

A Demoness 451

Chapter 451: It's Time for a Poem

A voice from behind caught everyone by surprise.

Elder Chen Ye looked across and saw a man standing there. He appeared unremarkable at first glance. But for some reason, he felt that something was wrong.

The man's demeanor and presence should not have been so ordinary when his aura was so powerful.

"Who are you, fellow disciple?" Elder Chen Ye asked with a courteous bow.

"I've been entrusted with a task by someone to come here and do what I have to," said the man.

"May I know who entrusted you with this task and what you're here to do?" Elder Chen Ye asked.

He sensed danger, especially in the man's vast aura, which seemed like that of a giant.

After a moment of thought, the man said something that astonished everyone.

"I've come to take your life."

"How dare you?!" Elder Chen Ye's aura erupted as he struck out with his palm.

Boom! *noVEL*next.**COM**

The palm dissolved, but Elder Chen Ye had already vanished into the sky. He fled.

Elder Chen Ye was uneasy. He feared that this person might be unbeatable.

The crowd below was bewildered. Some were unsure of what to do. Chi Tian had a guess, but he wasn't very sure of the event happening here.

Rumble!

The power in the sky rumbled. After that, everything began to calm.

Elder Chen Ye crashed heavily to the ground. His body was battered by the destructive force. He couldn't even move a muscle.

The man descended from above. He looked calm and composed.

"Are you Chi Tian?" he suddenly looked at Chi Tian in the crowd. "Yes... Yes, I am," Chi Tian said. He didn't dare be disrespectful. "He's yours now. You know what to do, right?" the man said.

Chi Tian nodded. "I understand."

He then approached Elder Chen Ye, drew a long knife, and thrust it down under the gazes of the group.

Elder Chen Ye was shocked.

"Do you think I wouldn't do it? You dare to look at me like that?" Chi Tian scowled as he produced a dagger and stabbed it into the elder's neck. "Do you know how long I've been waiting for this day?"

He kept stabbing at Elder Chen Ye's neck. "When you slaughtered my wife and my children, did you ever think this day would come? Did you think your profound cultivation could save you from my hatred? Did you believe you could do whatever you want?"

The knife went in and out of Elder Chen Ye's neck, and the shadow of death filled him with terror.

No one dared to come to his rescue.

He was stabbed repeatedly until he finally perished.

Chi Tian was covered in blood. He looked at the woman from earlier.

"The pill?" he asked.

"W-what pill?" the woman stammered.

The powerful man hadn't left yet, so they dared not behave rashly.

"The healing pill," Chi Tian said.

"It's... It's here," she said as she took out a small bottle.

Chi Tian took the bottle and stared across at the woman. "Did I steal it?" "IN-no." The woman shook her head.

"Now, it's mine. Tell me, did I snatch it from you?" Chi Tian asked again. "IN-no," the woman said fearfully. "I... I gave it to you. You didn't snatch it." Chi Tian slapped her and left.

Once Chi Tian left, the powerful man also disappeared from the scene.

Jiang Hao was wandering around outside. He was thinking about whether he should sell the Heaven Rejuvenation Pills he had on him.

Currently, he had a decent amount of spirit stones. He had a total of almost 35,000 spirit stones. Selling the pills could fetch him even more, although the prices here were somewhat lower.

Near the Heavenly Note Sect, he could sell them for seven thousand to eight thousand each, but here, it was common to find them at four or five thousand. Occasionally, the prices were lower.

After considering it for a while, he decided not to sell them and kept them for now. If necessary, he could sell them later.

After some thought, he spent three thousand spirit stones to purchase a Heavenly Return Pill. Even at that price, he could still make a decent profit back at the Heavenly Note Sect.

He continued to walk through the market and came across some collars. "How much for the Primordial Spirit Collar?" Jiang Hao asked. "5,000 spirit stones," the middle-aged vendor said. "What about the Golden Core one?" Jiang Hao asked.

"2,500," the vendor said.

Jiang Hao nodded. It was cheaper than at the Heavenly Note Sect, and the quality shouldn't be much different. However, five thousand for a Primordial Spirit Collar was a bit expensive.

He hesitated and then prepared to leave.

The vendor called him back. "Wait a moment. Friend, are you really interested in buying this?"

"Can you offer a lower price?" Jiang Hao asked. "It depends on which one you want."

"The Primordial Spirit Collar."

"I'll give you a discount of two hundred. I guarantee you won't find a better price on this street."

“Is that true?”

“You can take a stroll and see for yourself, but I can’t guarantee that this piece won’t be sold out in the meantime. After all, it’s the last one.”

Jiang Hao frowned.

After several exchanges, he managed to purchase the Primordial Spirit Collar for 4,500 spirit stones.

Later, he saw several other collars but didn’t bother to ask about their prices. Once he bought something, he preferred not to know the price of other things afterward.

“A Primordial Spirit Collar for 4,400 spirit stones? Are you kidding me?! Wait!

Don’t go. I’ll sell it to you.”

It seemed that someone had successfully negotiated a lower price.

Jiang Hao was speechless.

Today, he had lost another hundred spirit stones.

After that, Jiang Hao stopped at a dessert stall. He ordered a regular pastry and sealed it with his palm-sized spatial seal. He made sure he had everything he needed.

With his preparations complete, he left the market and found two people blocking his way.

It was Wan Xiu and Si Cheng once again.

After a short while, the three of them sat in a noisy inn's dining area. Despite the noise, the place had a good ambiance, and the wine was fragrant. "Do you two have anything important to discuss with me?" Jiang Hao asked.

"We consider this a poetic gathering among friends. Can't we find some time to drink and compose poetry together?" Wan Xiu smiled.

'Who among us knows how to compose poetry?' Jiang Hao thought about saying this but found it somewhat offensive.

"I'm here on behalf of someone." Si Cheng placed a jade pendant on the table.

"This is a gift from the Bright Moon Sect for you."

Jiang Hao accepted the jade pendant and saw the characters "Bright Moon" inscribed on it. This was the third jade pendant he had received.

"You can use this jade pendant to ask the Bright Moon Sect for help once. It may not be their full support, but they will definitely do their best," Si Cheng said.

Jiang Hao looked at the jade pendant and pushed it back to Si Cheng. "I shouldn't accept rewards without making contributions."

The jade pendant had likely been sent to him because the people thought that he had assisted during the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment. They probably didn't know for sure whether he had actually taken any action.

They might only be suspicious of it. There was no evidence. Although the jade pendant was quite tempting, it came with too much responsibility. He might not be able to handle it.

Moreover, if he accepted it, he would probably be confirming that he was the one who had helped with the purple aura. That would be dangerous. While they didn't seem likely to take action against him, who could say what they might do in secret?

Considering all this, it was best not to accept the jade pendant.

Si Cheng didn't insist. He put away the jade pendant. "In that case, why don't you compose a poem, friend?"

Jiang Hao was speechless.

He felt it was necessary to come up with a poem to get rid of them..

Chapter 452 Holding the Hand of the Demoness

By the riverside, at a small stall, Jiang Hao used wine as ink and wrote some words on the table. After finishing, he stood up and bowed. "Goodbye."

The wine had been enchanted with a spell, so it didn't dissipate quickly.

Wan Xiu and Si Cheng immediately began examining the words.

They had come out to the inn in search of a quiet place. When they heard that Jiang Hao was willing to compose a poem, they were delighted. What mattered most was what he would write.

"I'll recite it first." Wan Xiu looked at the words and began reading aloud, "Have you not seen that the Yellow River's waters come from the heavens..."

"In life, one should enjoy it to the fullest. Don't let the golden cup be empty in front of the moon..."

"Keep pouring the wine. Don't stop."

Wan Xiu and Si Cheng continued reciting the poem.

Si Cheng burst into laughter. "Haha, Wan Xiu, look at this line. Throughout history, sages and wise men have all been lonely, but only drinkers leave their mark. Did you see that? It's meant for me. It's for me! Haha! I told you not to skip drinking with me. Do you regret it now?"

Si Cheng laughed heartily.

Wan Xiu looked at the person next to him and then kicked him into the water.

Si Cheng fell into the water once more.

After struggling for a few moments, Si Cheng cried out for help, but Wan Xiu paid him no attention. He continued reading the poem.

Once they were done reading, they carefully wrote the poem down in a notebook.

"You can take this to show the others, but it's a pity..."

Wan Xiu shook his head.

He was certain now that these poems weren't written by Jiang Hao. Despite eating and drinking together, Jiang Hao didn't even touch alcohol. The poems didn't reflect his temperament.

However, he was curious.

He reached out and pulled Si Cheng out of the water.

"Phew... saved!"

"I have a question for you."

"What is it?"

"Where is the Yellow River?"

"In the vast expanse of mountains and rivers, there are a total of 128 rivers with the same name and 36 cities with the same name. Which one are you referring to?"

Wan Xiu fell silent for a moment and then kicked Si Cheng back into the water.

This time, the wineskin didn't fall into the water with him but remained in Wan Xiu's hand.

Watching Si Cheng struggling in the water, Wan Xiu took a sip of wine and felt annoyed.

With a swish, the wineskin hit Si Cheng on the head. "Come on! The water only reaches your knees."

Si Cheng was stunned for a moment, and he stood up.

It turned out the river wasn't very deep.

"Haha, you crack me up."

Thud!

Si Cheng fell into the deeper end of the water.

"Help, help!"

...

Jiang Hao returned to the inn.

He thought that Wan Xiu and Si Cheng probably wouldn't come looking for him again.

He didn't drink alcohol, so they would be thinking that he couldn't have composed that poem, after all. The real-life experience required to compose such a poem was missing.

Both Wan Xiu and Si Cheng were intelligent, and they would have questioned it.

All the necessary arrangements had been made, and he could return at any time. In the month of July, when he returned, he would be able to see the requirements for the incarnation of the Immortal Peach Tree.

Ten days later, Jiang Hao wandered around with Hong Yuye. He enjoyed the night.

Some sects began to leave, while others remained to watch the ongoing competition.

The intensity of the competition was ever-increasing. Most of those who hadn't left yet wanted to see how strong these talented individuals really were.

Jiang Hao also went to watch and indeed found them to be very powerful.

However, he had a feeling that they weren't giving it their all, which left him somewhat disappointed. He couldn't witness their full power.

Nevertheless, he could still see their strength, and he hoped to avoid conflicts with such talents in the future.

"There probably aren't any more clues left. Most of them have been handled by the Bright Moon Sect," Jiang Hao said.

With the conclusion of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment Ceremony, members of the Bright Moon Sect were now free to act, and they had indeed done a lot. Not only had the members of The End of All Things disappeared, but the rumors had also ended.

Hong Yuye didn't say much, but instead led him to a restaurant and ordered some food. She made him spend a dozen or so spirit stones.

"Come closer," Hong Yuye whispered.

Jiang Hao was puzzled but moved closer.

At this moment, Hong Yuye's hand pressed against his chest.

Immediately, something began to spread.

It was the One Heart Palm.

Jiang Hao realized that it was time to return. Sometimes, he wondered if he could escape the clutches of this demoness by returning directly to the sect.

As far as he knew, Hong Yuye couldn't travel instantly from the Heavenly Note Sect to the Bright Moon Sect. However, he wasn't sure how long he could delay her.

This left him in a dilemma about whether to leave behind a ring here for the future. However, if he didn't use it, someone might take it and activate it. Once that was done, he would lose that ring entirely.

It simply wasn't worth the risk.

He would have to consider it later. There would be opportunities to return to the eastern region or other places in the future.

There weren't many rings left. There was one each for the beast, Xiao Li, and the Corpse Realm. There was another one in the courtyard.

Including the main ring, there were only four left.

"Let's go to the Star River again tonight," Hong Yuye said.

Jiang Hao nodded.

On the first day of their arrival, they visited the Star River. They had met Wan Xiu and Si Cheng there, which had spoiled the mood. Nevertheless, the place was spectacular.

At night, with the starry sky reflecting brightly on the river, Jiang Hao paddled a boat on the Star River.

Hong Yuye sat on a wooden chair at the bow of the boat and gazed at the Star River with a distant look on her face. She was lost in thought.

Jiang Hao didn't know what was on her mind.

This time, they didn't encounter any noisy people. Jiang Hao paddled all the way to the center of the Star River, where the stars shone brilliantly. It resembled a vast sea of stars.

Jiang Hao stopped here. He was awed by the breathtaking scenery. The view was even more beautiful than when he was here before.

The beauty of this place prompted Hong Yuye to stand up. After a long while, they left the Star River and docked downstream.

"How do you plan to return?" Hong Yuye suddenly asked.

After securing the wooden boat, Jiang Hao said, "The same way we came."

"Can only one person return?" Hong Yuye asked.

Jiang Hao thought about it briefly and was about to nod in agreement. However, the change in Hong Yuye's face made him change his mind. He said, "Trying it with more people is possible, but I can't be sure if there are any risks."

They had tried it once before, and while it had been successful, they didn't know the details.

"In that case, let's give it a try," Hong Yuye said.

"Please extend your hand, Senior," Jiang Hao said.

As Hong Yuye placed his hand in front of him, Jiang Hao took out the ring and placed it on her wrist.

During the process, Jiang Hao dared not look into her eyes and focused on completing it as quickly as possible.

"Apologies," he said as he grasped Hong Yuye's hand and activated the golden ring that connected to the courtyard.

Then, the two of them disappeared on the spot.

On the city walls, Si Cheng and Wan Xiu were drinking. Suddenly, they paused and looked toward the city.

"It seems like they've left," Wan Xiu said.

"They did. What a pity! All this feels boring again all of a sudden," Si Cheng said. He then turned to the person beside him. "What about you? When are you leaving?"

"In a few days. I want to travel around. Unlike you, who stays here every day... It's no fun at all," Wan Xiu said with a smile.

"So be it." Si Cheng chuckled.

Wan Xiu didn't pay any attention to him and looked at the Star River. Then, he kicked Si Cheng out of his way.

Chapter 453: They Still Don't Know About the Great Demons and Its Great Power

In the Heavenly Note Sect, two people appeared in the main hall of Jiang Hao's residence.

After two and a half months, they had finally returned.

Jiang Hao looked around and noticed that nothing had changed. No one had entered the courtyard during their absence.

"Don't you feel anything when holding my hand for so long?" Hong Yuye asked.

Only then did Jiang Hao realize that he was holding her hand and let her go. "It's because the spatial distance we crossed was too vast and sometimes causes a sensory imbalance in the body."

In truth, he hadn't noticed anything.

Hong Yuye let out a laugh. She walked into the courtyard. The Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower filled the air with a faint scent. The leaves swayed gently.

The Immortal Peach Tree was also bearing fruits. They would be ripe soon.

Hong Yuye began to disappear.

“If you want to kill someone, you can try crossing great distances with others.” Her voice echoed. Then, she disappeared.

Jiang Hao understood that he needed to be cautious when crossing long distances in the future. At the very least, he should test his abilities. Short distances might not pose a problem, but traveling across prefectures was a different matter.

“My ring... Where is it?”

The things he had lost before were gone for good, but the golden rings were not disposable.

Misplacing one would mean a significant loss. Fortunately, he still had three that could be used.

During their travels, the rings had played a crucial role. Having fewer than three of them would severely limit their capabilities.

Jiang Hao took a deep breath.

He wondered if it was just his imagination, but he felt that the spiritual energy in the surroundings had become even denser.

It might be due to Bai Ye, but he would need to observe further.

Half a month later, in early August, the group from the Heavenly Note Sect in Star-Moon City was also planning to return.

They had been here for quite some time, and they had already reaped all the rewards they could.

Staying longer would be meaningless. It was better to return as soon as possible and use their gains.

Liu Xingchen led a group of people to scout the route they would take back.

The spirit beast and Xiao Li went shopping.

Chu Chuan, on the other hand, arrived at the Bright Moon Sect.

He nervously approached a small attic.

"This is where Junior Sister Chu Jie lives," Fang Jin said.

"Thank you, Senior," Chu Chuan said respectfully.

This senior's strength was so great that he had no choice but to address him as "Senior."

"Don't be so formal. You can call me Senior Brother or Fellow Daoist. Are you really not going to stay in the Bright Moon Sect?" Fang Jin asked.

"No." Chu Chuan shook his head and said, "I should create my own path instead of living under someone's shadow. Lord Beast told me that only by forging my own path can I make my own future."

He didn't say the rest of it. He didn't tell him the part about how the beast had said that the future great demon was here to allow them to bask in its glory.

"Alright, go in then. Junior Sister Chu can't stray too far from here for a while, and the Sect Master doesn't allow her to meet with others because she's still in the Foundation Establishment Realm. There won't be any problems after a few months," Fang Jin said.

Chu Chuan nodded and then walked inside.

As soon as he entered, the beauty of the place captivated him. He couldn't help but think of his old, rundown house. He lowered his head to look at the ground beneath his feet.

It felt like his feet would leave stains if he walked here. After all, in the Heavenly Note Sect, he would often collapse from exhaustion after practicing his cultivation. He hadn't paid much attention to keeping neat.

Although he had taken a bath, he still felt disheveled.

This place was like a fairyland and seemed out of place for him.

At that moment, Chu Jie walked out. She was dressed in a simple blue gown.

Their eyes met.

Chu Jie opened her mouth but couldn't call out his name.

"Are you in the middle stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm already?" Chu Chuan was the first to speak.

"Yes, Master said that I would advance rapidly in the future. If I'm not careful, I might get lost in the process of advancing and forget other important things," Chu Jie said.

"My Senior Brother mentioned that too. He said that if your state of mind can't keep up with your cultivation realm, disasters may occur," Chu Chuan said.

Chu Jie nodded in agreement.

"I'm going back," Chu Chuan said.

Chu Jie lowered her head. She looked conflicted.

After a long moment of silence, she finally said, "Will you come to the Bright Moon Sect in the future?"

"Of course." Chu Chuan nodded.

If he wanted to surpass everyone, he would inevitably need the people of the Bright Moon Sect. He would definitely come back here in the future.

"When are you going back?" Chu Jie asked.

"Probably tonight. They're buying some things for the journey," Chu Chuan said.

Xiao Li had won a lot of spirit stones, and she was buying food everywhere.

Even the disciples of the Bright Moon Sect's canteen felt like they were facing a disaster whenever Xiao Li went to eat there.

It wasn't because the canteen couldn't afford it, but she made them stressed and made them hurry with the food.

The Cliff Master's reputation had suffered quite a bit.

"Oh... This is for you." Chu Jie took out a small storage treasure and handed it to

Chu Chuan.

Chu Chuan received the storage treasure in confusion. "What is this?"

He looked at the contents of the storage treasure.

His hands trembled when he saw what was inside.

“This...” Chu Chuan hurriedly placed the storage treasure back in Chu Jie’s hand.

“I can’t accept this.”

“Why not?” Chu Jie asked in confusion. She had saved up half of her pocket money for this.

“It’s... too much,” Chu Chuan said. With so much money, he was worried that he would lose his life before he reached his sect.

“It’s just a little over 320,000...” Chu Jie muttered.

“What?” Chu Chuan didn’t hear her clearly.

“Nothing! If I reduce it by a bit, would that be okay?” she asked.

“How about five or six hundred?” Chu Chuan suggested. That amount was something he could bear. Anything more would be risky.

“No!” Chu Jie refused.

Chu Chuan was speechless.

“I didn’t mean that. I...” Chu Jie didn’t know how to explain herself.

“I understand.” Chu Chuan smiled, even though he didn’t understand at all.

They talked for a while, but Chu Chuan noticed that it was getting late. He then prepared to leave. He also wanted to explore the attic and see what this fairyland was like.

However, Chu Jie seemed distracted. She was lost in thought, so Chu Chuan didn't want to interrupt her.

Besides, he felt stressed staying here. He felt like he would dirty the floor.

So, he decided it was better not to go up and explore.

Chu Jie accompanied Chu Chuan to the door.

"Well, I should head back now." Chu Chuan bid her goodbye. When he turned around to leave, Chu Jie called out, "Wait!"

Chu Chuan turned back to her.

"Last time, I..." Chu Jie couldn't bring herself to mention the hairpin.

"Last time?" Chu Chuan was puzzled. He then felt a bit anxious.

Had she discovered him using the beast's name to make up for the lacking spirit stones?

He felt embarrassed. He couldn't tell her that he couldn't afford the hairpin without the spirit beast's help.

When he saw that Chu Jie was still wearing the hairpin, he asked, "You wore it?"

Chu Jie touched the hairpin and nodded. "I like it a lot."

"That's great!" Chu Chuan breathed a sigh of relief and then smiled. "Well, I'll be heading back now."

And so, Chu Jie watched as Chu Chuan left..

Chapter 454: The Great Changes

In the Heavenly Note Sect, Jiang Hao looked at the peach tree in his courtyard.

The peaches on the trees were ripening.

It wouldn't be long before they could be picked and eaten.

Turning his gaze away, Jiang Hao looked at a panel.

[Name: Jiang Hao]

[Age: 30]

[Cultivation: Early Stage of the Soul Ascension Realm]

[Cultivation Method: Heavenly Sound Hundred Revolutions, Hong Meng Heart

Sutra]

[Divine Ability: Nine Revolutions Death Substitution (unique), Daily Appraisal,

Clear and Pure Heart, Reappearance of Hidden Spirit, Divine Might, Revival of

Withered Tree, Heavenly Cauldron] [Lifeblood: 5/100 (Can be cultivated)] [Cultivation: 6/100 (Can be cultivated)]

[Divine Abilities: 0/3 (cannot be obtained)]

Jiang Hao couldn't help but feel a bit nostalgic. He was almost thirty-one now.

He recalled when he was twenty. Unknowingly, ten years had passed. Meeting Hong Yuye was eleven years ago. The speed of growth over these eleven years far exceeded his expectations.

Whether it was changes in the cultivation realm or mental state, everything had happened quite rapidly. Even his understanding of the world of cultivation had progressed quickly, thanks to his access to the stone tablet.

Thinking back, he realized that he had experienced so much in such a short time. Before the age of nineteen, everything had been relatively smooth, and he rarely encountered difficulties. Now, with more people and more things to deal with, he couldn't find the same peace of mind as before.

'I wonder how profitable mining would be now.'

With his improved cultivation, mining might no longer be as lucrative as it used to be, and it might be more profitable to focus on growing the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower.

Shaking his head, he shifted his attention to the spiritual energy in the courtyard.

After observing for half a month, he noticed that not only had the spiritual energy increased in his surroundings, but it had also risen throughout the entire Heavenly Note Sect.

It should be the same in the surrounding areas. No one knew why. It had suddenly increased. During this time, Jiang Hao took out the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl and sealed it. He noticed that the number of days might increase.

Since returning, he had observed that the progress in the Outer Sect's Herb Medicine Garden had suddenly increased. It seemed that a small amount of lifeblood had appeared suddenly and combined with the increase in spiritual energy, the progress was rapid.

All signs pointed to one thing. The world was changing for the better, and the only thing that could be related to this was the Heavenly Dao Foundation

Establishment.

To learn more, he sent Cheng Chou out to gather more information.

Now that the three-month deadline had arrived, he needed to make a trip to the Law Enforcement Hall.

It was still the same senior sister from before.

This senior sister seemed idle. She was always present at the reception. Junior Brother Jiang, are you here to submit a task? Is it completed?" asked the senior sister with a smile.

" Junior Brother Jiang, are you here to submit a task? Is it completed?" asked the senior sister with a smile. Jiang Hao lowered his head. "No."

The senior sister smiled. "It's okay. Do you want to split the repayment into three months?" she asked.

After hesitating for a while, Jiang Hao decided to repay in three months.

"Three months? Okay. Would you like to repay five hundred now or a thousand? Junior Brother, if you have difficulties, we won't rush you. How about five hundred? If it's not convenient, you can repay within two years, which will be easier for you," said the senior sister.

Jiang Hao was speechless.

In the end, he handed over a thousand spirit stones. There would be another fifteen hundred to pay in the future.

When he left, the senior sister happily told him to come back next time.

Jiang Hao gave a hasty response. He never wanted to come here if he could help it.

With the amount of spirit stones he had paid to the Law Enforcement Hall till now, it was enough to buy Red Azure Tea.

He now had 26,500 spirit stones left.

Originally, he had thirty-five thousand, but he spent three thousand to buy a Heavenly Rejuvenation Pill. He had spent another 4,500 on a collar, and one thousand to repay his debt to the Law Enforcement Hall. He still owed them one thousand five hundred.

If necessary, he could sell two Heaven Rejuvenation Pills in the future.

So, he was sure he had enough.

His cultivation was currently only at the late stage of the Foundation

Establishment Realm, and it wasn't easy to obtain Heavenly Rejuvenation Pills. It would be much safer to wait until after reaching the Golden Core Realm to sell them.

Since he wasn't lacking spirit stones, he could only wait.

At the Spirit Herb Garden, Jiang Hao saw the bubbles the moment he entered. Most of them were white.

[Strength +1] [Spirit +1]

[Spirit Sword +1]

He felt good. He liked his life for now.

If he went out, he not only had to interact with people, but he also had to do many things to keep himself safe. Facing powerful individuals would be fatal.

He had to admit that there were many geniuses in the Star-Moon City, and it was worth getting to know them.

But after experiencing it, he still longed for the life he had built here.

When he was in the Foundation Establishment Realm, he had offended the Sunset Immortal Sect and Heavenly Joy Pavilion. Later, killing Yan Hua had caused trouble with the Heavenly Saint Sect. Now, with time, it seemed that the Sunset Immortal Sect had let go of their grudge.

Although it would take some time for the Heavenly Saint Sect to do the same, it couldn't be helped.

Perhaps the Heavenly Joy Pavilion would finally let go as well.

So, Jiang Hao thought it was safer to stay here and cultivate spirit herbs until those people could let go of their grudges.

There was no need to go to other places. He couldn't escape Hong Yuye's grasp anyway.

At noon, Cheng Chou returned.

"How did it go?" Jiang Hao asked.

“I did find a lot of information,” Cheng Chou said. “I went to the drought-affected areas this year, and they said that it has been raining for a month now, and the Zhuang family has survived. Not only that, but they also feel that this year might be a year of abundance. In places where there was flooding, the water receded, and many people managed to survive. They all feel that it’s the mercy of the immortals and the blessings of heaven.”

Jiang Hao nodded. He knew that this was the influence of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment.

He originally thought the impact wouldn’t be so significant, but he hadn’t expected it to be so terrifying.

With the rise in spiritual energy, the land became even more fertile. It affected both ordinary people and cultivators. It was no wonder that all living things sought to destroy it.

The better the environment, the more unfavorable it was for their development.

“Is there any problem with your cultivation?” Jiang Hao asked.

“There are some issues,” Cheng Chou said without hesitation.

On this day, in addition to tending to some spiritual herbs, Jiang Hao was willing to help with some explanations.

Cheng Chou had been in the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm for several years now. With a few more years of steady progress, he could try to advance to the middle stage.

“Don’t try to advance too fast. It’s easy to lose focus, especially when you see others catching up. Your state of mind, at this moment, is crucial,” Jiang Hao said.

Xiao Li and Chu Chuan would soon surpass Cheng Chou.

It was easy to become impatient, especially for Cheng Chou.

So, he needed some guidance.

“Senior Brother Jiang, rest assured, I understand,” Cheng Chou said respectfully.

He understood very well.

Junior Sister Xiao Li and Junior Brother Chu Chuan would both surpass him soon.

Not only would they surpass him, but they might also make him feel lesser.

“Have you been keeping an eye on Lin Zhi?” Jiang Hao asked.

After Jiang Hao left, Cheng Chou had kept an eye on Lin Zhi.

“Nothing much has happened in the past few months. Junior Brother Lin Zhi leads a very disciplined life, but he is often bullied by others,” Cheng Chou said.

Cheng Chou had known about Lin Zhi for a long time, as he had inquired about Lin Zhi’s background before.

However, Lin Zhi was only at the first stage of the Lifeblood Refinement Realm despite so many years.

But for some reason, Senior Brother Jiang was interested in him, which left Cheng Chou puzzled.

However, Senior Brother Jiang must have his own reasons.

All Cheng Chou had to do was wait and see.

Although Senior Brother Jiang was only at the peak of the Foundation Establishment Realm, he gave Cheng Chou the feeling that he had seen and experienced a lot.

After all, as long as Senior Brother Jiang was around, anything in the Spirit Herb Garden could be handled.

This had been Cheng Chou's experience over the past few years..

Chapter 455: Heavenly King Comes and Goes as He Pleases

"By the way, there's something I need to tell you, Senior Brother Jiang. During the recent trip outside, I heard a lot of people talking about the Blood Wish Path." Cheng Chou hesitated for a moment.

"What is it?" Jiang Hao asked.

"They said you are practicing the Blood Wish Path, and there was an incident related to it in an area outside. It happened in the last few months. Many people believe that you are attempting to break through to the Golden Core Realm using the Blood Wish Path. If it were just the people within the sect, it wouldn't be a big deal. But the problem is that the Blackheaven Sect, the Sunset Immortal Sect, and other sects have received news about you practicing the Blood Wish Path. Now, in their eyes, you are a bloodthirsty demon who has committed an unforgivable sin. They might start a crusade against you," Cheng Chou said.

Jiang Hao lowered his head. "When did this incident happen?"

"It was around the end of April, near the location of the sects," Cheng Chou said.

'End of April.'

Jiang Hao remembered that he was still within the sect at that time. He left in early May.

But who would care about that? The demonic sect didn't care if it was him or not. They just believed it to be true.

The immortal sects wouldn't have anyone to vouch for or against him either. So, there was nothing more to be said.

Once something happened, and if someone popped up who matched the description, it was a done deal.

'Were there any good people left in the Heavenly Note Sect?' Jiang Hao smiled self-deprecatingly. He was indeed no saint, but there were certain things he hadn't done.

"Do you think you might need to explain things, Senior Brother Jiang?" Cheng Chou asked.

"Explain?" Jiang Hao shook his head and chuckled. "No need to worry about them. It's their business how they feel."

Explanation would be of no use. Since these people had already made up their minds, there was no changing it.

Everyone had to pay the price for their actions.

Whether it was him or them, they had to take responsibility for their deeds and their words.

Furthermore, an explanation could never dispel their suspicions.

He was, after all, a disciple of a demonic sect. There was no need for him to defend himself.

They wouldn't dare to barge into the sect, and it didn't matter how they tried to attack from outside.

"There's one more thing," Cheng Chou said. "Senior Brother Jiang, did you go to the Sea Fog Cave before? It seems that something has happened there, and they want you to confirm something."

'The Sea Fog Cave had problems?' This surprised Jiang Hao.

The next day, he talked with the people from the Law Enforcement Hall and then followed a senior brother who had reached the Golden Core Realm to the Sea Fog Cave. On the way, they also found several juniors who had previously visited the cave:

Ji Bian from the Law Enforcement Hall.

Wu Shi from the Thunder Fire Peak.

Qiao Xiu from the Hundred Bones Forest.

All of them were surprised to see Jiang Hao and wondered why he had returned.

Soon, they arrived at the Sea Fog Cave. Normally, the poisonous mist would have extended much further, but when they arrived at the stone tablet, there was no trace of the sea fog.

"Now, let's confirm it again. Is this where you all stopped last time?" The senior brother at the Golden Core Realm looked at everyone.

'The sea fog retreated?' This was unexpected for Jiang Hao.

However, he thought it was unlikely that the people from the Thunder Fire Peak had come here and dispelled it. The Thunder Fire Peak disciples would not have brought them here if that were the case.

"Senior Brother Jiang, what happened here?" Ji Bian asked. They clearly remembered that there was poisonous fog in this area.

"In recent times, probably within the last month, I don't know why, but the sea fog suddenly receded. We're not sure where it has gone for now," the senior at the Golden Core Realm said.

Upon hearing this, Jiang Hao was surprised. 'Within the last month?'

Could it be the influence of the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment?

He was concerned. Usually, anything that could be influenced by the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment was not ordinary. The Sea Fog Cave was not safe.

"Should we go inside and check?" Qiao Xiu suddenly asked.

Jiang Hao silently took a step back and intended to leave this place.

After all, it was not a sect mission, and he was not obliged to take any risks, especially since he had seen a figure here before.

The Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl had been affected by the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment, and now, even the poisonous fog here had been affected.

Although the two couldn't be equated, they were somewhat similar.

Ordinary poisonous fog wouldn't be so greatly affected. The Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment needed to maintain balance, so it couldn't suppress everything.

"What do you think, Junior Brother Jiang?" the Golden Core Realm senior asked.

"I think it's better to leave it to the seniors who are more suitable to investigate this matter," Jiang Hao respectfully said.

"In that case, let's go back." The senior at the Golden Core Realm also didn't want to take any risks.

Before leaving, Jiang Hao looked at the stone tablet. The only text left on it now were the three characters, "Heavenly Note Sect."

The sentence in the language of the Heavenly Spirit Tribe had disappeared. Jiang Hao didn't speak and began to retreat. He knew that there was probably some powerful creature here, but it couldn't be left at will.

The Heavenly Note Sect had too many mysteries.

The mining site, Devil's Den, and now, the Sea Fog Cave.

The Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl was found in Devil's Den. Other treasures might be in the mines. But he wasn't certain. So far, only the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl was in his hands, and he could confirm the existence of some sinister creature inside.

As he returned to the Spirit Herb Garden, Jiang Hao planned to find an opportunity to go to the Lawless Tower and ask the seniors there about the situation in the Sea Fog Cave.

They had been there for quite some time, so they should have made some discoveries.

In the evening, he arrived at the Lawless Tower and inquired with the guard at the gate.

"The Sea Fog Cave?" The senior in the black robe frowned slightly. "The situation is not good."

This surprised Jiang Hao. If the people of the Lawless Tower felt that the situation was bad, then it must be very bad.

Soon, he got his answer.

"Disappeared?!" Jiang Hao exclaimed.

"Yes, Senior Sister Yinsha led a group inside, but afterward, she disappeared. Although we are still trying to find her, there has been no news for several months," said the senior brother in the black robe.

Jiang Hao had met her before. She was one of the few people he had interacted with the most.

“But they should not be in immediate danger, at least for now,” the senior brother in the black robe said.

Jiang Hao nodded.

He really didn't want anything to happen to the senior sister because she was the one he was most familiar with.

If she were to remain in the Lawless Tower, it would provide some assurance for his future visits.

Moreover, her status and position were not low, and she was easy to communicate with. Such people were not easy to come by.

He arrived in front of Zhuang Yuzhen. He couldn't think of any way he could be of any help to him.

“Senior, you are still in the early stage of the Primordial Spirit Realm!” Jiang Hao was surprised to see that Zhuang Yuzhen was the same.

Even after being here for so long, Zhuang Yuzhen could maintain his cultivation. It was truly remarkable.

“He can stay here because of my silver tongue. Otherwise, he would have been gone long ago,” said Hai Luo, the Heavenly King, with a sneer.

“You brat! You flatter yourself too much.” Zhuang Yuzhen chuckled.

Jiang Hao looked at Heavenly King Hai Luo in puzzlement.

The value that Hai Luo provided should have been long gone. The people from overseas who had been captured had been released after their kin had paid their ransom.

So, why was Heavenly King Hai Luo still here?

“Did no one pay your ransom?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Ransom? What a joke! Do you think I can’t leave willingly? I’m just bored and playing around. I’m not stuck here!” Hai Luo sneered.

“Let me ask you a question. How much do you know about the Heavenly Spirit Tribe?” Jiang Hao suddenly asked because he remembered the writing in the

Sea Fog Cave, especially that one sentence..

Chapter 456: Hundred Ways To Make You Kneel And Beg For Mercy

Translator: EndlessFantasy Translation Editor: EndlessFantasy Translation

“Heavenly Spirit Tribe?” Zhuang Yuzhen furrowed his brows slightly. “The tribe must be located overseas and isn’t a particularly notable group.”

“Are there any other details... like legends about their tribe?” Jiang Hao asked.

He wasn’t particularly concerned about it, and it wasn’t a major issue. He was just curious.

Even if someone with ulterior motives found out about him asking questions, it wouldn’t matter because Senior Sister Yinsha’s disappearance might be related to the Heavenly Spirit Tribe, so he was just trying to help.

“There are quite a few,” said Hai Luo. “It is said that the Heavenly Spirit Tribe used to be a major tribe. It was called the God Clan. The words “Heavenly Spirit” say it all. It was believed that all living creatures born out of heaven and living under them were a manifestation of them. It’s said that they had

astonishing natural talent and were in harmony with heaven and earth. They possessed divine abilities. However, at some point, their status changed, and they were rejected by heaven and earth. They even struggled to cultivate. Today, they are just a moderately sized tribe. Even members of their tribe are polite to me when they meet me..."

"You brat!" Zhuang Yuzhen sneered.

Hai Luo was taken aback. "Old Scum, are you provoking me? Inside this tower, I have a hundred ways to make you kneel and beg for mercy."

Jiang Hao didn't pay much attention to their argument but felt something was amiss.

Why had the Heavenly Spirit Tribe suddenly lost their protection? Was the Sea Fog Cave related to them?

He had seen the writings there, and the one who went to investigate the area should have seen them too.

The Heavenly Spirit Tribe must have been investigated as well.

It meant that the danger in the cave might be manageable.

"Old bastard, aren't you still rotting here? Surprisingly, the esteemed Divine Corpse Sect hasn't even offered to ransom you," said Hai Luo sarcastically.

"You little brat, do you think I've lost my value, just like you?" Zhuang Yuzhen retorted.

Jiang Hao asked a few more questions about the Heavenly Spirit Tribe, their special abilities, and any abilities that could have a significant impact.

However, he didn't get the answers he was looking for. With a helpless shake of his head, Jiang Hao got up and bid them farewell.

In fact, Zhuang Yuzhen came here because of the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower. The reasons behind it and the person who provided the information had not been disclosed yet.

The Lawless Tower wouldn't easily let him leave. Heavenly King Hai Luo, on the other hand, had no value anymore. He wasn't useful to the Heavenly Note Sect.

That's why one could be let go after accepting ransom, while the other couldn't. After leaving the Lawless Tower, Jiang Hao thought about the Sea Fog Cave.

"Want unparalleled talent? Come to me, and I will grant it to you."

Those were the words he had seen on the stone tablet.

"What does it mean?" Jiang Hao muttered to himself.

The matter seemed to exceed his capabilities. All he could do was keep an eye on it.

After all, he wouldn't enter the Sea Fog Cave. He didn't know how dangerous it might be inside.

At the marketplace, Jiang Hao planned to sell some talismans, so that he could get spirit stones to take care of the spirit herbs.

He had already planted the Holy Medicine Seed, but it required spiritual stones every day for its maintenance.

He didn't want to use the spirit stones he had on him, so selling talismans was the best solution. He had made quite a few when he was in the Star-Moon City. It was enough to sell and earn a bit of spirit stones.

After setting up the talismans, he sat cross-legged on the ground. There were not many customers today, so his income wasn't that high.

“Junior Brother Jiang?” Someone approached shortly after he sat down. It was his Senior Sister Leng Tian.

Senior Sister Leng Tian had reached the peak of the Foundation Establishment Realm, and it seemed like she wasn't too far from reaching the Golden Core Realm.

“Senior Sister Leng,” Jiang Hao greeted her politely.

“I heard you're going to advance to the Golden Core Realm soon?” Leng Tian crouched down and smiled.

Jiang Hao shook his head. “That's all just nonsense.”

Leng Tian looked at Jiang Hao and glanced around. “I also think the rumors are too far-fetched. It doesn't seem like you would use the Blood Wish Path. However, I've heard that more people are learning about the Blood Wish Path lately, and some have even started practicing it.”

Jiang Hao smiled but didn't explain further. He would wait for Junior Brother

Han to return before displaying his cultivation realm at the Golden Core Realm.

He wondered if Leng Senior Sister would choose to believe the rumors at that time. Given his talent, it might seem like a rapid promotion.

“Do you need any talismans, Senior Sister Leng?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Of course. By the way, Junior Brother Jiang, are you going to start making higher-grade talismans?” Leng Tian asked as she held a Healing Talisman and a Hundred Thousand Swords Talisman in her hand.

She bought a total of twenty Healing Talismans and one Hundred Thousand Swords Talisman.

“I’m thinking of learning them,” Jiang Hao said.

Leng Tian paid nine hundred spirit stones and then picked up one Healing

Talisman. “Since I bought twenty of them, do I get one for free?”

“Sure. You can even choose the Hundred Thousand Swords Talisman for free,” Jiang Hao said.

Healing Talismans were thirty spirit stones each, and a Hundred Thousand Swords Talisman was sixty spirit stones.

“In that case, I won’t stand on ceremony. I always feel comfortable buying talismans from you,” she said before taking twenty Healing Talismans and an additional Hundred Thousand Swords Talisman.

She paid nine hundred spirit stones in total.

‘Not bad at all. A customer who spends 1,800 spirit stones on me deserves such treatment.’

If Senior Sister Leng Tian reached the Golden Core Realm, she probably wouldn’t be weaker than him.

He was even looking forward to her advancement. However, it was hard to believe that a Foundation Establishment Realm cultivator could spend 1800 spirit stones on talismans.

“I and my seniors are preparing to leave for a while to advance to Golden Core Alchemists. These items are essential for our safety,” Leng Tian said.

After Leng Tian left, Jiang Hao set up his stall again. He sold three Healing Talismans and two Hundred Thousand Swords Talismans in the end. He earned a total of 150 spirit stones.

Along the way, someone bought five Divine Walk Talismans for one spirit stone. Jiang Hao had made these talismans and always put them on display.

However, they were never in high demand. It was surprising to see someone buying it.

After closing the stall, Jiang Hao went to the Snow Lotus Pavilion and bought jade spirit liquid and ordinary spirit liquid. One bottle of jade spirit liquid cost three hundred spirit stones, and there were thirty bottles in total. He also bought ten bottles of spirit liquid.

In total, he purchased five bottles of jade spirit liquid and ten bottles of spirit liquid.

One thousand eight hundred spirit stones were just gone.

Today, most of the earnings were spent.

He still had a few bottles of jade spirit liquid on him that he bought in the Star-Moon City.

The price was two hundred and eighty spirit stones each.

It was slightly cheaper.

In the beginning, he felt that the spirit stones were reducing too quickly, so he didn't buy them all.

It was a typical small vendor mentality.

Jiang Hao had already reflected on himself and would probably do the same next time.

Planting Sweet Leaf Cold Grass required about five thousand spirit stones in total, which was quite expensive.

However, he had won the seed, and the prospect of getting a purple bubble was too tempting.

Jiang Hao looked at the corner where the Sweet Leaf Cold Grass Seed was planted. It had only been seven days, and there were still forty-two days to go.

After forty-two days passed, it was already mid-September.

Jiang Hao walked into his courtyard, and sure enough, the Sweet Leaf Cold Grass had sprouted tender shoots.

Next to it was a floating purple bubble.

Jiang Hao hurried over.

[Divine Ability +1]

'It is indeed a purple bubble! I just don't know how many more days it will take for other bubbles to appear.'

In theory, Holy Medicine Seed should produce blue bubbles, but it was uncertain how soon they would appear.

However, he now knew how to plant them.

It was best to continue watering the plant with spirit liquid. After being influenced by divine items long enough, plain water could be used.

It was quite expensive in the early stages. Five days later, a white bubble appeared. [Endurance +1]

Ten days later, a green bubble appeared.

[Spirit Sword +1]

Fifteen days later, a blue bubble appeared.

[Cultivation +1]

After observing for another half a month, Jiang Hao found that the white and green bubbles were not produced on regular days, but the time interval didn't fluctuate much.

Blue bubbles, on the other hand, took at least fifteen days to spawn.

Now, in mid-October, Jiang Hao focused on the Immortal Peach Tree. He needed to check on its progress for another incarnation..

Chapter 457: He Will Come To Kill You At Night

[Immortal Peach Tree: Related to the ancient divine tree, the Immortal Peach Tree. It possesses a trace of the divine. The fruits it bears are sweet. Leave one fruit on the tree and surround it with 24,500 spirit stones arranged in a spirit gathering formation to trigger an incarnation. After undergoing five successful incarnations, the tree will turn into an Immortal Peach Tree. It is easier for the incarnation to succeed if it is placed near other divine items.]

Seeing the number of spirit stones required, Jiang Hao breathed a sigh of relief.

He could afford it.

Even though he had repaid 1,500 to the Law Enforcement Hall during these few days and had spent a considerable amount of spirit stones on the Sweet Leaf Cold Grass, he still had 25,000 left. This was due to the diligent sales of talismans in recent days.

However, after the incarnation, he probably wouldn't have many spirit stones left.

If he wanted to accumulate over ten thousand again, he would need to sell Heavenly Rejuvenation Pills.

Fortunately, he didn't need spirit stones for the time being.

He could continue to manage with just a few hundred spirit stones for the tea he used for Hong Yuye. She only visited once every few months, so he didn't need too much tea.

'This time, the incarnation might result in another purple bubble, which means I'm just one bubble away from gaining another divine ability.'

Jiang Hao was in anticipation for another divine ability. Each divine ability had its uses, and it could significantly boost his combat power.

For example, when combined with the Reappearance of Hidden Spirit, his strength far exceeded what it was before.

After picking some peaches, Jiang Hao went to the Spirit Herb Garden.

He gave the peaches to Cheng Chou. They were still delicious and had no other changes.

"Senior Brother Jiang, something has happened recently," Cheng Chou said in a hushed voice after receiving the peaches. "Several people have died in the Ice

Moon Valley's Spirit Herb Garden, and it's said to be the work of the Blood Wish Path. This has already affected the progress of the Spirit Herb Garden, and their people have started investigating. They even got the Law Enforcement Hall involved."

Jiang Hao was quite surprised. "How long has this been going on?"

"It's been several days. People have been dying serially. The management of the Spirit Herb Garden wouldn't have reported it unless they couldn't take it anymore. They don't want to make the issue too big," Cheng Chou said. They would have endured it because they didn't want to seem incompetent.

"Were they all ordinary people?" Jiang Hao asked.

"Yes." Cheng Chou nodded. Without the sect backing them, the Law Enforcement Hall wouldn't go all out.

"Because everyone assumes that you, Senior Brother Jiang, practice the Blood Wish Sect, the blame has been shifted on you. They want you to explain. Some people from the Ice Moon Valley even said that those individuals had long wanted to work for you, so they died for the Blood Wish Path."

Jiang Hao lowered his head.

He felt like someone was targeting him, but he hadn't provoked anyone lately. The Spirit Herb Garden had not had any conflicts with others.

Why would he be targeted suddenly?

'Could it be Senior Brother Qian Chen? His intention must be to make the sect pay attention to me, not make me the target of everyone's hostility within the sect.'

Jiang Hao didn't respond to this matter, and he chose to ignore the Ice Moon Valley's request for answers.

Although the deaths might be blamed on him, the Ice Moon Valley wouldn't be targeting him personally but rather the Cliff of Broken Hearts.

Currently, no one from the Cliff of Broken Hearts had come looking for him, so he didn't want to press it further.

If they wanted him to apologize, then he would apologize.

As for compensation...

That would be troublesome.

The next day, a senior brother came over to the garden. He was in the Soul Ascension Realm. Jiang Hao had never seen this senior before.

He appeared to be in his late twenties and looked calm. His aura was astonishing.

He looked to be in the early stage of the Soul Ascension Realm, but judging from the aura he secretly emitted, he was probably already in the late or even the peak stage.

“Are you Junior Brother Jiang Hao?” the senior asked.

“Yes, Senior Brother. May I know who you are.?” Jiang Hao lowered his head respectfully.

“Bai Yi,” Bai Yi said.

‘The senior disciple of the Cliff of Broken Hearts?’ Jiang Hao was shocked.

“Hello, Senior Brother Bai,” Jiang Hao said.

“I’m here for the matter concerning the Ice Moon Valley. I have a question for you,” Bai Yi said softly.

“Of course. Please ask away.” Jiang Hao sighed inwardly. He realized that he would need to respond to the rumors.

“Did you kill those people?” Bai Yi asked.

“No,” Jiang Hao said.

Before he could think of an explanation, Bai Yi nodded. “I see.”

He then turned and left.

The next day, the Cliff of Broken Hearts responded by admitting to the killings. They had killed the people, and since they were dead, that was the end of it. If they were short on people, they could just recruit a few ordinary non-cultivators and count them as compensation. If they thought the Cliff of Broken Hearts was temporarily without a master and they could push them around, they could come and try.

Jiang Hao was stunned by this response.

Bai Yi had directly admitted to it, but it didn't seem like he was yielding. His tone seemed to be saying that if anyone dared, they could come to the Cliff of Broken Hearts.

“I thought that Senior Brother Bai wasn't reckless, but he might provoke more trouble if the others decide to confront him directly.”

“But if the others don't confront him head-on, then they can only swallow their pride and keep quiet.”

“Senior Brother also mentioned our master. He probably wants other branch masters to get involved. After all, our master led a team to the Bright Moon Sect. If something happened to our branch now, it would easily upset the sect's balance.”

As expected, the matter was smoothed over by the Law Enforcement Hall, and it seemed that they had identified the real culprits and were pursuing them.

Jiang Hao had gained some insight into Senior Brother Bai Yi. However, without Liu Xingchen's presence, he had no information about the individuals who had taken action this time.

Otherwise, he could try to appraise the person targeting him. But it might have been just a coincidence.

In early November, the matter with the Ice Moon Valley had completely dissipated, and Jiang Hao met another person, Pei Yuan, who practiced the Blood Wish Path.

His aura was dense, and he had already reached the Golden Core Realm.

'How could it have happened so fast?' Jiang Hao was somewhat surprised.

When he first saw Pei Yuan, he was only in the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm. But soon, he reached the peak of the Foundation Establishment Realm. Now, they were already at the Golden Core Realm.

The Blood Wish Path's progress couldn't have been this quick.

Pei Yuan looked at him with a mocking smile as if flaunting his achievement.

As he got closer, Jiang Hao noticed that although Pei Yuan's aura was dense, his cultivation was not solid enough, and his spiritual sense carried a hint of black energy.

His body also had a touch of death energy.

'He won't live for more than twenty years if he doesn't advance further.'

Golden Core Realm cultivators had a lifespan of five hundred years, but with such advancement, Pei Yuan had less than twenty years left.

"Senior Brother Jiang, you haven't reached the Golden Core Realm yet?" Pei

Yuan sneered.

“Junior Brother Pei, you are truly remarkable. Did you have guidance from your master?” Jiang Hao asked.

Pei Yuan suddenly changed the topic of their conversation. “Senior Brother

Jiang, you are only at the peak of the Foundation Establishment Realm, while I’m in the early stage of the Golden Core Realm. According to etiquette, you should address me as Senior Brother, right? Isn’t that so, Junior Brother Jiang?” Jiang Hao remained silent.

Jiang Hao sensed the killing intent emanating from this person as if he was determined to kill him.

Did Pei Yun have a beef against him?

Was it because Jiang Hao hadn’t guided him in the past?

He appraised Pei Yuan.

[Pei Yuan: In the early stage of the Golden Core Realm. An inner disciple of the

Heavenly Note Sect’s Flowing Waterfall branch. He practices the Blood Wish Path cultivation method. He holds a grudge against you for not guiding him, and now, upon reaching the Golden Core Realm, wants to trample over you and make you regret it. He will come for you again at night. He no longer needs to stay in the Heavenly Note Sect, but before leaving, he wants to fulfill his wish and kill you to drain your blood..]

Chapter 458: Don’t Try to Deceive Me with Petty Illusions

The feedback this time was somewhat unexpected.

It was the first time he had witnessed a fellow disciple daring to make a move within the sect.

'Is it because he has only twenty years left to live, so he wants to leave?' Jiang Hao sighed inwardly. It seemed that when a person was at the end of their life, they could do anything.

It was better to avoid such people in the future, as they might become fanatical at the slightest inconvenience.

With a hearty laugh, Pei Yuan left. He seemed satisfied to see Jiang Hao lower his head.

However, the killing intent remained.

As he watched Pei Yuan leave, Jiang Hao felt that this person might end up killing quite a few others, and he was just one of them.

If he wasn't the first, then things would be much easier to handle. However, if he was the first victim, openly confronting the enemy might lead to trouble.

Jiang Hao shook his head. He was not in a hurry, and he would deal with it calmly.

At night!

"Senior Brother, Pei I was forced to follow behind Senior Brother Cheng. I wasn't the one who robbed your resources back then. I saw that you didn't look well, so I even gave you a piece of spirit stone." A Foundation Establishment late-stage cultivator had a wound on his abdomen. He kept retreating until he was in a corner against the wall.

"Gave me a spirit stone?" Pei Yuan asked.

Pei Yuan, with fresh blood on his clothing, gradually approached the man with a cruel smile on his lips. "Back then, did you think I should be grateful to you? You robbed me and still expect my gratitude?"

What a joke! Are you trying to insult me? Don't worry, I've already killed Senior Brother Cheng, now it's your turn."

"But... but during the sect's mission, I saved you," said the man at the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm in terror.

"Saved me? Why did you save me? Wasn't it because you wanted to rob me?" Pei Yuan thrust his longsword forward.

Although the man had defensive magical treasures, they were ineffective against a Golden Core Realm cultivator. The sword pierced his body.

Pei Yuan laughed maniacally. He pulled the sword out and was ready to decapitate the man in front of him.

The bloodied sword swung swiftly.

At that moment, a faint light shot past.

Clang!

The sword was repelled.

"Who is it?" Pei Yuan looked back. He had been keeping an eye on his surroundings and hadn't noticed anyone approaching.

The only explanation was that he had fallen for an illusion created by the person before him.

"It's me." Jiang Hao appeared at the doorway and looked at Pei Yuan.

“Huh?” Pei Yuan looked slightly surprised. “You are here? I was about to come find you after I’m done here. Why the rush?”

“I have a few questions for you,” Jiang Hao said.

“Illusion?” Pei Yuan realized that the senior brother who had been beside him had disappeared, and he hadn’t sensed anyone approaching. The only explanation was that he had fallen for an illusion cast by the person before him.

“I guess so.” Jiang Hao nodded. “I want to ask you... Who taught you the Blood Wish Path?”

Hearing this, Pei Yuan burst into laughter. “You noticed it too? The Blood Wish Path cultivation I practice is the most authentic one. And why are you talking to me with such an attitude? Don’t tell me you think a mere illusion can trap

“Let’s change the topic. Who is Yin Wei?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Who?” Pei Yuan appeared puzzled.

Jiang Hao was surprised. So, Pei Yuan didn’t know Yun Wei was the one guiding him. Had he used a false name?

“I actually don’t know anything about the Blood Wish Path,” Jiang Hao said. Pei Yuan just smiled. At the moment, just as Jiang Hao was about to speak, he suddenly moved.

A red sword aura slashed toward Jiang Hao. It had a hint of madness.

The sword pierced Jiang Hao’s body, but it turned out to be just a shadow.

A long knife sliced across Pei Yuan’s neck. For an instant, he felt that his entire life force dissipated.

“What... what’s your cultivation realm?” This blow far exceeded his expectations, and he couldn’t understand why he was thinking about this at the last moments of his life.

“Early stage of the Primordial Spirit Realm,” Jiang Hao said.

With a thud, Pei Yuan fell to the ground.

Before leaving, Jiang Hao delivered two more blows and then retrieved the valuable items from Pei Yuan’s storage treasure. He then returned the storage treasure to the body.

After that, he backed out of the room.

At this moment, the person at the late stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm was lying in a corner in confusion.

Pei Yuan had disappeared as if he had just left.

He wanted to leave this place, but his injuries were too severe.

Suddenly, a figure appeared in front of him. When he saw the person’s face, he felt dread.

‘Pei Yuan is dead?!’

The eerie feeling left him with lingering fear.

He wanted to leave, but he couldn’t move. He abandoned all dignity and shouted for help. “Help! Help!”

Back in the courtyard, Jiang Hao sat under the Immortal Peach Tree and began to take stock of his gains.

This time, he acted fast to avoid trouble.

Since the other person had struck first against someone else, it made things much easier.

Killing someone who had already murdered someone would not necessarily result in punishment. As long as the heavily wounded individual had the courage, they could easily take credit for the act.

Even if the Law Enforcement Peak knew that someone else had committed the murder, they would not investigate it seriously. They certainly would not resort to the Heavenly Essence Soul Modeling Mirror.

So, acting at that moment was the safest option. The only regret was that he hadn't been able to obtain any more information.

As rumors became more exaggerated, there might be people coming to him in the future seeking guidance on the Blood Wish Path. That would be troublesome.

He just hoped that others wouldn't be as short-tempered as Junior Brother Pei Yuan. Otherwise, it would not be good for anyone.

Putting aside these questions, Jiang Hao began to inspect Junior Brother Pei Yuan's belongings.

Naturally, he was most interested in spirit stones.

There were no surprises. Pei Yuan had little to no savings. It only amounted to 135 spirit stones.

People who had just advanced to the Golden Core Realm were not very well off.

The only item of note was a simple Foundation Establishment pill, but it couldn't be sold since it was usually sold by the bottle, not individually.

There were no magical treasures, but there was a book and a token. The book was titled "Blood Divine Path Lifeblood Refinement Technique."

“Divine Path?” Jiang Hao was surprised. Wasn’t the Blood Wish Path an evil technique?

He began to read the book because he was curious. He could understand it at the beginning but became increasingly cryptic and difficult to understand toward the end.

He activated his Clear and Pure Heart ability.

After a long time, Jiang Hao had a general understanding of the contents of the book.

The Blood Wish Path required a Blood Vow. The more sincere a person was, the more effective their blood would be. It caused fewer side effects.

The less sincere the person, the more one’s lifespan would be consumed to make progress in the Blood Wish Path.

Absorbing blood in one go was the most effective method. Splitting it up greatly reduced the effect but had a lesser chance of side effects.

The Blood Gourd was used for steady and prolonged cultivation.

This method was considered evil because it required the death of too many people to create just one Blood Gourd.

Jiang Hao had also read through the cultivation techniques, which he could roughly understand. In fact, the cruelest aspect of the Blood Wish Path was that both parties needed to be sincere in their vows for it to be the highest quality Blood Vow.

In essence, it meant using the lives of one’s most loved and dearest people to pave the way for cultivation..

Chapter 459: I Have a Friend

Jiang Hao put away the book and picked up the token.

One word was written on it: Spirit.

“Spirit?” he said in puzzlement, and then decided to appraise it.

[Heavenly Spirit Tribe Token: With this token, you can find a place of refuge within the territory of the Heavenly Spirit Tribe.]

The appraisal result was very straightforward.

It was clear that Pei Yuan intended to leave the Heavenly Note Sect and head to the Heavenly Spirit Tribe overseas.

What puzzled Jiang Hao was where Pei Yuan had obtained this token. Perhaps he bought it from someone, or maybe he stole it. But it didn't matter.

After inspecting everything, he still couldn't find any information about Yin Wei. However, he just wanted to know who this person was and had no intention of making contact or investigating further. If he could find out, that would be enough. If not, he wouldn't force it.

For now, he wanted to continue with his current life and focus on his cultivation.

In the early morning, the stone tablet vibrated.

It was about tonight's gathering.

This time, it was a genuine gathering, unlike the previous ones that were all about the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment.

It was a good opportunity to ask about the Elder from the Blood Shadow Sect.

If he succeeded, there would be the next step to consider.

At noon, while Jiang Hao was tending to spirit herbs, three senior disciples arrived.

They were dressed in attires that were unique to the Law Enforcement Hall. They looked very serious.

“Junior brother Jiang, there are some questions we need to ask you,” the senior at the forefront said politely.

“Please ask, Senior Brothers,” Jiang Hao said respectfully.

“Junior Brother Pei Yuan was killed last night,” said the other disciple bluntly.

“He visited you yesterday. We want to know what you talked about.”

Jiang Hao did not hide anything and recounted all the details of their conversation.

After listening to him, the seniors nodded.

“Junior Brother Jiang, we think you had a motive for murder, so for now, please stay within the sect,” the leading senior said. “Until we reach a conclusion, you should be ready to cooperate with us at any time. If you have important matters outside, you must inform the Law Enforcement Hall. Otherwise, you—”

“Senior Brother...” At this point, the other disciple interrupted. “There’s no need to explain.”

“Why?” The leading senior was puzzled.

“Senior Brother, you have just returned from outside and may not be aware,” the junior disciple whispered. “Junior Brother Jiang’s name has actually been on the Law Enforcement Hall’s suspect list for more than ten years. He’s associated with quite a few traitors. Moreover, he ranks high in the Merit Hall, and the Task Hall often talks about assigning him new missions. They can’t wait to send him out...”

‘What’s going on?’ The leading senior was utterly bewildered. ‘On the list for more than ten years? High rank in the Merit Hall? The Task Hall is eager to send him out?’

“In that case, I won’t say much more. Junior Brother Jiang, you understand, right?” said the leading senior seriously. “Our restrictions will only last for two months. If we don’t return in two months, then this matter will be considered closed for you. As long as you’re innocent, you don’t have to worry.” “I understand.” Jiang Hao nodded.

Only two months meant that the matter was considered minor.

After all, Pei Yuan did kill a fellow disciple. They were investigating the cause of death, mostly out of curiosity about the one who retaliated against him. The person from last night dared not admit to the killing.

But if it were Jiang Hao himself, he probably wouldn’t admit it either. It’s better to avoid trouble when possible.

After that, the Law Enforcement Hall disciples left.

Being familiar with the Law Enforcement Hall had its advantages. As long as it wasn’t a major issue, they were usually accommodating, and the Task Hall and Merit Hall also put pressure on the investigation. After all, they were after spirit stones.

After seeing the disciples off, Jiang Hao resumed tending to the spirit herbs.

He had already checked the herbs sent by the Hundred Bones Forest. They were still helping him infuse spiritual energy into the garden, but he couldn’t figure out why.

'Was it for reconciliation?'

It had been a long time, and he should find the time to see how Bai Ye was. At midnight, Jiang Hao looked at the stone tablet, took a deep breath, and entered it.

This time, he didn't know what kind of task he would receive, so he had to be cautious.

He was worried that someone might want him to handle affairs in the southern region, which he couldn't do easily with his current strength.

If someone asked him to do it, he couldn't refuse, but if he accepted the task, it would be problematic.

It was okay to be involved once or twice, but over time, he might be questioned.

So, if possible, it would be best to avoid such matters and continue to keep a low profile.

Fortunately, due to the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment, his reputation had improved significantly, and they wouldn't easily ask him for help.

In the public area, the four of them paid their respects to Dan Yuan and then sat cross-legged on the ground.

"Do any of you have questions about your cultivation?" Dan Yuan asked. It was the standard opening to their gathering.

After thinking for a moment, Jiang Hao couldn't come up with any cultivation-related questions. He could ask about the Blood Wish Path, but that wasn't really a cultivation question. He would have to wait and see if there was an opportunity later.

"Senior, I have a friend who recently used a curse, and it seems to have gone wrong. He's afflicted by an uncontrollable curse. Is there any way to alleviate it?" Gui asked.

Dan Yuan glanced at Gui. "To what extent does it need to be alleviated?" "Just a little relief would be fine," Gui said.

"In the eastern region, there's a plant called "Mind-Relief Grass" that can help alleviate curses, but it requires a special method," Dan Yuan said. "I think you know the rest."

"Indeed." Gui nodded.

"In fact, there's another method." Dan Yuan looked at Jiang Hao. "Friend Jing, you should know about it, right?"

'I don't know... don't ask me.' Jiang Hao felt helpless.

However, Dan Yuan would never ask anything without reason. By asking now, it seemed like he was seeking his opinions. Which meant this thing was related to him.

So, what was it?

Jiang Hao thought of the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl. That item could suppress curses.

"I know, but Gui might be hesitant to use it," Jiang Hao said in a low voice.

"What is it?" Gui looked puzzled.

"Go to the Heavenly Note Sect and borrow the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl," Jiang Hao said.

Gui was speechless.

This was quite challenging because the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl was not something an ordinary person could use. Even borrowing it might lead to karmic consequences and various other problems.

novelNext.com

“The sealed Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl is said to have miraculous effects, but I have never seen it. Friend Jing seems to have completely grasped it.” Dan Yuan looked at the others.

After confirming that there were no more questions, Dan Yuan said, “Do we have any news about the Saint Bandits?”

“It seems that the Bright Moon Sect has some information about the Saint Bandit’s origins. They most likely come from the Heavenly Spirit Tribe,” Xing said.

Members of the Bright Moon Sect had fought against the Saint Bandits, so they had some knowledge about them.

“The Heavenly Spirit Tribe?” Liu found it hard to believe. “The Heavenly Spirit Tribe overseas? They are the Saint Bandits?”

Jiang Hao was also surprised. In an instant, he recalled the words from the Sea Fog Cave. “If you seek talent, you can find me.”

Those words were indeed similar to the Saint Bandits’ style, and they used the Heavenly Spirit Tribe’s language.

For a moment, he was worried that the Sea Fog Cave might have a direct connection with the Saint Bandits.

“This information is crucial,” Dan Yuan said with a smile. “Xing, you can consider asking whatever you want, or you can also choose to cancel a portion of the previous transaction.”

“I’ll choose to cancel it,” Xing said.

Dan Yuan nodded and didn't assign any more tasks.

Xing turned to Jiang Hao. "Friend Jing, I've completed your task."

Jiang Hao nodded. It was Liu's turn now. He had to find a way to make Liu owe him a favor..

Chapter 460 Impersonating Someone

After discussing a few more matters, the gathering came to an end with Dan Yuan's reminder.

Once Jiang Hao left the public forum, he took out his notebook and wrote down the things that they had discussed.

This time, there were quite a few things to focus on:

1. The Saint Bandits might be associated with the Heavenly Spirit Tribe, which suggested a connection between the Saint Bandits and the Sea Fog Cave.
2. Chi Tian's undercover mission had begun, and they would need to rely on Liu for further information. He could then find more information on The End of All Things and about San Sheng.
3. Gui might come to borrow the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl. He needed to handle this situation carefully and preferably avoid mentioning the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower.
4. There were sightings of the people from the Heavenly Note Sect underwater, and it was speculated to be Senior Sister Yinsha and others. The Sea Fog Cave might connect to the underwater world, and the individuals emerging from there were likely from the Heavenly Spirit Tribe, which was also connected to the Saint Bandits.

These were the four main points. The third was the most crucial because it directly involved Jiang Hao.

The fourth point was also important. If he could help, he would.

However, there wasn't much information available at the moment. Fortunately, Liu had already started investigating the matter and would provide updates on the situation.

Jiang Hao also needed to be cautious about one more thing. Liu would know that those individuals were disciples of the Heavenly Note Sect, and others might find out too.

He didn't know if that would cause trouble for the sect, as many would be curious about how they reached there.

"If there are valuable treasures inside, many people will want to explore it."

"In the near future, some people might come to visit or send undercover agents to gather more information," Jiang Hao muttered.

However, the Sea Fog Cave was not well-known within the sect, so not many people would investigate it.

After putting away the notebook, Jiang Hao began writing information about San Sheng.
Novelnext.Com

After a long time, he had almost written half a book.

San Sheng didn't have a tragic past, he acted capriciously, and his emotions were unpredictable. One moment he could be enjoying a drink, and the next, he could draw his sword to kill.

It was said that he originally came from the prestigious Ten Thousand Dharma Sect. He offended one of the sect's elders, fled, and then returned with a new identity. This time, he had a good relationship with that elder. When the elder fully trusted him, he struck him with his sword.

At this point, his cultivation had surpassed the elder's, and he was toying with him.

After leaving the sect, he roamed the southern region. He left a smiley face whenever he killed someone. Each smiley face was unique.

Jiang Hao had seen some of these smiley faces on the stone tablet and sketched them.

What surprised him, however, was that there was no repetition among the recorded smiley faces. Nonetheless, it was evident from the records that San Sheng was ruthless and unpredictable, with no code of conduct.

To completely impersonate him, one needed to obtain his treasure, the Thousand Faces Treasure Fan.

This fan had been taken away by the Blackheaven Sect, but San Sheng would likely retrieve it. The method to activate the fan was known only to him, after all.

So, if someone had the fan and could use it, they would be considered to be San Sheng himself.

The information contained the method of use, which Jiang Hao had read carefully. It was very comprehensive.

There was also information about what San Sheng had done for The End of All Things.

After writing all this, Jiang Hao hesitated for a moment and then appraised his notebook.

He needed to verify if this information was genuine.

[Information on San Sheng: A book written by you, which records most of San Sheng's deeds. If you were to impersonate him, people would believe that you are San Sheng.]

"It seems to be genuine."

Jiang Hao breathed a sigh of relief.

However, having this identity wouldn't help him find the other members of The End of All Things. He needed to figure out the contact code. Otherwise, problems could arise.

But to completely take San Sheng's place, he needed to obtain the Thousand Faces Treasure Fan.

"It won't be easy to get from the Blackheaven Sect."

Jiang Hao thought that Xing could easily obtain it. Fortunately, he didn't need to use this identity for the time being.

When he did, he would most likely be going outside, and there was a high possibility that Hong Yuye would come with him. With her help, obtaining the Thousand Faces Treasure Fan might not be difficult at all.

With these matters sorted out, Jiang Hao put away the notebook and began cultivating.

A little while later, he opened his eyes and decided that today was as good a day as any to visit Bai Ye in the Hundred Bones Forest.

With his decision made, Jiang Hao left his house.

At the entrance to the valley, he stood in place and used the powerful perception that he learned from the nameless manual to spy on Bai Ye.

Soon, he sensed Bai Ye's aura.

It was still at the early stage of the Primordial Spirit Realm, and his injuries hadn't completely healed.

'It's strange. Why is he still suppressing himself with such minor injuries? Perhaps he sensed that I might take action, so he has been restraining himself?'

Jiang Hao believed this was highly likely.

'If that's the case, he probably won't leave the sect. I can't kill him!

Bai Ye had contributed a lot to the sect and was a True Disciple. Killing him would mean an affront to the Heavenly Note Sect. Once the Heavenly Essence Soul Modeling Mirror was used, he would also meet his end, which wasn't worth it.

He decided to wait a little longer.

In the valley, Bai Ye sat on a chair and gazed at the sky.

He felt that he might have escaped a calamity. As long as he continued like this, he would survive.

After a while, Lian Qin walked to the courtyard and was surprised to see Bai Ye there. "Senior Brother Bai, aren't you going to go inside and rest?"

"I felt a connection to the stars. It seems I can see my own star in the sky, albeit faintly." Bai Ye smiled as he looked at the stars. "It hasn't diminished yet. Perhaps I will also have a stroke of good luck one day."

"But one wrong step, and there will be no turning back from the calamity that follows. In the future, every step will be like walking on thin ice. Even though I might escape one calamity, I could die in the next one at any moment."

Lian Qin didn't fully understand her Senior Brother, but usually, he was right.

"Do you have any news?" Bai Ye asked.

"I conducted an investigation outside and found that more people are practicing the Blood Wish Path lately. The major sects are preparing to take action because the influence of the Blood Wish Path has spread to their side," said Lian Qin. "Fingers are being pointed at Jiang Hao of the Cliff of Broken Hearts,

especially due to the rumors. Now, everyone seems to assume it's him. Moreover, with his cultivation almost at the Golden Core Realm, people think it's highly likely. While he didn't harm ordinary people in the Spirit Herb Garden, he is almost certainly doing so outside. This has almost been confirmed."

"It's impossible! The Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower is in his courtyard. He wouldn't be practicing the Blood Wish Path. There should be some connection to Senior Brother Qian Chen, but the situation is more complex than anticipated. There might be other individuals manipulating things behind the scenes."

"Go and investigate, but don't get involved too deeply. It might not be someone we can handle," Bai Ye said.

Lian Qin nodded. Then, Bai Ye, who had been gazing at the stars, suddenly said, "Wait a moment. Don't rush to investigate the situation within the sect. Look into the situation outside. There might be some clues."

Lian Qin nodded.

Seven days later, Lian Qin walked to the courtyard.

"Did you find anything?" Bai Ye asked.

"I found someone who uses the Blood Wish Path. There was an attack outside. They mentioned Jiang Hao's name and even the Cliff of Broken Hearts," Lian Qin said.

Bai Ye frowned. "Go to the Cliff of Broken Hearts and tell him the news."