

The Shadow of Immortality #Chapter 31: Fragrant Water of the Immortal World!!! - Read The Shadow of Immortality Chapter 31: Fragrant Water of the Immortal World!!!

Chapter 31: Fragrant Water of the Immortal World!!!

The scene truly stole Clark's breath! It resembled an underground city! Black iron lighting fixtures, the massive temple with its golden ornaments, and its magnificent architecture!

And the grand staircase leading inside the temple!

Clark asked his master:

- "What's the story of this place? Did it belong to an ancient sect or something similar?"
- "You could say that! But this place was the headquarters of a man who, it is said, was exiled from the spirit world due to his malice! He wanted to replace one of the ancient rulers and obtain immense power! The funny part of this story is that he faced everyone alone! He lacked nothing! Power? No! He didn't lack it! In fact, he was among the strongest of the powerful! He claimed to be the weakest among them! But in reality, he could crush them in the blink of an eye! Do you remember when I told you: be a dog that licks feet? You don't know the benefits you might gain! Or the amount of trouble you might avoid! No one wants to run over a dog wagging its tail!"

Clark began crawling along the steps leading into the temple. He looked at the wounds on his body! He saw they had begun to fester from the crawling he had done through the dirt and filth! But that only strengthened Clark's resolve! He did not complain or say, "I'm afraid for my life! Heal me, please!" Instead, he remained silent! Nothing but sparks flashed from his eyes! Only infinite determination! The man's heart was truly a mystery!

Finally, Clark placed his hand and pulled himself up! He emerged from behind the ancient temple! A flowing, overflowing black aura radiated from it! The darkness was utterly profound! Clark crawled behind the Master! He felt a strange sensation! As if skeletons were chasing him!

The Master spoke, saying:

- "This is one of the temple's tests! Its lights do not appear unless one's heart is sufficiently refined! You know, Clark, the Demonic Path holds immense difficulties! Therefore, will you fight the challenges? Will your heart struggle, or will it fall?!"

Clark felt a chasm appear in the ground behind him! It tried to pull him into the earth's depths! He heard the screams of all those he had killed! Memories from the past! But

they were blurred! Burning emotions! Numerous near-death experiences! He saw himself dying in the most horrific ways!

Clark asked himself a question in his mind! It echoed in his thoughts as he endured this terrible trial: Why do we struggle against death? Against other people? Against our circumstances? What's the difference between human perseverance? Is there really any difference? Are we all walking the same path? Struggle after struggle! An eternal, unending torment! Tell me, when does true rest come? Can a weak person like me achieve immortality? Was it destined for me? Or will I ultimately fail to find the answer and surrender to death due to old age?! It's truly laughable! But I will not lose! As long as I am alive! As long as blood pumps through my veins! I will not surrender!

Alert!!! New Trait: Steel Will!

Trait Description: Possesses high immunity against all mental or spiritual attacks!!!

Clark quickly regained his senses! He finally saw the light! He saw a great hall before him! It extended with a long corridor and a strange design of successive stairs and rooms, like a human brain! The luminous ceramics! The architecture was wondrous! That followers of the Demonic Path could build something so magnificent! But what truly piqued his curiosity was that strange basin from which a strange liquid flowed! It resembled the seminal fluid of a horse!!!

Quickly, the Master spoke:

- "Do you see that basin?! It is called the Fragrant Water of the Immortal World!!! Or as it's known: The Refining Waterfall of Paradise!"

Clark was shocked! He exclaimed loudly:

- "The Immortal World! Truly?! But how?! Where did such a great thing descend from the world of the Immortals?!"

- "The reason! After the great catastrophes, many strange things occurred! Phenomena beyond human comprehension! Only the great sects obtained them! The Fragrant Water of the Immortals which is before you! Then the great Light of Wisdom! And finally: the Chasm of Fate! Those things were in the world of the Immortals! But the locations changed, and they came here! The sects think they are merely blessings bestowed upon them by their Buddhas and gods! But that is a pure lie! All those things came here for a completely different reason! Clark! The world is changing radically! And I believe you are the one who will possess the world! I did not lie! You yourself said previously: I was born with the qualities of kings!"

Clark laughed loudly:

· "Then! I must pass through all those things! And oh, the miracle! At its beginning, I find the Fragrant Water! Keke ke!"

· "You must know something! The Light of Wisdom truly grants one great wisdom! But that is at the cost of your lifespan! It is said: If the light strikes you directly, it might steal half your life due to the horrifying speed of absorption! It is said: A man gains wisdom with advancing age! But the Light of Wisdom strikes you with insane aging! Great wisdom comes with it! And your lifespan decreases! Therefore, the majority prefer to observe from afar, nothing more! As for the Chasm of Fate! Its benefit is still unknown! I can describe it as something: It is what controls destiny and the threads of fate! They described it: It is a giant spider weaving its threads!!!"

Clark was stunned by the information presented to him!

The Master spoke again:

· "Now I will tell you a secret! Why didn't I heal you?! In truth! The Fragrant Water heals a person's body! It even enhances their power! Based on the foundation of their refinement! You possess the foundation of the Celestial Demonic Refinement! And you draw your power from it! But through continuous refinement! And learning a refinement method! I will grant it to you! You will utilize the Fragrant Water to its fullest potential! Focus with me! This technique is called: Emotional Refinement! You draw the power of your refinement from your emotions! Evil! Good! Love! Sorrow! All those things! But those emotions might consume you! Which made this technique one of the forbidden techniques! Despite its power and strangeness! You might turn into a madman! Therefore! Are you ready for it??"

· "Do I have a choice?! Of course I am ready for it! But what about healing my body?! I don't know! But I am severely injured!"

· "And here we come to a great advantage! The Fragrant Water will heal your body! And your bones will become stronger and stronger! The more you treat yourself with it! But! It is better to use it for refinement! And not use it for healing! Except in a critical condition after training!"

· "Why???"

· "Your body won't keep up with the fantastical healing sessions! On the contrary! The foundation of your refinement will be destroyed! And after that! You know!!!"

· "Fine!"

· "Now! Mr. Clark! Remove your clothes completely! I don't want any piece of cloth covering you! And enter the basin!"

· "Remove them completely?! Really???"

· "Yes! And don't ask too many questions! Do it!"

Clark did not object! He removed all his clothes! He did not hesitate! Instead, he crawled forward towards the basin! He lifted himself! And fell into the basin! He felt like he was drowning! Quickly, he composed himself! And sat in the basin! Instinctively! His body knew how to swim!! But he felt a great sensation! He felt a slight tingling! Due to the rapid reaction of his circulatory system! But relief flowed into his brain and body!

The Master spoke:

· "Now, Clark! You feel the effect of the waters! To embody your emotions! Think of the deepest spiritual point in your heart! And release it in the form of Qi! You might release memories! Things you love! But those emotions will strengthen you! Utilize them well! And coexist with them! Do not hate them! Do not fall under the influence of relief! Rather! It is good to train while in a recovery stage! Because this is training for your personal refinement!!!"

Clark thought about his soul! He felt immense emotions! For a mysterious entity buried in his heart! He felt memories flowing!

The Master was watching in horror! Clark didn't notice! But his eye had turned black! Covered with a red light! Its appearance was terrifying! The aura was demonic! No! Beyond limits! No! And no human on Earth could possess it!

A question echoed in his heart:

· "Is he really?! Or what?!"

Meanwhile, Clark had transitioned to another world! Ancient memories! He saw himself in them in a strange form! He had realized that will is built upon three things: Hope – Desire – Perseverance. And he possessed all three in his life!

Then he began to see the past! Where his journey of seeking began... In his previous life! He was talking to that woman, whose beauty he had never seen the like of! She was called the Venerated One! "Star of the Nine Seas"! And she was Loona! It is said: There is a great river called the River of Time! In it flows the life of humans and the entire universe!

Clark loved Loona immensely! One night! While sleeping at her feet! He asked her:

· "Is it possible for us to become immortal, O Loona?!"

She said, surprised:

· "What do you mean?!"

He said:

· "I mean to live forever! Just you and I! We love each other! We explore the world! For what frightens humans more than anything... is Time!"

Loona smiled and said:

· "We don't need things like that! Our love will immortalize us! Even in another life!"
Then she kissed him!

But... everything turned grey! In the other life! Clark suffered hell! In the end! Loona died! He was furious, standing by her corpse! His gaze was cold! His tears had dried up! And nothing remained! He said:

· "Hahaha... it was a foolish word we said! And we did not fulfill it!"

He held the music box in his hand and said:

· "In the end! You lied to me! What is the goal of all this?! For me to be in another world! Where you don't exist?! Was it just an amusement to console the fool who loved you?!"

She had abandoned her body! And did not reach the "World Above the Immortals"! That which no one had reached! It was called the Heaven Layer! Or the Protecting Hands! A living existence! Yet, at the same time, non-physical!

She sacrificed for people! But why do we sacrifice for the stability of the world and for humans we don't know???

He asked himself, Clark:

· "What is the goal?! What is the use?! Even if I sacrifice! In the end... you left! And abandoned me! That is betrayal! I was always betrayed!"

Love dies! Lust! In the end! Mere bodies that will turn into weak bones! Wealth?! I will die in the end! So what's the use?! Power?! They are all perishable, hollow desires! Created to weaken our hearts! But... if my heart becomes as hard as iron! Then it will never stray from its path again!

He activated the music box! Time accelerated! The universe shook! And the third world, in which Clark now lives, was created! He clung to the light... then he awoke!

He saw his master around him! Who was sitting calmly! He laughed bitterly and said:

· "In the end! I was a fool! I saw things from a foolish perspective! They say: You should not know your past! Perhaps! Because it is something you should not know! But! The real question! Is death truly torment?! Or merely freedom???"

To be continued.....

Chapter 32: The World!!!

The Master looked at Clark and laughed:

· "You ask yourself: What is the meaning of life? Is it nihilism? Is it pure torment? Is death truly just torment or a new journey? The truth is, I don't know what you've seen, but that is the reality of life: pitfalls and stumbles. But the hardest thing of all is to be like a fool and trust them! Trust is built, not acquired! Right, isn't it? You try to make the other party respect you, help them, and sometimes sacrifice, but what's the use? We always ask ourselves: What will he gain if he helps me? If he takes a risk? And that is the strange complexity of humanity! Death itself is an inability! These humans you see inhabiting this earth are incapable of understanding!"

· "Tell me, Clark, do you want to know the secret of death? Do you accept it in your heart? Or do you want the goal you aspire to, to achieve what no one has achieved?"

· "I definitely want to achieve what no human has reached! I was always just a trivial person! My life is still mysterious, but I always hated being exploited like a fool who is pulled by a word and pushed by a word! A secondary character where the story ends! I wasn't the driving force, I wasn't anything, just a huge fool! My heart is full of emotions like everyone else, but since I first woke up, I instinctively suppressed everything! I grew tired of being an inferior creature, and therefore I want to acquire what no one has acquired, so I can raise my head and find that I have achieved the impossible!"

· "Well done! That is the meaning! But don't you see how your body has become after its purification and healing in the Immortal Waters?"

Clark became purer, cleansed of all impurities! His head felt lighter, but his color became a strangely pale white! But his muscles became tougher and his veins prominent and dense, and his refinement increased!

He opened his personal window to see his levels:

Strength: 40

Mana: 30

Sturdiness: 35

Endurance: 40

Qi: 20

Demonic Aura: 5

Refinement Level: King Class, Second Tier

Clark spoke:

- "My refinement and strength have truly increased! These waters are miraculous as I said before!"

Alert!!!!

The World Planet is sending you a message!

Clark opened the message and was shocked:

- "I want to meet you!!!!!"

Clark was shocked and exclaimed loudly:

- "A Venerable One like this wants to meet me! Keke ke! What? I communicate with you? How?"

- "He communicates with me from time to time! In truth, many have communicated with me, but the first were the World and Agharis!"

- "If that's what he says, it means you are ready! Alright, I will start with the matrix!"

He scattered many runic letters!

Clark quickly asked him:

- "What are you doing?"

- "It's the Dream Matrix! The constellations manifest everywhere, inside our minds in the physical world and beyond! And this matrix will transport you to your dream world, and then the World Planet will enter your mind!"

He quickly activated the matrix without informing Clark, who reacted by attempting to attack! He was stunned, but quickly closed his eyes! He felt himself being pulled from cold water and woke up!

And he was shocked by what he saw! He was standing in a palace in space! The windows and dome all showed space! The view stole Clark's breath!

But the man sitting on his throne was truly terrifying! And his aura oozed with a thirst for blood! That oppressive aura seized Clark's heart, who became paralyzed in place!

Blond hair, blue eyes, long and swept back, with a headband in the middle featuring a green heart! His dense muscles! He stood up from his chair! The universe as if shuddered because of this truly majestic presence!

Clark felt himself freed! He quickly gave greetings with all warmth:

· "I thank the Venerable One for allowing me to be present in his great palace! This is a great honor for a mouse like me! I exploit you..."

· "Hahahaha! You are good with words, young man! But regarding the part about exploitation, you dare say it in my presence?!"

Clark's heart quickly trembled and beat intensely! He sweated terrifyingly! He quickly tugged at his collar to remove the heat from his neck!

· "I apologize, sir, for saying such words! But the wretched one standing before you cannot hold his tongue in front of you! You might think this is disrespectful, but that slightly disrespectful laugh is what attracted your attention!"

· "Hahahaha! You are truly good at talking! Good, good, young man! You have impressed me!"

He quickly turned to his throne to sit on it, but suddenly the edge of his face twitched! And that look was murderous intent! And the aura was blazing from his eyes and nothing else!

Clark asks himself: "How can a creature possess such murderous intent? It didn't just seize my heart, but my soul too! How many humans has he killed to reach such a insane stage?!"

The World spoke:

· "But let me tell you: Be careful not to play with your tail, especially in front of me! For I love crushing, particularly those like you who do not know their limits!"

Clark bowed obediently! He sat on his throne and clasped his hands, looking intently at Clark:

· "Then, listen! I want something from you, which is to breach the Immortal World! And to destroy the asteroid system! The entire world feared my powers, so they created the asteroid system because I destroyed the foundation of the Immortal World, namely the three mutations:

1. The Immortal Fragrance

2. The Light of Wisdom

3. And the Chasm of Fate!"

Clark asked him:

- "How?! How can anyone be able to exile you or do anything to a person of your greatness? Don't think I'm flattering, but the stories I've heard about you piqued my curiosity! You know..."
- "The reason in short: I was a threat to their plan! There is a layer I was on the verge of reaching! Me and two others almost reached the layer of 'Ruler of Heaven and Earth'! Whoever reaches this layer can rule all worlds, and they all submit to his will! I'll say it in your language: Immortality! Immortality is something beyond human conception and knowledge! If someone reaches immortality, it means they have achieved something no human has reached, or surpassed mortals in general!"
- "So, what is the method for me to reach the Immortal World? You certainly won't tell me the means to my end, and after that you won't tell me the method???"
- "You know the method! For you yourself have deciphered it! Let me tell you again as that man told you: Gravity is the key to everything! Find the completion of that relativity, and then you will arrive! Remember: something emerges and does not swallow, and the rest rests on you!"
- "So, what is the gift you will give me to embark on this journey?"

The World Planet laughed, saying:

- "Certainly! Certainly! My gift to you is the embodiment of my specific constellation: The World! That is the key to embodiment that I granted you! And you can no longer use it! Utter its name, and the restraints will break!"

Clark said in a majestic and harsh voice:

- "World, come forth!!!!"

Suddenly, something emerged that was no longer foggy like before, but a true manifestation! The true World! His face was gray, as if wearing a golden helmet covering only the upper part of his face, as if it were part of him! And elongated from the back! Behind his back was a strange clock, and his fists were attached to it with clock gears! His eye was strange, characterized by a weird precision and suggestive of terror! Tall like Clark - six feet tall! His eyes were terrifyingly black and his muscles dense!

Suddenly, the World Planet broke Clark's silence and astonishment, saying:

- "This embodiment is from your own soul and a part of me! The damage the embodiment receives reflects on you! If you lose an eye, he loses an eye! And so on!"

He sees what you see! Meaning if you are blind, he won't be able to see either! The World is characterized by speed, precision, immense power, and miraculous evolution potential! But beware! For that young man who was with you is very dangerous! I won't tell you what happened to me in the past, because it was a great shame for me! Therefore, beware! And also that man is dangerous and hides many secrets! Don't trust him! And finally, listen well, there is someone like you, a follower of my constellation, so find him, for he will help you greatly! And now, get out!!!!"

But Clark did not wake up! What Clark saw was truly the embodiment of the World! But in the real world, the World was being born from Clark's soul! Truly! So he could use it!

The Master was shocked, saying:

- "What is this terrifying power?! The Runic Matrix is almost shattering because of the supernatural manifestation happening!"

It quickly calmed, but was followed by a powerful force that completely destroyed the matrix! Thick dust appeared, covering the Master's eyes! But Clark appeared, his muscles dense! His hair became blond, long, and swept back! And beside him, the great embodiment: The World!!!

The Master laughed:

- "Well done, Clark!"

But the World's last words echoed in Clark's mind:

- "What did he mean by him hiding secrets?!"

Clark quickly asked him with great murderous intent:

- "Who are you? And why do you hide so much? And how did you know me? Tell me the truth! Because my patience is starting to run out!"

- "Who am I? And why do you want to know??"

- "How do you possess all that information? And who are you? How can I be a fool and follow you? What benefits do you want to gain from me?!"

- "Alright, alright! Calm down! In truth, I wanted to tell you that! I want to train and prepare you because of Urban! In truth, that child was also one of my disciples! And he told me a thousand years ago that one of the lost ones in this world would come and inherit his legacy! And as a final wish, he wanted me to train you so your arm would strengthen and become powerful to face this world! As for my personal story, I have been exiled from the Immortal World for thousands of years, and I am nicknamed the Dreaming Spirit! I was exiled because of my refinement path, which is the Path of the

Soul! They couldn't kill me or do anything to me because of my depth in the Path of the Soul and the world of dreams! In the end, they decided to drop me into the human world! And here I am before you!"

· "So, all of you were plotting against me?! Well! Very good!"

To be continued....

Chapter 33: Clark cultivation!!!(1)

Clark, bring out your embodiment! I want to see it!

Clark immediately summoned it, and his master was utterly amazed.

Clark said:

· "Do you want to see its speed?"

Several swift punches instantly shot towards the master.

The master was amazed, thinking to himself:

· "So fast it's hard to dodge! And as a teacher, I don't want to be hit by my student!"

The master's embodiment suddenly emerged, but this was its true form, unlike before! Its body was bizarre! It possessed a thousand arms! 500 arms on the left and right sides! A massive face, wearing a mask with three heads! Its hands resembled black shadows condensing from smoke! Its legs were also black, alongside a skirt covering its lower half!

Clark was truly terrified! They immediately exchanged blows! The World embodiment managed to keep up with the attacks! It suddenly received a kick from the master's embodiment that disrupted its balance! Then it took a powerful blow that sent both it and Clark flying away!

It quickly returned to Clark's body, who spat out a lot of blood and said:

· "Does someone truly possess such power?!"

The master laughed and extended his hand to help Clark up:

· "In truth, that's not the full power of my embodiment!"

· "What are you saying?! I swear if that punch held even a slight intent to kill, it would have crushed my skull!"

· "Clark, there are still many secrets! They don't call me 'The Dreaming Spirit' for no reason!"

· "Is there another name I can call you besides 'The Dreaming Spirit'?"

· "My real name is... Tai Fei!!!"

Clark was shocked as if plunged into boiling water! He stammered:

· "T...Tai Fei?! You know Ling Ochi, of course, right?! And you slept with his wife! Why?!"

· "Yes, it's me! Honestly, Clark, I didn't sleep with his wife to anger him or for love! I simply do what I want! I don't care if I kill my children or loved ones! I truly don't possess such attachments! But I respect a few of them! My goal that night was to obtain an heir in order to..."

The master fell silent and walked away! Clark understood he didn't want to discuss it further and remained silent. In Clark's view, it didn't harm him whether he knew or not; it was his privacy after all.

Clark followed him, began ascending a staircase, and they entered a room! It was immensely spacious but resembled a jungle! Clark asked:

· "What is this place?"

· "As you know, we will train! For an unknown duration! Therefore, we will train in the Immortal Consciousness, so we don't consume many days outside! Truthfully, Clark, I want to refine and strengthen your foundation in every inch of your body! But you are an ambitious man who wants to leave, you don't want to be locked up with me for decades to train! So, what's better than the Immortal Consciousness? Isn't that right?"

· "Yes, you're correct!"

· "Good, Clark! As a start, you possess a powerful embodiment and can stop time! But do you have a combat style?"

· "No! What is a combat style?"

· "There are many skills and weapons besides combat styles!"

Suddenly, a massive red tiger with golden eyes and fiery rings around its neck appeared, interrupting the master:

· "Well! It seems practice is better than talk! Hahahaha! Watch me closely, Clark! This technique will shock you greatly!"

"Soul King's Quake Fist that Shakes the Heavens!"

BOOM!!!!

The master's fist radiated a black aura and immense black lightning! It crushed the tiger with a single terrifying blow!

The master spoke:

· "Good! This is the combat style I created, Clark! It also enhances refinement! Let me tell you something useful, namely the refinement ranks:

1. Birth Layer
2. Soul Awakening Layer
3. King Layer
4. Enlightenment Layer
5. Void Manifestation Layer
6. Soul Birth Layer
7. Body-Soul Fusion Layer
8. Origin Return Layer

And finally, Rank 9: Immortal Layer! It's the strongest layer in the human world, and the first stage of refinement in the Immortal World! Those of this rank are called The Forged or The Venerated in the mortal world!"

· "And what's special about each layer?"

The master replied:

· "Alright! Let's start with the Enlightenment Layer: Its possessors have something special, namely superhuman perception! They can sense everything around them, incoming and outgoing, within a distance of about one kilometer! It also helps them dodge attacks!

Those of the Void Manifestation Layer: Here begins the stage of new soul birth! But they can use it in a limited way! But Soul Birth Layer: Their soul manifests physically according to their combat style! But you've already reached that stage! You possess the foundation of soul refinement, but at the King Layer power level!

Here we reach Body-Soul Fusion: The soul merges with the user's body! Also, let me tell you something: The Path of the Soul seems best for you! Then you can embody a new embodiment just by devouring souls! Just as I did!

Finally, Origin Return: We are in the mortal world, we draw power from the Earth! This makes refinement and evolution difficult and requires much time and effort! But those of Origin Return draw their power from the Heavens! But only slightly, not greatly! Unlike those in the Immortal World, who draw all their power from both Heaven and Earth, as you surely know!

Origin Return enhances your power, allowing you to utilize the Heavens to make your attacks manifest! Origin Return has a condition: you must master a combat art and reach the 'Combat King' stage in your combat art!

And let me show you the manifestation of my power in the sky!"

The master instantly ascended into the sky! He declared in a resonant and terrifying voice:

- "The second move of the Soul King Fist: Empty Strikes!"

The sky's color changed horrifically! Clark's throat went dry as he watched in utter terror! Frightening fists emerged from the sky! Coated in terrifying black Qi! The earth and everything in it quaked!

Clark looked in horror at the descending master and asked:

- "Is this just a small part of your power?! No wonder the Emperor of the Qin nation feared you!"

- "Of course he fears me! What you see now isn't part of my true self! It's merely a mask!"

Clark replied terrified:

- "What?! You mean I provoked you and you have an overwhelming desire to kill me?!"

Tai Fei laughed, answering Clark:

- "Absolutely! No! I've always killed! If I dislike someone... you don't know how many humans I've killed over all these years! But anger won't make me your teacher! Yet I expect my training will be harsh! So never expect any sympathy from me!"

Clark nodded in agreement.

The master said:

· "Now we begin the first and most important lesson, Clark: What is the foundation of my combat style? Tell me!"

· "It's that dark energy, right?"

· "Yes! Exactly! That energy is the foundation, and its name is 'Dark Qi'! It won't be hard for you to learn Dark Qi! Shadows exist everywhere! And one man possessed those shadows: Lucifer! And since you possess his will and the World embodiment, it won't be difficult for you!

A gift from me: I will show you my true Dark Power! Be prepared, for your breath will vanish from the shock! You are the first person to see it! Even those in the Immortal World haven't seen it, because they couldn't even comprehend it...."

And then, Clark saw a sight unlike any other! It stole his gaze! A look of real terror! Any opponent or enemy seeing such a thing would slit their own throat in submission and surrender!

A height like towering mountains! Tai Fei's shadow swelled and revealed its true embodiment form! Even the World Planet hadn't unleashed such immense pressure! Such a colossal thing!

Then, the massive being merely waved its five hundred hands! A great black aura surged forth! Shadows! With a wave of its hand, the sky's color changed to black! It erased light itself! Then it withdrew its manifestation and returned!

Clark asked, terrified and stammering:

· "Just! H..how can you possess such power?!"

The master suddenly knelt and spat blood!

Clark asked again:

· "What happened to you?!"

The master answered, coughing:

· "This power alone consumes me! The human world truly restricts me and binds my powers!"

A week later... Clark kept training diligently and earnestly! But he couldn't coat his fist with shadows! He didn't know the real secret to doing it! He kept working with

determination and hardship, doing exercises and a thousand shadow drills with the master on his back, while drinking green tea!

Suddenly, the master shouted while sitting at one of the tables:

· "Clark! The tea, faster, you fool!"

Clark quickly came and placed the tea in front of him on the table, asking his master:

· "Just! What's the secret to using Dark Qi?!"

· "The secret is right in front of you! It's natural... Didn't you see those rabbits?! Even though they are in the light, shadows appear! Even within a person's heart, there is darkness! If you can extract that power! As I told you before: You possess that dark energy, but you don't realize it, for in the end, only those whose hearts are coated in darkness can use shadows!!...."

To be continued....

Chapter 34: Clark cultivation!!!(2)

Clark kept thinking beneath the waterfall. Thoughts continued to flow.

But in truth, he hadn't tried anything except: ordinary or pure Qi, without any additions, no black lightning no demonic Qi.

Clark began to release his Qi. An overwhelming aura surged forth, and he began to refine the Qi after closing his eyes and concentrating.

He began to see a dark void. That was Lucifer's will! He entered that void within his mind and began to see a strange scene...

In Dranglik, 3000 years ago:

A soldier rushed through the corridors into Lucifer's chamber. Lucifer had thick, long black hair, but a black aura blazed from him. Beside Lucifer's strange armor and his steel hands, the soldier said:

· "My Lord, Ornstein awaits you outside!"

· "Keke keke ke! So he has proceeded with his move!"

Clark, who was witnessing the events, was instantly shocked! Shocked that Lucifer laughed with the same laugh as his!

But Lucifer closed the book in his hand and headed outside his palace with all dignity and calmness.

He soon pushed the giant door open, laughing:

· "So you've dared to face me! Keke ke!"

· "Yes! Of course I dare! By what right do you proclaim yourself Emperor of the entire continent?!"

Clark was stunned, he thought to himself: "What rule! This man rules the whole world! It's truly no simple matter!"

Lucifer immediately spoke:

· "You fool! Of course I will crown myself! Who else is more deserving than me?!"

· "The most deserving is not just! You have killed thousands of humans! How can you claim you are fit to rule the lands?! Aren't the serpent's gauntlets made from the Black Iron forged from a million humans?!"

· "What of it? Do you mean to say that is unjust, you vile Ornstein?! I thought you were the one deserving of everything! And just because I kicked your backside, now you're angry with me?! Does that truly overflow your anger?! You know in your heart that you are vile and your heart is corrupted like mine! Otherwise, on that day... against that Venerable One, why did you use your demonic powers to absorb the inhabitants of the floating city of Visya?! Isn't that right?! I still see that scene charged with the screams of humans suffering that horrible death, and your red eyes blazing with sparks!"

Instantly, all of Ornstein's allies looked at him! The gaze of the extreme, icy spirit Chahaya turned, saying:

· "Did you truly betray our father's covenant, Ornstein?! He told you that day you were the shining light of humanity! But killing a million humans... isn't that tyrannical?!"

Suddenly, Ornstein rose high into the sky, holding a giant lightning bolt:

· "You believe that liar?! I am the embodiment of true good! It doesn't matter if some humans died for the sake of true justice! That Venerable One was an unforgivable devil! They were a sacrifice to rid us of evil! Also, do you think I don't know?! Your disciple fled to escape this incident! But I will kill you, then I will follow him to the ends of the world! And if he flees to the Immortal World, I will follow him! He will not escape me! I am the true master of Light!"

A terrifying black aura ignited from Ornstein!

Lucifer laughed, saying:

· "You are still a beginner! For I am the master of all that is black! Let me show you the true power! The foundation of Darkness is Evil! And evil comes from the heart! They are all the feelings of the human heart! Overflowing with emotions! Whether the person is human, demon, or angelic! He possesses emotions! And the evil emotions... I can harness them into Blackness!"

Clark's vision of everything quickly blurred due to the power that surged from Lucifer!

And he returned to reality.

He found the Master standing on the riverbank, laughing:

· "It seems you've mastered it! It seems there was a stupid seal hindering you slightly! But the moment it was removed, your power emerged! As I told you: that matter is easy if you understand your heart, then you can use the Darkness!"

Clark felt the overwhelming power inside him! He suddenly punched the rock in front of him, and it exploded in a strange way!

Clark was shocked, but the Master laughed, saying:

· "You've injected the rock with the power of Darkness! As I said before: We can inject foes with darkness! Let me tell you about its foundation, the first and most important aspect of the Soul King Fist style, namely: The Pulsating Fist! If you coat your hand in darkness, you can generate a pulsating attack! That pulsating attack makes your hands tremble strangely, causing the Dark Qi to transfer into the opponent's body, throwing all his senses and bodily organs into a state of great confusion! And in the end, that Qi explodes from within! You won't be able to kill your opponents with it, of course, but the stronger you become, the easier it is to deliver harmful blows! Understood?!"

Clark laughed, asking:

· "So I've understood the style! Does that mean I'll be freed from slavery and making tea?!"

The Master chuckled, feeding off Clark's laugh until he smiled, but the Master said with a laughing face:

· "Of course not! You will always make tea! And speaking of tea: This time I want red tea with mint leaves! Please search for it for me!"

Clark was shocked and replied angrily:

· "Whaaat?! You're telling me to search?!"

The Master looked at him seriously, and Clark knew there was no fair solution, and that he would have to search for the tea against his will!

Clark went back and forth in the forest searching for mint. Half a day passed and the sun set.

He lit a fire and said sarcastically:

· "Damn you, old man! You just don't want to drink! You just want to torture me, nothing more! With you..."

Suddenly, Clark felt a cold breath!

He turned quickly, but saw nothing!

Soon he heard the sound of footsteps again!

· "Damn! Who wants to mess with me now?!"

Suddenly, a person lunged forward with a mighty leap! Clark dodged with difficulty! But that man shattered several trees! And he wielded a sword! But Clark had no sword, only his fists for fighting!

He saw that disgusting, fragmented face! A terrifying sight, with half the jaw torn in a strange and frightening way! It truly horrified Clark!

And his long, sharp sword! He wore the same training clothes as Clark, the garment called Hanfu! But this man wore a headdress resembling a crown!

So who does Clark face now???

To be continued....

Chapter 35: Clark cultivation!!!(3)

Clark was sweating profusely. He was now in an unenviable situation against a monster whose strength he couldn't gauge. This might be his first real test! Could he face it or not? That's what crossed his mind.

But he felt the Dark Qi igniting in his heart! Emotions were truly the fuel for darkness!

Suddenly, the zombie charged thoughtlessly to attack Clark! Thrusting with its sword, like a madman trying to cut Clark down! But the latter was too fast and dodged.

Clark quickly found an opening amidst those violent swings! He grabbed the zombie's left hand, pinning it, and with his right hand coated in Dark Qi, used the first technique: The Pulsating Strike!

BOOM!!!

Four punches sent that zombie flying!

Clark felt victorious, but the zombie immediately charged again, attacking Clark! Despite reinforcing his arms, Clark feared his hand would be disabled by the zombie's blade! There was a high chance his hand wasn't solid enough to withstand the sharpness of the zombie's sword and the power of its attack!

But all that remained in Clark's mind was a thick fog of emotions! He no longer cared; he was enjoying it even more! This was the thrill of battle! The gamble! You never know if you'll win or suffer a devastating loss! Therefore, in battle, you must gamble with your life!

Clark sensed something! There was a trick! He thought in astonishment:

· "Did the Master know about the zombie? Is that why he sent me to fetch tea, so I'd face dangers and discover something I know nothing about?!"

But the zombie made a distracting swing, forcing Clark to duck, evading the blow that could have pierced his skull! Yet, the zombie raised its left hand! To Clark's shock, it had coated it in a black aura!

The zombie screamed, speaking for the first time:

· "Black Dragon Claw Fist that Shakes the Heavens!!!!"

Clark was stunned! The fist descended on his chest mercilessly! He gritted his teeth fiercely to endure the pain! He felt multiple sensations: burning as if by fire! He felt his internal organs churning! Every terrible thing possible he felt from that brutal strike!

Clark began to sweat and bleed! He thought to himself:

· "I can fight, but this zombie truly has supernatural endurance! I barely hit it, and it's still swinging like that...."

Suddenly, the zombie interrupted Clark's thoughts, charging with a crushing attack to kill him! But Clark, with all his Qi, reinforced his hands! Clark became enraged! Suddenly, The World appeared behind Clark! The zombie tried to create distance, but Clark clung to it fiercely, saying:

· "I played with you before, but now it's judgment between us! The World!"

Clark shouted loudly: "The World, stop time!"

Gears instantly moved in The World's hands, and Clark heard a mighty sound like shattering clocks and moving gears! The zombie remained suspended in mid-air! Clark and The World lunged, delivering a series of consecutive blows! Clark, amazed by The World's fist speed, stopped comparing himself! But that final punch proved to him it was a supernatural embodiment! That punch was enough to shatter the zombie's skull!

Five seconds passed! The stop was supposed to end, but it continued for four more seconds! Clark kept mercilessly punching the zombie's face! The moment Clark released it, time resumed! The zombie horrifyingly soared into one of the rocks, shattering it and piercing through several trees beyond it, blood flowing from its head, its brain matter oozing from its temple!

The zombie pushed away the debris around it while clutching the flesh flowing from its head, and looked at Clark with bloodshot eyes! Clark began to feel tired! He wasn't used to prolonged battles! And this zombie was truly a combat monster! Despite that, the zombie's power gradually weakened! But a mysterious, demonic, and dark aura surged forth!

Suddenly, it rose into the sky strangely, bones from its back emerging and forming themselves into wings! Clark understood what was happening! It seemed this zombie, before going mad, was a refiner on the Path of Transformation! It seemed it had modified its body to be able to extrude its bones to become wings!

It raised its sword terrifyingly into the sky! An overwhelming, mysterious black aura surrounded it! It terrified Clark! He said:

· "That's not just shadows! It's something even more terrifying! This is truly a problem if I don't get away!"

Suddenly, the zombie's laughter echoed! No, it was no longer a zombie to Clark, but a demon! It had to be defeated now! But that strike descended instantly like a terrifying, decisive blow! It made the blood dry in Clark's veins! A massive strike capable of splitting mountains in half! Even this demonic zombie stood in the sky looking down at Clark, confident of its victory!

Clark screamed in utter terror:

· "The World, come out! Stop time! Damn you!"

The World instantly emerged and stopped time! The strike was on the verge of hitting Clark! A hair's breadth from his face and chest! But Clark had only stopped time for a second! He didn't know what happened, but time resumed flowing after one second! Mid-dodge, he was severely hit in the chest! The area filled with dust and a very large fissure split the ground! The zombie heard the sound of blood flowing from Clark!

The dust cleared, and Clark was gone! Clark kept laughing:

- "Keke keke keke keke keke ke!"

The demonic zombie screamed:

- "Come out and face me!"

It looked around frantically, trying to find Clark! Suddenly...

BOOM!!!!!!

The World's fist, clearly visible! A severe injury to its chest! Piercing through the zombie, which began to shatter from the intensity of the damage it received!

The demon asked angrily:

- "What did I do wrong?! I turned into a zombie to become immortal, and now I lose to a human in the King Layer?! Just tell me, how did I lose to you?!"

Clark laughed madly, spitting a lot of blood while holding his wound, replying with utter arrogance:

- "It happened because you stood in the way of a man destined for the fate of kings!" He quickly pulled his fist and The World's hand from the demonic zombie's chest and continued: "It was my destiny from the beginning to defeat you and crush your pride! Don't blame yourself! You performed well in battle and entertained this gentleman before you! Now rest in peace!"

The demon quickly laughed and replied:

- "So! I stayed here for hundreds of years just to die by your hand! Oh, the irony of fate! My transformation into a zombie didn't help me! Because your final strike destroys my soul!"

Clark asked it:

- "The zombie transformation? Immortality? Can I do it?"

The zombie replied, struggling not to fall:

- "No! It deprives you of evolution! It grants you lifespan, but in the end, you will die! I was defeated by you! So what stops anyone from killing you?! You won't be able to refine or evolve! Your appearance will turn green! But... there is a zombie society called the Green Mountain! There you will meet the Immortal Fist King! He possesses nine fists, each capable of shaking the heavens!"

Its vision quickly blurred, and it fell to the ground! The demonic zombie died!!!

Clark immediately began walking with difficulty! Dragging his feet, weakened from this entire ordeal! He found no rest! His condition was critical! If he returned to the Master in one piece, it would be a great achievement!

Clark was exhausted and utterly drained! He wanted to lean his body on The World, but he fell because The World had weakened after the battle! Due to Clark's injuries and exhaustion from stopping time!

Clark thought to himself:

· "It seems stopping time can only be relied upon once! In the end, after that supernatural stop, I could only last a second in the stopped world! And I almost died because of that second! How laughable! I thought I was invincible, but in the end, I was crushed badly! Keke keke ke! I must ask that stupid old man about a technique to make me fast! I won't rely on stopping time to dodge attacks! But maybe if I became an immortal zombie, could I stop time indefinitely?!"

Suddenly, a notification arrived for Clark! He opened the window and read a message from Athena:

· "Please don't turn into a zombie! It will make your handsome appearance hideous!"

Clark looked displeased:

· "This is no time for games! Can you send me medicine or holy water to heal myself?!"

Athena replied with another message:

· "I can't! Because supporting you with anything costs too much! And don't think I regret spending on you! But my money was confiscated! Since I sent you something sacred and expensive so you could refine!"

Clark was furious! He leaned his back against a tree! No one would help him! Not even his damned World Planet constellation that watches him! And yet it didn't lift a finger!

He wondered, is this the end? Clark asked himself! He said:

· "If I die now, will my suffering end? Will everything... will I find peace? The journey is truly long! I want to close my eyes tightly and never wake up again! Truly, will I feel liberated from everything, and will it all end in peace and tranquility?! I've always wondered: why? Why are there laws governing everything? What if I broke everything? Then I could challenge the heavens of death! Or is it too difficult, and can a trivial person like me not do it? Or not? Can I?! Am I just underestimating myself?! Fine, I'll close my eyes! Let whatever happens, happen!"

Clark closed his eyes! He felt it was the end! His wounds began to fester due to his excessive staggering! But suddenly, Clark saw a strange light! It made him open his eyes! He quickly saw a scene that might be the first beautiful sight he'd seen since waking up! Cicadas of spring appeared with their soft green light! It made Clark think it might make his death more poetic!

But he saw the cicadas start moving strangely! As if they wanted Clark to follow them! He truly felt curious! He quickly stood with difficulty, leaning on the tree! It turned out... it turned out a small branch had pierced the lower part of Clark's back! But he hadn't felt it!

He started walking! The cicadas danced beside Clark's face! His vision was blurred! He pushed aside a tree branch obstructing his view! And saw a cave! He didn't know what this cave was about! But he started walking! He saw the entrance that the Venerable Urban's consciousness had mentioned entering!

The cicadas entered, and Clark followed them in bewilderment! He asked himself:

- "Where are they leading me, I wonder?!"

He began to go deeper! Suddenly, he was shocked, and at the same time, felt sadness???

To be continued....

Chapter 36: Clark cultivation!!!(4)

Clark laughed and said:

• "How ironic! What's the point? I was on the verge of death just now, and then I find an inheritance waiting for me to claim! But in the end, I'm severely wounded, yet a part of my heart tells me the Master will come!"

Clark rested his back on one of the stone chairs. It wasn't comfortable, but better than standing.

There was a corpse with many books beside it. Clark forced himself to stand and went to one of the shelves. The first book Clark laid his hand on was titled "The Art of Yin and Yang," and written below it was: "Intellectual Authenticity."

Clark returned to the stone chair. There were many books, but "The Art of Yin and Yang" had piqued his interest.

He opened the first page, which was the introduction. Clark read aloud:

- "They say: If you find a story for humanity, he was the first intellectual artist! Yes, and not just that! There are those called combat artists, but there is even the intellectual artist! This man was a great king ruling the East and West, possessing everything: a beautiful wife and a life of luxury any man dreams of! Naturally, but in a single day and night, everything turned upside down! His wife and ministers met him with betrayal! She wanted to take everything for herself and didn't want him! She confronted him with the truth: 'Woman: I never loved you! I was just poor, and by a twist of fate, you loved me but I didn't love you! You weren't handsome nor generous! You only amused yourself with sexual desires! I expected to live a royal romantic love story, but it turned out you only thought about 'what's in your pants'! At that moment... perhaps this truth was delayed! But I refrained from bearing your children! Because you are, by nature, trash! And trash like you don't deserve to create offspring or a family! And so, I conspired and did the impossible to get rid of you! And I truly succeeded!'"

The king laughed maniacally and said:

- "Hahahaha! How laughable! I expected that! I could have killed you, but I preferred to wait! You might ask: why? But I love seeing the intelligent and placing them under my control to see how they will betray me! By nature, women have traits of domination and betrayal! And if you think I didn't know, you are mistaken! And if you also think I didn't know you were using horrific methods like 'aborting the fetus', I knew! Sadly, you didn't build relationships or anything! You fooled yourself into thinking everyone hates me and wants me dead! Perhaps they hate me, but I subdued them by force! Don't think your beauty is enough to convince people with refined words! There are two types of intelligent people: those who lick boots and get breadcrumbs, and another type who wants everything for themselves! The intelligent one balances between the two! If you possess the power to obtain everything, then take it! But if you don't possess that power, then being content with the little that lasts is better than a lot that vanishes! Isn't that right? But you kicked the blessing with your own feet!"

Suddenly, the king surged forward with a demonic aura and beheaded her! He threw her head to the guards and said:

- "Throw her with the trash like the others!"

That king never married or took a wife again! Perhaps because love was impossible, or due to the social status he achieved! But he was so intelligent that he let the wolf into his house! Just to see how the betrayal would unfold! But he didn't care! He was truly a king! It was just a trivial matter! He recorded his memories and everything to learn and prepare the generations after him!

He said while on his palace balcony:

- "They tell you: This is bad, and this is good? But the truth is just to silence you! Why? Because you are weak! That might be good sometimes! At times, you must know your place! You might be scum, or you might be a manipulator! I classify humans into two

types: manipulator and scum! Or what I like to call 'opportunistic dogs'! But what terrifies humans most isn't the coldness of the executioner or the torturer, but the coldness of the people watching as he is tortured or beheaded! And that, in truth, is my life's lesson: No one will look at you or care about your suffering! If you possess power, then crush everyone! And if you don't possess it to demand your rights, then be silent and live the rest of your life in peace! No one wants their head cut off! But whoever orders it, the end justifies the means! A ruler must be a great master who severs necks and enacts laws! And the people are tools! That is the true ruler! Because a weak ruler is consumed like food! People must see you as something sublime, not human! You must, to your citizens, resemble something unattainable or indispensable! And thus, you create the great image for yourself! Who will betray you after that? Perhaps your ministers! But if you enslave their hearts, they too won't betray you! The most dangerous among them are the religious leaders! But what if you delude the religious leaders into believing you are doing this for the sake of religion?! Then their hearts will yield to you! In fact, they will even commit massacres for you, thinking it's a cosmic cause, and wish you a long life! That is the first lesson in the style of Intellectual Authenticity!"

Clark laughed, closed the book, spat a little blood, and said:

- "He's truly a tyrant! But he's right about much! Humans always devour each other! The strong, if they see you on the roadside, will kick you just to feel powerful! All humans do those actions to convince themselves of their strength! In truth, we all do that! Contentment is easy! But what is the method? It's not hard to predict dangers! Because the king in that story knew the betrayal would come from that woman! That's why he married her just to see how she would betray him! He set traps for her and let her plan while he pretended to be foolish! Therefore, Intellectual Authenticity isn't difficult! If I told you: Listen! You have an army of tens of thousands of soldiers, and among them are your blood brothers from your mother and father! And one of them offers you: Sacrifice that army and you will rule this kingdom without any exception! Everyone! The fool will remain in his shallow social status and convince himself with principles! But I will sacrifice them! And a laugh will cover my face! They don't matter! Let them all die! Isn't that right, my teacher???"

Tai Fei laughed:

- "I didn't expect you to expose me! It seems I'm not like before!"

Clark replied:

- "The World is the one who exposed you! Its precision is immense!"

- "Your World is truly precise! But I liked your speech! You are right! But in truth, who is the owner of that book? And who was the king?! He is the owner of this Immortal Consciousness! And he is still alive too!!!"

- "What?! Is he then the owner of the temple we are in?!"

The Master replied:

- "Perhaps, and perhaps not! But the truth is, I think he has reached the Immortal World! But Clark, haven't you noticed the Taoist mark that appeared on your forehead?! It seems you have approached Enlightenment!"

Clark replied, touching his forehead:

- "What?! How?! What do you mean?!"

Tai Fei replied:

- "The marks of the Dao spread in the soul and body! And those marks help one reach the peak of refinement! And it seems you have obtained one! The funny thing is that the requirements to enter the Immortal Layer are the Dao marks! And you have now obtained one of them, Clark! You are very close! But you have a long journey ahead to achieve that! Now let's go treat you! Your wounds are serious!"

To be continued...

Chapter 37: demonic faction 'Black Clouds'!

"Argh!"

Clark screamed loudly and gritted his teeth in pain as the Master treated his wounds harshly.

- "Damn you! Why are you treating me with such cruelty?!"

The Master replied:

- "Quiet! If not for your 'Master' being present, you'd be dead by now! Also, what happened to drive you to such a fight?!"

Clark replied angrily:

- "And you think I wanted that?! He attacked me suddenly for no reason!"

- "I see you defeated him brutally! Because I saw him also covered in heavy wounds, and his temple was shattered! This makes me proud of my disciple!"

- "Quiet! If it weren't for that dust, he would have killed me too! He was using Darkness, was stronger than me, and had mastered Dark Qi better than me! His synergy with his sword! I admired that! Arghhh! Damn you, man! Why are you so harsh?!"

The Master replied:

· "I'm this harsh because you forgot something important!"

Clark averted his gaze, pretending to be stupid:

· "Forgot something? Ahahaha! I don't remember anything like that!"

He plunged the needle in again harshly! Clark screamed loudly:

· "Alright, alright! I forgot the tea leaves! But believe me, I was searching, but that zombie attacked me at the end of the day and almost killed me! If it weren't for the cicadas guiding me to that , I might have been dead!"

· "The cicadas guided you? What do you mean by that?"

Clark replied:

· "I don't know! But in those moments, I thought I was dead, and suddenly something strange came towards me as I closed my eyes! I thought it was my final night! I was truly desperate! Suddenly, a swarm of cicadas appeared, circling around me! I felt it wanted me to wake up! It immediately headed towards the inheritance, and I followed it!"

In his mind, the Master thought:

· "That bitch! I wonder what she's thinking? What drove her to do that?! Maybe it's a coincidence! But even if it is a coincidence, what makes a swarm of insects guide a human somewhere?! And even then, there was nothing there that could treat Clark! This is pure illogical! It was nothing but the doing of the damned Star Constellation! But what's special about it? What does she want from him?!"

Clark soon broke the flow of the Master's thoughts, saying:

· "Are you hiding something from me? Why are you so shocked?!"

The Master poured alcohol on Clark's wounds, avoiding the answer.

Clark screamed loudly:

· "Damn you! Don't avoid my question like that! Answer!!!"

The Master replied:

· "Clark! That wasn't a coincidence, fate, or anything similar! It was an arrangement by a higher entity!"

· "What?! Who is it?! Tell me! What is that entity?!"

· "I don't know if you've met him or not! But she is famous in the Immortal World, and is called the 'Star Constellation'!"

· "What?! You said Star Constellation?! Damn her! That bitch is still chasing me!"

· "What?! You met her?! What did she tell you?!"

· "She was offering me surrender, saying she pities me and wants what's best for me! But I kicked her hand and her offer away! Maybe I would have gained many benefits, but I don't like the idea of someone thinking they can subdue me! I..."

· "Hahahaha! What a trivial reason, Clark! But well done! That bitch only wants to exploit you! She always talks about 'Cosmic Sublimity' and 'Manipulating Hands of Heaven' and 'Destiny'! Mere thugs who want to control laws and create a cosmic system where they manifest and fulfill their desires within it! And then you opposed that, and harshly! But her reaction was different! She was furious! She deceives weak-minded people who think they are righteous into believing 'Heaven's Will' wants that! But it's solely her own will, nothing more, nothing less!"

· "I love bitches like the Star Constellation!"

· "Why?!"

· "Because I will crush her and show her who I am! Keke keke ke! She's just a lunatic! But if she thinks she's the craziest, I'm crazier than her!"

The Master finished stitching Clark's wounds and spoke disappointedly:

· "I really want to treat you with the Immortal Fragrant Water, Clark, but I'm afraid you'll get addicted to that feeling and your refinement will be destroyed! So we won't use it!"

· "Then what will we do?!"

· "We will go to a city in the Qin nation, specifically to the demonic faction 'Black Clouds'! So you can compete with those like you and learn more things!"

· "What?! Really?! I expected we would train here all the time!"

· "Of course not! You must fight those who use the same style as you! Because you fought someone similar to your style and personality: violent and merciless! And as I see from the wounds, he struck you cruelly! You might say: But I killed him! But you emerged with fatal wounds! What's the use?! I know the thrill of battle involves coming out with wounds like these, but what if you face enemy after enemy?! You need high physical capability!"

· "So, when will we go?!"

- "Now!! Prepare yourself! Because in minutes, your training companions will meet you!"
- "What?! This fast?!"
- "Don't underestimate your Master! I possess Runic magic that transports me to gates I placed in the most important places, one of which is the 'Black Clouds' guild!"
- "Fine!"

The two exited the Immortal Subconscious. They began walking down a long corridor. The structure of this place was strange! Clark didn't know what it was made of! But the corridor they entered from was completely black, as if it were a complete void of space! And strange!

Clark asked:

- "What is this?!"
- "We are approaching the gate! It creates a spacetime dispersion, causing an imbalance in the void's equilibrium, making this place essentially 'nothingness'!"

Clark was shocked! How does a place like this exist?!

At the end of the path, Clark saw strange black pillars. The Master brought his hand closer, and those pillars began to open an exit! They emitted a radiant black aura tinted with the Master's energy and pulled them both through!

Clark soon felt a strong light! It was sunlight! They had spent three weeks in the Immortal Subconscious, equivalent to a week and a half in the outside world!

The weather was sunny! Clark saw the place and was stunned! It was a magnificent hall! How can a faction have its main building resemble a palace?! Ornate walls! The women who gathered around them were all beautiful! But this didn't stir Clark's or the Master's hearts; they remained calm! Clark was wearing clothing suitable for that culture (Yang Fu) which he had worn in the Immortal Subconscious!

The women gathered around the Master and Clark, shouting:

- "Tai Fei has returned!"

They were all happy about his return!

Soon, the faction leader hurriedly came down the corridor! He had no imposing features! His chin was covered in hair, with clear signs of aging! He bowed to the Master in complete submission!

The faction leader greeted him:

- "Yin Long welcomes our Lord Tai Fei and is honored by his presence in their home!"
- "Hahahahaha! Yin Long! You still know how to greet! But I came to plant my own seed: my dear disciple, Zu Lang!!!"

Clark was shocked! Why did he say a different name, not Clark??!

The faction leader shook Clark's hand and said:

- "Welcome, new disciple Zu Lang!"

A very thick, terrifying dark aura emanated! Yin Long's grip was intense! But immediately, Clark added his hand next to The World's without the faction leader noticing! Because he used The World's power to enhance himself inside his body! Where The World appeared but inside Clark's body, balancing the scale!

- "It seems your disciple is strong, Lord Tai Fei! But why don't we test him against one of our faction's disciples???"
- "A good idea! Why not test him?! You choose the disciple, and don't be lenient in your choice! Perhaps the disciple will be killed if he isn't strong enough to face him! He is like his master, a tyrant who shows no mercy and crushes everyone!!!"

The whole time, Clark was merely pretending to be innocent!

Yin Long went to prepare everything! He cursed Tai Fei in his mind, saying:

- "You think I respect you?! Damn you! If I didn't fear you crushing my faction, I wouldn't have welcomed you! But I will take revenge on you using your disciple, by humiliating him! Let's see how you'll talk then!!!"

The Master and Clark walked around the faction grounds! It was more like a city, even though it was a demonic faction! Clark was shocked! Because he thought it was just a ruin teeming only with the strong! A city with stalls and tarot readers! Perhaps it's something common among them! What truly impressed Clark was the gentle breeze and the sunlight! He felt its brightness was more than in Dranglik! He felt he wouldn't mind living here at all!

But what piqued Clark's curiosity the most was the Master giving him an alias! He asked in surprise:

- "Why didn't you say my name is Clark?!"

· "Because that name isn't suitable here! Your name must fit this place so you aren't treated condescendingly as a foreigner! So, there's no harm in lying to them and making them think you're one of their countrymen! Do you agree?"

· "Yes! You're right! I don't know why that didn't occur to me!"

The Master stopped and said seriously:

· "Don't stop time and end the fight quickly! Because they will suspect the fight's outcome! They'll think I killed your opponent without them noticing!"

· "Keke ke! And since when did I end fights quickly?! That arrogant old man! He dared to bully me! But I will show him his place!!!"

To be continued!!!

Chapter 38: Long Tianba!!!!

The two finished walking around the area. Clark saw many remarkable and unique things that made him adore the place greatly.

Finally, the master led him to his dwelling.

Suddenly, a disciple landed with a crushing impact.

He spoke in a hoarse voice, a black aura gushing from him:

"Hey! Who do you think you are, to dare enter my dwelling?"

Clark, unleashing his killing intent, replied:

"What? Why shouldn't I take it? Do you think we are from the Righteous Path? The teachings of the Demonic Path state that survival belongs to the strongest, isn't that right?"

So, cut the pointless talk! If you want it, the conversation will be with our fists."

Suddenly, that disciple roared with a terrifying, loud voice:

"You foolish trash! Don't you know who I am?"

"And do I care? I see you as nothing but a fart before my eyes!"

Veins bulged on the disciple's face after Clark's insult.

Suddenly, a new aura began to flow, the embodiment of a strange spirit. It resembled a giant, golden dragon, its scales entirely gold, its aura sacred and unlike anything ordinary???

The disciple spoke again:

"I think you've just pissed your pants in fear!"

Clark laughed. Suddenly, a world appeared behind Clark, magnificent and terrifying. A stellar aura no less holy than the embodiment aura of the other disciple.

Clark replied:

"What? Are you scared, you trash disciple from the King class who might surpass you? Should I answer you, or do you want me and the world to attack you together???"

That disciple neither trembled nor feared; he was amazed and at the same time thought calmly:

"He possesses an embodiment, and not just any embodiment, but a Constellation Embodiment like me. This means he has someone backing him, either an Elder or an Ancestor. But I'm not afraid; my grandfather is from the Lofty Ancestors. I can wring his neck. But there's no harm in inquiring."

The disciple spoke quickly:

"Your courage has impressed me! Who are you???"

Clark replied with a majestic demeanor, his aura becoming more radiant and imposing:

"I am the great Zou Long! And who exactly are you?"

The man replied with all dignity and solemnity:

"I am Long Tianba, grandson of the great Ancestor Long Wuhen. I know this is bullying, but principles and honor don't matter in the Demonic Path. Zou Long, do you accept my challenge?"

Clark laughed, then replied:

"A good name, Long Tianba. It suits a man who possesses a Dragon Embodiment. I accept your challenge. We don't need Elders to determine our fight."

Long Tianba replied:

"Since mercy is written upon my heart, and because I am at the peak of the Enlightenment Stage, I will give you three days to prepare yourself.

After that, we will fight, and don't expect me to be merciful!!!"

Clark laughed and answered:

"Ke ke ke, Lord Long, you are truly merciful! You've embarrassed me! If the righteous path followers saw you, they would weep from your greatness.

I will repay your kindness with this. You can take the room because I will seize it from you upon your defeat.

And since I am generous, behold this!"

Clark shouted loudly: "World!!!!"

Boom!! A loud and powerful sound echoed. The great tear in the fabric of time, time stopped.

Then Clark spoke, time frozen:

"I stopped time! Do you think I'm so generous as to just give you the room like this?"

Suddenly, the world shattered everything in that room within three seconds.

Everything was turned upside down.

Then Clark advanced towards Long Tianba.

He wanted to attack him, but...

Suddenly, yellow flames with terrifying black tips surged forth.

Clark quickly retreated in terror:

"How can he move in my world? Even my master, Tai Fei, couldn't move or do anything! Is it his flames or what!!!"

Clark jumped onto a distant pillar.

He looked at his hand; it was bleeding profusely from the burn.

Time returned.

Long Tianba looked around. Where did he disappear to?

Suddenly, he felt a killing intent coming from the pillars behind him.

"How did you disappear so fast?"

Clark replied, laughing:

"What? Are you scared now? This is my gift! Don't look down on me now! It's over. I'm leaving."

Clark jumped away.

Long Tian entered his dwelling.

He was shocked by the ruin he saw.

He screamed loudly:

"Son of a bitch!!!"

Clark laughed, hearing his voice from afar.

He walked on his way, not knowing where he should sleep. He kept walking everywhere.

He saw the dwellings; they were truly luxurious and well-designed. Even the lower-class disciples had excellent places.

Until a woman with blue hair appeared. She had a Dao Mark on her forehead, wore white robes, possessed a sublime figure, a veil covering half her face, a loose white headscarf, and a shawl over her hair from behind. Her forehead was pure white.

Clark didn't utter a word; he was stunned by the beautiful sight. His heart moved; he didn't know why his dead heart was stirred by such emotions.

The woman spoke in her beautiful voice:

"Are you the new arrival???"

Clark replied:

"Yes, what do you want?"

That woman descended in front of Clark and said:

"I've been watching you from the beginning, and it seems you don't have a dwelling to sleep in. Am I correct???"

Clark was shocked and terrified inside. Was she watching him without him knowing? Was his observation skills this weak, or what? For a girl to sneak up behind him without his knowledge, like a fool.

But he feigned innocence:

"Yes, I was searching, but it seems I got lost admiring these beautiful views. I didn't know such places existed in my village."

"Oh! You're from the villages? I didn't expect that. Since you're a disciple of the Venerable Tai Fei..."

"My master saved me from the depths of weakness and despair. My village was burned, set ablaze, the children were raped and killed.

Just to gain the favor of my great master."

This was just nonsense Clark made up to fabricate a past for himself so he wouldn't seem strange to everyone.

The woman replied:

"I apologize for my bluntness. I didn't tell you my name, though I know yours. I am a Deaconess, training to become an Elderess. My name is Xing Xue Lian, and they call me Star Blade."

Clark replied as they walked:

"Oh, Lady Xing, your name is wonderful! But what is the reason for you watching me???"

Xing Xue Lian was embarrassed and replied:

"I'm sorry if I seemed like a spy, but I want to help you. You should apologize to Long Tianba; you are no match for him."

"And how did you judge that he is stronger than me, woman? Your perspective is too narrow!"

"I didn't say this to mock you or anything, but for your benefit. He possesses the Tempered Body of the Tyrant Dragon, his body is sturdy, and flames protect him—those are the blessings of his Constellation that protect him. And I know you've seen that, since your hand is burned!!!"

Clark laughed and replied:

"Woman, you have great foresight. Well, yes, I attacked him."

"I won't ask what happened between you, but this man is very dangerous because of his Constellation. His flames are dangerous; their full potential is still unknown. So I'm telling you for your own good, you should apologize to him."

Suddenly, Clark raised his voice strongly:

"Shut up, woman! What annoys me the most are people like you. Do you think you know me? I will fight him and defeat him utterly. In the end, I'm not a fool, and I know how to deal with him.

That is the end of the discussion. Go your way, and I will go mine. I don't want any trouble."

Qing Xue Lian replied sadly:

"Why are you so harsh? I just want to help you."

Clark replied:

"I don't know who you are, woman, but you are strange. Your morals, actions, and personality don't even represent the Demonic Path. And I don't care who you are.

But really, just leave me alone."

Qing Xue Lian turned and left.

Clark kept thinking about her words. He didn't want to say he was no match or even think it, because if he retreated once, he would retreat many times. That is a well-known nature; for humans, retreating once plants unbearable fear in one's heart. So why be afraid?

Clark went to his master's dwelling. He knocked on the door.

The master replied:

"Enter."

Clark entered, his face marked by hesitation.

The master asked:

"What's wrong? Why do you look so gloomy?"

Clark sat on a chair and said:

"I've caused a serious problem."

"What? With whom???"

"With a man named Long Tianba."

The master thought while rubbing his chin, then brought a chair and sat facing Clark.

Clark quickly poured tea for his master and himself. The master spoke:

"I see. You've made a terrifying enemy for yourself. But what happened between you?"

Clark explained what happened.

The master laughed at Clark's story, then said:

"I see. So flames appeared while time was stopped, which is terrifying. But you said he didn't move by himself, meaning there's still a chance for your victory. But what's truly frightening are those flames and his body. The Tyrant Dragon Art is one of the rare and terrifying arts, even in the Immortal World.

And this youth might reach the Immortal Stage within ten years. Clark, you've truly made a powerful enemy, but there is still hope."

"But how? Tell me."

The master replied:

"By fighting fire with fire!!!"

To be continued....

Chapter 39: Clark cultivation!!!

Clark was astonished by his master's response and asked:

•"How can I face something whose nature I don't even understand? I don't even know what his fire is!"

The master replied:

•"Yes, you're right. You don't know what his fire is. But let me tell you: what is his fire? It's the Primordial Fire, a great fire that managed to shake the heavens and the constellation of the Tyrant Dragon.

- It accomplished this feat - it shattered the heavens and reached the realm of the Immortals.

- Because of that, the aurora we always see was formed.

- It remains unaffected by anything, which is why that Primordial Fire attacked you to protect its user. In other words, the physical laws of our world don't affect it, and this includes time!!!"

Clark retorted:

- "Your words haven't helped me at all! It's as if you're saying I'll die facing him!"

The master asked Clark:

- "Do you intend to flee?"

Clark laughed and replied:

- "Perhaps I will flee. The ethics of this world don't deter me. It doesn't matter if I flee or beg for my life. I might not beg, but there's no harm in fleeing.

- When I read that book I obtained from the inheritance, it presented a great idea namely: Crime, Punishment, Principles.

- Principles are merely constraints placed to make us yield to justifications for our weakness. Why do I fight? Perhaps for my family, perhaps for my comrades, for my country. That's one of the principles, and at the same time, it's also perseverance.

- Isn't that right? And this is what's strange. Life is interesting, shattering at many times, terrifying at many times. Humans are cowards who fear death; some fear being humiliated.

- That's why they wear the cloak of weakness to hide their weakness."

The master clapped for Clark:

- "Well done, Clark! I expected you to be just an impulsive fool who submits to trivial principles and masculinity.

- Being a dog licking feet is better than being trampled by the strong. But...

- I can strengthen you during these three days easily, and make your body strong enough to perhaps face the Tyrant Dragon Art.

- But let me tell you, Clark: There are two types of those who undergo tempering; they're called Body or Strength Temperers, and there are Spirit Temperers who rely on their primordial spirit.

- There are also those who rely on poisons, among other things.

- In your case, you're facing a user of Body Tempering, so your opponent currently likely has a body hardness close to diamond."

Clark responded:

- "So you mean I must temper my body with a martial art that brings me closer to his level?"

The master laughed:

- "Do you think there's anything that can bring you close to someone who trained for many years within just two days?

- Life isn't easy, Clark. But we will rely on speed. As for the matter of body tempering, I guarantee you the last three hours before your confrontation will be painful.

- Therefore, we need optimal speed intensification and optimal momentum to deliver precise strikes, then defend. In other words, Clark...

- You will train incessantly without fatigue or boredom.

- Mercilessly. Nothing like what you've seen or are accustomed to. So, are you ready?"

Clark replied with a smile:

- "Of course! You know my answer."

The master stood and said:

- "Then let's go!"

The two promptly headed to an isolated, massive chamber, 60 feet from floor to ceiling and extremely spacious.

The master spoke:

- "Clark, show me your black fire."

Clark complied with the command.

The master remarked:

•"Clark, it's amusing that you're supported by the Demon Sovereign Agaris. It's quite impressive."

Clark said:

•"What? It's a blessing from the Demon Sovereign, but he kept bothering me, wanting me by his side, yet he never said he bestowed anything of this sort upon me. You know..."

Suddenly, a notification reached Clark:

[Demon Sovereign Agaris]:

•"Of course I didn't tell you about my 'blessing'. It was a trick to bypass the System, making it appear as a natural gift.

•But in truth, it wasn't a natural gift.

•It was merely something I bestowed upon you as a favor from me, at the moment of your awakening, so you could face an opponent who will be a dangerous enemy to you. I cannot disclose who he is, his name, or who stands behind him.

•Because he currently uses the System's protection. He also knows nothing about you, but his informants are everywhere.

•Therefore, when I gave you my personal flames, I made you receive them as an awakening gift. Thus, he remains unaware of you.

•But what I currently know is that in the Gothic Kingdom, this dangerous opponent now has intentions extremely threatening to all worlds without exception. He wants to summon the Ancient Demon known as 'Ruler Valdemir Lorenti' - the most dangerous demon in all existence.

•Throughout those unknown centuries, no one could kill him, so he was exiled. But due to his calamitous abilities, he managed to create followers for himself. We don't know how, but his traces have appeared everywhere.

•Not just your world, but all worlds. He possesses immense causal immunity.

•That's why he's always summoned by foolish humans.

•Let me be blunt with you: He is capable of devouring worlds.

- We need to prevent his summoning, and if we cannot, a being like him must not manifest at his full power.

- And should that happen, I will use all my knowledge and everything at my disposal and descend with you to fight him. I will descend alone, for I am more than sufficient....."

The message ended, and Clark was truly shocked, looking on in bewilderment. Problems kept piling onto his head without restraint or oversight.

Clark feigned innocence. He wanted to focus on his training. He didn't tell the master what he had learned.

The master said:

- "Well, Clark, what if you merged this fire of yours with your soul!!!!!"

Clark replied with utter astonishment:

- "With my soul? How? And why?"

The master explained:

- "Because your opponent has also merged his soul with fire, making it a spiritual armor that protects its wielder. Meaning his soul possesses a will separate from his own. Because of this, it remains unaffected.

- Because it inhabits a spiritual domain. And since only the body can be paralyzed, his soul won't be paralyzed. Because if the soul is paralyzed, the brain will die, and if the brain dies, naturally, the host will also die.

- So if we create a protective soul for you, your opponent will become vulnerable to you. Understand? Because your two souls will be in a state of combat!!!"

Clark laughed:

- "You're a true genius! I always thought you were just a simpleton who loved tea, but your wisdom surpasses my imagination.

- But how do I merge my soul with the flames???"

The master replied with a terrifying gaze:

- "By injecting your body with those flames! Meaning, if you fail or hesitate for even seconds during the injection, you could die! Because those flames will consume your body.

•And then your soul. And after that, they will completely rebuild your body and soul. Then you will become strong enough to rival Long Tianba! Hahahahahahaha!"

The master's laughter boomed, and Clark was horrified. What an insane method of tempering!!!!

But Clark didn't hesitate. Yes, he was shocked by the method, but there was no other choice.

There were martial artists better than him who had endured worse. So what was frightening now? He had also previously evoked the complete tempering of the Great Venerable Urban. So what was the difference now? It was more about remembering the pain he felt in those moments; he felt everything: shattering, hopelessness, despair.

But now there was no hope or despair, only grueling perseverance to live, achieve his goals, and reach his aspirations.

Without fatigue or boredom. That was the true nature of a demon.

Clark began the process.

Veins bulged from his hands, and he pierced his own heart with his hand.

Blood gushed from his mouth, but he didn't despair.

Instead, he pushed the black flames that had begun to consume him and lost consciousness.

The master revealed a strange ring that Clark couldn't perceive at all.

Then he brought out strange alchemical materials and an odd leather that resembled diamond.

The master spoke:

•"Of course, his body needs other tempering resources to endure it. A martial artist who tempers his body with an equally terrifying martial art like the Tyrant Dragon Art.

•Therefore, I will use one of the special elixirs on him, alongside the Diamond Serpent Hide, which will make his body's hardness skyrocket insanely."

The master hastily placed runic symbols around Clark, who was curled up and burning with flames.

The master quickly cast the enchantment, which became like a blazing black hole. The black hole hovered in the master's domain.

The fluids from the elixirs promptly rose and engulfed the serpent hide.

The master uttered these words:

•"Oh Great King, bestow upon your disciple your great powers. The arts of heaven and earth. Humans are heavens above heavens, mountains above mountains, but nothing surpasses the King's power. Oh World, grant your humble disciple your strength!"

The components promptly moved and surged toward the black hole.

Then a sacred aura began to appear, like stardust, a yellow aura. The master knew what it was: it was the manifestation of the World.

It emerged from that black hole and began to encompass everything, crushing the black hole violently with its hands.

And thus concluded the first process, which was body tempering. What remains is: Clark, will he temper his soul and temper the World itself? Or what?????

To be continued....

Chapter 40: Clark cultivation!!!(2)

In the midst of the tempering ordeal, Clark felt his muscles and limbs tearing apart.

His body began rebuilding itself in darkness and obscurity.

But in that darkness, a giant serpent appeared. Clark didn't know who it was.

Yet that serpent spoke with a terrifying voice:

• "Human, how dare you attempt to steal my body???"

Clark was astonished, but he was in immense pain. Nothing remained in his mind except perseverance.

Suddenly, the giant serpent struck Clark's chest, making him scream a cry he had never uttered in his entire life.

His body was being torn apart now, and this serpent was attacking him. He didn't understand what was happening. How could this serpent reach here?

But the only logical explanation was that this was solely the serpent's will.

Clark felt not only physical pain but also spiritual agony. His soul was being mercilessly shredded.

Yet, at the final strike...

The World manifested! The soul fusion was complete, and now the World protected Clark.

The serpent shrieked in shock:

- "Whaaaaaaaaaaaat???! A supreme existence!"

Instantly, the World seized the diamond serpent and crushed its head.

The body began to rise, merging with Clark as the final step of the tempering process.

Suddenly, everything turned white.

Half of Clark's face was flesh without skin; he had reached the second stage.

Clark promptly declared:

- "I am nearing the end. I will hold back my screams. Until the final stage, but that stage shows no mercy."

The giant serpent's hide surged into Clark.

A red light flashed at the moment of fusion.

Clark immediately exclaimed:

- "What is this power?!"

He couldn't endure it and screamed from the unbearable pain.

Clark's body, which was being consumed...

The serpent's hide was trying to devour Clark. He didn't understand what that hide was doing.

But he laughed and said:

- "Ke ke ke ke. In the end, I will die because of my arrogance. Perhaps if I hadn't been proud and had just given him the room, none of this would have happened. But because of arrogance, perhaps I am suffering due to what I brought upon myself."

- "Truly, a merciless, harsh world."

Clark closed his eyes.

It was as if he closed them for just a second.

He soon awoke lying on the ground.

He lifted his body and began looking around for his master. Clark asked him:

- "Did I go to the afterlife or what?"

The master replied with a laugh:

- "Unfortunately, no. You were tempering your body for a full day. Unfortunately, a whole day passed without benefit."

- "But I have brought you a gift that will help you with tempering and learning. I cannot teach you anything; you must discover it yourself with this person. If you don't discover something new, you will lose. Do you understand, Clark?"

Clark nodded in understanding.

The master promptly snapped his fingers,

and a beautiful, familiar girl emerged. Clark knew who she was.

It was Qing Xue again, but she was looking away, not directly at Clark.

Disgusted, Clark asked:

- "Are you sure she can keep up with me in combat?"

The master laughed and replied:

- "She can even kill you if she wishes! For Qing Xue is an assassin!!!"

Qing Xue spoke:

- "I apologize for interrupting, Master, but could you please ask Lord Zou Long to wear modest clothing?"

Clark looked down.

He was completely naked, but his body shone intensely as if made of diamond.

Clark didn't care. The master gave him his usual black attire.

Clark's blond hair fluttered behind him,

his eyes reflecting years of combat experience.

He stood before Qing Xue,

who had drawn a blue sword whose coldness was terrifying. Clark, from his spot, could feel the chill of its blade.

Moreover, her intent to kill showed seriousness, not playfulness.

Clark thought to himself: This is what I want, not play.

Suddenly, Qing Xue charged.

She was terrifying, and her speed was immense.

Perhaps even surpassing the speed of sound. He saw her everywhere because his eyes and reality itself couldn't comprehend such frightening speed.

A barrage of intense strikes rained down on Clark, who blocked them with his sword enveloped in black fire and a demonic aura.

Yet, superficial wounds multiplied on Clark's body.

No matter how hard he tried, he couldn't match such insane speed.

But Clark summoned the World, which had now turned gray and black, its helmet still golden and its eyes dark red.

The World focused on Qing Xue from all directions.

Clark soon pinpointed her location. He shouted loudly, "World, stop time!"

But time didn't stop; instead, a demonic seal appeared on Clark's chest and the World.

Clark screamed in agony:

- "What's happening? A great embodiment like the World is being suppressed!"

The master quickly approached:

- "This is a lesson for you. You will fight people who can suppress your powers. Ever since you obtained the World, you became arrogant about your ability to stop time."

- "And now I have shown you a demonic tool called 'Demon Shackles,' capable of suppressing embodiment abilities."

- "Don't be angry, Zou Long, but if you keep relying on a single ability, you will die."
- "So, don't set limits for yourself. Advance, and then you will learn the technique I want you to master."

Qing Xue spoke:

- "Since the Master doesn't intend to tell you, I will inform you of the technique the Master wants you to learn."
- "It's called 'Rampant Sound Steps'."
- "It's a movement technique. If you master it, you will be able to keep up with Long Tianba."

Clark nodded in understanding. He raised his sword, signaling the second round.

Qing Xue charged again.

Her speed began to increase.

But Clark noticed something: she wasn't running but hovering above the ground more than running.

Each strike of her legs made her faster and increased her momentum.

Moreover, her speed grew with every push.

He tried to experiment, but Clark attempted something else.

He used Shadow Qi.

Then he began to surge forward,

striking the ground swiftly with his right foot.

Because the surge starts with the right foot and balance with the left.

The master and Qing Xue were stunned,

but Clark hadn't mastered the technique. He crashed into the walls.

It seemed he couldn't control his surges.

But if he understood the basics, learning wouldn't be difficult.

The terrifying part was Clark's frenzied surge. As if he had become a shadow, he merged with his shadow and surged forward.

He didn't feel it himself, but anyone who saw it understood what was happening.

Qing Xue clapped for Clark,

saying to him:

- "You truly are a talent that appears once every million years!"

But the master was harsh as he interrupted Qing Xue and said:

- "What's the use if you understand but can't control your speed?"
- "What will you do during the confrontation? Will you make everyone laugh with your collisions, you fool?"

But Qing Xue told Clark:

- "Don't worry, you are close to mastering it. As long as we train together, I guarantee you will become as fast as me."

Qing Xue smiled at Clark, her rosy cheeks prominent.

Clark felt embarrassed, but he stood up and continued training with Qing Xue.

Yet, in the midst of Clark's training...

A secret meeting was taking place among the ancestors of the Black Cloud Sect.

Ancestor Mo Xian spoke:

- "It seems my grandson has clashed with Tai Fei's disciple."

The five of them laughed, and one said:

- "Of course, your grandson Long Tianba will crush him. He is supported by the Tyrant Dragon constellation."

Mo Xian quickly retorted:

- "Don't underestimate him, Hai Zun. That child is also supported by the World constellation, and his tempering foundation in the King Realm means he possesses a solid foundation."

Suddenly, one of them slammed his tea cup on the table, as if demanding attention.

It was the strongest ancestor, on the threshold of the Immortal Realm,

named Nie Tianhun. He said arrogantly:

- "I heard he is training in seclusion, preparing for battle."
- "Therefore, I am considering giving Long Tianba a special tool. We want to crush Zou Long brutally without any resistance."
- "It would be a disgrace to our disciples if they were defeated by a village boy named Zou Long."

Everyone promptly responded:

- "Yes! How could a village boy like him defeat our mighty disciples?"

But Mo Xian knew his grandson's nature and that he would not approve of such deceit.

Humanity was always rejecting. They reject everyone, surrounded by ideas of pride and arrogance.

But arrogance was always weak against overwhelming power!!

To be continued...