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到前太座公

# Sky Traversing Sword Master - Chapter 01-05

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# Chapter 1

## Chapter 0001: Jiang Chen

*Viewing from afar, a mountain range reaches a thousand zhang into the sky. Dozens of majestic mountains appear in sight. A mountain peak seems to have been slashed by a knife as the top of this mountain is flat. From the foot to the summit numerous buildings are situated on it, so the whole mountain seems to be covered by a gorgeous coat.*

The Three Stars Sect was located in the southern part of the East Mysterious country. Reputed to have a thousand outer sect disciples and three hundred inner sect disciples.

At the foot of a mediocre mountain in a small courtyard, Jiang Chen continued to practice the sword. His sword seemed simple and lacking magnificence, yet every thrust concealed a killing technique. However, in the eyes of outsiders, it seemed too plain.

Not too long ago, Jiang Chen's sword was famed in the outer sect as acutely sharp by all.

After practicing his sword, Jiang Chen sheathed it into its scabbard, closed the door of his courtyard, and advanced halfway up the mountain road. On the mountain road, Jiang Chen walked by himself in silence. Beside him, falling maple leaves flew in the wind. A group of disciples walked down the mountain road and brushed past Jiang Chen.

"See, this Jiang Chen is the outer sect's most shameless, despicable disciple. For some herbs, he actually sneak attacked his best friend to eliminate witnesses."

"I heard that senior Jiang Chen was the outer sect's most frightening disciple in the last decade, possessing stunning ability. He and Gu Qingyuan were two brothers. The outer sect's impressive heavenly disciples." said a new outer sect disciple, who was puzzled.

"You have only joined the outer sect for several days and have not understood his ugliness. In one year, you will..."

As the voices trailed away, Jiang Chen's face showed a hint of a self-depreciating smile.

*'Gu Qingyuan, you are really good. Able to turn right and wrong upside-down, remembering everything between you and me...'*

*'Never mind. My eyes should not have these tears, my reason ought to...'*

Three years ago, he and Gu Qingyuan both entered the sect. At that time, they both were unremarkable at the 3rd stage of the Qi Sea realm. As they both were swordsmen, over time they became good friends and frequently compared notes in swordplay.

Jiang Chen's sword was sharp and acute, every blow had swiftness and fierceness as the final objective.

Gu Qingyuan's sword was filled with gorgeous beauty, not allowing people to breathe.

Always shining like gold, not only in swordsmanship, their cultivation speed was also incredible. At 13 years of age, the two together stepped into the 4th stage of the Qi Sea realm. At 14 years of age, they both entered the 7th stage of the Qi Sea realm, shocking the entire outer sect. Even when they were not one of the outer sect's top ten disciples, they were called as the outer sect's impressive heavenly disciples with unlimited potential.

But all this was the public judgement of the two men. In Jiang Chen's eyes, Gu Qingyuan's sword was certainly strong, yet he failed to be Jiang Chen's opponent. If he went all-out, Jiang Chen would defeat him in 10 blows, but taking Gu Qingyuan's face into account, he had never defeated him in public.

Also, Gu Qingyuan had never conceded to him in public.

A year ago, the two of them left to explore the Forbidden Star magical forest and found a rare 2-star high-grade Seven Heart Grass herb. Seven Heart Grass herb was a relatively rare 2-star high-grade herb and could be exchanged for 1,000 sect contribution points. There were several scores of Seven Heart Grass herbs

scattered. There were several tens of thousands worth of sect contribution points for the two at the time, no doubt, it was a windfall.

But Jiang Chen never expected Gu Qingyuan to attack him! His deadly sword pierced his 7th stage Qi Sea, reducing his cultivation to the peak of 6th stage Qi Sea and seriously injuring him, but still leaving him the energy to fight back. His sword pierced Gu Qingyuan's body, unfortunately failing to penetrate his Qi Sea.

If it were only so, Jiang Chen would have paid back Gu Qingyuan because he was unlikely to bear this injustice.

Gu Qingyuan's attack on Jiang Chen was not noticed, but Jiang Chen's sword piercing Gu Qingyuan was seen by coincidentally passing outer sect disciples.

With his 7th Qi Sea punctured, Jiang Chen's qi began rebelling, causing him to fall unconscious on the spot. In front of several outer sect disciples, Gu Qingyuan had to save his face, he could not kill Jiang Chen.

*After this, 'Jiang Chen attacked best friend, intending to kill the witnesses to monopolize Seven Heart Grass herb' rumours spread like wildfire.*

The course of events was detailed as such: the two of them found the Seven Heart Grass, Jiang Chen rose to sneak attack Gu Qingyuan with a sword blow, but Gu Qingyuan promptly perceived his attack. The two of them exchanged a dozen sword blows before Jiang Chen found out he was no match for Gu Qingyuan. Gu Qingyuan's sword pierced Jiang Chen's 7th Qi Sea. Gu Qingyuan was mindful because the two were good friends, seriously injuring Jiang Chen causing him to be extremely remorseful and distracted. But Jiang Chen was merciless, contrary to expectations he thrust his sword to stab the distracted Gu Qingyuan.

Right and wrong was completely inverted.

Next year, the injured Jiang Chen laid in bed for months, his 7th Qi Sea being punctured was not a trivial matter. If no fortuitous event occurred then it was no longer possible for Jiang Chen to enter the peak 7th Qi Sea realm, even surpassing the 7th Qi realm was impossible.

And this year, Gu Qingyuan moved forward to step into the 9th Qi Sea realm, becoming the first of the 10 outer disciples, if no accident occurred then next year, at the age of 16, he will inevitably break through to the Soaring Sky realm and become an inner sect disciple.

A person disdained by everyone, a glorious person with unlimited capability. From now on, these two individual were as different as black and white in this world.

...

Clearing the vague memories from his head, Jiang Chen had already arrived at the gate of the sect's contribution hall.

The Contribution hall is the place where contribution points can be exchanged.

Looking at his record crystal, the contribution points given by the sect had finally reached 1000 points, Jiang Chen's heart tightened.

Sect contribution was important, as it can be used to exchange for martial arts manuals. It can also be used to exchange for low-grade spirit stones for cultivation and can be used to exchange for medicinal pills or possibly even treasure weapons! From the inner sect's elders, nobody could possibly dislike sect contribution points for oneself. Just wait to accumulate more.

1000 sect contribution points are not that much.

In the sect, the worst Yellow level low-grade sword technique requires 200 sect contribution points, the worst Yellow level mid-grade sword technique requires 500 sect contribution points and the worst Yellow level high-grade

sword technique requires 1500 sect contribution points.

Of course, Yellow level low-grade and mid-grade sword techniques are not lacked by Jiang Chen. Prior to breaking through to the 7th Qi Lake he had learned 10 Yellow level low-level sword techniques and four mid-level sword techniques. He and Gu Qingyuan were different. He paid more attention to basic, lower level sword techniques, admittedly, the killing power of the techniques was lower. However, it does allow him to clearly comprehend the sword Dao, arriving at the inner essence. After all, no matter how powerful a sword technique was, it was developed through rudimentary sword techniques.

“According to Gu Yingyuan’s temper, he should have exchanged for two or more Yellow-level high-grade sword techniques, right?”

Martial arts sword techniques were divided into three levels of Heaven and Earth, Black and Yellow. The power possessed by every layer was a far cry from the other. Yellow level high-grade sword techniques are the most powerful among Yellow level sword techniques. The profound mysteries of the Yellow level middle-grade sword techniques were not comparable. In a period of time, famous sects divided sword techniques to produce together a complete sword technique. At a crucial moment, it can exceed the depth of the founding techniques, exceed the predecessors by a slight amount. In the past, Jiang Chen had once seen an outer sect elder fully use an excessive sword technique. One sword blow truly produced two spatial cracks! A sword technique was equivalent to two people simultaneously killing; needless to think of resisting and blocking continuously, there would be no time to react.

But for now, Jiang Chen did not intend to exchange for Yellow level-high grade sword technique, too many sect contribution points were required. He currently needed a Fantasy Crystal Grass.

“Bi Qing, look, your formerly most admired person, Jiang Chen, hey!”

The Contribution Hall was filled with many outer sect disciples who wished to exchange Contribution Points, several outer sect female disciple’s eyes fell on

Jiang Chen, arousing whispers.

“Liu Ling, do not speak, I admired him once, but the current him is unworthy of my admiration. His 7th Qi Sea was broken and in this life he cannot break through peak 6th Qi Sea. I, in the near future, will be able to break through to the Soaring Sky realm. We are two people belonging to two different worlds. Presently ,among the outer sect, the person who deserves my admiration is only Gu Qingyuan. His sword technique is gorgeous and overbearing, he is almost on the level of inner sect disciples.”

“Indeed, according to Gu Qingyuan’s followers, he said that in terms of sword technique, he was stronger than Jiang Chen, but wanting to save his face, never defeated him in public.”

“Gu Qingyuan was so kind, but how could he expect Jiang Chen to be such a thankless ingrate.”

The whispers of several people was not hidden from Jiang Chen, but Jiang Chen had become long-accustomed to this slander. After all, even if he refused to accept things, he would ultimately lose out anyway. For a lie said a thousand times becomes a truth, without possessing sufficient strength, desiring to smash apart this one truth will only bring the result of having his head broken and blood flowing.

“Fantasy Crystal Grass for three hundred sect contribution points, how many strains do you need?” Contribution Hall’s Elder asked Jiang Chen.

“3”

Jiang Chen said.

“Three strains, 900 sect contribution points, take this.”

Deducting 900 contribution sect points from Jiang Chen, the Sect Contribution Hall elder handed three strains of Fantasy Crystal Grass to Jiang Chen.

Exiting the Contribution Hall, Jiang Chen took a deep breath and walked towards the foot of the mountain.

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In a small room, was sitting on a praying mat. Jiang Chen's face was wet with perspiration and looking ferocious. Every time he took a Fantasy Crystal Grass he would mentally torture himself.

Magic Crystal Grass is a 2-star low-grade medicinal herb possessing strong hallucinatory effects, the smoke of this Fantasy Crystal Grass's hallucinatory effect is famous in the country. Any normal person would be unlikely to take this herb, but this was already Jiang Chen's fourth time taking this herb.

Jiang Chen was naturally not diseased, he chose to take Fantasy Crystal Grass to practice a secret technique called Void Sword Body.

Void Sword Body... In his childhood, Jiang Chen found this secret technique. He had been practicing this technique for a whole seven years, but in these seven years, he had failed to practice to the First Layer of the Void Sword Body technique. Despite this, it's benefits had been unthinkable. If not for the Void Sword Body, he would not have been able to keep up with Gu Qingyuan's cultivation. If he broke through the First Layer of the Void Sword Body, he would be able to defeat Gu Qingyuan in 10 sword blows.

Void Sword Body was not a simple martial art, but rather a type of spiritual realm, or a spiritual sword technique. It can imbue Jiang Chen's ordinary sword techniques with incredible killing power.

Realizing the use of hallucinogenic herbs to cultivate the Void Sword Body in the previous year, within a Magical Forest there are many hallucinogenic plants, because of a mistake Jiang Chen inhaled hallucinogenic powder. His slow-progressing Void Sword Body unexpectedly began to rapidly work, like a fish in water. After this, Jiang Chen began to try hallucinogenic herbs to cultivate the Void Sword body. At first he was only willing to take 1-star hallucinogenic plants, gradually their effects started reducing. So he changed to 2-star Fantasy Crystal Grass hallucinogenic herbs.

Fantasy Crystal Grass's hallucinogenic properties were many times more terrible compared to 1-star hallucinogenic herbs. If given to any other Qi Sea martial artist, maybe he will be tortured to death by hallucinations.

Bean-sized drops of sweat fell down, Jiang Chen was extremely pale. His facial expression began to change irregularly; sometimes angry, sometimes happy, sometimes confused, sometimes furious, and sometimes in despair, yet occasionally his face was tranquil. This scene was extremely strange.

Outside, the night gradually receded and dawn arrived.

The hallucinogenic effects of the Fantasy Crystal Grass were extremely powerful, a full five hours passed by. Jiang Chen only came out of the hallucination and opened his eyes at that moment. He saw two illusionary streaks of sword light flash past, ice-cold to the bone.

“Now my Void Sword Body has become stronger than before, and although my cultivation hasn't inched forward, yet my strength compared to before has multiplied.”

Void Sword Body was Jiang Chen's hidden trump card. In any case he cannot reveal its existence.

The world was too big. It's vastness was beyond Jiang Chen's imagination. Currently, he only knew that the land where they lived was called Dong Huan continent. Dong Huan continent was unknown. How many hundreds of thousands of miles long. It was unknown how many hundreds of thousands of miles wide. Such a big continent was naturally filled with powers, more than even the stars in the sky. There were too many to count! In comparison, the sects were truly nothing. Merely the Three Star Sect's power in the continent cannot be considered to be at the bottom, it's background wasn't bad.

In addition to human forces, the continent had all kinds of terrible beasts. A few beasts were powerful enough to cause matchless terror. Relying on themselves they can cause endless destruction, such as the Death Plain's grim reaper, Titan Wolf, the Dark Mist Marsh's Nine Headed Serpent, the Ten Thousand Poison Mountain Range's Spider Emperor, the Snow Domain's Frost Dragon! These areas were restricted to humanity. If you go in, you cannot hope to come out! Even humanity's strongest are reluctant to provoke them.

Jiang Chen's target was magnificent and distant. This sect was merely an insignificant starting point for him. He was unlikely to stay here for a lifetime. As for Gu Qingyuan? He was only a small setback in his initial stage of life.

## Chapter 2

### Chapter Two: Myriad Star Variations

The sun was already bright in the sky, but Jiang Chen did not go to sleep. Instead, he carried his sword to the courtyard.

The yard had a tree, and in the current season of winter, the tree leaves were falling down piece by piece. Sometimes the leaves would fall in succession, but sometimes a puff of wind would blow, causing dozens of leaves to fall together.

Drawing his sword, Jiang Chen casually thrust it out.

With a slight piercing sound, Jiang Chen's sword become a skewer piercing a dozen leaves. The entire process was like moving clouds and flowing water, without any trace of abruptness or rigidity.

"It seems that my speed and skill has increased a lot."

Closing his eyes, Jiang Chen reflected on that sword blow a moment before.

One sword piercing a dozen leavings was something that he could accomplish before, but the process felt different. Piercing the leaves gave Jiang Chen a kind of illusion, as if it was not his sword contact with the leaves, but rather his body. His skin.

"Is this the realm of 'one with the sword'?"

Of course, the 'one with the sword' realm has high and low stages, but Jiang Chen had currently only entered this realm. Perhaps breaking through to the first stage of the Void Sword Body would allow him to completely grasp this stage. Regardless, at present it's an unknown quantity.

Opening his eyes, Jiang Chen unhurriedly spat out a mouthful of impure qi. The more he cultivated the Void Sword Body, the more he could feel the threshold of the profound mysteries of that secret technique. One of the effects of the Void Sword Body is that it can produce miracles. Even if it's a physically weak old woman, when her mind is firm enough, she can do things even brawny adults have failed to do. This the power of the mind.

“Bad news Brother Chen, Brother Wang Dong was beaten up.” The courtyard door creaked as a thin teenager pushed it aside.

Jiang Chen reminisced about the past. This teenager was Guo Zihao. He was a year younger than Jiang Chen, and from the moment he entered the sect he had been following him in worship. Even now this hadn't changed.

“Mouse”, he said slowly, “What happened with Wang Dong?”

Mouse was Guo Zihao's nickname. He was Wang Dong's childhood friend, and they grew up playing together.

“Sun Jiansheng slandered you in front of him, Wang Dong heard this and they had a quarrel...” Guo Zihao said in a hurry.

“Let's go.”

Carrying his sword, Jiang Chen followed immediately behind Guo Zihao.

Halfway up the hill on a large flat plain, a large number of outer sect disciples were assembled. In the centre of the ground, a tall teenager was stepping on an ordinary looking youngster. The youngster's mouth was bleeding yet his face looked stubborn.

“Sun Jiansheng, you have nothing to be proud of. If Jiang Chen's 7th Qi Sea was not broken, if Jiang Chen were a peak 7th Qi Sea Warrior, would you dare badmouth him?”

Wang Dong spat out a mouthful of blood as he ridiculed.

Sun Jiansheng grinned, “This event does not exist in this world, besides if his Qi Sea were not broken he still might not be able to cultivate to the peak of the 9th Qi Sea. Do you believe everyone is as talented as senior Gu Qingyuan?”

“Well, what kind of person is Gu Qingyuan? He is merely a contemptible character who has inverted right and wrong. A year ago, Jiang Chen would have beaten him in ten moves.”

Wang Dong looked angry while speaking about Gu Qingyuan. It is possible know a person for a long time without understanding his true nature. He and Jiang Chen truly hadn't thought Gu Qingyuan to be this kind of contemptible person.

“Haha, Jiang Chen beat Gu Qingyuan in 10 moves? Sun Jiansheng, it seems that this Wang Dong has been beaten silly. Senior Gu Qingshan said that Jiang Chen at his peak was not his opponent.”

“Originally I held a little sympathy for Wang Dong, but now it appears that Wang Dong is a miserable bastard just like Jiang Chen. They both are just as bad as the other.”

“It is understandable. After all, Wang Dong and Jiang Chen are childhood friends who have been helping each other. It’s normal.”

“Hmph, of course we cannot allow him to frame senior Gu Qingyuan.”

Everyone’s tongues were wagging with barbs aimed at Jiang Chen and Wang Dong.

“You are hearing this, right? Who do you think will believe you?” Sun Jiansheng gave a disdainful laugh, then he said, “Today you are determined to suffer. Even if Jiang Chen comes here, no, perhaps he will accompany you in suffering. Ha ha ha!”

Sun Jiansheng arrogantly laughed.

On the fringe of the crowd, high on top of a flight of steps, two girls were standing there wearing blueish green clothes. With refined facial features and dignified, they were beautiful like flowers.

“Liu Ling, let’s go. There is nothing to see.” Glancing at the crowd surrounding Wang Dong, Bi Qing’s expression and tone were indifferent.

Liu Ling was about to leave when suddenly, she spoke in an excited tone saying, “Bi Qing, Jiang Chen arrived! Looks like there’s going to be a good show.”

“Jiang Chen?”

Bi Qing turned to look. At the back of the crowd, Jiang Chen and Guo Zihao had arrived together.

“For what reason has he come? Does he think he can beat Sun Jiansheng? This is different from the past, now he is too weak. A great deal of outer sect disciples are stronger than him.”

“Bi Qing, it seems that you are not too optimistic about about Jiang Chen. He

was once quite powerful, and even though he is currently crippled, his sword skill still exists, right?”

“You are right, but Sun Jiansheng has now broken through to the peak of 8th Qi Sea realm. His cultivation is two realms higher than Jiang Chen, and Sun Jiansheng’s sword technique is not weak. It is in the top row among the 8th Qi Sea disciples.”

Bi Qing did not express an opinion.

“That’s true, but first let’s watch.” Liu Ling nodded.

Jiang Chen’s arrival caused everyone to boil in excitement.

“Jiang Chen came.”

“Who would have thought that he would dare to come?”

“Looking at him, he seems quite calm.”

“He is pretending, right? I bet his heart is shaking.”

Facing the crowd’s sneers and mocking, Jiang Chen was expressionless. He pushed through the crowd to arrive at the center.

“Sun Jiansheng, release Wang Dong.”

Jiang Chen calmly spoke.

“You ask me to release him at once?”

Sun Jiansheng faced Jiang Chen to reply.

“Release him.”

Jiang Chen’s tone was as calm as before, but the atmosphere seemed to turn slightly oppressive.

Sun Jiansheng’s expression turned rigid. He detected a hint of murderous intent from Jiang Chen that made his body feel chill. He was unable to confront Jiang Chen again. Why did he feel so powerless?

He hated this feeling.

Bang! Sun Jiansheng’s face turned sinister. Kicking Wang Dong away, he said, “Jiang Chen, you surprisingly have the guts to dare come here.”

“Let’s go.”

Guo Zihao propped up Wang Dong as Jiang Chen turned to leave.

“““Boo!””””

Boos sounded as everyone became aware of Jiang Chen’s cowardliness. His friend was cruelly beaten by Sun Jiansheng yet he didn’t even dare to release a fart.

“Did you see that!?”

Bi Qing replied to Liu Ling.

“How cowardly.”

Liu Ling was disappointed.

Hearing the boos, Sun Jiancheng gained sufficient confidence. Perhaps he could truly leave behind the shadow in his heart. To eliminate the shadow, he only needed to defeat Jiang Chen, and now was an exceptionally good opportunity.

“Jiang Chen, do you dare to fight me here? Rest assured, I will not take advantage of you. If I cannot make you concede within 10 blows, it shall be my loss.”

Jiang Chen did not care for him, and continued to walk.

Sun Jiansheng, anger rising to the utmost from the humiliation, said, “Jiang Chen, you are a spineless coward! Your parents gave birth to such a spineless coward, which explains why your parents are also spineless cowards.”

“What did you say?”

Letting Wang Dong lean on Guo Zihao, Jiang Chen unhurriedly turned around with an ice-cold expression.

“I said that you and your family are cowards.”

Sun Jiansheng gave a provocative look.

Walking step by step to the plain, Jiang Chen said, “I accept your challenge, but I have a request. The loser will slap himself 10 times in the face.”

Sun Jiansheng was not an ordinary outer sect disciple. His father was the sect's outer court Elder, and his grandfather was an inner sect elder. Jiang Chen's family was nothing compared to Sun Jiansheng's family. Currently Jiang Chen was looking for trouble for himself, after all, the current him did not have the halo of a genius. Even if he was a genius like before, teaching Sun Jiansheng might cause the sect's high classes to take action. The sect still attached high importance to geniuses. Not only that, he did not want Wang Dong and Guo Zihao to be implicated together with him.

"Good, we have a deal. I hope when the moment arrives you do not go back on your words."

"I will not go back on my words, actually I am worried about you renegeing."

Jiang Chen truly did not think Sun Jiansheng would fulfill his promise.

"Talking rubbish, then receive my sword."

Sun Jiansheng's angry sword blow attacked Jiang Chen. As a peak 8th Qi Sea realm warrior, Sun Jiansheng's sword technique was certainly not particularly high, but with the support of his powerful Zhen Qi, his speed and power was already extremely high. With one flash of white light, Sun Jiansheng's body was already attacking Jiang Chen.

With a faint step, Jiang Chen easily avoided Sun Jiansheng's sword.

"Where will you hide?"

Sun Jiansheng's wrist turned as his sword closed the distance and immediately swept out. His sword technique was incredibly smooth and unhindered.

It's a pity that Jiang Chen's footwork was too smooth. His movement was like smoke blown by the wind, and his agility gave the illusion that he was weightless.

Several successive sword blows attacked Jiang Chen, but Sun Jiansheng's sword couldn't even touch Jiang Chen's clothes. He could help but angrily say, "Jiang Chen, you have been continuously avoiding my blows, what kind of swordsman are you?"

"Pfft..."

Liu Ling jeered loudly.

“In a battle of swordsmanship, footwork is as important as sword technique. With skilled footwork, the enemy cannot even touch you. It’s without a doubt extremely useful. Even if the opponent’s sword technique is inferior to you, as long as he is skilled in footwork, he has the ability to instantly strike you, or perhaps perplex you with his agility.

It isn’t restricted to swordsmanship. All martial arts need compatible footwork techniques, otherwise martial arts will remain inflexible and rigid.

“Receive my sword.”

Jiang Chen originally intended to hold back and not draw his sword, but now he changed his mind.

Shing!

“Drawing his sword, Jiang Chen held it, stabbing toward Sun Jiansheng. This sword blow seemed incredibly simple yet incredibly complex simultaneously. The sword constantly trembled, nine chains of trembling, twinkling starlight flashed. Together this trembling starlight created an attack with varying trajectories. The trembling starlight crisscrossed in 9 directions together, no, rather than 9 variations, there were 81 variations. These 9-by-9, 81 variations gave the feeling that they could integrate together at any time!

Starchaser Sword: Myriad Star Variations.

“This appears to be the Myriad Star Variations from the Starchaser Sword art.”

Everyone was shocked by this.

Starchaser Sword is a part of Yellow grade sword techniques. This sword technique was nothing profound, but when Jiang Chen displayed the Starchasing Sword, it showed profound mysteries. Within simplicity appeared complexity within which once again appeared simplicity.

No one knew that Jiang Chen not only practiced ten Yellow-level low-grade sword techniques and 4 Yellow-level mid-grade sword techniques, he had mastered the foundation of the sword to its pinnacle. The foundation of swordplay consists of the most basic of techniques. For example the stab, the point, the grazing block, the stopping block, the swing and simple techniques such as collapsing.

These foundational sword techniques were known by everyone, however very few were willing to train a single movement until the pinnacle. To Jiang Chen, self-practice of the sword everyday was important. Training the foundation of sword techniques to the pinnacle, he believed that the countless sword techniques have evolved from the foundation of basic sword techniques.

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E/N: This is chapter 1/5 for the week. The translator Aardwark has something going on the next day or two, but there will still be 5 chapters this week starting the 31st.

# Chapter 3

## Chapter 3: Flowing Cloud Sword Technique

“Don’t!”

Sun Jiansheng’s eyes were wide open, when he realized that there was no way to resist the sword blow. No way to dodge the sword blow, a powerless feeling filled his body.

“You lose.”

With the tip of his sword against Sun Jiansheng’s throat, Jiang Chen said lightly.

“I have not lost, you have not defeated me.”

Sun Jiansheng roared, his left fist punching at Jiang Chen.

Boxing technique, Gale Fist. Biting cold wind arose from the fist. The attack’s range was enormous, but Jiang Chen saw through Sun Jiansheng’s shoulder movements. He knew about the martial arts Sun Jiansheng trained in, so he promptly stepped aside and increased the distance between them.

“Lose to me!”

Jiang Chen was forced back. With a fierce expression, Sun Jiansheng displayed the Falling Blossom sword technique.

Falling Blossom was a Yellow-level high-grade sword technique, and 2000 contribution points were needed to purchase this technique.

The sword light burst out, and the shattered fragments of sword light were just like the numerous wilted petals of a flower fluttering about. These beautiful petals had the power to ruthlessly penetrate.

However, the power of the sword technique depends upon the swordsman. That is not to say that no unrivaled sword technique exists under heaven. This unrivaled sword technique though, in Jiang Chen’s eyes, seemed to be filled with holes everywhere, though the sword light seemed to be concentrated together, in reality it was unreasonably scattered. If practiced correctly, the concentrated

sword light ought to make the opponent feel as if he were trapped in an inescapable net. It should be comparable to a wide net falling down.

Sun Jiansheng's sword blow suddenly arrived. Jiang Chen's sword also came out. Two ferocious sword techniques, the pure simplicity of the techniques invigorated the emotions of the crowd.

Just then!

Sun Jiansheng's hands went numb. The sword held in them went flying under the foolish stares of the surrounding crowd.

"Jiang Chen won?"

"Unexpectedly, he actually won with a sword blow?"

"The gap between them was of two levels, how can this be?"

At this moment, everyone seemed to be incredulous of this result.

In fact, if Jiang Chen spent great effort to defeat Sun Jiansheng, everyone could have accepted it. After all, originally Jiang Chen's swordplay was extremely powerful, so in the past year there should have been some progress. They were capable of accepting that Sun Jiansheng and Jiang Chen exchanged some sword blows, but they had a feeling that the majority of 8th Qi Sea martial artists were absolutely incapable of defeating Jiang Chen. Wasn't his skill with the sword was enough to cross over and surpass the gap between them?

"Bi Qing, Jiang Chen really won, eh."

Liu Ling was surprised.

"Bi Qing took a deep breath, she did not expect such a result. "How did his sword technique cross over the gap? It is unfortunate that in this life, his achievements come to a halt here. His Qi Sea is broken, there is no way he can reach the Vajra realm. Not unless a superpower decides to restore his Qi Sea at least."

"It is indeed a pity."

Liu Ling shook her head.

The Qi Sea realm is the most vulnerable stage in cultivation. The Qi Sea can be easily broken, and once broken, it is basically impossible to have further achievements in cultivation. Not everyone can have a enormous fortuitous encounter, not everyone can change their destiny.

"Come on!"

In regard to the following business, Bi Qing did not hold much interest.

“The sunset is infinitely beautiful, but close to the dark of the night.”  
For some reason, Liu Ling thought of this sentence. Turning around, she had a quick look at the talented youngster in the middle of the stage. At the moment he seemed to be shrouded in radiance, naturally the sunset was infinitely beautiful.

Without paying attention or caring about Bi Qing and Liu Ling’s departure, Jiang Chen said to Sun Jiansheng, “You can slap yourself. Remember, 10 times in front of everyone.”

“You!”

Sun Jiansheng’s chest heaved, his eyes full of anger.

“An, it seems that you are going back on your word, aren’t you?”

Jiang Chen’s face had a hint of cynicism in it.

“Enough.”

Abruptly, a deep voice sounded. The crowd followed the sound to look at the speaker.

“Outer Elder Sun Jianyue.”

“This time, Jiang Chen has ran out of luck.”

Stroking the hair on his beard, Sun Jianyue strode. “Do you two not care about the sect’s rules? Did nobody tell you that besides the martial arts platform, it is prohibited to fight anywhere else without special permission?”

Sun Jianyue’s arrival made Sun Jiansheng somewhat complacent. He never thought that he would be defeated, or he would not have agreed to slapping himself 10 times in the face in front of everyone. If he was forced to do this, he would certainly become a laughingstock in the sect, “Father, I accept my misconduct. I am willing to receive the sect’s penalty.”

“Knowing your mistake and reflecting on it is worthy of admiration. Even though you are my son, I cannot avoid penalizing you. As for you, Jiang Chen, you have committed serious mistakes. Firstly, you secretly fought, secondly, your attitude is incorrect, outer sect disciples should strive to help each other, even if this is not possible, they should not attack each other, nor injure or humiliate each other.”

“Admit to your mistakes.”

Sun Jianyue ordered Jiang Chen, his expression ice-cold.

Sweeping the surroundings with his eyes, Jiang Chen said, "My friend can testify. I was forced to accept the challenge."

"That's right, Sun Jiansheng began everything. He beat me up and stomped on me." Wang Dong promptly spoke.

"Your stubbornness is meaningless. Those who are speaking for you are bearing false testimony. You have already violated the sect's rules, Jiang Chen, I once again ask you to admit your mistakes. Your sophistry is useless." Sun Jianyue completely ignored Wang Dong's existence.

"You are the Outer Sect Elder, what you say is what you want to hear. I do not have any opinions."

Jiang Chen had understood, no matter where, the strong are respected. This reality cannot be changed. If he is strong enough. . . If he is strong enough, if he is stronger than the Sect Patriarch, who would dare question him?

"Listening to your tone, it seems that you think I am using my influence to take advantage of you?", Sun Jianyue's eyes narrowed.

"Jiang Chen is stupid, do not mind this one's thoughts."

"This isn't good, now follow me already. Let's visit the Law Enforcement Hall."

The end result was that Sun Jiansheng was penalized for a week with detention at his home. Jiang Chen was penalized for a month with detention to the Dead Wood Cliff.

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The Dead Wood Cliff is one of the Sect's forbidden areas.

Even though this is said to be a cliff, this actually a mountain. On this mountain there are dozens of cliffs of various sizes, each cliff has a cave on it.

Jiang Chen's penalty is to be confined to cliff number 33, Eagle Mouth cliff on the east mountainside.

"Remember, you are forbidden to leave Eagle Mouth cliff in a month, otherwise you will be punished by sect rules." The Elder who had led him here said.

"Understood."

Jiang Chen nodded.

And thus, the elder left. Jiang Chen looked around at Eagle Mouth cliff. Eagle Mouth cliff small like an eagle's beak, only about 15 meters square. As it was a small cave, it was only 4-5 meters deep. Inside were wooden facilities like a wooden table, simple wooden chairs and other living facilities, as well as a wooden desk with a dusty oil lamp.

“What is this!”

At the moment since it was day, the cave did not have low visibility, Jiang Chen saw words on the wall.

“A disciple who hasn't been penalized by confinement to the Dead Wood cliff before, is not a good disciple.—Xie Xiaofeng.”

“Xie Xiaofeng?”

Jiang Chen's eyes flashed in different colors. Since the founding of the sect, Xie Xiaofeng was one of 3 strongest swordsmen. The first one is the sect's founding ancestor, the second is the seventh generation sect leader, and the third is Xie Xiaofeng. Unfortunately, Xie Xiaofeng has disappeared for ten years. Though at the time he was merely 20 years old, he was already stronger than the current sect leader. Now in the event that he is still alive, his 30 year old appearance cannot be underestimated.

In addition to inside the cave, there was also Xie Xiaofeng's writing out of the cave.

“Observing the clouds rolling and stretching, I created the Flowing Cloud sword technique. A Yellow Level, Mid-Grade.”

“After improving it, Flowing Cloud sword technique reached Yellow Level, High Grade. The one who was brought here by fate may practice it.”

On the boulder, in addition to these two lines, there are two cloud markings. They scars marked by two sword blows.

The first cloud appeared to be fresh and clean, free from vulgarity while the second cloud was naturally simple and unadorned.

“Contrary to what one might expect, this Xie Xiaofeng is a person of

extraordinary talent. He can actually create a Yellow rank High grade sword technique for his disciples.” Jiang Chen completely admired Xie Xiaofeng. As he saw it, a man with the ability to create his own martial arts is a person with frightening talent. Definitely not a common martial artist.

Jiang Chen did not meticulously study the Flowing Cloud sword technique, however. Jiang Chen’s goal was to first break into the first layer of the Void Sword Body.

Jiang Chen was punished with only two meals a day- one breakfast, one dinner. Due to this, Jiang Chen was often hungry. Fortunately cultivating the Void Sword Body relied on Jiang Chen’s toughness and determination. At this point, hunger and starvation would not move his heart.

Three strains of Fantasy Crystal Grass. He had already taken one leaving two behind, this time Jiang Chen took a second Fantasy Crystal Grass.

Four hours of hallucinations passed by, straight from the evening to the next morning.

Waking up, Jiang Chen opened his eyes. For a moment, he had the feeling that time seemed to slow down. The world seemed to be more clear. He could clearly see the frequency of an insect’s wings flapping, he could clearly hear the sound of ants crawling. But it was fleeting. After a moment, this feeling disappeared.

“Almost, almost. I am just a step away from breaking through to the First layer of the Void Sword Body.”

A martial artist’s five senses will strengthen at the peak of every realm, such as the peak 9th Qi Sea realm, the peak 9th Soaring Sky realm, Peak 9th Vajra realm. This is mainly because the 9th Qi Sea is located between the eyebrows, and it’s connection with the mind is rather deep. The Void Sword Body secret technique is connected with the mind, hence it can increase the five senses of a martial artist.

Fantasy Crystal Grass cannot be consumed in succession with Jiang Chen’s mental strength. He can consume it only once a week, and needless to say taking it continuously will cause a mental breakdown.

“I do not know if this Flowing Cloud sword technique is a genuine Yellow Level

High grade sword technique.”

Having nothing to do, Jiang Chen decided to practice the Flowing Cloud sword technique.

Since there is no sword manual, Jiang Chen can only use the sword scars to gain enlightenment into the Flowing Cloud sword technique. It may be assumed that Xie Xiaofeng’s words ‘the one who was brought here by fate may practice it’ were not baseless. With insufficient perception, one cannot comprehend the Flowing Cloud sword technique from the sword scars.

Clouds are fleeting, lacking permanence.

The Flowing Cloud sword technique is unpredictable, its moves do not confine itself to a strict form and stance. Instead, the form depends upon the essence gleaned from the technique by the user.

On the Eagle Mouth cliff, Jiang Chen grasped his sword. Sometimes he would leisurely stretch himself, sometimes he would swiftly rush out. sometimes he would be lazy, and sometimes he would fully collapse in a single line. The sword in his hand was illusory like mist, for a time, calm and unhurried like the leisurely clouds in heaven, for a time, and then arduous like the the ocean in fury with violently swelling water, capable of shaking one to the core.

In one week, Jiang Chen comprehended three moves from the sword scars. namely Clear Sky, Rising Winds, Scudding Clouds as well as Overflowing Rain, Overturning Cloud.

These three sword techniques, each one of them were better than Yellow Level Mid Grade sword techniques by 10 times.

Clear Sky sword technique is the Flowing Cloud sword technique’s opening move, and can be used to attack or defend. While defending, it can fill the sky with mist. It completely lacks openings, yet while attacking, it seems as if a storm is destroying grass.

Rising Winds, Scudding Clouds concentrates the power of the sword together. Weak minded enemies will not be able to fight, while mentally strong opponents will not be able to resist the earth shattering attacks.

As for the Overflowing Rain, Overturning Cloud, it is even more difficult to deal

with. This grants the sword blow the power to overturn the sky and the earth, so much that it completely lacks openings, leaving the enemy with holes all over their body.

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E/N: Hey guys, sorry this took longer than we thought to get out. Personal stuff really got in the way for both myself and the translator. He is currently working on the next chapter though and we will get it out as soon as possible~

# Chapter 4

## Chapter 4: The First Layer

Rain was crashing down from the boundless void between heaven and earth. Because it was winter, there was a nip in the air in the wake of the rain.

Within his cave, Jiang Chen was sweating profusely.

Every time he took a Fantasy Crystal, he was torturing himself. A Low Level 2-Star herb would generally only be endured by a Soaring Sky martial artist after all.

Within the illusion, Jiang Chen was facing an extremely powerful enemy. His body was criss-crossed with wounds, and blood freely flowed from these wounds. Though this was an illusion, the wounds hurt as though they were real. The pain was faithfully sent back to his body. Jiang Chen could only rely on the Void Sword Body. Void Sword Body made it possible for him to survive in the illusion. Otherwise if he died in the illusion, it would possibly lead to a nervous breakdown in reality.

A breath in reality equaled to a quarter-hour in the illusion. Four hours in reality equaled to around a week in the illusion. Jiang Chen had been fighting for the entirety of a week in the illusion, and there was hardly any flesh on his body. Even his bones were exposed.

“Die now!”

Attacking with a sword blow, Jiang Chen struck his opponent with a killing blow, waking from the illusion.

“Huhu...”

Jiang Chen gasped, his mouth taking big gulps of air. He looked exhausted, yet his face quickly flashed with happiness. 10 breaths of time had passed since he had arisen from the illusion, yet he was still able to hear the soft wind blowing through the grass. He was still able to hear the crawling of the insects in the underbrush, so much so that he could even distinguish their positions.

“I finally broke through, didn't I?”

Jiang Chen was a little uncertain due to his exhaustion. He rose up while carrying his sword, coming out of the Eagle Mouth cliff.

The rain had stopped some time ago, and the air was incomparably fresh. The earth had a trace of a fishy smell.

Taking a deep breath, Jiang Chen began to drill his swordsmanship.

The first was the Myriad Star Variations.

With a flick of his wrist, his sword was drawn. On the way out, the sword point trembled. Cold, twinkling starlight flashed, incomparably dense.

“17 chains of starlight.”

Jiang Chen was taken aback. Before this, he could only break out 9 chains of starlight with the Myriad Star Variations technique, gathering 81 variations. but now there were 17 chains of starlight, 289 variations. Merely by comprehending the profundities of a sword technique, the current Myriad Star Variations had reached Yellow level High-grade. Naturally, it was extremely profound yet lacked formidable power. Top-level high-grade sword techniques were not only extremely profound but also held formidable power. They were certainly extremely strong.

Faint Clouds, Gentle Wind, Rising Winds, Scudding Clouds and Overflowing Rain, Overturning Cloud. Originally these 3 sword techniques were only basic moves, but after the Void Sword Body had broken through to the first layer, he had already reached the Large Success boundary. The growth of his sword technique was comparable to Xie Xiaofeng of that time.

Reaping success under favourable conditions, Jiang Chen comprehended the 4th sword technique, Rebuking Wind Cloud. This sword technique held enormous might, a pure attacking technique.

“Now that my Void Sword Body had reached the first layer, I do not know which level my overall strength can be classified into.”

Even though he could not evaluate his current strength, Jiang Chen believed that he would have few opponents in the Qi Sea realm. This was not an exaggeration but rather a fact. Heaven knows the rank and grade of the Void Sword Body secret law.

Since all the Fantasy Crystal Grass had already been used up in breaking through to the first layer of the Void Sword Body, Jiang Chen decided to spend the remaining time comprehending the Flowing Cloud sword technique.

In the second week, Jiang Chen altered the 4th move of the Flowing Cloud Sword Art into a top grade art, having surpassed the Xie Xiaofeng of that time. After all, originally Xie Xiaofeng never possessed the Void Sword Body.

In the third week, Jiang Chen comprehended the 5th move, Beckoning Wind, Ruinous Cloud.

In the 4th week, Jiang Chen comprehended the ultimate move of the Flowing Cloud sword technique, Passing Cloud, Splitting Stone.

In a blink of an eye, one month passed. Jiang Chen packed up his things and left Dead Wood cliff.

.....

Under the foot of a mountain assigned by the sect, in a courtyard, Wang Dong and Guo Zihao were speaking.

“This Sun Jianyue is too hateful, turning right and wrong upside down. How unlucky that he is an Outer Sect Elder.”

Wang Dong was, as before, somewhat indignant.

“Elder brother Dong, let us endure for now. When our power is stronger than him, we’ll be able to satisfy our bottled up desires. At that time we will stand out. Sooner or later we will be able to return our debts in the arena.” Guo Zihao was cooler headed than Wang Dong.

Jiang Chen nodded. “Mouse is right. In such circumstances men become stronger. Restrain yourself until we become stronger. The only thing we can do for now is unceasingly cultivate and promote our strength. Only with true strength and ability will you not be bullied. Little Dong you have little patience, this will be a huge obstruction in your Martial Dao.”

“Jiang Chen, I understand. But even though I understand, I am sometimes unable to control my own temper.” Wang Dong scratched his head. His cultivation was the highest among the three. He was at the peak of the 7th Qi

Sea, but in his childhood he was convinced by Jiang Chen. He believed that Jiang Chen was no ordinary person.

“Mouse, Little Dong, let me tell you something. Tomorrow I am leaving the sect to gain experience.” After thinking about it, Jiang Chen told his plans to Wang Dong and Guo Zihao.

“Leaving to gain experience?”

Guo Zihao and Wang Dong turned to face Jiang Chen.

“Yes” Jiang Chen nodded, “It has been a whole year since I left the sect to gain experience. You know my current situation. Staying in the sect, I have little hope. Only by venturing out can I search for a fortuitous encounter to fix my broken Qi Sea.

“Brother Chen, then you have to be careful, we will be waiting for you in the sect.”

“Jiang Chen, do not worry, freely leave to gain experience.”

Guo Zihao and Wang Dong’s mood turned serious. Jiang Chen’s sword technique was ferocious, he was able to bypass ranks in battle, however this was only for the time being. Qi Sea is the first realm in the Martial Dao, while Soaring Sky is the second realm in the Martial Dao. The difference between these two realms is huge. A Soaring Sky realm martial artist, even if he is inferior in sword technique, can sweep away a Qi Sea realm martial artist. In the case that Jiang Chen remains a peak 6th Qi Sea realm martial artist, sooner or later he will be surpassed by everyone. If he did not search for a fortuitous encounter now, it would be too late.

.....

That morning, after Jiang Chen left the sect, he hurried toward the Silent Mountain Range.

The Silent Mountain Range, was a well known 1-star Forbidden Area in the periphery of the sect. Its degree of danger was comparable to the Magical Forest.

Jiang Chen had a plan. First he would gain experience by crossing the entire

Silent Mountain range, hone his sword technique in battle, and of course, earn some low-grade spirit stones.

“Elder brother Hu, we have already followed him for a 100 li! We should attack now!”

Several hundred meters away from Jiang Chen, four shadows were gathered behind a hill slope.

These four men were all peak 9th Qi Sea realm martial artists, and their sharp gazes seemed to possess piercing power.

This elder brother Hu was the leader of the four. Glancing at Jiang Chen’s back, he fiercely spoke, “The young master has spoken. Killing him is necessary. Remember you must not be careless, a lion must employ his full strength even when hunting a rabbit. The young master has promised to reward everyone of us 20 low-grade spirit stones.”

“Understood.”

Hu! Hu!

As the loud sound of wind blowing sounded, the four men ran towards Jiang Chen without even paying any attention to stealth.

“Finally decided to attack?”

The corner of Jiang Chen’s mouth curled in a sneer. Ever since he set off, he could sense that he was being tracked.

Jiang Chen’s Zhen Qi rose up. His gait was like the wind, his speed was not at all slow.

400 meters.

200 meters.

50 meters.

20 meters.

Peak 9th Qi Sea warriors were after all peak 9th Qi Sea warriors. As their Zhen Qi erupted, in a short period of time the distance separating the two parties lessened to 20 meters.

“Boy, accept your death.”

One of the men swung his hand to shoot out 7-8 hidden weapons.

Pu! Pu! Pu!

In a split second, the hidden weapons hit the ground without even touching Jiang Chen.

Yellow level High-grade footwork technique – Windborne Steps.

The five people arrived in front of a jungle to see Jiang Chen on the verge of fleeing into the jungle.

Elder Brother Hu roared, “Stop him.”

If Jiang Chen fled into the jungle, the effort required to kill him would rise.

Hearing this, the fastest man among them swept the air with five fingers, as if swinging a winnow basket. Five thin qi energies were shot out.

Cultivators above the 7th Qi Sea realm were capable of shooting their Zhen Qi to attack someone from a distance.

“Dancing in the wind!”

Jiang Chen’s figure transformed, forming duplicates that ran together. They abruptly evaded the qi energies, and in the next moment, his figure flashed into the jungle.

“Damn it.”

Elder brother Hu cursed. He had a premonition that it would not be easy to kill Jiang Chen.

The jungle was incomparably dusky. All black, no daylight. After entering inside, Elder Brother Tiger and his companions’ eyes turned blind. Of course with their ability, in a single breath, their sight returned to normal.

The four had lost Jiang Chen in the time to drink a cup of tea.

Unwilling to concede, Elder brother Hu said, “If we fail to kill him, we will have to go back and explain. Let us four divide ourselves. In case we discover him, immediately shout to call the rest.”

“Elder brother Hu, feel reassured, we have cultivated to the 9th Qi Sea realm. Our five senses are incomparably acute. We will follow your command, if one of us finds him, we can also kill him in one move.”

“No matter how weak he is now, he was once friends with the young master. They were the outer sect’s two heavenly talents in the sword.”

“Of course. The current young master has become an inner sect disciple how can he possibly compare. Naturally if the others cannot catch up, kill him in one move.”

“This is only natural.”

.....

On the top of a tree lush with leaves, Jiang Chen stood motionless, seeming like a part of the tree’s branches. Like a chunk of deadwood, lacking vitality.

Breath Restraining Secrets, Yellow Level, High-grade supplementary core technique.

“Where is this little beast hiding? After I capture him, I’ll be sure to keep him alive as I peel away his skin.”

One man was passing through the underside of a river at high speeds, when the light sound of blowing wind was heard.

Crash!

The sides of the trees shook a bit. The man raised his head, and suddenly widened his eyes.

Pu!

A sharp sword light pierced between the man’s eyebrow.

“Even though his five senses are acute, he couldn’t escape my sword.”

His sword blow having struck, Jiang Chen fell softly on the ground.

Searching the corpse, Jiang Chen found a low grade spirit stone on the body.

Restraining his breath once again, Jiang Chen quickly entered the depths of the jungle, looking for his next prey.

.....

Within a short hour, Jiang Chen had killed three 9th Qi Sea level martial artists in a row.

These 9th Qi Sea martial artists could show high combat ability in open combat, but they met Jiang Chen when they were separated, and couldn't bring their skill into play.

Now, the only peak 9th Qi Sea martial artist was their leader, Elder Brother Hu. Jiang Chen was hidden deep, in the brush.

Elder Brother Hu looked alert, as he carefully passed through. In his hands was a long, bent hook.

Ding!

Suddenly, sparks shot out from elder brother Hu's body as a flickering yellow light flashed over his whole body.

"What?"

Jiang Chen was completely surprised, he believed that his sword was sure to kill. Unexpectedly the other side had protective Zhen Qi! He thought that only Soaring Sky realm martial artists could train in protective Zhen Qi.

"No, this is not protective Zhen Qi, he has stimulated a Zhen Qi barrier from a treasure."

The next moment, Jiang Chen suddenly realized that on elder brother Hu's waist there was a jade pendant that emanated a weak yellow radiance. The source of this protective Zhen Qi was this jade pendant.

"Little bastard, your death is fixed."

Elder brother Hu had a lingering fear. Perhaps if he did not possess the Spirit Yuan Jade Pendant, he would have already died! This made him feel frightened as well as angry, and had him itching to kill Jiang Chen at once.

"Is that so? You can try."

When his sword blow couldn't kill elder brother Hu, Jiang Chen did not panic.

"Death is near at hand, yet you are this arrogant. Heaven cannot tolerate this!"

Elder brother Hu suddenly shouted, the long hook in his hands transforming into numerous shadows that enveloped Jiang Chen.

A peak 9th Qi Sea warrior's Zhen Qi was exceptionally deep. A peak 8th Qi Sea warrior couldn't hope to compete with him.

"You are the first person to experience my true strength."

Jian Chen's expression turned grave, and a hint of Void sword qi emitted from his body.

Without waiting for Elder Brother Hu to react, Jiang Chen's figure flashed together with a sword light. The light pierced through a large number of shadows, before arriving in front of Elder Brother Hu.

"How is this possible?"

Elder brother Hu was terrified as Jiang Chen resisted the lightning-fast attack of his hook.

After a few moves were exchanged.

"Die now!"

The sword blow was like a storm sweeping grass, one head flew in the air, this was elder brother Hu's head.

This was the first move of the Flowing Cloud sword technique: Faint Clouds-Gentle Wind.

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E/N: Hey guy, sorry this chap took so long to get out. I'm currently moving so I didn't really have time to edit this/plus there were a couple snafu's in the process. There should be a couple more chapters before the end of the week though as an apology. Thanks for your patience!

# Chapter 5

## Chapter 5: Mutated Monstrous Beast

The corpse of Elder Brother Hu contained more low-grade spirit stones than the other three, it had three low-grade spirit stones, it can be considered a small fortune in terms of income.

These so-called spirit stones indeed accumulate the Yuan Qi of Heaven and Earth within them, martial artists can absorb Yuan Qi from the stones to cultivate, to gain twice the effect for half the work.

Spirit stones are divided into 5 grades, namely: inferior-grade spirit-stones, low-grade spirit stones, mid-grade spirit stones, high-grade spirit stones and top-grade spirit stones.

Inferior-grade spirit stones are the most useful for Qi Sea martial artists, a peak 7th Qi Sea martial artist, he can probably absorb 7 inferior-grade spirit stones, or one low-grade spirit stone for the value of 5 sect contribution points.

In comparison, low-grade spirit stones are very precious, 100 inferior-grade spirit stones can be exchanged for a low-grade spirit stone.

As for mid-grade and top-grade spirit stones, there is no need to say, naturally only high level martial artists have the need for them.

Although Jiang Chen currently can't use spirit stones, however they will certainly be useful later, Jiang Chen was confident that he will certainly be able to fix his own broken Qi Sea.

These three low grade spirit stones are certainly valuable, but even more valuable is the jade pendant on Elder Brother Hu's body, this jade pendant is a strange treasure, as long as Jiang Chen pours his Zhen qi into it, the jade pendant will automatically create a protective Zhen Qi defence, the jade pendant's ability to send out the aroused protective Zhen qi can be maintained for a single breath, it certainly can't be maintained for a long time.

.....

“Four peak Qi Sea layer martial artists failed to stop you, Jiang Chen, I have

underestimated you.”

In the pavilion upstairs, a youngster was drinking tea, this youngster was wearing a cyan brocade robe, he looked very handsome, with sword-like eyebrows, just by comparing appearances, he and Jiang Chen looked alike.

“Good bye! until next time, the disparity between us will continue to increase, I hope you don’t fall in despair.”

The youngster’s mouth angled, exposing a ponderous expression.

.....

The Silent Mountain Range is huge, from north to south the distance is 800 li long, around six hundred people were inside here, it was quite easy to lose one’s bearings en route, only by observing the sun or the stars could one possibly keep from getting lost.

In the depths of Silent mountain range.

Here, 1-star high-level beasts could be found everywhere, their strength ranged between peak 7th-9th martial artists, if there was the slightest mistake, one will end up in the beast’s mouth.

Roar!

A Black Wind Panther was madly rushing, a fishy smell was everywhere.

A Black Wind Panther is a high level beast, its strength is equivalent to that of a peak 9th Qi Sea martial artist, while its defense was many times greater than a peak 9th Qi Sea level martial artist, Jiang Chen couldn’t kill it after 10 consecutive blows, instead it grew even more frantic, the bloody beast rose again, emitting a terrifying qi.

At this moment, if any other outer sect disciple was here, the Black Wind Leopard would have overwhelmed their minds a long time ago, they would only be able to bring forth seven to eight-tenths (7-8/10) of their full strength, or perhaps even less.

Facing the maddened Black Wind Panther, Jiang Chen indifferently held his sword, another sword blow greeted the body of the panther.

While practicing martial arts, it’s important to first train the heart, if the heart

isn't strong enough, in a hostile environment, one will be incapable of displaying his full strength, if the heart isn't strong enough, one will panic after encountering powerful enemies or powerful beasts, perhaps even losing their lives.

A loud wail resounded!

Finally, the Black Wind Panther fell to the ground, blood staining the earth. After it's death, the Black Wind Panther's defence disappeared, Jiang Chen easily cut open the abdomen of the beast, finding a large longan-sized crystal inside. (longan: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Longan>)

Monstrous beast crystals are precious materials that can be used to forge weapons and refine pills, etc., but not every monstrous beast has a crystal, if one is suffering from bad luck, perhaps not even a single crystal could be found after killing 10 beasts, if one has good luck, a crystal would be found after killing only one beast.

A high level 1-star monstrous beast crystal, he could exchange 500 sect contribution points for it, equivalent to 100 low-grade spirit stones.

“One year without battle, even though my sword technique has increased, with the Void Sword Body I have reached the ‘one with the sword’ realm, due to lack of actual combat, there are several flaws in my technique.”

If one doesn't participate in life and death battles, one will not be able to understand one's own sword technique and understand it's deficiencies, but if a person experiences life and death battles, even if his talent in martial arts is poor, he will still be able to comprehend a hint of the essence of martial arts, in other words, the root of martial arts stems from killing, naturally martial arts will be perfected in battles, transformation.

After recovering from combat, Jiang Chen's sword once again pierced headlong into 1-star high level monstrous beasts, the efficiency of his sword blows steadily rose.

Time passed, every day Jiang Chen would fight monstrous beasts while every night he would perfect his Flowing Cloud sword technique, every day was substantial.

“In this month, I have killed 24 1-star high level monstrous beasts and 31 1-star mid level monstrous beasts, my strength is good enough to enter the core of the Silent mountain range.”

The core of the Silent mountain range is a very dangerous area, there is a possibility to encounter mutations of a 1-star high level beasts, there is also a possibility to encounter 2-star low-level beasts, the core area has unusually plentiful natural resources, if luck is good, there is a possibility to obtain 2-star herbs.

Jiang Chen’s luck was pretty good, half a day after he entered the core area, he found three 2-star mid-grade herbs: Blue Snake Grass, one herb was worth 500 sect contribution points, thus three herbs were worth 1500, could be exchanged for 300 low-grade spirit stones.

In the core area, Jiang Chen did not dare to even think of charging at a mutated 1-star high level monstrous beast, this is no fortuitous encounter, it could battle against a 1st rank peak Soaring Sky martial artist, to compare, if a Black Wind Panther can be compared to a common peak 9th Qi Sea martial artist, a mutated monstrous beast can be compared to a genius 9th Qi Sea martial artist, capable of jumping ranks in battle.

As for a 2-star low-level monstrous beast, encountering one was very risky, even if Jiang Chen had achieved the First Layer of the Void Sword Body, he wasn’t willing to provoke a 2-star low level monstrous beast, fortunately this was only a 1-star Forbidden Area, the possibility of a 2-star low level beast appearing was quite low, perhaps the sect’s inner sect disciples would have already beheaded them.

After walking for a while, Jiang Chen suddenly stopped, faintly, he felt the wind blowing, mixed within were the sounds of fighting.

“There is someone here?”

Following the sounds, Jiang Chen quietly approached.

Up ahead, there was a lushly forested basin, in the centre of the basin, six figures were engaging in close combat with a monstrous beast, waves of qi were surging.

The monstrous beast was in the shape of a wild boar, yet it was several times larger, its two buck-teeth were like two machetes, this monstrous beast's body appeared majestic, on the monstrous beast's body, longan sized crystals were embedded, these crystals incessantly flickered, offering the wild boar monstrous beast; formidable protection.

“A 1-star high-grade mutated monstrous beast.”

Jiang Chen took a deep breath, he saw a mutated monstrous beast in the Magical Jungle, a mutated monstrous beast wasn't stupid like ordinary beasts, the crystals embedded on its body boosted its defense, making it hard to deal with, at that time he and Gu Qingyuan exhausted all their mental and physical facilities to simply escape.

These six people weren't disciples from his sect, from their style of clothes, they appeared to be from the Cloud Sea Sect.

In the southern part of the East Mysterious Country, there were countless large and small sects, there were two other sects bordering his sect, one was the Righteous Bloodshed Sect and the other; Cloud Sea Sect, which surrounded both sides of the Three Stars Sect.

The martial artists were composed of four men and two women, their cultivation was quite high, three were at the peak 8th Qi Sea while two were at peak 9th Qi Sea.

In the end, it was after all a mutated monstrous beast, the 1-star high level mutated beast already possessed the strength of a peak 1st rank Soaring Sky.

“Senior sister Lin, I won't be able to withstand this mutated boar for too long, this beast is stronger than we imagined.”

The younger girl was sweating, she panicked and looked to the side of the purple clothed woman, saying:

“Don't be distracted.”

The purple clothed woman calmly glanced around, she found that everyone was quite exhausted, only she and Liu Changfeng could persist on, suddenly she saw that Jiang Chen wasn't far away, her eyes lit up as she loudly spoke, “This friend, is it possible for you to help us kill this mutated boar monstrous beast, we

can share the crystals half-half.”

Mutated monstrous beasts had a lot of crystals on their body, usually there were more than five, and the value of each crystal from a mutated beast was more than ordinary beasts of the same rank.

In this case they were also weaker than the mutated boar monstrous beast, if they had the help of one more person, even if it was a peak 5th Qi Sea warrior, they could break the stalemate and beat this giant toothed beast.

“I can help.”

Slightly hesitating, Jiang Chen nodded.

Drawing his sword, Jiang Chen joined the fray, a sword light swept the big toothed monster’s body.

In the time it took to drink a cup of tea, the big toothed monster gave a roar as it fell to the ground, giving vent to its anger.

“I myself am Lin Ziyuan, I humbly thank your distinguished self for your help just now. I am unaware of your distinguished self’s name.” Lin Ziyuan was a outer sect disciple of the Cloud Sea Sect, and could be considered a genius.

“Jiang Chen.”

Jiang Chen replied.

“Jiang Chen, we agreed that half of this mutated boar monstrous beast’s crystals would go to you, you pick first!” Lin Ziyuan said.

Hearing this, Jiang Chen didn’t decline, a mutated 1-star high-grade beasts crystals are very precious, can be exchanged for 1000 sect contribution points, this mutated boar beast has at least 5-6 crystals, half of them would add to 3000 sect contribution points.

“Hold on, I don’t agree.”

Liu Changfeng loudly spoke.

Suddenly, all eyes turned to Liu Changfeng.

Liu Changfeng is one of the Cloud Sea sect’s outer sect disciples, in addition, Liu Changfeng is a direct descendant of the Liu clan, a large family in the Liu Yan

city, which belongs to an old 2-star clan. As Liu Changfeng is a direct descendant of this clan, logically he should have no shortage of such mutated beast crystals.

“It’s something I don’t care about, but it is too good for him, we expended all our effort, for him to kill it with some effort and claim half of the mutated beast crystals, it isn’t appropriate at all, not to mention, he is simply a peak 6th Qi Sea warrior, he has no right to claim half of the mutated beast crystals.” Liu Changfeng said.

Lin Ziyuan’s eyebrows rose in challenge, “Liu Changfeng, if he didn’t help, we would certainly be injured, perhaps there would be fatalities, in exchange, half of the mutated beast crystals don’t matter. As for his cultivation level, it isn’t relevant!”

“Lin Ziyuan, your experience in the Jianghu is too small, if he wanted to help us, he should have come out as soon as possible if he was truly a capable individual, but it is clear that he was here to benefit without effort.”

“If I wanted to benefit without effort and ignore you, you would have suffered under the mutated boar beast.” Jiang Chen coldly said.

“Don’t quibble, from this mutated boar beast’s body crystals, you can only take one, this is to give face to Lin Ziyuan, otherwise, you can leave if you dare wish for more.” Liu Changfeng had a belittling tone.

“Liu Changfeng, you .....

The stunned Lin Ziyuan looked at Liu Changfeng, frowning.

“No, I’ll leave.”

Jiang Chen sneered, he chose to leave, he wasn’t so poor that he would humble himself for mutated beast crystal, he could see that Liu Changfeng was unhappy with him, because he stole Liu Changfeng’s thunder, as for fighting Liu Changfeng for a few mutated beast crystals, Jiang Chen felt that it wasn’t worth it, unnecessary.