

Alchemy 1231

Chapter 1231: Auction Final

Ronron tried her best to buy those pills even if they cost a lot. She ended up bidding over 400 thousand True spirit stones for just those pills, which she herself was surprised with.

It wasn't just her as no one expected a young lady sitting at the very last seat of the auction hall to buy so many items.

Some of them wondered how she was so rich.

Some wondered if she even had any money on her.

Some wondered what sect she belonged to.

Some wondered why she didn't just get a VIP seat.

Every single person that was still in the auction hall thought something about Ronron as she had made it very clear that when it came to bidding, she was going to be a force to be reckoned with.

It wasn't just the guests either, even the auction hall was worried about her. They were worried that she didn't have the money.

However, before anyone could even come to ask her about it, Alex had already sent them away.

The next few items were sold quite quickly. They were mostly ingredients and raw materials, which Ronron knew would come in handy, so she bought it all.

She especially bought any wood treasure as that would help her cultivate quite a bit. Aside from that she bought spirit wines that her master would most likely love.

Being in the central continent for over a thousand years, she was sure he would love something like this if she brought it back for her.

Other than her master, she also bought a few defensive items for her own parents, as well as some other artifacts that she could give to the rest of her family.

She knew she had a grandmother to meet who knew a lot about talismans, so she planned on buying a few things for her as well.

Pearl got a few trinkets to wear that would protect him as well, and so did Whisker.

In the end, most of the items that were sold in the second half of the auction had been bought by Ronron.

The final item being sold in today's auction was brought out from behind the stage and placed in front of the woman.

The woman backed off a few steps and smiled at the crowd. "I'm sure this is what most of you have come for," she said as she snapped her finger and the box opened up wide.

As soon as it was opened, the entire crowd went silent as the atmosphere chilled a little. Alex's eyes narrowed immediately when he felt the aura that was coming from the box.

'That's... death aura,' he thought seriously. He couldn't believe there was something out there with such a strong death aura. When using his Demon Eyes, his entire vision went black from the amount of aura that was being produced.

"Not just death," a voice spoke in his head. "It's darkness too."

"Is it?" Alex asked. He could sense death, but darkness was still quite a bit away for him.

"This is the Sword of Death," the woman said. "As you might already know, this is the sword that Gong Lufui used to rampage in the town of Evernight in the State of Bing, destroying the Lost Light sect overnight."

"Gong Lufui went missing afterward, and no one could find him. However, a few days ago, he came to us and asked us to help sell the sword since he no longer needed it."

"Gong Lufui was a nobody looking for revenge, and this was the sword that helped him get his revenge, so guests should know just how good this sword is."

"We won't waste another minute. The bidding will start at 800 thousand True spirit stones, and each successive increase must be over 5 thousand true spirit stones," the woman said. "Please, begin."

The crowd went into a frenzy to bid on the sword. A sword that could make a nobody strong enough to destroy a sect was not a simple matter.

Everyone wanted it, even if they had no use for it just yet.

"Sword of Death, what a terrible name," Ronron said with a disgusted look.

"That's probably something people named it to make it sound better," Alex said as he looked at the sword. It was a simple sword design-wise, but the aura was quite strong.

"It's almost like I'm looking at an amateur version of myself," Godslayer said.

"You're not wrong," Alex said. "Death and Darkness, that's your thing... and yet, here we are with a sword that's not different."

"This is probably one of the many replicas made of me," Godslayer said. "There were many that tried to make a sword that was like me, but one they could control."

"Did they fail?" Alex asked.

"Of course," Godslayer said. "Most people underestimate Death and Darkness aura when together. You can get strong with it and fight for a few months or years, but slowly, the aura takes over your body, eating it from the inside."

"That's why I had to switch hosts every so often because their bodies would give up after a while. Human beings aren't built to handle a lot of Death and Darkness, even if they understand its dao."

Alex nodded softly. "Do I count amongst them? Probably not right?" he asked.

Godslayer grumbled a bit before answering. "No, your body has Yang that is way too potent. Any death and darkness aura you gather is immediately destroyed," he said.

Alex nodded again. "Thought so," he said. "So, are we getting this sword or not?"

"Of course, we are," Godslayer said. "It will make for a fantastic meal."

Alex smiled and turned toward Ronron. "Can you get me that sword?" he asked.

"You want that sword, father?" Ronron asked with a surprised look on her face. "Do you... want to use it?"

"No, I'm going to destroy it," Alex said.

"Oh, okay," Ronron said. "You can count on me."

She turned around toward the stage and shouted her number. "1 Million!" she said.

The bid had only reached halfway through the 900 thousand range when it suddenly jumped to a million. The crowd sighed when they realized the girl was taking part in this bid as well.

The people in the hall immediately backed off, but the ones in the VIP room didn't. After all, this was a sword that helped a nobody gain fame overnight.

The bid continued increasing one after another, but Ronron wasn't backing down at all. She increased the amount every time someone spoke, surprising people with her tenacity.

On the inside, she was a little worried that she was spending so much money, but on the outside, she continued bidding higher and higher.

In the end, the auction ended with 1.75 Million true spirit stones as the final bid of the auction, by none other than Ronron.

When the final gavel hit the table, the sword was sold.

"That was the last item being sold in today's auction. Thank you all for coming today, and I hope you will all come again."

The woman left the stage and people started walking away.

Alex stood up as well. "Come on, time to go get what we bought."

Chapter 1232: Acquainted

Ronron's mouth remained gaping open as she watched Alex pull out over 5 million True spirit stones to pay the old man in front of him.

Even the old man himself was beyond surprised to see such an amount coming from a young man and woman that he knew absolutely nothing about.

"Is it all there?" Alex asked his daughter.

Ronron nodded listlessly as she looked at everything that was inside the two different storage bags.

Alex took the storage bag and pulled out a few items that were for himself, mainly the Golden Spears of Heaven technique, the poison immunity pill, and the sword named the Sword of Death.

"Shall we get going?" he said as he stood up to leave.

"Dear guest," the old man in front of him quickly stood up. "Would like to get early information on the items we are auctioning next time around? We can also prepare VIP rooms for the two of you if you wish to."

"No need," Alex said before Ronron could even say anything. "This is most likely the last time you will ever see me here. Good day."

He walked away from the room with Ronron quickly following behind him. The two walked out of the auction house and then made their way out of the city now that their job here was done.

"How was it?" Alex asked. "Did you find your first auction experience exciting?"

"It was, father," Ronron said. "Although, since it felt like I had an unending source of money, I couldn't feel the intensity in bidding since I knew I was always going to win."

Alex chuckled a bit. "You can do so in the future," he said. "Although, this auction will teach you one thing for sure."

"Will? I still haven't learned it yet?" Ronron asked. "What is it?"

"Why you shouldn't always go out in an auction house."

Ronron got curious about what he meant. After all, it was he that gave her the money and permission to do so.

They left the city and appeared out in the open ground where the snow still covered the land.

"Where are we going next? To meet senior Luhei?' Ronron asked.

"Yes, but that's only after we deal with them," Alex said as he turned around to see the many people that had followed them outside the city.

A single puppet flew out of his storage bag which caught Ronron and jumped away to a safe location. At the same time, Whisker came out and went with the puppet to look after Ronron should the need arise.

Unfortunately, he couldn't call Pearl in this current situation as that would just be one more person he would have to keep safe if he did.

The many old men and women landed in front of Alex and sneaked a glance toward Ronron who was far behind him.

They looked a little confused as they couldn't sense anything impressive from him at all.

"Are you with that girl over there?" one of them asked.

"Yes, I am," Alex said. "May I ask why you guys are after my daughter?"

"You know damn well why," one of them said. "You were there in the auction house with her."

"I was, that is why I am curious why you guys are after my daughter," Alex said. "After all, she did nothing there that was either disrespectful or illegal, so you have no reason to be here."

"You are outside the city wall, friend," one of them said. "The only law here is that of the jungle, and in the presence of the strong, a weakling holding onto a treasure is the worst crime they can do."

"Take out the Sword of Death, young man. We will leave after we take it," someone else said.

"You surely don't expect me to hand over such a valuable sword just because you say so, do you?" Alex asked. "How about this, anyone who can pay me 3 Million True spirit stones can take the sword."

"You are treading on a path that will only lead to death, my friend," one of the stronger men said.

"I can assure you, I am not," Alex said. "Also, please do not call me friend. The best we have ever been is acquainted. I do not recall calling you my friend."

The man was taken back a bit. "Have we met before?" he asked.

"We have," Alex said and looked toward some of the other people there. "I have met with quite a few of you here."

The people looked around with confused looks. "I don't remember meeting you, ever," the man said.

"Of course," Alex said. "That's expected as you never saw my face."

A white mask appeared on Alex's palm which he slowly brought to his face. The mask allowed him to see clearly from the inside, but from the outside, it looked completely white and opaque.

A few people suddenly got serious as they recognized the mask. One of them remembered meeting him in the Ancient Battlefield over 25 years ago. "You... you're Yu Ming," he said.

"I see you remember me," Alex spoke.

"Yu Ming?" another person thought. "Isn't that... the guy who learned Sword Aura while in True realm?"

"That Yu Ming?"

The people realized who he was one after another. Those that didn't know were soon told by the others who did.

"Wait, he's the one that took away the cauldron in the Alchemy Peninsula 2 days ago. That was the name the elders there called the person," another person spoke.

Ronron was surprised at how popular her father was. Alex was surprised at how little his popularity was here.

'Did the senior hide my involvement in killing the madman?' he wondered. 'Not to mention, none of them are aware of what I did in the Dao mountain too.'

He was sure now that there was something done to stop his name from being spread around more than it already had.

'Not that it matters really,' he thought.

He looked at the people around him who started to calm down a little.

"So, now that you are aware of who I am, please leave," Alex said. "We have to be away now and I don't want any bother."

"Stop!" one of the people shouted. "Did you really think just because you are acquainted with us, we will leave you be? You have the Sword of Death, and for that, you will have to stay back until we get our hands on it."

Multiple people pulled out weapons all of a sudden and a few of them even prepared some attacks they were going to throw at any moment.

Ronron worried for her father at the back. She couldn't tell one Saint from another, so she wasn't sure who was stronger here.

Alex reached for his mask once more.

"A decade, was it? No, maybe 9 years," he spoke softly as he pulled down his mask. "Yes, it was 9 years."

As he pulled down his mask, the people's faces changed as they saw a wide smile appear on Alex's face.

"It has been over 9 years since I got to fight someone seriously," he said as he flexed his Saint Foundation 9th realm aura.

"Come at me. I'm going to enjoy this more than I should."

[A/N: I've started a new book called Dawn of the Battle Nova. Please read it if you have the time for it. This is my entry for WSA 2023, and I will be writing it alongside my other two books going forward.

I promise that the new book won't take away my time from this book as I've already cut down the release rate of my other book to accommodate that.]

Chapter 1233: Battle

Ronron was safe with Whisker and his Immortal puppet. Not to mention, her master had most likely given her some life-saving treasures, so Alex had nothing to worry about.

Still, he needed to keep the fight focused on him so nobody had any funny ideas.

He reached into his storage ring and brought out the long box that immediately made everyone put on a serious face. The death and darkness aura that came from the Sword of Death was no small thing to these cultivators.

"Hey! You better not think of using that sword," Godslayer spoke in his mind. "I need every bit of the aura in that sword."

"Don't worry, it's only bait," Alex told him. Then, he looked at the crowd that was ready to hound on him for the sword.

"I will give this sword to anyone that can get their hands on it first," he said. The crowd was obviously a little skeptical, but they still slowly walked forward to get it.

Alex smiled and tossed it in front of him too, making the people rush toward it all of a sudden.

However, before they could reach it, a small formation plate appeared on top of the box which immediately activated to form a small half-sphere barrier around itself and the sword below it.

At the same time, a larger barrier formed that completely surrounded Alex and the rest and was large enough for everyone to fight on.

Alex smiled at the people. "Go on, take it," he said, clearly mocking every single one of them.

"You bastard!" one of the people couldn't stop his anger and let go of the attack he had been preparing for a while.

A large bell-shaped green attack flew in Alex's direction.

Alex stood where he was and only punched the bell when it arrived in front of him. He used no Qi in his attack and still the bell was completely destroyed in a single attack without Alex feeling any backlash from it.

The crowd looked confused for a moment.

How did he do it? The attack just now was from a Saint Core realm cultivator and Alex somehow destroyed it with his attack.

"What's wrong?" Alex asked. "Are you guys just going to stand there? If you won't come at me, then let me do it."

He started walking toward the group step by step, making the other people feel forced to start fighting.

One of the men slashed his sword in Alex's direction and sent out a Water attack that was empowered by Sword Qi.

Another person forced swords out of his fire Qi and sent them flying in Alex's direction as well.

By the time the third person began his attack, Alex had already dashed forward. He punched in the air, sending a single metal punch in their direction.

It slammed onto the incoming sword slash and destroyed it. At the same time, Alex moved his arm to the side and grabbed the fire sword, turning it into his own attack before sending it back in the direction where it came from.

He then sent out a palm attack in the direction where the third attack was just starting, defeating both the attack and the attacker in a single palm strike.

Then, he paused for a second and looked around at the people who were shocked and not doing anything.

"What's wrong? Are you all planning to die without trying?" Alex asked.

"Yo-you won't kill us," one of them said. "You can't kill us."

"Do you want you to bet your life on it?"

Alex's words sent fear through each and everyone that was stuck inside the barrier. The people had already tried to run out, but they had learned that the barrier was tough and that they needed to find a better way.

"Let's fight him together," someone said.

"Yes, if we work together, we should be able to kill him," another person said.

"He's rich too. How do we split the loot?" someone else asked.

Alex appeared in the middle of their group. "How about you make that decision after you kill me?"

A girl reacted at the same time, stabbing him with her spear that grew in size as it approached him.

Alex put his palm in the way, which was stabbed by the spear. The spear surprisingly managed to pierce through his skin, albeit not very much.

"Oh, that's not a bad weapon," Alex said as he grabbed onto the spear and lurched it toward him. The woman came flying with the spear, who he hit with his other palm to throw her far away.

He then pulled the spear out and quickly placed it behind his back to stop the axe from falling on his back.

"I see," he said softly. "I must be slightly wary of your weapons huh? Looks like most of it is made from tungsten. Makes sense."

Alex then spun around, spinning the spear with him as he stopped three different attacks with it before stopping.

"Well that sucks," he said a little disappointed. "It's a good spear, but I don't really know how to use it. Whatever, I'll just keep it."

He put the spear into his storage ring. "Hmm?" he thought when he saw something in there and pulled it out.

A book came out from his ring. "Oh, I might be able to use this spear though," he said while stepping to the right, letting the sword slash through empty air.

He kicked the side of the falling sword and sent it flying away with the person that attacked. He then formed a golden barrier behind him to stop the fire attack from landing on him.

He snapped his finger, exploding the fire that he had just stopped, strong enough that even his golden barrier was broken completely.

The people started panicking as they realized how strong Alex was. If they weren't fighting with everything they had, they were going to die for sure.

Everyone launched various attacks at Alex for the entire next minute while all Alex did was dodge them and send a few attacks of his own back at them.

He was fighting back, but there was no ferocity to them at all. It was almost as if... he was playing a small game with little kids while being distracted by his own work.

"What... is he doing?" one of them couldn't help but ask.

"What book is that? What is he reading?" someone asked.

Just then, Alex closed the book and tossed it toward the group where one of them caught it. They read the title with surprised expressions on their face.

"The Golden Spears of Heaven?" the man spoke the name.

"Isn't that... the technique he just bought? Why is he giving it away?" someone else asked, not understanding what was happening.

"It's perfect that you guys are here," Alex said with a loud voice, catching everyone's attention. "You are the perfect set of targets for me to try my new skill on."

He put his two hands in front of him, with the palms facing upward. As he did, metal energy condensed around him, taking the shape of 4 spears, each one of which he could control independently.

"No way!" one of the men shouted. "Did he... did he just learn a new skill while fighting us?"

Chapter 1234: Threat

The four spears flew around Alex, each independently controlled by him.

'That's a little bad,' he thought. Unlike the octopus skill from the Yao family where you controlled 4 different limbs all at once while remaining in a simple spherical barrier, this technique had no defensive aspect to it at all.

All you did was control the four spears while also focusing on defense at the same time.

"Whatever, let's try it out."

He sent the spears flying in four different directions, each of which attacked four different people.

The four of them fought the spear with the aid of their friends and quickly destroyed the four spears.

Alex made four more and sent them to attack. He was judging the strength, durability, and other various properties of the spears he was making.

It was a Heaven Grade skill, so it wasn't weak at all. However, having to control all four of them made it a little worse than it really was.

If you were fighting a single person, the spears could help quite a bit, but if you were fighting many at once like Alex was right now, the technique wasn't very useful.

'Yeah, I should change it and merge it with my metal fist. I wonder how much time that will take,' Alex wondered.

Alex forgot about the spear and went to fight in closed combat. He hit a person on the chin, breaking their jaw before turning around and slamming his forehead into another man's chest.

He pulled out his fire whip and lashed it at the incoming spear attack, the clashing of which brought a fire explosion between them.

He then pulled his Whip back and wrapped it around the lion that was trying to sneak behind him and slammed it onto the ground.

The whip unwrapped and Alex swung in around him, attacking 3 incoming attacks at once. Then he snapped the whip at the person swinging an ax at him.

The snap tore off the man's arm clean off at the elbow and also destroyed his ax at the same time.

Fire blossomed from the whip which he used to send out multiple fire attacks in all directions, attacking everyone at once.

They fought for a few more minutes against Alex, but none came close to even touching him, let alone hurting him. They were all beaten, bloody, and bruised, with a few of them even losing body parts.

A few of them fell to the ground and rolled in pain as they could no longer handle the fight at all.

"Please forgive us," one of the men shouted.

"Please, don't kill us."

One after another, the people stopped fighting and simply gave up. They bowed in front of Alex to make him stop.

Alex only frowned. He wasn't really satisfied with the fight at all. Even though they were weaker, he had hoped the number would pose somewhat of a threat, but because of how strong he was, nothing of that sort happened at all.

'I need to find someone that's stronger if I want to seriously fight,' he thought. He wondered if he should ask Scarlet to fight him after they returned to the Southern Continent.

She couldn't fight him before because she was trying to fix her rushed cultivation base, but now that she was fine, she could totally help him with fighting.

He looked at the people in front of him and shook his head. "You were going to kill me to get that sword, weren't you?" he asked. "Should I let you all go just like that?"

The people shuddered a little and didn't raise their heads at all.

"Fine, I will let you leave," Alex said. "Only after you leave behind something of yours."

"What?" the Saints looked up in worry.

"Leave behind a treasure that's worth your life," Alex said. "If you care too much about your treasures, leave behind both your arms."

"I will give you all a minute to do so. If you don't, you will leave behind your corpse," Alex said with a solemn look.

The group looked around, worriedly. Was he really going to make everyone here do that? Was he so keen on making an enemy out of every single one of them?

Sure he could beat them, but could he beat the people behind them? Was he not afraid?

"You all think I'm joking, don't you?" Alex asked. "Fine, this should let you know I'm serious."

"I make an oath to the heaven. In the next minute, if the saints inside this barrier do not leave a valuable treasure or cut off their own two hands, I will kill them. If I don't, the heaven may destroy me."

The sky rumbled as if accepting Alex's oath.

Fear gripped the hearts of every single saint inside the barrier. After all, Alex had not only made an oath to kill them but to die if he failed to do so.

That showed how serious the situation was.

One after another, items flew out of the various people's storage bags. Their treasures were valuable, but not as much as their life.

However, a few of them didn't have any treasure that they could consider valuable at all. So, instead, they cut off their own arms and presented them to Alex.

Alex waited and watched as time slowly ticked away. His eyes went over each and every single one of the saints, including the ones that were in pain.

He knew everyone had heard his oaths, so all he could do was wait.

He had no intention of killing any one of them. He didn't even have any intention of fighting any one of them. But that was only if they walked away after learning who he was.

Even after recognizing him, these people decided to attack him and his daughter, so he couldn't just let them off easily.

The death threat was just that, a threat, and making them lose one of their treasures was just a simple punishment. The only reason he made an oath was to make sure both he and his enemies didn't try to walk out from this conflict as if nothing had happened.

A minute passed by and Alex saw the many items in front of him as well as a few hands. He took the various treasures that were offered and looked at them.

Not a single Saint had left behind anything so he nodded. He felt the knot in his heart fade away as the oath ended with him gaining everything.

He then put the treasures inside his storage bag and looked at the crowd.

"Leave."

The barrier ended and both the formation plate and the sword went back to Alex. The crowd wasted no time running away from the place and within moments, the place where they fought was empty, aside from a few hands on the ground.

Alex's spiritual sense reached the 3 young men that were hiding far away, looking at the conflict.

"Try and change soon or you will one day find yourself following someone that will kill you for less," he told them.

The young men that had been following Alex since the restaurant was scared witless and immediately ran away.

Finally, Alex turned toward his daughter and smiled.

"Shall we leave then?"

Chapter 1235: Meeting Someone

Ronron stared blankly at Alex, who focused on the items he had gotten from the people just before.

They sat on the boat that flew north with the snow blasting past them because of the snowstorm that seemed to have come out of nowhere.

"Tsk! Nothing good," Alex thought. Not even the Starforged Tungsten weapons were any good as it was usually mixed with some other metal to make an alloy instead because of just how expensive the Tungsten was by itself.

"Father," Ronron called.

"Hmm?" Alex turned around toward her and was surprised to see her expressionless face. "Are you alright? Were you hurt?"

"No, I'm not hurt," Ronron quickly answered. "Father, have you killed people before?"

"Of course," Alex said. "Did your papa not tell you about our adventures while he was controlling my body? He killed people back then too."

"I see," Ronron said, her eyes wandering about the boat, unable to focus on anything at all. "No wonder you were so casual when you were going to kill them all. You probably didn't even blink when you beat them or had them cut off their own arms."

Tears were pooling up in her eyes, ready to drop at a moment's notice. She was trying her best to stop them, but the reality of things was that her father and by extension her papa were murderers, ones that wouldn't blink an eye if they had to take someone else's life.

Alex realized what was happening and walked up to her. He sat down beside her and pat her on her head a few times.

"It's alright, that's just how this world is," Alex said. "I wasn't like this when I started. I remember my first kill was actually a corpse that was being controlled by someone else. When I killed that person back then, I couldn't believe what I had done."

"I cursed at myself for killing someone. It wasn't just that time either. Even after my first kill, I was hesitant when it came to killing or hurting people."

"However, the longer you live, the more you realize, if you don't deal with your enemies when you have the chance, you will be the one that will regret it in the future. So, if I ever believe a person is dangerous and can harm me, I don't feel an ounce of emotion at their death."

"To be honest, I wish I wasn't like this, but I can't change myself at all. Time has done it for me," Alex said. "I hope you don't have to go through the same things, but I worry you will. So, I will tell you right now. If you have an enemy and you ever worry they will cause you pain and suffering, kill them. That is the only way to survive in a cultivation world."

Ronron didn't know what to say, so she only nodded and looked down as tears fell onto the deck of the boat they were flying on.

It took her a while to calm her emotions down and she finally came to terms with the fact that the world she lived in and the world she was going to live in were completely different and she couldn't judge someone from another world based on her beliefs from her world.

"I'm sorry, father. I judged you even though I didn't have the right to," she spoke.

"Don't worry about it," Alex said. "Besides, your father isn't as bloodthirsty as he might seem. If it weren't because they threatened you, I would have let them off after a little beating."

Ronron gave a small smile and nodded.

"Look, we're coming up on the Endless Tunnels," Alex pointed below him.

"Endless Tunnels?" Ronron looked below her at the massive mountain range they were approaching. "Why is it called that?"

"There is a vein of Starforged Tungsten below these mountains that is going to take forever for the people of this continent to get through. The original intention was to create a tunnel through this mountain range, but because it would take forever, it's called the Endless Tunnel."

"Oh," Ronron spoke as she looked down.

"That city right there is where I learned how to make a sword," Alex said. "I wonder if the senior that taught me it is still there."

"Do you want to go meet him?" Ronron asked.

"Not really," Alex said. "It was over 30 years ago, so I don't really feel like I need to. But I do want to go into the tunnel and get some of those metals for myself. They will make for some amazing artifacts."

They flew over the mountain, going from one state to the other. They were now in the state that was owned by the Heaven's Frost sect, the state where the domain of the ruler was located.

"It's just a little further ahead if I remember correctly," Alex said.

"Senior Luhei comes from around here?" Ronron asked.

"Yes," Alex said. "But before him, I want you to meet someone else."

Ronron was curious about who this other person was and waited patiently for them to show up. The snowstorm was fading this far up north, so it was getting easier for her to see through everything now.

As Alex flew, he noticed a group of people flying in his direction on a giant ship. He looked at the people on the boat and realized that he recognized quite a few of them.

"Oh, what a coincidence," Alex said softly. "They are already on their way. It seems they heard about the news too."

Alex steered his ship in the direction of the incoming ship, forcing both of them to slow down quite a bit.

One of the people in the group stood up and bowed toward Alex. "Greetings, senior. Can we help you with anything?" he asked.

"Brother Fan, it's me," Alex said. "Don't you recognize me?"

The middle-aged man narrowed his eyes to look at Alex more clearly, but there was no way he could recognize him at all.

"Ah, my bad," Alex said and brought out his white mask which he wore for a few seconds, before taking it off. "Do you remember me now?"

"You're..." the man's eyes widened in surprise.

"Yu Ming," someone else said. Most people from that group remembered them.

"It's nice to see you all again," Alex said. "Are you on your way to the Teleportation formation?"

The man's eyes widened slightly in surprise. "How did you know?" he asked.

"Where else would a group of players be heading to," Alex said with a slight chuckle and looked around. "Where is sister Li? I don't see her."

Fan Yanshi's face suddenly changed a bit when Alex said that. "Fan Li... she... she passed away over a decade ago," he said with a sorrowful voice.

"What?" Alex's face turned blank for a second. "What do you mean? How did she pass away?"

Fan Yanshi shook his head. "Complications during childbirth," he said. "Her body grew frail during her pregnancy and she died during delivery."

"I see," Alex said with a solemn face. "My condolences to you, brother Fan. What about the child?"

"Lilin, say hello to uncle here," Fan Yanshi spoke and a young girl, barely 10 years old slowly moved next to him.

"Hello, uncle," the little girl spoke. She had the looks of her mother, which even Ronron felt was familiar.

"Hello," Alex said with a wide smile. "Oh right, this is my daughter, Maron. Ronron, you should greet them too."

"Hello," Ronron said while bowing a little in the other people's direction.

"Your daughter?" Fan Yanshi was surprised. "She's already so grown up."

"Isn't she?" Alex chuckled a little. "Anyway, I shouldn't stop you guys. I will find you guys before we teleport away."

"Bye, Llin."

The little girl waved goodbye and the two boats moved away from each other.

"What was that, father?" Ronron asked with an unreadable expression.

"Those were the first group of humans I met when I got here. They let me stay in their village for quite some time, so I got familiar with them back then," Alex said.

"No, that's not what I meant," Ronron said. "That girl... she..."

"You noticed it too?" Alex asked.

Ronron nodded.

"Her mother, the woman they said died during childbirth, is your mother's other clone," Alex said. "After her original body died, your mother rejoined the game, and in doing so put another clone of herself into this world."

"I was hoping to let you meet her so you could see how your mother was while young, but it seems fate is not with us this time around," Alex said while shaking his head. "What a shame."

"That girl... is she... my half-sister?" Ronron asked.

"Half-sister, cousin, who knows what you should call her, but all I know is that she can be considered your blood relative as well," Alex said. "Unfortunately, it seems she was born without a spiritual root as well, just like her parents. It will be better for her to lead a normal life in the Central continent than to live here."

Ronron was too stunned to say anything else. She knew she had a father out there somewhere and had prepared for it. However, a sister that came out of nowhere wasn't something she could prepare for.

"What should I do?" Ronron asked.

"Let's decide that later," Alex said. "We will meet them again. For now, we are close to Senior Luhei's place. Let's go there first and meet him. After we do that, we can return with Scarlet and prepare for our return to the Central Continent."

Chapter 1236: Meeting Senior Luhei Again

The two of them flew through the snow-filled land for an hour more before they arrived at a small monument that stood tall and was full of scripts that were used by the demons.

"Here we are," Alex said and got off the ship.

Ronron jumped off as well, and slowly floated down onto the snow. She stepped on the snow, not sinking even the slightest amount at all.

"Grab my hand," Alex put forth his hand and Ronron grabbed it. Then, the two of them suddenly disappeared from where they stood, arriving on top of a giant, circular script that worked at the gate of this place.

"Woah!" Ronron said in surprise when she saw the place. The sky was overcast with thick clouds in here making the land much darker than it should be.

Snow filled the bottom half of most of the peaks. However, the top half of the peaks remained dark rocks with some orange glow that came from the magma within them.

"This is... so beautiful," Ronron said.

"This is one of the Demon's hiding realms," Alex said. "Back during the war many thousand years ago, they used to remain here and go out to fight outside."

"The fights took place all over this continent from what I know, but the only remnant of those fights that still remains here is the Ancient Battlefield we flew past outside of the Silvermoon city," Alex explained it all to his daughter.

"Woah, this place has such a history huh?" she said as she looked around.

"After the war ended, the representative of the Black Tortoise that was meant to rule this continent made this place his home and they have been remaining here ever since," Alex explained.

His eyes faltered for a moment before he smiled. "Let's go, Scarlet is waiting for us with senior Luhei," he said.

The two of them flew up, with Ronron struggling a bit to control herself at such a high altitude. They flew slowly until they went past 4 more mountains, and arrived on the small snowy mound, on top of which was Scarlet.

"Why the hell are you so late?" she shouted. "You were supposed to come here as soon as you told everyone what was happening."

"Sorry, sorry, I had to take a few detours since Ronron had never seen this side of life yet," Alex said.

"Oh," Scarlet said as she realized. "How do you like it, little girl?"

"It's quite different, to say the least," she said.

Suddenly, the snow mound they were on moved as a giant head popped out from one side of it, making Ronron shout in fear reactively.

"You've come again, young man," the Black Tortoise spoke.

"I should have come earlier, senior, forgive me," Alex said.

"I don't mind," the Black Tortoise said. "In fact, I like the peace and quiet."

"Ronron, this is senior Luhei," Alex introduced.

"O-oh!" she only then realized that it wasn't a random beast but rather the main reason they were here for. "Forgive me for my disrespectful attitude, senior. I am Maron. I have been acquainted with your other self for the past decade and more."

"Is that so?" the Tortoise looked at her a bit.

"She's the senior's disciple, so it is true," Scarlet said.

"Oh? Oh!" The tortoise was quite surprised when he heard that. Suddenly, the mound Alex and the rest were standing on vanishes all of a sudden as they all fell to the ground along with the snow that was on the mound.

Alex quickly grabbed his daughter and hovered while Scarlet flapped her wings a little.

"Let us know before you transform," Scarlet said.

"Sorry, sorry," the tortoise that had just become human spoke. He had short black hair and looked surprisingly similar to the Snake after he had become human as well.

"Woah, you look just like your brother," Ronron said.

"Of course, we are brothers," the tortoise said.

"I hear you are healed, senior. Congratulations," Alex said.

"Ah, yes, I am," he said.

"How did you heal if I may ask?" Alex got curious.

"You may not," the tortoise said.

"Oh," Alex was a little taken aback at the refusal. "I'm sorry if I was being rude."

"No, no, it's not a matter of whether you were rude or not. It's just that I don't know if I should talk about him or not," the tortoise said. He looked towards Scarlet and asked, "should I?"

"I don't know," Scarlet said. "This thing is very confusing. I still refuse to believe it's true at all."

"What are you guys talking about?" Alex asked.

"Forget about it, I'm sure you will find out soon on your own," Scarlet said.

"Yeah, forget about it, young man. Now, you managed to make a Phoenix bond with you. I don't know if I should congratulate you, or pray that you don't die when her seniors find out," the tortoise said.

"Sorry... what?" Alex asked.

"Father's going to die?" Ronron panicked a little.

"Don't tease him," Scarlet said quickly. "Don't worry, I won't let them kill you. They will definitely be more curious about you than angry."

"So there is a chance?" Alex asked with a worried look.

"Yes, but not a lot," Scarlet said. "As I said, don't worry."

Alex couldn't help but worry.

"Anyway, I'm glad to see you're doing fine, young man. Actually, you're doing more than fine. You have a daughter that's a disciple to a disciple of the Sky God. Even if you did nothing, you will make it far in life with just that," the tortoise said.

"Thank you, senior," Alex said awkwardly.

The Tortoise started asking about a few more things about the outer world and what had changed there. Now that Alex had been to 4 of the 5 continents, he had a lot more authority to speak on this matter than he did back then when he had just come from the Western Continent.

He told the Tortoise what he could, and the Tortoise realized that the world that was slowly falling into mediocrity had been reborn thanks to the actions of the senior that let fresh human blood flow through the world once again.

With many new talents coming out of nowhere, the world was much more competitive than it was back then.

The group talked for a while before Alex asked for a leave and flew away from them. He then arrived on the final mountain of the secret realm, standing in front of a giant patch of ice that seemed to have somehow reformed after so many years.

Unlike last time, however, the ice wasn't strong at all. So, with a simple thought, Alex changed the temperature of the ice, melting it within seconds, and walked inside of the cave.

He arrived by the massive circular script on the ground that was the teleportation script that could lead back to the Western Continent.

"Does it still work?" he wondered and used it. He felt the teleportation aura move around him, but there was no target, so it didn't work.

'Is the teleportation script on the other side truly destroyed? Or do I just have the wrong timing once again?' he wondered. Whatever it was, he would find out soon.

After looking around for a few minutes later, he left the cave and flew back to his group.

It was time to leave this place, and then prepare to leave the Northern Continent.

Chapter 1237: The Endless Tunnel

After saying goodbye to the Tortoise, the group of 3 went outside the secret realm to go back and complete the remaining task.

"You know what he was not telling me, right?" Alex asked.

Scarlet nodded. "Yes," she said. "I don't see how it matters to you though. Either we, I will see if it's true or not very soon."

Seeing the serious expression on Scarlet's face, Alex didn't continue the conversation.

"Where do we go now?" Scarlet asked. "Those ponds where you can see the future?"

Alex looked at Scarlet for a bit and then toward Ronron. "No, we won't be going there," he said. Knowing the future, even one that was very unlikely to happen felt like a curse that Alex didn't want others to get inflicted with.

One of his prophecies had already made him reluctant to help others on multiple occasions simply because he wondered if that was the event that would cause his death.

He didn't know if he should explain or not why they shouldn't be going there when Alex felt something buzz in his storage ring.

He pulled out a talisman and noticed that his aunt had sent him a message.

"Come to my sect as soon as you can. It doesn't look like the elders are going to let me go so easily."

Alex sighed when he read that. "That should have been obvious," he thought to himself and put the talisman back.

"We're going to the Blazing Earth sect," Alex said and pulled out his ship. "Although, they can wait for half a day while we take out detours."

The three got onto the ship and flew in the direction of the Blazing Earth sect. And if they just changed direction by a little bit, they would arrive at the Endless Tunnel.

This time, instead of going over them, Alex was going to go into them. He was on the other side of the Endless Tunnel this time around and landed outside the tunnel on his ship.

"Can you become small for a bit, so we can go through?" Alex asked.

"Fine," Scarlet said and became the size of a parrot once more, landing on Alex's shoulders.

Then Alex and Ronron got off the ship and went over to the opening of the tunnel where the disciples of the Heaven's Frost sect were keeping guard.

"Please hand over your storage bags before you go in. You can use this storage bag to carry whatever it is you think you will require inside instead," the disciple told them. Alex handed over his storage bags without any hesitation, but Ronron was a bit worried.

"Just transfer the items over," Alex said.

Ronron shook her head. "I can't. The items are tied to this storage bag. They are set up to attack whoever changes their space," she said.

"I see," Alex said. "Give me that storage bag for a moment."

Ronron handed it over to him. Alex took the storage bag and immediately turned around to hand it over to the person that was waiting for it. "Here you go," he said and tossed it into the box.

"Father!" Ronron spoke in a horrified tone. "You can't do that."

"Don't worry, you'll get it back when we leave half a day later," Alex told her.

The disciple closely checked for any other storage bag they may have been hiding, but he couldn't find any. So, he handed over 2 empty storage bags and let them go in.

Alex walked away in strides, but Ronron was a little saddened. She couldn't believe that her father had just given away the storage bag without even letting her know beforehand.

What was she going to do if the storage bag was looted somehow and her master's items were lost?

"Stop being so gloomy," Alex said as he walked a little further into the cave.

"How can you say that when you just gave away my storage bag?" Ronron asked.

"He didn't," Scarlet said and turned around toward Alex. "You looked like a professional thief just then."

"Did I? Haha," Alex laughed a little.

Ronron looked at the two of them with a confused look. "What's... going on?" she asked.

"Here," Alex reached up next to him where half his arm vanished. When he pulled his arm back, a storage bag came back along with it.

"What? What was that?" Ronron asked in surprise.

He tossed her the storage bag. "Did you really think I would give away something so important so easily?" he asked her.

"But... I saw you give it to her," Ronron said.

"That was a storage bag he stole from the box and changed with yours. He hid yours in a fold in space next to him," Scarlet explained. "To think you can now move folded space along, that should have required quite a bit of talent."

"Talent and concentration," Alex said. "I didn't move the folded space but rather teleported it around. Using both the Dao of Space and Teleportation at the same time turns out to be quite harder than I thought."

"Stop underselling yourself," Scarlet said. "Let's focus on the task now that we are here. What do we do now?"

"Let's find a corner we can work on for now," Alex said and spread his spiritual sense through the many pathways inside the cave until he found one they could work on.

He followed the path until he arrived at the location and brought out a formation place before placing it down to stop others from coming in.

"Right, let's get to it then," he said. "Time to mine this ore in front of us."

Scarlet stood where she was and Ronron looked confused. "Mine with what? Did you bring any tools?" she asked.

"Ah, you can't mine it yet," Alex said. "It's too tough for you. It would take Saints hours to knock down a fist-sized ore from this place."

"It's that tough, huh?" Scarlet asked. "How do you expect to mine it then?"

Alex rubbed his head for a little bit. "It would've been so much easier if I had the sword," he said softly. He was sure that sword wasn't lost at all and was instead still floating somewhere in his soul space, along with many other items of his which he had still to find.

"Should I start hitting it or what?" Scarlet asked, seeing that he wasn't answering her at all.

"No, I think I have a better idea," Alex said.

"Oh, let's hear it then," Scarlet said.

"Ronron, go stay against the wall and take out your defensive treasures," Alex said.

"What?" Ronron asked in surprise.

"Scarlet, protect Ronron from the heat," he said.

"What? What heat?" Scarlet asked.

"We don't have time to waste on attacking this wall to break it off as much as we can," he said. "So, I'm going to melt it instead."

"Oh... oh!" Scarlet realized what was happening. "That thing will need a very high temperature though. Will you be alright?"

"I'll be fine," Alex said. "I have the perfect dao for it after all."

Scarlet flew and landed next to Ronron, immediately creating a wall of phoenix fire around her.

Once Alex saw they were ready, he put up both his palm toward the wall and started heating it up to the point that the ore would melt like snow in the sun.

Chapter 1238: The Blazing Earth Sect

The black wall started giving off heat as Alex slowly used his dao to increase its temperature. He tried his best to limit the heat within the wall itself, but he couldn't stop it from spreading through all the walls of the cave, rather than just a small portion of it.

He tried his best to send the heat back into the wall, but since he was already focusing on melting the ore, he couldn't divert his intent to the other parts as well.

Thankfully, Scarlet was there to help him. All she did was stay where she was and lower the temperature of the wall around her so that the heat didn't reach any other side of the mountain.

As the wall heated up, it started glowing a warm orange glow. Then, as he continued adding on the heat, it glowed bright red and started slowly dripping down the wall.

Alex used his True Fire Dao to the best of his ability to make the ore even more liquid than it already was, while also reducing the amount of heat his body was suffering due to being close to such a bright molten metal.

If not for using his dao to stop himself, Alex would've already burned away most of his clothes the first few seconds he started working on it.

It only took a few more minutes before the wall started dripping like molten candlewax and fell to the ground.

Alex quickly brought out Memory and increased its size to collect the molten ore. Because Memory was specifically made with the components that were used in forges that melted this very ore, the molten ore wouldn't cause any problem at all.

Scarlet did her best to cool everything down except for the giant hole in the wall that was melting at the moment. Ronron was beyond surprised at just what was happening right now.

Her father was melting the wall in front of them and yet she couldn't feel a single change in the temperature around her. She was extremely impressed by both her father and Scarlet's control over the heat and wondered if she could ever reach such a level too.

By the time Alex was done with it all, there was a massive hole in the middle of the wall, large enough to be a new pathway through the tunnel itself.

He looked down at the amount of metal he had collected and he himself was quite surprised.

"That's probably over 500 tons right there," he thought to himself. With that much ore, he could gain about 200 tons of Starforged Tungsten. With that, he could make many swords and other artifacts he wanted to make.

'This had taken me about 4 weeks to collect so much,' he thought. 'And now, it only took me an hour at most.'

He took the cauldron and started rapidly cooling the molten ore inside of it. He wasn't worried about the ore being stuck to the cauldron after cooling down as he could just expand the size of the cauldron, even more, to easily take out the ores from inside of it.

It took him a few minutes and a lot of Qi to fully cool down the cauldron full of ore. Once he was done, he put it all inside his storage ring and brought out Midnight.

"What are you doing now?" Scarlet asked with a weird look on her face.

"Those people waiting outside will be expecting us to bring out some ores, so if we go out without any, they will start getting suspicious and that will be annoying."

He turned around and struck the edges of the giant hole in the wall. After a few hits, quite a bit of it came loose. After taking that and the ones that had dripped onto the ground, Alex decided it was time to leave.

Outside the mine, the disciples working to take away the ore took away half from both of their storage bags before returning their own storage bags to them.

After that, they flew away from the Endless tunnel, making their way to the Blazing Earth sect.

It didn't take them more than an hour of time to reach the Blazing Earth Sect since Alex sped up his boat as fast as it could go.

As soon as they arrived, they got off the ship and went to meet Liz and the rest.

Liz and Graham had been waiting for him to arrive before they continued any talk with the elders.

So, Alex and Ronron were quickly taken by the two to another room where the elders had been waiting for them.

Alex entered the room first before the rest followed him inside.

He saw Tai Guan, Bai Qiyi, as well as other elders that he hadn't seen before. However, judging from their cultivation base, they weren't nobodies at all.

'These must be the ancestors that no longer actively work in the sect,' Alex thought.

"Welcome, King of the Southern Continent," the elders and ancestors all bowed toward him.

Alex nodded and sat down on a seat that was prepared for him. "I hear you guys aren't letting my aunt leave. Is that true?" he asked.

"That is in fact true," Tai Guan said. "We cannot let her leave the sect after how much the sect had spent to train her and help her reach where she is now."

Alex nodded. "That is true, but do you really want to keep her here against her will?" he asked. "You do realize that with me being a King, she is now a princess of the Southern Continent too, right? Do you really wish to hold the princess of a continent hostage?"

The many people in the room suddenly broke out in sweats when they heard that. They had considered this to be a problem, but they did not expect Alex to bring it up as soon as he walked in.

"You do know that I can just take her away if I want to, right?" Alex asked.

"Yes," Bai Qiyi said. "However, we were hoping you would not."

"You were hoping to be compensated with something in return for all the resources you've used up for my aunt, is that it?" Alex asked.

The elders couldn't hide the answer from their faces. That was what they wanted; A compensation that is worth enough to replace his aunt.

"To be honest, yes, that is what we want," one of the older men said. "While we will be saddened to see such a talent get taken away, we know that we cannot hold her here, especially given her status now. However, if we can get something in return for letting her go, we will highly appreciate the gesture."

Alex stayed silent for a bit as he looked around.

"Al, can you help them? I don't want them to be at a loss after I leave too," Liz said.

"Son, can't you do something?" Graham asked.

Alex looked toward the group. "Let me guess, you want some other pill recipes aside from the 3 I gave you, don't you?" he asked.

"We can't deny that you have the best recipes out there," the ancestors said.

"Well, that sucks for you since I won't be giving you anything alchemy related at all," Alex said. "However, what I give you will most likely be something far better for your sect than just some lousy pill."

Chapter 1239: Compensation

"L-lousy pill?" the elders couldn't be surprised to hear him call his own pills lousy, especially given that they had heard about his pills reaching 100%. What could it be that he was going to give them that was better than those pills?

Alex suddenly stood up. "Let's go outside, I need your help to find the perfect location for it, headmaster," he said.

"Perfect place? What sort of place might you be looking for?" Bai Qiyi asked.

"Hmm, it should be a place that is controlled by the sect, but a place without much activity if possible," Alex said. "But it also must be easily accessible to students who want to go there, so no forbidden sections."

"We... have a few of those places," Bai Qiyi said.

"Would you consider the mounds around the sect one of such?" Alex asked.

Bai Qiyi thought for a bit. "Yeah, it surely would," he said.

"And do any of the mounds have Spirit veins under them? Or even close to them," Alex asked.

"I believe so," Bai Qiyi said. "Even if there is not, we can place one in there if needed. We have spare veins after all."

"Spare veins... let me guess, it's from your attack on the Western Continent?" Alex asked.

"Uhh... yes," the sect leader said. "I believe that's where it came from."

"May I ask why your ancestors participated in the war?" Alex asked. "It surely wasn't because you thought the people of the Western Continent deserved the punishment, right?"

Bai Qiyi looked around for his ancestors to answer. After all, he had only just become the sect master a century ago and didn't have much knowledge of the past.

"We... we needed resources to grow our sects," one of the ancestors said. "Most of our previous ancestors had died while fighting Xue Kuangren, so we were forced to find resources to help ourselves. The war just happened to be something that helped us."

"I see," Alex said. "Let's move on."

If it was a decade ago, he might have tried and persuade these people to give back what they stole from the Western Continent, but now that he was the King of the Southern Continent, he had no right to speak on behalf of them.

So, unless someone from the Western Continent itself came to ask them for it, they were most likely never going to return the items.

Alex walked out of the room and soon everyone followed him. The sect master ordered one of the people next to him to bring a spirit vein from the treasury just in case they needed it.

"What exactly are you planning on doing, Yu M— I mean, Alex?" Tai Guan asked.

"You said you had to use a lot of resources to help my aunt become what she is today, right?" he said. "Now, while I cannot give you the resources back myself, I can make it so you save a similar amount of resources in the future. Most likely you will save a lot more than anything you could ever spend on my aunt."

The ancestors got more and more curious now.

"What exactly is it though?" Tai Guan asked as she couldn't contain her curiosity.

"You'll find out soon enough," Alex said.

They arrived outside the sect walls, in front of one of the 12 massive natural rock pillars, on top of which the disciples of the sect trained every morning.

Since it was evening right now, no one was currently training here, making it the perfect time for everyone to do what they wanted to do.

"Choose a location here," Alex said. "I would suggest making it a spot everyone can go to regardless of where it is they are training."

"Uhh... then that place? Between the two pillars?" one of the ancestors pointed. It was the closest location on average from every single pillar while also being just outside the sect walls.

"Is there a spirit vein here? If not, you should place one here," Alex told them.

The ancestors nodded and immediately started checking the location. They did sense that there was a spirit vein, but it was a common spirit vein, which Alex couldn't really work with.

"Change it," he told them.

A few ancestors immediately got to work as they took out the common spirit vein from the ground and replaced it with a Saint spirit vein.

The replacement took no more than 15 minutes as multiple ancestors quickly got the work done. Once the dirt was replaced and everything was back to normal.

Everyone looked nervously, waiting for Alex to do whatever it was he was going to do. The ancestors were curious about what it was he was doing and nervous that it would not be as good as getting another pill recipe.

Alex walked away from the group and arrived on top of the land that was just refilled. He looked around for a few seconds to find a perfect spot and looked at his shoulder before nodding.

The ancestors were surprised when the bird that was sitting on his shoulder suddenly moved. The bird flapped its wings once and out of nowhere burned a colorful fire in front of Alex.

The ancestors were entranced by the fire, but they weren't sure what to make of it. Was that it? Was the fire what was better than a lousy pill?

Graham and Hao Ya realized what was happening, but the rest of them, including Liz and Ronron, were equally unaware.

"What is this?" Bai Qiyi couldn't help but ask.

"Oh, I thought you would recognize it," Alex said. "Do you not?"

The ancestors shook their heads.

"This is Phoenix fire," Alex explained.

Immediately, the faces of the many ancestors changed from confusion to shock as they realized what they were looking at.

"Tha-that's Phoenix fire?" one of them asked.

"Yes," Alex said "I'm sure you know what a phoenix fire is capable of right?"

"It can destroy almost anything and can also heal any injuries," one of them spoke. The ones that didn't know about it were finally realizing what it was.

"Yes, but not this one," Alex said. "I do not wish to give you a weapon that you can use against someone else, so this fire won't destroy anything, so long as you don't touch it. All it will do is heal whatever injuries one may have. It's useful, right?"

The ancestors couldn't help but nod.

"But... how did that fire just get here?" one of them asked. "Is that bird on your shoulder... a Phoenix?"

Alex smiled. "I don't think you can keep hiding anymore," he said.

The group was a little confused about who he was talking to when the bird on Alex's shoulder suddenly grew in size and landed in front of them all.

Scarlet's body slowly started glowing, gaining many colors that were the same as that of the fire behind her. She stood tall and proud, and her cultivation base pulsed around her.

The ancestors watched in shock as they finally realized that they were in the presence of a noble Phoenix, which also happened to be one of the beings with the strongest cultivation base they had ever seen.

"Let me introduce her to you," Alex said. "This is Feng Nuanhuo, otherwise also known as Scarlet, and she is the Phoenix Ruler of the Southern Continent."

Chapter 1240: Devour

The ancestors all fell to their knees when they realized who was in front of them.

"Your majesty," they shouted all at once. "It's an honor to meet you."

Scarlet looked at the lot and nodded slightly for them to get back up, but the group remained on their knees.

"You deal with them," she spoke all of a sudden and vanished from the air. When the group saw where she had vanished, their eyes widened to a point where they nearly fell out of their socket.

"W-w-where d-did her Majesty go?" one of them asked.

"She doesn't like strangers that much, so she went back to her beast space to avoid you guys," Alex said simply.

However, those words were anything but simple to the ears of the many ancestors here. When they heard that she had gone back to her beast space, that could only mean one thing.

Alex had bonded with the Phoenix.

Only now did they understand why he was the King of the Southern Continent. Only now did they fully realize just who they were talking with.

"Your majesty, please forgive us for any disrespect we may have shown you," the ancestors spoke before the sect leader and the rest could.

"I don't feel disrespected," Alex said. "You may all get back up."

The ancestors slowly stood up.

"Now that I've given you all that you wanted, let us leave," he said and started walking away.

"Your majesty," Bai Qiyi quickly called out to him. "If you don't mind, can you explain why you say that this Phoenix fire is better than some pills? As far as I understand, doesn't it do the same thing as a healing pill? As for resources, we are spending an entire Spirit vein on this. Even if it is better, I don't see how it can be so much better than just a pill."

Alex stopped and looked at the sect leader for a bit before saying, "what do you think is unique to your sect that the other 4 sects don't have?" he asked.

"Unique? You mean our landscape?" one of the ancestors asked. The Blazing Earth sect was in the state of Re, which was the only state that didn't have snowfall like the other 4 after all.

"No, not your landscape," Alex said. "I'm talking about your sect's feature. The Nether Poison sect has its poison, the Blue Spring sect has its beast taming, what does your sect have?"

"Oh, Body cultivators," Bai Qiyi answered. "What about them?"

"Do you know how the people in the Southern Continent cultivate their bodies?" Alex asked.

The sect master's eyes moved from Alex to the fire before understanding what he was talking about. "I see," he said. "Do they use the Phoenix fire to heal themselves?"

"Yes," Alex said. "How many resources do your disciples use to heal after training? How many resources can you save if they could get beat up as badly as they wanted and healed within a few hours simply by staying in front of this fire? Do you not think it's better than any pill I could've given you?"

The ancestors looked at each other, not knowing what to say. It was true that with this fire, they would save on resources for body cultivation, but in the first place, the number of disciples that body cultivated had already gone down quite a bit.

At this point, it all felt like a waste to the ancestors.

"How strong can one even get as a body cultivator?" one of the ancestors asked.

"Do you want an example?" Alex asked.

"Are you talking about yourself?" Tai Guan asked. "Weren't you strong as a body cultivator even before?"

"I was, and I'm not talking about myself," Alex said. "I'm talking about my father."

"Me?" Graham was surprised. "Do you want me to show them how strong I am?"

"Yes, father. Uhh... why don't you punch him?" Alex said, pointing to an old ancestor with a cultivation base Saint Soul 4th realm.

"Please be on guard or you might hurt yourself," Alex told the old man.

The old man looked back suspiciously as he wasn't sure what to do. He looked at the other ancestors who nodded and walked away.

"Alright, let me see how strong you really are," the ancestor said and used a defensive technique.

Graham dashed forward, leaving massive gouges on earth as he pushed against it to arrive in front of the old man in an instant.

The old man was surprised at the speed Graham showed, even when he didn't even have a proper cultivation base.

The punch landed on the defensive technique the old man had put up and caused an explosion that sent dust flying hundreds of meters around the two fighters.

The punch had created a crater around the two of them as if a meteor had landed where they stood.

The Ancestor was physically fine, but mentally he was shaken. He didn't imagine that Alex's father could ever be this strong at all.

Even if he was stronger by quite a bit, this was just physical strength. If he had a cultivation base as well... how strong could he have been?

"Do you understand now?" Alex asked the ancestor. "Your disciples can reach this level if they try, that too without spending a spirit stone on any resources aside from this single spirit vein."

"Is that enough compensation for all the resources your sect spent on my aunt?" he asked.

"Yes, it's more than enough," Tai Guan spoke immediately. "Thank you, Alex-- no, your Majesty."

The other ancestors nodded as well.

"Then, let us go back. Set up a tent around here and make sure no one extinguishes it or anything. Not that anyone should be able to but it's still better to be careful," Alex cautioned the others.

Once everything was settled, they returned back to the sect to rest for the time being.

Ronron finally had some free time to look through what she had bought from the auctions. She brought out one thing after another and started handing it out to the others.

She brought a flexible armor for her grandfather, a mental defense artifact for Pearl, a very tough, but pretty female robe for her aunt, a small pouch one could wear around their neck for Whisker, and pretty jewelry for Hao Ya.

Alex got some alchemy ingredients, which he was more than happy with.

The group happily talked to each other for quite a while until it was deep into the night. The sect had brought them some strong wine to drink, and Alex shared it with his family during that time.

Afterward, everyone left to go to their own room to cultivate and rest. Alex was a little worn out as well, especially after what he had done in the Endless Tunnel.

He needed to rest for a bit, especially since he had quite a few things to do after he had rested.

He cultivated the entire night with Pearl cultivating next to him. Then, after a night of cultivation, he sent both Pearl and Whisker away from the room.

At the same time, he asked Scarlet to leave as well.

"What are you doing that you won't even let me stay inside the beast space?" Scarlet asked.

"The room is going to fill with Death aura soon, so I don't want any one of you to be around it," he said.

"And you are okay with it?" Scarlet asked curiously.

"I have the Death Dao, remember? The aura can't harm me," he reminded her.

"Oh, right. Alright then, I'll go stay with your daughter for now," Scarlet said and called Ronron before going away with her.

Alex closed all the doors and set up a formation so that the aura wouldn't leak outside the room. Then, he brought out the wooden box that gave off the death and darkness aura.

"Good, good, let me eat it quickly," Godslayers impatient voice called out for him from inside his head.

"Okay, how are you going to eat it?" Alex asked.

"Just grab the sword and don't let go of it. I need to send most of myself into it and then I can devour it from the inside," Godslayer said.

"Alright," Alex said and grabbed onto the sword. Immediately, he felt the strong death aura coming up from the sword.

"This isn't better than the death aura of the Mad Immortal, right?" he asked Godslayer.

"No, it's better," Godslayer said. "The Death aura I got from the mad immortal was just that, death aura. However, this is both death and darkness aura, so I get an equal ratio of what can help me improve."

"So, while in terms of strength, it's quite bad, it's better in terms of helping me gain back my strength from the past," Godslayer said.

"I see," Alex nodded. "Eat it then."

"I can't wait to."

Alex felt Godslayer move out of his spiritual sea and move down his body until it reached the sword. He tightened his grip as Godslayer went into the sword and started devouring it from the inside.

It took only 20 or so minutes, but the aura in the sword was completely gone in that time period. Godslayer also devoured the aura that had escaped the sword and was in the wood and room.

After eating it all, it crept back up Alex's arm and went into his mind.

"That was amazing," he said softly. "I'm going to sleep for a couple of days now. Don't bother me unless it is very important."

Godslayer stopped talking after that, and Alex was left alone in the room with a normal sword in the end.