

Rebirth Of The Urban Immortal Cultivator

Chapter 71: Get Out Of My Face

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Under everyone's fearful watch, Chen Fan linked his hands behind his back and walked down the invisible stairs to the ground.

The long golden blade had already dispersed into many flying symbols and was sucked back into the Jade Marrow. The spell's name was "True Martial's Dharmic Blade." It took Chen Fan seven days to infuse the Dharmic power within the Jade Marrow Talisman.

The True Martial's Dharmic Blade was a basic art that all True Martial Immortal Sect's followers were required to master.

The power of the Dharmic Blade was directly proportional to the ability of the wielder.

The power in Chen Fan's killing blow was enough to slice a tank in half much less the Yin Snake.

However, this art was extremely taxing on one's True Essence. Thanks to the boost from the Essence Gathering Pill he had swallowed before the attack, he was able to maintain a steady output of True Essence throughout the battle.

"If my teacher Cangqin was here, he would be able to crack open the sun using the exact same move."

Chen Fan recalled the power he used to possess as his heart was filled with wistful nostalgia.

He wondered how long it was going to take him to reach the Tribulation Transcendence in this lifetime.

Seeing Chen Fan had reached the ground, everyone was finally convinced that the danger was gone. Mr. Shi drew a deep breath and held back the Yin Qi inside of his system. He managed to salute to Chen Fan appreciatively.

"Thank you for the rescue, your highness. I will forever remember this day and repay my debt in whichever way you want."

He spoke sincerely. He thought he was going to die today; however, Chen Fan had shown up and saved the day.

Chen Fan's ability to walk on the air and his killing blow were telltale signs that he was a powerful master whose power was beyond the Transcendent masters.

In the ancient times, Chen Fan would have been revered as either a Perfected Master by the Daoist or a Guru by the Buddhists. Such power was a rare sight in the entirety of China.

Master Wu and A'Xiu came to Chen Fan and congratulated him on his success.

A'Xiu then studied the monstrous snake that slumped in its death with an incredulous look on her face. After having soaked in the murderous features of the monster, she looked at Chen Fan with more admiration than ever.

Such was the power of her teacher. If he was able to kill this malicious snake with ease, what else is he capable of?

Stunned by the development, Sir Jiang Junior was frozen in place.

After a while, he finally gathered himself, but the fear inside of him persisted.

Ever since the search party had embarked its journey, he and his rich friends had constantly made fun of Chen Fan. What's worse, they had refused to share any food or drinks with them even though they knew that Chen Fan and his companions had nothing to eat.

Who would have thought that Chen Fan was not just a nobody, instead, he was an "immortal" who seemed to possess otherworldly powers.

Haven't he saw that even the mighty Mr. Shi had bowed to Chen Fan respectfully?

What would come to him if he had intentionally ruffled his feathers?

Suddenly, he heard a sharp female voice coming from behind.

"Chen Fan! Why didn't you act sooner?"

Zheng Anqi stormed toward Chen Fan with fire in her eyes. When she was close to Chen Fan, she stopped and pointed the finger at the boy.

"If you acted sooner, Eamon would not have died, neither would my bodyguards! Bodyguards' Lives Matter!

"You are responsible for all the deaths!"

Fire poured out from her mouth, even the fear of being so close to the monstrous snake paled in comparison with her fury.

“What did you say? Master Chen had saved your life, and you are blaming him for not acting soon enough?”

A’Xiu flung back at the girl hotly.

What an ungrateful bee with an itch! Master Chen was not obligated to save any one of you; he only did it out of compassion.

Mr. Shi was taken aback by the girl’s accusation, and an awkward smile broke over his face.

“Miss Zheng, we shouldn’t ask for more from Perfected-Master Chen. He had saved our lives.”

The sense behind Mr. Shi’s words was clear. They were a group of helpless drowning men saved by a rescuer; they had no place to accuse the rescuer of not acted quickly enough to save more of them.

Chen Fan held a placid expression on his face.

Such was the true nature of mortals: fearful and ungrateful.

If the snake was still alive, Zheng Anqi would never point her finger at him since she would be too busy hiding behind cover. Knowing that Chen Fan would never harm her, and without the imminent danger of the snake, she acted quicker than anyone else to accuse Chen Fan and blame her own failure on her savior.

He said calmly: “Miss Zheng, why should I care about you?”

“It is none of your business when I will get myself involved in YOUR mess.”

Zheng Anqi’s face hardened as she was surprised by the bluntness of Chen Fan’s words.

She took a few deep breaths and managed to regain her senses.

After a while, she spoke in a calm and cold voice: “Fine, let’s move on. Since you have killed the snake, would you please move out of our way and let us retrieve the medicine from the lake?”

“Oh? So you guys are here for the medicine ?” Chen Fan linked his hands behind his back and then continued, “Why should I let you get the medicine? Does it have your name on it?”

Zheng Anqi's face flushed red, and she glared at Chen Fan with anger.

"Are you going to stop us?"

"You don't own this pond. Why wouldn't you let us have the medicine?"

Chen Fan ignored the girl, and he shot a glance at the Yin Ghost Sect.

"From this day on, the Yin Dragon Pond belongs to me. Do you have any problem with that?"

By then, the members of the Yin Ghost Sect were about to leave the valley; they paused after hearing Chen Fan's question.

Chen Fan's killing the beast had proven his power and level of attainment in his cultivation. The Yin Ghost Sect was at no place to defy him.

Hearing Chen Fan's question, Old Bone Mu and Yan Zhengze hurried to reply.

"We the Yin Ghost Sect will follow the instruction of the Perfected-Master."

Chen Fan turned around and held Zheng Anqi's angry gaze calmly.

"You see, it is mine now."

"Could you please excuse yourself? Yin Dragon Pond does not welcome you."

Zheng Anqi was stunned by the development. She felt a knot of fire rise from her belly to her throat. She gritted her teeth as her blood boiled in her veins.

She had never been humiliated by anyone ever since she was born.

As the daughter of the Zheng Family, and an heir of the British aristocrat, she was the epitome of power and beauty. Wherever she went, she was surrounded by dashing young men who were eager to heap praise on her.

It had been a while since Zheng Anqi ever heard a "No" from anyone, much less being outright humiliated.

Zheng Anqi shouted out: "What makes it yours? I don't care!"

"Asshole! You think you are so tough because you know a few Dharma Spells? We are in a modern society, and nothing can trump the rule of law."

Both A'Xiu and Master Shi's face paled after hearing the girl's insult.

She seemed to have forgotten that she was talking to a perfected-master. Even the combined might of the entire Zheng Family would not measure up to a fraction of Chen Fan's power.

For instance, if Chen Fan killed Miss Zheng in a fit of rage, there was nothing the Zheng Family could do.

Plus, they were deep in the mountain; if she really provoked the ire of Chen Fan, he might slaughter her and everyone who was related to her.

However, Chen Fan kept calm and said lightly: "Get out of my face."

"What did you say?" Zheng Anqi rounded her eyes in disbelief.

"I said... Get... Out... Of... My ... Face..."

Chen Fan had infused his voice with Dharmic powers so that when the quiet words went into Zheng Anqi's ear, it sounds like an explosion. The shock stunned the girl; her legs gave in easily and brought her to the ground.

Mr. Shi kneeled and pleaded for her life.

"Master Chen, please forgive her. She didn't know better. Please forgive her, please!"

"We will leave here right away."

He shot a glance at the female bodyguard, willing her to carry Miss Zheng out of the valley.

Sir Jiang Junior and his entourage followed Mr. Shi and left the valley. After some time, there was only Chen Fan and two of his companions standing beside the pond among dead bodies.

Members of the Yin Ghost Sect still stood by the entrance, but they were also ready to leave.

Even as Old Bone Mu was about to sneak away under the shadow of trees, he heard a voice calling him out.

"Have I told you to leave yet?"

Old Bone Mu and Yan Zhengze turned around and looked toward Chen Fan as a sense of impending doom crept into their minds.

"Shit, we are in trouble!"

Chapter 72: One Hundred Million A Pill

After seeing how abundant the Yin Qi was around the pond, Chen Fan decided to stay here for a few days to take full advantage of the energy.

The Void Mortal Refinement Art was able to make use of not only Spirit Qi but also Yin qi and Malice Qi. Since he was in the middle of nowhere, Chen Fan asked the members of the Yin Ghost Sect to serve him while he stayed here.

Although the members of the Yin Ghost Sect were of below average talent in cultivation, they would suffice as his assistants for now.

Chen Fan also changed the power dynamic in the sect, making Master Wu the leader of the Yin Ghost Sect.

As soon as Master Wu took charge, he ordered the sect members to clear the area of bodies. They cremated the bodies individually and placed the ashes in urns. Their plan was to return these remains back to the Zheng family.

These bodyguards had died doing their job, and therefore they deserve to be respected.

Chen Fan pitched a small tent in beside the pond before he planned to dive into the pond to search for the Spirit Medicine.

Although the pond was only a few dozen meters in perimeter, underneath the pond was surprisingly spacious and was connected to a well developed natural aqueduct. It was no wonder that the Yin Snake was able to survive down here since it was able to prey on creatures that had wandered into the pond through the natural aqueduct.

Chen Fan quickly found the so-called Spirit Medicine. In addition, he also found an abundance of Yin Crystals.

"It was just a Senna plant? The Zheng Families are fools." Seeing the glistening waterweed, Chen Fan shook his head.

Chen Fan was a few hundred meters below the surface, yet he was not only able to see things clearly as daylight, but he was also able to move around without any difficulties. Since he had reached the Ice Skin stage, his physical body was able to withstand the pressure of a few hundred meters of water above him.

Although the Senna plant was a kind of spirit herb, it had no use whatsoever in prolonging life.

The real use of the plant was to make the "Soul Forming Pills."

Cultivators use the Soul Forming Pills to refine their immortal essence. The pill could also retain the soul of any deceased mortals. In other words, this pill was meant for Ghost cultivation and soul cultivators since its main effect was in refining and reinforcing the soul essence.

“If I were able to create the Soul Forming Pills. I should be able to access the Immortal Will with proper use of the Soul Refining Art.”

Chen Fan rubbed his chin and pondered his options.

Immortal Will was a special ability for cultivators who had reached the Divine Sea. It allowed the user to project their Immortal Will into their surroundings in order to probe or communicate. Some cultivators could even use the Immortal Will to kill.

After he made up his mind, Chen Fan acted right away.

This Senna plant was of five stars in its quality; only a couple notches below the perfect seven-star grade.

To make the Soul Forming Pills, only a few pieces of its leaves were required. However, before he started to create the pill, he needed to take care of the snake carcass.

The Yin Snake had reached the Ethereal Enlightenment stage, and after a few hundred years of cultivation, nearly everything on its body could be salvaged.

Chen Fan carefully carved out its eyes and kept it for the stage of the Golden Eyes. He then went to pry the scale off the snakeskin. These scales were extremely hard and durable, perfect materials for making armor.

Afterward, Chen Fan extracted the snake’s twenty-meter long spine. The spine was white as jade and cold to the touch. It was as if it was made out of thousands of years old cold steel.

Yin Qi had been coursing through the spine for over a hundred years, and by then, it had become a perfect material for making a Dharma Artifact.

Finally, Chen Fan started to take care of the flesh of the snake.

All cultivators learned to spot and consume Spirit Qi from nature. The Qi was everywhere if one knew where to look. It could be in jade, herbs, and flesh and even in blood of creatures. Thus it was, the flesh of the giant snake was ripened with Spirit Qi for the cultivator to harness.

Chen Fan put the snake meat in a pot and cooked it with Arcane Fire. After a while, the massive chunk of snake meat was reduced into a few thousand pellets. They were the “Arcane Pills.”

These Arcane Pills were created by Chen Fan using a special elixir brewing method that enhanced its effect greatly.

Although these pills were still not real spirit pills, they were a huge step up from the Essence Enhancing Pill.

A'Xiu and Master Wu both had one pill, and they felt the effects right away as a wave of heat permeated throughout their bodies. Soon, their skin was smoldering, and they could feel their muscles and bones strengthening by the second.

“These Arcane Pills can also help to prolong the effect of the Essence Gathering Pill.”

Suddenly, a sect member came over to Chen Fan and told him that Zheng Anqi had returned.

After she had arrived in Dong Du City, Zheng Anqi was finally able to gather herself and came to terms with reality. The reality was that she could do nothing to Chen Fan and she had lost the battle.

None of the rich teenagers of the Dong Du City dared stand up against Chen Fan after experiencing the terrible event in the valley. Therefore, Miss Zheng conceded that she would not expect any help from them.

Without the local support, and being miles away from Zhong Zhou, Zheng Anqi's chances of getting the spirit herb was slim. The last resort was to beg Chen Fan, hoping that the boy would take pity on her situation.

After having a few long hard conversations with Mr. Shi, Zheng Anqi decided to return to the Yin Dragon Pond.

She looked much calmer than the last time she was here. The indifferent look on her face suggested that she had taken her personal feelings out of the meeting.

She wore a golden rimmed glasses that accentuated the curves of her lips and pointy chin. The slim fit business suit and tight black dress pants brought out her model-like body shape, the alluring sight completed with a pair of black high heels that gave her a touch of seductiveness.

However, her business clothing set the tone for the meeting.

“Mr. Chen, I am here to talk to you about purchasing the herb you have found in the pond.”

Zheng Anqi said firmly.

Her voice was firm and no-nonsense, the voice of an elite business woman that was inside of her. She gazed at Chen sharply, pressuring him with every moment that passed.

Chen Fan sat cross-legged on a flat rock beside the pond. The valley had changed a lot. A few lawn chairs and patio furniture were set beside the pond, and not far from the pond, the sect members had erected a few small cabins.

Chen Fan opened his eyes slowly and said lightly: "Well, since you asked, I will tell you the truth.

"I wager that the reason you need the herb is to prolong old man Zheng's life.

"However, you are looking at the wrong cure. The medicine inside the pond was a Senna plant, and it was used to preserve a living person's soul. It had nothing to do with prolonging life. If your old man uses it, his condition might deteriorate even further."

Zheng Anqi's face hardened after she heard Chen Fan's words.

She looked to Mr. Shi for an opinion.

Mr. Shi furrowed his brows and fell into deep thought; after a while, realization finally dawned upon him. "Indeed! The Yin Dragon Pond was filled with Yin Qi, not an ideal place to grow an herb that would prolong life."

He then turned to Zheng Anqi and apologized, "Mr. Zheng, it was all my fault. I had only seen the record of the herb, but didn't take time to remember what the herb was for."

Zheng Anqi managed a smile and say: "No worries. We will continue our search, and I expect the same assistance from you."

Her voice was laced with disappointment.

The Zheng Family had searched half the land of China for a cure, and the Yin Dragon Pond had been their best bet. With their last shred of hope gone, Miss Zheng started to think that such a cure would never exist in the first place.

Suddenly, she heard Chen Fan's voice: "Although you can't use the plant, I might have something that could be of help to you."

"Really?"

Zheng Anqi's eyes lit up with hope.

Chen Fan cracked a smile and fished out a porcelain bottle from which he poured out an Arcane Pill. Then, he ordered a sect member to fetch him a wounded rabbit.

Chen Fan stuffed the Arcane Pill into the rabbit's mouth.

Almost immediately, the gravely wounded rabbit sprung back to life and looked as if it was completely healed.

"Is this some kind of trick?"

Doubts surfaced on Zheng Anqi's face as she watched the incredible effect of the pill.

Chen Fan didn't speak; he produced another pill and handed it over to Mr. Shi.

Mr. Shi not only cultivated the wood element but was also versed in the art of traditional Chinese medicine.

He put the pill near his nose and sniffed it. And then, he closed his eyes and pondered a while.

"It's filled with life energy. Yes. This is a Spirit Pill that meant to prolong a person's life. This is... incredible!"

He exclaimed as he looked at Chen Fan surprisedly.

He had only read about such pills in ancient scrolls and had never met anyone who was capable of producing these incredible pills.

Zheng Anqi's eyes lit up as her face softened.

Chen Fan said: "This pill is called Arcane Pill. One pill was able to prolong a dying person's life for ten days. I have about a hundred of them in this bottle, enough to make the man live for another two years."

Zheng Anqi said immediately: "Very well; I will buy them all."

Her voice held a great measure of certainty. As the top ten richest families in Hong Kong, money was not an issue for her.

She watched as Chen Fan raised a finger.

"A hundred million?"

Zheng Anqi gritted her teeth as she internalized the steep price.

The price was not low by any stretch of imagination since even supreme-grade ginseng was usually only for sale for ten million. The branch of the family that Miss Zheng represented had not yet consolidated the collective wealth of the Zheng family, and therefore, a hundred million was not a small number to her.

Her father was the second son of the old man and was embattled by his two brothers as he followed the old man's will to take over the family business. The smooth transaction of power relied heavily on the old man's involvement, and therefore the Zheng family was in dire need to acquire any medicine that could prolong the old man's life.

Zheng Anqi nodded.

"Fine, So be it; I will take it."

Master Wu was shocked by the magnitude of the wealth Chen Fan had just acquired.

It took Master Wu a lifetime to accumulate a couple of hundred million. However, Master Chen had earned half of his entire asset with some pills he had casually created.

Even as everyone was shocked by the development, Chen Fan shook his head and smiled.

"You have misunderstood me, Miss Zheng.

"I meant one hundred million for one pill.

"There is one hundred of them so that it will be...

"Ten billion."

A chilling silence suddenly fell into the valley.

Chapter 73: Pay With Your Life!

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"Have you gone mad?"

A sharp female voice suddenly broke the silence. Zheng Anqi could no longer keep up the calm and indifferent countenance, and by then, surprise and disbelief were written all over her face.

She glared at Chen Fan as if she was looking at a crazy person.

"Do you know what are you talking about? Who would spend ten billion yuan on a bottle of pills?"

In the year this event happened, which was 2007, there were only 900 people around the globe that had more than one billion yuan. If one considered currency, that equalled

six to seven billion Chinese yuan. In other words, there were less than a thousand people in the world who owned more than seven billion Chinese yuan.

How many of those were from China? The answer was sixty.

With ten billion yuan, one would be considered the richest person in the entire China, much less in this inland province.

Although the Zhang Family claimed to own more than a hundred billion yuan assets, the number was bloated by the subsidiaries that the Zheng Family didn't really control.

Therefore, the Zheng Family owned at most twenty billion yuan, but that figure had easily secured them a spot on the top ten list of richest families in Hong Kong.

Chen Fan had asked for half of the Zheng Family's wealth, no wonder Zheng Anqi would be so riled up.

"Of course I know how much it is. I can count" Chen Fan said lightly.

"You can only buy these pills from me, no one else in the world will have them, plus, I have already given you a discount."

Zheng Anqi was shocked by Chen Fan's words. She wanted to refute the boy, but words simply evaporated from her mouth.

Master Wu was enthralled by Chen Fan's assertiveness.

Ten billion!

No bargaining and no-nonsense.

The richest person in the entire Zhong Zhou Province owned about the same amount of money. Even if he traveled to the wealthiest provinces such as Jiang Nan, the ten billion yuan would earn him a spot on the ten five lists.

To put things into perspective, the future Chinese magnet Wang Jianling, owner of the Wanda Group, richest person of Chinese descent, had owned a little more than fifteen billion in 2008.

Chen Fan's price would cost half of the Zheng Family's wealth. Would the Zheng Family be willing to pay that much in exchange for a few years of the old man's life?

Zheng Anqi thought about it for a while and then she shook her head.

"I am sorry Mr. Chen. We can't take the offer."

“Ten billion yuan is too much. With that price, we might as well have sent my grandfather to the best hospital and hook him up to the most expensive medical equipment.”

“It’s not too much.” Chen Fan said.

“Even the best hospital cannot guarantee two years of your grandfather’s life. Even if they could, your grandfather would be lying in bed, and unable to talk or move. However, if he uses my pills, he could live a normal life.”

Chen Fan paused a second and then said: “I can give you some time to think about it. Take this bottle of pills and try it first.”

He then handed the bottle to Zheng Anqi and gave Zheng Anqi a look.

“But don’t make me wait for too long. I am not very patient.”

Zheng Anqi looked at the bottle of pills in disbelief. After a while, she managed to gather herself as a broad smile broke over her face.

“Very well. I like your sincerity. Ten billion is it.”

“I will go home to gather the funds. I promise it won’t take long.”

Having sealed the deal, Chen Fan waved a hand dismissing his guests.

Before Zheng Anqi left, she collected the cremated remains of her bodyguards.

Master Wu was upset seeing Zheng Anqi was going to take away all the pills.

After Zheng Anqi and her entourage winded out of the valley, Mr. Shi asked in confusion.

“Mr. Zheng, are you sure you want to pay ten billion?”

“That is a lot of money, even for the Zheng Family. Should we go over this with your father?”

For most super-rich magnets, it was not uncommon to invest ten billion yuan in developing a shopping mall or office building. However, there was a difference between investment and expenses. One can always resell the investment, but the pills were gone forever once eaten, and so was the money used to pay for them.

Even among the richest people in the world, only a very small handful of people could afford to spend ten billion yuan on something that yielded no return, the number was

even smaller in China. At any rate, The Zheng Family of Hong Kong was definitely not one of them.

“What makes you think that I am going to pay ten billion?” Zheng Anqi paused and looked at Mr. Shi with a smirk.

Mr. Shi’s face darkened.

“So you want to—”

Zheng Anqi cut him short with a smug smile.

“Did you see me sign any contract with him? No.

“There is no proof that I had to agree to pay him ten billion. What could he do to me? Sue me? I doubt he could afford a lawyer.”

She sneered at Chen Fan with a cold snort.

“Yes, he will find out that I lied to him, so what?

“As I said before, we live in a modern society now and the most powerful weapon in this day and age is law, and not martial arts and Dharma Spells.

“I have forced myself to tolerate him only because we are in Zhong Zhou Province. If this happens in Hong Kong, I will make sure he comes to beg me to spare his life.”

After she had finished ranting, she turned around and started off without waiting for Mr. Shi’s reply.

Mr. Shi was going to say something, but the words got caught in his throat and eventually turned into a long sigh.

“Miss. Zheng, you are too young and too simple.

“It is not that easy to get away with cheating a cultivator.”

Chen Fan had already reached a high level of attainment in his cultivation.

In the Daoist vocabulary, they call him a perfected master, while in the Buddhist world, monks would call him a guru.

A perfected master was able to turn wind into the blade, their breath into thunder. They could not be harmed by any natural elements and could summon thunder on a whim. She would be naive to think that she could get away with shorting the payment.

Mr. Shi shook his head and murmured: "I will have to talk to Lord Zheng when I get back to Hong Kong. We need to put down at least a few hundred million first. There will be many negotiations ahead of me; after all, Master Chen's price is simply too steep.

"If I keep letting Miss Zheng be in charge of this matter, the Zheng family will be gone in a short period of time."

After Miss Zheng had left, Master Wu came over to Chen Fan and said agitatedly.

"Master Chen, how could you let her take all the pills?"

"What if they don't pay us a penny? What if they can't afford it?"

"It doesn't matter if they can afford it or not. They had agreed to pay me, so they will, one way or another."

Chen Fan's eyes held a luster that threatened to kill.

Seeing the light in Chen Fan's eyes, Master Wu could not help but think about what happened to Xin Zhong.

Master Chen had made a similar agreement with Xin Zhong, and if Xin Zhong didn't pay the forty-five million yuan in time, he wouldn't have a chance to live until the martial arts tournament.

In the eyes of Master Chen, human life was as worthless as that of an ant. He could end it on a whim without feeling any guilt.

The thought sent a chill down Master Wu's spine, and so he decided to keep his silence.

Chen Fan sat on a giant stone, eyes half-closed as he fell into deep thought.

"People on this planet were so convinced that their rule was the only thing that mattered.

"They have failed to realize a fundamental flaw in that logic: rules are meant to be broken.

"It was absolute strength and power, but not rules that held the truth of the universe.

"In this universe, there was no one who could owe me money and get away with it."

Chen Fan said lightly.

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After the meeting with Zheng Anqi, Chen Fan started to focus on his cultivation.

It had been a month since he had reached the mid-stage of the Foundation Establishment level. As time went by, he sensed that he was inching ever closer toward the late-stage of the Foundation Establishment.

The Yin Qi around the Yin Dragon Pond were much more potent than the Spirit Qi around the Misty Mountains. With the all-encompassing Void Mortal Refinement Art, Chen Fan would be able to take full advantage of the Qi.

Chen Fan created a Sprite Gathering Array using the Yin Crystals which further boosted the speed of his improvement.

Whenever he was not cultivating, he could be found creating more elixirs such as the Soul Forming Pills.

This was when his newly acquired servants came in handy. The members of the Yin Ghost Sect worked diligently to purchase the necessary equipment and materials for Chen Fan so that he could focus on his cultivation.

These servants provided their services in exchange for Arcane Pills.

The Yin Dragon Pond used to be a forbidden ground for the Yin Ghost Sect not only because of the monster but also because of the belligerent Malice Qi and Yin Qi. However, Chen Fan had tamed the wild and raw energy around the pond using the Spirit Channeling Array, making them much less harmful to low-level cultivators.

"I should be able to harness the Immortal Will by the end of the day."

Chen Fan sat on a large flat rock and swallowed a few Soul Forming Pills that he had spent a lot of time on.

The pill melted in his mouth immediately and for a while, Chen Fan felt no change in his system at all. This was because the Soul Forming Pills worked not in the physical plane, but instead on the soul and spirit.

After a while, Chen Fan felt his temples were throbbing as his vision blurred. It was a sign of a sudden surge in his soul energy that was wreaking havoc on his senses.

Without any fear or concern, Chen Fan started a secret Art called the Soul Refining Art. It was one of the most effective arts for harnessing the Immortal Will.

Disciples of many renowned cultivation sects started to focusing on their Immortal Will as early as Foundation Establishment Level. They knew that they didn't have to wait until the Divine Sea and the power of the Immortal Will was much greater than the soul energy.

To compare the soul energy to Immortal Will, was to compare pig iron to the Damascus steel. Not only the Damascus steels were harder, but also more flexible.

In addition, Chen Fan practiced a special variant of the Soul Refining Art which was much more advanced and effective than its conventional counterpart.

He had acquired this special variant by chance while he was exploring an ancient ruin that used to be the residence of an Immortal. It was less refined than the ordinary version of the art and focused more on the raw power and force.

As Chen Fan carried on the Ancient Soul Refining Art, wave after wave of soul energy roiled and tumbled inside of his mind, like the tides of a restless sea swelling up at dusk.

Soul Forming Pills boosted the intensity of soul energy. So highly concentrated were these shapeless energies, they nearly materialized into the physical plane. Their presence had warped and bent the space itself, turning the air around Chen Fan into liquid.

Suddenly, he stomped the ground and shouted, "Start!"

The voice didn't come from his mouth, but it was from another plane of existence where his deepest consciousness resided.

At his behest, the restless soul energy fused into one singularity before it imploded on itself, releasing a wave of energy rippling across space at lightning speed.

The wave materialized in the physical world and knocked over whatever was in its way.

The swatch of the area a few dozen meters around Chen Fan was in tatters; rocks and fallen trees strewn everywhere.

"I did it!"

Chen Fan opened his eyes slowly.

The world had changed as he could see much more detail and insights.

From where he was sitting, he could see the grain on the leaves, the twitching antenna of the ants and he can hear the heartbeat of little critters hibernating a few meters under the earth. He looked to the other side of the pond where A'Xiu was cultivating; he could see the flow of energy coursing through her system.

The Immortal Will allowed him to observe the world with heightened not only five senses but also his six sense.

With this new ability, Chen Fan could see not only the living energy inside of humans and other creatures but also the invisible Primordial Essence: the building blocks of the world.

To most people, the Yin Dragon Pond was a cold and secluded pool of water hidden deep in the valley. With Immortal Will, Chen Fan saw not a pond, but a gaping hole where dark energy bellowed out from within. It was a gateway to the underworld.

"The Ancient Soul Refining Art is amazing! It was much more powerful than the ordinary version."

Chen Fan exclaimed.

The range of effect of Chen Fan's Immortal Will was well over a few hundred meters. It was enough to cover the entire mountain valley. Nothing, not even a twitch of a rabbit's ear could escape his notice.

For an ordinary cultivator of the Foundation Establishment level, his Immortal Will would cover at the most a dozen meters. Even with the help of the Soul Forming Pills, the range of the Immortal Will would be doubled at best. As such, the incredible range of Chen Fan's Immortal Will was truly a marvel.

"The Immortal Will was a success. Now I should start to create more Dharma Artifacts."

As soon as Chen Fan laid his eye on the spine of the Yin Snake, he knew right away what Dharma Artifact to create.

With the help of his newly acquired Immortal Will, Chen Fan carved a few offensive Dharma Arrays onto the spine. The key in creating an offense artifact was to heap as many similar attacking spells on one artifact as possible.

Seven days later, Chen Fan had finally finished his work: golden symbols that formed a serpentine line ran across the length of the twenty-meter-long spine.

Everything was in place, Chen Fan just had to activate it now.

"Start!"

Chen Fan suddenly shot a burst of energy into the spine, lighting up the golden symbols. He watched as the huge spine started to shrink in size until it was only the size of a waistband.

The bone waistband has the color of jade and was covered with tiny symbols. It looked like an artifact used by a primordial god older than time.

By then, Chen Fan had finally completed his work. It was impossible to carry the artifact around without shrinking it down to such a small size.

“Let’s see how powerful it is.”

Chen Fan threw the bone waistband at a large granite rock. In the air, the bone waistband turned into a thirty-meter long bone whip before it landed a solid blow on the rock.

“Kaboom!”

The rock exploded as if it was stuck by a stick of dynamite and it crumbled like a piece of tofu. The explosion threw many small fragments of the rock into the air creating a shower of pebbles.

Chen Fan shot out a hand again and commanded the bone whip to strike the pond. When the whip landed on the calm water surface, it separated the water in half and created waves that were as tall as a few meters.

“Not bad.”

Should these two lashes land on a crowd of humans, there would be at least a few hundred casualties. It was so powerful that it could go through an armored vehicle with ease.

Satisfied, Chen Fan put away the bone waistband.

He walked over to the rock stuck by the artifact and noticed that the surface of the rock was covered with a layer of frost. It was the work of the Yin Qi inside the spine bone.

“Well, maybe I should call you the Bone Whip of Malicious Yin ”

The success had lightened Chen Fan’s mood and lent him the determination to push for the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Level.

A month later, inside the valley of the Yin Dragon Pond...

A’Xiu was practicing fist techniques at the entrance of the valley.

She curved both arms and raised them to her chest as if she was holding a giant ball. Her movement was slow and relaxed like Tai Chi. Slowly and gently, she pressed her small hand on a large rock.

When she removed her palm, her palm left a deep impression on the flat surface of the hard rock.

“True Martial Thirty-Six Forms “First Form: Skyfall Hammer!”

Her move was more powerful than most Internal Force masters; however, A’Xiu didn’t seem to think it was a big deal.

In less than a month, she had improved her Internal Force significantly, transforming from an average village girl to a resolute and skillful warrior.

She had traveled across the Dong Du City with Mater Wu and fought many opponents. Yet, she had never lost a fight, once she had even defeated a martial artist at the Initial Success of his Internal Force cultivation.

“A’Xiu, you are getting the hang of it.”

Master Wu walked over to A’Xiu with a smile.

Master Wu’s appearance had changed a lot. No longer did he hold the cast of gloomy malice on his face; instead, he looked spirited and wise. He was only a few steps away from reaching the transcendent state.

A’Xiu gathered her Qi and looked toward the valley worriedly.

“Master Chen had been sitting there for over ten days, are you sure he is OK?”

“Don’t worry. Master Chen is no ordinary person. All we could do is not to disturb him.”

Master Wu said confidently.

Suddenly, someone stormed into the valley, shouting: “Mr. Chen Fan! Mr. Chen Fan!”

“What’s going on?” A’Xiu asked. She noticed that the man was no other Sir Jiang Junior.

Sir Jiang Junior replied with a distressed voice:

“I need to see Mr. Chen.”

“Master Chen is in seclusion right now and receives no guests.” A’Xiu said hotly. “If you disturb Master Chen, I will make sure you regret it!”

“Well, what should I do then? I really need to see him! It’s urgent!” Sir Jiang Junior said.

He looked frustrated and not sure what to do next.

Even as A’Xiu was about to ask him for more details, a booming voice erupted from within the valley.

The voice’s pitch and volume increased by the second, and it started to shake the leaves and rocks all around the valley.

A’Xiu said with a smile on her face: “Master Chen has awakened.”

Chapter 75: An Invitation

“Since Master Chen is ready, would you please lead the way?”

As soon as Sir Jiang Junior gathered himself from the shock, he asked.

“Not yet. Master Chen still needs some time to rest, and he will not receive any guest until he is ready.” A’Xiu announced with a hard face.

“Shoot!” Sir Jiang Junior cursed.

Suddenly, a voice rang inside of their mind.

“Let him pass.”

“Yes, Master Chen.” A’Xiu and Master Wu bowed toward the valley and replied.

Sir Jiang Junior was taken aback by the voice he heard in his mind. He muttered, “What... what was that? Why is there a voice inside my mind?”

“Calm down. That is Master Chen’s voice transmission using his Immortal Will.” A’Xiu said as she rolled her eyes at the young boy.

She was as frightened as Sir Jiang Junior when she heard Master Chen’s voice in her mind for the first time. However, the fear subsided after she had learned that Master Chen had projected his voice into her mind using Immortal Will.

Based on Master Wu’s explanation, Master Chen’s voice transmission ability was similar to that used by Buddhist called “Mind Connection.”

This ability not only allowed the cultivator to communicate with others, but it also gave insight into the inner thoughts of mortals.

Master Chen was still new to this ability and therefore he could only communicate with others but couldn't read other people's mind yet.

"This was the power of Immortal Enlightenment. He would have been revered as a Bodhisattva if he was a Buddhist." A'Xiu said with a great measure of admiration.

The more she learned about Master Chen, the more insignificant and powerless she felt about herself.

Sir Jiang Junior gathered himself and followed Master Wu and A'Xiu into the valley.

He saw Chen Fan was sitting on the same piece of rock as he was last time they met. However, he could sense that something inside of Chen Fan had changed.

Sir Jiang Junior studied Chen Fan carefully. The boy was sitting cross-legged on a rock, eyes half closed. His skin was pale and iridescent; at some places, it was nearly translucent. He could see the bones white as jade and the gleaming silvery blood that coursed through his body.

Ice Skin, Jade Bone and Silver Blood.

It was as if the boy was a character from a fiction novel.

"This... this is incredible!" Sir Jiang Junior lowered his head to conceal the fear in his eyes.

As he inched closer to Chen Fan, he felt an omniscient presence looming above him, like the dark clouds before a summer storm.

When the three of them finally stood still, they all heard Chen Fan's voice again.

"What do you want?"

Sir Jiang Junior managed to control his trembling legs and squeezed a smile from his taut face. "Master Chen, my father, wishes to meet you."

"Your father?" Chen Fan opened his eyes.

"He is a mortal, and I am a cultivator, I don't think it's a good idea for me to meet him."

Hearing Chen Fan's refusal, A'Xiu and Master Wu were ready to lead the guest out of the valley. Sir Jiang Junior suddenly shouted, "Please, PLEASE! Master Chen, I have traveled this deep into the mountain just to invite you over for a meeting. Please give me a chance."

"Oh? I thought you had come with a helicopter." Chen Fan said with a frozen smile.

Although he had turned his thoughts inward during cultivation, his senses were very much alive. He had sensed a helicopter hovering above the mountain moment before the teen showed up.

Sir Jiang Junior was embarrassed by his own lie. His eyes shifted left and right to avoid Master Chen's gaze.

"Fine, I will go." Chen Fan stood up and said.

He had been in seclusion for a month and had finally reached the late-stage of the Foundation Establishment level. In addition, he had already made a breakthrough in the Void Mortal Refinement Art and reached the Silver Blood. By then, he had increased his vitality by ten folds, and even a simple wave of the hand could stir up the arcane energy.

After prolonged inactivity, Chen Fan had the urge to go out of the valley and walk around.

Plus, refusing a local magnate's invitation was never a good idea.

Although he was not and would never be threatened by a local businessman in Dong Du City, he was on their turf. Therefore, it was wise for Chen Fan to meet with him in order to avoid unnecessary troubles.

This did not mean that Chen Fan feared Sir Jiang. He had reached the late-stage of the Foundation Establishment; they would have to use high caliber machine guns if they wish to harm him.

"Only if I had already reached the Ethereal Enlightenment. I wouldn't have to give a crap about anyone." Chen Fan lamented.

Once a cultivator had reached the Ethereal Enlightenment, he could ignore any damage from conventional weapons. Only the military issued heavy weapons such as machine guns, cannons and missiles would cause harm.

"Really?" Sir Jiang Junior's eyes were lit up with glee. "When will you be available?"

"We can leave now."

Chen Fan walked to the edge of the tall rock and continued to step down. It was as if he was walking on an invisible stair. Sir Jiang Junior had seen this ability a month ago, but he was still shocked by sight.

A month ago when Chen Fan killed the Yin Snake, Sir Jiang Junior only felt fear toward Chen Fan; however, today, he also felt admiration and respect.

He was convinced that Chen Fan was an immortal, even if Chen Fan had denied it.

A'Xiu's heart was also filled with admiration and awe.

She had heard from Master Chen that the ability to walk in the air was called the Heaven Trampling Step, the fifth move in the True Martial Thirty-Six Forms, while the Mountain River Cut he used to kill the Yin Snake was the seventh move. Master Chen had promised her that if she could reach the transcendent state, he would teach her the first seven forms.

However, by then, A'Xiu had only reached initial success and was still unable to pull off the first form: Skyfall Hammer. She still had a long way to go before she reached the Transcendent state.

As soon as the group filed out of the valley, they saw a helicopter parked at a clearing in the woods. This helicopter belonged to Sir Jiang's tourism company.

Riding in the helicopter, they were out of the forest in just hours.

After they landed at the foothills of the mountain, they decided to find a place to spend the night in Qishan County. One rich local who was Sir Jiang friend invited them over to his hotel and offered them accommodation.

The next day, Chen Fan and Sir Jiang Junior drove an SUV to the city of Dong Du.

Sitting in the back seat, Chen Fan asked lightly, "Can you tell me why is your father looking for me?"

"He is a busy man; how does he manage to find time to chat with me?"

Sir Jiang Junior smiled.

Master Chen was right; his father didn't initiate the meeting; instead, it was him who insisted on the two of them meeting. Ever since what happened at the Yin Dragon Pond, he became disillusioned in gaining Zheng Anqi's heart.

"She had lied to me about her true motive and dragged me into the shit hole!"

Feeling betrayed, Sir Jiang Junior took a long hard look at his blind royalty to Zheng Anqi and had turned down many of her subsequent request of kicking Chen Fan out of the valley.

However, after he had got over the shame and the denial, he realized that the current situation presented an opportunity for him.

He became increasingly convinced that Chen Fan was a reasonable person; someone he could talk to. The fact that Chen Fan had treated the Yin Ghost Sect well after he had taken control further reinforced his belief.

“I have lived for over twenty years, and it wasn’t until I had met Chen Fan that I opened my eyes to the real world.

“I have been living under a rock for the whole time!”

He had seen Mu Hongshen’s ability to command spirits, Mr. Shi’s incredible Dharma Spells, the Yin Snake’s otherworldly power, and Master Chen’s heroic blow that killed the monster.

He had never even dreamed of those abilities in the twenty years of his life.

All the worldly pleasures and debauchery he had been so fond of suddenly paled in comparison with the world of cultivation.

Therefore, Sir Jiang Junior wanted to become one of Chen Fan’s disciples and to learn from him. Meanwhile, a stroke of bad luck hit his father’s company, and Sir Jiang Junior recommended Chen Fan to his helpless father.

His father didn’t believe him at first, but after Sir Jiang Junior’s insistent pleading, he agreed to meet with Chen Fan.

Sir Jiang Junior replied to Chen Fan in a serious voice.

“Master Chen, my father is in trouble lately. He had asked help from many experts like you but to no avail.

“He had asked help from many monks and Buddhists and was even talking about inviting Feng Shui masters from southern China. I thought it might be easier if you were to take a look at the trouble. Please, Master Chen. Help my father and the millions of citizens in Dong Du City. ”

“What happened? Why are the lives of millions of citizens at stake?”

Chen Fan was taken aback by the situation. He gave the teenage boy a curious glance.

Chapter 76: Looked Down On By Everyone

Chapter 76: Looked Down On By Everyone

After Sir Jiang Junior had finished explaining the situation, Chen Fan finally learned what had happened at Dong Du.

Dong Du City was one of China's centers for cultivating florals and was well known for its peony. Every year, many tourists across China would flock to Dong Du City to enjoy the view of thousands of peonies at full bloom.

Although it was not yet the blooming season, there was one kind of special peony called Winter Peony that would bloom twice in a year. It had become a novelty among the floral enthusiasts and had attracted many winter tourists.

However, things had changed lately.

The flowers in the flower bed not only refused to bloom but also seemed to be wilting.

This was a devastating blow to the city's commerce. The peony was the pillar of Dong Du's economy, and not only did it attract tourists, but it could also fetch a very good price on the market. Every year, the floral industry was able to rack in over a billion yuan of profit.

As the richest person in the Dong Du City, Jiang Jialiang had his skin in the floral industry and therefore, he would be hit severely by the development.

He had first turned to the local horticulturist, but to no avail, then, he invited agriculture experts from provincial research institutes. The scientists conducted a thorough examination from the soil to the water; however, they have found nothing.

Even the experts were at a loss.

Seeing the peony wilting by the day, Sir Jiang Junior decided to turn to Master Chen.

"That is indeed a big problem." Master Wu said with a bleak face.

As a citizen of the Dong Du City, he knew the importance of peony to the local people. The health of the industry was linked to the livelihood of many citizens who were employees of the plantation.

"Wilting peony?" Chen Fan was light-hearted by the problem.

He was a cultivator of Qi, not cultivator of flowers.

Despite the fact that Chen Fan never learned horticulture, he was not without solutions. In order to fix the problem, he would set up a large Sprite Gathering Array across the plantation plant and let the peony soak in the Spirit Qi. This way, these peonies should be able to become healthy and strong in no time.

“After the scientist had given up, a lot of people believed that there is something wrong with the Feng Shui of the plantation. Since Master Chen was a powerful immortal, I believe you should be able to fix it for us.” Sir Jiang Junior said.

“If you could fix the problem for us, we will make sure no one will ever lay a finger on the Yin Dragon Pond. ”

Chen Fan cracked a smile and didn't say anything.

Yin Dragon Pond was secluded in the middle of nowhere, not a lot of people knew it even existed much less claiming it for themselves.

However, that did not mean Chen Fan could hide it from the other cultivators forever.

The Yin Crystal and the Spirit herb at the bottom of the pond would sooner or later attract other cultivators to this sacred ground, and by then, competition would be inevitable. Therefore, it would be ideal for Chen Fan to secure the title of the land by doing the local gentry a favor as soon as possible.

“Once the timing is right, I will help you.” Chen Fan said lightly.

Having gained Chen Fan's assurance, Sir Jiang Junior finally calmed down.

Once they entered the Dong Du City, they pulled over next to a large peony plantation.

Many local gentries had already gathered here, listening to the opinions of horticulturalists from all over China.

“Dad, I invited Master Chen.”

Sir Jiang Junior came over to a middle age man.

“Shut up; what are you doing here?” A serious middle age man with a troubled look shouted at Sir Jiang Junior.

Sir Jiang Junior managed a smile and then said, “I have heard you have invited a Feng Shui master, so I thought I would introduce you to Master Chen.”

Jiang Jialiang grunted, and his face softened a little.

“Bring him to me.” Jiang Jialiang commanded.

Jiang Jialiang had never held high expectations for his son, and when he saw Chen Fan, he was outright disappointed. What could a sixteen year old boy do to help him with such a dire situation?

A real Feng Shui master should look like Master Huang standing next to him.

He wore an ancient style scholar hat and long white silky beard. Every word and sentence he spoke was a quote from the classics such as the I-ching. No one knew more about the Yin and Yang of the Feng Shui than Master Huang.

Jiang Jialiang nodded at Chen Fan and turned to Master Huang right away.

Master Huang was surrounded by a large crowd, and he didn't even notice Chen Fan.

He walked and talked while holding a compass. He impressed the crowd with archaic words and quotes and installed a blind admiration into everyone's heart.

Seeing Jiang Jialiang did not pay much attention to Master Chen, Sir Jiang Junior was going to pipe up again.

A man in his thirties tugged Sir Jiang Junior's arm and urged him: "Your dad is busy, try not to bother him. will you?"

"Brother Cai, I am not bothering him; I am helping!" Sir Jiang Junior complained. "I made a great effort to invite Master Chen out from his seclusion, but Dad acts like he doesn't even care."

Brother Cai was Jiang Jialing's secretary. Sir Jiang Junior rarely spoke to his father; instead, Brother Cai was the one who looked after him for most of the time.

Having heard the complaints, Cai Zhongxin furrowed his brows.

He looked at Chen Fan and couldn't see anything extraordinary in this young boy. However, since he was invited by Sir Jiang Junior, he decided to let Chen Fan tag along behind the crowd.

Chen Fan didn't mind the ill-treatment As he walked among the row of peonies, he furrowed his brows.

The leaves of the peonies were parched as if it was baked in an oven.

This was impossible! It was the middle of winter with plenty of snow. But the signs showed that the plants were suffering from over-heat.

"Wait!"

Chen Fan paused.

"What's going on?" Master Wu asked.

“Haven’t you found the air in the garden is very hot?” Chen Fan asked.

“Indeed!” A’Xiu gasped. It was zero degrees outside, but inside the plantation, it felt as if it was spring.

“How is this possible? Could there be a large hot spring underneath us?” Master Wu asked with a big frown.

Chen Fan’s eyes lit up with curiosity. He narrowed his eyes as he started to project his Immortal Will to the underground.

Seeing Chen Fan had started working, Sir Jiang Junior waited beside him quietly. He hoped that Chen Fan was able to find the cause of the plant’s disease.

“Humf! What a load of crap!”

Brother Cai grunted.

Sir Jiang Junior was young and green; therefore he could be easily fooled. The rise in temperature was not a secret; even Brother Cai had noticed it once he stepped into the plantation.

However, the temperature was still mild, and shouldn’t have to parch the leaves.

They had consulted a geologist, and they had confirmed that there was no hot spring or any other heat source underground.

It was after every conceivable scientific test had failed to pinpoint the cause, they had resorted to asking help from a Feng Shui Master.

Suddenly, Brother Cai heard Master Huang speaking loudly.

“Brother Jiangliang, I think I have found the culprit.”

“What is it?” Jiang Jialiang looked at Master Huang expectantly.

“The peony garden is located at a gathering point of Yang Qi. In my line of work, it was called Yang Qi Locking Ground.” Master Huang said with a compass in his hand.

“During a normal year, this Yang Qi will not do any harm to the plants. However, this year and this month, in particular, was of the Yang Element as well. The combination of the timing and the Yang Qi eventually become too much for the plants, hence the wilting.

“It was like a human sleeping beside a campfire during summer; heat will make his nose bleed.”

“Shoot! So what should I do?” Jiang Jialiang exclaimed.

“Don’t worry; I will set up a Feng Shui Array and connect the area with the Yin Qi to neutralize the elements. It will make this garden an even better place for flowers to flourish.” Master Huang said confidently as he ran his fingers through his long beard.

“Really?” Jiang Jialiang’s eyes were lit up with joy.

“Bull shit!”

A loud voice interrupted everyone’s joyful relief. They looked to the speaker with a great measure of rancor and surprise.

They saw a boy standing right next to the panicking Brother Cai.

Chapter 77: A Real Master?

Chapter 77: A Real Master?

“Who are you, who gave you permission to enter?” Those who didn’t know Chen Fan flung back at him hotly.

Even those who had heard Sir Jiang Junior’s introduction of Chen Fan were not pleased by his brazen interruption.

Seeing Jiang Jialiang’s cold glare, Brother Cai cursed Chen Fan in his mind.

“I allowed you to tag along for the sake of Sir Jiang Junior. Why do you have to make a fool of yourself and drag me along with it?”

“Can’t you see who is present? Not only all the rich magnates of the city are here, but the professors and researchers from the university were also there. What would they think about a sixteen-year-old commenting in their opinion?”

Sir Jiang Junior watched as his father furrowed his brows.

“Mr. Chen, What do you mean?”

Brother Cai squeezed his face at Chen Fan, willing him to be quiet. However, Chen Fan didn’t even spare him a glance.

“I meant what I say. I said that Master Huang’s explanation was bullshit.”

Everyone was shocked when they heard Chen Fan’s words loud and clear.

They might have let it slide even if they heard Chen Fan murmuring the nonsense to himself behind everyone's back, however, there and then, he had repeated his ignorant claim under broad daylight. He was asking for trouble.

Lo and behold, Sir Jiang Junior's father pulled a taut face and refuted his son's friend hotly: "Kids should learn to keep their trap close when the adults are talking!"

Chen Fan linked his hands behind his back and said, "I am a Feng Shui master invited by Jiang Haochen, why couldn't I put in my two cents?"

Jiang Haochen was the name of Sir Jiang Junior.

Everyone shot an accusatory glare at Sir Jiang Junior. Although he was the son of the richest man in the city, he had never been publicly put on a spot.

Among those who were displeased with his guest, were at least two whose power was on par with his father. His father also gave him a look that read: "You are dead meat. Somebody is going to hurt real bad when we get home."

Despite his confidence in Chen Fan, Sir Jiang Junior started to waver. He looked to Chen Fan for support.

Chen Fan stood confidently and was unfazed by the accusations and animosity around him.

Even as Mr. Jiang was about to end the interruption by expelling Chen Fan from the plantation, Master Huang spoke up in a calm voice.

"It's Ok. If this young man has something to say, then go ahead.

"Old age does not amount to knowledge. He might know more than I do. I had been learning Feng Shui for well over four decades, but still, I learn something new every day."

Everyone nodded approvingly after they have heard Master Huang's humble words.

The Chinese people valued humbleness. It was considered a virtue to cover up one's strength in front of others and speak humbly about oneself. Master Huang was a renowned Feng Shui Master in the entire Lingnan area, yet he respected the opinion of a teenage boy which made him appear all that more respectable and wise.

Jiang Jialiang managed a smile and then said: "Master Huang, you are too humble. We all know you have years of experience behind you, and are one of the best in the field of Feng Shui. This arrogant boy just wants attention; we don't have to listen to him."

He then turned toward Jiang Haochen and said:

“Take your friend out of here. You are in your twenties, why do you still act like a boy? Aren’t you ashamed of yourself?”

A wave of indignation rose inside of Sir Jiang Junior.

Beside him was the immortal-like Chen Fan, while on the other side was the ire of his father. What should he do?

Master Huang cracked a smile and then said:

“It’s Ok. I believe that there is a reason that your son had invited his friend. Although I am confident in my conclusion, I would like to hear what others had to say.”

“What a humble master!”

“This is what a real master looks like. Humble and wise. This young boy has a long way to go.”

Everyone around Master Huang heaped praise onto Master Huang while they glared at Chen Fan.

Master Huang had explained the cause of their problem clearly. Not only his logic was indisputable, but he was also able to explain such a convoluted concept clearly to everyone using layman’s terms. When even science had failed to provide an answer, Master Huang and his knowledge in Feng Shui came to save the day.

However, Master Huang’s conclusion was challenged by a sixteen year old boy.

“Humpf! He wouldn’t even be qualified as my student.” A professor grunted.

“You think too highly of him; I doubt he was the material for the university.” Another agriculture expert shook his head and lamented.

“Grandpa, don’t you think it’s possible that he really is a Feng Shui master?” An attractive looking young girl wearing a ponytail asked the professor.

Before the white-haired professor could answer, a middle-aged man wearing black-rimmed glasses snorted. “That’s impossible.”

“We have been staying in university for over ten years, and we still couldn’t find out the cause of the disease. Our teacher was a member of the national research council, and yet he couldn’t find out a cure either. How could a sixteen year old boy know anything more about plant science than us?”

“That makes sense.” The girl stuck the tip of her tongue out and said.

The white-haired old man nodded in approval.

This professor's name was Mu Shouqiong. He was a member of the national research council, a pioneer researcher in horticulture. He led the science team that investigated the strange peony disease.

However, after a few days of intense study and testing, the scientist had failed to provide an explanation, much less a cure. Therefore, the businessmen at Dong Du City were forced to look into other cures.

The middle age man and the girl behind the old man were called Hong Zhengtao and Mu Qinqin. Hong Zhengtao was the old man's research assistant.

Professor Mu had taken notice of Hong Zhengtao's intelligence and diligence when he was an undergraduate student. The old man took him in as one of his graduate students and then his research assistant. By then, Hong Zhengtao had already earned his associate professor designation.

Mu Qinqin was professor Mu's granddaughter, a fresh new graduate from China's Agriculture and Science Institution. She worked closely with her grandfather to learn as much as she could from him.

The thought of his failure made professor Mu heave a sigh and then he said, "Compared to the knowledge of our ancestors, we are still far behind."

"I don't think so. I bet that Master Huang was a fraud. Science will prevail in the end!" Hong Zhengtao announced.

The businessmen's decision of turning to a Feng Shui Master didn't sit well with Hong Zhengtao. As a man of science, he saw it as the local's distrust of science and an outright personal affront.

However, Professor Mu shook his head and disagreed.

"This is not as simple as you think. Master Huang knows things that we don't."

Suddenly, Professor Mu's eyes lost focus as he recalled an incident he saw when he was young. "Back in the 90s, there was a famine broke out in Lin Xi province. Hundreds of thousands of people were starving."

"The other two researchers and I were called to investigate the cause of the feminine and just like what happened here, we have found no answer. Later, The local gentry asked a Feng Shui Master for help. That Feng Shui master cast some kind of spell on the land and turned the situation around.

“That had been sensational news back then. Even the federal government was alerted by it.”

“Really?” Hong Zhengtao was shocked. Mu Qinqin covered her mouth to suppress a gasp.” So... Master Huang was...”

“Indeed. Master Huang was one of those Feng Shui Master I met decades ago.”

Both of his students were shocked by the revelation. They gaped at their teacher and asked incredulously:

“I always thought that so-called Feng Shui was pseudoscience used by swindlers.”

“There are many things in this world that science can’t explain yet.” Professor Mu heaved a sigh.

He felt that the more he researched, the less he knew about the world.

“Master Huang is the real deal. If he couldn’t fix the problem, then Dong Du city is in big trouble.” Professor Mu said with a deep frown.

After hearing Professor Mu’s story, Hong Zhengtao and Mu Qinqin looked to Mu Qinqin with newfound respect.

They watched as Master Huang asked the boy calmly: “My friend, can you point out the mistake in my theory?”

Everyone looked at Chen Fan. Chen Fan replied slowly: “Everything is wrong. There is nothing right about your theory.

“That is why I said it was bullshit.”

Chapter 78: I Am The Celestial Lord!

“Bull shit, you say?”

Hearing Chen Fan repeating the unforgiving remark; Master Huang finally showed some annoyance.

After all, he was the master of the Lin Nan area, one of the very few masters that was still active in China. He had become famous twenty years ago, and by then, he had become a frequent honorable guest at the banquets of the most powerful man in China. If not for the invitation from the Dong Du City Government, he wouldn’t even think about being interested in the case.

He had given the boy some face and asked him polite questions, but he had gotten insults in return.

“Young man, who is your teacher? Haven’t he told you to respect your elders?” Master Huang furrowed his brows.

Chen Fan linked his hands behind his back and said, “Maybe I should be your elder.”

“Humph!” Master Huang could no longer hold back the anger inside of him. He snorted and said coldly: “Is that right? Let me tell you something; there are not a lot of people who dare call themselves an elder in front of me, Huang Wenzhe. All of those who could are well over a hundred years old. I wonder which one of those masters is your teacher?”

“Huang Wenzhe? The Huang Wenzhe of Lin Nan?” Master Wu’s face paled.

“Is he famous?” Chen Fan asked casually.

Master Wu felt the hot glare from everyone around him, he hurried to reply: “Master Chen, he was one of the top five people in the field of Feng Shui. His fame was on par with that of Zhou Daoji from Hong Kong.”

“Huang Wenzhe was quite a big deal; many consider him the leader of the field. ”

Before Chen Fan spoke up again, Master Huang cracked a cynical smile and said: “If you haven’t even heard of my name, I will scarcely consider you a professional.”

He shook his head patronizingly as he spoke.

“I have mistaken you for a talented disciple of a renowned sect, but turns out that you are just an amateur. I think I have overestimated you in thinking that you might have some genuinely constructive input. But I doubt that you even know what a Yang Qi Locking Ground is.”

“You are right; I am not a practitioner of Feng Shui. And indeed that I have no idea what a Yang Qi Locking Ground.”

Chen Fan nodded readily. His candidness took Master Huang by surprise.

“Ha!”

Many people around Chen Fan burst out laughing.

For someone who admitted to be an amateur in the field of Feng Shui, Chen Fan was rather generous in his criticism. The irony in it was rich.

Mu Shouqiong furrowed his brows as the teenage boy's arrogant attitude didn't sit well with him.

He was the man of science; a firm believer in that there was no more shameful act than pretending to know what one does not.

He could have looked past Chen Fan's young age if he was really worth his salt. However, if Chen Fan didn't even know what he was talking about, his interruption and rude remarks would only make a fool out of himself.

"Mr. Chen, what are you doing?"

Sir Jiang Junior was shocked by the development.

He had been convinced that Master Chen was a god-like existence and therefore he expected him to know everything, let it be astronomy, geology or history. However, it seemed that he was wrong.

To save his son's face, Sir Jiang had tolerated Chen Fan's existence, however, by then, whatever patience he had was gone. As fire sprout from his heart, he was ready to call the police and kick the rude imbecile out of his property.

Then, he heard Chen Fan speak again.

"Although I don't know anything about Feng Shui, I know one thing for sure.

"You are wrong."

Chen Fan shot a glare at Master Huang and announced firmly, "You have been wrong from the very beginning. The Yang Qi Locking Ground was not the cause of the disease, and neither was the timing. If you set up your so-called Feng Shui Array, these Peonies will only die even faster."

"Shut up!" Master Huang could no longer maintain his forbearance. He shouted at the top of his lungs.

"Have you studied I-ching?

"Can you interpolate trigrams?

"Have you read the House-Ching?

"Are you versed in the theories of the Roaring Dragon Ching and the Mystic Dragon Ching?

"Do you know what the meaning of the Shooting Stars of the Nine Palace?"

Master Huang took a step forward after each question.

In five wide strides, Master Huang arrived at the center of the courtyard. He shouted at Chen Fan, "I doubt you can tell me the names of the eight trigrams. How dare you question me?"

"I, Huang Wenze had learned under Master Xuankong from the Southern Sect ever since I was seven. I have stayed with my master for twenty years during which time I learned everything about Feng Shui. When I finally enter the world as a practitioner, I have helped countless innocent people adjusting and neutralized the chaotic elements around their houses."

"In 1987, it was I who find out the cause of death for seven owners of an apartment in Yang Dong City. I have lured the murderous Yin Ghost out of the apartment and banished it.

"In 1991, I had solved the series of mysterious car crashes on number sixteen highway. I have rearranged the Feng Shui on that segment of the road and finally harmonized the Qi. "

"In 1995, when a massive landslide in the Mei Lin City suddenly occurred and claimed the lives of thirty-two people in its wake. I had gone to the disastrous area and cast an Array to make sure such a tragedy will never happen again.

"In 1997, when the entire Ling Xi province was hit by a drought, threatening the lives of millions. I rallied my fellow Feng Shui masters and spent a month to cast a costly array and successfully challenged the Water Qi into the drought area.

"I have been a Feng Shui master for over forty years, and I dare say that never once have I made a mistake. Who are you to question my credentials?"

Master Huang was seething with anger and indignation, and his list of illustrious achievements had earned him many respectful regards from the people around him.

His past achievements were a testament to his ability and power. No wonder he had garnered such a high reputation in Lin Nan area.

"Master Huang is such a badass!"

Mu Qinqin exclaimed. Her eyes were filled with admiration.

Anyone who was able to become the cream of the crop in his profession deserved proper respect.

By then, only Master Wu and A'Xiu were still on Chen Fan's side, since even Sir Jiang Junior had begun to have second thoughts.

"Maybe Master Chen was only good at fighting, but not an expert in the art of curing and healing."

Sir Jiang Junior lamented.

He regretted bringing Chen Fan to his father; not only Chen Fan had made a fool of himself, but he had lost the approval of his father.

"Well said, but what you have achieved in the past is irrelevant." Chen Fan said with a pair of half-closed eyes as if he was contemplating the secret of the universe.

"Bull shit!"

Master Huang shouted as fire pour out from his mouth.

He had never seen anyone so sunburned and arrogant.

"Fine, I will show you what I can do other than words." Master Huang said with a sneer. "Let's see what else you have to say after I teach you a lesson."

So saying, he nipped a peony off its stem and started a spell.

Holding the flower in one hand, he started to form a few hand signs with the other hand.

Chen Fan was the only person who could feel the wave of energy conjured up by Master Huang at his fingertips.

"Void Array! This is the secret finger technique of the Southern Sect." Master Wu exclaimed.

"What the hell is a finger technique?" Chen Fan asked light-heartedly.

In his eyes, Master Huang's spell array was merely a child's play.

At his current level, he didn't even need to channel his Dharmatic Art. With only a little bit of Immortal Will, Chen Fan could summon much more powerful energy wave than Master Huang could ever imagine.

"The practice of Feng Shui could be divided into two main branches: the Northern and the Southern. The Southern Sect is well known for its use of fingers to conjure up a Dharma Array that was perfectly contained in the small space of the palm."

"On the other hand, the Northern Sect is well known for their ability to spot exceptional administrative and military talents based on the flow of natural energy. Due to their ability to spot a diamond in the rough, they were among the most trusted advisors of kings and generals.

“Therefore, the Southern Sect had always served the rich businessmen while the Northern Sect’s clients were often beside powerful lords.”

Master Wu paused and smiled wryly. “Huang Wenze is the grand master of the Southern Sect. His should be one of the most powerful Feng Shui masters in China. ”

Before Master Wu had finished his sentence, Master Huang had already finished the Array.

Suddenly, cold wind came up from all directions, and the temperature dropped by a few degrees.

“Oh! Look!”

Someone shouted.

Everyone looked toward where the speaker was pointing. They watched as the wilting flower came back alive and in a blink, it was blooming.

“It’s blooming! It’s blooming!”

Everyone shouted at the top of their lungs and joy was written all over Jiang Jialiang’s face.

The disease had worried him so gravely that half of his healthy black hair turn grey. The floral industry was the pillar of Dong Du City’s economy, and not only the stake holder’s investments were at risk, but also the livelihood of thousands of employees of the industry.

Master Huang had shown everyone the sign of hope; given time, he could be able to avert the crisis and save the day.

By then, everyone’s attention was on Master Huang, and barely anyone even noticed Chen Fan’s existence.

A wave of cheers erupted from the crowd as the local gentries heaped praise onto Master Huang. They wondered when Master Huang could cure all the plants in the plantation.

The spell had cost half of Master Huang’s energy. Despite the sweat on his forehead, his success and others praise had overcome his exhaustion.

It had proven that his array worked. His next step would be to rally as many powerful Feng Shui masters as possible to help him complete the array on a larger scale.

“Master Chen, should we go home?”

A'Xiu asked bitterly. In her mind, Master Chen should be the center of everyone's attention. Since Master Huang had stolen the stage spotlight, she felt slightly disappointed.

"Fine, let's head out now." Chen Fan nodded.

After probing the surrounding with his Immortal Will, Chen Fan had already pinpointed the cause of the disease. However, there are too many people around right now, so he decided to wait until dark to catch the culprit.

Sir Jiang Junior felt a mix of emotions and all of them made him want to cry.

He was supposed to save the day, but now he had become a laughing stock. Not only he had lost his father's trust, but he had also lost any chance of becoming one of Master Chen's disciples.

Even as Chen Fan turned around and was ready to leave the plantation, Master Huang called out to him.

"Young man, are you convinced now?"

Chen Fan turned his head around and saw Master Huang's contemptuous smile. The people around Master Huang also regarded Chen Fan with cold sneers.

"I have already said it. You are wrong."

To everyone's surprise, Chen Fan insisted on his opinion.

"You are right about the cure but wrong about the cause of the ailment. Regardless of how big of an array you set up, without rooting out the real culprit, the disease will come back in no time. "

"Shut your trap! Security! Where is security? Kick him out of here!" Sir Jiang shouted vehemently.

A few security guards came into the courtyard. They rolled up their sleeves and were ready to escort the boy out.

"Dad!"

Sir Jiang Junior pleaded to his father. However, his father's rock-hard face suggested that he was not going to change his mind.

In the eyes of other people, Chen Fan had finally got what he deserved.

"Master Chen?"

Fearing the confrontation, Master Wu looked to Chen Fan worried.

If they fought back, they would definitely be sent to jail.

A'Xiu was unfazed by the development. Already, she started to channel out his internal energy and was ready to fight.

“Hehe”

To everyone’s surprise, Chen Fan cracked a smile and then shook his head.

“When Jiang Haochen asked me for help, I thought to myself that I might be a nice guy for once and help you out.

“However, not only you disregard my expert opinion, but also want to outright kick me out. Tell you what, I don’t even want to help to from the outset.

“Before I leave, I will show you who you are messing with!”

Suddenly, Chen Fan stomped the ground and shouted.

“Bloom!”

In a blink, the temperature rose, and the air became moist. It was as if the god of spring had just arrived at the mortal world.

All the peonies around Chen Fan bloomed simultaneously like there was no tomorrow. The flowers painted the courtyard with vibrant colors and infused the air with intoxicating fragrance.

“This. This is... unbelievable!” Everyone was stupefied by the sight. Master Huang pointed at Wang Tong with a trembling finger but was unable to form a word in his mouth.

Among the flowers, he saw that Chen Fan linked his hands behind his back and looked at him with a cold sneer.

Chapter 79: The Fire Rock

“Will Power Array! This is a Will Power Array!” Master Huang murmured to himself.

“Master Huang, what is Will Power Array?”

Someone managed to ask the question despite the shock.

“The Will Power Array is a legendary technique in our field. It was the highest form of the Finger Technique in the Southern Sect.” Master Huang shook his head and said, “It was said that only a grandmaster could have cast a Feng Shui Array using his will alone without anyone noticing it.”

“Compared to my technique, the Will Power Array didn’t need any complicated hand signs, and the Array could be formed almost instantly. Master Chen was able to command the flowers to bloom on a whim; it was the power of the Immortals!”

Master Huang’s explanation shed some light on the power of Chen Fan, and everyone was very impressed.

The power of Feng Shui Array that cured one single flower didn’t deviate people’s common sense too much.

However, the ability to command a field of flowers to bloom was outright unthinkable. It was as if Chen Fan was the king of flowers if such a thing existed.

“Miracle! This is a miracle!” People murmured to themselves.

“I wonder if Sect Brother Zhou could do the same thing?” Master Huang thought to himself.

Zhou Daoji was the most famous Feng Shui Master of the Southern Sect, and he was also the most powerful.

Huang Wenze knew that Zhou Daoji had only achieved Seven Word Array, he still had a long way to go from Will Power Array/

“Hold on! Where is Master Chen?” Suddenly, Mu Shouqiong shouted.

The question jerked everyone’s attention out of the beautiful scenery. When they looked around for the young boy, they realized that the boy and his companions had disappeared.

“Huh? Where are they? They were just right here!” The security scratched his head and said confusedly.

“How could you let them slip away?” Professor Mu shouted hotly.

“Do you know what this means?”

He nipped a white and blooming flower off its stem and explained, “This one is called Snow White Peony. It only blooms in April, but we are in the middle of December!

“And this one, Green Dragon. It normally blooms in May.

“This one is called Snow Peach; it blooms in January.

“These flowers were supposed to bloom at different times of the year. But look at them now! Do you know what that means?”

Everyone was taken aback by Professor Mu’s outburst of anger. They looked at each other and were not sure what the old man was trying to get at.

Professor Mu was a member of the national research council. He was more influential in the city than even Jiang Jialiang.

“Grandpa!” Mu Qinqin hurried to steady the trembling old man.

Professor Mu took a deep breath and said, “If he could revive the peony, should he do the same thing to other plants, including those that had gone extinct?”

“This is going to be a revolutionary change to the field of agriculture. With only very minimal effort, he could have won the Nobel Prize with ease. ”

Everyone was shocked by his words.

Other than a few Botanist, most people at the plantation knew nothing about science and biology. However, they had heard of the Nobel Prize Before and knew the weight it carried in the field of science.

Every Nobel Prize winner was the prize of a nation.

Jiang Jialiang gathered himself and shouted out a command.

“Find him, NOW!”

“But...”

The security grads were frozen in place as they wondered where to start their search.

If Chen Fan were really as powerful as an immortal, how could they be able to find him? Plus, even if they were lucky enough to locate him, they still can’t force him to come back against his will.

They doubted if the guns would even work on someone as powerful as him.

“Does anyone know him? We can go to him instead.” An old man put in.

Everyone looked at the same direction.

In one corner of the courtyard, Sir Jiang Junior felt others' gazes on his face, and he was not sure what to do.

When everyone was marveling at the sight of the sea of flowers, Chen Fan, A'Xiu had Master Wu had sneaked out of the plantation without anyone taking notice.

"Master Chen, do you think it's a good idea to leave just like this?" Master Wu asked cautiously.

"Why? Do you still expect me to save their plants?" Chen Fan said with a half smile.

Master Wu felt sweat hang on his forehead. He knew he was walking a dangerous line by questioning Master Chen's decision. He managed a smile and then said, "No, no. They are ignorant, and they deserve it!"

Chen Fan linked his hands behind his back and sauntered on.

Every step he took would cover well over seven meters. It meant that while he was walking leisurely, the other two had to run in order to catch up with him.

Chen Fan said, "I have never said that I will not help. Technically, I have already helped them out. The rest is all up to them."

"Really?" Both Master Wu and A'Xiu were taken aback by Chen Fan's remark.

When did Master Chen save the plants?

They watched as Chen Fan produced a black rock in his palm.

This rock looked ordinary on the surface; however, upon closer look, there was a golden flame at the center of it.

"What is this?" A'xiu asked.

"This is the culprit that caused the disease. " Chen Fan said and squeezed the rock slightly.

"It looks like there is a flame inside of it. Could something this small effect such a large swath of land?"

The plantation at Dong Du City was government funded and taken up at least a few hundred thousand acres.

That was the size of a few dozen football fields. To think that a small rock could have affected such a large area was beyond Master Wu's apprehension.

“Don’t be deceived by its size. It contained the essence of fire.”

Chen Fan had noticed something was amiss while he was probing the area with his immortal will.

There was no spring underneath the earth, so why was the temperature so high? He channeled his Immortal Will to follow the heat signals, and finally, he found the source. The black rock.

Realization finally dawned upon Chen Fan: the plantation was built on top of a Fire Essence Aether Rock. After being under the effect of the rock, the peony finally started to wilt.

The Fire Essence Aether Rock was not hot to the touch; however, it’s energy was mainly in the form of Yang Qi. The plants were constantly being blasted by Yang Qi from the rock, and eventually, overexposure had taken a toll on their vitality.

The black rock was too big to remove when so many people were around, and therefore he had decided to come back in the evening.

However, after he was insulted, he outright removed the centerpiece of the black rock in a fit of anger.

Although the rest of the rock could still retain some Yang Qi residual, the rock without a core should no longer be a threat to the plants.

“Master Chen, why is not hot?” A’xiu asked curiously.

“Hehe.” Chen Fan shook his head. “That is because I have coated a layer of Dharmic energy on its surface. Otherwise, both of you have already been reduced to ashes.”

Although this rock was the most ordinary Aether Rock, its power was already too great for the mortal.

“Nonetheless, I am very surprised to find such a large Fire Rock.”

Chen Fan marveled.

Just like Yin Crystals, the Fire Rock only grew at areas where the fire element was the most abundant, such as the volcano or near the earth’s core. It was evident that someone had buried this rock many years before the plantation was built.

The effect of the Fire element was cyclic, much like a volcano. It just so happened that this year was the most active period for the fire element in the rock.

“With this fire rock core, I should be able to do things that I previously couldn’t.”

So thinking, Chen Fan decided to leave for the yin dragon pond right away.

After having learned more about Chen Fan from Sir Jiang Junior, Professor Mu and the others were in a hurry to brave the mountain and pay Chen Fan a visit at the Ying Dragon Pond right away.

Sir Jiang was the only person who kept calm, and he said: “Master Chen had already left, I don’t think we could bring him back any time soon.

“Our priority right now was to make sure the operation of the plantation. Although we don’t have Chen Fan, we still have Master Huang.

“Even Master Chen had said Master Huang’s cure was correct. He was only wrong about the causes.”

With everyone’s encouragement, Master Huang started working on the Feng Shui Array. He was able to gather enough Feng Shui Master and complete the Array in two weeks. Once the array was completed, he joined Professor Mu and started to plan their trip to the Yin Dragon Pond.

They took a helicopter and flew toward the Qi Mountain.

However, when they were close to the valley where the pond was at, a thick mist came up out of nowhere and blocked their path.

“Professor Mu, should we enter the mist?” The pilot asked.

Before Professor Mu could reply, Master Huang shook his head.

“No, no, no. This is not an ordinary mist. It’s too dangerous.”

He then looked out of the helicopter window at the vast sea of mist. Admiration and shock were written all over his face.

Although the rest of the passengers thought it was just a natural phenomenon, he knew that this was actually a Dharma Array, a massive one while at it. It could be used to conceal targets and confuse or even attack intruders.

“I have always thought the Mountain Defensive Array was only a legend. But here it is, right in front of my eyes!”

Master Huang’s voice was filled with deep respect.

The endless mist sprawled out on top of the mountain range and denied intruders’ entrance. The only way to get rid of these mist was to bombard the mountain with heat missile.

“Incredible! This is INCREDIBLE!”

Master Huang exclaimed.

By then he was completely enthralled by the power of the young boy. He wondered if Chen Fan's appearance was only a disguise, and under that young face was an ancient demon who had cultivated Qi for centuries.

Professor Mu finally decided to give up the search. However, the sight of the misty mountain would haunt him for the rest of his life.

Chapter 80: Li Fire Golden Eyes.

As soon as Chen Fan left the plantation, he went straight back to the Yin Dragon Pond.

It would take a normal person about two to three days to get to the pond from the foothill; however, it took the three of them less than four hours to complete the journey. As soon as Chen Fan was back, he cast a huge Mist Array and concealed the pond from the people following him.

He copied the Mountain Defensive Array that he used at the Yun Wu Mountain to the Yin Dragon Pond.

Fortunately, he had abundant Yin Crystals at the pond and with the Jade stones that he had acquired from members of the Yin Ghost Sect, he had enough material to construct seven consecutive arrays over seven peaks of the mountain. The seven arrays then formed a larger array that centered around the Yin Dragon Pond.

On the day that the Array was finally completed, not only were Master Wu and A'Xiu astonished by the feat, but also the members of the Yin Ghost Sect.

Seven mountain peaks surrounding the Yin Dragon Pond were all shrouded by a vast sea of impenetrable mist. The mist was made out of condensed Yin Qi, and it would make an ordinary person feel cold when he or she first walked into the mist. Soon the intruder would feel the life draining away from him until eventually, exhaustion claimed him. Inside the mist, none of the modern technology such as the cell phones would work since the powerful mist would be able to distort the earth's magnetic field.

Looking from a bird's eye view, the Qi Mountain seemed to be wrapped by a white scarf.

“I will give you each a jade talisman, and it should be able to protect you from the mist. But be careful, once you lose the Jade talisman, no one will be able to save you.” Chen Fan scanned members of the Yin Ghost Sect and said seriously.

“Yes, Master Chen. ” Mu Hongshen and Yan Zhengze replied.

Once the array was completed, Chen Fan started to focus on his cultivation.

The moment he had obtained the black rock, he had made up his mind to complete the fourth level of the Void Mortal Refinement Art: Golden Eyes.

The Void Mortal Refinement Art was divided into five levels:

Ice Skin, Jade Bone, Silver Blood, Golden Eyes and Dao Body

The first three levels worked on one’s physical body, and the last level would completely transcend one’s mortal coil to the Connate Spirit.

However, the fourth level: Golden Eyes were completely different than the rest.

This was one form of Immortal Enlightenment.

For any kind of Dharma Spells, the cultivator would need to a small period of time to mentally prepare to muster up enough will to kick start the spell. Things happened with lightning speed on a battlefield and therefore time was in short supply.

This was why most cultivators valued Dharma Treasures so much. With a Dharma Treasure, one could cast a spell with just one simple thought.

Without the need to mentally prepare oneself to cast the spell, the cultivator would use the spells more effectively.

However, the Immortal Enlightenment would make the spells even more effective than using an artifact.

Immortal Enlightenment would make casting a spell an innate ability of the cultivator. Casting the spell would be as easy and intuitive as moving one’s arm. The state of Immortal Enlightenment would grow more powerful with the overall power of the cultivator. The improvement came in a much more natural and organic fashion than that of using the artifact.

Therefore, the state of Immortal Enlightenment was the reason the Ethereal Enlightenment level was so unique in its own way.

The Qi Refinement Level was the first level in the realm of Immortal Cultivation. The Qi Refinement Level could be further separated into three sub-levels: Foundation Establishment, Ethereal Enlightenment, and Divine Sea. Once a cultivator had completed all three sub-levels, he would have achieved the Connate Spirit level. The levels after the Connate Spirit that was Nascent Soul, Soul Formation, Void Refinement, Dao Reunion and finally the Tribulation Transcendence.

The Ethereal Enlightenment level and the Divine Sea Levels were usually combined together and were called Immortal Ethereal Enlightenment.

The Ethereal Enlightenment was a powerful tool for the new cultivators. It would allow a cultivator at Foundation Establishment level to defend himself against cultivators who had reached Ethereal Enlightenment level.

That being said, only a handful of people from the most powerful sects, who had access to secret arts, could have achieved the Immortal Enlightenment during Foundation Establishment level.

“The Golden Eyes from The Sect of the Grand Dao was a very effective Immortal Enlightenment. Based on the numinous treasures used during cultivation, I can achieve various Pupil Arts.” Chen Fan said as he rubbed his chin.

The effect of Pupil Arts varied greatly, and if Chen Fan used the Fire Rock, he should be able to pull off the art called Li Fire Golden Eyes.

Of all the Immortal Enlightenment arts, the Li Fire Golden Eyes was one of the best. Once Chen Fan started to absorb more heavenly fire, he would be able to send rays of deadly fire into the void space.

He remembered that there was a cultivator from the Sect of the Grand Dao who had mastered the Li Fire Golden Eyes. He was a Perfected Immortal who had attained Dao Reunion; unfortunately, his cultivation took a dark turn as he burned himself alive while practicing the Pupil Art. Although his body had perished into oblivion, his eyes had remained floating in the space like two suns.

“I had thought that it would take me at least another half year to achieve the Golden Eyes, but with the Fire Rock and the eyeballs of the Yin Snake, I might have a chance after all.”

Chen Fan finally made up his mind to make the break through.

First, he laid down another protective array at the entrance of the valley. Only A’Xiu and Master Wu were given Jade Talismans that granted them access to the inner valley.

Chen Fan dove to the bottom of the pond and sat cross-legged as he started to initiate the cultivation.

To cultivate extremely powerful Fire Immortal Enlightenment art, Chen Fan needed an extreme environment. At the bottom of the lake, the Yin Qi and the immense water pressure forced the fire element to fight back and during that process, granting Chen Fan even greater power.

As time passed by, Chen Fan had been sitting under the lake for over two months.

Over the two month time, Chen Fan didn't move an inch. He had used a special water art to absorb oxygen from the water and used the Essence Gathering Pill whenever he felt hungry.

As time went by, his eyes started to gleam. By the end of the two months, his pupils were shiny like polished gold.

"Master Chen stayed down there for two months already. It is longer than the last time he went into seclusion."

A'Xiu murmured to herself.

Master Wu sat beside A'Xiu. Although he had mostly kept things to himself, he had noticed the girl's infatuation.

Ever since Master Chen entered the pond to cultivate, she hadn't left the pond for more than a minute. She was either practicing the fist forms or simply staring at the placid water.

"What a silly girl. Master Chen is never going to take an interest in mortals like us." Master Wu lamented in his mind.

In the two month time, A'Xiu had not only got closer to the phenomenal success, but she had also completed the Skyfall Hammer technique. By then she was already working on the second form, Humble Cloud Hand. On the other hand, Master Wu's progress was not any less insignificant. He was very close to the Transcendent State.

However, as Chen Fan continued remaining at the bottom of the lake, A'Xiu and Master Wu started to become concerned.

Although Master Chen was a powerful immortal, he had no air, much less food. Was he ok?

"Why don't we get down there and take a look?"

A'Xiu finally broke the silence.

Master Wu's mind raced, but finally, he heaved a sigh and said, "Very well, I will do it. I have cultivated using the Yin qi for decades and therefore have more or less attained some resistance to it. It will be too dangerous for you."

Even as he was going to order the diving equipment, Master Wu heard A'Xiu shout out to him.

"Master Wu, look!"

Master Wu turned around and saw two golden lights glowed under the dark water.

“This is...”Master Wu was shocked.

The two golden lights were eerily similar to the eyes of the Yin Snake. He had seen it with his own eyes: two lanterns sized golden glows under the water moments before the Yin Snake emerged.

He fixed his eyes at the pond and watched as the two golden glows inched toward the surface. Suddenly, the water boiled over as steam rose from broken bubbles.

“What is going on?”

A’Xiu and Master Wu were both dumbfounded by the strange sight.

Could there be a flame under the water? What kind of flame could have existed under the frigid cold water where Yin Qi was so potent.

Suddenly, the water moved to both sides, and a person emerged in between the two walls of waves.

“Master Chen?”

A’Xiu exclaimed.

The first thing that Master Wu noticed was Chen Fan’s pupils.

“AHRR!”

Master Wu shouted as he stumbled back and covered his eyes in fear.

He had looked too closely at Chen Fan’s eyes, and when he noticed the dancing fire inside of the pupils, it was already too late. The intense light burned Master Wu’s retina, forcing him to look away.

“Master Chen, what happened to you?”

A’Xiu scarcely dared to look at Chen Fan. She lowered her head and gasped.

Chen Fan didn’t reply Master Wu; instead, he threw his head back and looked toward the misty sky. Suddenly two rays of golden lights beamed out from his eyes, and they burned through the mist, leaving two giant holes.

“The power of Immortal Enlightenment is mine!

“I have finally achieved the Li Fire Golden Eyes!”

Chen Fan exclaimed loudly, and then he closed his eyes.

When he opened his eyes again, the dancing flame was no more.

“Congratulations, Master Chen!”

Master Wu hurried to congratulate Master Chen despite the pain in his eyes and dizziness in his head.

A’Xiu also looked at Chen Fan with joy a ridden face.

Chen Fan linked his hand behind his back and said distantly, “I have finally finished the Immortal Enlightenment and I shouldn’t waste any more time here.

“I have been away for too long. It’s time to go home.”

A’Xiu’s smile froze on his cheek. She murmured: “Master Chen, are you going to leave for Chu Zhou City?

“Can you bring me with you?”

Chen Fan stepped out of the pond and walked straight toward the valley entrance.

“Why should I bring you with me?

“I am your teacher, not your nanny.

“You should follow Wu Shanhe from now on. Come find me once you have mastered the fist-forms.”

Before Chen Fan’s words faded, he had already disappeared in the mist, giving A’Xiu no time to process what had happened.

Master Wu came over to her and patted her shoulder. “Master Chen is an immortal. We should count ourselves lucky to follow him for such a long time.”

Master Wu paused and then said: “If you wish to catch up with Master Chen, you just have to work hard.”

“Yes.”

A’Xiu nodded firmly as resolution flickered in her eyes.

