

Supreme MK 221

Chapter 221: Genius Selection Competition_I

Yang Chen stood up with his hands behind his back: "So, there is no need for me to involve the City Lord's Mansion."

"But if you leave now, won't it be equivalent to fleeing out of guilt? The person wasn't killed by you, but if you escape, it would seem like it was you who killed him." Jin Cheng said worriedly.

"If I don't escape, am I not guilty?" Yang Chen's expression was cold. He had seen the temperament of those major sects in his previous life. They were experts at bullying the weak and yielding to the strong. Would they care about a single human life when dealing with someone weaker than them?

Yang Chen said solemnly, "If I don't leave, it will only make things difficult for the City Lord's Mansion. Brother Jin Cheng, I am doing this because I consider you as a friend. If I didn't consider you a friend, I would have left this mess for you to deal with. If I leave, the Ming Emperor Sect will have ten thousand reasons not to bother the City Lord's Mansion."

"But if you leave, the Ming Emperor Sect will definitely not let it go when they find out. You will be truly unsafe outside the City Lord's Mansion." Jin Cheng gritted his teeth.

"Haha, Brother Jin Cheng, have you forgotten my skills?" Yang Chen smiled slightly, "Don't worry, since I want to leave, I must have my reasons. There are people who want to set me up and I won't let them get away with it. It will never be clear if I stay in Liaocheng. I'm curious to see who wants to harm me."

As he said this, Yang Chen's voice grew colder, and his expression became much more severe.

No one could be happy with a false label on their head.

Actually, Yang Chen hadn't planned to stay in Liaocheng for long. He wouldn't be able to expose the conspiracy of the Canghai Sect Leader, He Shangfeng, and fulfill He Yunxiao's dying wish if he stayed in Liaocheng for the rest of his life. Leaving Liaocheng was something he had to do eventually, it's just that the timing had been moved up a bit.

Jin Cheng was still uneasy, feeling extremely annoyed, "Yang Chen, I'm sorry. You stood up for my City Lord's Mansion, but now that there's trouble, we can't protect you completely. Instead, we let you fall on the outside, suffering such unfair treatment. I'm no better than a beast!"

Jin Cheng was filled with guilt right now.

If it weren't for him, how would Yang Chen encounter such trouble?

But now, he had no solution for this matter.

Did he dare to say he could protect Yang Chen?

Let alone him, even his father couldn't guarantee that.

His father was powerful at the Origin Martial Realm, but any elder from the Ming Emperor Sect was also at the Origin Martial Realm!

Some among them even had experts in the True Martial Realm!

"Brother Jin Cheng, you don't have to worry about it. This choice I make may not necessarily be a bad thing for me." Yang Chen smiled. "It's just that after I leave, I hope that Brother Jin Cheng would help me look after the Yang Family in the Great Wilderness."

"Definitely!" Jin Cheng's expression was determined: "Yang Chen, as an elder brother, I am already very sorry to you. I will not let the Yang family suffer any harm. Anyone who wants to touch the Yang family has to step over my body first! "

Jin Cheng sighed and then thought of something: "Yang Chen, if you leave Liaocheng, the Ming Emperor Sect will definitely think that you are fleeing out of guilt, and they will never let you go. The Ming Emperor Sect has a huge influence, so if you want to find a place to settle down, I, as your elder brother, have a foolproof method."

“Oh, what method?” Yang Chen was very curious.

If there was a foolproof plan, he didn’t mind listening to it.

“Very simple, the Genius Selection Competition held by North Mountain Main City!” Jin Cheng said.

“Genius Selection Competition, what is that?” Yang Chen was puzzled.

Jin Cheng explained carefully: “This is actually related to the turnover of the new and old generations in North Mountain Main City. North Mountain Main City governs North Mountain County and their recruitment conditions are very strict. However, if they don’t recruit people, the good candidates will be taken by those sects over time!”

“There was a period when North Mountain Main City experienced a generational gap in the turnover of the old and new generations. This made

North Mountain Main City realize the crisis, and since then, they have held the Genius Selection Competition once every hundred years under the name of the leader of North Mountain County!”

“Oh, there is such a thing?” Yang Chen became interested.

Jin Cheng continued: “In this Genius Selection Competition, the first place winner will be rewarded with treasures personally provided by North Mountain Main City. The value of the treasures is incalculable. Of course, achieving outstanding results in the first few places is difficult, and most geniuses don’t aim for that. There are too many demon-level geniuses in the entire North

Mountain County.”

“So what are they aiming for?” Yang Chen couldn’t help asking.

“They’re aiming to be taken by those major sects.” Jin Cheng said with a thousand emotions: “This Genius Selection Competition consists of a basic competition, a knockout competition, and other various events. As long as one performs excellently in these events and catches the attention of the sects, they will naturally be accepted by the sects!”

At this point, Jin Cheng said solemnly, “If you perform well, you will attract many sects to fight for you. Each Genius Selection Competition has scenes of bloody battles among the sects. Those who rank higher will even be favored by the North Mountain Main City and the massive forces like the Canghai Sect. If you, Brother Yang Chen, shine in this competition, and are taken under the wing of a supreme sect, the threat of the Ming Emperor Sect will be insignificant.”

“Aside from that, there are also some powerful loose cultivators who will try to take disciples in the selection competition and snatch good talents from North Mountain Main City.”

This made Yang Chen slightly stunned, and what Jin Cheng said did not seem like a bad way out.

Jin Cheng, feeling guilty, naturally did not want Yang Chen to suffer any loss:

“Moreover, anyone from North Mountain County can participate in this Genius Selection Competition regardless of their background. The only pity is that the age must be under eighteen, and one must have at least the first level of the Spirit Martial Realm in martial arts cultivation. Brother, you are past that age. Otherwise, even if I knew it would be humiliating, I would try to take a chance at the Genius Selection Competition. If I succeeded, I would be favored by the North Mountain Main City, and my father’s position in Liaocheng would be secure.”

Yang Chen said, “In that case, this Genius Selection Competition sounds like an unprecedented grand event, with any genius under eighteen who has entered the Spirit Martial Realm participating. The scale of this competition is quite astonishing. ”

“It’s an astonishing scale, and an equally great opportunity to rise to prominence. In the past, there was a genius who reached the ninth level of the Spirit Martial Realm at the age of eighteen, and both the North Mountain Main City and several major sects went crazy for him. The first level assessment, the basic competition, will be held in two months! Brother Yang Chen, with your talent, you will definitely shine in this competition!” Jin Cheng said solemnly.

“Thank you, Brother Jin Cheng, for pointing out a way. I will definitely attend this basic competition.” Yang Chen said.

Hearing this, Jin Cheng took out a jade pendant from his bosom: “This token represents your origin in Liaocheng, and you will need it when you participate in the competition. Brother Yang Chen, I haven’t helped you much.” As he said this, Jin Cheng gritted his teeth, the guilt on his face unmistakable!

Chapter 222: Song Family Caravan_I

In order to help Yang Chen, Jin Cheng racked his brains. In the end, Jin Cheng even managed to get some protective treasures and a large number of Spirit Stones for travel expenses from his father to give to Yang Chen.

At first, Yang Chen didn’t plan to accept it, but in the end, seeing Jin Cheng’s determination, Yang Chen reluctantly shook his head.

If he didn’t accept it now, Jin Cheng would probably not be at ease, so he took Jin Cheng’s kindness.

Afterward, Jin Cheng helped Yang Chen arrange an identity for departure.

In the end, Jin Cheng fabricated an identity for Yang Chen, allowing him to join the caravan of a family from Liaocheng going to the faraway MO City. With the caravan departing, he could deceive the Huang Family and avoid them causing trouble again in order to please Ming Emperor Sect.

And so...

Three days later, a caravan heading to MO City for trade left Liaocheng grandly with no one knowing that Yang Chen left Liaocheng in such a secretive

manner.

Yang Chen didn't know that less than five days after he left Liaocheng, people from the Ming Emperor Sect arrived in the city and headed straight to the City Lord's Mansion. The man leading them was none other than Elder Qian of the Ming Emperor Sect, who had lost the Dazzling Mind Bell.

Elder Qian didn't bother to investigate and went straight to the City Lord's Mansion to look for people.

Unfortunately, even after turning Liaocheng upside down, the Ming Emperor Sect still couldn't find any trace of Yang Chen.

How would Elder Qian know that Yang Chen had already left Liaocheng by then?

In just five days, they had only covered 50% of the journey from Liaocheng to Mo City.

As the caravan rested, Yang Chen and Gu Mingyue sat in a corner among the resting people and horses, silent, observing their surroundings.

"Brother Yang, here, have some water!" At this point, an eleven or twelve-year-old boy ran over, holding a water sack and said with a grin.

Yang Chen and Gu Mingyue sat on a haystack together, watching the boy approach. Yang Chen smiled faintly, saying "Didn't I already say it's unnecessary?"

"How could it be? The caravan has been on the road for five days straight, and anyone would be starving and thirsty," the boy said with a worried face.

This made Yang Chen laugh involuntarily.

He had reached the Spirit Martial Realm now, and could rely entirely on

Heaven and Earth Spirit Qi for sustenance – why would he need to drink water?

However, Yang Chen still accepted the boy's kindness, took the water sack, took a sip, and immediately handed it to Gu Mingyue. "Ming Yue, you should replenish your fluids too."

"Yes, Young Master!" Gu Mingyue nodded with a smile.

At this moment, Yang Chen sat pondering, calculating in his mind.

"If nothing goes wrong, the Ming Emperor Sect should have arrived in Liaocheng by now," Yang Chen murmured.

His appearance here today was naturally arranged by Jin Cheng.

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Liaocheng, which had a cooperative relationship with the City Lord's Mansion. The Song Family's Chamber of Commerce went to MO City every year to purchase goods, aiming to stock up and continue their business in Liaocheng. Such caravans were commonplace and not unusual.

With Jin Cheng's status, it was not difficult to get Yang Chen into such a caravan.

Firstly, the Song Family's Chamber of Commerce going to MO City had many people and a strong influence, so there would not be too many bandits or mountain thieves causing trouble on the way. Secondly, he needed a cover to leave Liaocheng without being noticed.

Otherwise, with the Huang Family around, it would not be easy for him to leave Liaocheng without any trouble.

This caravan naturally served that purpose.

However, to keep it low-key and avoid detection, the identity Jin Cheng arranged for him was much more modest. People in the Song Family Caravan just thought him to be an ordinary person who had paid Spirit Stones to accompany the team.

At first, people in the Song Family Caravan were curious about him and many came to inquire about his background. Later, when they learned that Yang Chen had some small wealth from the Great Wilderness, their faces showed contempt and didn't talk to Yang Chen anymore.

This caused most of the people who knew Yang Chen's status not even planning to sit with him, seemingly feeling that sitting with someone from the Great Wilderness would lower their value.

Some of them had ulterior motives towards Gu Mingyue, as there were no women in the caravan. Quite a few people started harboring ill intentions when they saw Gu Mingyue's beauty.

However, as the caravan moved forward, there were rules, so these people didn't act for the time being.

That being said, the boy in front of him was an exception.

Over the past few days, the boy was the only one who didn't despise his status. On the contrary, he quickly became familiar with Yang Chen.

The boy's name was Song Chen, and he was eleven years old.

Although Song Chen was born in the Song Family, his status was much lower. He was the son of a lesser concubine of the Family Head, who had not been favored and died a few years ago. Naturally, Song Chen had little to nothing in the Song Family. Not only was he disliked, but he was also bullied, just like Yang Chen's situation in the Yang Family.

However, Song Chen did not complain about it. Instead, his demeanor was cheerful, looking down on Yang Chen's status in no way and quickly becoming close to him.

At this moment, Song Chen looked into the distance: "Brother Yang Chen, look! That's our Song Family's number one genius, Song Jianjun! He's only 18 years old and has already reached the first level of the Spirit Martial Realm. I wish I could be like him one day."

Yang Chen glanced at where Song Chen was pointing, raising his eyebrows slightly.

The person Song Chen pointed to was a 17 or 18-year-old young man with a handsome and elegant appearance. He stood in the crowd with his hands on his back, like the center of attention. His demeanor held a hint of arrogance, clearly enjoying the feeling.

Yang Chen remembered him. As Song Chen had said, Song Jianjun was the Song Family's number one genius. But Yang Chen's impression of him was not based on his talent, but rather on the fact that, from time to time, he looked at Gu Mingyue without scruples – which Yang Chen found very repulsive.

But with Yang Chen's discernment, could reaching the first level of the Spirit

Martial Realm at the age of 18 be considered something? As long as Song

Jianjun didn't make any excessive moves, Yang Chen naturally wouldn't care.

With Song Chen's voice lingering in his ears, Yang Chen smiled and said, "One day, you will also be like him."

As Yang Chen spoke, he etched something onto a jade slip with his finger.

Song Chen's smile was bitter. "Brother Yang Chen, you don't have to comfort me. I know my own weight. To reach Brother Song Jianjun's level is nothing but a luxury to me."

"Who said I'm comforting you? Maybe one day, your brilliance will indeed outshine Song Jianjun's." Yang Chen's mouth curved up.

He was telling the truth – Song Chen truly had that talent.

It's just that no one in the Song Family had discovered this talent in Song

Chen..

Chapter 223: Come Be My Maid_I

The reason why he was so close with this young man was not because the young man didn't look down on him single-sidedly. If it was just that, he would only chat with the other party a few times at most and they wouldn't become close.

The reason for this was entirely because of Song Chen's talent.

Song Chen indeed had no talent for martial arts, and like his previous life, he had no aptitude for cultivation, a complete martial arts waste. However, according to his observation, Song Chen had another talent, which was alchemy.

Yes, Song Chen had a unique talent in alchemy. Because he unexpectedly had the Body of Capturing Souls that many alchemists dreamed of having.

When Yang Chen initially discovered that Song Chen had the Body of Capturing Souls, he was shocked and astonished. He didn't expect such a physique to appear in such a small place!

The Body of Capturing Souls can completely ignore the huge consumption of Divine Soul Power during alchemy, and is hailed as a divine body by alchemists!

Yes, martial arts has divine bodies, and alchemy has divine bodies too!

As everyone knows, alchemy requires a huge expenditure of Divine Soul Power. If the Sea of Consciousness cannot support it, then at most one or two furnaces of elixirs can be refined. Without enough Soul Energy, it would be difficult to refine any more.

In his previous life, Yang Chen relied on a treasure called the Divine Soul Jade Pendant, which allowed him to ignore the soul consumption while refining elixirs. However, such treasures were extremely difficult to find, and Yang Chen could only get it by chance.

Eventually, Hua Wanru obviously took advantage of the Divine Soul Jade

Pendant.

Similar to the Divine Soul Jade Pendant, the Body of Capturing Souls was even rarer.

No need to worry about Divine Soul Power, and alchemy can be practiced. This means that as long as such people want and materials are enough, any number of elixirs can be refined.

This does not mean that Song Chen will become a high-level alchemist in the future, because the realm he had relied on was not his physique but his comprehension. But this was already astonishing enough. With the help of the Body of Capturing Souls, Song Chen was like an alchemy machine.

For example, if a Third Grade Alchemist can refine three furnaces of elixirs in one day, Song Chen could refine one hundred or even a thousand furnaces in a day. As long as he had enough materials, he had this ability.

If discovered by other major sects, they would surely treat Song Chen as a

treasure.

In the face of Song Chen, what did Song Jianjun, an 18-year-old Spirit Martial Stage, count for?

He's not even worthy to carry their shoes.

However, this matter was too shocking to tell, so he just had the thought of mentoring him and chatting with Song Chen a few more times. If Song Chen's temperament and temper could really satisfy him, he might not be unwilling to help the other party.

"Brother Yang, you don't have to make fun of me. I have no status in the Song family, and no one respects me. Oh, by the way, Brother Yang Chen, what are you carving on this jade slip?" Song Chen couldn't help but ask. Yang Chen smiled and didn't say a word.

If one looked carefully, one could find that Yang Chen was carving the 'Alchemy Treasure Technique' on this jade slip.

This was his experience as an entry-level alchemist in the past.

If Song Chen could satisfy him, he wouldn't mind giving this item to Song Chen and giving him a chance at creation.

As he was lost in thought, suddenly, Song Jianjun and the others, who had been brought up by Song Chen, actually walked towards Yang Chen.

This made Yang Chen raise his eyebrows, and his intuition told him that the group of Song Jianjun had no good intentions.

On the contrary, Song Chen was extremely surprised, "Brother Yang, Brother Song Jianjun is coming towards us. Speaking of which, Brother Yang Chen, I heard from others that you had reached the Body Refining Realm Seventh Layer at the age of fourteen or fifteen. If you reach eighteen, you might be able to enter the Spirit Martial Realm too, right?"

"Entering the Spirit Martial Realm is not that simple. Do you think this is a game?" Song Jianjun led several Song family followers over.

Those followers sneered with disdain.

"Can this kid reach the Spirit Martial Realm at eighteen?"

"What a joke, it's just another toad trying to eat swan meat."

Song Jianjun's face was also full of displeasure. If everyone could become a Spirit Martial Stage at the age of eighteen, then what superiority would his own Spirit Martial Stage have?

"Brother Song..." Song Chen's face looked a bit bad when he heard the mockery.

He had not interacted much with Song Jianjun, and he was already used to the cold ridicule of others, but Song Jianjun was his idol, and he didn't think Song Jianjun would be like the others.

However, Song Jianjun spoke indifferently, "Alright, get out of the way.

Associating with a Great Wilderness person is simply disgraceful!"

"Haha, Song Chen, you really can't change your [insert offensive word]. You always go up to people to make friends with and care for them. You are so close with a Great Wilderness person, we can see what you are really made of. A waste is still a waste. Today we didn't come to find you, just stand aside!" one of Song Jianjun's followers scolded.

"You, you guys!" Song Chen's face flushed with anger.

But was he capable of resisting? He was pushed aside by a few people with just a light touch.

Yang Chen was much calmer, watching the group walking towards them, he didn't even stand up, and lazily said, "I don't know what kind of teachings you have, coming here with such a great show of force?"

Naturally, he had no fear of these few people.

Frankly, as long as he wanted, the most powerful individual in the whole caravan was only a Sixth Level of the Spirit Martial Realm, which was not enough to pose a threat to him. As long as he was willing, he, along with the Black Mountain Black Bear brothers and the Demonic Python, could easily sweep the entire caravan.

However, leaving Liaocheng and heading to MO City, he needed to rely on this caravan to avoid some unnecessary trouble.

But who would have thought that trouble still came to him.

Song Jianjun didn't even look at Yang Chen, as if he thought Yang Chen was not

worthy of talking to him, instead, he glanced at Gu Mingyue: "Miss, the moonlight tonight is so bright and clear, I don't know if you would be interested in taking a leisurely walk with me to admire the beauty of the moon?"

Yang Chen laughed.

How lowly could Song Jianjun's dogs' eyes be to look down on others so much that he directly ignored him?

Gu Mingyue was extremely disgusted with Song Jianjun. She couldn't stand others talking about Yang Chen and shouted, "I'm not interested, get lost!"

Hearing this, Song Jianjun's face darkened: "Miss, people should always think about climbing up in life. What future will you have following such a waste? What can he give you? I am the future successor of the Song family. If you become my maid, you will be my concubine in the future.. I will give you whatever you want, and you will have endless wealth and honor!"

Chapter 224: Song Jianjun 's Challenge_I

In his eyes, it was an honor for Gu Mingyue to be his concubine. In theory, Gu Mingyue should be kneeling and begging him!

Song Jianjun was annoyed in his heart.

Their Chamber of Commerce had their rules.

In order to avoid being targeted by bandits and mountain thieves during their journey, their merchant group members did not bring their women with them.

Even if they did, there were very few. At most, there would only be a few.

This made him have no access to women for five days in a row, and he was already impatient.

When he saw Gu Mingyue's serious and pretty face, he was naturally moved and wanted to have some fun in the carriage during the journey. His eyes naturally focused on Gu Mingyue, trying to find an opportunity to get her.

He thought that his status would be taken into consideration by Gu Mingyue and that if he made a move, she would be delighted.

But who would have thought that Gu Mingyue was completely indifferent.

He didn't mind telling Gu Mingyue about his identity in the Song family, letting her know who he was. On normal days, when his title as the number one genius of the Song family was mentioned, countless maidservants would be enchanted. He didn't believe that Gu Mingyue could resist!

But to his astonishment, Gu Mingyue was completely indifferent. On the contrary, she became even more annoyed and scolded, "My young master is not a waste, you are the waste. My young master is a genius!" "Haha, what did she say? She said this kid is a genius?"

"Hahaha, did I hear wrong? Can anyone be called a genius now?"

Song Jianjun also laughed, "You say he's a genius? That's good. It seems you're blind. Let me tell you now, what a real genius is. I believe you'll know later, how foolish it is to follow such a waste."

After saying this, Song Jianjun looked at Yang Chen and sneered, "Kid, do you dare to compete with me?"

He believed that as long as he destroyed Yang Chen's image in Gu Mingyue's heart in front of her, Gu Mingyue would know how brilliant he was.

"Not interested." Yang Chen yawned.

“Are you afraid?” Song Jianjun looked at Yang Chen arrogantly, and then glanced at Gu Mingyue, as if to tell her that their young master was afraid as well.

She didn’t know that Gu Mingyue didn’t take this Song Jianjun seriously at all.

Having followed her young master, what big event hadn’t she seen? Even the young master of the Liaocheng City Lord’s Mansion treated her young master with great respect. Was this young master of the Liaocheng Commerce Association even more powerful than the City Lord’s Mansion?

When Yang Chen heard Song Jianjun’s challenge, he smiled faintly, “Afraid? You’re overestimating yourself. In fact, you’re simply not worthy of me making a move. To put it simply, don’t even bother peeing to see what kind of person you are.”

“You!” Song Jianjun was furious.

A follower quickly advised, “Eldest Brother, don’t be angry. There are rules in the team, not to strike outsiders traveling with our group, or it will affect our Chamber of Commerce’s reputation. There will be plenty of chances to deal with this kid.”

This made Song Jianjun gradually calm down. Hearing the voices of several people whispering in his ears, the corners of his mouth raised.

That’s right, why was he in a hurry? There were plenty of opportunities to slowly kill this kid.

Song Jianjun sneered and threatened, “Let you be happy for a few more days.” Yang Chen grinned, completely unconcerned.

If it had been his usual temperament, he would not have let Song Jianjun humiliate him. But things were different now. For one thing, he didn’t want to cause trouble and reveal any clues to the Ming Emperor Sect. Secondly, and most importantly, he wanted to test Song Chen.

At this moment, Song Chen was quite shocked. He originally thought that the genius he admired and worshipped would be courteous to him, but he didn't expect that the genius he thought of would be just like those who humiliated him. This was a major blow to anyone.

If Yang Chen had made a move just now, Song Chen's experience of this blow would have been nothing. If he didn't act, Song Chen's inner struggle would become more serious.

For an alchemist, a strong mind is the most important thing.

That unwavering self-confidence is something that an alchemist must possess.

He was testing whether Song Chen could come out of the gloom he had just experienced.

"Hm?" Yang Chen raised an eyebrow.

Song Chen didn't disappoint him.

Seeing Song Chen walking towards himself, Yang Chen smiled lightly, "So, have you figured it out?"

"Big Brother Yang Chen, I want to be a powerful one, but I don't want to become like Song Jianjun. Do the powerful ones really have to suppress the weak ones in order to be considered powerful?" Song Chen was still young and naturally, couldn't understand many things.

"Song Jianjun doesn't even qualify as a powerful one." Yang Chen said gently.

True powerful ones would not prove themselves to be powerful by suppressing others. Using the term 'powerful' on Song Chen? That would be an insult to the powerful ones.

"But can I really become a powerful one?" Song Chen was filled with self-doubt.

Yang Chen grinned: "Strength depends on the heart. If you understand this, one day you will achieve it."

Song Chen furrowed his brow, savoring Yang Chen's words.

Another four days passed in the blink of an eye.

During these four days, Song Jianjun surprisingly didn't harass Yang Chen and Gu Mingyue. However, Yang Chen didn't believe that Song Jianjun would give up so easily, guessing that the other party was planning to make a move on him after they entered MO City.

He didn't pay any attention to the other party, concentrating on his cultivation while following the pace of the caravan.

"After tonight, we'll reach MO City tomorrow, everyone stay alert." The Sixth

Level Spirit Martial Realm master who was leading the caravan stood at the front, spreading out his soul, patrolling vigilantly, and said, "The closer we get to MO City, the more bandits there are, so don't slack off!"

The people in the caravan had years of experience in wandering through the jianghu, and no one would take the leader's words lightly.

And so, as night fell and the moon hung high in the sky.

Gu Mingyue was resting in the carriage, while Yang Chen sat on a haystack outside, meditating and cultivating. Comparatively, Song Chen was much more miserable. He had no status in the Song family, so while others were either riding horses or sitting in carriages, he had been walking the whole way.

For someone like Song Chen who had no martial arts cultivation foundation, such a long journey was no doubt challenging, but to Yang Chen's delight, Song Chen had indeed persevered.

Moreover, with Song Chen's Body of Capturing Souls, Yang Chen couldn't help but admire his talent.

He took out a jade slip and carved an Alchemy Treasure Technique on it with his finger, his lips curling up. Regardless, it was fate that Song Chen met him.

As his thoughts were swirling, suddenly, Yang Chen let out a soft exclamation: "Rainbow, you said someone is approaching?"

"Yes, a large group of people and horses, seems like the bandits mentioned by the leader. The leader of them is also at the Sixth Level of the Spirit Martial Realm, and the others are not too impressive, only around the Fourth Level of the Spirit Martial Realm's cultivation. However, looking at the numbers, if they launch a strong attack, this caravan will surely suffer heavy losses!" Rainbow said cheerfully, not really concerned about it.

With the Black Mountain Black Bear and the Demonic Python on their side, those at the Fifth and Sixth Level of the Spirit Martial Realm didn't pose much of a problem..

Chapter 225: Gu Mingyue Being Targeted_I

Yang Chen was quite interested, spreading his soul perception around. Though it was not as accurate as Rainbow's, he still noticed some trickery going on.

Considering that he still needed these chambers of commerce to enter MO City, Yang Chen didn't mind giving a reminder. Seeing that the team leader was completely unaware of the surroundings, he sighed helplessly and sent a sound transmission message: "Captain Song Chang, there are people hiding in the dark preparing an ambush. You should be careful."

His transmission was very subtle, so Captain Song Chang of course had no idea who it was from. For this reason, it caused Song Chang to be surprised: "Who is

His shout alarmed the bandits that were hiding in the dark.

Once those bandits showed a slight disturbance, Song Chang observed it very clearly, and realized that there were ambushes around. He shouted out loud: "You sneaky cowards, get out here!"

Song Chang's yell was like thunder on a clear day, and it woke up the rest of the merchant team members and alarmed the hidden bandits.

Seeing that they had been discovered by Song Chang, these bandits no longer planned to hide.

"Not bad, not bad!" A burly man led several bandits out: "Your merchant team does have some skills. This old man has a treasure that specializes in hiding his presence, yet you still managed to detect some clues. Heh heh, since we've been discovered, let's not waste time. It's simple, this territory is mine. To pass through, pay the toll: ten women plus 50,000 spirit stones. Guards of the merchant team, you shouldn't be stingy, right?"

Song Chang was furious when these bandits made such a huge demand: "Do you take my Song Family Chamber of Commerce for easy pickings?"

50,000 spirit stones? Was he joking?

The bandit apparently didn't expect the Song Family Chamber of Commerce to really negotiate with them, he was only making some preparations to start a fight.

Seeing that Song Chang was not someone to mess with, the gang leader of the mountain bandits immediately shouted: "Attack, take down the strongest one first!"

This gang leader of the mountain bandits was also a Sixth Level master of the Spirit Martial Realm. He was awe-inspiring and astonishing upon taking action.

However, Yang Chen was quite surprised.

"Interesting. These bandits are clever, they split up into two groups. Looks like they're playing a game of luring the tiger away from the mountain. I just don't know if Song Chang can see through their tactics." Yang Chen thought in amazement.

As he had guessed, the Song Family Caravan was well-prepared, with a Sixth Level master overseeing all the guards, and many Third and Fourth Level guards. When they took action, they outnumbered these

mountain bandits. In a short time, the mountain bandits were defeated and couldn't support the situation any longer.

At this moment, the gang leader of the mountain bandits immediately shouted: "The wind is tight, retreat... Ha ha, what can you do to us?"

Those mountain bandits retreated as soon as they said, leaving Song Chang fuming with anger.

If they didn't kill all the bandits today, wouldn't the Song Family Chamber of Commerce be targeted again by these bandits when they returned to MO City in the future?

Thinking of this, Song Chang didn't hesitate and ordered: "Chase them!"

In an instant, the majority of the Song Family members left to chase the bandits.

"As expected!" Yang Chen shook his head.

Song Chang had fallen for their trick.

However, other people from the Song Family didn't seem to think so.

Especially Song Jianjun, who sneered: "Do these horse bandits think they can rob from our Song Family Chamber of Commerce? They're delusional! Our Song Family can't be schemed against by some insignificant people. A bunch of bandits with only courage and no strategy!"

"Yes, Eldest Brother, these mountain bandits are too weak. As soon as Captain Song Chang took action, they all escaped in disarray. Haha." Hearing this, Yang Chen shook his head.

These people didn't even know they were heading towards death?

As he had expected, several astonishing auras suddenly descended.

“Ha ha, we mountain bandits only have courage and no strategy? Kid, you’re the one who just said that, right?” Accompanied with the voice, a dozen more figures descended from the sky.

All of them wore similar clothing to the earlier bandits, and upon closer inspection, they were all at the Third or Fourth Stage of the Spirit Martial

Realm. With the forces currently defending the Song Family Chamber of

Commerce, it was natural that they wouldn’t be able to resist these bandits.

Even a fool like Song Jianjun was able to discern this much. Seeing the mountain bandits, his face turned pale and he couldn’t even think about using any of his usual skills.

In just a moment, Song Jianjun was subdued.

Although Song Jianjun was the number one genius of the Song Family, he had been captured, and the other guards were stunned.

“Heh heh, this kid is your Song Family’s genius, right? You guards stop moving, or else I’ll kill him!” The scar-faced bandit leader sneered.

Seeing Song Jianjun being captured, the few guards who had some strength to resist instantly exposed their weaknesses, and the other bandits seized the opportunity, subduing the remaining guards on the spot and then blood was spilled, and the guards were beheaded.

Yang Chen saw everything and sighed in his heart.

There was no hope for this Song Jianjun to help, it was good enough that he wasn’t causing any more trouble.

In fact, with Song Jianjun's abilities, as long as he reacted quickly and hid behind the caravan guards, even if he were caught, it wouldn't be on the spot.

As long as Song Jianjun didn't get caught, those guards would still have the ability to resist. By the time the main force of the Song Family Caravan who were chasing the bandits returned, the plot of the bandits would have fallen apart.

But the problem was that Song Jianjun, the Song Family's number one genius, had been captured. The guards hesitated, not knowing whether to take action or not. In this tight situation, they were indecisive, and as a result, they were easily slaughtered by the bandits.

At this time, Song Jianjun was even more scared, pleading for mercy: "Please spare me, Bandit Brothers, please don't kill me."

"Don't worry, pretty boy, we won't kill you," the bandits taunted as they slapped Song Jianjun's face, causing a clear slapping sound. The humiliation turned Song Jianjun's face red and swollen, and he didn't have the courage to fight back.

"Kid, honestly answer, we don't want anything else, all the goods here belong to me. And, where are the women?" The bandits licked their lips: "Your merchant teams are rich, and ha ha, the women you bring with you are all beautiful!"

Hearing this, where would Song Jianjun dare to be vague? He pointed to Yang Chen's side and shouted: "There, there's a woman there. Bandit Brothers, look at that woman, she's like a beautiful flower and the moon itself, she will definitely satisfy you guys."

Gu Mingyue glared at Song Jianjun in disgust and angrily said, "You're a beast!"

The bandits looked at Gu Mingyue one by one and laughed.

"Oh wow, such a pretty lady?"

Chapter 226: The Power of Thunderbolt Style_I

“Hahaha, beautiful!”

“Good, capture her and give her to our gang leader as his wife. Surely he will reward us.” The scar-faced bandit grinned sinisterly and walked towards Gu Mingyue lecherously.

“Eldest Brother Yang Chen...” Song Chen stared at Yang Chen nervously and shouted, “Stay away from them!”

“Kid, get lost!” One of the bandits kicked Song Chen away.

Song Jianjun also scolded, “Worthless trash, shut up!”

If these bandits were to set their sights on Gu Mingyue, that meant they wouldn’t target him, and he could save himself. Why would he let Song Chen hinder their actions?

In his eyes, Yang Chen was just useless, and the life of an ordinary man couldn’t be more important than the life of a genius like him, right?

Seeing this scene, Yang Chen scoffed.

He was moved by Song Chen’s actions but still yawned lazily, “Song Chen is right. I suggest you’d better not come any closer!”

“What did he say!”

“What’s this kid talking about?”

“Hahahaha!”

“So interesting, it’s as if he’s warning us not to go there.”

The scar-faced bandit had the most malicious laugh, shaking his head, ‘What, planning to play hero and save the girl? Originally, we weren’t interested in you weaklings, but since you want to be a hero, we’ll have to take your head.’ Yang Chen didn’t say anything but casually released his Martial Arts aura.

Boom!

Spirit Martial Realm Fourth Level.

Feeling Yang Chen’s martial arts aura, the bandits widened their eyes, “Spirit Martial Realm Fourth Level!”

“Second Master, this kid has some ability. To have reached the Spirit Martial Realm Fourth Level at such a young age, I’m afraid even the inner disciples of the major sects are no better.”

Second Master’s face twisted in anger, “Indeed he has some skill, but it’s merely the Spirit Martial Realm Fourth Level. How dare he hinder our plans, he’ll die all the same!”

The Second Master was furious. Although he was somewhat surprised by Yang

Chen’s martial arts cultivation, after all, Yang Chen was only at the Spirit Martial Realm Fourth Level. There were many experts at the Fourth Level and plenty at the Second and Third Level in their group. Killing Yang Chen shouldn’t be difficult, right?

“Hmph, kid, you are indeed a genius, but it’s a pity that’s all you are. I love killing geniuses the most!” The second master roared and was about to take action.

Who cares which sect’s genius he was? There were many geniuses practicing outside. Killing him today, as long as they didn’t leak the information, who would know?

Seeing this, Yang Chen sighed.

If these people insisted on taking action, there was nothing he could do.

“Let me practice my newly mastered Thunderbolt Style on you!” Yang Chen held his Forbidden Purple Dragon Spear.

Just as the Second Master was about to act, in an instant, Yang Chen’s Forbidden Purple Dragon Spear was wrapped in buzzing electric light, swirling around the spear.

Holding this electric spear, Yang Chen felt intense heroism and immediately thrust it forward.

Puchi!

The lightning seemed like a thunder snake that shot out directly.

The speed was so fast that it was impossible for the eyes to capture.

In an instant, blood splattered.

Just one move, only one move.

When they looked at the Second Master again, he had already become a bloody mess, a complete corpse.

“Second Master!”

“Second Master!”

At this moment, the entire scene was shocked.

Honestly, nobody in the Song Family caravan respected Yang Chen.

None of them thought that Yang Chen was very strong. Talking to a person from the Great Wilderness like Yang Chen was beneath their status.

However, they could never have imagined that Yang Chen would be so powerful!

That fierce mountain bandit, the Second Master, was killed in just one move.

Thunderbolt Style, a name truly worthy of the Thunderbolt.

The most shocked was undoubtedly Song Jianjun.

At first, when he saw that Yang Chen was actually a spiritual martial realm expert, his heart was already stunned. Seeing Yang Chen's age, he immediately felt a sense of defeat. Compared to Yang Chen, what kind of genius was he? Right now, with one move from Yang Chen, the Second Master was instantly killed.

Recalling how he had once provoked Yang Chen and tried to harm Yang Chen's maid...

Still want to compete with Yang Chen?

He was seeking death back then!

Compared to Song Jianjun, Song Chen's expression was rich with excitement, staring at Yang Chen in disbelief with wide eyes.

Those bandits were completely frightened, only the Third Master reacted the fastest, yelling, "Don't panic, everybody attack together! Kill this kid!"

For a while, more than a dozen bandits joined forces to try to besiege Yang Chen.

Seeing this, Yang Chen's expression was indifferent. In an instant, he used the Thunderbolt Style, the lightning flickering on his spear, spreading directly around him. A series of thunder snakes suddenly rushed out with unparalleled destructive power, making people shudder in fear. Just by touching these electric lights, the bandits were instantly bombarded, their bodies becoming a bloody mess.

Yang Chen didn't even use any strength but was able to instantly kill four or five bandits just by using the lightning's power. At this moment, the bandits were completely terrified.

Was this kid even human?

A Spirit Martial Realm Fourth Level expert, who hadn't even faltered against so many bandits with a similar cultivation level, not only did not lose, but also annihilated them without a trace.

"Retreat, retreat!" The Third Master couldn't keep calm any longer and turned around to run.

Yang Chen wasn't planning to chase them. Catching these bandits held no meaning for him; he wanted to keep a low profile now.

However, the people from the caravan didn't think the same way.

At this moment, the people in the caravan stared blankly at Yang Chen, staring at him as if he was a monster.

Especially Song Jianjun, who was so scared that he took a step back when he saw Yang Chen.

Seeing this, Yang Chen smiled. He didn't feel the need to hide his strength, and now that it was exposed, he didn't mind taking some revenge.

"Song Jianjun, if I remember correctly, you wanted to compete with me a few days ago. I wasn't interested that day, so how about we try it today? Since you claim to be the number one genius of the Song Family, you should have the courage to do so, right?" Yang Chen said calmly.

Song Jianjun was so scared that his whole body trembled and he didn't dare to say a word while looking at Yang Chen with fear.

"You coward!" Gu Mingyue was already angry enough with Song Jianjun and scolded him when she saw him in such a miserable and cowardly state.

In her life, she hated spineless individuals like Song Jianjun the most!

After all, even if Yang Chen had been submissive at first, he was willing to compete with Wang Ren and Wang De in Alchemy, which represented the manly spirit of standing up even when he knew he would lose. Compared to Yang Chen, Song Jianjun was a coward!

In the entire Song family, only Song Chen stared at Yang Chen with shining eyes, full of admiration for him.

Yang Chen, Yang Chen was the type of powerhouse he wanted to become..

Chapter 227: Icing on the Cake?_I

Yang Chen's move shocked everyone. The way the Song family members looked at Yang Chen had changed completely from the beginning. They wanted to befriend him but regretted underestimating him at first.

Jokingly, Yang Chen said he was from the Great Wilderness, but that was an understatement. How could such a demon-like person come from the Great Wilderness?

Yang Chen was too lazy to explain anything to these Song family members, he just stared into the distance. As his soul had sensed earlier, the Song family caravan's masters, who were lured away by the bandits, returned shortly after.

Upon their return, the Song family's masters just happened to encounter the panicked Bandit Third Leader and his men, capturing them on the spot.

“Hmph, behave yourselves!”

“Don’t move.”

This group of bandits was not the main force of the bandits. In addition to fighting with Yang Chen, they were slaughtered and left with nothing. They had no fighting intent and were easily subdued by Song Chang and his men without even fighting.

Song Chang did not catch up with the head of the house and the others. When he realized what had happened, he knew it was the plan to lure the tiger away from the mountain. But he was at a loss as to why these bandits were so desperate to escape.

Looking at the intact goods and treasures that should have been robbed, Song

Chang narrowed his eyes and glanced at the corpses on the ground, then asked, “What happened? What happened when we left just now?”

One lackey that had followed Song Jianjun hurriedly explained the ins and outs of the situation clearly.

In his words, the lackey praised Yang Chen to the skies and even cursed Song Jianjun, who had offended Yang Chen, making Song Jianjun sound utterly pathetic.

Of course, Song Jianjun’s performance just now was indeed disgraceful. Although the description might be a bit exaggerated, it was not very different from the actual situation.

“That’s right... Song Jianjun is so incompetent. He dared not move when he met the bandits and was immediately subdued. Those ten bodyguards lost their lives because of him. Hmph, so he’s the number one genius of the Song family?”

These lackeys saw how powerful Yang Chen was just now and had offended him before. They were afraid that if they didn’t act enough, Yang Chen would hold a grudge against them. They didn’t hesitate to slander Song Jianjun.

They knew that the only way to please Yang Chen now was to belittle Song Jianjun.

Song Jianjun stood aside, fuming with anger. He thought about how these lackeys used to speak kindly of him.

Now, in the blink of an eye, they were cursing him.

But could he refute it?

Wasn't the fact just like that?

"That's exactly what happened. Without Yang Chen, our caravan would have been in deep trouble."

Song Chang was a shrewd man, knowing that the lackeys might have exaggerated a bit, but he didn't take them seriously.

However, when he saw Yang Chen's calm and composed demeanor, he hesitated for a moment and said, "I don't know where this young friend is from. I heard about what just happened..."

Yang Chen didn't want to explain too much. Now that his identity had been exposed, he naturally had ways to cover his tracks. He immediately took out the token that Jin Cheng had given him.

Jin Cheng had given him more than one token, and this one represented his status as a member of the City Lord's Mansion.

Upon seeing the token, Song Chang's face changed drastically.

"This is..."

“This is the token of Liaocheng City Lord’s Mansion!”

“He’s actually from Liaocheng City Lord’s Mansion!”

Yang Chen stood with his hands behind his back, “Now, Captain Song Chang should have no doubts, right?”

The Song family members suddenly realized.

No wonder Yang Chen was so powerful – he was actually from the City Lord’s Mansion.

“So Brother Yang is from the City Lord’s Mansion, no wonder he’s so powerful.

Compared to him, Song Jianjun is nothing.”

“Indeed, we were so blind back then.”

Song Chang’s analysis was not as simple as the Song family members. Yang

Chen wasn’t just from the City Lord’s Mansion. He had been to Liaocheng City Lord’s Mansion too, but the geniuses they fostered there were nothing like Yang Chen. At the age of 14 or 15, he had such martial arts cultivation.

It was a shocking talent at the Spirit Martial Realm Fourth Level.

Most importantly, the calm and composed demeanor Yang Chen had was difficult to comprehend.

A young man who had killed several bandits...

Song Chang felt Yang Chen's identity might be even more complicated. However, he knew that further investigation would do him no good. He only glared at Song Jianjun and yelled, "Song Jianjun."

Basically, everyone knew that Song Chang was going to teach Song Jianjun a harsh lesson.

Song Chang cupped his hands at Yang Chen and said, "Yang Chen, my friend, Song Jianjun offended you earlier. As an elder, I have been watching and will not let him off today. Song Jianjun, you bastard, kneel down and beg Yang Chen for mercy!"

Not to mention anything else, just the token of the City Lord's Mansion that Yang Chen was holding could give the Song Family Chamber of Commerce a hard time.

Song Jianjun knew he had made a mistake and was tearful, "I, I..."

Yang Chen didn't have any intention of pressuring, he didn't really want to pursue the matter of Song Jianjun because he didn't consider him important.

He believed that the Song family would be able to discern who should and shouldn't be nurtured in the future.

He then waved his hand, "Captain Song Chang, there's no need for that."

Only when Song Chang saw that Yang Chen didn't intend to pressure him further did he breathe a sigh of relief, but he still gave Song Jianjun a cold glance and said, "Song Jianjun, come with me and see if I don't teach you a lesson!"

When Song Chang left with Song Jianjun, Yang Chen knew it was for show, making him look good in front of others.

He knew Song Chang had good intentions, so he didn't bother to delve deeper.

His current hidden identity would cause him no good if things got messy. Song

Chang was afraid of his identity, but in reality, his status at the City Lord's Mansion was useless. If the Ming Emperor Sect found out, he would still be the one to run away.

However, Song Chang didn't know any of this. He beat Song Jianjun until his howls filled the air, probably never forgetting today's events for the rest of his life.

"Brother Yang, I didn't expect you to be so powerful." Song Chen's eyes shone as he hurriedly ran towards Yang Chen.

Song Chen was just one of the people who came to greet him. Soon, more people came to greet Yang Chen, fearing Song Chen would get ahead of them all.

Unruffled, Yang Chen ignored those who tried to approach him and instead chatted with Song Chen, not even bothering to look at the others. This made those trying to get to know Yang Chen feel extremely awkward..

Chapter 228: Young Lady of the Zhou Family_I

And so, after a long journey through mountains and rivers, the Song Family Caravan and others arrived in MO City.

Upon their arrival in MO City and seeing that Yang Chen was about to leave,

Song Chen said sadly, "Big Brother Yang Chen, do you really have to go? Our Song Family has a residence in MO City and will stay there for some time. Why don't you join us?"

Upon hearing this, Song Chang hurriedly scolded, "Song Chen, Yang Chen, my friend, has his own matters to attend to. Your reluctance to let him go will only make things difficult for him."

Yang Chen knew what Song Chang meant; Song Chang clearly didn't intend to let him stay.

It wasn't surprising, as his identity and background were astonishing, and the fact that the Liocheng City Lord Mansion was enough to deter the Song Family Chamber of Commerce meant that it was normal for them not to want to keep him. In reality, he didn't plan on staying with the Song Family Chamber of Commerce either. Upon arriving in MO City, he had his own plans.

The only thing he was reluctant to leave behind was Song Chen.

This "little guy" had such an extraordinary alchemy talent, which truly delighted him.

Thinking of this, Yang Chen smiled and said, "Song Chen, come here!" "Big Brother Yang Chen, you..." Song Chen was puzzled.

Yang Chen smiled and then took out the Alchemy Treasure Technique that he had been working on for a while from his pocket. "Take this. I have received your care all the way. This can be considered as a gift from your big brother." "This is..." Song Chen looked at the jade slip with his mind full of questions.

Yang Chen spoke gently, "This is an alchemy treasure technique I've compiled. You don't have much talent in martial arts, so you could focus on the alchemy lineage instead. Captain Song Chang should also cultivate Song Chen's alchemy skills, right?"

"Of course, of course!" Although Song Chang didn't quite understand Yang Chen's intentions, he would give Yang Chen face since he spoke up. Cultivating a bit for the Song Family Chamber of Commerce was not much of a sacrifice.

Moreover, with Yang Chen's extraordinary background, the value of this alchemy treasure technique was bound to be amazing; there was no way he could overlook it.

This made the nearby members of the Song Family envious and jealous.

If they had only shown respect to Yang Chen earlier, they wouldn't have ended up in such a situation, right?

Yang Chen's background was from the Liao Cheng City Lord Mansion. How could such an alchemy treasure technique be readily available on the streets?

With his hands behind his back, Yang Chen immediately asked, "Captain Song

Chang, can I have a word with you?"

Song Chang didn't understand what Yang Chen meant but stepped aside anyway, saying, "What does my friend want to say?"

"There are ten thousand spirit stones in this storage bag," Yang Chen said after weighing them for a moment. "Take out five thousand to cultivate Song Chen's alchemy path, and Captain Song Chang can handle the rest. How about that?" Hearing the shocking number of ten thousand spirit stones, Song Chang changed his expression in astonishment. "Yang Chen, my friend, this!"

"Hehe, Captain Song Chang, if you cultivate Song Chen's alchemy skills a bit, you might find some surprises?" Yang Chen didn't elaborate, only handing over the ten thousand spirit stones to Song Chang out of concern that he might not follow through.

Song Chang accepted the spirit stones and was bound to cultivate Song Chen to some extent.

By that time, they would naturally realize Song Chen's terrifying talent in alchemy, so there was no fear that they wouldn't pay attention to him.

Yang Chen could only do so much for Song Chen. He bid farewell to Captain Song Chang without engaging him in further conversation.

After bidding farewell and leaving, Yang Chen arrived in MO City and planned his next move.

"Young Master, where should we go now?" Gu Mingyue followed Yang Chen closely, her pretty face flushed as she asked.

Yang Chen had his hands behind his back, his thoughts racing.

In fact, Jin Cheng was right. If he wanted to solve the problem of the Ming

Emperor Sect, the best way was undoubtedly to participate in the Genius Selection Competition held in North Mountain County. If he could make a splash in the competition and get noticed by other sects, the Ming Emperor Sect wouldn't be the only powerful force, and the difficult problems he faced would naturally cease to exist.

Most importantly, to expose the conspiracy and evil deeds of the Canghai Sect Leader colluding with demonic beasts, he first needed to have enough power and influence!

Otherwise, with his current weak and solitary state, his words would carry little weight. Who would take him seriously? He was afraid that the news wouldn't even have reached the ears of the major sects and clans before he was taken care of by the Canghai Sect.

Therefore, he had to choose between Beishan Main City and Yuanshan Sect, excluding the Canghai Sect among the Three Hegemons.

Of course, the premise was that he had to demonstrate potential that the Three Hegemons would approve of.

"No one knows how talented the geniuses of North Mountain County are." Yang Chen sighed.

He didn't have much confidence either, considering the vastness of North Mountain County.

Of course, there was still some time before the Basic Competition of the Genius Selection started, and there was still quite a distance to cover to reach the venue, the Beishan Main City.

While pondering, Yang Chen slowly said, "Let's find a place to settle down first."

With that, Yang Chen and Gu Mingyue found an inn that wasn't too big or small.

The inn wasn't particularly crowded, but the place across the street was packed, which was quite puzzling.

Yang Chen glanced at it and then entered the inn. Upon entering the inn and finding it nearly empty, the shopkeeper hurriedly greeted him, "Gentlemen, please come in!"

Yang Chen maintained a calm demeanor, with his hands behind his back, quietly releasing the aura of the Spirit Martial Realm which startled the shopkeeper into a cold sweat. Upon seeing Yang Chen's martial arts cultivation level, the shopkeeper continued to fawn over him, "To have a Spirit Martial Realm master like you grace my humble establishment truly brings honor to my small inn!"

Although he had seen quite a few Spirit Martial Realm experts, how many were as young as Yang Chen?

Yang Chen took out a bag of spirit stones from his chest without any hurry.

"Here are three hundred spirit stones, enough for a few days, right?"

Seeing Yang Chen's generous hand, the shopkeeper's eyes gleamed. "Enough, absolutely enough."

"Hehe, don't be so hasty; these spirit stones aren't just for accommodation. Tell me something truthfully, and you won't miss out on any benefits," said Yang

Chen.

How could the shopkeeper dare to equivocate? With the spirit stones in hand, he would naturally talk if he had something to say. "Sir, what do you want to ask?"

"Your inn is so deserted, but it's very lively across the street. What are all these people gathering for?" Yang Chen asked curiously. Upon arriving in MO City, he naturally needed to understand the layout of the city and figure out what he could and could not do. This was a necessary rule for people in the Jianghu world.

Upon hearing Yang Chen's inquiry, the shopkeeper was slightly taken aback.

"Sir, don't you know about this? This news has been circulating for days. Miss Zhou from the Zhou Family encountered some problems while cultivating, which has caused great distress to everyone in the Zhou Family. Even several Dan Medical practitioners were invited, but not only did they fail to solve the problem, they actually worsened Miss Zhou's condition. So, they issued a notice offering a reward of ten thousand spirit stones to anyone who could solve Miss Zhou's problem, as well as fulfilling the beneficiary's request."

"Everybody is talking about it. But if the Dan Medical practitioners couldn't solve it, who could? Most people are just there to watch the excitement.."

Chapter 229: A Hundred Flowers Competing for Glamour in the Selection Competition_I

Upon hearing this, Yang Chen became curious. Being new to the place, he didn't intend to hide anything: "I just arrived in MO City, and I don't know much about the situation here. What's the story with the Zhou family? They are spending a hundred thousand spirit stones, they must be quite wealthy." A hundred thousand spirit stones were not a small sum.

"Hehe, so it turns out, sir, that you just arrived in MO City, it's normal for you not to know. The Zhou family is considered local tyrants in our MO City." The shopkeeper said.

Yang Chen narrowed his eyes: "Local tyrants? Shouldn't MO City be governed by the MO City City Lord's Mansion?"

"That's what you don't know. The MO City City Lord's Mansion has to look at the Zhou family's faces." The shopkeeper laughed: "Decades ago, when the Zhou family rose, they overshadowed the City Lord's Mansion's authority. Although the City Lord's Mansion nominally governs MO City, in reality, everyone knows that MO City is dominated by the Zhou family. The City Lord's Mansion's power is somewhat inferior compared to the Zhou family."

Yang Chen laughed at this.

It seemed that Jin Cheng was doing quite well, being able to control the city as the City Lord's Mansion, but it was not necessarily the case for other cities.

Indeed, in this world, power and status were nothing, the key was whether one had sufficient strength.

Yang Chen stroked his chin: "You said Miss Zhou encountered a problem during her cultivation? It looks quite serious since it caused the Zhou family to make such a big fuss."

"Of course, you don't know, Miss Zhou from the Zhou family is the first martial arts genius of the Zhou family. She was about to participate in the Genius Selection Competition in Beishan County, and the Zhou family was preparing to go to Beishan Main City. But then this happened? At this critical moment, Miss Zhou encountered a problem during her cultivation, it would be strange if the Zhou family wasn't in a hurry. They were hoping that Miss Zhou would make a big splash in the selection competition. Otherwise, they wouldn't be in such a rush to put out a hundred thousand spirit stones." The shopkeeper swallowed his saliva and continued talking incessantly.

Everyone held the same idea, wanting to make a big splash in the Genius Selection Competition.

For a moment, Yang Chen became interested.

At first, he had no interest in this so-called Miss Zhou. Although he was a Dan Medical cultivator, he wouldn't treat just anyone. What did it matter to him that Miss Zhou encountered a problem during her cultivation? He didn't want to attract attention right now, and the hundred thousand spirit stones seemed tempting, but he was not interested either.

However, after hearing the shopkeeper's words, he suddenly became intrigued.

It was not for anything else, but because Miss Zhou was also going to participate in that Genius Selection Competition.

And the Zhou family was already well-prepared for it...

Yang Chen stroked his chin, pondered for a moment, and raised his eyebrows: “Shopkeeper, find me a good cultivation place, and don’t disturb me unless there’s something important!”

“Yes, sir, please follow me!”

The shopkeeper hurriedly attended to Yang Chen.

Just like that, Yang Chen reluctantly settled down in the inn, putting aside all the matters that followed, and then took out the ‘Innate Qi’ from his storage bag and silently examined it.

“This ‘Innate Qi’ is indeed a treasure. If I were to participate in that Genius Selection Competition, although my strength is strong now, there are not necessarily no stronger ones. Not to mention the Tai Soil Sect Inner Sect disciple whom I fought against some time ago was already so powerful, let alone those core disciples of various sects and so on, who should be no worse.” Yang Chen always felt that he was not strong enough.

If he thought otherwise, it would just be shortsightedness.

What counts as MO Shengyun? He was just an inner disciple of the Tai Soil Sect, and there were core disciples and the personal direct disciples of the sect leader above him.

Moreover, the Tai Soil Sect was somewhat inferior to the Canghai Sect and Yuanshan Sect. How strong would the disciples cultivated by the Canghai Sect and Yuanshan Sect be?

And there were those personal direct disciples nurtured by the masters of Leisure Clouds and Wild Cranes.

The Genius Selection Competition would definitely be a showcase for the best of the best, and it wouldn’t be dominated by one party.

Being impressive in the competition was not an easy task.

“Once I refine this Innate Qi, my strength will improve by a notch.” Yang Chen thought to himself as he looked at the treasure He Yunxiao had left for him, then closed his eyes and refined it into his body.

Refining the Innate Qi wasn't a painful process, but it took a long time.

The cool feeling entered his body, the Innate Qi of the Innate Qi merged with the true Qi Yang Chen had cultivated postnatally, causing his true Qi to gradually undergo a qualitative change. His postnatal true Qi became innate true Qi, making Yang Chen feel as if he had gone through a transformation, and his entire aura suddenly changed drastically.

This went on for seven days.

It took him a full seven days to refine it!

After these seven days, Yang Chen suddenly opened his eyes, joyfully saying:

“This Innate Qi really has amazing effects. After refining it, I feel that my inner true Qi is abundant and majestic, almost two or three times that of ordinary people. Not to mention that, I can even cultivate the methods that Origin

Martial Realm monsters can only cultivate, although I am only in the Spirit Martial Realm.”

This was just one of the benefits of the Innate Qi brought to him.

For example, ordinary people had a limited amount of true Qi in their attacks.

After one move or another, the true Qi would gradually dissipate after a hour of fighting.

But what about Yang Chen after refining the Innate Qi?

At the same level, his true Qi capacity was three times that of others. When fighting against others, having sufficient true Qi capacity was a great advantage.

And with this kind of purity, not to mention its power, Yang Chen could cultivate methods that only Origin Martial Realm old monsters can cultivate, which was where the advantage of his Innate Qi lay.

“Refreshing!” Yang Chen smiled indifferently, and without dwelling on it, he took out his pill furnace according to the plan in his mind.

He intended to refine a furnace of elixirs, namely the Qingming Zhenyuan Pill and the Tongming Pill.

The Tongming Pill was a elixir he once refined for the Black Mountain Black Bear brothers, capable of cleansing the bones and changing the constitution of demonic beasts. It was a rare pill for demonic beasts.

The Black Mountain Black Bear brothers had taken it once and didn’t need it again, but it wasn’t the case for the Golden Claw Python. With this Tongming Pill, the strength of the Golden Claw Python could be greatly improved.

As for the Qingming Zhenyuan Pill, he planned to refine it for himself, to be used later on to break through his martial arts cultivation and reach even greater heights. These two elixirs were both perfect fourth-grade pills, with extremely rare materials required. Fortunately, he had obtained a large number of Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures from Jin Cheng, which could support him in refining these elixirs.

“With my current Martial Arts Cultivation at the Fourth Level of the Spirit

Martial Realm, it’s probably not quite enough. Once I enter the Spiritual Martial Realm 5th Level, and take this Qingming Zhenyuan Pill, I will immediately become a master at the Sixth Level of the Spirit Martial Realm. In this way, my confidence in the Genius Selection Competition will be much stronger.” Yang Chen thought secretly in his heart.

Thinking of this, he waved his hand with a flourish, and the Starfire appeared, and the alchemy method was immediately formed!

Chapter 230: Announcing the Bounty_I

With Yang Chen's level of alchemy, the Qingming Zhenyuan Pill and the Tongming Pill could be completed in just one hour. The short amount of time taken is due to his improvement in Martial Arts Cultivation, and he no longer worries about the consumption of soul energy as he did before.

Now, holding the Qingming Zhenyuan Pill, Yang Chen put it in his storage bag and then called out, "Rainbow, let Brother Python come out."

Rainbow clearly heard and opened the passage within the Eight Extremities Flowing River Space.

The Demonic Python stretched its body, filling the entire room, and slowly crawled out from the Eight Extremities Flowing River Space. At this point, it no longer had any qualms with Yang Chen and spoke gently, "Young Master, what can I do for you?"

It was different from the Black Mountain Black Bear and the Mermaid girl Rainbow. Since it chose to follow Yang Chen, it knew the rules. Now, it had changed its address from "human" at the beginning to "Young Master." It showed that it had put down any grudges and was fully prepared to follow Yang Chen.

Yang Chen was secretly relieved knowing that refining the Tongming Pill for the Python was worthwhile.

With that in mind, Yang Chen smiled and said, "Brother Python, I've specially made this pill for you. I've promised you that as long as you follow me, I won't let you down. This pill is just a greeting gift for you to follow me in the future. Since we are cooperating, I won't treat you poorly!" Yang Chen was calm and generous.

Seeing Yang Chen calmly handing the Tongming Pill over, the Demonic Python trembled, "Young Master... This is the Tongming Pill?"

Even though it was much older than the Black Mountain Black Bear and its inherited memory had not been awakened, it had rich experience and could recognize the Tongming Pill, which many Demonic Beasts dream of!

This kind of elixir could cleanse the Demonic Beast's physique and allow them to undergo significant transformations from the very beginning.

"This pill was specifically made for you, Brother Python. I've kept it, but what use would it be to me? On the contrary, if you take it, you will at least be able to increase your strength by one or two levels and can advance by leaps and bounds in your cultivation in the future," Yang Chen said, not taking it as a big deal and commanded, "Take it, Brother Python."

The Demonic Python took a deep breath, looked at the Tongming Pill, and its coiled body wriggled, full of gratitude, "Young Master, if there's anything you need me to do for you in the future, feel free to tell me. I may not be able to do anything, but I am good at fighting!"

Seeing the honest and sincere appearance of the Demonic Python, Yang Chen grinned and said, "No need to be so polite, Brother Python!"

The Python did not say anything more, entered the Eight Extremities Flowing River Space, and began refining the Tongming Pill without hesitation.

This was the effect Yang Chen was looking for.

He was never stingy with his own people.

If he were stingy even with his people, then he would have failed as a person.

Now, after several days of seclusion and refining the Innate Qi, as well as giving away the Tongming Pill, Yang Chen began to think about the future.

Given that the Genius Selection Competition is approaching, Yang Chen considered the trouble the Ming Emperor Sect would bring and finally decided to leave his room with a resolute heart.

In the long run, it's not an easy task to maintain the Face Changing Technique. His current cultivation level is still not enough, and he won't make such a choice unless it's absolutely necessary.

Arriving in the inn, Yang Chen scanned the surroundings, and it was still quiet and empty. On the other hand, the bounty across the street had attracted more and more spectators.

“Sir, you’ve come out.” The shopkeeper greeted Yang Chen with a fawning smile when he noticed Yang Chen coming out of his seclusion.

Yang Chen, with his hands behind his back, did not say much, “Shopkeeper, let me ask you something. Where is the Zhou Family’s mansion?”

Full of doubts but still answering, the shopkeeper said, “It’s not far from the intersection of East City and West City...”

“Oh, I see. I’m going for a walk.” Yang Chen replied calmly.

Following that, he squeezed into the crowd watching the bounty.

The shopkeeper was at a loss, wondering what Yang Chen was going to do.

“It’s a pity. Miss Zhou from the Zhou Family with strong Martial Arts Cultivation and excellent talent encountered an accident at a critical moment. This is the most taboo thing for a martial artist.”

“The Genius Selection Competition is imminent, and Miss Zhou has encountered this problem. Hehe, it will be difficult for the Zhou Family to approach those Major Sects. You know, Miss Zhou’s participation in the Genius Selection Competition is directly aimed at joining the Beishan Main City.”

Watching the bounty, Yang Chen kept silent among the crowd.

Most people were just spectators.

But no one dared to pick up the bounty.

After all, who has the ability? How could the Zhou Family let it go if you dared to treat their problem without any certainty? So even though the conditions were tempting, no one dared to take a bite of the crab meat.

Yang Chen took a closer look at the bounty and rubbed his chin, "The bounty is even higher than yesterday. It seems that the Zhou Family is really anxious." Honestly, he wasn't interested in these bounties.

What he was interested in was the genius from the Zhou Family, who would also participate in the Genius Selection Competition like him!

"The Ming Emperor Sect will not give up when they see I'm not in Liaocheng.

They will certainly spread the bounty widely. If I go alone to the Beishan Main City in the future, it will be full of dangers. If I could join with the Zhou Family members, there will undoubtedly be more safeguards!" Yang Chen rubbed his eyebrows.

The only thing that made him hesitate was whether or not to take the plunge.

After thinking for a while, Yang Chen laughed at himself. There was no such thing as an adventure-free matter, and he said, "Ming Yue, let's go."

"Huh?" Gu Mingyue was stunned.

Yang Chen walked out and tore the bounty, picking it up.

The onlookers were shocked with wide eyes. "Who dares to pick up the bounties in East City?"

"This is just a kid."

"Is he seeking death? Thinking that treating Miss Zhou would be as easy as saying it?"

“I think he is just ignorant, not knowing how vast the world is.”

Yang Chen did not pay any attention to them. It's very normal for people who can't do something to think that others can't do it either. He headed straight to the Zhou Family residence without any delay..