

legend-of-the-mythological-genes

1. Chapter

Author Note:

To clarify the different cultivation levels:

Level-0: apprentice

Level-1: basic cultivator

Level-2: elite cultivator

Level 3: grand cultivator

Level 4: adept

Level 5: elite adept

Level 6: grand adept

For level 1 to 3, they are considered at the cultivator tier.

For level 4 to 6, they are considered at the adept tier.

There will still be the legendary tier, demi-god tier and even higher tiers which would be slowly revealed in the future.

2. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Every single legend is a path to reach Godhood! Your genes exist together with you!”

“The myriad of lifeforms exist solely because of their genes. Genetics is the origin of life for all living things. They look like a macromolecule formed of four different kinds of deoxynucleotides, but they consist of all the information necessary for life. When speaking from a larger perspective, it dictates the form and function of the five organs and four limbs. When speaking from a smaller perspective, it controls every single strand of hair and the multitude of tiny pores on our body. On the planet of humans—mother earth—it is very tough to imagine that in some ancient primordial eras long ago, ancient civilizations dazzled brilliantly and thrived far beyond the modern era. Among the ancients, there were some humans who possessed transcendent might and were named by the vast majority of humanity as gods. As for the genes of gods, modern humans have also inherited them. If one wanted to become an interstellar cultivator, the first thing one must do is to awaken his or her own set of mythological genes and obtain transcendent strength...”

In a classroom full of futuristic technological sensations, a group of uniformed students was currently attending a theory class on mythological genes.

A holographic projection floated in front of everyone, and the content of the lesson flowed into their minds like a waterfall of information.

Although theory classes were dry and boring, everyone was focused as they listened intently.

Information about mythological genes would affect whether they would be able to become cultivators or not. Nobody dared to be lazy or careless.

The gaze of the female teacher on the rostrum was strict. She gazed at the surroundings and nodded her head when she saw how serious her students were.

“Eh?” A conspicuous figure caught her attention.

This person was different from the other students who were seriously listening. He was slumping over his desk and was in a deep sleep, ignoring all external things.

In his dream, it was unknown what terrifying things he encountered. His brows were furrowed and sweat dotted his forehead. Strange mumblings could be heard occasionally from him as well.

“Astronomic Calendar, Year 9991. This...what era is this?”

“Why did the set of memories belonging to someone else appear in my mind...?”

“Can it be that I somehow crossed-over to some other dimension?!”

...

The volume of his voice was very small, his words indistinct. Nobody knew what he was talking about.

“So it is him! The last-ranking student of the 17th class, Feng Lin!” The brows of the female teacher had initially been furrowed in displeasure, and she had already been prepared to rage. But when she recognized the student, all her anger dissipated. She only shook her head and no longer paid any attention to him.

Mourn for the unfortunate, anger for the cowardice!

To awaken one's mythological genes, talent was undoubtedly required.

Although people in the Interstellar Era could all awaken their genes, there was still a large disparity between the set of genes they awakened.

There were some genes that were completely useless and might even have adverse effects after being awakened. For example, a human growing a monkey tail, black fur, a sixth finger digit...all sorts of weird effects were present. These genes would only bring harm to oneself if they were awakened.

And as for some other genes, humanity would begin to transcend themselves once the genes were awakened, they would be able to control the wind, rain, thunder, magnetic force, and gravity... They would become extraordinary creatures capable of controlling mysterious energy sources. For these genes that would benefit humanity, these were known as the legendary mythological genes.

Undoubtedly, genes were the greatest talent humanity had.

This Feng Lin, the genes he had awakened were the lowest-tiered and most basic set of genes namely the Monkey Gene. Recently, it was rumored that he somehow awakened another set of genes just before the college entrance exam. The second set of genes he awakened was also one of the lowest-tiered and most basic kind, known as the Stonebirth Gene.

According to current research, there wasn't any information that the Monkey Gene and the

Stonebirth Gene would be able to evolve into a higher-tiered gene set. In other words, these two sets of genes were basically trash.

Right now, Feng Lin's vitality stats was only at 0.4, not even reaching 1 yet. He was already in his senior year and about to graduate high school, yet he didn't even have the qualifications to take the college entrance exam.

Feng Lin's potential was merely so!

From the current looks of things, he didn't seem to have a future.

In just an instant, the female teacher already judged Feng Lin as trash in her heart.

In the Interstellar Era, it was the greatest misfortune for humans not to have gene talent.

This Feng Lin was completely inept, even wanting to laze around and sleep during class, not bothering to work hard at all. But naturally, it would be useless even if he worked hard.

Talent wasn't something that one could gain just by working hard. Right now, it seemed that Feng Lin had already thoroughly given up on himself, becoming complete trash.

The female teacher shifted her eyes away, no longer sparing a glance at Feng Lin.

This lesson ended quickly, and the students all left one by one. No one bothered to look at Feng Lin; no one bothered to even wake him up.

Very swiftly, the classroom was emptied of people.

It was unknown how long later before that sleeping young man lifted his heavy head. He glanced at the strange and unfamiliar classroom as a perplex look could be seen in his eyes.

Who am I? Where did I come from? Where the hell is this place...?

This classroom filled with holographic projections and future tech; there were even flying cars zooming past the classroom's windows. Was this a dream? But it seemed like reality.

Or was this a sci-fi movie?

Without time to ponder, countless fragments of memories flooded his mind.

An intense pain wrecked his brain.

Feng Lin's expression contorted; he only managed to draw in a breath after a long time. But now, his expression became exceedingly fascinating to behold.

So it turned out that right now, it was already the year of 9991, A.C. (Astronomic Calendar). After he graduated from university, he got himself drunk and only god knows why, he suddenly woke up in this Interstellar Era.

Was this a parallel universe? Or his world in the future?

He was completely oblivious.

But the truth might not be considered important to Feng Lin. He had already crossed-over to another world, and it was highly probable that he wouldn't be able to return. It was meaningless to harp over these little details.

According to Interstellar History, in the Gregorian Calendar year of 2160 A.D., humans finally exited the confines of earth and began to colonize the solar system.

To commemorate this great occasion, mankind changed calendars. They abandoned the Gregorian Calendar of the Ancient Earth Era and pushed the calendar with quantum computers to be more in line with cosmic time.

That, was the first year of the Astronomic Calendar (A.C.).

It had been 9,991 years now.

This meant that, counting from the year 2018 A.D., from the time period he crossed-over, it had already been slightly over ten thousand years.

Was this a dream?

For a period of time, Feng Lin suddenly went into a trance.

Stepping into the Interstellar Era, the development of human's technology was unimaginably quick and explosive.

By 3628 A.C., humans had completely conquered the solar system. All the planets within the solar systems had human bases on them.

The fiery and dried up Mars had been modified into a lush green planet, capable for lives to exist. A space station floated above the enormous Jupiter. The asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter was filled with ore-mining spaceships, and Pluto that was at the edge of the solar system became

a planet that humans visited for holidays... The footprints of humanity spread to every corner of the solar system, but humanity was trapped as well.

Human's technology was developed to its peak and also encountered a hard-to-break bottleneck.

Outside the solar system was the dark void of the universe. Several tens of light-years were obstacles that humanity couldn't cross.

Only more than 3,000 years later, countless generations of scientists had kept on working on research, and humanity's science and technology encountered a giant breakthrough, granting them the wormhole technology which resulted in humanity finally making it out of the solar system.

In the boundless outer space, treasures were everywhere. There were countless celestial bodies and energy sources.

However, even before the beautiful dream of humanity started, the dream was completely destroyed as the true nightmare started to descend.

Humans discovered that the solar system wasn't just their prison; it was also their protective umbrella.

The horrendous monsters of the other planets, the millions of species of alien lifeforms, and the cosmic disasters that destroyed heaven and earth... They had all emerged.

Humanity was instantly devastated.

However, amidst the chaotic battles, humanity was evolving as well. And at this moment, humans discovered to their joy and sorrow that when compared to the boundlessly vast expanse of the universe, human beings themselves, were the greatest treasures.

Back in the Ancient Earth Era, those ancient legends about gods were refuted and debunked as superstition. But at the Interstellar Era, humanity discovered to their amazement that these myths and legends of gods were actually real.

They were all real!

These characters in the legend were all powerful existences in ancient civilizations. According to scientific calculations and computer simulations, these people in the past were revered as gods because of their extraordinary powers.

With the demise of civilizations, the mythical figures in these legends had vanished completely, nowhere to be traced. However, their genes still remained inside the genetic pool of human

beings.

Humans could awaken their genes through cultivations and gain incredible powers. Hence, these particular set of genes were known as mythological genes.

The human body was like a miniature universe. Every single gene was like the stars in the sky, countless in number.

Ancient cultivation techniques resparked the hidden potential of humans.

Every single legend was a path to reaching Godhood.

“Path to Godhood?” Feng Lin mumbled, chewing on the words. He could clearly sense the mysterious meaning contained within.

This body he was in now, was also named Feng Lin. He was a high school senior of class #17 and a very ordinary student. Even his appearance was somewhat similar to him of the past.

After more than 10,000 years of development, after humanity had experienced three world wars, two planetary wars, five interstellar wars, and many civilization disasters, nobody paid any attention to the myths and legends of the Ancient Earth Era. Only a minority of the myths and legends still remained, and there were only a word or two, or a few isolated phrases discussing them. The information wasn't complete and were all mixed up in a dreadful mess.

The humans of the Ancient Earth Era left a huge blank space for the humans of the Interstellar Era to excavate and research; nowadays, they were exploring the vestiges and traces of the ancient myths and legends.

Although humans knew of the existences of these myths and legends, these inheritances were all long severed; they had no way to crack the code of their genes.

The path to Godhood was forgotten. Humans suffered under their own karma and had to seek out traces of the ancient path that was riddled with difficulty once more.

However, Feng Lin discovered to his amazement that his knowledge became his greatest advantage.

Originally, as a modern man of the 21st century being transported to this technologically-advanced world, his knowledge and thought process were both far behind the people of this era.

He initially was still worried that he had no way to establish himself in this world, but things were different now!

This Interstellar Era actually began to formulate theories about unlocking mythological genes but sadly, because of the long river of time, the ancient myths and legends were all already almost forgotten.

Just so nicely, because he came from the past, Feng Lin was extremely knowledgeable about the myths and legends of the Ancient Earth Era.

Every legend was a path to Godhood.

If this was truly the case, didn't it mean that he had in his grasps, countless paths to Godhood?

Battle God of Huaxia, Truelord Erlang, the Great Sage Equal to Heavens, Sun Wukong, Demon Subduing Zhenwu Emperor of the North...

Saint of the West, Jesus. The evil devil, Satan. Ancestor of all Vampires, Cain...

Greek's King of Gods, Zeus. The God of the Sun, Apollo. The Mother Earth, Gaia...

Northern Europe's Odin. Egypt's God of Death, Anubis. India's Lord of Destruction, Shiva...

All these myths and legends of gods were all almost completely forgotten now.

Feng Lin drew in a deep breath. To him, undoubtedly, this was definitely the best era!

3. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Every single legend was a path to Godhood!

The myths and legends that had already almost completely disappeared in the Interstellar Era were actually extremely familiar to Feng Lin who came from the past.

Right now, his vitality was only at 0.4; he was far from meeting the average standard of vitality of the human beings in this era.

But then, human beings of the Ancient Earth Era only had vitality stats of 0.1. Compared to his original Earth Era's body, his constitution was now four times stronger.

When vitality increased, one's memory would be strengthened. The strength and speed attributes, along with other physical aspects, would be strengthened as well.

He might have already forgotten some of the stories about the myths and legends he had read before when he had been back on earth, but they were definitely in some corners of his mind. Now, as long as he concentrated and tried to recall them, information about them would appear in his mind. The countless myths and legends in the Ancient Earth Era were all records of the secrets pertaining to ancient civilizations of Earth.

Feng Lin could feel himself in control of countless paths leading to Godhood.

Countless thoughts appeared in his mind. He exited the school gate and sat on the magnetic levitation train as he returned home.

Many thousand-story buildings resembled heavenly pillars leading up to the heavens. Flying cars with blazing trails of light and flames behind them soared through the air like comets. Intelligent robots were busy with their activities in every corner of the city...

This was an unprecedented grand era.

Conquering the starry skies, enjoying boundless resources, everyone could become dragons among humans!

...

Even when Feng Lin had already gained the memory of this era's Feng Lin, he still felt extremely stunned when he personally saw all of this.

The traveling speed of the mag-lev train was exceedingly fast, exceeding 3,000km/hour.

He arrived home after ten minutes!

Feng Clan Grand Building!

A gigantic silver building constructed from metal could be seen before his eyes. It was several hundreds of meters tall, akin to a small mountain and appeared extremely majestic.

Feng Lin furrowed his brows; a wave of uncomfortable memories involuntarily appeared in his mind.

He got down from the train and walked inside. As he entered the building, a beam of red light fell down, shining upon him, scanning him inside out. "Microchip scan is complete. Identity verified! A 9th-tier clansman, Feng Lin..." Another door opened up after that, and Feng Lin stepped through it, arriving at a spacious living lounge.

Numerous escalators could be seen connecting this level to different higher levels. The decorations here were gorgeous and elegant; there were swimming pools, cultivation rooms, massage rooms...there was everything here, allowing one to indulge themselves in supreme enjoyment should they wish to. There were several beautiful women in maid costumes walking around. This was simply like an imperial palace that had existed in feudal times.

Feng Lin merely glanced at them once before retracting his gaze. He turned and walked towards a remote corner. Over here, an ancient-looking elevator could be seen, leading down to the basement.

There were numerous high-spirited youths walking past him in the surroundings, all of them moving towards the higher levels of the building. From the beginning until now, no one spoke a single word to Feng Lin. They couldn't even be bothered to cast a glance at him.

However, these people were all his clansmen.

The Interstellar Age was an unprecedented grand era.

The starry skies were without limit; the universe was infinite.

There was boundless freedom here, as well as endless terror. The universe was so dark and cold, capable of devouring everything in our world. Terrifying interstellar monsters, savage alien lifeforms—every one of these could swallow humanity whole!

The infinitely vast universe followed the darkest law of the jungle. Natural selection was prevalent and the survival of the strong was the truest rule.

Not only was there competition between the different races, but everyone in the Interstellar Era was also competing against each other. The population of humanity had already reached several trillion and was at a staggering amount. The competition was just way too intense.

Only the truly strong could pursue freedom.

The weaklings had to huddle together for warmth and could only barely eke out a living by sticking together.

Clan—this ancient social structure had been brought back and made popular in the Interstellar Era. Majority of people had to group together for the sake of survival.

And as a result of over ten thousand years of development, the resources of Earth in the solar system had almost been completely exhausted. The space outside Earth had now transformed into a region known as the Chaotic Star Region. It might as well only exist in name. Science and technology were considered more inferior compared to other planets, and chaos reigned supreme. A small clan was akin to a small-scale society which also resembled the internal structure of an ant nest. All the clansmen had different talents, different capabilities, and different cultivations. They were suited for different jobs. Some people were like the industrious and silent worker ants; some would be responsible for protecting the clan's interest just like soldier ants. There were also some who had higher status, possessing great authority and power. These existences were equivalent to the king and queen ants...

The Feng Clan on Earth was precisely a small clan like that. The clansmen of the Feng Clan all resided in the silver metallic building named 'Feng Clan Grand Building', and the clansmen could be classified into nine different tiers.

The 9th-tier clansmen were considered the lowest grade, while the 1st-tier clansmen were the highest.

Those with outstanding talent were considered superior, and they lived on the upper floors, enjoying the preferential emperor-like treatment. They didn't need to work hard and could enjoy free cultivation resources from the clan. They were like the proud children of the heavens.

As for those with mediocre talent, their situation would be miserable as they resided in the harshest environment. After graduating from high school, it was very tough for them to have an opportunity to enter college. They usually would be sent to help the clan, following the distribution of work orders. Any product formed from the daily labor would all be given to the clan for free. They would only receive a pitiful amount of income every month that was barely enough to feed

their family.

However, the key was that no one wanted to leave. The situation outside was even harsher compared to living in the clan. If they left their clan, not only would they find it hard to provide for themselves, but they wouldn't even be able to guarantee their own safety.

Although the life of remaining inside the clan was tough, the clansmen would receive the clan's protection and they wouldn't need to worry about the safety of their lives.

The purpose of the clan doing this was because they wanted to gather the clan's resources, and hopefully, nurtured a true genius that could achieve interstellar travel. By then, they could become someone of the upper echelon among humans, making a profit for the clan and elevating the clan's status.

The Feng Clan was not the only one that was doing this, but this was also a true portrayal of countless small clans on earth and other planets.

Feng Lin was already a senior in his third year in high school. His physique was thin and weak; his vitality was only 0.4, not even reaching 1.0. As one of the lowest of the low among 9th-tier clansmen, he naturally wouldn't even have a chance to enjoy cultivation resources.

So, the place where he stayed in was the basement...

Naturally, although it was a basement, it was an extremely vast underground space. There were all kinds of equipment here, including small-scale shopping malls, convenience stores, restaurants...everything. There were also many extensive tunnels that led to various places. Those living in the basement could be considered a small community, and several thousands of people could stay here.

Interstellar technology was very well developed, and the population had exploded in numbers. Right now, on the tiny planet Earth, there were already over 26.8 billions of people.

The buildings constructed above ground were built higher and higher, while they also extended deeper into the ground. For these basements, although there were artificial suns installed, how could the warmth and light, which the artificial suns provided, be comparable to natural sunlight?

These underground communities were places where inferior people lived in. Those lofty high-tier clansmen would never come here.

Feng Lin walked towards an escalator that brought him through a tunnel, leading to his home. Occasionally, there would be other people passing by him silently. The atmosphere here was a little depressing, and the expressions of everyone was numb.

These people were all the lowest-tier clansmen of the Feng Clan.

Once, Feng Lin was also a part of them. A deep discomfort always surfaced in his mind when he thought about it.

These people worked very hard, but the proceeds of their labor were all handed over to the clan, while they could only receive a meager salary. As time passed, all of these clansmen would definitely feel extremely depressed in their hearts.

This was simply exploitation, stark naked exploitation.

Feng Lin found it hard to imagine that humanity had already developed so far and reached the Interstellar Era, but such cruel scenes still occurred everywhere.

And indeed, as long as there were differences in terms of social classes, there would definitely be exploitation.

Heaven had never been far away from Hell.

Everyone was from the same clan, but there were nine different tiers separating their existences.

“I must definitely get out of this predicament!” Feng Lin silently mused.

He was a man who was unreconciled to mediocrity.

He had lived a life before this, and this could be considered his second life. If he still didn't live more fascinatingly—assuming that there were others—wouldn't he have lost the face of those who had crossed-over two worlds?

Swiping his identity microchip at the door of a shabby-looking room, the tattered metal gate automatically swung open, revealing a crowded room of about 60 square meters.

A middle-aged couple was busy with their tasks. Their faces were filled with wrinkles born from enduring the fatigue of many years.

“You are back.” Upon seeing Feng Lin returning, they inclined their heads and called out. After that, they lowered their heads again and got busy with their tasks once more.

Feng Lin didn't mind. These were his parents of this lifetime.

On the table, five bottles of dark and tasteless liquid could be seen. They were tonight's dinner.

This kind of low-level nutrient solution was manufactured in batches through industrial synthesis and could barely supply someone with a day's worth of nutrients. However, it was as tasteless as water since there was no flavor at all.

Naturally-occurring foods were incomparably expensive. They weren't something Feng Lin's family could afford.

"Big brother!" At this moment, two skinny and tiny figures rushed over. These two were fraternal twins, Feng Lin's younger brother Feng Cheng and younger sister Feng Xin. They were already seven years of age and had always liked sticking close to their elder brother.

After inheriting the memories of his original host, Feng Lin also inherited his emotions. Staring at his malnourished little siblings, sadness filled his heart.

In his past life, he was the only child. He didn't expect to have a pair of younger siblings when he crossed-over to this world.

"Let's eat!" his father, who had been silently working on his task, spoke quietly.

As a poor family, it was already troublesome enough to provide for Feng Lin. Now, with an additional pair of mouths to feed, it was no wonder that Feng Lin's parents would have a perpetual bitterness on their faces throughout the year.

The entire family was silent as they slowly sipped the bottles of the tasteless nutrient solution.

BANG!

All of a sudden, a projection manifested.

An elderly man with a cold face stood before everyone, staring down with disdain over Feng Lin's family.

He didn't cast an additional glance at Feng Lin's parents. His eyes were like a hunting eagle flying through the air, staring at his prey. He then spoke, "Feng Lin, as a 9th-tier clansman, you are about to graduate. However, your vitality stats is only at 0.4, and it's completely impossible for you to become a cultivator. After you graduated, the clan will arrange you to work in an energy factory inside the clan. In a month, you can go there and start learning the ropes. In any case, you wouldn't make it to college. The clan has provided for you for so many years, and according to the clan's laws, you should start to produce contributions as early as possible. 70% of your salary will be paid to the clan, and you can keep the remaining 30%..."

From the start to the end, the elderly man didn't seek Feng Lin or his parent's approval. He was

simply informing them, and they didn't have any chance for the slightest rebuttal.

After speaking, the projection vanished.

The atmosphere in the house grew even heavier and became somewhat stifling. Feng Chen and Feng Xin glanced at each other in dismay, but they didn't even dare to breathe too loudly.

Feng Lin's parents had an even more bitter look on their faces. They drew in a deep breath and sighed, choosing not to say anything.

They had long since been used to such a life; they had long learned not to resist.

Born in the clan, they would die here within the clan as well. It had been so for generations.

In the Interstellar Era, not having genetic talent was the greatest sin!

If one wanted to escape this destiny of mediocrity, one had to display outstanding talent before they could obtain the heavy recognition of the clan and upgrade themselves to a higher-tier, becoming an upper-class clansman.

Facing the tragic fate that would soon happen to their son, they were helpless to change anything. They could only speak to their two other young children, "You two must definitely work hard and awaken the powerful mythological genes. Only then would you be able to gain the clan's attention and become an interstellar cultivator, avoiding the fate that your elder brother would soon face!"

The fact that they failed to change their fates through the generations was like a heavy mountain pressing down on their family, causing them to be unable to breathe.

Feng Lin stood in his original spot with his fists tightly clenched. A flash of determination could be seen in his eyes.

Such a destiny... he didn't want it!

As the eldest son in his family, he had a little cabin-like room that resembled a miniature junkyard.

He sat cross-legged on his bed and did breathing exercises as he started to practice an entry-level genetic cultivation art.

This was an ungraded low-quality cultivation art. One was supposed to adjust their breathing to stimulate the initial potential of their genes.

Although his heart was filled with anger, Feng Lin gradually regained a calm state of the heart. His

breath grew slower and slower, eventually lapsing into almost nothing. Only the occasional puff of air from his nostrils indicated that he was still alive.

Gradually, he felt a warm current in the depths of his body. The warm current entered his meridians, his flesh and blood, each individual cell, and their nuclei, as well as his genes.

At this moment, his body suddenly trembled. There was an inexplicable throbbing from the depths of his genes. A mysterious wave of unknown cooling energy suddenly surged out, instantly expanding, gradually submerging him.

His eyes suddenly blurred. In the darkness of the void, a transparent human silhouette could be seen there. Countless pinpoints of light flickered unceasingly, like the countless stars in the skies, brimming with their own radiance.

The features of that shiny silhouette were actually identical to him.

At this moment, a surge of information mysteriously appeared in his mind.

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Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 0.4

Monkey Gene: 2

Stonebirth Gene: 1

Genetic Potential: 1468%

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4. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

"This is...?" Feng Lin narrowed his eyes as he looked at the strange thing before him. He was extremely shocked.

In the desolate and empty void, a transparent silhouette could be seen immersed in starlight. This transparent and shiny silhouette actually looked identical to him.

On the chest of the shiny silhouette, two conspicuous balls of golden light could be seen. They resembled the blazing sun and were extremely dazzling.

These two balls of golden light were surrounded by dots of dim silvery light. They looked as scattered and as numerous as stars in the sky.

These dots of light flickered between brightness and dimness, and looking at the silhouette in its entirety was like looking at a figure.

A figure that resembled the starry skies.

At the head of that figure, a row of numbers could be seen.

Vitality: 0.4

What was that ball of golden light...?

Feng Lin willed his intention there, and two rows of information appeared in his mind.

Monkey Gene: 2

Stonebirth Gene: 1

Could all these be genetic points? Were they some kind of energy that was transformed by one's physical data?

Many thoughts flashed through Feng Lin's mind. But when he crossed-reference it to his own situation, he was certain that he was right.

To awaken the potential of one's genes, the cultivation of genetic points was required. There were three aspects to it: Awakening, Strengthening, and Evolving.

Gene awakening was the stage in which genes changed from recessive state to a dominant state.

When the gene awakened, it controlled the life elements of the human body and produced new organs and abilities.

Originally, the human body couldn't control extraordinary abilities. But once someone awakened the Flame Gene, they would be able to control the power of fire. If they awakened the Ice Gene, they would be able to control the flow of water and condense it into ice...

However, the process wasn't just a single step but rather, a course of events that slowly progressed on and transformed. This was what gene awakening meant.

After a gene was completely awakened, it would mean that one's body had adapted to its own transcending mythological gene.

Next, one had to use a certain method of cultivation to undergo the gene strengthening process, to stimulate the gene's greatest potential.

The number of times in which different genes could be strengthened was also different.

The higher the tier, the more the number of times it could be strengthened.

The two golden balls of light clearly represented the two current mythological genes that Feng Lin had awakened.

One of them, the Monkey Gene, had already been strengthened twice, while the Stonebirth Gene had only been strengthened once.

After gene strengthening was completed, gene evolution would begin.

And gene evolution was the process of synthesizing two different, albeit, same-tier genes together, evolving them into a higher tier mythological gene set.

Once evolution was completed, the cultivator would be able to reach a higher realm.

In that case, what did those dots of dim silvery light mean?

Feng Lin sent a probe of his will over, and a burst of information instantly appeared in his mind.

Muscle Gene: 0

Turtlebreath Gene: 0

Tigerfang Gene: 0

...

So it turned out that these dim dots of silver light were recessive genes in his body that had not been awakened.

Feng Lin finally understood in his heart.

So this transparent and shiny silhouette was a genetic map of his body!

Given the vast numbers of genes a human had, they were truly like stars in the sky. No matter how strong science had developed to, it was impossible for science to detect everything accurately.

But now, all this information was clearly displayed before Feng Lin's eyes.

This scene caused him to think of a national-level treasure back in ancient China—The Illustrated Manual of Acupuncture Points of the Bronze Figure.

That simply showed all the position of acupuncture points and meridians, but what Feng Lin was seeing, was the entire genetic map for his body!

Genes were as numerous as the stars, maybe there were over billions of them. Feng Lin felt a headache coming when he looked carefully at them.

Although each gene was clearly visible, it was impossible for him to probe all the information about it.

With the intention of his will, he shifted his attention to his Dantian that was located two inches below his navel. A cluster of nebulae could be seen swirling in there; there were roughly about fourteen of them. Does this mean that I have 14 free genetic points to spend as I like? The cluster of nebulae was glowing brightly, resembling a mixture of cloud and mist and was flowing continuously as its form changed.

There were also wisps of star fog floating at the side, currently converging together. They were in the midst of forming a star cluster.

The cluster of nebulae he saw earlier joined together with the star fog, resembling large sheets that extended forever into the distance. Altogether, they propped up this entire stretch of starry skies that represented the transparent figure before his eyes.

Genetic potential: 1468%

Feng Lin inexplicably understood the meaning when he saw this.

Most likely, the transparent figure could transform the genes in his body into data.

And Feng Lin's current data was:

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Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 0.4

Monkey Gene: 2

Stonebirth Gene: 1

Genetic potential: 1468%

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There were no stats like strength, speed, and constitution. All of those were rubbish. The only data available were his vitality stats and his awakened genes.

The reason for this was because genes were the origins of life, and vitality was the comprehensive embodiment of life's strength, speed, and constitution. They were simply different aspects that made up vitality.

As one's vitality increased, these other aspects would similarly be increased in accordance as well.

However, the genetic map wasn't merely this. Under the repeated probing of his will, a wonderful feel of control over the genetic points surged in Feng Lin's heart. It seemed like his will had a mysterious connection to these genetic points. It felt as though he could control them.

Let's try it!

With his will, he linked three irrelevant genes together.

Inside his Dantian, a ball of star fog from his nebulae's cluster split off and was infused into the

three random genes he linked.

Genetic potential -15%

The three silvery points of light expanded and contracted, linking together as miraculous changes occurred. Continuous different combinations appeared, each showing a different sequence.

Ding ding ding...

Five chimes rang out.

The three random genes were finally linked, but the starlight radiating from them continued flowing forth in lines towards the depths of the starry skies inside the transparent figure, reaching out to five previously unknown silvery points as they formed the shape of a genetic tree.

Airflow Gene x2 + Cloudmist Gene x3 + Moisture Gene x 1 = Frost Gene

Airflow Gene x3 + Cloudmist Gene x4 + Moisture Gene x 4 = Rain Gene

Airflow Gene x4 + Cloudmist Gene x2 + Moisture Gene x 1 = Hurricane Gene

Airflow Gene x2 + Cloudmist Gene x5 + Moisture Gene x 4 = Thunder Gene

Airflow Gene x6 + Cloudmist Gene x7 + Moisture Gene x 5 = Storm Gene

A total of five formulas!

Feng Lin was completely stunned. He actually learned a total of five genetic formulas all of a sudden!

There were different tiers for genes, and they could be classified into tier-0, tier-1, tier-2...

0 was the starting point for numbers. Hence, all tier-0 genes were known as basic genes.

1 was the basic element of all numbers. All numbers were derived from 1 and hence, tier-1 genes were known as primeval genes.

Different-tiered genes had different abilities. They could complement each other and evolve into higher-tiered genes.

Tier-0 genes could be synthesized into tier-1 genes. Tier-1 genes could be synthesized into tier-2 genes, and so on and forth...

These were known as a genetic formula.

When genetic formulas of similarly-tiered genes were grouped together, at the end of the process, a genetic tree diagram would be formed. Because it also looked like a pyramid, some cultivators also termed it as a genetic pyramid.

Genetic cultivation arts = Genetic tree + Genetic formulas + Gene development.

A genetic tree showed the evolution path for genes and would point to the overall direction of future cultivation. The genetic formula was a method for synthesizing low-tiered genes to turn them into higher-tiered ones.

And as for gene development, it referred to the subtle methods one used to train and stimulate the potential of each and every gene.

From top to bottom, from a macro-view to a micro-view, one had to involve all these aspects. Only then would the content be complete enough to name it as a genetic cultivation art.

...

The wind blew and rain fell, water vapor could turn into frost when the temperature was cold enough, and when all the correct factors converged together, even a thunderstorm could occur...

The Airflow Gene, Cloudmist Gene, and Moisture Gene were three tier-0 genes that could control the weather. When synthesized together, they could become either the Frost Gene or Rain Gene, both tier-1 genes. This was already an open secret to the humans of the Interstellar Era.

However, Feng Lin didn't expect that under the simulation of his genetic points, if the strengthening tally of the three tier-0 genes was different, three brand new set of genetic formulas would actually appear.

Wind could become a hurricane, rain clouds could produce thunder, and when the airflow was fierce enough, a storm would appear when all three tier-0 genes of varying strengths were mixed together...

Who could have imagined that these three most common tier-0 genes could be synthesized into the powerful hurricane gene, thunder gene, and storm gene?

These three genetic formulas might seem incredible, but they all followed the laws of nature and it was impossible for them to be false.

“Oh my god! I wonder how much would these three genetic formulas be worth if I sold them.” Feng Lin started panting.

It wasn't that he wasn't calm. It was just that these formulas were simply too valuable.

A genetic formula was a critical component of a genetic cultivation art. The appearance of new genetic formulas basically meant that the embryonic forms of new genetic cultivation arts had appeared.

Knowledge was priceless!

And as for knowledge about cultivation, they were more priceless than priceless!

Although these were three basic formulas, Feng Lin was very clear that if he sold them, he would instantly be able to get a huge amount of star coins.

Each genetic formula was worth at least a million star coins. Added together, if he sold them, his proceeds would be sufficient for his family to buy a luxurious home on the market, and they could move into a more comfortable environment.

However, unless it was the last resort, Feng Lin wouldn't do so.

Selling genetic formulas was too conspicuous. After all, only those genomic masters at the very peak could create new genetic formulas.

Right now, Feng Lin wasn't even a cultivator. He simply didn't have enough strength to protect his own secrets and might even bring trouble onto himself and be devoured by others.

Feng Lin didn't stop. He continued to experiment swiftly.

The dim silver points of light were linked together under the control of his will as more and more formulas appeared.

Flame Gene x7 + Rock Gene x3 = Magma Gene

Muscle gene x5+ Hormone Gene x1+ Protein Gene x3= Bodybuilding Gene

Fishskin Gene x3+ Respiratory Gene x5+ Diving Gene x3= Amphibious Gene

.....

More and more formulas were derived, and he began to push the boundaries, attempting a

reversal.

He already gained the knowledge for a few high-tiered genes and was now attempting to break them down.

Divine Movement Gene = Muscle Gene x2 + Speed Gene x6 + Airflow Gene x3

Fiery Eyes Gene = Flame Gene x3 + Vision Gene x5

Giant Gene = Bone Gene x3 + Muscle Gene x3 + Growth Gene x5 + Hormone Gene x3

...

Brand new formulas were deduced, and his genetic potential was rapidly being exhausted. Very swiftly another 30% was deducted. Feng Lin gradually understood how great the effect of this ability of his was.

This might be because of a mutation of his soul when he crossed-over worlds. The effect was simply beyond imagination and was similar to mathematical equations.

Yes, these were genetic equations!

Similar to mathematical equations, the solution could also be deduced.

Genes became the variable in genetic equations. A higher-tiered gene set could be generated from exhausting one's potential to deduce the end result, or one could simply reverse engineer the process and breakdown the components of a high-tiered gene to see which low-tiered genes were synthesized to form it.

Genetic equations. This was precisely my ability!

Feng Lin silently mused. To him, the ability to obtain genetic equations was not just limited to this.

If others obtained his ability, they might only be able to deduce genetic equations. However, things were different from him.

Every legend was a path leading to Godhood. Through ancient myths and legends, he would know of his future direction in cultivation, but the step by step process would still have to be grasped by him repeatedly and gradually.

Feng Lin had the required knowledge. Based on his understanding of the ancient myths and legends, as well as his ability to deduce different genetic equations, he might really eventually be

able to extrapolate the cultivation path of a God or divine being in the past.

This was the greatest effect that the ability to create genetic equations had on him.

If he could really reach that step, one could very well imagine what it entailed.

Maybe he could...become a God?

Naturally, the prerequisite was that he had to have enough genetic potential.

Genetic equations, although powerful, they were not to be used so lightly. One had to exhaust their body's genetic potential in order to utilize it.

According to the rate of genetic potential consumption, he estimated that he would run out of genetic potential once he activated his abilities after a hundred or so more times.

However, where did genetic potential originate from? Feng Lin temporarily still had no idea.

Oh!

At this moment, Feng Lin's eyes suddenly brightened as he thought of a point which he previously neglected.

Since this is the case, why don't I extrapolate what my future path should be?

Everyone said that there were no genetic formulas that could synthesize the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene into a higher-tiered gene. Therefore, he was always considered as trash that had no way of advancing.

However, now that he had acquired this ability to deduce new genetic formulas, there might really be a way to synthesize the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene together.

It was worth a try!

Feng Lin's heart was pounding. If he succeeded, his future path of advancement that was deemed a failure would be limitless.

Ancient poems mentioned, "Clouds will obscure one's vision and there's nowhere to go when the land is fully explored. However, there's always a glimmer of hope at one's darkest hour."

Wasn't this precisely his situation?

Under the huge computation power of his ability, even a crippled path could lead to a grand path connecting to heavens!

His heart told him loud and clear. "Just do it if you want to do it."

Feng Lin was clear that this was his only chance. He controlled his will and started to link the two genes together.

Genetic potential -10%, -10%, -10%...

Very swiftly, another 60% from his remaining genetic potential was consumed. However, this new genetic equation was being extrapolated at an extremely slow rate.

The Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene continuously combined, yet they seemed inharmonious, like water and fire. There seemed to be no way for them to be fused together at all.

"Could it be that it's truly impossible for me to walk on the path of cultivation?" Feng Lin felt anxiety shaking his heart.

It wasn't easy for him to come to this magnificent world. If his path had already ended before it even began, how could he be willing to accept it?

No, he would never give up!

Feng Lin was staking it all. He continued to pour his genetic potential into the two genes, trying to stimulate them.

Finally, after a total of 360% was consumed from his genetic potential, four nebulae in his Dantian disintegrated. Furthermore, a unique and brand new genetic formula appeared before his eyes.

Feng Lin stared at it in surprise, but his expression soon turned bizarre followed by shock, immense joy, and bewilderment...

Monkey Gene x10 + Stonebirth Gene x10 = Stone Monkey Gene???

.....

5. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Stone Monkey Gene!

To think that it was the Stone Monkey Gene!

To Feng Lin, this wasn't a pleasant surprise, but a great shock.

The genetic equation depleted a large amount of genetic potential only to derive with this one formula. This meant that the Stone Monkey Gene was the only evolutionary gene from the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene.

Stone Monkey Gene: The stone monkey has no parents and is brought up by the heavens and earth. It has a body of stone and bones that were as tough as steel. It also has extraordinary strength...

With the new Stone Monkey Gene lit up, information about it also started to appear.

Feng Lin got to know about this Stone Monkey Gene's abilities.

After the Stone Monkey Gene had been awakened, not only would the cultivator possess an ape's agility and strength, but he or she would also have an indestructible body that was tough as steel, reaching a level where one would be impervious to weapons.

The Stone Monkey Gene caused a lot of thoughts to run through his mind.

In the myths and legends of ancient Huaxia on Earth in the past, that monkey was very well-known. All people of Huaxia knew of its name.

Flowerfruit Mountain's Great Sage Equal to Heavens, Sun Wukong!

It was a stone monkey that was nurtured by heavens and earth.

However, its actual identity was Spiritual Stone Monkey. Although there was the additional 'spiritual' word, a stone monkey was still a stone monkey!

With Feng Lin's understanding of myths and legends, it was very likely that the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene might be the future direction of the Stone Monkey Gene's evolution.

He could use this as a foundation to slowly probe the direction he should be working toward.

From the Stone Monkey Gene to the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene, then to the Monkey King Gene and so forth...

Every single legend was a path to Godhood!

Myths and legends contained the path to Godhood for each and every mythical or legendary character. Deciphering them and then allowing them to evolve was the essence of the genetic cultivation arts.

Could it be that the path I have to take is that of the Great Sage Equal to Heavens, Sun Wukong's?

Then...wouldn't I become a monkey?

...

Feng Lin didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

What proper person would think of becoming a monkey?

However, for the sake of cultivation, he was going to go all-out!

To gain strength, Feng Lin wasn't going to be tied down by morals.

That monkey was an unrivaled existence in Huaxia's myths and legends. If he could really take this path, it would definitely be a path with unlimited possibilities and brilliant future prospects.

As long as he knew the direction he was progressing toward, in addition to the existence of the genetic equation, everything was filled with possibilities.

Feng Lin was firmly believed in this and when he calmed down, he noticed that something wasn't quite right.

To think that the Stone Monkey Gene's synthetic formula required both the Monkey Gene and the Stonebirth Gene to be raised into ten points.

This was impossible!

At this moment, there was only this thought in Feng Lin's mind.

Although genes were powerful, there was a limit as to how much they could be strengthened.

Genes of the same tier were further classified into different grades, namely low-grade, mid-grade, high-grade, variation-grade, and perfect grade.

The worse the grade of the genes, the harder it would be to strengthen them.

As for the Monkey Gene which was the most inferior low-grade gene, no one had heard of it being strengthened to anything that was higher than three points.

No one had been able to do the same for the Stonebirth Gene, another low-grade gene, either.

Based on common sense, it was only possible to strengthen a gene to ten points or higher if they were superior variation-grade genes.

However, this genetic formula required one to strengthen both the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene, which were both ordinary genes, to ten points. This was something that was impossible to achieve.

If this genetic formula was real, it could be because of this requirement that no one had been able to discover this path.

Feng Lin solemnly thought about it.

Over countless years, despite there being so many geniuses, no one had been able to attain this.

Feng Lin knew his own limitations. He was merely an apprentice and wasn't even considered an official cultivator. Therefore, it was even harder for him to meet this requirement.

Since this impossible genetic formula was derived from the genetic equation, then he might have to find the answer to it from the genetic equation.

After all, the existence of the genetic equation was to break the common sense to begin with.

He kept on experimenting and discovered that he seemed to be controlling the two balls of golden light.

With a single thought, his genetic potential started throbbing and the nebulae were seething. It was as if they were going to enter one of the golden balls of light at the next moment.

Could it be that these genetic potential weren't only able to derive genetic formula but also strengthen and raise the points of his genes?

With a single thought, those genetic potential flowed out from the human-shaped Dantian. As if blood had flowed into the heart, one of the golden ball of light kept on swelling up non-stop as if it had eaten something extremely nourishing.

Feng Lin felt a lot of emotions toward the changes that were happening to his body. His genes had clearly gone through an intense change.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 0.5

Monkey Gene: 3

Stonebirth Gene: 1

Genetic potential: 1008%

=====

Unknowingly, his gene's strengthening tally had changed from 2 to 3. Everything had happened so naturally in just an instant as if it was a matter of course.

This was marvelous!

Feng Lin was full of emotions. With just a single thought, his genes had been strengthened by one point. There was clearly no reason to it at all.

It was an extremely domineering strengthening.

After the gene had been strengthened, Feng Lin had noticed that his vitality had increased from 0.4 to 0.5.

Genes were the source of vitality, and the strengthening of one's genes would result in one's vitality increasing as well.

However, at the same time, his genetic potential had changed from 1108% to 1008%. There was a decrease of 100%.

Feng Lin gave it some thought and then understood the crux here.

Other than depleting genetic potential to derive genetic formulas, each 100% of one's genetic potential could be used to refine some genetic points of choice that could be added to the genes.

This was like one of those skill trees in the games, with each nebula being one genetic point, and the points would be added to the necessary areas!

He needed to add more of them!

After ascertaining the evolutionary path to his genes, Feng Lin wouldn't feel pain in using his genetic potential anymore.

He must first strengthen the two basic genes and then get them to evolve into the Stone Monkey Gene. This would allow him to take the first step to become a cultivator.

As for those genetic formulas, although they were very valuable, they were useless to him for now. Therefore, there wasn't a need for him to waste his precious genetic potential on those.

He was too weak now. In this Interstellar Era where competition was intense, he had nothing to back him up for his survival, and he would still need to take care of his family.

The thing he needed the most right now was power.

Once he evolved into the Stone Monkey Gene, he would be able to officially become a cultivator, toss away the shackles on him, and obtain more freedom.

Although genetic potential was very precious, and he was unable to understand where its source was from at the moment, getting stronger was what mattered the most. He would be able to find ways to obtain more genetic potential in the future.

Feng Lin immediately put his thoughts into action, continuously adding points to his genes.

The first one he strengthened was the Monkey Gene.

Based on scientists' inferences, the ancestors of Earth's humans had been evolving from monkeys. Thereafter, they obtained intelligence from evolution and separated themselves from animals, taking on different paths from chimpanzees and gorillas.

Apes and monkeys possessed a similar body structure with human, but their strength and agility were both above that of a human.

Strengthening this gene would allow Feng Lin's physical attributes to be raised in all areas.

With a single thought, his genetic potential immediately decreased by 100%.

A nebula was channeled into the Monkey Gene. The strengthening tally instantly changed from 3 to 4, and his vitality increased by 0.1 once again.

Feng Lin didn't stop and continued to add on.

The Monkey Gene flashed without stopping, instantly increasing to 4 points, breaking the theoretical limits of genes.

Everything appeared to progress so smoothly.

6. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The process of achieving a breakthrough in genes was very simple, so simple that Feng Lin almost didn't dare to believe it.

He initially thought a large commotion would occur, but he didn't expect the breakthrough to come so easily.

The tyranny of this strengthening method was simply too godlike, refreshing his perspective on it.

His Monkey Gene had broken through to 4 points. His vitality had also reached 0.7.

He had a total of eleven genetic points now and spent 7 on the Monkey Gene while 4 on the Stonebirth Gene.

These two basic genes had respectively broken through their own limits.

Feng Lin felt countless energy coursing through his entire body. It was like each and every of his cell was breathing, radiating with powerful vitality.

He clenched his fist and sensed the warm currents of energy flowing into the depths of his body. The feeling was akin to soaking inside a hot spring.

At the same time, his spinal bone felt extremely itchy, like there were ants crawling inside it. Feng Lin knew that this was a process of his genes changing his body after being strengthened.

The Ape Gene could strengthen the human body's muscle, while the 'birth' in the Stonebirth Gene could also indicate the embryo. Once it was strengthened, it would keep producing embryonic stem cells to increase the strength of the human's body, causing one's body to be as tough as stone so one wouldn't be easily injured.

These were what mythological genes were. One could understand the principle behind it using scientific explanation, but it was also incredibly magical.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 1.5

Monkey Gene: 9

Stonebirth Gene: 5

Genetic Potential: 8%

=====

He continued to strengthen his genes, and his vitality rose to 1.5, breaking through the barrier of '1'.

This was a critical point. After one's vitality broke through '1', it meant that that person would have already exceeded the average point for humans in the Interstellar Era. With his vitality now, he would no longer be the last-ranking student in his class.

What was regretful was the fact that his genetic potential was almost completely exhausted, only a pathetic 8% was left. Before he discovered any new methods of gaining more genetic potential, it would be tough if he wished to continue strengthening his genes in the future.

However, Feng Lin had already obtained what he wanted to. This was enough!

It was his fortune to gain it, but it would be his fate if he lost it!

He was a person who had seen two different worlds. Right now, Feng Lin's state of heart was extremely carefree, taking things as they came, as calm as he could be.

Facing the mirror, he didn't look any different on the surface, but his body's internal structure felt completely different.

Through his skin, he could faintly sense the luster glistening underneath. There seemed to be a crystalline layer inside, it felt tough and abnormal.

Reaching out, he pressed his skin. He only felt a layer of steel-like bones under the surface of his skin that was seemingly unbreakable.

Although his body obtained such a large breakthrough, Feng Lin was still as low-profile as ever in the following days. He would follow through all his activities and go to school alone.

Originally, he was considered as someone that was marginalized in school. He had had no strength, no talent, and no background. Who would want to pay any attention to him?

However, such a huge transformation occurred in the span of a single night. It would be tough for

him to explain even if he wanted to.

Hence, Feng Lin kept a low-profile, as low-key as he possibly could. He didn't even tell his parents about this and practiced even more assiduously on the genetic breathing method during these three days.

After finding his future path, he felt an incomparably surge of motivation to cultivate. It felt like he had almost gone mad.

He would soon be sent to the clan's factory for an apprenticeship after one month.

In order to obtain the rights to cultivate, he had to have enough capital to negotiate with his clan.

After ending a day filled with tough cultivation, Feng Lin's back was completely soaked by his perspiration. His body was forced to its limit, and he felt intense pain everywhere.

However, after sensing the internal system of his body, there seemed to be no changes to his genes.

It seemed like he had truly reached a limit!

Feng Lin sighed. It was tough to advance even a single step if he didn't have enough genetic points to spend as he like.

"Eh?" He suddenly sensed something strange. For some reason, his current genetic potential was at 18%. It actually went up by 10%?

His genetic potential actually increased? What happened in this period of time?

Could it be...?

A light flashed through his mind, and Feng Lin suddenly understood. There was nothing complicated; genetic potential could simply be increased through cultivation!

As long as he cultivated ceaselessly every day, his genetic potential would increase more and more. Although the effect was quite minuscule, he could still gain more genetic potential if he persevered and accumulated it over a long period of time.

So the answer was like this!

Feng Lin felt incomparably joyful.

This method was much more straightforward compared to his earlier guess that the genetic equation had to absorb a kind of special energy in order to form genetic potential—this method could be likened to an old saying: the more you sow, the more you will reap!

This was an undeniable logic that wouldn't change, an eternal truth of the universe.

If one were to grow stronger by absorbing external sources of energy, that would be akin to reaping without sowing.

Cultivation might be arduous, but every point of improvement gained, belonged to oneself. Nobody could take that away.

After understanding this point, Feng Lin worked even harder in his cultivation as though he was a crazed demon.

This scene naturally was seen by his parents, and both of them shook their heads and sighed helplessly.

“Our son hasn't given up yet. He still wants to take the college exam and become a cultivator.”

“But how can things be so easy. His vitality stat is only at 0.4; he might not even have the qualifications to take the college exam! Let's hope he doesn't cripple his body from training too much. If this is the case, he wouldn't even be able to work at the clan's factory and would truly become a complete cripple!”

...

His parents discussed in low voices, their faces even grimmer and more bitter-looking by the time.

Feng Lin heard everything, but he didn't express his stance. He only chose to work even harder in his cultivation.

One had to cultivate if they sought to change their destiny!

The greatest ability of the genetic equation was to transform the human body into complete data. Also, Feng Lin could see and manage everything personally.

One would only get payback if they worked hard enough!

This was the simplest and greatest happiness to an aspiring cultivator.

How many people pursued this in vain, getting nothing in return?

The owner of this original body must have also suffered a lot and also worked extremely hard. This was the only reason why he could leave behind 14 free genetic points for Feng Lin.

Sadly, he didn't have the absurd ability which Feng Lin had after he crossed-over.

With nobody providing guidance, the original owner of Feng Lin's body also didn't understand how to strengthen his genes. He was bumbling around blindly during cultivation and didn't know his future direction. Although he had plenty of genetic potentials, he only managed to strengthen the Monkey Gene to 2 and Stonebirth Gene to 1. His vitality was also at a pathetic 0.4.

His ability, 'Genetic Equation', allowed Feng Lin to see boundless possibilities, allowing him to walk on a path different from the original owner of his body.

He had to cherish it.

Genetic potential +10%

Genetic potential +12%

Genetic potential +9%

...

With his daily cultivation, his genetic potential continued to accumulate and would increase by 10% on average every day.

If this continued on, Feng Lin estimated that he would be able to have a new genetic point very soon.

He was already at the senior third year. As the days passed, the atmosphere of his school also grew increasingly heavier.

The students were all extremely tense. The school library was also packed full of people who spent day and night cultivating in there. It was very rare to see anyone being relaxed.

News soon circulated around, so it turned out that the college examination that only occurred once a year was about to begin. However, a mock test would be held before that, and one had to pass the mock simulation test before they could gain the qualifications to participate in the college examination!

7. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“The annual college exam is near. This is the opportunity for every single Interstellar citizen to change their destiny. Everyone is entitled a single chance and only once in their entire lifetime. The result from this exam will determine if you’re a dragon or a maggot. Your destiny will be turned on its head from that moment on. Some will soar to the skies and remain superior, while others grind into dust and live a life as a nobody...”

A capable, middle-aged woman clothed in black attire lectured from the rostrum of the classroom.

A group of students sat below, afraid to even breathe heavily.

Feng Lin listened quietly.

Despite the progress of humans into the Interstellar Era where advanced technology allowed them to travel through a wormhole across millions of lightyears, the methods of such old-fashioned college exams prevailed. Not only had they preserved it completely, but they also elevated it to a whole new level.

The breadth of the examination was broad beyond imagination, extending across the entire human population of Interstellar Era.

As an effective means of breaking through the walls of innate social classes, there was a purpose behind the existence of the college exams.

“The college pre-qualifier exam is the first school-wide mock exam. Only those who passed this will earn the chance to participate in the college exam. If you can’t even pass the mock exam, then don’t even think about participating in the college exam and put yourself to shame. You’d even lower our school’s graduation rate!” the female head-teacher announced sternly, her eyes sweeping across the room before lingering on Feng Lin and a few other last-ranking students. Her warning was conveyed without a word.

The annual college exam for all Interstellar’s citizens was nothing to scoff about. Billions of people would cross this plank and if you didn’t get exceptional results, then you will be sending yourself to your own death.

The school would never allow those good-for-nothing dregs to pull their precious college exam ranking down. If they failed, they would taint the school’s reputation.

The other students basked in their misfortune at that scene.

Feng Lin clenched both his fists before loosening them slowly.

If it had been the past, he might have been filled with resentment. Now though, he was calm.

For a person who had been through death and back, fragile hearts were a thing of the past.

More importantly, he was confident.

With a vitality of 1.5, he had long since surpassed most of his peers. Why should he torment himself with vengeance?

The improvements to his abilities had allowed him to mature much as well.

All these fighting and scheming against each other were nothing more than childish behaviors to him.

These people would be in for a surprise if they still thought that he was the same old Feng Lin.

“To achieve good results on the college exam, the top three students from each class for the college pre-qualifier exam will have the chance to enter and train at the Illusory Martial Pagoda for free!” The head-teacher stunned them with a piece of ground-breaking news.

The whole class burst into life.

“The Illusory Martial Pagoda!”

“The one with combat masters of the Illusory Martial Pagoda?”

“The school has really given an arm and a leg this time!”

...

No one was able to mask their excitement, as eagerness filled their every expression.

The Illusory Martial Pagoda was the only illusionary martial system at Earth High School. It consolidated countless battle techniques from various combat masters and projected them as a simulation through optical computing, using energy to build an illusionary space.

From the outside, it was a tower about thirty levels in height. Every floor had an illusionary combat master; they were realistic with almost the same level of competency.

With each level-up, the standard of the combat master would increase, and the level of difficulty intensified in proportion to the levels.

Through battling with illusionary combat masters, it could increase one's battle experience and through it, allowed them to have a better grasp and understanding of their genetic abilities at a rapid rate.

However, a huge amount of energy was required to activate the system. Each activation would require tens of thousands of star coins; this was an impossible feat under normal circumstances.

Typically, students would have to pay with their own money in order to train in there. For every session, they would have to pay ten thousand star coins. Only those born with a silver spoon in their mouth would be able to afford it.

The prospect of entering the Illusory Martial Pagoda was something most students could only wish of in their wildest dreams.

They hadn't expected the school to put in this much effort this time around, so much so that they were allowing three slots from each class for the free entry. It was no surprise that they all grew excited. Anyone who was competent was determined to get into the top three rankings.

"The literature exam will start now!"

At the head-teacher's announcement, the examination officially commenced.

This was different from Earth Era. College exam in Interstellar Era was categorized into two: Martial Exam and Literature Exam.

Literature Exam tested on theoretical knowledge, literature, history, mathematics, physics, biology, chemistry, psychology, law, and astronomy...

Furthermore, the format of literature exam was also different from the college exam in Earth Era. There wasn't anything like full marks, only high score, higher scores, and even higher scores. Theoretically, there was no cap on how high you could go.

Due to the increase in lifespan and intelligence, they were sharper than the humans of Earth Era, therefore, the difficulty of their literature exam was also greater. Yet, there was no limit to the number of exam questions. Through smart optical computing, it could churn out a set of test questions on the go. Everyone would have to answer the questions within the designated two-hour time frame. Each question was a mark, and the more they answered, the higher scores they would get.

It was precisely because there wasn't a limit on scores that the disparity between exceptional and poor students was so evident after an exam. A difference of more than ten times was a common sight.

As for the Martial exams, they tested on one's cultivation; it was an exam based on mythological genes.

College pre-qualifier exam was the first mock exam before college exam and the most important one. It concerned every single person's eligibility in qualifying for the college exam and for that very reason, nobody dared to be careless about it.

Literature exam was the first round.

A holographic projection suspended in the space in front of every person as the contents of the exam cascaded like a waterfall, appearing before their eyes.

A vitality of 1.5 wasn't just words. Not only would the quality of the body increase in all aspects, but their memory and line of thought would also improve by leaps and bounds too.

Their thinking process was akin to the speed of light; they would gain epiphany about the knowledge which had baffled them before. Likewise, answers to these grueling questions would come to mind at just one glance.

Was this the breakthrough from a person's change in vitality?

Feng Lin kept his glee to himself, but his hands never stopped moving.

People in the Interstellar Era were extremely advanced in their intellect, far beyond imagination. The knowledge they acquired was also exceptionally complex.

General relativity, quantum mechanics, chaos theory... These were complex yet familiar theories back in the ancient Earth Era. Now, they were general knowledge which every high school student was expected to know, and they weren't even the hardest topics in the exam.

The toughest topic in literature exam was mythological knowledge theory.

After tens of thousands of years of advancement, majority of mythological knowledge from ancient Earth was lost. Now, humans could only get a glimpse of its remnants from tattered ancient texts.

Humans could only count on themselves to fill the gap by scavenging and restoring. Various theories and schools of thought were often contradictory, making one's head spin.

For that reason, among the subjects in high school, mythological knowledge was the worst cause of their headaches.

All the students at the scene knitted their brows as their expression turned sour.

All but Feng Lin who seemed unperturbed and relaxed.

For someone from the past, these were just general knowledge.

It was fortunate that the original owner of his body was extremely hardworking. Despite his low vitality, his knowledge and understanding of theoretical knowledge were great.

Feng Lin inherited the original owner's memories and gained a huge advantage from that. His basic theory was not shabby at all; a great deal of knowledge about the subjects came rushing to him.

Until the questions about mythology came, that was his forte.

"List the twelve Olympian Gods and state their roles. This is simple: King of Gods, Zeus; Queen of Gods, Hera; Goddess of War and Wisdom, Athena; God of the Sun, Apollo..." Feng Lin breezed through it.

"What was the ultimate ending to the Nordic mythology? The world in ruins, Ragnarok, the end of all things!" Feng Lin lips pulled into a small smile, seemingly at ease.

"Three Divine Teachers and the Four Sovereigns in Chinese mythology?" This one was a little difficult. The origin of Chinese mythology was complicated; there was an onslaught of differing interpretations.

Feng Lin thought back about it and answered with the most accepted version, "Three Divine Teachers: Lord of Primordial Beginning, Yuanshi Tianzun; Lord of the Way and its Virtue, Daode Tianzun; Lord of the Numinous Treasures, Lingbao Tianzun. Four Sovereigns: Great Emperor of Middle Heaven North Star, Great Jade Emperor, Great Emperor of Polaris, and the Imperial God of Earth."

...

The questions cascaded down the projection like a waterfall. Feng Lin didn't hesitate much as he answered them one after another.

As he went through the questions, he grew more familiar in the technique. The knowledge lodged in his brain came surging forth and the speed of his answers accelerated.

Yet, he realized that he hadn't answered all those mythology questions right; only about 70%.

Why is that? I knew that what I am aware of was the original version of the mythology, how can it be wrong...?

Feng Lin was puzzled before it dawned on him.

He hadn't answered them wrong. To the contrary, it was the model answers which were inaccurate.

The literature of ancient Earth had vanished by half. Knowledge of mythology derived only through the remnants of texts and excavation of its traces, patching them back up together step by step. It was inevitable for mistakes and contradiction in knowledge to occur due to this.

The original true answers were denied by this set of knock-off mythology knowledge!

Feng Lin was broody about it, but it was impossible for him to refute foolishly. How was he going to answer if they questioned him on his sources?

If he claimed to have known all the knowledge surrounding ancient Earth mythology, then he would have been dragged away and sliced.

This was an unwise move and something Feng Lin would not do.

Even so, the exam was still ongoing. If he wanted higher scores, and his accuracy wasn't enough, then he would have to rely on quantity to make up for it.

Feng Lin focused all of his attention on the exam and began answering, the movement of his fingers going faster and faster.

He answered instantly with each new question. The speed of his reaction would render one speechless.

The exam questions gushed down like a waterfall.

This couldn't be described as answering the questions anymore. He was practically swiping through them!

Feng Lin was engrossed in it, turning into a swiping maniac in delight, unable to stop.

8. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The questions on the projection gushed down like a waterfall. Data streamed across Feng Lin's eyes. His fingers flitted across the screen like butterflies weaving through flowers, swiping across questions naturally and without pause, unhurried and pleased.

Others were engrossed with their own examination and hence, no one noticed the strange sight.

It wasn't long before two hours were up, and the examination concluded. Feng Lin shut down the screen in silence.

The performance he had unleashed in this exam far surpassed any of his previous. He had an idea of how many questions he answered correctly and that scared even himself.

Work hard in silence, let your success make the noise; that was the virtuous way.

Feng Lin didn't proclaim his efforts intentionally.

However, once the exam concluded, the class's top students in the front row roared into life.

"Wow! Zhao Kai, you managed to answer 250 questions! That's amazing! That's at least two questions per minute on average!"

"As expected from a prodigy with a vitality of more than 2! Your intelligence received a great boost, and your line of thought is at the speed of light. You're a superhuman existence. It's truly impressive, how you are able to correctly answer such difficult questions!"

"A genius indeed. We're not a match!"

...

A burst of startled gasp rang out from the side just as the exam results were out.

A huge-statured, 1.9 meters tall boy was surrounded by others. While he kept an aloof façade, he still couldn't help the satisfied smile from forming at the corner of his lips.

This rascal was still too inexperienced.

Feng Lin shook his head.

That person, Zhao Kai, was the top of their class. It was said that he had already awoken two formidable genes, Flame Gene and Metal Gene. Not only that, he had strengthened it several times. As for his vitality, it was rumored that it surpassed 2, becoming the class's well-known prodigy.

The reason why he could reach such a state was due to his wealthy family background. They feasted on the meat of interstellar monsters, drank top-grade gene potions, and relied entirely on the accumulation of their resources.

If a true prodigy had access to such resources, they would have long been an impressive Interstellar cultivator.

That said, being born into a good family was also their competence.

Feng Lin wouldn't reduce himself to the level of losers who felt indignant at others, who envied and grew jealous, and who was full of hate.

Although his abilities didn't compare to Zhao Kai's yet, he possessed an unbelievable ability: genetic equation. Feng Lin was confident that his prospects weren't something which Zhao Kai could measure up to.

He already had a spacecraft, why would he be jealous over a bicycle?

"We'll now announce the results!" The female head-teacher began as she read the list. With just a glance, her expression stiffened.

It was after a long pause before she hesitantly spoke up, "In first place... Feng Lin? 588 points!"

"What?" Everyone was dumbstruck.

With such grueling questions, someone managed to score 588 points?

Didn't this mean that he had answered at least 588 questions within two hours, and they would have to be all correct answers?

This was more than double the number of correct answers by the class's top student, Zhao Kai... Almost triple even!

How was this possible?

Pair after pair of dazed eyes shifted towards Feng Lin as if they had just seen a ghost.

“Could it be that there’s a bug with the optical computing? Maybe it showed the wrong exam results.”

“That must be the case! Isn’t he one of the last-ranking students? How could he have achieved such a good result? Forget about our class, apart from those exceptional geniuses in the school’s history, there have never been anyone else who received a score of more than 500 in a two-hour literature exam.”

“That’s right! Even Zhao Kai couldn’t get such a high score, how could it be possible that this guy did? We have to see his exam screen!”

....

The other students concurred the notion with a nod of their heads; all of them regarded this as the only logical explanation.

What, a last-ranking student broke the record of exam scores through his own effort?

What a joke!

The head-teacher thought the same way as she retrieved Feng Lin’s exam screen from the optical computer for all to reinspect.

Everyone crowded around it, checking questions after the next, not allowing even the slightest mistake to slip past them.

Feng Lin’s eyes darkened at the sight but subsequently, let out a burst of indifferent laughter.

A person of integrity could stand any tests.

If these people wanted to check it, then be his guest. He just hoped that their fragile hearts wouldn’t shatter all over the ground.

In fact, he knew that he hadn’t answered just 588 questions; he had answered 698 of them in total. It was impossible to get every question right with the speed of his swiping, and he got 110 questions wrong as a result.

Feng Lin shook his head; he was unsatisfied with his own performance.

“This question is right!”

“This one too!”

“They’re all correct. How is this possible?”

...

Everyone in the class, their head-teacher included, widened their eyes with every verified answer, until they were almost as big as a bull’s eye.

They checked through Feng Lin’s exam papers and realized that not only were the number of questions answered beyond their imagination, but the accuracy of them was also staggering. It was above 80%!

A look of disbelief swept across all their faces.

They were in the Interstellar Era where technology was unbelievably advanced and surveillance facilities had reached the level of being able to monitor atoms. This put an end to all speculations of cheating being involved.

If it had not been because of this, they would truly have started suspecting Feng Lin of cheating!

Feng Lin had always been at the bottom of the class. How could he have scored above 500 points in the literature exam?

The probability of this was even smaller than meeting another planet with life in this universe. One in a million? One in a billion?

Yet, this was a fact and there was no other choice but to believe it.

Amid the crowd, it wasn’t hard to distinguish Zhao Kai’s expression; he had such an ugly look on him.

He had always ranked first in class. No one else ever dared to shake him off that position.

Yet, a last-ranking student dared to climb over his head and surpassed him by so many points. This fact made it hard for him to accept.

Naturally, he wouldn’t spout something as foolish as an accusation towards Feng Lin for cheating. Rather, he spoke in a low voice to the female head-teacher. “Teacher, we should review the surveillance footage during the exam. Otherwise, I’m afraid no one would believe that a last-ranking student like Feng Lin would be able to score a high score of 588. Who knows, maybe the school’s optical computing system had an error, or perhaps it was being attacked by interstellar hackers!”

Zhao Kai wasn't explicit in his words, but there were subtle hints behind them.

A single pebble could instigate thousands of ripples.

As the longstanding top student of their class, his words were persuasive.

The other students began to voice their agreement.

"That's right! We want to view the exam records!"

"I can't accept that a last-ranking student could score 588 points!"

"That's impossible!"

...

Just because Feng Lin had attained the highest score in history, chaos erupted in their class.

Voices of suspicion filled the air around them; there was no one who would believe that Feng Lin achieved this score through his own effort.

It was just a high score, was this even necessary?

Feng Lin grew frustrated. In that instant, he felt as though it was him against the world and annoyance began to fill his heart.

He got the top of class through his own abilities, why should he be questioned in this manner?

Feng Lin frowned slightly; he knew it was the drastic improvements in his result that caused the uproar!

Still, in Interstellar Era, they had a huge population with incomparably intense competition. There was no way to stay low profile.

As a student, to gain the teachers and the school's favor, one must boast and display their abilities and talents. Only through this way could they receive the school's support in grooming them and getting the resources to be tilted towards them. This would allow a smoother path in cultivation.

Simply put, the higher your scored, the stronger you were. Only when you showed potential in performing at the college exam would the school put in the effort to groom you.

If not, why would the school invest their educational and cultivation resources on a normal person?

This was why Feng Lin decided to do his best to get a good score!

In the Interstellar Era, being weak was a crime and being low-profile was the dumbest behavior in the world.

“Quiet!” At the sight of the crowd’s agitation, the head-teacher couldn’t stand it anymore. With a shout, she exhibited her imposing power over the class.

Since this uproar had spread across the entire class, as the head-teacher, it was her duty to calm things down at once.

She sized Feng Lin up time and time again before speaking, “Feng Lin, your improvement is too drastic this time around, don’t blame the other students for overthinking it. To assure your credibility, I will have to check through everything again!”

A drastic improvement is my fault then?!

Feng Lin let out a huff of indignance.

Potential, one must have potential.

If they had absolute potential, others would accept it wholeheartedly.

Since the head-teacher had made her decision, Feng Lin knew there was no use opposing against it. The thirst in his heart was stronger than ever before.

Regarding Feng Lin’s reaction, the head-teacher neither bothered nor cared as she began checking again.

Not only did she check through the exam paper, but she even retrieved the surveillance footage and monitored the electrodermal response on Feng Lin’s body to check if there were any signs of cheating.

Every optical computer used during a student’s exam was linked to a surveillance monitoring system. Every head-teacher would be able to open the footage at any time with just a touch of their finger.

A projection appeared in front of their eyes. Feng Lin filled the image, answering one question after another at amazing speed, his fingers flitting through and gliding smoothly across.

He didn't hesitate much for each question and answered them in haste. Physics, mathematics, astronomy, mythology... None of those subjects managed to stump him. A small smile began to form on his face, revealing the utmost confidence and knowledge he had.

"He answered them so quickly, almost as though he didn't need to think about it! Even the complex questions on mythology knowledge didn't seem to pose as a difficulty for him!"

"Yeah! The thousands of strange mythology knowledge and their logic were almost always contradicting—that's the hardest to cheat, yet he answered them correctly."

"If this is true, then it is simply outrageous!"

...

One after another, they leaned forward and observed the surveillance footage closely.

The shocking performance ignited a chorus of gasps. They weren't just shocked; they were freaked out.

"Quick, look! He answers them at such a rapid speed!"

"He isn't merely answering, he's practically swiping through them!"

"Could he be the legendary swiping questions maniac? The existences that bury their head in studies, swiping through tens of thousands of practice questions. They already attain a level where they can learn without a teacher, understanding everything through their own effort."

...

It was as if the crowd had discovered a new island, discovered the secret of Feng Lin's answering speed and his high accuracy.

They couldn't help but size Feng Lin up like they were seeing him again for the first time.

The surveillance optical computer offered no reaction from start to end. They didn't find a hair out of place with Feng Lin, not even the slightest thing out of the ordinary and that, in itself, scared them.

Could it be that Feng Lin was truly the legendary swiping questions maniac, achieving those high scores through his own effort?

9. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The atmosphere suddenly turned silent, growing tense and awkward.

There were observing cameras set up to provide a 360-degree vision at the exam venue. There was no dead angle at all. No strange behavior was observed, and there was no bug with regards to the monitoring equipment... So what did this mean?

This meant that Feng Lin had truly used his own capabilities to achieve the highest scores. This was why the atmosphere was now so awkward...

Those students, who caused a big fuss earlier, all silently left as though nothing had ever happened. Nobody apologized for their earlier behavior.

Zhao Kai, who was among the crowd, had a face filled with the utmost reluctance.

However, the truth was before his eyes. There was irrefutable evidence.

If he tried to create more trouble, he would become nothing but a joke.

Ultimately, he could only grit his teeth and bear it. What the eye didn't see, the heart didn't grieve over. He wanted nothing more than for Feng Lin to move away from him as far as he could.

Upon seeing the sullen faces of everyone, Feng Lin didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

It was just merely the top score of the written exam, was such a huge commotion necessary?

The originally noisy classroom finally quietened down. Everyone went silent, preparing for the next test, the martial exam.

Feng Lin also began to seriously prepare. He stretched a bit to warm up, stimulating his body to its utmost potential so as to ensure that he would get the best result in the martial exam.

After an hour passed, the sounds of a robotic voice rang out in the school once more. "The second exam is about to start, each class please be prepared to participate..." Everyone understood that this was the school informing them that the exam was starting.

The female head teacher of their class walked up to the rostrum again and began to speak.

"The martial exam is about to begin. If your vitality stats has not reached 1.0, you don't need to

participate to embarrass yourself. Even if you have a very high score in the literature exam, you would ultimately still score 0 for the martial exam!"

Her words were filled with the intention to target someone. Everyone understood she was talking about Feng Lin.

Hahaha...

The crowd started laughing uproariously. That's right, all of them started to cheer up, sweeping aside the depressing feeling they had earlier.

You might have stumbled upon some dogshit luck and obtain the top score in the literature exam, but there was no way to fake one's vitality stats. The martial exam will definitely make you show your true form. Let's see if you can still act so nonchalant later!

Almost everyone had an elated look on their faces as though wanting to see Feng Lin making a joke out of himself.

Feng Lin noted down all of his classmates' expressions. A mocking smile curled up his lips. They wanted to see him making a fool out of himself? I'm sorry! I'm going to disappoint you all.

...

The first test of the martial exam was the test of one's vitality stats. Vitality was the most basic embodiment of life. It was the state of health, strength, speed, constitution, and endurance... All of these aspects were included. It was also a very important indicator of one's genetic potential.

Someone with strong vitality would definitely surpass an ordinary person in all aspects.

The classroom was extremely spacious and right now, there was a pure metallic strange-looking machine right in the center. The machine released rays of red light and continuously scanned. This machine was precisely a vitality scanner.

"Du Zhiming!"

A student walked towards the machine. A ray of red light scanned him as a number appeared on the machine.

Vitality: 1.36!

If one wanted to participate in the college exam, their vitality had to exceed one, or it would basically be impossible to enter any colleges.

Upon seeing his vitality stats exceeding an average person by 0.36, that person excitedly walked back and even purposely cast a glance at Feng Lin.

“Zhao Kai!”

Zhao Kai was cheered on by the crowd. He stood before the scanner as the red light flashed.

Vitality: 2.2!

The evident number on the scanner caused a commotion in the crowd.

“As expected of Zhao Kai, his vitality stats are so shocking!”

“In previous tests, he have already reached 2.0. But now, his vitality is already at 2.2. What a fast improvement speed!”

“If he continues to develop himself, he might truly gain enough power in the future to leave the solar system and enter those interstellar colleges. One must know that in the boundless starry sky of the universe, our solar system exists in the most remote corner!”

.....

A countless number of voices filled with admiration and envy rang out.

Even the female head-teacher, who always had a strict face, now actually had a smile on her face. Clearly, she was very satisfied with Zhao Kai's score.

Zhao Kai then walked back to his seat. His gaze penetrated the crowd and stared at Feng Lin while a cold smile appeared on his face. It was like a wolf staring at its prey.

Feng Lin didn't really care about it. His eyes glowed as a thought flashed through his mind.

Interstellar colleges?

After that, the female teacher continued reading out names, and the students went to take the vitality test one after the other.

Vitality: 1.12!

Vitality: 1.06!

Vitality: 0.95!

.....

The majority of students had vitality stats around 1.0.

Only a rare few had a vitality that exceeded the 1.4 marks like Du Shiming. So far, only Zhao Kai, a single person had exceeded 2.0 in the vitality stat.

One couldn't help but say that although this man was arrogant, he did have the qualifications to do so.

As the teacher reached the end of the name list, she directly announced, "The vitality test has ended, the result is..."

Before she ended her sentence, a voice echoed out, "Teacher, I have not yet taken the test!"

Feng Lin raised his hand.

The teacher was extremely unhappy with her words being interrupted. She glared at him and didn't say anything. The other students also felt extremely impatient.

Your vitality stats was only at 0.4, but you still want to take the college exam?

What if you got the lowest score here, wouldn't you have thrown the school's face completely?

The head-teacher don't even want you to take this test. Can't you understand?

"You think you can pass the martial exam with a vitality stats only at 0.4?" the teacher rudely snorted.

It was tough to break one's prior impression. Even his head-teacher didn't believe in him.

But for the sake of obtaining the qualifications to take the college exam, it was impossible for Feng Lin to give up!

"That's right!" Feng Lin replied neither in a servile nor overbearing manner. He then continued, "Teacher, back in Huaxia on the Earth, there's an old saying. 'A scholar who has been away for three days, have to be looked at anew!' It has been so long since the last mock test. How do you know I'll fail for sure?"

"You still don't want to give up?" The female teacher frowned. But as he was a student of the

school, Feng Lin's request was not an unreasonable one. She could intentionally disregard this student, but she couldn't intentionally obstruct him. No matter who she was, she didn't have the authority to stop Feng Lin from participating in the martial exam.

It was ultimately because of her impression of Feng Lin as the last-ranking student which caused her to belittle him.

The female teacher shook her head but eventually relented. She then activated the vitality scanner while signaling Feng Lin to go over.

In any case, as the head-teacher of a class, it would only serve to have many advantages and no disadvantages in the off-chance that a new genius was discovered in her class.

"Fine then, I want to see how high your vitality stats are."

However, they had all neglected a point. If one's vitality stats were too low, it would mean that that person's intellect wouldn't have been too advanced. In that case, it would be impossible for that person to become the top scorer in the literature exam.

Feng Lin didn't bother to reply. He had argued and managed to gain the chance to prove himself. Cold gazes shot towards him from all directions, akin to thousands of sharp swords wanting to pierce him.

Enduring all the mocking and sarcastic looks of his classmates, Feng Lin steeled himself and walked towards the vitality scanner.

The red light flashed, scanning his body. His internal organs, cells, genes, and everything were scanned and transformed into data.

"What???" The female teacher and students in the class were all completely stunned as they stared at the number on the vitality scanner. They even blinked their eyes, suspecting that they had seen wrongly.

The number shown on the vitality scanner should be an impossibility.

Vitality: 1.5!

10. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

What, vitality 1.5!

How was that possible?

Everyone who saw this data was dumbfounded.

With such a high vitality, he was just behind Zhao Kai in the class.

If it had been the others, it would be alright. But Feng Lin had been only a trash student of 0.4 vitality previously.

It had been just two examinations away, what kind of world-changing transformation had happened to him?

In such a short period, his vitality increased by 1.1. It was totally unbelievable and unrealistic!

Despite the fraud suspicion, the truth was being displayed in front of them at the moment. A solid 1.5. Everyone had to accept it anyhow even if they could not accept.

“Impossible, this scanner must be spoilt! How could this guy have such a high vitality?” Du Zhiming could not believe it. His vitality had been ranked the second in the class all these while. But now, a low-graded student surpassed him with a difference of 0.14.

What was wrong with this world?

He could only stare blankly.

“Don’t be silly! Unless this vitality scanner is spoilt, it would never be wrong. If that is the case, how come there was no mistake in Zhao Kai’s vitality !” someone analyzed rationally.

“Yea! Some heaven-defying thing must have happened to Feng Lin and changed him?”

...

All kinds of comments were made regarding Feng Lin.

At the same time, they could not help but admit that Feng Lin would gain a substantial development in his intellect with his high vitality now.

With that, Feng Lin definitely had the ability to achieve high marks in the written exam.

Although they could not accept it, there was no way they could continue being skeptical and deny reality.

Reality would sometimes make people helpless, wouldn't it?

"Fool!" Zhao Kai clenched his teeth. Before this, he was completely against this guy, yet the ending was such a tragedy.

The result of vitality scan did not prove the opponent to be cheating but instead had proven him innocent.

How could he accept that?

Though he won in the martial exam, he had been the number one in class for a long time and he would not allow anyone to surpass him, not even for one written exam.

"Kid, your nightmare comes next! It's your fault to choose an opponent you can never win over!" He stared at Feng Lin's silhouette, his eyes appeared sinister.

"Could it be that this student was so lucky to have a potential-explosion period before the college exam?" The female head teacher could not help but make an assumption after seeing Feng Lin's stunning results.

As an experienced head teacher who led several batches of graduating students, she knew about this stuff very well. When they approached the senior year, some of the previously unknown students would enter an exponential potential-explosion period. Their results would improve rapidly and gain outstanding progress.

That was because the students had the potential but they were buried before this. When the pre-college exam was approaching, the enormous stress would maximize their full potential and force them to grow speedily.

Could Feng Lin be one of these students?

Then, she must have overlooked it previously.

But... this was too much!

From a low-graded student, he made a leap and became the top few students in the class. The

improvement was so great that she had never seen someone like this in her entire teaching career.

Next, it all depended on Feng Lin's performance. Perhaps, he could show her a more reliable and thorough side of him.

People reacted differently to Feng Lin's explosive change, but all of them were stunned.

Yet, it was a big mistake to think that that was the end of it.

Feng Lin's subsequent performance was even more unbelievable.

After vitality test, the strength test and speed test came next.

Speed and strength were the most basic traits of life.

With the vitality index alone, it was pointless if he could not perform well in speed and strength.

Even when the vitality score was the same, different lifeforms would have different speed and strength.

It was most prominent in animals.

According to scientific studies, an adult tiger and an adult elephant had similar vitality scores.

In this case, elephants were much stronger than tigers in terms of strength but much weaker in terms of speed.

The same thing applied to humans. Some were born to be good in running, and some were extremely strong...

Genes defined the essence of lives. Yet, each individual might have a different way to show it.

Speed tester and punch force machine were placed in the class. They were used to test the speed of running and the strength of punching respectively.

Students went up for the tests one after another, all in order.

After getting the instructions, they sprinted abruptly on the speed tester.

The speed tester resembled the treadmill. It would glide along with a person's pace and stop as it reached a distance of 100 meters.

After that, the students would perform full strength punches against the punch force machine. After a hundred punches, the machine would display the average strength of each punch.

100 meters in 7.12 seconds, punch strength of 0.65 ton.....

That was the average data of the students' results at the moment.

"Next, Zhao Kai!"

Zhao Kai stepped forward amid the envious eyes of the students and the anticipating eyes of the head teacher.

Woo woo woo!

He sprinted with all his strength; his legs moved fast and left traces of shadows behind.

After finishing a hundred-meter run, his face did not turn red at all and he didn't even pant. Then, he unleashed his strongest punches on the punch force machine.

Bang Bang Bang.

It was as if he was making an explosion in the air. The punch force machine was shaking and nearly fell apart.

100 meters in 5.17 seconds, punch strength of 1.2 tons!

A cheer of surprise was heard as soon as the result data came out.

"As expected of Zhao Kai!"

"It is really monstrous to have such a physical performance. A vitality of more than 2, is it really so extreme?"

"Yes! This is already nearing the limits of a mortal man!"

...

Zhao Kai smirked in pride and did not look at anyone else but Feng Lin. There was a sense of sneering in his smile.

You wanted to fight with me, but you did not know your limits!

“Let’s see how strong my physical ability is.” Feng Lin did not bother and did not give a damn about others’ provocations. He only wanted to fight against himself.

The journey of cultivation was destined to be a lonely path. His biggest enemy was himself.

Only through continuously challenging himself and breaking through his own limits could he persevere on this endless path and eventually reach the destination.

These acts of shamelessly seeking personal gains would not move his heart the slightest bit.

Standing in front of the machine, Feng Lin closed his eyes slowly and took a deep breath.

Heaving out a long breath as long as a century, his entire body was breathing vigorously and maximized to his full potential. His body condition was also adjusted to the highest optimal level.

“Next candidate, Feng Lin...”

In a loud yell, Feng Lin opened his eyes fully. A white beam flashed in the air.

The next second, his body moved speedily. Everything from static to full speed happened in the split of a second, giving people an illusion that he teleported. A tweaking, sharp sound was made as he sprinted with all his strength. His steps were flying on the track and rubbing against it as if it was on fire, giving out a burnt rubber smell.

1 second, 2 seconds, 3 seconds, 4 seconds.

Tick, tick, tick... 100 meters sprint results were out, it was 4.21 seconds!

“What? 4.21 seconds?”

Many students witnessed this scene. They rushed over and gathered around the speed tester. They kept rubbing their eyes, thinking that the machine was faulty.

Based on scientific calculations, normal humans would meet their bottlenecks in speed and strength regardless of the vitality.

100 meters in 4 seconds and punch strength of 2 tons, this was the limit. Once you had exceeded this limit, it would exceed a mortal man’s body bearing capability and make the body collapse.

Only by becoming an official cultivator could one break through this limit with the extraordinary force that transformed the body from inside out. This was also known as mortal limits.

Now, Feng Lin's running speed was approaching the mortal limits. Was that achievable by someone with only vitality of 1.5?

He was faster than someone with a vitality of 2.2!

That was not genetic at all!

Everyone who witnessed the scene nearly dropped his jaw.

Yet, Feng Lin was not surprised at all.

Different genes had a different emphasis on a human's body.

Monkeys were so agile!

The Monkey Gene that he awakened had no supernatural power, but it would greatly improve one's agility. Feng Lin strengthened his agility by 9 points which no one had ever achieved. His speed was advanced up to the limit, and it was unimaginable.

However, Feng Lin was confused. He had a superb speed and was faster than Zhao Kai, but why was his vitality so much weaker?

It seemed like there were still undiscovered secrets about the gene strengthening relating to vitality's improvement!

The exam was still on-going now, thus, it was not the time to think about this. He put this question aside and started the strength exam.

Bang bang bang.....

He bowed and bent his body. A loud crackling sound could be heard from deep inside his bones. By focusing his energy to its absolute maximum, he made the punch.

The punch roared like the thunder. In a while, a continuous series of punches hit the punch force machine like a thunderstorm.

The machine shook feebly and squeaked, unable to withstand the great force. A long chain of numbers appeared on the screen. Every candidate had to strike 100 punches within a certain period of time. Besides testing the punch strength, it tested the endurance. Going all out to give 100 punches, he had to keep the consistency of every punch besides using the maximum force. By doing that, he could get high marks in the test.

Feng Lin had a great lung capacity. After 100 thunderstorm-like punches, he was not panting despite feeling tired.

Punch strength 0.8 ton!

The machine was stating the actual data.

“What? Average punch strength 0.8 ton? That is almost 1 ton! Also, his running speed is so scary, 100 meters in 4.21 seconds.”

“How did he train himself!? His vitality is only 1.5, but his speed won over Zhao Kai who is 2.2!”

“His strength isn’t weak too! This is simply not scientific.”

...

Everybody was taken aback.

“How is that possible?” Zhao Kai was perplexed. Feng Lin’s performance has surpassed all his knowledge about genetics.

His speed was extremely fast, and his strength was not bad too. However, why was his vitality only 1.5?

Did he cheat again?

This was impossible!

The machine was an object, how could it help him to cheat!?

“Darkhorse, he is definitely a dark horse. He is the second cultivation genius in our class!” Another genius had appeared in the class. Thus, the female head teacher could only put all her prejudice aside and looked highly upon Feng Lin now.

As a head teacher, it was a massive fortune for her to have a new genius in the class.

The previous prejudice?

It was not important!

The key point was the present moment.

As long as you were capable, who would bother about how you had used to be like?

And this was the transformation caused by an examination.

Feng Lin had just shown his budding talent. He made everyone acknowledge that he, who was previously unknown, low-graded student, was finally on his way rising to the peak.

11. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Number 1: Zhao Kai, 1250 points!

Number 2: Feng Lin, 1228 points!

Number 3: Du Zhiming, 987 points!

...

In the end, Feng Lin got number 2.

In Interstellar Era, the examination emphasized more on the martial portion over the written one.

After all, the written exam only tested the knowledge and theories, while the martial exam tested the genes and cultivation.

The universe was limitless, with countless races and ethnicities.

This seemingly vast universe looked spacious but was filled with conflict.

The cruel law of the jungle made every race stay alert, including humans. Once a mistake was made, the race would probably be finished.

Only by continuous evolutions could one establish their dominance in this cruel universe.

In contrast to the pure theories, genetic cultivation involved the evolution of life's fundamental nature. It was obviously the main focus of the exam.

Similar to the written exam, there was no limit to the points one could get in the martial exam.

It was calculated with a fixed formula. Based on the vitality as its main factor, with the speed and strength as its secondary factor, it concatenated the two to produce the final result.

This implied that with a high vitality score, fast speed, and powerful strength, the final score was without limits.

It was set this way to encourage people to cultivate diligently and to break through as soon as they could to become the actual Interstellar cultivator.

Feng Lin obtained a transformation in a very short time by using the genetic equation ability to improve himself.

However, he was just an ordinary man. No matter how great the change was, he would not become a supreme expert instantly.

There was still a huge discrepancy between his vitality and Zhao Kai's who was the first in class.

In the second exam, he got 640 points which were far behind Zhao Kai's 1000 points. His total score was slightly less than Zhao Kai's.

Regardless, he was one of the only two candidates who scored more than 1000 points in the class.

Du Zhiming, who ranked the third, had been left far behind and did not belong to the same category anymore.

Temporary lagging behind was not a big deal.

Feng Lin knew very well that his previous foundation of cultivation was terrible. Therefore, he did not expect to reach the sky in a single leap.

With the genetic equation, through strengthening and points accumulation, how fast would his progress be?

Perhaps, by the next exam, he would far surpass Zhao Kai. This man would never be the target that he pursued!

Feng Lin was certain about that.

In every class, only the top three were eligible to cultivate in the Illusory Martial Pagoda. As for the rest, the rankings were not important.

The bottom ten students were all extremely sad; they looked depressed and lethargic.

They lost the opportunities to sit for the pre-college exam and could only get a high school graduation certificate. They had to struggle for a living in society.

In the Interstellar Era, cruel competitions were everywhere.

Not only humans but the same thing also happened to schools too.

Each school would fight for a good ranking in the pre-college exam to keep its good reputation and gain a good source of elite students.

To achieve that, besides producing a genius who got excellent results, the enrollment rate played a vital role as well.

Some people who were fated to be ineligible for college would lower the enrollment rate.

Hence, some low-grade students in each of the classes would not make it for the pre-college exam every year. Plus, those who dropped out could not repeat the year. There was no such thing in the Interstellar Era.

Initially, Feng Lin had been one of them. Now, with his own effort, he outshined the others and became the second in his class.

Although Feng Lin was usually calm, he was secretly overjoyed at that moment.

Feng Clan reckoned that Feng Lin could not enroll in a college. Thus, they sent him for an internship in the clan's factory.

Now that Feng Lin made a firm and strong step, as long as he persevered, he would have enough capital to negotiate with his clan soon and escape from his destiny of being manipulated.

"The rest, please be dismissed. The three of you, follow me!" The female head teacher announced and signaled Feng Lin, Zhao Kai, and Du Zhiming to come along.

Out of the classroom, they rode on the school's magnetic floating train and headed to the cultivation building.

Along the journey, Zhao Kai and Du Zhiming laughed and chatted, but none of them glanced at Feng Lin. They both had a scornful look on their faces.

Feng Lin was reluctant to bother with them too. He sat on his seat and adjusted his breaths to recover the energy consumed in the previous martial exam.

Meanwhile, the head teacher beside was quietly surveying him. She wanted to see through this student who had risen from a clear disadvantage.

Undeniably, she did not discover anything about Feng Lin, only a calmness and maturity that exceeded his age.

At such a young age, he had a mature character. If there were nothing unexpected he would

surely have a bright future.

She nodded to herself; her regard for Feng Lin increased slightly more.

The train was fast, and they arrived at an imposingly grand building soon. A big group had gathered at the entrance and waited in silence.

As they saw Feng Lin and the rest, they waved and greeted Zhao Kai and Du Zhiming.

There were only a few graduating classes in a single batch of high school. Thus, all the top students from different classes knew each other.

“Eh, why isn’t Fang Shan here? Isn’t he the third in your class all this while? Who is this fella?”

“How come we have never seen this guy?”

“Look at where he is standing, he seems like the second of the class. Did he push Du Zhiming to number three?”

“Since when did someone like this appear in the 17th class?”

...

The students from other classes looked at Feng Lin who showed up suddenly as they were greeting Zhao Kai and Du Zhiming.

The female head teacher was chatting with other head teachers too while pointing at Feng Lin from afar.

Feng Lin lowered his head and meditated without being bothered.

“Zhao Kai, who’s he?” A skinny pretty boy leaned over and asked Zhao Kai with a cynical smile.

“Just a lucky kid!” Zhao Kai’s face twitched. He answered while pretending not to care.

Yet, the pretty boy was obviously not so gullible. Seeing Zhao Kai getting exasperated, his eyes rolled as he judged Feng Lin thoughtfully.

He knew very well that Zhao Kai was arrogant and reckless. This new guy must be extraordinary to enrage Zhao Kai to this extent.

Feeling the sights on him, Feng Lin had no intentions to get closer at all. He waited for the opening

of Illusory Martial Pagoda patiently.

Bearing burdensome stress, he had no time to spare for small talks.

Soon after, the Illusory Martial Pagoda opened.

They entered according to the sequence. Feng Lin then entered a spacious room that was completely empty.

Is this the Illusory Martial Pagoda? Hmm, I wonder how it would be. This illusory martial system was the product of Interstellar technology at its peak. It was Feng Lin's first time here, so he was extremely curious.

Suddenly, the lights turned off and it was pitch dark.

Beams of light converged from all corners like the meteors meeting in the sky and formed different illusions. A thirty-story high pagoda appeared before them all of a sudden.

This was an illusory space constructed by the energy.

"Energy collection completed. The Illusory Martial Pagoda opens now! Senior year student, Feng Lin, no records of entering the martial pagoda before, start from the first level!" A robotic voice was heard.

There were thirty levels of the Illusory Martial Pagoda. The higher the level, the more difficult it would be. It was like a hurdle to overcome if one wanted to reach a higher pagoda level.

Everyone's progress in the pagoda would be recorded by the Illusory Martial Pagoda's core memory. The next time one entered the pagoda, he would start again from where he had stopped previously until he reached the peak.

Since Feng Lin had never been here, he had to start from Level 1 this time.

That was exactly what he wanted.

Starting from the most bottom level, he would figure out the virtuality of the Illusory Martial Pagoda and break through them one by one.

The gate of Level 1 pagoda opened up in silence.

Feng Lin stepped into it. The scene changed like he just entered a whole new world.

It was a martial training field. In the middle of it, a sturdy and muscular man stood in the field, giving out a suffocating and capable aura. He was wearing an old-fashioned long, green robe.

Doubtlessly, this was an ancient man from the feudalism era.

When Feng Lin approached him, his eyes opened up all of a sudden, radiating an oppressing aura.

“Hong Fist’s seventh inheritor, Hong Gang! Please enlighten me!” He put his hands together, preparing for battle. Feng Lin was slightly amazed, as this man really resembled someone alive and not just a computer simulation.

“Please!” Feng Lin clasped his hands too and treated him respectfully.

After the greeting, they started fighting instantly...

“Ha!”

Hong Gang exhaled and let out a yell. He made a step abruptly and moved like a storm, unleashing a punch.

The punch concealed a heaven-shaking prowess; its motion happened in just a flash.

Delicate like a lady and fast like a hare, this punch contained the essence of his martial arts.

Archstep Punch!

Horse Stance Butterfly Palm!

Reverse Elbow!

...

The Hong Fist was an ancient Huaxia fist technique. It was extremely violent and powerful. Once used, the user’s fist would be flowing and striking continuously, making it unavoidable.

Hong Gang was obviously a skilled master of Hong Fist. His moves were stable and fierce like a tiger.

Feng Lin had next to no experience about fighting, in fact, this was the first time he had ever fought. No surprise, he was instantly suppressed at the first move and was immediately trapped in a difficult situation.

In the next three moves, he erupted forth with strength and jumped ten steps away, lengthening the distance before changing his stance.

Basic military fist!

As a student with an ordinary background, he naturally had no way to learn valuable genetic martial arts.

This basic military fist was an elementary body-strengthening martial art. The moves were simple and effective with great destructive power.

Feng Lin made a leap and fought with the opponent. He was actually enjoying the fighting process.

In terms of proficiency and ability to grab opportunities, Feng Lin was no match for Hong Gang. Yet, he found out something queer.

The opponent's speed and strength were a lot weaker than his.

Pausing to recall, he realized what was the reason behind it.

In fact, for every higher floor in the Illusory Martial Pagoda, the vitality stats of the combat master would increase by 0.1.

As the guardian of Level 1, Hong Gang only had 0.1 vitality which was the average of Ancient Earth Era's humans.

And there was this saying: Strength subdues everything!

Although Feng Lin was not as skillful as Hong Gang, he gradually suppressed his opponent due to his immense advantage of having a much higher vitality.

As time passed, he got more proficient with the basic military fist.

Although he had ever done some training before, they were not useful at all as they couldn't be compared to actual combat experiences. Now, it was an actual fight, he naturally gained martial experiences much faster than before.

After gene strengthening, his body was full of vitality. His strength, speed, and coordination.... they were all above ordinary person's limits. He was extremely fast in learning martial arts too.

Gradually, he discovered the essence of the basic military fist and started to get more proficient in it.

At this moment, he was no weaker than Hong Gang in terms of techniques. The dominance of his vitality made the fight boring.

Dragonsnake Strangle!

Feng Lin used the killer move of basic military fist abruptly. Jumping into the air, his legs were like a dragon wrapping around Hong Gang's body. With a violent twist, he caused Hong Gang's body that was formed from energy motes to dissipate completely.

The gate to Level 2 then opened up.

Genetic potential +10%!

12. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The genetic potential actually rose up!

It increased by 10% directly and that was equal to a full day of tough cultivation.

Feng Lin thought it over and understood the essence of it.

According to the theory of the mythological genes, the path of cultivation could change the body silently over time. Yet, this kind of transformation had a very slow rate.

More often than not, a full-day training would only have 11-26% effect on the genes. The rest all acted on some useless attributes of his body...

However, the genetic equation ability could focus all the effects of training into one and store it as genetic potential.

This was the ability of the body to record data like the experience level gained from killing monsters in video games. Feng Lin could then use the genetic potential to strengthen his own body.

As for real combat, it was also a type of cultivation. And it was actually the most effective method.

After figuring things out, he began to anticipate the following fights even more.

Following the clearance of the Level 1 pagoda, the lights changed again.

Hong Gang appeared again with the condensation of lights. He did not start fighting directly but performed his fist technique systematically and in full detail.

"Hong Fist is the fist technique of Southern Huaxia. There are twelve aspects to the Hong Fist. The twelve aspects are named 'tough, soft, forced, straight, split, fixed, inch, lift, flow, transport, organize, locked'. Hong Fist is a close-combat-oriented fist technique which strengthens the inner and outer physical aspects of the body. This fist technique emphasizes on the transmission of inner force inside the body, accumulating it in order to exert the potent Qi externally. The stance was named the Six-six Stance which naturally transforms pure Yang into Yin. Basically, the moves can be divided into the so-called Three Shoulder Shrugs: the first shrug is extremely quiet, the second shrug is incorporated with Taichi moves, and the third shrug is exploding with Qi. The different elements of this technique coexist and superimpose one another, taking its explosiveness to another level. And as for the accumulation of Qi, it would be kept in Dantian. While the fist also

had the name of Six-Steps Stance, it was actually based on the horse stances. Thus, It was highly versatile as it could be used in both attack and defend altogether—it was absolutely unique...” An explanation could be heard in the air.

There was a benefit like this?!

Feng Lin silently pondered.

In fact, after clearing each level of the martial pagoda, he could learn the martial arts of the combat master of each level. That was an unforeseen surprise.

It was as if every level was a checkpoint and this was the reward of clearing it.

All in all, one would not necessarily have a great combat prowess with high vitality stats alone; decent mastery of martial abilities was essential in any case.

That was precisely what Feng Lin was lacking.

Although Hong Fist was just the most basic fist technique, Feng Lin started to learn the stances one by one.

This martial art was not too complicated which was why Feng Lin could memorize it almost instantly. Up next, he had to practice more to fully master it.

The martial pagoda was only open for a limited period. Therefore, he did not stop for too long and moved on to Level 2.

“Shaolin Seven Star Fist, please enlighten me!” A formidable martial monk stood in the field, directly rushing over after his introduction.

Shaolin Seven Star Fist, the initial palm forms resembled the flower petals. This technique had unique moves which involved walking on a straight line and crossing diagonally, capable of reacting to attacks from all directions. The hands formed claws to lock the opponents, and the legs walked in consecutive steps like chickens, allowing the user to move swiftly and overcome obstacles. The fist struck in three directions, while the leg swept and kicked the opponents simultaneously. Its powerful elbow attacks were also essential to break through the opponent's defense. Although the battle prowess of Shaolin Seven Star Fist was decent, its main strength was still the ability to escape swiftly upon meeting a strong enemy with the lightning-like footwork. All in all, there were definitely more undiscovered potentials in this technique...

This was a set of fist technique with great footwork and quick attacks.

Feng Lin did not retreat but chose to fight head-on.

Using the Twelve Aspects, he acted first to take control of the situation.

This time, he was using the Hong Fist.

To master a fist technique, the simplest and easiest way was to practice in an actual fight.

Feng Lin was staggering to find his own feet in the beginning.

Fortunately, this was only at Level 2 and the opponent's vitality was 0.2. There was a great difference in their vitality stats so he didn't feel too pressured.

Throughout the fight, he became more and more skilled in the Hong Fist.

Finally, in the 36th round, he used "Embracing The Moon" and defeated the opponent completely.

Genetic potential +11%.

As the genetic potential increased, he learned a new martial art technique, the Shaolin Seven Star Fist!

Later, he applied the technique he had just learned and practiced in the subsequent levels.

Level 3, Level 4, Level 5.....

With a vitality stats of 1.5, he smoothly cleared the levels.

Genetic potential +12%, +13%, +14%... it was increasing rapidly.

Eight Trigram Palm, Xingyi Fist, Taichi Fist... One by one, he picked up the martial arts from the Ancient Earth Era.

Feng Lin could sense the substantial transformation in his own body.

As expected of the Illusory Martial Pagoda. Spending one day in it would bring more advancement to himself compared to cultivating on the outside for ten days. No wonder it required ten thousand star coins per entrance.

It was absolutely rewarding this time!

BOOM!

A powerful strike full of momentum descended. Feng Lin's fist was like a huge hammer as he used the Taichi Explosive Fist. The surroundings seemed to be shattered into pieces, giving out a loud thunderous sound.

Under the shadows of his fist attacks, his opponent was crushed.

Genetic potential +18%!

This was already Level 9 now.

Feng Lin panted. As he advanced up the pagoda levels, the difficulty of the challenge became higher.

Every guardian of the levels was a master of martial arts. Their vitalities became higher and their difference with Feng Lin became smaller progressively. Their skillful fist techniques made him stressed out.

At this level, the illusory martial art master was a small and thin old man. Despite his looks, he had practiced his Monkey Fist to a godly level.

Monkey Fist was essentially a vicious and nimble martial art. The moves were ruthless and sinister. Each of the attacks targeted the opponent's vulnerable parts, making it hard for them to avoid.

Once being caught, the opponent would be torn into pieces.

In the beginning, Feng Lin hadn't guarded himself well and had gotten hit by the hand claws several times. Fortunately, he had awakened the Stonebirth Gene and had a tough body like metal and stone.

The elder was powerful, but he could not break Feng Lin's defense.

Finally, Feng Lin used up a large amount of energy to defeat the opponent.

Hu, hu, hu! (Sound of panting)

Droplets of sweat rolled down his cheek. Feng Lin drew in a long breath, feeling almost exhausted.

He could not go on this way, or he could never break through the following levels at this state.

Up next, Level 10. This was a level of demarcation.

This level signified the vitality stats of the combat master to be at least 1.0, which was the average level of the Interstellar humans. It definitely would be an extremely intense battle.

Yet, there was no rush. Luckily, he had free genetic points that he could spend.

The continuous accumulation of genetic potential in the Illusory Martial Pagoda was around 136%. Adding it up to the original points, he breached the barrier of 200% and achieved 232%. With that amount of genetic potential, Feng Lin had two free genetic points.

He used one genetic point on the Monkey Gene right away.

=====

“Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 1.6

Monkey Gene: 10

Stonebirth Gene: 5

Genetic potential: 136%”

=====

The Monkey Gene reached its max of 10 points, and his vitality also increased to 1.6.

At once, his body changed instantly.

The Monkey Gene could improve the body substantially once it reached its peak.

Feng Lin felt unbearably itchy. His muscles became streamlined, presenting a perfect form of muscular strength. His energy was also recovering rapidly.

He began learning the Monkey Fist again.

He had awakened the Monkey Gene, and this Monkey Fist was one of the Xingyi Fist techniques which mimicked the monkeys. It was almost tailor-made for him.

Feng Lin picked this up very fast and mastered it soon.

Subsequently, he headed up to the next level.

The next level had a scene of an ancient temple situated amidst many pagodas.

The Illusory Martial Pagoda was deceptive, nearly every level was a new world.

Feng Lin's ears moved slightly. All of a sudden, he could hear a Zen poem.

“Buddha's teachings are propagated in the human world. There are a total of eighteen esteemed Arhats existing perpetually. A person who cultivates his moral character in peace would eventually end up with the fruits of his efforts. Following the fate, allowing the mundane life to wash one's mortal's heart.”

A monk with a scar on his head moved over in big steps. He was swift and fierce. His skin was golden like an Arhat who came to the human world. Actually, he looked more like a metal man made from copper. An imposing aura radiated from him as his cassock fluttered with the wind.

“Head Arhat of the Shaolin temple, I'm Fa Jie! Sir, please!”

13. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Arhat in the human world, a copper man!

After exchanging greetings, Feng Lin surveyed the other party meticulously.

Shaolin temple!

As a human of two lifetimes, he was not unfamiliar with this name.

All the martial arts in this world originated from Shaolin.

This had been a great martial sect in the Ancient Earth Era. However, Its name silently faded away after the Interstellar Era started. Yet, with the discovery of mythological genes, this ancient martial art, which had the strengthening effect, flourished once more.

Shaolin temple had a thick cultural background. After successfully merging with the theory of mythological genes, they turned the seventy-two absolute skills of Shaolin into genetic martial arts. Since then, they became popular again.

This monk was wearing a cassock, but he had technological equipment on his body. He was obviously an Interstellar human. Thus, this meant that he knew about genetic martial arts.

He had to be careful about this!

Then, reality turned out as he had expected.

...

Vajra Subduing Devil Fist!

Sweeping his huge sleeves backward, the monk dashed like a fierce tiger running downhill, with a golden light radiating from all over his body.

His palm technique stirred up a wind, and his forceful fist broke through the air.

His palm had yet to reach, but his force arrived first!

Feng Lin could not avoid it. He was hit by the powerful air strike and took several steps back.

This was the wonder of Illusory Martial Pagoda. It was a condensation of virtual energy, but it exerted actual effects.

“Eight Trigrams Palm!” Feng Lin stabilized his stance. He applied his new skill which he learned from the Level 6 pagoda. Stepping on the Eight Trigrams, he manipulated the agile trait of Eight Trigrams Palm. He moved around the opponent swiftly.

Palm clashing against palm.

Feng Lin's figure shook, but the monk was forced back ten consecutive steps before he halted.

Although he was the head Arhat in the Shaolin temple, he was obviously restricted by his vitality stats of only 1.

The difference in vitality made it hard for him to face Feng Lin in a head-on fight.

Yet, it was tough for Feng Lin too. His hand hurt badly; it felt like being struck by a huge hammer.

“Is this the power of genetic martial arts?” Feng Lin was secretly surprised.

There were two types of martial arts. One was the ancient martial arts, and another was the genetic martial arts.

The ancient martial arts strengthened the body and focused on the technique of force exertion. It was a pure art of attack and defense. It was also known as kungfu, wushu, wrestle... and so on in the Ancient Earth Era. Every country had a different name for it.

However, genetic martial arts were different. The martial arts theory was incorporated into the genes, allowing the genes to unleash their greatest abilities. They were truly transcendent martial arts.

This Vajra Subduing Devil Fist was a type of genetic martial arts. It was capable of awakening the Vajra Gene and enabling one to form the Vajra body which was invulnerable to ordinary attacks.

The monk continued to launch attacks. His body seemed to be made of copper, his palm technique was violent, and his momentum was able to strike the target from afar. He could even leave traces of his palm strike on the hard walls. How painful would it be if his palm strikes landed on a human body?

“Monkey Staring at the Moon!” Feng Lin used the Monkey Fist, and in tandem, the Monkey Gene maximized the agility and fierceness of the martial skill.

A greyish stone-like luster appeared on his skin. As his hand came in contact with the monk's, a loud and clear sound of metal and stone clashing was heard.

The Stonebirth Gene and Vajra Gene were both genes which strengthened the body.

Though the opponent was using genetic martial arts, Feng Lin's vitality stat was 0.6 higher than his. Thus, Feng Lin was not inferior at all.

In terms of speed and strength, Feng Lin was stronger.

Finally, he found a flaw and defeated the opponent with the "Sword Dance of the White Ape".

Genetic potential +36%.

This time, the genetic potential increased tremendously. Clearly, it was more beneficial for one's cultivation comprehensiveness and mastery to fight against a genetic martial master.

Vajra Subduing Devil Fist!

Feng Lin saw the technique's walkthrough again.

The genetic cultivation arts could be classified into different grades, and there were different tiers as well. They could be classified into low-tier martial arts, mid-tier martial arts, high-tier martial arts, and supreme-tier martial arts. Each of the different tiers can be further classified into initial-grade, mid-grade and high-grade.

The Vajra Subduing Devil Fist was only an initial-grade low-tier martial art. It could only control one kind of genetic power, the Vajra Gene.

Although Feng Lin did not have this gene, the Stonebirth Gene was quite similar to the Vajra Gene in the aspect that it was also a body-strengthening type gene. The genetic effect would not completely be the same when he trained in this technique, but it was 50 to 60% applicable.

It was indeed the genetic martial arts. Even with only 50 to 60% power, those normal ancient martial arts weren't comparable to it.

If it was not for the higher vitality, it was impossible for Feng Lin to win against this monk.

Feng Lin practiced seriously and memorized the moves of Vajra Subduing Devil Fist. Then, he continued up to the next level.

In a flash, Feng Lin appeared in a serene bamboo forest filled with fallen flowers. Without him

realizing it, an immortal-looking elder walked out from the bamboo forest. He was not that tall, but he gave out a serene, distant aura. He seemed mysterious and unpredictable.

“Come!” The elder did not greet Feng Lin; he only waved. It was as if the ancient master of martial arts had reemerged in the human world. This elder projected a lofty, unyielding sense of grandeur.

The battle officially began!

Feng Lin skipped the talking and took the initiative.

After Level 10, the vitality of the Illusory Martial Pagoda masters exceeded 1 and became closer to his. Besides, they also mastered all sorts of genetic martial arts.

Losing the advantage of stats superiority, Feng Lin could only go against the opponent with his own martial skills. It was gradually getting harder to win against them.

The elder stood in the center without moving. He seemed to be shocked by Feng Lin’s ferocious attacks.

“Good chance!” Feng Lin’s steps were light and quick like a monkey hopping over the mountain streams. He went circling around the elder, looking for a flaw in his defense.

All of a sudden, his eyes flashed as his figure went behind the elder. He then grabbed the elder’s head from the back with a move from the Monkey Fist.

This move was extremely vicious, as the opponent would have his skull broken if he got hit.

Yet, it was like the elder had eyes behind his head. With a gentle and soft movement of his wrist, he negated Feng Lin’s attack.

Boom!

A waterturbo-like energy twirled Feng Lin and made all his exerted force miss the target.

The elder’s body revolved in a gyroscopic motion as if he were boneless. His body twisted freely and his hands were moving towards Feng Lin; they were unavoidable.

Boneless Taichi!

This was another genetic martial art.

Feng Lin knew of this martial art.

Boneless Taichi was able to use the Boneless Gene in the human body and make one's bone as soft and as supple as the water. With this genetic martial art, the bones in the user's body could be liquefied, making it seem as though no bones existed in the first place.

This was a genetic martial art optimized from the basics of ancient Taichi Fist.

In fact, all the genetic martial arts in the Interstellar Era evolved from the ancient martial arts. They kept the original martial theories and added the knowledge of mythological genes. Besides strengthening the body, it could refine the genes as well.

Taichi countered toughness with softness; it produced a big payoff with a small effort.

The elder had soft bones which were so flexible that he could simply bend them. He exhibited the softness and gentleness of Taichi Fist to its maximum.

Parry Punch!

His body twisted together and made three circles like a spring. Suddenly, he released the tension and blasted out a single power punch with the counter-twisting momentum.

Boom!

With the punch released, the sound of violent wind and thunder roared!

It was incredibly forceful.

"No!" Feng Lin let out a yell. He felt a massive power smashing into his body like a propelling huge mountain. He blocked it out of instinct but was still flung through the air.

Landing on the ground, he stomped his feet hard on it and could hardly stabilize his stance. His arm was hurting so bad as though it was broken.

The opponent did not have a vitality stat that was as high as his, but the instant explosive power which the elder could unleash was too ferocious.

Feng Lin's sweat dripped all over him.

Had he reached his limits again?

He was not satisfied and recovered his energy using his genetic point. After another two more ferocious rounds of exchange of moves, he was completely exhausted and had reached his limits.

However, he was not willing to let it end this way, Feng Lin wanted to find out where his true limits lie.

Ha!

At once, he exhaled and made a loud voice. His muscles were bulging out and appeared greenish gray like pieces of tough scales.

“Vajra Dragon Claws!”

One of Feng Lin’s hands took the shape of a dragon’s claw and performed the killer move of Vajra Subduing Devil Fist. His entire body soared in the air. He turned and grabbed towards a vital part—the neck of the elder—with his ruthless attack!

14. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

This claw was violent and sharp, incredibly vicious. The wind formed by the claw movement emitted a sizzling sound, leaving behind claw shadows. This was Feng Lin's peak performance, and any ordinary man would not be able to respond to that.

However, his enemy was not an ordinary man. With another twist, he turned 180 degrees and approached Feng Lin.

Both of his arms were shaking endlessly like throbbing spears. His energy was rapidly converged to one point along with the vibrations.

He drew a circular arc in the sky and trapped Feng Lin's dragon claw in it. This time, Feng Lin had nowhere to escape.

The moment they came into contact, Feng Lin felt a great twirling force change the direction of his attack. The force tore his hand, and his bones and muscles were crushed. It was excruciatingly painful.

The elder's hands were turning continuously like a millstone. They locked Feng Lin's arms so tight that he couldn't escape.

If this continued on, he would lose sooner or later.

Feng Lin felt a sense of crisis. He drew in a breath and his eyes flashed with anger, "Devil Subduing Vajra Pestle!"

He flexed hard abruptly; his biceps were bulging out and his skin became ash-grey in color.

He stretched out both of his fists, smashing them down like an iron-made, invincible pestle.

The Taichi Fist was stopped, forced to a grunting halt.

Countering the tough with soft was not absolute, it depended on the degree of intensity of the toughness.

The peaceful and tranquil water was able to slowly erode a tough rock. But would it be able to destroy an island?

Toughness and gentleness mutually promote and restrain one another. The comparison of the

degree of strength used was the key.

The extremely violent momentum was released unexpectedly. The elder was unable to avoid this sudden change and was thrown far away.

“Good opportunity!” How could Feng Lin miss this chance? His muscles tensed up, and his body soared in the air with his legs making a twisting motion

Dragonsnake Strangle!

Genetic potential +40%.

Another great amount of genetic potential was gained, and the elder's body formed of energy motes broke apart.

Feng Lin was panting; his entire body was aching with pain.

As he ascended higher, the challenges became tougher!

Unfortunately, he could not master this Boneless Taichi.

Boneless Taichi was a soft martial art. To be able to master it, he had to awaken the Boneless Gene or other genes which would make the body soft and flexible.

However, the Stonebirth Gene that Feng Lin awakened was a toughness-attributed gene. It was totally the opposite of this.

Without the associated genetic abilities, one could never learn certain genetic martial arts.

This was also the biggest difference between the genetic martial arts and the ancient martial arts.

He was sweating profusely.

Have I reached my limit?

Feng Lin felt that he was running out of energy, but he felt reluctance in his heart.

His current vitality was already 1.6. That meant he could reach Level 16 theoretically, and it was only Level 11 now. He would be way too much of a loser if he gave up now.

“My foundation is still too weak!” he silently sighed.

His vitality had increased substantially over a short period, but his previous background and talent were too weak. He did not have a stable foundation. The only martial art he learned was the complimentary basic military fist taught in the school. Also, the techniques he had mastered were too lousy. Therefore, he could not perform as well as what expected of someone with 1.6 vitality.

As for these martial art masters, they practiced and mastered the martial arts to perfection despite their lower vitalities. Their combat prowesses were extraordinary. They could easily jump levels to fight someone stronger.

To battle across the level boundaries and win, Feng Lin would feel a sense of satisfaction on behalf of the main characters in the web novels during his past life. Yet, when he was the character himself, he did not feel good at all. It felt totally frustrating.

Feng Lin had an aspiration, and he would never allow himself to give up like this.

In that case, the only option for him was to continue adding his genetic points.

After Level 10, the genetic potential gained had increased tremendously when a level was cleared. Now, his genetic potential was at 212%. This meant that he had two more free genetic points.

However, he could not strengthen the Monkey Genes anymore now.

Monkey Gene x10 + Stonebirth Gene x10 = Stone Monkey Gene.

This was the only path of evolution for Feng Lin.

Since the Monkey Gene was already at 10 points now, it was useless to add any more to it. Besides wasting the genetic potential, it would ruin the equilibrium among the genes. By that time, the genetic equation would be destroyed.

Feng Lin didn't want to risk it. Hence, he added the point to strengthen the Stonebirth Genes.

After the continuous fierce battles, his entire body ached and he even suffered internal injuries. Strengthening the Stonebirth Gene would increase his defense and recovery, so it was a suitable choice.

He had no idea about the background and the type of martial art his next opponent would use. Thus, only by strengthening his defense would he be able to plan his counterattack accordingly.

Feng Lin then added one point to the Stonebirth Gene, causing a change in his stats.

=====

"Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 1.7

Monkey Gene: 10

Stonebirth Gene: 6

Genetic Potential: 112%"

=====

The Stonebirth Gene was improved to 6 points, and his vitality stat reached 1.7.

He had only 1 genetic point remaining and one more chance to recover; he had to use it wisely.

Feng Lin went on and ascended to the next level.

The starry skies seemed boundless, and there were glittering stars in the endless darkness.

Feng Lin looked at the surroundings and realized that he was standing in a metal space capsule. Apparently, he was in a spaceship.

Before he could take the time to observe carefully, he suddenly sensed a reddish silhouette of light appearing before him.

A man in space combat attire emerged from a corner of the spaceship all of a sudden. He seemed to have been waiting to ambush someone for a long time. Without exchanging greetings, the man clenched his fists and rushed over.

Flames could be seen burning on his fists!

Blazing Fire Fist!

This was another genetic martial art. Using the power of Flame Gene, one could manipulate the flames, transcending the limitations of the physical body and launch long-distance attacks.

Hence, this martial art was a mid-grade low-tier martial art, much higher-graded than the previous martial arts.

The flames emitted waves of heat that gushed towards Feng Lin.

Feng Lin hurried and leaped to the side.

The flames blasted into the metal wall and dispersed instantly. Burning sparks from the fire splattered all over, capable of scorching the skin of humans.

There was no way to fight at all!

The explosive natural energy of the flames wasn't something endurable by Feng Lin's current body.

Swiftly making a decision, Feng Lin stomped the ground with the force of thunder and closed in instantly.

"Half Step Bumping Fist!" His figure drifted and appeared beside the opponent at once, using Xingyi Fist's killer move.

The intense palm fist was like sharp blades, causing one to feel a stinging sensation on the face.

The opponent took the initiative to restrict Feng Lin as he attacked from afar. Unexpectedly, Feng Lin who reacted later gained an advantage and closed the distance between them. The man was taken by surprise and sent flying through the air from a palm strike. The man laid helplessly on the ground as his body, which was condensed by the virtual energy, became blurrier.

After several subsequent exchanges of moves, Feng Lin had completely taken the advantage.

Displaying his maximum speed that allowed him to cross a hundred meters in 4.21 second, he only left behind after-images as he attacked. He was so swift that his opponent had no way to react. His opponent could only endure the hits as he seemed to be on the verge of collapse.

Feng Lin noticed that the opponent was not good at close-distance battles.

The Blazing Fire Fist, which manipulated the flames, was designed to be a long-distance martial art. It was not proficient in close combat.

Every martial art had a flaw, and this was the flaw

If he wanted to win, he had to display his strength to its fullest and attacked his opponent's weaknesses.

This didn't apply to merely this opponent. It applied to any opponents he had to face in his life.

Playing to one's strength to attack the other party's weaknesses. This was the basic essence of martial arts.

In that case, what was his strength?

A vague realization arose in Feng Lin's heart.

He thought carefully and figured it out suddenly as joy appeared in his heart.

That's it!

Speed is my strength.

He could already achieve 4.21 seconds when crossing a hundred meters distance with his vitality of 1.5. In terms of programming, he was simply a bug, a cheat-like existence. Not everyone could handle this.

On top of that, Feng Lin's speed surely increased with the improvement of his vitality stat. He didn't even know the limit of his current speed now.

Next, Feng Lin kept moving around, raising his speed to the limits. He played the opponent completely in his game. Within three encounters, his opponent was killed.

Genetic potential +32%!

Although he passed to the next level, the genetic potential gained reduced instead of increasing. After all, compared to the previous level where he had won with difficulty, he won this level pretty easily.

Feng Lin didn't awaken the Flame Genes and obviously wouldn't be able to learn the Blazing Fire Fist. He continued ascending to the next level and reached Level 13.

However, he didn't expect that this level would be even more relaxed compared to level 12!

15. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Illusory Martial Pagoda, Level 13.

It was an arena with a size of ten meters or so. A topless, muscular guy stood in the center and shot a look over that was filled with unkind intentions.

This opponent was two meters tall and looked like a giant. Feng Lin felt a sense of pressure to stand before him.

“Young man, are you my rival in this UFC battle?” The muscular guy looked at Feng Lin while lowering his head and said in a muffled voice.

UFC?

UFC?

Ultimate Fighting Championship!

This was a comprehensive fighting event that originated from the Ancient Earth Era. Its rules were that it had no rules. The only restriction was that weapons were not allowed. You could use any types of techniques, be it mixed martial arts, Muay Thai, karate, or genetic martial arts...

This was indeed a fist fight with no restrictions. It was greatly supported by the fighting fans in the Interstellar Era.

The Illusory Martial Pagoda was no joke!

Feng Lin silently mused. At the same time, he was analyzing the reason behind it. This Illusory Martial Pagoda had so many different battle levels which would certainly consume an astronomical amount of energy to construct, what was that all for?

Was it simply to allow people to experience different styles of battles and martial arts? There must be a deeper reason behind it.

The blurry thoughts in his mind were getting clearer, but they were still covered in a layer of mist. He could not figure out the answer.

He was clueless despite pondering for a long time. Well, he decided not to think about it for now.

Let's just focus on battling then!

It must be because he had not battled enough that he couldn't get the answer.

Feng Lin's fighting will was ignited as he returned to combat!

Lion Fist!

This opponent was a UFC fighter. He had a robust physique, and his hair was disheveled. He was a man that resembled a fierce lion. His fist technique was ferocious and savage too, exuding a vicious and terrifying aura.

Feng Lin had never heard of this fist technique, but he could clearly sense as though he was fighting against the king of the jungle. He couldn't help but get a little intimidated. This pressure was making it so that he could not perform the martial arts he learned to their fullest potential.

For a period of time, Feng Lin was unable to display his strength due to his fear restricting him.

The opponent's attack came in waves, malicious and strong.

After a few exchanges of moves, Feng Lin was clearly at a disadvantage. He then quickly lengthened the distance between them.

Utilize the advantage of speed!

Feng Lin silently mused in his heart. Using his battle technique, he moved swiftly and created afterimages with his speed.

Eight Trigrams Palm!

Eight Trigrams Palm was also known as the Roaming Eight Trigrams Palm or the Eight Trigrams Chained Palm Strikes. It was an ancient Huaxia martial art that focused on changing palm techniques and turning steps. It required one to be as swift as a dragon and had a stable, upright back, avoiding the heavy attacks while chaining light attacks to break the defense of an opponent.

Feng Lin moved using the eight trigrams stance, and his entire body was revolving continuously along with his steps. Like a tornado, he circled around his opponent.

Although his opponent had powerful strikes, he was rather slow. Feng Lin evaded the attacks easily, while his own palms were like blades attacking the vital parts of his opponent.

Feng Lin's vitality was originally already higher than this opponent. Now that he found the right

strategy, he reversed the situation at once.

He was like a skilled beast-trainer teasing a violent lion.

The king of the jungle appeared cruel and wanted to devour humans. However, when facing skillful techniques, it could only bare its fangs and waved its claws uselessly. It presented no threat at all.

“Coward, do you only know how to run? Fight against me head-on if you dare to!” The muscular guy made a few roars out of rage. His mannerisms and expressions were extremely real as though he were a real human.

Fight head-on?

That was ridiculous!

Feng Lin's eyes were as calm as usual. He was not triggered nor provoked.

He had already occupied such a great advantage, wouldn't he be a fool if he didn't play to his strengths?

Feng Lin was obviously not a fool. Using the advantage of speed, he kept the opponent firmly under his control. Finally, he found a perfect opportunity and killed the opponent with a crafty move named “Flower Under the Leaves”.

Genetic potential +20%.

This time, he fought while evading instead of fighting directly head-on. It was rather easy and not much genetic potential was gained.

Feng Lin felt that he had vaguely found a style of combat suitable to him, allowing him to fight in a more relaxed manner.

The guardian of Level 14 was a beautiful lady in black. She hid herself in the darkness, and it was impossible for someone to defend effectively against her. She was proficient in the Tang Clan hidden weapons and kept sneak-attacking from afar.

The number of hidden weapons launched out were as tight as a net, and by rights, there should be no space to evade them at all.

Yet, Feng Lin still managed to avoid them with his nimble speed and found a path out.

Next, he directly killed his opponent ruthlessly. He didn't show mercy stupidly just because his opponent was a woman.

Genetic potential +18%.

The reward of this level was a genetic martial art, the Flower Crossing Butterfly Hands. The "Precision Gene" needed to be awakened before one could control the magnitude and precision of each weapon, maximizing the power of the hidden weapons.

Feng Lin obviously did not have this gene and could not learn it.

The biggest difference between genetic martial arts and ancient martial arts was that the former required the related genes to learn it.

Feng Lin could only leave with regrets. He continued to ascend to the next level.

Level 15 of Illusory Martial Pagoda, the guardian this time was a spear-wielding expert.

An old saying once stated, "One would spend years to master the blade, spend months to master the staffs, and spend his entire life to master the spear."

The spear was the king of weapons which was also the most difficult to learn. However, it would be amazingly powerful once it was mastered.

Every attack from this guardian was life-threatening. It was like the spill of mercury, unstoppable and unavoidable. Moving and turning the spear with great speed, a whirlwind was created. It was like pear flowers floating in the storm, extremely sharp and deadly.

The sharp spear broke through the air, leaving its mark on the surrounding walls.

It was tough for Feng Lin to fight against the spear-wielder with his bare hands. He displayed his footwork to its limits and finally found a gap after a hundred rounds of moves. He knocked the spear out of his opponent's hands and finally killed his opponent.

Genetic potential +21%.

This time, the genetic martial art for this level was the Pear Flower Storm Spear. It required the awakening of the "Squall Gene" to control the wind. Obviously, Feng Lin did not have it. Once again, he could only give up helplessly.

Level 14... Level 15.... it was doubtless that the opponent's vitality stats were slowly catching up with his.

However, the expected difficult battles did not happen, and Feng Lin won both easily.

After several fights, he finally figured out his combat style.

For battles, there weren't many tricks other than enhancing his strengths and avoiding his weaknesses.

By playing to one's strength and attacking the weaknesses of others, he would naturally be victorious in all battles.

Feng Lin knew that because he had not learned the martial arts systematically before, the mastery of martial art moves was his weakness while speed was his strength.

Yes, speed!

Of all the martial arts in this world, everything was useless before absolute speed. Speed was the name of the game!

His method was to raise his speed to the maximum limit.

Perhaps, this was the ultimate goal of the Illusory Martial Pagoda. Throughout continuous battles with the Illusory Martial Pagoda's combat masters, one would be able to find the most suitable battle method for himself.

After several difficult fights, Feng Lin transformed the martial art experiences gained into his own comprehensions. He had his own perspectives on martial arts now.

Humans had three perspectives: It was the perspectives on the world, on values, and on life.

Cultivators had their own martial perspectives too. This was a thorough understanding of one's entire strength and all aspects of their bodies. They had to use the heart to comprehend it, and there was a special term for it, known as the heart of the martial path or the Martial Heart.

Without the Martial Heart, a cultivator was nothing but a spearhead made of wax, impressive-looking but useless in reality.

That kind of cultivator might have very high vitality but had insufficient battle abilities.

Feng Lin's smile grew more confident now. He continuously grew his genetic potential.

Right now, his genetic potential reached 192%. It seemed like he would soon be able to have two

genetic points.

Feng Lin then ascended to the next level. This time, it was Level 16.

Little did he know that his vitality stat as recorded by the school A.I. was only at 1.5. At the Level 16 of Illusory Martial Pagoda, the opponent had a vitality stats of 1.6. This was completely jumping a level to fight someone stronger.

His attainment in martial arts knowledge was no longer his weakness!

Feng Lin himself was feeling extremely excited, but he didn't know that by jumping a level to fight against a stronger opponent in the virtual space of the Illusory Martial Pagoda, it would all be recorded by the A.I. and would cause the headmaster and other teachers to pay attention to him.

16. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Inside the cultivation building, within a large monitoring room, a holographic screen was displaying the scenes inside the Illusory Martial Pagoda. Everything the students did in there could clearly be seen.

Feng Lin's head teacher, along with a group of other teachers, were waiting here. In front of them was a rich-looking old man, and they were all staring at the holographic screen. This old man was none other than the headmaster of the school.

"Mhm!" Zhuang Ziming from the 3rd class isn't bad. His vitality stats is 2.5 and if he continues to grow, he would be able to enter the gifted class once he ascends to the peak of the Illusory Martial Pagoda."

The head teacher of the 3rd class stood at the side and agreed with a laugh, "This Zhuang Ziming's background is extremely ordinary, but he works very hard in cultivation and possesses great potential!"

The headmaster nodded. After that, his gaze turned to another male student displayed on the screen.

"Chang Yu from the 18th class is also showcasing a domineering performance. His vitality stats at 2.1 might be a little low, but he can already fight spectacularly with the combat master of the 20th level!"

The other teachers also nodded as they agreed.

These combat masters of the Illusory Martial Pagoda were simulated using models of actual martial artists in Interstellar History. Their combat prowess was undoubtedly at the peak of their respective levels.

Hence, it would clearly be very difficult for these students, who grew up in a greenhouse like a school, to win against them in combat.

Although this student had a vitality stats that was 0,1 more than the combat master, being able to fight to this extent meant that his talent could still be considered slightly above average.

"Mhm, this Fang Yun from the 31st class isn't bad. The gene he awakened should be the Meteor Gene and it's considered a high-tier basic gene. If he can find the correct path of gene evolution, he should be able to evolve it smoothly into the Constellation Gene, and it wouldn't be a farfetched

dream for him to think about becoming a true interstellar cultivator.” The headmaster praised as he watched another student. He then turned to a middle-aged man beside him, “You have taught him well.”

“Headmaster is right. The Constellation Gene is an extremely rare and powerful gene among primeval genes. If he can evolve his gene to that, he would truly be extremely fortunate, and his future would be boundless.” The head teacher of the 31st class had a gratified smile on his face.

....

As the headmaster of a school, he was considered an interstellar cultivator at the elite-level. His judgment was naturally extremely accurate, and any casual comments made by him caused all the head teachers to spout praises non-stop.

If the geniuses of their respective classes were commented upon, those head teachers responsible for them would all have smiles on their face, feeling honor and glory.

As for the female head teacher of the 17th class, her expression was as strict as ever. However, there was an unsightly look on her face now, as the headmaster didn't even comment on a single student from the 17th class.

The 17th class in the whole cohort was considered average, and they didn't have as many geniuses as the other classes. Zhao Kai was the only student with vitality stats that exceeded 2.0.

He might be a genius in the 17th class, but he seemed incomparably average in the perspective of the entire school.

However, this Zhao Kai was famous for not being proficient in combat. He, who has a vitality of 2.2, was actually still stuck at the 18th-level. He had 0.4 more vitality compared to his opponent, but the fight was still so difficult for him. It was so pathetic that one almost couldn't bear to watch.

She gritted her teeth and felt resentful for the fact that Zhao Kai had failed to meet her expectations.

People in the same profession would always be competitive. The other head teachers noticed her predicament, and all of them glanced at her with smiles that were not smiles, causing her to feel even more infuriated.

“The third-senior year student Feng Lin, jumped levels in battle!” At this moment, a robotic voice rang out, alerting everyone.

“What? Another genius that can jump levels in battle has appeared?”

“Who? Who is it? Which class is this genius from?”

“He’s able to defeat a combat master on the same level as him. This student is considered heaven-defying!”

.....

A burst of exclamations sounded out.

The instant a genius capable of jumping levels in battle appeared, a huge commotion would surely follow. These teachers found it hard to hide their surprise.

Jumping levels to battle? How can this be possible?

Combat masters weren’t ordinary people; they were experts at the very peak of their respective levels. Who would have such combat prowess that they could jump levels and defeat the combat masters in the Illusory Martial Pagoda?

A person who could do so could simply be considered a monster. Which class was he or she from?

Could it be someone from the 3rd class who was known for the fast cultivation speed? Or was it someone from the 18th class who was known for the domineering combat prowess...?

Everyone had some names in their mind and different opinions.

A name then flashed on the screen – Feng Lin.

However, the head teachers all had blank looks on their faces as they couldn’t recall if there was such a genius in their class.

Where could this monster be coming from? For a period of time, Feng Lin’s identity caused many to feel extreme curiosity.

The female head teacher of the 17th class mumbled to herself, “Could it be him?” For some reason, Feng Lin appeared in her mind. However, this should be impossible. His vitality stats had only broken through recently, how could his combat prowess be so strong?

One must know that these students could all be considered as flowers in the greenhouses; their combat prowess shouldn’t match with their vitality stats. How could anyone possibly be able to jump levels and fight against the combat masters in the pagoda?

The female head teacher of the 17th class furrowed her brows. Could there be another student named Feng Lin in the other classes?

Amidst the discussions by the teachers, the headmaster laughed, "Seems like a genius has appeared in my school. Let me take a look at who he is."

To a headmaster, it was natural that the more geniuses his school had, the happier he would be.

He activated his authority as the headmaster and commanded the monitoring devices to zoom in onto one person.

Upon seeing the student, the head teacher of the 17th class let out a gasp of surprise, "It's really him?!"

"Eh? You recognize this student?" The other teachers curiously looked over.

The female head teacher had a look of amazement on her face. However, she soon regained her calm and smiled at the other teachers, yet she couldn't suppress that secret delight in her eyes. "He's none other than the second-ranked student, Feng Lin, of my class."

"Ah, so he is from your class?" The others exchanged glances and had fascinating expressions.

Who would have thought that an average class like the 17th class would produce a genius that could jump levels to battle? If this scene wasn't shown to them personally, they would rather believe that pigs could fly.

Before so many people, the female head teacher naturally wouldn't make a fool out of herself. She suppressed her amazement and had smiles on her face while silently wondering on how did Feng Lin accomplish this.

The other head teachers turned their attention back on to the screen. This newly emerged genius took all their attention away.

"His vitality stats is only at 1.5, but he has broken through to the 16th-level. It is true that he jumped levels, but his vitality stats is simply too low!" When he saw Feng Lin's performance, the headmaster's eyes flashed with a bright light. However, he soon sighed with sorrow.

The other teachers also started to laugh mockingly at the female head teacher of the 17th class.

"He has such low vitality stats. Seems like he had spent all his effort on his martial arts, losing sight of what is truly important, stressing the incidental rather than the fundamental!"

“Seems like he has no way to ascend to the peak of the pagoda and won’t be able to enter the gifted class.”

“What a pity. If he put all his heart into cultivation, he might really be able to become a genius. Sadly, no one guided him and he has wasted time on the wrong path, placing all his efforts in martial arts.”

....

He was originally a genius but had already embarked on the wrong path. This caused the other head teachers to sigh with relief. It seemed like this student wouldn’t pose a threat to the students of their own classes.

The female head teacher gritted her teeth silently.

At this moment, the headmaster had already found the video records and was spectating it.

“What? He has never entered the Illusory Martial Pagoda before and started from the first level?”

“What a fast breakthrough speed!”

“He is still observing the martial moves of the combat masters? What’s there to observe? Hasn’t he learned those elementary martial arts before this?”

....

As head teachers, their judgments were naturally accurate and could tell Feng Lin’s situation at a glance. All of them couldn’t help but be shocked.

The headmaster sighed again. As an elite cultivator, he had seen many things and couldn’t help but feel pity.

“This young man has never learned any martial arts before. The martial art he used at the first level was none other than the basic military fist, a martial art taught for free by the school. However, at the later levels, the attacks he used were all from the ancient martial arts used by the combat masters of the Illusory Martial Pagoda. Not only did he instantly learn them, but he could even use them freely as he willed, causing his combat prowess to soar. Seems like he is extremely talented with regards to martial arts. Initially, it was with much difficulty before he defeated his opponent, but he grew more and more relaxed as he progressed. If I’m not wrong, I think he has already awakened his martial heart. He is truly a genius in martial arts. If we discovered him earlier, we could’ve nurtured him heavily, and he might be able to become a

genius of the monster-level and even qualify for interstellar college!”

The headmaster shook his head. It was truly such a pity.

“What? The headmaster actually gave such a high evaluation?” Some head teachers trembled in disbelief.

How high was the headmaster’s evaluation? One must know that the peak geniuses in the other classes only received a slightly higher than average evaluation. Yet now, the headmaster actually said that this Feng Lin could become a monster-level genius?

If this Feng Lin continued to grow, wouldn’t he become a huge threat to all their respective classes?

These head teachers were all shocked, but they soon heaved a sigh of relief when they noticed Feng Lin’s vitality stats of 1.5.

“What a pity, everything is too late.”

“For every point increment in the vitality stats, it’s considered a huge checkpoint. In any case, the college examination is starting soon, he wouldn’t have the time to increase his vitality stats.”

“That’s right. If not, a genius might really appear in the 17th class.”

.....

All of them sighed with regret on the surface but were secretly feeling happy.

It was too late for Feng Lin, there wasn’t enough time for him to mature.

They had already judged Feng Lin as dead in their hearts.

The female head teacher was even more annoyed. If she had discovered Feng Lin’s potential earlier, maybe... But sadly, everything was too late. Sigh...

“The head teacher of the 17th class, your class has such a genius, but why didn’t you nurture him earlier?” The headmaster shook his head, his tone was filled with reproach.

The other head teachers glanced over with a look of rejoicing in the misfortunes of others.

“Headmaster, I have no idea as well. His name is Feng Lin, and before the mock vitality test, his vitality stats have always been at 0.4. He was just a normal student then. I have no idea why he

suddenly explodes forth with so much potential.” The female head teacher was extremely puzzled as well.

“What? Are you joking?”

“Stop lying, 0.4 vitality stats earlier and 1.5 now? Who are you kidding?”

“How can his improvement be so quick? Unless it’s a grand cultivator infusing his power into him to awaken his potential forcefully, such an improvement rate would be impossible. However, this is evidently not the case, or he would have already risen to the top much earlier. If that really happened, he might already be qualified for the interstellar college during his first year.”

...

The teachers in the surroundings discussed. Just like what the female teacher had expected, nobody believed her.

“It’s all true.” The headmaster calmly spoke, he had checked through Feng Lin’s past records.

As a student, every test they took would be recorded by the school’s systems. There was no doubt that what the female teacher said was true.

This was actually true! Everyone felt incomparably shocked.

Their secret delights earlier were all gone now. This Feng Lin managed to raise his vitality stats so quickly and possessed such outstanding combat prowess. If he continued to grow, most probably, he would very soon be able to threaten them all...

However, time was too short. He shouldn’t be able to make it to the gifted class right?

Should be impossible, there might be a chance, maybe...?

The headmaster’s eyes grew bright again as his interest in Feng Lin was rekindled. The female head teacher came to her wits and hurriedly spoke, wanting to claim credit, “If I didn’t judge wrongly, Feng Lin should be considered those explosive-type students. With the pressure of the college examination, his potential suddenly exploded forth. I strongly suggest for the school to nurture him!”

“I don’t agree. His vitality stats are too low. He doesn’t have enough value to be nurtured!”

“Time is extremely limited; he wouldn’t be able to make it.”

“That’s right. After the explosive surge this time, his potential might have reached its limit. Let’s not waste the school’s resources!”

...

The school’s resources were limited. If it was given to him, it meant that some other students wouldn’t be able to be nurtured.

Seeing the slice of pie before them getting smaller, all the head-teachers vehemently disagreed. Many of them were actually afraid that a true monster-level genius might really be born if huge amounts of cultivation resources were used on him.

If that was the case, the geniuses of their respective classes would surely be extremely miserable.

In their hearts, they already treated Feng Lin as the greatest threat in the competition over resources for their students.

Upon seeing these people ganging up to object, how could the female head teacher not be clear of their intentions? She felt extremely nervous and angry as she shouted, “How do you all know that Feng Lin’s potential wouldn’t continue to explode?”

“How do you know then if his potential has not been exhausted? Such a thing can only occur once, it’s impossible for a miracle to appear the second time!”

“That’s right, he was merely lucky.”

“From his information, Feng Lin comes from an ordinary background. Without sufficient resources to sustain his growth, how much potential can he have?”

....

The other head teachers all objected in unison.

“You guys...” The female head teacher was closed to exploding and was prepared to shoot back with mocking words.

Seeing that the arguments between the head teachers were getting worst, the headmaster stepped in and said, “Enough, stop arguing. This student is undoubtedly a genius. It’s just that his current vitality stats are a little low.”

He made a decision, “Don’t tell him anything yet. Let’s watch his future performance before we decide. If his potential continues to explode, we will treat him as a candidate eligible to take the

college exam, and we will heavily nurture him!”

With the headmaster expressing his attitude, the others could only give in.

But in any case, since this little monster didn't receive any real benefits yet, their purposes could have been considered achieved. The other head teachers glanced at each other while they smirked silently.

However, the female head teacher of the 17th class had almost cracked her teeth by gritting them too much.

Feng Lin had no idea what just happened. He didn't expect that his sudden improvement would cause such a huge commotion among the school's staff.

At this moment, he was fully focused on observing his opponent on the next level.

The roar of gunfire could be heard. He was in a bloody interstellar battlefield.

A human figure clad in metallic armor stood in the field. Bullets flew by everywhere as gunfire roared. A bloody stench permeated the atmosphere, and corpses could be seen littering the ground.

That figure stood there unmoving, radiating a war-torn iron-blooded aura. His entire person was like a treasured blade out of its sheath, radiating extreme sharpness, capable of slicing apart people at any moment.

To his surprise, Feng Lin discovered that his current opponent was actually an interstellar cultivator in a mecha-suit.

17. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Upon seeing a tall and sturdy figure clad in a mecha-suit standing there, Feng Lin's heart sank.

An actual mecha-suit!

Mecha-suits were considered the pinnacle of the Interstellar Era's technology. It was a mechanical body made entirely of metal, and human controllers could equip it and control its actions, producing power far beyond the strength of the human body.

Ever since humanity explored the starry skies, mecha warriors became the main type of weapons for humanity to fight against the monsters of the universe and alien races.

However, this was different to those behemoths that were several meters tall. The mecha-suit before Feng Lin was a miniature type, about the size of a normal human. Its appearance was just like ancient armors which humans wore in the past eras. The only difference was the energy core situated in the center of the armor. It was flashing incessantly, and it indicated that this was a mecha-suit.

"Test taker Feng Lin, I'm the combat master of the 16th level. Warrior No. HX-212 from the Galactic Fleet Star's special forces. Prepare to fight!" The electronic eyes of the mecha-suit helmet flared with a red light as a mechanical voice rang out.

At the next instant, Feng Lin felt a sense of immense danger.

BOOM!

The energy core at the center of the mecha-suit suddenly brightened and shot out a white ray of extremely hot energy blast. The speed of the attack launching was extremely quick. Feng Lin almost couldn't see when it was launched.

Luckily, the moment the energy core flared up, Feng Lin had already started to dodge. The extremely hot white energy ray passed him by.

Feng Lin felt a searing pain in his shoulder. He was brushed slightly by the white ray of energy earlier as it shot past. The white ray of energy blasted into the ground, leaving behind a shocking charred scar.

He glanced at the damage on the ground as his scalp turned numb. Why was this 16th-level so difficult? His opponent was an interstellar cultivator and even had a mecha-suit equipped. Wasn't

this simply cheating? How should he fight this?

However, he didn't have time to think. That mecha warrior already rushed over, exuding a menacing aura. His soles seemed to generate flames, as his speed was as quick as a shooting star.

Feng Lin wasn't in time to dodge. He could only punch out and clash head-on with his opponent. He instantly felt a vast surge of domineering might gushing towards him as his body was flung back from the impact.

This was the first time that he was inferior in terms of strength.

However, the mecha warrior didn't seem to be doing too well either. The warrior somersaulted in the air as he was also blasted back from the impact. In the end, he finally stopped as he forced himself to slam onto the ground, by virtue of his heavyweight. A bright light flashed as he climbed up and rushed towards Feng Lin once more.

Feng Lin furrowed his brows as his heart trembled.

This opponent borrowed the power of the mecha-suit, boosting his speed tremendously to the point where it wasn't in any way inferior to him. Not only was their speed equal, but Feng Lin was also inferior to that mecha warrior in terms of strength.

In all the levels before this, he depended on his superior speed and achieved success in every endeavor. This was the first time he encountered an opponent who suppressed him in all aspects.

His greatest advantage was turned into a disadvantage here. Feng Lin had instantly fallen into a predicament.

Luckily, after he awakened the Stonebirth Gene and strengthened it to an unprecedented 6 point, his skin was like stone, and his bones were like steel. His defense was extremely high.

However, he didn't take a risk, choosing to deal with his opponent carefully. Although he was in a difficult situation, there was temporarily no need for any worry.

After some time, he observed some of his opponent's abilities. That earlier attack was extremely similar to the attack of Iron Man, a hero in a comic book back in his era. The energy core was able to shoot rays of energy with devastating might and incredible speed.

For now, he didn't discover any flaws in his opponent. Feng Lin was inferior in all aspects. But the more it was so, the more he had to be patient.

Finally, he discovered something strange.

Inertia was one of the most basic physical laws in the universe. It was also extremely difficult for technology to overcome inertia the more advanced it was. One could only adapt to it and not forcefully go against physical laws.

One could very well imagine how heavy this mecha-suit was. Although the warrior's movement speed in a straight-line was extremely quick, its turning speed was extremely slow. One could say that he was quick but not very agile because of the mecha-suit's inertia.

On the other hand, Being agile was Feng Lin's forte!

Apes and monkeys were creatures that lived on sheer cliffs and high trees. If they were the slightest bit careless, they would simply plunge down and die from the impact of the fall. Yet, they could live normally in such environments, which clearly indicated their dexterity.

Feng Lin had maxed out his Monkey Gene. The advantages it provided wasn't so simple as a direct boost in his speed. His agility and dexterity also far exceeded ordinary humans.

His body suddenly spun in circles, shifting to the left and right. He kept changing his rhythm and the tempo of his movements, as well as shifting directions.

For a period of time, that mecha-warrior couldn't follow his movements at all which allowed the pressure on him to lessen.

"Look at how intelligent this student is. He actually finds the flaw of mecha warriors so quickly!"

"What a pity, it took too long for this brat to be discovered, or he might really have the possibility to become a monster-level genius!"

"His vitality stats are lagging behind the other geniuses, yet he is able to fight equally with a cultivator in a mecha-suit. Although it is impossible for him to be victorious, it's already considered very outstanding!"

.....

This scene was clearly seen by the teachers in the monitoring room.

Although they were fearful of Feng Lin's potential, the other head teachers couldn't help but be emotionally moved when they saw Feng Lin's shocking performance. All of them exclaimed in admiration, but there was still nobody who believed that he would be able to gain victory.

After all, his vitality was only 1.5 and his opponent was an interstellar cultivator with a mecha-suit.

One had to know that these interstellar warriors were all battle-hardened geniuses who were chosen carefully from the army. Their combat prowesses were extraordinary.

It was impossible for this brat to gain victory.

“Let’s continue to watch!” The headmaster now was excited as well. A mysterious smile could be seen on his face, “Although this brat temporarily manages to stabilize the situation, it isn’t going to be so easy if he wants to win. That mecha-suit isn’t an ordinary mechatronic!”

At this moment, the mecha warrior also seemed to have realized what a difficult opponent Feng Lin was. It suddenly lengthened the distance between them. Its eyes flashed with a red light as the warrior spoke, “Feng Lin, you are very strong, far exceeding your peers of the same level. Your instincts for battle are also extremely refined. However, if you can only hide and dodge, your path of ascension to the peak of the pagoda shall cease here!”

He spread his hands and stretched out, his palms facing Feng Lin in the distance before clutching his fingers into a fist.

What kind of move is this?

Feng Lin’s wariness climbed to the peak. After that, his eyes blurred as he only felt a twist in space, and everything was in a daze.

A formless energy fluctuation gushed forth and resembled invisible robes that tightly wrapped around him, trapping his hands and legs, causing him to be unable to move.

What ability is this?

Feng Lin struggled valiantly, twisting his body, wanting to struggle free. However, that invisible robed bounded him tighter.

He knew he was in trouble when he realized that the energy core in the center of the mecha-suit was glowing brighter and brighter.

“DAMN!” He roared as a beam of white light shot out.

It was clearly impossible for Feng Lin who was bounded tightly to dodge. At the crucial moment, he gritted his teeth as the green veins on his neck throbbed, “Invulnerable Vajra!”

He used the ‘Vajra Subduing Devil Fist’ and stimulated his Stonebirth Gene to its highest potential.

In an instant, his muscles all protruded out in lumps, resembling defensive scales that were shining with a stony gloss. It was as though he had just equipped himself with a set of heavy armor.

BOOM!

The beam of white light slammed into him. Feng Lin felt intense pain from his chest as his entire person was blasted backward before slamming into the ground.

This couldn't be considered anything.

Feng Lin inclined his head and looked at his chest. The area where the attack hit was now charred black as if he were roasted by fire.

If this were in reality, his entire being would have already been turned into ashes.

Although everything here was illusory, the sensations of pain, injury, and fatigue in the battle were all real.

Feng Lin frowned. He struggled to climb to his feet. He then stared at the warrior in the mecha-suit as he grimly spoke, "This is not a mecha-suit; it is a genetic-suit!"

18. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Mechas were a kind of peak-level scientific and technological creation designed based on human dynamics. It could adapt to the environment of land, air, and sea, and it was a weapon of war for interstellar humans.

However, under the usual impression of humans, mechas always inspired a sense of prejudice in them, as some humans would feel that they were just huge cumbersome machinery. But there was a special kind of existence among mechas known as genetic mecha suits or simply, genetic suits in the short form.

The majority of mecha-suits could be used by anyone as long as they learned how to control it.

But genetic-suits were different. Genetic suits were specially made for a particular interstellar cultivator, and there would be something called a genetic core embedded within. Usually, this genetic core would be designed according to the mythological genes awakened by the cultivator. It could maximize the genetic abilities unleashed by the cultivator.

A cultivator paired with a genetic suit equated to cultivation plus technology. Two different kinds of paths that ran parallel to each other without hindrance could actually complement each other so well. The might unleashed wasn't as simple as $1 + 1 = 2$. The value would be exponentially far above 2.

Feng Lin was at a clear disadvantage. Only after fighting for so long did he realize that his opponent wasn't wearing a miniature mecha-suit but was a genetic suit that could double or triple his genetic abilities.

That formless wave of energy that bound him wasn't the ability of the suit but a kind of genetic ability—psychokinesis!

Psychokinesis was invisible and formless, but it could control things through space, allowing the user to manipulate their target. It was extremely strange.

However, when compared to the other forms of genetic ability, psychokinesis might be bizarre but its actual might was very low. It was very tough to shake up an opponent of similar levels.

After all, by right, this mecha warrior only had 1.6 vitality stats. So, how strong could his psychokinesis be?

However, Feng Lin felt that his opponent's psychokinesis seemed to have some form to it. It felt

like invisible robes binding around him, preventing him from moving. This was simply illogical.

Hence, this was why Feng Lin deduced that the suit of armor his opponent was wearing was not a mecha-suit but a genetic-suit instead.

Only cultivators could control the amplification effect of genetic-suits to this extent.

Another wave of fluctuation gushed towards him, twisting the air. The formless energy wanted to bind him tighter, and the energy core in the center of his opponent's suit once again glowed with a blinding light.

Using psychokinesis to stop his movements while launching an energy beam attack? Feng Lin was like a fish on the chopping board; he had no way to escape.

But how could he fall for the same trick twice?

If he got hit by one more energy blast, he would surely lose all combat strength and would have failed completely in the Illusory Martial Pagoda.

Ho!

Feng Lin stood in the horse stance, both his legs were as solid as tree trunks, deeply rooted to the ground like an immovable mountain.

His body swelled until his entire person looked like a giant ape packed with muscles. His veins could clearly be seen, and his expression was malevolent. With a violent wave of his arms, he struggled out of the invisible binds on him.

Strength overcame everything!

Although the psychokinesis force was invisible, it was also a form of energy. Feng Lin used a method that caused an instantaneous explosion in terms of his strength, breaking free with brute force.

This kind of method was extremely exhausting in terms of bodily strength and couldn't be used too much, but it was worth it.

At the instant the light beam exploded forth, he shifted his body by instinct and barely managed to dodge the fiery ray.

He could feel a searing pain by the side of his arms from the light beam brushing across. However, Feng Lin didn't retreat and chose to advance ferociously instead.

Genetic-suit was driven by mechanical energy, and its sustainability was far above humans' stamina. It wouldn't know fatigue. Hence, the longer Feng Lin fought, the more at a disadvantage he would be.

He had to quickly finish his opponent off!

Feng Lin didn't evade and chose to fight head-on.

His Stonebirth Gene that was raised to 6 points maximized its activation potential. His skin now had the texture of stone, and he was like an invulnerable human in a stone form.

A flesh body was colliding with the genetic armor, sparks flew all around. This was clearly a clash between mythological genes and the pinnacle of science, yet it somehow contained a barbarism and hot-bloodedness that caused the excitement of those watching to soar.

BOOM, BOOM, BOOM!

Feng Lin didn't retreat as he continuously pummeled the mecha warrior with his fist, creating dents in the metallic suit, disrupting its energy output.

However, Feng Lin was also suffering from intense pain. His body also had to endure the attacks of the mecha warrior, and he was riddled with wounds.

"How fierce, how violent!" The teachers watching were all dumbstruck. This was the Interstellar Era and everyone was civilized men. Who would have thought that there was still someone using such a savage fighting method? Such a fighting method was truly rarely seen.

Also, the person attacking was actually the usually gentle and docile student? The teachers all blinked their eyes rapidly, even suspecting that they had seen things wrongly.

"What genes did he awaken? He actually dares to clash head-on with the genetic-suit. Can he really withstand the injuries...?"

"That's a genetic-suited warrior. Feng Lin is truly overestimating himself!"

"Who says he is overestimating himself?"

.....

The various head teachers started arguing and discussing.

The female head teacher was seething while she listened at the side. However, she had no way to rebut; she also didn't expect Feng Lin to choose such a foolish attacking method.

"Intelligent!" The headmaster suddenly spoke out at this moment. Out of everyone's expectations, he suddenly started clapping and had a look of admiration on his face.

Everyone exchanged glances. Earlier, they were questioning Feng Lin's battle sense, but who would have thought that the headmaster would praise him instead? This made the atmosphere extremely awkward...

"Headmaster, what do you mean?" they curiously asked.

The headmaster laughed, "You all only know that his opponent is a warrior with a genetic suit and has an incredibly tough defense. However, don't any of you realize that all combat masters in the Illusory Martial Pagoda are merely formed from illusionary energy?"

"Mhm, but so what? Their physical stats are not anyway inferior to the real ones. What's the point of Feng Lin doing this?" Those head-teachers glanced at each other, and they still didn't understand what Feng Lin's true intention was.

"The bodies formed from illusionary energy are just a kind of energy model, but their nature is still that of a lifeless object. They have no recovery capabilities, unlike humans. If I didn't judge wrongly, that little fellow must have awakened some body-refinement types of genes, allowing him to strengthen his body. He wouldn't lose out too much from clashing head-on with the mecha warrior. And because his recovery rate far exceeds his opponent's, this kind of method with the essence of harming oneself to harm others can work and allow him to last all the way until the end. Look at his opponent, doesn't the mecha warrior seemed more blurry and less corporeal now? If my guess is right, Feng Lin needs about a hundred more exchange of moves, and he will be able to defeat this opponent. But because of his heavy injuries, he should be forced to stop after this." The headmaster smiled as he analyzed Feng Lin's battle plans. Everything seemed to be within his expectations.

"Oh, I see!" Everyone suddenly felt enlightened after they heard it. They discovered that the scene in the screen was precisely as the headmaster had described.

Numerous intense head-on clashes occurred again and again. Feng Lin was injured, but he could still persist. The body of that mecha warrior grew darker and blurrier as though it would disintegrate at any moment.

As expected of the headmaster. As an elite cultivator, his judgment wasn't something the others could compare to.

All of the teachers felt impressed in their hearts as they shook their heads at how inferior they were in comparison.

However, what happened next actually exceeded the expectations of the headmaster and everyone else.

“It’s about time!” After fighting for ten more rounds. Feng Lin felt his entire body aching. He felt like his body was about to collapse and was clearly at his limits. “If I don’t finish him off soon, I’ll lose all combat strength due to my heavy injuries. It’s time to end this!”

“Add point!”

With an intent of his will, another nebula disintegrated as the free genetic point in his body was added into the Stonebirth Gene.

His bone marrow started to itch as embryonic stem cells were created, strengthening all his organs, increasing his recovery speed.

Feng Lin had chosen to clash head-on with his opponent because he discovered that energy bodies like his opponent earlier could not recover once they were injured. As for himself, he could use his genetic point, and through the process of strengthening his gene, his body would enter a state that rapidly increased his recovery rate.

Free genetic points were then his greatest advantage here. Feng Lin was incomparably clear about this point right from the start.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 1.8

Monkey Gene: 10

Stonebirth Gene: 7

Genetic Potential: 92%

=====

His Stonebirth Gene had risen to 7, and his current vitality stats were at 1.8. Feng Lin could clearly sense warm energy currents akin to waves of spring water circulating around his body. As his

strength gathered, his injuries were slowly recovering.

His opponent got weaker while he was getting stronger.

As he continued damaging the mecha warrior, Feng Lin gradually began to occupy the advantage. After yet another ten rounds of battle, he finally found a chance to kill his opponent.

Genetic potential +26%

His overall genetic potential reached 118%, and Feng Lin gained another free genetic point to spend. Just a single point.

If he wanted to ascend to the higher levels in the pagoda, he had to save this point for now and use it only in the future.

Feng Lin felt somewhat depressed. Although his opponents were growing stronger along with his own improvement speed, it was getting much tougher to gain genetic potential.

“He actually won! Not only that, but he did so with only one-fifth of the time forecasted by the headmaster. How quick is this? How did he manage to do it?” Those teachers exchanged mutual glances. This scene had exceeded everyone’s expectations.

The headmaster was astonished as well. He felt as though everything was out of his control.

Earlier, he confidently gave his judgment, but reality soon smacked him in the face.

A hundred rounds to defeat his opponent? Lost of combat strength? His limit was reached? All of these were turned topsy-turvy by the little kid Feng Lin.

Did he made an error with his judgment?!

In his head, he wanted to scream, “It’s not scientific at all, it’s not genetic at all!”

“Quickly look, he still wants to challenge the combat masters of the higher levels in the Illusory Martial Pagoda!” A shocked voice rang out, drawing everyone’s attention. All the teachers here had their eyes fixed on Feng Lin. None of them cared anymore about the other students.

19. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The genetic cultivation art for the 16th level was the Psywave Art. It was a pity that Feng Lin didn't have the Psychokinesis Gene and thus was unable to learn it at all.

He allowed some time for his body to recover before he headed for the 17th level.

The simulated scene on this level was the endless outer space. There was no gravity and the body would float freely like the seeds of the willow tree that would fly away with the wind.

The reaction of force was reciprocal. There was nothing in the surroundings and when Feng Lin was unable to come into contact with any objects, he could only flop around on the spot, unable to do anything. He was very unaccustomed to this.

Moreover, he was wearing a set of tight-fitting spacesuit. This was clearly a simulation of a battle scene in outer space.

A figure who was also wearing a space suit came pouncing toward him.

Unlike how Feng Lin was unable to land, the other party's genetic abilities seemed to allow him to control gravity, making use of other planets' gravitational force to move freely in outer space. This was the other party's home ground.

The opponent was nimble, moving around in outer space like a fish swimming in the water, closing in on Feng Lin every now and then.

Feng Lin was instantly in a disadvantageous state.

However, after having experienced battles for so long, he was no longer the newbie he used to be. He was clearly very experienced now.

It was fine for him to be at a disadvantage, but his mind mustn't be in a state of chaos.

Feng Lin calmed down and first focused on his defense.

At this moment, Interstellar's 12 years of mandatory education was put into use.

The usage of wormhole technology allowed humans to travel across outer space, just like how common it was for humans to travel via trains or airplanes in ancient Earth.

The technique of space walking was a technique that every school would impart to all of their students for free.

After experiencing the unfamiliarity earlier, Feng Lin quickly learned how to operate this spacesuit.

He pressed on a button, and gas immediately spurted out from under his feet. The counteracting force allowed him to walk freely in outer space. Although he was not able to move as nimbly as his opponent, Feng Lin started retaliating.

Other than being able to control gravitational forces and move nimbly, the other party's battle prowess wasn't actually strong.

After putting up a tough fight for close to ten minutes, Feng Lin intentionally exposed a weakness, forcibly taking an attack from the other party and then entangled the opponent with his body. He then strangled his opponent with his great strength.

After all, Feng Lin's current vitality was at 1.8—higher than what his opponent was at. Even a 0.1 difference wasn't to be underestimated. In critical situations, this little difference would mean a difference in life and death.

Thankfully, Feng Lin had the last laugh.

Genetic potential +12%.

Although the battle was intense, there was no technique involved and the potential gained was pathetically low.

He was unable to learn this "Attraction Levitation Art" of genetic cultivation arts either. He didn't stop and continued to the 18th floor.

The 18th floor's vitality index was at 1.8. He had finally entered a level that was at the same level as his vitality.

This time around, it was on a planet that was shrouded in darkness throughout the year.

The universe was incomparably vast and filled with extraordinary things. Anything could happen there.

In this planet, there were no lights from stars throughout the year, and the darkness was cold and eerie. The surface of the planet was covered in layers of frost and ice, as well as an endless stretch of sea of ice.

The moment Feng Lin entered the place, he felt a chill that pierced into his bones. It was over negative 70 degrees Celsius. With the freezing wind blowing toward him, he felt as if he was going to be frozen stiff.

He knew this place. It was the Viking Planet!

This was one of the few planets colonized by Interstellar's humans that did not have a Sun. As this place was filled with all sorts of rare minerals, humans had occupied it. Throughout the year, the minerals would be used as a source of electricity supply.

The freezing wind was like blades that cut through one's skin.

Feng Lin's opponent was a tough-looking Caucasian man who had no tops on. It was as if this extreme cold that could freeze a person to death were like a warm breeze brushing on him.

This was a Vikian. They were said to have the bloodline of ancient Earth's Vikings. They occupied this place and set up colonization here, forming a small, independent influence of the Interstellar humans.

"Kid, how dare you come barging into our Viking Planet? You're courting death!" The Vikian grinned savagely as he stared at Feng Lin with his flushing red eyes. He appeared to be very savage and vicious.

At the next moment, he clenched one hand into a fist and the cold air in the surroundings gathered rapidly, forming a trident that pierced out fiercely toward Feng Lin.

Frost Trident Art!

The Vikians were bloodthirsty and ferocious. Using the genetic martial arts that had been modified and improved based on the Vikings' traditional martial arts, they hunted down and killed the Blackice Whales on this black planet.

The trident pierced through the sky and flew over with a bone-piercing chill.

However, Feng Lin didn't back off at all. "Mighty Vajra Palm!"

He used a profound technique of the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist, moving his vital energy and blood to stimulate the Stonebirth Gene in his body.

His palms were as if they were tough as steel, presenting an extremely dark and dull brown color. Fortunately, they were extremely sturdy, managing to shatter the trident with a single punch.

However, a chill extended out from the palms, wanting to freeze his blood.

Feng Lin circulated his vital energy and blood, dispelling the chill with seething heat.

Seeing that the first attack didn't work, the Vikian became increasingly violent, not stopping his hands as he kept condensing tridents and sending them piercing into the air, shooting toward him. He himself also pounced toward Feng Lin like a ferocious tiger.

The extremely cold weather had a huge effect on humans. Ordinary people would find it hard to withstand, and their battle prowess would be greatly diminished. Moreover, when faced against the ferocious attacks by the Vikian, they would definitely find themselves in dire straits.

However, in Feng Lin's case, although the two genes he had awakened were both low-grade genes, both of them were types that could strengthen the body. Moreover, Feng Lin had strengthened them to an unprecedented index, and his physique had improved tremendously. He was now no weaker compared to this Vikian.

The freezing environment didn't have a great impact on him.

Although the Frost Trident Art was very vicious, Feng Lin's Stonebirth Gene had reached 7 points, and with his rock-hard skin and bones of steel, his body was in no way inferior when compared to ordinary weapons.

Moreover, although the Vikian's attacks came on strongly, his speed wasn't fast.

And speed happened to be Feng Lin's forte!

It could be said that Feng Lin was a natural subjugator to his opponent. Was there a need to think about the end results then?

Feng Lin didn't stop punching out. His punches were like rolling thunder, causing the tridents condensed from the freezing wind to explode. In the end, Feng Lin landed a chop on the man's throat, causing him to disintegrate into motes of energy.

Genetic potential +22%.

"He won again!"

"Under such harsh conditions, how does he still have such astonishing battle prowess?!"

"From his performance, it seems that this student has only awakened genes that can strengthen his body. Those are usually considered low-grade genes. How are they so strong on him?"

...

When the head-teachers saw this scene, they were taken aback by great shock, and their faces were filled with disbelief and perplexity.

They had never expected that not only did Feng Lin not stop at the 16th level, but he also cleared another two consecutive levels with peerless bearing, taking all of them by surprise.

“The Viking Planet isn’t able to stop him either?” The female head-teacher muttered, a little out of sorts.

Her gaze looked toward another spot where the class’ top performer, Zhao Kai, was in. Unsurprisingly, he was still in the 18th level of the Illusory Martial Pagoda.

However, Zhao Kai’s performance was horrible in comparison to Feng Lin’s. It was like the difference between the heavens and the earth.

Zhao Kai’s awakened genes were the Flame Gene and Metal Gene, and he had the power to control flames and metal.

But when the flames in his control came into contact with the cold wind, they were extinguished immediately.

The metal that was extremely sturdy was frozen into dregs that would shatter upon contact.

His performance was extremely disgraceful. To think that he had a vitality of 2.2, yet he was unable to defeat an opponent with a vitality of only 1.8. Let alone being comparable with Feng Lin, even the female head-teacher was unable to stand this.

Feng Lin’s performance, on the other hand, would help her to earn respect.

It was when there was a comparison that the weaker one stood out.

Unknowingly, the scale in her heart started to tilt.

The Frost Trident Art—the martial art that was intended as a reward for the 18th level—was revealed and it required the Ice Gene. As usual, Feng Lin was still unable to learn it.

“It seems that trying to learn genetic martial arts for free is a little difficult!” Feng Lin sighed for his bad luck as he prepared to continue to head upstairs.

Suddenly, his feet turned limp and he almost dropped to the floor.

Was his stamina depleted again?

Feng Lin panted heavily, feeling as if he had really reached his limits and was unable to carry on.

“Are things going to just end here?” he thought inwardly as his mind started to waver.

However, with a change of mind, he shook his head and immediately tossed away such a cowardly thought.

He was already at the 18th level, and there were only two more levels to the 20th level.

This was another demarcation!

The battle prowess of the opponent on the 20th level was at 2.0. If he could make it through that level, it would mean that his capabilities would allow him to reach the upper-middle tier amongst the school’s graduating classes.

Right now, he had one more genetic point. He would be able to recover if he were to add that point and he would be able to continue on!

Without any hesitation, Feng Lin added his point decisively.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 1.9

Monkey Gene: 10

Stonebirth Gene: 8

Genetic potential: 52%

=====

The Stonebirth Gene was officially increased to 8 points!

Crackle crackle!

His bones let out crisp crackling sounds that were like that of firecrackers, and his skin had a smooth jade-like texture. However, with a closer look, one would be able to see that there were dense prints all over his skin. He flicked his skin with a finger and clanking sounds rang out as if he was knocking on metal.

Was this the condition when the Stonebirth Gene was strengthened close to its limits?

Feng Lin thought that it was really unbelievable.

As he continued to attain breakthroughs, there might even be mysterious changes.

He was only two points away to reaching the maximum level of the Stonebirth Gene. When that happened, he would be able to officially merge his genes to evolve them to a higher tier.

Feng Lin looked at the higher levels of the martial pagoda, and faint gleams of ambition flashed in his eyes. He slowly headed up.

On the 19th level, as his vitality had reached another breakthrough of 1.9, it was a fight between the people at the same level.

Things turned out to be unexpectedly easy.

The opponent was an expert who was skilled in the arts of assassination. He wore black clothes, and his face was concealed as if he were a Japanese ninja. He was able to conceal himself like a shadow, and Feng Lin had no idea what gene his opponent had awakened.

An opponent like this tended to catch people off guard and was very difficult to deal with.

However, the defense of Feng Lin's strengthened skin turned out to be beyond his expectations. It was as if the hidden weapons, which his opponent used, had struck against an impenetrable shield and were unable to break through.

Although the opponent had a high vitality of 1.9, his speed and strength didn't have any advantage before Feng Lin.

In the end, Feng Lin intentionally revealed a weakness and allowed himself to be hit. He then grabbed his opponent's neck and broke it fiercely, gaining an easy victory.

Genetic potential +16%.

This time around, his opponent wasn't even able to break through his defense and was restrained by him. Therefore, Feng Lin didn't gain much genetic potential.

The Dark Shadow Ninjutsu required the awakening of the Shadow Gene. As boring and unfair as it might be, Feng Lin was still unable to learn this genetic martial art.

“Even the Japanese ninja isn’t his match! This kid is too heaven-defying!” Everyone was stunned. This stage was one that many people found it hard to deal with because they were unable to do anything to the ninja with his elusive movements. They hadn’t expected that Feng Lin would be able to clear this stage so easily.

Everything was like an illusion.

Battling against opponents who were stronger than him, crossing the barrier of a 0.4 difference in vitality, and yet still managing to succeed!

Everyone was increasingly curious.

What were Feng Lin’s limits?

This was also something that Feng Lin wanted to know.

Although other people were unaware, Feng Lin knew that with the increase to his genetic points, his vitality had already reached 1.9.

The next level would be the 20th level. This time around, things would be different from before.

To Feng Lin, this was really what it meant to be fighting against opponents who were stronger than him. Moreover, he no longer had any genetic points that he could use.

This meant that he had lost his last trump card to ascend the pagoda. This would definitely be a difficult match.

Whether he would be able to head up to the higher level would all depend on this match!

He sat down cross-legged, regulating his breathing and allowing himself to recover to his optimal condition. It was only after that did he head toward the martial pagoda’s 20th level.

What Feng Lin hadn’t expected was that this time around, his opponent was...

An alien?

No, it should be called...

Someone from an extraterrestrial ethnicity!

20. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

In ancient times, before mankind had left the Earth, they had imagined the existences of various unique lifeforms other than humans in the outer space. They felt that these lifeforms would definitely be like humans, possessing great intelligence and developing a brilliant civilization. Therefore, they were referred to as aliens.

How naive and ignorant were they?

The universe was very big, filled with extraordinary things and various strange lifeforms. There were ghost civilizations formed from pure spiritual entities, robotic civilizations that used fire as the core of their lives, and even silicon-based civilizations that had extremely long lifespans...

Humans were just a part of the weakest carbon-based civilizations.

Different races had completely different civilization consciousness, lifeforms, and mindsets. When they came into contact with each other, they would only try to destroy the enemy, and there was no way that their relationship could be mitigated. Take for example dragons and ants. Could they possibly become friends?

Moreover, the differences between lifeforms in the universe were greater than this.

When they had just stepped into outer space, humanity's ancestors had also held a peaceful and friendly mentality when they had come into contact with extraterrestrial ethnicities. However, what they had received were massacres and merciless wipeouts.

After paying such a huge price, the naive term 'aliens' was replaced by 'extraterrestrial ethnicities'.

Humans had paid a sanguinary price before they comprehended the most brutal dark laws of the jungle in the universe.

The universe was like a huge forest of darkness where each civilization was like a hunter equipped with a gun while moving elusively through the forests. The moment they were discovered, only one party could survive or neither would.

...

Upon entering the 20th level, Feng Lin's eyes narrowed as a harsh gust of hot air blew toward him. There was no water vapor at all, and it felt so dry that it was like a blade cutting through one's skin.

At one glance, this place was a desolate desert planet. The entire place was filled with sand and was desolate and quiet, without any traces of life.

“Hmmm? Where’s my opponent?” Feng Lin threw a glance around and didn’t see anyone. He was feeling stumped when the ground before him suddenly exploded.

A tall and strong figure with a height of over five meters stood before him. Its skin was a greyish white color like marble as if it was a giant carved from stone. However, it didn’t have any organs like mouth and nose on its face. It was kinda like a metal mask. At the top, there were two empty holes that shot out blue light. It had a cold and inhuman gaze.

Blue light flickered as it scanned Feng Lin’s body.

Feng Lin shuddered as a chill spread through his entire body. Even his goosebumps were popping out. He felt as if he was being seen through completely from inside out.

“Carbon-based lifeform. Ethnicity: human; strong reproduction capabilities. Civilization level: II. Approach: Kill!” The silicon giant with a height of over five meters stared down at Feng Lin as if looking at an inferior and insignificant crawling bug. The words it spouted out sounded cold and brutal, making one feel to be on tenterhooks.

“This is an alien? No, it’s an extraterrestrial ethnicity! It said that I’m a carbon-based lifeform, then what is it? A silicon-based lifeform?!” The crushing difference in their standings as different lifeforms gave Feng Lin a feeling of impending trouble.

Boom!

The silicon giant’s feet stomped down hard on the ground, and its massive body shot up toward the sky like a rocket. It then came plunging down at rapid speed.

Feng Lin was thinking of taking it head-on, but he saw that figure smashing down like a small mountain, releasing stifled whizzing sounds as it cut through the air.

His eyelids kept twitching as he knew he couldn’t block this monstrosity.

He dodged instinctively.

Boom!

The ground trembled and the massive figure smashed heavily into the ground like a meteor. The earth’s crust was smashed, and cracks that were like spider webs spread out in all directions. A huge crater appeared, with smoke and dust seething in the air for a very long time.

Feng Lin's eyelids kept twitching non-stop. How heavy was this guy?

Two tons? Three tons? ... No, it was at least five tons!

The force of his punch had only been at 0.8 tons. And even after his genes had been strengthened, his vitality had only increased by 0.4 from the level before he had taken the test. Therefore, the force of his punch wouldn't exceed one ton.

Having such a heavyweight came crashing down on him wasn't something he could fend off. If he had been slow in dodging, he would have been instantly flattened.

"Damned bug!" To think that its sure-kill attack had been dodged by an insignificant carbon-based lifeform, the silicon giant bellowed out furiously, feeling extremely enraged. Clearly, it was an intelligent lifeform with emotions.

Thump thump thump.

It came charging over in huge stride, releasing thumping sounds as it stomped onto the ground. It sounded like a rushed drumroll, leaving many deep footprints as its feet sunk deep into the ground.

"Too slow! Mighty Vajra Club!" The opponent came on with great intensity, but its speed wasn't that fast. Feng Lin dodged and appeared rapidly beside it, smashing out both his fists as if they were iron clubs.

His two fists smashed in with a majestic disposition and stifled sounds rang out in the air.

Such a violent strike could even smash rocks into dust.

Cold gleams shot out from Feng Lin's eyes as if he was looking at the scene where his opponent's neck broke under his punches.

Bang!

A series of stifled sounds rang out like hammers smashing against a tough iron slab. The anticipated scene didn't appear. Instead, a huge counteracting force shook Feng Lin's hands so intensely that he felt extremely painful.

The silicon giant smirked and swung its arms fiercely.

Feng Lin couldn't dodge in time and thus used his arms to put up a block at his chest. The

overwhelming force came crashing down, causing him to be smashed into the ground like a missile, sinking so deep in that he couldn't be seen.

The silicon giant stood on the spot, laughing in contempt, "Fool! I'm a silicon-based lifeform and to think that a mere carbon-based lifeform is thinking of using a pair of soft and flabby fists of flesh to defeat me! Hmph, even if I were to just stand here and not moving, you won't be able to hurt me! Now, die!"

It raised its two arms high up, and the ground tremored.

Countless huge boulders rose into the air, ignoring the shackles of gravity and suddenly came crashing down.

Feng Lin tried to dodge rapidly. The huge boulders smashed onto the ground, creating many craters.

The plunging rocks were like rain, and he wasn't given any opportunity and space to retaliate.

"There's no hope! This silicon giant is a silicon-based lifeform, and it is born with the ability to control rocks!"

"With such a concentrated amount of rocks raining down, even an elephant would be smashed into paste, let alone him!"

"This is it! He should be proud to have battled until now, working with a difference of 0.5 in vitality!"

...

The head-teachers commented as if they had seen through everything since a long time ago. They shook their heads and sighed, appearing to feel extremely regretful, yet they couldn't hold back the smiles on their faces.

The principal also nodded, feeling that Feng Lin had no chance of winning this time around.

Carbon-based human facing up against a silicon giant... The difference in the level of the two lifeforms was far too great!

Feng Lin also felt the impending danger. Unlike the previous battles, this time around, he really couldn't find any chances of winning.

The lifeform the opponent belonged to, its strength, body's toughness... all of them were above that of his. In terms of their racial characteristic, his opponent was able to suppress him

completely.

Although the previous battles had been tough, all of the opponents had been humans and he had never felt so helpless before. It felt now as if no matter how hard he tried, he wouldn't be able to win.

Was everything going to just end here?

He couldn't accept this.

It was fine to lose to other humans, but it felt too aggrieved for him to lose to an extraterrestrial ethnicity.

Even if he knew that this was an illusionary energy entity, it possessed the extraterrestrial ethnicity actual abilities. This wasn't just a simulated battle but was also a battle between difference races!

An ambitious feeling rose up in Feng Lin's heart.

He didn't wish to lose!

21. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Humans were carbon-based lifeforms, and the biological macromolecules in the human body contained carbon elements.

Silicon elements and carbon elements were on the same row in the periodic table and had similar properties.

Silicon-based lifeforms' biological macromolecules had silicon atoms in place of carbon atoms. Their bodies were several hundred times tougher than carbon-based lifeforms and had longer lifespans. They could live to over 1,000 years old at least.

Such an inhuman ethnicity could naturally not be dealt with using regular martial arts principles.

Weak points that could be lethal to humans were completely useless against this silicon giant.

No matter how tough Feng Lin's fists were, they were still just flesh and blood. The toughness of silicon-based lifeforms' bodies surpassed even that of most alloys that humans had.

Wanting to use a pair of fleshy fists to crush the other party was like using tofu to smash rocks—courting death!

After passing through 20 levels consecutively, this was the first time Feng Lin encountered an opponent with a body that was stronger than his. Moreover, it was a lot stronger.

His opponent was like an extremely tough rock, making it hard for him to attack.

Moreover, this silicon giant seemed to also possess a mysterious power that could allow it to control rocks. It could control rocks and send them smashing down from the distance, forming a rain of rocks.

Regardless if it was close or long-distance combat, Feng Lin was completely suppressed. This was the first time he had encountered such a helpless situation.

However, his actions didn't slow down because of this. He continued to charge on forward.

"What is he doing? Is he courting death?"

"The silicon giant's body is comparable to that of an alloy. Ordinary punches and kicks are ineffective towards it! This is a crushing difference in terms of two lifeforms' levels. No martial arts

would be able to make up for the difference.”

“He’s probably thinking of giving up! After all, he has no more chances of winning!”

...

The head-teachers blabbered on mercilessly, pointing out without any restraints, thinking that Feng Lin was courting death.

At the side, the female head-teacher was gritting her teeth in anger, but she couldn’t say anything in rebuttal. It was because she was thinking about the same things...

Feng Lin naturally had no idea that these people were ridiculing him. Even if he knew, he wouldn’t care.

It was true that forcibly attacking a silicon-based lifeform head-on did seem as if he was courting death.

But he had no other way out.

The genes he had awakened were the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene, not the Flame Gene, Waterflow Gene, or the Whirlwind Gene... Other than close combat, he had no other attacking means for long-distance battles.

If he continued dodging, he would always be passively beaten up with no chances of winning.

If he wished to win, he could only take the risk and charge up.

Only those who dared to fight for it could win!

Moreover, Feng Lin was extremely clear that the battles in this Illusory Martial Pagoda were merely simulated battles and not real. They were closer to the different stages in a game.

Since it was a game stage, then there would be a way to clear it.

This was the 20th level and the relative vitality index was at 2.0. This meant that a person with a vitality of 2.0 would have hope to win the battle.

Although his vitality was only at 1.9, it wasn’t as if he had no chances at all!

However, the crux was on how he could find the opportunity to defeat his opponent and clinch victory.

The rocks came crashing down.

Feng Lin unleashed his speed to an extreme, dodging at rapid speed and using his sharp senses to look for gaps and then closing in on the silicon giant rapidly.

Bang bang bang!

Feng Lin's fists smashed fiercely on his opponent's body like violent blasts of wind and rain.

However, Feng Lin's fingers were in extreme pain. He didn't injure his opponent, but instead, dealt himself unbearable pain.

After all, there was a crushing difference between the two lifeforms.

Although the opponent's vitality had been compressed to 2.0, its constitution far surpassed that of Feng Lin's.

Feng Lin was unable to do anything even though he had awakened the Stonebirth Gene.

An opponent like this gave him great despair.

But there must definitely be a way to turn the tables around!

Feng Lin didn't give up but continued to look for opportunities. However, the prerequisite was that he must continue to hold on.

Mighty Vajra Capturing Hands!

The Vajra Subduing Devil Fist was the only genetic martial art he learned at the moment. It was also his only hope in breaking this silicon giant's tortoiseshell.

His two hands took a clawing stance and grabbed out fiercely toward his opponent's throat that seemed rather soft. However, upon contact, he immediately felt as if he had gripped a piece of rock and his fingers hurt a lot.

The silicon giant laughed savagely, its two fists were like venomous dragons coming out from their caves, smashing into Feng Lin and sending him flying.

Feng Lin fell down hard onto the ground and then rapidly got up. His two fists presented a rock-like glow.

Mighty Vajra Fist!

The wind formed from his palms were like blades, and strong forces shot out in all directions.

The silicon giant's eyes were filled with contempt, and it didn't move at all.

When the wind created by Feng Lin's palms struck on its body, it didn't even lose a single hair.

It even returned a punch.

Kachi.

Feng Lin's two hands were clamped before his chest to block this punch. His bones released earth-shattering sounds.

Vajra Dragon Claw!

Bearing with the intense pain, Feng Lin didn't become discouraged. He performed another killing move from the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist, but the fierce attack was still ineffective.

The silicon giant stood on the spot, not moving an inch. It was like a big towering tree, casting down endless shadows that drowned Feng Lin.

Its cold gaze assessed Feng Lin as he charged out time and time again. It was like watching an ant overestimating its own capabilities and trying to shake a big tree—there was no sight of any hope at all.

Feng Lin fell down time and time again, then got back up time and time again. He charged forth as if he had gone crazy, and even when he was covered in blood and his injuries were very serious, he didn't pay them any heed.

Although it was a simulated system and all the attacks were simulated, the repeated forceful impacts still caused Feng Lin to be covered in bumps and bruises, in an extremely battered state.

However, Feng Lin still didn't give up. His gaze was fixed on the opponent as if a vicious wolf was staring at a ferocious tiger. Although his opponent was far stronger than him and could crush him at any moment, he still wanted to bite off a piece of his opponent even at the risk of his life.

The viciousness in his eyes was very scary.

When the head-teachers saw this scene, they started mumbling between themselves.

“He’s still not giving up? It’s just a trial. Is there a need to risk your life like this?”

“The only genetic martial art he excels in is just that Vajra Subduing Devil Fist, an initial-grade martial art. There are only a few moves in this technique. Moreover, he’s learning them on the spot. What use could they be?”

“Quickly admit your defeat! This is just a waste of time and you’re just harming your own body!”

...

They kept on mumbling amongst themselves.

What they didn’t see was that the gaze of the principal, who was standing at the very front, was now filled with increasing admiration.

Such a determined gaze, with viciousness and wildness in his character... This kid is really something!

What they said might be right, but Feng Lin would definitely not give up on himself!

Fighting the silicon giant head-on was playing around with one’s life.

Could it be that he didn’t know this?

This battle might be just a bout of training, but as the opponent was a member of an extraterrestrial ethnicity, the nature of the matter was different.

This was a battle between ethnicities.

A battle between ethnicities was one to the bitter end. Either you die, or I die!

The universe was very big, but it was also very small.

Feng Lin believed that he wouldn’t be forever trapped on this tiny Earth. Once he headed out into outer space, he would encounter these alien lifeforms sooner or later, and that would be a battle to the bitter end.

If one were to lose now, there would be a chance to start over again. But what if one were to lose in the future?

They would not even be able to keep their lives!

Therefore, it'd be better for him to learn not to give up right now. He didn't want to lose, and he mustn't lose!

It was not a matter of victory or defeat but a matter of one's convictions.

Although Feng Lin appeared to be in a very bad state, the corners of his lips curled up into a smile.

It was because he had found the way to win.

His actions might seem reckless, but he was just trying to prove an idea that he had on his mind.

It had been a guess earlier, but now, he had received verification.

In order to defeat his opponent, there was only one way about it. It was...

To pay a person back in his own coin!

22. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The Vajra Subduing Devil Fist was a ferocious and tyrannical martial art. Although it was just an initial-grade low-tier martial art, its prowess wasn't weak and it had a total of nine moves.

Feng Lin kept pouncing forth, unafraid of death, clashing with his opponent head-on at the price of getting injured. He performed all nine moves of the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist, attacking the various critical points around the silicon giant, but the results were extremely depressing.

The silicon giant did not even lose a single hair...

Such actions of overestimating his own abilities might seem to be extremely foolish to other people—simply courting death. But Feng Lin was well aware that it wasn't as if he didn't gain anything at all.

The Vajra Subduing Devil Fist was his strongest move and if this martial technique could not do anything to his opponent...

Then it would mean that no matter what means Feng Lin chose to take, he would not be able to deal any damage to this enemy at all.

Feng Lin also felt the helplessness his previous opponents had felt when battling against him.

Although they were skilled in their martial arts and could deal great damages, they were unable to break through the opponent's defense!

But this didn't mean that Feng Lin was unable to win!

It was true that he couldn't hurt his opponent, but that didn't mean that he was unable to kill his opponent.

This might sound contradictory, but the idea was very simple. He was going to let the silicon giant harm itself.

Some people might find this idea extremely outrageous, but this was not impossible!

Which intelligent lifeform would injure themselves for no reason?

What these people didn't know was that there was a saying in martial arts implying to pay the person back in their own coin and that there was indeed a type of martial technique where one

returned the opponent's force to themselves.

Jeet Kune Do [1], Taichi, Jujutsu [2]... all contained these martial principles.

“Hehe! Lowly carbon-based bug, are you ready to accept death? There’s no space in the universe for your kind to survive. All of you disgusting bugs should be wiped out! ...” When the silicon giant saw that Feng wasn’t moving an inch as if he had already given up, he immediately laughed hideously, and cold killing intent surged out like seawater.

A battle between ethnicities was one to the bitter death. There was no room for mitigation.

The silicon giant leaped up into the sky, surrounded by huge rocks around him, and then pounced out toward Feng Lin. It seemed to be unstoppable, wanting to crush Feng Lin into dregs.

At the sight of its aggressive demeanor, Feng Lin lowered his eyelids and didn’t appear too anxious.

This shall be the starting point where the tables were going to be turned around.

Intense fighting will once again lit up in Feng Lin’s eyes as he went charging out again.

Dodging the plummeting rocks, he clenched his fists, gathering his strength onto one point, and struck out fiercely toward his opponent. Things didn’t seem different from before.

“This move again? Is he seeking death? It seems that he has no other tricks up his sleeves. This is where things are going to end!” At the sight of this, everyone shook their heads.

The silicon giant grinned hideously, not putting up any defense at all. Instead, it hammered both its fists down fiercely.

Seeing that both parties were about to clash head-on, the head-teachers shut their eyes, not daring to see the horrible sight of Feng Lin being bashed up by the giant’s fists.

However, the scene that followed caused them to be astonished.

Feng Lin’s attacks might seemed to be fierce, but just as he was about to hit his opponent, he instantly drew back. His body spun like a top, and the spinning force brought one of his legs across an arching trajectory, landing fiercely on the giant’s right wrist.

The silicon giant’s punch missed and its wrist suddenly received an immense force. Bending unnaturally, the force was sent off the course, drawing a strange angle and smashed out fiercely toward its own head.

The silicon giant seemed to have been struck with a heavy blow when its fist struck himself. Shaking and wavering, it dropped to the ground with a plop.

Everyone stood there agape at the scene and their mumblings stopped abruptly. All of them watched with eyes wide open and their jaws dropping, appearing very ridiculous.

“Interesting! It seems that Feng Lin has discovered something!” The principal muttered as an intense interest rose in him.

It wasn’t just toward Feng Lin’s talent, but also towards Feng Lin as a person.

Having been a principal for so many years, he had met geniuses of all sorts. It had been very long since he had met such an interesting student.

It was the right decision to have opened up the illusory martial pagoda!

...

“This is just a coincidence!”

“That’s right. There is only one method to defeat the silicon giant—to unleash one’s genetic abilities from afar. It’s impossible to win in close combat against silicon-based lifeforms with their bodies being comparable to alloys!”

“It’s futile to match against the silicon giant head-on no matter how high one’s mastery in defensive martial arts is!”

...

At the sight of Feng Lin’s astonishing strike, the head-teachers were all stunned for a short moment before they all agreed that this was just a coincidence.

They strongly believed in this, but at the next moment, it was as if they were given a smack in the face.

After being struck by its own fist, the silicon giant appeared to be in a daze as it stood up wavering, shaking its head.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a strong gust of wind blew toward it, and it instinctively kicked out.

Feng Lin dodged nimbly and kicked on its upper thigh, shifting its upward force even further.

With its kick missing its target and Feng Lin's timely 'assist', the silicon giant was now unable to hold its balance due to its weight and great inertia. It dropped down heavily, slamming on the ground.

It was super effective!

After two consecutive effective attempts, everybody knew that this wasn't just luck in play.

Feng Lin was extremely certain that he had found the way to restrain his opponent and to win.

He changed his method and for the first time, gave up on fighting forcibly head-on and started to perform the soft and gentle Taichi.

Of course, he wasn't really performing Taichi but just using its technique of returning the opponent's force onto themselves.

Although the silicon giant's strength was extremely great, its movements were very clumsy. It merely relied on its body's sturdiness.

Previously, Feng Lin was unable to do anything and was unable to break through its defense.

However, as long as he unleashed his speed advantage and didn't forcibly take his opponent head-on, he could place himself in an undefeatable position. Using the principles of Taichi, he derailed his opponent's strength to destroy itself.

Although its body was tough, it couldn't withstand its own punch.

This was to use one's spear to attack one's own shield!

The only thing Feng Lin needed to be wary of was its ability to control rocks.

However, this was very simple. He would just need to stick close to the silicon giant. When he was within such a close distance, the silicon giant would hit itself if it were to send the rocks crashing down.

Next, Feng Lin stuck close to the silicon giant while launching attacks consecutively.

"Damned bug!" The silicon giant bellowed out furiously as it punched out, but its force would be redirected by Feng Lin and ended up hitting itself every single time.

Towards the end, Feng Lin felt increasingly relaxed, and he even shook his head.

This battle method was so effective that even he was taken by surprise.

This method didn't require a profound technique, and any humans who knew a little of martial arts would be able to adopt it.

It was fortunate that the silicon giant didn't excel in martial arts at all. It was born with an extremely strong body and with its talent alone, it would be able to crush many ethnicities in the universe. Therefore, it was very hard for them to master or develop profound martial skills.

Martial arts were only a tool that was used to protect oneself, allowing the weak to defeat the strong.

Only humans, who were born to as a weak ethnicity, would develop profound martial arts. It was like how in the Ancient Earth Era where huge beasts could be found everywhere, only the apes started to learn how to use tools and fire. No other species did the same. This was because they were born to weaklings. If they didn't learn to use external objects, they would perish.

Dinosaurs, titanosaurs, and mammoths had all been dominators and stood at the top of the food chain. How could they possibly learn to make use of tools?

There was neither a need nor a requirement.

The same applied for martial arts.

However, such lowly means that the weak humans used to protect themselves had now become Feng Lin's greatest advantage.

Each time this silicon giant attacked, Feng Lin would use Taichi Sensitivity to detect its attack in advance and then redirect the force so that the silicon giant would hit itself.

In the end, things became increasingly easier for Feng Lin. He kept on redirecting the forces and had the silicon giant wrapped around his fingers.

When a lion lost its sharp teeth and claws, what else can it do except for acting cute?

Everyone only saw that the silicon giant—known to be vicious and cold-blooded in the universe—kept on spinning in the battlefield. It would occasionally fall down, releasing furious roars. However, not only did that not provide any deterrence, but it appeared hilarious instead.

“Damned carbon-based lifeform! What ability are you using?!” The silicon giant felt as if its body didn’t belong to itself and kept on bellowing out.

At the sight of this, the principal and the head-teachers wore strange expressions. They wanted to laugh but yet wasn’t able to do that.

A one-sided hotblooded battle had suddenly changed to become a hilarious scene. They were unable to accept the great change.

In the past, the only method to defeat the silicon giant was to use one’s genetic ability to attack from the distance and then slowly fight it out. Other than that, there were no other ways out.

No one had been able to defeat the opponent in close combat when their vitalities were similar or even weaker.

Could it be that Feng Lin had managed to find a possibility in this impossible situation, discovering....

‘a second method?’

[1] “The way of the intercepting fist” in Cantonese, abbreviated JKD, is a hybrid philosophy of martial arts heavily influenced by the personal philosophy and experiences of martial artist Bruce Lee.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeet_Kune_Do

[2] Also known as Jujitsu or Jiu-jitsu, is a Japanese martial art and a method of close combat for defeating an opponent in which one uses either a short weapon or none.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jujutsu>

23. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Damned carbon-based bug. You deserve to die!” The silicon giant kept spinning around on the spot without a sense of direction. It kept bellowing out, punching out all over as if it had gone crazy.

Feng Lin's figure kept on flashing, appearing and disappearing, making it hard for the other party to catch him.

Each time the silicon giant punched out, its force would be redirected. Some attacks were a waste of energy, and some attacks strangely ended up with it hitting itself.

Feng Lin's strength was a far cry from his opponent's, but he ended up miraculously taking over command of the situation, leaving people in great bewilderment.

Taichi returned the opponent's force onto themselves, allowing the weak to win against the strong.

Feng Lin knew his own limitations, and no longer forcibly took his opponent head-on. Instead, he tried to sense the other party's force and then use his own to change the opponent's, causing the opponent's attacks to be unable to achieve any success.

It took enormous effort to forcibly clash with the head of the train that was moving at rapid speed, but it only required the removal of a chunk of rail in order to let the train divert from its course.

The idea was the same.

The silicon giant relied on its talent in battles and didn't have many techniques. Therefore, it was now wrapped around in Feng Lin's fingers and was unable to resist at all.

“Damn it! Damned bug!” The more the silicon giant bellowed, the more helpless it felt. It could only feel that this damned carbon-based lifeform was like a flea, jumping around on its body, but it was unable to catch him at all.

“This kid has really done it!”

“Unbelievable! How does he manage to restrain a silicon giant in battle?”

“His battle instincts are too terrifying!”

...

No matter what prejudices they had toward Feng Lin, these head-teachers all had great praises toward his astonishing performance. At the same time, they also felt great shame.

Why was such an outstanding student not in their class?

To be able to put up such a great fight against the silicon giant on the 20th level when he only had a vitality of 1.5.... Although it was impossible for him to win, with him already possessing such a great battle prowess, what would happen if his vitality continued to advance?

They would definitely put in great effort to nurture this student and not let him be wasted like he was being treated now.

Strong emotions of talent appreciation rose in their hearts.

“He’s using the Taichi method of returning the opponent’s force onto themselves! Smart choice!” the principal spoke up with great admiration.

“But what’s the use of doing that?”

“That’s right! This silicon giant’s constitution is different from humans. It won’t be defeated so easily!”

“This method of battling would only be a form of restriction. It won’t be able to deal any intrinsic harm to the silicon giant at all!”

...

Everyone shook their heads.

In fact, they had brought up a crucial point.

Feng Lin had also noticed this. Although he appeared to be having the advantage, he didn’t seem to be able to deal any lethal damage to the giant.

The silicon giant’s body was far too hard, comparable to alloys both inside and out. Physical attacks were almost useless to it. Maybe the only way to kill it would be to use the energy impacts for an extended period of time and slowly wear it down.

Huhuhu!

Feng Lin kept panting, feeling as if his stamina was going to be depleted soon. Although he was

using martial arts to divert the opponent's force, it was still exhausting.

Things mustn't be allowed to carry on like this!

The other party was a silicon-based lifeform and had a strong and sturdy physique. If the battle dragged out, there wouldn't be any benefits for him.

He must try to think of a way to restrain his opponent and clinch victory as soon as possible.

Feng Lin kept running ideas through his mind.

That's it!

As Feng Lin observed the silicon giant's heavy body that seemed as if it was carved from rocks, his eyes suddenly lit up.

Vajra Subduing Tiger!

Feng Lin arched his body, assuming a tiger subduing stance. He suddenly leaped up and kicked out toward the opponent's heart from the air.

"Seeking death!" The silicon giant bellowed furiously, stomping its leg heavily on the ground and then kicking out with its left leg.

However, it hadn't expected that Feng Lin did a spin in the air and then quickly plunged down. He swept out with one leg and kicked fiercely onto its left knee from the side.

Having missed its kick just to suffer from a heavy blow, the silicon giant lost its balance. Its massive body suddenly collapsed abruptly, causing a great stir. Its massive body that weighed five tons pressed down heavily on its weak left leg that was distorted in an opposite direction.

A crisp 'kacha' sound rang out.

It sat down awkwardly on its left leg, crushing it. The silicon giant immediately cried out in heart-wrenching pain; its blood gushed out like spring water, tainting the ground with its blue-black color.

This was a good chance!

It hadn't been easy for Feng Lin to grasp this chance. How could he possibly let it slip by?

He charged up and grabbed onto the silicon giant's broken leg, pulling at it with all of his might. His green veins popped up as if he was tugging at a small mountain while concentrating all of his

strength on it.

The giant bellowed with pain and lashed out its hands and foot.

Feng Lin, making use of his small and nimble body, kept on dodging.

In the end, with a furious bellow, Feng Lin used up all of his strength to pull off the silicon giant's broken leg that was as thick as a stone pillar.

Then, raising it high up in the sky, he used the broken leg as a hammer and kept smashing it down fiercely toward the giant's head.

There was nothing on this planet that was tougher than the silicon giant, except itself.

This broken leg was like a ready-made weapon.

Dong dong dong!

Deep stifled sounds rang out like that of the sound of drums, causing one's heart to palpitate.

Feng Lin appeared as if he had gone crazy, raising that leg and kept smashing it down the silicon giant's head. The ground was crushed as banging sounds rang out.

No matter how tough the giant's skull was, how could it possibly be able to withstand the repeated smashings?

Kakaka cracking sounds rang out. The silicon giant's skull shattered, and blood as well as murky brain plasma splattered all over, drenching Feng Lin.

Feng Lin stood in a pool of blood; he was like the yaksha amidst a sea of blood—wearing a savage expression while exuding a ferocious and bloodthirsty aura, making others shrink from fear.

In a battle to the bitter end, Feng Lin didn't hold back at all and smashed the silicon giant to oblivion.

Its massive body scattered into energy and started to dissipate. The surrounding environment also started to break down.

It was only then did Feng Lin heave a sigh of relief, falling limp to the ground, unable to get up to his feet again. He didn't have a single ounce of strength left in him.

When the teachers saw this scene, they exchanged a glance of great astonishment.

They had never thought well of Feng Lin from the beginning but also hadn't expected to be given a slap in the face from the outcome. Right now, this kid had successfully cleared the 20th level. This was... awkward.

"To think that he really did it!"

"Unbelievable kid!"

"He actually found a second method to defeat the silicon giant."

...

The teachers were all very shocked.

The 17th class' female head-teacher wore an exhilarated expression as if she had been avenged.

"This isn't something simple. In fact, only Feng Lin is able to do something like returning the opponent's force onto themselves. It requires extremely high battle instincts and martial arts mastery. Most importantly, it also requires a harsh mindset—to be vicious to the enemy and to be even more vicious toward yourself!" the principal said this as he watched Feng Lin's performance in great marvel.

Everyone nodded, completely convinced by the principal's comments.

They thought of Feng Lin's earlier crazy actions that were just simply self-torture. Ordinary people wouldn't dare to do something like this.

...

Genetic potential +46%.

This was the end!

After defeating the silicon giant, Feng Lin fell down weakly to the ground, smiling bitterly.

He really had no more strength left in him.

Having conquered the 20th level, he obtained an unprecedented huge amount of potential points, reaching the total amount of 98%.

He was just a little bit short from obtaining a genetic point. He was only 2% short.

However, a little short was still short.

Without new genetic points to recover his stamina, he was unable to hold on anymore.

Sensing that Feng Lin had lost his battle prowess, the illusory martial pagoda closed down slowly and the surroundings returned to the dark and empty scene.

He was unwilling to accept this!

Feng Lin opened his eyes and looked up.

It was as if he was trying to see what was there one level higher.

At this moment, a robotic voice rang out in the illusory martial pagoda, "We'll be announcing the final results now. First place: Duan Yunliu, 392 points; second place: Jess Klot, 371 points; third place: Feng Lin, 368 points..."

Feng Lin's name was placed third.

24. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Once the final result was shown, an uproar happened in the monitoring room.

He actually got the third place!

The illusory martial pagoda would rank the participants according to their achievements. It was based on the number of levels they had passed, the time they had taken, as well as the difficulty factor. There was no way for anyone to cheat.

This also meant that Feng Lin depended completely on himself and displayed genuine talent!

A brat with only 1.5 vitality stats actually reached the top three of the school. Who would dare to believe this? Who would believe this?

But the reality was before their eyes. It was impossible for the results to be wrong; they could only believe in it.

For this batch of graduating students, there were a total of fifty classes in the Earth High School. Yet, a brat like Feng Lin actually managed to get to the top three. Other than Duan Yunliu and Jess Klot, all other students were suppressed beneath him.

Even Zhuang Ziming, Fang Yun, and the rest which the headmaster had evaluated, all of them failed to make it to the top three.

Dark horse, Feng Lin was an absolute dark horse!

"Congratulations to you for producing a genius in your class. Seems like your guidance isn't bad." The headmaster spoke to the female head teacher.

The other head teachers had unsightly looks on their faces. When they thought of their earlier evaluations of Feng Lin, they couldn't help but feel a burning sensation on their faces.

"Thank you, headmaster. It's all due to headmaster's guidance and Feng Lin's own hardwork." the female head teacher humbly replied, not coveting for credit at all. Although she spoke like this, she couldn't hide the smile on her face.

No matter what, her class did produce a true genius. She would still be credited regardless, and nobody could take that away from her.

Even if she always had a strict expression, right now, her smile was like the blossoming of a flower. She had completely forgotten her past disregard for Feng Lin.

The other head teachers still had looks of contempt, yet they were silently admiring how lucky the female head teacher of the 17th class was. They felt extremely complicated in their hearts.

However, the words spoken by the headmaster next made her unable to smile and caused the other head teachers to laugh joyfully.

“Feng Lin might have a very high combat prowess, but his vitality stats is simply too low, not even at 2. Vitality stats are fundamental for cultivation. Next, none of you is allowed to disturb him! We will just monitor his future development and see if he is a dragon or nothing but a worm!” The headmaster made a decision and slammed his palm down on his desk. He then continued, “If his vitality stats can breakthrough to 2.0, he will immediately become a college exam candidate and we will nurture him heavily!”

“Headmaster is brilliant!”

“A vitality stats of 1.5 is simply too low. Just depending on his martial arts, he can at most amount to being an ordinary man. Increasing vitality stats are the true crux of becoming a cultivator!”

“If one doesn’t become a cultivator, their life would only be a waste. Without enough vitality, what’s the use of having a high combat prowess?”

....

Those people nodded respectively, each having the look of thinking for the bigger picture plastered on their faces.

Yet, all of them sighed with relief in their hearts. This meant that temporarily, the geniuses from their classes wouldn’t be threatened by Feng Lin.

The female head teacher was even more angered when she saw this. Her colleagues were all clearly gloating, tossing stones when she was down.

But she had no solution to this since the headmaster had already spoken.

It was true that vitality was fundamental.

If one didn’t become a cultivator, their lives could be considered to be hopeless and wasted.

No matter how high your talent and how strong your combat prowess was, everything would still

be like flowers in the mirror; the moon reflected on the surface of the water.

What made her angered was that Feng Lin's performance had been so outstanding, yet the headmaster still chose to do this. This clearly meant that he had no confidence towards Feng Lin and wasn't optimistic about his potential.

The headmaster obviously knew that his decision was a little unfair to Feng Lin. He said to the female head teacher, "Feng Lin's performance is truly incredible. Don't worry, it doesn't mean that I'm not regarding him highly. It's just that his past achievement records are too weak. Now, it's possible that this burst in potential is only temporarily, and it isn't clear if he has enough value to be nurtured yet. We have no idea if this is actually a sudden outburst of his potential or did he receive some heavenly encounters, resulting in this scenario. Hence, I would like more time to monitor him. If he can continue to soar higher, he will definitely become someone that our school will nurture heavily. Hence, if he needs anything for his cultivation in the future, you can try your best to fulfill it."

The other head teachers were shocked, they didn't expect the headmaster to actually give Feng Lin such preferential treatment. This was simply unprecedented.

After hearing the headmaster's explanation, the female head teacher could only accept it.

The cultivation building was dark and silent. After a long time, a voice rang out, "Only the third place?" Feng Lin lay on the ground, gasping for breath. He struggled to incline his head and look at the score as a look of contemplation appeared on his face.

He was very clear on the standard of the trials in the illusory martial pagoda. If it were based on the number of levels cleared, he's definitely the one with the most.

However, this was because he had to start from the 1st level. This meant that the grade of his opponents might not be as high as compared to the other participants. Hence, the points he obtained also wouldn't be too high.

In the end, he lost to second place by three points and was ranked third.

At this moment, as the illusory martial pagoda disappeared, the A.I. of this place generated a three-dimension image before Feng Lin, with data and numbers on it.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Identity: Senior Year Three student of the Earth High School

Number of levels passed: 20

Age: 17

Vitality stats: 1.5

Gene: Body-strengthening type

Strong point: Extremely high combat prowess, able to jump levels to battle...

Weakness: Genetic potential isn't fully developed, lacking in nutrients, lifeforce overdraft discovered...

=====

This was clearly a human body's attribute diagram that was similar to his skill, the genetic equation. But there were some differences.

This was the data which the illusory martial pagoda projected after scanning him. The vitality stats listed here was still 1.5; it didn't discover that Feng Lin's current vitality stats had already broken through to 1.9.

Also, this scanner seemed to have no way to scan one's gene attributes. It was far inferior to the genetic equation in this aspect.

"Warning, warning! Student Feng Lin's genetic potential isn't fully developed. The required amount of nutrients in the body is far too deficient, and there's excessive overdraft of life potential. Please hurry and replenish your nutrients!" the warning voice of the A.I. rang out in Feng Lin's ears.

His genetic potential wasn't fully developed? What did this mean?

Clearly, his two genes had been strengthened to their limits and had surpassed all his predecessors, and yet the A.I. said that his genetic potential wasn't fully developed?

Although Feng Lin was puzzled, he didn't feel that the A.I. had made a mistake.

One must know that the A.I. of the illusory martial pagoda was created from the collection of experiences of the data gathered by the countless powerful cultivators of humanity. Its understanding of the martial path and the human body would result in its scan being 99.9999999999% accurate, infinitesimally close to 100%.

There must be some other reason for this.

The A.I. was intelligent, and you could converse with it just like with a normal human being. Hence, Feng Lin attempted to talk to it.

“Hi, hope you are doing fine. Student Feng Lin, the A.I. of the illusory martial path is happy to be of service to you!” A female robotic voice rang out.

“I wish to ask a question. What do you mean by my lifeforce overdraft and that my genetic potential has yet to be fully developed?” Feng Lin asked.

The robotic voice was extremely cold, and it said something that gave Feng Lin the chills.

“The A.I. scanner is unable to fully analyze the miraculous changes to your body. The cells in your entire body are now extremely active like they are stimulated by something. However, because of the lack of sufficient nutrients, the cells might have expanded but they are in a state of long-term starvation. Recently, your vitality stats surged up so quickly due to the fact that your cells are devouring your life potential. If you do not take in enough nutrients to sustain the cell growth process, your muscles will wither as this goes on and you will die from your life potential being overly consumed...”

25. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“What? My life potential is being consumed?” Feng Lin was extremely shocked. The strengthening of his cells led to his increase in vitality. He only felt a sense of wellness he had never felt before.

But right now, the A.I. was telling him that his lifeforce was overdrafted, leading to his life potential being consumed by his growing cells. How could he accept this?

He hurriedly asked, “How should I resolve this?”

“Other than consuming a great number of nutrients, there are no other methods.” The A.I. replied.

“How much nutrients do I need exactly?” Feng Lin questioned closely.

“Unable to determine the amount needed, as much as possible!” replied the A.I.

He was unable to gain any more answers from the A.I.

Feng Lin pondered before he asked again, “In that case, if a gene’s potential isn’t fully developed, is there a direct relation with the lack of nutrients?”

“That’s right. According to mythological gene theory, genes control the structure of life and need nutrients to transform and evolve. Now that you are so strong, you must have exhausted the accumulated nutrients in your body. According to my observation and the results of the earlier scan, I discovered that your genes were strengthened but you are lacking enough nutrients to cause your body to transform. Hence, if you continue to cultivate in this manner, your body will soon be completely depleted of nutrients; you might be crippled and your lifeforce damaged. This will also limit the growth of your vitality stats. By right, given how strong your genes are, your vitality stats shouldn’t be merely at 1.5!” the A.I. replied.

“How much should it be exactly?” Feng Lin’s heart stirred, how could he not be cautious? This involved a crucial point of whether he would grow stronger or not.

“At the very least, 4.0!” the A.I. answered.

“WHAT?” Feng Lin was shocked.

Right now, his current vitality stats was only 1.9, yet the A.I. said that his vitality stats should at least be 4.0. How can there be such a large disparity?

This was simply illogical.

However, the A.I. was not a living thing, it wouldn't be possible for it to joke around with you.

"Why is this so?" Feng Lin asked.

The A.I. answered, "Genetics are the cores of life. They control the origin of life. Once a gene is awakened, it would control the hormones and nutrients in the body to create new cells to strengthen your organs. This is the reason why strengthening your awakened genes would lead to an increase in your vitality stats! But of course, the prerequisite was that you must have enough nutrients to sustain the growth of your cells. For example, if a gene is a building, nutrients would be the bricks. Without enough material, it's impossible for the construction of the building to be completed. At the same time, without enough nutrients, no matter how strong your gene is, your vitality stats wouldn't be able to increase either. According to the conjectures of genetic scholars, adding one genetic point to a basic gene would at the very least, boost your vitality stats by 0.1! However, this was under the situation that the host is lacking sufficient nutrients."

Feng Lin's heart trembled, wasn't he in this situation now?

He hurriedly asked, "What if there are sufficient nutrients?"

The A.I. gave him a reply that shocked him, "In that case, the boost to your vitality stats would be infinitesimally close to 1.0! If there were sufficient nutrients, your vitality stats would increase even further."

"It's actually 1" Feng Lin was truly shocked. It was about ten-times his current rate. He discovered that his earlier thinking was too simple.

Genetic development wasn't so simple. Not only must he continue to strengthen his awakened genes, but he also had to provide his body with sufficient nutrients to allow the genes to maximize their growth potential.

Every time he used a genetic point to strengthen one of his genes, he only had an increase of 0.1 to his vitality stats. The other students might have a much higher increase rate.

Although the answer of 1.0 was merely a theoretical value, as long as there were enough nutrients, the increase rate shouldn't be too far from it.

Also, even if the other students had an increase rate of 0.5 when they strengthened one of their awakened genes, that would still be five times more than him!

He instantly felt extremely depressed. Those people that were proclaimed as geniuses in the

respective classes who had also participated in the illusory martial pagoda, it was impossible for them to have strengthened their genes more times compared to him. But why were their vitality stats higher?

The problem was still ultimately the lack of nutrients.

This was the negative point of having no one to guide you. If it wasn't for the warning by the A.I., he would still be ignorant of this.

After knowing this fact, it could be said that he hadn't come to the illusory martial pagoda in vain.

However, in order to consume nutritious stuff, he would need interstellar coins. Things would be pretty troublesome.

Feng Lin was very clear about what sort of background he was from. There was truly no way for his family to provide him with nutritious food. They were all consuming the lowest-grade nutrient fluids.

Such low-grade nutrient fluids might be able to fill one's stomach, but the nutrient content in them was simply too low. Thus, it was impossible for his body, or in this case his gene, to grow.

If he wished to continue cultivating, he had to eat better food. As an example, maybe consuming mid-grade nutrient medicine or high-grade nutrient fluids?

No, these were still far from sufficient.

He needed more high-level tonics such as super protein, flesh from cosmic beasts, energy potion, etc.

However, all of this cost money. He simply needed more interstellar coins!

Feng Lin soon came to realize that his birth in a poor background like the Feng Clan had severely restricted his development. However, he wasn't complaining.

"While the world spins in orbit, a superior man makes relentless endeavors for advancement."

The path of cultivation was incomparably long. It was impossible to walk far on it if one kept wanting to depend on others. One could only depend on oneself.

So, he should think of more solutions to earn money next.

If he didn't have enough nutrients and continued to strengthen his genes without giving a damn, it

would mean that he was draining the pond to get the fish; he would be risking his life and risking his cultivation.

After being clear about this point, Feng Lin naturally wouldn't make such a stupid choice. He silently determined that before he consumed enough nutrients, he wouldn't strengthen his genes rashly.

After a while, Feng Lin's physical strength gradually recovered to a certain point. He then stood up exhausted as he walked out of the cultivation building.

At this moment, the other students also exited respectively. All of them had the looks of exhaustion on their faces as though they had just experienced a tough war.

Those head teachers were dispatching bottles and bottles of nutrient medicine to them.

Feng Lin glanced closely at the bottles and discovered that they were the newest batch of nutrient medicine named as the Green God Type-3 nutrient medicine. It was said that this was made from the distillation of many valuable plants in the universe and had many different types of nutrients mixed within. Just a single bottle would cost above 1,000 interstellar coins and was worth roughly about ten-days of nutrients intake for a human.

"Take this!" The female head teacher tossed a bottle of nutrient medicine over.

"Teacher, this..." Feng Lin caught it and hesitated. This was too valuable.

"The illusory martial pagoda exhausts too much strength. This is the compensation given by the school to all the participating students, allowing you guys to recover faster. Stop being so wishy-washy, just take it since we are giving it out." the female head teacher spoke

Feng Lin felt somewhat strange with regards to the female head teacher's change in attitude.

However, he naturally wouldn't miss out on such a good opportunity.

Feng Lin wasn't someone pretentious. He received it and said, "Thank you, teacher!"

After speaking, he turned and departed, not noticing the cold gazes directed at his back.

After he left, he started heading in the direction of his home.

Staring the bottle in his hand, Feng Lin felt more and more thirsty. He panicked and felt that he was so hungry that he could eat a cow.

That alluring scent was nothing short of torture. After that, he couldn't resist any longer and opened the bottle cap and drank everything in one gulp.

Once the nutrient fluids entered his stomach, he instantly felt itchy all over, as warm currents circulated around his body.

An expression of satisfaction appeared on Feng Lin's face, but the feeling of hunger kept surging up.

He still wanted to drink more!

One had to know that a bottle of nutrient fluids contained nutrients enough for an ordinary person to last for ten days. However, other than feeling a little change to his body, Feng Lin didn't feel any difference in comparison to not drinking it.

From this, one could see how severely depleted of nutrients he was.

His sole objective now should be to make money to allow him to consume enough nutrients. Feng Lin felt a sense of urgency.

"Hold it right there." Just as he exited the school gate, a group of people suddenly appeared before him. The person in the lead was tall and handsome, however, the tyrannical expression on his face spoiled his handsome looks somewhat.

It was none other than the top-ranked student in Feng Lin's class, Zhao Kai!

26. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

This group of students then spread out, surrounding Feng Lin. They had cold smiles on their faces as they surveyed Feng Lin. It was clear that they came with unkind intentions.

“Zhao Kai, what do you want?” Feng Lin glanced at Zhao Kai who was in the lead. His tone was calm, like he wasn’t in this situation at all.

“Zhao Kai. Is this the new genius ‘Feng Lin’ from your 17th class?” A burst of cold-sounding laughter rang out.

Zhao Kai, who was one of the top geniuses of the 17th class, instantly had an obsequious expression on his face. He glanced respectfully at a tall caucasian youth as he spoke, “He is the one, Young master Klot!”

This youth from the white race was two meters tall; his facial features were striking with a towering eagle-like nose. The aura he exuded felt extremely sinister. His figure was lanky and muscular, like a leopard in human-form. His vitality stats were clearly extraordinary.

The ten over students here, who were his lackeys, all had vitality stats of at least 1.0. These people were actually willing to become the lackeys of this caucasian youth. It seemed like they must have obtained some benefits from this Young Master Klot.

Feng Lin knew this man.

In the Interstellar Era, the various human races of earth had long crossed the limits of their respective regions, traversing large distances and had procreated with each other, giving birth to many mixed-blood.

Although the Huaxia City Feng Lin was in was the territory of the Republic of China of Ancient Earth Era, other than people of the yellow race, there were quite a few from the black race and white race as well although they were a minority.

As for this Jess Klot, he was precisely a famous caucasian genius from the white race. He was very powerful and extremely famous. It was said that he was a young master from a financial group in the Huaxia City, and his clan’s net worth was above 20 billion interstellar coins.

With such a good background, his clan naturally could provide good-quality resources which allowed Jess Klot to have a startling vitality stats, reaching over 2.5. This time, Feng Lin’s result in the illusory martial pagoda was actually only three points lower than his. From this, he could sense

that Feng Lin was a formidable opponent.

Feng Lin didn't know why this person wanted to make trouble for him but even so, he would treat this person politely.

But clearly, the other party didn't think like him. Klot glanced at Feng Lin and had a scornful expression on his face.

At this moment, Zhao Kai already walked over. He forcefully asked Feng Lin, "What are you still in a daze for? Young Master Klot is here. Why are you not coming over to pay your respects?"

"We are all schoolmates." Feng Lin almost burst into laughter as he shook his head. "This is already the Interstellar Era, but you are still using this move from the ancient times? Are you guys from a gang? You even want me to pay respect? When did the school have such a rule?"

"You dare to speak to Young Master Klot this way?"

"The ignorant are fearless, you are courting death!"

"How brazen. Young Master Klot, do you want us to beat him up and teach him a lesson first?"

....

Those lackeys crowded over, surrounding him, and was looking at him like how tigers look at their prey. It was clear this wasn't the first time they were doing such a thing.

Feng Lin didn't seem to be bothered. He took up a stance and was prepared to enter his combat mode at any moment.

"Brat, you are truly gutsy." Klot waved his hand, telling his lackeys to open a path for him. He walked closer, peering down at Feng Lin. "If you thought you could do whatever you want just because of a one-time dazzling performance, you are gravely mistaken. The only true geniuses of the school are me and Duan Yunliu. There's no place for you!"

Oh? Do you think you are God? Everything will be according to what you say?

Staring at the disdainful look on Jess Klot's face, Feng Lin also couldn't be bothered to waste words with such an arrogant person. This was simply wasting his own time.

He was already surrounded by his enemies. If this was the past him, he would definitely feel immense pressure in his heart. But now, with strength comes confidence. He didn't beat around the bush and said directly, "Why are you looking for me? Just tell me what you want, stop acting

so wishy-washy if you are a man.”

Klot's eyes narrowed. Every time he spoke to people, those he was speaking to would always be extremely respectful to him. Who would have thought that this Feng Lin didn't want to give him face at all?

He was about to blow his top, but when he thought about his purpose, he managed to calm himself down and suppress the anger he felt.

I'll temporarily endure your words. After I get what I want, I'll show you who's the boss.

“Today, I'm looking for you because I need you to do me a favor.” Klot calmly spoke. He then continued, “Your current explosive improvement led to your domineering performance. You must have encountered some heavenly good fortune, right? If you tell me the secret, I'll give you 10,000 interstellar coins! You little country bumpkin, I bet you've never seen such a large fortune like 10,000 interstellar coins before, right?”

“What? You want me to give you the secret of how I grew stronger?” A strange look appeared on Feng Lin's face. These people were actually forcing him to tell them his secret of growing stronger?

Brains are good stuff, I can only hope that other people have brains too.

Undoubtedly, Feng Lin was very clear about how powerful the genetic equation was. Now, this man actually wanted him to hand it over? Was this person crazy or what?

This involved the crux of Feng Lin becoming stronger. When one's cultivation base grew stronger, what else could he not achieve? Only a fool would trade with this guy.

In any case, it was impossible to trade away the genetic equation. It was an innate ability that uniquely belonged to him. Even if he could, he would never do so.

10,000 interstellar coins? Are you treating me like a beggar?

Let alone 10,000. Even if it was a million, ten million or a billion, he would never trade it away.

“Hehehe.” Feng Lin started laughing, feeling like this man before him had gone crazy.

“What are you laughing about?” Klot's eyelids were twitching, feeling like he was being mocked. His expression instantly turned sinister.

“Hehehe...hehehe...hehehe...” Feng Lin didn't answer and continued to laugh. A clear mocking

look could be seen in his eyes.

Other than laughing at Klot's stupidity, there was truly nothing more to say to him.

"WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?" Klot was angered. Seeing that Feng Lin wasn't going to tell him the secret, the flames of anger in his heart burned even fiercer.

Since young, he lived like a prince, and as the number two genius in this school, no one had ever viewed him with contempt before.

This time in the illusory martial pagoda, he was suppressed once more by Duan Yunliu. It seemed like no matter how hard he worked, it was impossible for him to surpass the other party.

What made him even more humiliated was that an unknown brat got the third place, and the point difference between them was only three points apart. This was simply too face-smacking.

It was only after Zhao Kai looked for him and told him everything did he realized that this was a perfect opportunity.

Before this, this unknown brat only at a vitality stats of 0.4. Now, for some reason, his vitality suddenly shot up explosively, reaching 1.5. It was clear that he must have met with some heavenly encounters.

Such good fortune would be a waste on this person. Only him, Jess Klot, was qualified to enjoy the good fortune. He might very well defeat Duan Yunliu in a single move and become the number one genius in the school instantly if he could gain the good fortune from Feng Lin.

In order to please him, Zhao Kai immediately made a solemn vow saying that he would force Feng Lin to hand over the secret he had obtained to him.

Jess Klot's heart was already completely tempted by greed.

But now, seeing that this brat refused to comply, Jess Klot was incomparably enraged as he glared at Zhao Kai. "This is completely different from how you say the situation would go. Take care of matters arising from your own class!"

His tone was ice-cold. It was like if Zhao Kai couldn't settle this, he would deal with Zhao Kai.

Zhao Kai's expression stiffened. He took a step forward and roared, "Feng Lin, quickly hand over your secret if you know what's good for you. Young Master Klot won't be so polite any longer. This is for your own good, and in any case, it's a waste for such a secret to remain with you. In the future, if you follow Young Master Klot, you would have endless benefits."

“If you want to be an idiot, you can go ahead. Are you treating me like a fool as well?” Feng Lin didn’t mask the disdain on his face. “If you want to be a dog, don’t drag me into this as well.”

“You...” Zhao Kai trembled in rage.

As one of the genius in the 17th class, he had always been widely respected. Now that he was being called a dog, how could he tolerate this?

Seeing that Zhao Kai was unable to take down Feng Lin, Klot had also lost his patience. “Quickly!”

“Feng Lin since you want to court death, you can’t blame me for not showing mercy even if you are one of my classmates.” Zhao Kai’s expression turned completely cold. He was looking at Feng Lin like how he was looking at a dead man.

Blazing Meteor Fist!

His fists burned with flames and attacked with no hesitation.

Both his fists punched out rapidly and balls of flames shot over as dense as rain, causing mini-explosions to ring out in the air. The attacks instantly enveloped Feng Lin within...

27. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The flames blazed fiercely as dense as rain, and the attack had the speed of shooting stars.

Feng Lin stood his ground unmovingly; it was as though he was too frightened by the attack and couldn't move.

The flames instantly enveloped Feng Lin as his silhouette completely vanished within.

"Haha, that brat is going to be burned to death!"

"As expected of the number one character beneath Young Master Klot. Zhao Kai's Blazing Meteor Fist is as ferocious as before!"

"This brat talks a tough game, who would have thought that he would be so weak!"

...

These lackeys all started cheering like they wanted nothing more but to watch the skies burn.

Klot stared at this scene as he furrowed his brows.

This brat suddenly rose up and obtained the third-place ranking in the illusory martial pagoda. Was his strength really so weak?

But how can he obtain such a good result if he's so weak?

Could it be that the A.I. had made a mistake?

"Zhao Kai, take note. Don't burn him to death." He frowned and reminded him.

"Young Master Klot, don't worry. I know what to do. The intensity of these flames can at most char his skin; there's no need to worry about permanent scarring given the medical technology we have today. If we don't scare him a little, he wouldn't be obedient!" Zhao Kai laughed malevolently.

Klot nodded after he heard that. This made sense to him.

In any case, he was rich. As long as Feng Lin didn't die from the burns, he would be able to heal him. It was good to let this brat suffer a bit, or he wouldn't know the immensity of heavens and earth.

“You want me to submit? Your fist is so tiny, what a beautiful fantasy.” A burst of cold laughter suddenly rang out.

“What?” Everyone exclaimed in shock.

RUMBLE!

An explosion occurred within the flames. Feng Lin walked out slowly; he was completely uninjured. There were no traces of burns on his skin at all.

“How can this be. You are actually completely fine?” Zhao Kai was stunned. He had unleashed his strongest attack, yet it didn’t even injure this brat? How could he accept this?

“You speak too much nonsense.” Feng Lin shook his head.

Since the other party had already acted, why did he still need to be polite?

It was impolite not to reciprocate!

What a coincidence. He had just finished consuming the Green God Type-3 nutrient medicine, and he was extremely energetic with nowhere to vent. He might as well use this chance to digest the nutrients.

Feng Lin moved according to the eight trigrams stance, causing after-images to appear after him.

At the same time, his fists blasted out in a torrential rush.

Zhao Kai rushed forward as he executed a technique.

Fire Burns The Wilderness!

His entire body was immolated in fire, becoming a burning man.

If his opponent was someone ordinary, then they would definitely tremble and feel fear.

However, Feng Lin wasn’t an ordinary person. The exterior of his skin shone with a luster, isolating that fearsome heat away from him.

His fists were like bolts of lightning, not retreating at all, choosing to clash head-on with Zhao Kai.

“HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?” At the instant their fists collided, Zhao Kai’s expression drastically

changed. He felt as though he had slammed his fist into a stone pillar and felt extreme pain from the impact.

Ai!

The flames produced were completely extinguished by the wind generated from Feng Lin's punches. An immense force blasted Zhao Kai backward, pushing him back at least three meters away.

Within a single move, the stronger one was revealed.

"Too weak!" Feng Lin shook his head. He didn't show mercy and continued pressing forward.

Eight Extremes Fist!

Taichi is kept hidden for ten years, eight extremes can kill within a year!

Feng Lin abruptly unleashed the ancient martial arts from the earth that was famed for being the most ferocious and tyrannical. His fists and legs were like terrifying weapons. Not only that... his elbows, his knees, his head. Every part of his body was a weapon, and his attack was like the relentless tide, capable of crushing everything.

Zhao Kai suffered attacks after attacks and had no way to stop the chain of combos. His body trembled as he fell back.

The flames he was so proud of couldn't even damage Feng Lin's stone-like skin. All of his flames were easily extinguished.

"What? Zhao Kai is actually suppressed?"

"I thought the vitality stats of this brat is only 1.5? How can he be so domineering?"

"Unbelievable!"

...

A series of exclamations of shock could be heard from the people around. Not only was Zhao Kai shocked, even Jess Klot and his other lackeys felt that this was too unbelievable.

Zhao Kai wasn't a weak chicken. His vitality stats were at 2.2, and he had awakened both the Flame Gene and Metal Gene. Once he displayed his abilities, his strength was impressive and he did have solid capabilities.

Zhao Kai could be considered an expert in the school. His Blazing Meteor Fist was extremely famous; each of his attacks was as tough as metal, as fiery as fire. Even someone with a vitality of 2.0 wouldn't be able to stop him, let alone someone with a vitality of 1.5.

Yet now, he was actually being suppressed. This was simply unbelievable.

"Go to hell!" Zhao Kai missed his attack once again, yet his opponent's attack hit him. Unbearable pain could be seen on his face. Killing intent gushed forth from him as he began to unleash his full power, preparing to kill Feng Lin.

Although he couldn't be considered anyone remarkable in the perspective of the entire school, he had always been the number one in the 17th class. Nobody could shake his position.

However, everything changed after the illusory martial pagoda's trial.

This brat Feng Lin actually explosively burst forth with his potential, becoming the third-ranked student. Not only did he suppress the vast majority of the school's geniuses under him, but he left them far behind in the dust.

How could he endure this?

He could even sense that the female head teacher's attitude had changed.

If this continued on, his position would surely be affected. The number one in the 17th class would be this brat instead of him.

How could he allow someone like Feng Lin to climb on top of his head? Hence, he reported the information about Feng Lin to Young Master Klot, wanting to borrow Klot's strength to force Feng Lin to give up his secret.

However, he was actually the one being suppressed instead.

"YOU SHOULD DIE!" Zhao Kai howled in anger as his features contorted. He suddenly changed his stance.

Golden Bell Iron Cloth!

He stood erect as a violent aura gushed forth. Zhao Kai's entire person turned a brown blackish color, like a man made from rusted metal.

"Metal Gene!" Feng Lin mused.

This gene allows the user to control metal.

This was the reason why Zhao Kai was so arrogant, feeling that no one in his class could threaten his position as he boasted about his strength.

This move, the Golden Bell Iron Cloth, was something Feng Lin had heard before. This technique required the Metal Gene before it can be utilized. With it, one could control the metallic ions in their body, gathering them and provide a layer of incomparably tough metallic shell that covered one's body.

Vajra Carries the Cauldron!

Feng Lin wasn't willing to back down. He changed his technique to the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist and clashed head-on with Zhao Kai.

Bang, Bang, Bang!

Their fists collided, creating a thunderous noise akin to when a rock hits metal.

One had the Metal Gene, and the other had the Stonebirth Gene.

The two different types of body-strengthening genes collided, creating a bloody scene that caused the hearts of everyone to pound as they looked at it.

Feng Lin advanced valiantly, moving forward step by step.

Zhao Kai repeatedly retreated.

Actually, both the Flame Gene and Metal Gene were considered high-grade genes among basic genes. Their grades were far above the Stonebirth Gene. However, during the battle earlier, the flames produced had been extinguished, and the Golden Bell Iron Cloth technique from the Metal Gene had crumbled apart. To sum it up, Zhao Kai was completely suppressed.

As to why such a situation occurred, there were no other reasons. Zhao Kai was simply too weak.

Just a high vitality stats was useless. Vitality stats could be boosted by consuming large amounts of nutrients. But because Zhao Kai hadn't strengthened his genes properly, he was extremely weak.

Mighty Vajra Palm!

Feng Lin's palm blasted out, generating a fiery wind. As it slammed into Zhao Kai, it sent Zhao Kai flying through the air.

Too weak!

Although Feng Lin was the victor and had become the number one in the 17th class, he didn't feel any satisfaction after defeating such a weak opponent.

Feng Lin wished to continue fighting. Shaking his head, he glanced at the rest of the lackeys as he coldly spoke, "Come at me together!"

"Arrogant!"

"Do you really think that after you defeat Zhao Kai, you are invincible?"

"Courting death!"

.....

These lackeys had always acted like a tyrant in school. When had they ever been disregarded like this before? All of them were filled with rage.

"You guys speak too much crap!" Feng Lin couldn't stand their blabbering. He actually took the initiative to rush them, fighting all of them alone.

Those who come have no kind intentions, those with kind intentions wouldn't come!

These people all emitted sinister auras. Clearly, they didn't intend to spare him.

Since that was the case, he would chop through them like weeds!

Feng Lin didn't have the patience to waste time with them.

For a battle between cultivators, strength was still everything. No matter how good you are at talking, it wouldn't injure anyone at all.

Feng Lin rushed forth, emanating a domineering might, wanting to sweep through this bunch of people, completely crushing them!

28. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Vajra Smash!

His fists were like iron poles blasting downward.

These lackeys only knew how to shoot their mouths off from a distance. They didn't dare to rush forward despite after a long time.

However, Feng Lin was already impatient. He moved with the speed of lightning, rushing into the crowd as his fists that were like iron poles, swept out in all directions.

His fists were fast, accurate, and ruthless.

The group of people couldn't dodge in time. They only saw a black shadow flashing before their eyes, and they were knocked down onto the ground the next instant.

"Actually daring to act against us by himself, truly courting death!"

"Arrogant! Does he think that he is the number one ranker of our school, Duan Yunliu? He's overestimating himself!"

"Brothers let's go and crush him together!"

.....

These people were all followers of the number two genius in the school, Young Master Klot. They had always been acting tyrannically, and nobody dared to antagonize them.

Now, seeing how domineering Feng Lin was, preparing to fight alone against all of them, this was simply not having them in his eyes. Hence, the flames of their anger burned.

"Didn't I say it before? You guys speak too much crap!" Feng Lin helplessly shook his head. He showed no mercy and was like a ferocious tiger leaving its mountain as he lunged into the midst of the crowd.

Hong Fist, Eight Extremes Fist, Xingyi Fist... All sorts of ancient martial arts he had learned from the illusory martial pagoda were displayed one by one.

Although these martial arts couldn't put the power of his genes into play, they were all extremely

deep techniques that allowed one to unleash strength far beyond an ordinary man. With it complementing Feng Lin's current strength and speed, he was simply unstoppable.

Those people only saw a bunch of after-images surrounding them. They didn't know what to do!

Yes, this group of people was completely surrounded.

This was somewhat contradictory but a scene in reality.

These lackeys couldn't even track Feng Lin's movements. They were slammed by his fist and toppled over to the ground.

Only Zhao Kai was barely holding on.

His fist had reached a power level of 1.2 ton, and his moves were savage.

As Feng Lin's vitality stats increased, his fist strength naturally increased too. But there was still a disparity between that and his vitality stats.

However, after experiencing the journey into the illusory martial pagoda, he was no longer the newbie in combat from before. He had gained valuable battle experience, and in this situation, he chose not to fight head-on with Zhao Kai. The ancient martial arts he had learned were used one after another interchangeably with overflowing flexibility. There was a natural sense of rhythm with it.

Eight Extremes Fist!

Feng Lin shifted using the Eight Trigram Stance, slowly moving closer to Zhao Kai.

Bang bang bang... The wind generated from his palm attacks broke the air as he closely chased after Zhao Kai.

Every move Feng Lin made was a killing one.

Quick, quicker, even quicker!

He struck out with his palms, his fists, and his elbows. For the lower half of his body, he stomped, he kicked, he swept... In an instant, he neared Zhao Kai. He was now like a human-shaped beast and contained such explosive strength that one's bone and tendons would be torn apart at the slightest contact with him.

Zhao Kai instantly felt the countless attacks. He stood his ground and tried to defend. But soon

after, a scream rang out as his body was flung through the air.

Crack, crack~ Zhao Kai was slammed onto the ground. His bones cracked as his eyes rolled over, fainting into unconsciousness.

A legendary character in the school with vitality stats at 2.2, was actually so heavily injured by Feng Lin and had fainted.

If this was in the past, Feng Lin would definitely not be a match for Zhao Kai.

But after the illusory martial pagoda trial, Feng Lin had been completely reborn and transformed. Not only were his genes strengthened again, but his vitality stats had also risen by a total of 0.4.

What was even more important was that after so many rounds of battle, he had learned many different types of ancient martial arts to mitigate his weakness of not being proficient in combat. The martial arts he had learned could even unleash the energy of his genes.

His genetic energy that had broken past the limits, once it was unleashed, the power was unimaginable.

Feng Lin could feel that as his Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene were strengthened to the peak. Although there weren't many visible changes to his external body, his internal body was as though it had been reforged anew. He had stone-like skin, iron bones, and startling speed, granting him immense combat potential.

If the attacks launched at him didn't have enough power, Feng Lin could simply stand there and allow the others to hit him. They might not even be able to break his defense.

This Zhao Kai didn't strengthen his genes by a lot. He depended completely on nutrient medicine to push his vitality stats up. Therefore, he simply wasn't a match for Feng Lin.

Fighting one against all, Feng Lin crushed everything, defeating everyone with a single fist, displaying his shocking combat prowess.

Klot glanced at his fallen subordinates; his expression was incomparably ugly.

He didn't expect that these subordinates, who had always been arrogant, were actually so weak before Feng Lin. They were like wooden puppets and were helpless to retaliate.

It seemed like today he had to go for broke.

But the more powerful Feng Lin was, the more excited Klot would be.

What secret was this exactly? It was able to allow trash who had been only at 0.4 vitality stats to become so powerful this swiftly. If he could obtain it, who knows...

Klot had a cold smile on his face like he had already succeeded. He slowly walked over as frigid air blasted from him. His blond hair shone under the sun; it looked like he was a heavenly god that had descended down to the earth.

"Feng Lin, you are very strong. If you are willing to hand over your secret, I can treat you like my closest subordinate. By following me, there won't be a lack of benefits for you! Why don't you consider it?" Jess Klot had a sincere look on his face.

Feng Lin laughed. He wasn't laughing because he was happy; he was laughing because of this person's conceit.

Benefits?

What kind of benefits could compare to the genetic equation? Having this ability was equivalent to him having the Midas touch.

Did Jess Klot think that he was a beggar begging for alms? He would never agree to it.

"Leaving aside the fact that I have no secret, even if I had one, why should I give it to you? If I can grow stronger depending on that, I can have everything. Why would I need your pitiful benefits? Klot, If you want to fight, let's fight! Stop insulting the IQ of a cultivator," Feng Lin coldly spoke.

"Since you don't know what's good for you, don't blame me for being merciless!" As he spoke, his smile turned colder. He no longer had any thoughts of recruiting Feng Lin.

Bzzz~

Gusts of wind blew and waves of coldness could be felt, causing the temperature in the surroundings to plunge. It was like suddenly entering a world of ice and snow. It was extremely frigid, so cold that it felt blood would even freeze inside one's body.

Feng Lin immediately circulated his qi and blood to resist this unnatural coldness.

"Ice Gene!" He stared at Klot. Klot's body was covered with layers of ice crystals, resembling an ice armor.

"Freezing the Heavens and Earth!" Klot laughed sinisterly as he unleashed a technique.

Crack, crack! Numerous sounds rang out and when Feng Lin lowered his head to look, he noticed that tendrils of frost had extended from the ground Klot was standing on, moving towards him.

Everywhere the tendrils of frost passed by, everything was frozen solid.

Feng Lin hurriedly dodged.

“Where can you escape to?” Klot laughed malevolently and waved his hand.

From the ground, the countless ice crystals all erected and shot over. It looked like ten thousand arrows shooting towards Feng Lin.

Swish~

An ear-piercing sound broke through space. Cold light sparkled as the tiny ice crystals flew through the air.

Ding, ding ding!

With this concentrated burst of attacks, there was completely no way for Feng Lin to completely evade it. He could only strengthen his defense and endure it head-on. He stimulated his Stonebirth Gene, causing his skin to have stone-like properties. When the ice crystals pierced into him, they shattered into dust from the impact.

But this was not the end yet. A wave of cold energy enveloped him, cutting deep into his bones, wanting to freeze him solid.

He discovered that the external parts of his body were rapidly being frozen, even his blood was on the verge of freezing.

HAK!

Feng Lin drew a deep breath and boosted the circulation of his blood, causing warm currents to flow within his body, melting the frostiness.

“It’s useless. You are truly naive if you want to use body warmth to thaw my ice.” Klot coldly laughed. “Raging Windsnow!”

Both of his hands were arranged in a ring-shape gesture, as he moved them close to his chest.

Bzzz~

Countless gales of frosty wind gusted, causing ice crystals and frost to permeate the surroundings, blotting out the sun. They were wrapped up in wind energy and became a hurricane of frost, wanting to bury Feng Lin within.

“This Klot didn’t only awaken the Frost Gene!” Feng Lin frowned.

They, who were students, couldn’t be considered true cultivators yet. The genes they awakened were all basic genes.

Basic genes were known as basic genes because they only had one attribute. They were the basic elements of the genetic tree in one’s body.

This Jess Klot could control ice and wind. This meant that he must have awakened at least two kinds of basic genes—the Ice Gene and the Cold Wind Gene.

This was different from the two awakened genes of Feng Lin. Klot’s genes had similar attributes and could synergize well, complementing each other. The power they unleashed wasn’t as simple as the effect of $1 + 1 = 2$.

Also, this Klot seemed to have specially used a genetic martial art, allowing him to fuse the power of the two genes together to unleash extraordinary might.

What a troublesome opponent!

It seemed like if he didn’t go all out, things would really be bad.

As Feng Lin made the judgment, he instantly shifted his posture into a stance.

Invulnerable Vajra!

He unleashed the ultimate secret of the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist.

He stimulated his Stonebirth Gene, greatly boosting his defense as he became a stone man.

Sword Dance of the White Ape!

After that, Feng Lin soared into the air like an agile white ape leaping through the mountain gaps. His fingers were like swords, weaving about in an intricate manner, piercing straight towards his opponent’s vital parts!

29. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

With the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist for defense, Feng Lin took the initiative and attacked with the Monkey Fist.

Although Feng Lin wasn't like Klot who could unleash two types of genetic energy simultaneously through his profound genetic martial arts, he could still depend on his own method to unleash great power due to his strengthened Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene.

His qi and blood surged as warm currents circulated within his body, dispelling the cold.

With his stone skin and iron bones, the ice blades that were as sharp as sabers all shattered upon impact.

His own fingers were like swords, pierced effortlessly through the air, moving towards his target.

"What?" Klot suddenly felt an immense sense of crisis.

This scene was completely out of his expectation.

In the past, once he unleashed his genetic energy, the cruel cold wind and a violent storm of ice and snow would definitely be sufficient to suppress his opponent, making them unable to move and could only obediently wait there to be subdued by him.

However, this brat didn't seem to be affected at all. His attack was as tyrannical and domineering as before.

Chi!

The sound of something sharp breaking the air rang out.

The snow and frost were broken through as a pair of sword fingers sped over.

Klot dodged instinctively, but at the next moment, he felt a piercing pain in his cheek as fresh blood flowed. His handsome face was instantly marred.

He touched his face gingerly as he stared at the blood on his fingers. He howled with rage, "You actually dared to disfigure me!"

To cultivators, strength was the most fundamental thing. What was the use of being handsome?

Feng Lin shook his head. Although Klot's vitality stats were extremely high, he actually couldn't see through something as useless as external appearances.

Just for this point alone, Feng Lin wouldn't view Klot as a true opponent.

The cold wind was extremely chilly as frost and snow filled the skies.

However, Feng Lin didn't seem to be affected. His movements were as smooth as before.

Because of the lack of nutrients, his vitality stats couldn't compare to his opponent. But if one was speaking about the usage of genetic energy and the strengthening of his awakened genes, Feng Lin wouldn't lose to anyone in his age group.

His two genes were strengthened to their limits. This meant that for those who had awakened only basic genes like him, not many people would be able to contend against him.

Even Klot's Ice Gene and Cold Wind Gene were useless.

Feng Lin took a huge step forward, stomping on the frost and snow on the ground.

"What?" Klot's eyes narrowed, resembling a needle.

Feng Lin acted instantly; how would he give up on such a good opportunity? He lunged forward again, like a hungry tiger preying on sheep, with a speed as fast as lightning.

Klot hurriedly evaded, moving to the side. A ruthless expression flashed in his eyes, "KILL!"

His fingers took the shape of claws as he lashed out with it. Frost qi gathered within his palm, causing three ice spears to manifest, shooting outward suddenly.

If an ordinary human were to be hit by these, a bloody hole would definitely appear.

Bang, bang, bang!

Feng Lin's punches were like thunder; his tough fists that were like iron shattered the ice spears.

Klot unleashed the technique again as the coldness radiating from him intensified.

Feng Lin didn't change his stance. He lifted his hands up and smashed them down while giving a huge roar, "HONG!"

His fist slammed right down on Klot's head. The power of his roar could shake the hearts of those who heard it.

Klot's body instantly tensed as he involuntarily trembled. At this exact moment, Feng Lin had already closed in the distance. Feng Lin easily blocked his claw attacks. With a twist of his arm, Feng Lin's punches were akin to a poisonous dragon rushing out from a cave.

The ice armor protecting Klot instantly crumbled apart.

Klot screamed in misery as he was flung through the air.

Just a single move was sufficient to determine the disparity between them.

Klot was slammed onto the ground as his body convulsed involuntarily, lying there unmoving.

Genetic potential +8%!

Feng Lin only felt a dull feeling. There was only an increase of 8% to his genetic potential? He fought against so many students alone, wasting his time and energy, yet the reward gained was so pathetic.

From this, one could see that defeating these people didn't bring about much pressure to Feng Lin.

This battle was simply too easy!

If just comparing vitality stats, these people didn't lose out to the combat masters of the illusory martial pagoda. In fact, their vitality stats were even higher than the combat masters.

However, those combat masters, who had experienced countless battles, were completely different from them. These people's personalities were too weak and cowardly, and thus their martial arts were soft and without force as well. They had no way to unleash their true complete strength.

This was especially so for Klot. His vitality stats was as high as 2.5, and his genetic energy was very strong too. Sadly, because his background was too well-off, he was too pampered. The Ice Gene and Cold Wind Gene were two kinds of high-grade basic genes with immense power. Yet, he could only use them in far-range attacks and didn't develop any techniques for close-combat. Clearly, he was fearful of fighting head-on.

Most likely, he had obtained such high points in the illusory martial pagoda by using the genetic abilities of his two genes and had attacked from afar, slowly grinding down the combat masters

before he achieved victory.

If it was a true fight against a human, his combat method had simply too many flaws.

No wonder he could never win against the top genius of the school, Duan Yunliu.

Geniuses who grew up under too much care couldn't be considered a genius!

If this continued on, Klot would never be able to surpass his opponent.

Was this really the second-ranked genius of his school? He was merely so-so...

Feng Lin felt dull and insipid.

The trial of the illusory martial pagoda was a transformative experience to him. He ignored the dangers and challenged his limits to defeat his opponents, sustaining himself by adding genetic points to strengthen his gene at crucial moments, allowing him to gain combat experience, greatly boosting his battle methods.

If just based on fighting instincts, he was far above almost everyone in his age group.

In the entire school, other than Duan Yunliu, whom he had not met before, no one else would be able to give him pressure.

Without pressure, that would mean that he would lack the motivation to improve further.

Earth High School was one of the most common high schools in Huaxia City. Now, Feng Lin felt that this school was truly extremely tiny.

"You dare to hit me?!" Klot had a face filled with humiliation as he inclined his head.

"You are reluctant to accept reality?" Feng Lin continued. "So what if I hit you? What can you do? Will you call the police to arrest me? Can you make the school expel me? No. You cannot do shit. You can only endure..."

His words were like knives stabbing into Klot's heart. Klot involuntarily shuddered when he heard that.

It was true. The disparity between them was too great.

If he wanted to call for help every time he lost, what a joke would he be? What would be the difference between him and a kid calling out for his mom every time he lost his lollipop?

How could Klot bear to do such an incomparably embarrassing thing?

If he did this, it would undoubtedly mean that he was telling everyone that he wasn't Feng Lin's opponent. Despite the number of his subordinates, Feng Lin fought against them alone and crushed them all. From now on, Klot wouldn't be the number two genius of the school anymore.

Compared to this degree of humiliation, Klot wanted his glory and fame for being a genius more.

If he lost everything, how could the always prideful him be able to accept it?

Hence, he could only endure!

"Just wait, Feng Lin, we are not finished yet!" Klot clutched his face as he stood up. His body was shaking like he was suppressing his anger. However, he was helpless against Feng Lin. At the very least, he could only keep all his grievances pent up.

Because, after crossing blows, it was clear that he definitely wasn't Feng Lin's opponent.

How humiliating was this?

He felt rage and sorrow in his heart. He turned and departed, wanting to leave here as quick as possible.

He didn't want to cast another glance at this man who brought him shame and humiliation.

"Hold it right there," Feng Lin's silhouette flashed as he appeared in front of Klot, blocking his path.

"What do you want to do." Klot was extremely wary against him.

Feng Lin revealed a harmless smile, yet his words made Klot and his cronies feel as though they had just fallen into hell. "You guys want to leave just like this? All of you suddenly gang up on me wanting my secret and attacked me together. If I don't receive some compensation, how can I allow you all to leave? There isn't such a good thing in the world!"

"Are you planning to extort me?" The eyes of Klot and his group widened, not daring to believe what they had just heard.

"What are you talking about? How can this be considered extortion?" Feng Lin smiled calmly. "This is just compensation for my mind and spirit being disturbed, as I was frightened too badly. I also need some medical fee to restore my strength which had been wasted in defending against all of your attacks!"

His words caused Klot and his subordinates to be so angered that they almost coughed out blood.

“Stop dreaming!” They roared in anger.

“Oh, I have no other solutions then.” Feng Lin shook his head; he activated his personal microchip and projected a scene in the air.

“Your current explosive improvement led to your domineering performance. You must have encountered some heavenly good fortune right? If you tell me the secret, I’ll give you 10,000 interstellar coins! You little country bumpkin, I bet you’ve never seen such a large fortune like 10,000 interstellar coins before, right?” In the scene, a familiar voice and figure could be seen. Klot and his subordinates almost had their eyes fall out of their heads; they all had an expression of terror on their faces now.

Their earlier extortion of Feng Lin was actually fully recorded by him. Could it be that he had predicted such incidents would happen to him and was long prepared?

“There’s no choice, you guys assaulted me, I have to receive some compensation for that. This is a lawful request. If you guys refuse to pay, I will bring this recording to the school and tell them to put it up on the interstellar web. At that time, everyone in the Interstellar Era would be able to admire how heroic you guys are, ganging up to bully a single student. Don’t blame me if I really do this then...” Feng Lin was smiling meaningfully the whole time.

“How sinister, you are so venomous!” Klot and his subordinates wanted to cough out blood.

They tried to steal a chicken but ended up losing the bait to lure it! They wanted initially to extort Feng Lin for his secret but was now being extorted instead. They could only obediently pay up.

If this recording went up, their futures would be over and their reputation in the school would forever be tarnished.

“I will give you 1,000 interstellar coins to destroy the recording!” Klot glared at Feng Lin with an ugly expression on his face.

“Are you treating me like a beggar?” Feng Lin shook his head. He couldn’t be bothered to talk more with them, choosing to rush forward instead.

“What do you want to do?!”

“Let go of my coins!”

“You dare to snatch my high-grade nutrient fluid?”

.....

Ignoring all objections, Feng Lin ruthlessly made his move, seizing all the valuables from Klot and his subordinates.

These people were evidently not a match for Feng Lin, and he even had a recording that could be used against them. They could only howl in rage but they dared not resist.

In total, Feng Lin's harvests were a total of 100,000 interstellar coins, twenty bottles of mid-grade nutrient fluids, two bottles of Green God Type-3 nutrient medicine, and three portions of super protein. The majority of these were all obtained from Klot alone.

What a good man! Feng Lin was extremely satisfied. Even these lackeys were rich. Since they wanted to deliver themselves to him, he might as well take this chance to earn a huge load.

After obtaining his harvest, he no longer paid any attention to these people and left here with a satisfied smile on his face. He wasn't afraid that these people would cause a commotion.

Klot and his subordinates stayed where they were. Their faces were completely red as their bodies trembled violently from their suppressed emotions.

If it weren't for the fact that they had all awakened mythological genes and had high vitality stats, they would truly be so angered as to cough out blood...

30. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The scenery outside flew by. Feng Lin was seated on the maglev train on the electric rail. He was filled with anticipation for this journey.

Initially, he was prepared to return home after he left the school.

But who would have thought that Klot and his subordinates had ‘given him a gift’ of 100,000 interstellar coins? Since they had such good intentions, how could Feng Lin not accept it?

He immediately changed his mind. If he didn’t spend this money, their value to him would be the same as scrap papers.

Feng Lin was lacking in nutrients. He wondered how many nutritious items could he buy with 100,000 coins. Klot’s actions could truly be described as sending him coal during winter!

What a good person!

He felt so happy that he wanted nothing more than to give a bunch of red flowers to Klot and his gang to serve as encouragement.

Feng Lin suppressed the joy in his heart.

Very swiftly, he came to his target destination. Before his eyes, a majestic building of a thousand levels high could be seen. This was like a heavenly pillar, so tall that it touched the sky. It felt interesting and appealing and gave off a feel of science and technology.

This was the symbol of the Huaxia City—the Thousand Gold Building!

This building was the largest business center in the entire city. It had a thousand levels, and there were countless commodities and merchandise within, coming from the entire solar system.

As the level grew higher, so would the value of the products in it.

“Respected customer, welcome to the Thousand Gold Building. There are different varieties of items for you to choose from. Rest assured that they are all genuine goods at fair prices. We wish you a happy trip here...” The sensors sensed Feng Lin’s arrival. An automatic door opened as a gentle and melodious female voice rang out.

The moment he entered, Feng Lin only felt that this place was incomparably imposing and

majestic.

Every level had a ring-shaped corridor filled with merchant shops. There were also many tourists and shoppers entering and exiting at every moment.

Feng Lin used his identity microchip to access the limitless net of the Thousand Gold Building.

Numerous messages flooded his mind, with pictures of various products such as the newest-styled clothings, different types and different-flavored nutrient fluids, the latest virtual games...etc. Also, all of these weren't expensive at all.

The interstellar coin was a strong currency jointly issued by the different governments of humanity. Its purchasing power was shockingly high.

For gold, silver, make-up products...all these kinds of extravagant items, just hundreds of interstellar coins would be sufficient to purchase them.

In fact, with the development of humanity's science and technology, these valuable items of the Ancient Earth Era could now already be artificially synthesized and had become common commodities. The truly valuable items were those cultivation resources.

Those items that could transform one's innate vitality, strengthen genes, and extend life...

These items were extremely rare; the vast majority of them were naturally generated, and they could only be found in planets with the worst environment. The price of obtaining them was extremely high.

Right now, only a few tens of types could be artificially synthesized. But despite so, the cost for such items were also sky-high. An example was super protein. Just a can of it would already cost thousands of interstellar coins.

The more demand a product had, the more expensive it would be!

Even common cultivation resources had a sky-high price!

With regards to luxurious items, Feng Lin had no interest. What he wanted were those cultivation resources.

"What a good person." He mumbled as he scanned the catalogue of items, involuntarily praising Klot and his gang again. For Jess Klot, not only did his family own a mine, but he even loved to help others and gave him such a huge present.

If not, given Feng Lin's ordinary background, how would he have money to shop here?

"Welcome, respected customer. A grand welcome to the Thousand Gold Building. There are products that come from all corner of our solar system. As long as you want to shop, you can find almost everything here!" A gentle voice rang out. A beam of light flashed as a virtual human silhouette appeared before Feng Lin.

This virtual simulation seemed incredibly real. It was an eastern beauty with black hair and eyes, and she was robed in ancient garb. Her limpid eyes were like autumn water and her features exuded elegance, causing it to be tough for someone to forget her the moment they had seen her once.

"I'm an intelligent virtual sales assistant, I will be happy to assist you. Fulfilling your needs is my life's greatest ambition!" The virtual beauty smiled, her words causing his heart to tremble as he couldn't help but fantasize.

However, something virtual would always be something virtual. No matter how beautiful this assistant was, she wasn't real.

Feng Lin didn't feel surprised. This was one of the unique points of the Thousand Gold Building. They had these virtual beauties to serve the role as their customers' shopping assistant.

Things were different compared to the Ancient Earth Era. Shopping in the Interstellar Era could be an extremely miserable matter.

The Interstellar Era was too vast. There were countless resources, and new commodities would appear at every moment. If an individual wanted to browse through things one by one, one might not be able to finish browsing even if one dedicated his/her entire lifetime for it.

There were simply too many items for sale here in the Thousand Gold Building. If Feng Lin depended on himself to find the items he wanted to buy, he wouldn't even be able to find them.

It was very difficult for the human brain to remember accurately the details of every items. Hence, the Thousand Gold Building made use of their virtual tech and created virtual sale assistants.

These virtual assistants were extremely intelligent and capable of normal speech to interact with humans. They had different genders according to the customer's preference and would even have different personalities when they were interacting with different people. But undoubtedly, all the virtual assistants were extremely handsome and beautiful, allowing the customers to feel joy when they looked at them. They could lead the customers to the items they wanted to purchase and introduce a summary of the origin and details of the product, allowing everyone to buy freely with no worries.

Feng Lin glanced over. He could see that each customer in the building had a specific virtual assistant aiding them. Since Feng Lin was from ancient china, his mind automatically projected an eastern woman that was dressed in clothing of the past earth era. This virtual assistant was a beauty of extremely high standards in his vision.

The science and technology of the Interstellar Era were incomparably developed. They penetrated all aspects of human lives and provided countless conveniences. Before Feng Lin came, he had already done his research and had enough understanding of the Thousand Gold Building. He didn't feel surprised and asked the virtual beauty in a natural manner, "Hi, can you tell me where can I buy cultivation resources?"

"Please come with me!" The virtual beauty smiled sweetly as she led the way. As they walked, she smiled and introduced the building to him, "Everyone in here knows that the higher they go, the more valuable the products would be. Below the 200th level, everything sold here are common products. Only after the 200th level would one be able to find the various type of cultivation resources and valuable items such as cultivation arts, medicine, and monster flesh... There's everything. As long as you can think of it, we would be sure to have it for sale! But even so, there are 800 levels here that are selling such items. If you search blindly, it would simply be a waste of time. Hence, you can just let me know what items you are looking to buy, and I can recommend you shops that have the best quality-to-price comparison!..."

The voice of the virtual beauty was as melodious as the chirping of birds. She clearly summarized the situation of the Thousand Gold Building for him.

Feng Lin nodded after he heard that, appreciating the knowledge.

This was the first time he came here; thus, he was inexperienced and didn't know much. With such a capable virtual assistant, there would be no need for him to worry.

As to what he wanted to shop...

Feng Lin had long thought about it. The most important thing now was to resolve his deficiency of nutrients which led to the overdraft of his life force. This was of paramount importance, he could push the other matters back for now.

He suddenly thought of a famous gene potion used by cultivators. It was known as the potion of life!

31. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The potion of life in the Interstellar Era's cultivation world was a kind of extremely famous but very common genetic potion. There were various kinds of nutritious substances within, including rare energy ions. Within it, all vital elements needed for human's body could be found. It was a mystical product created by humanity's study of genetics.

If a sickly person was to consume it, that person would be able to swiftly recover and become someone with a strong and muscular body. Of course, the prerequisite was that one had to be able to endure the powerful medicinal strength of the potion of life.

For common mortals that had not awakened their mythological genes, their life had not undergone any evolution yet. If they drank this, the powerful medicinal strength of the potion would instantly cause them to explode due to being too overwhelmingly packed with energy.

They would really explode...

This was not a joke. Something like this had happened before and there had been quite a few cases.

There would always be people who were completely ignorant about cultivation, yet they wanted to ascend to the sky with a single step, choosing to drink the potion of life. However, they had no idea that their bodies weren't able to endure this, and all of them had extremely dire endings.

Only cultivators were qualified to drink the potion of life. Also, the so-called nutrient fluids were none other than an extremely simplified version of the potion of life, a liquid food that was mass-produced for ordinary humans to replenish their nutrients.

"Where can I buy potions of life?" Feng Lin asked the virtual beauty sales assistant.

"Potions of life? This item is easily found. At the west-southern corner of the 256th level, the potions of life can be found in the automatic shop there!" The virtual beauty smiled, instantly providing him with the answer, giving him an exact location.

"Alright, let's go over there." Feng Lin nodded. He didn't delay and moved towards the elevator with the virtual assistant and arrived at the 256th level.

At the west-southern corner, a fully automatic and intelligent shop appeared before his eyes. Everything here was controlled by the A.I., and there were no salespersons around. The customers could pay directly by scanning their identity microchip. It was extremely convenient.

The door opened silently and Feng Lin entered, sweeping his gaze around. He discovered that various types of potions of life were stacked here neatly in rows, so many that it caused his eyes to be dazzled.

Red, green, blue, purple...there were all sorts of colored potion of life that had different flavors. The prices were different too, ranging from 1,000 to 10,000 star coins.

Feng Lin thought about it. He then asked again, "Why are the prices different although they are all potions of life?"

The virtual beauty had an intelligence level not lower than humans. She instantly distinguished that Feng Lin was someone who came to the Thousand Gold Building for the first time.

She was an A.I. and had no emotions. A polite smile appeared on her face as she spoke gently and explained meticulously, "The potions of life are only a general term for gene potions. According to their medicinal effect and their taste, they can be classified into various types. The disparity in their prices would naturally reflect the different kinds and grades. These potions here are one of the few gene potions that can be artificially synthesized by humans but they can be separated into different grades based on the synthesizing methods as well!"

"Oh?" Feng Lin was interested.

He had always assumed that there would only be a single method to create these gene potions, and he didn't expect that they had different grades. This was the first time he heard of such a thing and he patiently continued to listen.

All these were common knowledge about cultivation resources. He knew nothing about them in the past. Hence, he wanted to use this chance to increase his understanding.

As he slowly accumulated more knowledge, they would all become a part of his foundation at the end.

The virtual beauty didn't beat around the bush; she stretched out a holographic hand and put up three fingers. "Usually, items created by artificial synthesizing can be classified into three types. The first type is known as mechanical synthesis. This is the method used for mass production. In this type of production, high tech A.I. and machinery would work together to make the potions. A small-scale gene potion factory can produce about over 10,000 bottles every second, and the products are sold everywhere throughout the solar system. However, there are different grades to gene potions, classified by the strength of the medicinal effect. Hence, for gene potions of the lowest-grade, they are usually sold around 1,000 star coins."

She then pointed to the potions of life that were the cheapest here. The vast majority of the potions here were the cheapest kind.

After that, the virtual beauty then walked towards a row of gene potions that clearly had better packaging. "As for the second type, it's known as manual synthesis. In the Interstellar Era, human labor is too expensive. This method greatly increases the production cost of this type of gene potions, and the selling price would naturally be raised higher accordingly. Usually, it sells for about 2,000 coins per bottle!"

Feng Lin nodded, it was easy to understand. The more developed science and technology was, the more expensive human labor would be.

This was why some of the smaller clans encouraged their lower-level clansmen to reproduce in great numbers. This was because the clan wanted to send them into the clan's factories to work, thereby saving costs on hiring manpower.

"Why do the gene potions need to be produced by manual synthesis? What's the difference between the two types of potions of life?" Feng Lin asked the crucial point.

"There's naturally a difference!" The virtual beauty smiled. "Life potions essentially is a kind of artificially synthesis gene medicine, and the composition of the various ingredients needs to be extremely precise. However, the strength of the medicinal effect can be extremely random, and a slight inaccuracy might render the expected results off by miles. For mechanical synthesis, although the speed is fast, they can only standardize the production method and had no way to accurately determine medicinal property. Although the production quantity is stable, the medicinal effect usually wouldn't be too high. For this point, only humans can achieve it. Hence, manual synthesis will usually produce a better quality potion of life."

"Oh." Feng Lin declined to comment. He then pointed to a direction, "What about this bottle?"

A row of potions of life was placed at the most conspicuous location of the shop. This potion was completely black, like the darkness of the night sky. There were also specks of silver shining within like the stars, presenting a beautiful sight.

This potion was simply like a work of art!

"These potions are personally modulated by geneticist!" The virtual beauty slowly spoke, giving people a solemn feeling, clearly enunciating each word.

"Geneticist!" Feng Lin started. This was the first time he heard of this term.

Things that had a common reference to genetics, were usually not ordinary. This seemed to be a

brand new occupation and gave him a feeling of mystery, causing an intense interest to rise up in his heart.

Upon seeing his excitement, the virtual beauty and as a sales assistant, naturally explained to clear his confusion, summarizing the information about geneticists to him.

The virtual beauty explained, "Every geneticist is an expert in the field of genetics. They deeply research genetic theories and attempt to deduce and prove the relationship between various genes, as well as their evolution methods. After that, they use their knowledge of genetics to invent different kinds of fantastic and bizarre treasures for interstellar cultivators. There were some who created mythical gene potions, some who created micro-machinery that can greatly increase a human's strength. For example, the potions of life and mecha-suits are both their creations. Hence, a gene potion that is modulated by a geneticist would definitely have far superior effects compared to ordinary potions. This is why there's also a great disparity in their prices. At the very least, this type of potions is sold for 10,000 coins or higher per bottle..."

As Feng Lin listened, his eyes grew brighter. So bright that the light from them was almost blinding.

He suddenly discovered that this occupation seemed to be extremely compatible for himself!

32. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

A geneticist was an expert on the field of mythological genes!

And as for Feng Lin, he came from the past Earth Era. His understanding of the myths and legends of the old world was undoubtedly extremely rich. No humans in the Interstellar Era would be able to surpass him with regards to this point!

He was the number one expert on the field of myths and legends.

Feng Lin had absolute confidence in himself.

Right now, the only thing he was lacking was the knowledge of genomics, but this isn't a huge problem.

Who told him to have the genetic equation?

Comparing his genetic equation to a geneticist that had to slowly experiment to gain data about a gene, Feng Lin could directly see the complete set of data about a gene. Genes held no secrets for him.

By turning genetic information into data, this was an extreme innate ability. If he used it to dive into gene research theory, he would undoubtedly be able to make great strides in the field.

A lack of genetic knowledge?

This was too simple, he simply had to accumulate them.

As for people who lack knowledge about myths and legends, this referred to everyone in the Interstellar Era. This was something they couldn't learn even if they wanted to learn. It was a pathway that had long since been severed by the river of time.

One couldn't help but say that the geneticist occupation was simply a perfect match for Feng Lin.

Even Feng Lin thought so himself. His expression remained unchanged as he hid his excitement in his heart and continued to listen patiently.

"Geneticists research genetic theory, and their understanding of potion of life is far above the common crowd, making them capable of greatly boosting the medicinal effect of the potion. For any cultivation resources that are modulated by a geneticist, the value of that cultivation resource

will definitely soar up by more than ten times or sometimes even a hundred times. A good example is this potion of life that resembles the starry space. A price of 10,000 star coins for it is already considered a bargain...”

Feng Lin was startled for a moment before the feeling of joy enveloped him.

A geneticist could actually earn money so easily. Wasn't this his dream job?

His poor family background had restricted his development. He had always lacked nutrient fluids and had insufficient cultivation resources. All of these required star coins.

If he could become a geneticist, that would be...

Feng Lin suddenly had a vision of endless star coins dazzling before his eyes. Also, these geneticists could also modulate and create nutrient medicine. They could be completely self-sufficient.

At this moment, his heart was completely moved.

However, the geneticist occupation was a very high-end occupation that had a high entry barrier. Right now, he could only look up and hope for it. He had to consider other things first.

It was best to settle the more pressing things before him first.

Feng Lin instantly had an idea, and he glanced at the beautiful virtual sales assistant. As they interacted, he discovered that this girl was extremely intelligent and had a good understanding of cultivation resources. He could seek her opinion.

However, he wouldn't be so foolish as to tell his complete situation to a stranger. He changed his way of speaking, "I have a friend who suddenly erupts forth with potential due to the imminent arrival of the college examination. However, he has a deficiency of nutrients in his body, and the process of his potential eruption had caused him to overdraw his life force. Other than buying potions of life, is there anything else he should buy?"

The virtual sales assistant thought about it and seriously replied, "What is his cultivation level?"

"Just a cultivation apprentice," Feng Lin calmly answered, as though he wasn't speaking about himself.

"In that case, potions of life should be sufficient." the virtual sales assistant didn't even need to think more and directly replied.

“Why do you say that?” Feng Lin asked curiously.

“Potions of life are one of the few cultivation resources that can be artificially synthesized. It has good quality and affordable price that are really suitable for cultivation apprentices! If your friend is an interstellar cultivator, I might have suggested him to buy interstellar monster’s flesh, God’s Blood...etc, all these items of great nutritional value. But to cultivation apprentices, their vitality stats are too weak as their bodies have not been fully transformed. They wouldn’t be able to digest such items of great nutritional value even if they consumed it. Not only would it be extremely wasteful, but it might even cause harm to their body!” the virtual sales assistant explained clearly and finally convinced Feng Lin

“Alright, let’s buy all the potions of life then!” Feng Lin instantly made a decision. He pointed to the potions of life that were manually-synthesized and the initial-graded ones. “Give me 10 bottles of the manually-synthesized ones and 30 bottles for the initial-grade ones.”

However, the virtual sales assistant suggested, “If it’s just to make up for the deficiency in nutrients, there’s no need to spend so much on these. For manually-synthesized potions of life, their price is double compared to the lowest-grade, but their medicinal effect is only a little stronger. For the same amount of coins, you might as well purchase another twenty bottles of the initial-grade potion of life.”

With regards to her good intentions, Feng Lin nodded in appreciation. However, he had already decided in his heart.

The reason why he wanted to buy the second-type potion of life was that he wanted to taste the disparity of the medicinal effects between the two types to further deepen his understanding.

“Don’t worry, just get me what I want.” Feng Lin didn’t explain further.

The virtual sales assistant shook her head, but she could only follow his orders.

But clearly, she had underestimated Feng Lin’s shopping frenzy.

Feng Lin’s eyes swept the surroundings and landed on the starry space-like potion of life. He pointed to that, “And that too as well.”

“This is a potion of life of the starry skies series that cost 10,000 star coins for a single bottle!” The virtual sales assistant exclaimed in shock. “There’s no need for you to spend so much, this is simply...”

“Don’t need to say anything more.” Feng Lin stretched out his hands to prevent her from continuing to speak. He calmly added, “I know my boundaries.”

From his tone, the virtual sales assistant could sense an unwavering decisiveness. She opened and closed her mouth a few times, but she didn't continue to say anything. Feng Lin just spent 60,000 star coins just like this, to purchase 41 bottles of the potion of life.

He easily carried the package and walked out of the shop.

"Is there anything you want to buy next?" The virtual sales assistant asked again.

Feng Lin thought about it, but he had no idea for now.

Right now, he only had 40,000 star coins left. He would feel that it was such a waste if he didn't manage to spend them. However, the main point was what should he spend on?

This Thousand Gold Building was so large; there should be something that was worth it for him to buy.

In any case, the money was considered ill-gotten wealth. He might as well spend it all today.

Next, Feng Lin toured the building together with the virtual sales assistant. The products sold here were simply innumerable in the manner that it would cause the shopper to actually feel a sense of confusion, not knowing what to buy. There were simply too many good stuff here.

The virtual assistant patiently accompanied him. Such a large-spending customer was considered a good source of income to the Thousand Gold Building. The A.I. adjusted her behavior in order to provide the best shopping experience and assistance to Feng Lin.

"Respected customers, please take note. Tonight at 9 p.m., a new online auction will start. For customers who are keen on this, you can first browse over the information..." A female voice rang out in all corners of the Thousand Gold Building.

"Online auction?" Feng Lin's heart stirred. He used his identity microchip to connect to the wireless network. An instant later, information about various kinds of rare and valuable treasures of the auction appeared before his eyes. Most of the treasures displayed had a value that ranged from a 100,000 star coins to a million star coins.

Suddenly, his eyes narrowed as his gaze landed on a black metallic microchip that exuded a sense of science and technology.

The introduction information of this product was written in blazing red, and there were only three words on it.

“Genetic researcher's research notes!”

33. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

"A genetic researcher's research notes?" Feng Lin's eyes brightened, staring at that microchip.

'Geneticist' was an occupation that could run parallel alongside with cultivation and wouldn't pose any hindrance to it. They were different but they complemented each other.

To simplify things, cultivators stepped on the path of cultivation after they awakened their mythological genes. As for geneticists, they deeply researched genetics, developing this field into an inscrutable discipline that could be applied to other things, producing various kinds of wonderful creations.

One delved deep into the theoretical path; the other delved deep into the martial path. One researched the truth while the other reigned over extraordinary might.

Those who awakened their mythological genes yet had not truly become interstellar cultivators were all known as cultivation apprentices.

Right now, Feng Lin was a cultivation apprentice. He had to evolve his basic genes into primeval genes before it could be considered that he had stepped through the gateway to the path of cultivation.

Similarly, for geneticists, there was also a huge gateway that acted as a barrier. At the lowest level, they were known as genetic researchers and were of equal rank when compared to cultivation apprentices. They couldn't be considered a true geneticist yet.

The black microchip Feng Lin was looking at was actually the research notes of a genetic researcher.

Someone delivered a pillow to him just as he wanted to sleep!

Although the knowledge recorded within were all elementary ones, to Feng Lin who wanted to step on the pathway of becoming a geneticist, it was undoubtedly crucial that he obtained it.

The only troublesome aspect was that the research notes were sold in an auction. Although the starting price wasn't considered expensive at only 5,000 star coins, once he encountered someone who also wanted this, the price would surge up like mad. The 40,000 star coins he had left was definitely insufficient.

However, this was something that he was determined to get no matter the cost!

This was why he felt that things would be troublesome!

Feng Lin frowned and stood at his original location, there was a look of contemplation on his face.

“What’s going on?” The virtual assistant asked, sensing that he was in a difficult position.

“I wish to purchase this research notes! However, I can only do so through the auction. Right now, I only have 40,000 star coins left with me, I’m afraid they won’t be enough.” Feng Lin didn’t hide anything as he explained.

“Genetic research notes?” The virtual assistant’s eyes flashed with a run of digital data as she found what Feng Lin was looking at.

This person wants to become a geneticist?

A geneticist was undoubtedly a money-burning occupation. If one wanted to achieve some success in this field, other than needing to be blessed with talent far surpassing the ordinary, they had to spend astronomical amounts of money as well.

Instruments, materials, techniques... All of this needed money, and the more the better.

It was like the more money you burned, the faster you would be able to learn.

Geneticists were precisely such an occupation. However, once you achieved some success, it would instantly become an occupation capable of generating huge amounts of wealth for you. You wouldn’t need to worry about money anymore in your lifetime.

But one had to know that it was rare for even one out of ten thousand students who studied genomics to become a true geneticist.

The rate was less than 0.0001%. This could be said to be an occupation that had equal amounts of risk and opportunity.

The nouveau riche, this man must be a wealthy lord!

He actually wants to obtain the research notes of a genetic researcher and even plans to burn money freely on this. Both his status and identity are definitely extraordinary!

The virtual assistant came to a conclusion after analyzing Feng Lin’s words, voluntarily elevating Feng Lin’s status as a customer to an unprecedented high one.

If he had been a normal customer before this, there was no doubt that he just became a VIP customer.

The A.I. modulated her attitude and expression, causing her smile to become even friendlier. In order to leave behind a good impression on Feng Lin, the virtual sales assistant passionately answered, "This is simple."

"Oh?" The virtual sales assistant actually said that it was simple? Feng Lin was bewildered as he patiently continued listening on. As compared to humans, something powered by an A.I. would naturally have a stronger computing capacity and would be able to arrive at an answer far quicker.

The virtual sales assistant wasted no time. "There are many transaction methods in the Thousand Gold Building, but they can be classified into two types. The first method is purchasing, and the second method is bidding. Purchasing means that the customer simply handovers the star coins in exchange for the item they wanted to purchase. But in the case where the item or product is rare, unique, and limited in quantity, it would be auctioned away where the highest bidder wins. There is a bidding strategy you can use to help you procure the item of your interest. I'm sure that research notes aren't something that would be very popular. The starting price is only at 5,000 star coins, and I don't think there would be many people competing to get it. Hence, I suggest that later on when you bid, you can start off by directly elevating the bid to 10,000 star coins."

"Mhm!" Feng Lin nodded. Although the one-time increase of the bid would give off the feeling that he was a foolish spendthrift, he didn't mind the extra expense of 5,000 coins. What he minded was whether he could really obtain the research notes or not.

It felt as though the virtual sales assistant noticed a slight hesitation on Feng Lin's expression. She continued, "Raising the bid to 10,000 is to create a barrier, blocking those who want to disturb your bid just for fun."

"What if there are still people who continue to bid against me?" Feng Lin asked.

"Very easy. Just bid 100 star coins higher than whatever they bid!" The virtual sales assistant's confident smile widened.

"100 star coins?" Feng Lin wanted to make sure that he didn't hear wrongly.

"Yes, 100 star coins, not too little, not too much! There aren't any rules on bidding in the online auction. You can bid an increment of 100 star coins every time if you wish to do so. After doing so for a few times, you would imperceptibly send out a message that you are determined to get the item no matter the cost. This will cause those bidders who want the item, but whose wills are not as strong as you, to back off. If the research notes are written by a true geneticist, the price would be invaluable. But this is merely elementary knowledge written by a genetic researcher. I believed

not many people would be willing to spend too much on this. It's highly possible that you would have more money compared to the others who are also keen to bid on this," the virtual sales assistant spoke.

To think that there was such a technique in bidding.

Feng Lin nodded, silently feeling that this suggestion was excellent.

Very soon, 9 p.m. arrived.

The online auction of the Thousand Gold Building officially began. The customers could remotely bid through the wireless network and if they succeeded, there would be robots delivering the item you bade successfully on to you.

The numerous rare items entered the auction with the most valuable ones being listed behind.

Feng Lin patiently waited and the third item to be sold off in the auction soon appeared. It was none other than the research notes!

At the instant the auction for this item started, he immediately called out a price, "10,000 star coins!"

The auction entered a momentary lull all of a sudden. Those flashing ids of the customers stopped flashing for a few moments.

This suggestion is truly useful!

There was no response after some time; the customers keen on this item seemed to have been frightened by Feng Lin's bid of 10,000 star coins. Who knows, he might succeed in obtaining the research notes just for this price.

"10,000 star coins, once!"

"10,000 star coins, twice!"

After a long time, the timer started to count down. If no one added any more bids after three calls, it would mean that Feng Lin had succeeded in bidding for this item.

When things seemed to be completely going his way, there were people who finally couldn't endure it and started to bid against him.

"11,000 star coins!"

A customer increased the bid by 1,000 star coins in a single breath.

However, things weren't concluded yet. The other bidders immediately shouted out their own bids, competing against the previous one.

"11,500!"

"12,000!"

"13,000!"

.....

The auction entered the climax as the bids soared up, swiftly breaking into the 20,000 mark.

Feng Lin's heart sank. He didn't expect that there would be so many bidders keen to obtain the same item as him. The competition was much tougher than he had imagined.

However, this item was something he had to obtain at all cost; he couldn't give up.

Even if he had to spend all 40,000 star coins here, he wouldn't feel any pain in his heart.

Feng Lin was someone who had very definite opinions. Once his heart was determined, he wouldn't hesitate too much.

He then called out another price for a new bid.

"20,100 star coins!"

34. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

20,100 star coins... It was exactly just one hundred more star coins than 20,000.

However, its effect was surprisingly good.

The active ids in the online auction once again sank into silence.

All of them understood the meaning behind this number. This person was bent on winning this bid at all costs.

The silence went on for a while.

Feng Lin waited patiently. He knew that if someone really wanted it, they wouldn't be scared off by this one hundred star coin.

As expected, it wasn't too long before someone continued to bid.

"22,000 star coins!"

This person raised the bid by almost 2,000 star coins at one go, displaying immodesty in his wealth.

"23,000!" Another person raised the bid by 1,000.

Other than that, no one else called for a greater bid.

After all, there weren't many people who would pay over 20,000 star coins for just a genetic researcher's notes.

There was now only Feng Lin and two other people competing in the boisterous online auction.

Clearly, his tactic was working.

However, the other two ids were very persistent and kept on raising the bid. Very soon, the bid was raised to 25,000.

Feng Lin knew that it was time for him to take action. He called for a bid again, "25,100 star coins."

He repeated his trick again, increasing the bid by one hundred star coins.

However, the two people had already seen through his trick and persistently raised the bid. They didn't back off just because of a mere increase of a hundred star coins.

“26,000 star coins!”

“27,000!”

“27,500!”

“27,800!”

...

The bidding price kept on escalating and very soon, reached 28,000 star coins.

The virtual sale assistant, who was at the side, watched with wide-open eyes, not understanding what had happened. The price for this item had far exceeded her expectations.

It is just a genetic researcher's notes. Can it really fetch such a high price?

Seeing that her earlier suggestion wasn't effective, her eyes flashed with data as she tried to analyze the situation.

Feng Lin didn't mind it at all.

After some observation, he noticed that his competitors' bid increments were getting lesser. Clearly, the price was getting closer to their limits.

As long as he raised the bid further, they might just back off.

The bidding price's increment slowed down, but it still reached 30,000 star coins in the end.

“30,000 star coins, calling once!”

“Calling twice!”

One id left the competition and didn't raise the bid further.

Right at this moment, Feng Lin jumped into the bidding pool again. “30,100 star coins!”

An increment of just a hundred star coins! Again!?

The online auction descended to stillness with his timely bid.

That last remaining bidder pondered for a while before starting to raise the bid again. “30,500 star coins!”

Just 500 star coins? It seemed that this opponent won’t be able to hold on for long!

Feng Lin smiled, feeling that he was going to win this very soon.

Now that things had come down to this stage, it was impossible for him to back off.

“30,600 star coins!”

With yet another one hundred star coins increment, Feng Lin revealed that he would bring home these notes at all cost.

For some reason, despite already reaching the limit, the last competitor still remained unyielding in this bidding war.

“31,000!” Each time, this competitor would raise the bid by 500 star coins.

On the other hand, Feng Lin would consistently display his determination by yet another hundred star coins.

The two of them kept on fighting, with neither party willing to lose out. The bidding price gradually rose to a shocking level.

The id in the online auction kept on flashing non-stop, sending out a bunch of exclamation marks.

At the side, the virtual sale assistant was in a daze. She couldn’t analyze the reason behind this foolish behavior.

The bidding price kept on escalating, soon reaching 35,000 star coins.

However, Feng Lin’s patience was at its limit. He was no longer willing to wait.

How long is this going to continue on for?

After such a long tug of war, he could tell that his competitor was also determined to get the research notes.

The slow increment to the bidding price made it hard for them to test each other's limits.

Feng Lin had no intention to keep on dragging things out. He was ready to show his hand.

"40,000 star coins!" He threw in all of his funds. If he couldn't win the bid even with this, he could only count himself unlucky.

Fortunately, this time around, his opponent fell silent for very long and finally stop raising the bid.

"40,000 star coins, calling once!"

"Calling twice!"

"Calling thrice!!! Sold!"

After three calls, the bell was rung. In the end, Feng Lin managed to win the bid for the genetic researcher's research notes.

He heaved a sigh of relief. He was so close to letting it slip by.

If that person continued to raise the bid, he might really have to give up on this.

Thankfully, things turned out well. Although he had paid a huge price, Feng Lin didn't regret it.

The higher the value of the notes, the more excitement and anticipation he felt.

Just a set of a genetic researcher's notes was worth so much money... A geneticist was definitely a promising job with great prospects. He made the right choice.

"Sorry! My method isn't useful and it made you spend so many star coins!" The virtual sale assistant walked up, appearing very remorseful.

Feng Lin shook his head, "This isn't your fault!"

To be honest, this tactic was still effective and had caused the majority of the disruptors to back off.

It was just that Feng Lin was unlucky and seemed to have encountered someone who also had a great interest in this set of research notes. In this case, any tactic would be useless and it would just be a competition of who had more money.

Fortunately, Feng Lin had the last laugh.

Although the process had been precarious, the results were satisfactory.

He had successfully gotten his hands on it and had also spent all of the 100,000 star coins.

This was the first time that Feng Lin had spent money so extravagantly. It was both refreshing and exhilarating.

He didn't leave any money remaining for his parents. Given his situation, it would be too tough to explain things and would only cause them to worry about where he had gotten the money instead.

Secondly, the clan might start asking unwanted questions. This was something he wanted to avoid at all cost.

Feng Lin didn't want any trouble for now. He could feel invisible ropes restricting his freedom. There was no choice, he could only remove these ropes in the future after he grew stronger!

"Esteemed customer, please feel free to visit us again in the future!" As the virtual sale assistant bowed, Feng Lin exited the shop and headed in the direction of home.

35. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The amount of liquid in each bottle wasn't much.

Hence, 41 bottles only amounted to a small bag.

Feng Lin successfully carried them on him without drawing any attention onto himself.

When he arrived home, it was already late at night.

Feng Lin's parents had been busy for the entire day and had already gone to sleep with his younger brother and sister.

Feng Lin slowed down his movements, not alarming them as he quietly returned to his own dark room. Even after settling down a bit, he didn't drink the potion of life immediately.

That was because he had yet to digest the Green God Type-3 nutrient medicine he took earlier.

If he were to take in too much nutrients at one go, it would be bad for his digestion.

Instead, he opened up the genetic researcher's research notes and started reading it.

This was already the Interstellar Era, and the notes would definitely not be left in the outdated manner of handwritten notes. Instead, it was a recording that was stored in a microchip.

The microchip revealed a resplendent glow and a three-dimensional projection. A human figure wearing white robes was standing in a room that was similar to that of a chemistry laboratory. He was holding test tubes in his hands as if he was trying to concoct something.

The blood-red liquid released seething heat that felt like magma.

Boom!

Suddenly, an explosion rang out. No one knew what went wrong and the medicine suddenly exploded, causing the test tubes to be blasted into smithereens.

The man in white robes seemed to have expected this and dodged agilely, not receiving any harm.

However, he couldn't conceal the disappointment on his face. He looked toward the camera and slowly said, "Today is A.C. Year 9982 (Astronomic Calendar), date: 17 March. The bubbling blood

nutrient medicine's concoction has failed again! I can no longer remember how many times I've failed at this. Was it 100 times? 300 times? 1,000 times? I've become a little numb. Regardless, I must continue on. Only by successfully concocting the bubbling blood nutrient medicine would I then be able to become a true geneticist. This is my dream. I can't give up..."

The man started becoming busy as he gave the commentary. He kept concocting that red-colored medicine, then failing repeatedly. However, he was unwilling to give up.

The scenes kept on flashing by. They were all recordings of him researching genomics.

Feng Lin watched the recordings seriously and got a general gist of some situations concerning geneticists.

Geneticists dived deep into the research of genomic theories. They would use them as a foundation to create and develop genetic-related cultivation resources, which then could be split into many types of domains.

Some geneticists specialized in concocting medicine that supplemented cultivation, and they were known as genetic pharmacists. There were those who developed genetic-suits that integrated with human genetics to unleash their prowess. These people were known as genetic armorers...

Although they were all geneticists, the difference in their domains was huge.

The person was called "Ayros Lincoln". He was a researcher in the area of genetic medicine, and his specialization was in concoction.

Medicine, treasures, genetic-suits, martial arts... All these cultivation resources were segregated into different tiers, namely the low-tier, mid-tier, high-tier, and supreme-tier.

Only those who could at least concoct low-tier medicine could be considered real geneticists. The bubbling blood nutrient medicine was one of them.

After taking this medicine, the user's blood would boil and the medicinal effect would arouse the potential of one's genetics instantly, unleashing a battle prowess that was over their usual by 50%.

The drawback was that the medicinal effect could only be sustained for one hour. Thereafter, it would make the person suffer a great loss in their vital energy and blood, entering a period of weakness for one whole month. It shouldn't be used until the critical moment.

Despite so, the demand for the bubbling blood nutrient medicine amongst cultivators was still higher than the supply for it.

With a medicine like this, it would be as if a person had gained one more additional life in critical times. Who wouldn't want it?

The potion of life that Feng Lin had bought was clearly a potion without any grade. It was just a byproduct when genetic pharmacists concocted a mid-tier medicine known as the God's Blood.

At the sight of this, Feng Lin was increasingly certain in his thoughts of wanting to become a geneticist.

Just a byproduct alone would have such a high value. If he could create a real genetic medicine, its worth would be simply unimaginable.

There were a lot of contents in this set of notes, and the most valuable of them all were the three types of genetic medicine recorded on it—the bubbling blood nutrient medicine, the toughening potion, and the transformation potion.

It was a pity that the price of the required equipment and ingredients for these genetic medicines were all too expensive. They weren't something that Feng Lin could afford.

Right now, Feng Lin was in a situation as if he had a treasure vault in possession but was unable to enter it. He could only feel extremely regretful.

He then took a closer look through the genomics notes and found a point that was extremely useful in it.

It was the key to consuming the potion of life.

Ordinary people were unable to take the potion of life as the potion would cause their bodies to explode. However, this wasn't something absolute. If the potion was diluted, then ordinary people would be able to take them as well.

However, the potion of life mustn't be diluted by water but by nutrient fluids.

Nutrient fluids were originally obtained through the simplified concoction technique for the potion of life. It was an integration between natural and perfection.

As long as the potion of life was diluted a whole lot with nutrient fluids, then ordinary people would be able to consume them.

However, the genetic liquid must at least be mid-grade nutrient fluids. Initial-grade nutrient fluids were too inferior in quality and had too much impurities. If the two were to combine, an unpredictable reaction would occur instead. There might even be side effects after consuming it,

and one might bring harm to his/her own self instead.

“Hmmm?” Feng Lin suddenly recalled that he had not only taken over 100,000 star coins from Klot and the others, but he had also obtained 20 bottles of nutrient fluids as well. He could experiment with those.

He took out a bottle of mid-grade nutrient fluids, and a light fragrance was emitting from it as he opened the cap. There was a great smell of vegetables and fruits, inducing a strong appetite.

He then carefully brought out a bottle of potion of life. This potion was in an amber color and was in a half-solid state, just like that of jelly. It was very mysterious and sent out a great fragrance.

Just a slight whiff was enough for Feng Lin to feel that his eight main meridians had been cleared up; even both the inner and outer points of his meridians' passageways seemed to be cleared as well.

He carefully dripped a drop of potion of life into the mid-grade nutrient fluid. The two of them integrated together in perfect harmonies like milk and water.

“It's really effective!” Feng Lin was elated and drank it.

The moment the nutrient fluids entered his body, they turned into hot waves rushing through his entire body, releasing heat at every nook and cranny.

Each and every cell in his body was wriggling, crazily engulfing and absorbing the nutrients just like a dried-up desert that had encountered an extremely rare heavy downpour.

This feeling isn't bad at all!

Feng Lin smacked his lips as if he could have more of it. Other than that, there was nothing different in particular.

Feng Lin shook his head. Although the effect of this nutrient fluid mix wasn't bad, it didn't have much effect on him.

After all, his vitality was already at 1.9. He had expended too much of his vitality earlier on and needed better nutritious things.

“Who's that?” Suddenly, Feng Lin felt that something was amiss. Someone seemed to be spying on him, and his gaze pierced over like a sharp arrow.

“Ahh! Ahh!” Two consecutive sharp cries rang out as if frightened by Feng Lin. Two small figures,

who were wearing pajamas, were given a shock and had fallen to the ground, not even daring to breathe loudly.

Feng Lin looked carefully and realized that they were his younger brother Feng Cheng and his younger sister Feng Xin.

He relaxed his expression, revealing a warm smile. "Why have the two of you come?"

The two young ones, who had been scared by Feng Lin's sharp gaze earlier, looked at him and mumbled, "We smelled something nice... and then... and then we woke up!"

Their faces were yellow from malnutrition. Right now, their eyes were fixed on the mid-grade nutrient fluid in Feng Lin's hand as they gulped.

Did they wake up because of the nutrient fluid's fragrance?

Feng Lin looked at them, smiled, and beckoned with his hand.

His younger siblings walked over carefully.

Feng Lin stuffed a bottle of mid-grade nutrient fluid into each of their hands. "Here!"

"These are for us?" The two kids could not believe this as they wore a strong craving expression. Although they really wanted to drink it, they still shook their heads and returned it to him reluctantly. They then said, "Elder Brother, aren't you going to drink it? This is a mid-grade nutrient fluid. If you were to drink it, you might just attain a breakthrough and be able to go for the college exam!"

A warm feeling rose in Feng Lin's heart as he stroked their yellowish hair that reminded him of the texture of grass. He smiled and said, "Elder Brother has already drunk it. So, you guys can drink it!"

"Really?" The two of them looked at Feng Lin doubtfully.

Seeing that Feng Lin had nodded, both Feng Cheng and Feng Xin were still kids after all and couldn't resist the temptation. They grabbed onto the nutrient fluids and sipped slowly, wearing a blissful and satisfied smile.

They even licked off the residue on the corners of their lips as if they were like little beasts that had found a water supply after being parched in the desert for very long, feeling as if they would never have enough of it.

Feng Lin smiled.

Being a human in a second lifetime, he was given a brand new life and a new family...

Being able to eat and drink to one's fill was the simplest form of happiness!

He swore to himself to protect this moment of bliss as long as he could.

36. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Elder Brother has earned these mid-grade nutrient fluids through part-time jobs. You’ll be able to drink more of them in the future. If you guys have had your fill, then go back and sleep!” Feng Lin put in a great effort before he was able to get his younger siblings to return to their rooms and sleep.

A bottle of mid-grade nutrient fluid was three days’ worth for an ordinary person.

The two young kids had been malnourished for a prolonged period of time and had been starved for very long. After drinking one entire bottle, their heads were feeling groggy, and they couldn’t even walk straight anymore. Yet, they still wanted to drink more!

It was as if they weren’t afraid that they’d explode from drinking it!

However, Feng Lin wouldn’t be so rash. He went through great difficulty to coax them to head back to sleep. Thereafter, he also fell onto his bed and sank into a deep slumber.

He was far too tired.

In this trip to the illusory martial pagoda, he had experienced over 20 great battles consecutively. Although he could use the genetic points to rapidly recover his stamina, his mental fatigue couldn’t be easily removed like that.

He completely blacked out.

Sinking into the world of darkness without dreaming through the entire night.

When he woke up once again, it was already bright outside, and the sun was high above in the sky.

His parents had already left. They still had to work overtime in the Feng Clan’s factory even during the weekends.

Seeing this scene, Feng Lin’s belief grew increasingly firm.

He didn’t want a fate where he was restrained by others and had no freedom at all!

After a simple washing up, Feng Lin went to check on his younger siblings and realized that they were still sleeping.

Clearly, after drinking the bottle of mid-grade nutrient fluid, their bodies had received too much nutrition and needed to take a lot of effort to digest them.

He smiled and turned to head out.

He left the Feng Clan Grand Building silently and arrived in a remote park not far away.

The trees were lush and flourishing. A light breeze blew by, bringing with it an endless amount of refreshing air.

Luckily, there were no classes to attend today.

Feng Lin could make good use of this time to digest what he had obtained during this period of training.

Cultivators had awakened their genes and could control their bodies to a greater degree compared to normal humans.

He could feel with his sharp senses that the nutrient fluids he had taken yesterday still remained in his body. They hadn't been completely used up. Not wanting to waste any of that, he started cultivating.

Genetic breathing art!

This was the only genetic cultivation art he excelled in. He circulated the vital energy and blood throughout his entire body through a certain breathing rhythm, stimulating his vitality and tempering his genes.

A cool breeze brushed by his face.

Feng Lin sat on the floor as if he had integrated with the surroundings, entering a state as if there was great harmony between man and nature.

Breath in... breath out... breath in... breath out...

His breathing became one with the sound of the wind, following the rhythm of nature.

His chest undulated as his lungs took in the fresh air strongly. All his red blood cells were stimulated.

On the surface, the exterior of his body seemed calm, but on the inside, things seemed to be

seething like a volcano or akin to overturning rivers and seas, ready to burst out at any moment.

Feng Lin's skin revealed a faint red color from inside out, emitting surging heat gradually.

This was a sign that his body cells had become vibrantly active.

When his body reached the optimum condition, Feng Lin jumped up abruptly. His body was like an old machine that had been instantly activated, reaching the greatest efficiency.

Bang bang bang!

His punches were like drummings, releasing densely packed sounds.

Feng Lin stood on the spot, starting to practice his fist arts. He started off with the Hong Fist, each punch being very impactful and reaching deep into its target. Then it was the Eight Trigram Palm. Displaying great agility and grace, his body moved within the eight trigrams, shifting on the spur to the left and right, without a single flaw...

As an ancient saying went: Taichi (The great balance) brings peace to the world under the heavens, and the eight extremities determined the course of the universe.

He then carried on to practice the two ancient martial arts—Taichi and Eight Extremes—one was tough and unyielding, while the other was gentle and soft; one flowed gently like water, while the other roared like a raging fire. It demonstrated the true essence of martial arts.

Feng Lin practiced all the ancient martial arts he had acquired in the illusory martial pagoda.

After finishing this round of practice, his fist arts changed again. With a tremble, his momentum changed, revealing an unshakeable disposition as if one was beholding a high mountain in awe.

Feng Lin clenched his fist before his chest as if he were a human King Kong.

Vajra Subduing Devil Fist!

Ancient martial arts had deep profoundness. But as there were no genetic theories in them, one would be unable to manoeuvre their genetic abilities. Therefore, the prowess would tend to be weaker than genetic martial arts.

The Vajra Subduing Devil Fist was the only genetic martial art that Feng Lin knew. In the future, this would be his primary battle means. He must practice it until he achieved a high level of mastery in it.

Vajra Dragon Claw!

Mighty Vajra Palm!

Invulnerable Vajra!

...

Feng Lin performed moves after moves, activating his Stonebirth Gene and turning into a stone person, every punches carrying the weight of a rocky mountain.

Although the Stonebirth Gene wasn't the Vajra Gene that was a perfect match with the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist, their attributes were similar and its prowess was impressive as well. Stifled sounds rang out in the air, and wherever the fist forces passed by, a series of air currents that could be seen by the naked eye would also surge.

After practicing a set of it, Feng Lin noticed that his genetic martial art underwent a change again.

Genetic potential +22%.

To think that it was 22%!

Feng Lin was taken by surprise. How could it increase by so much?

This was merely the most ordinary cultivating session. Thus, it was completely out of his expectations to see his genetic potential increase by so much.

His previous session had only raised his genetic potential by around 10%. Even the intense battles he had gone through in the illusory martial pagoda rarely produced such great result. Other than the early surge in genetic potential, the progress had been gradually reduced. In the end, there were rarely times where his genetic potential would have exceeded 20%.

There must be some reason behind this!

Feng Lin didn't think that this was a coincidence. Behind every coincidence, there must be inevitability.

He recalled the recent changes he had been through. The only difference was that over the past two days, he had consecutively drunk a bottle of Green God Type-3 nutrient medicine as well as a mid-grade nutrient fluid that had a portion of potion of life added to it.

The tremendous amount of nutrients replenished his body's depletion.

This might be the only change.

That's it! This must be the reason!

Feng Lin's thoughts instantly cleared up.

He recalled the A.I.'s analysis in the illusory martial pagoda and then was enlightened about a higher level of mystery in the area of genetic potential.

Why would cultivation increase one's genetic potential?

When humans cultivated, it was also a process to modify themselves. Their bodies' structure would become more scientifically reasonable, evolving toward perfection. What that was presented would be genetic potential!

However, such changes required a foundation as well. The foundation would be nutrients.

Nutrients weren't genetic potential, but nutrients could be converted into genetic potential through cultivation.

This was the connection between the two.

Therefore, taking nutrient fluids directly wouldn't increase one's genetic potential, but with cultivation, the more nutrients there were, the more genetic potential would be converted.

This might be the most intrinsic mystery of genetic potential.

Earlier on, Feng Lin had lacked nutrients and could've only depleted his vitality. Therefore, after experiencing the outburst in potential at the very beginning, the genetic potential he had gained thereafter had decreased gradually, extremely close to nothing.

After replenishing his nutrients, his potential immediately surged.

After clearing this layer of mystery, Feng Lin became increasingly motivated in his cultivation.

Genetic potential +18%, +14%, +10%, +6%, +2%.

As expected, as he continued cultivating, his genetic potential started increasing again. However, the index kept decreasing steadily. At the very end, no matter how much effort he put in, the numbers didn't change at all.

Clearly, at this stage, the nutrients in his body had been completely depleted once again.

Right now, Feng Lin's potential had reached 178%, and he once again obtained a free genetic point.

However, Feng Lin wasn't planning on strengthening his genes any further.

He had strengthened his Stonebirth Gene and Monkey Gene by a total of 18 points. However, his vitality was only at 1.9.

His genes' potential hadn't been completely unleashed. If he were to add more points to them, he'd be spoiling things through excessive enthusiasm.

He wouldn't commit this mistake again.

Right now, he had sufficient nutrient fluids and potion of life. Therefore, he'd naturally be progressing steadily but surely. He was going to fully unleash the genetic potential first before considering adding more points.

It was undeniable that being a cultivator was an occupation that spent a lot of money.

A bottle of high-grade nutrient fluid and a bottle of mid-grade nutrient fluid could sustain the living requirements of an ordinary person for two weeks. However, Feng Lin digested them in a single day.

Right now, he needed to drink a more valuable potion of life that was of a higher grade.

Feng Lin didn't feel pain at the expensive price at all. Life evolution was the most important; everything else was secondary.

He took out a bottle of potion of life carefully. The potion presented an amber color as it shook. It was very clear and would easily attract gazes onto itself.

Feng Lin tilted his head and gulped it down at one go. At the next moment, an overwhelming change happened in his body.

37. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Cold as water, scorching as fire.

The moment the potion of life entered his stomach, there was an ice-cold energy surging as if he had just drunk the icy spring water. It felt gratifying and refreshing. However, as the medicine took effect, it turned into a completely scorching feeling. It felt boiling, like magma seething in his body.

Feng Lin's expression became distorted and he felt his entire body burning up as if it was blazing into ashes, leaving nothing behind.

Intense heat waves brought about huge impacts from the inside.

There was only one thought left on his mind. With such violent medicinal effects, it was no wonder that this was a medicine that was used only by cultivators. Ordinary people couldn't take it at all. They would really explode...

Excruciating pain came again and again like tidal waves, challenging Feng Lin's nerves and tolerance level, wanting to drown him into an endless stretch of darkness.

Feng Lin couldn't afford to let his mind wander anymore. He quickly calmed down and focused, sitting down on the ground, sensing the changes to his body in great detail while bearing with the agony.

The medicinal effects were like heat currents, penetrating and seeping into all parts of his body.

Feng Lin felt as if he were a sturdy and unchanging piece of tough metal that was being grilled on strong fire, tempered incessantly and having the impurities removed.

All of the vital energy and blood in his body were seething, circulating crazily. His green veins popped up and his face turned flushed red. It was as if he were on a stove. It felt extremely hot.

Ha!

He suddenly opened his mouth and spewed out seething hot air, giving himself a fright. He almost thought that he had become a fire-spewing dragon.

Hot, hot, hot!...

Sweat kept flowing down, drenching his clothes and causing them to stick closely onto his body.

Violent energies kept raging in his body like tidal waves. Feng Lin was worried that his body was going to burst.

Pain, pain, pain!

It felt as if there wasn't a spot on his body that wasn't in pain.

Feng Lin gritted his teeth, and his entire body trembled intensely. The feeling was as though all of his organs on the inside had been crushed and then reassembled, presenting a state that was even more perfect and reasonable.

There can be no construction without destruction!

This was a process of destruction followed by construction.

Unlike the cultivation process where one slowly changed their bodies to go through a life transformation, the changes brought by medicine were instant and immediate. The violent medicinal effects were crushing up his body's structure brutally and then reassembling them at rapid speed.

The intense changes also meant that there would be an enormous pain.

Feng Lin felt as if his consciousness was blurring slowly, drowned by waves of agony.

However, the more this was so, the more he would need to hold on.

Things might just be over with if he fainted. He might become completely free and relieved. However, he could only control the medicinal effects by maintaining his consciousness, allowing the transformation to be applied in the right places and maximizing the effects.

Crackle crackle!

He lowered his head, gritting his teeth so hard that crackling sounds were released. It was as if they were going to shatter.

Breath in... breath out... breath in... breath out...

Feng Lin felt as if he was going to suffocate soon, and he started gasping for air. All the pores on his body opened up, digesting the scorching energies brought by the potion of life.

In the end, the hot currents flowed through every corner and gradually seeping into the deepest

part of his body.

Organs, cells, cell nuclei... They seeped through many layers, from a wider perspective to a closer one, and then all the way to the genes!

From inside to the outside, Feng Lin's body emitted a series of red light that was as clear and dark as blood.

With the disappearance of the hot currents, Feng Lin could faintly see a scene he was used to.

This was a dark world that was as vast as the universe. Many substances that were like snakes or dragons were tangled together, presenting an upward spiral form. Some parts of it were emitting light, sometimes bright and sometimes dark as if they were the countless stars in the sky.

These were genes!

He had to say that this was an extremely amazing scene.

Although Feng Lin was able to see the distribution of the genes in his body with the reliance of genetic equations, this was the first time he could see the true forms of genes from the microscopic perspective with his own eyes.

A series of warm currents were like the ocean currents on the Pacific Ocean that flowed from the south toward the north, suddenly flowing into this dark space.

Many sections of the genes that had originally been dark and weren't emitting light suddenly burst out in great light, presenting a glow that was like that of the stars. They were pure, mysterious, ancient... the bringer of great astonishment.

The light became increasingly brighter, like how small sparks could burn an entire stretch of plains. More and more of them gathered, rapidly spreading out throughout the entire dark space.

The genes that were activated continued to split, controlling the different combinations of nutrients, cells reproduction, organs proliferation... Various parts of the body kept being modified, going through an intrinsic life transformation.

Strange scenes passed by with a flash. He saw the process of the medicine taking effect, modifying his body.

Kacha Kacha!

His joints kept crackling; his organs started to become agitated. They were like loud thunder, like

the heavy rainstorm, like the strong tempest...

Feng Lin curled up his body without realizing it. His body was going through a transformation, his muscles bulging and some imprints appeared. Layers of keratin started to form on his skin, just like shiny white marble that was smooth yet tough.

He had no idea how long had passed before this intense pain started to subside gradually.

Feng Lin slowly stood up and realized that he seemed to become like a clay figure, covered in perspiration and blood. He felt very sticky and uncomfortable.

He suddenly felt very different. His vision became very strange. It was as if he was walking on heels where everything before him had become a little shorter...

He moved slightly and his clothes instantly burst apart.

Could it be...?

Feng Lin quickly took a selfie with his identity microchip. Only then did he discover his body's transformation.

His height had surged up to 1.9 meters from 1.8 meters. His battered clothes revealed chunks of study, toned, and streamlined muscles. His fair skin emitted a faint glow, just like pure white ivory.

This was a form that could be described as perfection!

Even when displaying his overflowing strength, his speed wouldn't have trouble keeping up. His body was straight and upright like a spear as he stood there with a vigorous and aggressive disposition.

Without a doubt, Feng Lin knew that a huge change had gone on in his body. He quickly checked his gene attributes.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 2.3

Monkey Gene: 10

Stonebirth Gene: 8

Genetic Potential: 178%

=====

His potential didn't increase and neither was his genetic strengthening tally.

However, his vitality index had gone through a change, breaking through 2 and reaching 2.3.

Feng Lin was now the top of his class without a doubt. He had surpassed that Zhao Kai both in terms of his powers and his vitality.

It could be said that with Feng Lin's battle instincts, that Zhao Kai would be stepped firmly under his feet, with no hope of reprieve.

However, Feng Lin no longer cared about Zhao Kai. Zhao Kai wasn't fit to be his opponent. Feng Lin only could only compare with himself.

After his vitality had broken through to 2.0, his body went through a huge change.

Feng Lin calmly sensed the exuberant energy that filled up his body. Even if he didn't sleep for three days and three nights, he wouldn't feel tired at all. Endless amount of energy filled up his muscles.

He couldn't help but become excited. That brain analysis in the illusory martial pagoda wasn't wrong. His genetic potential hadn't been completely stimulated.

After drinking the potion of life and replenishing the nutrients in his body, his vitality surged immediately.

Although he had a strong urge to drink another bottle, his rational mind stopped him.

The potion of life was too domineering and would put on too great of a stress onto his body. He shouldn't drink more of it in the short term.

After all, every medicine had its toxicity.

Even great nourishing medicine had a high level of toxicity if one over-consumed them!

Thus, His body still needed to have a good rest.

Regardless, the transformation had brought his vitality to 2.3. He was definitely not a weakling

anymore. Feng Lin was now even more confident on his cultivation path.

Now, he would have to solve the pressing situation immediately. It was time for him to have an official negotiation with his family!

38. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The elevator moved upward rapidly.

After Feng Lin went home, he changed his clothes before heading for the higher levels of the Feng Clan Grand Building.

The life transformation had brought him confidence, and he wasn't willing to wait a minute longer. He must have a showdown with his clan, settling the lurking danger that was coming three weeks later.

With the cultivation path laid out before him, how could he possibly be willing to accept to be manipulated by the clan and lead a wasted life in the clan's factory?

The solar system was a part of the Chaotic Star Region. Societal order was in a mess, and people from the same clan would gather together, seeking a way to live on.

Compared to Ancient Earth Era's feudal society where families were smaller in size, the smallest family in the Interstellar Era had at least several ten thousand people.

Each clan was like a small society.

Where there were people, there were societies. Once the population size increased, contradictions and conflict would also go up along with it.

Moreover, the clan would allocate their best resources to the most talented people, nurturing real experts. The people in the clan were split into different grades based on their aptitudes and talents.

The elevator that led to the Feng Clan Grand Building's higher levels were packed with people dressed in luxurious clothings.

Feng Lin, who was dressed in plain clothings, clearly stood out like an eyesore, causing many cold and disgusted gazes to sweep towards him.

However, they were theoretically from the same clan after all and didn't hurl abusive words toward each other. They merely kept their distance, not wanting to get close to Feng Lin.

At that moment, the place where Feng Lin was standing was completely empty, making it so that he was extremely conspicuous.

However, Feng Lin took all of this very calmly.

He soon arrived at the level he was supposed to head to and walked out.

The 80th floor on the Feng Clan Grand Building...

Many towering buildings were densely packed in Interstellar Era's cities. They were all very tall and majestic, each like a small mountain.

If one stayed at a lower story, the sunlight would be easily blocked out and these people would end up staying in the darkness for prolonged periods of time.

These places were often treated as dark streets—places that only inferior people would stay in.

The higher the story, the more sunlight would enter and the better the environment would be.

Therefore, under normal circumstances, people who stayed on the higher floors of a building would either be rich or had high statuses.

Those who stayed on the 80th or higher levels of the Feng Clan Grand Building were considered members of the upper echelon—the purest direct descendants.

At first glance, it was clear that Feng Lin was a lower level member of the clan entering the place, and he immediately attracted countless surprised gazes.

Those gazes brushed onto his plain clothes with apparent contempt.

Feng Lin walked by as if he didn't see them. He passed through the long corridors and arrived before a spacious hall.

There were probably several tens of people queuing in front of the door. Although the queue was long, everyone was waiting patiently and quietly.

Feng Clan's management office!

There were several ten thousands people in such a big clan.

When there were more people, there would be more trouble that required their attention.

Therefore, every clan on Earth had a core member to handle everything in the clan. This person was known as the Head Butler.

This was the office of the Feng Clan's Head Butler.

The Feng Clan had a big population, and there were endless trifling matters that needed to be attended to daily. People who came to look for the Head Butler would usually have important matters. If they were to trouble the Head Butler with trifling matters, not only would it be useless, but they would also be severely punished.

Despite so, it was still normal for there to be a queue. Sometimes, people might even need to queue up for a few days.

Feng Lin found a seat at the back and sat down, waiting quietly.

"Why is an inferior clansman not going to work at the factory but came here instead?"

"Did he skive himself from work? And yet, he dares to come and look for the Head Butler? Aren't he afraid that he'd be punished?"

"He's really daring!"

...

When the people in the queue saw Feng Lin getting close, they drew their distance in disgust immediately, mumbling between themselves.

Feng Lin paid them no heed, continuing to wear a calm expression.

The queue moved forward slowly and orderly. After over an hour, Feng Lin had only moved forward by five positions. If things were to continue on at this rate, he had no idea how long it would be before his turn arrived.

However, he could only wait.

If he were to barge in recklessly, he would only infuriate the Head Butler, causing things to go badly. It would be an extremely irrational decision.

"You lowly person! Get lost immediately! Time waits for no one. Is there a need to trouble the Head Butler with your insignificant matters? If my matter is delayed, you won't be able to hold responsibility for it! " A rude voice rang out next to him.

Feng Lin was pushed aside harshly. After he opened his eyes, he saw an extremely thin face that was wearing a proud expression. Feng Lin sighed, his expression was that of gloominess and

annoyance.

Why are there people who can't even do a good job as a villain? To think that they don't even have good judgment. Do I look like such a pushover?

...

These messy thoughts flashed in Feng Lin's mind, and he became more serious. He knew the reason well.

There were clear differences in grades within the clan.

In the end, he, an inferior member in the clan, was seen as a weak pushover.

People within the clan were segregated by their aptitudes and talents.

Feng Lin's strength rose up too quickly, but he was still the ninth-grade clansman he was before, a person of the lowest tier.

These people might have seen this status of his and felt that his aptitude was too inferior, too weak. Therefore, they labeled him as a pushover directly.

Otherwise, why was it so coincidental that this person didn't look for others but only approached him when there were so many people queuing up before him?

He must get stronger quickly.

Only by getting stronger would he be able to get rid of this difficult situation. Otherwise, with there being no end to such troublesome matters, would he still be able to focus on his cultivation?

Feng Lin felt great resentment in his heart.

"Brat, what's your name? You don't even know me, Feng Lang? Get lost! That skinny man had the appearance of a profligate son and seeing that Feng Lin remained quiet, he pushed him once more.

There was ridicule in his gaze. He was clearly doing this intentionally!

When dealing with people like these, Feng Lin's reply was very simple.

His fist!

His fist that was the size of a sandbag struck out with great impact. He didn't waste his breath at all.

The punch went out with a huge force.

The other person went into a daze at the sight of this scene as if not expecting Feng Lin to be so decisive in making his move. He was a little stunned.

Bang!

The moment the force of the fist reached its target, the guy was sent flying out and he fell hard onto the ground.

However, the person immediately got back up at the next moment. Other than appearing a little disheveled, he didn't seem injured at all. He glared fiercely at Feng Lin while holding onto his face. He flushed up, "B*stard! Don't you know that you shouldn't hit a person in the face?!"

Although this punch wasn't delivered with great strength, this guy had faced it head-on. Feng Lin was a little surprised. This guy's vitality wasn't low.

Seeing that Feng Lin didn't pay him any heed, the profligate son became increasingly infuriated. He assumed a fighting stance and pounced toward Feng Lin.

Slithering Snake Fist!

That person's body twisted about and moved rapidly with a strange movement. He came in close in a Z-shape movement like a slithering snake. His ten fingers flicking and releasing hissing sound like a snake sticking out its tongue, heading for Feng Lin's eyes with an extremely vicious move.

"Good job in coming over!" Feng Lin wasn't fearful at all and also went head-on.

The Slithering Snake Fist had agile movements, allowing the practitioner to slither about and attacking the opponent's critical spots.

In this regard, it was extremely similar to the Eight Trigram Palm.

Feng Lin moved within the eight trigrams, entering a tussle with his opponent.

Their fist and palm collided, and Feng Lin's body didn't budge while the other guy kept retreating, overshadowed on the first contact.

"Good job! Beat him up! Beat him up to death!"

“If you’re a man, then don’t be a coward!”

“I haven’t expected that there’d be a good show to watch here!”

...

The people in the surroundings didn’t seem afraid to see trouble stirred up and kept on cheering them.

Suddenly, a strict voice rang out.

“What are you guys doing? Why are you guys having a conflict within the clan, violating the clan’s regulations? If you can’t give me a reason for this, I’ll confine all of you!”

39. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The stern, silver-haired elderly strode over as swiftly as the thunder, moving like the wind. Every strand of his hair was pencil straight. There was a malicious glint in his eyes, like a northern goshawk soaring across the skies above as it overlooked the crowd below.

“Head Butler!” For the regular clansman of the Feng Clan, he was an important person who ruled their fate.

The nosy spectators bowed their head in respect, not daring to even let out a gasp.

The person who fought against Feng Lin was alarmed, then seized the opportunity to escape from the area of Feng Lin’s techniques. They stood unmoving at their spot; their body stayed idle.

Feng Lin didn’t bow. Instead, his eyes remained fixated on the approaching silver-haired elderly. There was a hint of recognition amid their unfamiliarity.

This was the elderly who had informed him of his interview at their clan’s factory.

That was right, he was Feng Clan’s Head Butler, also known as Butler Ying.*

(T/N: ‘Ying’ in his name is also the same word used for ‘eagle’.)

That conspicuous hooked nose and the pair of eagle eyes would truly make one shudder in fear.

“You two, come with me!” The silver-haired elderly stopped in front of them, sizing them up before turning on his heels and walked towards the house, projecting an air of prestige and dignity.

Feng Lin and Feng Lang followed suit.

“Hey! These two fellows didn’t do this on purpose right!”

“What an act! They pretended to fight in order to gain the Head Butler’s attention. This way, they can cut the queue and enter!”

“How crafty those two are!”

...

Those who had spent half a day queuing were stunned by the scene, and their frustrations were

beyond compare.

Yet, none of them dared to go overboard with their impudence in front of the Head Butler. Instead, they merely maintained their death glares upon Feng Lin and Feng Lang.

They were spectators to the conflict which arose from queue cutting. In the end, they were the ones who suffered the indignance of having their queue being cut. Who could they seek justice from? How could they keep their frustrations at bay from this?

Feng Lin didn't know if this was a case of queue cutting, but he knew that he didn't!

Moreover, according to his observations, this Feng Lang fellow didn't have such intention either.

With the Head Butler's amassed power, the rascal trembled ceaselessly as he trailed behind. It was obvious that he was terrified and couldn't bear it. Only his eyes continued shooting resentful glances at Feng Lin from time to time.

He had originally viewed Feng Lin as a low-grade clansman and merely wanted the latter to give up his place for him.

He was a high-grade clansman, what was wrong with doing that?

Who would've known that this rascal would be so bold as to retaliate?

Now they were doomed; they angered the Head Butler. All that was left for them were the consequences they must bear.

See, nothing would have happened if you have obediently given up your place, right?

If I get punished by the Head Butler, I'll make sure to make you pay!

Filled with bitter resentment, he pushed all the responsibility and blamed them onto Feng Lin.

Feng Lin didn't notice his gaze and even if he did, he wouldn't care.

Following the Head Butler, the two of them stepped into a spacious room.

The silver-haired elderly leaned against the chair, observing the two of them from a distance; he didn't seem to have any intention of letting them sit. "Spill! Why did the two of you fight in the clan and violated the rules! If there isn't a valid reason, then don't blame me for being harsh!"

An ugly smile emerged from Feng Lang's features, crying injustice at once. "Third Granduncle, I've

been wronged! It's this rascal who instigated it and provoked me. You must punish him severely!"

The culprit began blaming his victim.

"Shut up! Don't give me that frivolous attitude," The Head Butler thundered in anger, his steely gaze remained impassive, "How many times have I told you? In here, I am Feng Clan's Head Butler, not your Third Granduncle! It's useless even if you cried to the Heavens; you can dismiss the idea of me ever bending the rules in order to favor you!"

Feng Lang's scrawny stature shivered in fear at that, no longer brave enough to breathe a word.

"Feng Lang, do you think I don't know you by now?! How many times in this month have you caused trouble? If it wasn't because you are the patriarch's eldest grandson, I'd have you confined long ago!" The Head Butler roared again, reducing Feng Lang into silence from his fear.

Feng Lin couldn't help but cast a sidelong glance at him. Never would he have expected this skinny and weak person to be the patriarch's eldest grandson. He didn't sense much potential from Feng Lang when they exchanged blows earlier either.

Was he the good-for-nothing in their line of direct descendants?

Could it be that this rascal was a protagonist of the story, one who would turn their fate around from being a loser?!

A small clan, direct descendant, good-for-nothing... These traits all matched Feng Lang well!

Feng Lin sized up the scrawny guy; he exuded an aura of wretchedness and dejection from head to toe...

It was evident now that he was not it!

"And what's with you?" The Head Butler's attention shifted to Feng Lin. It was a lot colder than before.

With Feng Lang, he was annoyed. After all, the former was the patriarch's eldest grandson and though they didn't grow to become a respectable figure, he couldn't punish them as he willed either.

Feng Lin was different. He was a mere low-grade clansman and didn't require much concern.

As a Head Butler, he had the power to control Feng Lin's fate.

With Feng Lin, he was utterly callous; the minute Feng Lin gave the wrong answer, the consequences would be unimaginable.

In the face of the person who held the key to most of their clansman's fate, anyone would feel the pressure.

Feng Lin returned the gaze and, in a manner neither servile nor overbearing, he spoke up, "I was queuing up before this person forced his way into the queue. That was why we fought. If the Head Butler has doubts, you can watch the surveillance footage!"

"Head Butler, don't listen to this lad's nonsense!" Realizing the circumstances were against him, Feng Lang defended at once.

"Did I allow you to speak?" the Head Butler said coldly.

Feng Lang stopped immediately and didn't dare to utter another word.

Looking at Feng Lin who maintained a calm disposition since the start, the Head Butler was surprised; this person's temperament wasn't too bad. Not everyone would be able to remain this calm and composed in front of him.

He picked out the building's surveillance footage and projected the scene which was captured on the optical computer's log. It appeared clearly and crisply in front of them. With such conclusive evidence, there was no use denying anything.

The Head Butler shot a glance at Feng Lang before revealing his verdict, "Ten thousand star coins will be deducted from your allowance this month!"

"No, Head Butler! I'll only be left with fifty thousand star coins this way; that's not enough!" Feng Lang lamented and was just about to continue when he was caught by the Head Butler's deadly stare. Silencing himself, it was all he could do before turning towards Feng Lin with a resentful stare.

Stupid rascal, you make me lose so many star coins. I'll make you pay once we're out of here!

As expected from the descendant of the patriarch. Even if he was a loser, his allowance was still in the tens of thousands range.

Thinking back about how his parents barely earned five thousand star coins from slogging away day after day in the factory, Feng Lin clenched his fists. Not only that, but they had to pay 70% taxes to the clan!

If this isn't explicit exploitation, then what is?

At the thought that he, too, would have to follow this tragedy of a destiny, Feng Lin's gaze turned so deep and dark; it was almost like staring into a bottomless pit.

It's about time that this cold and apathetic clan lay their cards out on the table!

He had already been struck by an epiphany.

At that moment, the Head Butler's gaze swept over, having no intention of letting Feng Lin go scot-free. In a sinister way, he began, "Low-grade clansman, Feng Lin. I recall that you'll be going to the clan's energy factory for an internship in three weeks! What are you doing here out of the blue? If there's nothing important, then don't blame me for being discourteous!"

So, he's a low-grade clansman who's about to intern at the factory!

Feng Lang glanced over and lost his interest. It was truly degrading to hold a grudge against such a character.

But Feng Lin's next words had his eyes widening in surprise.

"I reject!" Feng Lin said simply.

"What?" Hearing that, the Head Butler's expression darkened at once.

No one ever dared to speak to him in this manner before. How utterly disgraceful!

"I said, I reject the internship!" Afraid that the Head Butler didn't hear him clearly, Feng Lin confirmed his notion with an unwavering expression.

Standing on the sidelines, Feng Lang was stunned.

There was someone who actually had the guts to defy the Head Butler!

This is truly a rebellion!

40. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Just what exactly were Head Butlers?

They were authority figures who managed all matters in a clan. To most clansmen, whose paths would never cross with the patriarch, Head Butlers were their God; they controlled their fate.

If they commanded you to go left, no one would dare turn right.

Head Butlers could place you on top of the world and let you enjoy the clan's preferential treatment, but they could also throw you down to pit's bottom and work in the clan's sweatshop factories without redemption for your entire life.

Feng Lang was stunned by Feng Lin's audacity to defy the Head Butler.

This rascal seriously didn't know the gravity of this; he had practically given up on improving his situation.

To think that he dared to offend even the Head Butler. Suddenly, Feng Lang didn't think much about the lad's tussle with him from before; that was nothing compared to this.

He must say, this lowly boy was truly a man!

Feng Lang's expression was painted with shock.

Feng Lin, on the other hand, remained confrontational with the Head Butler. He looked calm and without any intention to retreat.

Perhaps this Head Butler was a God-like figure to the rest of the Feng clansmen, but this wasn't the case for him.

He was just about to be assigned to one of the clan's sweatshop factories; his pre-destined fate was miserable enough as it stood, how much worse could it get even if he offended this Head Butler?

When else should he fight against his 'fate' if not now?

Feng Lin had long since arrived at this realization.

Fight. He must fight and fight to the end.

His miserable fate was right in front of his eyes. If he didn't fight now, then he would never get out of this predicament.

Feng Lin's "I reject" was resolute, spoken with a tone that could sever iron.

The atmosphere tensed up in an instant, so much so that it was stifling.

The Head Butler's face scrunched hideously in disapproval, his anger rising by the minute until it reached its limit.

Withholding the power of the clansmen, there was no one else who was above him besides the patriarch. It wouldn't be far-fetched to say that he could hide the sky with a hand.

When had anyone opposed him?

And a low-grade clansman at that. What a rebellion!

Where was the discipline if he didn't give this rascal a taste of his medicine? Where would he place his dignity as the Head Butler if he didn't?

The pair of malicious, northern goshawk's eyes maintained its death stare on Feng Lin; they were sharp as knives as though they could slice Feng Lin into a million pieces.

A surge of strange energy rose in the air, as imposing as a mountain, cold as ice while it weighed heavily on one's heart.

Feng Lin remained unmoving at his spot despite the clear display of struggle in his expression. It was obvious that he could feel the heavy pressure as though the weight of a hill was pressing against his spine, forcing him to keel in defeat and kneel on the ground, and to stop defying.

No!

His gaze burned intensely while he forced his back up, taking on a posture of being undaunted by the Head Butler. Feng Lin didn't dare to let his spine bend in the slightest. Like a lonely pine tree atop the cliff, windswept and battered by rain, suppressed by adversity. It would rather die than submit to it; he would rather die than bend.

"What a man!" Despite his condescending views about Feng Lin before, Feng Lang couldn't help being inwardly awed by the former.

The intangible interaction between the two was intense. As a spectator, Feng Lang couldn't help

but shiver at the sight.

Head Butler was an Interstellar cultivator. Yet, against such a dignified presence, this low-grade clansman was unyielding and continued standing tall.

Regardless of his potential, the fact that he dared to go up against the Head Butler was respectable in itself!

“Don’t even think about it!” Seeing as he couldn’t take down Feng Lin with his vigor alone, the Head Butler broke his silence.

A glint flashed across Feng Lang’s eyes at the sound of that.

As the direct descendant of the clan, he was no stranger to the Head Butler.

While the Head Butler remained impassive, he must have been raging inside. Otherwise, for someone who remained cold and distant usually, he wouldn’t have spouted such agitated choice of words.

How decisive, leaving no room for negotiations.

This lad was going to get unlucky!

“Why not?” Against the Head Butler’s verdict, Feng Lin didn’t retreat.

“The clan raised you up, so every single one of you has a duty to fulfill. As a low-grade clansman who can’t get into college, playing your part in the clan’s factory is your duty and your destiny. You must know that this clan doesn’t tolerate good-for-nothings. If everyone turned a blind eye on the rules like you do and reject their responsibility to the clan, then won’t everything be thrown into chaos? Will there still be any clan rules to speak of then?” the Head Butler lashed out severely.

“Just because I can’t get into college, I’ll have to contribute to the clan?” Feng Lin didn’t panic, a confident smile tugged at the corner of his lips instead before asking again, “then what happens if I can get into university?”

“What! University? Your vitality is at a mere 0.4, what a pipe dream...” The Head Butler didn’t disguise his scorn, but neither could he continue from there.

With a point of his finger, he retrieved his examination record from school.

On it, his vitality stats of 1.5 was striking. This was Earth High School’s result slip which could be retrieved from their data storage at anytime and was made public.

The data was conclusive and impossible to forge.

Like a sounding slap to the face, the Head Butler was rendered speechless. His face began to burn up but despite the case, his gaze towards Feng Lin grew increasingly annoyed.

One couldn't go against the clan rules.

He was the guardian of this, yet this Feng Lin wanted to break down the clan's order for the past thousands of years with just this little achievement? How delusional!

"What can you do with 1.5 vitality?" He tore his attention away from Feng Lin's result slip, seemingly unimpressed by it at all. "Earth High School is nothing more than a garbage school in Huaxia City. Among others, your vitality isn't superior either; how capable could you be to get into a good university? If all you can get into is one of Earth's diploma mills, then you'll be unemployed the moment you graduate. It'd still be the clan's burden if you can't find work!

"With such little vitality, you wish to be free of the clan's duties? Impossible! You should know that there are a number of young Interstellar cultivators in our clan with the vitality of more than 10; what's the use of 1.5?"

Every word was dripping with disdain, degrading Feng Lin's examination results and his school into insignificance.

This was unacceptable to Feng Lin. He suppressed the anger and frustration in his heart. Feng Lin had wanted to reveal the truth of his vitality reaching 2.3, but that seemed unnecessary now.

At long last, Feng Lin saw the truth.

This Head Butler was belittling him.

The Feng Clan had a profound foundation; perhaps only Interstellar cultivators would be worth a glance in this Head Butler's eyes.

There was no use of him saying anything more; it would only instigate more scorn and mockery.

"Young man, don't bite off more than you can chew. Unless you can get into Interstellar University, there's not an ounce of possibility for you to escape your duties towards the clan. Your talent and potential are still world's away from being the clan's exception.

"You only have a choice now: to follow the clan's arrangement and intern at the clan's factory obediently. Otherwise, if you don't even have a job in future, you'll be kicked out of the clan and

become one of the losers on the streets of this society!" The warning was clearly laced among Head Butler's words. In fact, it sounded more like a threat.

I can't wait till I get kicked out!

To others, this might have been a warning from the Head Butler, but Feng Lin couldn't care less about it.

If he had to work at the clan's factory, then he'd rather leave!

However, unless it was absolutely necessary, he didn't want to flee like a loser either.

Getting into Interstellar University?

Feng Lin didn't waste his energy any further, but he wouldn't give up.

Fight, he must fight!

Fight to the end, never give up!

Feng Lin wouldn't let others manipulate his fate like this. In a low voice, he spoke up, "Head Butler, I'll definitely not intern at the clan's factory. How about this, why don't we make a deal?"

"What deal?" the Head Butler asked instinctively, regretting it in an instant.

Feng Lin lowered his eyes; his gaze was dark.

This was the last trick up his sleeve!

Although he knew that the possibility of succeeding was slim, as the Head Butler was too unfeeling, not giving him the slightest chance, it was all Feng Lin could do in order to fight for his future.

Unless absolutely necessary, he wouldn't get kicked out of the clan.

The society out there was cruel and turbulent.

He didn't think it would be a big deal to himself, but his parents and siblings were all regular folks. If he allowed himself to be reckless, he was afraid the consequences would be dire...

Since Feng Lin inherited this body, he had inherited its karma too.

He couldn't be this selfish, abandoning his family in this life and left all by himself.

Which was why he could only do his best.

"We can have a deal. Let me fully prepare for my college entrance exam. If I don't make it, I'll return to the clan without protest and no longer hold any fantasies. I'll commit to the clan's duties obediently. However, if I make it through, I don't need anything. I just want the clan to release my family from their restrictions and allow me to freely pursue cultivation! The clan will also gain a true genius who gets into Interstellar University in this way. It's little investment for greater returns, what can you have against it?"

At that, Feng Lin paused for a moment, his gaze was sharp as knife when he made contact.

"How about it? Head Butler, what do you think?"

41. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Ba-dum, ba-dum!

The Head Butler was quiet, apart from his fingers drumming against the tabletop as he fell deep in thoughts.

He couldn't help being tempted by Feng Lin's proposition but something felt amiss.

What was so difficult about admission into Interstellar University?

Interstellar Universities recruited students from human population across the entire universe and had only that many admission slots. Only a few thousands accepted would have been the cream of the crop. Besides, there weren't many students who could take part in the examination every year, and the competition was intense. The probability of being admitted would be one to ten thousand, hundred thousand... Perhaps even a million to one?

This Feng Lin had vitality of 1.5 and was only an apprentice; he was far away from being an actual cultivator. How could he get into Interstellar University?

One must understand that there were many prodigies in each generation of the Feng Clan, and only a few had hope of getting into Interstellar University, much less a low-grade clansman.

Forget about being admitted to Interstellar University, while it was still seven to eight months away from the entrance exams, it wasn't possible for an apprentice to improve that drastically and become a true cultivator!

Wouldn't he have to return to his work obediently at the end of the day?

The Head Butler didn't think that a mere low-grade clansman could surpass the prodigies in their clan in such a short time and get admitted into Interstellar University.

Finally, he managed to pinpoint what was wrong.

No, that isn't right!

He was almost tricked by this rascal!

If he had agreed, then Feng Lin would have gained freedom if he won. Even if he lost, he would've delayed half a year's time before interning at the factory; he wouldn't have suffered any loss.

Without notice, he would have wielded the power over the clan rules and rebelled against it. If everyone followed suit, then wouldn't a rebellion occur?!

Good lad, he really was a great match!

No, he most definitely could not agree to it.

Watching Feng Lin's calm expression, Head Butler let out a gasp inwardly. This lad may be young, but he was practically an evildoer inside. Even so, he was still too inexperienced!

A sneer lifted the corner of his lips. Much as the Head Butler was impressed, he would never allow anyone to take advantage of the loophole in their clan rules!

No one can deviate from the clan rules! No one!

"What a joke. It is your responsibility to carry out your duty to the clan; this cannot be cast aside, so what right do you have to use this as a proposition! As a member of the clan, you should follow the rules obediently and not spend your time on these daydreams. The clan will not allow you to bet on this!" the Head Butler answered coldly. Though he was smiling, his words were humorless, pushing Feng Lin down to a bottomless pit.

Feng Lin frowned. He didn't think that the Head Butler would take away even the opportunity of a bet.

He replied slowly, "Could it be that as the clan's Head Butler, you don't even possess the slightest bit of courage?! What help would a little factory staff have towards the clan? If you won, I would return to work obediently and if you lost, the clan would gain an Interstellar University student. Isn't that the biggest benefit? What would you have against it?"

"What a joke!" The Head Butler didn't hide the disdain. "Don't play such tricks with me! Provoking me is useless. If you can gain admission to Interstellar University, then wouldn't the countless seniors and prodigies of the Feng Clan become good-for-nothing? If they couldn't do it, you think you can? I'm telling you it's impossible! The clan rules are not for you to play, if you insist on being stubborn then don't blame me for punishing you accordingly!"

A thorough threat, leaving Feng Lin with an ultimatum.

Feng Lin's expression turned grave, feeling the pressure imposed from the depths of his heart.

Such decadent, clan-level strictness was suffocating. Every rule was like a chain, wrapped around the person in a vice grip. There was not a hint of freedom, making a person wish they could flee

immediately.

Now, this Head Butler wouldn't even grant the chance of a bet. He was practically forcing him on to the dead end!

The Head Butler watched on, satisfied by Feng Lin's hopeless expression. He nodded his head as he felt everything was in his control.

"It's not that I'm not giving you a chance! You wish to be rid of this internship? That's easy!" With a sudden glint, he spoke up in amusement as he waited for Feng Lin's reaction. Would it be despair? Or despair? And even more despair!?

"How?" Feng Lin asked lowly, skeptical of the Head Butler's display of kindness. The terms must have been an infuriating one.

Even so, for his own future, he didn't care much of it. Whatever it was, he would give it a shot.

"There are two ways! One, you'll become a true basic cultivator before the internship. When that happens, the clan will support you fully in attending the entrance exams for Interstellar University. The other way is for you to compensate the clan for bringing you up, and pay an amount of a million star coins. Thereafter, you can achieve your freedom!" The Head Butler laughed sinisterly.

"What?" Feng Lin's eyes darkened. He had only three weeks before the start of the internship; it was practically impossible to become a basic cultivator in that short amount of time. Yet, the other way would require him to pay a million star coins. How was he supposed to pay such an exorbitant amount? Isn't that robbery?

Besides, as a low-grade clansman, what had the clan given him growing up? Low nutrition fluids and nothing more!

That would require a million star coins?

This must be the most hilarious joke in the entire world!

Observing Feng Lin's silence, the Head Butler's smile turned cold. "No cultivation! No money? Then what right you have to negotiate with me? Did you think the clan was a charity? The clan went through the effort in raising you, yet you want to escape your responsibility! Now, you only have these two choices. You either do your duty obediently, or pay the fee! Otherwise, there's nothing to talk about!"

His sinister laughter was ceaseless, appreciating the view of Feng Lin's despair and helplessness.

Feng Lin pursed his lips into a tight line, refusing to give up just like that.

He knew that he could retreat. If he did, he would never be able to turn his life around.

"I reject!" Although he knew that the repercussions would be unimaginable, Feng Lin still gave his answer.

At this point, he no longer had any room to retreat.

"What?" Feng Lang was stunned by the sight. Does this guy have a death wish? The Head Butler has already told him that it is impossible, yet he still seems so fearless. The Head Butler will never let it go.

Feng Lang seemed to have seen the impending, miserable end of Feng Lin.

Reality seemed to be unraveling in that direction as well.

"Come again?" At the sound of his words, the Head Butler's expression darkened. The thick aura surrounding him rolled in waves, rushing towards him.

The immense pressure he felt previously rose. It had felt like a hill pressing against him before, but it felt as heavy as a mountain now.

Feng Lin tried his hardest to keep his back straight, refusing to bend over.

Creak, creak.

The creaking began to sound continuously from his spine as though it was about to break.

A man's spine could never break. Once broken, they could never stand up straight again.

Feng Lin's held a sullen expression, tightening both his hands into tight fists. His nails dug into his palms as blood began dripping from the contact.

This might will never push me down!

Was this the power of a basic cultivator? How much was his vitality? 10? 20? Or even...

He had never felt as weak as he did now, and the thirst to grow stronger was even more insatiable than it did before.

What a pity. In the end, he still lacked the time and opportunity. The pressure of destiny was

already in front of his eyes before he could strengthen himself.

Why would he have to suffer through such indignance otherwise? Given more time, he could have destroyed everything with his fists.

Seeing that he was unwilling to admit defeat, the Head Butler lost his patience.

With a casual wave of his hand, a gust of violent gale swept over. Like a sandbag without defense, Feng Lin's body was cast aside by the force, knocking hard against the walls and landing unceremoniously on the ground.

"Guards! Feng Lin has defied the clan rules. Place him in detention for a week! If he commits any crime during that time, then force him into the clan's factory!" The Head Butler's voice rang with authority. Even if he deemed that Feng Lin had committed a crime, it wasn't worth a death penalty. He had given what he thought as the most worthy severe punishment!

The gates opened without sound as three muscular men dressed in black walked over stoically.

This was the clan's enforcement team. Every one of them had a vitality of at least 3. They were fierce and imposing, sneering as they surrounded Feng Lin.

Feng Lin swayed as he got up and let out a cough as he yanked himself away from their hold. "Get your hands off, I can walk by myself!"

With that, he gave a final, unimpressed glance towards the Head Butler before leaving with his head held high. In the end, he never did bend his spine!

At the side, Feng Lang was stunned.

What a great lad, a real man indeed!

The Head Butler stared coldly after Feng Lin's retreating figure, expressionless as though he was looking at an inanimate object.

Hmph, want to defy and bring chaos to the clan rules without being a basic cultivator? Dream on!

Slowly, he opened his palms, his fingers curled as though it was holding something, looking like Buddha's Wuzhi Mountain.*

(T/N: Wuzhi in Chinese can be directly translated as Five Fingers.)

Feng Lin was like the monkey in his palms, no matter how much he leaped...

He would never be able to rebel!

42. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

In the dim room that was about to be locked, Feng Lin was violently pushed. He staggered and only managed to regain his footing with great difficulty.

BOOM!

A loud noise rang out, the door behind him was slammed shut as he was locked inside this prison with nowhere to escape. Darkness was everywhere. He couldn't even see the fingers on his hand when he stretched his hands out.

"Obediently stay inside the imprisonment room. Don't try anything funny!"

"This fellow simply has guts as big as the skies, he actually dares to disobey the head butler. He doesn't know how the word 'death' is written!"

"This person is already crippled. After offending the head butler, there's no way out for you in your entire lifetime!"

...

The clan's disciplinary squadron locked Feng Lin into the imprisonment room, laughing as they left.

Feng Lin sat cross-legged on the ground, his face fading into the darkness as his expression grew heavy.

He couldn't help but admit that his thinking was far too naive!

This time around, his head-on confrontation for a negotiation had completely failed, and he even ended up in such desperate straits.

He naively overestimated the goodwill of the clan. He didn't expect the head butler would be so cruel, not bothering to even give him a chance. His suggestion of a bet was rejected as well, and he was directly locked up here. Right now, all his hopes were dashed.

What should he do next?

Feng Lin was clueless, but he didn't intend to give up.

Because, the moment he gave up, it would really have meant that he would have no more opportunities.

As a human experiencing two lifetimes, what else couldn't he see through?

Everything had to be fought for. If he gave up without fighting, he wouldn't have the slightest hope at all.

Hence, until the last moment arrived, he would absolutely never give up.

The four walls inside the imprisonment room were constructed with alloys. They were like an iron bastion, an impenetrable fortress. Without the door being opened from the outside, not even a fly could manage to fly out if it was trapped inside. Escape was impossible.

Also, there were no forms of any technology inside here. It isolated all signals, and he had no way to communicate with the outside world. Darkness—his only companion, making so that he couldn't even sense the flow of time. This place was a cage that was built to engender despair.

If someone was trapped inside here for too long, they might even go crazy.

Feng Lin had only stayed in here for a short while, but he was already feeling extremely anxious and frustrated. He wanted to scream out loud to vent his emotions.

He didn't know whether his parents and siblings would worry because they didn't know of his current situation.

However, continuing to wait wasn't a solution. If he couldn't think of a way out, why didn't he cultivate?

Feng Lin's state of heart gradually calmed down, he wanted to use cultivation as a way to while the time away.

Strength was the only fundamental—it was everything. He had to accumulate strength bit by bit to use them in appropriate situations effectively. He needed to use all opportunities and effectively utilize the time he had to increase his strength.

Hence, Feng Lin told himself that he couldn't waste his time by being dispirited. He had to put all his efforts into cultivating despite being trapped in this dark imprisonment room.

Under the cover of darkness, a mocking smile lit up his face.

Did you think that imprisoning me would suppress my will to fight and cause me to sink into

despair?

No! It would only spur me on to grow stronger!

Bang, bang, bang!

Not long later, the sounds of punches rang out in the sealed imprisonment room. Space was trembling from the force. The wind generated by the punches blasted into the walls like thunder, causing the hearts of those who heard it to tremble.

After finishing a round of his practice with the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist, Feng Lin's sharp senses discovered that his genetic potential didn't even increase by a single point. It seemed like the nutrients he had consumed from the potion of life earlier, had now been completely exhausted. He couldn't continue practicing on forcefully like this, or his lifeforce might end up being overdrafted again...

From his robes, he carefully took out a bottle that was filled with amber-colored liquid. This was a bottle of a potion of life. This might be the stroke of luck that he needed.

Earlier, those people from the disciplinary squadron basically didn't expect that a low-grade clansman like Feng Lin would actually have such valuable potions. Hence, they didn't search his body, or they would've definitely taken all of the potions of life.

Currents of icy cold and fiery heat flooded his body.

The familiar effects of the potion of life kicked in the moment he swallowed it. The cold energy soon transformed into warm currents akin to lava.

Right now, he felt like he was being barbequed on the stove. The blazing heat tempered his body as a transformation occurred.

Agony was like tides of the ocean, coming forth in a wave, challenging his spirit and endurance, wanting to drown him in this boundlessly vast darkness.

However, with his prior experience, Feng Lin didn't feel any panic. He sat cross-legged in the darkness and endured the agony while quickly adjusting his body to the transformation.

His qi and blood churned as his sweat dripped onto the ground. His clothes were soon wet from the sweat as they stuck to his body.

The violent energy currents surged forth around his body, challenging the limits of his body again and again.

Each and single part of his body was filled with pain, his organs broke down and reassembled, growing stronger and stronger with each cycle.

This time, his experience wasn't that different from the first time he had consumed a potion of life. Feng Lin had gradually gotten used to it.

The warm currents in him continued flowing into every part of his body, seeping into the depths. The energy flowed into his organs, his cells, his cell nuclei...layer by layer, from the external to the internal, all the way to the genes!

Feng Lin began to radiate a burst of red light. This red light was clear and transparent, yet it had a dark color causing the light to resemble blood.

As the heat seeped in, Feng Lin vaguely could see a familiar scene once again, giving him a feeling akin to *déjà vu*.

In the dark space of the vast universe, the microscopic true form of genes appeared in his vision. They were like two pythons that coiled together, slowly revolving as they rose up in space continuously.

The scalding medicinal strength of the potion continued to seep in. It was like a spark that lit up every single one of his genes, igniting the entire prairie.

The double-helix model that represented his genes rapidly multiplied, emitting a light akin to the stars, pure, mysterious, and ancient...

The starlight converged, swiftly extending through the darkness.

Under the assistance of the potency of the potion, the genes unceasingly divided and gave rise to new life matter that proliferated through his entire body. His cells, his blood, his organs... His entire being felt as though it was being reconstructed as it carried out an all-out transformation of life evolution. He grew taller, faster, and stronger...

Crack, crack.

Feng Lin suddenly straightened his back. His bones were emitting cracking sounds resembling firecrackers. His sweat formed out of impurities in his body, mixed together with blood, forming a sticky substance on his skin. However, it was much better compared to the previous time.

His muscles quivered. The grime and dirt on him fell onto the ground as his body regained its cleanse state. This was even more convenient than taking a shower.

After experiencing the previous transformation brought by the potion of life he had consumed, his body now was gradually approaching the perfect state as it continued to evolve. The impurities in his body grew lesser as the degree of change after consuming the potion also grew smaller.

This time, his viewpoint was the same. He no longer grew taller and maintained his current appearance.

Clearly, 1.9 meters tall was the best suitable height for humans. His height, his speed, and strength had reached a perfect state.

Feng Lin knew there was definitely a transformation that happened inside his body. He immediately viewed his genetic information.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 2.5

Monkey Gene: 10

Stonebirth Gene: 8

Genetic Potential: 178%

=====

His potential didn't increase, and the strengthening tally of his genes didn't increase as well.

His vitality had some changes. It increased by 0.2 and reached 2.5.

Next, Feng Lin continued to cultivate assiduously. He wasn't aware of the flow of time; he would just sleep when he got tired and would continue with his cultivation once he was awake, all while digesting the potency of the potion of life.

This cycle of action was simple, yet boring. However, it was like he didn't know fatigue; he actually found joy in completing the cycle.

Humans were social creatures after all. Being imprisoned was an extremely torturous ordeal, yet Feng Lin gradually managed to seek solace in the midst of the darkness.

This imprisonment room had actually provided him with a quiet place for cultivation. As he continued to consume the potions of life, the nutrients depleted by his training would be replenished again and again.

Genetic potential +18%, +16%, +14%...

His genetic potential explosively soared. Very soon, his genetic potential reached 308%, granting him three free genetic points to spend. It was enough to push the Stonebirth Gene to its max.

His vitality surged up, swiftly reaching 2.9. He was just a single step away from reaching 3.

In the short span of time, by using the potions of life and his genetic equation ability, he was improving rapidly.

However, all these were still far from sufficient. The head butler was a true interstellar cultivator. Just based on his vitality stats alone, the head butler could crush him completely.

If he wanted to resist, he had to become a true interstellar cultivator as well.

The road ahead was still long...

Feng Lin took a short break before he continued with his cultivation again. He was like an iron man that didn't know fatigue.

Tap, tap...!

Suddenly, the sound of light footsteps rang out, gradually getting closer.

Feng Lin's ears moved slightly. His sharp senses had heard that. He turned and shouted out, "Who is it?"

"Feng Lin, I'm here to see you!" A burst of low-sounding laughter rang out.

Feng Lin felt strange. He had always been alone in the clan and didn't interact much with anyone. Who would pay him a visit in the imprisonment room? In fact, who would know that he had been locked up?

...

He felt extremely bewildered in his heart. However, this voice was familiar to him. It was just that he temporarily couldn't recall who it belonged to.

When that person revealed his identity, Feng Lin got a shock. This was an unexpected guest that he would have never thought of.

43. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Playful-sounding laughter rang out in the dead silence of the area.

"I'm Feng Lang. You didn't expect that I would come and see you right?"

"It's you?" Feng Lin's face was covered in the darkness; his expression was naturally not revealed.

"Tell me, as a low-grade clansman, shouldn't you be content with what you have? Why must you go against the Head Butler? Are you asking for trouble?..." Feng Lang stood outside the imprisonment room as he nagged in an earnest and well-meaning manner.

"Why? Are you here to mock me?" Feng Lin abruptly interrupted with his cold tone.

"You are mistaken." Feng Lang was very calm. "I have no intentions to mock you at all, I'm really impressed by you!"

"Hehe." Feng Lin laughed. The words spoken by this Feng Lang was as fake as it could be. He didn't trust this person at all. He replied calmly, "Impressed by me? Are you joking? As the direct grandson of the clan leader, you belong to the upper echelons of the clan. Would you be impressed by me, a low-grade clansman?"

"It's true." Upon seeing that Feng Lin didn't believe him, Feng Lang's tone grew more sincere. "Don't you know that you are now extremely famous within the clan? It has been such a long time since anyone dared to rebut the head butler, let alone making a gambling bet with him. There are many brothers in our clan who wished to get acquainted with such a character like you..."

His words were filled with praise, but there was a slick feel of oiliness. Most probably, nine out of ten sentences he had spoken were all fake!

Even though he was inside the imprisonment room, Feng Lin was seemingly able to see the hypocritical smile on Feng Lang's face.

"No need." Feng Lin calmly spoke, politely declining the goodwill from Feng Lang. He sat cross-legged on the cold ground and closed his mouth, not bothering to say anything more.

This Feng Lang was a well-known silk pants young master of the Feng Clan. He depended on his lineage to get benefits but was an ignorant and incompetent person. The friends who mixed with him were naturally the same as well. After all, birds of a feather flock together.

Feng Lin didn't have any interest nor time to mix with these silk pants of his Feng Clan.

Let alone the fact that Feng Lang wasn't even his friend.

Originally, Feng Lang and him had a conflict, but now, he actually came here for no rhyme nor reason to seek him out. Even if he used his ass to think, he understood that there was something wrong.

Feng Lin wasn't so foolish to the extent where he would trust people blindly. If not, he wouldn't even know it when others betrayed him.

Seeing that his honey words were useless, and Feng Lin was ignoring him, Feng Lang's expression instantly hardened, becoming extremely unsightly. After all, silk pants young masters all wanted their face.

However, Feng Lin, who was imprisoned, naturally couldn't see the change in Feng Lang's expression. Feng Lang gradually calmed down, his tone grew heavy, and no one could see through what he was thinking about.

"Feng Lin, we might have a minor grudge between us, but if there's no discord, there would be no concord! When I saw your courage when you rebutted against the Head Butler, I already knew that I want to be acquainted with you," he spoke.

A cold smile appeared on Feng Lin's face that was shrouded by the darkness. You want to play your little schemes in front of me? Who do you think your fooling?

Seeing that Feng Lin continued to ignore him, Feng Lang gritted his teeth, understanding that this man had wariness in his heart against him. It wouldn't be easy to fool him.

How angry was he!

In the clan, because he was of the direct line of descendants, he could always act tyrannically with no one daring to say no to him. When had he ever been faced with such a situation? He came all the way here to fawn on a low-grade clansman, yet he was completely disregarded?!

If he gave in to his temper, he would have long erupted.

But because of his purpose, he could only tell himself to endure this for now. He might be angry, but he had to endure it!

Feng Lang, you are the angriest one..no, you are the greatest!

Endure, I'll endure, I'll endure again and again!

Finally, after a difficult inner struggle, Feng Lang controlled the anger in his heart.

"Feng Lin, we might have a grudge between us, but what can that count for? We are merely young and impulsive. We can still become friends!

"Let alone you, even I have enough of the Head Butler. He is simply too tyrannical and kept ruthlessly suppressing me!

"We are on the same side."

...

Feng Lang kept talking, wanting to shorten the emotional distance between him and Feng Lin.

No matter how glib your tongue is, it won't be of any effect if my ears are deaf!

These words drifted into Feng Lin's left ear and exited from the right. He didn't bother with what Feng Lang was saying at all.

One who is unaccountably solicitous is undoubtedly hiding evil intentions.

Feng Lin would only believe him if he was dumb.

Looking at how pitifully this fellow was describing himself, those who didn't know his reputation would truly assume that Feng Lang was living a hellish life.

But the reality was that Feng Lang was the grandson of the clan leader. His allowance from the clan would always be over 10,000 star coins per month.

Clearly, he came here with some strange intentions.

This fellow was going all-out to try to get close to a low-grade clansman like him. Clearly, he had some scheme up his mind.

Feng Lin wanted to see what scheme this fellow was playing, but he couldn't act like he was the one taking the initiative.

This was a pitting of the schemes. If he could beat Feng Lang at his own game, he might be able to make use of this person to find a way out of his current predicament...

Hence, no matter what Feng Lang said, even when his saliva was splashing everywhere from talking too much, Feng Lin remained unmoved.

It lasted until Feng Lang's tongue was exhausted, until Feng Lang completely had no strength left.

Feng Lang stood outside the imprisonment room as he panted. There was an ugly expression on his face. He wanted nothing more than to leave this place at this instant.

However, his feet were stuck to the ground like glue. He really wanted to leave, but he didn't do so.

The grudge he felt was minor, but the purpose he was here was more important!

Before he achieved his purpose, he wasn't willing to leave here just like that.

Yet, this Feng Lin was like a smelly and unyielding rock, completely ignoring him, causing him to not know what to do.

The two of them contemplated in this silence, only the breathing of each other made them aware of their respective existences.

Just when Feng Lang couldn't bear it anymore and had turned to leave, Feng Lin laughed softly, breaking the silence. He lazily spoke, "Just tell me directly what you want. You should stop displaying your minor schemes before my eyes."

Feng Lang halted before he took another step, feeling incomparably depressed.

Hey, you are doing this intentionally right? You ignored me for so long and only bothered to speak with me when I wanted to leave!

Wasn't Feng Lin playing him for a fool?

This was clearly intentional!

Actually, not only was Feng Lin aware of this, wasn't he also aware as well? This was an invisible gamble. Who was the hunter? Who was the prey?

Whoever was the most patient, would occupy the advantage.

Now, it was clear that Feng Lin had evidently already occupied the initiative.

It seemed like it was really not so easy to control Feng Lin.

Feng Lang silently sighed and felt sorry for Feng Lin. Someone like him with such a temperament was actually a low-grade clansman. His birth was too low, this was truly a pity!

But that was also good. Only those who could scheme so deeply could help him to do what he wanted. Also, only those with such low birth would be easier to control.

Wasn't it precisely that he saw all these good points in Feng Lin that he ignored his face and came here to seek him out?

When he heard Feng Lin said this, Feng Lang was clear that his intentions today had already been seen through. It was useless to beat around the bush.

His expression turned solemn as he straightforwardly said, "Do you know that the year is ending. At the end of the year, the clan will organize an event for the clan members to offer sacrifices to our ancestors. At that time, a ranking competition would be held inside our clan, and all Feng clansmen that qualify for the college exam next year can enter to try. For those who are ranked highly, they would be able to obtain the full support of the clan, which can be used as a foundation to get good grades in the college exams!"

"What does this have to do with me?" Feng Lin calmly spoke, not being moved the slightest.

He was well aware that this ceremony wasn't something that only the Feng Clan had. All the small clans of humanity in the Interstellar Era would hold such a ceremony to offer sacrifices to their ancestors, tracing back their bloodline, the origin of their genes, and increasing the cohesiveness of the clan.

But, what had all of this got to do with him, a low-grade clansman?

He didn't believe that these people of the upper echelons would treat him like an equal!

"Have you forgotten?" Feng Lang had a self-satisfied smile. "That Head Butler kept speaking about the rules of the clan, believing himself to be the protector of the clan rules right? In that case, the clan rules clearly state that all clansmen of the Feng Clan have to be given the equal rights to choose. If they want to participate, nobody can stop them, not even the Head Butler! Hence, base on theory, everyone in our Feng Clan can participate in the ranking competition as long as they met the prerequisite. Regardless of their social hierarchy!"

Feng Lin's brows furrowed, his heart was finally stirred.

"You are saying...?"

44. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Not bad!” It was like he knew what Feng Lin wanted to say next. Feng Lang instantly continued with his words.

“As long as you have enough strength and gain a good ranking in the ranking competition of the clan, you would be able to earn recognition and toss aside the fate of you becoming a factory worker. Low-grade clansmen are still clansman. As long as you can exhibit startling talent, who would suppress you? Even the Head Butler would be powerless to act against you!”

Feng Lang’s tone was filled with instigation. Clearly, he wanted to provoke Feng Lin into joining the ranking competition.

Feng Lin was naturally aware of this, but he didn’t mind it.

Because Feng Lang’s words weren’t false. This ranking competition would truly be of great help to him, allowing him to escape from the predicament that was currently before him.

“This ranking competition isn’t bad, but I’m already about to be escorted to the factory to work. How can I avoid this? Water from afar isn’t able to save a near fire, how would I get the chance to enter the clan’s ranking competition?” Feng Lin silently mumbled.

“This would depend on whether you have the courage or not!” Feng Lang’s eyes narrowed to slits, gleaming with sharpness. He felt that he had taken back the initiative.

“To do what?” Feng Lin directly asked.

This Feng Lang was clearly making use of him, but Feng Lin couldn’t care less. As long as he could get out of his predicament, all other things were considered minor matters.

There wouldn’t be mercy without any reason. If you obtained something, others would definitely covet it. You had to pay a price to get what you wanted, an equal exchange. This was something steeped in logic.

Feng Lin was thinking about how he could obtain the greatest benefits out of this exchange.

Certain that Feng Lin wouldn’t reject him, Feng Lang laughed. “You have to think of a method to leave the clan and escape the factory assignment. Come back in a domineering manner only when the time for the ranking competition comes. At that time, display overwhelming strength to sway the family to your side!”

“So simple? I just have to escape from the clan?” Feng Lin started. Wasn’t this too easy? So easy that it felt unreal.

“You think it is easy? Escape? Where can you run to?” Feng Lang sneered. “What era is this? Even in the Ancient Earth Era, there’s something called GPS, a global monitoring system. In the Interstellar Era, if someone wants to monitor you, it’s useless no matter where you flee to. It’s not that I’m trying to frighten you, but if the clan really wants to find you, in this vast planet Earth, they wouldn’t even need three seconds! In fact, in this entire solar system, they wouldn’t need more than ten seconds!”

Feng Lin fell silent. He speculated that Feng Lang, as an upper-grade clansman, should be privy to some secrets that ordinary clansman wouldn’t know.

“How?” He bluntly asked.

Since Feng Lang had already revealed some secrets, he didn’t plan to hide anything anymore. “For every clansman, since they grew up in the clan, the clan’s influence would seep into all aspects of the clansmen daily lives. Even the identity microchip you have is obtained from the clan. Do you really think that the clan wouldn’t do anything to the microchip? How naive! You low-grade clansmen weren’t told of this; only descendants of direct descent like me would know about it. Each clansmen’s id microchip is tracked by the clan’s A.I. The clan’s authority over your microchip is even higher than yourself, they can override it easily and use it against you. This means that no matter what you want to do, which location you are at, the clan can know everything. There’s nowhere for you to flee. Also, each id microchip is bound to a person. One cannot change it easily. Once you changed it, you will definitely rouse the clan’s suspicion, and they would immediately take actions to monitor you closely.”

Feng Lang’s words were like a thunderbolt ringing out in his mind, devastatingly shocking.

Every human in this Interstellar Era had their own identity microchip, but to think that this was actually a monitoring tool used by the clan to keep their members in check. This made Feng Lin extremely uncomfortable.

This meant that if the clan so intended, they would be able to monitor him without him knowing. He would not be able to keep any secrets from them.

Feng Lin silently grabbed his id microchip in his hand. This microchip was manufactured from a transparent, glass-like substance, incorporating the highest technology available in this era. Its toughness was incomparable; it could even be used to block bullets at crucial moments.

This wasn’t a joke!

Humanity was now all over the universe, several billion in number. There were scientific institutions who did a calculation before. Every day, there were a few people using their microchips to block bullets. This was already considered old news.

Even with Feng Lin's strength, his fingers made cracking sounds as they attempted to crush the microchip. He couldn't damage it at all.

Feng Lang shook his head when he saw this. He silently added, "Don't waste your effort. The microchip isn't something you can destroy. Also, without an id microchip, it would be extremely tough for you to move about in the human world. You would become an unregistered resident and would be pursued no matter where you go. I'm sure this isn't the outcome you want."

"Since you know all this, what is the meaning behind those words you told me earlier?" Feng Lin counter-asked. He didn't lose his cool.

This Feng Lang wasted so much breath to tell him so many things. It was impossible for the information to be useless.

And indeed, the truth was as he expected.

"Who said that there's no meaning? I can tell you the truth because I have a way to resolve this issue. I'm of the direct line of descent, my authority in controlling the clan's A.I. is much higher than yours. Hence, I spent some effort and gained the passcode to unlock your microchip from the A.I. system. As long as you access the backend of your id microchip and input the passcode, you would unlock the shackles and free yourself from being located and monitored by the clan's A.I. By doing so, no matter where you want to go, the clan wouldn't be able to track you down!"

"What are your conditions for me to acquire the passcode?" Feng Lin didn't feel happy. He remained calm as he asked.

Food wouldn't fall from the sky.

There wouldn't be something good happening to you without reason.

If he wanted something, he naturally had to pay an equivalent price in return.

"Good, you are straightforward enough!" Since Feng Lin had asked, Feng Lang didn't beat around the bush either. "Firstly, I'm impressed by your courage and wish to give you a path to walk. Secondly, when you participate in the clan's ranking competition, I hope you can finish off three opponents for me. I hope you won't reject this."

Feng Lang seemed to have thought of something embarrassing as he gritted his teeth.

So, it turns out that he wants to use me to settle his opponents?

Feng Lin didn't feel surprised at all.

With regards to many things Feng Lang had said earlier, Feng Lin didn't believe it. But for the last part, it was fully believable.

With humans, there would always be competition and conflict. For low-grade clansmen, they had nothing to fight each other for, hence, they led relatively peaceful lives despite being poor. But it was different for members of the upper echelons. They appeared to be in an extremely good environment, enjoying the clan's resources, but it was impossible for the human heart not to feel greed. As their bottom lines slowly corroded away, they would want to obtain more and more.

In order to fight for limited and valuable resources, they naturally could do anything.

Even in the feudal era, there would be royalty fighting in the imperial palace.

The human clans of the Interstellar Era weren't that much different. Which clan wouldn't have a little competition and conflict within their ranks? The more glorious the clan appeared on the surface, the fiercer would the competition be within!

Since this Feng Lang is willing to go to such an extent, ignoring his face to make a deal with me who have a conflict with the Head Butler. Most likely, he will soon be forced into a dead end as well!

Hence, he wants to use this chance to get me to participate in the ranking competition, seizing an opportunity to fight for more authority, using me to suppress his opponents.

It seemed like he couldn't underestimate anyone from the upper echelons. This Feng Lang appeared to be a silk pants young master, but he was truly a deep schemer, as crafty as a fox.

Many thoughts flashed through Feng Lin's mind, and he was sure that he had guessed at least 80% to 90% of Feng Lang's objective. He had made a decision.

This deal can be accepted!

"Do you believe in me so much, even to the extent that I can defeat your opponents?" Feng Lin didn't directly accept but reply with a smile that was not a smile. "For opponents that you can't handle yourself, they should not be ordinary. They can enjoy the clan's resources and even have teachers guiding them on their path. The mythological genes they awakened are definitely

powerful ones. Their vitality stats should be higher as well, making them extremely difficult individuals to deal with.

“Instead of saying that I don’t believe in you, why don’t you ask yourself if you believe in yourself?” Seeing that his thoughts were seen through, Feng Lang’s eyes twitched as he laughed sinisterly. “During these days, I did an investigation on you and was truly shocked by the results. You stunned everyone during the qualification exam in your school, explosively rising up from someone with a 0.4 vitality stats to 1.5, even passing twenty levels in the illusory martial pagoda. Aren’t you also someone who pretends to be a pig to eat the tiger? I’m sure you have been biding your time, waiting to surprise everyone at the college exam to shake free from your fate of being controlled by the clan. From my estimation, your vitality stats clearly isn’t just 1.5; it might even surpass 2.0. If the clan didn’t arrange you to go to work at the factory, I’m sure you wouldn’t have been forced to reveal your true capabilities. Hence. I think that betting on you now is the correct decision. You have a possibility to accomplish it!”

Evidently, Feng Lang had made many preparations before he had come here and had investigated Feng Lin fully.

“Are you not the same type of person as me as well?” Feng Lin calmly spoke, not feeling surprised at all.

After crossing blows with so many schemes of Feng Lang, how could Feng Lin not be able to tell?

This Feng Lang wasn’t anyone virtuous as well. He wasn’t as simple as he looked. His silk pants behavior were only a pretense!

Sadly, his conjectures about Feng Lin was wrong. Feng Lin wasn’t pretending to be a pig to eat the tiger, but the past him was truly trash. He had only risen up during this period of time, and those who didn’t know his secrets would naturally assume that he had been acting earlier, keeping a low profile to surprise everyone at the right moment.

But since the truth had to do with his secrets and the genetic equation ability, Feng Lin naturally wouldn’t be foolish enough to argue with Feng Lang.

With regards to Feng Lang’s character, when Feng Lin thought back about everything, he gradually understood Feng Lang’s personality better.

In order to suppress his opponents, this Feng Lang placed all his hope on him. This was simply staking everything on one throw. Behind his scheming mind, it revealed a craziness in his character. He could even thicken his face, possessing no moral integrity at all.

By entering a deal with him, this was simply like asking a tiger for its skin.

No, Feng Lang wasn't a tiger. He was a crafty fox!

Asking a fox for its skin, Feng Lin really had to be careful not to be betrayed.

In any case, if Feng Lang really planned to do something malicious toward him, Feng Lin wouldn't mind teaching him a lesson at that time.

"Why? You don't dare to accept? You even dared to bet with the Head Butler, surely you wouldn't be frightened off by this, right?" Seeing that Feng Lin didn't reply after a long time, Feng Lang's tone turned teasing as he used words to provoke him.

"Why wouldn't I dare?" At this moment, Feng Lin made a decision. He didn't reply but counter-asked, his calm smile seemingly tinged with a hint of madness and determination.

Seeing how suddenly Feng Lin accepted, Feng Lang, on the other hand, actually hesitated. "By agreeing so cleanly without negotiating at all. Are you not afraid that I am cheating you?"

"Only when one is crazy enough, will one survive. Let's speak of other things after first ensuring my survival." Feng Lin calmly spoke.

Feng Lang froze, but soon after that, the two of them started laughing.

It's true.

Only the crazed will survive.

Regardless of Feng Lang or Feng Lin, both of them were in desperate straits. If they didn't gamble now, should they just obediently wait for their death?

Coming to an agreement so easily. Maybe, behind both their scheming minds, their true nature was that of a mad man.

45. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Since they had already come to a deal, the two of them no longer tried any schemes. They were discussing the possibility of this deal through the locked doors of the imprisonment room.

The conflict between them truly counted for nothing. It was too insignificant.

The two of them were no longer children, they naturally wouldn't allow such a minor matter to cloud their rationality.

"After you input the passcode to unlock the shackles placed by the clan on your microchip, you have to leave as soon as possible. If not, after the clan realized it, you wouldn't be able to leave even if you want to. Also, once you have left, you have to think of ways to increase your strength as much as possible. There are many experts that will be participating in the clan's ranking competition, with several geniuses among them having vitality stats as high as 7.0. There's even one that has evolved into a true interstellar cultivator. If not, even if you joined the ranking competition, things would be useless..." Feng Lang reminded.

Feng Lin nodded, understanding that Feng Lang's words were logical.

Once the deadline of the imprisonment is lifted, he had to immediately seek a method to increase his strength.

Weakness, was the original sin.

Ever since he crossed over to this world, although his strength had been rapidly increasing, he still found it tough to move even a single step as difficulties peered down at him from all directions. What did this mean?

Clearly, the increase in his strength was still far from sufficient!

If he had been strong enough, there would be no need to talk so much. What clan laws, what rules, what identity...? Everything would be resolved with a single punch from him.

Feng Lin's eyes flickered with light as though he had gained enlightenment.

"Since this is a transaction, your conditions are also reasonable. The things you want me to do, I'll definitely accomplish them." Feng Lin spoke with a tone that could sever iron. "You can tell me the passcode now right?"

“Right.” Feng Lang wasn’t worried that Feng Lin would break his promise at all.

He was very clear about how dire the situation Feng Lin was facing. If he wanted to reverse his fate, his only way out now was to cooperate with him. There were no other choices.

This was also the reason why he came here to find Feng Lin.

“Remember this. The passcode is: wsyzm210712973672...” Feng Lang mumbled an extremely long string of characters in one breath. This passcode was clearly almost impossible for ordinary people to crack.

Due to the fact that the imprisonment room isolated all forms of signals, the id microchip lost the ability to connect to the network and became a stand-alone thing. However, its storage function was still working and Feng Lin recorded the passcode. After he ascertained that there were no mistakes by checking it with Feng Lang again, he saved it into the data vault of his id microchip. Now, he only needed to wait for the correct time to use it.

“Alright, today is already the fourth day, and you will be able to exit in three days. I’ve done all I can; it’s time for me to leave.” Feng Lang stood up.

Feng Lin couldn’t help but suddenly ask. This question was something that had nothing to do with their deal. “You are such a scheming person. Was you trying to cut my queue back then something intentional?”

“That was truly unintentional.” Feng Lang laughed, sounding as crafty as a fox. “When I saw a low-grade clansman rushing to the upper levels of our Feng Clan Building, I naturally picked you as a target to bully since I don’t know you. After all, I’m a silk pants am I not?”

He had an expression like ‘as it should be so’. For a period of time, Feng Lin didn’t know what to reply.

Only after some time did he continue, “Given your temperament, why must you act like a silk pants?”

Upon hearing this question, Feng Lang wasn’t surprised. He laughed dryly. “I’m not afraid to tell you that my father is the eldest son of the clan leader, and I’m my father’s only son. Sadly, my genetic talent cannot be considered good, only managing to strengthen the inherited mythological gene—the Coiling Snake Gene—passed down by the clan by two points. I’m far inferior when compared to people of the same age group. If I didn’t act like a silk pants, would my wolf-like and tiger-like cousins spare me? Also, how do you know that a silk pants is not my true personality? Silk pants are good, I can bully males and dominate females, doing whatever I desire without the need of feeling worried in my heart. All the minor decisions I make and the actions I take won’t

attract the attention of others. Look, I'm here to look for you, but none of my cousins react at all, right?"

Feng Lin had a look of contemplation on his face. It was unknown what he was thinking about.

A grandson of the direct line of descent. If the clan leader died, the first successor to the clan would be Feng Lang's father. The second successor would be none other than him!

A big tree would attract wind. Sadly, Feng Lang didn't have enough strength to protect his own position and had naturally become the target in the eyes of many. Compared to Feng Lin, Feng Lang's situation in the clan was actually much worse off.

This was why Feng Lang pretended to be a silk pants; he didn't want others to be wary of him. It could be considered a self-protection mechanism of sorts.

This man wore many masks; nobody would know when he was telling the truth or not.

By entering a deal with Feng Lang, even Feng Lin didn't know if this was good or bad.

But this was his only chance left, and he naturally could not miss it.

Just when Feng Lang turned around and was about to walk away, he seemed to have suddenly thought of something as he laughed lightly. "Don't worry. Although you are imprisoned now, I've already told your parents that you are out working on extra part-time jobs to earn money. You better make sure our excuses match when you leave here. Also, after you flee the clan, the clan may make things difficult for your parents, but don't worry about that. I'll take care of them on your behalf, hahaha."

After that, his footsteps sounded out as his voice grew further and further away.

Feng Lin's eyes narrowed, his expression turned cold after he heard that.

Taking care of his parents? This was evidently using them to threaten him.

Feng Lang was using his parents as hostages to ensure that Feng Lin wouldn't doublecross him.

With his parents at Feng Lang's mercy, Feng Lin's weaknesses were revealed, controlled by Feng Lang.

But since Feng Lang dared to break so many rules of the clan and told him the passcode, entering into such a dangerous deal with him, the two of them were truly crazy at their core.

With regards to a mad man, would threats be useful?

Only the crazed will survive!

At this point in time, if one of them didn't act crazy enough, they wouldn't have any chance at all. Now, both of them could barely survive their own predicaments. How would they have time to consider other things?

Hence, the two of them understood that this was just an insurance. Feng Lang wouldn't really do anything to his parents.

After all, none of them wanted to shred all pretense of cordiality with each other.

After Feng Lang left, the atmosphere became silent again. It was as dark as ever without the slightest speck of light. The atmosphere was so quiet that it made one feel despair.

Feng Lin didn't stop, he continued to cultivate assiduously.

According to the illusory martial pagoda's A.I., his genetic potential had not been completely ignited yet. His vitality stats should at least be 4.0, but now, it was only at 2.9.

After a few more rounds of cultivation, when he discovered that his genetic potential no longer increased, Feng Lin knew that the effects of the potion of life he consumed earlier had already finished.

Feng Lin didn't take a break. He chugged down another potion and began to cultivate like crazy.

Next, he kept training like a demon, focusing only on strengthening himself.

Genetic potential +15%, +14%, +13%...

His potential surged up and reached about 472%. His vitality stats also increased, officially breaking through the 3.0 mark and reached 3.1.

Potions of life could make up for the overdraft in his lifeforce. Moreover, his genetic equation could convert all nutrients in the potion into genetic potential. Without realizing it, earth-shaking transformations occurred within his body.

But also at the same time, Feng Lin's sharp senses discovered that the effects of the potions of life were getting more and more inferior. No matter how good the potion of life was, after overconsumption of it, his body would naturally begin to build up resistance.

Hence, he had to make use of the time before the potions of life lost all its effect, all in order to quickly increase his strength.

He began to cultivate even crazier, not stopping for even a single moment. He was like someone who didn't know fatigue.

His genetic potential soon reached 568%, and his vitality stat climbed to 3.3.

With such a high vitality stats, other than the number one genius of his school Duan Yunliu, he most assuredly ranked at the top when compared to others of his school.

However, this vitality stats had not reached the limit which Feng Lin's genes could endure.

From this, one could see how much lifeforce was overdrafted back then due to a lack of sufficient nutrients. Now, he was finally gradually replenishing his lifeforce back.

Although he had the heart to continue to cultivate and increase his vitality stats, time was unfortunately running out.

The imprisonment date had ended.

46. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“The seven days of imprisonment is up. You can scram now!”

The door to the imprisonment room opened. Sunlight streamed in, blinding Feng Lin's eyes.

Feng Lin narrowed his eyes and slowly walked out. In a flash, seven days had passed. However, Feng Lin felt like he had been living in an isolated world for years.

“Only locking you here for seven days after you offended the head butler. Hmph, this is considered benevolence for you!”

“You better watch your behavior after you go back, or we will give you a harsher sentence!”

“Not knowing the immensity of heavens and earth. In the future, you wouldn't be let off with such a light punishment!”

.....

The disciplinary team members prodded Feng Lin, cursing him. Their attitudes towards this Feng Lin, who had dared to rebut the head butler, were filled with loathing and maliciousness.

Feng Lin coldly glanced at them. He couldn't be bothered about these people and directly left the area.

....

“Brother, brother. You are back!” The moment he entered his home, his younger brother Feng Cheng and his younger sister Feng Xin rushed over; their expressions filled with longing for him.

“Brother, where have you been the past few days?”

“Are there still any mid-grade nutrient fluids? The low-grade ones are too disgusting to drink, there's even a small from them!”

The two of them were like little koala bears that hugged him after they jumped on him. They mumbled non-stop with a gluttonous look on their faces.

“The two of you are truly little hungry ghosts. I've been out working part-time jobs, or where would I have gotten the money to buy mid-grade nutrient fluids for you two to drink?” Staring at his two

little siblings, the serious expression on Feng Lin's face relaxed into a smile.

He remembered what Feng Lang had said, and he was careful not to leave any loopholes.

After that, he directly took out two mid-grade nutrient fluids and even intentionally reminded them to drink it slowly. He was worried that they would finish the fluids in a single breath and end up in a state of surplus nutrients which wouldn't be too good then.

"Okay!" The eyes of the two little ones instantly lit up when they saw the mid-grade nutrient fluids. They were like kittens that lapped the fluids up slowly. Staring at their satisfied expressions, Feng Lin knew that they didn't pay any attention to his warnings.

He could only shake his head. He pondered for a few moments and took out his remaining mid-stage nutrient fluids, placing them in the fridge for storage.

These nutrient fluids were obtained from Jess Klot and his cronies and were free-of-charge. For someone like him, whose vitality-stats had already reached 3.3, the effects of these mid-grade nutrient fluids were already almost negligible. Their taste was ordinary and wasn't able to assist him in his cultivation. Thus, they were not essential to him anymore.

However, to people like his parents and siblings, the mid-grade nutrient fluids were considered a great tonic, very suitable for them to consume.

Eventually, his little siblings still drank a little too much. They crawled into their beds and nodded off to sleep almost instantly.

His parents had gone off for work long ago.

In the dark room, space was truly too narrow. Staying here for extended periods would give someone a choking feeling of being stifled.

Feng Lin took a bath and went out. He headed to a remote corner of the park where no one would disturb him.

He silently pondered on what he should do in the future.

For a period of time, he was completely clueless.

Clans were like deformed products formed of this Interstellar Era. In order to deal with the dangerous environment of the interstellar age as well as social pressure, those from the same clan were forced to gather together, causing the competitiveness in each clan to increase greatly. This was something extremely disadvantageous to the low-grade clansmen.

Right now, to Feng Lin, his clan was like a giant cage that was limiting his development.

This was simply the survival of the fittest.

In order to survive, he had to quickly flee from the clan. Only then would he have enough freedom and time to strengthen himself.

But now, he didn't have money. Hence, he needed a job to quickly earn income before he could buy huge quantities of cultivation resources.

As long as he had enough nutrients, with the assistance of his genetic equation ability, he would be able to rapidly gain genetic potential to strengthen his mythological genes. He basically wouldn't have any bottlenecks when it came to cultivation; all the way until his awakened genes were maxed out. It wasn't impossible for him to become an interstellar cultivator.

Feng Lin calmly pondered, his thoughts grew clearer and clearer.

The monitoring of the clan was extremely strict, like a heavenly net. Not even a fly could evade their surveillance.

He had already gained the passcode to tamper with his microchip. Initially, he wouldn't have a chance at all, but the appearance of Feng Lang had given him a chance to succeed.

But as to the precise steps to be carried out, he still needed more time to come out with a meticulous plan to flee.

After thinking for some time, Feng Lin finally smoothed out the thoughts in his mind and came up with a plan.

To simplify things, he would act like there was nothing to do for a while just to 'numb' the clan's surveillance on him. After that, he had to find a job that paid well before using the passcode and leave the clan. He could only return after he grew strong enough.

There was only one and a half month to the clan's ranking competition. Time was extremely tight.

In such a short period of time, he had to earn sufficient money. He had to earn plenty of money, astronomical amounts of money.

To earn so much star coins in such a short period of time was undoubtedly a foolish and impossible dream to the vast majority of people. However, Feng Lin couldn't care so much about it because this was something he had to do no matter what. He no longer had a way out.

In that case, the next question appeared. What job should he apply for?

Feng Lin used his id microchip to surf the web and started his search.

Should he be a movie star, a virtual gaming professional player, or an online streamer, etc...He scanned through all of these lucrative jobs one by one.

Sadly, these jobs weren't something that he could succeed in in a short amount of time. In any case, Feng Lin had never displayed talent in such aspects before.

No matter how high his aspirations were, he had to ensure that he could do it in reality, or all his ideas would turn out to be nothing but delusions!

Feng Lin was still a student. Other than cultivation and theory, he didn't know anything else.

Things were awkward then...

His fingers casually stroke the edge of a rectangular-shaped black microchip as he furrowed his brows, continuing to think.

Eh?

Feng Lin suddenly turned his gaze onto the black microchip. Wasn't this the genetic researcher's research notes he had obtained from the virtual auction?

How could he forget about this?

Geneticists were one of the top-ranked occupations in the Interstellar Era. Compared to movie stars, professional gamers of virtual games, and online streamers, they earned much much more!

Everything modulated by a geneticist personally would definitely fetch a sky-high price. Even a small bottle of a potion of life could be sold for unbelievable amounts of star coins. Just the difference between them and the other two types was over ten times in the pricing.

Just based on the ingredients needed, potions of life could already be created by genetic researchers. There was no need for a geneticist to actually create it.

However, if a geneticist really personally created a potion of life, it would definitely stir the market up.

The amount of commotion it would cause and its effect on the market's pricing would be

unimaginable.

Feng Lin didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He was trying to look for the mule while riding on it. He already had the answer all along but was seeking elsewhere for it.

Just with his knowledge of the Ancient Earth Era's myths and legends as well as his genetic equation ability, Feng Lin was confident that his talent to become a geneticist would surely be out of the ordinary. Also, with a genetic researcher's research notes to help him get started, there was no doubt that becoming a geneticist was the most suitable occupation for him.

However, he wasn't even a genetic researcher now, let alone being a real geneticist. He didn't have enough money to buy the machines or ingredients needed to truly create potions of life.

The future was still too far. If he had become a geneticist, just the income gained from the job alone would have allowed him to have whatever cultivation resources he wanted, and he could've created any type of potions he willed. He wouldn't need to be restricted by money any longer!

Upon thinking of this, Feng Lin got excited.

Now that he was in the right direction, the scope of his job search was naturally reduced, becoming much smaller. Not too long later, he discovered a recruitment notice.

"Giant Pharmaceutical Company!"

47. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“The Giant Pharmaceutical Company is a famous genetic potions manufacturer in the solar system. They specialized in creating new medicine and potions and were extremely strong financially. Their research and development in this industry far exceed the others in the same industry. This company is located at the Shitai City on planet Mars and is currently specially recruiting geneticist interns. There are sixty positions to be filled, and for those who performed outstandingly, they have a chance to be promoted into perm staff. For those who are keen, please click on the link! The basic salary is: 50,000 star coins...”

This was a recruitment notice posted up on the top recruitment site of the solar system—the Starry Recruitment Web. This post was stickied on the first page and had already been up there for the past two months without being removed yet. Clearly, the number of positions weren’t fully filled.

Although it was only a geneticist intern, this was still an intern for a top-ranked occupation. With such a higher barrier of entry, not many people would have the chance to enter.

In addition, manufacturing genetic potions was a job that required stringent precision to the smallest detail. If there was any deviation, the medicinal effect might be greatly reduced or become completely useless.

For this scenario, Feng Lin had personally seen it in the information recorded inside the black microchip before.

In the research note, that genetic researcher named Ayros Lincoln had failed over a thousand times in his quest to create a bubbling blood nutrient medicine. Feng Lin didn’t know if he had succeeded eventually or not.

This occupation was one with requirements so high that it would make one shiver.

Hence, although the conditions for the Giant Pharmaceutical Company was extremely good, given how vast the entire solar system, the positions were still not filled up after two months. From this, one could see how difficult the criteria to enter was.

Feng Lin wished to give it a try.

Shitai City in Mars?

Although Mars was somewhat far away, this was no longer the Ancient Earth Era. Interplanetary travel now had already become very common.

At the very least, Mars was still within the solar system. It was one of the planets nearest to earth. Compared to Jupiter, Snake King Planet, Insect Race Planet... Mars was much better in comparison.

In addition, with the existence of passenger space shuttles, such a small distance couldn't count for anything.

He knew about Shitai City!

When humanity started to develop Mars, Mars was still a desolate planet where even water didn't exist. Violent winds would gust frequently, and it was simply a barren ground unsuitable for life.

To make the most use out of Mars's abundant wind energy, the earliest pioneer who explored there had caused a mountain to crumble from waist up using controlled explosives. The remnants of the mountain transformed into a gigantic stone platform, and they built the first city of Mars there. That city was none other than Shitai City.

Since a city could be built there, there was naturally no problems. Feng Lin felt completely moved in his heart.

Although the pay of 50,000 star coins per month was considered extremely generous, that wasn't something he truly cared about.

What he cared about was the fact that the Giant Pharmaceutical Company was the number one genetic medicine manufacturer. If he could intern there, he might be able to learn some systematic geneticist's knowledge.

Did he still need to return to school?

Feng Lin didn't feel the need to do so.

With a vitality stat of 3.3, in Earth High School, he was already considered someone at the top. There was nothing more he could learn there. Why waste time going back there when there was no meaning to it?

Next, all he had to do was to wait patiently for the college examination.

No matter if his head teacher agreed to it or not, Feng Lin was already determined to apply for leave for the following period.

Cultivation was fundamental.

He had already passed the qualification exams, could it be that the school would stop him from participating in the college examination?

One had to know that to a High School, enrollment rate was the priority. A student with good grades would naturally be a treasure that they wanted to have.

For someone of Feng Lin's current strength, he was already no different from those geniuses that were nurtured by the school. His status could be treated as such and hence, it wasn't strange for him to have a little special privilege.

With regards to this point, Feng Lin balanced things very well. He didn't worry at all. Right now, all he had to do was to contemplate seriously about this upcoming interview for an internship position.

This opportunity was extremely rare. So, he must not miss it.

Feng Lin was determined to obtain this job no matter what. The only problem was that he still had to pass an interview. As for those who wished to attempt to sneak through, it was probably impossible.

He naturally would take this seriously. Feng Lin temporarily decided to stop his cultivation and started to revise the research notes he had obtained.

One couldn't help but say that the information recorded in the research notes were all extremely detailed. He didn't feel it was a disadvantage at all buying it for 40,000 star coins.

The information in the black microchip was projected and presented clearly before him. The steps of concocting different types of potions were broken down into elementary steps with concise explanations guiding him. As for the ingredients needed and their usage proportion, everything was stated very clearly.

As one vitality stats increased, the benefits it brought wasn't simply an increase in strength and speed. The speed of their thinking would increase as their brain became more active, also giving rise to an increase in ability to memorize things.

Keeping in mind of the medicine formulas, the step-by-step process of manufacturing them, as well as the precise timing of adding the ingredients, Feng Lin quickly memorized the content in the black microchip thoroughly.

What was pitiful was the fact that he didn't have the money to buy the needed machinery or medicinal ingredients to have a hands-on experience.

He could only forget about that and did his best to memorize all the details. Next, it would have to depend on his ability to display his performance before the interviewers. There shouldn't be a problem if he didn't make any major mistakes.

After this, Feng Lin started to seriously write up a resume and sent it via email to the email box of the Giant Pharmaceutical Company.

An hour later, the company replied, wanting to arrange an interview with him.

With such high efficiency, it could be seen that they were truly in dire need of talented interns to fill up the positions they offered.

"A virtual interview?" Feng Lin felt that things were a little troublesome.

The technology of the Interstellar Era was extremely developed and had formed network points that encompassed the interstellar web. To simplify things, the internet was referred to as the star network.

Using digital technology to form a virtual universe, humans could be networked through the usage of virtual equipments and devices, allowing them to build a virtual body that could move about freely in the star network.

The virtual interview was undoubtedly going to be held in the star network. They wanted him to create a virtual avatar for a face-to-face interview.

What made Feng Lin feel that it was troublesome was the fact that virtual equipments were all extremely valuable and expensive. He didn't have any of them in his home. Moreover, the space there was too small and would be unable to contain it.

With no other solution, Feng Lin could only head to a virtual internet cafe. Such internet cafes were built specially to allow those without virtual equipments in their homes to use a virtual avatar and connect to the star network.

Feng Lin exited his home and soon found a nearby internet cafe.

Although an internet cafe didn't really sound impressive, it was actually a grand building that was over ten stories tall. As Feng Lin exited the elevator and entered the particular floor he had to go, he discovered that different varieties of virtual cabins resembling life capsules could be seen everywhere.

Once a human entered a virtual cabin, their nerves would be connected to the equipment, and they would be able to enter the virtual universe.

For everything that happened within the virtual universe, all feelings and emotions could be simulated 100%. Of course, you could also lower the sensitivity to 60% or to 0%; you could do so according to what you wanted to.

But naturally, the lower the stimulation, the further things would feel when compared to reality

Although entering the virtual universe was an extremely common thing, this was Feng Lin's first time despite him living for so long. After all, his family's background was extremely poor, and they were already very satisfied as long as they could fill their tummies. It was impossible for them to think about entering the virtual universe for leisure.

Feng Lin then paid 10 star coins and booked one of the virtual cabins for two hours. He chose a virtual cabin at an isolated area and entered into it.

The cold metallic wires within connected to his nerve, giving him a light sensation of piercing pain but everything returned to normal at the next instant.

Bzz!

A sharp vibrating sound rang out in his ear.

Multi-colored sparks arcing past like shooting stars appeared in his vision. His body felt a sensation of plunging through the air with great speed into a bottomless tunnel.

This sensation felt extremely unbearable. Streams of data flowed into his mind like unending ocean tides, wanting him to explode from overloading.

However, Feng Lin understood that this was merely an adverse reaction, which his body was having due to him connecting to the virtual universe for the first time.

He didn't panic and maintained his calm, quickly adjusting himself to the sensation. The sensation of falling rapidly gradually stopped, as his feet felt as though they were now standing on solid ground.

After returning to his senses, he was already standing in a boundlessly vast world.

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Note: the characters for Shitai City literally stands for stone platform

48. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Interstellar citizen: Feng Lin. Age: 17. Planet Earth of the Solar System, a citizen from Huaxia City. This is your first time entering the virtual universe, please create a virtual id...”

The voice of the A.I. rang out in his ears, jolting him awake.

He glanced at his surroundings and discovered that he was standing in the midst of a starry space. Clusters of stars shone brilliantly, and countless streams of starry rivers flowed around him. It was like there was a brand new world in each location, filling this space with an infinite amount of possibilities.

According to research he had done, Feng Lin understood that this scene would occur every time a human first logged in to the virtual universe interface.

To humans of the Interstellar Era, the space, which they could be active at, was no longer restricted to the real world situated in the boundless universe. There was a digitalized virtual universe as well.

The virtual universe mimicked the structure of the real universe but it was something completely different.

The solar systems of the real universe were made up with different clusters of planets, but for the virtual universe, each solar system could be considered a different world.

Movies, games, animation... All kinds of elements were blended together. Everything humans could imagine in the real world were all transformed into digital data into a virtual reality which created a multiverse here. Humans could enter any world they wished to, enjoying themselves as much as they wanted to.

Also, there was a time ratio. For every one hour in reality, one day would pass in the virtual universe, causing humans to become more addicted to it.

Many shooting stars shot forward like bolts of lightning. Feng Lin's eyes narrowed as he discovered many bizarre and wonderful creations. There were giant dragons, the zerg race, flying immortal swords...

These were all items one could obtain from different virtual worlds. After all, this place possessed countless possibilities. Everything was imaginary yet they seemed to akin to reality.

Imagination was the only thing that was limiting you; there was nothing you wouldn't be able to do here. Feng Lin felt himself relaxing as he continued to observe.

In reality, no matter which corner of the universe you were in, as long as you could connect to the online network, you would be able to instantly interact with the virtual web.

Hearing about it was one thing, seeing it with his own eyes was another.

To Feng Lin, who had crossed-over worlds from the Ancient Earth Era, this scene was an extremely shocking one.

This was a grand era that was unprecedented. This was the virtual universe created by humans of the Interstellar Era!

In reality, humans were conquering countless other worlds, while they were also developing their science and technology to an extent where they could create a virtual universe.

The unity of both the real and virtual universe constituted the main body of the human world.

Those large-scale companies not only had presence in the real world, but they also had strong influences in the virtual universe.

Without entering this place, it was tough for him to imagine how far the technology of humans had been developing.

For the first time, Feng Lin felt that he had been too much of a frog in a well in the past, only caring about cultivation and had completely neglected this other part of his world, the virtual universe.

After the initial shock, Feng Lin had recovered completely. He still had something important he needed to do, and he had to make the best use of his time.

Who knew how long the virtual interview would take. If the time taken was too long and exceeded the amount of time he bought, he might inadvertently be forced to go offline by the A.I. of the internet cafe.

Everything was possible in the virtual universe. In reality, people had various sorts of limitations. They weren't able to grow wings and fly, they weren't able to dive into the deepest depth of the ocean, and they weren't able to time travel to a time period ten thousand years later...

However, as long as you paid for extra services, you could do anything you wanted to in the virtual universe. Nothing was impossible.

There were different worlds here: the Avatar world, World of Warcraft, even Naruto...

You could get the main characters of any movie to fall in love with you; you could personally experience passing every level of a game that you liked to play; you could roam wherever you wanted to in an anime story...

Hence many people could enjoy this forever and never grow tired of this. They immersed themselves fully to the point where they could no longer extricate themselves, blurring the lines between virtual and reality. They would spend all day and night in the virtual universe, even forgetting to rest.

According to a phrase in the Ancient Earth Era, the virtual universe was like a place where one could become an immortal, an immortal that could soar to the nine heavens.

In order to prevent people from becoming die-hard otakus as they ignored the reality of life, humanity had imposed a prohibition law on the virtual universe.

For humans who entered the virtual universe, they only had the online period restriction of more than six hours in one sequence, up to a cumulative period of twelve hours in a day. More than that, they would be forcibly ejected, forced to go offline and could only enter the virtual universe again after twenty-four hours. They wanted to prevent people from being overly addicted to it.

Many people found the prohibition law commendable, but to those 'soaring immortals', this was simply a calamity from the heavens. There were even people giving this prohibition law the nickname of 'Heaven's Calamity'.

Hence, Feng Lin wanted to make the best use of his time.

According to logic, as long as he opened his personal system interface, he could simply input the location's coordinates, and he would be teleported there. Things were extremely convenient.

But he discovered that no matter how many times he tried to input, there was no response at all.

Just when he was feeling extremely confused, an electronic voice rang out in his ears, reminding him of something.

"Please create your virtual id! Please create your virtual id! Please create your virtual id!"...

Only now did Feng Lin laugh. What a fool he was. It was only natural that he needed to register a name since this was the first time he was attempting to enter the virtual universe.

He thought about it and mumbled softly after some hesitation, "Wukong?"

“The virtual id’s application is successful. Wukong, welcome to the virtual universe!” The virtual universe’s A.I.’s voice rang out in his ears.

“...” Feng Lin was speechless, he didn’t expect that he would succeed in applying for such a name at his first attempt.

His genetic cultivation path was undoubtedly the path Sun Wukong had taken. Hence, he thought of this name.

There were billions of humans in the Interstellar Era, as many as stars in the sky. It wasn’t easy to obtain a virtual id with the name you wanted. This was the same as the pen names of authors in the Ancient Earth Era. Those that were better-sounding were long since used by someone else. There were people who failed to get a virtual id they wanted despite thinking up to over ten names. In the end, they could only select names such as “I Eat Tomatoes”, “Chen Dong”, “Heavenly Silkworm Potato”... all these weird names. (These are all pen names of authors of chinese web novels that are at the rank of ‘Great Gods’)

He was only trying his luck, but who would have thought that he would succeed at the first try? Hehe...

This was a scene totally out of his expectations.

After all, the myths and legends had already all vanished from this age. The legend of Great Sage Sun was long forgotten by humanity, and there was no one who knew what the words ‘Wukong’ represented.

A person could only have one virtual id, and they couldn’t change it. Therefore, everyone would pick their id carefully; no one would casually take a random name. Who would have thought that Feng Lin would pick up such a huge advantage?

Feng Lin felt he was simply too fortunate and for some reasons, he felt that this stroke of luck caused him to feel more confident about the interview later.

“X: 263527;y: 678883;z: 1312321!” According to the interview document sent by the Giant Pharmaceutical Company, Feng Lin imputed the spatial coordinates.

At the next moment, the scene in his vision trembled. His figure transformed into starlight as he vanished from where he had stood.

It was unknown how much distance he had shifted through space. Numerous rows of data akin to star light flashed in the air around him as the motes of light rematerialized Feng Lin’s figure.

A gigantic planet appeared before his eyes, slowly rotating. A group of moon-like satellites revolved around the planet, forming the words ‘Giant Pharmaceutical Company!’

Was this the territory in the virtual universe controlled by the Giant Pharmaceutical Company?

Although territories in the virtual universe couldn’t be compared to the real world, they still had to be bought by money.

This Giant Pharmaceutical Company actually owned an entire planet. What kind of unholy wealth was this?

Feng Lin’s body gently floated down. He only saw a beautiful OL (office lady) swaying her hips as she walked over. Her lanky legs were walking in a suggestive catwalk; her blonde hair dazzled his sight as her eyes caused his heart to stir—truly an excellent creature indeed.

“Are you Mr. Feng Lin that’s here for an interview? Please come with me!” Feng Lin didn’t mask his appearance. The beautiful OL surveyed him before smiling charmingly. After that, her hips swayed as she walked, causing her fully-rounded buttocks to bounce gently as she led the way.

Feng Lin drew in a deep breath and followed after.

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Note: Wukong as in Sun Wukong (the name of the monkey king, great sage equal to the heavens)

49. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The blonde OL walked in front of him, her hips swaying left and right, forming a 'S' shape that was extremely mesmerizing.

Feng Lin focused his vision downward, ignoring all distractions to his state of heart.

One could freely adjust the features of their avatar in the virtual reality. Thus, there were all sorts of 'monsters' all around.

Ignoring the fact that this OL looked extremely mesmerizing here in the virtual universe, her true self might be a sturdy old mother capable of brawling with black bears and felling trunks of giant trees.

So, you know...

As the two of them descended down the space, they got nearer and nearer to the planet occupied by the Giant Pharmaceutical Company.

Breaking past the layer of clouds, a cloud elevator formed as they slowly descended through the air.

Feng Lin didn't feel surprised as anything was possible in the virtual universe.

After all, humans were the creator of the virtual universe. As long as they could imagine something, they would definitely be able to do it.

As the cloud elevator descended, a storm of thunder, wind, and rain manifested before him. The buffeting winds roared as lightning flashed, creating booms of thunder that were extremely terrifying.

But at the next instant, the cloud elevator suddenly transformed, splitting apart from the middle, revealing a room that radiated a feeling of science and technology. Five figures could be seen already seated here.

"Are you the one applying for the internship position, Mr. Feng Lin?" Judgemental looks turned over. The one who had spoken was a middle-aged man that was seated in the middle. He currently had a smile on his face.

These five interviewers didn't hide their features. There were elderly and young ones among them,

but all were undoubtedly of the white race, caucasians.

In addition, their bloodline was extremely pure, all of them had blonde hair and blue eyes, with no hints of hybridism at all.

Feng Lin silently marveled. He then spoke in reply, "I am!"

"That's good then. From your resume, it states that you are still a senior high student. It's really not bad that your vitality stats managed to reach 3.3. However, you also said that you are a genetic researcher? It isn't that we wish to doubt you, but you have to understand that even for genetic researchers, the amount of knowledge they had to have on genomics as well as their understanding in it, in addition to mythological theory, all had to be at an astronomical level. All these knowledge needed to be accumulated bit by bit through a long period of time. You are just too young..." The main interviewer didn't mask his doubts at all.

Feng Lin nodded, not feeling surprised at all.

He had long since considered this problem.

After all, geneticist is a top-ranked occupation that had an extremely high barrier of entry. He was only 17 years of age; it was only normal that others would doubt him.

However, he was confident in himself.

The contents of the research notes recorded in the black microchip were completely in his brain. In addition to his knowledge on myths and legends of the Ancient Earth Era, his foundation definitely wouldn't be inferior to ordinary genetic researchers.

Feng Lin contemplated a little before he replied calmly, "My age might be young, but this doesn't mean that my ability is small. It's useless to simply talk. You guys can ask me any questions you want, and after I answer them, all of you will naturally know my standards."

The five interviewers started slightly. Upon seeing his confident manner, they mutually exchanged glances before nodding. "Prepare well then, the interview shall start now."

As for Feng Lin's status as a senior student, they didn't care about it.

The students of the Interstellar Era all had extremely high intelligence as well as high capabilities. For geniuses, they wouldn't waste their time in school. It was very normal for them to come out to society to gain some experience.

Feng Lin sat with his chest up, his expression turning serious.

“Since you are here to interview as a geneticist's intern, let's start by telling us about the origins of geneticists.” On the leftmost corner, an old man with the bearing of a professor issued the first question.

This was simple.

Feng Lin naturally had already prepared well before he came here for the interview. This question was unable to stump him.

He didn't even need to gather his thoughts. He instantly replied, “Geneticists are experts on the domain of genetics. Through researching mythological genes, they attempt to probe the secret of humanity's rise, allowing them to understand the reason behind the extraordinary powers the mythological genes can grant by studying their innate nature. Mythological genes are microscopic substances, but they can act upon the macroscopic universe, allowing humans to manipulate unimaginable powers. Hence, geneticists study the micro to the macro, using the mythological genes as their base as they pursue the ultimate truth...”

Those interviewers nodded in agreement as Feng Lin continued to speak.

One couldn't help but say that although this answer wasn't amazing, it conformed with their knowledge and didn't have any logical flaws in it.

But of course, with just an answer like this, it was impossible to make them feel satisfied.

The interviewer that was second to the left was a blonde female with an elegant face. She seemed like an ice beauty and when her turn came to ask a question, she did so with a tricky one.

“Our Giant Pharmaceutical Company wants to recruit genetic researchers as interns to concoct and manufacture genetic medicine under our directions. Tell me then, why the majority of genetic medicines cannot be produced by machines and have to be concocted by humans?”

The answer to this question was extremely complicated.

Feng Lin gathered his thoughts and planned his words.

“We have to start by speaking about the so-called extraordinary particles of the spirit particle theory. According to the deducements from super A.I.s, back in the Ancient Earth Era, during the desolate periods where science and technology were extremely backward, mythological characters and legends actually appeared frequently.

“All of them had power enough to shift mountains and overturn seas and were even referred to as

gods by the ordinary masses of humanity. Each ancient civilizations of earth had different gods, different myths and legends, but why was it that as time passed, these godly characters appeared less and less frequently until they vanished completely?

“Chinese mythology spoke about the time period of law’s end. Norse mythology spoke about the twilight of gods—the Ragnarok. The bible and Maya mythology spoke about the end of the world... There are different records about the same thing in all mythologies, cultures, and religions. This is definitely not a coincidence. As time passed, humanity no longer had extraordinary strength and abilities and had no choice but to develop science and technology.

“However, why did humans begin to awaken their mythological genes and came to control extraordinary powers after the Interstellar Era started, after humanity ventured out from their original planet? Why did they fail to achieve this during the past era? Because, the answer was that they were lacking in spirit particles that were known by its full name as spiritual qi particles.

“According to findings from an ancient ruin on Earth, during the desolate time period, such spirit particles were in abundance, and some humans with special talents would be able to sense these spirit particles and control extraordinary abilities through interacting with the particles. However, as the amount of spirit particles declined with the passing of time, the appearances of these superhumans gradually vanished, verifying the fact passed down in the myths and legends about the end of the world. All this lasted up until the Interstellar Era. When humanity started to propagate to the other planets, they discovered the existence of spirit particles once again and realized that they could control the spirit particles through awakening their mythological genes.” Feng Lin summarized his points concisely, bringing up a brand new theory.

Spirit particle theory was a theory that was juxtaposed with the mythological gene theory of this era. However, the spirit particle theory was too reclusive, and its fame was far inferior compared to mythological gene theory. Hence, not many people knew about it.

Feng Lin had also learned about this through his black microchip.

He paused for a while before continuing. “As to whether the existence of spirit particles could be verified, the conclusion would lead us to the question of what is the difference between genetic medicine and ordinary medicine? Ordinary nutrient medicine has fixed compositions and hence, machines could manufacture it as much as you want them to. However, genetic medicines are different. The reason why is because the slightest change in the composition of an ingredient could lead to great variance in medical potency. The main point is that one has to infuse active spirit particles into it at the point of concoction, and these spirit particles can greatly strengthen one’s life force or stimulate their potential. Also, because the movements of spirit particles cannot be determined, machinery cannot accurately detect the change in medicinal potency. Only humans who can sense spirit particles will be able to detect this via their five senses and make the necessary adjustments in different circumstances as required. This is why the vast majority of

genetic medicines have to be concocted by humans!"

All of the five interviewers had smiles on their faces. This answer had satisfied all the requirements of the question asked.

They could sense that Feng Lin was getting into the zone more and more, and his answers got better and better.

The interviewer in the center laughed as he asked, "Can you describe the movements of spirit particles in detail?"

Feng Lin nodded. "Spirit particles are a kind of extraordinary particle. They cannot exist independently and generally have to attach themselves to spiritual substances/creatures. Also, spirit particles have no mass and might not even have a physical form, possessing only wave-particle duality in quantum mechanics. When spiritual creatures neared it, spirit particles would produce a unique transition phenomenon, moving about randomly due to the presence of different spiritual substances that would mutually affect each other. There's no way for machines to predict the movement orbit of the spirit particles, and this is known as the spirit particle motion. For this point, it is extremely similar to the Brownian Motion and hence, in spirit particle theory, this is also known as Spirit Brownian Motion!"

50. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Clap, clap, clap!

A round of warm applause rang out.

“Not bad, excellent!”

“Up until now, there has not been anyone else who displayed such understanding of the innate nature of genetic potions and nutrient medicines in their answers!”

“Seems like your attainments in genetic theory is very deep!”

.....

After Feng Lin had finished speaking, all the interviewers applauded and praised him.

The three questions asked were all not simple ones, yet Feng Lin had answered them all easily, with answers that were extremely perfect.

This Feng Lin isn't simple at all.

From left to the right, it was now time for the fourth interviewer to ask his question. He asked another difficult one. “Since there's the spirit particle motion theory, why do some nutrient medicine potions like the low-grade potions of life were able to be concocted by machinery?”

This question was extremely difficult. Feng Lin had never seen a topic related to this in his research notes before. He couldn't help but frown as a look of contemplation appeared on his face.

Right, since potions of life were considered a kind of nutrient medicine, why could machines concoct some types of it? Before this, he had consumed potions of life before and according to the transformations in his body, he could be sure that there were truly spirit particles within the low-grade types potions of life.

But this didn't seem to fit in the Brownian Motion theory.

Feng Lin's brows furrowed even more as he pondered. The interviewers didn't press him for an answer as they silently waited for him to think.

Clearly, they knew that this question wasn't an easy one. One had to have extremely deep attainments in genetic potions theory before they could answer it.

Feng Lin's mind was now turning like a well-oiled machine.

The reason why some nutrient medicines could be concocted by machines definitely had to do with something common in their formulations. But, what was the answer?

It was like he suddenly thought of it. Feng Lin's eyes brightened as he called out, "It's spirit powder!"

The interviewers glanced at each other, as admiration and praised could be seen reflected in their eyes. However, they continued to ask, "Why is it spirit powder?"

"Spirit powder is a kind of inert substance that could contain spirit particles. But although they can contain spirit particles, its exterior by nature had a thin layer of isolation over the material surface that acts as a tiny cage, suppressing the spirit particles movement. Hence, when spirit powder is dissolved into some nutrient medicine, the average distribution of the spirit particles could be deduced, maintaining the greatest stability to generate a similar medicinal potency throughout concoction. Hence, for low-grade potions that contained spirit powder in their formulations, all of them could be concocted by machines," Feng Lin explained.

"Excellent, excellent!" Those interviewers smiled and nodded.

The last interviewer added onto the question, "Then, do you know the reason why since spirit powder has the unique nature of isolation, trapping the spirit particles within, why are they not used in the concoction of many other types of nutrient medicine?"

This time, Feng Lin didn't hesitate. He explained in a concise and comprehensive manner, "Because, although spirit powder has the special ability of isolating, allowing it to trap spirit particles, the amount of spirit particles in them is simply way too low. It can only be used to concoct the weakest common-grade and low-grade nutrient medicine. It's not suitable for other types of potions!"

Up until here, all five questions by the five interviewers had been answered perfectly.

Feng Lin's answers were like flowing water, smooth and to the point.

The five interviewers all had smiles on their faces. They respectively nodded, clearly extremely satisfied with Feng Lin's performance.

"Pretty good. Your knowledge of genetic theory is extremely solid. Now, it's time for us to ask you

some questions about myths and legends.” The main interviewer who sat in the center spoke.

Feng Lin smiled, this domain of questioning was the one he was the least afraid of!

“Let me ask you, in <Hierarchy of Heaven> how many grades can angels be classified into?” The left-most interviewer took the lead and asked.

Feng Lin pondered for a moment before he replied, “There are a total of three tiers and nine grades. For the upper tier: the incandescent angel, wisdom angel, and throne angel. For the middle tier: the lord angel, strength angel, and energy angel. For the lower tier: the authority angel, great angel, and ordinary angels.”

“Correct.” The interviewer who asked the question involuntarily praised. “You have already passed in my perspective.”

Feng Lin smiled and nodded.

The second interviewer from the left then asked a question regarding the holy bible. “Who are the seven devil lords of hell, which sins do they represent?”

Those who read the bible before all knew that the seven devil lords corresponded with the seven archangels.

Feng Lin contemplated, recalling the memories in his mind as he directly answered, “They can be classified as Lucifer, the sin of pride. Leviathan, the sin of envy. Samael, the sin of wrath. Belphegor, the sin of sloth. Beelzebub, the sin of gluttony. Mammon, the sin of greed and Asmodeus, the sin of lust!”

After answering the question, he quietly wiped away his sweat.

Luckily for him, he had been exceptionally interested in mythology back when he had been in the Ancient Earth Era and had read many novels and stories about various gods and divine beings of different cultures and religions. If not, he truly wouldn’t be able to answer it.

“Why did God expel Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden?” The main interviewer suddenly asked.

“Because they ate the forbidden fruit!” Feng Lin replied.

“Impressive! More than half of the holy bible has already been lost to time. The stories inside were split into many chapters all around the world yet you could actually answer this.” The main interviewer nodded; he was truly impressed by Feng Lin.

They continued to ask more questions, but Feng Lin easily answered them all. After that, they stopped the questioning and started to first discuss among themselves.

Feng Lin waited patiently and about five to six minutes later, the interviewers had a conclusion.

“Seems like questions about the bible are unable to stump you. Let me ask you another question about mythology. Listen well.” An old man with a turban on his head smiled. His body was as thin as sticks, and he looked somewhat withered by age. “There are three chief gods of Hinduism. What divine authority do they possess?”

“This is simple.” Feng Lin had a relaxed look on his face.

The chief gods of each religion were always the most famous in comparison to the others. As long as you were slightly familiar with that myth or legend, you would be able to name all of them.

“The three chief gods of Hinduism...They are respectively known as Brahma, God of Creation; Shiva, Goddess of Destruction; Vishnu, God of Protection. The three chief gods are the holy trinity that shares the same roots and source. They are the embodiment of the universe!”

“I’ve finished all my questions. Next, you are the only one left. Let’s see if your question can stump him.” The old man laughed and nodded as he turned to face the last interviewer.

“Don’t worry, the answer to my question is extremely tough.” The fifth interviewer seemed to be filled with confidence. “This is a mythological system that is extremely obscure. Not many people would know of it.”

Feng Lin was still very calm; he wasn’t frightened by that at all.

“Hura Mazd. Which mythology did this god belong to? What divine authority or laws did it control?” The interviewer smiled as he asked.

This was an extremely unfamiliar name.

Feng Lin instantly frowned.

Norse mythology? Wrong!

Maya mythology? That’s not it!

Japan mythology? It doesn’t seem to match at all.

.....

Feng Lin did a mental run through of the myths and legends of the Ancient Earth Era. He could be sure that he had never heard of this name before.

“What did I say? I told you guys he wouldn’t be able to answer this.” Upon seeing the frown on Feng Lin’s face and the fact that he didn’t answer after a long moment, that interviewer laughed as he glanced at his colleagues. There was a look of satisfaction in his eyes.

The other interviewers turned their gazes to Feng Lin, wanting to see if Feng Lin would be able to answer this. If he could, this would no doubt prove that he had extremely high attainments in the mythological domain.

Feng Lin didn’t give up because he was sure that based on one’s degree of understanding towards myths and legends, there was no one in this world currently superior to him. If he couldn’t answer this, it would mean that no one could.

Hence, there must be an answer to this question. This name was definitely among the myths and legends he knew.

A light suddenly went off in his mind as though a shooting star had arced through his brain.

“I know. This god’s original name isn’t Hura Mazd. It’s Ahura Mazda, the chief god of fire from Zoroastrianism, one of Persia’s ancient religion!”

51. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

It was very quiet, close to the level of dead silence.

None of the five interviewers said a word.

What situation was this?

A question asked by the interviewer was denied by the interviewee, and the latter had given the right answer.

Seeing Feng Lin's expression of certainty, they couldn't say a word even if they wanted to say that Feng Lin was wrong.

In fact, this was the right choice to make.

"It's true that the answer is Zoroastrian's God! However, how do you know that it's not Hura Mazd but is... Ahura Mazda?" The fifth interviewer didn't insist on his view but asked hesitantly.

It was agreed upon that there'd be five questions on myths and legends, and this was already the sixth!

However, Feng Lin would naturally not be a fool and be too concerned about this point. Instead, he explained, "I have a great interest in myths and legends and had once gathered the stories of the myths and legends about the Persian Empire's Zoroastrianism during the Earth's ancient times. In Zoroastrianism, Ahura Mazda was the omniscient and omnipotent creator of the universe, possessing power over light, life, creation, order, the universal truth, and other areas. In the legends, Ahura Mazda had created the material world, as well as fire. He was the "endless light", the embodiment of fire!"

The interviewer was convinced after seeing Feng Lin answering in such great detail. "Other than the name, all the other areas are exactly the same as what I understand. The Zoroastrianism slate relic that I found has some corroded traces, with some words worn down! The name of the Zoroastrianism God might just be what you said!"

He accepted Feng Lin's views.

Hearing the interviewer saying this, how could Feng Lin possibly not guess that the other party had found the legends concerning Zoroastrianism from ancient relics but had a limited understanding toward them.

Seeing this person's expression of admiration, Feng Lin smiled secretly to himself.

He was surprised from just this?

Feng Lin had yet to share that the Zoroastrianism's history was before that of Christianity and Hinduism. It was just that with the decline of the Persian Empire, the Zoroastrianism's legacies were lost with its believers.

Feng Lin had no desire to overperform. Sharing too much would only bring trouble.

He just needed to make it clear that it was the Zoroastrianism's God. If he was able to share every single detail about a legend that had been lost for very long, it would be too astonishing.

Feng Lin didn't wish to be confined and studied like the panda, treated as a national treasure.

"You even know about such a legend that's so obscure!"

"That's amazing! How many myths and legends do you know of?"

"Other than Zoroastrianism, Hinduism, and the Bible, what other myths and legends do you know about?"

...

Seeing that even the last interviewer had accepted Feng Lin's answer, the other interviewers were full of praises for him. They were now looking at Feng Lin with fiery gazes.

Myths and legends were known to be extremely difficult. Ten thousand years had passed by and too much information had been lost. There were few people who could excel in this area.

The questions they had asked all involved the myths and legends from various groups. The interviewers had initially agreed that they would have accepted Feng Lin as long as he could answer two to three questions correctly.

They hadn't expected this person to answer all of the questions correctly.

How could a person possibly be so knowledgeable about the stories of so many myths and legends from different groups?

"Excellent, that's really excellent!" The main interviewer clapped in admiration, feeling very satisfied toward Feng Lin. "You've undoubtedly passed the interview! If there's a scoring system,

I'd give you full marks! We'll start with the medicine formulation test next!"

"Medicine formulation test!" Feng Lin was surprised.

"That's right! After all, the jobs of genetic researchers are to formulate medicine. Your knowledge and theories can be said to have scored full marks, but we still need to test you on your ability to formulate medication!" the main interviewer said.

"How is the test conducted?" Feng Lin asked.

"It's very simple! We'll give you a new formula, and you can spend half an hour to learn it before proceeding with formulating the medicine. Don't worry, this is just the interview for genetic researchers, and the medicine is also genetic medicine with no grade. The difficulty level isn't high! You can take your time to look at it. You'll be given three chances. As long as you succeed once, you'll pass!" The main interviewer said and tapped out in void space.

A holographic projection appeared before Feng Lin, with the words, "berserk medicine" clearly written out.

This medicine didn't have a grade and could let a person's vital energy and blood seethe. Within a short moment of time, the user's strength would surge tremendously, increasing by 20% of their usual level. Although it was only 20%, the overall increment in strength would bring an enormous change to the body.

The effects of this medicine were very similar to the bubbling blood nutrient medicine Feng Lin had seen before in the past. It was the simplified version of the bubbling blood nutrient medicine.

Even though it was a simplified version, it was still a medicine formulation and was very valuable.

Just a formulation alone would be worth at least 4,000 star coins.

To think that they had given it to him so easily. They really conducted themselves in a rich and imposing manner.

This virtual universe was a simulation of reality that had close to a 100% resemblance.

The means of concocting medicine here was about the same as that in real life. The simulated effects were also very similar. Of course, they could only be effective in the virtual universe.

In fact, when many geneticists first started off, they would practice concocting medicine in virtual universes.

Feng Lin looked at the holographic projection in front of him. A figure dressed in white robes was refining medicine with clear steps and formulation. There were no mistakes at all.

This berserk medicine was just a simplified version of the bubbling blood nutrient medicine. To Feng Lin, who had already grasped how to concoct the bubbling blood nutrient medicine, it wasn't difficult to create this medicine.

He watched three times seriously, memorizing the steps very quickly. He then nodded toward the five interviewers.

The main interviewer tapped out repeatedly, and the scenes before Feng Lin's eyes changed. Many types of translucent virtual equipments rapidly materialized. Test tubes, flasks, funnels... There were all sorts of tools that resembled chemistry apparatus as well as many ingredients for potions.

The test had officially begun.

Feng Lin took in a deep breath, calmed down, and started.

He first picked up a red plant—a flaming pepper. It lived on the Desert Planet and was extremely spicy—10,000 times more spicy than ordinary chilli. Ordinary people would die from the spiciness.

Feng Lin pounded it into a paste-like liquid and then filtered it, extracting about one milliliter of red juice. The juice emitted a spicy smell that would cause one to choke and tear up.

The feeling was really realistic!

He secretly clicked his tongue and then continued on.

Although this was his first attempt in making this, the product was only a genetic medicine without any grade. Therefore, the difficulty wasn't high and he didn't feel anxious.

The summersnake grass, a strange medicinal ingredient that was half-snake and half-plant; the waterjade powder, a powder that was ground from a jade stone that was soft as water... All sorts of strange ingredients were added in a certain order through a specific method.

The interviewers secretly nodded as they watched at the side. Feng Lin's actions had been very proficient based on what he had done so far. He hadn't made any mistakes at all.

Very soon, the medicine in the test tube underwent a strange change. It turned scarlet like blood, faintly releasing an amber glow.

At this stage, success was very near.

However, Feng Lin's expression turned grim instead.

The closer one was to success, the more one had to treat the matter seriously.

This final step in refining genetic medicine was the most important. It was called the Spiritual Perception.

Using the human body to sense the spiritual energy in the medicine, and making the final adjustments to reach the perfect condition.

Only humans who were intelligent lifeforms could do this.

As the circulation of spiritual energy was unfathomable and the situation of each bottle of medicine was different, only humans were able to sense the minute difference. This was something that couldn't be done by machines. It was also why most genetic medicines could only be concocted by geneticists and not by machines.

Feng Lin obtained a drop of the medicine using a dropper and carefully placed it into his mouth.

A spicy and scorching feeling surged to his nerves, and his tongue turned numb. However, his body didn't show much reactions.

"The spiciness level is too high. The amount of spiritual particles is too low!" Feng Lin once again drew out the juice from the spirit blood flower, a spiritual ingredient, and dropped some in.

One drop, two drops, three drops...

Bang! The test tube in his hand suddenly exploded. It was a failure!

The interviewers who were watching sighed.

However, Feng Lin didn't think much of it.

It was because he had found the feeling of gaining success. He wouldn't fail a second time.

In fact, it was how things went.

Feng Lin didn't take a break and continued concocting in an orderly manner. His technique seemed to grow increasingly proficient.

Very soon, he completed another bottle of berserk medicine efficiently. This time around, it took only one-third of the time from the previous attempt.

He tasted it again. And this time around, the spiciness level was too low and was unable to stimulate the human body to rapidly absorb the medicinal properties.

Feng Lin carefully dripped in 2.5 drops of flaming pepper's juice. The blood-red medicine surprisingly started to lose its color, taking on a faint translucent red color, not emitting out any smell.

This was the sign that the medicinal properties had all been condensed, and the refining was a success.

The five interviewers walked up.

"Congratulations, you're accepted!"

52. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Not bad! This bottle of medicine can be said to be of a high-grade quality!”

“There are three chances, but he succeeded on the second attempt. He seems to be very skillful in concocting medicine!”

“To think that he has learned how to make a new genetic medicine within such a short time. It seems that he has impressive aptitude to become a geneticist!”

...

The interviewers kept on studying the berserk medicine that Feng Lin had just concocted successfully. They were all full of praises for Feng Lin.

“Congratulations, Feng Lin! You’re the talent that we’re looking for, with solid theoretical knowledge and strong hands-on abilities! We can sign the contract now!” The main interviewer smiled and said. With a tap, a virtual contract appeared before Feng Lin.

This was a virtual contract, but it was still valid as it registered the individual’s virtual id.

And the virtual id was tied to the individual’s actual identity. Therefore, it was valid.

Since Feng Lin came for the interview and went through a lot of efforts to pass this, he would naturally not reject it.

To be safe, he still looked through the contract in detail for three times. He didn’t discover any loopholes in the law. It was a three months internship contract, with a basic pay of 50,000 star coins every month. If he showed outstanding performance, he could be converted to a permanent worker.

Although the contract was for three months, there would be leave given for the New Year. At that time, he would be able to return to Earth and participate in the clan’s ranking competition. Moreover, the college examinations were coming up in six months. There was plenty of time, and the internship wouldn’t hold up his college examinations.

After taking various situations into consideration, Feng Lin didn’t hesitate any further and just signed his name on the contract.

However, he didn’t notice that when he signed the contract, the interviewers had shared secretive

glances between themselves.

When the contract was signed, the main interviewer smiled and asked, "Feng Lin, when can you start work?"

"The sooner the better! I'll comply with the company's arrangements!" Feng Lin said, having the awareness of being a newcomer into the workforce.

Hearing that, the interviewers exchanged a glance and broke into satisfied smiles.

"That's good! We'll book the space shuttle ticket for you immediately. It'll take only six hours to travel from Earth straight to Mars." The main interviewer went online to book the space shuttle ticket immediately, appearing as if he couldn't wait and wished to have Feng Lin set off immediately.

Feng Lin found this a little strange, but he didn't think much about it.

Very soon, the main interviewer completed the booking, and an electronic space shuttle ticket was sent from the official website of the space shuttle's port. The details were all stated on the ticket.

"Harley Model 989 passenger space shuttle. Take off time: 12 noon tomorrow, luxurious first-class section, seat number 11!"

The Harley-model space shuttles were well-known luxurious space shuttles in the Interstellar Era. Moreover, they had booked the most expensive first-class seat for him. The Giant Pharmaceutical Company was really kind!

Feng Lin was very satisfied with the arrangements, but for some reason, he had a faint feeling that something wasn't right.

However, the contract was already signed, and it was legally binding. It was too late to regret now.

The Giant Pharmaceutical Company could be said to be a magnate of genetic medicine in the solar system. Moreover, Feng Lin had nothing to his name. What could they seek to get from him?

Feng Lin laughed at himself in ridicule, not giving it much thought.

"I'll be accepting the space shuttle ticket! I'll set off on time tomorrow!" Feng Lin nodded toward the interviewers and prepared to leave.

Since he was going to head out to work, then he would have to apply for leave from his teacher and then bid goodbye to his family. Otherwise, there might be a big commotion for no reason if he

was thought to have gone missing.

With a single thought, he disappeared on the spot.

The five interviewers smiled as they watched him leave. As Feng Lin disappeared from the spot, the smiles on their faces rapidly disappeared and became cold.

...

In the vast virtual universe, the stars were shining brightly and the Milky Way hung up high. It was an unforgettable scene.

It was a pity and regrettable that he didn't have the time to enjoy the scenery. He could only wait for another chance in the future to come to experience it again.

Feng Lin looked at the time after leaving the virtual cabin and realized that even though he had spent half the day inside, it had only been 30 minutes outside.

He recalled his earlier worry and secretly laughed at how it had all been groundless worries.

Seeing that it was getting late, he headed home.

Tomorrow was very important and he needed to make preparations.

"Feng Lin, you're back!" When he arrived home, his parents had already come back from the factory. They immediately reprimanded Feng Lin after seeing him.

"Why didn't you tell us anything about you taking on a part-time job for seven days?"

"You made us worry for nothing! We thought that something had happened to you!"

...

The reprimands were filled with intense concern.

Feng Lin felt very warm inside.

"I'm going to graduate very soon. I'm grown up now! Isn't going out to work something that I should do?" Feng Lin didn't reveal anything and just smiled.

After a day of hard work, his parent's faces were filled with fatigue. They didn't have the energy to continue the reprimands after a while.

In order to prevent them from asking further, Feng Lin quickly diverted the topic. "Oh, right! I used the money earned from the part-time job to purchase mid-grade nutrient fluids. Not only can they replenish energy, but they can also help replenish nourishment for younger brother and sister, raising their cultivation aptitude!"

He walked toward the fridge and took out five bottles of mid-grade nutrient fluids.

"Yay! We can drink mid-grade nutrient fluids again!" When Feng Lin's younger siblings heard that, they immediately pounced toward him like two greedy kittens.

Feng Lin's parents looked at the mid-grade nutrient fluids, their emotions welling up. They felt ashamed, regretful, and helpless.

They felt ashamed that although they were parents, they were unable to provide their children with good conditions that could allow them to grow up strong and well.

They felt regretful because if Feng Lin had had enough nourishment, his cultivation aptitude wouldn't have been this bad. He was already in his third year in high school, yet his vitality was only at 0.4. He had no hopes of going for the college examinations and could only work at the clan's factory, with no prospects at all for his entire life.

They felt helpless as they were low-grade clansmen and really couldn't do anything about it.

The taste of the mid-grade nutrient fluids wasn't bad. They tasted much better than low-grade nutrient fluids. However, even though Feng Lin's younger siblings enjoyed them with a great sense of satisfaction, his parents felt as though they were tasteless, as if they were eating wax.

Feng Lin could tell what his parents were thinking. However, he didn't tell them that he was no longer the same as how he had been before.

If he were to share this fact abruptly, this overwhelming change would give the two of them a great scare, causing them to worry needlessly.

Feng Lin only thought of watching over this family and to let his parents and younger siblings have a stable living environment.

At the thought of this, his determination to break off from the clan grew.

"Father, mother, I've already applied for leave at school! I'll be taking on part-time jobs again in another few days' time!" Feng Lin said.

His parents were drinking the nutrient fluids, and they immediately stopped upon hearing that.

Feng Lin's father had on a sorrowful expression. "How long will you be gone for? Don't be holding up your internship at the clan's factory. Otherwise, the Head Butler will blame and punish you!"

"Don't worry, it'll only be for a week!" Feng Lin told them a white lie.

If he didn't return after a week and the clan pursued this, there would be Feng Lang to handle the matter. Thus, Feng Lin wasn't worried.

Hearing that, his parents nodded and didn't object further.

After all, this wasn't something bad. The money earned could be used to replenish Feng Cheng's and Feng Xin's nourishment, increasing their cultivation aptitude so that they wouldn't walk down the same path as Feng Lin.

With Feng Lin intentionally guiding the conversation, the atmosphere became more relaxed and they shared a lot of laughter over dinner.

Seeing that it was late, Feng Lin's parents brought his younger siblings back to sleep.

Feng Lin returned to his dark bedroom and immediately drew back his smile.

It was rare that this time around, he didn't put in great effort to cultivate but instead, attempted to sleep on his bed.

He stared at the ceiling, not knowing why he was unable to sleep.

Tomorrow was a day that would change his destiny. If he took the right move, the world would open up for him, and he would be able to go wherever he wished to.

If it was a wrong move, then he could only leave the clan forcibly, wandering alone in the universe.

Feng Lin had the confidence that he'd be able to leave. However, it'd be difficult for him to bring his parents and younger siblings along!

Therefore, he wouldn't leave by himself selfishly until there was really no other way out.

He had no idea if things would turn out the way he wanted them to on this trip.

If it didn't, then he would...

No, things must work out...

For sure...

Feng Lin entered a deep slumber amidst the grogginess.

Early the next morning, before the sun was up, his eyes opened.

Feng Lin pretended as if nothing was wrong and started to clean up his room, bringing along all of the potions of life with him. These were all precious resources and were extremely important in the cultivation that would follow.

After taking a long look at his parents and younger siblings who were in deep sleep, Feng Lin turned and left with great resolution.

Father, mother, goodbye!

Young brother, younger sister, goodbye!

.....

53. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“What? You want to apply for leave?” In the office, the female head-teacher of the 17th class asked. She looked at Feng Lin with a grim countenance.

You skipped class for a week without a valid reason. I have yet to ask for an explanation from you.

After you’ve finally shown up, you’re telling me that you want to apply for leave again?

Do you even care about the school rules?

This semester will be ending in three weeks’ time, yet you suddenly want to apply for leave. What is the meaning of this?

...

The female head-teacher stared at Feng Lin, wanting to find out what on earth he was thinking.

“That’s right! I want to enter seclusion for training!” Feng Lin said this in a calm tone, yet his words brimming with a firm determination.

It was because regardless if the female head-teacher was agreeable or not, he would still leave.

The only reason why he came to apply for leave was because he hoped that the head-teacher could be more accommodating. It would save him a lot of hassle.

What kind of tone was that?

When the female head-teacher heard his statement, she felt very uncomfortable.

“No...” Her anger hit the ceiling, and she was about to reject when she suddenly recalled what the principal had said before. Hence, she swallowed her words.

The principal had instructed her that Feng Lin was a seeded examinee that the school was going all out to nurture. If he were to have any requests for his cultivation, she must do her best to satisfy them.

Now, with Feng Lin using cultivation as an excuse to apply for leave, the request was very reasonable and she had no reason to object.

She could only hold back her grievance and changed what she was trying to say. "Alright! Since the reason is for your cultivation, I'll agree to it. You've already passed the test and obtained the right to go for the college examinations, so it doesn't matter even if you don't come for the final examinations. You can just cultivate at ease and try to get better results for the college examinations!"

"Hmmm?" Feng Lin felt that this was strange. He had already been prepared to be rejected and had been planning to forcibly leave. He hadn't expected the female head-teacher to suddenly change her mind and speak to him with a good attitude. He didn't even have to take the final examinations.

Was this still that obstinate Abbess Miejue [1] from before?

Although he didn't understand why this had happened, it was a good thing and he didn't want to think much about it.

"Thank you, head-teacher!" Feng Lin replied politely and walked out of the office. He didn't even attend the remaining classes and headed out with big strides.

At the look of his departing figure, the female head-teacher seemed to want to say something but held back. In the end, she sighed and didn't say a word.

This kid had been one of the worst performers in the class previously, and she hadn't taught him much before. His sudden uprise had nothing to do with her, and there was no way that she could meddle in his affairs!

Moreover, the principal had already taken a liking to him, and Feng Lin didn't have to fear anything. There was no way she could have him under her control!

Although she was the head-teacher, she couldn't take charge of her own student.

The female head-teacher felt very tired all of a sudden.

After leaving the school, Feng Lin took the maglev train and headed toward Huaxia's "Nine Continents" space shuttle port.

The maglev train moved rapidly, traveling a distance of over 100 kilometers within ten or so minutes. After alighting, a majestic construction stood towering before Feng Lin's eyes. Over 30 space shuttles were stopped there, with each of them being the size of an aircraft carrier back in Ancient Earth.

The space shuttle that stood out the most was one that was entirely in black and gold colors. Its

surface was layered with aerospace material and faintly reflected light. It had a pair of great wings, reflecting a strong sense of elegance in technology.

This was the luxurious Harley-989 passenger space shuttle that Feng Lin was going to board. It had a pair of wings that were similar to that of an airplane, but its main body was massive like that of a huge ship.

Space shuttles traveled in outer space, and it no longer required to make use of kinetic energy from the air to fly like how airplanes did. Therefore, with this design, it could ferry more passengers given that it was bigger despite having the same mass.

At the ticket inspection point, blue light gleamed and kept on scanning. One could only enter after displaying the ticket. If they were to barge in, the alarm would be triggered and thus the robotic police on both sides. They were not to be trifled with, and their red electronic eyes could shoot out electric flux that could instantly subdue the opponent.

Feng Lin walked up and let the machine scan the virtual ticket on his identity microchip. The machine's voice immediately rang out.

"Welcome, passenger Feng Lin. The Harley-989 passenger space shuttle is glad to serve you. This space shuttle will be heading straight to Mars from Earth, and the trip will take 6 hours and 5 minutes. There are free food, drinks, and virtual entertainment facilities provided on the space shuttle. We hope you enjoy your trip..."

Feng Lin entered the space shuttle and headed for the prow. An extremely extravagant cabin that was like that of a palace appeared before him. The passengers in this cabin were either rich or of high statuses.

When they saw Feng Lin's appearance, they instinctively started to judge him. When they saw unimpressive clothes, strong perplexity shone in their eyes.

How could a person like this appear in this luxurious section?

Feng Lin paid them no heed and silently found his seat.

The first-class section wasn't just a simple seat. It was an individual private room, with a door that could be opened or closed at one's free will.

Feng Lin closed the door and found that there were virtual facilities, a bed, an individual washroom... The conditions could be said to be extravagant.

He quietly waited until about half an hour passed by.

The space shuttle trembled a little and then was activated with a boom. Blue flames shot out from the bottom, and the strong pushing force caused the massive space shuttle to gradually rise up and accelerate incessantly.

"It's about time!" Feng Lin immediately took out his identity microchip and tapped consecutively on it.

The pages on the microchip kept flipping until it reached the back-end administrator interface. A notification panel popped up.

"Feng Lin, you're requesting for the microchip's highest level of authority. Please insert password!"

Feng Lin took in a deep breath before his fingers started tapping, "wsyzm22726723132..."

Right now, he wanted to unlock the identity microchip. The space shuttle had already set off and even if the people from his clan discovered this, it would already be too late. They were unable to stop him since he was already on the space shuttle.

Beep beep beep!

At that moment, there was only the sound of Feng Lin's finger tapping on the microchip. Very soon, the password that had over 600 characters was keyed in completely.

"The microchip's lock has been removed. Congratulations, Feng Lin. You've obtained the highest level of authority over this microchip!"

The monotonous electronic voice sounded extremely pleasing to his ears at the moment. It sounded like the most beautiful music in the world.

Feng Lin exhaled and completely relaxed from his tensed state. He leaned back on the chair, feeling as if an invisible chain on him had been removed.

He breathed in with a great feeling of intoxication. Although he was in a closed cabin room, he still felt great satisfaction, feeling as if the air was very refreshing.

This was the smell of freedom.

As for when the clan would notice that he had removed the microchip's lock and how angry they would be then, he couldn't be bothered.

The space shuttle accelerated very quickly, breaking through the atmosphere within five to six

minutes, leaping into the boundless outer space.

Feng Lin looked back through the windows, seeing a beautiful blue planet floating in the dark vacuum, spinning incessantly. It had been doing so for several billion years. It gradually became smaller in his vision, turning into a bright star in the distance.

Goodbye Earth!

[1] A character from “The Heaven Sword and Dragon Saber”. Mijue stands for ruthless extinguishing. It’s in reference to the merciless nature of the character in the “The Heaven Sword and Dragon Saber” novel.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_The_Heaven_Sword_and_Dragon_Saber_characters

54. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Flames shot out and the powerful counteracting force pushed the space shuttle to advance further in the starry sky.

Earth and Mars were in the same solar system, and it wasn't considered far in an interstellar travel that used light years as a counter. Therefore, there wasn't a need to use wormholes to travel.

It was also because of this that Feng Lin was able to see such beautiful scenery.

A huge fireball was floating in the dark outer space, emitting endless light and heat. Jupiter, Mars, Venus... all the planets kept on circulating around the Sun. In the distance, the stars were shining brightly, lighting up the dark sky. The miraculous, magnificent, and vast side of the universe was now presented before him.

However, no matter how beautiful the scenery was, one would grow to become sick of it after a while.

Although the starry sky was beautiful, it was too plain. It was hard to sense its changes using human's time as a measurement.

After a while, Feng Lin drew back his gaze.

Right now, everyone in the surroundings all seemed to be very bored as if they were no longer interested in this scene.

Feng Lin blushed a little, thankful that he hadn't revealed any strange reactions. Otherwise, other people would view him as a joke.

It required six hours to travel from Earth to Mars. Feng Lin had sufficient rest the night before, and it was a waste for him to just sit there and do nothing.

Feng Lin looked toward the virtual facilities.

As expected of the luxurious cabin. The facilities were great.

He was still feeling sorry that he hadn't been able to experience the virtual universe yesterday. Now, he had the chance to do so.

Six hours was enough.

One hour in the real world was equivalent to one day in the virtual universe.

Based on this, he would be able to stay inside for six days until he was forced to go offline when the injunction kicked in.

Feng Lin closed his cabin's door and connected to the virtual facilities.

Familiar data currents flowed before him. When he got back to his senses, he had once again entered the virtual universe.

Stepping in void space, Feng Lin contemplated what he should do next.

This was really a problematic question.

The virtual universe was a multivariate world. It contained countless elements, and there were endless ways to enjoy it.

As long as one wished for something, they would be able to do it.

To enter a relationship with the main character of a movie, to physically experience clearing the trials in a game, to explore the animation world... There were no limitations, only absolute freedom. 1,000 people would have 1,000 ways of enjoying this place. There were boundless possibilities.

This was also why the virtual universe was so attractive. One would never get sick of it.

If a person were to explore the possibilities one by one, they would get dizzy from the options. Their entire lifetime wouldn't be enough.

Therefore, there was a need to make a choice.

To enter a relationship with the main character of a movie, to explore the world of a comic, to play games... Feng Lin wasn't interested in all these. It was a waste of effort and time and was completely useless.

It was impossible for him to spend his effort on these things that would be a waste of his life. Overindulgence would prevent one from making progress in life.

The virtual world was just a virtual world after all. It couldn't replace the real world.

However, the virtual universe could serve to simulate the real world.

Therefore, Feng Lin had an idea. He wanted to enjoy the things that were beneficial to him.

In real life, he was a cultivator apprentice. What was there in this virtual universe that could provide reinforcement to his cultivation or strengthen his comprehension?

That's right!

The virtual universe simulated the real world. Did that mean that genes could also be simulated?

The answer was certainly yes.

With this goal, he searched for some information. The virtual universe refreshed itself non-stop, constantly turning the things it scanned in the real world into relative data and then attempted the simulation.

The mythological genes were what everyone in the real universe wanted to awaken. Of course, he wouldn't let it slip by.

However, awakening in the virtual universe was different from that in the actual universe—it was completely based on data. It was like a game where the genes weren't actually awakened but were just virtual data modules.

Players could equip themselves with gene modules to imitate their abilities in real life. They could also change their gene modules to use different abilities.

Feng Lin felt that everything was new and interesting. These gene modules would undeniably allow people to experience the difference in genetic abilities to the greatest possible extent.

But how could one obtain gene modules?

Feng Lin started to search for this information and discovered that the most commonly used method was to pay with money.

As long as one was willing to spend money in the virtual universe, one would be able to do anything. They would even be able to simulate a goddess from myths and legends, enjoying an inseparable life with her as her lover. There were no limits to what could be done.

When the virtual universe was first created and humans were called to enter and create a second world, there was a line from the advertisement that had been passed on for very long. Every Interstellar human knew of this.

“Young man, do you want to stand at the peak of the starry sky, capable of doing anything you wish? Make purchases!”

“Young man, do you wish to be drunk amongst beauties, wielding power over the entire world? Make purchases!”

“Young man, do you wish to obtain battleships and set off to conquer the world? Make purchases!”

It was simple, straightforward, and violent. Humans’ desires were all revealed. It was a blatant seduction.

To sum it up, if one wished to make a name for themselves in the virtual universe, there wasn’t a need to think too much into it. Just make purchases!

What’s the big deal even if you’re rich?!

Feng Lin complained in his heart, feeling jealous. It was because he really didn’t have the money to make purchases...

He could only choose the second method which was an extremely difficult one—to go hunting in the gene battlefield.

It was a strange space that was separated in the virtual universe. There were all sorts of lifeforms in the universe that were simulated in this place. Humans could enter the place to hunt, experience what it’d be like to fight and kill all sorts of lifeforms in the universe. They would then be able to obtain gene modules on a randomized basis.

Feng Lin didn’t manage to find out how exactly the gene modules was obtained.

Right now, his body was still a blank slate, not equipped with any gene modules.

Feng Lin didn’t give it much thought. He entered the coordinates and entered the place.

When his figure appeared again, he was already standing in a desolate desert where everything was in dead silence. Sand and dust seethed; yellow wind blew. It was a desolate state.

There was nothing at all.

Feng Lin maintained a tough front. The Interstellar hunting ground was filled with terrifying races across the universe, and he mustn’t let his guard down.

Although he could be revived after being killed, it would require money as well.

This virtual universe was really obsessed with money.

Feng Lin didn't wish to waste star coins for nothing just because he was careless.

Squeak squeak squeak!

A series of sharp piercing sounds rang out.

Feng Lin kept on his guard. A sand mound rose up rapidly from the ground and suddenly exploded in the air.

A scorpion that was over one meter tall jumped up, raising its huge claws and its sharp poisonous barb as it charged out toward Feng Lin.

"Good timing!" Although this simulated lifeform's vitality was only at 1 and it didn't have any genetic abilities, Feng Lin's battle consciousness was still present.

He lowered his body, stomping down heavily with his right leg and then used the move "Ascending Heaven's Ladder". His leg was raised up high, and he landed a strong kick on the scorpion's stomach, sending it flying out.

Feng Lin leaped up abruptly and moved like the wind, hugging onto the scorpion's tail that was piercing out toward him like a long spear. Then, he unleashed his explosive powers, lifting the scorpion up and smashing it heavily into the ground.

Bang bang bang!

One time, two times, three times...

He smashed the huge scorpion into the ground like a great hammer, creating many craters in the sandy ground, sending sand flying up.

It didn't take long for the scorpion to be destroyed by the violence. It turned into data currents, dissipating. Then, a light sphere appeared out of nowhere.

Feng Lin received it with his hand, and a row of information appeared before him.

=====

Gene: Sand Gene

Grade: Mid-grade basic gene

Ability: Control sand

=====

This was clearly the data module for the Sand Gene.

Feng Lin's lips twitched.

What was this?

Equipment drops from killing monsters?

No, it should be...

Gene drops from killing monsters!

55. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The translucent light sphere floated on his palm. A lump of sand kept circulating within it, forming a vortex.

To think that there were gene drops from killing monsters!

Sand Gene module!

Feng Lin knew that once he equipped this gene module onto himself, he would be able to obtain the power to control sand.

It was a pity that this wasn't his own gene.

If possible, Feng Lin hoped that he would be able to obtain his own Monkey Gene module as well as the Stonebirth Gene module. He wanted to use the virtual universe to simulate his abilities in real life and have a feeling of his cultivation path in advance.

However, by the looks of it, the gene drops from killing monsters were randomized. It wasn't a sure thing what gene would drop.

He could only equip it first!

Feng Lin thought that it was fortunate that the equipped gene could be unequipped. Otherwise, it would be a great loss.

"Equip!" With a single thought, the Sand Gene immediately entered his body, turning into data currents that encompassed his entire body. A mysterious change was happening.

Feng Lin clenched his fists and sensed a mysterious power flowing in his body. It seethed in his body, wanting to break out from the restraints of his body.

He instinctively stretched out his hand and grasped...

Swoosh swoosh swoosh!

Violent sandstorm raged and sand moved about in the absence of wind. They kept on circling, eventually forming a vortex and sank into the ground.

Feng Lin had a mysterious feeling. It seemed as if his consciousness had left his body together

with that strange power, forming a strange sensation together with these sand.

With a single thought, he would be able to control them with great ease as if they were his arms.

Was this the feeling of controlling matter?

Feng Lin was amazed. His genetic ability strengthened his body, and extraordinary strength was hidden deep within it. However, this was the first time he was using a genetic ability that controlled matter.

To be able to control extraordinary powers with just a single thought. He had to say that this was a lot more convenient compared to his Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene.

There was only one trick in using body strengthening genes—to be rash!

Moreover, such genetic ability that controlled matter was a lot more flexible and would allow one to freely make changes.

For example, the sand was taking on various forms under Feng Lin's control—flowers, birds, fishes, bugs, sabers, blades, spears, and staffs...

The virtual universe was a simulation of the real world.

Feng Lin reckoned that the Sand Gene's ability in the real world should be very similar to what he was experiencing now. It could even be exactly the same.

Pffft pffft pffft!

Sand surged up all of a sudden, forming many sand dunes. Many huge, vicious-looking bugs appeared. Intelligent glows gleamed in their eyes, and they had fierce and vicious gazes.

Feng Lin's countenance turned grim. He understood that these were no ordinary bugs but were a terrifying race in the Interstellar Era—the bug race.

The bug race possessed an explosive reproduction rate and rapid evolution ability that other races couldn't compare against. They could evolve into the most suitable form according to the environment they were in, be it in the sky, ocean, land, outer space, or underground. There were different species within the bug race, with each possessing a great number of soldiers.

Once they initiated their attacks, they would gush forth with an overwhelming force like tides, engulfing everything in the world.

Therefore, the bug race was also the most notorious destroyer of civilizations in the universe. They could be considered as the common enemy of all civilizations and races across the universe.

Feng Lin had only heard of how terrifying the bug race was before, but now, he was finally witnessing it for himself.

He had just stepped into this place and immediately, it was as if he had poked the hornet's nest. Countless members of the bug race instantly darted out from the ground.

There were great scorpions with toxic barbs, huge centipedes that were the size of a tank and were covered in a layer of crust, flying bugs that had translucent wings that flapped and released sharp sounds... They were of different forms, but all of them were evolved species of the bug race that were accustomed to the desert environment. They could be seen everywhere, both in the sky and on the ground.

This was just the easiest stage in the gene hunting ground. Although there were a large number of them, they were at the lowest level.

"Good timing!" Feng Lin wasn't too anxious because he had the thought of having some fun. This was a good chance for him to test out the ability of the Sand Gene.

"Rise!" With a deep bellow, the sand under his feet seethed and formed a stretch of sand waves, instantly pouring down.

The bug race soldiers couldn't dodge in time and were drowned. However, at the next moment, they immediately charged out again.

Sand waves were completely ineffective to them.

"Interesting!" Feng Lin changed his attack, and sand gathered in his hand, taking the form of a longspear.

Roar!

He charged at them with skillful spear techniques, piercing into the mouth of a large beetle that was pouncing toward him. The longspear pierced through its body, killing the beetle with a single move.

Swoosh!

A black figure came darting out.

It was a huge scorpion trying to lift its stinger.

Feng Lin let go of his grip, and that longspear turned back into sand, scattering over the ground. He then dodged rapidly.

Pffft pffft pffft!

Another bug race soldier screamed shrilly and spurted out smelly corrosive acid from its mouth.

With a single thought, sand gathered on Feng Lin's body, instantly forming a layer of armor.

The acid was rendered useless when they landed on the armor.

Sand Golden Armor!

Feng Lin's valiance increased as he continued fighting. He swept out the spear, killing the bug race soldiers one after another.

It didn't take long for him to obtain four more genes.

Sand Gene modules x2, Tornado Gene x2.

Feng Lin equipped them once again and discovered that the gene modules on his body had turned into Sand Gene x3, Tornado Gene x2.

He could clearly sense the strange power in his body growing by a lot compared to before. If it could be said to be a small stream earlier, it was now a great raging river!

"Sand rise, tornado appear!"

Feng Lin swung both his hands.

Sand rose up and strong gales blew, forming many sandstorms that raged in the surroundings. Its force exploded three times stronger than before.

The members of the bug race squeaked and were implicated in the sandstorm.

Great Sand Burial!

With a single thought, a strange power gushed out from within.

Sand stacked up together like a huge mountain, forming something like a pyramid and burying all

the members of the bug race.

After a short while, Feng Lin was the only one left standing. The chaotic battlefield had been swept clean and had completely calmed down.

He sunk into deep thought.

The virtual universe was a simulation of the real world.

Equipping gene modules repeatedly was the equivalence of gene strengthening.

Then would it be possible for him to combine the gene modules, evolving them into a higher grade gene?

It was very likely!

With a single thought, the genetic equation in his body started circulating, depleting 32% of his genetic potential and obtaining a genetic formula.

Sand Gene x2 + Tornado Gene x3 = Windsand Gene

Sand Gene x5 + Tornado Gene x6 = Hurricane Gene

Sand Gene x7 + Tornado Gene x9 = Sandstorm Gene

Three formulas appeared at once.

Feng Lin tried testing things out. Since he wanted to combine them, he must obtain the strongest one.

There were endless numbers of the bug race, and they continued to surface from the ground.

Feng Lin started a massacre, and all the bug race soldiers were slain under his spear. They turned into data currents, disappearing and dropping many light spheres.

Feng Lin did a rough estimation of the drop rate of the genes. On average, there would be one gene module dropped after he killed about 50 of them.

Very soon, he managed to collect the required amount. He had even obtained a few other gene modules like the Acid Gene, Crust Gene, Nymphosis Gene...

Sand Gene x7, Tornado Gene x9.

As Feng Lin reached the limit of equipping gene modules, he combined the Sand Gene with the Tornado Gene, causing the two completely different genes to merge together, turning into a red gene module. A strange scene of a sandstorm appeared in the core of the gene module. Sand and raging strong gales covered up the sky.

=====

Gene: Sandstorm Gene

Grade: High-grade basic gene

Ability: Freely control sandstorms

=====

Feng Lin sensed the powers in his body become extremely powerful, gushing out in waves.

Was this the feeling of a Gene Cultivator?

Feng Lin had the feeling that with a single thought, he would be able to control the wind and sand. It was as if he had the power to cover up the sky and drown everything within his sight.

This was a strong power he had never felt before—a transformation to the essence of life. People who had yet to experience the evolution wouldn't understand this feeling.

Right now, the bug race soldiers were still gushing forth like endless waves.

Feng Lin swung his hand. "Sandstorm!"

Endless sand and dust were blown up, covering the sky. The world fell into darkness, and it appeared extremely terrifying.

Countless members of the bug race were drowned by the sandstorm, with many blown off far into the distance.

The chaotic and noisy desert once again fell silent.

Feng Lin stood on the spot and with a single thought. "Unequip!"

A gene module floated out from his body. It was the Sandstorm Gene.

Although this place was a simulation of the real world, the virtual universe had its own unique rules. Unlike how it was in the real world, one could not only combine and evolve gene modules in their body but also unequip them at any moment.

A great idea appeared in Feng Lin's mind.

Did this mean that he would be able to combine genes freely?

56. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Gene modules were assembling on its own!

The more Feng Lin thought about it, the more likely it could happen!

This was definitely a possibility.

Although the virtual universe simulated the real world, it was not bound by the fundamental laws of the real universe. The virtual universe had incomparable degrees of freedom that allowed people to disassemble gene modules as they pleased.

With this, Feng Lin could fully utilize genetic equations to derive genetic formulas. With the ability to freely assemble genes, he was able to experience the essence of different genetic evolution paths and deepen his understanding of mythological genes.

Genetic potential +8%.

At this time, Feng Lin discovered that his genetic potential had also increased. Although it was not much, it was better than nothing.

Even though the gene module was virtual, his body's sensation was real. This was a type of cultivation, thus his potential was growing.

Seeing this, Feng Lin also realized the profound meaning behind the design of this genetic hunting ground. It could allow people to fight against extraterrestrial races and understand the cruelty of battle against them. With that experience, one could cultivate their courage, pretty much achieving the objective of cultivation all at the same time. Moreover, it allowed the person to freely assemble genes to find the most suitable genetic evolution path for themselves.

The one who designed this gene hunting ground was definitely one of great wisdom.

This gene hunting ground was more than just a desert environment. Different environments would have different races. The resulting genes from those areas would also have different varieties.

Feng Lin checked the map of the gene hunting ground and began to transport himself. His body disappeared in a flash, and the next moment, he reappeared on another location.

It was a dense jungle covered in luscious greenery and trees, just like an ancient forest carrying a senescence aura.

“Foreign species discovered! Trespasser of the Secret Forest, die!” The air swelled and fluctuated strangely as dull noises resounded from all directions.

Boom boom boom!

The soil exploded and a huge tree root that was like a poisonous snake tunneling its way out of the ground entangled its way over as if it was an octopus’s tentacle.

Sandstorm!

Feng Lin clasped his hands.

Hum!

The gale force intensified.

A sandstorm of more than ten meters in circumference appeared, rushing past the forest as the raging winds scattered the thick vines into it.

Feng Lin furrowed his brow, and the gale force slowly lessened.

He noticed that the power of the sandstorm was influenced by environmental factors. The desert environment was a blessing for the ability of the Sandstorm gene, unlike forests which could withstand and reduce the power of sandstorm.

Boom boom boom!

The forest suddenly changed.

Feng Lin looked over in shock. He suddenly saw a group of giant trees stand up from the ground.

Really, they stood up!

Two black holes and a crack appeared on the giant tree. It looked like eyes and mouth. The roots entangled to form a pair of legs. It appeared as though they were a group of treants.

The wrinkled face roared into the sky as sound rippled into the surroundings.

They raised their giant arms that were the size of stone pillars and then smashed the ground heavily. The ground shook causing Feng Lin to lose his footing.

Many treants' branches were like pythons that wrapped around their body. The branches were covered in a thick juice that smelled repulsive. It was definitely toxic.

Feng Lin dodged to one side while clasping both hands. Sand gathered in the palm of his hands to form a long lance. It was as though the lance was covered in gold plating.

It was different from the lance that was previously conjured. With the Sandstorm gene, Feng Lin's control over sand was exceptional. This time, the lance was extremely fortified in strength.

There was a whirlwind that bolstered the blade of the lance, making the blade unbelievably sharp. It was as if it was imbued by invisible wind blades that could slice through anything.

Feng Lin's keen movements continuously dodged any attacks. At the same time, he would pierce and whirl his lance around, leaving scars upon the treants' bodies.

The treant was screaming in pain, as the green liquid was flowing out of its body like blood.

However, the plant species was born with innately powerful vitality. Scars on its body would heal at a speed that was visible to the naked eye.

These treants were few in number, but each of them was unbelievably strong. Moreover, they were able to manipulate plants; its power was amazing.

If it was said that the earlier insects were large in numbers but weak in power, then they were only considered as normal mobs in a video game. These treants would be considered as elite mobs.

Feng Lin did not fight it head-on. He was like a flea on the treant's body, jumping about and fiercely piercing with the lance, landing critical strikes consecutively.

The treant roared. With its giant body, its movement was extremely slow. It could not catch up to Feng Lin's movement.

They could only snarl in helplessness. In the end, they fell due to the accumulated damage and turned into data. Three different gene modules appeared.

Plant Gene x3, Active Gene x2, Flexibility Gene x3

Feng Lin took these gene modules and stored them within the backpack in the system. He then saw their information displayed.

=====

Gene: Plant Gene

Grade: Mid-grade basic gene

Ability: Beginner manipulation of plants

...

Gene: Active Gene

Grade: High-grade basic gene

Ability: Enhance life activity and increased recovery

...

Gene: Flexibility Gene

Grade: Mid-grade basic gene

Ability: Body strengthening, hard to destroy

=====

Feng Lin's genetic equation activated automatically, utilizing 56% of his genetic potential, receiving the following new genetic formulas.

Plant Gene $\times 3$ + Active Gene $\times 2$ = Tree Gene

Plant Gene $\times 2$ + Active Gene $\times 1$ + Flexibility Gene $\times 4$ = Vine Gene

Plant Gene $\times 5$ + Active Gene $\times 3$ + Flexibility Gene $\times 2$ = Giant Tree Gene

Plant Gene $\times 6$ + Active Gene $\times 8$ + Flexibility Gene $\times 3$ = Ancient Tree Gene

Plant Gene $\times 9$ + Active Gene $\times 10$ + Flexibility Gene $\times 8$ = Treant Gene

A series of five genetic formulas.

For others, if they didn't know many genetic formulas, they could only choose the better genetic formula based on its relative power to the other formulas.

However, Feng Lin was different. He would only choose the best one.

Sandstorm Gene was a primeval gene. Even though the environment wasn't suitable, the power was far superior to the lower tiered basic gene.

Feng Lin equipped the primeval gene that would blow away the treants, and he used the prowess of the Sandstorm Gene to suppress the treants.

Soon he had collected enough fundamental gene modules to evolve to the primeval genes.

Feng Lin removed the Sandstorm Gene and put it away. He then installed nine Plant Gene, ten Active Gene, and eight Flexibility Gene to produce the Treant Gene. A transformative stream of data changed his entire body.

This was a type of gene module in which a mini treant was inside, vividly moving about like it was a living object.

Feng Lin could feel the miraculous changes within his body. His body expanded with his height reaching over three meters tall. His skin became dry but tough as though he was a treant, and his entire body was covered in bark-like thick armor. He could feel his power skyrocketed.

Looking at the data, Feng Lin discovered that his virtual body's vitality had broken through the 10 gate, reaching 11.8. He was at the vitality level of a real Interstellar cultivator.

"Gene modules could actually assemble on their own!" He had proven his hypothesis. Feng Lin continued to experiment and play.

Gene hunting ground was like a game's instance dungeon; it had different difficulty levels. There were novice, elite, master, grandmasters, hell, abyss, and many other instance difficulties.

The more difficult the instance, the higher would the requirement for one's battle power and cultivation be.

Feng Lin did not rush to enter a higher-level instance. He was trying to continuously discover basic genes in the novice instance, testing the various gene combinations, and developing his understanding of the essence of gene evolution.

Airflow Gene x6 + Cloudmist Gene x7 + Moisture Gene x5 = Storm Gene

Waterflow Gene x8 + Ice Gene x7 + Tornado Gene x3 = Snowstorm gene

Flame Gene x9 + Rock Gene x7 = Magma Gene

...

Each high-grade primeval gene's evolutionary formula was tested one after another. Feng Lin was gaining more experience with gene cultivation. With a new understanding, his body's genetic potential was rapidly increasing tiny bits at a time.

Genetic potential +8%, +8%, +8%... ...

Soon, his genetic potential reached 582%. It was closing in on almost 600%; he received 6 more genetic points.

However, Feng Lin was unaware that his activities within each gene hunting ground were being tracked by the system. With his increasing number of kills, his kill data was being recorded.

His ranking appeared within the novice instance leaderboard, rising like a rocket. It gradually caught the attention of some people.

57. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Ai? When did this newbie appear on the newbie rankings?”

“No, that’s incorrect. Look carefully, he has already assembled primeval genes and had changed sets completely multiple times. If not, it would be impossible for him to kill the monsters so quickly.”

“How did he know of so many genetic formulas?”

...

There was a table of scores that recorded the numbers of enemy killed in the gene hunting ground. Right now on the newbie rankings, a virtual id named ‘Wukong’ rose up explosively in a straight line. Ranked #100 to #50 to #30, and very swiftly, his ranking arrived at the #10 rank.

Such a dazzling performance naturally attracted attention.

At the center of the gene hunting ground, there was a green mountain valley that had an elegant ambient, resembling paradise on earth. This place was different from the other hell-like place around the area.

This was the Wildgreen Immortal Valley of the gene hunting ground. It was like the safety zones of video games. In here, there was no need to worry about being attacked by the monsters in the hunting grounds. Humans could relax completely and enter virtual transactions to trade items with each other.

At this moment, a group of people gathered and was watching the change to the leaderboard as they marveled.

Genetic formula was the core element of genetic cultivation arts. Any types of genetic cultivation arts had to first start by developing the genetic formula, slowly evolving and transforming into a genetic tree before one could cultivate to the peak.

Hence, every single genetic formula represented a potential genetic cultivation art, a brand new pathway of cultivation.

When humans entered the gene hunting grounds, they would usually experiment with two or three genetic formulas which they were familiar with and choose a path suitable for themselves.

However, this 'Wukong' simply had a too outstanding performance. He would frequently change his genetic formulas and form primeval genes. What was he doing?

However, because this was a ground for the newbie, his ranking still didn't cause them to be too overly shocked.

What they were observing was how many types of genetic formula did this Wukong know exactly.

"Quick look, he changed his genetic formula again." There was someone who had already set up an image projection and was directly streaming the feed live as Feng Lin killed monsters.

The others here quickly looked over as all of them gasped in surprise.

"Is this still considered killing monsters? He is simply sweeping them aside with impunity. What a monstrous speed!"

Right now, Feng Lin was in an underground world that appeared to be the core of an unknown planet. The atmosphere was filled with sulfur-inducing magma; the ground was overgrown with moss, black vines, and other underground plants which depended on geothermal energy to survive. This place was surrounded by a myriad of caves and resembled a maze.

Hiss, hiss, hiss...

A low-sounding hissing could be heard. Next, numerous gigantic black silhouettes as large as bulls crawled toward him with great speed. Their orange irises stared at Feng Lin, exuding a bloodthirsty aura, wanting to tear him into pieces and swallow him up.

The magma emitted a dark reddish light which shone upon their faces. These creatures were actually huge lizards that could walk upright. Their powerful hind legs enabled them to stand up straight. All of them bared their fangs and hissed at Feng Lin.

Even before Feng Lin could see their appearances clearly, this group of lizards lunged over like devils, closing in on him at the next instant.

Their claws were their sharpest weapons. As their mass opened, a disgusting bloody smell permeated through the air. Balls of red light could actually be seen down their throats. They were actually capable of breathing out fire.

"Air cannon!" Feng Lin stood at his original location calmly. He didn't even move a single step and didn't panic at all. All of a sudden, his palms blasted out as the air compressed rapidly, converging at the center of his palm. Very quickly, a ball of white light formed and instantly explode outward.

BOOM!

The violent airwaves erupted forth with an ear-piercing sound.

Waves of air that were visible to the naked eye gushed forth with tremendous might in all directions around Feng Lin. They were akin to walls as tough as iron that expanded outward, crushing his opponents.

With only 30 cm before their attacks reached him, the lizards were slammed onto the stone walls and transformed back into streams of data as they vanished.

With a single strike, the originally chaotic scene was now completely still because of Feng Lin's display of prowess.

Lizard Gene x3, Scale Gene x2, Sharp Claw Gene x2.

Feng Lin obtained another three kinds of basic genes once more. He kept them into his system inventory and stared silently at his currently equipped primeval genes. Among them, he could see a ball of spiraling air formed by many converging air currents, each spinning in different directions.

"As expected of a high-grade primeval gene! The power of the Air Cannon Gene is simply overwhelming!" Although this Air Cannon Gene was assembled by him, when Feng Lin used it to unleash its abilities, he was still deeply shocked by its might.

Air Gene x8 + Pressure Gene x9 = Air Cannon Gene

...

Gene: Air Cannon Gene

Grade: High-grade primeval gene

Ability: Compress air to form an invisible and formless bomb

...

Inside the Wildgreen Immortal Valley, the spectators were all startled badly when they saw Feng Lin's tyrannical performance.

"How many genetic formulas does he know exactly?"

"Did you guys discover this? The primeval genes he assembled were all the strongest and most

powerful ones among similar genes in the primeval genes level!”

“Now that you said it, it’s really true. Transforming into a treant, unleashing a blast of air cannon, controlling wind and thunder... These genetic abilities are all top-notch ones!”

...

“Could this Wukong be a geneticist?” A two meters plus tall giant mumbled in a muffled voice suddenly.

The moment he said this, the expressions of others changed as understanding appeared. There was heat in their eyes as they stared at Feng Lin.

Genetic martial masters were a type of geneticists as well. They researched the mutual connections and evolution’s possibilities between genes and created genetic formulas, using these as the foundation to delve deeper into developing genetic martial arts and genetic cultivation arts.

This was the most reasonable explanation. If not, how could this Wukong know so many genetic formulas?

Where did this genetic martial master originate from? Who was he?...

They couldn’t help but feel that this Wukong who had just appeared, seemed to be cloaked in a mysterious veil, causing them to be unable to see through him.

The poor Feng Lin had no idea that each and every movement of his was completely seen and noted by others.

He retracted his gaze from the Air Cannon Gene. He discovered that the free combination of gene modules gave his genetic equation a free stage to experiment as much as he wanted to for different genetic pathways and their attributes. There was a myriad of transformations and there were no restrictions.

“My virtual id is called Wukong. Could this ‘no restrictions’ be a reference to the fact that the legendary monkey king was known to be able to transform into anything with no restrictions?” An amused smile appeared on his face as he contemplated.

Upon utilizing his genetic equation ability, Feng Lin obtained another brand new powerful gene formula.

Lizard Gene x7 + Scale Gene x6 + Sharp Claw Gene x5 = Giant Lizard Gene

Right now, the genes he obtained was still insufficient. Hence, Feng Lin continued to use the Air Cannon Gene to kill as many monsters as he could in the hopes of obtaining more gene modules.

Right now, numerous streams of data manifested around him, forming the figures of other people. Feng Lin didn't feel too surprised by this. He knew that he wasn't the only one in the gene hunting ground. Before this, when he was in the other areas, he had already seen many other people also hunting the monsters there.

Feng Lin didn't pay any attention to the other humans. He continued to use his air cannon ability, easily wiping out many of those lizards as he gained a large number of basic gene modules.

Feng Lin kept those gene modules in his inventory, however, he couldn't help but start to feel that the atmosphere was a little strange now. Those people around him weren't hunting monsters; all of them were standing to the side and watching him silently.

What are they doing?

Feng Lin contemplated a little but didn't bother too much about it.

After he collected enough gene modules, he assembled a brand new primeval gene named the Giant Lizard Gene. This was a mid-grade primeval gene and could allow the user to transform into a human-shaped giant lizard.

After getting what he wanted, Feng Lin was prepared to leave. However, a figure suddenly walked out and stopped him.

"Hold up, please..." The silver-haired man had a face filled with reverence as he respectfully called out.

"This martial master... I wonder if I can buy a primeval gene module from you?"

58. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

No matter who it was, when someone suddenly came out and referred you as a master, you would definitely be stunned.

“You must surely be a genetic martial master. I’ve been observing you as you cleared the monsters and discovered that you are experimenting continuously with many types of genetic formulas!” The silver-haired man spoke solicitously. “Can I offer 500 star coins to buy a primeval gene module from you?”

What? There’s such a good thing?

Feng Lin was puzzled.

Gene modules were virtual accessories, and one would be able to obtain them without using real money. But now, there was actually someone willing to spend 500 star coins to buy one from him?

Did this man mistake him as a genetic martial artist who specialized in genes evolution study?

Feng Lin thought it must be so.

But then again, one couldn’t help but say that with his genetic equation, he was truly an innate geneticist. No wonder others would be mistaken about his identity.

Since there was such a good deal before his eyes, he naturally wouldn’t miss out on it.

In any case, he had already tested out the power of all his gene modules and already knew how to evolve them. If he wanted to, he could assemble new ones anytime. Since he could use these old gene modules to exchange for real money, why not?

“Sure!” Feng Lin nodded.

“You agree?” That silver-haired man was extremely happy. He had a face filled with yearning. “Let’s do the trade now then.”

“What type of gene module do you want?” Feng Lin opened up his interface and showed his primeval gene modules to the silver-haired man.

The people in the surrounding all cast a glance, but they were completely stunned and started panting in disbelief. There were a total of 36 balls of light floating in the air. These were none other

than 36 gene modules which represented a total of 36 genetic cultivation pathways.

How many genetic formulas did this man know?

A genetic martial master! This man is undoubtedly a genetic martial master, and he is definitely an expert among geneticists!

"I want this, this, and this. I want all of these!" At this moment, the silver-haired man felt stars dazzling his vision. He didn't know what he wanted exactly. "Master, can I buy more than one gene module at the same time?"

"Sure!" Feng Lin nodded. Selling one more meant earning one more portion of money. He was naturally willing to do so.

That silver-haired man started for a moment before joy filled his expression. His judgment was good; he actually decided to buy a total of five gene modules in one go. He bought the Storm Gene, Magma Gene, Air Cannon Gene, Blizzard Gene, and the Treant Gene.

The virtual universe was connected to the real universe. There were no such things as virtual coins. Everyone was using real money.

Feng Lin stated his bank account number, and he soon received 2,500 star coins.

The silver-haired man happily kept the gene modules he had purchased. His eyes suddenly gleamed as he appeared to ask in a seemingly casual manner. "Gene master, may I ask which basic genes did you use to assemble the Storm Gene?"

Upon hearing this question, Feng Lin glanced sideways at him. His only response was "Hehehehe".

He didn't reveal anything.

What a joke.

Gene modules were not considered anything. What was truly valuable were the genetic formulas. This man wanted the genetic formulas for 500 star coins?

Even 5,000 star coins were not enough!

Wouldn't it be an extremely foolish act if he revealed the secret?

Genetic formulas might appear simple, but it was actually something that could only be derived

through countless amounts of research and development. The difficulty of creating a genetic formula was insanely high.

For example:

Airflow Gene x2 + Cloudmist Gene x3 + Moisture Gene x1 = Frost Gene

Airflow Gene x3 + Cloudmist Gene x4 + Moisture Gene x4 = Rain Gene

Many people all understood that the Airflow Gene, Cloudmist Gene, and Moisture Gene could be combined and assembled into two different sets of genes. However, only a rare few knew the following three other genetic formulas.

Airflow Gene x4 + Cloudmist Gene x2 + Moisture Gene x1 = Hurricane Gene

Airflow Gene x2 + Cloudmist Gene x5 + Moisture Gene x4 = Thunder Gene

Airflow Gene x6 + Cloudmist Gene x7 + Moisture Gene x5 = Storm Gene

As to why others didn't know that there were three additional sets of genes which could be assembled, it was because there was a saying in cultivation—strengthening brooks for no regrets.

Once one overly strengthened a gene, there would be no way to reverse the strengthening process unless one used a gene rejection technique to completely remove the awakened gene. In addition, if one used that technique, it would mean that they would forever be unable awaken that particular mythological gene again. Also, the human body couldn't withstand the usage of the gene rejection technique for too many times. In serious cases, overuse would cause one's entire set of awakened genes to breakdown as that person became crippled.

In any case, although the virtual universe was just a simulation of reality, things couldn't be created randomly without proper data to support it.

If you didn't know the actual genetic formula and randomly strengthened your genes, the virtual universe would also find it impossible to assemble the gene sets.

Hence, for the development of every new genetic formula, the experience gained from the journey of countless people's cultivation paths were the price needed. In addition, the more a gene was strengthened, the harder it would be to continue strengthening it. One needed great talent before they could do so.

An example was Feng Lin's evolution path: the Monkey Gene x10 + Stonebirth Gene x10 = Stone Monkey Gene. It looked simple on the surface, but how would the common people of the

Interstellar Era who awakened these basic genes be able to strengthen them to 10 points each?

Even elite and powerful cultivators didn't discover this formula. What was the reason behind this?

The answer was very simple!

Because, both the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene were the lowest-grade of all basic genes. It was normally tough to strengthen them by even three points, let alone strengthening them to ten points. This was simply outside of humanity's limits. No one would waste their free genetic points on such trash genes in any case.

It's like if a man wanted to be a giant, he can simply grow to three meters high. But can you do so?

Everyone knew that they would become a giant if they grew to three meters high. But why despite the research of so many scientists, one still wouldn't be able to grow that tall?

Sometimes, it wasn't that humans couldn't think of the answer. It was the reality that told you some things just couldn't be done.

And Feng Lin's genetic equation precisely had the ability to turn the impossible into the possible. As long as he had enough free genetic points, he could break through the restriction of talent. This was the true overwhelming advantage of genetic equation. It could deduce unknown genetic formulas and allow Feng Lin to break through as long as he had enough genetic points!

If one didn't have a high enough talent, it was impossible for them to deduce the strengthening limit of two low-grade genes and the fact that they could be combined into the Stone Monkey Gene. However, the genetic equation could precisely do this.

Those without the genetic equation could only depend on talent, or it would be impossible for them to gain so many strengthening points.

A genius compared to an idiot; things were already unfair at birth. Everything depended on one's talent. The amount of talent one had would determine how far their imaginations could stretch. Hence it was only possible for those highly talented to discover high-grade genetic formulas.

After all, not everyone would have the monstrous genetic equation. From this, one could see that Feng Lin had gained an overwhelming advantage on the pathway of genetic cultivation.

...

Feng Lin's laughter continued.

This silver-haired man understood that his thoughts had been seen through by Feng Lin. He blushed, and in order to hide the awkwardness on his face, he hurriedly issued a friend invitation.

“Martial master, let’s add each other as friends. In the future, if you have such a good deal again, you can contact me at any time, I’ll definitely buy more!”

Seeing that he had such a foolish spendthrift before his eyes, Feng Lin naturally wouldn’t spare him. He nodded and accepted the friend request. A virtual id then popped up on his friend catalog “Silver-haired God of the Altair Star System!”

Feng Lin cast a strange look at the silver-haired man. One truly mustn’t judge someone by his appearance.

This man appeared to be an extremely handsome individual, who would have thought that he would have such a narcissistic name.

“Martial master, I want this gene module!”

“I want this!”

“Everyone scram, I’ll take the rest!”

...

And now, upon seeing the successful purchase of the silver-haired man, the others crowded around respectively and started to choose the gene modules they wanted to buy from Feng Lin.

Feng Lin accepted all requests and very swiftly, all thirty-six gene modules were sold completely. He earned a total of 18,000 star coins.

There were simply too many wealthy individuals around here. To think that a virtual gene accessory could be worth so much money.

Feng Lin didn’t know whether to laugh or cry. He didn’t expect that he would earn his first pot of gold by doing something that was akin to playing a game to him.

This was easy money; it took no effort at all.

But after he thought deeper, things made sense. The virtual universe wasn’t simply just a game. It was a second world to humans that were incredibly realistic.

Since he could earn such good money here, Feng Lin even doubted his decision to go and

become a geneticist intern.

No, this is wrong. He instantly cast aside his moment of doubt and hesitation and strengthened his resolve.

One couldn't do anything without money, but that didn't mean he would be able to do everything as long as he had money.

Knowledge was priceless. Knowledge was something money might not be able to buy. An example was the knowledge of a geneticist.

Only by interning in the Giant Pharmaceutical Company would he be able to further his understanding of the geneticist system, as he continued to expand his knowledge.

However, this path to money making in the virtual universe was also not bad, he wouldn't give it up completely.

He could sell the gene modules he assembled on his virtual shop. This was making use of his genetic equation to earn money, and no one would be able to learn about the existence of his genetic formulas. Simply killing two birds with a single stone.

And just when Feng Lin was prepared to continue hunting monsters for gene drops, a sounding notification suddenly rang out in his mind.

"The six hour time limit is reached. The prohibition of access is taking effect, forcibly going offline initiated!..."

The virtual universe before his eyes wavered as they transformed into endless streams of data before dissipating from his vision.

"No more time!" Feng Lin sighed in pity. He kept himself immersed in experimenting with gene combinations and unknowingly, six hours had already passed in the real world, reaching the time limit prohibition.

He couldn't accept all the friend invites sent by his 'customer' in time. His body suddenly transformed into a beam of light as he vanished completely.

"Ai, why did he suddenly leave so quickly?" Everyone had a look of astonishment and regret.

Feng Lin slowly opened his eyes and gazed at the scene outside his cabin,

The spaceship continued traveling at great speed, but now, a bright red planet could be seen

before his eyes. On the surface of the planet, the undulations of green mountain ranges could be seen as the spaceship geared itself for landing.

He had arrived on Mars!

59. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Mars was the fourth planet of the solar system, if one started the count from Mercury. Since ancient times, it was the origin of many myths and legends. Those in ancient China called it the Glimmer Planet, while the Romans named it as Mars, the god of war...

As the spaceship approached Mars, that reddish planet that was 1/7th the size of Earth appeared nearer and nearer in Feng Lin's vision. Dots of green could be seen on the surface of the planet.

This was a barren country where water resources were extremely scarce. Water only existed in the form of ice which was buried deep underneath the ground. In the beginning, this planet hadn't been suitable for life at all.

However, as humans began to walk out of Earth and started to migrate to all over the solar system, the first planet they wanted to colonize was Mars. They were finally able to transform it into a planet suitable for life by collecting water from minor planets in the solar system, Titan 6, as well as Pluto.

The spaceship broke through the atmospheric layers of Mars's violent gales and officially entered Mars. The dust storms gusted fiercely, smashing against the windows of the spaceship. Here, the intensity of high altitude airflow was many times stronger when compared to Earth.

Feng Lin felt a sinking sensation as the spaceship began its descent.

Far away, Feng Lin saw a towering mountain that was severed at its waist, forming a flat giant platform of stone with numerous buildings constructed on it.

The Shitai City of Mars!

The spaceship soon landed and Feng Lin exited it.

Bzz~

An earthen-yellow sandstorm gusted over, filling his mouth with sand and jamming the air passageways in his nose.

"Cough, cough..."

Feng Lin spat out the sand in his mouth as he surveyed his surroundings.

Earth's buildings were mostly skyscrapers and thus the feel of science and technology was different. In this martian city, above the ground's surface, he saw numerous windmills about hundreds of meters tall. This city was like a forest of windmills.

Not many people were out in the open. Those who passed by him on the streets all wore headscarves and veils, hiding their appearances, giving off a mysterious feeling.

However, this wasn't for the sake of looking mysterious. The atmosphere on Mars was simply too dry, and the gales of sand and dust made it so that the attire of the people living here were like this. They needed to shield their noses and mouths.

Feng Lin unfortunately wasn't dressed in the suitable clothings, and just by walking for a while on the street, he could already feel the waves of sand and dust gushing over. Not only were his mouth and nose blocked, but his clothes were also layered with dust, and he appeared to resemble a man of mud.

"Cough, cough, cough..."

Feng Lin coughed repeatedly. He shook his body, and the dust and sand covering his body all fell off everywhere.

Feng Lin had a bitter look on his face. This place was simply too dirty. The PM2.5 index level should have broken past 1,000, right!?

Upon seeing the miserable appearance of this visitor, those Martians all revealed looks of laughter on their faces.

Feng Lin knew he couldn't wander around here for long. He hurried and entered the entrance that led to the underground portion of the Shitai City.

Yes, there was an underground portion in the city!

The Earth was humanity's mother planet. It had given birth to a multitude of human's lives, and the good living conditions naturally didn't need to be mentioned. Hence, the buildings on Earth were all above ground, towering up to the skies.

However, things were different here on Mars. The environment here was very bad, filled with violent gusts of wind and sand. It wasn't suitable for humans to live on the surface.

Hence, the buildings here didn't develop upward and were constructed under the ground instead.

The main body of the Shitai City was its underground portion. This place was the true residence

for humans, and there were many electrical installations and types of equipment that were powered by wind energy. The reason why there were so many windmills built was because the humans here wanted to harness the power of the violent gales to obtain an unceasing source of energy for their underground city.

Feng Lin found an entrance that led downward. He took the elevator and descended down further into the earth.

Without realizing it, he was already 200 levels below the surface and was nearing the planet's crust.

Upon stepping out from the elevator, a vast spacious space appeared in his vision. The ground had been hollowed out and built into an impressive and majestic undercity.

Although this was an enclosed space, it didn't feel stuffy at all. There was evidently air-circulation devices installed around here.

The artificial sun at the ceiling gave out light. The light was bright but not blinding, capable of illuminating the underground city clearly.

Everything appeared normal, but it fully expressed the technology of the Interstellar Era.

At this moment, a message appeared on Feng Lin's id microchip. "Feng Lin, a citizen of Huaxia City of Earth. Welcome to the Shitian City of Mars..."

The city management A.I. discerned Feng Lin's identity and sent out a welcome message while also introducing various areas of the undercity to him.

As long as Feng Lin tapped on any points of information, he would be able to acquire all the informations regarding the city easily. He wouldn't feel unfamiliar at all.

He opened up the map and input the search term 'Giant Pharmaceutical Company' and soon managed to locate the coordinates.

Although he had just arrived here, he didn't have time to tour the Shitai City. He decided it would be better to head to his company and report his presence first. He would only take a look around this martian city when he had more free time in the future.

The location of the Giant Pharmaceutical Company was extremely remote and far away. He had to board a special tunnel train to take him there. After twenty minutes, Feng Lin got down from the train and saw a unique building resembling a beehive before him. This building was constructed on the ground, and the words 'Giant Pharmaceutical Company' could be seen on it.

At the hive-like entrance of the Giant Pharmaceutical Company, numerous maglev vehicles could be seen entering and exiting from it, resembling worker bees.

Feng Lin then walked toward the main door.

A group of sentient security robots instantly discovered him. They walked over as their electronic eyes flickered, attempting to scan Feng Lin, wanting to see through him.

The ray guns in their hands were not toys. If Feng Lin made any suspicious moves, he would instantly be riddled with holes.

“The Giant Pharmaceutical Company is private property. Stranger, state your purpose here!” the robot standing in the lead spoke with a mechanical voice.

“I’m an intern that has been successfully recruited. I’m here to report my arrival.” Feng Lin spoke and used his identity microchip to display his proof of identity.

The leader of the security robots finished scanning the chip, and its electronic eyes turned from red to green. It then gestured for the other robots to step aside, opening up a path for Feng Lin. “Welcome, new member of the corporation, Feng Lin!”

Feng Lin nodded and entered inside.

Just as he entered deeper, he immediately saw a blonde hair lady smiling at him as she walked over in a seductive manner. “Feng Lin, we meet again!”

“It’s you!” Feng Lin started after he took a good look at the person who walked over. It was actually none other than that sexy OL who had led him to the interviewers in the virtual universe previously.

Who would have thought that she didn’t adjust any of her features at all. In reality, she was also an extremely alluring beauty.

“I’m the human resource manager for the Giant Pharmaceutical Company, Isabella. This is the second time we are meeting. It’s a pity that it’s already too late today. However, the company has already arranged a room for you. You can stay there temporarily for now. Tomorrow, I will bring you to the various departments in the company and let you familiarize yourself with the working environment before I send you to your department.” The blonde hair Isabella flashed him a charming smile.

“Sure.” After the six-hour-journey, Feng Lin also felt a little fatigued. He followed her into the

building and entered a room that seemed to be constructed fully from metal, giving off a sense of extremely high tech.

“I believe you won’t be disappointed after coming all the way to our Giant Pharmaceutical Company.” After arranging Feng Lin’s resting place, Isabella smiled with a mesmerizing glow in her eyes. After that, she turned and walked away, swaying her hips to the left and right.

Unexpectedly, Feng Lin was just standing there with a calm look on his face. He declined to comment and entered his room.

Being in the genetic potions’ business was simply a way to churn out insanely large amounts of profits!

One couldn’t help but say that this Giant Pharmaceutical Company was filthy rich. This room was as luxurious as a palace, and there were various kinds of high-grade nutrient fluids, which allowed him to replenish his nutrients and energy. Also, this large room didn’t have any telephone or ‘push-for-assistance’ button. Everything ran by remote control.

Feng Lin went and looked at the control center of this room. He suddenly saw the words, “Geneticist Tutorial”. He clicked it and a holographic projection appeared in his room, and many options could be seen shimmering in the air.

The top most one was actually, “Types of geneticists!”

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Types of geneticists?” Feng Lin felt some interest in this. He opened up the content within and started to view it.

“Geneticists are experts on the domain of genetics. Through researching the secrets of genetic evolution, they made use of the knowledge gained and developed countless genetic marvels. According to the usage of these marvels, many branches of geneticists popped up, but the four main types are...” The holographic projection showed an old man with a scholarly aura explaining the types of geneticists.

Feng Lin seriously listened. From the explanation, he understood a lot of the common knowledge regarding geneticists.

Although geneticists were of the same occupation, there were many types of it. The most prevalent types were the four main types which were respectively known as the genetic pharmacists, genetic martial masters, genetic weaponsmiths, genetic armorers.

Genetic pharmacists researched the theory of how genetics would change the human body. That, in addition to the usage of miraculous medicinal potions, could allow humans to transform and increase their cultivation speed while refining their genes.

As for genetic martial masters, they would research the relationship between myths and legends and that of evolution. They searched for new genetic evolution pathways and created new genetic cultivation arts.

For genetic weaponsmiths, they were of another path. Their main purpose was to develop the extraordinary abilities of mythological genes and create weapons that mimicked the mystical weapons in mythologies and legends. To simplify, they created weapons or equipments that could complement one's genetic abilities, boosting one's potential to the max. For example, the interstellar humans had already managed to create some weapons from legends: the seal in ancient Chinese legends that were used to suppress chaos, Pantian Seal; the spear in the Christianity's lore that pierced Jesus to death, Spear of Longinus; the hammer of the Nordic legends that enabled ones to control thunder, Mjolnir...

As for the last type—genetic armorers, they actually appeared due to the need for them. The moment the branch of genetic armorers were created, they were highly sought after and in the end, they spread throughout the solar system.

In the beginning, genetic armorers were a side branch of genetic weaponsmiths, creating

defensive armors and equipments to boost genetic abilities.

But as time flowed on and mecha-suits appeared, genetic armorers had to up their game as well. They were finally considered a branch onto their own and abandoned the creation of cold weapons. They used the highest technology to create genetic suits, and there were many people who were willing to pay top money to hire them.

Naturally, given the myriad number of mythological genes, there shouldn't simply be four types of geneticists. There were also geneticists that specialized in bugs, in hypnosis, in healing... Each type had its own miraculous uses; there was no relative superiority in comparison.

But undoubtedly, the most prevalent were still the four main types of geneticists.

Originally, the knowledge of geneticists was already extremely profound. Each type would delve deeper into researching different domains of knowledge, and their combined knowledge made up a complicated heavenly book of high technology, creating huge barriers of entry to this occupation.

This resulted in the high price of any genetic singularity products. There were even cases where there was price issued but no market for the product.

The main purpose of the Giant Pharmaceutical company was to concoct genetic potions to make money. It could be said that the capital they had invested in could be considered small, but the resulting profits were insanely huge.

After finishing this educational theory module, Feng Lin clicked on another module named "Geneticist's concoction methods!"

This was an explanation on how geneticists concocted potions.

As of now, Feng Lin had only ever tried to concoct a potion once in the virtual universe. In reality, he had not tried it yet.

He was very clear on his own deficiency. He wasn't lacking in theory, only in practical aspect. He had to hurry up and make up for it.

Feng Lin adopted an even more serious attitude than before as he continued to study.

These educational modules were geneticists knowledge that was provided for free by the Giant Pharmaceutical Company. Although the knowledge shared wasn't considered a lot, this was still something he wouldn't be able to gain access to on the outside.

Knowledge was priceless!

Leaving aside the high pay, just with this benefit, Feng Lin already felt that coming to the Giant Pharmaceutical Company wasn't a mistake. He could reinforce his knowledge and understanding of the system at the very least.

As his understanding of geneticists increased, the vision of his future path appeared clearer and clearer in his mind.

Cultivation would be his main path, while being a geneticist would act as a support to it.

As the genetics of cultivators evolved, their life's fundamentals would undergo a transformation, entering a path of extraordinariness that contained boundless possibilities—longevity, indestructibility, even eternal life...

This was the root of everything, one couldn't invert it.

And as for geneticists, they researched the secrets of genetics and probed the ultimate truth of the universe. Although they weren't able to transform their life force, they could use external objects to aid one's body in evolution.

The path of interstellar cultivators and that of geneticists, one would be his main priority while the other would complement it. This would be able to ensure that his path was smoother.

Right now, Feng Lin's vitality had already reached 3.3. His brain regions were developing perfectly and his intelligence was already at the superhuman level. Very swiftly, he completely finished browsing through these education modules and storing the knowledge they imparted into his brain.

He didn't rest at all and decided to cultivate right after that.

The Giant Pharmaceutical Company was way too wealthy. The nutrient fluids they provided were Giant Type-A nutrient fluids. These were high-grade nutrient fluids produced by the Giant Pharmaceutical Company and could be considered as a free benefit. Feng Lin naturally wouldn't waste this and drank it all in a single gulp. He could sense that the potency of this medicine was far stronger compared to the Green God Type-3 nutrient fluids he had drunk before.

The warm currents induced by the Giant Type-A nutrient fluids were much higher in temperature. As it revolved around his body, his muscles swelled up as though they were injected by a huge amount of nutritious medicine to the extent where he felt great pain.

It seemed like these high-grade nutrient fluids contained a ton of nutritious protein compared to his nutrient fluids from Earth. That meant, this medicine focused more on strengthening the body and increasing one's strength.

Unfortunately, having consumed the nutrient fluids and replenished so much nutrients, Feng Lin didn't feel the slightest bit full at all. It seemed like the increase in his vitality stats made it so that the effect of ordinary medicine was growing more and more ineffective on him.

If a true interstellar cultivator were to drink that, there was no doubt that the Giant Type-A nutrient fluids would be completely ineffective. It would be no different from drinking plain water.

No wonder cultivation resources were in such great demand. Those were things true cultivators used to increase their strength; the supply was way less than the demand.

Feng Lin then took out a bottle of potion of life. This wasn't the low-grade potion of life concocted by machines that was sold for 1,000 star coins, or the high-grade potion of life personally modulated by a geneticist that was sold for 10,000 star coins. This was the mid-grade one concocted by ordinary humans which was sold for 2,000 star coins.

Upon draining the contents in a single gulp, Feng Lin felt the facial muscles on his face contorting. A flame seemed to have manifested at his core and was burning it, transmitting waves of heat to his entire body as he trembled with intense pain.

As expected of a potion of life that cost 2,000 star coins per bottle. The potency was much stronger compared to the previous low-graded potions of life he bought for 1,000 star coins. He felt his organs breaking down and reconstructing rapidly as he consumed it.

The intense pain caused by organs breaking down was so great that it could drive someone mad. However, Feng Lin was gradually getting used to the pain.

The stronger the potency of the nutrients, the bigger the amount of genetic potential that would be converted.

Genetic potential +20%, +19%, +18%...

Feng Lin's genetic potential surged up, rapidly breaking past the 700% mark and reached 789%, making it so that he had a total of seven free genetic points now.

His vitality stats climbed as well, the effect far surpassed that of the past. His vitality stats were at 3.3, and now, it kept increasing, becoming 3.4, 3.5, 3.6...

Before this, Feng Lin had already felt that the effects of low-grade potions of life had been diminishing rapidly. Because of how many he had consumed, his body had begun to build resistance toward the medicinal effect.

However, he encountered no such issue when consuming this new-variety of potion of life.

His vitality stats actually leaped by 0.4 points, becoming 3.7.

He drew in a deep breath. In the past, in order to hasten his gain in strength, he had strengthened his genes too many times and overdrafted his lifeforce overwhelmingly. Right now, he was finally gradually replenishing his lifeforce back.

He felt a sense of relief as though he had cleared a huge debt.

Feng Lin estimated that after another wave of agony and bitter cultivation, his vitality stats should be able to break through the 4.0 mark. At that time, all his overdrafted lifeforce would be replenished and he could continue to strengthen his genes.

As for genetic points, he had already prepared them. He could instantly strengthen his Stonebirth Gene to the limits and at that time, he could try to combine his Stonebirth Gene and Monkey Gene into the primeval gene—Stone Monkey Gene.

The hope of becoming a genetic cultivator lay just before his eyes; it was no longer extremely far away!

Feng Lin's eyes were filled with anticipation. When he looked at the time, he discovered that it was already morning.

Although he didn't sleep the entire night, Feng Lin didn't feel fatigued at all. His increase in vitality caused him to be filled with energy. Right now, he actually felt extremely refreshed.

After his morning ablution, the doorbell rang punctually.

Feng Lin drew in a deep breath and stirred himself up, adjusting himself to his best state.

His first day at work officially started now!

61. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The automatic door opened. To his bewilderment, Feng Lin saw the blonde OL standing outside his door. It was none other than the HR manager, Isabella.

Staring at Feng Lin who was in great spirits, Isabella had a charming smile on her face. "Seems like you had a great rest last night. Today will be the first day of your job. Let me bring you around to familiarize you with our company's departments."

Feng Lin nodded.

Isabella had a stunning figure; her revealed legs were sufficient to cause the hearts of men to tremble. As she moved in her cat's walk, her hips swayed mesmerizingly, forming a perfect 'S' curve, fully exuding the charm of a mature woman.

However, Feng Lin didn't notice this. He lowered his head and was deep in contemplation, feeling that something seemed to be wrong.

This Isabella was the HR manager of such a huge company while he was merely a geneticist intern. Yet, she actually came all the way here to personally receive him and bring him around? Wasn't this regarding him too highly?

Feng Lin didn't feel that he was important enough to be noticed as a supreme genius, able to receive such respect yet. Hopefully, it wasn't that he was thinking too much.

Riding the elevator down, Feng Lin followed Isabella around as she led him into the interior of the company.

From afar, the rumbling sounds made by machinery could be heard. As they walked nearer, the sound naturally grew increasingly clearer.

"Let's go and take a look at our factory that produces nutrient fluids!" Isabella led the way as she laughed. After that, a scene of an industrial workplace appeared before their vision.

The whirl of machinery, sentient robots moving all around, from raw materials to processing to product creation... all of these were automated. Because no human labor was used, the production efficiency was excellent, and costs were kept down to the bare minimum.

In truth, given the development of science and technology at present, all industrial production could already be fully automated, without the need for human labor. Only a rare few areas such as

genetic potions concoction and the energy industry were the exceptions; otherwise, human labor wasn't needed most of the time.

Most genetic potions needed humans to personally concoct them; hence, there was no way for the process to be fully automated.

As for the energy industry, there was another reason.

Right now, the energy commonly used by humans was something created by science, a product named the Tros Super Pressure Closed Electric Coil that could produce electrical energy. This was able to store great amounts of energy and was a superconductor. It had a long service life, charged electricity extremely fast, and was a clean source of energy that had no pollution.

The downside was that during the process of manufacturing, it would produce large amounts of electromagnetic waves that would interfere with the operations of the machinery.

And industrial robots that could block or negate the electromagnetic waves were all extremely expensive, valued at a sky-high price. If one wasn't a huge company, they wouldn't be able to afford it.

Hence, for some small-scale companies and clan factories, they preferred to use cheap labor in large quantities.

If Feng Lin didn't flee from his clan, he would definitely be working in one of his clan's energy factories right now, to produce this Tros Electricity Coils.

For this particular factory of the Giant Pharmaceutical Company, it only focused on producing ordinary nutrient fluids and naturally wouldn't be so strict on the conditions. Everything was fully automated and every batch produced would consist of about 500+ bottles. The production time for each batch was even less than half a second.

In Feng Lin's perspective, these were no longer nutrient fluids; they were glittering star coins instead.

What was investing little capital and generating insanely huge returns?

This was it!

A bottle of low-grade nutrient fluids only needed one star coin per bottle. A bottle of mid-grade nutrient fluids would cost about tens of star coin, while high-grade nutrient fluids had prices ranging from hundreds to thousands.

According to Feng Lin's estimation, this factory of the Giant Pharmaceutical Company was able to produce 1,000 bottles of low-grade nutrient fluids, 100 bottles of mid-grade nutrient fluids, and 1 bottle of high-grade nutrient fluids every single second.

How much money could be made in one day? For a period of time, Feng Lin wasn't able to calculate the answer exactly.

This wasn't producing nutrient fluids; this was simply printing money!

But this wasn't all they were capable of, obviously. With regards to the Giant Pharmaceutical Company, the oligarch of the genetic potions domain business in this solar system, the profits made from nutrient fluids were simply too low. That was simply the basics of what their company could produce.

The true money-making products were still genetic potions.

"Come here!" Isabella flashed him a mysterious smile and led Feng Lin pass the nutrient fluids production factory to another factory's workspace.

Countless bottles of amber-colored transparent liquid were being produced. A variety of strange ingredients were crushed by machinery into pieces before being heavily hammered and refined into liquid form, producing the bottles of amber-colored nutrient medicine.

At the final stages, tiny silver needle-like tubes would release a dot of silvery substances into each bottle and stirred it evenly.

That's spirit powder!

"Producing potions of life?" Feng Lin instinctively replied. Of course, he immediately realized what this was.

"Good judgment!" Isabella praised. "As expected of an extremely young genius that is qualified to be a genetic researcher!"

Her footsteps didn't stop, and she continued to lead Feng Lin forward. Very swiftly, they came to a factory that resembled a large-scale laboratory.

Feng Lin saw a group of humans in white coats focus on the intricate equipments in their hands as they carefully concocted the genetic potions.

What was different was that the concoction of genetic potions wasn't fully concocted by machinery. Machinery would automate the process until the final step where 'spiritual perception'

was needed. Since machinery wasn't able to complete the final step; thus, humans were needed. They would then adjust the amount of spirit particles in the potions to reach the optimal state.

One couldn't help but say that this was truly an intelligent work method.

However as Feng Lin observed, he discovered that there are some flaws with this method.

This was especially true since the preparation of potions were all mechanically synthesized, and there was no human involvement at all before that. That meant the humans at the final step might find it tough to accurately grasp the potency of effects from the components, and the spiritual perception effect might decline, resulting in a lower quality product. But even so, because the majority of the steps were automated, the production efficiency was increased by at least five times.

When the quality of the potions lowered, the price would naturally fall as well. But despite so, the final total value would rise significantly as a result of the surge in production efficiency.

In short, this was an intelligent method that only had some slight disadvantages. Moreover, the benefits far outweighed the disadvantages.

Feng Lin also discovered that these people wearing white coats were all genetic researchers. He couldn't help but ask, "Is this where I'll be working at in the future?"

Isabella shook her head and laughed. "No. Feng Lin, after the virtual interview yesterday, all five of the interviewers feel that your knowledge on mythologies and gene theory are both extremely solid. Although your concoction methods are rusty, your personality is exceptionally calm, and you can definitely be considered a top genius. The main interviewer yesterday was none other than the manager of the Research and Development department, Manager Frank. He was the one who specially requested you to go to his department. So, after a tour of the company's departments, I'll send you to the R&D department where you can officially start your internship!"

"The R&D department!" Feng Lin was stunned. This was a core department of a high tech company, yet he was actually so highly regarded, being sent there the instant he joined.

Although he wasn't clear of the reason why, no matter what, it was always a good thing to be so heavily regarded in a new company.

'I wonder what does the R&D department do exactly?' He mused and involuntarily asked.

"Seems like you are really keen. In that case, let us head over there now and meet with your new colleagues." Isabella smiled lightly and led the way. "Follow me."

As she led the way, she introduced the general situation of the R&D department to Feng Lin. "In order to keep the market competitive, we must constantly develop new products. Hence, the main job of the R&D department is to research new types of genetic potions before testing their effects of little white mice. Once the genetic potions are fully tested and suitable for human usage, our company would then produce them in bulk and introduce them into the market to earn profits!"

Feng Lin nodded as she explained, feeling that her words were logical and he didn't feel that anything was wrong.

Very soon, they reached the R&D department. A heavy and thick door made of metal opened silently. Feng Lin then followed Isabella into a new space.

The surrounding walls were all constructed from powerful alloys. There were no cracks or demarcation lines at all; they were like one complete whole.

Numerous genetic researchers moved about, all of them extremely busy. The air was filled with a strong atmosphere of research.

This was the company's core technology department. If one wanted to learn about the knowledge of geneticist's systems, this was the place to be.

Feng Lin nodded. He was very satisfied with this job.

However, with a sweep of his gaze, he instantly felt that something was wrong.

Inside the R&D department, sealed glass cabins could be seen everywhere. The glass cabins were filled with a red-colored fluid, and each of them had a naked human floating within. Their noses and mouths were fixed with a facepiece, providing them with oxygen. Numerous tubes could also be seen inserted into their bodies.

These genetic researchers concocted different types of strange genetic potions and were using the tubes to force their potions into the human bodies here.

The expressions of those humans in the glass cabins were wretched with agony. Their bodies contorted and spasmed uncontrollably. They were basically the white mice in scientific laboratories.

Feng Lin felt his heart sinking to the bottom of the valley. He finally understood what did the term 'little white mice' spoken by Isabella earlier mean.

"Human experimentations!"

62. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

In the three meter tall glass cabins, numerous naked human figures could be seen floating with many tubes inserted in their bodies. Their faces were filled with agony as their bodies spasmed and contorted.

These genetic researchers were already used to such a sight. They coldly continued to do what they needed to do, pouring in the potions they concocted into the tubes and used various kinds of instruments to probe for the 'white mice' reactions to judge the potency of a potion.

These genetic potions were nothing but a trial product, and the effects would be extremely unstable. There were various kinds of unexpected side-effects.

After drinking these trial product potions, it could very well be imagined how pitiful the fate of these test subjects was.

These 'little white mice' all had looks of pain. Their bodies contorted to unnatural positions and green veins could be seen protruding on every part of their bodies, resembling spiderwebs. For some of the test subjects, their bodies turned completely red, as blood flowed from their seven orifices. There were some others whose bodies turned black, rotting completely, exuding a pungent smell.

For a moment, Feng Lin thought that he had stepped into hell.

Yet, these genetic researchers didn't seem to be bothered at all. They rushed up and excitedly observed the reactions of the test subjects, some of them even panting as though they were about to reach climax.

BANG!

One of the test subjects suddenly swelled up inside a glass cabin and exploded.

Yes, the poor test subject exploded.

Fresh blood and flesh splashed in the glass cabin akin to a goddess scattering flower petals, dyeing the entire interior of the glass cabin red.

Feng Lin instantly felt a surge of disgust; he was about to vomit.

However, these people here were already used to this scene. They simply pushed a button, and a

powerful current of flowing water flushed the entire glass cabin, cleaning it completely. After that, high heat radiated, as the disinfecting process began.

“Quick, quick, quick! Get another white mouse up. If the task’s research got delayed, every one of us would be in trouble. Don’t make me deduct all your bonuses!” said a malicious-looking man that seemed to be a leader of a task force in the R&D department.

All the genetic researchers trembled silently, not even daring to breathe loudly.

A sentient robot at the side walked through the middle of the room, dragging a naked human that seemed half-alive and placing the poor one inside the disinfected glass cabin. It filled up the glass with fluids and inserted the tubes into the human’s body.

“Are these the ‘white mice’ you were speaking about? This is clearly human experimentations!” Feng Lin’s expression was filled with anger as he questioned Isabella.

The test subjects were clearly humans, yet they were referred to as white mice and treated like a commodity that could be tossed aside at any moment.

Isabella had an ‘as it should be by rights’ expression on her face as she spoke, “Yup, researching genetic potions is a science that’s incomparably precise. Animals and humans have different genetics, and it’s tough to test out the complete effects of trial products if we used animals; thus, we can only use humans. I’m merely following the example of the R&D department to refer these test subjects as white mice!”

This woman was clearly an excellent specimen of a sexy human female and was incomparably beautiful. But her words clearly showed that she treated the lives of these test subjects as insignificant, like rubbish that could be thrown aside anytime. This revealed an ugly side of her personality that was extremely disgusting to Feng Lin.

Feng Lin couldn’t accept this. “But they are all humans, how can they be laboratory white mice?”

Isabella didn’t feel anything. She puzzledly replied, “These are merely prisoners on the death row who have lost all living rights in the Solar System Coalition Government. They no longer have any authority to be humans and would die sooner or later. Since that’s the case, why don’t we use them for science? Their death would at least be able to contribute something. Although they are rubbish, they still have some worth to them if we did this. They should feel happy instead.”

Feng Lin still had no way to accept this explanation. His innermost-self whispered solemnly,

Does having no authority make one less of a human?

Humans are humans. We are of the same race because all of us sprang from a common ancestral source. We are different from animals because we have civilization.

As a civilized race, how can someone be willing to do such a thing to others of his or her race?

If he knew that the Giant Pharmaceutical Company was carrying out human experimentations, Feng Lin would have never come here. He started to feel regret in his heart.

That Isabella was someone with extensive experience. With just one look at Feng Lin's face, she already knew something was wrong. She smiled a smile that was not a smile. "Are you regretting it? Don't forget that you've already signed the contract. If you want to break the contract now, you have to pay the penalty fee!"

Feng Lin's expression grew heavy. He thought of the penalty fee in the contract and cursed himself inwardly,

Shit, that was 500,000 star coins!

This was such a high penalty fee. Back then, he thought that since the Giant Pharmaceutical was the leader of this industry in the solar system, the company would definitely be open-board and legitimate. Hence, he didn't really think too much when he signed the contract.

Who would have thought that things would become like this? Where could he find enough money to pay the 500,000 star coins?

He had a feeling that he had fallen into a pit. But if the company wanted him to do experimentations on humans, he truly didn't feel that he would be able to do it.

Feng Lin wasn't a saint; he could be ruthless with no hesitation if the situation called for it.

But humans were humans precisely because they had intelligence and emotions.

Moreover, one always must have a bottom line when doing things. If not, how would they be different from beasts?

At this moment, that leader of the task force with the malicious-looking face frowned. He immediately felt Feng Lin was a nuisance the moment he glanced at him. "Hmph, are you a hero fighting for justice? So what if it's human experimentations? Do you think any cats and dogs can enter our Giant Pharmaceutical Company so easily and join our R&D department? Let me tell you, you are an extremely lucky man. If you want to remain in our company, stop thinking of all these useless things. Just do whatever you are told to do or just scram. NOW! IMMEDIATELY! INSTANTLY!"

Feng Lin had just escaped the control of his clan and come here to the Giant Pharmaceutical Company. The reason why he did so was because he wanted to find a way to strengthen himself, and he didn't want to walk inside a trap where he would be controlled by others.

His expression immediately changed, instantly wanting to leave.

When that malicious-looking man saw this scene, he actually sneered in derision.

The tension in the air grew by the seconds. At this point, when it seemed as though the situation had grown to an unresolvable extent, a calm voice suddenly broke the silence.

A middle-aged man with a gentle expression on his face walked in. He was tall and sturdy but had a scholarly aura.

"Manager Frank!" That malicious-looking man instantly bowed respectfully.

Feng Lin glanced over and discovered that this man was none other than the main interviewer back then.

The manager named Frank walked over. "You guys can go busy yourselves with your own stuff. Isabella, you can return first."

Isabella cast a glance at Feng Lin before slowly walking away with her catwalk, causing the genetic researchers who were extremely thirsty for a long time to whistle like perverts.

That malicious-looking man instantly blew his top. "What are you all looking at? Have you all not seen a woman before? Hurry up and do more research!"

Everyone instantly scattered after they heard that.

Manager Frank stared at Feng Lin's eyes as he smiled. "Feng Lin, if you feel troubled in your heart, please come with me then. I'll give you an answer."

After speaking, he turned and walked away. Feng Lin hesitated for a moment but chose to follow after him eventually.

After a while, a door opened as they entered an enclosed office. All the other sounds were blocked as soon as the door closed again.

Manager Frank stared at Feng Lin. A serious expression appeared on his face as he spoke, "Feng Lin, I understand your reactions. In truth, everyone who was newly assigned to the R&D

department would feel that it was tough to accept this. They needed a period of time to adjust their state of mind. But let me tell you this, our Giant Pharmaceutical Company is a fully legitimate business, and everything we are doing has the approval of the Solar System Coalition Government. We are not breaking the law in any way at all!"

"Human experimentations are legal?" Feng Lin couldn't understand. "The Solar System Coalition Government would actually agree to this?"

"In reality, yes, the government has agreed!" Manager Frank spoke. He then paused and glanced at Feng Lin before continuing with a smile that was not a smile. "You wouldn't know that our solar system is considered a chaotic star region, right?"

63. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Ever since mankind stepped out of the solar system, their technology had entered a whole new period of rapid development. The land that mankind had subjugated was rapidly expanding within the galaxy.

Although there were all sorts of planets and galaxies in the universe, humans had been constrained within their own galaxy, unable to walk out. However, just one galaxy was big enough. The land that mankind had subjugated was already beyond everyone's expectations, and they were still continuing to expand.

However, with the development of their civilization and technology, humans hadn't integrated with the other races to become a unified entity but had instead been split up, and the entire galaxy was segregated.

The saying of "those not of my race would definitely not be of the same heart" wasn't just applied between mankind and other races in the universe, but also within humans as well. Internally, mankind was also split up into various groups due to all sorts of differences.

The differences to the different groups meant that there were all sorts of differences in areas such as civilization, culture, and ideologies. Unless one party were to give in, it would be very hard for them to be integrated into one.

Amongst all the contradictions between races and groups, the one within the human society was the greatest of them all!

For the sustenance of mankind, although the different races of humanity could unify themselves to fend off the other races in the universe, there were great contradictions between themselves as well. They divided up their lands, splitting up the massive galaxy into many parts.

As the center of the galaxy was a massive black hole, no one could live in it. However, all the other areas were split into four domains—the east, south, west, and north.

Out of these, the Huaxia Star Republic—that mainly comprised of people of the Huaxia (Chinese) nationality—relied on their great population and strong unification to dominate the entire eastern and southern part of the galaxy.

The west domain of the galaxy was split into two, with the majority of its land taken over by the Europa Alliance and the Rome Federation that was primarily dominated by the Caucasians.

The United Nations of America—a country with a mixed combination of race, as well as the Soviet Russia—self-proclaimed to be a battling tribe, split up a great half of the northern and southern parts of the galaxy.

The southern part of the galaxy was where the solar system was at—mankind's origin. All human forces were unwilling to give up on it. They each proclaimed their own territories, splitting it up. As a result, smaller forces found it hard to survive; thus, there were no unified empires in the solar system.

Some weaker races of humanity could only look for small planets in the gaps of the galaxy to establish their own regime. For example, there were the Dongying Interstellar Empire, India Federation, Feiqiu Alliance, and so on...

Therefore, the human forces in the galaxy formed an interstellar setup of four great forces and many small forces.

The remaining Desolate Star System in the southern part of the galaxy was even more chaotic. The territorial disputes were complicated, and there were no morals or regulations at all. They were referred to as the Chaotic Star Region. They included the famous Viking Star, Caribbean Star Region, Bermuda Star System...

Out of these, the most well-known Chaotic Star Region was the solar system.

The solar system was the place of origin for mankind. Although it had been through 10,000 years of development and the resources had been fully exploited, it still held a great meaning for them. It was an irreplaceable political and cultural representation of mankind. Therefore, all of the other Supreme Interstellar Empires would naturally want to take over it as a representation of their legitimacy. No one was willing to give up on it. Despite so, no one had been able to successfully acquire the solar system.

The solar system was a contestable land that no one was willing to give up on.

Therefore, no one wanted to set off a great war across the entire galaxy over a stellar system. If anyone thought otherwise, they would become the common enemy for all mankind. No one could afford to pay the price for this.

Due to this, no one managed to get their hands on the solar system. Instead, the solar system ended up gaining independence between the Supreme Interstellar Empires. The territorial disputes were very complicated and chaotic, and The Solar System Coalition Government was a puppet controlled by the various big countries, existing only in name.

...

After hearing Manager Frank asking this, Feng Lin immediately understood the situation that he was in.

Manager Frank looked at his struggling expression and added fuel to the flames in Feng Lin's heart. "The solar system is a Chaotic Star Region, and the regulations are there just for show—something that is used to fool the people at the bottom. Often, they are completely useless. Otherwise, why would there be so many small clans who exploited their clansmen, violating their human rights? However, the environment outside is worse. Therefore, the clansmen had no choice but to choose to join groups. Although the treatment isn't good, at the very least, their safety can be assured. In a Supreme Interstellar Empire which had strict regulations, order, and stability, it was impossible for such things to happen. Feng Lin, isn't it the same for you? You've been exploited by your clan, forced to enter the clan's factory for an internship. You are unable to resist and thus your only option is to escape. You want to return after you've become an Interstellar cultivator! What you don't know is that in the chaotic solar system, places like Earth and Mars are already considered to be good. The asteroid belt, the marginal zones, Saturn... and many other remote planetary regions, in there exist countless powerful and bloodthirsty star pirates. It's a dog-eat-dog world out there. Power, and only power, is the only law in the Chaotic Star Region. Do you understand it now?"

Each and every word he said was like a sharp blade, piercing into Feng Lin's heart, revealing the chaos and brutality of the solar system.

Feng Lin's eyes narrowed. "You investigated me?"

"Since you're already a member of our company, the company will definitely investigate your background before we'll feel assured to recruit you! In fact, it's not difficult to investigate such trivial matters." Manager Frank waved his hand and smiled.

Feng Lin fell silent. Things weren't as simple as what Manager Frank had made things out to be. There were hints of threat hidden behind those words.

He had fled out from his previous predicament, but the Giant Pharmaceutical Company had managed to grasp all the details about him. He immediately was put in a difficult position.

"Why is the company conducting human experiments in the solar system?" Feng Lin couldn't accept it and asked.

"That's simple! The solar system is the origin place of mankind and is said to be a treasury of human races. There are all kinds of people there—black-skinned people, white-skinned people, yellow-skinned people, brown-skinned people... Moreover, every single one of them is of pure blood lineage and hasn't been put through those messed up genetic modifications. We'll be able to

get the most accurate and effective data if we use the humans from this place for our experiments. In fact, the human experiments that our Giant Pharmaceutical Company has done had all been using the criminals who were given the death penalties by The Solar System Coalition Government. The human experiments that we conducted were all accepted by the government! This is also why our Giant Pharmaceutical Company would dare to set up our base on Mars's Shitai City." Manager Frank didn't think that conducting human experiments were a big deal and didn't hide anything at all.

Feng Lin was silent. He wore a hesitant expression, unable to make a decision even after a long time had passed.

Seeing that Feng Lin still hadn't agreed, Frank's gaze turned dark. He persuaded with a tone that spoke volumes, "Feng Lin, you have a strong aptitude to become a geneticist. If you come to our company, we'll put in great effort to nurture you. You'll have a great likelihood of becoming a geneticist! Are you going to go back on your words? You won't be able to afford the compensation of 500,000 star coins!"

Feng Lin was a little apprehensive.

Although all of these sounded like persuasions, they were actually threats.

Frank's attitude was amiable and he seemed to view Feng Lin in high regards. If Feng Lin really were to go back on his words, would Frank still maintain this attitude?

After some consideration, Feng Lin decided to be a person who could recognize and submit to the circumstances.

Although he was infuriated at the human experiments, this matter was unrelated to him in the first place.

Since even The Solar System Coalition Government had accepted this, what was the use if he was the only one objecting? He would only become a laughing stock.

Why did he have to put himself in a difficult situation because of this?

Feng Lin didn't see himself as Long Aotian [1], capable of changing the entire world and letting the world revolve around him.

He knew what was good for him and nodded. "I'll agree! I'll stay in the Giant Pharmaceutical Company and focus on research!"

"Wise choice!" Hearing that, Manager Frank broke into a brimming smile. He put out his hand and

ridiculed, “Then we’re on the same side now!”

Feng Lin didn’t answer and just put out his hand.

Both of them shook hands.

The two of them exchanged a glance and smiled. Everything was understood without them having to say anything else.

There seemed to be hints of delight hidden deep in Manager Frank’s eyes.

Feng Lin lowered his eyelids, hiding his gaze. A deep glow gleamed in his pitch-black eyes, seemingly hard to fathom.

One day, I’ll...

[1] Internet lingo. A character that’s often used for satires toward novel, comic, or animation characters—especially toward those who appeared to be very OP.

64. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Everyone listen up. This is Feng Lin, a talented genetic researcher our company has just recruited. He’s now a member of your research team! Even though Feng Lin is young, his understanding of myths and legends far surpasses that of ordinary people, and he was also well-versed in genetic theories. Thus, all of you must work well together. The company has decided that as long as this topic is tackled, we’ll take out 100 million star coins as your bonus.”

Manager Frank was in a very good mood after hearing personally from Feng Lin that he had agreed to stay. In order to show how highly he regarded Feng Lin, Manager Frank personally introduced him to the Research and Development Department (R&D Department). In addition, he also made a solemn announcement of a tempting bonus.

“All hail, the Manager! You’re really generous!”

“I can’t wait to get started on tackling this topic!”

“100 million star coins! It’s 100 million star coins! Even if all of us were to split it evenly, we’d still be able to purchase one of the most luxurious villas on the lavish Pluto Resort Star!”

...

Cheers broke out amongst the R&D Department. Everyone was extremely motivated.

As for Feng Lin?

Sorry, no one paid him any attention at all.

He was just a newcomer and wasn’t worth paying too much attention to.

Moreover, this person had just offended the team leader of the R&D Department’s Research Taskforce. The team leader was a very petty person.

They seemed to already anticipate the tragic situation that Feng Lin would be put through. He would probably be chased out by the team leader very soon.

Of course, Feng Lin didn’t care about their opinions and just pondered silently.

100 million star coins would be paid out as the reward if the research topic was tackled?

This was really exaggerating. What kind of research topic had such a great value?

Feng Lin was a little surprised, but he felt more excited than he was surprised.

A research topic like this would be very technical and involve profound genomics knowledge. If he was involved in this research topic and the technical difficulty was cleared, it would be a great experience for him as well. He would definitely benefit greatly from it.

His path to becoming a geneticist in the future would become smoother as well.

Feng Lin was glad that he had told Manager Frank that he agreed to stay. Otherwise, not only would he be unable to afford the penalty for the breach of contract, but he might also become like the other genetic researcher interns, sent to formulate medicine day and night, working like robots.

Not only was it time and effort consuming, but he wouldn't be able to learn much from it either. Other than getting a pay of 50,000 star coins a month, he wouldn't be able to get away with anything else.

If money was what he wanted, he wouldn't have to come to this place. He could kill monsters in the virtual universe to get gene drops, then synthesizing them into high-grade gene modules before selling them. It would bring him a lot more money than the salary he was paid here.

Knowledge was priceless!

Knowledge concerning geneticists were considered to be extremely invaluable. This was what Feng Lin held in high regards.

Manager Frank personally brought Feng Lin to meet the Research Taskforce's team leader, Aike—the treacherous-looking man. "Aike, Feng Lin will be under your charge from now on. He has a unique understanding of genomic theories and you must put his talent to good use!"

"Of course! Manager, please rest assured. I'll definitely take good care of Feng Lin." Aike said with a shadow of a smile, appearing to be cynical as he placed a greater emphasis on the words "take good care".

Feng Lin's heart sank. This person was up to no good!

"That's good then!" Manager Frank didn't think much about it and nodded before leaving.

The moment Manager Frank left, Aike immediately glared at Feng Lin coldly. He was no longer smiling and his countenance had changed.

“From today onward, you’ll be a member of our team! You must work hard. Our R&D Department is a core department in the Giant Pharmaceutical Company, and we don’t take in useless people. If I were to discover that you are slacking in your job, I will dock all of your bonus and even your pay!”

“Yes, Sir!” Feng Lin replied calmly.

Clearly, his earlier actions of objecting to human experiments had offended this person greatly.

However, Feng Lin knew that as long as he didn’t let Aike get a handle on himself, there was nothing the latter would be able to do to him.

After all, Aike was merely a Research Taskforce’s team leader, not yet the manager of the R&D Department. Aike could only make things difficult for Feng Lin and wasn’t able to control an employee’s destiny.

Seeing that Feng Lin didn’t show any signs of apprehension, Aike’s eyes narrowed, revealing a viper’s glow. “Alright, it seems that you’re very confident. You can get to work now!”

Feng Lin spread out his hands. “Since I’m going to start working, I need to at least be told what the research topic is, right?”

Hearing that, Aike immediately revealed a malicious smile. “The topic? That’s easy! To formulate a genetic medicine that even ordinary people can take to increase their vitality!”

Feng Lin’s eyes were agape and he instinctively said, “That’s impossible!”

Gene potions contained spiritual substances and had astonishing energies. Ordinary people’s bodies wouldn’t be able to tolerate it, and drinking it recklessly would cause them to explode!

It would be a real explosion!

Even the potion of life, a gene potion that didn’t have a grade, would need to be diluted by a lot before ordinary people could take them, let alone actual gene potions.

His first reaction was that Aike was toying with him.

“Why is it impossible?” A ridiculing smirk appeared on Aike’s face, and he sent a set of the research topic onto Feng Lin’s microchip.

Feng Lin opened it and discovered that this was actually real. It was real!

To think that the Giant Pharmaceutical Company was really trying to research gene potions that ordinary people could take as well. If they were to really succeed, it was likely to become a great discovery that would astonish the entire Interstellar Space. How much would the patent alone sell for? One billion? Ten billion? 100 billion?...

No, it was already inestimable.

It was no wonder that Manager Frank would dare to bring out 100 million as a bonus. It wasn't considered much.

Seeing how Feng Lin's eyes were wide open and his mouth agape, Aike kept on smirking at the side. "Ignorant and ill-informed. If you don't know about something, it doesn't mean that it doesn't exist! Based on the archaeological discoveries from ancient relics, mysterious medicine that humans could take had existed in the era of myths and legends.

"There were many myths and legends that said of how a person could reach the stage of 'reborn', instantly evolving into the higher level. There were also those that spoke of people that rose up to greater statuses in a flash. What we're going to do now is to restore such amazing skills and bring great benefit to mankind. What are mere human experiments? They are contributing to mankind! These human trash can still be put to good use; thus, it is already the greatest blessings to them.

"Kid, today, you've questioned the way our R&D Department does things. I'm already very displeased about it. From now on, I hope that you can have a clear view of things. Otherwise, don't blame me for not going easy on you!"

Feng Lin fell silent.

Aike was the person-in-charge of this topic, and Feng Lin didn't have to bicker with him over a mere momentary fury, landing himself in a difficult position.

Having been humans of two lifetimes, Feng Lin's mental age was no longer as young as how his appearance made him out to be. He held back his momentary anger.

After warning Feng Lin, Aike walked up to an empty laboratory table and put a gene potion formula on it. He then said, "This is your spot! I'll give you one day time to research and give me the improved formula for this Adrenaline Potion. This formula is extremely important to our research topic. If you don't complete this mission, don't blame me for deducting your pay.

"I'll give you another warning. Our Giant Pharmaceutical Company's R&D Department won't keep trash. Don't think of bluffing your way through! Otherwise, hehe..."

He laughed coldly a few times and left directly.

Feng Lin's countenance sank as he looked at the Adrenaline Potion formula, feeling very troubled.

This was really troublesome...

Improve a gene potion formula?

Wasn't this something that geneticists should be doing?

He was merely a genetic researcher. This was clearly making things difficult for him!

65. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The study of gene potions was very profound to begin with.

Each mature formula was a result of countless geneticists' hard work. They must have conducted many clinical trials to ensure the stability of the medicinal effects. Otherwise, they wouldn't be accepted as an approved formula.

It was far too difficult to improve a formula on top of what had already been achieved!

However, This was an extremely important task. The R&D departments had always been the core technical department of a company, let alone the Giant Pharmaceutical Company that had an oligopoly in the solar system. It wasn't an easy feat for a person to stay on in the organization as the competition was very intense.

Therefore, although the task assigned was very difficult, Feng Lin must still complete it.

It might be fine if he failed to complete one task. However, if he continued to fail for multiple times, he would be kept out from the core of the research team sooner or later. He might even be chased out of the R&D department.

This wasn't a result that Feng Lin wanted.

He would only be able to acquire the Giant Pharmaceutical Company's core technologies by staying in the R&D department.

Feng Lin opened up the Adrenaline Potion's formula and started to study it seriously.

When Feng Lin's new colleagues in the R&D department saw his troubled scene, they kept on exchanging strange glances, secretly gloating over his misfortune.

"It isn't that easy to enter our R&D department! This newcomer is going to have it real bad!"

"Don't take on jobs that you aren't capable of accomplishing! Which one of us who managed to join the R&D department isn't a talent amongst genetic researchers? If this newcomer doesn't have the capabilities, he'll be chased out sooner or later!"

"This guy is really unlucky. Furthermore, he has offended the team leader. The team leader is a very petty person!"

...

In their eyes, Feng Lin was going to end up as a passerby. They felt that he didn't have the capabilities and had even offended the team leader. His luck was really bad and he would be chased out very soon. Therefore, no one was interested to make friends with him.

However, Feng Lin didn't pay them any heed and just focused on studying his Adrenaline Potion.

This wasn't a high-grade gene potion. Like the potion of life, it was also a potion without any grade. Its formula was very simple and only required seven ingredients and 31 steps.

However, the simpler something was, the harder it would be to improve it.

It was because the formula was already as simple as it possibly could get. So how could one still improve it?

It was like if a person was given a cup of plain water, would they be able to formulate anything out of it?

Clearly, this was extremely difficult—close to being impossible!

However, a subordinate didn't have the option and reason to reject tasks assigned by their superiors to begin with.

Feng Lin didn't have much of a choice. If he wanted to let Team Leader Aike be speechless, he must submit an improved gene potion formula.

Since he wanted to improve the formula, he must first understand it.

Feng Lin pondered seriously.

The Adrenaline Potion, true to its name, was a gene potion that stimulated the human body to secrete adrenaline.

Adrenaline was a hormone that was naturally secreted by the human body. When a person experienced excitement, horror, or other intense agitation, their bodies would secrete a large amount of such chemical substances. They could make one's breathing become a lot faster, their nerves to be completely excited, and their reaction speed to exceed the normal rates.

This potion itself was also a kind of powerful stimulant.

If a person were to drink it whilst in a battle, their thoughts would move at a faster speed, their

reactions would be a lot swifter, and their actions would become more agile.

When fighting it out with an opponent, being one step faster would make all the difference between life or death.

This made the amazing effects of the Adrenaline Potion very clear. Amongst interstellar cultivators, it was also considered the most popular and commonly used gene potion.

Thankfully, the ingredients for the formulation of gene potions were supplied for free in the R&D department. Feng Lin started experimenting.

The Adrenaline Potion's formula: dragonblood flower's nectar 30 milliliters, waterjade powder 15 grams, losoto solution 100 milliliters, catalytic cream 10 grams, spirit powder 12 grams...

Feng Lin measured out the ingredients according to the formula and started formulating the gene potion.

He followed the instructions on the formula, first heating up the dragonblood flower's nectar slightly to 60 degrees Celsius, before then diluting it with losoto solution. He then added in waterjade powder at a stable rate, mixing it in to present a murky condition.

Although this was only the initial phase of the formulation, there was already a strange aura emitted from the mixture that caused one's blood to seeth and for an individual to feel restless after smelling it.

Clearly, the gene potion was already showing some hints of its medicinal effects while in the midst of the formulation.

Feng Lin didn't stop what he was doing. He continued to add in the various ingredients according to the specified methods and order, doing things very orderly.

In the end, he increased the strength of the flames, and the liquid from the gene potion started to evaporate. Very soon, a small bottle of gene potion that had a volume of 20 milliliters appeared in Feng Lin's hand. It was clear and translucent, with its ingredients perfectly integrated with no signs of impurities at all.

There was only the last step left—Spiritual Conception.

Feng Lin tasted one drop of the potion to sense its medicinal effect. He discovered that its taste was too light, and the stimulation to the nerves was insufficient. He added in a small amount of the dragonblood flower's nectar and spirit powder to complete the formulation.

“To think that this newbie manages to formulate the Adrenaline Potion successfully on the first attempt!”

“It seems that this newcomer isn’t a good-for-nothing!”

“He might have learned this before!”

...

Some of Feng Lin’s colleagues mumbled when they saw this scene.

However, Feng Lin couldn’t be bothered to pay them much heed, and he drank the potion he formulated in one go.

If he wished to improve this formula, he must experience it first hand in order to notice the areas that were unreasonable or inadequate.

The Adrenaline Potion was different from the potion of life. Its medicinal effects were more intense. The moment Feng Lin drank it, it immediately turned into energy that seethed and boiled like magma. It was extremely scorching.

Fire, fire, fire...

It was as if this was a gene potion that was formulated from flames, wanting to incinerate Feng Lin into ashes.

However, this flaming energy didn’t tear apart his body and strengthen his vitality. Instead, it seeped deep into his body, continuously stimulating his nerves.

Twitching green veins popped up on Feng Lin’s face, making him appear extremely hideous.

Heat currents gushed to his head like ferocious flames. Feng Lin’s mind instantly went blank as if his soul had left his body. He was able to sense everything in the surroundings, and they had all become extremely slow.

This was a very mysterious feeling.

Everything in the world became extremely slow, and the voices of the people around him became drawn out. The opening and closing of their mouths and the movements of their tongues could all be seen clearly...

In an instant, Feng Lin only sensed that his consciousness had broken away into an unknown

space, like he was watching down on the mortal world from God's perspective.

However, this feeling disappeared in the blink of an eye.

A massive force of attraction rose up in Feng Lin's body like a black hole, instantly pulling back his soul back to his body.

After Feng Lin's soul returned to his body, he regained his senses and started panting profusely, breaking out in sweat.

His mental state had taken on a great load, and it was also a huge burden on his body.

As expected of the Adrenaline Potion. Its medicinal effect was very strong, and the effect where the entire world seemed to have slowed down was truly amazing.

However, this wasn't a good thing to Feng Lin. It was because the better the effects, it would imply that that closer the formula was to perfection and that there wasn't a need to improve on it.

Other than the fact that the medicinal effect was only ten seconds and was far too short, there were almost no flaws to it at all.

Feng Lin had no idea how on earth he should improve this formula.

Genetic potential -8%!

Suddenly, the change to Feng Lin's genetic potential was brought to his attention. He hadn't done anything at all, so why did his genetic potential suddenly decrease?

Feng Lin couldn't make sense of it at all. He looked toward the bottle that contained the Adrenaline Potion he had just finished. Was it due to this gene potion?

He observed it carefully and suddenly noticed that a dim silver star on the genetic map of the human body had become a little bit brighter. He scanned it with his thoughts and discovered the Adrenaline Gene. Information soon started to flow out.

=====

Gene: Adrenaline

Grade: Perfect basic gene

Strengthening Tally: 0 (8%)

Ability: Bullet time (Secrete a large amount of adrenaline, causing one's thinking to become faster and obtaining the reaction speed that makes one capable of avoiding bullets)

=====

A hint of a smile crept up on Feng Lin's face.

He had an idea of how he could improve the formula now!

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Genes were the origin of life. Through the incessant transmission of impulses from the body, Genes could use all sorts of nourishing substances to produce the essential factors of life, like organs and limbs. They had the ability to grasp the entirety of human's body structure.

The reason why gene potions had all sorts of mysterious effects was due to them being the geneticists' fruits of labor after researching the mythological genes. Their medicinal effects could modify the human body, penetrating deep to stimulate genes and modifying the essence of the body at the microscopic level.

The awakening of a new gene tended to require certain exterior conditions. With different gene attributes, the required conditions would be different as well. However, there tended to be two different ways. The first was to use unique genetic cultivation arts to temper internally, allowing the gene to awaken by itself. The other way was to use gene potions to stimulate from the outside. If taken on the long term, the gene would enter a dominant state from its recessive state and be awakened.

This was how it was for Feng Lin now.

The Adrenaline Potion entered deep into the human body, stimulating the Adrenaline Gene incessantly, causing it to show signs of gradually awakening. Then, it actively absorbed the genetic potential to strengthen itself.

On the gene attribute section, the brackets after the 0 strengthening tally indicator had 8% shown. This displayed the awakening progress. The moment it reached 100%, it would be one genetic point. When that happened, it would be the time for the Adrenaline Gene to be awakened.

This was the powerful ability to transform genetics into data—digitization. Every little change to a gene would be displayed by its relative data. Everything would be very clear, without missing out on anything at all.

That being said, the stimulation caused by gene potions and any changes to his genes would be detected by Feng Lin. With this, he would be able to analyze the characteristics of the gene potions.

By being able to detect any changes to the genes at the microscopic layer, he would be able to assess the flaws of the gene potion and start from there to make improvements.

It was a pity that in the earlier attempt, he had been too immersed in the amazing effects of the

gene potion and hadn't observed its characteristic in detail.

This time around, Feng Lin was familiar with the process and he continued experimenting, drawing out medicinal ingredients and then formulating a small bottle of Adrenaline Potion. Without a second thought, he drank it up.

The familiar scorching feeling once again entered his body as if there were flames burning his entire body, stimulating his nerves. His train of thoughts accelerated, and his vital energy and blood surged...

Feng Lin was once again experiencing the amazing feeling of his soul leaving his body. Any person's minute movements or small changes around him could be clearly seen. It was as if everything in the world had become slower.

However, Feng Lin knew that it wasn't that the world had slowed down, but that he had become faster.

This time around, he didn't waste the time when the effects were taking place. Instead, he calmed down, discarded all distracting thoughts, and focused on sensing the changes.

That surge of heat energy kept on stimulating his adrenal gland, making it secrete adrenaline and stimulating the changes in his body. As a matter of fact, his consciousness became faster as well.

However, the effects didn't just stop there. The medicinal effects penetrated deep into his body, invigorating his Adrenaline Gene, causing it to seethe.

The Adrenaline Gene that was a dim silver star on the genetic map kept on flickering, its glow becoming increasingly brighter. It seemed to be awakening soon.

However, just then, the dim light stopped flickering. The medicinal effect completely dissipated, losing any effects.

Everything felt very abrupt.

Feng Lin's soul returned to his body. He ignored the fact that he was now drenched in sweat and felt very stunned. The effects of the Adrenaline Potion gave off a contradictory feeling as if it started off well but ended off badly.

His feeling wasn't wrong.

Genetic potential -7%!

The medicinal effect only lasted for 9 seconds!

He discovered that his genetic potential only reduced by 7% which was 1% lesser than earlier.

The medicinal effect also lasted one second shorter.

Feng Lin thought to himself that this formula really did have a flaw. It was unable to fully stimulate the Adrenaline Gene, and its effects were limited. His body already developed an immunity to the potion after taking one sip.

If he wished to improve this formula, there were two ways he could go about it. The first way was to strengthen the medicinal effects while the second way was to increase the duration of its effects.

Feng Lin decided to work on its medicinal effects first.

What medicinal ingredient did that stimulation come from?

Feng Lin started to study the formula in depth, taking out every single ingredient and observing them carefully. In the end, his gaze was locked onto that dragonblood flower's nectar.

The dragonblood flower was a rare plant that grew on planets' core and entirely black in color. Its stem was very sturdy. It had a high level of heat resistance and was a natural conductor of heat. Moreover, it could absorb magma's heat to sustain its growth. From the saplings, it took ten years to mature, ten years to flower, and then ten years to bear fruit.

In its mature state, its appearance looked like a small dragon, and when it flowered, the color of the flower was as red as blood. That was how it got its name from.

The dragonblood flower had a natural stimulating substance that could stimulate living creatures' nerves, causing their breathing to become faster and accelerating their vital energy and blood. Therefore, it was a natural stimulant.

When this medicinal herb was first discovered, it had been used to pique sexual sensations.

Back then, a large number of traders had procured it, and there were all sorts of advertisement lines. However, the most popular one of them all was still. "Natural viagra in its original state, no side effects. Because you're worth it!"

In the advertisement, a fat middle-aged uncle immediately had an erection after drinking the dragonblood flower's nectar. It left a very strong impression.

Standing pillar.JPG. (reference to erected penis)

Back then, this amazing natural viagra had attracted the interests of geneticists who then discovered its ability to stimulate the body. After some research, they came up with the Adrenaline Potion which could stimulate the genes in the human body at a deeper level.

It seemed that if he wished to increase the effects of the Adrenaline Potion, he could start from the dragonblood flower's nectar.

Feng Lin put his thoughts into action immediately and started experimenting.

The original formula called for 30 milliliters of dragonblood flower's nectar. Feng Lin gave it some thought and first attempted to increase the amount to 35 milliliters. After the gene potion was formulated successfully, its color was of a brighter red compared to before.

He drank it down in one gulp, and an even more scorching heat flowed into his body. Feng Lin once again experienced the feeling of having his nerves stimulated.

He unexpectedly discovered that this stimulating feeling was more intense than how it had been previously. Despite so, the feeling only lingered on the surface of his body, and it was hard for it to penetrate deep into his body and stimulate his genes.

When the medicinal effect disappeared, Feng Lin was puffing hard and was unable to summon any strength.

Genetic potential -4%

The medicinal effect lasted for six seconds.

Although the amount of dragonblood flower's nectar had been increased, its effect had been reduced by a lot. Moreover, the duration of the medicinal effects was also reduced to six seconds.

This attempt to improve the formula had undoubtedly failed.

However, Feng Lin felt that his idea to increase the amount of dragonblood flower's nectar wasn't wrong. This meant that there was some other problem.

He recalled genetic pharmacists' theories. Each gene potion was an entity. It wasn't a case of individual medicinal ingredients taking effect but was an integration of all sorts of medicinal ingredients. They needed to complement each other to be able to produce amazing effects.

There was the differentiation of the main and supporting ingredients in gene potions.

The main ingredient had the crucial effect while the supporting ones supported the main ingredient to unleash its medicinal effects fully.

The dragonblood flower's nectar was one of the main ingredients for the Adrenaline Potion, and its supporting ingredient was the waterjade powder.

That's right!

He should add more waterjade powder to adjust the dragonblood flower's stimulating effect. The losoto solution had the effect of diluting dragonblood flower's nectar, and thus its amount should be reduced.

At the thought of this, Feng Lin immediately went ahead to make the changes. He increased the amount of waterjade powder from 15 grams to 20 grams and reduced the amount of losoto solution to 90 milliliters.

Feng Lin drank the potion, and the familiar scorching energy once again entered his body violently. This time around, although the level of stimulation to the gene had increased by a lot, it was too much. The stimulating feeling was too intense, and his entire body was aching as if he was pierced by needles.

If this was the case for Feng Lin, then ordinary people wouldn't be able to tolerate it.

Genetic potential -7%.

The medicinal effect lasted for 9.5 seconds.

Feng Lin looked at the duration of the medicinal effect. Although it increased a little, it was still insufficient.

The stimulant caused by the dragonblood flower's nectar was too strong and needed to be suppressed. The losoto solution's amount needed to be increased, as he had reduced it by too much earlier.

Moreover, he sensed that there were a few medicinal herbs that didn't integrate well. He increased the amount of catalytic cream. This was a catalyst and could stimulate the integration of the medicinal effects.

Feng Lin came up with a new formula: Dragonblood flower 35 milliliters, waterjade powder 17 grams, losoto solution 95 milliliters, catalytic cream 12 grams... Everything else remained constant.

He once again started formulating the gene potion, coming up with a new version that was a faint red color. It was clear and emitted light, with a light fragrance.

This strange fragrance was clearly a sign that the medicinal effects had completely integrated.

Feng Lin had a feeling that the gene potion's medicinal effect might be different this time around.

He drank it down in one go, and the scorching potion became very mild and gentle. The stimulating feeling was greatly reduced, but its effects weren't lowered. Instead, there was now a feeling that it was like the spring's breeze and drizzle, moisturizing the land.

His genes were like the bamboo shoots after a spring rain, obtaining great nourishment and wanting to sprout out from the ground.

Feng Lin immersed in that feeling and only got back to his senses after very long.

Genetic potential -9%, the duration of the medicinal effect lasted for 12 seconds.

Although more genetic potential was deducted, Feng Lin felt happy.

The increase in the duration of the medicinal effects represented that the formula had been successfully improved.

Even though Feng Lin had always been mature and calm, he could not help but feel proud.

He felt that he had discovered a new technique to improve gene potions. This was something that only he was capable of using.

This technique was called...

Gene Micro-manipulation!

67. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The gene transformed into data. Bit by bit, the data of the changes were displayed without any missing information.

The so-called gene micro-manipulation meant that Feng Lin could analyze the defects of the medicine formula at the micro-level and conduct subtle changes to improve the formula.

This level of gene manipulation and improvement was only possible for Feng Lin, as he was the only one who was able to identify the subtle defects.

After all, most people did not have the genetic talent for genetic equation.

Moreover, in the face of Aike's unfair mission, Feng Lin actually felt excited about the challenge.

Had he not given Feng Lin such a difficult mission, Feng Lin wouldn't have been forced to develop his untapped potential and create a new technique for geneticist.

If Feng Lin perfected his technique in gene micro-manipulation, he would absolutely become a real geneticist.

At this point, Feng Lin was extremely confident.

...

Genetic potential -9%!

The duration of the medicinal effect increased by 2 seconds!

...

This new formula was definitely more effective than the original formula.

At this point, Feng Lin had already accomplished his mission. It was enough to deal with team leader Aike's challenge.

Even if it only improved the effectiveness by 10%, it was still considered an improvement.

If he presented this formula, even Aike could not rebut him.

After all, letting a genetic researcher alter a gene potion formula was already forcing the issue. Now that Feng Lin had accomplished it, if Aike demanded even more, it would be going beyond his own duty. Furthermore, it would leave Aike in a disadvantageous position.

As long as that person was smart, he would never make that move.

However, Feng Lin had no intentions of stopping here.

Now that he had discovered the gene micro-manipulation technique, he wanted to understand the limits of his technique.

It was necessary to understand that gene potion had different grades. Potions of the same grade had differences in quality, such as initial-grade, mid-grade, high-grade, flawless-grade, and perfect-grade.

With each step up in the quality, the medicinal effects would be much better and the value would also greatly increase.

However, all medicine was one-third poison.

Even if gene potion was miraculous, the formula's medicine ingredients were often very strange. Sometimes, it would be accompanied by huge side effects, resulting in adverse effects in the human body.

However, as the quality of the potion increased, the side effects would be reduced.

Once a potion reached the flawless-grade, this would imply the gene potion was without impurities or toxin. Moreover, the medicinal properties were completely integrated, and there would be no side effects at all.

If the quality were to be increased once more, it would become a perfect-grade potion. Not only would there be no side effects, but the medicinal properties would also reach a peak in its effectiveness and there would be no further room to improve.

If the Adrenaline Potion formula was considered mid-grade, then Feng Lin's current iteration of the formula was also mid-grade as it only carried a slight improvement.

He wanted to experiment whether or not he could improve the formula until it was high-grade or even flawless and perfect-grade.

How big his ambition and his dream was.

Though he knew that it would be very difficult, Feng Lin wanted to try regardless. Even if he failed, there were no regrets as long as he tried his hardest.

He once again researched the potion formula and discovered that there were two main factors within. The first was the stimulation effect from the dragonblood flower's nectar, the other was the spirit particles within the spirit powder.

Through the combination of the dragonblood flower and the auxiliary medicinal components, Feng Lin successfully increased the effectiveness of the potion by approximately 10%.

But what if he experimented on the spirit powder factor?

Dragonblood flower stimulated genes, but the potion was reliant on spirit powder to allow for the genetic abilities to be fully utilized.

Once Feng Lin thought of this, he decisively increased the spirit powder content from 12 grams to 15 grams.

After several attempts of creating different combinations of potions, Feng Lin had gained a lot of knowledge and experience. His movements while creating potions were as smooth as flowing water, carrying a rhythm of calmness. He carried a pleasant expression on his face.

Finally, he reached the last step of adding spirit powder!

Spirit powder's name contained the word 'sand' in it, but it was not really 'sand'. In fact, it was a naturally occurring mineral.

With the galactic size of the Interstellar World, spirit powder only existed in one out of a million plants. It could only be produced in extremely harsh conditions.

Spirit powder was sand-like, slowly falling through Feng Lin's fingers. It was crystal clear and glistening.

Soon, he had successfully created a new bottle of Adrenaline Potion.

Feng Lin swallowed it in one gulp.

The familiar fiery sensation rushed into his body, stimulating the nerves within as though he was being scorched from within.

However, this time, it felt different from the previous drinks. If he said that his soul had been slowly leaving his body before, then this time it felt as though his soul was being violently thrown out of

his body. His thoughts were accelerating to its maximum point, and even the surroundings in front of him became an illusion as though they were stretched and twisted in a vacuum. At the same time, his body was shaking violently and the pain was incomparable to anything he had experienced.

The scorching heat from the medicinal effects was like lava explosion from a volcano, capable of instantly overwhelming the person experiencing the heat.

Finally, once Feng Lin recovered, he felt as though he had used up all the energy in his body.

...

Genetic potential -10%!

Duration time 7 seconds!

...

The medicinal properties had increased, but the effect was overbearing. It seemed that the increase in spirit particles had allowed the medicinal properties to erupt instantly, but in return, it made the potion become unbearable to consume.

With the medicinal effectiveness at its highest, the duration time was reduced from 12 seconds to 7 seconds, a decrease of 5 whole seconds.

Luckily, the dosage wasn't too much; otherwise, such an overbearing potion wouldn't be able to be consumed by normal people.

Even Feng Lin, who had a vitality of 3.7, could barely hold out.

He continued to experiment as he had finally stumbled on a clue.

With the increase of the spirit particles, the medicinal effect had been more active; thus, he only needed to increase its duration now. By doing so, perhaps he could raise the quality of the potion to the next level.

But then, the original formula was already too difficult to improve. After thinking for a while, Feng Lin decided to make a bold attempt and add a new type of ingredient: fluid ice.

It was a fluid form of ice and acted as a natural inhibitor of spirit particles, capable of reducing spirit particles' activity.

Once Feng Lin thought of it, he began producing the potion and succeeded in one try.

He held in his hand a bottle of potion, one with a distinct pink color. Due to the addition of fluid ice, some crystals of ice could be seen floating about inside the liquid, emitting a faint chill. The crystals would move along with the liquid, very appealing to look at.

Feng Lin drank the potion and immediately could feel the difference.

The potion that had felt like scorching flames had toned down to a comfortable warmth. Even though the energy was still burning like fire, it also gave the paradoxical moisturizing and rejuvenating feelings of water.

His soul was fluttering silently as though he was transcending through the ninth heavens. The feeling was similar to being anesthetized, but this one naturally left his body without any side effects.

Feng Lin no longer felt uncomfortable, rather he felt as though he was soaking within a hot spring. His body was filled with feelings of comfort and laziness.

The change in the surroundings became unremarkably clear; it was as though someone deliberately slowed down a film right in front of Feng Lin.

Success!

Feng Lin let these thoughts pass through his mind. He indulged in this miraculous feeling to the point where it was difficult to extricate himself.

However, times of happiness expired quickly.

Once he came to his senses, Feng Lin still carried an expression that wished he was still in the trance.

...

Genetic potential – 16%!

Duration time 13 seconds!

...

A huge reduction in genetic potential had led to a significant increase in medicinal effectiveness and duration time.

Most importantly, this potion had no side effects! This was a specific characteristic of a flawless-grade potion!

He had raised the quality of the potion by two grades in one go. The Adrenaline Potion had been raised to flawless-grade which was an unexpected surprise for Feng Lin.

But then, what Feng Lin cared about was the duration of effect—it was too short! Had it been longer, it could have approached the perfect-grade.

Feng Lin wanted to attempt reaching the highest grade.

Not for his greed, but for perfecting his gene micro-manipulation technique. He believed that he had the ability to achieve such a feat. If he did not attempt it, it would only leave regret in his heart.

Hmm, Duration huh?

Feng Lin was deep in thought. Perhaps he could reduce the amount of catalytic cream. This would reduce the reaction speed of the drug, allowing the medicinal effects to take effect more slowly. At the same time, he would increase the amount of dragonblood flower and spirit powder.

In a flash, Feng Lin came up with a new formula.

Dragonblood flower 35 milliliters, waterjade powder 17 grams, losoto solution 96 milliliters, catalytic cream 12 grams, spirit powder 15 grams, fluid ice 30 milliliters...

Feng Lin tried again, but it unexpectedly failed this time. Although, it could not be said to be a complete failure.

He once again experienced the painful scorching feeling in his soul. Through the microscopic changes within the genes, he could analyze the properties of the new potion.

...

Genetic potential was reduced by 12%!

Duration time 15 seconds!

...

Although the duration of effect had increased, the medicinal effectiveness had been reduced. Moreover, the side effects of the potion had reappeared.

Without a doubt, the improvement was not a success, but it was not a complete failure either. While the quality had decreased, it was still a high-grade potion.

With the duration of effect increased, it proved that Feng Lin's train of thought was correct.

There was nothing to fear from failure as long as he continued to experiment. He knew he would be successful eventually.

Feng Lin continued with his experiments.

...

Dragonblood flower 32 milliliters, waterjade powder 17 grams, losoto solution 94 milliliters, catalytic cream 12 grams, spirit powder 16 grams, fluid ice 35 milliliters...

Genetic potential -8%.

The medicinal effect reduced greatly.

Duration time: 11 seconds, a decrease of 4 seconds.

The side effects were too great.

Low-grade potion, a complete failure!

Dragonblood flower 36 milliliters, waterjade powder 20 grams, losoto solution 100 milliliters, catalytic cream 16 grams, spirit powder 20 grams, fluid ice 35 milliliters...

Genetic potential -10%.

The medicinal effect reduced slightly.

Duration time: 12 seconds, a decrease of 3 seconds.

The side effects were apparent.

Mid-grade potion, a failure.

Dragonblood flower 35 milliliters, waterjade powder 28 grams, losoto solution 98 milliliters, catalytic cream 21 grams, spirit powder 26 grams, fluid ice 32 milliliters...

Genetic potential -12%.

The medicinal effect was unchanged.

Duration time: 16 seconds, an increase of 1 second.

The side effects were minimal.

High-grade potion, not a failure but not a success.

...

Feng Lin did not have his previous luck, but he continued to modify the potion formula and continued to fail. It would seem that perfect-grade potion did not exist.

However, he did not get frustrated because he felt he was walking down the correct path. Each attempt led him one step closer to success. All he was missing was some luck and inspiration.

After repeated trial and error, Feng Lin gradually entered a miraculous state. He felt as though he could fully grasp the change within the potion bit by bit; everything was within his control like a mystery within a mystery.

Once he came to his senses, he found that there was a new bottle of potion in his hand. The color of the potion was both red and blue. The two colors were distinct but also able to mix and spiral together as though it was a Yin-Yang symbol of Taiji. It was a piece of art, giving off a perfect aura.

Not a trace too much, not a trace too little.

Feng Lin had a feeling that this potion was not ordinary. He might have actually succeeded in creating a perfect-grade potion.

Although it might look beautiful, the effectiveness could only be confirmed upon consumption.

Feng Lin raised his head and drank the potion. Immediately, an amazing change appeared before his eyes.

The world slowed down and time became extremely drawn out. The surrounding people were moving as though someone had pressed the slow down button from a screen. Their steps were slow and unsteady; it was especially humorous. Their speed was slower by ten folds the normal rate.

Even if someone shot multiple bullets at him, he had the feeling that he would be able to see the

trajectories and easily dodge them.

This was...

Bullet time!

68. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Bullet Time was a physiological phenomenon that was not very well-known.

When the human spirit exceeded a certain limit, their thinking speed, observation ability, and reaction speed would increase greatly. The world around would feel as though it had been slowed down by a slow button; in this state, they could even dodge bullets shot at them.

This was a special state called Bullet Time.

The hormone responsible for causing this increase in nerve activity was adrenaline.

As Feng Lin drank what was likely a perfect-grade Adrenaline Potion, he felt the world slow down to the max. His soul seemed to be in another space that was overlooking the world from God's perspective.

People's movements seemed to come to a halt. The change was slow but orderly.

This was a wonderful feeling. His soul seemed to have exceeded its bounds. He could sense everything in the world, gaining a sense of omniscience.

After an unknown amount of time had passed, Feng Lin shook as though he had just awakened from a dream. His soul instantly returned to his body.

After the short scare, he was overwhelmed with shock!

He had actually created a perfect-grade potion.

Feng Lin gasped for breaths one after another, his entire body shaking. Every muscle in his body was tightened with tension and trembling non-stop. He felt as though he was about to collapse.

Bullet Time allowed the user to increase their thinking speed, but the burden on the body was too great. This was not something that could be used for a very long time; otherwise, the body would not be able to bear it. Overusing this ability would lead to the user's collapse.

This was not the potion's side effect, rather it was natural physiology of the human body.

Just like food could provide nutrition for the body without much side effects, if one was to overeat, then the burden on the stomach would be too great. Before long, the stomach would not be able to withstand it, and the person would be dizzy and congested.

The potion from before did not cause any painful sensation at all.

...

Genetic potential – 30%!

Duration time 20 seconds!

...

This large reduction in potential meant that the medicinal properties were 4 folds from the original formula. The duration of effect was even over 2 folds, and the potion had no side effects.

Without a doubt, his enhancements to the potion was another success. He had created a perfect-grade gene potion.

The end resulting potion formula was: Dragonblood flower 36 milliliters, waterjade powder 18 grams, losoto solution 108 milliliters, catalytic cream 12 grams, spirit powder 18 grams, fluid ice 32 milliliters...

Feng Lin silently recorded all the formulas from his experiments. Without any further experiments, he closed his eyes to rest.

His continuous consumption of potions caused a large amount of fatigue to accumulate in his body and spirit. He needed to rest.

However, this scene was irritating for everyone within the busy R&D Department.

“That brat got some nerves! Does he not know team leader Aike hates slackers? He dares sleep in public like this?”

“His mission to improve the potion probably failed. That’s why he has given up.”

“That brat has some horrible luck. Who let him question human experiments and offend team leader Aike. He’s out of luck!”

...

Those so-called colleagues saw how tired Feng Lin was and sullenly laughed at him.

Feng Lin did not pay them any heed. He observed his own body’s changes with surprise.

A gene awakening had occurred due to the continuous stimulation from the potion testing.

Since he kept drinking the Adrenaline Potion, his gene was continuously stimulated. The genetic potential that had been reduced had unknowingly added to 100%. This was the equivalent of one genetic point that could be added to the Adrenaline Gene.

The strengthening tally of Adrenaline Gene had changed from 0 to 1.

This meant that Feng Lin had awakened a new gene—the Adrenaline Gene.

A new golden constellation lit up in the genetic equation's genetic map!

Each golden star represented an awakened gene.

However, this new constellation was far from the location of the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene. It was seemingly out of place.

Feng Lin focused his mind and saw the gene's attributes.

...

Gene: Adrenaline Gene

Grade: Perfect-grade Basic Genes

Strengthening tally: 1

Ability: Bullet Time (Secreted adrenaline stimulating and increase thought and consciousness speed"

...

Perfect-grade gene!

It turned out to be a Perfect-grade basic gene!

Feng Lin was shocked.

Each gene-type could be classified into different grades. The classifications were low-grade, mid-grade, variation-grade, high-grade and perfect-grade.

The higher grade the gene, the stronger the genetic abilities were.

A perfect-grade gene implied that there were no defects. The ability was perfect. Compared to the genes of the same level, it was considered an invincible existence.

Feng Lin thought that the Adrenaline Gene's abilities were definitely a bug. It could be said that it was a glitch with no way to fix.

This Adrenaline Gene could allow the user to enter Bullet Time, allowing the user to think and react faster than an ordinary person.

In a battle where every second counted, this was a decisive advantage that could determine life and death.

Bullet Time's ability was measured in the milliseconds, giving the user the decisive opportunity. Even though there was no direct relation to the combat power, the assistance provided was heaven-defying to say the least.

But there was always a catch—the only downside was that it created a huge burden on the user.

This was not a flaw of the gene, but rather that the genetic ability was too overbearing. If the body could not withstand it, then this was a fundamental issue with the user's evolution level, which hadn't met the requirements to use the ability.

If the user increased their vitality, then Bullet Time could be used anytime without any side effects.

Feng Lin did not know if he should cry or laugh; he had simply been trying to improve the potion formula. Never in his wildest dreams would he ever thought that he would awaken such a formidable gene. This was an unexpected surprise!

After some more experiments, he had acquired quite an understanding in the field of potions.

The technique—gene micro-manipulation—would guarantee success in any potion-related endeavor within the realm of gene potion manufacturing. With such a trump card, he was especially confident in his future as a geneticist.

This was something that he would not leak to anyone else. Otherwise, he would be targeted.

Feng Lin stopped working on improving the potion formulas. He closed his eyes to rest and recover from the day's fatigue.

Seeing Feng Lin's carefree expression, Aike's expression became gloomy. He walked over and

spoke, "What are you doing? Did you finish your mission? The research department does not keep slackers. Don't get full of yourself!"

Feng Lin slowly opened his eyes and looked over. He calmly spoke, "I have already successfully improved the potion formula, completing the mission that you gave me. Am I not allowed to rest?"

"What? You did what?" Ai Ke was stunned.

Improving gene potion formula was something that was only possible for geneticists. How could a mere genetic researcher accomplish this?

He had given him this challenge because he wanted to knock the brat down from his high horse. He wanted Feng Lin to know that even if he was a special candidate brought in by manager Frank, he should not nonchalantly question the R&D Department's methods.

However, he had never thought in a million years that this brat would accomplish the challenge of improving the Adrenaline Potion. How was this even possible?

The surrounding people who heard this was left speechless.

"A genetic researcher completing an improvement on a gene potion? Don't lie to me!" Aike said coldly.

Feng Lin was not angered, rather he smiled. "I will send your earlier words back to you. Just because you don't know, does not mean it is impossible!"

Aike narrowed his eyes. His face was as dark as a ghost. "Fine! Take out your improved formula. If you are trying to pull a fast one on me, don't blame me for being harsh!"

His tone was completely cold. Anyone could feel the hidden threat in his words.

Feng Lin hesitated for a bit. Once Aike saw this, he coldly laughed and thought to himself.

To dare boast without any actual abilities, now he can't even take out a formula!

This is good too, let me expose your true appearance and see how you will stay in this department.

When the time comes, even Manager Frank could not oppose the opinion of everyone within the R&D Department and try to keep you here!

Unfortunately, he had guessed incorrectly.

It was not that Feng Lin could not present a formula, but he was trying to decide which one of his improved version he should present.

He had too many improved formulas!

If he presented the perfect-grade formula, he would take a loss.

However, if he presented the mid-grade improved formula, the effects would not be obvious. Aike would also not accept the result.

In order to silence his critics, Feng Lin decided to present the high-grade potion formula.

Thinking of this, he decisively retrieved the identity microchip and transferred the high-grade potion formula over.

Aike had a cold smile on his face, he casually browsed the formula.

But as he kept reading on and on...

The smile was wiped off his face.

69. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Dragonblood flower 35 milliliters, waterjade powder 17 grams, losoto solution 96 milliliters, catalytic cream 12 grams, spirit powder 15 grams, fluid ice 30 milliliters...

After modifications, a new and improved formula appeared before his eyes.

Aike was stunned to the point where he was speechless.

He did not believe this brat was capable of improving a finished formula. This was something that only a geneticist could accomplish. Even he could not do this.

He had never thought in a million years that Feng Lin would actually give a decent formula.

The original formula was modified with quite a bit of changes. There was also a new additional ingredient—30 milliliters of fluid ice.

This improved formula had certain logical medicinal properties that complemented each other.

Aike looked at the medicinal ingredients and their respective properties to estimate the final medicinal effects; however, he was unable to see any deficiencies.

He was instantly at a loss?

This brat actually provided an improved formula?

Was this what the idiom 'trying to steal a chicken but ending up losing the rice to lure it' meant? [TL note: it's an idiom meaning to try gaining an advantage but ending up worse off]

This was it!

He had originally planned to put the newbie in a difficult situation to knock him off his high horse.

However, he ended up providing an opportunity for the newbie to flaunt his ability.

...

Looking at this formula, Aike showed a face of disbelief. Feng Lin's expression was, however, as calm as water.

This formula had already reached the level of a high-grade potion; it was more medically sound than the original formula. This was something that Feng Lin had tested himself; thus, he was sure that no one would be able to find the flaws in this formula.

Team leader Aike's expression became grave. He ultimately retrieved his identity microchip and utilized the A.I. within the chip to estimate the effectiveness of the potion.

However, the results left him dissatisfied.

According to the A.I., there was a 52% chance that the medicinal effect was improved and the grade was raised to a high-grade potion level, 21% chance that the medicinal effect was unchanged, and 8% chance that the grade would decrease. Lastly, there was a 19% chance of unknown effect appearing.

Looking at this result theoretically, Feng Lin's formula improvement was a success, only the clinical trial was up next.

Seeing that Team leader Aike had purposefully caused trouble for the newbie, the entire R&D Department's members came to witness the chaos, but all they saw was his bite being worse than his bark.

Everyone was taken aback by the speechlessness of team leader Aike.

"What's going on? Team Leader has no reaction to the formula!"

"It can't be that the newbie actually developed a new formula, right?"

"Is that even possible?"

...

All of them discussed amongst themselves; most did not believe that Feng Lin had successfully improved the formula. However, witnessing Aike's grave expression, their chatter slowly died out until it became silent. They were not confident in what they were saying anymore.

Feng Lin was calmly observing without flustering.

After a long while, Aike finally lifted his head. He glared at Feng Lin, his expression like a knife piercing through Feng Lin's body as though he wanted to see through all his secrets.

Feng Lin looked at Aike without any hesitation, their gazes meeting directly.

Aike's eyes drooped a little, showing a hint of grudge. He then spoke fiercely, "Don't celebrate so fast! The formula has not been tested yet; we will know once it passes the clinical trial!"

This line that called the validity of the formula into question created an uproar within the R&D Department.

What?

The formula can only be tested to know if it was effective or not? Even team leader Aike cannot find any deficiencies in the new formula?

Everyone was shocked.

R&D Department was the core technical department within the Giant Pharmaceutical Company.

He was a legitimate geneticist and was quite knowledgeable in the field of gene potions. If even Aike could not find issues with the formula, that meant the formula's success rate was very high.

How could this be possible?

Everyone in the room was evaluating Feng Lin. They could not help but be bewildered, where did this immortal come from?

"Follow me!" Team Leader Aike said with discontent as he led Feng Lin to the front of one glass container in a corner of the R&D Department.

A naked man was floating within the liquid. His four limbs dangled as if he was dead already. He was just like a rotten piece of meat suspended within, pale eyes and lifeless face. He had already lost all consciousness.

"Produce the Adrenaline Potion from your improved formula and feed it to the lab rat!" said Aike with anger as he emphasized the word 'improved'. He was definitely fuming with rage and gritting his teeth as he spoke.

"This can't be! That man is on his last breath! Although he is still alive, he had already lost all his consciousness."

"Being constantly used as a test subject, his mind would have already been torn apart! Normal Adrenaline Potion would have already lost effectiveness."

"It would seem that Team Leader Aike is not prepared to let things go!"

...

People looked at each other in dismay as though they could see Feng Lin's misfortune.

Even if this potion's effect was great, would it be able to save a death row inmate that was barely hanging on to life?

People muttered amongst themselves.

Team leader Aike had a malicious expression on his face as he glanced over to the crowd. Everyone suddenly kept quiet out of fear.

Even though Feng Lin realized Aike's intentions, he did not mind.

Adrenaline was a hormone and neurotransmitter that could increase the cardiac output and dilate the blood vessels in bones, muscles, liver, and heart. It constricted the blood vessels in many minute networks. It was a necessity in treating humans and animals that were near death.

The most suited way of treating a near death person with a damaged neural network was none other than the therapy with Adrenaline Potion.

It was normal for those who did not know the new formula to question its effectiveness.

However, Feng Lin had tested the formula himself. He had no doubts that the potion was effective.

There was only one problem; this lab rat was a normal human.

The formula was one for a high-grade potion; thus, its medicinal effect was quite superior. Even if it was able to revive the person, the after-effects could be quite harsh.

As long as there was an effect, it would prove the validity of the formula. By then, what would team leader Aike say about that?

However, this test subject had done nothing to wrong to Feng Lin. There was a psychological hurdle for Feng Lin to put a test subject through the experiment.

But then, he had a change of heart.

This person was near death anyway, if he had consumed the medicine made by Feng Lin, maybe he would be able to survive. Being able to save a life surpassed the good karma of building a seven-floor pagoda.

If there were no effects, then this person would be relieved from the pain of having to live in such a state.

Without the psychological barrier, Feng Lin stopped hesitating. He swiftly produced the potion.

After having produced the potion for so many times, Feng Lin had already become familiar with the procedure. His movements were swift as water without even an ounce of slack.

Those that knew what he was doing could see his ability.

Even Aike's eyes showed a slight expression of restraining fear.

He was aware that this Feng Lin had never learned about the production of Adrenaline Potions before. But having seen his familiarity with the formula and manufacturing procedures, his talents must be astounding.

He even felt that Manager Frank's praise for this newbie was a slight understatement.

It was no wonder that this newbie, who just entered the company, was already assigned to the R&D Department. He could not be looked down upon.

The members of the R&D Department were shocked by what was happening in front of their eyes, but given that team leader Aike was here, they held back their words.

Soon, a bottle of potion was successfully created. It was a translucent light red in color.

Based purely on the color of the perfectly combined mixture, people could tell that the probability of success was quite high.

Now then, it was finally time for the real test of the medicinal effect.

"Take it!" Feng Lin handed the potion over. Aike did not show any signs of being courteous. Aike handled the potion himself and directly injected it through the glass tube into the "little white mouse's" body.

All everyone saw was the sudden tremble of the lifeless, near-death person's body. Every muscle within his body shook violently. The body that was like half-rotten flesh twisted as though it were fried dough, trembling like he had been zapped by thunder. The shut eyes opened violently; his face was filled with pain as he slowly regained his consciousness.

Once the potion was used, the effects were immediate.

Everyone was shocked.

This improved Adrenaline Potion could revive a near-death person!

70. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The usually lively R&D Department was so silent that if they tried to drop a pin, the sound would reverberate throughout the lab.

Everyone's focus was on the inmate within the glass case.

What they saw was a near-death person, who had been left for death, suddenly resurrected back to life. His heartbeat pulsated as if he had regained a second wind.

He's alive!

The nerves within the inmate's body had been completely damaged, and all of the researchers had already sentenced him to death. Any potions were of no use since they had been waiting for him to take his last breath.

Unexpectedly, this new kid seemed to have presented a bottle of immortal potion and snatched the man back from the grip of Hades.

Everyone was stunned as they came together to carefully observe the reaction of the inmate. Some people even used the chip to start recording and collecting this valuable data.

Every member of the R&D Department gave off an expression of passion. They looked onward fanatically, ignoring even team leader Aike's increasing discontent.

The naked man's limbs trembled non-stop within the glass container, his eyes wide open. It turned from what had been a dead expression to one that was full of vigor, hatred, menace, and sorrow while staring at those around him. His expression was as though he was an evil spirit that had been resurrected from hell and brought back onto Earth. All he wanted was tear through everyone around him; eat their flesh and drink their blood.

With such a fierce expression, the seemingly meek researchers showed no reaction at all. They were all accustomed to such expressions. The subjects of their experiments were never treated as 'people'.

Would anyone care about the lab rat's hatred?

What they were interested in was the lab rat's reaction!

What originally was a living dead with failing nervous system had come back to life after

consuming a potion.

How would this not be shocking?

They had developed a strong interest. If they could, they would have dissected the inmate on the spot to get further data.

The measurement devices installed within the glass container were flashing non-stop as it displayed various data and metrics.

“Look quickly, his ECG is rising. His vitality is recovering!”

“His brainwave activity is also increasing. It has risen past 100 plus points!”

“The improved Adrenaline Potion is a success. What an astounding newbie!”

...

They gathered around to discuss the changes that happened to the inmate during the experiment. Most of them were praising Feng Lin's improved formula, not even noticing that Aike's face had turned sour.

Uh uh uh...

As if he was a duck being strangled, the man within the glass container made his last struggle. At the same time, the researchers all gathered around. The inmate's body trembled out of control and then suddenly stopped moving. He had struggled until he was out of breath.

Everyone sighed, as none of them was surprised.

The nervous system of this person was already dead. He had been in a state of near-death this whole time, and his body was beyond repair.

The human body was a sophisticated system. This lab rat's body had undergone countless experiments to the point where even the high-grade Adrenaline Potion could only provide him with a final radiance of the setting sun.

His body had already been broken beyond repair and could no longer withstand this short glimpse of excitement, resulting to him drawing his last breath.

Gene potion was shockingly powerful. Even a non-graded potion could not be drunk casually by normal humans.

All in all, the effect of Feng Lin's Adrenaline Potion was beyond the imagination of the entire department. This showed that the improvement to the formula was indeed a success.

Everyone could not help but look toward team leader Aike, only to be met with his complicated expression.

They were clear that this trial was just an excuse for Aike to put Feng Lin in his place. However, what they had not imagined was that the newbie would actually succeed in it.

They were curious about how the team leader would react.

The research department, under the long-term pressure and management of the team leader, had been weary of him. But now seeing him making a fool of himself, they were internally laughing, but they did not dare show it on their faces.

Feeling the surrounding gazes that were mocking him from within, Aike's expression became increasingly sinister.

After keeping his silence for a while, he finally spoke albeit unwillingly, "Feng Lin has successfully improved the Adrenaline Potion. With such an amazing performance, he will receive this month's bonus of 100,000 star coins!"

He actually gave Feng Lin 100,000 star coins in one go. This was the equivalent of two months' salary for Feng Lin!

Seeing that Aike spoke while gritting his teeth, it was clear how unwilling he was, but he could not do as he pleased.

The Adrenaline Potion was an important research topic for the R&D Department. It could stimulate the nervous system within the human body, raise mental energy, and allow life evolution to take place.

Feng Lin's improvement to this potion was definitely the forefront in terms of performance within the R&D Department.

Those with the ability would gain more.

After presenting a huge contribution to the department, he must be rewarded accordingly.

This was the rule of the company. If he had violated this rule as the team leader, he would have a hard time leading the team in the future.

This feeling of not being able to deal with someone who he did not like made Aike uncomfortable.

He was reluctant to stay even a second longer. Aike simply said two lines of congratulatory speech to Feng Lin and left in a hurry. He just wanted to stay as far away as possible.

Snickers slowly resounded behind him.

The colleagues within the R&D Department had different expressions toward Feng Lin. Some looks were curious, admiring, or afraid... but all of them gave him different looks.

After all, it was rare for someone to cause the highly arrogant and capable team leader Aike to become so dejected.

Feng Lin ignored these people. He turned around and left.

The assignment given to him had been completed, and these people were left speechless.

His footsteps never stopped as he left the R&D Department. He headed toward his living quarters, looking onward with a heavy expression.

Even though he had completed the assignment, there was not an ounce of happiness on his face. The sight of a human struggling on his last breaths was still fresh in his memory.

Though he had not intended to kill the inmate, his death was indirectly caused by Feng Lin. (TL note: the actual sentence is "I did not kill Boren, but Boren died because of me!")

Feng Lin was not a weakling. If he wanted to kill a target, he would not hold back. But for him to do that, the target would have to be his enemy.

The subject of the experiment had no conflict with Feng Lin. Seeing the inmate died after drinking his potion caused extreme discomfort within his heart. Any normal people would feel that way.

Feng Lin could feel an increased sense of urgency.

If the rabbit dies, the fox grieves. (TL note: this is an idiom meaning "having sympathy with like-minded people in distress".)

The solar system was a chaotic star region; dangers were everywhere. It was an oppressive and dark society.

Power!

He must have a certain level of power in order to save himself. He could not rely on others.

Otherwise, he would also be at the mercy of others.

If he did not have actual strength, one day he would turn into one of the lab rats. By then, he would be taken advantage of, and living would be no better than death.

This was something that Feng Lin wanted to avoid no matter what.

Returning to his living quarters, Feng Lin began cultivating diligently.

This time, he had fully replenished the vitality that he had used up. Of course, he planned to level his genes up until their max points.

He did not drink any more potion of life because he had consumed enough Adrenaline Potion before.

Although Adrenaline Potion was used to stimulate the adrenaline gene, as a gene potion, it was rich in nutrients.

Feng Lin continued his cultivation and quickly digested the nutrients within his body.

Slowly exhaling.... Slowly inhaling....

Feng Lin closed his eyes as he stabilized his breathing. His breaths were very calm and lengthy, releasing a certain kind of rhythm to the air. A stream of heat flowed through his body, nourishing every part of it.

Genetic potential +20%, +19%, +18%... ...

Feng Lin's genetic potential increased rapidly, quickly breaking through the 1000% mark, reaching as much as 1021%.

His 3.7 vitality was slowly increasing, from 3.8, 3.85, 3.9, 3.95... ...

Pop!

Feng Lin's body suddenly shook as he broke through a threshold to the next level. It was as though he could feel his body from the inside out!

4.1 vitality!

His vitality had broken through the 4th vitality threshold, passing it by 0.1.

Each point of vitality was a threshold.

Feng Lin could clearly feel the strength emanating from within his body. It was as though a dormant volcano would erupt at any time.

But this was not the most crucial part.

To allow himself to quickly gain power, he had used up most of his vitality to level up his genes. However, he had finally replenished his depleted vitality now.

It was a feeling similar to paying off a giant debt. A huge mountain was lifted off his shoulders all of a sudden.

Feng Lin took in a deep breath. He had nothing else to worry about now. He could finally continue with his gene strengthening.

He had many unspent genetic points before and could increase his genes anytime, but he held back because of his low vitality. After enduring for so long, he finally made a full recovery. How would he be willing to wait any longer?

Without further ado, he began immediately.

With a quick thought, Feng Lin's genetic potential suddenly dropped by 100%.

One nebula that represented the genetic point in the Dantian's genetic map exploded immediately. It turned into a plume of energy and injected itself into the Stonebirth Gene; the strengthening tally went from 8 to 9 silently.

What surprised Feng Lin the most was that his vitality skyrocketed from 4.1 to 4.9. The increase was no longer in steps of 0.1 but 0.8. It was 8 times what it had been previously.

It would seem that the nutrients he had consumed were not in vain. The return was enormous.

Feng Lin rejoiced within his heart. The path he had chosen was the most steady and secure. His future was looking bright.

After recovering his vitality with great difficulty, it was not enough to strengthen it by just a little bit.

Feng Lin, who had a taste of what it was like, knew that gene strengthening was highly addictive.

The feeling of instantly improving by leaps and bounds was too fascinating.

Feng Lin did not hesitate and continued to add points.

Stonebirth Gene flashed without any stagnation. It was instantly increased to 10 points, breaking through the theoretical genetic limit.

Everything seemed to flow smoothly like water.

Monkey Gene was at max point.

Stonebirth Gene was at max point.

What was left was their evolution to Stone Monkey Gene.

71. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Bang Bang Bang!

Feng Lin stood up as his body underwent some changes. Somewhere deep within him, popping noises resounded like firecrackers. His bones strengthened and his skin became incomparably smooth. It was as though he was sculpted out of jade, delicate and tender while giving off a faint light of translucency. Women would be envious of his skin.

However, if one were to observe closely, they would discover that while his skin was tough, it contained fine gradient lines like those of marble.

Feng Lin's skeletal structure had the greatest change. His height increased to 1.98 meters. It was as if he had become a giant ape with both his arms over his knees. His slim figure was encased in streamlined muscles that were filled with explosiveness and dexterity, close to the perfect body shape.

Thump thump thump!

A force surged from within like a tide without anywhere to vent. Feng Lin could not restrain the impulse and began to use his punching techniques to release the pent up energy out of his body.

While the punching technique seemed disorderly, the force it exuded was heavy like waves slamming into each other. The energy caused the surrounding metal walls to echo with banging noises.

After venting a little, Feng Lin checked his own stats.

=====

Name: Feng Lin

Vitality: 5.7

Monkey Gene: 10

Stonebirth Gene: 10

Genetic potential: 821%

=====

Vitality 5.7!

With the increase in genetic points, his vitality was increased by 0.8 once again, filling his body with inexhaustible power and energy.

Feng Lin felt that his current state was good to the point where it felt unprecedented. With both the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene at max points, he had reached the requirement for gene evolution.

Even though he was full of anticipation, Feng Lin did not rush himself. So, he went to take a shower first and quietly closed his eyes and slept. His breathing was slow and calm; his mood was relaxed.

He had a quality sleep without even dreaming. Thus, by the time he opened his eyes again, he was already full of vigor. The mental exhaustion from the previous day had been completely swept away.

Once his body and spirit were at their peak condition, Feng Lin officially began his breakthrough.

Gene evolution was a crucial leap in rank. Therefore, he could not afford any mistakes, or else he would regret it for the rest of his life.

Feng Lin even turned off his identity microchip and locked the door to his room, completely isolating himself from the outside world.

He focused solely on breaking through. He wanted to prevent any accidents from happening.

Finally reaching this point, he would not allow this opportunity to slip away.

Once everything was ready, Feng Lin began his breakthrough.

...

Monkey Gene x10 + Stonebirth Gene x10 = Stone Monkey Gene.

...

He slowly immersed himself in his inner world. The genetic map was clearly shown in front of him.

Two large golden stars shone brightly as if they were the everlasting ancient constellations,

hanging and dazzling in space eternally.

Feng Lin mentally controlled the two genetic power and merged them together.

All he could see was the two flickering starlights. They flowed out of the constellation as though it was water emerging from a spring, slowly gathering into one spot.

The completely different forces were perfectly integrated into one, just like a perfect-blended mixture.

Just like a river and creek flowed into one, the two astral rivers became an even vaster river; its vastness extended straight into the deep end of the astral ocean.

The astral river continued forward without stagnating. It flowed towards a mysterious location within the astral ocean; nothing could impede it.

Each star in the astral ocean was like stars in the night sky, rekindled by the passing astral river. They shone dimly, lighting up the surrounding stars further ahead.

The astral river flowed unceasingly. It continued onward until it reached its final destination, a dimly lit star that was hidden far away.

The scene was like a hundred birds returning to the forest as it poured into the dim star. It was similar to the ocean current that flowed into the Pacific Ocean, providing the dim star with immense energy.

Thump thump thump!

The sound was like a strong and powerful beating heart.

The silver dim star started to shine brightly from its latent state and gradually revealed its true radiance. It turned into an eternal source of light similar to that of the sun, igniting the entire starry sky.

An inexplicable message appeared.

Stone Monkey Gene: The stone monkey has no parents and is brought up by the heavens and earth. It has a body of stone and bones that were as tough as steel. It also possesses extraordinary strength...

He did not have enough time to see all of the information.

All of a sudden, the Gene Constellation rose and began to devour everything. Its middle part became like a giant black hole, sucking Feng Lin's soul into it.

Too late to react, his mind fell into the black hole. He felt that he was quickly falling into a bottomless tunnel. When would he reach the end?

Gradually, he lost consciousness. He forgot who he was, where he was, and where he came from...

Forgot everything!

"Where is this?" He did not know how much time had passed. In the darkness of endless tranquility, a cold voice suddenly resounded as if the god of thunder had come and begun to spread chaos upon the world.

Feng Lin suddenly woke up and realized that he was curled up within a small dark space. He felt claustrophobic and excessively uncomfortable.

He reached his hand out and touched his surroundings. The interior of his prison was like a shell layer made out of steel.

Feng Lin continuously slammed the wall. In a while, his strength became extremely weak to the point where he could no longer move. He continuously hammered the wall but could not even create a dent. He could only give up.

Though he could not see what was outside, he could feel his surroundings. It was a miraculous feeling where he could separate from his body and sense what was outside.

It would seem that he was on top of a cliff near the ocean. The waves continuously pounded the shore, one wave at a time.

The air was filled with mysterious energy. As he breathed, the energy entered his body through the shell.

Instantly, Feng Lin felt extremely warm as if he was within the embrace of his mother and growing up.

As time went on and a thousand year passed by, the world underwent a lot of changes.

Feng Lin absorbed the energy of the world. His body was growing nonstop.

An inexplicable ancient memory awoke from the depths of his soul.

There was once a magic stone on top of a mountain which was thirty-six feet, five inches tall and twenty-four feet in circumference. It was thirty-six feet, five inches tall to correspond with the 365 degrees of the heavens and twenty-four feet in circumference to match the twenty-four divisions of the solar calendar. On top of it were nine apertures and eight holes for the Nine Palaces and Eight Trigrams. There were no trees around to shade it from wind and rain, but magic fungus and orchids clung to its side. Ever since creation began, it had been receiving the truth of Heaven, the beauty of Earth, the essence of the Sun, and the splendor of the Moon; it had been influenced by them for so long that it had gained miraculous spiritual powers. It developed a magical womb, which would burst open one day to produce a stone egg about the size of a ball. When the wind blew on this egg, it would turn into a stone monkey, complete with five senses and four limbs...

In his muddleheadedness, without knowing how much time had passed by, it would seem like he was suspended within the innocence of the world's primal chaos.

Feng Lin's body had grown large enough inadvertently, but he continued to be huddled in the small space. It was like a cage that kept him immobile.

A vicious current rose from within his heart. He wanted to destroy everything that appeared before him.

After an unknown amount of time, Feng Lin's expression became sinister. He could no longer stand it.

"Open for me!!!" He squeezed his hands into fists and exuded his strength, hammering the shell before him.

Crack...

The cracking noise he heard was the most beautiful sound he had ever heard in his life. A large crevice appeared in front of him, allowing light and fresh air to go within.

He breathed deeply. This was the smell of freedom!

Feng Lin was ecstatic like a madman. He continuously pounded his fists away as if he was Pangu splitting heaven and earth apart. He wanted to break free from the darkness and enter a new day.

He pounded away until the last piece of the shell collapsed and turned into stone powder. What remained was a small figure standing in a place.

Feng Lin looked at his own body. He looked just like a monkey with monkey hands and golden monkey fur that was fluttering in the wind.

I became...?

A monkey!!!

A Stone Monkey that was birthed from a rock. !!???

72. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

It stills the ocean with its might; it awes the jade sea into calm.

It stills the ocean with its might: tides wash its silver slopes and fish swim into its caves

It awes the jade sea into calm: amid the snowy breakers, the seaserpent rises from the deep.

It rises high in the corner of the world where Fire and Wood meet; its summit towers above the Eastern Sea.

Red cliffs and strange rocks. Beetling crags and jagged peaks.

On the red cliffs, phoenixes sing in pairs; lone unicorns lie before the beetling crags.

The cries of pheasants are heard upon the peaks; in caves, the dragons come and go.

(excerpt from Journey to The West)

...

The waves beat against the shore of the lone island in the sea. The immortal grass here was lush and vibrant, painting a scene of a land untouched by time, resembling an immortal realm on earth.

Standing atop a lone peak, Feng Lin turned a blind eye to the beautiful vision before him.

He didn't know whether to cry or smile. When he lowered his head and stared at the stone shell beneath his feet, he repeatedly stroke the golden fur on his hand.

Although he had no way to see his entire appearance, Feng Lin could still have an impression. The mouth of the chinese Thunder God, high cheekbones and bow-legged...

There's no mistake, I'm a monkey now!

Pei!

I'm not a monkey, I've only just become one!

Wrong!

I'm not a monkey, I just appear to resemble one!

.....

Everything was so confusing.

Feng Lin shook his head. He felt that he had turned into a monkey, and his mind had become short-circuited.

He drew a deep breath to calm his emotions. Pointing to the stone shell on the ground, he finally recognized a fact. He had somehow become a monkey, a monkey that was just born from a stone.

As he continued thinking, his thoughts became muddled.

Something's wrong!

In the legends, during the birth of the stone monkey, didn't Sun Wukong gleam with golden light as all living things in the four directions bowed to him?

Why were things so low-profile when he became the legendary stone monkey? So low-profile that he wanted to cry!

Ugh, something is definitely wrong, why am I grumbling about this?

What I should be thinking about is why did I suddenly become a monkey.

...

Every time Feng Lin's thoughts returned to the main topic, it would unceasingly drift off to random directions as other thoughts filled his head.

Eventually, his head became extremely muddled and confused.

Gu, gu, gu...

A thunderous rumble woke him up from his pondering. It wasn't that he had figured out something but rather...

Feng Lin was clutching his stomach while frowning. He was hungry!

Without realizing it, he had already stayed an entire night on this lone peak. Now that dawn had approached, he naturally became hungry...

Feng Lin cast his vision and looked far away. He actually had nothing to say. He felt that he became more and more like a real monkey.

This sense of hunger was incomparably fierce, causing his entire body to be devoid of strength.

After all, Feng Lin now was just a stone monkey that had just recently born. He was tiny and had a weak body; he hadn't even had a bite of sustenance yet.

He felt helpless in his heart. He could only toss aside his anger, grief, and conflicts, as he started to look for food.

Luckily, this lone island in the sea was a paradise on earth. There were flowers, lush trees, and even countless immortal fruits everywhere.

As he descended from the peak, Feng Lin instantly saw a dense forest of peach trees. The bright red peaches sat there gleamingly.

Feng Lin couldn't control it any longer. He licked his lips and scampered up the tree.

Why did he 'scampered'?

For some reason, Feng Lin felt that after he became a monkey, his instincts became more and more like one as well.

He climbed agilely, seemingly effortless. It was as though he was a real monkey.

Feng Lin's stomach continued to rumble, and his eyes turned red. He transformed his grief at becoming a monkey into appetite. He wanted to feast upon these peaches, stuffing them down his throat to relieve his hunger.

As he bit down on the first one, the peach's juices sprinkled through the air, wetting the fur on his chest.

At the next moment, Feng Lin's eyes widened. This was simply the best peach he had ever eaten. It was sweet but not overly so. It was fresh and tasty and had a light fragrance as well, bringing an effect of causing his mind and state of heart to feel refreshed. It made him want to eat more and more; he basically couldn't stop eating them...

In this wilderness, there was no one snatching food from him. Feng Lin naturally wouldn't be polite.

He grabbed a peach with one hand and had a bunch of them in his embrace, frenziedly feasting on them.

Hmm, something is wrong!

Feng Lin startled for a moment but soon tossed all his thoughts and considerations to the back of his mind. Why should he bother thinking so much? He continued his feast, stuffing the peaches into his mouth until he came to a point where he ate the peaches selectively, only eating the sweet tasting parts and tossing the others back to the ground.

With so much wealth (peaches), Feng Lin became so wasteful suddenly...

Not long later, the seeds from the peaches could be seen littered all around the ground. Feng Lin didn't care about protecting the environment or cleanliness at all.

As he lowered his head and stared at his 'masterpiece', Feng Lin giggled.

I'm a monkey, who am I afraid of?

His golden fur was drenched with peach juices. He bared his fangs and smiled mischievously. Just by glancing at him, there was no doubt that he was a monkey.

He stroked his round belly and lazily stretched comfortably while sitting on a branch of a tree. The mountain breeze gusted by, giving him a cool and refreshing feeling as an expression of satisfaction appeared on his face.

"I, Ol`Sun (ref to Sun Wukong), wrong! I, Ol`Feng, has never been so satisfied just from eating before."

As his emotions changed, he suddenly lost his balance and fell from the tree branch.

This tree was over thirty meters tall. Feng Lin directly smashed through the ground, creating a monkey-shaped crater.

But at the next instant, he did a somersault and leaped up from the crater. He wasn't injured at all.

A stone monkey was birthed by heavens and nurtured by the earth. He had stone skin and steel bones, invulnerable to sword and saber. His defense naturally wasn't a joke.

How could this bit of impact do anything to him?

As an alpha male among monkeys, he naturally had to be tough and unyielding!

Feng Lin agilely stood up and patted his body, causing clouds of dust to fall off as he easily climbed the tree again.

Suddenly, his expression changed. He could feel a surge of rich and powerful energy that seemed to have come from all the peaches he had consumed. The energy circulated rapidly through his body, giving him a cool and refreshing feeling.

This surge of energy wasn't explosive in nature and was mild and gentle instead. But the quantity was simply too much, and the circulation was extremely fierce. It was like water was the source of life, but too much of it would be a calamity instead.

The surge of energy had become a flood in his body, threatening to fill him to the brim, causing him to be on the verge of implosion!

The peaches he had eaten actually contained so much energy? Feng Lin didn't understand.

He was also extremely familiar with this feeling. This feeling was like when he drank genetic potions, the energy of spirit particles!

What should he do?

Feng Lin panicked. If he couldn't find a solution soon, his body might really explode from having too much energy within.

At this crucial moment, an ancient memory suddenly appeared in his mind. Although this memory had been forgotten for a long time, as long as one encountered a suitable situation, the memory would automatically awaken.

This was an innate instinct, for the sake of survival!

Feng Lin controlled his state of mind and sat down cross-legged. Both his palms were turned face up, as he rested them on his knees. For some reason, the turbulent energy coursing through his body underwent a mystical change. In his Dantian that was three inches below his navel, a vortex akin to a black hole suddenly formed, capable of devouring everything.

The energy from the spirit particles was sucked into the vortex, being refined into purified qi to aid his body in absorbing it.

Feng Lin instantly felt that there was something different in his body. Every single part of his body started to absorb this purified qi, as they began a godly transformation.

His body was like an inflating balloon as it continued to expand. His bones ground against each other, creating creaking and popping sounds while his muscles lengthened. The golden fur covering his body also grew brighter and brighter, creating a dazzling sight.

His entire body felt extremely cool and refreshed, like a cool breeze constantly gusting at him. All the pores on his body were opened as his meridians and energy channels were all connected.

The peaches he had eaten earlier all transformed into nutrients that replenished his body, flowing smoothly along his energy channels like spring water moisturizing the parched desert.

The cells in his entire body were like hungry ghosts; they absorbed a large amount of energy every second, continuously strengthening his body.

Not long later, Feng Lin slowly woke up. The pain had vanished completely, and his round belly from overeating was gone, becoming flat again.

He stood up, causing his bones to creak. The vision before his eyes changed. All the things within his vision seemed to have shrunk by three inches all of a sudden.

He had once experienced this feeling before. That was during the time when his body underwent a growth spurt and grew taller.

Feng Lin hurriedly ran to the seaside. The clear water reflected the image of a furry monkey that was clearly a macaque.

But things were different from earlier. If he had been just a skinny, weak little monkey earlier, he was now more akin to a grown-up muscular ape.

What an earth-shaking transformation. When Feng Lin thought back to that mysterious state he had been in earlier, his heart couldn't help but be stirred.

Was that...?

The transformation of energy into qi of the legends?!

73. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The Ancient Earth Era was comprised of numerous civilizations and ethnicities, which had given rise to countless myths and legends. For example, the Chinese civilization, Babylonian civilization, Egyptian civilization...

As for the Chinese civilization, the divine figures in the legends and myths were different compared to the other civilizations.

The Chinese civilization's myths and legends were the most special one.

For the characters such as—Gods (神), Immortals (仙), and Buddhas (佛)—all of them had the word 'human' (人) in one of the many strokes that made up their characters. These divine figures in the Chinese myths and legends weren't figments of imagination; they were all evolved from humans.

Gods, Saints, Immortals, Buddhas—could everyone become them?

Maybe it was precisely this spirit of striving unremittingly, believing the human could conquer over the heavens, that allowed the Chinese civilization to last so long until the Interstellar Era.

Also, in Chinese myths and legends, for mortals that wished to embark upon the path leading to divinity, there was only a single method for them: that is none other than cultivation!

It was said that during the Ancient Earth Era, the atmosphere was filled with spirit particles that were as dense as air. As long as one had the slightest talent, they would be able to sense it.

Ancient cultivators termed the spirit particles as spiritual qi of heavens and earth. They could absorb the spiritual qi into their bodies by using special breathing methods, allowing the energy to temper their bodies, all in order to transcend humanity.

Ancient Chinese people also classified cultivation into a total of four steps. From the lowest to the highest, cultivation could be classified as transforming energy into qi, transforming qi into divinity, transforming divinity back into emptiness, and transforming the emptiness, converging it into Dao.

The techniques and effects of each step were completely different.

The 'Transforming energy into qi' was the first step of cultivation, allowing one to cultivate their blood essence and nutrients, strengthening their bodies to evolve again and again.

In this case, Feng Lin had become a stone monkey, and it was like there was no need for any

teachers to guide him. He instinctively mastered the technique of the first step.

This island was like an immortal ground. Every plant here was a spiritual substance, and the atmosphere was filled with spiritual qi, possessing startling energy.

Earlier, Feng Lin ate too many spiritual peaches, causing the concentration of spirit particles in his body to overfill. If it wasn't for him comprehending the technique to transform his excess energy into qi, he would surely explode from that.

That seemed to be a memory hidden deep within his mind that could only be activated instinctively. Even without anyone teaching him, when the correct circumstances appeared, the memory would automatically surface.

With just a single round of 'Transforming Energy into Qi', Feng Lin could feel that his body had undergone an earth-shaking transformation.

Just like that, Feng Lin seemed to have grown by ten years—from a little monkey that was just born into a matured adult monkey. His bones and muscles were extremely sturdy; he no longer looked like the scrawny figure he had been earlier.

He kept speculating in his heart, was this 'Transforming energy into qi' a kind of technique that aided in rapid energy digestion? If he used this technique again when he was back in his original body, would he be able to absorb and direct the energy from genetic potions more quickly, transforming them into genetic potential?

Feng Lin felt the excitement in his heart, but his expression dimmed again at the next moment.

It was useless to think so far ahead now. Currently, the most important matter was for him to figure out his situation and find a way to exit here.

The other matters were not important.

No matter how great the benefits he could gain by staying here, if he couldn't get out, everything would be useless. There was no place where he could display his abilities!

After satisfying his hunger and thirst, Feng Lin began to stroll around this island, wanting to find a method to return to his original body.

The circumference of this island was extremely huge. He continued walking by the shoreline, but there didn't seem to be any end to it.

Feng Lin sighed as he came to a halt. He cast his gaze into the horizon, seeing the boundless

ocean, understanding that he was at an island with no traces of humanity at all.

Did I become a stone monkey?

Could this place really be the Flowerfruit Mountain?

...

With many doubts akin to that, Feng Lin continued to ponder. The days and nights passed and in the blink of an eye, it had already been over ten days.

Fortunately, immortal fruit trees were everywhere on this lone island. Also, Feng Lin had a body covered in golden fur; he didn't need to worry about food and clothing as he pranced around naked every day.

As he ate the immortal fruits filled with concentrated amounts of spiritual qi, Feng Lin continued to transform his energy into qi. His body strengthened rapidly, and he soon became a 1.9 meters tall and sturdy monkey. Among monkeys, he could already be considered a giant.

But so what even if he became the king of monkeys?

Wouldn't he still be a monkey?

What a tragic and sorrowful story...

This island, which he suspected to be the Flowerfruit Mountain, formed a complete biological chain that was separated from the world by the sea.

During these few days, Feng Lin had seen many types of beasts such as jackals, wolves, tigers, and panthers. However, he wasn't a weakling. These wild beasts had bared their fangs and claws at him, but as a stone monkey, he was naturally impervious to these attacks.

Feng Lin was proficient in martial arts. He displayed his skills and simply crushed these beasts mercilessly. The wild beasts had all fled after a few moments and no longer dared to come back and antagonize this 'two-legged beast' that was Feng Lin.

So what if there were tigers here on the mountain? Monkeys were still the kings!

Not only those creatures, but Feng Lin had even seen many sika deers, peacocks, green cattle...there were all sorts of strange and valuable beasts, but there were even more of his 'species'.

In the forest of peaches, numerous monkeys leaped around as they cried out shrilly.

When they saw this giant among monkeys which was Feng Lin, all of them stared curiously at him. There were even a few muscular monkeys and apes thumping their chests and roaring at him fiercely, wanting to chase him away.

“I have no interest in the females of your species!” Upon seeing the looks of warning from these alpha monkeys as they pulled the females of their races back behind them, Feng Lin could only laugh helplessly.

He didn’t want anything to do with these creatures that were supposedly the ‘same species’ as him. He rapidly turned and left the area.

The alpha monkeys behind him all let out shrill cries of laughter, feeling extremely satisfied like they had succeeded in chasing away a strong contender for mating rights.

Who else was there that dared to snatch the mating rights from the alpha monkeys?

...

Feng Lin continued to move forward, increasing his speed and vanished from the vision of the monkeys in the blink of an eye.

This island was simply far too vast. During these days, he hadn’t even explored 10% of the total island.

Without realizing it, the skies turned dark and the stars appeared, shining resplendently.

Feng Lin sat upon a rock, one of his hands propped his chin up as he stared silently at the vast starry skies before drawing in a deep breath.

From the forested region far away, the cries of monkeys and howls of wolves could be heard.

It had been so long, but he still couldn’t figure things out.

Gene evolution...wouldn’t that have meant that he would become an interstellar cultivator the moment he broke through?

Why did he become a monkey then?

This matter was too ridiculous!

...

Today was a rare full moon night. The moon was as large as a giant plate, cascading down boundless rays of silvery light.

Feng Lin pondered as he stared fixedly at the moon in the sky. Without him noticing, the moon actually grew larger and larger in his vision, hooking his mind and soul into it.

As the moonlight cascaded down on his body, he felt a cool and refreshing feeling that was extremely comfortable.

As he breathed, the moon essence from all directions started to gather and transformed into silvery lines that entered his body, baptizing it, washing his body free of impurities, opening his pores, and connecting the outer and inner as one.

Wu!!!

An impulse from his heart was displayed. Feng Lin had no way to control this instinct. He actually arched his back and threw his head back as he howled at the moon.

The resounding high-pitched howl lasted for a long time; it traveled through space, echoing out loud through the island.

The moonlight from the surroundings converged even faster, entering Feng Lin's body through his pores as cool energy circulated inside him. It connected all the extraordinary meridians and energy channels.

His mind grew clearer and more active as though his intelligence had increased.

His soul drifted around, leaving the confines of his mortal body. Basking under the moonlight, it was pure and clean, as transparent as glass. At this moment, another instinctual memory appeared in his mind.

Essence of the Sun and Moon!

Legend said that in ancient times, birds and beasts were able to absorb the essence of the sun and moon to temper their bodies, opening up their minds. As time passed, they gradually gained the ability to transform and if they cultivated long enough, they could become demons.

And the so-called essence of the sun and moon was now already debunked by science. Although what he was absorbing now was the moonlight, in reality, moonlight was merely sunlight that was reflected.

And as for the sun, its original essence was a star that emitted astral light, which was a kind of energy in the universe.

There were many kinds of energy in the universe—nuclear energy, zero-point energy, bio-energy. These energies could also be classified into different grades.

This essence of the sun and moon was basically astral energy. It was a type of high-grade energy.

The so-called absorbing the essence of the sun and moon was merely using a breathing method that allowed one to absorb the astral energy of the stars to temper their bodies and refine their souls, developing their minds.

However, this particular breathing method was extremely rare, and only very few people knew about its existence.

At this moment, Feng Lin discovered that information about the astral breathing method and meridians circulation diagram actually appeared in his mind.

However, instead of being excited and happy at obtaining the method to absorb the essence of the sun and moon, Feng Lin felt terror in his heart.

Ever since he activated his stone monkey gene, there were simply too many strange things that happened to him, things that were beyond his control. Moreover, there seemed to be a primordial will in his body that would occasionally appear, seizing control over his body, forcing it to act according to his primal instincts.

Feng Lin discovered that he resembled a monkey more and more now. His reasoning ability began to succumb to primal instinct; his being was gradually being assimilated.

Could it be that he was truly destined to become a monkey?!

74. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

From transforming energy into qi to the astral breathing method, Feng Lin discovered that his body was gradually out of his control.

This was definitely not a coincidence. There seemed to be a spectre hidden within him, something that would occasionally appear to seize control over his body.

His thoughts were in a whirl, and even his temperament was gradually getting closer to that of a monkey.

If this continued on, Feng Lin felt that he would eventually think that he was a monkey right from the start and not a human!

Something was wrong!

Feng Lin woke up in a shock. Why did something feel so wrong?

He had only awakened the stone monkey gene; thus, it was impossible for him to become a real monkey!

If not, would one really transform into anything depending on the genes they awakened?

There were various myths and legends in the world, with many monstrous forms... devil, ghost, monster—medusas, giant dragons, hydras of the west...

The solar system was so vast with so many living beings. If it was true, wouldn't there be countless monsters?

This was unscientific and simply un-genetic!

It simply didn't conform to logic!

...

Feng Lin thought about the part which he had overlooked earlier. Maybe after he turned into a stone monkey, his thinking process became more like a simian, and he had lost some memories.

Now after absorbing the essence of the sun and moon, his intelligence increased and his mind developed; he regained those memories he lost.

Feng Lin no longer blindly pondered. He calmed himself down as he contemplated. His thoughts grew clearer and clearer as he saw through the crux.

This must have something to do with the innate nature of mythological genes!

What were mythological genes?

In the civilizations of the Ancient Era, those who were known as gods, devils, immortals, and buddhas had extremely vibrant life force. From a macroscopic to a microscopic level, their innate nature of vitality and life force must have transformed. They somehow managed to incorporate the special and unique characteristics of themselves into their genes.

So, what was inside the mythological genes were these special and unique characteristics and not things like appearance that were the most common elements.

An example would be like the child of tall, black-haired parents. In this case, the child born to them wouldn't be short in stature and would also have black hair as well; however, it was impossible for the child's appearance to completely resemble his parents. This was the same kind of logic!

What the awakened mythological genes granted were the unique traits of that particular divine figure from myth or legend. It was impossible for a human to become a monster even if they awakened 100% of the mythological gene.

By the same logic, it was also impossible for Feng Lin to become a monkey just because he awakened the stone monkey gene.

He had merely awakened a primeval gene, how can something strange like reincarnation happen?

In addition, he seemed to have even transcended through time and space; this was simply illogical.

According to the scientific law of energy conservation, reincarnation across the cosmic plane required too much energy!

He had just awakened a primeval gene, was it really capable of generating enough power for reincarnation?

Feng Lin felt that it was too much of a fuss.

Could it be...?

Feng Lin suddenly recalled a secret record with regards to mythological genes.

In the legends, those gods, immortals, buddhas, and saints were classified by grades. When they were at their strongest state, these characters were known as paragons. Even their existence itself would have an extraordinary trait, becoming an embodiment of a certain force or energy. Every paragon was unique in the world, nothing else could replace them.

Body, soul, memory... everything fused together and would have an undying trait to them.

Even if they were blown into dust, as long as they had the slightest hint of life force left, they could even revive under suitable circumstances.

This might sound difficult to understand, but in truth, it was extremely simple.

For example, let us speak about dragons. They were the divine creatures born innately by the world. The path of the divine dragon could allow one to obtain the extraordinary traits of a dragon, but dragons themselves were split into different grades and categories. The divine dragon was the first and foremost of all dragons, the progenitor of dragons. He was unique in the world, and no one could replace him.

And he had a total of nine sons; hence, the extraordinary traits of the progenitor dragon would be passed down to all draconic creatures. If one tried to reverse-access the primordial bloodline through genetics, maybe they really could...

These were existences that were supreme even among divine beings. Their unique traits could be passed down via their genes, and there was a very high chance that there would be hereditary memories associated with it.

This was a special conjecture of mythological theory. Even now, things hadn't been completely proven.

This was known as the undying myth conjecture because the hereditary memories contained within genes could prove this conjecture to a certain extent.

According to the experiences of countless interstellar cultivators. When someone awakened this kind of power, they would be able to gain a part of undying hereditary memories through developing their genes. In other words, they might be able to gain inheritances of ancient gods this way.

Hence, such genes were known as hereditary genes.

Hereditary genes were a type of genes that weren't classified into different grades. The greatest

aspect of hereditary genes was that they were unique, the one and only.

The vast majority of genes were generic genes; their attributes and abilities were similar, but there might be a chance for a different genetic cultivation path to appear.

For example the Giant Gene. It could be evolved into Flame Giant, Frost Giant, Titan...there were many variations.

However, hereditary genes were different as they contained a mythological inheritance within them. Once someone awakened a hereditary gene, they only had a single cultivation path to walk on.

Because those paragons among divine beings had their own unique paths, once one set foot upon a unique path similar to theirs, that person could only clench his or her teeth and walk forward.

Could this be what was happening to him?

Feng Lin's heart stirred. That was possible!

With regards to mythological characters, Sun Wukong wreaked havoc in the heavenly court and named the Great Sage Equal to Heavens. He was definitely a paragon among divine beings.

There were many types of monkeys in the world, but there was only a single Great Sage Equal to Heavens!

The stone monkey gene was definitely a hereditary gene that contained this potential.

Also, Sun Wukong's strength was beyond imagination. His hereditary memories had begun the moment Feng Lin awakened this primeval-level gene.

This meant that for those who managed to activate the stone monkey gene, they only had a cultivation path available for them. That was none other than the path of Sun Wukong!

Could what he was experiencing now be from a hereditary memory left behind by Sun Wukong in his genes?

Feng Lin suddenly felt a sense of enlightenment. What he didn't expect was that Sun Wukong's strength was actually so powerful. Just the memories themselves had the power to pull him into a true illusionary land. How terrifying was that?

That was why he was trapped inside, unable to break free.

What he was experiencing right now should be the memories of what Sun Wukong had experienced before.

According to some records, if one pursued and traced genetic memories back to their origin, they might be able to gain a certain kind of ability or an inheritance.

This kind of cultivation method was known as the memory art!

The primordial will contained within each hereditary gene possessed a part of the original divine being's memories. This was why hereditary genes were so powerful!

By awakening the instincts of the stone monkey, Feng Lin learned how to transform energy into qi, as well as the astral breathing method. Wasn't this also some sort of inheritance?

However, because the gene-grade of the stone monkey gene was still too low, there was a limit to the awakened memories. He wasn't able to see too much content as of now.

But Feng Lin believed that if he continued to probe the memories of the ancestral stone monkey, he would be able to gain more benefits for sure.

However, there was no need for him to be in a rush. These memories hidden in his genes wouldn't be able to run away.

Given how much memories there were, he wouldn't be able to digest them all in a short period of time.

What he needed to do now was to stabilize his cultivation.

The stone monkey gene was just recently assembled, and he had to first get familiar with it. He would definitely have more opportunities to enter this fantasy land brought on by his memories.

However, how should he exit here?

Feng Lin slowly pondered, and the light in his eyes gradually became clear.

Since this was all an imaginary land; clearly, it was a false scene that acted upon one's mind. It was akin to an illusionary technique or a kind of dreamscape.

What he needed to do now was to wake himself up, not allowing himself to continue losing himself here.

Upon thinking of this, Feng Lin focused his mind. He sat cross-legged on the ground and entered

a state of meditation as he gradually forgot everything.

His mind became as still as lake water; there were no ripples.

Wake up, wake up, wake up...

A faint voice rang out in his heart, echoing in his ears. Minute ripples started to form on the lake that was his state of heart.

Breaking past all illusions, Feng Lin's sharp senses detected that his surroundings collapsed like a broken mirror. This fantasyland he was in started to be filled with fog, gradually turning obscure in his vision, no longer masking reality.

Feng Lin's consciousness grew clearer. It felt as though he had burst out from a swamp.

His eyes brightened and the fantasy land completely broke apart. He was actually standing in his room.

He only felt sticky substances coating his body. A gene evolution would cleanse one's body of impurities.

However, Feng Lin didn't have the chance to wash the sticky substances before... his vitality stats suddenly rose explosively!

75. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

A brand new vitality stat was displayed before him. Feng Lin was completely stunned after he saw it.

Vitality: 10.1!

He suddenly broke through the barrier of 10 points and achieved a two-digits vitality stat. In the biological chain, he was already a higher form of existence.

Although he had not reached the transcendent level, among the ordinary lifeforms on earth, he was already at the peak of the food chain. There were no natural predators for him now.

When one's vitality reached two-digits, only the blue whale of Ancient Earth Era and the tyrannosaurus rex of the Jurassic Era would have such a strong life force.

One could say that although Feng Lin appeared to be a human, he could actually be considered as a human-form tyrannosaurus rex now!

Feng Lin himself also felt a little shocked at this. Before this happened, when his vitality stats reached 5.6, he already felt he was powerful enough.

Who would have thought that after he broke through and became an interstellar cultivator, his vitality stats almost doubled, breaking through the 10 point barrier.

As expected of an interstellar cultivator. The difference between it and a cultivation apprentice was like the difference between heaven and earth.

Once one succeeded in breaking through, it would be like a fish leaping through the dragon gate, becoming a dragon with an unlimited future.

This increase in vitality actually didn't give him the feeling of an explosive surge in strength just like in the past. It was a more marvelous feeling as though a kind of hidden energy in his body had been awakened.

Fish had scales and could swim in the sea.

Birds had wings and could soar in the air.

Different creatures would have different innate abilities. This kind of marvelous feeling felt as

though the long-forgotten natural ability of humans that had been hidden in the body was now awakened after he had broken through to the interstellar cultivator level.

Although that feeling was extremely blurry and he was unable to fathom it at this moment, but it was definitely real. It was just like fishes would instinctively know how to swim and birds would instinctively know how to fly. Once this natural ability of humans was awakened, they would never forget it again.

It was only that for now, Feng Lin had no way to control or master this instinct completely.

He calmed himself down and sensed his own body, getting familiar again with his body after his life evolution.

His vitality stat had broken through 10.0. It wasn't a simple increase in his strength and speed. It was more of a feeling that he gained a certain control instead.

He could sense something wonderful. He was able to feel the strength of every fiber of his muscles, and he was able to control it as he willed, circulating his strength to every part of his body.

If before this, Feng Lin felt that strength was fire—emphasizing on accumulation and explosion, erupting instantly, and granting fearsome destructive might—he now felt that strength was water. It was incomparably gentle and soft, able to transform according to his will. Once he gathered enough power, it would instantly transform into a grandiose flood, able to break and destroy everything, nothing could obstruct it.

Power could be classified as both hard and soft. When the two aspects combined, one was able to control it as they will, achieving a myriad of transformations.

From the Primordial Era right at the very beginning, humanity didn't have the sharp claws and fangs or tough hides and bones of wild beasts. They were innately weak, yet they still eventually became the overlord of their planet. Why was this so? It was because they were proficient at using every bit of their strength, not wasting it at all. Their intelligence enabled them to create tools, allowing them to defeat the stronger wild beasts despite being innately weaker, eventually pushing them all the way to the peak of the food chain.

Controlling one's strength was the most simple and most powerful instinct in life.

He!

Feng Lin steadied his heart and mind. He suddenly exhaled and spread open the five fingers of his palm as he grabbed out in the air abruptly.

The tiny muscles in his fingers instantly vibrated over thousands of times. He actually was able to control the formless air to rapidly converge in his palm, resulting in an air vortex that was visible to the naked eye. The air vortex spun rapidly, creating humming sounds.

Feng Lin flexed his other hand into a fist and suddenly punched out.

BOOM!

The air flow churned wildly, and the vigorous power blasted out in the air, shattering the space before him, creating a thunderous explosion. The remaining force of his blow was like a huge hammer, ruthlessly slamming against one of the alloy walls in his room, leaving behind a conspicuous palm imprint.

Si!

Feng Lin drew in a deep breath, akin to a whale breaking past the water's surface and drawing air. His chest puffed out like an elephant and with a shout, he exhaled, emitting a beam of white light from his mouth. A sonic boom rang out as a hole appeared on the surface of the ground before him.

A clear white vestige could be seen in the air. It only dissipated after a long time.

Emitting power through the air, capable of injuring others with just a breath.

Feng Lin gradually became clearer at what his awakened natural ability was and he started to practice his martial arts.

Punching with his fists and kicking with his legs, even the most ordinary Hong Fist appeared extremely dominant and majestic when displayed by Feng Lin. His punches and kicks generated wind, forming a gale visible to the naked eye. This gale was as sharp as swords; it was formless yet capable of injuring people.

Feng Lin's attacks had already reached the point where even close combat would be capable of generating power through the air, injuring others from a distance.

From Hong Fist, Eight Extremities Fist, Taiji Fist...All the ancient martial arts styles to the Vajra Subduing Fist, an interstellar genetic martial art, Feng Lin displayed them one by one. Numerous gales manifested, revolving around his body. This was an extremely shocking sight.

He finished displaying over twenty martial art styles in a single breath, but he wasn't panting at all. Clearly, this exhibited his extraordinary physique.

So, this was a true interstellar cultivator?

Feng Lin stared in shock at his hands as he fell into a daze.

If one wasn't at this realm, they wouldn't be able to understand this wonderful feeling of life evolution. It was also impossible to explain.

In the universe, all creatures would be placed in a food chain where there was no beginning and no end. The life evolution was to enable them to continuously climb up the food chain.

If one didn't want to be eaten by others and wanted to eat others instead, evolution was the only way. Constant evolution would allow one to stand at the peak of the food chain!

After becoming an interstellar cultivator, Feng Lin temporarily wasn't clear on how much did his strength and speed increase exactly.

But after his probing earlier, he was clear that the absolute control over his strength was an innate ability that had awakened in his body. He could control every iota of strength according to his desire, enabling him to use the most effective method to employ them.

For the same amount of strength, the force exerted by interstellar cultivators would at least be thrice of cultivation apprentices. This was after leaving aside the fact that cultivation apprentices' starting vitality was only at 1.0 while interstellar cultivators' starting vitality was at 10.

The disparity in their vitality was like the difference between heaven and earth, so great that mere numbers wouldn't be able to make up for it. Even if ten or more cultivation apprentices were to fight against an interstellar cultivator, they wouldn't pose a problem for the cultivator at all.

The surging vitality of cultivators allowed their strength and recovery rate to be far above cultivation apprentices.

No matter how many apprentices there were, as long as they didn't use high-tech weaponry, the interstellar cultivator would be able to defeat them with ease. Even if he wasn't able to defeat them, he could still escape easily. There was no way for them to stop him.

Feng Lin was already pretty clear on his true strength. His absolute control over his strength was able to exert force through the air despite using only close-combat moves, generating a gale which he could control that was able to formlessly attack his target.

This mitigated his weakness of only being able to use close-combat moves.

Naturally, the wonders of interstellar cultivators weren't merely limited to this. He had to continue to probe and find out more.

Also, these were merely the most basic of transformations to his physical abilities. Feng Lin turned his sights to the extraordinary forces a cultivator was able to control.

The origin source of all these transcendent abilities was because of awakened mythological genes.

Feng Lin peered inside himself and saw the genetic changes in his body.

An astral river linked the three golden constellations that were his awakened genes. It was like a bridge spanned across the starry ocean, forming a triangular shape.

A triangle was the most stable of structures. It was the most stable foundation to establish a mythological path.

These three genes joined together to form the fork of a tree. They constituted the beginning of a genetic tree.

After breaking through, Feng Lin undoubtedly had already embarked on a correct transcendent path.

Feng Lin's thought locked on to his newly evolved gene, as information about that appeared in his mind.

=====

Gene: Stone Monkey Gene

Grade: Variation Primeval Gene

Strengthening Tally: 1

Ability: Stone body and steel bones, immense strength, invulnerable to the sword and spear, impervious to fire and water.

=====

It was actually a variation-grade primeval gene!

The Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene were low-grade basic genes. To think that the Stone

Monkey Gene, which appeared when the two low-grade genes were combined, would actually be a variation-grade gene. It was only a grade below perfect genes!

This was something Feng Lin had never expected.

Most genes were conventional genes. Although they could be classified into strong or weak based on their abilities, their attributes were generally similar.

The Thunder Gene and Storm Gene, the Magma Gene and Flame Gene, the Frost Gene and the Blizzard Gene...etc.

However, variation genes were different. The gene itself was a variation that couldn't be duplicated. Its abilities were unique and had mystical power the other genes didn't have.

What power did the Stone Monkey Gene have exactly for it to be classified as a variation-type gene?

Feng Lin felt puzzled and he pondered over the abilities of the Stone Monkey Gene—stone body and steel bones, immense strength, invulnerable to sword and spear, impervious to fire and water.

Stone body and steel bones reflected a powerful and tough physique. It meant that his physical defense would be extremely high.

But for this, many other genes were capable of having this ability as well. This was a common trait among body-strengthening type genes. For example, the Vajra Gene awakened from the Vajra Subduing Devil Fist would also have this ability.

As for immense strength, it indicated that he would be extremely strong. For this ability, the Giant Gene and Ferocious Tiger Gene could also produce it.

As for invulnerable to sword and spear, it meant that his skin was incomparably tough and solid, resembling something constructed from metal. There was no need for him to fear the slashes of a sword or the stabbing of a spear. It was like the trait of Copper Skin Gene, Iron Shirt Gene, and Metal Gene...

In that case, the answer should be the final ability that the Stone Monkey Gene granted...

Impervious to fire and water!

What did this mean?

What did fire and water refer to?

Feng Lin didn't feel that it referred to normal water flow and flames. There were certain genes that fortified one's body. And when one's body was fortified to a certain extent, they would also be able to resist the flow of water as well as the burning of flames. It wasn't anything special.

There must be another deeper layer of meaning behind it. It wasn't as simple as the words stated.

When Feng Lin sent his will deep into the Stone Monkey Gene to research it, more and more genetic information appeared, clearing up his confusion.

Impervious to fire and water: Resisting the invasion of energy. As the gene was strengthened, this ability could be enhanced to the point where the possessor would be completely impervious to being harmed from different energy types' properties. An example was burns from flames or being frozen solid from frost. Impervious to fire and water, untouched by the myriad of laws!

76. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

The flowing water was the most gentle and soft energy in this world. It was continuous and endless, capable of eroding all objects. Once it stored up enough strength, nothing would be able to block it.

As for fire, it was one of the more explosive energies in the world, capable of incinerating all objects, turning them into ashes. It was also able to emit light and warmth, nourishing the myriad of creatures.

Water and fire were in mutual opposition. It could be said that they were the two sides of Taichi, capable of engendering yet also restraining each other. It could be said that these two forms of energy were the most common of all energies in the universe.

So it turned out that being impervious to fire and water didn't only mean that one would be able to resist the damage caused by the flow of water or the burns from flames. It was about being able to completely isolate the user from the properties of different forms of energy.

This was an extremely tyrannical power similar to magic. As the strengthening of this gene continued, the might it displayed would only grow stronger and stronger.

Stone was not only tough, but it was also a natural isolator born from heaven and earth. Energy forms wouldn't be able to invade it. An example was a hut made from stone. It would be able to protect those living in it from the heat of summer and the cold of winter.

Since stone monkeys were birthed from a stone, they naturally would also have this unique trait.

Wasn't the legendary Sun Wukong also the same as well?

He entered the eastern ocean, barging into the dragon palace. He caused a disturbance and turned the entire eastern ocean upside down.

Even when he was captured and brought to the demon-slaying platform of the heavenly court, being struck by thunder and being cleaved by axes, he was invulnerable to them all.

After that, he was forced into the Eight Trigrams Furnace by the Grand Supreme Elder Lord and was burned throughout. In the end, he suffered no injuries and even managed to master his Fiery Golden Eyes technique inside there.

...

All of these seemed extremely similar to the traits of the stone monkey. Feng Lin had a deeper understanding of his mythological genes. The abilities of mythological genes would always have ties to the myths and legends they were linked with.

He might be able to use his understanding of the myths and legends to research further abilities that were currently not yet awakened in his genes.

Now, he had managed to activate the Stone Monkey Gene and had already strengthened it by one point. If he continued to strengthen it, these unique traits would only be further enhanced.

The innate nature of the Stone Monkey Gene was that of a body-fortification type gene. He should be almost invincible in close-combat. What he was most afraid of should be people launching energy attacks from afar, restricting his movements, not allowing him to get near to them.

But now, with the ability to be impervious to fire and water, he could completely ignore the effects of different types of energy. This could be said to have mitigated the greatest weakness of him only being able to fight in close-combat. If it wasn't because of the fact that the Stone Monkey Gene didn't have any innate long-distance energy attacks, it would definitely be able to be considered as a perfect-grade gene.

However, Feng Lin also discovered one point. The ability to be impervious to fire and water meant that it would be able to isolate him from the effects of different energy types' properties. But it didn't mean immunity to the impact created from these attacks.

The cold of water, the heat from fire, the burn from intense light, the numbness from lightning and thunder... All kinds of energy would have a powerful effect that was impossible for one to defend completely and effectively.

However, stone monkeys were born from stones. They were natural isolators, and these energy effects wouldn't be able to touch them. But despite so, it didn't mean they were immune to the vast impact and power from the attacks.

When energies were concentrated to an extremely high degree, the power in them would be no different from brute-force strikes, save for the fact that they had their own inherent energy effects within. They would be transformed into an immense energy torrent. One could only clash against them head-on; all other methods were ineffective to block them.

Stones could be turned into magma from the flames of fire; a flood of water could also submerge them; the force of a lightning bolt might crumble them; a sufficiently intense beam of light might cause them to crack apart...

But even so, this was enough!

For energy attacks, the most fearful thing about them was their effects. It was simply too difficult to ward off the power of their effects.

The Stone Monkey Gene could already negate this greatest superiority that energy attacks had. It pulled the opponents down to the same level as him, and they could only fight each other by comparing their brute force and strength.

Would Feng Lin be fearful of that?

Fist against fist, smashing into each other's flesh. This was then the romance of men!

Only now did he understand the intent of the stone monkey having a stone body and steel bones. Not only was it highly resistant to damage, but it could also isolate itself from energy effects and drag opponents down to the level where they could only fight with brute force.

After understanding the abilities of the Stone Monkey Gene, Feng Lin was like a kid that just got a new toy. He started to experiment and tried to find out his true strength.

He silently activated the gene's abilities. His soft skin suddenly tensed up, shining with luster and became as tough as rocks.

Bang, Bang, Bang!

Feng Lin flicked his fingers, causing explosive sounds to ring out, akin to jade stones colliding together.

Creak, creak!

He wanted to try out his strength after his evolution.

In any case, Feng Lin had entered the Giant Pharmaceutical Company's most prestigious department. The conditions of his staying place were naturally the best. His residence basically had everything, even a small independent room for his own cultivation.

Although the equipment inside wasn't a lot and one could only do the most basic of all training, there was still the most basic punch-force machine in there.

Feng Lin walked over. He didn't really prepare and instantly tossed out a punch!

An explosive sound rang out.

A great force!

Feng Lin silently cursed. He only saw a pile of scrap iron lying before him, and he was momentarily speechless.

The punch-force machine emitted a sound that seemed as though its capabilities had been overloaded. Cracks soon began to appear, as black smoke could be seen rising from it.

“What the? I haven’t even unleashed my full strength and this machine already exploded!” Feng Lin was amazed, staring in astonishment at his fists. He didn’t even know how strong he was now exactly.

Although that was just the most common punch-force machine, it could still withstand up to five tons of force.

Just a casual strike by Feng Lin had already destroyed the machine. This meant that the force of his fists far surpassed five tons.

Who would have thought that he was still unable to get a clear gauge of his strength in the end!?

Feng Lin shook his head, clearly helpless. But this was helplessness born from happiness.

After becoming an interstellar cultivator, he could be said to have become someone that had transcended humanity. His strength was too powerful. Even Feng Lin himself didn’t know how powerful he was exactly. He only knew he was immensely strong...

Since the gauge of his strength failed, Feng Lin attempted to test his speed.

The stone monkey had powerful strength, but its agility was pretty good as well.

After all, monkeys were innately agile biological creatures.

At the cultivation apprentice level, Feng Lin’s speed had already surpassed those of his peers. There was no doubt that his speed would be even quicker now.

Feng Lin also wanted to know what his current limits were.

Pa, pa, pa!

His footsteps sped up, leaving behind a string of after-images on the speed-test runway.

The track on the speed-test runway rapidly cycled. All of a sudden, a creaking sound rang out as it broke apart and emitted black smoke.

Feng Lin helplessly stepped down from it. He discovered that his speed was stuck at a number. "2.28s per 100 meters!"

Although it was not even twice as fast as his previous 4.21s record, Feng Lin knew that the meaning behind this was extraordinary.

The closer the speed got to the limit, the more difficult it would be to increase it. Every bit of increase in speed would require a huge expenditure on energy.

Just like when one got close to light speed, every bit of increase in speed would increase its own energy mass exponentially.

At the speed of light, even tossed out marble could break through everything. The energy mass was almost infinite.

Light speed was the absolute linear speed limit in the universe. Without wormhole technology, it was impossible for humans to think about traveling across the universe.

4.0 seconds per 100 meters was the limit of mortals in the Interstellar Era. Feng Lin had already broken past this, exhibiting his extraordinary nature.

But to break the speed limit even by 1 second, it required a powerful vitality. Every bit of speed increment represented a huge breakthrough.

For example, in the Ancient Earth Era, 10 seconds per 100 meters was the limit. Every decrease of 0.1 seconds was considered a major milestone improvement.

Although his vitality had explosively surged, the increase in speed wasn't directly proportional to it.

For example, according to scientific research, an adult tiger had vitality at least five times more than an adult human. But was the running speed of the adult tiger five times faster than an adult human? This was clearly impossible!

If humans went all out, their running speed could reach 40 km per hour. But for tigers, their running speed was at most 80 km per hour. This was only an increase of two times the speed, far less than five times!

Using the same logic, through the increase in his speed, Feng Lin knew how powerful his body was now. The increase in his physical abilities was simply unimaginable.

Feng Lin unleashed his full speed, transforming into a gust of wind as he ran in circles inside the cultivation room. His figure shimmered in and out of one's vision; ordinary humans would find it tough to track him. There was only a series of after-images left behind as his silhouette flashed.

Right now, he was unquestionably sure that he was already a superhuman existence.

Feng Lin drew in a deep breath and calmed down.

He knew that five tons in punch force and 2.28 seconds in a 100 meters rush weren't his limits. If he wanted to more accurately know his data, he had to undergo more precise testing.

Now, since he was already an interstellar cultivator, what he should consider next was...

How should he walk his own mythological pathway of cultivation in the future?

77. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Genes had 0, 1, 2, 3 and other numerical tiers in sequence.

The road of the interstellar cultivator was also the path of gene evolution. With each upgrade of their genes, it would bring their vitality a step closer to that of mythological beings.

In Ancient Earth Era, every single primitive creature was a dictator of the food chain: dinosaurs, gigantic apes, terrifying alligators...

Having awakened tier-1 gene meant that you had achieved power which rivaled those primitive creatures, standing on top of the food chain as they had done.

Hence, if tier-0 gene was the foundation to gene evolution—also known as basic genes—then, tier-1 gene would be the primeval genes.

Even then, this couldn't be considered anything at transcendent level.

What would count as transcendent?

The power and lifespan which surpassed an average human being!

Power alone would not be enough. If their longevity didn't increase, then their vitality tier wouldn't have the ability to leap. No matter how strong one was, even if they could crush a planet with a single punch, it would still be insignificant and irrelevant after a hundred years.

As for power, it was nothing more than fabrication.

There was a saying in ancient cultivation: cultivation had to be done with a healthy mindset and for a proper purpose; otherwise, it will be nothing more than sickness in itself.

As a qualified interstellar cultivator, cultivation of both character and physical health was indispensable. Strengthening both power and lifespan was the true cultivation art, capable of reaching into the essence of life.

If tier-1 gene was the beginning of becoming the dictator of ancient creatures, then tier-2 was the first step toward the path of transcendence.

Once a person entered the realm of tier-2 gene, their lifespan will be boosted by at least 300 years, tripling what it would have been. Only at this stage could a person be considered

transcendent.

That was why tier-2 gene was also known as transcendent genes.

Without a doubt, Sun Wukong's path was the mythological path in which Feng Lin was on.

Every tier in the mythological path had its corresponding gene. Stone Monkey Gene was its first tier, then what would be the second?

To continue with the next step of his cultivation, he would have to figure that out first.

The road along this mythological path would require analysis of the stories of legends, deducing from each step of the mythological character's growth and experience.

These stories dictated the cultivation path, but deriving it would require genetic potential.

For example, Feng Lin knew that as the Creation God of Chinese Mythology, Pan Gu's mythological path would be invincible. However, the path to its genetic evolution would require an immense amount of genetic potential.

He knew that the peak of this path was Pan Gu genetics, but he didn't have a clue about its genetic tree nor the genes and combination at each tier.

Step by step, one would have to deduce every gene from the top to bottom and combine them. The genetic potential expended was simply too great for him to handle.

From the moment he awakened Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene, Feng Lin had thought that Sun Wukong was the best and only path he could've taken.

Or perhaps, he could wait until his vitality had strengthened again before ditching the restrictions of Sun Wukong's path and head onto one which was filled with infinite possibilities and freedom.

That being said, this was something that was far into the future. The matter at hand was far more urgent. Only after he had completed the task ahead, taking each step at a time and shaken himself off the clutches of his destiny, could he have a shot at achieving his freedom.

Otherwise, all these would be nothing more than fantasy.

In mythological tales, the power of saints and gods grew exponentially as one's experience grew. The inherited gene would likewise grow stronger step by step.

Feng Lin's flexible genetic points were sufficient and could be a supplement at any time. Even so,

if he didn't understand the direction of his own evolution and added points rashly, then he would only end up harming himself.

After all, genetics had a rule of strengthening with no regrets. He didn't want to find himself at a dead end of his cultivation because of a moment of impatience.

Feng Lin began searching for the next step of his genetic evolution.

For a regular person, it would be difficult to find out the next step they should take without another person's guidance.

However, genetic cultivation followed the mythological path.

Feng Lin had the knowledge of Ancient Earth's mythology and could use it as his guide, taking away the risk of losing direction.

Using his knowledge in mythologies to choose his path and having genetic equation to deduce the possibilities, it could be said that these two components complemented each other. Feng Lin could guarantee that he would never be led astray as long as he used his ability wisely. His cultivation route appeared incomparably bright.

After Stonebirth Gene, what gene would follow on Sun Wukong's path?

Feng Lin speculated that it was the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene at first but wasn't sure what was the difference between that and the Stone Monkey Gene.

He had a great grasp on mythologies, but that was based on how the stories were recorded. Perhaps the details from reality had been erased bit by bit through the passage of time and would require one to explore them a step at a time.

After all, he wasn't the real Sun Wukong and as such, he wouldn't know every single detail of the true mythological tale.

The only thing Feng Lin knew was that Sun Wukong's mythological path would have a tier which involved Sun Wukong Gene and that its tier-0 gene was made up of Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene. Tier-1 included Stone Monkey Gene, but he didn't know anything about the rest.

That was why he first assumed that tier-2 gene in this cultivation path was Sun Wukong Gene and regarded Stone Monkey Gene as the known variable. He then tried to solve it with the genetic equation.

However, there were no changes to his genetic equation, and the genetic potential remained

stagnant as well without deduction.

Why was that?

Wasn't the activation of genetic equation supposed to reduce genetic potential?

Feng Lin was confused; this was the first time genetic equation had failed.

However, after calming down, he thought it through. Genetic equation had always been useful before; it wasn't possible that it would fail now.

This didn't make sense!

He speculated.

It seemed like Sun Wukong Gene wasn't tier-2's transcendent gene but an even higher level gene.

The disparity between their genetic grades was too great and couldn't be combined directly. This was why genetic equation wasn't able to do its work.

Regarding Sun Wukong Gene's abilities, he could only explore it further in the future.

Every myth and legend was a path to Godhood!

These myths and legends were the starting points in figuring out the cultivation path.

Sun Wukong's story followed his growth and experience. In legend, his power would grow stronger continuously.

Feng Lin thought back on Sun Wukong's experience and recalled that before he had respected the Patriarch Subhuti as his Master and got his name, he was known as the Handsome Monkey King from Flowerfruit Mountain.

The transcendent characteristic from his stint as Handsome Monkey King must be within gene inheritance as well.

Could his tier-2 gene be the Monkey King Gene?

This time, Feng Lin assumed that Monkey King Gene was the tier-2 gene of Sun Wukong's path and once again used Stone Monkey Gene as the known variable before seeking the result.

Even so, the genetic equation didn't move just like before.

This meant this genetic evolution path still had a discrepancy in grades and wasn't able to be combined directly.

Monkey King Gene was higher than tier-2 in this case, and there were lower genetic tiers below it.

Feng Lin began combing through Sun Wukong's legend from the beginning again.

Birthered as a Spiritual Stone Monkey, Sun Wukong was naturally more agile and majestic than other monkeys; rays of golden light swept across all directions when he was born. He conquered the kingdom of monkey and became the Handsome Monkey King before attaining Path of Longevity. He traveled a long distance before saluting Patriarch Subhuti as his Master and got the name Sun Wukong... In the end, He wreaked havoc in Heavenly Palace and proclaimed himself as the Great Sage Equal to Heavens.

Feng Lin was ceaseless in recalling the story, and his mind seemed to clear up.

According to his knowledge, Monkey King Gene could possibly be a tier-3 gene while Sun Wukong Gene could be a tier-4 or tier-5 gene.

That left only one possibility for the tier-2 gene. That was the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene which Feng Lin just remembered.

Why didn't he try that from the beginning?

His mind screamed, wasn't Stone Monkey the same as Spiritual Stone Monkey?

Feng Lin thought they were the same, with only a difference in the way they were named.

It seemed that wasn't true.

Myths were just an overall route; there were many unknown secrets within it.

Proficiency in these legends only allowed Feng Lin to build upon it. Even with the clear knowledge of the path, details within it still required intricate analysis.

Feng Lin began to infer from this, using Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene as the target and the Stone Monkey Gene as the variable.

The nebula energy began moving into the genetic map.

As expected, there was a movement!

Feng Lin felt a burst of glee; the reduction in genetic potential meant that Spiritual Monkey King Gene was indeed the evolution of Stone Monkey Gene.

Genetic potential -20%, -20%, -20%...

Like a deluge, his genetic potential reduced by 180% rapidly.

This expenditure hit Feng Lin hard. It was as though with every upgrade in tier, the evolution formula would become more complicated as well, expending even more potential than before.

It seemed he would have to earn more genetic potential in the near future,

Finally, after his genetic potential reduced by 320%, three nebulas broke.

A clear path of genetic combination appeared before his eyes.

There was only one genetic formula.

Feng Lin looked up in surprise before his expression turned strange.

Stone Monkey Gene x 10 + Spirit Gene x 10 = Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene???

...

78. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

Stone Monkey Gene x10 + Spirit Gene x10 = Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene!

What a familiar equation.

Only when the Stone Monkey Gene and Spirit Gene were strengthened to a high-enough level would they capable of becoming the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene.

Numbers in each civilization and mythology all had different significance. In ancient chinese legends, the number '7' was the extreme limits for calculation and computing, while '9' was the extreme limits for number.

But '10', that represented the final perfection!

This Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene's evolutionary formula demanded the strengthening of both the components that made up of it to ten points each. This number seemed to contain a law that was born from heaven and earth, capable of transforming something rotten into something magical.

This wasn't a blind conjecture; there was proof behind it.

For example, although the Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene were low-grade basic genes, the Stone Monkey Gene they combined to form was actually a variation-grade gene.

The primeval gene was boosted by a total of three levels to variation-grade! Maybe, this might have a connection to the fact that both his Monkey Gene and Stonebirth Gene had broken through the strengthening limit of humans and reached 10 points each.

But naturally, this was just a conjecture; its persuasion ability wasn't high. But even so, there was already enough reason for Feng Lin to be filled with anticipation.

Now, this new formula stated that both the Stone Monkey Gene and Spirit Gene needed to be strengthened by 10 points too? This situation was extremely similar.

Feng Lin started to anticipate what abilities would his future Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene unlock.

Right now, the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene was not awakened yet. It was still a dark star when compared to the bright stars which were those awakened genes.

Feng Lin impatiently started probing. And very swiftly, a blurry piece of information flashed across

his mind.

Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene: The Spiritual Stone Monkey is capable of transformation and shifting the position of the constellations while also excels in astrology and geography. It is one of the four Chaotic World Monkeys.

This simple message caused Feng Lin to have countless thoughts.

Capable of transformations, excelling in astrology and geography, capable of shifting the positions of the constellations? Until what degree could the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene do those?

Every ability seemed easy to understand, but he had no idea to what degree would he be able to accomplish them.

Capable of transformations, did this mean that he could only change his appearance? Or would it be like Sun Wukong in the legends where he could change into a myriad of different forms?

Excelling in astrology, geography and capable of shifting the positions of constellations. How far would his limit be?

In the legends, Sun Wukong seemed omnipotent, capable of everything. Had the abilities been granted to him by his genes, or had they been something he cultivated?

All of these were question marks.

As of now, Feng Lin also found it tough to differentiate the truth. Only when his cultivation base reached a corresponding level would he be able to comprehend such things.

For example, for those who didn't become interstellar cultivators, they would never be able to understand how powerful interstellar cultivators were exactly.

Right now, it was useless to think so far.

Although this was with regards to his future path, things were still very blurry, but it was already enough to fill him with anticipation.

It was time to deduce the genetic formula and exhaust his genetic potential!

Feng Lin started by adding a genetic point to the stone monkey gene. However, nothing changed at all, the strengthening tally of the stone monkey gene clearly showed an increase of 100%.

What was going on?

Hmm, Isn't 100% genetic potential enough to strengthen an awakened gene by one point? Why is it useless now?

Feng Lin's expression changed. He was able to digitize genetic potential, allowing him to strengthen a gene easily. This was his greatest dependence. As long as he had enough genetic potential, he wasn't afraid of encountering any bottlenecks.

But if it failed, his future pathway would no longer be as relaxed and smooth as now. The difficulty would increase exponentially.

Although his temperament was now more matured, he still panicked a bit.

He had added a genetic point to his stone monkey gene, but the strengthening tally of the gene didn't change at all.

Feng Lin didn't understand why. He didn't believe and added a second point, but there was still no change to it.

He tried again, adding a third point to the Stone Monkey Gene, but the strengthening tally remained the same although the amount of genetic potential inputted was shown at 300%.

If he still felt that there were no problems now, it would mean that there was a problem with his brain.

He calmed himself down and intelligently chose not to waste any more genetic points.

He shouldn't continue on with the same mistakes. He had added three genetic points, each one worth 100% genetic potential, to the Stone Monkey Gene yet everything was useless. There must be some reason behind this.

If he couldn't find the reason and continue adding points recklessly, that would simply be a waste of his genetic points.

Since the strengthening tally did show the figure of 300%, it was clear that there was still some effect. But for some reason, the level of the Stone Monkey Gene didn't increase.

Feng Lin was extremely puzzled. He focused on his genetic equation ability and studied the information there for some time before he finally understood the reason why.

It was true that 100% of genetic potential could transform into one free genetic point. But this was only useful to strengthen basic genes. If he wanted to strengthen primeval genes by one point, he

needed 1000% worth of genetic potential instead. The expenditure was ten times more compared to strengthening basic genes.

Starting from primeval genes, every increased level in the gene scale was considered a giant leap. This was why the amount of genetic potential required to strengthen primeval genes was ten times more.

And now, Feng Lin only had 201% genetic potential remaining.

However, things felt logical when he thought about it. The potential of primeval genes was much greater compared to basic genes. The abilities they had was naturally much stronger as well.

With the enhancement of every single point to a primeval gene, the transformation it provided to the user would also be correspondingly greater.

If he could strengthen a primeval gene with just using 100% of genetic potential, this would basically be something that didn't conform to the laws of the universe.

However, understanding it was one thing. Feng Lin felt extremely miserable now.

He initially thought that his amount of genetic potential was still enough for him to use, and he had almost squandered it all away. He didn't even have enough to strengthen his Stone Monkey Gene now.

There was still a great distance away to 1000% of genetic potential. He can temporarily stop thinking about strengthening his Stone Monkey Gene for now!

It was better for him to be clear on how to synthesize the Spirit Gene for now right?

In any case, it was strange to speak of it. For the Stone Monkey Gene to evolve into the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene, the other gene he needed to have was actually the Spirit Gene.

For some reason, he thought about how Sun Wukong's innate intelligence surpassed that of others. And in the beginning, Sun Wukong even had another description about him...

A heart like a capering monkey with a mind like a galloping horse. He had been simply too restless at the start and was given the name of 'Heart Monkey'. He only became stronger after he had learned how to calm his mind and heart.

In that case, everything made sense.

Feng Lin started to research more about the attributes of the Spirit Gene.

=====

Gene: Spirit Gene

Grade: High-grade primeval gene

Strengthening Tally: 0

Ability: Allowing one's spirit to leave the body, increased sensitivity to the surroundings, and control of formless spirit energy.

=====

This was actually a high-grade primeval gene.

According to the information, he discovered that the Spirit Gene actually was a gene that allowed the user to control the energy of one's spirit. How powerful was this? His spirit could even leave his body. He would be able to shift objects from a distance just like telekinesis and even use his increased senses and sense his surroundings by sending out his will. This was something akin to a sixth sense.

Feng Lin instantly felt excited.

The Spirit Gene enabled him to control formless spirit energy that was akin to psyforce. It was able to mitigate his weakness in lacking long-distance attacks. Also, one could think up many crafty ways to use such an ability. If he wanted to kill an enemy, he could do it formlessly and it was impossible for them to defend against it effectively.

But how should he awaken this gene?

Each and every gene would have an independent evolutionary system and had to be synthesized step by step from basic genes.

Feng Lin started to use his genetic equation and burn his genetic potential to see what was the synthesizing method to form the Spirit Gene.

Luckily, this was just deriving the evolutionary formula of a primeval gene, it wouldn't exhaust too much of his genetic potential.

Genetic potential -5%, -5%, -5%...

After a total of 85% was deducted, the formula finally appeared.

In the genetic map within his body, the Spirit Gene lit up. Three lines flowed down from it, connecting to three dark stars, showing him the evolutionary system of this gene.

Spirit Gene = Mental Gene x9 + Psychokinesis Gene x6 + Spirituality Gene x8

The Spirit Gene was actually something that needed three basic genes to form, and each of the basic genes had extraordinary ability.

=====

Gene: Mental Gene

Grade: High-grade basic gene

Strengthening Tally: 0

Ability: Double one's mental strength, allowing one to hypnotize the hearts of others.

=====

Gene: Psychokinesis Gene

Grade: High-grade basic gene

Strengthening Tally: 0

Ability: Formless psyforce, shifting objects through space

=====

Gene: Spirituality Gene

Grade: High-grade basic gene

Strengthening Tally: 0

Ability: Strengthened subconsciousness, sensing the unknown, seeking luck and avoiding calamity.

=====

These were actually three different kinds of genes that had a connection to the mind and psyche. Each had different abilities and were extremely powerful; all of them were high-grade basic genes.

Different genes would have different awakening conditions, it was extremely complicated. This was also the reason why it was so difficult to obtain a complete genetic cultivation art.

Feng Lin naturally didn't have them, but it wasn't necessary to buy a genetic cultivation art. Maybe, the answer lay in the genes themselves.

A smile lit up Feng Lin's face.

He felt that he had already found the method to awaken the Spirit Gene!

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Note:

Spirit Gene, the first two words can literally mean the heart/mind and spirit.

79. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

From the grade of the Stone Monkey Gene, it was a variation-grade primeval gene.

But from its type, it was an extremely rare hereditary gene that contained a portion of inheritance from the Great Sage Equal to Heavens, Sun Wukong.

From the nameless Stone Monkey to the Handsome Monkey King that subdued the crowds of monkey on the Flowerfruit Mountain. He then dived into the eastern oceans, stirring up a gigantic commotion. In the end, he arrived at Fangcun Mountain and took Patriarch Subhuti as his master. From then on, he was given the name Sun Wukong, even managing to learn a myriad of unfathomable abilities on his adventure.

The divine beings of Ancient China had never been born powerful. All of them had to accumulate their strength bit by bit as they grew. Every step they took could be traced through the legends.

Even the abilities of different time periods could be transformed into unique traits and characteristics that were imprinted into mythological genes. Interstellar cultivators could also rely on evolving the mythological genes step by step to gain an increase in their powers and abilities.

Maybe to tread one's mythological path, other than the evolution of mythological genes, the inheritances from mythological memories were a crucial part as well.

There were two ways to awaken mythological genes. One was to temper your genes via genetic cultivation arts, actively awakening it. The other way was to use genetic potions or other external substances to stimulate the particular sleeping gene, passively awakening it.

Feng Lin didn't know of any genetic potions that could stimulate the Spirit Gene. Moreover, there was no need to think about it as he knew they would definitely be extremely rare. Hence, he could only choose the active path of awakening the genes.

The Spirit Gene was one of the necessary genes to create Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene in the genetic formula. Although Feng Lin didn't have the required genetic cultivation art or genetic potions to awaken it, he believed that he might be able to gain some helpful information through searching Sun Wukong's memories.

Upon thinking of this, Feng Lin mumbled, feeling that this was truly highly possible.

After becoming a Spiritual Stone Monkey, Sun Wukong became extremely smart; it granted him a powerful spirit. His intelligence far surpassed those of his kind, as well as the vast majority of

humans. This must be the reason why the unique characteristics of the Spirit Gene were imprinted into his genetics.

It was very possible that he had many spirit cultivation arts in his memories.

The genetic evolutionary formula was the same as a mathematical formula. It had the main parameter as well as the secondary parametric variables.

The main parameter dictated the main evolutionary direction of the gene. For example, a human with the Crawling Snake Gene could only have one gene evolutionary direction: Crawling Snake Gene→Poison Snake Gene→Python Gene→Flying Snake Gene→Divine Dragon Gene...

As for the secondary parametric variables, no matter how many they were, they could only influence, enhance, add-on, and supplement the main parameter. They wouldn't be able to change the gene evolutionary direction from Crawling Snake to Crocodile Gene or to the Tortoise Gene.

Undoubtedly, for the Spiritual Stone Monkey Gene, the Stone Monkey Gene was the main parameter while the Spirit Gene was the secondary parametric variable in the evolutionary formula.

How did Sun Wukong gain spiritual energy despite being an ordinary Stone Monkey and evolved into a Spiritual Stone Monkey?

There must be a special and unique method!

Maybe, the cultivation method of the Spirit Gene could be found inside the hereditary memories of the Stone Monkey Gene.

When Feng Lin transformed into a Stone Monkey earlier, he had obtained two cultivation arts—the 'Transforming energy into qi' art and the astral breathing method.

Feng Lin felt that the secret lay within these two arts he had obtained.

The 'Transforming energy into qi' art allowed him to rapidly digest nutrients in his body to strengthen himself. In that case, by process of elimination, only the astral breathing method remained.

Feng Lin's heart stirred. He thought back to the memories he had when he had been a stone monkey.

During the time where he had absorbed the essence of the sun and moon, he seemed to have

reached a miraculous state that resembled heaven and man as one. His soul was baptized by the moonlight; he felt as light as an immortal. Was that a way to temper his spirit?

This was worthy of a try.

Upon thinking of this, Feng Lin wasn't willing to waste any more time. He walked out of his residence and headed towards the external parts of the Giant Pharmaceutical Company.

Due to the fact that Feng Lin had finished his tasks way before the scheduled time during the day, he had gone back earlier and had a good nap after his cultivation. But now, the time was still not that late.

Right now, it was still in the middle of the night, but all cities in the Interstellar Era were brightly lit no matter how late it was.

The artificial sun above the Shitai City had mechanisms within that acted like that of an artificial moon. During the night, it would radiate a faint silvery light. The streets were extremely crowded as well despite it being night time. There was no difference from day time at all.

However, because this was artificial moonlight and wasn't something natural, Feng Lin wasn't able to absorb it through his astral breathing method.

Feng Lin still had the uniform of the Giant Pharmaceutical Company on him. He didn't halt his steps and continued heading to the elevator which would lead him to the surface.

The elevator was extremely quick, and he soon arrived at the surface after a few moments.

Swish~

The instant he exited, a violent gust of cold wind blew over with powerful force. The intensity of the wind was enough to toss a human up in the air. At the very least, the wind intensity had reached the 13th level. The windforce surpassed even violent typhoons.

Feng Lin's body trembled but he instantly stabilized himself.

The atmosphere during the night on Mars was extremely cold, about negative thirty-plus degrees. Gusts of cold winds would form frequently, causing clouds of dust to fly about. If one was unfortunate, they might even be frozen into ice statues.

However, Feng Lin's current vitality far exceeded what he had had back then. The atmosphere didn't really affect him at all.

What was fortunate was that today was considered a day of good weather on Mars. Although the wind was big, the weather was good. There weren't too many clouds, and one could see the sparkling stars in the sky clearly.

But sadly, there was no moon on Mars. He wasn't able to absorb the gentle essence of the moon at night.

However, astral energy was the same as well. In any case, energy from the constellations in the sky came from the same source, but they were just not as abundant when compared to the essence of the moon.

Also, the essence of the sun here was too blazingly hot. If he hastily absorbed it, it would only cause the inner fire in his body to surge chaotically. It would be extremely unbearable, and he might even burn himself to death.

Hence, Feng Lin could only settle for the second best and chose to absorb the energy from the stars in the sky here.

He increased his speed and started galloping while facing the wind. Numerous after-images appeared; each of his movements generated wind as well, acting like a sharp blade that sliced the resistance of the incoming wind that impeded his movements.

With a light foot tap on the ground, his entire person traveled a distance of over ten meters. Spreading his arms, he was like a flying bird that was enjoying the freedom of the skies.

Feng Lin propelled himself to his fastest speed. Very soon, he left the forest of windmills in the Shitai City and was heading to towering shadow in the distance.

That shadow was a gigantic and majestic-looking mountain.

There were no oceans on Mars; hence, the saying 'above sea level', didn't exist. But even so, this mountain was at least over 6,000 meters in height. It was lofty and precipitous, with a forest of stones on it. Ordinary humans would find it tough to scale it. Even flying birds might not be able to fly up there.

It was precisely this particular mountain that stood above everything else in its surroundings. If one stood at the mountain peak, they would be able to absorb the most vigorous astral energy with nothing to block it.

Feng Lin transformed into a series of after-images as he sped over with his greatest speed. If an ordinary human was to approach him now, they would definitely feel as though they saw a bunch of phantoms and would scream in fear.

He jumped across the rocks on the mountain and leaped higher and higher, moving like an agile monkey.

When the cruel winds blew past, not only didn't Feng Lin feel cold, but he actually felt refreshed.

He had never felt so free and unrestrained before, fully displaying his strength and abilities. He felt exceedingly comfortable and couldn't help but laugh loudly in satisfaction.

His loud laughter echoed through the ravines and drifted to even further locations by virtue of the wind.

Feng Lin only spent less than 10 minutes to reach the peak of a mountain that was over 6,000 meters tall.

Standing on the peak, the violent winds grew in intensity, sending the smaller stones flying all about as they smashed against cliff walls, leaving behind holes. Things were extremely dangerous.

But Feng Lin's location was precisely right at the peak. Below him was a ten-thousand feet drop or more, if he got blown off by the wind, his bones would definitely be smashed into pieces.

However, Feng Lin stood extremely stably; his legs were like roots of an old tree, deeply entrenched in the ground, standing there without moving.

He cast his gaze all around and could see other martial mountains and endless desert plains. For some reason, he felt that he was stepping on the entire Mars planet, and it gave him a feeling of joy and satisfaction like he had conquered it.

Feng Lin basked in the wind. His robes fluttered, creating flapping sounds as he decided to sit cross-legged.

According to his memories, he started to use the astral breathing method, which he had learned, to regulate his breath.

Breath in, breath out...

As he drew his breaths slowly and with force, each of his breaths was incomparably long.

Feng Lin's state of heart was incomparably calm, and the pores of his entire body opened up. His body was now like a black hole, frenziedly absorbing the energy in the air.

The stars in the sky dimmed, leaving only darkness behind.

From his surroundings, in a radius of about a thousand meters, strands of silvery light converged together, forming a phenomenon visible to the naked eye. It was a truly magnificent and beautiful sight.

The astral energy entered his body from his pores and started to circulate, bringing nourishment to every part of his body.

It felt like a breeze of cool wind, calming his heart, mind, and spirit. Feng Lin felt incomparably refreshed and his spirit growing clear and bright, even feeling a gradual feeling of levitation.

With a thought, his spirit left the confines of his mortal body and joined as one with his surroundings.

At this moment, Feng Lin felt as though he was standing in the middle of the starry skies with countless constellations gleaming around him as he sensed the vastness of heaven and earth.

This must be the miraculous state of heaven and man as one!

80. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

In his subconsciousness, Feng Lin blended with the surroundings, giving zero care even if heaven and earth flipped themselves. He completely lost track of time in this universe.

Among the insignificant things, he saw the vast expanse of the world and the countless shining stars in the sky.

His spirit was completely unfettered, breaking free from the restriction of his mortal coil, bathing in the astral light, standing amidst the starry space.

This was what Feng Lin was currently feeling. With no bindings on his spirit, he floated around the universe carefreely.

The boundless starry sky cascaded down countless rays of light. The stars flickered unceasingly.

Feng Lin's body was like a black hole; the astral energy rushed into his body like a hundred streams rushing into the ocean.

The astral light in the surroundings was completely absorbed as the area dimmed. There seemed to be some interstellar monster taking a bite out of a beautiful scroll of painting on the boundless starry skies. The picture was no longer perfect as an empty hole could now be seen in it.

But such a strange occurrence in the middle of the night was hard for anyone to notice it.

As a person who was experiencing this for the first time, Feng Lin also didn't notice this.

He was immersed in this miraculous state of Heavens and Man as one. It seemed that he had become a single entity with the heavens and the universe. His spirit boundlessly expanded. Every single star in the sky seemed to be an extremely far yet majestic life. The beating of his heart seemed to have reached the same frequency as the pulsation of the stars.

The star light became an extension of his consciousness, continuously spreading outward, enveloping the myriad of things in the universe.

Genetic potential +8%, +8%, +8%.....

The astral energy entered his body and was like spring water nourishing him, causing him to feel extremely refreshed.

The astral breathing method was also a type of cultivation. And as for genetic potential, as long as one cultivated, it would definitely increase regardless of the methods used. It was just a matter of how much the genetic potential would be increased by. But it was definite that it would increase.

Astral energy of the space came from the light of many constellations which had spanned countless light years. It would constantly soften, be diluted, be divided, be refined until it was extremely pure. It was no longer as intense as the original rays from a fixed star like the sun.

The light from fixed stars could nourish the myriad of living things. It was the source of energy for all kinds of life.

As astral energy entered the body and circulated unceasingly in one's meridians, there would be no impurities and it would swiftly transform into genetic potential that could be stored in one's body.

Being immersed in this miraculous state of Heavens and Man as One, Feng Lin let his spirit fly freely, allowing it to expand unchecked.

The three dark stars in the genetic map inside his body suddenly started to flicker.

With a probe of his will, Feng Lin realized that it was those three genes that made up the Spirit Gene.

This feeling of freedom in his soul seemed extremely clear that it was able to stimulate these genes. The hidden genes instinctively absorbed his genetic potential and gradually started to awaken, but the effect was different for each of them.

The Spirituality Gene in the middle was the slowest. It only increased by a rate of 1% every time. After a long time, only 5% of the awakening process was completed.

As for the Psychokinesis Gene, it increased by a rate of 3% every time and was already at 15%.

And lastly, for the Mental Gene, this was the foundation and the most important attribute for the Spirit Gene. Its rate was the quickest, at 8% every time and it soon reached 40%.

Feng Lin felt joy when he saw this. Using the effort of cultivating a single night, although it didn't seem likely for the other two genes to awaken, there was still some hope for him to awaken the Mental Gene.

He focused and did his best to absorb more astral energy into his body, wanting to finish awakening the Mental Gene before dawn arrived.

To Feng Lin, for a new gene, the most difficult thing was to take the first step and awaken it.

Only by awakening the gene would he be able to use his free genetic points and strengthen it instantly, enhancing it to a very high number.

His genetic potential continued to increase, +8%, +8%, +8%.....

Also, even with the constant increase in genetic potential, he didn't forget the fact that awakening these new genes would cause his genetic potential to decrease as well. But no matter what, his genetic potential still reached a total of 528%.

At the same time, the progress bar for awakening the Mental Gene gradually filled up and eventually reached 100%.

His Mental Gene's strengthening tally changed from 0 to 1; it had finally awakened.

=====

Gene: Mental Gene

Grade: High-grade basic gene

Strengthening Tally: 1

Ability: Double one's mental strength, allowing one to hypnotize the hearts of others

=====

Immediately, Feng Lin instantly felt different. He stood straight up, and his eyes became immeasurably deep and serene. There appeared to be a spiral in it that could draw away the souls of others if they looked in his eyes.

Swoosh~

A formless fluctuation radiated from the center of Feng Lin's brows, slowly enveloping his surroundings formlessly.

His mental energy gushed forth from him, melding together with the world. He could clearly sense everything in his surroundings perfectly.

This type of feeling was extremely mystical, far surpassing human's vision.

Because human's perspective was a three-dimensional lens; at most, they could only see the three vertical faces of an object.

But mental energy was not the same. It could get rid of the restriction of sight. It was formless, resembling the clouds and mist, permeating space completely and could survey an object from every angle and directions. There would be no perspective left unchecked as one would be able to take in every detail. It was like something similar to God's perspective.

But such senses couldn't last a long time. Very swiftly, Feng Lin felt mental fatigue and had no strength to continue. He closed his eyes and retracted his mental energy back in.

After all, his Mental Gene was only at 1 point. There was a limit to its abilities. Feng Lin immediately started to strengthen it. As the strengthening tally of the Mental Gene increased, one's mental energy would grow stronger and vaster. There were many benefits.

With the intention of his will, his genetic potential instantly dropped by 100%.

A cluster of nebula exploded into pure energy and entered the Mental Gene, causing the strengthening tally of it to turn from 1 to 2. His vitality grew once again by 0.8, reaching 10.9.

Feng Lin didn't stop. He continued to add his genetic points to it.

Right now, he had 528% worth of genetic potential. In total, he could add a total of three points to the Mental Gene, leaving behind 228% in reserve.

Feng Lin continued adding points. The Mental Gene flickered. There was no stagnation as its strengthening tally instantly climbed up by 2 points. He was still far from reaching this gene's limit.

This showed the characteristics of a high-grade basic gene. Usually, low-grade genes could only be strengthened twice, and those who could strengthen it thrice would be a genius among geniuses.

As for the Mental Gene, on theory, one would be able to strengthen it 6 times.

Feng Lin didn't hesitate and continued to add, causing the strengthening tally of the Mental Gene to reach 4. His vitality stats also reached 13.7.

After becoming an interstellar cultivator, an increase in vitality stats would be much more compared to before.

Once one became an interstellar cultivator, they would be completely different from the past.

And this was merely the strengthening process of a basic gene. If he had strengthened his variation-grade primeval Stone Monkey Gene, how much would his vitality stat have increased by?

Feng Lin didn't have any experience and couldn't make an accurate judgment.

His lips curled up into a smile as he silently admonished himself for making a big fuss over nothing. It seemed like in the future, he had to quickly adjust to the increase in his vitality stat.

Feng Lin once again sent out his mental energy, and he instantly felt something different.

After the Mental Gene was strengthened to 4, his perception of the world felt different. First, his perspective boundary had expanded. Earlier, when he had sent out his mental energy, it could only cover an area about 10 meters around him. But now, the scope had reached up to 40 meters.

Also, the precision increased many folds, even something about a centimeter large wouldn't be able to escape his notice.

The gigantic mountain range, the rolling stones and rocks, the clouds of dust blown about by the wind, the sand particles in the air—everything couldn't escape his notice.

If one was talking about the past and about his normal vision, now it would be like having a magnifying glass and telescope placed before his eyes, capable of peering through a distance of 1,000 miles, as well as the finer details of everything.

Feng Lin immersed himself in the sensation of using God's Perspective. But all of a sudden, he felt like something was wrong. With a scan of his mental energy, he discovered that in the distance, there was a dark patch on a mountain where the starlight couldn't illuminate.

On the cliff wall, a black-colored silhouette was slowly slithering towards him, resembling a snake, making no sounds and emitting no aura at all. It was incomparably bizarre.

81. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

“Who is that?” Feng Lin roared in rage. He didn’t say anything more and instantly made his move.

That crawling black silhouette was clearly a living creature. Although its body was soft and flexible, resembling a snake, there was a head and four limbs. That was clearly a human that had silently approached him, observing his actions. There was no doubt that that black silhouette came with unkind intentions.

No matter if that person was a friend or foe, it wouldn’t be wrong to capture him immediately.

Feng Lin drew in a deep breath and opened his mouth as he spat out. The resulting boom felt like a thunderbolt, causing the hearts of people to chill.

A white beam of light flashed, showing an air arrow that was capable of injuring people if the attack hit.

Feng Lin stomped heavily on the ground. The rocks on the mountain peak crumbled and rose up from the impact. With a sweep of his leg, the tens of rock shrapnels were swept out by the force of his kicks, shooting forth with the speed of bullets.

He didn’t stop and acted like a fierce tiger, lunging over, exuding a fearsome aura. He burst forth with all his strength, wanting to subdue his opponent as he launched a series of attacks. Feng Lin shifted to the side, dodging a silvery mercury-like substance spat out by his opponent. He continued rushing over, not planning to give his opponent any time to breathe.

“No good!” That snake silhouette was discovered and couldn’t help but exclaim in shock.

The silhouette didn’t expect the senses of this man to be so sharp and had so ferocious attacks that were as swift as the wind, as blazing as fire. It instantly fell into danger and had no way to defend itself.

The snake-like figure’s slender body twisted left and right. Its four limbs were on the ground and shuttled quickly across the mountain walls, evading the air arrow as well as the rock shrapnels.

As Feng Lin’s attacks neared, the snake-figured man arched his back and suddenly leapt up in the air, nimbly dodging the attack. After that, he landed once again on the mountain walls and slithered away with great speed.

“Where can you run to!” Feng Lin coldly snorted. At the point where the opponent dodged his

attacks, Feng Lin had clearly seen the enemy's appearance. The man's body was slender and flexible as though it had no bones at all. There was also a layer of black-scales covering his figure, making it resembled a large black python, allowing him to perfectly meld into this environment of darkness. If it wasn't for the fact that Feng Lin had awakened his Mental Gene, it was impossible for him to discover this snake-figured man at all.

This snake-figured fellow was extremely strange. This also further proved how treacherous and unfathomable humans could be. Why was this fellow observing him?

Hence, there was no way for him to let this man go.

Ha!

Feng Lin's legs suddenly stomped. The stone surface of the mountain was like soft tofu as his legs sank in. With a breath in, he suddenly unleashed a flurry of blows.

Hong Fist!

This was one of the most ordinary ancient martial arts. Even without the supplement of genetic abilities, it displayed tyranny and domineering prowess. This ordinary martial arts, when used by Feng Lin, sent out streams of formless fist force that shot through the air, resulting in long-distance attacks.

Bang, bang, bang!

Numerous explosive booms rang out, akin to the sound of thunder.

The fist forces in those punches were like cannon and were as dense as rain, shooting towards the same direction. The stone mountain walls were all torn full of holes, and shattered rocks flew about wildly.

That slithering figure moved like a true snake, his body constantly twisting, agilely avoiding Feng Lin's attacks.

Such flexibility wasn't something ordinary humans would have.

Upon seeing this scene, how could Feng Lin not understand that this man must have awakened mythological genes as well? His abilities were extremely bizarre, granting him extraordinary flexibility akin to a snake. However, Feng Lin still couldn't be sure of the exact genes that this man had awakened.

Was it the Slithering Snake Gene, the Boneless Gene, or Flexibility Gene?...

He didn't know any of this.

There were many genes that granted flexibility, and their traits were similar. He couldn't be sure within such a short time.

"Things are somewhat troublesome," Feng Lin silently mused. But even so, it was only considered a little troublesome to him given his current abilities.

After becoming an interstellar cultivator, there was simply too many methods he could use. He had an answer for any kind of complex situation.

Staring at the snake-figured man frenziedly escaping, Feng Lin unleashed his full speed as he gave chase.

At the very least, he could reach the speed of 2.28s per 100 meters. Moving short-distances was like teleportation to him. He could instantly arrive at his target location.

Given his current speed, not only had he exceeded the limits of the human body, but he had also exceeded the speed in which ordinary humans could track with their eyes. After-images formed after him, Feng Lin's silhouettes were everywhere on the mountain, appearing extremely real.

One of Feng Lin's hands took on the claw-form as he ruthlessly slashed out with it.

Chi...

The air was torn apart like rags. The snake-figured man couldn't react in time. He was grabbed and held in a choke into the air.

Feng Lin saw an incomparably bizarre looking human figure. The features of this human were squashed together, extremely ugly and eccentric. His body was as soft as water, so flexible as though he had no bones at all. He was clearly a human but resembled a snake as he squirmed about wildly in Feng Lin's grasp.

It was also unknown what he was wearing. It was like a layer of scales that were shining and slippery. If he didn't hold the snake-figured man tightly enough, it would surely be able to wriggle free.

Feng Lin couldn't help but increase his strength.

"Argh!" That features of that snake-figured man contorted as he screamed in pain due to the immense force in Feng Lin's grab. All of a sudden, the snake-figured man opened his mouth, and

two beams of green light flashed. There seemed to be two items that were as sharp as needles shooting toward Feng Lin's eyes.

This close of a distance was simply like face to face. It was impossible to evade.

"What the hell is that?" A sense of danger rose up in Feng Lin's heart. He instinctively shut his eyes as he activated the Stone Monkey Gene, causing his skin to toughen up, becoming as hard as marble.

The tiny sharp objects slammed into his eyelids, creating sparks while emitting a clear ringing sound before they were deflected.

"What?" A voice exclaimed in disbelief. That was a sure-kill technique but how come there was no effect? That snake-figured man couldn't believe what was happening.

Taking advantage of the fact that Feng Lin wasn't paying attention, his snake-like body that was extremely smooth and slippery suddenly contracted, becoming incomparably slender as he slid out of Feng Lin's grasp. He then turned and hurriedly fled, wanting nothing more than to be as far away as possible from this monster Feng Lin.

Chi, chi!

The two green-colored needles fell onto the ground, causing black smoke to rise up as the surface of the ground started to corrode. Evidently, the needles were highly toxic.

Feng Lin immediately felt great anger. Such an insidious method! This man clearly wanted to kill him.

Originally, he only wanted to subdue this man and find out where he came from and why did he track him.

But now, he didn't need to consider things so much anymore.

Since the other party had already launched killing blows, if he still showed mercy now, it would really mean that he was crazy.

Feng Lin began to unleash all his methods and started to launch attacks that could kill his opponents.

His fingers continued to flick out. His supple flesh vibrated at high frequency as tiny needles of air force blasted through the air as quick as bullets.

Although the air bullets created by the flicking of his fingers wasn't that powerful, they were extremely numerous and tough to evade.

The snake-figured man also knew how strong Feng Lin was. He opened his mouth and spat out concentrated amounts of poisonous green needles in response.

The poisonous bullets clashed against the air bullets, causing a ringing sound to echo like the collision of metal and stone. Sparks manifested, spraying through the air as the needles fell to the ground.

These green needles were extremely sharp; all of them were embedded in the ground due to the impact of the collision. The air bullets also went off course and ricocheted elsewhere, making the surface of the land full of holes.

On the surface, they seemed to be evenly matched, but Feng Lin was already successful in delaying his opponent. How could he miss this opportunity?

Vajra Subduing Devil Fist!

The Stone Monkey Gene granted him a body of stone with bones of steel. The toughness of his body was completely not inferior to the traits of those with the Vajra Gene. He could completely unleash the power of this genetic martial art, displaying 100% of the potential.

Feng Lin continued attacking. It was like a true vajra had descended to the mortal world. He crossed three meters with a single step, taking large strides as he chased after his opponent.

BOOM!

His fist contained a heavy force. The raging air currents frenziedly blasted over, becoming an intense wind pressure that knocked the snake-figured man flat on the ground, pinning him there.

This fist...The snake-figured man knew that he was unable to take it!

The snake figure inclined his head and stared at this scene. His face was painted with terror.

BANG!

The snake-figured man was completely helpless and couldn't defend against it. He was pummelled by the force of the ruthless blow, and his entire person seemed to have become a shriveled piece of snake skin.

"Something is wrong!" Feng Lin felt a sense of unease. Given how great his current strength was

and the fact that earlier he had used his full power in this punch, how come this snake-figured man didn't even cough out blood? How was this possible?!

Sou!

A figure suddenly wriggled out from the 'snake skin' as that figure struggled to flee.

The shredding of the snake skin was actually an ability to protect his life. Feng Lin didn't expect it, but his killing intent was already roused. There was no way he would spare this person.

His formless mental energy gushed out, locking down on his opponent's figure, not allowing him to escape his detection.

This poor snake-figured man was inferior to Feng Lin in speed and strength. He was forced to his limits until he couldn't take it anymore. All of a sudden, he turned and sprang toward Feng Lin.

His flat figure suddenly inflated, taking on a form that resembled humans as he took out a ray gun, blasting it at Feng Lin.

The fiery beam of light broke through the darkness, seeking to destroy everything in its path.

A great sense of crisis rose up in Feng Lin's heart. He crossed his arms in front of his chest, attempting to block the light beam.

Chi!

The light beam blasted into Feng Lin's arms, forcing him back over ten steps before he came to a stop. His feet left behind imprints on the surface of the ground when he was forced back, a truly shocking sight.

The Stone Monkey Gene was impervious to fire and water, so he managed to defend against this rush of energy.

Feng Lin's hands trembled slightly. His arms were charred black as killing intent rose up in his heart.

"DIE!" He roared in anger. Leaping upward in a position where no one could block him, his punches were as heavy as a mountain.

Even before his punch force arrived, the pressure his stance emitted already caused that snake-figured man to be immobilized.

Even if you are a real snake, you will be crushed into a dead snake under this fist of mine!

Seeing such a powerful blow, that snake-figured man also didn't know how to evade it. His face was filled with despair as though he had already seen how he would die under the force of this blow.

"Stay your hand!" From the darkness, two palms slammed out. They appeared to be ordinary, but they contained a myriad of variations in them, capable of changing to millions of stances as they blocked Feng Lin's attack.

82. Chapter

Translator: Lordbluefire Editor: Lordbluefire

These seemingly ordinary palms directly smacked over. They actually contained a million variations, becoming a palm, a finger strike, a hammer blow...all sorts of weaponry stances could be mixed within, and they were exceedingly profound.

Feng Lin felt that no matter how he changed his moves, they would all be caught by this new opponent's palms. There was no way for him to evade as well.

Bang!

The palms seemed slow but were actually extremely swift. They collided together with Feng Lin's fist and dragged it backward slightly. All the violent fist force dissipated into nothingness, vanishing without a trace, just like how the spring wind transformed into rain.

That snake-figured man got a chance to catch his breath. He instantly took this opportunity and wriggled free once more before fleeing far away, not daring to get near Feng Lin any longer.

Earlier, during Feng Lin's final attack that was akin to the ocean tides, he could feel the pressure of death boring down on him. His heart was still pounding rapidly.

Feng Lin didn't choose to pursue the snake-figured man. His eyes were fixed on this new opponent that suddenly appeared before him. This man was clad in ancient and voluminous long robes, which covered him from head to toe. It was an example of how Martians would dress. His frame was skinny, yet it emitted an aura as immovable as a mountain.

From this opponent, Feng Lin could faintly sense danger.

"Young man, when it's possible to let people off, one should take that chance. Why must you go all-out and launch the killing blow?" The long-robed man spoke in an old and decrepit sounding voice like he was an elder lecturing a junior.

Feng Lin frowned, feeling extremely uncomfortable in his heart.

After beating the young one, the old one came out?

He coldly laughed. "Earlier when that snake-figured fellow launched killing moves toward me, why didn't you appear then? Now, you suddenly want to be the righteous guy?"

"He only accidentally got close to you and was frightened by you. Under panic, he naturally

attacked more ruthlessly, it's reasonable. In any case, you are already an interstellar cultivator. Young man, why must you lower yourself to the level of a cultivation apprentice like him?" The long-robed man laughed, not bothered by the earlier events at all. It was clear that he was treating what happened earlier as something insignificant.

"Do you believe in your own words?" Feng Lin sarcastically mocked and shook his head. He already couldn't be bothered to hear such warped logic. Hearing these pompous words made him wanted to vomit.

Since you guys are together, why is there a need to talk so much crap?

The reply Feng Lin gave his opponent was this...

Since you want to fight, let's fight!

Vajra Dragon Claw!

His fingers formed the shape of a dragon claw and slashed down through the air, emitting the high-pitched roars of a dragon.

Feng Lin's figure shimmered. He was moving so fast that he cast no shadow on the ground as he grabbed toward his opponent's vital point—the throat.

If he hit his target with this move, even if his opponent was a man made of iron, his opponent's windpipe would still be crushed!

The man in the long robe had a face filled with astonishment. He didn't expect that he only said a few words, and Feng Lin would react so decisively and ruthlessly, wanting to kill him.

Feng Lin coldly laughed. Originally, they were both already enemies. Why is there a need to talk crap? Since you like to talk so much, let me kill you while you speak then!

The long-robed man's reactions were also extremely fast. Upon facing this sudden claw attack, he changed his moves. His palm became a finger as he struck out with it, aiming for the center of Feng Lin's claw.

With a bang, the finger strike broke through the air. It was like a divine sword; the aura of sharpness clashed into the claw force generated by Feng Lin's attack. The impact caused waves of aftershock to spread to the surroundings.

Feng Lin's palm felt intense pain as though it was stung by bees. He could only retract his hands instinctively. His skin was unbroken, but there was a piercing pain in his nerves.

However, the long-robed man didn't enjoy any advantages either. He didn't expect Feng Lin's claw to be so tough. His finger felt as though it had slammed into an iron board. His finger bone felt as though it was on the verge of breaking.

"AGAIN!" Feng Lin roared, rushing over once more as he changed his attack.

Mighty Vajra Palm!

His palm was like a saber, he twisted it into a chopping posture and cleaved down with it violently, generating a strong wind.

The expression of the long-robed man turned heavy; he knew how powerful this attack was. He changed his stance once more and clenched his hands into fists. After that, he was like a divinity waving twin hammers around with great strength.

His fists slammed into Feng Lin's palm. Their bodies trembled from the impact, and they appeared evenly matched.

However, Feng Lin advanced instead of retreating. He made use of his momentum and leaned forward slightly, slamming with his opponent head-on.

Eight Extremities Fist – Sticking close to the mountain!

The long-robed man felt as though a wall of steel rammed into him. His entire person was sent flying and his shoulder felt as though it was about to shatter.

Regardless of strength or the body's toughness, he was definitely inferior to Feng Lin.

In order to capitalize on his advantage, Feng Lin naturally attacked even more ruthlessly, showing no mercy. His fists punched as his legs kicked. He was like a ferocious tiger that attacked with the momentum of ocean tides.

The long-robed man only felt his surroundings be filled with a flurry of fist shadows and was in an extremely pitiful state, trying to deal with all of them.

"What? The captain is actually not a match for this man? He is completely suppressed!" That snake-figured man slowly slithered back after finally escaping from Feng Lin. When he saw the current situation, his face was filled with disbelief.

That long-robed man was an extremely powerful existence that only a few could match. He didn't expect that the long-robed man would be suppressed at all. Not only that, but the opponent of the

long-robed man was such a young fellow. This made him feel tough to accept this reality.

Devil Subduing Mighty Vajra Club!

Feng Lin's fists were like gigantic clubs, ruthlessly smashing down, wanting to split apart mountains. The momentum was so great that nothing could block it. His aura was vigorous, exuding a pressure that bore down on his opponent.

The hands of his opponent changed their stances once more, pressing together as he thrust upward. This stance was like Pan Gu supporting the heavens and earth, holding up the sky.

BOOM!

The two violent forces collided together.

The expressions of the long-robed man drastically changed. Heavy pressure akin to Mt. Tai was pressing down on him, wanting to crush him into pieces.

Kacha!

He could barely resist the force, but the ground underneath him couldn't bear it.

The legs of the long-robed man were deeply embedded into the ground, driven in from the impact.

"Not good!" The long-robed man didn't expect Feng Lin's strength to be so overwhelming. He was instantly suppressed and entered a disadvantageous situation.

Since his legs were stuck, there was no way for him to escape. The situation turned extremely critical.

He was trying to free his legs and make a run for it, but how could Feng Lin give his opponent a chance to breathe?

Bang, Bang, Bang!

His palms were like thunderbolts; every attack caused an explosive sound to ring out through the air.

His fists pummelled down like giant hammers, with all his strength infused within.

However, the moves used by the long-robed man were all extremely exquisite and profound. His techniques were way superior to Feng Lin's.

Right now, his hands were like a giant shield, blocking all vital parts of his body, showing no flaws at all. Clearly, this was not an ordinary martial art.

Every single one of Feng Lin's moves was parried. No matter what he did, he wasn't able to break through this tortoise's shell of a shield.

However, Feng Lin wasn't a vegetarian. Since this guy wanted to block his attacks so much, let him have fun blocking them then. He channeled all his strength and treated his opponent like a punching bag. Feng Lin's attacks weren't so easily received.

Strength overcomes everything.

Although his opponent's techniques were profound, his body was like a nail half driven into the ground by the repeated blows of a hammer. He sank deeper and deeper into the earth from Feng Lin's attacks.

BOOM!

Another punch blasted out.

The long-robed man was almost completely buried. Nothing could be seen of him any longer.

"You are next!" After subduing this man, Feng Lin glanced towards that snake-figured fellow, his eyes gleaming with killing intent.

The snake-figured man had been watching from the side. All of a sudden, a look of extreme terror appeared on his face as he hurriedly retreated.

Feng Lin sneered and wanted to rush over.

Boom!

All of a sudden, an explosion rang out.

Feng Lin turned over and only saw a fiery beam of light rushing from the ground. A moment later, a human figure brimming with fiery energy emerged, causing the surrounding temperature to surge.

It was impossible for a cultivator apprentice to unleash such a fierce fire. There was no doubt that his opponent was an interstellar cultivator!

“Let’s end things here.” The long-robed man had an imperious look on his face. It was as though his confidence was greatly increased after he unleashed the fiery flames, like everything was under his control.

“Great that you still appear!” Feng Lin didn’t feel shocked but was filled with joy instead as he rushed over.

That person had an arrogant smile on his face. He was an interstellar cultivator and had awakened a high-grade primeval gene—the Sea of Fire Gene. Ordinary characters definitely wouldn’t be his opponent.

This guy is so young, yet he already became an interstellar cultivator. Clearly, his talent is extraordinary. But how powerful can he be?

The fingers of the long-robed man moved, transforming into a multitude of variations, moving unpredictably but in beautiful postures. Clusters of flames shot out, resembling shooting stars, rings of fire, and fireballs...

The form of the flames wasn’t fixed. They converged and became a sea of fire, instantly engulfing Feng Lin.

A satisfied smile could be seen on the face of the long-robed man. However, his smile soon froze at the next moment.

A human silhouette slowly walked out of the flames. Other than his clothes being burned, he seemed to have suffered no damage.

Mighty Vajra Capturing Hands!

Feng Lin’s eyes burned with anger. His claws grabbed out, unleashing incomparably ferocious attacks. Although his opponent’s moves were marvelous, he was still completely suppressed.

The fearsome claw force forced the long-robed man back.

Feng Lin also knew that his opponent was an interstellar cultivator; hence, his attacks turned even more ruthless.

This was his first time fighting against a cultivator. Such a battle experience was extremely rare. Since the abilities of his opponent were countered by his Stone Monkey Gene, he had an absolute chance of victory. Hence, he launched his attacks unhurriedly, seeking to gain more valuable combat experience as he fought.

Feng Lin's moves grew smoother and smoother, constantly changing like floating clouds and flowing water, dominating his opponent completely.

That long-robed man felt as though he was about to go mad. He couldn't help but roar, "We are not mortal enemies! What do you want before you would stop?"

This was such a rare opportunity to fight against an interstellar cultivator. Feng Lin would be able to use this chance to develop his true combat prowess; thus, how could he give up this 'sparring partner' so easily? His only reply was a burst of loud laughter.

"Let me fight until I'm satisfied before we discuss anything else!"

