

## PROTEGE 161

### Chapter 161: THE MOST DAZZLING WEDDING PROPOSAL

Pharsa raised an imaginary glass in a toast. "To love, friendship, and unforgettable moments." Her voice was filled with pride, and her eyes shone with excitement.

Ren added with a wink, "And to the most dazzling wedding proposal this country has ever seen!" Her voice was filled with mischief, and her smile was infectious.

The group erupted in laughter, their spirits high. As they stood together under the starlit sky, they knew that this proposal would be a night to remember. The bond they shared was unbreakable, and their hearts were filled with hope and excitement for the future.

As the clock struck midnight, the group began to wind down, their excitement for the proposal plan still buzzing in the air. The gazebo, which had been the heart of their brainstorming session, now felt like a sanctuary of shared dreams and hopes. The sweet fragrance of blooming flowers mingled with the cool night breeze, creating an enchanting atmosphere.

Shi Min, ever the responsible one, clapped his hands to get everyone's attention. "Alright, folks, it's getting late. Don't forget we have early training with Mom tomorrow. We need to be at our best."

Shi Min's reminder was met with a mix of groans and chuckles. The reality of their daily routines set in, but the thrill of their plan kept their spirits high. The sound of laughter echoed through the night, a testament to their camaraderie.

Four Eyes, feeling the weight of both anticipation and exhaustion, stretched his arms above his head. "Shi Min's right. Let's call it a night. We've got a big day ahead."

Ren gathered her sketches, carefully placing them in her portfolio before stuffing them in her space ring. Her eyes sparkled with excitement. "I can't wait to see Mom's reaction. She's going to be so surprised." The thought of seeing Ling Li's face light up filled her with joy and determination.

Mushu, still tinkering with a small gadget, nodded in agreement. "I just need to fine-tune the holographic. It's going to be perfect." His fingers moved deftly over the device, his mind already working on solutions. He was relentless in his pursuit of perfection, and tonight was no exception.

Pharsa, humming softly, packed up her music sheets with a gentle smile. "And I'll make sure the band is ready. Ling Li won't know what hit her." Her voice was filled with the warmth of someone who truly believed in the magic of love. Her melody lingered in the air, a soothing end to the night's excitement.

Lily, her adventurous spirit undiminished by the late hour, gave a playful salute. "I'll finalize the fireworks. It's going to be a night to remember!" Her energy was infectious, and the group couldn't help but smile at her enthusiasm. Her mind raced with ideas for the perfect display.

As they began to disperse, each heading to their respective rooms, a sense of camaraderie and joy filled the air. They exchanged hugs, high-fives, and words of encouragement, their bonds of friendship stronger than ever. The night air was filled with the sounds of their goodbyes, filled with affection and hope.

Four Eyes lingered for a moment, taking in the sight of his friends. He felt a profound sense of gratitude for their unwavering support. "Goodnight, everyone. Thank you for everything."

"Goodnight, Chu Yan,"

"Goodnight, Paps,"

"Goodnight, Uncle,"

"Goodnight, Master,"

They chorused, their voices filled with affection and respect. The warmth in their voices was a balm to Four Eyes' soul.

Shi Min, the last to leave, turned to his stepfather with a grin. "Don't worry, Paps. We've got this. Now go get some rest. Your proposal next week is going to be amazing."

Four Eyes nodded, his heart full. "You're right. Thank you. Goodnight, Shi Min."

As Shi Min walked away, Four Eyes made his way to his room. The moonlight streamed through the windows, casting a serene glow over the hallway. The shadows danced gently on the walls, creating an almost magical ambiance. He felt a sense of peace and excitement, knowing that next week would bring a moment he had dreamed of for so long.

In their respective rooms, the rest of the group settled in for the night, their minds filled with thoughts of the proposal. Ren reviewed her sketches one last time before drifting off to sleep, her dreams filled with vibrant colors and beautiful scenes. She could almost see her mother's reaction, and it filled her heart with warmth.

Mushu, ever the perfectionist, fell asleep with his gadget in hand, visions of holograms dancing in his head, which made Reginald, the person in charge of security for the night, shake his head in amusement. Reginald chuckled softly, appreciating Mushu's dedication and knowing that everything was in good hands.

Pharsa hummed softly to herself, the melody of their song soothing her to sleep. Her heart was filled with the sweet anticipation of the perfect moment. She could almost hear the music playing, guiding Ling Li through their love story.

Lily, still buzzing with excitement, lay awake for a while, imagining the fireworks lighting up the night sky. The thought of the grand finale made her smile as she finally drifted off to sleep.

Four Eyes walked quietly down the dimly lit hallway toward their room, each step filled with a mixture of excitement and fatigue. The moonlight streamed through the windows, casting a serene glow that guided Four Eyes' way. When he reached their door, he paused for a moment, taking a deep breath to steady himself.

As Four Eyes gently pushed the door open and stepped inside, his eyes immediately fell upon Ling Li, peacefully sleeping on their bed. The soft, rhythmic rise and fall of her chest as she breathed deeply, unaware of his presence, filled his heart with a profound sense of love and tenderness.

Ling Li's face was illuminated by the gentle light from the window, making her appear almost ethereal. Her hair cascaded around her like a dark halo, and a serene expression graced her features. Four Eyes felt his heart swell with emotion at the sight of her, so relaxed and unburdened by the worries of the day.

## Chapter 162: ALCHEMY LESSON

Four Eyes took a moment to silently admire Ling Li, his thoughts racing with the memories of their journey together. Every shared laugh, every tender moment, and every challenge they had overcome together played like a film in his mind. The love he felt for Ling Li was immeasurable, and seeing her in such a peaceful state reminded him of all the reasons he was doing this.

As Four Eyes moved quietly across the room, he couldn't help but feel a pang of nervousness mixed with excitement. The upcoming proposal was a significant step, a culmination of all their shared dreams and aspirations. He hoped with all his heart that Ling Li would be as delighted and moved by the proposal as he envisioned.

Kneeling beside the bed, Four Eyes gently brushed a stray lock of hair from Ling Li's forehead, his touch light and reverent. He leaned in and whispered, "I love you," even though he knew she couldn't hear him. The words carried the weight of his emotions, a silent promise of all the beautiful moments they had yet to share.

As Four Eyes stood up and prepared to get ready for bed, he felt a deep sense of contentment and anticipation. The proposal plan was in motion, and with the unwavering support of their friends, he knew it would be perfect. He settled into bed beside Ling Li, careful not to disturb her, and let the warmth of her presence soothe him to sleep.

In the quiet of the night, with Ling Li by his side, Four Eyes felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude and love. He knew that no matter what challenges lay ahead, they were united by the bond they shared. As he closed his eyes and drifted into a peaceful slumber, his heart was light, filled with the promise of a bright and beautiful future.

As the night grew deeper, the household fell into a peaceful slumber, each person carrying a happy heart and the promise of a bright proposal next week. The anticipation of the surprise proposal brought them closer together, their shared mission binding them in a web of love and friendship.

The stars outside twinkled brightly as if in agreement with their plan. The night held its breath, waiting for the day that would change their lives forever.

In the middle of the night, Four Eyes turned sleepily to his side. However, he was surprised to realize that Ling Li was no longer beside him. He immediately washed up and anxiously went looking for his wife. 'Where could she be?' He deeply wondered.

Butler Peng later informed Four Eyes that Ling Li was in the Alchemy Room, which was located in one of the annex buildings of the highly guarded mansion.

"Master, please take this jacket and let me take you there," Butler Peng courteously said as he led the way. Four Eyes silently followed Butler Peng as he put on the light jacket.

Mushu and Pharsa were outside guarding the door of the Alchemy Room; obviously, Ling Li was inside.

"Master, good morning. You may go in," Mushu politely said as he pushed the door open for Four Eyes. "Madam is in the second door on your right."

Four Eyes silently nodded in acknowledgment to Mushu and walked in. He slowly opened the door where Ling Li was and found her processing some bones that looked familiar to Four Eyes. Surrounding her were different furnaces, kilns, and cauldrons, all lit with precise and controlled fires.

Most alchemists would need to monitor the fire consistently to ensure the stability of the heat. However, with Ling Li's level of cultivation, it was very easy for her to control these fires with her internal energy. It is also said that the higher the cultivation of the alchemist, the more potent the pills and elixirs they produce. No wonder Ling Li's pills were too powerful.

When Ling Li noticed Four Eyes' presence, she looked up with a mixture of surprise and warmth in her eyes. "Why are you up so early?" she asked, her voice carrying a hint of concern.

"I didn't find you when I woke up, so I came to look for you. What are you doing so early?" Four Eyes walked over to Ling Li and placed a reassuring hand on her shoulder, his voice tinged with worry.

Ling Li smiled softly, her eyes reflecting the bond they shared. "Come and sit beside me. I'm making some elixirs and enhancement pills. Let me teach you," she lovingly said to Four Eyes, her tone inviting and warm.

As Four Eyes settled beside Ling Li, she began to explain the basics of alchemy. “Alchemy is a precise and delicate art,” Ling Li started, her fingers deftly handling the ingredients. “The first step is to gather high-quality raw materials. Each ingredient has unique properties that contribute to the final product.”

Ling Li picked up a bone, showing it to Four Eyes. “This is the bone of a spirit beast, rich in spiritual energy. It will serve as the foundation of our elixir. Next, we grind it into a fine powder using a mortar and pestle.”

Four Eyes watched intently as Ling Li demonstrated, her movements fluid and practiced. He admired her expertise and the ease with which she handled each step. “Once the ingredients are prepared, we combine them in a cauldron and control the fire with our internal energy. The heat must be precise to ensure the stability of the mixture.”

Ling Li’s voice was calm and steady, and her eyes focused on the task at hand. Four Eyes couldn’t help but be mesmerized by her skill and dedication. As she continued to explain the process, he felt a newfound respect for the art of alchemy and the effort it required.

Ling Li looked at Four Eyes and smiled, her eyes filled with warmth. “Alchemy is not just about creating powerful elixirs and pills; it’s also about understanding the balance and harmony of the ingredients. Each component plays a vital role, and the success of the process depends on the alchemist’s ability to harmonize them.”

Ling Li took a deep breath and continued, “The grinding process releases the essential properties of the ingredients. The finer the powder, the more surface area is available for the extraction of these properties. It’s crucial to ensure that the ingredients are ground to the right consistency.”

#### Chapter 163: ALCHEMY AND IT’S BACKLASH

Ling Li handed Four Eyes a mortar and pestle, encouraging him to try it himself. Four Eyes carefully followed her instructions, feeling the weight of the pestle in his hand as he ground the bone into a fine powder. Ling Li watched with an approving smile, offering gentle corrections when necessary.

“Next, we need to blend the powdered ingredients with a liquid medium. This ingredient can be anything from purified water to a specially prepared herbal infusion, depending on the desired effect of the elixir,” Ling Li explained as she poured a clear, shimmering liquid into a cauldron, the light catching its surface and creating a mesmerizing dance of colors.

Four Eyes observed as Ling Li added the powdered bone to the cauldron, her movements precise and deliberate. "The key here is to maintain a consistent temperature. Too much heat can destroy the beneficial properties of the ingredients. At the same time, too little heat will prevent them from fully integrating."

Ling Li demonstrated how to control the fire with her internal energy, her hands moving gracefully as she channeled her power. "Feel the energy flow within you and direct it towards the cauldron. It's like nurturing a delicate flame, ensuring it burns steadily." With Four Eyes level of cultivation, Ling Li knew he could do it.

Four Eyes closed his eyes, focusing on his internal energy. He felt a gentle warmth spread through his body as he directed his energy towards the cauldron. The fire responded to his touch, its flames flickering with a newfound intensity.

As the mixture began to bubble and emit a fragrant steam, Ling Li's voice guided him through the final steps. "Now, we allow the elixir to simmer, stirring it occasionally to ensure even distribution. This process can take several hours, so patience is essential."

Four Eyes continued to stir the mixture, his movements becoming more confident with each passing moment. He felt a deep sense of connection to the process, as if he were weaving his energy into the elixir.

Ling Li smiled, her eyes shining with pride. "You're doing wonderfully, Honey. Remember, alchemy is not just about the result; it's about the journey and the connection you build with the ingredients. Each elixir and pill carries a piece of your essence."

As they worked together, Four Eyes felt a sense of fulfillment and connection. Ling Li's presence and guidance made the experience even more meaningful. He realized that their journey together wasn't just about the challenges they faced but also about the moments of learning and growth they shared.

As the fires in the alchemy room flickered, casting a warm glow, Ling Li continued to guide Four Eyes through the intricate process of alchemy. Her voice was calm and steady, filled with the wisdom and experience of a seasoned alchemist.

“Alchemy is not just about mixing ingredients and controlling fire,” Ling Li began, her eyes meeting Four Eyes’ with a serious yet affectionate gaze. “It’s about understanding the delicate balance of nature and the harmony between elements. Every ingredient has its own energy, and as alchemists, it’s our job to harmonize these energies.”

Four Eyes listened intently, absorbing every word. He could feel the weight of Ling Li’s knowledge and the importance of the lessons she was imparting. Ling Li’s hands moved with grace as she demonstrated the next step in the process, her fingers deftly handling the ingredients with precision.

“Each step in alchemy requires careful consideration and respect for the materials we use,” Ling Li continued. “Take this herb, for example,” she said, holding up a vibrant green leaf. “It has potent healing properties, but if not prepared correctly, it can become toxic. Understanding the properties of each ingredient and how they interact is crucial.”

As she spoke, Ling Li’s expression grew more serious. “There’s something else you must understand, Honey. Alchemy is a powerful art, but it comes with risks. The backlash from a failed alchemical experiment can be severe, both physically and spiritually, or even death.”

Ling Li paused, her eyes reflecting a hint of past experiences. “I’ve seen alchemists suffer from misjudgments, their internal energy disrupted, and their bodies weakened. The backlash can manifest as severe pain, loss of energy, or even permanent damage to one’s cultivation. It’s a reminder that we must approach alchemy with respect and caution.”

Four Eyes felt a pang of concern as he listened to Ling Li’s words. He could sense the gravity of her message and the potential dangers that accompanied the practice of alchemy. Ling Li placed a reassuring hand on his shoulder, her touch filled with warmth and understanding.

“But don’t let this discourage you,” Ling Li said softly. “With proper training, knowledge, and respect for the art, you can mitigate these risks. That’s why it’s essential to learn the fundamentals and practice with care. Remember, alchemy is not just about creating powerful elixirs; it’s about understanding the balance of nature and the harmony within yourself.”

Ling Li continued to guide Four Eyes through the process; Ling Li’s voice carried a sense of pride and encouragement. “You’re doing well, Honey. Remember, alchemy is a journey of continuous learning and growth. Embrace each step with patience and respect, and you’ll become a skilled alchemist in no time.”

As the hours continued, the alchemy room was filled with the harmonious dance of controlled flames and the gentle murmur of Ling Li's teachings, and their hearts also beat in unison. Four Eyes felt a deep sense of fulfillment and gratitude, knowing that with Ling Li's guidance, he was on a path of discovery and growth.

As the soft light of the morning filtered through the alchemy room, Ling Li carefully monitored the kiln's progress. The anticipation in the room was palpable as the cauldron's contents bubbled and emitted a gentle, fragrant steam. Finally, the moment arrived. Ling Li took a deep breath and opened the kiln with a sense of excitement and pride.

Inside, fifteen golden pills lay nestled in the kiln, shimmering with a radiant glow. Ling Li's eyes sparkled with excitement as she gently picked up one of the pills, holding it up for Four Eyes to see.

#### Chapter 164: THE HEALING ELIXIRS

"These are healing elixirs," Ling Li explained, her voice filled with enthusiasm. "They are designed to restore and rejuvenate the body's internal energy. A single pill can accelerate healing, replenish lost vitality, and strengthen the body's natural defenses. They are particularly useful for warriors and cultivators who need to recover quickly after intense battles or training sessions. Oh, these pills cannot be bought by money," Ling Li said with a sense of pride.

Four Eyes marveled at the golden pill in Ling Li's hand, his eyes wide with admiration and curiosity. "These pills are incredible," he said, his voice filled with awe. "I can see why alchemy is such a revered skill. The potential to heal and strengthen oneself is truly remarkable."

Ling Li nodded, her smile warm and proud. "It takes a lot of dedication and precision to create these elixirs, but the results are well worth the effort. Healing elixirs like these can mean the difference between life and death in critical situations. They can mend broken bones, repair damaged tissues, and even replenish spiritual energy, allowing cultivators to continue their journey with renewed strength."

As Ling Li placed the golden pill back with the others, she noticed the time on the clock and realized it was almost time for the training session she had arranged. "We should prepare for the training," she said, her tone shifting to one of determination and focus. "Mushu, please monitor the alchemy room on my behalf."

Mushu, who had been standing guard outside, nodded respectfully and entered the room. "Yes, Madam. I will ensure everything remains in order," he replied, his voice firm and unwavering.

Ling Li turned to Four Eyes, her expression serious yet filled with love. “Training is just as important as alchemy. It’s essential to keep our bodies and minds sharp. The skills and knowledge we gain from training complement our alchemical abilities, making us stronger and more resilient.”

Four Eyes felt a surge of determination and excitement. He knew that every moment spent with Ling Li was an opportunity for growth and learning. Together, they left the alchemy room, ready to face the challenges and adventures that lay ahead.

As they walked towards the training grounds, the morning sun cast a golden glow over the mansion, illuminating their path. The air was filled with a sense of purpose and anticipation. Ling Li’s hand found its way into Four Eyes’ grasp, their fingers intertwining.

The training ground was a sprawling area equipped with various tools and obstacles designed to test their physical and mental prowess. Ling Li led the way, her eyes scanning the terrain with a keen sense of awareness. She had Reginald and Leeroy arrange these ahead of time while she was still at Camp Phoenix.

“Today’s training will focus on agility and reflexes,” Ling Li told Four Eyes, her voice filled with confidence and authority. “We need to be quick on our feet and sharp in our reactions. These skills are vital in both combat and alchemy.”

Four Eyes nodded, his heart pounding with excitement. He could feel the energy and determination radiating from Ling Li, inspiring him to push his limits.

The training ground buzzed with anticipation as everyone gathered, ready to take on the day’s challenges. Ling Li stood before them, her presence commanding yet nurturing. With a confident voice, she began to outline the series of training they would undergo every day: drills, sparring, forms, kata, and lastly, conditioning.

Shi Min stood beside Ling Li, ready to help guide the trainees. Pharsa, with her keen eye for detail, moved among the group, correcting postures and offering guidance whenever needed.

The trainees—Four Eyes, Shun, Ren, Lily, Fatty, and Chatty—listened attentively, their faces filled with determination and respect for their mentors. Surprisingly, even the little twins, Kim Kim and Chin Chin,

were present. Despite still learning to walk, they stood on the side, trying to imitate the adults' movements with adorable earnestness.

Ling Li started the session with agility drills, instructing everyone to run through a series of obstacle courses designed to test their speed and coordination. Her movements were fluid and graceful, every step precise. She demonstrated the drills with ease, her years of training evident in every motion.

Four Eyes watched in awe, determined to match his wife's skill and precision. Shun and Ren pushed themselves to keep up, and their competitive spirits ignited. Lily, Fatty, and Chatty followed closely, their movements becoming more refined with each repetition. Shi Min and Pharsa moved among them, offering encouragement and correcting their form.

After the agility drills, Ling Li moved on to sparring. She paired the trainees, emphasizing the importance of technique and control. Four Eyes found himself sparring with Shun, their movements a dance of strikes and counters. Ling Li and Shi Min observed, offering pointers and demonstrating advanced techniques.

Pharsa guided Lily and Ren, her sharp eyes catching every flaw in their form. "Remember, balance is key," she instructed, gently adjusting Ren's stance. "A strong foundation will make your attacks more effective."

As the sparring sessions progressed, the trainees' skills improved, and their movements became more fluid and precise. The bonds between them grew stronger, fueled by mutual respect and admiration.

Next, Ling Li led them through forms and kata, a series of choreographed movements designed to develop muscle memory and precision. She moved with a mesmerizing grace, her body a symphony of fluid motion. The trainees followed her lead, their movements synchronized and deliberate.

Even the little twins, Kim Kim and Chin Chin, tried to mimic the forms, their tiny bodies swaying and stumbling in an adorable attempt to join in. Ling Li and Four Eyes smiled warmly at them, their hearts swelling with affection for the determined little ones.

The final part of the training focused on conditioning. Ling Li guided the group through intense exercises designed to build strength and endurance. From push-ups to weight lifting, every muscle was tested and pushed to its limit.

Four Eyes felt the burn in his muscles but pushed through, motivated by Ling Li's unwavering support. Shun and Ren encouraged each other, their competitive spirits driving them to push harder. Lily, Fatty, and Chatty gave their all, their determination evident in every movement.

#### Chapter 165: OFFENDING THE OCEAN RULER

As the training session drew to a close, everyone stood side by side, their bodies glistening with sweat and their hearts filled with a sense of accomplishment. They had pushed their limits and grown stronger, both individually and as a team. The courtyard was filled with the soft rustling of leaves and the distant chirping of birds, creating a serene backdrop to their sense of achievement.

Ling Li's eyes met everyone's gaze, her piercing yet gentle eyes reflecting the wisdom and strength she possessed. A soft smile played on her lips, accentuating the fine lines of experience etched on her face. "You all did well today," she said, her voice filled with pride and affection, carrying a melody of encouragement. "Remember, every step we take, every challenge we overcome brings us closer to our goals."

Everyone returned Ling Li's smile, their hearts swelling with gratitude and love. They knew they couldn't have done it without Ling Li, their Master's guidance and support. The bond they shared felt almost tangible, like a thread woven with trust and mutual respect.

Chatty, whose curiosity knew no bounds, stepped forward. His eyes sparkled with an eager light, a contrast to his perpetually disheveled appearance. "Madam, may I ask you a question?" he asked, his voice tinged with a blend of hesitation and eagerness.

"Sure, Murphey, ask away." Ling Li replied with a warm nod.

"Madam, all this time, I've been wondering, with your strength and capacity, why did you allow yourself to get hurt by the sharks and during the ambush? You could have gotten away with it in a split second," Chatty's question piqued the curiosity of Four Eyes, Fatty, and Shun, who leaned in, their expressions a mix of intrigue and respect.

Ling Li's face softened as she looked at Chatty, admiration for his inquisitive nature shining in her eyes. "Good question and a very smart one," she declared, which made Chatty smug as he puffed out his chest with pride.

“Regarding the shark incident, everyone needs to understand that oceans have their own ruler; currently, it’s the eight-hundred-year-old ancient merman and his wife, and along with them is another group council composed of ancient mermen and mermaids. Ancient mermen and mermaids are very powerful, and we couldn’t afford to offend them.” Ling Li paused, letting her words resonate with the gravity of the situation.

The group listened intently, their eyes widening with awe and fear at the thought of such formidable beings.

Ling Li continued, “Ancient mermen and mermaids possess extraordinary powers. They can control and manipulate water, creating powerful currents, tidal waves, and even tsunamis. Their healing touch can mend wounds and illnesses, making them revered as healers. They communicate telepathically with each other and sea creatures, allowing for silent coordination. Some can control other elements like wind and lightning, and they live for centuries, accumulating immense knowledge and experience. Offending them can lead to environmental catastrophes, retaliatory strikes, curses, and isolation.”

Ling Li added, “Once, there was an island of fishermen who spotted a mermaid. These groups of fishermen saw the mermaid as money that could lead to wealth. They started to hunt, and with their frustration, they pooled their little money and hired professional divers to help them. The divers were able to capture the young mermaid and accidentally killed her during the battle. The ruler washed out the whole island by flooding it and drowning everyone. No one was spared. The divers who were tainted by the mermaid’s blood started to grow scales on their skin, and the people taunted them as monsters and killed them, burning them alive.”

As Ling Li spoke, a chill ran down the spines of her listeners, the weight of the story settling over them like a dark cloud.

“As a martial artist, if I used my internal energy to fight that shark, it would create ripples of energy across the ocean that would not only kill the shark but anything around the radius depending on the energy that I release. It could also cause flooding or even a tsunami, and this would greatly offend the ocean’s ruler,” Ling Li explained.

Shi Min, who had been listening intently, spoke up. “What we can do during these incidents is seal our internal vitality so that even if we get injured, our cultivation won’t be damaged or destroyed, and we could still recover faster than a mortal,” he explained his calm and collected demeanor providing a sense of reassurance to the group.

Ling Li continued, "That is correct, and regarding the ambush, the road is a public place where many people and civilians are present. We couldn't publicly show our strength as martial artists because it would cause panic without them understanding martial arts. Also, suppose we expose ourselves and our capabilities openly. In that case, we will be hunted and will face a lot of challenges not only in the mortal world but also among other martial artists to test our strength. If they are stronger than you, you will always get bullied. If you are stronger than them, you will be a threat to them, and you will be targeted.

Evil cultivators, in particular, would see us as prime targets for attacks, duels, and relentless pursuit to extract our knowledge and power. So, we need to be very careful in utilizing our power and understand each situation very well. Lastly, involving and killing civilians could lead to a backlash against martial artists, depending on the situation.

If our battles were to involve and result in the death of civilians, it would bring about severe repercussions. Firstly, the public would likely view us with fear and distrust, seeing us as a danger rather than protectors. This could lead to societal backlash, where martial artists are shunned or even persecuted by the very people we aim to protect. Legal consequences could also follow, as authorities might seek to regulate or restrict martial arts practice to prevent further incidents.

Our actions could tarnish the reputation of martial artists globally, creating a stigma that affects not only us but also future generations of martial artists. This makes it imperative to exercise extreme caution and responsibility in our actions, ensuring the safety of civilians at all costs."