ZHUO FAN

The DEMONIC EMPEROR's feat Document by HORNY SENPAI

a.k.a Reverie 💜

Name: Zhuo Fan (卓凡)

Series: Magic Emperor (**manhua**) / The Steward Demonic Emperor (**web novel**)

Role: Protagonist / Steward of the Luo Clan

Aliases: Demonic Emperor, Demon Emperor, Zhuo Fan, Gu Yifan, Qian Fan, Zhuo Yifan, the Blind Swordsman, the Uncrowned Sovereign.

Occupation: Steward, strategist, cultivator, former Demonic Emperor



Zhuo Fan - Web Novel illustration (blind Swordsmith - around chapter 1000 in the Novels)



Zhuo Fan - Manhua design (basically Zhuo Fan but younger)

Zhuo Fan is the protagonist of Magic Emperor, a former Demonic Emperor who is reborn after being betrayed and killed. Retaining the knowledge, experience, and memories accumulated during his previous life, he begins his second life as the steward of the declining Luo Clan.

Rather than relying purely on cultivation or overwhelming force, Zhuo Fan frequently approaches conflicts as problems of information, manipulation, preparation, and strategic positioning. His experience as the former Demonic Emperor gives him extensive knowledge of the cultivation world, its factions, techniques, power structures, and human behavior.

Throughout the story, Zhuo Fan repeatedly operates several steps ahead of his opponents, manipulating circumstances so that enemies make decisions that ultimately benefit his objectives. He is particularly notable for his ability to exploit psychological weaknesses, incomplete information, political relationships, incentives, deception, and long-term planning.

For SCD purposes, Zhuo Fan is best examined not simply through his cultivation achievements, but through how effectively he gathers and processes information, predicts opponents, constructs plans, manipulates individuals and organizations, adapts when his plans encounter unexpected variables, and converts seemingly disadvantageous situations into favorable positions.

SCD PROFILE

Zhuo Fan's intelligence profile can therefore be summarized as a combination of:

Experience + Strategic Planning + Manipulation + Deception + Psychological Insight + Foresight + Adaptability + Information Exploitation

His SCD value comes particularly from his ability to turn information and human behavior into strategic leverage. Rather than merely attempting to outthink an opponent in a single exchange, Zhuo Fan often seeks to control the circumstances surrounding the conflict itself.

NOTE: I made this document with his feats from the source material (**web novel**) so those who only read the "**manhua**" adaptation should be aware that there'll be spoilers and details that weren't included or changed in the latter adaptation due to specific rules regarding fictional media in the country of origin. I won't be going into too much detail since I'm **LAZY AF** so I'll advise you read any of the adaptations so you would be able to understand each circumstance pointed out here.

Document completion rate: 0%

Current progress: Volume 1 (chapter 1-100).

Total volumes: 13 + Alt Ending

VOLUME 1

Chapter 1-3: The Demonic Emperor's Possession — Day 1

Context: Demonic Emperor Zhuo Yifan is the strongest demonic cultivator in the Sacred Domain. He obtains the legendary Nine Serenities Secret Records, a cultivation manual of immense power. His disciple, Zhao Chen, betrays him out of jealousy, revealing his location to the Seven Emperors (the strongest righteous cultivators) and a Saint (an even higher existence). They surround him and demand the manual. Zhuo Yifan refuses, destroys the manual, and self-destructs. However, his soul does not perish—it drifts and finds a dying 15-year-old servant named Zhuo Fan, whose obsession to protect the Luo clan creates a "heart demon" contract, binding Zhuo Yifan's soul to the servant's body and forcing him to protect the Luo clan.

Current Situation: Zhuo Yifan awakens in a pile of corpses, inhabiting the body of a 15-year-old servant who has never cultivated. The body is weak, but it is a "pure body," which is required for the Demon Transformation Art in the Nine Serenities Secret Records. He finds an injured guard (2nd layer Qi Condensation) and needs to grow stronger quickly to survive.

Feat 1: Overnight Foundation Establishment and Qi Condensation Synthesis

This is the foundational feat of the entire story. Zhuo Yifan assesses his new body and identifies its most valuable asset: it is a "pure body" that has never cultivated. This is critical because the Nine Serenities Secret Records' Demon Transformation Art requires a pure body to train in it. The art allows the user to steal others' cultivation and eventually "swallow the Heavens and devour the Earth." He finds an injured guard (2nd layer Qi Condensation) and uses the Demon Transformation Art to drain his Yuan Qi, turning him to dust. He refines the energy overnight, a process described as being on the verge of bursting his meridians. By morning, he reaches the 5th layer of Foundation Establishment, but his Yuan Qi quality is equivalent to a Qi Condensation expert. This means his physical body is far stronger than his cultivation level suggests, and his foundation is described as "never before seen." The text notes that even rare geniuses from the Sacred Domain need a year to reach the 5th layer of Foundation Establishment, yet Zhuo Fan did it in one night. This establishes his core advantage: a cultivation method that allows for exponential growth through devouring others, combined with his vast experience as a Demonic Emperor to maximize every gain. The heart demon contract is also established here: Zhuo Fan's resentment fused with the Demonic Emperor's hatred, becoming a shackle that forces him to protect the Luo clan or suffer heart demon attacks. This means he cannot simply abandon the Luo clan; he must ensure their safety to avoid the heart demon, which would cause his cultivation to deviate and potentially kill him.

Key Dialogue: "*This kid is 15 yet has never cultivated. His body is untainted.*" | "*I am the Sacred Domain's Eighth Emperor, Demonic Emperor Zhuo Yifan!*" | "*Man, this Demon Transformation Art is fantastic.*"

SCD Categories: [Cultivation: A, Intellect: S, Deception: S]

Chapter 4-6: Steward Sun's Ambush — Day 1

Context: The Luo clan was attacked by Blackwind Mountain bandits. Steward Sun, a trusted member of the Luo clan, betrayed them and helped the bandits breach their defenses. The surviving Luo clan members—Luo Yunchang (young miss), Luo Yunhai (young master), and Captain Pang (guard captain)—fled into the forest. Steward Sun and his bandits pursued them. Zhuo Fan, now possessing the body of the dead servant, hears the commotion and is

forced by the heart demon to intervene. Steward Sun (6th layer Qi Condensation) and his bandits have surrounded the Luo siblings and Captain Pang. They demand the Returning Dragon Palm, a spirit-ranked martial art passed down through the Luo clan for generations. Luo Yunchang refuses. Steward Sun threatens to kill them all. Zhuo Fan is currently at the 5th layer of Foundation Establishment with Qi Condensation-level Yuan Qi.

Feat 2: Blitz Attack on a Higher Realm Cultivator

Despite being 5th layer Foundation Establishment, Zhuo Fan targets a fat bandit (7th layer Foundation Establishment) holding a blade to his neck. The bandit, underestimating him as a mere servant, is completely off guard. Zhuo Fan uses surprise and Qi Condensation-level Yuan Qi in his left hand, elbowing the bandit's chest with enough force to shatter his ribcage. In one fluid motion, he grabs the fallen blade and decapitates the fat man. The text notes this brutality shook both the bandits and the Luo guards, as it was a swift, lethal execution that even the guard captain could not match. The guards, who knew Zhuo Fan as an honest and submissive servant, are left in shock, wondering if he was scared silly or had been hiding his true nature. Zhuo Fan then immediately grabs the siblings and retreats, prioritizing their safety over fighting the remaining forces. He throws the bloody saber at Steward Sun as a distraction, showcasing his ability to use every moment for tactical advantage. He also demonstrates his ability to adapt to a situation, turning a disadvantage (a blade at his neck) into an opportunity by exploiting the enemy's overconfidence. This feat establishes his combat philosophy: use surprise, speed, and lethal force to eliminate threats before they can react.

Key Dialogue: *"Humph, since you're so stubborn, Zhuo Fan will be the first to die because of you. Fatty, kill him." / "None could even react as the fat man's head flew from his shoulders."*

SCD Categories: [Combat: B, Strategy: B, Intellect: B, Adaptability: A]

Chapter 7-10: The Four Cardinal Wraith Array — Day 1-2

Context: Zhuo Fan, Luo Yunchang, and Luo Yunhai flee into the Misty Forest, a fog-covered forest that few people venture into. Steward Sun and his bandits pursue them. Zhuo Fan recognizes the forest as a "natural array" formed by the landscape (Azure Dragon in the East, White Tiger in the West, Vermilion Bird in the South, Black Tortoise in the North, and

Qilin's horn in the center). He decides to use this natural array to eliminate Steward Sun's group.

Feat 3: Setting up and Weaponizing a 4th Grade Array

Zhuo Fan takes Luo Yunchang's spirit stones and sets up the "Four Cardinal Wraith Array" in 15 minutes, using his knowledge of the Nine Serenities Secret Records. He recognizes the Misty Forest as a "natural array" formed by the landscape: Azure Dragon in the East, White Tiger in the West, Vermilion Bird in the South, Black Tortoise in the North, and Qilin's horn in the center. He notes that in the Sacred Domain, only a Saint could claim such a place. He uses a red rope to lure Steward Sun's men into the forest, leaving forks in the rope that only he knows about. He cuts the rope, trapping them. He forces Luo Yunchang to control the array (using wraiths) to kill the bandits. He secretly takes control of the array, absorbs the Yuan Qi of the dead bandits (including Steward Sun) using the Demon Transformation Art, breaking through to the 1st layer of Qi Condensation. He claims the array collapsed to hide his secret. This feat demonstrates his ability to use the environment as a weapon, his understanding of advanced array formations, and his ruthlessness in devouring the essence of over 20 cultivators to advance his own power. He also uses the array to break through to Qi Condensation, widening his meridians further and establishing a foundation that allows him to face Qi Condensation experts with just his physical body. The text notes that the array was so powerful that even Steward Sun, a 6th layer Qi Condensation expert, was helpless against it. This feat also establishes his ability to manipulate others, as he forces Luo Yunchang to believe she was the one who controlled the array, hiding his true capabilities.

Key Dialogue: *"Nine Underworld Gates open! Four Cardinal Wraith Array activate!" / "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust; Nine Underworld wraiths return to me." / "Ha-ha-ha, I didn't expect a 2nd layer Qi Condensation's cultivation would require an entire night."*

SCD Categories: [Intellect: S, Strategy: S, Array/Knowledge: S, Deception: A, Ruthlessness: S]

Chapter 11-12: The Market Appraisal — Days 3-5

Context: After escaping the Misty Forest, Zhuo Fan, Luo Yunchang, Luo Yunhai, and Captain Pang travel to Windgaze City, the largest city in a hundred miles. They plan to seek shelter with the Cai clan, who have a marriage agreement with Luo Yunchang. While in the

city, Zhuo Fan explores the market area where rogue cultivators sell their wares. He spots a stall owner selling a black jade that is actually a fake. A young woman in white (Long Kui) is arguing with the stall owner, claiming the jade is fake but unable to explain why. Zhuo Fan intervenes, revealing the jade's true nature. However, he also recognizes that beneath the fake black jade exterior lies a Blood Spirit, a rare demonic treasure.

Feat 4: Identifying a Hidden Treasure and Outsmarting a Seven Noble House Appraiser

Zhuo Fan uses his knowledge from the Nine Serenities Secret Records to identify the Blood Spirit (a rare demonic treasure). He uses a simple chemical reaction (sulfur, clover, water) to reveal the stone's true color, publicly validating a young woman's (Long Kui) claim. However, his true feat is recognizing that beneath the fake black jade exterior lies a Blood Spirit, something that even Long Kui, a top appraiser from the Veiled Dragon Pavilion (one of the Seven Noble Houses), failed to notice. He notes that Long Kui's eyes are "sharp and sinister" and that it was lucky she was still inexperienced, or she would have taken the treasure without hesitation. He then tracks down the stall owner and kills him to acquire the stone. This shows his superiority in demonic lore and his willingness to kill for resources. It also demonstrates his ability to operate in a public market, identify a treasure that others overlook, and eliminate a loose end without drawing attention. The text notes that the stall owner tried to extort him for 50 spirit stones, but Zhuo Fan simply killed him and took the stone, showing his disdain for negotiation when he holds the power. This feat also establishes his ability to recognize and exploit rare treasures, a skill that will prove invaluable throughout the story.

Key Dialogue: "*I knew it, it's the Blood Spirit!*" / "*Even if it is fake, it can still pass off for the real thing. I might be able to sell it as a black jade.*"

SCD Categories: [Knowledge: S, Intellect: A, Cultivation: A, Ruthlessness: A]

Chapter 13-14: Blood Infant Refinement — Days 5-15

Context: Zhuo Fan acquires the Blood Spirit, a rare demonic treasure that can be refined into a Blood Infant. According to the Nine Serenities Secret Records, the Blood Infant is a

powerful entity that can absorb blood essence and Yuan Qi, and can grow alongside the cultivator. It requires a blood sacrifice to form. Zhuo Fan secludes himself in a tavern room for ten days to refine it.

Feat 5: Refining the Blood Infant and Mastering the Blood Palm

Zhuo Fan feeds the stone his own blood for hours, almost dying from blood loss. The text describes how the Blood Spirit is formed only when bathed in the blood of millions of people and absorbing the essence of the sun and moon for thousands of years. Zhuo Fan's blood is not enough to fully satisfy it, but his determination and the Demon Transformation Art allow him to synchronize with it. The Blood Spirit synchronizes with his heartbeat, forming a palm-sized red infant in his Dantian. This grants him an unorthodox healing factor (it acts as a secondary heart) and an external combat drone. He also masters the Blood Palm, a mid-mortal-ranked martial art that becomes as strong as a high-mortal-ranked art due to the Blood Infant. According to the Nine Serenities Secret Records, there was once an ancient demonic cultivator expert, Patriarch Blood Demon, who trained the Blood Infant to the Saint Stage, making even the ten ancient Sovereigns unwilling to make an enemy out of him. The Nine Serenities Sovereign obtained Patriarch Blood Demon's secret method, improved it, and added it to the Demon Transformation Art. Zhuo Fan notes that if he had the Blood Infant in his past life, a Saint would have been nothing. This process is extremely dangerous, as stopping midway would cause the Blood Infant to reject him forever, but Zhuo Fan's determination and demonic cultivation experience allow him to succeed. He also demonstrates his willingness to endure extreme pain and risk death for long-term gain, a hallmark of his character. The Blood Infant also serves as a secondary heart, meaning that even if his original heart is destroyed, he can survive as long as the Blood Infant exists. This is a crucial advantage that he will exploit in future battles.

Key Dialogue: "*Now that I have the Blood Infant, the next step is to settle on a martial art to learn.*" / "*If he had it in his past life, a Saint would've been nothing.*"

SCD Categories: [Cultivation: A, Intellect: B, Resilience: S, Risk-Taking: S]

Chapter 15-17: Cai Manor Confrontation — Day 15

Context: Zhuo Fan and the Luo siblings arrive at Cai Manor to seek shelter. However, Cai Rong (Clan Head of the Cai clan) has annulled the marriage agreement between Cai Xiaoting and Luo Yunchang because the Luo clan has fallen. Cai Xiaoting is now engaged to Sun Yufei, the young miss of the Sun clan, who has connections to Hell Valley (one of the Seven Noble Houses). Luo Yunchang is humiliated by Cai Xiaoting and Sun Yufei. Zhuo Fan intervenes.

Feat 6: Slapping the Geniuses and Threatening a Clan Head

Zhuo Fan moves faster than the Qi Condensation experts can react, slapping both Cai Xiaoting and Sun Yufei. When they order him to kneel, he kicks them, breaking the pavement. The text notes that if they weren't Qi Condensation experts, their knees would be crushed. When Cai Rong (8th layer Bone Tempering) arrives, Zhuo Fan uses the Blood Palm to counter Cai Rong's attack. He points out that Cai Rong's hand is bleeding and that his "two tenths" of power was actually less than a tenth because his blood fell into disorder. He also reveals that he implanted the Blood Infant in Cai Xiaoting earlier (during the chaos) to make him cough blood, threatening his life if Cai Rong doesn't let them leave. Cai Rong backs down. This feat is a masterclass in psychological warfare, as Zhuo Fan leverages an 8th layer expert's love for his son to neutralize a massive power gap. He also demonstrates his ability to plan ahead, having implanted the Blood Infant in Cai Xiaoting before the confrontation even began. The text notes that Cai Rong later regretted his actions, realizing that instead of offering shelter, he invited an enemy. This also sets up the Cai clan as a future target for Zhuo Fan's revenge. Zhuo Fan's ability to remain calm under pressure and think several steps ahead is fully displayed here. He also demonstrates his willingness to use underhanded tactics, such as threatening a child's life, to achieve his goals.

Key Dialogue: "*A damn illicit couple dares to ruin my affairs?*" / "*I only wanted to tell Clan Head Cai I can take your son's life anytime.*" / "*Instead of offering shelter, I invited an enemy..*"

SCD Categories: [Combat: B, Deception: A, Intimidation: S, Planning: S]

Chapter 18-22: The Ancient Array Sale — Day 16

Context: After leaving Cai Manor, Zhuo Fan realizes that the Luo clan has no safe place to stay. He decides to seek an alliance with the Veiled Dragon Pavilion, one of the Seven Noble Houses. He knows that the Veiled Dragon Pavilion is the number one treasure appraising clan and that they would be interested in an ancient array that he can draw from memory. He also knows that they owe him a favor for revealing the fake black jade, but he plans to use a much larger transaction to secure their protection.

Feat 7: Selling an Ancient Array for 10 Million Spirit Stones

Zhuo Fan presents a drawing of an ancient array. Long Kui appraises it at 30k. Zhuo Fan refuses. Godeye Long Jiu (a top expert) examines it and realizes it's an Ancient Array, offering 1.8 million. Zhuo Fan refuses and demands 10 million. Long Jiu pressures him with his aura, but Zhuo Fan stands his ground, using the clan's honor against him. He says, "Grandpa Jiu, you're staining Veiled Dragon Pavilion's reputation." He bets on his fate and the clan's honor's place in Long Jiu's heart and wins. Long Jiu agrees to pay 1 million upfront and provide protection. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to negotiate from a position of absolute weakness against a superior force by leveraging their greed and reputation. He also secures a powerful ally for the Luo clan, effectively putting a target on his back for the Hell Valley. Long Jiu later realizes that Zhuo Fan planned the entire thing, including the Veiled Dragon Pavilion's involvement in the conflict with Hell Valley. The text notes that this became one of the top three deals in Veiled Dragon Pavilion's history. Zhuo Fan also demonstrates his ability to manipulate others by using Long Jiu's own honor and reputation against him, a tactic that he will use repeatedly throughout the story. He also secures a long-term alliance, as the Veiled Dragon Pavilion will continue to protect the Luo clan as long as they owe them the remaining 9 million spirit stones. This gives Zhuo Fan a powerful backer and a safe haven for the Luo clan.

Key Dialogue: *"Ten million is a fair offer. Let's start by having you pay us a million and the rest slowly." / "An Ancient Array! ... It is priceless, and even ten million is too low." / "This punk is the most dangerous man I have ever seen."*

SCD Categories: [Negotiation: S, Intellect: S, Strategy: A, Manipulation: S]

Chapter 23-24: The Hell Valley Ambush — Day 17

Context: Sun Yufei, humiliated by Zhuo Fan at Cai Manor, brings her cousin You Quan (6th layer Qi Condensation, Hell Valley disciple) to kill Zhuo Fan. You Quan is a demonic cultivator with a high mortal-ranked martial art called Hell Claw. He is confident he can kill Zhuo Fan easily because he is four layers above him.

Feat 8: Defeating and Killing a Higher-Realm Demonic Cultivator

You Quan uses Hell Claw (High mortal rank), hitting Zhuo Fan's chest. You Quan seals Zhuo Fan's heart. Zhuo Fan purposely explodes his heart to break the seal, taking heavy damage. He counterattacks with Blood Palm. Long Jie (Veiled Dragon Pavilion) intervenes. Zhuo Fan pretends to be dying, but when You Quan lowers his guard, Zhuo Fan uses the Blood Infant to disrupt You Quan's Yuan Qi, pierces his chest, and rips out his heart. He manipulates the situation so the blame falls on Veiled Dragon Pavilion, forcing them to protect the Luo clan. This is a masterclass in turning a physical disadvantage into a political victory. He also demonstrates his willingness to self-mutilate (exploding his own heart) to win, a terrifying trait for an enemy. The text notes that You Quan realized too late that he fell into a trap, and not just him—Veiled Dragon Pavilion and Hell Valley were also part of Zhuo Fan's calculations. Zhuo Fan's ability to plan several steps ahead, even in the heat of battle, is showcased here. He also demonstrates his knowledge of demonic cultivation, knowing that a demonic cultivator's heart is not necessarily their vital point, allowing him to survive an otherwise fatal blow. The Blood Infant serves as his secondary heart, so even when his original heart exploded, he could survive. This feat also demonstrates his ability to manipulate the political landscape, as he forces the Veiled Dragon Pavilion to protect the Luo clan by making them complicit in You Quan's death.

Key Dialogue: *"Didn't your Master warn you? In a battle with demonic cultivators, never let down your guard or you will forfeit your life." / "He fell in his trap, and not just him... Veiled Dragon Pavilion and Hell Valley..."*

SCD Categories: [Combat: B, Deception: S, Strategy: S, Manipulation: S, Risk-Taking: S]

Chapter 23-24: Spying on Cai Rong and Elder Jian — Night of Day 17

Context: After the battle with You Quan, Zhuo Fan needs to heal his heart and grow stronger. He uses the Blood Infant to patrol the city and drain the blood essence of Cai clan guards. While patrolling, he discovers a spy from Blackwind Mountain who is working with Hell Valley. He follows her to a tavern and then uses the Blood Infant to spy on a secret meeting between Cai Rong, Clan Head Sun, and Elder Jian (Hell Valley).

Feat 9: Blood Infant Espionage and Mass Drain

Zhuo Fan uses the Blood Infant to spy on a secret meeting between Cai Rong, Clan Head Sun, and Elder Jian (Hell Valley). He learns that Hell Valley plans to use Blackwind Mountain to attack the Luo clan. He also drains over 50 Cai clan guards of their blood essence to heal his heart and advance his cultivation from 2nd to 4th layer Qi Condensation. The text notes that the Blood Infant reached Qi Condensation and even an early Bone Tempering expert would find it troublesome to fight with. For Qi Condensation opponents, it would kill them in an instant. This feat highlights the Blood Infant's utility as both a spy and a tool for rapid, covert cultivation growth. It also shows Zhuo Fan's ability to gather critical intelligence about his enemies' plans. He also learns that Elder Jian is a Hell Valley elder and that he has a history with Long Jiu, which he later uses to manipulate the Veiled Dragon Pavilion. The text notes that Zhuo Fan was able to eavesdrop on a conversation between three powerful experts without being detected, showcasing the Blood Infant's stealth capabilities. He also demonstrates his ruthlessness by draining over 50 guards without hesitation, showing that he views human life as a resource to be exploited. This feat also demonstrates his ability to multi-task, as he uses the Blood Infant to both spy and drain guards at the same time. The information he gathers here is crucial for his future plans, as he learns that Hell Valley is using Blackwind Mountain as a proxy to attack the Luo clan without directly involving themselves.

Key Dialogue: *"I don't know, but it must belong to a demonic cultivator.."* / *"He is a spy we have long planted in the Blackwind Mountain.."*

SCD Categories: [Stealth: A, Intellect: S, Cultivation: A, Ruthlessness: S]

Chapter 25-26: The 5th Grade Array and the Vow — Day 18

Context: Long Kui mocks Zhuo Fan and the Luo clan for being frogs in a well, saying they are oblivious to the vast world outside. Zhuo Fan decides to prove her wrong by demonstrating his true talent. He also wants to secure the Luo clan's safety and establish his own reputation.

Feat 10: Deploying a 5th Grade Array and Refusing the Veiled Dragon Pavilion

Zhuo Fan takes spirit stones and, in 15 minutes, upgrades the courtyard's 3rd grade Coiling Dragon Array to a 5th grade Nine Heavens Coiling Dragon Array, shocking Long Jiu, Long Jie, Long Kui, and even Elder Jian in the Sun clan. The nine golden dragons burst out of the ground and spread across the sky above Windgaze City for all to see. Long Jiu notes that there are but a handful of people who could set a 5th grade array in the Tianyu Empire, and not even the Seven Houses had such a talent. Long Jiu offers him the position of Venerable in the Veiled Dragon Pavilion. Zhuo Fan declines, vowing to make the Luo clan stand above the Seven Noble Houses in 10 years. This cements his status as a peerless talent and sets his long-term ambition. It also demonstrates his loyalty to the Luo clan, even though he was initially forced into it by the heart demon. He also uses the moment to humiliate Long Kui, forcing her to watch as he becomes the center of attention. The text notes that this feat was so shocking that even Elder Jian, a Hell Valley elder, was startled and wondered who was setting up the array. Zhuo Fan's ability to set up a 5th grade array in 15 minutes is a testament to his genius and his deep understanding of arrays from his past life as a Demonic Emperor. This feat also demonstrates his ability to think long-term, as he knows that by refusing the Veiled Dragon Pavilion's offer, he can maintain his independence and pursue his own goals. He also knows that the Veiled Dragon Pavilion will continue to protect the Luo clan because they owe them the remaining 9 million spirit stones. This gives him both freedom and protection.

Key Dialogue: "*Young Miss Long Kui, do you remember what you said?... Within ten years, I will make the Luo clan stand above the Seven Houses!*" / "*An array master needs to know each array as the back of his hand... so how can a pup set up a 5th grade array so quickly?*" / "*Nothing in this world is impossible! If Heaven stands in my way, I will kill it. My fate is my own and not Heaven's.*"

SCD Categories: [Array/Knowledge: S, Intellect: S, Manipulation: A, Ambition: S, Loyalty: A]

Chapter 27: Capturing the Blackwind Mountain Spy — Night of Day 27

Context: Zhuo Fan uses the Blood Infant to patrol the city and discovers a spy from Blackwind Mountain who is working with Hell Valley. The spy is mapping out the Veiled Dragon Pavilion courtyard in preparation for an attack. Zhuo Fan follows her to a tavern and confronts her.

Feat 11: Blood Infant Capture

Zhuo Fan follows the female bandit leader (9th layer Qi Condensation) to a tavern. He confronts her. She attacks with a spirit-ranked martial art (piercing lightning). Zhuo Fan uses the Blood Infant to control her body, freezing her mid-attack. He cancels her technique, grabs her, and captures her along with her servant Xiao Cui. This highlights the Blood Infant's terrifying utility in bypassing conventional combat entirely by targeting the opponent's blood and bodily functions. The text notes that the Blood Infant was born of blood and controlled blood, which in turn led to the control of the whole body. Only strong cultivation and Yuan Qi could repel such restrictions, but the Blood Infant was still weak. If it was in the Saint Stage, even a Sovereign would find it hard to deal with. This sets up the next arc involving Blackwind Mountain and the cure for the Mountain Lord. Zhuo Fan also learns that Blackwind Mountain and Hell Valley are connected, and that the bandits are being exploited just like the Cai clan, but on a much deeper level. He also demonstrates his ability to gather intelligence and use it to his advantage, as he now has a captive who can provide him with information about Blackwind Mountain's plans and the Hell Valley's involvement. The female bandit leader is also revealed to be the adoptive daughter of the Blackwind Mountain Lord, and she is trying to obtain the Returning Dragon Palm to heal her adoptive father. Zhuo Fan's capture of her gives him leverage over Blackwind Mountain and a potential ally if he can cure the Mountain Lord.

Key Dialogue: "*What did you do to me?" / "Nothing, I am only controlling your body." / "Girl, filial and success are different things. Moreover, who told you the Returning Dragon Palm can heal wounds?"*

SCD Categories: [Combat: A, Stealth: A, Intellect: B, Information Gathering: A]

Chapter 28: Interrogating the Spy — Day 28

Context: Zhuo Fan has captured Lei Yuting and her servant Xiao Cui. He needs to extract information about Blackwind Mountain's plans, their connection to Hell Valley, and the truth behind the attack on the Luo clan. He brings them to his room in the Veiled Dragon Pavilion courtyard. Lei Yuting is hostile and refuses to answer questions. Xiao Cui is terrified.

Feat 12: Psychological Interrogation and Intelligence Extraction

Zhuo Fan brings the two women to his room and begins interrogating them. When Lei Yuting refuses to answer, he rips her clothes, exposing her body and threatening to throw her to the guards outside. This psychological torture breaks Lei Yuting's composure, but it is Xiao Cui who ultimately reveals the truth. Zhuo Fan learns that Yang Ming, the Mountain Lord's disciple and Lei Yuting's fiancé, is actually a spy from Hell Valley. He was the one who contacted Steward Sun and orchestrated the attack on the Luo clan. He also learns that the Mountain Lord was paralyzed by a demonic creature implanted by Yang Ming, and that the Returning Dragon Palm cannot heal him. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ruthlessness and his willingness to use any means necessary to extract information. He also shows his ability to read people and identify their weaknesses, as he correctly deduces that Xiao Cui's loyalty to Lei Yuting is the key to breaking her silence. The interrogation also reveals the depth of Hell Valley's conspiracy, as they have been planning the destruction of the Luo clan for over a decade. Yang Ming infiltrated Blackwind Mountain, manipulated the Mountain Lord, and used the bandits as pawns to attack the Luo clan, all while maintaining a facade of loyalty. This information is crucial for Zhuo Fan's future plans, as he now knows who his true enemies are and how they operate.

Key Dialogue: "*This is your last chance to maintain your honor. If you don't answer, there are more than a dozen craving men outside beside me.*" / "*Senior Brother Yang is a good man, not a liar,*" *Xiao Cui said.* / "*How could Yang Ming make Luo clan's steward defect after decades under Luo clan and also be in constant contact with Hell Valley? Lei Yuting, do you even know your fiancee?*"

SCD Categories: [Interrogation: S, Psychological Manipulation: S, Ruthlessness: A, Intellect: S]

Chapter 28-29: The Alliance with Blackwind Mountain — Day 28-29

Context: After learning the truth about Yang Ming's betrayal, Zhuo Fan realizes that Blackwind Mountain is also a victim of Hell Valley's schemes. He decides to form an alliance with Lei Yuting and the Mountain Lord to uncover the full conspiracy and protect both the Luo clan and Blackwind Mountain from the Seven Noble Houses. Lei Yuting is initially hostile, but Zhuo Fan's revelations about Yang Ming's betrayal have sown doubt in her mind. Lei Yuting agrees to take Zhuo Fan to Blackwind Mountain to investigate. However, she still does not fully trust him and warns him not to harm the Mountain Lord or Xiao Cui. Zhuo Fan needs to gain her trust and cooperation while also maintaining leverage over her to ensure she does not betray him.

Feat 13: Forming an Alliance with Lei Yuting

Zhuo Fan presents the Returning Dragon Palm to Lei Yuting, knowing that she believes it can heal her godfather. He tells her that the martial art cannot heal the Mountain Lord's wound and that Yang Ming has been lying to her. He offers to accompany her to Blackwind Mountain to investigate, promising to heal the Mountain Lord if she helps him. Lei Yuting, already doubting Yang Ming, agrees. Zhuo Fan also takes Xiao Cui hostage to ensure Lei Yuting's cooperation. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to turn enemies into allies by exploiting their desires and fears. He also shows his strategic thinking, as he knows that Blackwind Mountain is a potential ally against Hell Valley and that the Mountain Lord is a valuable asset. The alliance with Blackwind Mountain is crucial for Zhuo Fan's future plans, as it gives him access to a network of bandits and a Bone Tempering expert (the Mountain Lord) who can help him protect the Luo clan. Zhuo Fan also demonstrates his ability to manipulate others by using the Returning Dragon Palm as a bargaining chip, even though he knows it is useless for healing the Mountain Lord. He also shows his ruthlessness by taking Xiao Cui hostage, ensuring that Lei Yuting has no choice but to cooperate.

Key Dialogue: *"I want you to take me to Blackwind Mountain. I want to get to the bottom of this."* / *"How could Yang Ming make Luo clan's steward defect after decades under Luo clan and also be in constant contact with Hell Valley? Lei Yuting, do you even know your fiancee?"* / *"Young Miss Lei, this is the Returning Dragon Palm you wanted. But this is a martial art, it is unable to heal Mountain Lord's wound."*

SCD Categories: [Negotiation: S, Alliance Building: A, Intellect: S, Strategy: A]

Chapter 29-30: Infiltrating Blackwind Mountain — Day 29-30

Context: Zhuo Fan and Lei Yuting travel to Blackwind Mountain. Zhuo Fan disguises himself as an old alchemist to gain entry and investigate the Mountain Lord's condition. He suspects that Yang Ming has implanted a demonic creature in the Mountain Lord to paralyze him. Yang Ming is suspicious of Zhuo Fan and tries to prevent him from seeing the Mountain Lord. Zhuo Fan and Lei Yuting arrive at Blackwind Mountain. Yang Ming is immediately suspicious and tries to bar their entry. Zhuo Fan needs to confirm his diagnosis and find evidence of Yang Ming's betrayal. He is at the 4th layer of Qi Condensation, while Yang Ming is at the early Bone Tempering stage. Zhuo Fan cannot defeat Yang Ming in direct combat, so he must rely on deception and manipulation.

Feat 14: Infiltration and Diagnosis

Zhuo Fan, disguised as an old alchemist, arrives at Blackwind Mountain with Lei Yuting. Yang Ming is immediately suspicious and tries to bar their entry. Zhuo Fan deliberately provokes Yang Ming into attacking him, taking a palm strike that sends him sprawling and coughing blood. This convinces Yang Ming that Zhuo Fan is just a weak old man, lowering his guard. Zhuo Fan then examines the Mountain Lord and discovers that he has no external or internal wounds, but rather a foreign object inside him. He correctly identifies it as a demonic creature, proving that Yang Ming is the one who paralyzed the Mountain Lord. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to use deception and misdirection to achieve his goals. He also shows his medical knowledge, as he is able to diagnose the Mountain Lord's condition when no one else could. The infiltration also reveals Yang Ming's true nature, as he attacks Zhuo Fan without hesitation and later throws Lei Yuting into a trap door, showing that he never cared for her or the Mountain Lord. Zhuo Fan's ability to remain calm under pressure and think several steps ahead is fully displayed here, as he uses Yang Ming's own arrogance against him.

Key Dialogue: "*This old man has wandered the pugilistic world and cured countless illnesses. No injury or disease can escape my trained eye.*" / "*He has no external wounds,*" *Zhuo Fan shook his head.* "*But neither... internal ones.*" / "*This old man has concluded he has something foreign inside.*"

SCD Categories: [Deception: S, Intellect: S, Medical Knowledge: S, Strategy: A]

Chapter 30-31: Yang Ming's Betrayal and the Frigid Pool Snow Worm — Day 30-31

Context: Yang Ming realizes that Zhuo Fan has discovered the truth about the Mountain Lord's condition. He attacks Lei Yuting and throws her and Zhuo Fan into a trap door. Zhuo Fan needs to escape, heal the Mountain Lord, and eliminate Yang Ming. Yang Ming leaves them for dead and plans to attack the Luo clan.

Feat 15: Mass Slaughter and Healing the Mountain Lord

Zhuo Fan and Lei Yuting are trapped in a cave beneath Blackwind Mountain. Zhuo Fan uses the Blood Infant to kill all the bandits on the mountain, including the guards at the Mountain Lord's door. The Blood Infant moves through walls and kills without a sound, draining the life force of over four hundred bandits. Zhuo Fan then frees himself and Lei Yuting and confronts Yang Ming. Yang Ming flees, but Zhuo Fan uses the Blood Infant to expel the demonic creature from the Mountain Lord's body. The creature is revealed to be a Frigid Pool Snow Worm, a rare parasite that can be refined into a powerful demonic creature. Zhuo Fan keeps it for himself, recognizing its value. He also kills the remaining guard to ensure secrecy. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ruthlessness and his willingness to kill anyone who might reveal his secrets. He also shows his knowledge of demonic creatures, as he knows how to expel the worm and how to use it for his own benefit. The healing of the Mountain Lord is also significant because it secures the alliance with Blackwind Mountain and gives Zhuo Fan a powerful ally. The Mountain Lord is a Bone Tempering expert, and his gratitude towards Zhuo Fan ensures that he will support the Luo clan in the future. Zhuo Fan also demonstrates his ability to use the Blood Infant for precise medical purposes, as he uses it to kill the larva of the Frigid Pool Snow Worm and make it believe its life is threatened, forcing it to leave the Mountain Lord's body.

Key Dialogue: *"I can heal you, but you have to listen to me afterwards." / "This creature was called Frigid Pool Snow Worm, one that lived in the coldest waters and was very rare." / "But now, you're expendable."*

SCD Categories: [Ruthlessness: S, Medical Knowledge: S, Demonic Creature Knowledge: S, Combat: A]

Chapter 31-32: Returning to Windgaze City and the Alliance with Blackwind Mountain — Day 32-42

Context: Zhuo Fan returns to Windgaze City with the healed Mountain Lord and Lei Yuting. He needs to prepare for the impending attack by Hell Valley and secure allies for the Luo clan. He has been away for ten days. Hell Valley is planning to attack Veiled Dragon Pavilion and the Luo clan. Zhuo Fan needs to warn Long Jiu and prepare a defense. He also needs to integrate the Mountain Lord and Lei Yuting into his plans.

Feat 16: Warning Veiled Dragon Pavilion and Securing a Recovery Pill

Zhuo Fan returns to Windgaze City and immediately seeks out Long Jiu to warn him about Hell Valley's impending attack. He tells Long Jiu that Hell Valley's experts are already in the city and will attack soon. He also secures a Recovery Pill for the Mountain Lord, using his relationship with Long Jiu to get the valuable pill for free. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to maintain alliances and use his connections to benefit his cause. He also shows his strategic thinking, as he knows that warning Long Jiu will ensure that Veiled Dragon Pavilion is prepared for the attack. The warning also serves to deepen the alliance between Zhuo Fan and Veiled Dragon Pavilion, as Long Jiu is grateful for the information and more willing to help the Luo clan. Zhuo Fan also demonstrates his ability to manipulate others by using his knowledge of Hell Valley's plans as a bargaining chip, securing the Recovery Pill and ensuring that Veiled Dragon Pavilion will protect the Luo clan during the battle. The Mountain Lord's recovery is crucial for the upcoming battle, as he is a Bone Tempering expert and a valuable asset for the Luo clan.

Key Dialogue: *"Hell Valley's experts are here and will soon attack this place." / "Brother Jiu, do you have a Recovery Pill?" / "I'll tell you something else then. Hell Valley will attack in two days. Better bump up security."*

SCD Categories: [Alliance Building: A, Negotiation: A, Strategy: A, Intellect: B]

Chapter 32-33: The Alliance with Blackwind Mountain and the Truth about the Luo Clan — Day 42

Context: Zhuo Fan brings the Mountain Lord to meet Luo Yunchang and Luo Yunhai. He reveals the truth about Blackwind Mountain's connection to the Luo clan. The Mountain Lord was once a sworn brother of Luo Zhennan (the Luo clan head) and the two clans had an ancient pact. However, Yang Ming (under orders from Hell Valley) manipulated the Mountain Lord and used Blackwind Mountain to attack the Luo clan, destroying it. The Mountain Lord is deeply ashamed and begs for forgiveness. Luo Yunchang is initially furious at the Mountain Lord for destroying her clan, but Zhuo Fan explains that the Mountain Lord was also a victim of Hell Valley's schemes.

Feat 17: Brokering the Alliance and Uncovering the Conspiracy

Zhuo Fan brings the Mountain Lord to meet Luo Yunchang and Luo Yunhai. The Mountain Lord reveals that he and Luo Zhennan were sworn brothers and that the Lei clan has an ancient pact with the Luo and Cai clans. He also reveals that Yang Ming stole the Lightning Finger martial art and that Hell Valley is after the martial arts of the three clans. Zhuo Fan deduces that Hell Valley's true goal is to collect the martial arts of the Luo, Lei, and Cai clans, and that they have been manipulating events for over a decade to achieve this. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to uncover complex conspiracies and piece together information from multiple sources. He also shows his diplomatic skills, as he is able to broker a reconciliation between the Luo clan and Blackwind Mountain, turning enemies into allies. The alliance with Blackwind Mountain is crucial for the upcoming battle, as it gives the Luo clan access to the Mountain Lord's Bone Tempering strength and Lei Yuting's 9th layer Qi Condensation cultivation. Zhuo Fan also demonstrates his ability to think long-term, as he knows that the alliance with Blackwind Mountain will be essential for the Luo clan's future growth.

Key Dialogue: "*Senior, you're also a victim.*" / "*I passed down my clan's spirit ranked martial art, Lightning Finger, to Ting'er as I have no son. But that bastard Yang Ming took the jade slip instead.*" / "*That's it. That's what they are after.*"

SCD Categories: [Diplomacy: S, Intellect: S, Conspiracy Uncovering: S, Alliance Building: A]

Chapter 33-35: The Battle Against Hell Valley — Day 42

Context: Hell Valley launches its attack on Veiled Dragon Pavilion. Condor Jian Fan, a Hell Valley elder, leads the assault. He possesses the Purple Lightning Gold Eye, a powerful eye technique that he stole from Long Jiu. The three elders of Veiled Dragon Pavilion—Long Jiu, the blond Third Elder, and the red-haired Fifth Elder—engage him in battle. The battle is fierce. Jian Fan's Purple Lightning Gold Eye gives him a significant advantage, and he is able to wound all three elders. The Veiled Dragon Pavilion is on the verge of defeat. Zhuo Fan watches from a distance, knowing that if Veiled Dragon Pavilion falls, the Luo clan will be next.

Feat 18: Secret Intervention in the Profound Heaven Battle

The battle between Hell Valley and Veiled Dragon Pavilion is intense. Jian Fan uses the Purple Lightning Gold Eye to wound all three elders, and it seems that Veiled Dragon Pavilion will lose. Zhuo Fan, watching from a distance, realizes that if Veiled Dragon Pavilion falls, the Luo clan will be next. He uses the Blood Infant to secretly enter Jian Fan's body, disrupting his control over the Purple Lightning Gold Eye. This allows the Third Elder to land a devastating blow, severing Jian Fan's arm. Hell Valley retreats, and Veiled Dragon Pavilion wins the battle. Zhuo Fan's intervention is kept secret, and he sets his sights on acquiring the Purple Lightning Gold Eye for himself. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to influence the outcome of a battle between Profound Heaven experts without directly engaging them. He also shows his strategic thinking, as he knows that keeping Veiled Dragon Pavilion alive is essential for the Luo clan's survival. He also demonstrates his knowledge of demonic creatures, as he knows how to use the Blood Infant to disrupt Jian Fan's control over his own demonic creature. The battle also reveals the power of the Purple Lightning Gold Eye, which Zhuo Fan immediately recognizes as the Heavenly Sovereign's mystic eye. He sets his sights on acquiring it, showing his ambition and his willingness to pursue powerful treasures. The intervention also demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to remain hidden and avoid detection, as none of the Profound Heaven experts notice the Blood Infant entering Jian Fan's body.

Key Dialogue: *"Using this chaos, I'll take your life. I can't have the Veiled Dragon Pavilion lose such an important battle!" / "One way or another, I'll have to get it," Zhuo Fan rubbed his chin as his eyes roamed around.*

SCD Categories: [Strategy: S, Deception: S, Combat: A, Intellect: S, Stealth: S]

Chapter 35-36: The Final Defense of the Courtyard — Day 42

Context: While the Profound Heaven experts battle, Hell Valley sends a group of Bone Tempering experts to attack the Veiled Dragon Pavilion courtyard. Yang Ming leads Blackwind Mountain bandits to attack the Luo clan and retrieve the Returning Dragon Palm. The courtyard is defended by Long Jie and Long Kui, who lead their own teams to repel the attackers. However, Yang Ming and his bandits break into the courtyard where the Luo clan is staying. Zhuo Fan is the only one standing between them and the Luo clan.

Feat 19: Defending the Courtyard and Defeating Yang Ming

Yang Ming and his bandits storm the courtyard, intending to kill the Luo clan and retrieve the Returning Dragon Palm. Zhuo Fan confronts them, blocking their path. He taunts Yang Ming and uses the Blood Infant to kill the bandits one by one. He also uses the Nine Heavens Coiling Dragon Array to trap and kill the remaining attackers. Yang Ming is captured and killed, and the Luo clan is saved. This feat demonstrates Zhuo Fan's ability to defend against a large group of enemies using a combination of wit, strategy, and his demonic creatures. He also shows his ruthlessness, as he kills all the bandits without mercy. He also demonstrates his knowledge of arrays, as he uses the Nine Heavens Coiling Dragon Array to devastating effect. The defense of the courtyard is the final battle of Volume 1, and it showcases Zhuo Fan's growth as a cultivator and a strategist. He is no longer the weak servant who was bullied by everyone; he is now a force to be reckoned with, capable of defeating a Bone Tempering expert and protecting the Luo clan from a large group of enemies. The battle also demonstrates the power of the Nine Heavens Coiling Dragon Array, which Zhuo Fan set up in Chapter 25. The array is a 5th grade array, and it is powerful enough to kill Bone Tempering experts and trap a large group of enemies. Zhuo Fan's ability to use the array effectively shows his mastery of array formations and his ability to use the environment to his advantage.

Key Dialogue: "*People, the way is closed off. Please go back, for your own sake.*" / "*I am Luo clan's steward, Zhuo Fan.*" / "*Whoever brings me his head will get a reward.*"

SCD Categories: [Combat: A, Strategy: S, Array/Knowledge: S, Ruthlessness: A]