

Rebirth Of The Urban Immortal Cultivator

Chapter 151: Cang Dragon's Claw

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Half a month later, inside the base of the Cang Dragon units...

"Huu! Huu!"

The training ground was filled with the loud whistling sound of fists ripping open the air. Everyone watched as the Cang Dragon units practiced the fist techniques with strange but powerful movements. Some looked like a nimble monkey climbing up a tree, some looked like a bear charging into its prey and some looked like a tiger unleashing its deadly claws.

Compared to half a month ago, almost every one of them had buffed up significantly. Their arms were two large guns that were pumped with iron and steel. Their eyes had never been more focused, it was as if they had been transformed into a brand new person.

"Ha!"

Cold-face the young man charged forward to build up momentum. When he had gained some speed, he spun and delivered a roundhouse kick. His kick whizzed through the air, slicing through the air like a sharp knife. The person in front of him felt the pressure on his skin from the disturbance in the air caused by the kick. He wagered that this kick would have toppled a medium sized tree.

"Hehe, Cold-face, that's kinda lame."

Facing such a powerful attack, Tank guffawed and rammed his shoulder at his attacker without flinching.

"Bang!"

The kick landed on Tank's shoulder, however, Tank didn't move an inch. On the other hand, Cold-face has knocked away and stumbled a few feet back. He squealed: "Tank you are a beast! Why are you so much more powerful than most of us while we pretty much practice the same thing every day?"

By then, Tank's body had grown to about two meters. From afar, his hulking frame made him look just like a tank. The large man laughed out loud and said: "Haha! I am a genius. Head Sergeant's training method is tailored for me. You are too weak!"

Cold-face blushed. However, he didn't find any words to protest.

By then, many of the sergeants standing at the edge of the training ground nodded in approval.

"Tank had improved by leaps and bounds. Based on the test a few days ago, his muscle strength had scored 100, nearly three times more powerful than a normal human. He was able to lift over three hundred kilos which broke the record of the heaviest weight a human could lift."

Before the sergeant had finished his words, Yu Qin came over to him with another pile of test results. Yu Qin had always been cold and distant to her co-workers, however, her face lit up with joy now.

"The reports are out: their squats, lifting and pushing scores were 250, 235 and 220-kilograms."

"Wow!" Everyone gasped at the numbers.

Their scores could have rivaled that of gold medalists of the Olympic.

"That's not all of it. On average, they can finish one hundred meters in less than ten seconds and could sprint over two point five meters high. They could carry over ten-kilogram weight while running long distances..." Yu Qin continued to list the impressive statistics.

Everyone was stunned by what they heard. No had expected that the average stats of the Cang Dragon could be nearing the physical limits of the human body. What's more impressive was that they were much stronger and tougher than any gold medalists because each soldier was equivalent to many gold medalists in different fields.

With that thought in mind, everyone looked to the boy who stood quietly with his hands linked behind his back with a great measure of admiration.

He was the maker of this miracle!

"Head Sergeant Chen, your training program worked wondrously. If only we could promote the program to the rest of the military." As soon as Sergeant Gu finished his words, everyone's eyes lit up with excitement.

If the program could be used by all the soldiers in the military, China would instantly gain over a million super soldiers, who possessed impeccable physical conditions. By then, China would have the strongest army in the world.

“Haven’t you seen how much the soldiers have suffered over half a month? Do you think an average soldier could have endured that?” Chen Fan asked lightly.

His words reminded everyone of the hellish training the Cang Dragon soldiers had gone through.

Cang Dragon Physical Conditioning Exercise included not only internal energy exercises, but also a lot of physical conditioning. Many involved bruising and traumatizing one’s body, forced stimulation of acupuncture points, and the sudden outburst of energy when one had already reached exhaustion. Without the elixir and pills that Chen Fan gave to the soldiers, none of the warriors would have lasted more than three days.

“I think this many warriors would be enough for now. We have many fearless warriors in the Army, with time, we should be able to double the number of the Cang Dragon units.” Huo Donglai clapped and then ordered: “Yu Qin, please report the status to our superior.”

He gave a solemn face and then said: “remember, this is top secret, and keep the file classified. Leaking this information can be disastrous.”

“Roger, I will be on my way.”

Yu Qin saluted to Huo Donglai before she turned around and started off.

“Sergeant Huo, would you like to join us?”

Someone at the training center shouted at him, and then he heard a wave of cheers, willing him to pay attention.

Huo Donglai turned his head over and saw the Cang Dragon unit had paused their exercise. Tank was the one who called out to him, and he was giving him a challenging look.

“Little shit, it’s only been half a month. Don’t get ahead of yourself.” Huo Donglai laughed in his mind.

Before Chen Fan arrived, Sergeant Huo was revered as the strongest fighter by the Cang Dragon members. His Ba Ji Fist was extremely powerful and overbearing.

“Sergeant Hou, why don’t you teach these little shits a lesson?” A sergeant encouraged Sergeant Huo.

“Humph!” Huo Donglai looked to Chen Fan, and after he had gotten Chen Fan’s approving nod, he walked toward the training ground. “Tank, you are so full of yourself. Do you really think you could be stronger than me in half a month?”

“We will see!”

Tank laughed as he charged toward Huo Donglai, stirring up a gust of wind. He opened up his arms like an alerted lobster, and when he got close enough to his target, he clamped his arms like a grizzly bear hugging a tree trunk. The amount of force in the attack could easily squash a car.

“Excellent!”

Huo Donglai spread his legs and sank his body into a Horse Stance. Meanwhile, he reached out both arms, ready to counter the attack.

Suddenly, Huo Donglai stamped the ground under his feet and cracked the surface of the pavement. The ground pushed back at him, launching his body forward.

“Mounted on Mountain! That’s a signature Ba Ji move!”

Sergeant Gu exclaimed. He had heard that if the move was used by a Transcendent Master, he could crush a small hill. Although Huo Donglai was not a Transcendent Master by a long shot, he was only half a step away from reaching the peak of Internal Force cultivation.

Huo Donglai’s charge could ram through three layers of metal sheets

Even as Huo Donglai thought he already had the victory in the bag, Tank changed tactics. With a soft wheezing sound, Tank folded his body and turned his two-meter tall hulking frame into a large ball. Before Huo Donglai realized what was going on, the ball rolled away from Huo Donglai and reached behind the sergeant. Then, the ball unfurled itself, returning to the hulking frame that it once was.

Despite his seemingly cumbersome weight, Tank steadied himself within a second, and then he shot out an arm and clawed at the back of Huo Donglai.

“What the—”

Huo Donglai was still stunned by the development, suddenly, he felt a cold wind blowing at the nape of his neck. If not for his decades of hard training, Huo Donglai might not be able to swerve to the side to avoid the deadly claw.

“Stth...”

He heard his clothes being torn apart.

Huo Donglai let out a painful cry and quickly disengaged from his opponent. The audience finally noticed that half of his shirt on the left side was torn off, revealing three long and bloody claw marks.

“Cang Dragon’s Claw!”

Huo Donglai was stunned by the development and it took him a while to finally gather himself. After he did, he let out a wry smile.

He had always thought that the Cang Dragon Physical Conditioning Exercise only strengthened their boy, but it occurred to him that the training also boosted their fighting skills. Tank had only used a very simple move in the training routine, yet he was able to completely dominate the fight against a Ba Ji martial artist with three decades of training.

“Head Sergeant is an immortal, you should not underestimate the effect of his training program.”

Tank said proudly.

The other Cang Dragon soldiers nodded in agreement. Having witnessed the turn of the event, everyone looked to Chen Fan as devotees would to their god.

Just half a month ago, Tank was easily defeated by Sergeant Huo, half a month later, the table had been turned. What could these soldiers achieve in half years? By then, defeating Sergeant Huo would only be a walk in the park.

The other sergeants shook their heads bitterly as the sense of helplessness and self-pity rose inside their hearts.

Suddenly, someone shouted: “Head Sergeant Chen, why don’t you spar with us too?”

There was a brief moment of silence before the question set in. Then, a wave of cheers erupted.

“Yes! Head Sergeant, show us your abilities!”

Chapter 152: Ba Ji Sect Arrives

In the two weeks since Chen Fan arrived at the base, his only display of power was when he jumped out of the helicopter.

No one knew what he was up to when he was inside his room. The only time people saw him outside apart from the training hour was in the morning when he practiced relaxing Tai Chi. Therefore, his exact power and abilities remained a mystery.

Hearing the challenge, even Huo Donglai and Sergeant Huo looked to Chen Fan expectantly.

A few sergeants had been talking about him for days. They concluded that Chen Fan was a Transcendent Master if not even more powerful. Since no one had seen him in action, the conclusion remained mere speculation.

“I would love to.”

Chen Fan walked into the training ground and scanned his students. “Who would join me?”

An awkward silence fell over the training room. No one in his right mind would want to challenge someone who could survive a fall from a hundred meters above the ground. Not even Tank wanted to test the waters.

“I will do it”

Someone spoke up.

“Captain!”

Having recognized the speaker, everyone was shocked.

He was none other than the Captain Yue of the Cang Dragon unit.

He had been mostly keeping things to himself of late and was not as ostentatious as Tank or Rusty. Even the new guy, Chu Minhui seemed to have made more progress than he did. Therefore, his reticence had made others nearly forget about him. His sudden rise to the challenge surprised everyone.

“Very well. You look like a good fighter.”

Chen Fan sized him up and despite his rich experience as the North Mystic Celestial Lord, he couldn't help be surprised by what he saw.

Using his Immortal Will, he registered swift currents coursing through Yue Jianqiu's veins. The flow was so powerful that Chen Fan thought he could hear its swooshing sounds. Every muscle and bone were a few times more durable and stronger than that of a normal person. It was evident that his body could unleash an incredible outburst of energy.

"I knew you were the most talented and strong-willed soldier in Cang Dragon. However, I have to admit that I am surprised by your progress."

Chen Fan nodded in approval.

If one could master the Cang Dragon Physical Conditioning Exercise program, his power should be on par with that of an initial success level Internal Force user.

Tank was of above average talent and was gifted with incredible strength. He was able to defeat Huo Donglai with the help of using the element of surprise; without it, Huo Donglai would have won the match.

However, Yue Jianqiu was not as lucky as Tank who had extraordinary natural strength, neither did he have any previous experience with internal force like Rusty had; however, he was able to master the Cang Dragon Physical Conditioning Exercise in less than half a month and improve his power to the same level of an internal force user with initial success. That was indeed incredible.

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity, Head Sergeant."

Yue Jianqiu said calmly and firmly as determination flashed across his face.

"Very well!"

Chen Fan seemed to have seen his former self in this soldier. "I will let you take the initiative."

As soon as Chen Fan finished his words, Yue Jianqiu's body tensed up like an animal that suddenly woke up from slumber. Then he threw himself at Chen Fan.

Meanwhile, a few visitors had just entered the training ground.

At the forefront of the group was a seventy-year-old man. He was thin and scrawny. Under his dry and wrinkled skin were a web of veins and sinews, interlocking with each other like the gnarled roots of an ancient tree. His eyes glittered with a dark light as he walked with wide and confident strides. Despite his age and wizened appearance, he was much stronger than the young people around him.

Trailing behind him were two middle-aged men and a couple.

The man was tall and muscular, while the woman was smaller and attractive. She wore a red shirt and pulled her hair back into a ponytail, making her look confident and fit.

"Great Uncle Master, what brings you here?"

As soon as Huo Donglai noticed the visitor, he hurried to greet the old man.

The other sergeant also noticed the visitors and were taken aback by their appearance. They followed Sergeant Huo and greeted the old man respectfully: "Why didn't you give us a heads up? We would roll out the red carpet for you."

"I am but a handful of old bones. No need for those courtesies."

Despite the small and swanky look of the old man, his voice was surprisingly loud.

"Uncle Master Donglai!"

The younger couple behind the old man saluted to Sergeant Huo.

"Baisheng, Xiao Mang!"

Huo Donglai nodded a reply.

The man was called Gao Baisheng, and the girl was called Guo Xiaomang. They were both outstanding members of the young generations in the Ba Ji sect. Gao Baisheng was only a step away from reaching phenomenal success. They were the future of the Ba Ji Sect.

"Uncle Master Donglai, where is Head Sergeant Chen?"

Greetings over, Guo Xiaomang looked around, trying to find the mysterious Chen Beixuan.

"That young man fighting in the middle of the training ground."

Everyone looked toward the direction where Huo Donglai was pointing, and what they saw made all of them furrowed their brows.

They watched as Chen Fan and Yue Jianqiu fought against each other in the center of the stage. Despite Yue Jianqiu's incredible will-power, the gap between him and Chen Fan was unbridgeable. Chen Fan could have ended his life with one finger.

However, for the sake of the test, Chen Fan decided to hold back his power to the level of initial success and used the exact same Cang Dragon Fist techniques as he had taught his students. The two exchanged blows with each other and for a while, it was difficult to tell who would win.

"He is Chen Beixuan, the Head Sergeant Chen?"

Guo Xiaomang asked incredulously.

Both of the fighters were at most as powerful as she was, at the most. They couldn't even stand up against her sect brother, much less Uncle Masters or Great Uncle Masters.

A smidgen of disdain also appeared on Gao Baisheng's face.

"I ... I think Head Sergeant is just warming up."

Huo Donglai smiled awkwardly.

In hindsight, Huo Donglai had never seen Chen Fan in action. He was simply stunned by his unthinkable act of jumping out of the helicopter in midair. Ever since then, he had never doubted Chen Fan's power.

"This young man is holding back his strength." The old man said with knotted brows. "However, based on his reaction time and speed, he is at most the level of phenomenal success. Donglai, I doubt he would be able to help us at the conference."

Some other sergeants wanted to rebut but didn't know how.

This old man was a retired Combat Sergeant of the Cang Dragon unit. He was the sect leader of the Ba Ji sect. Rumor had it that he had reached the peak of his internal force cultivation, and he was only a step away from entering the Transcendent state. Nonetheless, old age had limited his power, otherwise, no one would even think of bullying the Ba Ji sect.

"I agree with Great Uncle Master. Donglai, I think we have the wrong guy." A middle age man spoke solemnly.

Huo Donglai's face flushed red, and he clenched his fist tightly.

"Great Uncle Master, please trust me. Head Sergeant Chen is much more powerful than he seems. I have seen with my own eyes that he survived a hundred-meter fall. Look there, he made that giant crater on the pavement."

"Uncle Master Donglai, stop pulling our legs. Who could have survived that?" Guo Xiaomang complained.

Gao Baisheng also shook his head in disapproval.

The other middle age man snorted and said. "Donglai, even Second Uncle Master couldn't have pulled it off if he was still alive. Why do you think a boy of his age could have done that?"

Huo Donglai was suddenly at a loss for words.

Second Uncle Master was one of the martial arts geniuses from the Ba Ji Sect. He reached the Transcendent state when he was only forty and therefore was nicknamed the “Little War God.” Unfortunately, he had suddenly disappeared ten years ago, and the Ba Ji sect also quickly fell apart.

By then, the match was finally over.

“Head Sergeant, you won!”

Yue Jianqiu took a few steps back and looked at his chest riddled with fist-size shallow surficial wounds.

“You have been practicing for only half a month, yet your progress had far exceeded my expectations. You might even be able to surpass the limitation of the Cang Dragon Physical Conditioning Exercise in the future.”

Chen Fan pointed out.

Although the theoretical cap of the Cang Dragon Physical Conditioning Exercise’s power was the initial success level, with enough will power, one would have a small chance of breaking through the limitations and gain true knowledge from the realm of cultivation.

Many Cang Dragon members nodded in excitement after they heard Chen Fan’s words.

However, they suddenly heard another voice drifted toward them.

“Head Sergeant Chen, why don’t you spar with me?”

Chen Fan furrowed his brows and looked back. He saw a strapping young man stride onto the training ground.

Behind him was an embarrassed and helpless Huo Donglai.

Chapter 153: Gao Baisheng!

Chapter 153: Gao Baisheng!

“Who is he?”

Chen Fan didn’t spare a glance at the tall young man, instead, he shot a glance at Huo Donglai.

His keen observation had picked up the signals between the lines of Huo Donglai and the old man's conversation. He knew the visitors were from the Ba Ji Sect and they came here to discuss the Martial Arts Conference.

"My name is Gao Baisheng and I am from the Ba Ji Sect." The tall young man said proudly.

He was well known among the younger generation of martial artists, so Gao Baisheng had expected that Chen Fan would recognize his name. However, he found no trace of recognition in Chen Fan's stoic expression.

"Head Sergeant, he is my Apprentice-Nephew. Please forgive his impatience." Huo Donglai smiled in embarrassment.

People who practiced Ba Ji Fist were well known for their short tempers. Huo Donglai's Great Uncle Master, for example, was even testier than the young man.

"Head Sergeant Chen, I have heard a lot about your power. Since you have already achieved the Transcendent State—so I have heard, I wager that you won't mind showing a thing or two to us?" Gao Baisheng cupped his fists and asked.

"What do you mean? You think our Head Sergeant is going to be scared of you?" Tank flung back at Gao Baisheng. Tank's temper would make him a perfect Ba Ji Fist master.

"No kidding! Kiddo, be careful what comes out of your mouth. One more disrespectful word, we will throw you out of here."

The other Cang Dragon soldiers followed.

"Really?" Gao Baisheng scanned around him as a pompous smile surfaced on his face. "Head Sergeant Chen, is this how disciplined your soldiers are? I am worried about you."

After he said that, he stomped the ground and unleashed the Art of Tremors of the Ba Ji sect.

The earth shook at the impact and when he lifted his feet from the ground, the pavement was crushed inward forming a large depression.

Gao Baisheng looked around him haughtily. He was convinced that no one in the Cang Dragon unit could pull it off. Huo Donglai's eyes lit up with joy. "Baisheng, you have achieved phenomenal success?"

The pavement was made out of special cement, and no ordinary martial artist could have damaged it.

“Indeed.” Gao Baisheng nodded.

Sergeant Gu and the other sergeants were taken aback by the revelation. Gao Baisheng had achieved great power at such a young age, it was evident that the Ba sect is going to take off.

“Twenty years ago, the Ba Ji Sect sired a masterful fighter, Huo ZhengTang; will history repeat itself twenty years later?” Deep thought shone in Sergeant Gu’s eyes. Despite his friendship with Huo Donglai, the Gu family and the Ba Ji sets were at odds with each other for many years.

Although the Cang Dragon soldiers were riled up by Gao Baisheng’s rude comments, they couldn’t do anything about it.

Let it be shooting, battle tactics, they were far more skillful than the arrogant Ba Ji disciple. However, when it came down to personal combat, they were no match against the professional martial artists.

“Head Sergeant!”

Tank shouted at Chen Fan indignantly.

“Head Sergeant!”

Eagle-eyes followed.

“Head Sergeant!” “Head Sergeant!” “Head Sergeant!”

Everyone started calling out Chen Fan’s title as if summoning their champion.

This was the base of the Cang Dragon unit—one of the very few law enforcement units in China. Everyone on the team was one in a million, the cream of the crop. Never in their professional careers had they being looked down upon by a civilian.

“Head Sergeant Chen, everyone is waiting for you.”

Gao Baisheng readied his fists like a typical martial-arts-master.

Chen Fan stood still and his eyes were fixated on Huo Donglai.

“Is this how you invite me to the Martial Arts Conference?” Chen Fan asked stoically.

“Head Sergeant, please let me explain.” Huo Donglai’s face tightened as he hurried an explanation.

“Save your breath.” Chen Fan waved a dismissal. “I will still attend the Martial Arts Conference, but I won’t be representing Ba Ji Sect.”

“Head Sergeant Chen...” Huo Donglai panicked. Even as Huo Donglai wanted to explain further, he heard Guo Xiaomang snort and then said: “Humph. If you are even scared to fight my sect brother, how are you going to represent Ba Ji sect? Dream on.”

Two of her Uncle-Masters nodded in agreement.

They came with loads of doubts in their minds. They simply couldn’t believe that such a powerful person would have existed. When they saw how young Chen Fan was, they felt their suspicions were true. “He is just a fledgling, green babe in the woods. How dare he call himself Transcendent Master so shamelessly.”

“Great Uncle Master, please help me.” Huo Donglai looked to the scrawny old man for help.

To his dismay, the thin old man regarded Chen Fan for a while and then shook his head.

“I don’t believe he is a Transcendent Master. I have seen Transcendent Masters, more than once, and he doesn’t have the same imposing mannerism as those ones I have met.”

“Great Uncle Master!” Huo Donglai nearly lost his voice.

He had hoped that his Great Uncle Master would be experienced enough to see the diamond in the rough, however, the old man’s words only exacerbated the situation.

“Donglai, mind your attitude!” The old man’s voice boomed. “Since when has the Ba Ji Fist Sect needed other people’s help? My Art of Iron Fist alone could overcome any opponent.”

“Why... Great Uncle Master, why do you do this!” Huo Donglai shook his head in disappointment.

They said the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree; the old man’s short temper and testy manner were in part to be blamed for the younger generation’s impatience and crossness. However, they had no idea how powerful Chen Fan was, otherwise, they would turn their arrogance down a notch.

Chen Fan narrowed his eyes and said: “Oh, really?”

He turned around to look at Gao Baisheng and then shook his head. “You are not my worthy opponent yet.”

“Me? Not worthy?” Gao Baisheng felt lighthearted by the remark. It was as if he had heard the funniest joke in his life.

He flung back at him: “Chen Beixuan, ever since I was five, I had partaken in more than thirty matches and never lost one. Not to mention that I have achieved phenomenal success at the age of twenty-seven. How dare you question my credentials?”

“Still not enough to fight me.” Chen Fan said lightly.

“What an arrogant fool!” The two middle age man who comes with Gao Baisheng guffawed.

One of them took a step forward and said: “Count me in the match.”

“Is that Mu Shan?” Sergeant Gu was taken aback.

A member of the Cang Dragon unit asked curiously: “Who is Mu Shan, Sergeant Gu?”

“Mu Shan was regarded as one of the most powerful Ba Ji fighters. He was only half a step away from the peak of Internal Force cultivation ten years ago; a level he must have long since obtained.” Concern flashed in Sergeant Gu’s eyes as he spoke.

A martial artist who had achieved the peak of internal force cultivation could have commanded tremendous authority in a sizable region. People like Lin Hu who arrived at a region that lacked a competitor would quickly establish a foothold and eventually claim dominance.

Therefore, such a powerful person ought to be the backbone of the Ba Ji sect.

“Even within the Gu family, only my family lord who was near the Transcendent State could have rivaled Mu Shan.” Sergeant Gu calculated in his mind.

Soldiers of the Cang Dragon unit pulled taut faces. From their many sergeants with martial arts backgrounds, they knew the jargon of the martial art’s level progression. Although their martial arts sergeants seemed nearly invincible to them, they had only reached phenomenal success in their Internal Force cultivation.

They couldn’t even begin to imagine the power of someone who had reached the peak of the Internal Force cultivation.

“Indeed. Five years ago, I finally mastered my Internal Force.” Mu Shan said proudly.

He had been holding back his overbearing energy ever since he entered the training ground. As he finally loosened his control over his power, his eyes started to glint and he started to transform into a calm and deadly warrior.

“Senior Brother, you have finally reached the peak?” Huo Donglai was shocked.

“If he hadn’t entered the peak of the Internal Force cultivation, why would you think I would bring two of our kids to the Martial Arts Conference?” The wizened old man gave him a shrewd smile.

He was as cunning as an old fox. Despite his hot temper, he was wise most of the time.

“Do you think the two of us would make a worthy opponent?” Mu Shan asked.

Everyone looked to Chen Fan expectantly. To their surprise, Chen Fan shook his head and said: “NO.”

Chapter 154: With One Fell Swoop!

Chapter 154: With One Fell Swoop!

“If you don’t even think that my Uncle-Master Mu is your worthy opponent, I wonder who would be.” Gao Baisheng said with a cold sneer.

“It had to be at least Ye Nantian or Lei Qianjue.” Chen Fan said lightly.

“Ye Nantian and Lei Qianjue?” the members of the Ba Ji sect rounded their eyes in disbelief. The other middle age man shouted:

“Do you even know who they are? Lei Qianjue is a renowned master from the Hong Sect, while Ye Nantian was considered the most talented fighter in the last fifty years. He was expected to enter the Immortal State sometime in the future. What makes you think that you are their equal?”

“Everything.” Chen Fan said evenly.

Huo Donglai and the others were taken aback by his answer. Since Huo Donglai had witnessed Chen Fan incredible fall from the sky, he knew that Chen Fan was not bluffing. However, he doubted that Mu Shan and his other sect brothers would be convinced by Chen Fan.

If they didn’t see it with their own eyes, they wouldn’t believe it.

Mu Shan shook his head and lamented: “I had high hopes for you when Donglai told me about you. But after meeting with you, it occurred to me that you are just an arrogant youngster.”

“The further you journey in the world of martial arts, the more fearful you would be toward a Transcendent Master. Yet, you don’t even think Transcendent Masters are a big deal. It was a telltale sign that you lacked the most basic respect and Dao Heart as a martial artist.”

“Uncle-Master Mu, why are we still wasting our time on him?” Gao Baisheng snorted. “If he doesn’t believe us, then we will make him believe.”

As soon as Gao Baisheng finished his words, he started to breathe heavily.

“Chee!”

A little bump appeared near his Adam’s apple and it was sliding up to the bottom of his chin. Veins popped all over his body, letting out blaring noises that sounded like erupting car tires. It was difficult to imagine such sound would come from a human body.

After a few moments, Gao Baisheng stomped the ground and without holding back any of his power, he unleashed the Art of Tremors once again. His feet made another large crater where it landed, and as the ground pushed back at him, Gao Baisheng launched himself at Chen Fan with a punch. He looked like a bolt that suddenly left a crossbow.

“What a powerful punch!”

Many members of the Cang Dragon unit were shocked by the sight.

They wagered that only Tank was able to take the punch with full force.

“Is this the power of a phenomenal success level Internal Force user?” Everyone gasped as they asked themselves the same question.

Some of their sergeants were also Internal Force users, and since they always held back their power when they sparred with soldiers, the latter never fully understood the full extent of their power. However, Gao Baisheng’s attack with full abandon had corrected the soldiers’ arrogance about their Sergeant’s power.

“I wonder how Head Sergeant Chen is going to handle the attack.” Everyone looked to Chen Fan expectantly.

Chen Fan stood lazily, without any sign of getting ready to counter the attack.

“He is dead meat. Even Uncle-Master Mu dared not to take Senior Apprentice-Brother’s attack so lightly.” A smile surfaced on Guo Xiaomang’s face. However, just a second later, the smile froze on her face.

Under everyone's incredulous stare, Chen Fan took a languorous step forward and slapped the face of his attacker.

Chen Fan's attack initially looked no more than a father's slapping at his unruly son; however, half a heartbeat later, the attack changed its tone and weight. In a blink, the casual slap came at its victim with mountainous momentum.

"Shit!"

Mu Shan and the others were shocked, and tried to alert their sect brother; however, it was too late.

Gao Baisheng had no time to evade; all he could do was retract his fists and cover his head to cushion the brunt of the blow. Then Chen Fan's slap came.

"Kacha!"

A loud snapping sound shot through the training ground.

Chen Fan's attack had broken the bones in Gao Baisheng's arms, and the weight brought the young Ba Ji master to his knees. With a heavy thud, Gao Baisheng's knees thudded heavily on the pavement, making two more deep craters. Two webs of cracks diffused from under Gao Baisheng's knees and covered a large swath of the paved area.

"I told you that you are not worthy."

Chen Fan pulled his hands back and said lightly without any emotion.

When he said the same thing a moment ago, everyone thought he was arrogant. However, after they had witnessed him breaking the arms of a phenomenal success internal force user, Chen Fan's words finally start to set in.

"How dare you!"

Mu Shan shouted, unable to control his anger.

Gao Baisheng represents the future of the Ba Ji sect, his injury greatly distressed the old man.

Even the scrawny old man who had been sitting calmly suddenly rounded his glinting eyes.

"Interesting, was I really wrong about you? Are you really a powerful fighter in disguise?" The scrawny old man exclaimed in his mind.

“Please allow me to exchange a few blows with you.”

Mu Shan stepped forward vengefully. He was determined to avenge Gao Baisheng. Huo Donglai was suddenly at a loss, unsure which side he should cheer for. He was sandwiched in between his sect brothers and his boss.

“Damn, how did it come to such an end.” Huo Donglai shook his head and lamented.

Meanwhile, the soldiers of the Cang Dragon were cheering and celebrating their Head Sergeant’s swift victory.

“Head Sergeant is a badass! He didn’t waste his breath on him, just slapped him into submission. Haha!”

The Ba Ji sect members heard the soldier’s jeering remarks. Their face darkened and became sullen.

Mu Shan came over to Gao Baisheng and examined his wound. Pain mixed with anger flickered in Mu Shan’s eyes. He complained: “You are a crude man to injure my Apprentice-Nephew’s arms to such a degree. Even after the wound heals, he would never be as strong as he could have been.”

Chen Fan linked his hands behind his back; his face was devoid of any emotions.

“He dared to challenge me and so he had to pay the price for his arrogance. I have already shown mercy to him.”

While holding Chen Fan’s gaze, even Mu Shan couldn’t help but shiver.

The indifferent gaze on him made Mu Shan feel like a worthless ant that could be crushed at any time.

“Who the hell is he? How come a seventeen-year-old boy could possess such a deadly gaze?” Mu Shan asked himself perplexedly. Suddenly, he shook his head slightly and cleared his mind. He straightened his back and cupped his fists.

“Ba Ji, Mu Shan wishes to learn a thing or two from you.”

Chen Fan didn’t change his tone. “I told you, you are not worthy.”

Then, and only then, the crowd finally started to feel Chen Fan’s genuine indifference and lack of concern for anyone around him.

“I wager that only martial artists such as Ye Nantian and Lei Qianjue could exchange blows with him.” Everyone thought to themselves. Despite the roiling anger, the Ba Ji sect members conceded their disadvantage and weakness.

Even Mu Shan would not be able to subjugate an internal force warrior of phenomenal success level with only one slap.

Mu Shan's face turned pale and then was flushed red. He stood still and failed to find any words to refute.

"That's enough, Mu Shan!" The wizened old man finally spoke up. "Head sergeant is much more powerful than us, we concede defeat."

He gave Chen Fan a long glance and then said: "I wish Head Sergeant Chen could make it to the Martial Arts Conference and be as triumphant as you were today."

"I can tell you right now that even if I fight with Ye Nantian, I will win as well." Chen Fan said calmly. "On another note, do you expect to get away with it without an apology?"

"What do you mean?"

Chen Fan's words had shocked the scrawny old man.

Chen Fan continued: "Huo Donglai had invited me to join Ba Ji's team during the Martial Arts Conference and I agreed to it. However, not only did you disrespect me today, but you also challenged me to a duel."

"Since when did I, Chen Beixuan, allow anyone to step on my toes?"

"Break your own legs, before getting out of my face."

Chapter 155: Never Insult Transcendent Masters!

Chen Fan's words turned everyone's faces overwrought with distress and disbelief.

"Head Sergeant!" Huo Donglai was drenched in sweat. He had never imagined that the situation would spiral out of control to such a degree. However, he knew the fault was at his Apprentice-Nephew and Uncle Masters.

Who did they think Chen Fan was? He was invited by the military top dogs to be the Head Sergeant of Cang Dragon unit. He was as powerful as a Transcendent Master, what made them think that they could be so conceited before him?

"Head Sergeant Chen, Are you planning to sow a feud between us?" Mu Shan narrowed his eyes as deadly flames danced in his eyes.

"What if I say yes?" Chen Fan stood unflinchingly as he answered in an even tone.

"If you insist so, the gloves are off then." Mu Shan cupped his fists and bowed slightly. He treated Chen Fan with a great deal of respect.

Members of the Ba Ji sect were quiet and sullen.

Mu Shan's cup-fisted salute was a cryptic hint of his determination that only a martial artist could pick up its meaning. It meant that he was going to fight with abandon and at the end of the match, only one person would still be alive. Martial artists wouldn't partake in such high stakes fights unless they were fighting for their honor.

Seeing Mu Shan's unwavering resolution, Huo Donglai and Sergeant Gu decided to keep their silence. Mu Shan's salute was a heads up to anyone who planned to stop him that he would do away with those who stood in his way.

The scrawny old man was not upset with the development even in the slightest. His face lit up with joy and he clapped his hands in approval. "Good Lad! Show him the determination of Ba Ji Sect!"

Hearing the old man's words, many sergeants shook their heads and lamented the old man's backward thinking. He acted with a mindset that belonged to the medieval period while living in the modern era. No wonder the Ba Ji sect was going downhill over the years.

"Very well, let's do it." Chen Fan replied indifferently. It was as if that he deemed fighting against Mu Shan was a waste of time.

Embarrassment flashed across Mu Shan's eyes. He had saluted his opponent with the greatest respect he could muster, yet Chen Fan's attitude was still lukewarm. This was outright arrogance.

Suddenly, he stamped his feet and shouted: "Start!"

Mu Shan's move was similar to that of Gao Baisheng but was much more powerful.

As the force propagated from under his left foot, the concrete surface cracked open. The ground heaved, pushing up the fragmented pavement, and sending a large plume of dust into the air. In half a heartbeat, Mu Shan struck the ground with one of his palms.

The impact shot out a shower of crumbled concrete chunks at Chen Fan. These projectiles were charged with Mu Shan's internal force, and therefore it was able to penetrate even a thick brick wall.

"Careful!"

Cold-face gasped.

Mu Shan was much more powerful than Gao Baisheng. His belligerent moves make him look like a prehistoric t-rex. A casual sweep of his leg could have finished a Cang Dragon soldier. The soldiers felt a chill down their spines as they watched on.

“Without a modern weapon, even the combined might of the Cang Dragon unit might not be able to defeat him.”

Everyone was set back on their heels after having realized how powerful Mu Shan was. Mu Shan had reached the peak of the Internal Force cultivation, yet he already possessed incredible strength; how powerful exactly was a Transcendent Master?

Rusty’s eyes glinted as he fixated his gaze on Mu Shan. He tensed up his body and moved his hand to the handle of his blade, ready to strike at the toughest enemy he had ever met.

“Bang!”

Chen Fan swept his hand backhandedly and pulverized the flying projectiles. His seemingly delicate hand appeared to be made out of material tougher than steel. The sharp chunks of concrete didn’t even leave a dent on his skin.

By then, Mu Shan was already charging toward Chen Fan. Every step he took caused a sizable depression on the ground, sending a flurry of rocks and pebbles in all directions. He stormed forward like an unstoppable armored vehicle.

Everyone was frightened by the display of power.

“I wonder if Head Sergeant can really handle him?”

Although Chen Fan to the soldiers was like a god to their devotees, the sight of Mu Shan’s power had shaken the Cang Dragon soldiers’ unswerving conviction.

“Bull shit! One slap from our Head Sergeant could send him to the moon!” Tank refuted.

Mu Shan closed in quickly onto Chen Fan. He crossed both arms in front of him, forming a cross. When he was close enough to his target, he suddenly shot out both arms above his head and bore down on Chen Fan from above.

This strike had enough power to pulverize a large boulder.

Mu Shan was confident that no one was able to ward off his attack unless his opponent was a Transcendent Master. Ba Ji sect’s arts were well known for their belligerence. Although Mu Shan never paid particular attention to maintaining his health, he was in his prime, blood and energy coursed through his hardened body, making him nearly as powerful as a Transcendent Master.

“Head Sergeant!”

As the hammer made out of the Ba Ji Master’s fists was about to land on Chen Fan, the latter stood still and didn’t move an inch. It was as if Chen Fan was stunned by his opponent’s power. The Cang Dragon soldiers were so shaken by the development that they shouted at Chen Fan in unison to warn him. Huo Donglai’s face tightened. He knew better than most people the power in Mu Shan’s hammering strike. If the blow landed on Chen Fan’s head with full force, Chen Fan’s life would be in danger even if the boy was made out of iron.

“Ha!”

At the final moment right before the blow touched the top of Chen Fan’s hair, Mu Shan withdrew his power and shifted his attack a few inches away from Chen Fan’s head. The blow landed on Chen Fan’s shoulder instead.

“Bang!”

The impact sent a blaring noise like a large hammer strike a bronze bell. An invisible sound wave rippled out from Chen Fan and Mu Shan.

Those who stood closer to the impact were assaulted by the ear perceiving blare, they covered their ears and backed away. Only Rusty, Yue Jianqiu and Tank were standing where they were. On the other side of the arena where the Ba Ji sect members were standing, Guo Xiaomang was the only person who couldn’t stand the soundwave attack. As she was about to give in and take a few steps back, the scrawny old man shot out his arm and grabbed a hold of her to steady her shaky body.

“What is it?”

“Did Uncle-Master win?”

“I hope Head Sergeant is OK”

Everyone looked to the center of the training ground expectantly, eager to find out the result of the showdown.

Dust loomed over the training ground like a shroud and therefore it was difficult to make out what had happened. The scrawny old man squinted to see through the flying dust as much as he could. After a while, his face paled as he let out a cold gasp.

“How is that possible?”

“What happened? Great Uncle Master?” Huo Donglai hurried to ask.

Life drained away from the old man’s wizened face as he kept his sullen silence.

When the dust finally settled revealing the hidden sight. Everyone saw Mu Shan's blow had landed squarely on Chen Fan's right shoulder. However, the boy seemed completely unaffected by the powerful blow.

"How is that possible?"

Mu Shan pulled his hand back and stood a few steps back in shock. He looked at Chen Fan, eyes brimming with disbelief.

As he reflected on the blow, he remembered the numbing sensation that shock through his body at the impact, it was as if he had hit a heavy chunk of metal. Then he felt a stabbing pain in his attacking hand and realized that his bones were fractured.

Chen Fan had sustained a hammer attack with full force on his shoulder, however, he was unharmed. The attack didn't even leave a scratch on him.

"How could there be such a powerful man on earth? What are you made out of? Iron?" Mu Shan muttered deliriously.

He had used all of his energy in this attack, and not only was his opponent unharmed, but the force that bounced back at him had also fractured his bones. It was evident that the gap between him and his opponent was unbridgeable.

Chen Fan dusted off his shoulder and shook his head.

"I told you that you are not my worthy opponent yet."

Mu Shan's face was as pale as a piece of paper. However indignant he felt, he dared not to refute.

The scrawny old man felt an array of strong emotions clash inside of him. However, in the end, he heaved a sigh of resignation, cupped his fists, and saluted to Chen Fan.

"I had never thought that I would meet a Transcendent master. I have failed to recognize a formidable person."

Chen Fan did nothing but waved his hand once to lightly brush away the flying pebbles. Then he simply stood still and took a blow from Mu Shan. Although he didn't display any ability to prove his power, the fact that he was unscathed after being dealt such a powerful blow spoke loudly of his prowess.

Guo Xiaomang and the other members of the Ba Ji sect looked to Chen Fan incredulously.

The boy looked younger than her, could he really be as powerful as a Transcendent Master?

The eyes of Sergeant Gu and the other sergeants were lit up with glee. Their nagging suspicion was right, Chen Fan was a Transcendent Master, a very young one at that. His brush with the Ba Ji sect had proven his transcendent power.

Cang Dragon members cheered at the top of their lungs. Although most of them didn't know exactly how powerful a Transcendent master was, they knew their Head Sergeant was a force to be reckoned with even among the powerful martial artists.

"You can break your own legs and get out of here now." Chen Fan insisted.

Mu Shan was frightened by Chen Fan's words. He turned toward the scrawny old man. To his dismay, the old man lowered his head and spoke gravely: "You have proven yourself a young Transcendent Master, we accept our punishment."

"Mu Shan, we have humiliated a master, it's our fault. Do as he says."

Hearing the old man's words, Mu Shan let out a woeful cry and then he punched his legs with abandon.

"Kacha!" "Kacha!"

His fist fractured both of his legs. Sweat rolled off from his contorted face, however, he tried his best to not let his pain show.

Guo Xiaomang and Guo Xiaomang watched the development with indignation. They didn't say a word to defend their Uncle Master. Ever since the first day they embarked on the journey of martial arts, they were told not to insult the Transcendent Masters.

Transcendent Masters represented the highest achievement of martial artists. They were revered all over China as demi-gods, and anyone who dared to ruffle their feathers were deemed to pay a steep price for their foolishness.

Even the Cang Dragon soldiers were stunned by the sudden turn of the events. They couldn't imagine what had gone through Mu Shan's mind when he had to break his own legs. By then, they finally had their first lesson in the power of a Transcendent Master.

"Master Chen, are you satisfied now?" Despite the scrawny old man's age, he asked Chen Fan under his breath, daring not to raise his voice. It was as if Chen Fan was his elder, but not the other way around.

"That's enough." Chen Fan waved a dismiss distractedly.

"We will take our leave then." The scrawny old man turned around and started off. Behind him, Guo Xiaomang helped the shambling Gao Baisheng to his feet and another middle aged man carried Mu Shan on his back. They all followed the old man toward the entrance.

“However, before I leave here, I want to give Master Chen a heads up.” The old man paused and then turned around. “The Ba Ji sect will not forget what happened today, and one day, our own Transcendent Master will come to you and settle the score.”

“I will wait for that day.” Chen Fan replied readily.

“Very well!” The old man gave Chen Fan a deep gaze and then he started off.

The Ba Ji member’s sullen faces were a stark contrast with the haughty demeanor when they first arrived at the training base.

Huo Donglai threw his head back and let out a long sigh.

It didn’t have to end like this. However, he didn’t hold a grudge against Chen Fan. The Ba Ji sect had offended a Transcendent Master; they had brought the punishment on themselves.

“Fortunately, they can use the sect’s specialty medicine on their broken limbs. They will be fully recovered in no more than five months.”

Ba Ji was a large Martial arts sect with deep roots in China. Over the years, they had collected a few miracle cures. However, it was becoming more and more difficult to find ingredients for these medicines, therefore they couldn’t afford to waste any.

By then, Chen Fan was surrounded by a crowd of excited Cang Dragon soldiers.

The remaining shred of doubt they had about Chen Fan was gone.

“A young Transcendent Master! I can’t wait to see the surprise on people’s face during the Martial Arts Conference”

Sergeant Gu exclaimed in his mind.

Huo Donglai’s heart was filled with regret. Inviting Chen Fan to attend the conference could have been the Ba Ji sect’s honor. However, his efforts in helping his sect was all for naught.

Chapter 156: The Hottest Girl Of Chu Zhou City University

After the Ba Ji sect was gone, Chen Fan assigned training duties to the soldiers. Afterward, he prepared himself for the journey tomorrow to Lin City for the Martial Arts Conference.

To Chen Fan, the numinous treasures in possession of the martial artists were a much bigger draw than the martial artists themselves. Unlike ordinary people, Internal Force users were able to traverse deep into the mountains and retrieve treasures that no one else was able to so much as lay a finger on.

There were so many unexplored jungles and mountains in China that could hold unimaginable treasures. He wagered that most of these treasures were in the hands of the Martial Artists.

Cang Dragon's training was already on the right track and Chen Fan could entrust the training to the other sergeants. The soldiers didn't know that Chen Fan was leaving, therefore only a few sergeants and Yu Qin came to see him off.

"Head Sergeant, I am so sorry for what happened..." Huo Donglai blushed, and then he stopped talking altogether.

"What's done is done. Let it go." Chen Fan patted his shoulder and then said: "I know you are not like your Ba Ji sect brothers."

"Thank you, Head Sergeant!"

Huo Donglai was elated by Chen Fan's acknowledgment. To be approved by a Transcendent Master was every martial artist's dream.

"Head Sergeant Chen, I have reported your departure to the higher up and they said you can come and go as you wish. We will keep the key to the data room for you. Whenever you want to come back, you will still be the Head Sergeant of the Cang Dragon." Yu Qin said.

"Thank you. That was very thoughtful." Chen Fan nodded.

He could imagine how shocked Li Muchen was when he heard about the unit's newly acquired abilities. The success would only make Chen Fan even more indispensable to Li Muchen.

Things were going according to Chen Fan's plan. He had wagered that it was still difficult for him to ensure his parents and loved one's safety all by himself. However, things were different once he gained Li Muchen's trust and protection.

"With their safety secured, I can finally focus on my task." Chen Fan thought to himself as a cold light glittered in his eyes.

Once he left the Cang Dragon unit base in the helicopter, he stopped by Chu Zhou City to grab Tong Shan.

Tong Shan was a metallic giant of over two meters in stature. His appearance would have stunned any ordinary citizen. Chen Fan had refined an Illusion Jade Talisman for him to conceal his conspicuous appearance.

With the illusion effect of the talisman, Tong Shan could pass for a thick boned brawny man.

However, with Tong Shan traveling with him, Chen Fan's modes of transportation were limited. Tong Shan 's metallic nature would set off the metal detectors at train stations and airports.

Therefore, Chen Fan had to resort to taking a bus. When the bus driver saw Chen Fan's childish face, he thought of charging the fledgling more buss fair, however, the boy's large companion had made him think better of his plan. In the end, the driver even offered Chen Fan a discount.

"Hi, my name is Miao Xiaoqian"

Chen Fan and his large companion had attracted everyone's attention as soon as they walked on to the bus. Tong Shan sat alone in the back row as no one dared to get near the hulking frame with a lifeless face. Chen Fan sat a few rows in front of Tong Shan, across him was a pair of young girls both in their early twenties.

One of the girls looked attractive and was wearing a short blouse with loose sleeves. A pair of black-rimmed glasses made her look artsy and hip.

"My name is Chen Fan."

Chen Fan nodded slightly.

Chen Fan's reply immediately opened Miao Xiaoqian up as the latter started to self-introduce. Chen Fan learned that she was a student from the Chu Zhou City University. She was on a road trip with her classmates to Lin City.

Lin City was an ancient city that stood for centuries. It was a bustling city ever since ancient times.

"Is that your travel companion? He looks huge! He should join a basketball team or what have you."

Miao Xiaoqian pointed to Tong Shan and asked.

"Ah. That is my Big Cousin. He is not all there, but he is very friendly." Chen Fan cracked a smile.

"I see." Miao Xiaoqian nodded. The two chatted with each other from the time Chen Fan got on to the bus, after a while, Miao Xiaoqian's companion also woke up from her slumber.

"Xiao Qian, who are you talking to?"

The other girl stretched her limbs and yawned. Her sleeves rolled back, revealing her smooth and unmarred skin.

Chen Fan gave the other girl a glance and was taken aback by her extraordinary beauty. She had refined features and a pair of watery and dreamy eyes. Despite the innocent look, a hint of sultriness surfaced on her face from time to time. She was not any less attractive than Jiang Churan or Yun Qianqian.

Despite her beauty, her demeanor was cold and distant.

When Miao Xiaoqian introduced Chen Fan to her, she merely nodded aloofly as a reply. Afterward, she started to play on her cell phone.

"Yanxue is like that to everyone, don't mind her." Miao Xiaoqian managed an awkward smiled. Chen Fan later learned that the attractive girl was called Lu Yanxue. She was one of the most popular girls at the Chu Zhou City University and had many admirers.

She was such a lovely sight to behold, no wonder she had gotten so used to other people's attention that she would come off as arrogant.

However, Chen Fan wasn't struck by her beauty. Attractive she might be, Chen Fan had seen better-looking ones. During his five hundred years of travel, he had seen countless goddesses who possessed sublime beauty.

"Ah, right, Xiao Fan. What's your plan after you arrived in Lin City? Do you want to hang out with us?"

Miao Xiaoqian batted her eyelashes at Chen Fan and looked to him expectantly.

She was far from infatuated with Chen Fan, so her motivation in inviting Chen Fan came mostly due to pragmatic reasons. It was dangerous for two girls to travel by themselves, particularly two pretty girls. However, with Tong Shan traveling with them, no one would even dare to get near them.

Lu Yanxue heard Miao Xiaoqian's invitation. She furrowed her brows and kept her silence.

Chen Fan registered the displeasure on Lu Yanxue's face, so he refused the offer with a made up excuse.

Miao Xiaoqian heaved a sigh of disappointment.

Suddenly, the bus pulled over to the side of the road, and a brawny young man walked into the bus. This young man seemed to be acquainted with the driver as the latter addressed him as “Brother Wu” and the young man didn’t even bother to pay for the bus fare.

The young man noticed Lu Yanxue as soon as he sat down. His eyes lit up as restlessness suddenly came over him. He walked over to Chen Fan and shouted at him.

“Hey kiddo, sit at the back, will you?”

All the while, his eyes didn’t leave Lu Yanxue.

Lu Yanxue registered the man’s stare, so she shriveled her body into her jacket and turned her head to look out of the window.

Chen Fan furrowed his brows and asked: “Are you talking to me?”

“Why of course! Come on, sit back there now. There are plenty of seats.”

Everyone kept to themselves and didn’t want to get involved.

“Hey young man, why don’t you do as he says?” The driver put in.

Chen Fan heaved a sigh, and then stood up slowly.

Lu Yanxue felt a pang of disappointment after seeing how easily Chen Fan had given in.

“There we go.” Brother Wu patted Chen Fan’s shoulder and said: “Listen to your Brother Wu and sit back there. Brother Wu will buy candy for you.”

Chen Fan said lightly: “I am not standing up to move away for you. I am making space for him.”

“Who?” Brother Wu was confused at first until a giant hand patted on his shoulder.

“Who the heck...” He turned around and the terrifying sight robbed him of words. Trying as hard as he could, he could no longer form a single sound in his throat.

Tong Shan’s hulking frame erected right behind him.

Tong Shan was about two meters tall and he had to lower his head and hunch over in order to avoid hitting the ceiling. He looked like a giant that was trapped in a tin box.

“Shit... Bro... Sorry.”

The young man wavered.

However, his apology came a tad bit too late. Tong Shan grabbed hold of his neck like a thin pencil, and then yanked his arm, throwing the young man off the bus.

Everyone was terrified by the development but no one dared to say a word.

After the bus drove on for a while, the drive finally broke the silence. “Young man, can you get off the bus now? I won’t charge you anything.”

“Don’t worry.” Chen Fan cracked a smile.

The driver dared not to press on, so he shook his head and heaved a sigh.

The development piqued Lu Yanxue’s interest in Chen Fan. However, after trying to connect gazes with Chen Fan a few times and failing, she lost her patience.

They traveled on the quiet bus for a while.

Even as Chen Fan closed his eyes to take a nap, he was suddenly alerted. His Immortal Will registered a few Jeeps that had stopped right in the middle of the road, blocking the bus’s way. A few men waved at the driver, willing him to stop.

After all the passengers filed out of the bus, a few men emerged from the jeep.

The leader of the crowd was Brother Wu.

“Who threw me off the bus? I will make you pay!”

Brother Wu shouted with a broken nose and a black eye.

Chapter 157: Some Kind of Hot Shot?

By then, the crowd inside the bus had boiled over. Miao Xiaoqian’s heart was seized by terror. She was just a university student, her professor never taught her what to do in case of such a dangerous situation such as this. She grabbed onto Lu Yanxue’s arm and asked: “What are we going to do, Xiao Xue”

The rest of the passengers looked to Chen Fan with complicated emotions.

Many people wanted to ask Chen Fan to walk off the bus. However, Tong Shan’s hulking size made them think better of it.

The driver heaved a sigh and said: "Young man, I told you to get off. Look what you got us into."

"That Brother Wu was not that much of a threat, but his backer, Deng Jun was a force to be reckoned with."

"Right there, that is Deng Jun."

Everyone looked toward the direction where the driver was pointing, they saw a young man wearing a business suit leaning against a jeep at the center of a large crowd while smoking a cigarette.

"Deng Jun is a very powerful fighter. He beat up eight large men at once all by himself." The driver said as he shook his head.

"Most bus drivers who passed through this area knew Deng Jun. He would not let you get away with hurting Brother Wu."

"He is right, young man. Why don't you get off and apologize to him?" The other passengers put in.

Many people wanted to coax Chen Fan to get off the bus so that they could stay out of the feud between them.

Chen Fan was not surprised by the other passengers' selfishness.

After all, selfishness was the true nature of mortals.

"Humph! He shouldn't have been so foolhardy in the beginning. Now it's too late." Lu Yanxue put in coldly.

Chen Fan cracked a smile and didn't refute her. He rose from the seat.

"Are you really going to get off the bus?" Miao Xiaoqian grabbed his arm and looked at him in distress. "What if they want more than just an apology? Big Cousin is just one person, but they have... well... nearly an army."

"That's fine. A bunch of weaklings. They won't do anything to me." A smile broke over Chen Fan's face. Then he got off the bus with Tong Shan trailing behind him.

Lu Yanxue could no longer hold back her guilt so she spoke out: "Hey! If you want, I can help you."

Chen Fan pretended that he didn't hear her as he sauntered off the bus.

"What an arrogant little shit!" Lu Yanxue cursed.

“Stop it. Xiao Xue, do something, please.” Miao Xiaoqian was on the brink of break down.

“Fine.”

Lu Yanxue hesitated for a second. She knew that Chen Fan wouldn't have gotten into this hot mess if not for her. Therefore, she gritted her teeth and dialed a number on her cell phone.

When the line connected, an old and wizened voice drifted from the other end.

“Hello? Who is this?”

“Grandpa Wu, It's me. Xiao Xue.” Lu Yanxue let out an overwrought smile and then said in an overly coy tone.

“Xiao Xue...” The old man pondered a second before he put the girl's voice and the name together. However, he still didn't sound too enthusiastic. “Oh, it's you. What's going on, why did you call me all of a sudden?”

“I am on a bus to the City of Clear Water, and I have a bit of a problem. One of my friends had a brush with Deng Jun.” Yanxue explained cautiously.

She looked out of the window as she spoke and saw Chen Fan was already off the bus and was talking to Brother Wu.

“Deng Jun?” The old man was confused for a second. Then, there seemed to be a quiet whispering near the telephone, reminding the old man who that was. “Ah! you are talking about that young man from Xiao county!”

“That's fine, Xiao Xue. I will handle it.”

“Thank you, Grandpa Wu.” Lu Yanxue smiled broadly.

“Since your sister had entrusted you with me, I will make sure of your safety, always.” The old man said before he hung up.

As soon as the line disconnected, Lu Yanxue's smile disappeared.

“How was it, Xiao Xue?” Miao Xiaoqian asked expectantly.

“Don't worry, I got this.” Lu Yanxue managed a smile, but she heaved a sigh in her mind.

She had hoped to save this trump card for a moment of life and death. However, she had to waste it over a trifle that hardly involved herself.

Personal favors were limited resources, and unrenowable. She wagered that it would be more difficult for her to ask another favor again in the future.

“Let’s go. I want to see what’s going on outside.” Lu Yanxue gained confidence after she had gotten the old man’s guarantee. Miao Xiaoqian hesitated for a second and then followed her friend off the bus.

Meanwhile, Brother Wu and the others encircled Chen Fan and were arguing with him.

It was evident that the crowd was scared of Tong Shan. He was over two meters tall and a normal person could only reach his waist. If not for the strength in number, they would have run away.

“Hey buddy, aren’t you going to say something? You have hurt my friend after all.”

Seeing the confrontation had reached a standstill, Deng Jun spoke up.

“Say what?” Chen Fan asked calmly.

“My bro wants to exchange seats with you, but you threw him off the bus. Look at his face, all bruised up. You need to apologize and pay for the medical expenses, that’s the least you could do.” Deng Jun said firmly.

The patches of bruises suggested that Brother Wu had landed on his face when he was thrown out of the bus.

“Medical expenses?” Chen Fan crooked his head to one side and asked with a half smile: “I wonder how much do you want?”

“My face is ruined. I need at least ten thousand to fix it.” Brother Wu shouted.

“Ten thousand?” To everyone’s surprise, Chen Fan shook his head and said: “No, that won’t be enough.”

“What do you mean?”

Everyone was taken aback. They have never seen anyone who bargained that way. Brother Wu smiled a little, the thought of a huge compensation made him felt the injury was worth it.

However, Deng Jun pulled a taut face and chided.

“Friend, don’t pull my leg. You are not going to pay anything, aren’t you.”

The other people finally registered Chen Fan’s sarcasm as menacing light burned in their eyes.

“Stop it!”

Suddenly, they heard a female voice.

They looked toward the voice and saw that two gorgeous girls walked off the bus. The one in the front was particularly attractive. Her smooth skin seemed to glow under the sunlight. She was wearing a casual outfit, but the elegance and gracefulness shone through her mundane clothing. She was Lu Yanxue.

“Oh shit! Brother Wu, I was wondering why you got into trouble. Now it all makes sense.”

Everyone’s eyes were brimming as they examined the two beautiful girls. Brother Wu grinned and then said.

“See? Can you really blame me for hitting on her?” Despite his broken face, Brother Wu managed to display his pride on his face.

Lu Yanxue walked over to the crowd and said: “You are Deng Jun, aren’t you? That is enough, quit it now. We will both forget about this run in.”

“Hey girl, you are not Deng Jun’s girlfriend are you?. If you are, we will even make Brother Wu apologize to you.” Someone jested.

Brother Wu cursed at the speaker with a lighthearted smile. He looked to Deng Jun and noticed the unmistakable look on his face.

Miao Xiaoqian blushed as anger roiled inside of her. However, Lu Yanxue announced calmly.

“Deng Jun, what do you think?”

Deng Jun said slowly: “Just apologize, and we will let the matter slide.”

Lu Yanxue hesitated for a second. It was better if she could avert the crisis by herself than using the old man’s personal favor. She looked to Chen Fan and heard him speaking to Deng Jun.

“Very well. If your friend kowtows to me then I will forgive him.”

Chapter 158: Call Me

Chapter 158: Call Me

“How dare you!”

The faces around Chen Fan darkened after they heard his demand.

Deng Jun smiled menacingly and said: “It sounds like you are determined to test us. Very well then. I, Deng Jun will gladly oblige. Come at me, now!”

The other people glared at Chen Fan with a fire burning in their eyes.

Lu Yanxue was so frustrated that she wished she was on the opposite side.

“A reckless idiot! Can’t you see the situation we are in?”

Being pushed to her last leg, she rose her voice and shouted: “Deng Jun, I ask you to stop now in the name of Lord Wu!”

“What Lord Wu? “Everyone was taken aback at first. It wasn’t long before realization finally downed upon Deng Jun. He gasped: “Lord Wu of Jiang Zhou City?”

“You got it.” Lu Yanxue said coldly.

Deng Jun hesitated as his mind raced. Lord Wu had been sitting in Jiang Zhou City’s seat of power for over a decade. A lowly countryside hillbilly such as him could not compare. However, he was not convinced that a random girl would know Lord Wu. Despite his doubts, he nodded and said: “Very well. Ask Lord Wu to give me a call to confirm.”

Lu Yanxue was suddenly at a loss. She was lucky that Lord Wu had picked up the phone last time she called. If she called him two times in a row, the old man might get annoyed. Therefore, Lu Yanxue dug her heels in and insisted: “The old man will be here soon, just wait.”

A pang of displeasure flashed across Deng Jun as he squeezed out a smile: “Very well, I will wait.”

The crowd stood beside the bus and didn’t speak a word to each other. A deadly silence fell over the country road.

Chen Fan crossed his arms as he half leaned against one side of the bus. He was amused by the development. He wondered if Lord Wu was the “Traitor of Jiang Bei” that Third Lord Wei had mentioned to him.

He was planning to meet this Lord Wu personally, and it turned out that the brush with this group of people would end up saving him a trip.

Chen Fan waited patiently with everyone else for Lord Wu to show up.

Ten minutes, twenty minutes... It wasn't until half an hour later, a Jaguar rolled toward the crowd from afar.

After the Jaguar pulled over, a man emerged from within. The man cursed at the top of his lungs as he approached the scene. "Deng Jun, what's the meaning of this? Are you going to bother Lord Wu's guests?"

Deng Jun recognized the man; disdain and contempt crawled all over his face.

"I was just wondering who was barking, Zhang Qiang."

"Where is Lord Wu? Did he just sent a loser on his behalf?"

Deng Jun felt suddenly as if a heavyweight was off his heart.

The man was a local gentry from Jiang Zhou City and ran a small construction company of a few dozen employees. Deng Jun was not at all scared by his presence. Since Zhang Qiang's territory was adjacent to that of this man, they were competitors in business. Since Deng Jun's company had just gained an infusion of fresh cash, Deng Jun had an upper hand in the competition.

Lu Yanxue felt a pang of disappointment after seeing that Lord Wu didn't come to her aid personally.

"Deng Jun, I don't have time to waste. These people are Lord Wu's guests, that's all I am going to tell you."

Despite Zhang Qiang's words, he didn't sound very firm.

Lord Wu's secretary had called him and only suggested he come to help out the girl. Since even the secretary didn't sound like he cared that much about the ordeal, Zhang Qiang had also taken his time to get here.

"Very well..." Deng Jun nodded. He didn't want to have any bad blood with Lord Wu either. However, he then pointed a finger at Chen Fan and asked.

"But Lord Wu didn't invite him, did he?"

Zhang Qiang was taken aback by the question. The secretary had only mentioned two girls.

He looked to Lu Yanxue only to be astonished by the girl's exceptional beauty. Her skin was so fair and smooth that it looked like juicy peaches of August.

Lu Yanxue was set back on her heels as well. Miao Xiaoqian hurried to put in.

“Xiao Fan got into trouble because of us, don’t you dare throw him under the bus.”

Deng Jun heard the girl, so he snorted and said: “Well, if the little jerk really doesn’t want to apologize, then we will have to wait until Lord Wu comes here personally to save him. It doesn’t have to be Lord Wu, Young Lord Teng, Young Lord Shen would do as well.”

Lu Yanxue had never even heard of Young Lord Teng nor Young Lord Sheng, neither could she make Lord Wu come here personally.

She had saved up Lord Wu’s favor for a long time and finally used it today; however, Lord Wu was only concerned enough to go through the motions and perfunctorily sent an underling here.

With that thought in mind, Lu Yanxue couldn’t help feeling sad.

“Is that how far I am behind Sister Yanwu? When Sister Yanwu arrived at Jiang Zhou City, Lord Wu received her with such respect and gave her so much attention. However, he nearly ignored my phone call when I was in need. If not because of Sister Yanwu, he might not even send this underling here.”

“Xiao Xue, do something.” Miao Xiaoqian was on the brink of tearing up.

Lu Yanxue’s paled and said: “What can I do? I am from the offshoot branch of the Lu Family, without my sister Yanwu, Lord Wu would not even answer my phone call.”

Hearing her words, tears welled in Miao Xiaoqian’s eyes. She looked to Chen Fan helplessly.

“Little shit, let’s see who will save you this time.” Brother Wu said with a sneer.

A group of brawny men that accompanied Brother Wu also glared at Chen Fan gloatingly, some readied their fists to beat up the defenseless boy. The passengers on the bus watched as the development unfolded. They shook their heads and lamented the sad ending after so many twists and turns.

Then, they saw Chen Fan crooked his head to one said as said: “Young Lord Teng? Young Lord Sheng? I don’t know either of them, but I do have an acquaintance here in the City of Clear Water. Can I call him?”

“I don’t think anyone below Young Lord Teng would save your sorry ass.” Brother Wu said with a grin.

Deng Jun shot out an arm, willing the seething crowd to wait. He gave Chen Fan a cold glare and then said: “Tell me who he is.”

Deng Jun was not afraid of Chen Fan, he was a cautious person and never liked to jump into action without knowing what he was dealing with.

The passengers in the bus shook their heads. The girl had already asked help from Lord Wu and that still wouldn't help them; what could a sixteen-year-old boy's friend do?"

Lu Yanxue also let out a contemptuous snort. She didn't believe that Chen Fan could have any connections who were more powerful than Lord Wu.

Chen Fan said slowly: "His name is... Liu Guodong, if my memory serves me right."

"Liu Guodong? Who the hell is that?" The group of brawny men laughed out loud. Brother Wu laughed as he gloated over Chen Fan's impending doom.

However, Deng Jun's face turned dark in shock.

"Liu Guodong... Baldy Liu of City of Clear Water?"

As soon as he let out those words, the crowd stopped laughing. The smiles froze on their faces.

The name Baldy Liu was much more well known among the citizens of Clear Water compared to his real name Liu Guodong. Ninety-nine percent of the local residents had never heard his real name, but everyone knew Baldy Liu.

"You know Boss Liu?"

Deng Jun looked to Chen Fan suspiciously.

"Deng Jun, don't listen to him. How could Boss Liu befriend a young boy such as him?" Someone shouted.

"Just so! Deng Jun, I say he had never even met Young Lord Teng, much less Boss Liu. I bet he just threw that name out there to scare us." Another man put in.

Deng Jun didn't believe Chen Fan either. It was nearly impossible for a no-account youngster to befriend a powerful tycoon in the city.

Even Lu Yanxue looked at Chen Fan incredulously. "You said you know Baldy Liu?"

"Who is Baldy Liu?" Miao Xiaoqian asked.

Lu Yanxue quickly filled her in. After listening to Boss Liu's illustrative achievements, Miao Xiaoqian also became suspicious of Chen Fan's claim. Nonetheless, she looked to Chen Fan expectantly, hoping he was telling the truth.

“Kiddo, if you lie to me, I will make you suffer twice as much!” Deng Jun glared at Chen Fan and said menacingly.

Chen Fan was unfazed by the threat. He produced a cell phone from his pocket and dialed a number. After he exchanged a few words over the phone, he hung up.

“That’s it?” Everyone was at a loss.

He thought that a phone call would deter us?” Brother Wu thought lightheartedly. Lu Yanxue and Miao Xiaoqian felt disappointed at the anti-climatic development. Even as Deng Jun was about to order an attack, his cell phone rang.

“Who the heck is it? Does he know I am busy?”

Deng Jun hold back his anger and pulled out the cell phone from his pocket.

At the corner of his eyes, he caught the caller display and the sight set him back on his heels.

The caller display read: “Boss Liu!”

Chapter 159: Lu Family of The Lin City

Deng Jun managed to gather himself and connected the call. He placed the cell phone near his ear and as he listened, nodding from time to time. In the end, he hung up the phone and, after a couple of seconds of pause, he turned to Chen Fan.

“I am sorry... Mr. Chen... I didn’t know that....”

“Deng Jun, what are you doing? Go after him!” Brother Wu shouted. However, he got a solid slap on the face as a reply.

Brother Wu was stunned by the development. He covered his cheek and was not sure what to do.

Everyone was dumbfounded by the development as they wondered what had happened. Could it be that the caller really was Baldy Liu?

Then and only then, realization finally dawned upon Brother Wu. He knew that he had ticked off the wrong person this time; the burning hand mark on his cheeks was the proof.

He hurried to drop to both knees to the ground and kowtowed to Chen Fan. “I am sorry, please forgive me. Please forgive me!”

Deng Jun plastered on a conciliatory smile and said: "Mr. Chen, he is an idiot, he has always been. Don't let him bother you."

Chen Fan kept his silence. However, Tong Shan took a step forward and kicked Brother Wu's legs with great force.

"AHHhh!"

Brother Wu bent over doubled and hugged his knees close to his chest as he let out a painful howl.

Life drained away from Deng Jun's face and the faces around him. However, no one dared to say a word.

"Fine, that will be it." Chen Fan shook his head slightly and decided to call it quits. These are lowly scum and, if not because of Lord Wu's involvement, he would have already left the scene a while ago.

However, Chen Fan would not so easily forgive Deng Jun and other perpetrators. He had told Liu Guodong on the phone that he didn't want to see these people again. He was confident that Liu Guodong would be smart enough to understand what he really meant.

"What a shame that I was unable to meet Lord Wu." Chen Fan heaved a sigh before he started back to the bus.

As he passed Zhang Qiang, he paused a second and then said lightly: "Go back and tell Wu Xiuyan that I will be visiting him in person very soon."

Afterwards, he disappeared into the bus. Lu Yanxue hesitated for a second and quickly caught up with him. Zhang Qiang wasn't able to gather himself until the bus had disappeared at the end of the road.

"Wu Xiuyan? Isn't that Lord Wu's name?" Zhang Qiang furrowed his brows and asked: "So he asked me to leave a message for Lord Wu, but who the heck is he?"

He glanced at Brother Wu, who was still howling out his pain as a light bulb moment hit him. "He has a connection with Boss Liu and, his last name is Chen. He is also very young. Could he be the legendary Master Chen?"

With that thought in mind, Zhang Qiang started to tremble uncontrollably.

He had thought that Master Chen was an urban legend.

He thought of the rumors about the bad blood between Lord Wu and Master Chen, and the thought gave him jitters. He hurried back to the vehicle and drove away to deliver the message.

When Chen Fan was back on the bus, passengers gave Chen Fan fearful glances. Miao Xiaoqian was pleasantly surprised by the turn of events. Chen Fan was able to overcome the group of angry mobs with just a phone call.

Lu Yanxue held up her chin with pride. She muttered to herself. "Humph. Liu Guodong is no big deal. His power is only mediocre compared to members of my family."

Chen Fan heard the girl's words and was amused. He reckoned that her bark was worse than her bite.

Afterward, the three chatted along the way. When they finally arrived at the Lin City, Miao Xiaoqian felt it difficult to say goodbye. Before Lu Yanxue bade farewell with him, she said with a solemn face: "Hey kiddo, don't try to be a hero next time. Although you are under your Big Cousin's protection, he was no match against real powerful fighters despite his tough looks. Just stay out of trouble, will you?"

She paused a second as a hint of hesitation surfaced on her face. "If you do get yourself into trouble, tell them my name and tell them you know people from the Lu family."

"Thanks, but that's fine. I am not afraid of anyone." Chen Fan said with his hands linked behind his back, it was as if he was a Martial Arts master.

"Tough guy." Lu Yanxue rolled her eyes at him. After they exchanged each other's phone numbers, they bade each other farewell and parted ways.

Chen Fan sauntered out of the bus station with Tong Shan trailing closely behind.

"Lin City, I have arrived!"

He scanned the flow of traffic around him and then reached out with his Immortal Will. To his surprise, he sensed the presence of a Martial Artist; it was a good sign.

"I would be hard pressed to find even just one Martial Artist in a month, yet they are everywhere here. I am in the right place!"

Chen Fan didn't ask Huo Donglai the location of the conference since he was confident that he could be able to locate it by himself.

He locked his Immortal Will onto the martial artist he had spotted and followed his signal. The Martial Artist traveled fast, weaving in and out of the crowd like a herring swimming in a cluster of corals. On the other hand, Chen Fan's steps were slow, but his

strides were wide, so much so that he had no problem catching up with the swift-moving martial artist.

The cat and mouse game went on for a while until the Martial artist led Chen Fan into a dead end. As soon as Chen Fan rounded a corner, he saw the man was standing against a wall, waiting for him.

“May I know who you are? Why have you been following me?”

The martial artist’s face was yellow and waxy. He was a slender build and tall, middle-aged man. Despite his thin limbs, his hands were gigantic. A white light glowed faintly at the tip of each finger. He fixed his gaze on Tong Shan, in part due to the fearsome sight of Tong Shan’s large body.

“You were able to detect me?”

Chen Fan was taken aback, but he quickly found out the answer.

Tong Shan was too large to be missed by even ordinary people, much less a well trained martial artist.

“I don’t mean you harm. I just want to ask about the location of the Martial Arts Conference.” Chen Fan answered readily.

“That’s it?” The middle-aged man squinted doubtfully. After a while, he replied without rancor: “I can take you there, do I get paid?”

“Payment?” Chen Fan furrowed his brows and thought for a moment. Then he produced a Physic Refining Pill.

He made these pills for the Cang Dragon soldiers. Although its effect couldn’t compare with Arcane Pills nor Essence Gathering Pill, it was an ideal supplement for martial artists to strengthen their body and refine their inner energy.

The middle-aged man took the pill, but the doubt didn’t leave his face. He sniffed it and then he asked with surprise: “Is this an elixir?”

He glared at Chen Fan and asked: “Do you have more, I will take them all. I will pay.”

“If you help me, I can spare a few more pellets for you.” Chen Fan shrugged.

“Agreed!” The middle-aged man answered. However, the glinting greed on his face didn’t escape Chen Fan’s sharp eyes.

Afterward, the two introduced each other. Chen Fan learned that this middle-aged man was called “Xin Chou” and people call him “Second Lord Xin.” He was from the Xin

family of Zhong Zhou. According to him, the Xin family clan had always been a traditional martial arts family. However, the family had fallen apart recently and Second Lord Xin had become the most powerful martial artists even though he had only reached initial success in his Internal Force Cultivation. He wanted to purchase a few elixirs to enhance the younger generation's training.

"Are elixirs like these rare to find?" Chen Fan asked.

Only the Essence Gathering Pill and Arcane Pills called for numinous treasures in their ingredient list, but Physic Refining Pill needed only readily available herbs. If followed the instructions correctly, anyone could have made it, much less a martial artist.

"Yes, what you give me is indeed very rare." Second Lord Xin explained.

Most recipes of the elixirs were passed down through generations in martial arts families. Some of the elixirs required herbs that had already gone extinct. Even for those common herbs, the recipes often required seasoned and high-grade ingredients which could also be difficult to come by. In addition, many recipes came with long instructions and, many of which were lost over time. Missing just one ingredient or one small step would render the recipe useless. Therefore, there had been fewer and fewer elixirs available each year. By then, any elixirs would be considered rare treasures.

"I see." Chen Fan nodded.

The Physic Refining Pill he offered to the military was a modified version of the original recipe. He changed it so that it only required readily available herbs. However, those archaic secret recipes from the Martial Arts families were extremely complicated, worse, they were also less effective.

"I have heard that the Li Family of Green Vines as well as the Medicine God Vally Sect will be at the conference as well."

"Li Family of Green Vines? Medicine God Vally Sect?" Chen Fan furrowed his brows.

"You got it! Li Family was the most well known for its traditional Chinese medicine remedies. They teach martial arts while selling traditional herbs, and by doing so, they control over ninety percent of the high-end traditional medicine market." Second Lord Xin explained.

"The Medicine God Vally Sect was even more influential. Rumor had it that the Dao Sect from the ancient time had passed down the method of Elixir Brewing to them. They practically had a monopoly over the elixir market in China."

Chen Fan nodded. He wagered that his only hope of acquiring thousand-year-old ginseng would have to rely on these guys.

When Second Lord Xin spoke with Chen Fan, his eyes didn't leave Tong Shan for a second.

To him, Chen Fan was just an ordinary person.

However, Tong Shan looked like a powerful fighter. Every step he took carried so much weight that it threatened to send a tremor through the pavement.

The Martial Arts Conference was hosted at a small manor near a lake. They walked along the lake and before long they had arrived at the venue. Two muscular men in traditional Chinese suits stood in front of the entrance. Their dark eyes glinted under the sun and under their shirts, one could trace their chiseled muscles. It was apparent that the two were powerful Internal Force users of phenomenal success.

"The host of this years conference seemed pretty powerful." Chen Fan exclaimed.

Phenomenal Success in Internal Force cultivation was no small feat. Their power was at least on par with the sergeants' at the Cang Dragon unit. However, here, they could only be a doorman.

"Of course! It was the Lu family of Lin City. The most powerful martial arts family of our time. They have a transcendent master among their ranks, that's why." Second Lord Xin said enviously.

"Lu family?" Chen Fan paused a second as he recalled what Lu Yanxue told him. He was amused by the coincidence that they shared the same last name and wondered if Lu Yanxue was from the same Lu family.

Second Lord Xin walked over to the doorman and gave them his name.

One of the men nodded and said: "Xin family of Zhong Zhou. Welcome, sir."

Chen Fan trailed behind Second Lord Xin, but he was stopped by one of the muscular men. "Sir, I am sorry but you can't enter here without an invitation."

Chen Fan said: "I am here for the Martial Arts Conference."

"You are a martial artist?" Both men asked in unison.

They studied Chen Fan carefully, and couldn't find any sign of martial arts training in his wimpy arms and smooth skin. He looked like a high school student—no, he IS a high school student. Second Lord Xin crossed his arms and smiled at Chen Fan gloatingly. He, too, wanted to see how the powerful Chen Fan could persuade the two dutiful doormen.

Chen Fan furrowed his brows and was about to display his strength to prove himself. He heard a surprised voice calling out at him. "Chen Fan?"

He turned toward the voice and saw Lu Yanxue and Miao Xiaoqian, both surprised to see him.

"What a small world."

Chen Fan lamented.

Chapter 160: Elixir Fair

"What are you doing here?" Miao Xiaoqian asked with surprise.

"I am here to attend the conference." Chen Fan cracked a smile.

"Conference? You must have happened to stumble upon the poster, didn't you?" Lu Yanxue rolled her eyes. However, she turned to the two men at the entrance and said: "Please, he is my friend, can you let him in?"

"I am sorry, Miss. This is a private gathering." The man in traditional Chinese suit said somberly.

"My father is Lu Shixun, I am a member of the Lu family." Lu Shixun plastered on a sweet smile.

"Lu Shixun?" The two men paused a second. One of them muttered to the other: "He is from the Third Great Lord." The other nodded and said: "Well, of course, you can go in. But not him."

"Why?" Miao Xiaoqian kitted her brows.

However, she had exhausted all her ruses, and so she was not sure what else to do to help Chen Fan.

The two men in front of her were both phenomenal success in their Internal Force cultivation. That would put their status even higher than her father. Her direct family was just an off shot of the main Lu family branch. If not because she was friends with a few young cousins from the main branch, she might as well be standing with Chen Fan at the other side of the threshold.

Then, a red luxury sports car pulled over. A handsome, strapping young man emerged from within. His body was in exceptionally good shape, and his features on his face were sublime.

He walked over to the threshold with a warm smile and then said: “Xiao Xue, why aren’t you heading in?”

“I met a friend.” Lu Yanxue lowered her head as she blushed.

The man was so handsome that his appearance could have outshined lead members of pop idol bands. Miao Xiaoqian’s eyes instantly melted into fangirl hearts as soon as she saw him.

“Let’s go say hi to Great-Great Grandpa, and then we will chat with your friend.” The young man announced. He nodded at Chen Fan before he walked into the venue.

The other two men in traditional Chinese suits bowed respectfully as he passed. “Young Lord!”

Lu Yanxue looked at Chen Fan and nodded, signaling to him her departure. Her eyes were filled with embarrassment. She pulled one hand close to her face and made a sign that read: “Call me,” before she disappeared into the manor. After the two were gone, Second Lord Xin tutted:

“The Young Lord of the Lu family, Lu Haixuan. Ha! So Dashing and so much power! Rumor has it that he was a martial arts genius that had achieved phenomenal success before he was thirty. He was often compared with Gao Baisheng and Gu Xiao from the Gu family.”

“I have heard that the Lu family also sired an extraordinarily beautiful girl called Lu Yanwu. She was no martial artist, but she was a strident businesswoman. She was in charge of the Lu’s Group. Both she and that young man were the most outstanding members of the Lu family’s younger generation.”

“It’s the 21st century now, they still call him Young Lord?” Chen Fan lamented. He spoke to the doormen again: “Can I go in now?”

“If you really want to get in, you can try to prove yourself by moving that tripod cauldron over there.” One of the doormen said.

The tripod cauldron he was talking about was set a few meters away from them. It was made out of bronze and was about one meter in height. An ordinary person wouldn’t even be able to shake it, much less moving it.

Chen Fan waved a hand at Tong Shan. The latter slapped hard on the side of the cauldron.

“Bang!”

The impact sent a blaring noise. The cauldron was knocked back a few inches from where its original location was.

“Bravo!”

The two doormen were shocked. Second Lord Xin squinted and studied Tong Shan intensely. His suspicions had been confirmed: Tong Shan was indeed a powerful fighter, he was not far from the peak of the Internal Force cultivation.

“Welcome, sir. However, before you enter, please sign the guest book.”

“Chu Zhou City, Chen Beixuan.” Chen Fan said lightly. “This is my servant, Tong Shan.”

Chen Fan’s answer instilled more respect into the two doormen. They wagered that Chen Fan ought to be a mighty figure to be able to have such a powerful servant. However, they racked their brains to find any renowned martial artist in Chu Zhou City but failed.

Chen Fan and Second Lord Xin finally stepped into the Manor.

The Manor was huge inside, and it spoke loudly of the Lu family’s incredible power and influence. The hostess welcomed them as soon as they stepped inside.

Second Lord Xin continued to fill Chen Fan in as they walked on.

“The Martial Arts Conference will last half a month. The first ten days were for all participants to exchange ideas, Dharma Artifacts, or simply to party. The last five days were all business.”

“You said Dharma Artifacts?” Chen Fan asked.

“Why, of course! Dharma Artifacts are widely used by martial artists. That being said, elixirs are probably more common than artifacts.” Second Lord Xin said. Ever since Tong Shan’s display of power, his voice has been laced with respect.

It was evident that he was completely enthralled by Tong Shan’s power.

The hostess led the three to their accommodations. The living conditions here could rival that of a five-star hotel. However, Second Lord Xin told Chen Fan that the real top dogs were assigned their own mansions by the lakeside—a much better upgrade than these apartments.

Once Chen Fan had settled in, he was finally ready to meet the powerful martial artists on earth.

He made his way to the lobby and found it was packed with martial artists from all over China. They wore all different kinds of clothing, from Traditional Chinese suits to Avant Garde and anything in between. It was an eye-opener for Chen Fan in terms of styles.

“Even martial artists need to keep up with the times. Listen to their conversation, you would find that barely anyone talks about martial arts, all they care is money, money, money!” Second Lord Xin lamented.

Although Second Lord Xin possessed a few hundred million himself, he couldn’t compare with the wealth of these martial artists.

Someone who recognized Second Lord Xin shouted out at him: “Second Lord Xin! What took you so long? Who’s that behind you? Is he a youngster from your family? He doesn’t look like a martial artist.”

Second Lord Xin cracked a smile and flung back: “Mad Sun, watch your tongue. This is Chen Beixuan of Chu Zhou City. The big guy here is his servant.”

He then introduced the speaker to Chen Fan: “That’s Mad Sun, a master from the Xin Yi Sect.”

Chen Fan nodded. Mad Sun’s messy hair made him look more like a mad artist that borderlined a Van Gogh’s self-portrait. He had achieved initial success and was not very far from phenomenal success.

Chen Fan’s mind raced. He was taken aback by how many internal force users were here while outside of this manner, an internal force user would be considered such a rare sight. It had proven to him that it was important for him to stay in the right circle in order to meet the right people.

“Chu Zhou City? I have a Sect Brother at Chu Zhou City. Have you ever heard of Guo Wei?” Mad Sun asked.

“Guo Wei of the Wei Shen martial arts school? Yea, I have met him before.” Chen Fan nodded.

Someone chimed in. “You are from Jiang Bei, aren’t you. So tell me, is it true that there is a Master Chen who calls himself the ‘Teenage Grand Master’?”

“That’s bullshit! Grow a brain, will you? The so-called Master Chen is only twenty years old, yet he claimed that he had reached Transcendent State.” Mad Sun shook his head dismissively.

Everyone else agreed with him as they nodded.

Most of them had practiced martial arts for decades and were only able to achieve phenomenal success if not initial success. What would make a twenty-year-old teenage boy so special?

Chen Fan was amused by these martial artists blind conviction and their even blinder eyes.

Suddenly, someone close to the entrance shouted: "Li Family of Green Vines and the Medicine God Vally Sect are here!"

People around Chen Fan quickly forgot about him as they rushed toward the entrance. These two families were renowned apothecary families. Chen Fan followed the flow of people toward the entrance.

Chen Fan saw Lu Haixuan walked into the manor with a man and a woman on either side. The man was in his forties and a touch of grey in his hair. The woman looked elegant and graceful in her cream blouse and dark pants. She was wearing a wooden bead bracelet on her wrist. Although she was not shockingly pretty, she had a charming and dreamy air around her nonetheless.

"That man is 'One-Needle-Li'. I have heard he could have cured any ailment with one acupuncture needle."

"The woman had to be from the Medicine God Vally Sect. That was an elusive and secretive sect, and I doubt anyone would know her name."

As everyone murmured with each other, the three walked over to the center of the courtyard. Lu Haixuan cupped his fists and said:

"Welcome everyone to this year's Martial Arts Conference. The gentleman beside me is Brother Li from the Li Family of Green Vines, One-Needle-Li, and the lady here is Miss Jin Yi from the Medicine God Vally Sect"

Greetings over, the two sat down at seats reserved for them.

The Li Family and the Medicine God Valley Sect were both in the Apocathe business. It was a great opportunity for fellow martial artists to purchase cures for their ailments.

"I have the recipe for the Lingzhi mushroom Gree Jade Pill, I wonder if the Medicine God Valley Sect would be able to refine such a pill for me?"

"I was injured a few months ago, I wonder if brother Li could take a look."

"I..."

The crowd surrounded the two guests, carried all kinds of herbs, recipes, and cheques that they had prepared for this moment. Many others found a corner in the courtyard and set up their little kiosks to tout their wares.

The most highly sought after items were elixirs. They were gone as soon as the seller put them up for sale.

Chen Fan caught on and set up his own kiosk. He found a piece of table cloth and made a banner.

“Will buy thousand-year-old herb, Spirit Pills, Spirit Medicine. Pay with elixirs: Physic Refining Pill.”

His banner quickly attracted attention. Mad Sun hurried to him and said: “Hey bro, you got the elixirs?”

“You bet.” Chen Fan nodded.

He had made a large amount of Physic Refining Pill while he was at the military. They didn’t mind Chen Fan taking a few bottles for himself. He had thought of giving them to A’Xiu but didn’t expect that he could put them to put into much better use here.

He fished out a bottle and produced a Physic Refining Pill from within.

The pill was amber in color and was nearly translucent. It looked almost scintillating against the white of the porcelain bottle.

People crowded around Chen Fan and started to examine his products. Some were still suspicious of the pill’s authenticity, and some were outright astonished. Since no one had ever seen this type of elixir, no one was sure of its effects.

By then, the commotion had caught the attention of One-Needle-Li and the girl. They made their way to Chen Fan to investigate. One-Needle-Li spoke to Chen Fan warmly: “Young sir, can I take a look at your elixir?”

“Why of course!” Chen Fan replied readily.

One-Needle-Li picked up one pill and sniffed it. He then scratched the surface with a fingernail to produce some powder. He put those powder in his mouth, and suddenly, he exclaimed: “This is an authentic high-grade elixir! It can not only strengthen one’s body but it also refines a martial artist’s internal energy and helps them gain the power of Internal Force.”

The crowd boiled over at the announcement.

There were many more External-Force-martial-artists than there were there Internal Force counterparts. If this pill could help the external force martial artist gain the internal force, it would be the most highly sought after pill in the world.

With that thought in mind, everyone looked to Chen Fan ardently.