

Mr Lang looked at the blood on his palms and his eyes darkened.

“I’m really surprised.”

The mask on Mr Lang’s face continued to flake away to slowly reveal his true face.

He looked just like a young man!

But nobody could tell his age. His voice sounded as rugged and raw as an old man’s.

“What a terrifying understanding of this fist technique.”

He spat out all the remaining blood in his mouth, then took a few deep breaths before suddenly coughing violently. He never thought the day would come when he would suffer injuries.

And he was actually injured by a youngster like Jiang Ning.

His mind was still replaying the Extreme Fist Technique moves that Jiang Ning displayed earlier. Each move he made had caused Mr Lang’s eyes to tremble.

“I’m surprised. All of us have underestimated this technique.”

Mr Lang’s eyes were as deep as a galaxy. It was hard to tell exactly what he was thinking about.

It took him a while to finally feel good enough to stand properly.

If his old friends spotted him like this, they might have laughed their toes off.

After a long time, he felt better and walked away.

The world inside the mountain was divided by sects, but each sect was very far apart from one another.

There was a mountain range from the east to the west, and a river from the south to the north. The place where the mountain range intersected with the river was the lowest point in this place, and it resembled a bowl from afar.

Many sects were dotted along the two ends of the mountain range.

The closer the area was to the north, the fewer people there were. All the sects that were located in the northern region had completely disappeared and not a single soul was left behind.

The further north one went, the thicker the gray fog was. It gave off a very somber sort of feeling.

It felt like it had come straight out of hell. That icy cold and lifeless sort of air was everywhere, and absolutely nothing could grow.

The look of this barren land struck fear in people's hearts, so nobody dared to go close to it.

DA DA DA!

Light footsteps approached from afar. Mr Lang

arrived at the border of this gray matter. He narrowed his eyes and looked around. The whole place felt dead and gloomy, and not a single soul could be seen.

He had no expression on his face and didn't seem to be bothered by this gray fog that caused many others to pale in the face at the mere mention of it. He just walked right into the fog.

The fog was very heavy and it seemed to cover the whole place.

Mr Lang didn't care. The fog wasn't anything like what Luo Long and the rest described it as. They all said that this fog made anyone who touched it disappear into thin air. But it only condensed into water droplets on Mr Lang's shoulder.

He kept walking forward. The fog didn't seem to obstruct his view at all.

It was hard to see Mr Lang through the blurry fog. One could only hear his footsteps. They were light yet carried a rhythm of sorts.

In no time.

The fog in front of Mr Lang became thinner and thinner, and his vision was much clearer now.

In front of him was a lake surrounded by three sides of the mountains, and the rest faced flat plains. The gray fog was coming from the surface of this very lake and spreading to the rest of the place.

There was a small house built by the side of the lake and it was made from wood. The algae growing on the house made it obvious that this wooden house had been here for a long time now.

Mr Lang remained expressionless as he walked towards the house and stepped right past the door.

The house was very simply furnished. There was only a bed, a table and a mirror.

He walked to the mirror and looked at his own face. He looked at those cloudy eyes of his in the mirror.

“I’ve almost forgotten what I look like already.”

His voice was hoarse and low, and it seemed as thick as a grandfather’s clock.

His hands gently rubbed his face, as if he was trying to check if the shape and lines on his face were the same as he remembered it.

After a long time, Mr Lang put his hands down. He sat in front of the mirror and looked at himself quietly.

He opened the drawer and took out a human skin mask and carefully put it on. He was now yet another man whom he didn’t recognize himself.



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After making sure that the mask was fitted on properly, Mr Lang walked out of the house and came to the lake side.

He looked at the fog that continued to bubble and rise into the air with an icy look in his eyes.

“We’re almost there, we’re almost there...I just need a little time. Just a little.”

Mr Lang sat down cross legged as he watched the bubbling surface of the lake water and stopped speaking. He quietly concentrated on healing his own injuries.

Meanwhile.

Back at Qingshan Sect.

Qingshan Sect was the last line of defense before the mountain gate.

And now, all the sect leaders and elders of the various sects had gathered here not to attack Qingshan Sect and rush out of the mountain gate, but to join hands to guard the mountain gate.

“I didn’t expect to take so much effort just to even discover the enemy,” sighed Li Xuan.

If not for Jiang Ning, all of them would have just continued being Mr Lang’s tools and be used by him.

“Who on earth is this Mr Lang? You mean we don’t have any clue at all?” snarled Geng Jianba angrily. “He actually dared to fool us and use us!

What audacity!”

“Now is not the time to get angry. We don’t know who he is or what he wants to do, and that’s the most terrifying part now.”

Everyone made their comments and eventually started arguing.

“Enough,” said Jiang Ning as he sat in the leader’s chair inside the main hall. The entire place immediately fell silent.

Everyone turned to look at Jiang Ning.

Jiang Ning now called the shots and nobody protested anymore.

Just that fight earlier with Mr Lang had already proved that Jiang Ning’s prowess was way beyond anything that all the people here were capable of.

“If we want to know what Mr Lang is trying to do, I’m afraid we’ll have to go to the northern region.” He looked at all of them. “I’m very sure Mr Lang is the one who’s creating that gray matter.”

“No, don’t do that! The gray matter is very terrifying! If you touch it, you’ll definitely die!” Li Xuan immediately shook his head.

“I heard that there was one sect that disappeared because they were overcome by this gray matter! Not a single soul was left behind!”

Everyone else nodded in agreement.

They had heard a lot of such rumors. After one of the sects was covered with the gray fog, they went to check the place after the fog dissipated, only to find that not a single living thing was left behind.

“Have all of you seen it for yourselves?”

“Yes, we did!” said Yun Zhongke.

Jiang Ning shook his head. “What I’m asking is, have all of you actually seen anybody get corroded by the gray fog and melt away in front of you?”

Everyone shook their heads.

None of them had actually seen this.

But since these rumors existed, surely there was some truth in it, right?

Besides, those sects had really disappeared. Not a single person had appeared ever again. They were all dead.

“Jiang Ning, are you saying that this fog could possibly be just a cover for something else?” asked Liu Chuandao after thinking about it.

Elder Ting Feng thought the same way too and nodded. “You mean there’s something in the northern region that he doesn’t want us to know about? So he purposely created this fog and the rumors about how terrifying it is so that nobody would come close?”



Jiang Ning nodded.

“That’s one possibility.”

He had never heard of any chemical that would only corrode living things and nothing else. Even if it was poison, it would leave traces behind after the chemical reaction was completed.

Jiang Ning believed in science, so even though the world was filled with many mysterious and seemingly magical things, there was always a logical explanation for it.

That was how the world worked.

“The more he’s trying to cover this up, the more certain I am that there’s something there,” said Jiang Ning. “Since he doesn’t want us to see it, then all the more we should go and have a look.”

“You want to go to the northern region?” Li Xuan’s face paled.

Even though he did feel that Jiang Ning had a point, what if he was wrong?

No matter how powerful Jiang Ning was in terms of fighting, if the fog was truly corrosive, then there was no way he could be saved!

“That’s right, I’ll go and have a look.” Jiang Ning nodded. “If we don’t look for the problem, how are we going to solve the problem?”



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