them was too large. Of course his offensive power seemed weak in comparison.

When Zi Changhe saw Xiang Shaoyun's sullen look, he comforted him, "You have a five-stars-illuminate-the-sky physique so you won't need more than 10 years to catch up to me. Continue to work hard!"

"What? I need 10 years just to reach YOUR level? I might as well smash my head against tofu and kill myself," Xiang Shaoyun immediately rebutted with an exaggerated expression on his face. From his expression, it was as if reaching Zi Changhe's level in 10 years was the greatest insult ever.

And thus the kid completely ruined Zi Changhe's good mood.

"Since you are so confident in yourself, I will give you two more days. In two days, I want to see a 70 percent mastery over the Lightning Spear Technique. If you can't do it, wait for my punishment!" Zi Changhe said with an unsightly face.

"Sure, 70 percent in 2 days is not a problem. But what's the point of it if I'm not getting anything?" Xiang Shaoyun started talking terms.

Right after Xiang Shaoyun said that, an inner armor appeared in Zi Changhe's hand. "This is your reward. It's a primary-grade, tier-3 inner armor. With this, regular tier-3 weapons won't be able to harm you anymore."

Xiang Shaoyun took the armor, weighed it in his hands and sighed inwardly. Even trash like this is valuable here.

That might be what he had in mind, but he did not voice his thoughts so as to not deal further blows to Zi Changhe. Thus, he said, "Thank you, senior brother." He paused slightly and continued, "Senior brother, since you are known as the Purple Lightning Marquis, you probably specialize in purple lightning astral energy, right? Why not learn this tier-4 battle technique I have. I promise your combat prowess will become even stronger with it."

But right after he said that, Zi Changhe gave him the finger and said, "Will you die if you stop bluffing for a moment?" Zi Changhe followed that up with, "Alright, try not to leave if possible for the next few days. The Wu Clan brothers have already proclaimed that they will be making a move against you."

After saying all he had to say, Zi Changhe left.

"I'm only afraid they won't come after me!" Xiang Shaoyun muttered with an odd glint in his eyes. Since the Wu Clan was trying to make a move against him, he wouldn't be Xiang Shaoyun if he did not teach them a lesson.

Yet another day passed. It was early in the morning, and Xiang Shaoyun was absorbing purple qi as usual. After he was done, he could vaguely sense that his astral energy was nearing the second stage. He only needed to take one step forward to enter the second stage, yet he once again suppressed his advancement. As for the excess energy resulting from his suppression, he pushed it into his astral cosmos sea instead. He longed greatly to expand his astral cosmos sea so he could carry his stuff around more easily.

Done with the breathing exercise, Xiang Shaoyun stretched before leaving Zi Changhe's courtyard. He wanted to return to his own residence and put his things away before paying Lu Xiaoqing and Xia Liuhui a visit. Of course, he did not forget Wang Zhenchuan, the inner court disciple, either. He would naturally keep the promise he had made Wang Zhenchuan.

Zi Changhe's residence was located in a district belonging solely to the elders. The district was quiet and secluded, surrounded by lush plants, elegant pavilions, tiny bridges and streams, gorgeous demonic beasts, and so on. It would be no exaggeration to say that with each new step one took, a new beautiful landscape would unfold before one's eyes.

But before Xiang Shaoyun, who was once a young master of a powerful sect, the view here was nothing too special.

"Even the elder residences are so crude." Xiang Shaoyun shook his head as he lamented beside a lake. People of different stations in life would view things differently.

"Who dares to rave nonsensically here!" a furious voice suddenly rang out.

Xiang Shaoyun thought to himself, I couldn't have attracted trouble with some random ramblings, right? How unlucky am I?

When he turned and saw the speaker, his eyes turned gloomy. "So it's you, delinquent girl?"

"Impudent! Who do you think you are to call me a delinquent girl? Are you tired of living?" the girl shouted before sending a whip Xiang Shaoyun's way.

The girl was not holding back her punches at all. Astral energy powered her casual lash of whip. If the whip struck someone's face, the person would most certainly be scarred. Fortunately, Xiang Shaoyun was no longer the same as before. He immediately activated his gift of instincts to see the trajectory of the incoming whip clearly, and he reached out to grab the whip.

"Let go of it!" Xiang Shaoyun bellowed as he pulled the whip from the girl's hand.

The girl had not expected Xiang Shaoyun to have such a speedy reaction, and she was caught by surprise. Before she could react, she lost hold of her whip. Even her body was pulled forward, causing her to stagger in the direction of the lake beside her.

Splash!

She failed to maintain her balance and ultimately fell into the lake.

"Haha, this is your retribution, evil woman!" Xiang Shaoyun roared with laughter.

The girl in the lake was Li Hong'er, the girl who had once whipped his face. That was why Xiang Shaoyun felt so happy when he saw her suffer.

Chapter 50: Only Astral Realm

"Bastard! Damn you bastard! This young lady won't spare you!" Li Hong'er shouted from the lake. She grew up in the Martial Hall Palace and was known as the number one tyrannical mistress of the palace. She had always been the one doing the bullying, not the other way around. Today, she was going to teach this conceited kid a lesson but was pulled into the lake instead! That was too infuriating!

Nevertheless, Li Hong'er had practiced martial cultivation since young, and she was presently a mid-phase, third-stage Astral Realm cultivator. It did not take her long to climb out of the water. Her entire body was now wet, perfectly revealing her developing figure before Xiang Shaoyun's eyes.

"Eh, you do look decent. But unfortunately, your chest is too flat, and your backside is not curvy enough. More importantly, your character is terrible. If I have to rate you, your rating will be in the negatives," Xiang Shaoyun said right to Li Hong'er's face.

"Die!" Li Hong'er was not one with a good temper. Upon hearing those words, she erupted in anger. She ignored the sorry state she was in and directly attacked Xiang Shaoyun. She slammed her palm toward Xiang Shaoyun's chest. The palm was reinforced with astral energy and was glowing with a blood-red radiance.

Blood Noxious Palm!

A third-stage Astral Realm cultivator already qualified as an expert, and an ordinary person would never be able to stop the attack of a cultivator at this level. Facing this attack, instead of dodging, Xiang Shaoyun stepped forward and sent out his own punch.

Rushing Qi Fist!

The punch was not exuding any astral energy, yet it carried an extremely violent momentum with it. The palm and the fist met. A muffled thud sounded in the air. The clash forced Li Hong'er to take two steps back, and even her palm was aching. On the other hand, Xiang Shaoyun did not move a single step, as if he was completely unaffected by Li Hong'er's attack.

"Considering how you have received your lesson, I hereby grant you permission to piss off from my face. Otherwise, don't blame me for not showing you any mercy," Xiang Shaoyun said coldly.

Li Hong'er had once whipped and scarred his beautiful face, and he had once vowed to teach this girl a harsh lesson. But now, when he saw Li Hong'er's sorry state after falling into the lake, his anger dissipated. Thus, he decided to spare her instead. He believed that as a man, he had to be magnanimous. Unfortunately, Li Hong'er felt no sense of gratefulness toward his magnanimity.

"You dare tell me to piss off? If I don't kill you right this moment, I won't be able to alleviate the anger in my heart!" Li Hong'er shouted before she mustered all her strength and started attacking Xiang Shaoyun madly.

She was indeed worthy of being the daughter of Li Xuemeng. She had mastered the Blood Noxious Palm, and each of her palms contained a boundless power. Her attacks were all aimed at Xiang Shaoyun's vitals, and each attack was launched from an extremely tricky angle.

Clearly, Li Hong'er was only now revealing her true strength. Xiang Shaoyun did not activate his gift of instincts this time, but he was still able to see the trajectory of Li Hong'er's attacks. He used his Cloud Splitting Palm to face her Blood Noxious Palm. In the blink of an eye, the two had already exchanged more than 10 moves, and the victor was still undetermined.

"Not fair! You have the advantage fighting me with that wet body of yours! Should I just capture you instead?" Xiang Shaoyun could not stop his gaze from roaming Li Hong'er's body.

And when Li Hong'er heard that, she shivered slightly, which immediately caused her to reveal an opening. Taking advantage of the opening, Xiang Shaoyun sent a palm right at the girl's chest. The palm landed, and Li Hong'er was once again pushed into the lake.

Splash!

This was the second time Li Hong'er had fallen into the lake, and her body was even wetter now. Li Hong'er floated on the surface of the lake, completely dumbfounded. She suddenly roared like an angry tigress, "I...will not rest until you're dead!"

"Hey, that...was an accident!" Xiang Shaoyun replied with an innocent expression. He quickly added, "I told you to piss off, but you refused. Fine, fine. This young master is a magnanimous person. I'll forgive you."

After saying that, he swaggered away without even bothering to wait for Li Hong'er to get out of the lake. No matter what, she was still an elder's daughter. If her father was to suddenly appear, it would be his turn to suffer.

"You f*cking asshole! I will never spare you! You won't be able to escape me!" Li Hong'er screeched in Xiang Shaoyun's direction when she finally got out of the lake. It naturally attracted no response from Xiang Shaoyun. By now, he was already back at his own residence. After putting his luggage and some important belongings away, he brought some of the medicines he wouldn't need for now and headed to the Medicine Hall.

The Martial Hall Palace not only provided numerous medicinal herbs and weapons to the disciples but also bought them off the disciples. Xiang Shaoyun had gained quite a lot of old medicines from his trip to the Hundred Beast Mountain Range. Although he couldn't sell them all at once, he could still sell some of them to earn some points. With those points, he could buy some old medicines he actually needed.

After entering the Medicine Hall, Xiang Shaoyun took out the old medicines and said, "Revered overseer, take a look at how much these herbs are worth."

The overseer looked at Xiang Shaoyun in astonishment. "Huh? You've reached Astral Realm? That was fast!"

Xiang Shaoyun was one of the only two five-star physique disciples the Martial Hall Palace had. He had even previously bought some herbs here. Naturally, the overseer had a deep impression of him.

He remembered that Xiang Shaoyun was still a seventh-stage Basic Realm the last time he had come. It had only been a month since then, and he was now in the Astral Realm. This was quite an astonishing speed.

More importantly, he could see that Xiang Shaoyun had clearly advanced without relying on any medicine! That was because Xiang Shaoyun's foundation was thick and stable, a sign that would not appear if one advanced by relying on medicine.

"Haha, it's only Astral Realm, nothing worth mentioning," Xiang Shaoyun said humbly, but he still had a smug look on his face. He was definitely not humble at all!

"Um, you have a talent nobody can compare with. Since that is the case, you have to work even harder and not get too cocky," sincerely advised the overseer. He then added, "Show me the herbs. I'll have a look."

Xiang Shaoyun handed over the parcel and opened it. The overseer studied the herbs and praised, "This is quite the harvest!" He continued, "This is a 100-year-old grasstail flower, and this is a 150-year-old dried snake vine...huh? So many blood mushrooms! And this stalk here is even near 300 years old? It's on the cusp of becoming a low-grade spirit medicine!"

Xiang Shaoyun did not say anything, yet he was thinking to himself, I already have a stalk of blood mushroom king for myself. I won't bother keeping these low-grade herbs.

After the overseer did his calculations, he gave Xiang Shaoyun a total of 6,500 points. Xiang Shaoyun was pretty satisfied with the price. After all, most of the herbs were gotten after killing the Mad Lion Hunting Group members and were completely earned by accident.

After getting the points, Xiang Shaoyun immediately exchanged them for a stalk of low-grade spirit medicine, illusionary star flower, and a few old medicines. He spent 6,000 points for the purchase.

"Kid, I thought your stars have been awakened? Why do you still need the illusionary star flower?" asked the overseer curiously. The illusionary star flower had a terrific efficacy on those at the peak of Basic Realm. It was a herb capable of helping one awaken their stars and enter the Astral Realm.

Because of that, the illusionary star flower was supposed to be useless for someone like Xiang Shaoyun who had already awakened his stars. That was the source of the overseer's curiosity.

"Hehe, I have my own usage for it," Xiang Shaoyun said with a wide grin. Of course he wouldn't tell the overseer that apart from awakening stars, the illusionary star flower was also quite useful in forming and growing the astral cosmos sea.

After leaving the Medicine Hall, Xiang Shaoyun headed straight toward the outer court. But when he arrived at the outer court, he found that others were bullying his underling, Xia Liuhui. Immediately, his mood soured.