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Chapter 31: Each and Every One Under Master Changchun is Talented_1

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The next day.

After a brief rest, Wang Shouzhe and the others split up for the day's activities.

Most of them were led by the Old Ancestor Xuan Fu, marching forth with a grand momentum.

On the other hand, Wang Shouzhe was led by Wang Shouxin to Changchun Valley.

On paper, he was an external student under Master Changchun, practicing only the Qi Refining Chapter of the Longevity Youth True Verses. Now that he had successfully established himself in the Spirit Platform Realm, obtaining the Spirit Platform Chapter of the Longevity Youth True Verses had become an urgent matter.

They did not travel for more than an hour.

Wang Shouxin led him to the outskirts of a mountain depression and, after arriving, he apologized and said, "Brother Shouzhe, to avoid misunderstandings, I will not accompany you further. The disciples of Master Changchun are quite easy-going. A little inquiry will lead you to the Instructing Dao Palace."

Avoid misunderstandings?

Wang Shouzhe was slightly surprised, but he didn't investigate further and politely replied, "Thank you, Brother Shouxin."

Next, Wang Shouxin added, "There's something else you should remember. No matter your background in the Academic Palace, do not casually reveal your family background. Firstly, it's against the rules of the palace. Secondly, it will prevent conflicts between students dragging your family into it."

Wang Shouzhe had heard about this before. If you wish, you can even change your name. However, changing his name seemed unnecessary.

He respectfully responded, "Brother Shouxin, I understand."

With that, the two parted ways.

Upon entering Changchun Valley, Wang Shouzhe's view expanded dramatically.

The vast ravine bathed in sunrays, yet it wasn't harsh.

Forests flourished majestically, unique flowers swaying gently along with the wind in the flower fields.

There was also a group of domesticated Spirit Bees swarming among the spirit flowers, gathering Spirit Honey and spreading the pollen, filling the environment with the chirping of birds and fragrant flowers.

What a pastoral scene!

No, to be precise, it was a heavenly farming scene.

Upon entering this valley, one could feel a vibrant aura all around, making every breath feel smooth and fresh.

It was said that this Changchun Valley was located on top-tier Wood Type Spirit Veins. Hence, even residing here for a long time would extend one's lifespan and keep all diseases at bay.

The number of disciples in Changchun Valley was quite large, but they were all busily engaged in their own work, scattered across the fields cultivating various Spirit Plants, Spirit Fruits, Spirit Flowers, and Spirit Grass.

Not far away, there was an old farmer.

With his white beard and straw hat, he was carefully removing weeds from the Spirit Fields.

Wang Shouzhe approached and asked, "Senior, may I know how to get to our Changchun Valley's Instructing Dao Palace?"

The old man looked up at Wang Shouzhe, chuckled, and asked, "Young man, why are you looking for the Instructing Dao Palace?"

Wang Shouzhe kindly replied, "I am an external student of Changchun Valley, having cultivated up to the Spirit Platform Realm. According to the rules, I have come to participate in the assessment and receive the Spirit Platform Chapter of the Longevity Youth True Verses."

As he spoke, he conjured a small gourd of wine, filled with a few jugs of excellent Spiritual Wine.

He gave it to the old farmer and requested, "Please guide me, Senior."

The old man's eyes lit up. After taking a few sips of the wine, he let out a satisfied breath and said, "The wine is ordinary. But you, young man, are quite fitting to my taste." He then casually gave Wang Shouzhe directions.

After parting ways with the old farmer.

Wang Shouzhe followed the directions, crossing the farmland, various streams, peach blossom forests, Spirit Fish ponds, and so on.

It took him a good half-hour to reach the place the old man had mentioned.

During this journey, he got to experience the extraordinary aspects of Changchun Valley — truly a place where Spirit Fields could be seen every three steps and Spirit Seeds everywhere he laid his eyes on.

Before him now.

A grand, simple, but heavy hall according to Changchun Valley's style.

The wood corridor structure filled with rich greenery, adorned with some beautiful and rare flower cases.

Above the main entrance of the hall, there was a huge plaque. Amidst the dense collection of flowers, three gilded characters were faintly visible—[Instructing Dao Palace].

"It seems, I have arrived." Wang Shouzhe thought to himself.

He immediately straightened his clothes and checked his reflection in the mirror.

Well, he was as handsome and suave as always. He felt reassured.

Then he checked the various gifts he had prepared ahead of time in his storage ring. It contained things of different styles and tastes, ready to be given at any moment.

This was what you called planning ahead.

He had prepared for several possibilities.

Even if the steward of the Instructing Dao Palace, the Senior Brother, meant to cause trouble, Wang Shouzhe was confident that he could handle it with his skills.

"Sigh~" When adults do things, they need to be reliable!

While pondering over this, Wang Shouzhe entered the grand door of Instructing Dao Palace with a composed air, first looking around.

"Huh?"

The scene inside the Instructing Dao Palace was quite different from what he had imagined.

In his imagination, a place of imparting knowledge and skills should be solemn and impressive, steady and without excess, filled with scholarly ambience and historical heritage.

However.

This place had a pastoral style all over. They used planks to form square frames and artfully arranged them. They were filled with all kinds of soils growing crops of various types.

There were also miniature formations designed to create or simulate different temperature and light conditions.

Around each indoor "ridge", one or two disciples dressed in Changchun Valley's garments roamed around, passionately engaged in discussion.

Elsewhere, students were crouching down, looking intensely at one aspect of cultivation, fully immersed and highly focused.

Chapter 31: Each and Every One Under Master Changchun is Talented_2

This…

The situation took Wang Shouzhe by surprise. He sincerely couldn't figure out which one was the Steward Senior Brother of the Instructing Dao Palace?

Out of necessity, he had to probe some information from a female disciple who looked attractive.

And why did he not ask male disciples for information? The reason, of course, was quite simple.

With Wang Shouzhe's imposing build and impressive looks. Asking a male disciple might trigger jealousy and lead to unnecessary conflicts.

Such trouble should be avoided if possible.

"Excuse me, sister," interrupted Wang Shouzhe, a woman who was planting flowers, and saluted her courteously.

"Get lost, you…" The interrupted female disciple immediately stood up to curse, but was stunned upon seeing Wang Shouzhe. She then blushed and softly said, "What do you need, junior brother?"

Her voice was inexplicably gentle, and her eyes were moving up and down on Wang Shouzhe, blushing and lowering her head from time to time.

This is the benefit of being good-looking.

After a brief chat with her, Wang Shouzhe cut to the chase: "Can I ask you where the Senior Brother in charge of imparting the Dao is?"

"Oh, you're looking for Senior Brother Jinshan, huh?" The sister seemed a little disappointed, but still said, "I'll take you to him."

She then led Wang Shouzhe inward to a complicated field area and impatiently told a middle-aged man, "Senior Brother Jinshan, someone's looking for you."

Senior Brother Jinshan looked about forty or fifty years old, but his actual age was unknown.

He looked rather plain, and his eyes were somewhat wretched.

His dress code was care-free, full of mud stains. He glanced at Wang Shouzhe and casually asked, "Kid, what is it?"

The attitude was not too welcoming, he didn't seem like he had any patience.

This is the downside of being too handsome, it might spark hostility from disciples of the same sex.

Wang Shouzhe was prepared for that. He began with a humble tone, "My name is Wang Shouzhe, an external disciple under the Changchun School. Now that I have advanced to the Spirit Platform Realm, I would like to apply for the Spirit Platform chapter of the Longevity Youth True Verses. This is my identity badge, please…"

But before Wang Shouzhe could finish his sentence, Jinshan Senior Brother impatiently interrupted him: "The Longevity Youth True Verses, the sequel Cultivation Technique, huh? Show the momentum of the Spirit Platform Realm."

Wang Shouzhe activated his Mysterious Energy as instructed, releasing some of the Spiritual Platform Realm's aura.

Jinshan senior brother nodded, then he rummaged through a run-down bookshelf next to him and tossed out a book, "This is the Spirit Platform chapter of Longevity Youth True Verses, you can only read it here, no taking away. Memorize it before we talk."

Then he ignored Wang Shouzhe, focusing back on his plots, studying a fast-maturing variety of wheat.

Could it be that smooth?

Wang Shouzhe was a bit taken aback, thinking that this was supposed to be a difficult task.

He had prepared several alternative solutions, he thought he would at least need to overcome some kind of trials?

Well, let's keep it simple then.

Wang Shouzhe gave a small gift to thank the sister who led the way. He then found a clean spot, memorizing the Spirit Platform chapter of the Longevity Youth True Verses with concentration.

With his already three awakened bloodline physical Qualities, progress in memory and other capabilities had made great strides. Coupled with his own delicate thoughts and uncommon wisdom.

Within two hours, the Spirit Platform chapter of the Longevity Youth True Verses had been firmly memorized by him, as he knew it like the back of his hand.

He then returned the Spirit Platform chapter to Jinshan senior brother.

Jinshan senior brother, who was about to do half an experiment, took the Spirit Platform Chapter and threw it aside. He waved Wang Shouzhe away, impatient, "Go away, don't disturb me. I'm at a crucial moment in my research, and I'm on the brink of success."

Wang Shouzhe glanced at his indoor experimental field. It comprised several maturing wheat plants, and Jinshan senior brother was driving his thick Wood Type Mysterious Energy, urging the wheat ears to mature.

Wood Type Cultivation Technique could also promote plant growth, but that speed was incredibly slow. Compared to when Wang Shouzhe had just awakened his bloodline, it was dozens of times slower.

Moreover, Jinshan Senior Brother seemed quite straining, steam was rising up from him, he looked as if he was running out of Mysterious Energy.

"Huh?"

Looking at the almost mature wheat ears and stout roots, Wang Shouzhe found them somewhat familiar.

Before he could speak, Jinshan Senior Brother, who was driving the Mysterious Energy, began to talk to himself: "Humph. I refuse to believe that I cannot tame this little Wang's No.7 wheat variety, I will definitely succeed this time, allowing you to breed a second time."

Wang's No. 7 wheat variety?

Wang Shouzhe blinked, slapped his forehead, and couldn't help but laugh. No wonder that wheat ear looked so familiar, wasn't it the Wang's No. 7 wheat variety that he cultivated over eight or nine years ago?

This Jinshan Senior, he is trying to crack the code and pirate his Wang's No. 7 wheat variety.

He gritted his teeth, looking as if he bears a great grudge, he must have been studying it for a long time now.

Isn't he wasting his time and energy?

Then Wang Shouzhe sympathetically watched him, couldn't help but try to give him a piece of advice: "Senior Brother, Wang's No. 7 wheat variety could never breed a second time through its root…"

And then Jinshan Senior Brother glared at him impatiently and rolled his eyes.

"What do you, a small external disciple, know!? I will definitely succeed this time."

Well, alright, go ahead and play and pretend. Alas, being handsome just makes it easy to trigger temper tantrums from senior brothers and the like.

Now Wang Shouzhe did not leave, he crossed his arms and nonchalantly waited for the ultimate outcome from Jinshan Senior Brother.

Chapter 31: Each and Every One Under Master Changchun is Talented_3

His 'quickening' process was too slow.

Wang Shouzhe had to wait for two hours, idly watching as he took several breaks in between. He consumed Cultivation Pill, ate Convenient Ling Food, meditated to replenish Mysterious Energy and so on.

Finally, with great effort, he completed the last bit of work, and the dozen or so stalks of Wang's No. 7 wheat variety finally matured.

Then, trembling with excitement, he removed the grains from those stalks with utmost care and soaked them in the specially prepared nutrient solution.

At this time...

Since the experiment of Senior Brother Jinshan was at a critical stage, many brothers and sisters gathered around, hoping to witness this historic moment.

"Let me show you, the foreign apprentice, the prowess of a core disciple of Master Changchun." He set in motion his light cyan Mysterious Energy with full confidence.

His Mysterious Energy emanated a vibrant aura of life, as if it could promote the growth of everything, enveloping the wheat seeds soaked in the nutrient solution.

However...

Fifteen minutes passed, then thirty minutes, and Senior Brother Jinshan's Mysterious Energy had been completely drained.

But not a single one of those tens of wheat seeds showed any response.

The surrounding brothers sighed with regret, "It's another failure for you, Senior Brother Jinshan. It seems that Wang's No. 7 wheat variety is really something else."

"Impossible, impossible! I was fully prepared for this and implanted the life essence beforehand and used the most precious materials for the nutrient solution."

Reluctantly, he swallowed a Dan medicine and sat in meditation to regain his energy.

Before long, he jumped up again and attempted to quicken the wheat seeds, but there was still no response.

His anxiety made him break out in a cold sweat. The pale-faced Jinshan cursed, "What the hell is Wang's No. 7 wheat variety? What went wrong in my second cultivation attempt?"

Secretly, Wang Shouzhe thought, this guy was trying to crack my copyrighted grain and even started cursing when he failed. There really isn't any respect for property rights in this world.

Wang Shouzhe was only there to confirm that his wheat couldn't be cracked, not to ridicule him or anything else.

These disciples of Changchun Valley were quite dedicated in their research, and it was said that the Insecticide Powder was their creation.

Just as he was about to slip away unnoticed...

Suddenly!

A cry rang out from the outside, "Everyone hide, Junior Sister is coming."

Junior Sister? As Wang Shouzhe was taken aback...

The onlooking brothers disappeared without a trace.

Some of them hid inside wardrobes, while others buried themselves in the soil.

Even funnier was that someone lifted a hidden door inside an indoor plant and hid himself inside the tree.

Even Senior Brother Jinshan looked horrified as he frantically hid behind a bookcase and used two flower pots as cover.

The entire process took barely a few moments and left Wang Shouzhe unprepared.

Who could this Junior Sister be that everyone was so afraid of?

At this moment, a twenty-something woman in a green dress burst into the room, and though she was quite attractive, everyone seemed to be hiding from her.

With her entrance, her voice preceded her, excitedly announcing, "My dear junior brothers and sisters, I have great news. My Life Essence Fusion Technique has reached a crucial stage. As long as anyone is willing to assist me with the experiment, I'm more than happy to give them co-authorship, and we can share..."

But the moment the woman in green entered and saw the empty dao instruction hall, leaving only the bewildered Wang Shouzhe, she stopped in her tracks.

He had nowhere to hide, nor did he know what he was supposed to be hiding from.

The two stared at each other, creating an awkward and tense atmosphere.

Then, the woman in green looked Wang Shouzhe up and down, and out of curiosity asked, "Are you a newcomer this year?"

With a polite bow, Wang Shouzhe replied, "I am Wang Shouzhe, an external student of the Academic Palace."

"External student? What is that? Anyway, you look capable and extraordinary. If you'd like to cooperate with my experiment and give me some Life Essence, I will allow you to co-author with me and share in the glory and honour."

The woman in green's eyes shone with excitement as she said, "My Life Essence Fusion Technique is a breakthrough and can rival the techniques of the Divine Martial Dynasty."

From the moment she had arrived and everyone fled and hid, it was clear that this senior sister's so-called experiment wasn't a good deal.

Wang Shouzhe shook his head, "I am not interested in achieving fame in history, nor do I carry out experiments."

"Nice to meet you, Senior Sister. Goodbye." Then, without looking back, Wang Shouzhe walked out.

"Wait a second! The experiment is very simple" The woman in the green dress blocked his way and pulled out a stack of gold tickets, "Just provide a small amount of your Life Essence for me, and this stack of gold tickets is yours."

Wang Shouzhe: "…"

Chapter 32 Behold! Shou Zhe's Tactics_1

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Wang Shouzhe was quite puzzled.

He wasn't sure if the so-called 'life factors' mentioned by the lady in the green skirt was the same as what he was thinking.

If it was, he would be utterly embarrassed.

Having lived two lifetimes, this was the first time someone used money and this kind of logic to tempt him.

"I'm sorry."

Wang Shouzhe formally rejected her, "I'm not interested in your experiment, senior sister can find someone else." If his wife found out about this, she would probably kill him.

"Don't be in such a hurry to refuse, you have the chance to be a part of a great technological revolution." The lady in the green skirt's eyes sparkled with excitement and madness, "Once successful, I can combine humans and plants, to become tree-men or men-trees."

"In that case, humans wouldn't need to eat, one can survive merely by planting oneself in the soil and sunbathing. Moreover, life expectancy could be enormously extended."

"Doesn't it sound exciting, aren't you looking forward to it?"

'Exciting my ass, anticipating your ghost,' Wang Shouzhe was shocked as he looked at the lady in the green skirt.

She was obviously messing with gene experiments. Hadn't she gone a bit too crazy?

He wasn't sure if there was a moral and ethical governance committee in this world to supervise these people.

In any case.

Wang Shouzhe's dream was to efficiently manage his small family clan, grow stronger bit by bit, and make his clan's life better, free from bullying.

He was absolutely not interested in such weird and chilling technology, and he would keep his distance.

This pretty, seemingly normal young lady, was actually a gene-manipulating lunatic! No wonder those disciples from Chang Chun Valley, as soon as they saw her coming, scrambled to hide.

Then, Wang Shouzhe seriously asked, "If I refuse, would you use force to coerce me, senior sister?"

The lady in the green skirt blinked at Wang Shouzhe, and sincerely said, "Of course, you're very handsome and your life factors must be excellent."

"Then your current cultivation stage is..." Wang Shouzhe calculated in his head after a drip of cold sweat. He was filled with emotion; alas, being handsome could also be seen as an original sin.

It would not only provoke jealousy from his senior and junior brothers but also incite the coveting of senior sisters.

"My cultivation stage isn't high. Among the five direct disciples of my master, I'm the weakest, only in the advanced stage of the Spirit Platform Realm, not yet reached the Heavenly Human Realm." Speaking of this, the lady in the green skirt looked somewhat disheartened.

It seemed like she couldn't be defeated, and Wang Shouzhe's expression filled with seriousness.

Meanwhile.

Senior Brother Jinshan, who was hiding behind the bookshelf, secretly laughed heartily.

You naughty boy, with your pretty face. Now you're in big trouble, huh? Next, you'll definitely be tied up by your junior sister and taken to her laboratory to conduct a series of terrifying and dreadful experiments.

With the thought of the terrible and all sorts of bizarre experiments of his junior sister, his heart was shuddering.

At the same time, he was burning with anticipation, ready to watch junior sister take control of the situation. Then, to see this handsome outsider student, Wang Shouzhe, fight in vain, yet eventually surrender and face his sad fate.

The most important point was that after the incident, his junior sister would pay him Qian Gold as compensation.

The junior sister was really rich! Among the direct disciples, she was the wealthiest one.

Other hiding junior sisters showed great sympathy towards Wang Shouzhe, but they were helpless. They couldn't beat the junior sister and play the role of the beauty who saves the hero.

As everyone anticipated Wang Shouzhe's imminent capture and involvement in horrifying experiments.

Wang Shouzhe's hand was moving in his storage ring, and he took out some dried Spirit Fish, honey-glazed Spirit Meat, Spirit Honey Candy, and some bite-sized desserts made from Spirit Glutinous Rice and other ingredients.

"I greatly admire junior sister's dedication to all of humanity, which also pains me deeply,"

"Doing experiments must be very hard for junior sister, isn't it? You probably don't even have regular meals. Try this honey-glazed Spirit Cow meat. It's produced from the honey of the Purple Crystal Spirit Bee, the meat of level three Greenwood Spirit Cow, processed through dozens of preparation steps. One bite can replenish your energy and blood, and even beautify your skin."

Then, the junior sister took a taste and her eyes widened. It was indeed delicious.

Wang Shouzhe kindly brought her a stool, letting her enjoy the food.

Next, Wang Shouzhe displayed a small, exquisitely made mirror: "I hugely respect junior sister for working relentlessly for the rise of humanity. However, no matter how hard it is, you must also take care of yourself. Look, there's a small pimple at the corner of your hairline and some grey patches on your skin, which indicates you haven't looked after your skin."

"Even though you're devoted to the sake of all humankind, you can't neglect yourself. I suggest you use this Ice Skin Snow Nourishing Cream, I spent twenty years perfecting its formula."

"What kind of magic mirror is this that shows such a clear reflection? Wow, I really have a pimple!" The junior sister panicked, applied the moisturizing cream, and the cool, refreshing sensation instantly rejuvenated her, giving her a fresh and comfortable feeling. "It really works."

"If you take these Red Luan Purple Phoenix Pills internally to condition your body and balance your internal organs and the Heavenly Orchid, and apply the Ice Skin Snow Nourishing Cream externally. It won't take long for you to regain your radiant, porcelain skin."

As a married man, he spoke about the Heavenly Orchid without any discomfort.

"How much Qian Gold do you want, I'll give it to you." The junior sister held two delicate glass bottles and the mirror, unable to put them down.

Chapter 32 Behold! Shou Zhe's Tactics_2

"Junior Sister, you've been so generous to humankind. These trifling sacred-grade skincare products are nothing in comparison. They don't even add up to a few thousand Qian Golds, so I'm gifting them all to you. This [Mirror of Fairies Reflection] is included as well." Wang Shouzhe casually tossed out the offer, the epitome of "generosity."

The so-called Mirror of Fairies Reflection was, in fact, an exquisitely made, tiny mirror.

"Junior Brother, you're so kind, even kinder than my own master. You're even willing to give away the sacred-grade products and the Mirror!" The Junior Sister was visibly moved, her cheeks a bright pink, "But my master has always told me never take things for free, so here's four thousand Qian Gold for you."

Then she stubbornly shoved a handful of Qian Gold to Wang Shouzhe. If he refused to take, she'd get very angry.

Reluctantly, Wang Shouzhe accepted the Qian Gold.

Then he moved to the next step.

"Junior Sister, your hair seems a bit dry. Look here at the ends, they're even split! How could you not take better care of yourself?" Wang Shouzhe lamented seriously, then pulled out two fancy glass bottles. "The one in green is [Moisturizing and Silky]. It's specially formulated for washing your silky hairs.

Any kind of dandruff, greasy stains, all can be cleaned at once while leaving a moisturizing effect."

"And that one in blue is [Chaos Butterfly Hundred Flower Fragrance]. It's a hair conditioner that can make your hair shiny, soft, and gives off the scent of hundreds of flowers, attracting butterflies."

"Really? What's the cost?" Junior Sister's eyes went wide. This was another sacred-grade product.

"Junior Sister, please don't speak about vulgar things like money with me. Let's just say it's my contribution to humanity's guardians." Wang Shouzhe deflected with a flourish. "It's not worth more than a few thousand golds, a trivial matter really."

"No, I can't take advantage of you like this. Here, take five thousand Qian Gold. Make sure to accept, Junior Brother."

"Junior Sister, you are really... Sigh!" After several refusals, Wang Shouzhe reluctantly pocketed the five thousand Qian Gold, thinking to himself, the people of this Saint Place of Learning Palace sure are wealthy!

Vertiginously Ostentatious.

After this series of exchanges.

The Senior Brothers, who had been watching the show from their hidden corners, were stunned. Could things really be worked out this way?

"Junior Sister, shouldn't you... catch this handsome man quickly and use him for your horrifying experiments?"

"How come you're suddenly eating snacks?"

"And started studying skincare and haircare with him?"

The Senior Sisters, on the other hand, couldn't help but feel envious. Wang Shouzhe is not only handsome, he's also so gentle and delightful. If he could help to apply the Ice Skin Snow Nourishing Cream, it would be paradise indeed.

Unfortunately, Shouzhe's products are too pricey, and they are not as rich as the Junior Sister.

And so on and so forth.

After about half an hour.

Junior Sister gained a bevy of bottles and jars, while Wang Shouzhe's wallet was now stuffed full of Qian Gold.

Seeing that the atmosphere was ripe, Wang Shouzhe said, "My wife's still waiting for me at home. Junior Sister, take your time with these things, if you ever run out, just tell me."

"Wait, if you leave now, what about my experiment?"

She's unyielding indeed. After pondering a bit, Wang Shouzhe replied, "Actually, I'm quite dull, with remarkably ordinary life energy."

"You look handsome, how could you be ordinary?" Junior Sister accused with a you're-lying expression.

"Junior Sister, you've been out of touch from your work in Changchun Valley, making contributions for humanity. We shouldn't judge someone's worth based on their appearance. As the saying goes, 'all that glitters is not gold', that's who I am." Wang Shouzhe solemnly advised. "I think Senior Brother Jinshan is different.

Although he doesn't look particularly appealing, his natural-born wisdom emanates from within."

"Therefore, I highly recommend Senior Brother Jinshan. Junior Sister, you don't want your tree man to have only a handsome appearance but an empty head, right?"

"You make a very good point." Junior Sister seemed convinced, sighing with regret, "But Jinshan is not around, where could he have gone?"

Jinshan, who was secretly watching from behind a bookshelf, had a sudden sense of impending doom, "This bastard is setting me up."

"Don't worry, Junior Sister. Jinshan's just being childish, playing hide and seek with you. Go behind that bookshelf and take a look."

Junior Sister then ran over, moved the bookshelf aside, and was pleasantly surprised to find, "Jinshan, there you are. Come on, let's go back and run the experiment."

"Help, no, Junior Sister, spare me," Senior Brother Jinshan was almost in tears, "I beg you, spare me, I haven't even gotten married or had children yet."

"Jinshan, you must understand that what you are doing is for the whole human race. Since you are not aware of this, I'm afraid I must force you," the junior sister said.

With a wave of her hands, a wave of green Mysterious Energy surged out.

A vine that looked like a climbing rose shot out from her sleeves, hurtling towards Senior Brother Jinshan.

Senior Brother Jinshan let out a cry of alarm.

He tried to run, using his movement technique, but it was too late. The climbing rose had already firmly caught hold of his foot.

Then, the vine, which was covered in flowers, swiftly wrapped around him, lifting him into the air and tying him into a big character.

Senior Brother Jinshan screamed out in pain, for the climbing rose was no ordinary vine. Beneath its beautiful exterior lay countless thorns.

Once tied up, the thorns sunk into his body.

While the pain and poison set in, making Jinshan's body gradually go numb, he lost all strength to struggle.

Such a scene made Wang Shouzhe feel nervous. This climbing rose of the junior sister was definitely not something simple, probably some kind of Spirit Seed.

He wondered how it would compare to his Bloodthirsty Vines. Which one would be more powerful?

Meanwhile, Wang Shouzhe felt very complicated inside. He thought to himself, "I'm sorry, Senior Brother Jinshan. I don't want to be beaten to death by my wife when I go back. I can only put you in this tough situation."

"Sigh! So this is how adults handle things," he mourned.

"It doesn't always have to be an argument followed by a fight. Changing your perspective can also solve the problem."

Just as Wang Shouzhe was planning to sneak away from this place of trouble, thinking that what the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve over, suddenly...

A mild voice tinged with admonishment rang out, "Green Fern, that's enough. Stop bullying Junior Brother Jinshan."

A seemingly ordinary old farmer, who Wang Shouzhe had met in the Spirit Field of Changchun Valley, appeared in the Instructing Dao Palace, with a hoe in hand and a straw hat on his head.

Wang Shouzhe was slightly startled but quickly composed himself. He couldn't help but wonder, could this ordinary looking farmer be the legendary Master Changchun?

"Ah, Master, how did you get here?" Upon seeing the elder, Junior Sister Green Fern became flustered. "I wasn't bullying Jinshan, he was preparing to help me with an experiment."

"After seeing some random experiments from the ruins of the Divine Martial Dynasty, you're messing around," Master Changchun scolded. "The idea of combining humans with plants goes against the ethics of the Heavenly Dao. Have you forgotten, how did the powerful Divine Martial Dynasty ultimately come to an end?"

"Whimper~" Junior Sister Green Fern immediately felt wronged. "I just wanted to give it a try?"

"We in Changchun Valley always say, we should not defy the Heavenly Dao, we should go with the flow," Master Changchun said calmly. "Don't bring up that experiment again. Besides, what do you know about life factors?"

"There's information in the techniques left in the ruins of the Divine Martial Dynasty. All men have them..." Junior Sister Green Fern retorted.

Master Changchun's face darkened.

Upon seeing the master's sour expression, Junior Sister Green Fern quickly let go of Senior Brother Jinshan and scampered away. Before leaving, she turned to Wang Shouzhe and said, "Junior Brother Shouzhe, I'll come find you when I need more stuff." After that, she disappeared from sight.

Surviving the ordeal, Senior Brother Jinshan thanked Master Changchun saying, "Thank you, Master, for saving me."

"You should also stop fooling around. The Wang's No. 7 wheat variety was developed painstakingly by several generations," Master Changchun scolded. "Your careless decoding disregards others' hard work. What then?"

"Yes, Master," Senior Brother Jinshan responded, dripping with sweat.

Master Changchun ignored him and turned to Wang Shouzhe, who he examined with a deep and meaningful smile, "You young man, you are quite capable."

Chapter 33: Delighted to Obtain the Sky Pride! My Xuanyao Lineage is Going to Rise Up_1

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Hearing these words, Wang Shouzhe felt a sudden heaviness in his heart.

Although Master Changchun had not displayed the might of the Purple Abode Realm, nor deliberately suppressed him, the other party's frivolous words still made him feel a chill down his spine, as if a great disaster was imminent.

"Master, I was just joking around with my junior sister. How could I possibly take her money seriously?" Wang Shouzhe laughed awkwardly and immediately pulled out the more than ten

thousand Qian Gold to hand over to Master Changchun. "Please, Master, return this money to my junior sister."

"Although your items might be a bit expensive, they are filled with wonderful ideas. Since Green Fern likes them, let her do as she pleases," Master Changchun was indifferent. At his level, such small amounts of money were not a concern. Moreover, it was Green Fern's own money. How she chose to spend it was entirely up to her.

"So, what does Master mean?" Wang Shouzhe was somewhat baffled.

"Everyone, leave."

Rather than answering directly, Master Changchun glanced at everyone else and casually issued dismissal.

All the disciples in Changchun Valley immediately obeyed and left with their salutes.

The Instructing Dao Palace was instantly left with only Master Changchun and Wang Shouzhe.

Master Changchun glanced at Wang Shouzhe, and Wang Shouzhe suddenly felt as though he had been seen through, all his thoughts seemingly transparent before this man.

Wang Shouzhe's nerves immediately went on edge.

However, just when he thought Master Changchun was going to reprimand him, Master Changchun suddenly sighed, "Green Fern is different from the other disciples. She is not born of a prominent family, but a child I found in the wild. Having grown up in Changchun Valley from an early age, her understanding of many things is different from ordinary people."

After a pause, his tone became serious, "She may have been rude just now. As her master, I apologize on her behalf."

"Master, that's too kind of you," Wang Shouzhe quickly saluted in return, saying seriously, "I was just joking around with my junior sister, Green Fern. She's pure and innocent, not at all annoying."

"Hmm. Broad-minded, brave, and cunning; indeed a promising youngster."

Seeing this, Master Changchun also felt a lot better.

He smiled at Wang Shouzhe, praising, "You, an outsider, are actually more outstanding than many of my core disciples. Despite your young age, you've already cultivated the 'Longevity Youth True Verses' to such an extent. Truly a legacy pearl in the vast ocean."

"Master flatters me, I am too humble..." Wang Shouzhe modestly replied, "There is still a great gap between me and my senior brothers."

"I heard you say earlier that the Wang's No. 7 wheat variety cannot be re-cultivated from its roots." Master Changchun invited Wang Shouzhe to sit down with him, his attitude warm, "Can you explain to me?"

Wang Shouzhe was quietly speculating.

Could it be that Master Changchun already knew that he was responsible for the Wang's No. 7 wheat variety?

Even though Wang's No.7 is quite good, in the eyes of the entire Academic Palace, it's nothing more than a trivial matter. It's unlikely that Master Changchun would covet it.

Well, it must just be curiosity.

With this in mind, he immediately replied earnestly, "Master, this wheat variety was unintentionally created by me. Contrary to the cultivation of grains by various families, my approach was to first cultivate seeds that could not reproduce after being soaked in a special liquid, and then continuously optimize them to increase yield."

"I see."

Master Changchun seemed enlightened and couldn't help but laugh, "You have a unique way of thinking, prioritizing prevention of others cracking it, then considering the yield of the crop. Your approach is right, but it's a bit too petty. You lack a grand vision."

"Master, as the saying goes, 'those who succeed will benefit the world, those who fail will only look after themselves.'" Wang Shouzhe stood respectfully, calmly saying, "As the son of a small family, who relies on these crops to sustain him, one should be a small-minded man before being a gentleman."

The implication was that if the Wang family had the same power as the Purple Abode Academy, its ideas and vision would naturally be different.

"You make a good point. You have unique ideas and do not blindly follow others." Master Changchun nodded approvingly, "Would you like to join the Academic Palace and become a core disciple under my tutelage?"

Upon hearing these words, Wang Shouzhe was taken aback.

Others would do anything to become a core disciple, but he barely spoke a few words before Master Changchun took the initiative to extend an olive branch to him.

Should he accept, or not?

Should he even have to ask?

"I humbly thank Master Changchun for the offer." Wang Shouzhe saluted Master Changchun and bowed deeply, "However, as the head of a family with responsibilities on my shoulders, I may not be able to stay at the Academic Palace for long. I hope Master will forgive me."

"But wherever Master needs my help, I will do everything in my power to assist."

Of course, this was a tactful refusal.

Wang Shouzhe honestly had no interest in studying at the Academic Palace.

Master Changchun looked him in the eye, his expression somewhat regretful, but in the end, he didn't say anything.

"That's fine then."

He merely thought Wang Shouzhe showed some potential and didn't want to see such a pearl covered in dust. Since the other party had no intention of it, he wouldn't insist on it with his status as a master.

"You do show some potential," Master Changchun commented, "Since today we have a karmic connection, and I've drunk your Spiritual Wine, I'll give you an hour. Do you have any questions about your cultivation?"

Chapter 33: Delighted to Obtain the Sky Pride! My Xuanyao Lineage is Going to Rise Up_2

Wang Shouzhe was overjoyed.

He thought that refusing Master Changchun might anger him. Surprisingly, he was so amicable, showing no anger and even willing to guide him.

Immediately organizing his thoughts, he spoke out all the confusions and doubts he had encountered while cultivating the Longevity Youth True Verses.

Master Changchun was like a generous teacher, patiently answering each of Wang Shouzhe's questions.

He spoke in an orderly manner, often resolving Wang Shouzhe's doubts within a few sentences, giving Wang Shouzhe a sudden sense of enlightenment.

As time passed, Wang Shouzhe's respect for Master Changchun grew deep.

Sure enough, he was a true Master.

And it was said that he was an elder Master.

The two of them, one asking questions, the other answering, an hour quickly passed.

All the questions that accumulated in Wang Shouzhe's mind were satisfactorily answered, rendering all his puzzles and unclear areas clear.

Filled with gratitude, he took out the gifts he had prepared for Master Changchun from his storage ring.

Prior to this visit, he had anticipated many scenarios and even beseeched his grand-aunt, Chu, to gather information about the tastes and personalities of the Masters in the Academic Palace.

But Grand Aunt Chu was not proficient in this field and gave vague answers. Wang Shouzhe could only guess and conjecture, thus preparing several gift plans according to his speculations.

Master Changchun was the elder Master of the Academic Palace.

Having lived a long life and seen much, his desires naturally dwindled.

According to Grand Aunt Chu, Master Changchun was the least worldly, was tranquil by nature, and seemed to have no desires or requests.

Therefore, Wang Shouzhe could only manage to prepare some premium spiritual wine, some White Jade Spiritual Rice, and Red Crystal Spirit Rice Seeds. These seeds were not Wang Shouzhe's latest breeds but were considered obsolete in his research and development process.

Even though these seeds were phased out, they still had their unique features.

"Master," Wang Shouzhe presented these local products one after the other, "All these are from our Wang family's land, given in gratitude to the Master."

Upon seeing the gifts, Master Changchun realized they were indeed small trinkets.

Yet he joyfully commended, "You've put much thought into this, child."

If Wang Shouzhe had brought out a pile of expensive objects, he would probably be driven away immediately.

This added to Master Changchun's favorable impression of Wang Shouzhe.

There were not many seeds of White Jade Spiritual Rice and Red Crystal Spiritual Rice.

Master Changchun glanced at them, saying, "These two are common types of spirit rice, but they are slightly larger in size. They must be the new spirit breeds cultivated by your family, I suppose."

Wang Shouzhe explained the features of these two new types of spirit rice to Master Changchun: bigger grains, increased yield, and the key feature—an ability to reproduce a second time.

"This child seems to have good perception," Master Changchun remarked, "Many prominent families cultivate good breeds, often cherishing them like their brooms. Hence, I will use these two types of spirit rice seeds for reference and research, without spreading them outside."

In his lifetime, he had come across countless spirit breeds, many of which were improved varieties. Wang Shouzhe's two breeds had their own distinct qualities, yet many superior families possessed much stronger breeds.

"Since they have been given to the Master, how to use them is at the discretion of the Master," said Wang Shouzhe, nonchalantly.

What can be given away obviously has something better replacing it. He was well aware that, given time, the Wang family will have access to much more powerful spirit seeds in the future.

Those he had now were merely basic spirit breeds.

"By the way, since your surname is Wang," Master Changchun suddenly remembered something, "You wouldn't happen to know Wang Longyan, would you?"

This was just a casual question. After all, there were so many people in the world surnamed Wang. However, these past few days, Master Binglan expressed his intentions of taking Wang Longyan back into the clan. He had voiced some objections to this, and now that he thought of it, he casually asked the question.

Eh...

Wang Shouzhe was a bit taken aback, also feeling some apprehension, thus he carefully asked back, "The person the Master mentioned... She is my great-grand aunt. Is there a problem?"

A problem?

Master Changchun's celestial demeanor faltered momentarily, and he suddenly fell silent.

After a while, he deflated and said, "Never mind~ You are an external disciple, these traditions within the Academy Palace have nothing to do with you."

"Enough, it's not related to you, you can leave." he said, waving his hand as though not wanting to dwell further on the topic.

Wang Shouzhe was baffled, but dared not disobey and could only perform a salute towards Master Changchun, "If that is the case, I'll be taking my leave."

This left him feeling perplexed.

Why did Master Changchun's attitude towards him suddenly become cold when the name of old ancestor Longyan came up?

Could it be that old ancestor Longyan had offended Master Changchun? But that shouldn't be the case.

After all, there was a significant gap in their statuses and cultivation bases.

...

This happened slightly earlier.

On the other side of the Academic Palace.

A towering mountain stood among the numerous peaks. It was like a crane among chicken, standing out from the crowd.

A mist, as fine as silk, twined from the middle of the mountain to the top. At a glance, the entire mountain was covered with a hazy veil, full of ethereal charm, causing one to forget the mundane world upon seeing it.

This mountain peak was named Leisure Peak.

On Leisure Peak, there was the Leisure Palace.

The Leisure Palace was located near a steep cliff edge. Its majestic presence revealed the elegance of an immortal family.

It was the dwelling of one of the Masters of the Academy Palace, Master Xuanyao.

Chapter 33: Delighted to Obtain the Sky Pride! My Xuanyao Lineage is Going to Rise Up_3

Within the various peaks, valleys, and palaces, Leisure Peak is not the most powerful lineage. This is because Master Xuanyao is the youngest amongst all the masters, not even five hundred years old yet.

Therefore, he often lowers the requirements when accepting disciples, taking in more disciples to boost his reputation. However, this also results in Leisure Peak having a mixed bag of disciples, good and bad.

Furthermore, he has only ascended the Purple Abode Realm less than two hundred years ago. He only has two or three direct disciples, and a few dozen core disciples, but a large number of ordinary and excellent disciples.

Each time the Academic Palace starts accepting disciples, a good number of new disciples are recruited. However, very few are outstanding. Overall, even if it is not the weakest, it is mediocre at best.

There is a tradition in the Purple Abode Academic Palace. After every triennial recruitment meeting, the senior disciples would take the junior disciples to other peaks, other valleys, and see what they have to offer.

It is proclaimed as an opportunity to introduce the disciples of other lineages. In reality, it is an occasion to flaunt the strength of one's own lineage and the excellence of the newly recruited disciples.

This unspoken rule,

naturally gave rise to a pattern. The senior disciples would only take the juniors to those lineages they could beat.

As for those they couldn't, they were usually the ones "to be seen."

Disciples from Master Xuanyao's lineage are usually the ones going to see and be seen by others.

But this time, everything is different.

In the Leisure Palace, disciples from Leisure Peak are gathering.

Master Xuanyao sits high in the main hall, slightly bowing his head, looking down at the disciples on the steps below.

Now in his prime, with a serious countenance, he exudes a majesty.

The faint trail of smoke that rises from the bronze incense burner next to him blurs his figure but can't hide his imposing demeanor, akin to towering mountains, dignified and grand.

A giant stone sword is embedded in the middle wall behind him. It appears simple yet seems to emit an imposing sword energy.

Under the backdrop of this stone sword, Master Xuanyao's whole aura seems to grow heavier and sharper, making people feel intimidating and unable to look at him directly.

The disciples gathered in the main hall are the core disciples of Leisure Peak, as well as some soon-to-be core disciples, making around thirty people in total. Apart from the core disciples who were absent due to special reasons, all have assembled.

They are all very excited this time, discussing continuously, this year is definitely different.

"Senior Brother Xiuping," a spirited young man says, "Last time you led the junior brothers and sisters out. This time it should be my turn."

"Junior Brother Yuan Bai, don't you know how it went last time? None of the new junior brothers were reliable," Senior Brother Xiuping replies with resentment, "I didn't really let them see anything, we were the ones constantly being observed."

"This time we finally have an exceptional Sky Pride disciple; this is our turning point; you can't take away my chance for revenge."

Those core disciples with high rankings are eyeing each other, discussing which one of them will get to lead the junior disciples on this outing.

In the midst of the dispute,

they finally turn their looks to their Master, Master Xuanyao,

as though waiting for him to make a decision.

Master Xuanyao slowly stands up, his hands folded behind his back. Underneath his stern face, there is a hint of excitement in his eyes that he can't hide: "Stop arguing. I will personally take the new disciples to see other lineages this time."

He seems calm, but he is laughing in his heart, laughing loudly.

Having such a disciple, how could he miss such a glorious momentum? How many years has the Xuanyao Lineage been suppressed?

The core disciples have no choice, they can't compete with the master, so they have to try to tag along and share some of the glory.

A curious disciple asks, "Master, which lineage are we going to visit this time first? Are we going to Mysterious Ice Palace directly?" The Mysterious Ice Palace has always been the favorite spot to visit.

"Hmph! This time, we will have to visit the Mysterious Ice Palace. However, we will first pay a visit to Changchun Valley, as a warm-up," the master says.

"Master is wise."

The disciples shout in unison, their faces all showing excitement.

Chapter 34 Phoenix! It Will Soar in the End_1

...

In the Instructing Dao Palace of Changchun Valley.

Wang Shouzhe had just expressed his farewell to Master Changchun and was turning towards the palace gate, preparing to leave.

Suddenly,

The vast, stacked layers of clouds in the sky began to churn violently.

A hearty laughter echoed across the heavens, reaching from far within the endless sky.

"Elder Changchun, I am Xuanyao. Following the traditions of the Academic Palace, today, I will personally accompany the new disciples to call on you. I wonder if you will welcome us?"

His words were modest, but his tone held an inescapable excitement, as if he could hardly contain his anticipation for the upcoming happenings.

Upon hearing this, Master Changchun's usually serene face turned slightly.

Xuanyao has come personally? Why would he...?

Noticing Master Changchun's reaction, Wang Shouzhe halted his footsteps and asked, "Master Changchun, what's happening exactly?"

Confusion filled his mind. Could there be a feud between Master Xuanyao and Master Changchun?

Master Changchun sighed, "Ah, it's an unfortunate tradition within the Academic Palace."

Then he quickly and concisely explained the situation.

Er...

Wang Shouzhe now understood the turn of events.

So this was what happened after the Academical Palace received its core disciples. It seems quite normal now that I think about it. After all, after taking in new disciples, it's fair to show them off a bit. It seems there is indeed competition among the masters.

Appearing helpless, Master Changchun spoke, "My Changchun lineage has always preferred not to quarrel with others. Each time, disciples from all other lineages would take turns to visit and pay their respects. Master Xuanyao's personal visits invariably mean he had selected a highly satisfactory disciple."

"Oh, well. This does occur every three years."

Normally, Master Changchun could avoid these situations and out of sight is out of mind.

However, this time, with Master Xuanyao personally calling, as per the etiquette, Master Changchun wasn't able to dodge.

Seeing Master Changchun's gloomy expression, Wang Shouzhe pitched in, "Indeed, this tradition is not beneficial. It does not promote stable growth."

Upon hearing this, Master Changchun looked at Wang Shouzhe with a peculiar expression and said pensively, "The noble Wang Longyan was the most passionate about this tradition. Back in the days, every three years, Wang Longyan as the core disciple of Mysterious Ice lineage, would come with his new disciples to visit my Changchun Valley."

"Er..."

Wang Shouzhe was speechless and couldn't help feeling a bit awkward.

He now understood why Master Changchun's face changed whenever he spoke of Longyan, the old ancestor.

He also recalled why Longyan, the old ancestor, hesitated so much whenever talking about the Changchun lineage. Only mentioning that Master Changchun lived a long life. And that a senior brother from Changchun lineage could tolerate a lot.

Beyond that, there wasn't much praise.

So that's how it was!

Wang Shouzhe felt quite absurd within.

It seems that my ancestor Longyan wasn't very pleasant in his youth.

While they were talking, Master Changchun had already reached the palace gate and spoke aloud, facing the sky with his hands behind his back.

"Since it is a traditional celebration, Changchun Valley welcomes it. Feel free to bring your disciples."

Without any noticeable effort, his deep voice pierced through the clouds, reverb-rating across the vast sky, travelling far and wide.

His voice sounded calm, unbearably free and easy. But Wang Shouzhe could distinguish a touch of absolute despair and emptiness.

If Master Changchun had truly been indifferent, he wouldn't have reacted so sensitively when mentioning Longyan, the old ancestor.

Wang Shouzhe, who had earlier decided to leave, suddenly decided to reconsider, at least until he could understand the situation better.

If none of Master Changchun's disciples could stand up for him, he would step in and do his best to save face, considering it as a return of the favor he'd received earlier.

Master Xuanyao's laughter just now was the equivalent of sending an invitation.

Now, numerous people started to gather at the lush and festive open square outside the Instructing Dao Palace of Changchun Valley. These were all disciples of the Changchun lineage who had received the news and had rushed here from all corners.

In a short while, the entire Changchun Valley became laden with an atmosphere as if indicating the calm before a storm.

Soon, the large square was filled with people.

"Eh? Junior Brother, you're here too." The one speaking was the same senior sister who had given Wang Shouzhe directions earlier.

"I have yet to know the name of my Senior Sister," Wang Shouzhe greeted with a bow.

"My name is Liu Yuqin, a direct descendant of the Liu Clan of Chu Yun." Liu Yuqin flushed quickly, "I am twenty-eight years old, at the middle segment of Level Eight in the Vital Energy Refining Realm and I am still unmarried."

Wang Shouzhe couldn't help but be stunned, feeling speechless and amazed.

This senior sister, I just asked for your name, why would you even disclose your family background and marital status? Isn't it a rule in the Academic Palace to not discuss such matters?

However, it's her level of capability that shines through.

In fact, most of the disciples in the Purple Abode Academic Palace were of the same level. Those who could reach Spirit Platform Realm before the age of thirty-five are considered excellent disciples and have a chance to challenge for the status of core disciple.

Suddenly, Liu Yuqin's face changed as if she had realized something, and she quickly whispered, "The Academic Palace discourages mentioning which prominent family one hails from. Please don't disclose it after hearing, junior brother."

"You can rest assured, Senior Sister, I will keep this confidential." Wang Shouzhe responded seriously.

While speaking, he suddenly remembered something, "Speaking of the Liu Clan of Chu Yun, it seems there is someone called Liu Yunlong. What's your relationship with him?"

"Eh, you know my clansman Yunlong?" Liu Yuqin seemed surprised, "My brother Yunlong is a good man, it's just a pity that his talent is somewhat lacking."

His talent isn't lacking now, though.

Wang Shouzhe thought to himself.

It seems their family hasn't had a chance to inform her yet.

But even if they did, it wouldn't make much difference. Liu Yuqin was merely a regular disciple, not yet at a level where she could influence others.

Chapter 34 Phoenix! It Will Soar in the End_2

Meanwhile, the senior female students who were just inside the Instructing Dao Palace recognized Wang Shouzhe and lamented over the high cost of the skincare products while trying to strike up a conversation with him.

"Don't worry, ladies. Those were the 'luxury, high-spec versions'. We'll soon launch a 'Premium Edition' that's just as effective," Wang Shouzhe explained.

Never underestimate these girls with mediocre abilities who seem so ordinary.

Put them out there, and each of them is an elite. Those who are able to study in the Academic Palace have some status and influence in their families.

While talking, he pulled out some samples for visiting fellow students to try.

Wang Shouzhe was instantly surrounded by a flock of girls, all shouting, "Junior brother, I want one too, I want one too."

The other male students rolled their eyes at Wang Shouzhe.

Life had become tough for us, the seniors of Changchun Valley.

After all, most of these female students from Changchun Valley, prefer the powerful seniors from places like the Mysterious Ice Palace or Leisure Peak.

And now here came this handsome, well-born upstart, outstanding in many respects, vying for resources with them?

Why did they think this youngster was well-off? It's simple, those of slightly less well-off families could only carry a Storage Ring out of convenience?

Ah, how unfair the world is.

At this moment, a piercing sound suddenly came from the sky.

Next moment, an intimidating sword energy spread across the sky, tearing through the layers of clouds and rushing down towards Changchun Valley.

The fierce sword energy surged like a destructive force.

In an instant, the entire Changchun Valley seemed to be shrouded in this sword energy.

The gathered crowd in Changchun Valley started to stir.

"It's Master Xuanyao's Open Mountain Sword Light!"

Liu Yuqin's face changed slightly. She couldn't help uttering in a low voice, filled with fear and reverence.

Wang Shouzhe couldn't help but divert his attention to the sword light. The power of a Purple Abode Realm is indeed magnificent and overpowering. The Master's respect indeed left him with yearning. He hoped that one day he could also reach such a height, and that way his timeslip wouldn't have been in vain.

I wonder how Master Changchun is planning to deal with this? Can he handle it?

For a moment, Wang Shouzhe found himself worrying for Master Changchun.

After all, he did have some affection for Master Changchun.

However, before the sword light fell into Changchun Valley, a thick layer of brown energy shield appeared in the air above the valley, blocking the sword light outside.

Seeing this, Wang Shouzhe breathed a sigh of relief. Surely, the massive Changchun Valley would have a Formation for protection?

He was quite envious of such a Mountain Protection Array.

The Sword Light of Master Xuanyao spun in the sky, and in the blink of an eye, it landed on the open land outside Changchun Valley.

Soon, the sword light dissipated, and a crowd of people emerged on the open ground.

The leading middle-aged man dressed in green robe had an imposing demeanor, it was none other than Master Xuanyao.

Behind him were several core disciples from the Leisure Palace and twenty to thirty newly acquired disciples.

At this moment, their faces were all filled with excitement. Whether this was because of witnessing Xuanyao's divine power or anticipation of the upcoming event was unknown.

"Xuanyao, your way of greeting has indeed not changed for a hundred years." Master Changchun's voice suddenly came from the valley, "This is just my 'Spring and Autumn Array' from Changchun Valley, if it were an Array from another peak or valley, it wouldn't be able to withstand your abuse."

As the voice sounded, Master Changchun was still in the depths of the valley, but by the time his words finished, he had already appeared at the entrance of Changchun Valley.

Master Changchun was still wearing his clothes that resembled those of an ordinary farmer, but at this moment, he stood with his hands behind him, his stature as magnificent as a towering age-old tree, full of vitality, but also possessing an indescribable pressure.

The excitement on the faces of the new disciples behind Master Xuanyao instantly paused.

They realized that the Masters earn the title because of their powerful strength. Even the gentlest Master Changchun, they dared not underestimate.

"Disciples greet Master Changchun."

The crowd of disciples promptly bowed in respect, not daring to show any neglect.

"Alright, guests are here, come in."

Master Changchun didn't pay much attention to the juniors' behavior, he just nodded casually at them and then led the way back into Changchun Valley.

Master Xuanyao had a smile on his stern face, and followed with his disciples hands behind his back.

"Master Xuanyao."

"We greet Master Xuanyao."

Seeing Master Xuanyao leading his disciples into the valley, the Changchun Valley disciples promptly saluted.

"It seems, the quality of the new disciples you've recently taken on in the Xuanyao lineage is quite good." Master Changchun glanced at Master Xuanyao, saying casually, "Tell me, which disciple has made you bring out the team in person?"

Master Xuanyao walked with his hands behind him. Upon hearing this, a hard to conceal glint of pride flashed across his eyes: "This disciple of mine is no less promising than Gong Chengzhe was back in the day. Perhaps our Xuanyao lineage's future prosperity will depend on her."

Seeing Xuanyao's smug look, even the normally composed Master Changchun couldn't help but get a little irritated.

"Alright, you've talked enough; at least bring out the person for me to meet. Let the old man see if she is as outstanding as you claim."

Chapter 34 Phoenix! It Will Soar in the End_3

"Of course. Even if Master Changchun had not spoken, I would still have brought my disciple to pay respects to the elders," Master Xuanyao said with pride.

With that, he called out behind him.

"Beloved disciple, come forward and greet Master Changchun and the elder brothers."

Hearing these words, everyone in Changchun Valley stretched their necks to see who this disciple, highly praised by Master Xuanyao, might be.

Even Wang Shouzhe couldn't resist his curiosity.

At the same time, he couldn't shake off a certain conjecture, he felt...

As Wang Shouzhe was pondering, under the focus of the crowd, a woman with a striking posture emerged from the crowd and slowly walked behind Master Xuanyao.

This was a woman in her early twenties wearing a yellow suit, with refined brows and radiant eyes.

However, compared to her appearance, what caught people's attention more was her demeanor.

It seemed as if she was naturally born for the big stage. Facing the intense gazes, there was no fear in her eyes. She walked with her head held high, expression calm and composed, as if she was strolling leisurely in a courtyard.

Behind her were a few core disciples and some new entrants, amongst whom she exuded a faint aura of dominance.

Standing behind Xuanyao, her phoenix-like eyes swept across the surroundings. A domineering aura of 'Who else but me in this world?' spontaneously arose, adding more allure to her demeanor.

With a calm expression, she bowed to the two Masters and said, "Luoqiu pays her respects to Master Changchun, and to my Master."

Seeing this, Master Xuanyao nodded slightly, very satisfied.

Looking at Luoqiu's extraordinary demeanor, even in the face of such a grand scene, and seeing the Masters not being able to stir her inner emotions, she was far more than just talented.

This represented that she had a heart that could sweep her generation and possess an invincible, determined spirit.

Master Xuanyao was increasingly pleased the more he watched.

Such an unusual, excellent disciple, who appeared once in a hundred years, was truly extraordinary. Compared to him in his early years, she had a bit more ambition and yet, a heart of a strong person that remained unperturbed.

As the saying goes 'Finding a sky pride is easy, attaining a strong heart is hard'. Possessing a resolute heart of a strong person would smooth her future path considerably.

Even Master Changchun revealed a hint of surprise in his eyes.

This girl, Luoqiu, is unperturbed by honor or disgrace, calm and composed. She is so young but already has the demeanor of a world class powerhouse. Her future potential is truly limitless.

"Xuanyao, you've indeed accepted a good disciple this time," praised Master Changchun enviously.

Why can't my Changchun Valley produce such a talent?

In fact, it's not that Changchun Valley cannot produce talents. It's just that the talented ones with Wood Type talent are not good at fighting. Moreover, the overall atmosphere of Changchun Valley is more peaceful and natural, and thus their combat abilities are far from being as good as the other sects.

However, the most shocked among the crowd was Wang Shouzhe, who was hiding behind them.

Earlier, he vaguely suspected that the person who Master Xuanyao placed so much importance on and personally brought to meet them might be one of the Wang family members.

But when he saw Wang Luoqiu, with such an extraordinary demeanor, he couldn't help but slap his forehead.

This girl, no matter where she goes.

Always stood out.

The admiration and respect from her peers, the seriousness and longing in the eyes of the elders, and the unmistakable doting and satisfaction in Xuanyao's eyes shone upon her, making her glow, as if she were a superstar with everyone's eyes on her.

No wonder.

How outstanding was Wang Luoqiu? Not to mention reaching the ninth level of Qi Refinement, what's more important is that she has achieved a Top Grade Ding Grade Bloodline and has awakened her Second Layer Bloodline during the Qi Refinement stage.

Looking at the entire Great Qian Land, she was indeed a sky pride.

With the shock, Wang Shouzhe also felt an incredible sense of awe. Perhaps this was the kind of scene Luoqiu liked, and perhaps this would be the main theme of her future life.

He also felt a touch of pride in his heart.

This was his younger sister, the one who had grown up with him, played with him, fought with him, and strived with him. Now she was stepping onto a new stage, like a phoenix ready to soar high.

No matter what.

Your fourth brother and the family will always be your unwavering backbone.

Chapter 35: Two Beauties Arriving Together! Double the Joy

...

Master Xuanyao looked at Wang Luoqiu with amusement, never growing tired of her gaze, even loath to shift his eyes away.

Having reached the Purple Abode Realm less than two hundred years ago, naturally he had accepted two or three stunning disciples. Perhaps they possessed a higher cultivation base than Wang Luoqiu when they were the same age.

However, those disciples were older now and thus unfit for this event. More importantly, during their youth, they may not have possessed Luo Qiu's relentless determination to become an emperor.

While talent is generally seen as a boon, the heart of a strong warrior is equally crucial.

"Master Changchun," Master Xuanyao looked at Master Changchun and bragged once again, "What do you think of my disciple? Is she to your liking?"

"Judging by her outward appearance, she is indeed impressive. Her considerable cultivation base, and the ability to remain calm in the face of honor or disgrace at such a tender age is indeed remarkable," Master Changchun objectively assessed, "If she maintains this momentum, there will be no obstacle on her path to becoming a celestial being.

She may even have the qualifications to challenge the echelons of the Purple Abode Realm."

"Hahaha~ The Purple Abode Realm seems too far away. The path of the strong begins at one's feet; she has a long way to go," Master Xuanyao modestly replied.

Regrettably, the sense of satisfaction in his eyes made his remarks entirely unconvincing.

"Let the two of us old folks watch the new generation make a name for themselves. Come, come, come, this is the Rare Spirit Tea, 'Leisurely Immortal,' produced by my Leisure Peak."

Master Xuanyao invited him to sit as he set out chairs, tables, tea sets, and a full array of items.

In a peculiar twist, the items were all held aloft and suspended in the air by a mysterious force.

"Come, come, Master, please sit."

With the demeanor of a usurping host, Master Xuanyao invited Master Changchun to sit down for tea.

Master Changchun, helpless as he was, noticed that Master Xuanyao had even brought out the precious spirit tea 'Leisurely Immortal.' He must be completely confident and ready for action.

However, the Academic Palace's tradition is not something that could be overcome overnight.

Feeling helpless, Master Changchun had no choice but to sit down and take a sip of the "Leisurely Immortal" spirit tea.

He had rarely concerned himself with the selection of new disciples, and was unaware of the current batch's quality.

He only hoped that some of the new disciples would stand out. Even if they lost, a few notable performances could at least uphold some dignity for Changchun Valley.

Setting aside the two high-standing Masters, the gathered disciples from Changchun Valley were abuzz with chatter.

"Who is that girl who made such a grand entrance, she does seem quite remarkable."

"Judging by her demeanor, she is likely a Sky Pride."

"This time Leisure Peak is coming in with a strong momentum, it seems a bad situation is on the horizon~"

"Senior Brother Jinshan, quickly think of a solution. We can't afford to keep losing like this."

"That's right, Senior Brother Jinshan, our continuous losses are starting to affect everyone's morale."

All eyes were now on Senior Brother Jinshan.

Not too far away, Wang Shouzhe listened to the chatter and cast a long look at Senior Brother Jinshan.

No matter how, he was now a trainee disciple of Changchun Valley and he didn't want Changchun Valley to lose too disgracefully.

Senior Brother Jinshan, positioned at the center of the crowd of disciples, had a solemn expression. He frowned and said, "Do not panic, everyone, remain calm. Who is in charge of recruiting new disciples this time around?"

"Junior Brother Yuzhe," someone replied, "Look, Junior Brother Yuzhe and his group are returning."

"Call Junior Brother Yuzhe over so we can find out about the new disciples," Jinshan Senior Brother calmly instructed.

Hearing this, a disciple immediately went to summon Junior Brother Yuzhe.

However, before Junior Brother Yuzhe and the new disciples could arrive, an unusual event suddenly occurred in the sky.

All disciples from Changchun Valley and Leisure Peak gazed upward to witness the anomaly, captivated by the sight.

Unseen to all, a multitude of purple butterflies had appeared in the sky.

They fluttered about like spirits released from a secluded valley. The glimmering dust scattering from their wings interwove into a tapestry of dazzling lights in the sky.

A soft celestial music floated down from the void.

The enigmatic music flowed like a bubbling brook and sung like a nightingale, infecting everyone unknowingly, placating all minds.

From the misty illusion, a graceful figure broke free and descended from the sky.

It was an exceedingly beautiful woman.

She had the tender flesh of a young maiden, but also the tantalizing curves of a full-grown woman.

A sheer veil obscured her face, leaving her unique temperament bare for all to see.

Her aura was indescribable, pure and bright as the immaculate moonlight with a touch of playful and clever charm.

When her brows furrowed and eyes closed, she projected the dignity and might of a goddess from ancient paintings; yet, as her gaze fluttered and met others, her charm seemed different, almost capricious, her every frown and smile moving people in ways they could not predict.

She wore a light purple silk dress that hugged her figure, bringing out her enchanting curves and mystical temperament. As she swayed her waist with every step, her alluring charm was on full display.

"Lady Huandie!"

"Could it be her?"

Seeing this woman, the disciples from Changchun Valley were taken aback and began whispering in surprise.

Wang Shouzhe, having previously gathered intelligence on the Academic Palace, reacted quickly to the surrounding discussions.

It must be Lady Huandie, one of the several masters of the Academic Palace.

Lady Huandie, who presided over the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies, always remained a mystery and scarcely revealed her true face to others.

Chapter 35: Two Beauties Arriving Together! Double the Joy

However, Lady Huandie only took in a limited amount of disciples, and only female ones at that, hence overall battle power of the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies lineage was not striking.

Of course, not being striking does not mean that they're incapable.

In fact, aside from the Xuanyao Lineage, few would choose to visit the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies for insights.

The battle style of the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies lineage is extremely bizarre, typically using spirit insects like the Spirit Bee and Spiritual Butterfly. Combined with powerful illusion techniques, their combat style is extremely hard to deal with.

Battling them often leads to careless mistakes and subsequently, the defeat of those who are caught in the illusions.

However, the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies lineage has always been quite low-profile. As they are rarely seen, they also seldom venture out to observe other lineages.

It is unclear why they have come this time.

Upon Lady Huandie's appearance, she took out a comfortable leisure chair from his personal belongings and sat next to the two Masters. She poured herself some Spiritual Tea and said, "The

disciples of the two Masters are competing here, I trust it wouldn't be a problem for me to watch the fun?"

Upon seeing her, even the usually composed Master Xuan Yao's expression turned solemn.

He scrutinized Lady Huandie's face and hesitated, "Don't tell me, Lady Huandie, that you have also taken in an extraordinary disciple and would like to show off a little?"

"Kikiki~" Lady Huandie covered her jade-like lips with a fan and laughed charmingly, "Master Xuanyao, you're just too anxious~ Don't worry, don't worry, let's enjoy the fun first."

Seeing this, Master Changchun's mystical demeanor grew even more bitter.

Lady Huandie's arrival was peculiar; she must have recruited a Sky Pride and could not help but want to show off a little.

However, this woman was known for her covert schemes; it's possible she wanted to assess the situation first and then make a decision.

Meanwhile, with Lady Huandie's arrival, the new disciples of the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies were led into the plaza by the Core Disciples, escorted by the disciples of Changchun Valley.

All these disciples from the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies were females.

Like Lady Huandie, they all wore delicate veils over their faces, rendering it impossible to distinguish their features clearly. Only their lively eyes were exposed to everyone's scrutiny.

Their ages, figures, and temperaments varied greatly, but they all carried an intense femininity in their swaying poses.

Before they even approached, a fragrant wind that soothed hearts seemed to drift in the air.

Many of the disciples in Changchun Valley were directly dazzled by the sight, and many of the disciples from Leisure Peak who were brought by Master Xuanyao were so nervous that they didn't even know where to put their hands.

Of course, this didn't include Wang Shouzhe.

Even if there were dozens of enchanting women who had come from Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies this time, Wang Shouzhe had spotted a familiar figure at a glance.

Wang Luo Jing.

Wang Luo Jing was still wearing that purple long dress. She was not particularly noticeable amongst the dozen or so beauties, but she couldn't hide from Wang Shouzhe, who was extremely familiar with her.

So, that's how it is.

Wang Shouzhe finally understood why Lady Huandie had come to Changchun Valley in such a hurry. She had also gotten a treasure and wanted to show off.

But seeing that Master Xuanyao seemed to have taken the initiative, Lady Huandie temporarily kept Wang Luo Jing hidden, ready to strike when the time was right.

This was evident from Lady Huandie's occasional glances towards Wang Luo Jing even when she was conversing with the other Masters.

He felt a sudden sense of regret. The Changchun lineage was in trouble.

One Luoqiu was troublesome enough, and Luo Jing was not an easy one to handle either. When the two sisters were together, they would always stir up trouble.

As expected.

Before others had noticed, Wang Luoqiu and Wang Luo Jing had already met each other's gaze.

Although they hadn't spoken yet, Wang Shouzhe could already feel the sparks flying and the long-standing friction between the two of them.

After all, they had been competing against each other since childhood, neither willing to concede to the other.

Just as Wang Shouzhe was pondering the imminent commotion, the disciples of Changchun Valley were filled with grief.

What was wrong with the traditional event of this recruitment? Normally, it was rare for Masters to participate, but this time two Masters had come to Changchun Valley, intending to have their disciples gain some insight.

This was a clear disrespect to Changchun Valley, as if they were using it as a warm-up activity.

What a tragic thing this was?

Amid this downcast scene, a young-looking disciple from Changchun Valley led a group of young people over.

He bowed and said, "Senior Brother Jinshan, I have brought with me all the newly recruited disciples."

This person was none other than Li Yuzhe, the junior brother of Changchun Valley.

At just over thirty years of age, he was already in the Spirit Platform Realm, making him one of the youngest and most excellent disciples in Changchun Valley.

This time, he was in charge of recruiting the new disciples.

Sensing the matters at hand, Senior Brother Jinshan looked over at the new disciples, a line of more than a dozen.

But just one glance made his heart sink.

Each of the new disciples looked timid with their eyes darting around, exuding no Sky Pride whatsoever.

Well, indeed, Sky Pride was not something easily obtained.

Senior Brother Jinshan, understanding this, still sighed in disappointment when he looked at Wang Luo Qiu and then his own disciples.

Li Yuzhe, on the other hand, said, "Senior Brother Jinshan, among the newly recruited disciples this time, there are actually two who are quite good. They have awakened their bloodline at the Qi Refinement Realm which makes them core seed material. They should still have some prospects."

"Core seeds... What's the use of core seeds?" Jinshan Senior Brother felt helpless, "Back then, weren't we all core seeds? Weren't every one of us promising sprouts? Still, we were beaten all the way."

But it was a helpless situation; after all, the Changchun lineage was not renowned for combat.

"Forget it, forget it. Since they have potential, they still need to be encouraged." Senior Brother Jinshan waved his hand, showing a leadership style.

Following orders, Li Yuzhe gestured and said, "Liu Yunlang, Xu Shanshan, you two, come here."

As soon as his words fell, an adorable girl with innocent doe-like eyes immediately ran over, respectfully greeting, "Nice to meet you, Brother Yuzhe."

"Where is Liu Yunlang?" Li Yuzhe furrowed his brows.

Xu Shanshan blinked and said, "He was just here, where did he run off to in the blink of an eye?"

She looked around and suddenly exclaimed joyfully, pointing in a direction, "He's over there."

Everyone looked over, only to see Liu Yunlang had run to the "opposing camp" without their noticing.

At this moment, Liu Yunlang was reverentially bowing to Wang Luoqiu, "Sister, so you're here."

"Yunlang~" Wang Luoqiu's eyebrows twitched slightly in recognition of this little brother she personally accepted, "So, you've joined Changchun Valley. But with your Wood Type talent, it's a good choice to join Changchun Valley. Cultivate hard and don't disgrace me."

With that, she lightly patted Liu Yunlang on the shoulder, showing a head elder's demeanor.

"Thanks for the encouragement, sister. I will definitely work hard." Liu Yunlang, validated by the elder sister, was extremely excited, and his cheeks even flushed a little red.

Just like this?

The people from Changchun Valley looked at each other, as their "core seedling", their promising sprout, ran to the opposite side, calling someone else sister with such reverence.

How were they to bear this?

Senior Brother Jinshan's face darkened, "Li Yuzhe, is this your so-called 'hopeful'?"

Li Yuzhe too was sweating cold beads. He had half a mind to look forward to it before, but now it seemed there was no hope at all.

Seeing this, Wang Shouzhe couldn't help but shake his head.

There may not be a single person among the new disciples of the Changchun Lineage who could stand up to Wang Luoqiu.

Seeing this situation, the morale of the disciples in Leisure Peak soared even higher.

"Senior Brother Jinshan, our newly recruited disciples from Xuanyao Lineage have come to your valley to expand their horizons. Please, Senior Brother Jinshan, let's set the rules. How do we play today?" Brother Xiuping smiled and suddenly spoke out loud.

The faces of Senior Brother Jinshan and the people in Changchun Valley had turned black.

How to play?

How can we play?

Given the current situation, all they could do was to lie low like always.

However, just as Senior Brother Jinshan was about to speak, a voice suddenly sounded.

"Zhang Xiuping, don't get too big for your boots. If you dare, let's have a game."

Chapter 36: Junior Sister, Please Hit As You Wish_1

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As the words fell, a green figure descended from the sky, landing in front of Senior Brother Jinshan.

The woman who emerged at this critical moment was none other than Green Fern, the junior sister who had just escaped.

She placed her hands on her hips and petulantly rebuked the disciples of the Xuanyao Lineage, "Zhang Xiuping, Apprentice Muyuanbai, aren't you quite capable? Come on then, let your elder sister Green Fern teach you how to behave."

"Junior Sister!"

"Junior Sister, you're finally here!"

"Junior Sister is mighty, Junior Sister is domineering! Teach them a lesson!"

The moment Green Fern appeared, the morale of the people from Changchun Valley soared instantly. They all beamed with glowing faces, seemingly emboldened by her presence.

It was clear that Green Fern, despite her odd experiments that made everyone in Changchun Valley avoid her, was undeniably strong in combat.

Listening to the excited cheers of her Junior Brothers and Sisters, Green Fern couldn't help but straighten her back, lift her chin, exuding an increasingly formidable aura.

Zhang Xiuping and Apprentice Muyuanbai, two elite disciples of the younger generation from Master Xuanyao's lineage, altered their expressions upon seeing her.

They both stepped forward and bowed in unison, saying, "Xiuping and Muyuanbai pay respects to Junior Sister Green Fern."

Neither of them had the nerve to offend Green Fern. This woman was unpredictable, and if they offended her, they'd never know what unfortunate incidents might happen.

"If you both want to fight, I'll accompany you," Junior Sister Green Fern proposed with an air of defiance.

Zhang Xiuping and Apprentice Muyuanbai looked at each other.

"We wouldn't dare to fight with you, Junior Sister Green Fern," Zhang Xiuping responded. "Moreover, as a Direct Disciple, attending our traditional celebration for young core disciples and new initiates might not be appropriate, right?"

Apprentice Muyuanbai chimed in, "If you, Junior Sister Green Fern, are interested, we in the Xuanyao Lineage also have Senior Brothers who are direct disciples who can amuse you."

"You two!"

Green Fern stomped her foot in frustration, yet was speechless.

Their words were true after all.

Wouldn't it be chaos if every Direct Disciple wanted to join the fun?

"Junior Sister," Senior Brother Jinshan stepped forward, with a bitter smile on his face. "It's indeed not appropriate for you to participate. No worries, we're used to it. Just close your eyes, grit your teeth, and everything that needs to pass will pass. Let me play however I want. After all, in a few years, I'll be over sixty and won't qualify to participate anymore."

Li Yuzhe, standing to one side, wore a face of sorrow.

The lack of fighting prowess in Changchun Valley was indeed a legacy passed down from one generation to the next. After Senior Brother Jinshan retired, wouldn't it be his turn?

Rules were rules, traditions were traditions.

Green Fern could only glare at the two men, warning them, "You two, better be careful."

Helplessly, she had no choice but to withdraw.

"Come on~" Senior Brother Jinshan stepped forward, his face calm. "As per the usual custom, the young core disciples always start off as the appetizers. Zhang Xiuping, Apprentice Muyuanbai, who among you two will take the challenge? Or you both can come at once. Today, I, Jinshan, will accompany you until the end."

As he said, what's coming will eventually come, but also what's meant to pass will eventually pass.

So what if he got beaten up? He could endure it.

Senior Brother Jinshan took off his coat and climbed onto the stage, posing as if he was ready for the taking, apparently having resigned himself to his fate.

Zhang Xiuping and Apprentice Muyuanbai exchanged a glance, both seemingly uninterested.

"Forget it, forget it~ Playing with Senior Brother Jinshan every time is too boring." Zhang Xiuping sighed.

"You're right, Changchun Valley only has Senior Brother Jinshan who we can play with. But it gets boring after a while." Apprentice Muyuanbai also sighed, "Forget it, Senior Brother Jinshan will be sixty in a few years, let's not give him a hard time ~"

These two were singing in harmony, expressing their disdain openly.

Senior Brother Jinshan on the stage almost stumbled and fell flat on his face.

He was all ready, psyching himself to face whatever that was coming, prepared to close his eyes, grit his teeth, and weather the storm.

But they refused to play with him and even showed their disdain!

How could he bear this!

Seeing Senior Brother Jinshan almost rushed off to duel with Zhang Xiuping and Apprentice Muyuanbai, Li Yuzhe and another disciple hurriedly held him back, consoling him as they led him off the stage.

"Senior Brother, don't be mad. If they don't want to play, let them be. At least it spares you a beating~"

Meanwhile...

On the other side, Zhang Xiuping didn't seem to care about Senior Brother Jinshan's reaction. After making his remark, he turned to Wang Luoqiu, "Junior Sister Luoqiu, Master said that today's events will be led by you. Why don't you decide how we can demonstrate our skills?"

His attitude was very cordial, for he knew quite well that even though his strength far surpassed Wang Luoqiu's now, there would come a day when this gifted Junior Sister would surpass him.

The Master had hinted that as soon as the Junior Sister Luoqiu reached the Spirit Platform Realm, he would take her as a Direct Disciple.

"Senior Brother Xiuping, you are too kind."

Wang Luoqiu returned the bow and then calmly looked at the dozens of newly initiated disciples from Changchun Valley.

However, those disciples seemed to be looking elsewhere. Not a single one dared to meet her gaze.

Wang Luoqiu frowned, slowly shaking her head, "Senior Brother Xiuping, they are too weak. It's not exciting even if we win."

Chapter 36: Junior Sister, Please Hit As You Wish_2

Zhang Xiuping was left speechless.

If not them, who else would you want to fight?

Wang Luoqiu's gaze swept over the people of Changchun Valley and finally landed on Senior Brother Jinshan. She said calmly, "I heard that Jinshan is quite formidable. Let it be him."

What?!

At her words, everyone was stunned.

Is Wang Luoqiu really going to fight Jinshan? Isn't this too outrageous?

I knew it.

Wang Shouzhe slapped his forehead, speechless in his mind.

He had to admit, his little sister's character hadn't changed from when she was little. If she had to fight, she would only fight the strong ones.

He could still vividly remember how young Wang Luoqiu once set up a gang of younger brothers and sisters to besiege him.

Senior Brother Jinshan did not expect to be singled out. Stunned, he burst into scornful laughter, saying, "Very well, very well. Since this young lady is so interested in me, then bring it on!"

Saying so, he rolled up his sleeves, ready to take the stage again.

How humiliating! He would understand if his old adversaries, Zhang Xiuping and Apprentice Muyuanbai, wanted to fight him, but how could this new little girl dare to repeatedly challenge him?

No matter what, he would teach this little girl a lesson today about respecting others!

However, before he could take a step forward, several junior apprentices quickly pulled him back.

"Brother, you can't do this~"

"Jinshan, hold back your anger! Anat is the devil—"

"As for Sister Luoqiu..." Over there, Apprentice Muyuanbai quickly pulled Wang Luoqiu aside and spoke in a low voice, "Brother Jinshan is nearly sixty years old, so give him some face. How about we lower the age limit?"

Wang Luoqiu thought for a while and felt that her senior brother's words made sense, so she nodded and said, "Okay, under 50 years old then."

Upon hearing Sister Luoqiu's words, Zhang Xiuping trembled with anxiousness and quickly interjected, "Sister Luoqiu, you're only twenty years old. It's not quite fitting to challenge those under fifty, right? How about thirty?"

This Sister Luoqiu is exceptionally gifted. It's understandable that she wouldn't want to compete with people her own age.

But the Purple Abode is not the outside world. The number of people achieving the Spirit Platform Realm between the ages of thirty and forty is not small. In fact, at fifty years old, one would be deeply immersed in the Spirit Platform Realm, so how could someone at the Vital Energy Refining Realm fight them?

Also, Zhang Xiuping himself was almost fifty years old. He was considered young among the core disciples, and his cultivation base had reached the third level of the Spiritual Platform Realm. By challenging those under fifty years of age, Luoqiu wouldn't she be bringing him down too? How could he bear this?

Hearing Xiuping's words, Wang Luoqiu frowned slightly, somewhat unwilling.

Thinking of how Senior Brothers Xiuping and Yuanbai were usually quite reasonable, she felt that she should give them some face.

She hesitated for a moment, before reluctantly compromising. "Thirty is too young. Let's go with thirty-five. Any younger would be meaningless."

Thirty-five years old!

Still, both Zhang Xiuping and Muyuanbai found the idea unthinkable. They couldn't help but wonder if Luoqiu was indulging in mere flights of fancy?

Subconsciously, they looked up at the three masters in the sky.

Master Xuanyao was also looking serious, but since Luoqiu wanted to try, he would let her. Even if she lost, there would be no shame in it.

"My dear disciple, go ahead and fight," said Master Xuanyao calmly. "No matter what happens, your master will back you up."

"Thank you, Master."

Wang Luoqiu returned the salute with neither joy nor sorrow, then turned to face the crowd of Changchun Valley and announced loudly, "Someone under 35, please step forward."

The people of Changchun Valley were outraged at her words.

She was being way too arrogant and cocky!

Li Yuzhe, who was responsible for recruitment this time, couldn't help but step forward, saying, "Little girl, I am thirty-four this year and have just advanced to the Spirit Platform Realm less than two years ago. Let me see just how formidable the Carefree Peak is!"

With that, he was the first to jump into the ring.

Wang Luoqiu, however, seemed to be completely unaware of his rage. She calmly stepped onto the ring and bowed to Li Yuzhe, saying, "I am Wang Luoqiu of the Carefree Sect, I ask for your guidance."

Li Yuzhe laughed in fury, "Sister Luoqiu, I'm more than a decade older than you, so I'll not take advantage of you. If you can break my defense, I'll count it as your win."

As he said this, he pulled out a piece of bark the size of a palm.

The surface of the bark was covered in wrinkles and seemed simple and ancient, nothing impressive at first sight.

However, as Li Yuzhe infused it with his Mysterious Energy, the bark instantly expanded into a set of thick bark armor that covered his entire body, leaving only his eyes exposed.

The green Mysterious Energy of wood slowly flowed on the surface of the bark armor, even the uneven wrinkles on the bark seemed to glow, their energy deep and profound.

"Sister Luoqiu, this is Changchun Valley's secret technique — the Ancient Tree Armor," Brother Xiuping reminded her. "Not only is its defense extremely astonishing, but if it's not quickly shattered, it can grow back and repair itself."

Wang Luoqiu nodded to show that she understood.

At this point, Li Yuzhe once again mobilized his Mysterious Energy, and a tangible green energy rose from his body, forming a thick green energy shield around him in the blink of an eye.

"With Wood Spirit Shield, energy can be replenished indefinitely." Brother Yuanbai also warned her seriously. "This is a very tricky shield. It's known as the 'indestructible as long as the Mysterious

Energy holds', it's hard candy. Sister Luoqiu, if your explosive power is inadequate, I'm afraid it will be hard to break this shield."

In the crowd, Wang Shouzhe, who was watching the battle, couldn't help but click his tongue.

No wonder the Old Ancestor Longyan described Changchun Valley as being "quite resilient". It appears they truly are a group that can take a good punch or two.

Chapter 36: Junior Sister, Please Hit As You Wish_3

"Thank you for the reminders, Senior Brothers." Wang Luoqiu turned and nodded, her expression becoming slightly more serious. "Brother from Changchun Valley, are you ready?"

"Wait, there is one more thing."

Li Yuzhe brought out a jade-green leaf, exuding vibrant life, and held it in his mouth.

Visible green energy began to radiate from the leaf, spreading throughout his body.

"Li Yuzhe, have you no shame?" Senior Brother Xiuping cursed angrily, "Are you justifying your defense and gradually stacking up your power? Against a junior sister who is over a decade younger than you, you even used the leaf of the Longevity Tree. Aren't you embarrassed?"

Disciples from Changchun Valley are known for their exceptional defense, not their offense. If the opponent was another disciple, typically they won't be given such ample opportunity to build up their defense.

The other disciples from Leisure Peak couldn't help but loudly condemn Li Yuzhe's shamelessness.

"Brother Yuzhe hasn't even fought back, what more do you want?" The Changchun Valley disciples retorted dismissively.

The quarrelling from both sides caused Wang Luoqiu to slightly frown.

She extended a hand.

The area immediately quieted down.

"Senior Brother, are you ready?" Wang Luoqiu calmly looked at Li Yuzhe.

Seeing Wang Luoqiu's calm demeanor, Li Yuzhe felt a little embarrassed, thinking that he might have overdone it.

However, thinking of Wang Luoqiu's earlier bold words stiffened his resolve.

He felt a responsibility to teach this young girl that there are always mountains beyond mountains and others better than oneself, to not underestimate the Changchun lineage.

"Junior Sister! Please, have at it!"

With the leaf of the Longevity Tree in his mouth, he mumbled and nodded, filled with confidence.

As his voice faded...

Wang Luoqiu moved.

In an instant, she stimulated her War Body to its limit.

This time, not only were her eyes enveloped in crimson energy, but so was her entire body. It resembled a layer of burning flames.

Though thin, it radiated an intense sense of power, presenting her as a majestic young phoenix. Despite her youth, she could not be underestimated.

This was her state with the Double Bloodline awakened. Not only did entering the War Body state become more effortless, but the power was also incomparable to before.

"Boom!"

Her fist struck the Spirit Shield.

Layers of ripple spread on the Spirit Shield, as it was close to breaking.

Li Yuzhe's body was knocked backwards, flying off the ground.

Before he could touch the ground, Wang Luoqiu, fast as lightning, caught up, grabbed him, and tossed him toward the sky.

This throw sent him up several dozen feet.

Feeling dizzy, Li Yuzhe had lost control of his body.

At the same time, Wang Luoqiu firmly stomped on the ground, leaping high into the air above Li Yuzhe, before she descended and stomped heavily on his body.

"Boom!"

Li Yuzhe crashed hard into the stage like a cannonball.

The dueling stage, cut from ordinary stone, sent debris flying from the impact.

Li Yuzhe turned pale, coughing up a mouthful of blood.

But this was not the end.

Mid-air, Wang Luoqiu used the force from the stomp to ascend again, reaching a height of almost 60 feet, before she flipped and accelerated downward.

She punched out with all her strength stored up.

Under the power of her punch, a light like flames lit up on her fist. She was engulfed in dazzling red light, and like a falling meteor, she was unstoppable.

"Boom!"

In the deafening noise, Wang Luoqiu's fair fist furiously struck Li Yuzhe.

Li Yuzhe shuddered.

In an almost instant, his Spirit Shield was shattered by the punch, the seemingly impregnable Ancient Tree Armor began to crack, even the stage under him was blasted into a pit, with countless fragments flying out.

"Puff!"

Li Yuzhe spat out a mouthful of fresh blood, and the leaf of the Longevity Tree in his mouth also flew into the air.

It seemed like Wang Luoqiu had expected all of this.

After throwing out her punch, she didn't continue her attack but casually stood aside, her voice calm, "Senior Brother Yuzhe, could you please take this seriously now? Can we start our actual spar now?"

Below the platform, everyone was dumbfounded.

Chapter 37: Senior brother Yu Ze! The double Hu's turn to brush_1

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How is this possible?!

Even though Li Yuzhe had just ascended to the Spirit Platform Realm not more than two years ago, in the end, he was still within the Spirit Platform Realm. Such defense, even if an average Spirit Platform Realm fighter were to attack him, would absolutely not break so quickly.

This girl is only at the ninth level of the Vital Energy Refining Realm, yet her bursts of power and strength are so terrifying?

The disciples who were witnessing Wang Luoqiu's actions for the first time were all shocked, their faces filled with disbelief.

The new disciples of the Lineage of Free and Unrestrained Peak, on the other hand, immediately recoiled, their memories stirred by the scene before them. There was a time when they also thought they were powerful, until they encountered Wang Luoqiu...

Forget it~ No point pondering, it only brings tears.

Wang Shouzhe also couldn't help but silently nod his head.

This girl's usage of her War Body has become much more proficient, her progress far surpassing his expectations. If she continues like this and advances to the Spirit Platform Realm, how terrifying will her fighting strength be?

Tsk~ It seems he really needs to act with more vigor.

Being unable to beat his own wife is one thing, but if he can't even beat his sister and niece, that would be really shameful~

"Not only is my disciple Luoqiu talented, but her combat awareness is also extremely strong. She knows how to use various environments to produce the greatest lethality. A commendable child indeed~"

High up in the sky, Master Xuanyao stroked his beard lightly, nodding with satisfaction.

His face still bore that serious and stern expression, but his eyes were filled with uncontainable arrogance, causing Master Changchun to feel a lingering sense of frustration.

Compared to Wang Luoqiu, Li Yuzhe was just a negative example. Despite possessing a stronger cultivation base, his combat awareness is surprisingly weak. Just now, he looked like a turtle being snatched up by an eagle and then dropped onto a rock, shattering its shell.

Can't he use his brain?

"Hee hee hee~ This girl is quite interesting~" Lady Huandie lightly covered her mouth and chuckled. "But she is too straightforward and does not directly pursue and win the combat."

Master Xuanyao chuckled, "Probably because she hasn't had enough fun yet."

"That's most likely the case."

The exchange of words between Lady Huandie and Master Xuanyao added another layer of subtlety to Master Changchun's expression.

The discussion among the masters did not interrupt the fight below, at this moment, Li Yuzhe on the stage finally regained his senses from his self-doubt.

"Cough, cough!"

He was spitting blood and his face was pale. " Sister Luoqiu, I admit that I underestimated you. I take back what I said before, let me recover a bit before I fight you again."

"Feel free to recuperate, Brother Yuzhe." Wang Luoqiu was in no hurry, she simply stood off to the side, leisurely waiting.

As he continued to spit blood, Li Yuzhe picked up his Longevity Tree leaf and placed it back in his mouth.

The continuous healing energy from the Longevity Tree leaf coursed through his internal organs, rapidly restoring the color to his face.

The Ancient Tree Armor on his body regenerated almost immediately, the cracks on it seemed to mend and it quickly returned to its full defensive state.

"Sister Luoqiu, please wait a bit longer."

After drawing a few breaths, Li Yuzhe's Mysterious Energy once again surged out from within him, forming the Spirit Shield.

"What a disgrace, completely shameless!"

Upon seeing this, all the disciples of the Leisure Peak were immediately infuriated, cursing out in outrage.

The folks of Changchun Valley also displayed slight embarrassment on their faces.

However, no matter what, Li Yuzhe was one of their own, and even though his behavior was somewhat despicable, they still had to defend him when necessary.

And so, an uproar of verbal abuse erupted from both sides.

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Being the home ground of Changchun Valley, it didn't take long before the noises from the Lineage of Free and Unrestrained Peak were completely suppressed, leaving them no choice but to withdraw in defeat.

"Sister Luoqiu, come at me!"

Li Yuzhe, as a disciple of Changchun Valley, had regained his full strength in a short amount of time, ready to fight once again with intense vigor.

"Brother Yuzhe, be careful, here I come."

The moment Wang Luoqiu finished speaking, she darted forward like a swift leopard king, leaving ghost images in her wake due to her exceptional speed.

In the blink of an eye, she was beside Li Yuzhe, throwing relentless flurry of powerful punches and kicks.

This time, Li Yuzhe had learned his lesson. He no longer relied purely on his Spirit Shield for defense. He blocked each of Wang Luoqiu's strikes by hand before finally deploying the Spirit Shield again when he couldn't hold her off any longer.

In doing so, although his Spirit Shield suffered a significant amount of damage, it was quickly replenished, allowing Li Yuzhe to remain at his full defensive potential. It would now be more difficult for Wang Luoqiu to take him down.

"Sister Luoqiu," Li Yuzhe said, looking proud. "Now do you see the defensive capabilities of the Changchun Valley lineage?"

Upon seeing this, the disciples from Leisure Peak began to worry.

The difficulty of dealing with the lineage of Changchun Valley lay here.

If you can't break all their defenses quickly, you will be drawn into sustained combat. When it comes to long battles, no one dares to be the first if Changchun Valley claims to be the second.

Li Xiuping and Apprentice Muyuanbai cast a glance at each other; they both couldn't help but feel disappointed.

Luoqiu's talent was astonishing and her combat awareness was strong, but after all, she was too young and too overconfident in herself.

In a battle, overconfidence is a huge taboo. How could she give Li Yuzhe such an ample opportunity to catch his breath?

"Mysterious Energy never dies and lasts forever, accompanying you in a battle till the end of time". This wasn't a joke.

However, no matter what they thought, Wang Luoqiu remained calm and composed, steadily landing her attacks. The surrounding discussions, lamentations, and even ridiculing comments didn't make the slightest ripple in her heart.

Chapter 37: Senior Brother Yu Ze! The two Hu's take turns brushing_2

All her attention was focused on the fight.

Gradually, time ticked away.

A quarter... two quarters...

The sweat on Wang Luoqiu became more and more, her goose-yellow female Profound Martial clothes were inadvertently soaked with sweat.

However, Li Yuzhe's defense was still at full state, as if he could continue to fight for ten more hours without any issues.

"Sister Luoqiu, are you unable to persist?" Li Yuzhe sneered, "I admit you are very strong. When you reach the Spirit Platform Realm, I am sure I am no match, but you are ultimately too young. Admit defeat, it is meaningless to continue fighting."

"Indeed, it's time to end it. Thanks senior brother for practicing with me for so long."

Wang Luoqiu's voice was interspersed with slight gasps, but her tone remained incredibly calm and indifferent.

Having said that, without waiting for Li Yuzhe to react, she acted.

With a forceful push off the ground, she rushed towards Li Yuzhe like a lightning bolt.

As blood boiled within her, a red energy aura enveloped her body, her momentum soared in an instant, as if she had transformed into a different person.

At the same time, a terrifying murderous intent flashed in her calm eyes.

This tangible murderous intent enveloped Li Yuzhe, as if strangling his throat, causing his smug smile to freeze on his face.

"Senior brother, you can die now."

A light sentence echoed in Li Yuzhe's ears, but it resonated like a detonating bomb, causing his very soul to tremble.

Deep within his heart, fear began to emerge.

What? She wants to kill me?! That look, that murderous intent, she is not joking!

Li Yuzhe was shaken to his core, his body stiffening, his movement involuntarily slowing down a beat.

And it was this delayed beat that resulted in a fatal outcome for him.

Wang Luoqiu launched an elbow attack, causing the Spirit Shield to vibrate violently, nearly shattering. Immediately after, she kicked him into the air.

At the same time, she also leapt high into the sky.

Mid-air, Wang Luoqiu grabbed Li Yuzhe like an eagle grabbing a tortoise.

The next moment, she plunged down with Li Yuzhe, descending rapidly like a meteor from the sky.

The burning red flame of her bloodline wrapped around her body, entangling with the green spiritual light appearing from the Spirit Shield, pulling out a long trail of fire in the sky.

"Boom!"

The podium trembled violently, sending countless shards flying in every direction.

The disciples surrounding the podium quickly covered their faces and instinctively took a step back.

A moment later, when the debris had settled, they looked again and saw a large pit, with a diameter of two zhang, had been created at the center of the podium. The deepest part of the pit was seven or eight zhang deep.

Li Yuzhe was lying at the bottom of the pit, spewing out blood, his Spirit Shield already shattered, and his Ancient Tree Armor scattered around him in pieces.

The spiritual light on the armor had completely dimmed.

Li Yuzhe stared blankly at the sky, his eyes blank.

Who am I? Where am I? What happened?

Seeing this, everyone's eyes widened in shock.

After a grueling half an hour, they were all sleepy, and had figured Wang Luoqiu would end up losing. Who would have thought that in the blink of an eye, the situation would change so dramatically?

This was simply astonishing! Completely unexpected!

Everyone exchanged uneasy glances, a deathly silence falling over the venue.

"Senior brother Yuzhe, thank you."

Wang Luoqiu jumped out of the pit and courteously bowed to Li Yuzhe.

Li Yuzhe shuddered slightly, his voice low, "Didn't sister Luoqiu want to kill me?"

"Senior brother, you're joking," Wang Luoqiu eyed him as if he were an idiot, her tone calm, "I have no resentment or grudges against senior brother, why would I kill you?"

This left Li Yuzhe a bit bewildered, "But sister Luoqiu's murderous intent just now..."

"I'm sorry, I've killed too many people and beasts, so I didn't control my murderous intent." Wang Luoqiu spoke casually, "Please forgive me, senior brother."

Her explanation was rather nonsensical.

After she finished speaking, Li Yuzhe couldn't help but shiver.

Sister Luoqiu is just in her twenties, right? How many people, how many beasts had she killed to accumulate such terrifying murderous intent?

But of course, he didn't know that Wang Luoqiu was just bluffing. She has had her fair share of battles and captured a number of Independent Cultivator criminals, but she hadn't truly killed many.

However, when she activated her War Body, the suffocating aura she emitted was extremely similar to murderous intent.

Unfortunately, the others did not know that Wang Luoqiu was just bluffing.

As soon as her words fell, whether it was the younger generation of Changchun Valley, or Leiure Peak, they all looked at Wang Luoqiu with strong fear.

"Sister Luoqiu!"

"Sister Luoqiu is amazing, she actually defeated someone in the Spirit Platform Realm in a fair fight!"

At this point, everyone from Leisure Peak snapped back to reality, cheering for Wang Luoqiu enthusiastically.

It was simply, thrilling!

For a while, the area beneath the podium was filled with continuous cheers and applause.

The female disciples of the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies who didn't think Wang Luoqiu would show such immense fighting power, all looked at her with surprise.

Even Wang Shouzhe felt a hint of pride in his heart.

As expected of my little sister, she actually won.

However, to be told, although Li Yuzhe's cultivation base was high, his bloodline was not weak, and his defense was outstanding, he ultimately lacked combat experience. Moreover, he wasn't sure if it was a problem with the Changchun lineage, but Li Yuzhe's offensive capabilities were seriously lacking.

Chapter 37: Senior Brother Yu Ze! The two Hu's take turns brushing_3

As a cultivator in the Spirit Platform Realm, her fighting strength could only be deemed marginally acceptable. It was incomparable to the quasi-demon puppets in the spirit platform realm within the trial grounds.

After all, with Wang Luoqiu's current strength, it was still slightly lacking to challenge a quasi-demon puppet of the Spirit Platform Realm. Only if she reached the peak of the Vital Energy Refining Realm would she have a chance of victory.

Changchun Valley was in stark contrast to the hustle and bustle of Leisure Peak.

Senior Brother Jinshan and others seemed to be shrouded in a cloud of gloom, their morale low.

These new disciples wore blank expressions, deeply doubting their choice to join the Changchun Valley.

How could Changchun Valley be so weak?

"We Changchun Valley disciples like researching plants, and rarely focus on fighting. Moreover, the rules of the arena competition are somewhat unfair to us." Junior Sister Green Fern spoke out to salvage the situation, "What we Changchun Valley disciples are really good at is conducting defensive warfare. Just give us some time and we can fortify a position until it's as solid as a bucket of iron.

Anyone who dares to break in will surely die."

Indeed.

Wang Shouzhe nodded silently to this.

Although these disciples of Changchun Valley couldn't manipulate plants as adeptly as him, and couldn't grow plants quickly in a battle state, given enough time, they could still produce a large number of plants for battle.

If they were given a position to slowly fortify, they could turn that position into an impenetrable fortress like a tower defense game. Profound Martial cultivators of the same level who rushed in would basically just become punching bags.

Just look at Wang Shouzhe's yard.

It has been fortified to a rather terrifying extent. Even a Profound Martial cultivator at the Spirit Platform Realm would meet a ghastly end if they dared to barge in recklessly.

Junior Sister Green Fern's words finally managed to restore some of the new disciples' confidence.

Meanwhile...

In the sky, Master Xuanyao was very satisfied with Wang Luoqiu's performance: "My disciple Luoqiu truly lives up to my careful cultivation and painstaking teachings."

Master Changchun shot him a profound look: "This girl just entered the sect today, didn't she? When and where did you painstakingly cultivate and instruct her?"

"Heeheehee~"

Lady Huandie burst out laughing immediately, her body shaking with mirth.

The look on Master Changchun's face darkened even more.

It took a good while for Lady Huandie's laughter to finally cease.

She flicked her hair, shot a coquettish look at the two Masters beside her and said, "Master Xuanyao's newly admitted disciple is indeed outstanding. But, isn't it time for our disciples to take center stage?"

"Hahaha~ Even after witnessing the strength of my disciple, you still want to send your disciple to the arena. You must have absolute confidence." Master Xuanyao laughed heartily, and the sparkle in his eyes betrayed his anticipation, "In that case, I am eager to see what happens next."

Master Changchun's face grew even darker.

Master Xuanyao had just finished being impressed, and now Lady Huandie was impatient to put on a show. Did they consider Changchun Valley to be pushovers?!

But who would blame him? Changchun Valley's combat strength was more of a slowly building up type. Their capability in the early stage of cultivation for an arena battle wasn't good. Regardless of how indignant he felt, he was helpless.

The darker Master Changchun's face turned, hotter Lady Huandie's excitement got, and she laughed even harder.

"My darling disciple, it's your turn to go on stage. Make sure to 'experience' the abilities of the seniors from Changchun Valley." She waved to the stage below.

"Yes, Master."

Upon hearing the order, Wang Luo Jing calmly emerged from the line, and slowly walked onto the stage.

Unlike Wang Luoqiu's aggression and dominance, Luo Jing possessed a tranquil and serene demeanor, along with an authentic, bone-deep indifference.

"Wang Luo Jing, a disciple from the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies," Luo Jing stated softly. "I ask that Senior Brother Li Yuzhe recover properly before we commence."

What?

This young lady from the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies also wants to challenge Senior Brother Li Yuzhe?

A buzz immediately filled the area beneath the stage.

Li Yuzhe had just barely managed to get up when he heard this, and his mind went blank as he wavered on his feet.

What on earth was going on? He wasn't this popular before, yet suddenly all the junior sisters were lining up to challenge him.

What virtues and abilities had he, Li Yuzhe, displayed to deserve this honor?

In the crowd, Wang Shouzhe couldn't help but rub his forehead.

How could he forget? One of Luo Jing's pet phrases was: What Luo Qiu can do, I can do as well.

Therefore, if Luo Qiu could defeat Li Yuzhe, then Luo Jing will undoubtedly do the same.

On this point, nobody could sway her. It was tough on Li Yuzhe, who was still recovering from his fight with Luo Qiu, and now had to face yet another round with Luo Jing.

Wang Shouzhe couldn't help but feel sorry for Li Yuzhe.

Chapter 38: Sister Shocked! Fourth Brother is Coming to Fight Us_1

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Enraged, Li Yuzhe broke into laughter, "Fine, fine. It seems that everyone thinks they can toy with me. Young lady, since you want to challenge me, go ahead!"

Wang Luo Jing shot him a glance and shook her head, "Please take some time to recover first, Senior Brother Yuzhe."

Li Yuzhe paused, a mix of amusement and annoyance welling up within him.

She was clearly unsatisfied with fighting against him in his current weakened state. How humiliating.

The rest of the disciples from Changchun Valley lamented. What on earth was happening with these young newcomers? They were all so arrogant.

The Leisure Peak disciples and Wang Luoqiu were still celebrating on the side. Seeing what had just transpired, they were all left speechless.

Good Lord, this young lady was just as audacious as Luoqiu!

Wang Luoqiu gave them a dismissive grunt, "What childish nonsense."

Zhang Xiuping suddenly remembered something, "Wait a minute! She just said her name is Wang Luo Jing."

At his words, everyone turned their gaze towards Wang Luoqiu, looks of disbelief painted on their faces. Could it really be what they were thinking?

"You guessed it. She is my foolishly childish older sister, a year older than me," Wang Luoqiu acknowledged nonchalantly, as if discussing the quality of that day's lunch.

Once again, the Leisure Peak disciples were left stunned into silence.

They looked at Wang Luo Jing on the stage, then they looked at Wang Luoqiu, their hearts sinking

further.

What was this? Both sisters were prodigies?

Their similar names not only caught the attention of those from Leisure Peak, but also got the Changchun Valley disciples talking, "They are just sisters." "No wonder." And other such conjectures filled the air.

Hearing the murmur of discussions below, Li Yuzhe on the stage snapped to his senses, his face turning serious.

If the younger sister was already so formidable, wouldn't the older one be even more so?

Instantly, he stopped underestimating her and sincerely said, "If Junior Sister wants to challenge me, please allow me some time to recover first."

Then he began to breathe, meditating to replenish his energy.

During this period, more disciples from the Tian Lake School of Primordial Water came by to visit, naturally taking a look out of habit. However, their Master from Primordial Water School didn't come. Evidently, it was only a routine visit.

Seeing this, the Changchun Valley disciples heaved a sigh of relief.

They were afraid that someone like Wang Luo Chun, Wang Luo Xia, or Wang Luo Dong would show up. If that were the case, their Senior Brother Li Yuzhe would be in trouble.

The Tian Lake School disciples also didn't expect to encounter three Masters in Changchun Valley. Their original intimidating demeanor quickly deflated. They respectfully greeted the three Masters and then quietly watched the duel, not daring to make a fuss anymore.

Liu Xuanfu and Liu Ruolei, who were from the Tian Lake School, also came along to join in the fun.

Liu Ruolan was among the crowd as well. She gave a glance at Wang Luoqiu beside the stage and Wang Luo Jing on it, before scanning her surroundings.

Wang Shouzhe waved at her, "Over here."

Before long, the four of them gathered together.

"My lady, you didn't come to Changchun Valley just to get a taste of the experience, did you?" Wang Shouzhe joked, looking at Liu Ruolan.

Liu Ruolan covered her mouth and giggled, "I heard about what happened just now. Luoqiu is really something. However, I don't like fighting and killing. And I haven't formally joined the Tian Lake School. I am just here to join in the fun."

For some reason, Wang Shouzhe let out a sigh of relief.

As long as his lady didn't stir up trouble, everything else was bearable. If she decided to challenge someone, even Senior Brother Jinshan would be of no use.

"Is it Luo Jing's turn now to get a taste?" Liu Ruolan looked at the stage with interest and excitement painted on her beautiful face.

Even though she had no interest in fighting and killing, she loved watching all the excitement.

"My lady, try to keep your emotions in check," Wang Shouzhe cautioned.

They were currently spectators in the midst of Changchun's disciples, after all.

Noticing the strange glances directed at them, Liu Ruolan stealthily stuck out her tongue and innocently stood beside Wang Shouzhe, quietly watching the fracas.

Seeing this, the Senior Brothers from Jinshan gazed at Wang Shouzhe with new-found respect.

This guy casually hung out with Junior Sisters from Changchun Valley and now was seemingly in cahoots with those from the Tian Lake School.

However, even if they were envious, they had no choice but to swallow their objections.

They recognized the woman beside Wang Shouzhe. She was Liu Xuanfu, a superb Core Disciple from the Tian Lake School. Although Liu Xuanfu wasn't a fan of fighting, she could easily take care of them if the need arose.

Let's put that aside for the moment.

Regardless of the disciples' skills from Changchun Valley, their recovery rate was indeed astonishing.

In just fifteen minutes, Senior Brother Li Yuzhe had completely recovered and was full of vitality.

"Junior Sister Luo Jing, you won't mind if I put on my armor first, right?"

Li Yuzhe had the audacity to be audacious.

"Senior Brother, please do as you wish," Wang Luo Jing responded indifferently.

"Then, I won't stand on ceremony."

Li Yuzhe took out that piece of ancient tree bark once more, pouring in the Mysterious Energy. The remnants of the Ancient Tree Armor quickly spread across his body.

After such prolonged self-recovery, the armor had repaired itself almost completely. Apart from the still visible cracks on the surface, there was little difference from before. The self-repairing ability of the Ancient Tree Armor was truly impressive.

Next were the Wood Spirit Shield and the Longevity Tree leaf.

Even after putting on all the equipment, he felt uneasy. Deciding to be safe, he took out several bright red fruits.

The fruits, the size of a fist, looked like they were made from overlapping scales, exuding an intense heat.

Chapter 38: Sister Shocked! Fourth Brother is Coming to Fight Us_2

The moment he took out these fruits, a look of distress immediately appeared on Li Yuzhe's face.

He had painstakingly cultivated these seven fruits over ten years. Now he pulled out three of them at once. It would take him years to make up for the loss. How could he not feel pain?

"Fire Dragon Fruit?!"

However, the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies senior sisters who saw this scene had their faces change in an instant, reprimanding indignantly, "Li Yuzhe, do you have no shame? Using Fire Dragon Fruit against a junior sister!"

There were also some senior sisters who hurriedly reminded Wang Luo Jing, "Junior sister Luo Jing, you must be careful of that Fire Dragon Fruit. It can explode, and the fire element sticky fluid it splashes will stick to the body and burn with layers of flame. It's very hard to handle."

"Thank you for the reminder, senior sister."

Wang Luo Jing nodded solemnly.

Wang Shouzhe nearly burst into laughter when he heard the word "Fire Dragon Fruit". He couldn't help it, the term was simply too dramatic.

However, judging from the reactions of the senior sisters from the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies, the power of the Fire Dragon Fruit seems quite formidable. After laughing, he became interested.

It seemed that Changchun Valley wasn't lacking in battle power, but it's just that those powerful plants were incredibly difficult to cultivate and they were reluctant to use them under normal circumstances.

"Senior Brother Yuzhe, are you ready?" asked Wang Luo Jing.

Li Yuzhe has a longevity tree leaf in his mouth and it's inconvenient for him to talk, so he can only nodded vaguely, "You can attack at any time, junior sister Luo Jing."

"Alright."

Wang Luo Jing nodded her head and then attacked without hesitation.

Her combat style was completely different from Wang Luoqiu. Even before the battle began, she swiftly retreated backward. At the same time, a worm flute appeared in her hand.

With the worm flute placed horizontally in front of her, she slowly blew it and the high-frequency flute sounds immediately echoed through the air.

"Buzz, buzz, buzz~"

Amid the deep wing fluttering sound, a large swarm of Purple Crystal Spirit Bees appeared in the sky, flying towards Li Yuzhe like a dark cloud blocking the sun.

These Purple Crystal Spirit Bees were all much larger than ordinary ones, emanating a purplish glow on their bodies. With their peaks as sharp as knives and mandibles moving, hundreds of them gathered together were like a sky-covering cloud, not only visually shocking but also possessing astonishing combat power.

In the wild, even cultivators in the Spirit Platform Realm would avoid such a level of the bee swarm.

"Insect Master!"

"God, it turns out she is a battle Insect Master."

"How strong her Spiritual Sense must be to control such a large swarm of bees?"

Seeing this, the people of Changchun Valley were immediately taken aback, each greatly shocked.

The female disciples of the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies had seen Wang Luo Jing's combat style before, but they still couldn't help being impressed, "Luo Jing, you are indeed amazing."

Li Yuzhe was also startled. He didn't expect Wang Luo Jing to be an Insect Master, and apparently a powerful one at that. Even at Qi Refinement Realm Level Nine, she could command such a large swarm of bees.

Unfortunately, these bees are useless to him~

Li Yuzhe laughed.

As expected, the swarm of bees was completely blocked by the Yimu Spirit Shield. No matter how they attacked, they couldn't impact the shield at all. They just created some ripple effects on it as if rain was pattering down.

In fact, even if they broke through the Yimu Spirit Shield, there would still be the tougher Ancient Tree Armor waiting for them.

"Ah, this is troublesome."

The senior sisters from the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies felt unfairly treated for Luo Jing.

Such a bee swarm would indeed have a significant damaging effect on most Spirit Platform Realm cultivators, but against the "turtles" of Changchun Valley, it was like pushing against a brick wall.

"Hmph~"

On the dueling platform, Wang Luo Jing realized this fact. She put away the worm flute, her expression remaining calm as if she wasn't affected at all.

The next moment, she flipped her delicate hand and a palm-sized, red-coloured toad appeared in her palm.

"Red Fire Toad."

Wang Shouzhe was startled, realizing that this gal had started going all out again.

But this time, he wasn't too worried.

Today's Wang Luo Jing wasn't the same as before. Not only has she elevated her cultivation base to the Qi Refinement Realm Level Nine, but she also awakened her Bloodline to Level Two with the help of Primary Bloodline Improvement Fluid, achieving Top Grade Class D talent. Controlling this "Red Fire Toad" no longer required driving with Essence Blood.

Wang Luo Jing focused her mind and operated her Spiritual Sense to the maximum, connecting her spirit with the Red Fire Toad.

The next moment, the palm-sized red toad jumped onto the dueling platform with a "slap" sound and grew larger in the wind. In an instant, it became as big as a calf, emanating a terrifyingly fierce aura.

As a Gu that evolved by swallowing Evil Qi, it was naturally born with a strong evil energy. Even its breath was poisonous. If the Profound Martial cultivator's cultivation base was too low or the control method was incorrect, they might instead hurt themselves before hurting the enemy.

But now, it was as tame as a regular toad in front of Wang Luo Jing.

"Moo!"

The Red Fire Toad let out a cow's moo, resonating so much that it made people's eardrums slightly tremble.

It leaped and pounced right in front of Li Yuzhe, opened its mouth, and spewed out a streak of red flame.

This was the signature Mysterious Technique of the Red Fire Toad - Crimson Flame Poison.

"What..." Li Yuzhe's eyes widened, "What the hell is this? "

"Brother Yuzhe, retreat quickly!" Senior Brother Jinshan shouted anxiously from below the stage, "This is a Red Fire Toad, an extremely vicious poison Gu."

However, it was already too late for Li Yuzhe to retreat at this point.

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The crimson flame had hit the Wood Spirit Shield hard.

In an instant, the Wood Spirit Shield was corroded and burnt as if it had met its nemesis, with a large section totally destroyed. The edges were still burning and crumbling, spreading rapidly.

The Wood Spirit Shield belonged to the wood type shields, which were most vulnerable to fierce fire attacks. In just a few breaths' time, the Wood Spirit Shield was reduced to nothingness in the flames, leaving not a trace of its previous existence.

However, the incident didn't end there.

The lingering force of the Crimson Flame Poison directly licked itself onto the Ancient Tree Armor.

In the twinkling of an eye, the Ancient Tree Armor was ablaze with black and red ominous flames. The wrinkled ancient tree bark seemed to have its vitality drained and began to wither rapidly, its color turning grayish.

In a mere dozen or so breaths' time, the Ancient Tree Armor had turned dull and lustreless.

The Crimson Flame Poison quickly spread to Li Yuzhe.

Li Yuzhe sensed danger and quickly conceded, waving his hand, "Stop the fire! Stop the fire! I concede!"

He then jumped off the competition stage.

Seeing this, Wang Luo Jing immediately had the Red Fire Toad stop its attack.

Though Li Yuzhe who jumped off the stage saved his life, his Ancient Tree Armor was burnt to cinders, his hair and body were completely burnt in many places, and the fire poison also invaded his body. His body's meridians surface turned dark-red, looking extremely abnormal.

Luckily, the Changchun lineage was strong in defense and resistance against toxins. With the energy from the Longevity Tree leaf constantly circulating, the fire poison was driven out, and his burnt wounds miraculously began healing at a visible rate, and the abnormal poisonous gas gradually disappeared.

It had to be acknowledged that although the combat power of the Changchun school was average, their resilience and recovery abilities were extraordinary.

For a moment, there was silence among the crowd below the stage. They were all frightened by the power of the Red Fire Toad.

If it could be said that the Wood Spirit Shield and the Ancient Tree Armor countered the swarms of poison insects, then the Red Fire Toad was the counter to the Changchun Valley's defense techniques.

In the sky, Lady Huandie's eyebrows arched in delight, giving a smug look.

Master Xuanyao also couldn't help but exclaim, "Congratulations on having such a good disciple."

"Not at all~ Master Xuanyao's disciples are also excellent." Lady Huandie replied with a gleeful smile.

Both of them began a mutual exchange of compliments.

Only Master Changchun wore a sullen expression.

For so long, this incident seemed to be the most embarrassing moment for Changchun Valley.

Whatever, they had to think of a method to improve the combat powers of their new disciples.

Unfortunately, the Changchun Valley cultivation techniques had their limitations and couldn't show their true power on the competition stage. The restrictions would be less after reaching the Heavenly Human Realm, but the attack was still not a strong point.

At this time, the disciples below the stage reacted and began cheering, especially the sisters from the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies who were especially excited.

However, Wang Luo Jing maintained equanimity. She just shot a glance at Wang Luoqiu, as if saying: I won faster than you.

"Hmph~" Wang Luoqiu's gaze tightened, she slowly walked onto the stage, "Little Five, let's spar on this Changchun Valley's stage. What do you think?"

"Little Six." Wang Luo Jing was not to be outdone, "Let's do it."

As their eyes clashed, sparks seemed to fly in the air, and the atmosphere was instantly tense.

Seeing these two extraordinarily talented girls about to fight, the disciples of Changchun Valley did not get excited, but instead felt even more downtrodden.

Senior Brother Jinshan comforted them, "We from Changchun Valley may not be good at fighting, but we also have our advantages~"

The new disciples were all encouraged, "Senior Brother Jinshan, what are our advantages?"

"Our 'Longevity Youth True Verses' have a very nourishing effect on the body. At the same cultivation realm, we are definitely the ones who live the longest."

The new disciples didn't feel uplifted at these words, but instead their morale fell even further.

What's the use of only living longer if they couldn't defeat their opponents in battle? Isn't that just like a turtle?

"Sigh~"

Seeing this, Wang Shouzhe gave a light sigh.

Master Changchun had, after all, guided him, so it seemed that he should step forward this time.

Having thought of this, he slowly walked onto the stage and said to Wang Luo Jing and Wang Luo Qiu, "I am Wang Shouzhe, an external student of the Changchun Valley, and I wish to witness the skills of you two ladies."

"What?"

Upon seeing Fourth Brother appear on stage, Wang Luo Qiu and Wang Luo Jing, who were confronting each other, were taken aback.

Chapter 39 Zhou Xuan! Guard your heart! Double Spirit Dominates Dao_1

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It was not only them who were shocked, the disciples from the Leisure Peak lineage and the Valley of The Ten Thousand Butterflies lineage were equally stunned.

These two sisters were already so ruthless, and yet someone was stepping up to challenge them. Could anyone under 35 from the Changchun Valley lineage possibly beat them?

Isn't this just asking for punishment!

"This…" Seeing this, Senior Brother Jinshan, who had been comforting the new disciples, was dumbfounded. He quickly tried to discourage Wang Shouzhe, "Kid, don't go looking for trouble! Those two girls are very fierce."

Although he was jealous that Wang Shouzhe was handsome and heroic, Wang Shouzhe was ultimately a disciple of the Changchun Valley lineage sect, how could he bear to watch him walk into a deathtrap?

Those senior sisters who had received favors from Wang Shouzhe were also anxious: "Junior Brother Wang, don't be reckless! Even Senior Brother Li Yuzhe can't beat them, how can an outside disciple like you possibly win?"

"Junior Brother Wang, come down quickly, they are too dangerous." Even Little Senior Sister Green Fern, who had been sulking on the side, was extremely nervous. If something happened to him, where would she buy her skincare products in the future?

Seeing their concern for him, Wang Shouzhe was deeply moved.

The Changchun Valley lineage might not be strong in combat, but at least they had good hearts. His actions to stand up for them were not in vain.

"Hehe."

In the sky, Master Xuanyao, seeing this scene, couldn't help but snicker: "This youngster is an outside disciple, and yet he dares to challenge the two Sky Prides."

"Master Xuanyao, don't underestimate him." Lady Huandie giggled, "Although his age is not evident, he has already reached the Spirit Platform Realm. He might have a chance to win."

Although Wang Shouzhe was wearing a high-grade Restrain Breath Jade, in the presence of people at the Master's level, wearing or not wearing a high-grade Restrain Breath Jade made no difference.

"What's the big deal with being in the Spirit Platform Realm? After all, he is only an outside disciple." Master Xuanyao shook his head and laughed softly, "Li Yuzhe was an excellent disciple, the future core, and yet he lost without a fight."

"So what if he's an outside disciple?" Master Changchun glanced at him, his voice faint, "Who said an outside disciple is necessarily weaker than a core disciple?"

He was indeed surprised that Wang Shouzhe decided to compete. He took quite a favourable view of this youngster and had even wanted to promote him to the position of a core disciple. If not for Wang Shouzhe turning down his offer, he would already be a core disciple by now.

The only thing that made him fret was Wang Longyan.

Wang Longyan had left a very deep impression on him, after all, every three years, he would hear news about Wang Longyan beating up their disciples. Talking about the damage caused to Changchun Valley, Wang Longyan was definitely not inferior to these two young ladies.

Wait a minute!

Master Changchun suddenly sensed that something was amiss.

These two girls had the surname Wang, Wang Longyan and Wang Shouzhe also had the same surname. Are they related?

There are many people in this world with the surname Wang, normally he wouldn't have thought of such a connection. But given today's peculiar circumstances, it's hard to say...

Master Changchun's eyes were sparkling with keen interest.

At this point, atop the stage, the stunned and dumbfounded Wang Luo Jing and Wang Luoqiu finally came to their senses.

Wang Luo Jing took the initiative to bow to Wang Shouzhe and said, "Luo Jing greets Fourth Brother."

Wang Luoqiu also quickly paid her respects, followed by a raised eyebrow, and a puzzled tone, "Fourth Brother, are you actually standing up for Changchun Valley?"

The moment the two girls referred to him as "Fourth Brother," they didn't seem to feel anything was amiss, but everyone else around them was dumbfounded.

Could it be, they're actually a family?!

Especially the people of Changchun Valley, they found this utterly unbelievable. An outside disciple, is actually the older brother of these two Sky Prides?

It's really so!

In the sky, Master Changchun's heart gave a leap, so they really were a family!

Next to him, Master Xuanyao and Lady Huandie also displayed surprised expressions.

When they took disciples before, they had looked at their disciples' backgrounds. They were born in a small town on the border, an Eighth Grade Prominent Family. Their lineage was clean and they could trace back dozens of generations.

For such a family, having one Sky Pride would already be an extraordinary fortune. Now they had two, it could perhaps be said that their ancestors must have burnt the highest grade incense.

As for this outside disciple, they could no longer be... yes, they were not.

On the stage, Wang Shouzhe wasn't affected by their reactions.

"Look at how you two talk." He smiled faintly, "Even though I'm an outside disciple, I'm also part of the Changchun Valley lineage, naturally I can't allow you to stir trouble on our turf."

Wang Luoqiu puffed up her cheeks in annoyance, feeling aggrieved, "Fourth Brother, you're bullying us."

"Exactly! We rarely have a chance to show off." Wang Luo Jing also looked at him coquettishly, half pretending to be angry, "You coming up is just stealing our thunder, you're such a bully~"

What?

The disciples from both the Valley of the Ten Thousand Butterflies and Leisure Peak were completely dumbfounded.

Many of the newly admitted disciples had already taken Wang Luo Jing and Wang Luoqiu as role models, admiring them for their dominance, strength, and invincible momentum that overwhelmed their peers!

They were supposed to be the role models of their generation, but the moment their fourth brother stepped in, these two powerful girls started acting coy. It completely upended their expectations.

"Regardless, I'm also under 35." Wang Shouzhe said with a light laugh, "You guys can come and challenge my Changchun Valley lineage to protect your own lineages. I can also stand up for Changchun Valley and show you what we're made of. So here it is, I won't pick on you, both of you come up together."

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"Well said, Junior Brother Shouzhe! That was an impressive statement!"

As these words were spoken, many female disciples of the Changchun Valley lineage began to cheer.

Senior Brother Jinshan was looking forward to joining in the cheering, but seeing the sparkle in the eyes of his junior sisters as they looked at Wang Shouzhe, he swallowed his words.

Ah, these junior sisters are just too young. They still don't know that good-looking men can't be trusted.

Remembering the past, he...

Senior Brother Jinshan shook his head silently, appearing to recall something from the past. He suddenly seemed a bit more world-weary, looking as though he was burdened with an intriguing story...

While the disciples of Changchun Valley cheered, those from the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies and Leisure Peak felt disgruntled.

"Junior Sister Luo Jing, Junior Sister Luo Qiu, don't care if he is your older brother! This is about the honor of each peak and lineage. Don't hold back when it's time to fight! Our Master is watching from above."

Despite their prevailing conflicts, the disciples of both these sects unanimously pointed their spears at Wang Shouzhe, voicing their discontent loudly.

However, their shouts were of no use.

The two sisters on the stage remained unmoved.

"I don't want to fight Fourth Brother~ You should go and test your skills with the others." Wang Luo Jing glanced at Wang Shouzhe with a profound glance before she turned around and walked off the stage without a moment's hesitation.

Wang Luoqiu hesitated slightly, but finally said, "Today is not the right time. Sister will learn from Fourth Brother's techniques another time. Excuse me."

With that, she turned and left the stage too.

It's not that they couldn't fight. After all, she often practiced with her fourth brother. It's just that if they did fight, it would definitely damage her future Empress image... because the outcome would definitely be disastrous!

Seeing both girls walk off the stage without a second word, everyone was left stunned.

The Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies fell silent.

So did Leisure Peak.

Only Changchun Valley had their spirits lifted. They felt that Wang Shouzhe had redeemed some of their honor. Although they had won without even a fight, it felt somewhat anticlimactic, but it was still better than losing.

"Let it be~" The team leader Zhang Xiuping smiled at Wang Luoqiu, "After all, you're family, so it's normal that you wouldn't want to fight your brother. Today we will give him that much. Let's go to the Mysterious Ice Palace and see for ourselves."

Mentioning the Mysterious Ice Palace, all disciples from the Leisure Peak lineage got visibly excited.

Since the Mysterious Ice Palace has always been dominant, they often learn from others. There's no doubt that it would be a glorious moment for Xuanyao Lineage to take a look.

Hearing this, neither did the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies want to be left behind. They immediately huddled around Wang Luo Jing and said, "Let's go to the Mysterious Ice Palace as well."

Right as the two groups were about to embark,

Suddenly,

The voice of Wang Shouzhe came from the stage.

"Gentlemen, please wait."

"May I ask, is there anything else you would like to advise us on?"

Zhang Xiuping and Apprentice Muyuanbai looked at each other, raising their eyebrows in unison to look at Wang Shouzhe.

They were being patient towards Shouzhe mainly because of the respect they held for Luo Qiu and Luo Jing. Otherwise, as Core Disciple of Xuanyao Lineage, they wouldn't bother themselves with an insignificant outer disciple.

"I wouldn't dare advise you." Wang Shouzhe gave a soft chuckle, remaining calm, "Since you have had the chance to observe our Changchun Valley, I naturally have to represent Changchun Valley to observe yours."

Zhang Xiuping and Muyuanbai both laughed on hearing this.

"So, Junior Brother Shouzhe, how do you plan on observing?" Zhang Xiuping asked, his tone casual and relaxed.

He suspected that Wang Shouzhe was probably trying to save face for Changchun Valley. Considering Luo Qiu's reputation, he wouldn't mind sending a disciple to help him achieve this.

Unexpectedly, Wang Shouzhe's gaze fell on him and Muyuanbai.

"I heard that those above the age of sixty can't participate in our tradition, so I assume Senior Brother Xiuping and Brother Muyuanbai are still under sixty?" Wang Shouzhe appeared calm, as if discussing an ordinary matter, "May I ask which of the senior brothers can come down to the stage to enlighten me?"

"What?!"

Upon hearing this, all the disciples of the Leisure Peak were shocked.

Had Luo Qiu's brother lost his mind? He dared to challenge two Core Disciples!

Zhang Xiuping and Muyuanbai were less than pleased.

Both were leading figures among their generation and proud individuals who had never learned to swallow their pride. Surely, the dignity of the Core Disciple wouldn't tolerate any disrespect!

They were only courteous to Luo Qiu's brother because of Luo Qiu. If this kid doesn't appreciate that, he can't blame them for what comes next!

Zhang Xiuping and Muyuanbai exchanged a glance and immediately decided.

Muyuanbai lightly jumped, walking in the air as if it was solid ground and casually ascended the stage.

Seeing this, the Changchun Valley disciples immediately tensed up while the female disciples of the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies couldn't resist stopping in their tracks.

Muyuanbai had his hands clasped behind his back, wearing a solemn expression. A cold air lingered between his brows, "Brother, if we duel, I will not show mercy."

Wang Shouzhe remained calm and composed, bowed slightly, "Naturally, please do give your guidance, Brother Muyuanbai."

"Alright!"

Muyuanbai suddenly became earnest.

He held one hand behind his back and the other up in the air, and a sword about a foot long appeared in the palm of his hand.

The sword, thin as cicada's wings, was bathed in a shimmering green light. In his palm, it darted restlessly around like a live fish.

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The sword tip swept through the air, prompting a pleasing, delicate chime.

"This sword is named 'Cicada Chirp'," he said, looking down at it in his palm. "It was a gift from my Master, Master Xuanyao. Its blade is nimble and sharp, capable of killing without leaving a trace. I urge you to be careful, dear brother Wang Shouzhe."

Wang Shouzhe's expression remained as placid as an ancient well. With a swipe across his storage ring, an aged, hefty long sword materialized in his palm.

The sword was about four-feet three inches long, its entirety a heavy copper color, the spiritual light within undisclosed. Old still-visible runes hinted at its humble origins, but strongly suggested its exceptional nature.

However, none of that was what drew most attention.

The most notable feature was its thickness, at least thirty percent bulkier than the standard long sword, and notably broader blade. While it lacked certain lightness, it made up for with heft and grandeur.

At first glance, it looked less like a sword and more of a double-edged knife.

It was clear this was a spiritual sword apt for both attack and defense, and excelled in slashing and chopping.

It was no wonder that the Old Ancestor Zhou, when he commissioned the creation of this sword, intended it for battling fierce beasts in foreign territories. A light sword would be ill-suited for such task.

"This sword is named 'Zhou Xuan Sword'; it is a middle grade spiritual artifact passed down through my family. The sword's power and dominance can break gold and move mountains." Holding the Zhou Xuan Sword, Wang Shouzhe's gaze gained intensity. "Dear brother Muyuanbai, be on your guard."

Through the thick body of the Zhou Xuan Sword, he could almost envision the Old Ancestor slaying fierce beasts with it in his hands.

The Zhou Xuan Sword had been a reverential tribute in the Wang Family Ancestral Hall for many years. Only the Old Ancestor Xiaohan had ever used it in battle.

As the head of the Wang Clan, Wang Shouzhe was indeed the rightful heir to the Zhou Xuan Sword. This symbolized not just martial power, but also the family's reverence and faith. It was a symbol of the family's strength and prestige.

Almost without realizing it, the mysterious energy within Wang Shouzhe began to circulate, and his aura grew steadily more powerful.

Upon seeing the Zhou Xuan Sword, his two haughty younger sisters, Wang Luoqiu and Wang Luo Jing looked serious, their eyes filled with reverence.

If one would rate the fourth brother's normal prestige in their eyes as six or seven out of ten, once he held the Zhou Xuan Sword, it instantly escalated to full ten.

At such times, neither of them dared to retort.

"A middle grade spiritual artifact?"

Apprentice Muyuanbai was oblivious to the profound implications imbued within the Zhou Xuan Sword, however his gaze instantly became solemn and envious.

A middle grade spiritual artifact is far more precious in terms of materials and more difficult to refine than a low grade artifact, its overall value many times greater.

Such an affluent heirloom, like Luoqiu's elder brother's storage ring and the middle grade spiritual artifact, was truly impressive.

Just as he prepared to formally announce the commencement of the challenge,

Suddenly,

With another flick of Wang Shouzhe's hand, a shield materialized in his left hand. The shield, the size of a face basin and shaped like an upturned wok, was hefty yet light. Light shone from the circulating runes upon it, clearly indicating it was not ordinary.

"This shield is named 'Heart Guardian'," introduced Wang Shouzhe. "It is both physical and energy based spiritual shield, with an extremely robust defense. Brother Muyuanbai, be cautious."

Two spiritual artifacts?

Apprentice Muyuanbai's demeanor paused momentarily, his expression both solemn and filled with envy.

Being a member of an eighth-grade family, the family had invested plenty to enable him to become a core disciple at a young age. Asking for yet another spiritual artifact from the family would, however, be too much.

The remaining disciples were all chomping at the bit for Wang Shouzhe's possessions, speculating that he must be the direct heir of the Tianren family – such wealth was envy-inducing.

"Brother Muyuanbai, please enlighten me,"

Wang Shouzhe, holding his sword and shield, adopted a combat stance.

"Very well, then. I won't hold back."

The moment Muyuanbai uttered those words, the spirit sword, "Cicada's Wing" in his palm let out a sharp sword chime.

"Cling~~~~!"

It darted towards Wang Shouzhe before one could blink, aiming a swift strike.

Its speed was so fast that it was challenging for the human eye to follow.

But, would Wang Shouzhe be any ordinary man?

The moment the spirit sword lunged forward, the 'Heart Guardian' shield in his hand beamed with luminous brilliance and effortlessly blocked the attacking sword.

"Clang!"

Ripples of light showered, as if a wave had been born in emerald water, elegantly blocking the incoming spirit sword.

Don't be foolish, 'Heart Guardian' is a top-grade spiritual artifact. How could a low-grade spirit sword breach its sanctity so effortlessly?

Muyuanbai had barely time to marvel when Wang Shouzhe, swift as lightning, enveloped him, the Zhou Xuan Sword following suit.

An exceptionally sharp sword energy instantly shattered the peace, lunging at Muyuanbai.

Domineering, assertive, and brimming with momentum!

The path the sword energy traveled torn the air asunder.

A sharp, piercing noise tore through the atmosphere and reverberated across the stage.

What an immense sword energy!

Muyuanbai's countenance changed, mentally shouting out a warning.

Above in the sky, Master Changchun, Master Xuan Yao, and Lady Huandie, all wore expressions of puzzled intrigue.

Chapter 40: The Might of 守哲! The Power of the Family Head_1

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Below the stage, the disciples of the Changchun Valley lineage were all stunned.

It's not that there were no disciples from the Changchun Valley lineage who practiced swordsmanship, but their main cultivation technique, the "Longevity Youth True Verses", had a

weak enhancement to attacks. Their swordsmanship was only a supplement and they would not delve too deeply into it.

A practitioner like Wang Shouzhe who earnestly practiced swordsmanship and showed such fierceness was indeed rare. Some younger disciples had never even seen it before.

However, Muyuanbai was after all a strong practitioner at the third level of the Spirit Platform Realm. Even though Wang Shouzhe's sword energy was sharp, it was difficult to hurt him within a single blow.

His figure flickered and he drifted away as light as a falling leaf, just barely avoiding the sword energy.

The sword energy passed by his body and landed on the stage.

"Rip!"

The sword energy sliced the surface of the stage as easily as a knife through butter, instantly leaving a long crevice on the stone stage.

Such power made Muyuanbai involuntarily gasp.

"Protective Body Xuan Gang!"

He dared not slack for a moment and immediately used the secret technique of his sect.

A rich mysterious energy burst from his body, making his clothes billow, sleeves flying.

An energy of milky white color began to condense and formed a physical layer of Protective Body Xuan Gang around him, as if he was clad in an energy armor.

In terms of solely defensive power, this "Xuan Gang" was inferior to the Spirit Shield, and it also lacks the feature of constant regeneration.

But it's more close-fitting and flexible, and it's more conducive to the use of mysterious techniques and movement techniques.

Having the Xuan Gang Protective Body, Muyuanbai's heart was much steadier, he immediately started to dodge about and duel with Wang Shouzhe.

His movement technique was very elegant, with a sense of light rhythm.

Every step he took was like stepping on a space node, causing ripples in the air. From a distance, his figure was elusive and fluttery as if he were an exiled immortal.

"Clang! Clang! Clang!"

His spirit sword "Cicada Chirp" moved back and forth in the air like a swimming fish, like a snake waiting for an opportunity. Once the chance arose, it quickly attacked, launching attacks on Wang Shouzhe.

His timing was just right, once he moved, it would definitely hit a vital point. If it weren't for the top-grade Spiritual Artifact "Heart Guard Shield", Wang Shouzhe would likely have been injured by now.

Amidst the blasting fight energy, the sound of iron striking iron echoed incessantly.

"Excellent!"

The disciples from Leisure Peak could not help cheering.

"Brother Muyuanbai's 'Flying Cloud Step' has reached the peak of perfection, elegant as a free-roaming celestial."

"Brother's Protective Body Xuan Gang is thick and solid, ordinary attacks can hardly break its defense."

"Although Luo Qiu's brother has a superior Spiritual Artifact, he is just a Level One Spirit Platform Realm practitioner after all. He might lose if this continuous battle carries on."

Disciples from Leisure Peak were discussing fervently, all admired the prowess that Muyuanbai demonstrated.

However, obviously, not all disciples think so.

Among the disciples of Changchun Valley, senior brother Jinshan was commenting on the performances of the two duelists: "I am very familiar with junior brother Yuanbai's 'Cicada Chirp', it usually confuses opponents with sounds then launches sudden attacks from tricky angles."

"Junior brother Shouzhe's Spirit Shield has a very high defensive capability, which can easily block attacks from most angles."

"Everyone, look carefully. Junior brother Shouzhe has a very solid foundation, obviously from hard work and training. His attacks are well-measured, calm, and totally in control of the fight rhythm. He doesn't use his sword energy frivolously, clearly gathering his strength for a decisive strike which leaves junior brother Yuanbai always in danger."

"Everyone watch, isn't junior brother Yuanbai's 'Flying Cloud Step' dare not stop? If he stops, he will inevitably be attacked by the sword energy. One can only wonder how many times his Protective Body Xuan Gang could withstand such an attack ..."

Senior brother Jinshan's analysis was rational and convincing.

The disciples of Changchun Valley were all excited, and they started cheering for Wang Shouzhe eagerly.

"Senior Brother Jinshan, so according to you, our Senior Luo's brother will certainly win?" Liu Yunlong asked with concern nearby.

"That's not necessarily the case." Senior Brother Jinshan replied honestly, "After all, that Muyuanbai is not a pushover. It's a fifty-fifty chance which depends on who can seize the opportunity."

Although Senior Brother Jinshan's offensive skill was somewhat lacking, his experience in dueling was quite abundant. His observation and judgement of the situation were rather unique.

Under the intense gaze of the crowd beneath the stage, a quarter of an hour flew by unnoticed.

Muyuanbai was increasingly nervous and anxious as the time passed.

He hadn't expected the sister Luo Qiu's brother to be this tough. No matter whether it was his cultivation base of mysterious energy or his martial techniques, swordsmanship were all solid and upright. Coupled with his supreme defensive Spiritual Shield, any angle of attack from "Cicada Chirp" would easily be blocked.

This made the opponent like a fortress, without any flaws and impossible to conquer.

"Brother Yuanbai, if you don't have any powerful moves. I'm afraid I'm going to wear you out to death." Then, Wang Shouzhe's calm voice sounded, "Although your mysterious energy is thicker than mine, don't forget, I have Wood Bloodline, and I cultivate 'Longevity Youth True Verses', the main feature of which is endurance and constant regeneration."

Chapter 40: The Might of The Power of the Family Head_2

Damn.

Apprentice Muyuanbai felt a stir of panic.

He almost forgot that Luo Qiu's older brother was from the Changchun lineage!

Although he still had around 60 to 70 percent of his Vital Energy left, constantly attacking without making any progress would eventually exhaust him. On the other hand, the longer the fight would drag on, the clearer the opponent's advantage would be.

Was he going to lose even though he had the upper hand due to their age disparity?!

In the midst of his panic, Muyuanbai made up his mind to go all out.

Well, it seemed he couldn't help it. He would have to use that move.

With this thought in mind, he gestured with his hand, and the Spirit Sword "Cicada Chirp" immediately flew back and landed in his palm.

Holding the sword, his demeanor instantly became serious.

"Luo Qiu's elder brother, be careful."

He was straightforward and even reminded Wang Shouzhe.

After saying that, he activated the Sword Intent.

The next moment.

A strong and sharp aura emerged, and his whole momentum changed instantly.

At this moment, it seemed as if he had merged with the Spirit Sword in his hand, radiating sharp edges all over his body.

Muyuanbai's face turned pale, apparently, this state was quite straining for him.

But his eyes were extremely determined, and the hand holding the sword didn't tremble at all.

Only a kind of invisible sharp aura gradually converged around him as the center.

A giant Sword Light, several feet high and many times larger than him, gradually emerged behind him, radiating an indescribable sharp edge.

"Senior Brother Yuanbai, he..."

Upon seeing this, the disciples from Leisure Peak changed their expressions as one.

This was their Master, Master Xuanyao's signature Profound Martial Fighting Technique—"Open Mountain Sword Light"!

They didn't expect Senior Brother Yuanbai to have mastered it already. Although it was still in its initial form and its power was far from comparable to Master Xuanyao, it was indeed an Open Mountain Sword Light~!

Even the Masters watching the fight above were slightly surprised.

Master Changchun couldn't help but praise, "Xuanyao, your disciple Muyuanbai really has some of your flair. His execution of Open Mountain Sword Light is quite decent."

"Oh, not at all~" Master Xuanyao stroked his beard with a pleased look on his face while remaining modest, "This kid is just showing off even though he only knows a bit. After we return, I'll definitely have him reflect in solitude for a while."

Wang Luoqiu and Wang Luo Jing couldn't help showing some worry on their beautiful faces.

Luckily, they had grown up watching their elder brother pull off miracles, and they knew that he wouldn't step up to anything he wasn't sure of.

Moreover, even as his sisters, they had a vague and ridiculous hunch as of now: If their elder brother didn't hold back, he might threaten even a Celestial being.

He might indeed have an ace up his sleeve that even a Celestial being would be cautious of.

With this thought, they relaxed a bit.

As fast as you could say jack.

In just a few breaths' time, Muyuanbai had already fully wound up his Sword Light. His face was slightly pale, clearly, the power of this move had outstripped his control.

"Go!"

With his shout.

The enormous "Open Mountain Sword Light" suddenly flew out, heading towards Wang Shouzhe with a powerful aura!

This sword seemed to carry an incomparable sense of sharpness.

Sword Light was like whipcord, as if possessed by a force capable of breaking through the heavens.

The Sword Intent soared into the sky, carrying a power capable of splitting the earth.

The icy killing intent instantly locked onto Wang Shouzhe, giving him goosebumps all over his body.

However, Wang Shouzhe had long been prepared.

Nearly at the same time the Sword Light attacked, his Changchun Mysterious Energy was already being wildly infused into the Top Grade Spiritual Artifact "Heart Guard Shield".

At the same time, his expression sobered as he prepared to guard with his shield.

In an instant.

A heavy, bluish glow spread out from the Spirit Shield "Guardian Heart", and an umbrella-shaped Energy Shield condensed in a flash.

This Energy Shield, about two to three meters in diameter, was about an inch thick. Mysterious enigmatic runes were glowing in the center of the Shield.

"What a powerful Spirit Shield!"

The people under the ring all widened their eyes in bewilderment.

At this very moment, the Open Mountain Sword Light collided with the umbrella-shaped Energy Shield.

"Boom!"

With a booming sound, two different colored energies exploded like fireworks. A circular Shock Wave, with the Guardian Heart Spirit Shield at its center, spread out in all directions.

Wherever the Shock Wave went, the air violently shook, debris flew around and got crushed, the blasting noise was deafening.

Even the spectators around the ring were affected by the Shock Wave, either retreating or using their skills to resist the wave.

Everyone's expression was extremely shocked.

The power of this energy collision was too violent, wasn't it? It felt like even two Mid Stage Spirit Platform Realms fighting wouldn't necessarily cause such a shock wave.

However, out of all the people present, the most shocked was Muyuanbai.

He looked dully at the mess on the stage, and then at Wang Shouzhe across from him.

At this moment, Wang Shouzhe was crouched on the other side of the stage in a defensive position with his shield. The umbrella-shaped Energy Shield that the Spirit Shield had given off was already broken, but he hadn't been hurt at all. He had only been knocked back a bit by the Shock Wave.

What kind of defensive Spiritual Artifact was this?

Muyuanbai's mouth twitched, and he was inwardly shocked.

Compared to Li Yuzhe's defense earlier, the power of the Open Mountain Sword Light was only half as strong, no, only thirty percent of it could completely annihilate it.

As for Luo Qiu's elder brother… No, he should be referred to as "Wang Shouzhe". He had completely withstood his most powerful strike.

This indicated that the defense level of that Spiritual Artifact was far above his Open Mountain Sword Light, at least it must be a middle grade artifact.

As Muyuanbai was stunned, Wang Shouzhe had already stood up.

"As expected of Brother Yuanbai, the power of Open Mountain Sword Light is indeed exceptional." Wang Shouzhe laughed freely, "However, if Brother Yuanbai has no stronger moves, I'm afraid you are going to lose."

Lose?

Muyuanbai chuckled, "Brother Shouzhe, I admit that you are quite incredible. But to say that I'm going to lose – now that's a joke."

"Brother Yuanbai, just look under your feet." Wang Shouzhe calmly said.

Muyuanbai looked down, only to see several green seedlings sprouting among the scattered pieces of the arena floor. They were delicately green, like freshly sprung grass, seemingly fragile.

He was puzzled: "Brother Shouzhe, what are these?"

"Brother Yuanbai, you may have forgotten. I am a student from Changchun Valley." Wang Shouzhe laughed, "What I'm best at is farming."

"Good at farming, could this be...?" Muyuanbai's face changed, "Is this some kind of Battle Spirit Plant?"

Immediately, he instinctively backed away.

But it was already too late.

More than half the arena had sprouted small green tendrils underground, covering the area in a sea of green, like a newly emerged wheat field in spring.

No matter where he went, the seedlings at his feet rapidly grew, instantly transforming into thick robust vines.

They moved like the tentacles of a demon, bewitchingly flaunting like a witch's long hair. Even the slightest contact with Muyuanbai would trigger a rapid outburst of tendrils that would wrap from his legs up to his waist.

Muyuanbai immediately summoned his Spirit Sword.

The "Cicada Chirp" sword split the vines instantly with its rapid swings.

However, Wang Shouzhe's Vine Array was never a solo act.

While he was engaged in combat with Wang Shouzhe, a Vine Array was already quietly laid down.

Vines continued to tear at Muyuanbai, no matter where he went or escaped to, vines would grow and then launch fierce attacks against him.

The present vines were several times more formidable than the ones Wang Shouzhe used during the trial, they grew more rapidly, their roots were thicker and stronger and their entangling force was greater. Even so, they still couldn't resist sharp spiritual artifacts.

However, these vines managed to hamper most of Muyuanbai's energy, forcing him to continuously cut the vines.

Under these circumstances, Wang Shouzhe could easily injure him with a casual swing of his sword.

"Brother Yuanbai, you have lost."

Wang Shouzhe said with a faint smile.

As his words fell, he held the shield in his left hand and the sword in his right, directly charging at Muyuanbai. His sword came striking and shield defending, each move honest and straightforward.

In less than half an incense time, Wang Shouzhe's sword broke Muyuanbai's protective body Xuan Gang, the impact force shocked him and made him fly out of the arena.

Muyuanbai grunted and managed to stabilize his form only after several hops on the ground with his toes.

At this moment, his image was very embarrassing, but what was more visible on his pale face was disbelief!

He had lost!

He really lost!

He actually lost to a junior student who had just reached the Level One of the Spirit Platform Realm!

His face turned ashen and despondent, almost dazed.

On the stage, Wang Shouzhe put away his sword and shield, respectfully bowing to Muyuanbai from a distance: "Brother Yuanbai, thank you for conceding."

At this point, Muyuanbai was also a free and easy person.

He chuckled bitterly, returning the courtesy: "Little brother Shouzhe, I am impressed."

The other party had defeated him properly and fairly, if they were to do it again, the result would not change, even if he didn't want to admit it, there was no helping it.

When the results of this battle emerged, the various factions naturally had different reactions.

The Disciples of the Lineage of Free and Unrestrained Peak were dispirited, each of them drooping their heads.

Their senior brother Muyuanbai had been defeated. He had been defeated by a disciple from outside Changchun Valley, and the defeat was abject.

If this had happened on Leisure Peak, it might have been more bearable. But they had come to Changchun Valley to learn, and in the end it was Changchun Valley that got a taste of their lesson. Naturally, they were red-faced and full of shame.

"Brother Muyuanbai, it's okay," Wang Luoqiu, who had a favorable impression of their suave senior brother, stepped forward to comfort him. "It's completely normal that you lost to my fourth brother. Even when we girls teamed up, we couldn't beat him."

Muyuanbai looked speechless. Was that supposed to be comforting? And sister Luoqiu, if your fourth brother was this powerful, why didn't you warn him earlier?

In contrast, the people of Changchun Valley were all flush with excitement.

They had been trampled to the bottom of the valley, but unsuspectingly, they had been lifted high to the peak of the mountain. Such drastic shifts in emotion made it hard for any of them to suppress their excitement.

"Junior Brother Shouzhe."

The sisters from Changchun Valley threw themselves onto the battle stage, fussing over Wang Shouzhe with drinks and handkerchiefs, while surreptitiously slipping him little notes.

Wang Shouzhe sensed a hint of killing intent approaching and turned to see not his wife Liu Ruolan, but his sister-in-law Liu Ruolei, glaring at him with fierce eyes.

But his wife Liu Ruolan was still all smiles, pleasant and affable.

He hurriedly swayed and slipped away using the Willow Catkin Body Method, running back to Liu Ruolan, trying to prove his innocence.

"Wife, those sisters..."

"Husband, you've worked hard." Liu Ruolan picked up a handkerchief and gently wiped the sweat from his brow. "You were truly impressive on the stage just now. It's normal that the sisters are attracted to your good looks."

"Uh..." Wang Shouzhe was speechless. Before her transformation, their wife was much easier to talk to.

Suddenly, at this moment.

Senior Brother Jinshan rushed over, calling out excitedly, "Senior Brother Shouzhe."

Wang Shouzhe was sweating profusely and quickly greeted him, "Senior Brother Jinshan, please don't be like this!"

"No, no, no. The so-called 'to the victor go the spoils'. You defeating Muyuanbai has brought great honor to our Changchun Valley lineage," Senior Brother Jinshan gripped Wang Shouzhe's hand, his face flushed with excitement. "How many years has it been? How many years since Changchun Valley has had such glory! All thanks to you!

To call you a senior brother is only right, if you allow it, I would even call you master."

Master?

Uh... let's not joke around.

Wang Shouzhe hurriedly said, "Senior Brother Jinshan, choose your words carefully."

Then, he added solemnly, "Master Changchun has always taken care of me. It's only right for me to step in at critical times."

In the midst of their conversation, dozens of disciples from Changchun Valley surrounded them, all giddy with excitement, calling out "Senior Brother Shouzhe" and looked at him with adoring eyes.

Watching this scene, Wang Shouzhe inwardly mused that his act hadn't been in vain. At the very least, he had saved face for Master Changchun.

"Senior Brother Shouzhe, why not lead us to visit other sects? We've never experienced other peaks or valleys before~" a disciple from Changchun Valley suggested.

"Um..."

Wang Shouzhe hesitated slightly.

"Why not visit the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies and meet the beautiful sisters there?"

"I suggest visiting the Tian Lake School."

The disciples of Changchun Valley put forward their suggestions one after another.

"Stop, stop!" Senior Brother Jinshan sternly reprimanded them. "Stop making such a fuss."

Senior Brother Jinshan still had quite the imposing presence. Just a word from him and the crowd quieted down immediately.

Wang Shouzhe couldn't help but secretly praise him. This Senior Brother Jinshan, though usually unscrupulous, was actually quite dependable during crucial moments and kept a cool head.

But just as that thought formed in his mind, Jinshan raised an eyebrow and continued to reprimand the crowd of brothers and sisters, "Your ambitions are too small! What's there to see in the Valley of Ten Thousand Butterflies or the Tian Lake School?

"If we're going, let's go to Mysterious Ice Palace!"

Upon hearing this, Wang Shouzhe stumbled and looked at Jinshan with a crooked eye.

He took back the praise he just thought.

Senior Brother Jinshan was absolutely the most flippant one of all!