

## Alchemy 1391

Chapter 1391: End of the Event

"Your Majesty," King Jin arrived next to the platform a few seconds after Alex arrived outside. "You came out?"

"Yes," Alex said. "I must say I made some mistake not preparing more."

"No, you did great your majesty," King Jin said. "For a first timer, you did amazing. Look, you are in the top 100."

Alex turned around to where the King was pointing and saw that he had arrived somewhere around 78th rank. He had stayed inside for 3 weeks at most, and that had resulted in him coming as high as 78.

"Oh, I actually did do well," he couldn't help but say. Had he actually tried, he would have most likely beaten the entire thing. But, Alex didn't worry about that.

In fact, it was better to not keep the attention on himself during these moments. The more lowkey he could remain in events such as this, the more he could move around without alerting the others.

"78 is not bad, right?" he asked.

"It's a respectable rank, especially when you consider that you were up against folks that had plenty of experience before you," the King said.

Alex nodded. "Where are the rest?" he asked.

"Waiting back at the building," the King said. "Let us leave."

Alex walked away with the King, quickly going over to where the other elders were waiting for him. He accepted their words of consolation, some saying that he could try again next year.

Alex accepted what they said and sat by them to wait for the remainder of the matches to finish.

He spoke about his experience inside the abyss with his two elders, explaining how everything was. He went through his journey there which was quite monotonous for the most part.

The surrounding individuals who could hear him were quite perplexed at the description as they remembered being very nervous and easily startled inside the abyss.

They had to be alert at every moment to make sure someone didn't sneak up on them. Given how weak their spiritual sense was when compared to the rest of the people that were in there the first time around, that could only be the experience everyone felt.

Most couldn't help but wonder if Alex was trying to show off and appear nonchalant while hiding what he had actually gone through.

Talia came out from the abyss a while later, ranking around 65. She arrived where the group was under King Jin's calling, and started talking about what had happened.

"I had a necklace!" she shouted. "But I ran out of spiritual stones in the end and my formation stopped working."

She sounded quite bitter. "I should have taken more out right here, but I thought 20 would be enough. I was wrong," she said.

"Is 65 not better than what you reached last year though?" the King asked.

"It is, your majesty, but I wanted more. Ugh, I should have taken 25 with me. Next year, I'll wear a robe with a lot of pockets to keep them on me," she said.

The group chuckled at her words.

"You did better than me, congratulations," Alex said in the end.

"I saw your rank, your Majesty. You did extremely well considering you had no idea what the Abyss even was just a year ago," she said. "For a first-timer, this sort of rank is beyond amazing."

"So everyone says," Alex smiled.

"Well, there's no point in you trying to win this anyway," the King said. "It's not like you need something that the winner gets, do you?"

"Fame, was that it?" Alex asked. "The entire continent finds out that it was your sect that stood victorious in the Abyss. There is no better for your sect than that, is there?"

"Yes," King Jin nodded. "Well, I also allow the top 100 free entry to the Hundred Blossom Valley as another piece of reward, but that doesn't matter much according to the ranking. Not that many accept either."

"They don't?" Alex was a little surprised.

"Not many know about plants, so they find it unnecessary to go there. They wouldn't benefit from going there, so they don't," the King said.

"Of course," Alex nodded.

The group continued waiting for more and more people to come out until only 5 remained.

Xue Xiulan of the Beast Supremacy Sect.

Luo Bohan of the Spears Peak sect.

Cui Qiaopan of the True Gold Palace.

Su Railin of the Ice Mist Palace.

And finally, Fang Yimu of the Cloud Iron sect.

Once these 5 remained, the crowd waited in anticipation as each person sent out meant another one would get that much closer to winning it all.

25 days had passed since the entire thing began and it was the day the first of the 5 were sent out.

Cui Qiaopan, a tiny but older woman came out from the Abyss. Everyone saw her disappointment, which she tried to hide by quickly leaving the platform.

A day later, another person came out.

Luo Bohan, a young man from the Spears Peak sect arrived on the platform and quickly turned around to look back at the ranking that hung in the air. Realizing that he was 4th, he cursed loudly before walking away.

Only 3 remained, and for 2 days no one came out. Then, Su Railan was sent out. The girl from the Ice Mist Palace looked at her ranking, clicked her tongue, and left.

Now, only two remained.

The crowd watched expectantly, wondering who the next person to win would be. Would it be Xue Xiulan? Or would last year's champion, Fang Yimu remain victorious yet again?

Everyone was on the edge of their seat as the last result was ready to come out. Time passed slowly for the expectant ones, especially those from the Cloud Iron sect and the Beast Supremacy sect.

A month had already passed, but neither came out still. And yet, no one had lost their enthusiasm to see the victor.

Then, at once, two people arrived on the platform at the same time. Xue Xiulan and Fang Yimu had both arrived.

One a victor, another not.

The only way to tell was to look at the rankings.

Everyone's eyes turned to the rankings as they updated at once. Xue Xiulan, the young man from the Beast Supremacy sect looked to his left and saw Fang Yimu.

Seeing her, his eyes unfocused for a second out of confusion before reality hit him. He turned his head toward the ranking and then he saw it.

His name was in the second place.

Fang Yimu looked around, a little fearful for a moment, but she had experienced coming out at once before. She quickly turned toward the ranking as a smile formed on her face.

She raised her fists to the sky and screamed in celebration. "WOOHOO!" She had returned victorious from the Abyss yet again.

She immediately ran to where the Cloud Iron sect was gathered to celebrate with them her victory.

The older man from the Royal family arrived once everyone was out.

"The Endless Shadow Abyss shall now be closed again. You may all leave now," he said. "I will see you all next year."

With that, the secret realm was closed for another year, and everyone readied themselves to go back to where they came from.

## Chapter 1392: Mossbloom City

"Congratulations, your Majesty. I hear you ended up in the top 100," Fang Yimu came to speak with Alex before she and Talia were to leave with the sect.

"I should be congratulating you for the victory instead," Alex said. "That was a job well done."

"Well, of course," the girl said with a prideful face. "I told you I would win, didn't I?"

"I'm curious," Alex asked. "Did you use any artifact or something to win?"

"Artifact? I carry some with me inside, but I did not win thanks to it," she said. "It is a spiritual technique that has been passed down through our sect that only the prime disciple is allowed to learn."

"I see," Alex said. "It is a shame I never got to see that technique."

"If you want, I can show it to you," she said.

Alex shook his head. "Maybe some other time," he said. "I assume you plan on winning next year too?"

"Actually, no," Fang Yimu spoke. "I won't be returning after this. I've won twice, and it has proven to me that in a battle of spiritual sense, I will emerge victorious."

"However, it is only when the battle's main focus is on the spiritual sense. Being a cultivator is more than just Spiritual sense, so I need to improve myself in other aspects as well. As such, I will be focusing my time now on improving what I have neglected until now," she said. "Both in combat aspect as well as alchemy."

"Oh, you were an alchemist?" Alex asked.

Fang Yimu chuckled a bit. "Your Majesty, I was the prime disciple of the Cloud Iron sect of the Emerald Kingdom. We know nothing if not alchemy. Almost everyone in our sect has some level of knowledge of alchemy. I especially have practiced it a lot more."

"Oh," Alex was surprised. He turned toward Talia. "Does that mean you were never a Prime Disciple?"

Talia shook her head. "I might end up becoming one at some point, but to be a prime disciple, you need to be at least 500 years old. I'm not even 70, you know," she said.

"That's quite funny," Alex said. "What age do you guys stop being a student?"

"A thousand years," Fang Yimu answered. "Before that, if you end up reaching the Saint Core realm, you can instead accept to be an elder. Although, before the arrival of players, that was a rather difficult scenario for many."

"I can guess that," Alex said.

"Your Majesty, we should be leaving soon," Yao Ning said from the side, reminding him of their departure.

"We should be leaving too," Fang Yimu said.

"Will you be coming to the Hundred Blossom Valley, your majesty?" Talia asked.

"I do plan on going there. Although, I do not know when I will," he said.

"Oh, if it is alright with you, can we go together?" Talia asked. "You are an amazing alchemist, so we might learn something from you."

"Together huh?" Alex rubbed his chin as if in thought. "Sure, I don't see any problem with that."

"Great!" Talia exclaimed. "Then, let us meet in Greenheart city in 3 months' time. We will enter the Hundred Blossom Valley at that time. Both senior sister Fang and I have acquired 1 month of free entry, so we will be using it wisely then."

"Okay," Alex said. "I shall meet you two ladies in 3 months then. Take care until then."

"Farewell, your majesty," Fang Yimu bowed a little.

"See you later," Talia waved goodbye and the two girls left quickly, going back to where their sect was.

Alex turned around and went to where the elders and the King had been waiting for him. "Let us leave then."

They all nodded and went back to the teleportation formation that sent them back to Jade's Shadow Island which was next to the Abyss island.

They returned back to the hotel to rest for a few days before they were to leave from this place.

In the days that passed, the number of people in the city dropped by a massive amount, to the point that it felt like a ghost town at moments.

When they all felt rested, the King and the rest decided to leave as well. They teleported back to Greenheart City and went back to the palace.

Alex spent a few days in the palace and realized that if he was going to wait there without doing anything, he was going to get bored.

So, after a bit of deliberation, he decided to leave the place to roam the rest of the kingdom. King Jin was more than happy to show him around, but Alex asked to go roam it on his own with his elders.



The only person that did come with him was General Fan that was sent as his protection. While Alex didn't need protection, he didn't refuse, just in case it placed him under higher scrutiny from the emperor.

He started his journey by heading to the southernmost city that stood right at the border of the Ebony mountains.

Mossbloom City was at the base of the Ebony Mountain Range, of which 3 tall mountains cupped the city from 3 different sides, placing the city half a year in shadows, and the rest of the year with maybe 5 hours of direct sunlight thanks to the geography.

Thanks to the remoteness of the city, as well as the not-so-great condition, very few people lived in this place. With a total population of around 80 thousand people, despite its large size, Mossbloom City was one of the least populated places in the entire continent that held the title 'City'.

As per its name, it was famous for the various mosses that grew all year round in the shadowy city where the condensation from the massive mountains flowed into the city.

Such moss was rather hard to acquire in normal conditions, and it was exactly what the people there harvested to sell and make a living.

Alex had chosen the city only because it was in the southernmost part of the kingdom, but he hadn't expected to come to such a fascinating city.

Very few people there recognized him, but no one tried to talk to him on their own. There weren't any strong cultivators living in this place, so they thought of Alex as someone they couldn't mess with.

They were rather hospitable still, with many starting a conversation with him when it was him that approached them. He got a guide to show him around the city and within the week, Alex had been to many of the places around the city that could be considered tourist spots.

He bought many of the mosses that grew there that were rather rare even in the Forbidden Orchard and paid a handsome fee for it.

He spent no more than a week in the city, but that was enough for the city to make an impression on him. Only when he thought he was done with the city did he finally decide to leave the place.

He got on a ship, rather than use the teleportation formation, and headed toward his next destination as per the map of the continent he was provided.

Sproutfield City.

Chapter 1393: Adventure Through the Emerald Kingdom

Sproutfield City was along the coastline and used water from the ocean to irrigate their fields after removing the salt from it to sell separately.

The entire city was covered in knee-deep water with boats and gondolas floating on top of them at every moment. The houses were built onto the ground, steadied by metal rods that dug deep into the earth.

They lifted the houses above the water.

The mortals were the ones that used the boats while the cultivators simply flew. Although, they still used a boat from time to time.

Alex sat on a gondola in the center along with the other three while a young guide steered their boat through the water.

The water fields had plants growing throughout most of them, with many only having only sprouted just recently. He could tell where the name of the city came from.

Despite all the water, Sproutfield City was one of the best cities in the entire continent for growing plants and herbs. There were thick trees to the west and north that had created a forest that had its roots in the water, and the massive fields grew anything and everything that was sowed.

"What's the population of this city?" Alex couldn't help but ask.

"Around 400 thousand people," the guide answered. "It increases during the major harvest in the summer."

Alex looked around at the growing plants and could feel how impressive the life force in all of them was. "Do the plants here grow faster than elsewhere?" he asked.

"Oh, does senior know something about growing plants?" the man asked excitedly. "Yes, plants in these waters only take two-thirds of the time as they would in other places. If they take normal time, they still come out better than they would in other places."

"After all, the water here is filled with Qi that comes directly from the Ocean."

Alex nodded. He had an inkling that was the case.

After taking the salt out from the water, which was harmful to the plants, what remained was tons and tons of Qi-enriched water, that the plants absorbed. This was so much better than plants naturally trying to absorb Qi directly from the earth or the air.

Alex stayed in the city for about a week. At that time, he visited the marketplace to buy various alchemy ingredients that have quite potent energy in them. He watched people sow and reap plants from the water using Qi techniques that make it all seem so seamless.

He went to see how they separated salt from the ocean water and found out that they had 3 different spirit veins dedicated to the process.

Two were there to purify the water of the salts, and one was there just to pump water in and out of the city. Barely any other cities even dared to do so as no one wanted to waste 3 separate spirit veins just to grow some plants.

Sproutfield City only did so because it was in the Emerald Kingdom, which was known for its plants and trees.

Alex tried local delicacies at various restaurants, through which he found out that the people living in these places liked their food a bit too salty. They were used to the salt since that was the main export of the town.

Once he explored it enough, he left exactly 7 days later to go to another city.

He visited Willowgrove City, and then Ivyhaven. Then, he moved on to the Vineyard City.

This was another special city that grew nothing but grapes and berries, turning them into wine at the end of the season.

Alex prepared his trip around this, going to other cities before coming here. He arrived just in time for the Wine festival, where the old wines were brought out to enjoy and the freshly picked grapes and berries were made into new wine that would be put away for future use.

The wines made here were stored inside a special formation that was used to push Qi into all of them. As such, by the time they came out, they became Spirit wine, the only type of wine that could affect a cultivator.

Alex decided to enjoy some. He drank a few glasses of the different types of wines, and after forcing his body not to burn away the toxins that affected him, he could enjoy the feeling of being tipsy.

This wasn't a feeling that came all the time, so he enjoyed it while he could.

The Wine festival lasted for a week and a half. Once that ended, Alex bought some wine from the city and left.

He went to Herbshire City then to Greenleaf City to Bramblethorn City. He went on to Verdantwood City, Jadefern City, ending up finally at Leafshade City.

This would be the last city he was going to visit as only 2 weeks from now, he had promised to enter the Hundred Blossom Valley.

Alex was stunned when he first saw the city from hundreds of kilometers away. It wasn't the city he saw precisely, but rather that which gave the city its name.

Leafshade. He saw the leaves that made the Shadow.

It wasn't that the leaves were massive, but rather they were many. He saw a massive tree that spread horizontally, growing on top of a lonely mountain, casting half the city in its shadow.

The tree itself wasn't very tall as it was wide, and it hung downward on all sides in the shape of an umbrella, with large vines dropping to the ground.

Alex only saw the houses and buildings near the foot of the mountain when he came close enough to the city.

The local people called it the Guardian Tree. However, Alex could tell that it was an overgrown Elder Banyan tree. The vines that fell from the tree were used in many aspects of everyday life in this place.

They were thick enough that there were multiple houses built along the sides of it without worry of it falling. The dried vines were also used for timber during the winter. The newly grown ones at the top were also used as ingredients for a medicinal paste that was widely used across the city.

The tree also gave off a heavy wood aura, making it a haven for anyone that wanted to absorb only that aura.

Alex spent his days cultivating in this place, trying to understand Wood aura to gain its dao. Unfortunately, he had some of the worst Wood Spiritual Roots, so he could not understand anything from the aura.

But he made a mental note to bring his daughter here one day so she could absorb it all. Ronron would love nothing more than this.

After spending some time in the city, he and the elders left, finally heading back to Greenheart City. Alex was told that there weren't any other unique cities to the south of the Capital unless he went to the ocean, so Alex didn't feel bad skipping all of them.

He arrived at Greenheart City just a few days before he was to enter the Hundred Blossom Valley.

He went to the Palace and met up with King Jin again, and spent the next few days waiting for the day when he would enter the valley.

#### Chapter 1394: Hundred Blossom Valley

The Hundred Blossom Valley was located to the east of Greenheart city, in between the Verdant mountain range and the Jadeborn mountain range. Snuggled in between them, the valley was over 20 kilometers wide, and 30 kilometers long.

Alex, Talia, Fang Yimu, and a few more from the Cloud Iron sect arrived on top of one of the mountains in the Verdant mountain range, looking directly below at the valley below.

The valley was divided into different square fields, each square completely covered on all sides by massive rivers that were carved to water the entire thing.

Each land piece was about 6 kilometers squared in the area and was large enough to build cities upon if one were to wish to do so.

Instead, it wall was used to grow different types of plants as would be required by the rest of the continent.

The mountain range that surrounded the valley was filled with hotels and lodges for guests that wished to come there. The Hundred Blossom Valley was as much as a tourist spot as it was a place to gather important ingredients for pills.

Couples came here to enjoy their time, families came to see the many plants, and alchemy enthusiasts came to find what ingredients they could for whatever pill it was that they needed to make.

Alex and the others had arrived a day ago and had gotten themselves a room at one of the hotels. There he had left his elders who would be of no use to him. General Fan had wanted to come as well, but Alex had let him stay behind as well.

King Jin was supposed to come with him, but for some reason he canceled the idea at the last moment. Given that it had happened after Alex had mentioned he was going to tour the place with the two girls, Alex had a suspicion that he had decided to drop the plan at the last second.

It was also why he believed his elders didn't force him to come with him despite being his guardians.

"It looks beautiful, doesn't it?" Talia asked with an excited look on her face.

"It does," Alex nodded.

"Your Majesty has incredible pill-making knowledge from what I remember seeing a year ago. How are your ingredients gathering capability?" Fang Yimu asked. "Do you rely on your subjects to gather the ingredients for you?"

"No," Alex said. "My ingredient-gathering ability is the best."

Fang Yimu chuckled at the wide grin Alex put on as he answered the question. She did not believe him at all, but she wouldn't say that to a king of another continent.

"Let us head over," Talia said and started flying down the mountain.

Alex flew down as well and the Fang Yimu followed. The rest that was with them followed as well, but they stayed further behind and would soon separate themselves from the group.

Alex's group of 3 landed in front of a bridge. On either side of the bridge stood two people with military robes that were there to take the fee of anyone that walked into the field.

Alex looked around and saw that each field had multiple bridges with people on it that were there to take tolls on everyone. Not only that, they could see people on giant boats in the sky that flew to keep watch of people in the field.

There were multiple of them, each quite strong from what Alex could sense. Most were at the late Saint Foundation realm or above, which made the fact that nearly a thousand such cultivators were here alone quite impressive.

The toll wasn't very expensive everything considered, but given that one had to pay for each field they entered, it would end up costing them a lot of money if they visited all 100 different fields.

Talia and Fang Yimu flashed some sort of badge that marked them as Top 100 in the Endless Shadow Abyss. Alex was given the same badge as well, but he didn't even have to bring it up.

The men immediately bowed at him as soon as they saw him.

"Oh," Alex was a little taken aback. "I wasn't expecting to be so easily recognized. Were you guys aware of my coming?"

"Yes, your Majesty," one of the guards answered quickly. "We were warned that you would be coming, so everyone is ready for you."

"I see," Alex said. "Well, it would be bad if everyone recognized me as you guys did."

A mask came from within his storage ring and landed on his face. The white mask changed as black patterns appeared on it. Alex placed it on his face and nodded toward the guards.

"Keep up the work," he said before walking onto the bridge.

The bridge was made up of wood and was nearly 20 meters across as it stood over the gentle river that flowed underneath it.



Alex looked to the side, trying to sense the Qi from the water, but there was none. "Hmm, they should have used the same technique as those people at Sproutfield City," he said out loud. "But of course, the ocean is too far for that I suppose."

He walked away and quickly joined the two girls as he landed on the first field of plants. He looked around and quickly realized something about the field he hadn't known before.

"Wait, these are all herbs?" he asked. "I don't see a single shrub or tree at all."

"These are all herbs, your majesty," Talia explained. "In fact, the 10 fields in the first row all grow herbs. Different kinds of it though."

"All herbs?" Alex couldn't help but ask. He hadn't read much about this place before. All he knew was that the Hundred Blossom name came from the Hundred fields that were used to grow plants in.

He wasn't aware of anything else that went in it.

"All 10 of these are herbs, huh?" he couldn't help but ask. "They must grow many types of it then."

"Yes," Talia said.

"Is there any system to it?" Alex asked. "As far as I can see, the herbs are random."

"Oh, uhh... no there is no system," Talia said.

"There used to be a system previously," Fang Yimu answered. "It was a long time ago when they separated plants based on what part of it would be critical as an alchemy ingredient. For example, the first three were used to grow herbs that had important leaves. Then the next three had important flowers and so on."

"However, that led to people abusing the system. Without knowing what they were taking, they would take any and all leaves and flowers, leaving the land barren in just a month or two."

"Due to that problem, it was changed so that along the entire 10 fields, any one of them could have herbs that give any sort of alchemy ingredient. If you don't know what you're looking for, you don't take it anymore," Fang Yimu finished.

"Also, it improved the earnings of this place by a lot, as people would now have to go through 10 different fields to find what they wanted, instead of just one."

"Since then, the Hundred Blossom Valley has truly blossomed to live up to its name."

#### Chapter 1395: Surprise

"Let us continue, your Majesty," Talia quickly said. "While you may have a lot of free time, we only have a month of it. If we don't use the month's time properly, we'll end up having to pay for the rest of the fields."

Alex looked around at the large piece of land. "Can you even finish going through this entire place in such a short amount of time?" he asked. "There are 100 different fields. You would have to visit 3 different fields a day to get to all of it."

"Wouldn't it be better to take your time and gather what you can? It's alright to pay for the rest."

"We can't," Talia said in a slightly panicked tone. "It costs 300 Saint Spirit stones just to visit a single field, and we can't stay here longer for a day or we will have to pay again. This is an amazing chance that we cannot give up."

"She is correct, your majesty," Fang Yimu spoke. "This place is a bit too expensive, even though it offers some of the best ingredients in all of the continent."

"I see," Alex said. "I wasn't aware of your ladies' dilemma. Let us not waste any more time then."

They nodded and walked onto the field of herbs.

Whisker showed his face from Alex's robe, still hidden from everyone, even the girls next to Alex. He looked around and started telling Alex what he wanted to get.

Alex chuckled and bit and picked what Whisker wanted him to get. He also picked what he wanted, which ended up being many of the ingredients that he saw as he passed by.

The girls picked up various ingredients as well, but as they did, they couldn't help but stare at the amount that Alex had picked up.

"Your majesty, do you recognize what you're gathering?" Fang Yimu couldn't help but ask.

"This? Of course," Alex said. "Who wouldn't recognize a patch of Bluefrost grass? Its iconic frozen-blue shade is impossible to miss."

He picked the blue grass as he spoke and placed it into a small wooden box before putting it all back into his storage ring. He looked toward the patch next to him and smiled.

"Oh, they have the Sunspot leaves as well," he said and reached for the small green plant with big leaves that had yellow spots all over them.

Then he looked at the red grass next to it. "Blood Dill, huh? I hear it's good for cooking. I won't be needed that," he said and walked away from it.

The girls stared slackjawed at how easily he named all the herbs. They were even more shocked as he continued doing it even as he walked away.

"There's a Thunderbolt grass, a Heavenly Silvermoon herb, ooh... they have the Serpentbane grass as well."

Alex walked around even more. "Crimson Bamboo shoot should be helpful in some instances. As for this Sacred Tiger lily... uhh... sure, why not?"

The girls followed him in a daze as Alex named plants that they hadn't even heard of before. Fang Yimu knew a lot more than Talia, but even she was surprised that Alex named 2 herbs that he only remembered based on their looks.

As they continued, Alex came across a path of Spirit Cleansing Lily. He had little use for a lily right now, but not taking them when he had the opportunity simply felt wrong.

So, he reached down toward the plant and plucked one of them.

Fang Yimu reacted too late when she saw him do that. She wanted to warn him that he couldn't pick one of these so randomly and instead needed an artifact.

But even as she tried to do so, her voice stuck to her throat as Alex placed the Spirit Cleansing Lily into his storage ring, but the patch of flower didn't wilt.

"Huh?" the girls couldn't understand why the flowers didn't immediately wilt as they would when someone picked the flowers randomly.

Her eyes widened in shock when she realized that the reason it didn't wilt at all was because Alex had in fact picked the right one.

"You got the right one?" she couldn't help but ask. She was so shocked that she even forgot to address him with respect.

"Hmm? Of course," Alex said. "Want to see me do it again?"

He reached down to another flower patch of the Spirit Cleansing lily and picked out one more Spirit Cleansing lily, leaving the flower bed intact.

"No way," she couldn't help but say in surprise.

"The remaining flowers will wilt in a day or two, and if it is lucky, from it will grow another bed of Spirit Cleansing Lily in the future," Alex explained. He didn't explain how he managed to do it, however.

He walked away, leaving the shocked girls behind who immediately started pestering him with questions that Alex had to answer in the end.

"I told you guys. I am an alchemist with great knowledge. Just because you didn't believe me in the start doesn't mean that I was hiding it from you," he said.

"But... because you are good at making pills, doesn't mean you are good at recognizing and picking ingredients in the wild. Right sister?" Talia asked.

"Yes," Fang Yimu said. "It isn't as simple as seeing an ingredient on its own and naming what it is. In the wild, you have to know what the tree looks like, what the leaves look like."

"You recognized useful roots of herbs by just looking at their leaves. You plucked fruit hiding underneath the leaves by looking at the stem. That isn't something that you simply know just because you are a good alchemist."

"It takes an immense amount of knowledge and experience to see a plant and recognize what ingredient it has."

"Tell us, your Majesty. Have you worked in alchemy gardens as a caretaker before? You only know this sort of thing when you do that," Fang Yimu said.

"Alchemy garden, huh?" Alex thought back to his early day as an alchemist. "I did work in an Alchemy garden when I was young. It was quite a peaceful time, actually."

"See? That's why you know. I can't believe you were this good at gathering ingredients. Makes me wonder what else you are hiding," Fang Yimu said.

Alex chuckled a bit. "To tell you the truth, I actually learned it from a book I received when I first became a player. That was what taught me and helped me become as good as I am today."

"Book?" Fang Yimu's eyes widened. "What book?"

Alex shrugged. "It was destroyed long ago. It was so many years ago that I don't even properly remember its name, just what was written inside," he said.

"So there isn't any chance of us learning from the book?" Talia asked.

"I'm afraid not," Alex said. "But you guys don't have to. You are already good enough as is, and you can only grow from here. You have many years in front of you to keep improving."

The two girls nodded.

"Alright, let's keep moving," Alex said. "It was you two who told me that we needed to get through all the fields in a month, wasn't it?"

#### Chapter 1396: Inspired

Alex and the group arrived at the last of the 10 herb fields. They had sped up their journey as much as they could, and even with Alex taking as many herbs as he could find, it had only taken them 3 days to get here.

And the day was barely halfway done. There could still go to another two fields if they tried their best.

They had to cross another small stream of water to get here as they did with almost all the fields.

Each field had a toll guard, but they were allowed in freely. There were quite a few people in every field, but very few were gathered in one place, so the area was empty the majority of the time.

When they did meet people, most would just greet and walk past them. Everyone was busy gathering their own stuff.

As Alex gathered, Fang Yimu watched him pick up the herbs and couldn't help but get curious.

"Your majesty, I have been meaning to ask something for the past 3 days," she said.

"What is it?" Alex asked, turning around to look at her through his patterned mask.

"So... I can tell that you are picking whatever you can find," she said. "But... is there more reason to it? Surely you aren't taking whatever you can get your hands on, right?"

"I am," Alex said. It was just that simple. He was used to taking most of what grew when he found it, and the habit hadn't gone away, and neither would it any time soon.

"Really? I thought as a King you would have no need to do this," she said.

"Well, I wouldn't normally," Alex said. "But recently, I've been inspired by some of the events that have taken place around me. To be truthful, it is something that has stuck in the back of my head for the entire year, but only during this 3 months tour I took through the many cities that I realized what it was that I wanted to do."

The girls got curious. "What is it that you want to do, your majesty?" Talia asked.

Alex smiled and said, "That's a secret."

The girls frowned. "Can you not tell us?" Fang Yimu asked.

"I'm afraid not. It's just too important to just give it away randomly. But... what I can tell you is for what I am planning, I have no idea what I am going to need."

"As a result, my best course of action is to get whatever it is that I can from this field. So, that is what I am doing. I'm hopeful that I will be successful in what I am planning," Alex said.

"Ooh, I am very curious about what it is that you want to do, your majesty," Talia said. "Would you mind telling us if you ever achieve it?"

"Hmm, sure," Alex said. "Although that would require for me to still be here by that time."

"Oh, will it take a long time?" Talia asked.

"I have absolutely no idea how long any of this will take, but due to my relative lack of expertise in that field, I will assume that it could take anywhere from a decade to a century."

"If my luck is ever so horrendously bad, it may even take over a millennium. Maybe I will become an Immortal before I am done with what I have in mind," he said.

"Woah," the two girls couldn't help but be surprised at the words.

"You seem to be planning something great, your majesty," Fang Yimu.

"Immortal realm..." Talia was simply fascinated by those words. "Is that even possible at all?"

"It certainly is," Alex said. "Especially to you, Talia. As a player, you have incredible talent that most that were born native in these continents do not."

"Is that so?" Talia couldn't help but say. "I will have to try my best then."

Fang Yimu felt a pang of jealousy at the fact that they were both players and had thus so many more years ahead of them to improve themselves.

She, however, was already hundreds of years old. She wouldn't have the same opportunity as these two would. "Speaking of that, will you be leaving soon, your majesty? I thought you would be staying for a while."



"20 years," Alex said. "Err... I guess that is less than 19 now. I will remain until the exchange event is completed."

"Is there a chance that you return after that?" Talia asked.

"Maybe, maybe not," Alex said. "I have no idea about the future right now."

The two girls nodded.

"Come on, let's continue. You guys don't want to end up having to rush through the last fields, do you?" Alex asked.

"No," the girls said and once again started picking up the herbs that they came across and recognized.

Alex taught them about a few of the more important herbs he knew about and the two girls listened closely. He taught them what they were, what they did, what sort of pills they could be used in, how they could recognize it, and what the best method of removing it from the entire plant was.

Around the time night fell, they were done with that field of herbs and it was time to move on to another one.

They crossed the boat as the water below reflected a slightly distorted reflection of the silver moon that hung above in the sky.

The stars glittered in the sky, and while most saw them as nothing more than just that, Alex looked at them in hopes that one day he would go to those lands as well.

After crossing the bridge, they arrived on the second of the ten rows of the Hundred Blossom Valley which contained 10 rows again.

Alex looked at what was in front of him and nodded. "So, this time it is Shrubs, huh?" he asked. "I can't wait to see what the rest of them are."

They went onto the 11th field and Alex started gathering what he could get.

Whisker asked for what he wanted through the robes, and Alex complied, but he primarily focused on ingredients that would help him.

Amongst them, while he could get everything, he had to speed through the Hundred Blossom Valley for the sake of these two girls.

So, he focused only on one primary type of ingredient for now. He focused on ingredients with a lot of Wood energy.

His plan, at least for the first part was rather simple. He was going to gather as many Wood ingredients as he could and make a pill out of it that he could use to improve the Spiritual Root.

Out of all his spiritual roots, Wood had been the worst one, and it had become so very apparent in the Leafshade City where the wood energy had been abundant, but he couldn't make proper use of it due to his lack of a strong Wood Spiritual Root.

If he could gather these ingredients and make a pill that managed to improve his Wood Spiritual root, that would improve his overall level by that very much.

After all, compared to all the different spiritual roots he had, the Wood Spiritual root was the worst out of all of them.

#### Chapter 1397: The 10 Rows of Fields

The Hundred Blossom Valley was separated into 10 rows, each row housing a different type of plant.

The types they had separated it under needed to be both broad and specific at the same time. Judging from what Alex had been through in the last 15 days, they had generally managed to do exactly that.

The first row had been herbs. It contained anything from grasses, weeds, and tiny bamboo trees to small patches of flowers like the Spirit Cleansing Lily.

Once past that row, they arrived at the 2nd row which was full of shrubs.

These were plants that were much taller than herbs and were a little woody. Tall bushes of flowers, trees of berries, and almost anything that didn't grow to become a large tree grew here.

Leaves, fruits, flowers, roots, even the stalks; anything and everything here could end up being important alchemy ingredients and Alex took whatever he could get his hands on.

Once they were done with that, they moved to the 3rd row of the fields that were filled with ferns. They were tiny plants that didn't bear any fruits or flowers and their only use was their leaves, branches, or their roots.

Choosing what was useful though was generally difficult amongst these for anyone that didn't know about them, and the people in the sky that were there to guard the valley were generally more aggressive against those in this section of the valley.

With fewer choices to make, they couldn't let people take the entire plant and had to make sure no one was abusing the system to leave there with something they had no idea about.

There were many types of ferns, but in general, there were a lot fewer variants for them and as such, Alex didn't have to spend a lot of time in this row.

The fourth row had tall, massive trees. They were tall and full of leaves that gave shade to the entire fields. Coming into this row of the valley, Alex and the rest read a single rule that was written on them.

Aside from the fruit and flowers that grew on the trees, they were not allowed to take anything else. Anything else that grew on the trees was systematically harvested by the ones that ran the valley.

Instead, what they were allowed to take was what these giant trees were grown for.

Mosses.

The large trees were there to provide shade to the mosses that grew in there. On the edges of the field, the mosses that grew there were in general ones that require sunlight to grow.

However, as most mosses did not require sunlight, they grew in the deeper parts of the giant forest where the shade was plenty.

Alex and the girl had remained there for some time, but probably the least amount of time in all.

Alex especially was the one that wanted to get out of this place as he required next to none of the mosses that grew here thanks to the ones he found in the Mossbloom city.

Once they left there, they arrived at one of the more fascinating locations of the Hundred Blossom Valley.

The 6th field had in fact not been a field at all. Instead, it was a giant lake that was 2 kilometers wide and 30 kilometers long. Everyone that came here flew above the lake and looked through them using their spiritual sense.

He and the girls searched through the lake, finding many aquatic plants that only grew here. There were very various types of lotus flowers, water lilies, plants that grew underneath the water, and mosses on the sides of the giant rocks that were ready for everyone to harvest.

Most of the plants here were heavy on Water energy, which was not something that Alex really wanted, but he got it anyway. He flew through the lake, spending more than 2 days going through it all while finding whatever important plants he could.

Once he was through everything, he stepped onto the 6th row of fields.

This was full of fungi, or more accurately, just mushrooms.

Flat blue mushroom with white dots, a plain red mushroom, a green mushroom with a pointed tip, a mushroom in the shape of a sword, pink mushroom with giant yellow circles.

Any and all types of mushrooms could be found in this open land and most of them were overwhelming the two girls as recognizing them was rather difficult for the both of them.

Alex, however, recognized every single one of the mushrooms, albeit he wasn't aware of what every single one of them did. It would take him a few seconds to retrieve the information from his memory if he was ever asked.

He gathered what mushroom he could, shaking it a little to release the spores as he did so. Many people were instructed to do so, and most followed.

Today was the 16th day of their journey and the girls were starting to get a little tired from the monotonous journey of having to gather ingredients. Alex, however, did not mind any of it and was ever so happy to do it as required.

He explained to the girls what the mushrooms were as he picked them up. The explanation wasn't just for the girls, but also for Whisker who was inside his robes.

Since he was in the Saint Realm now, Whisker needed to know a lot more about alchemy ingredients that Alex hadn't fully taught him. He had taught him what he could, but most of it had ended up being knowledge about True rank ingredients, rather than Saint rank ingredients.

Now, he was helping him catch up on the remaining knowledge and the Hundred Blossom Valley had been amazing for that.

As he was explaining the various mushrooms, Alex paused and looked in the distance. Fang Yimu looked as well, and Talia a second later.

Not far from them, merely a hundred meters away, a man was in tears and seemed to be begging a group of people who only shook their heads and sent him away. The man moved and went to another group of people.

Those group of people shook their heads as well and sent the man away.

Before they realized it, the man had ended up going through the many people in between them and had arrived in front of the group.

Alex had his mask on, so the man naturally looked away from him and into the eyes of the two girls. He was in tears when he spoke up.

"D-do any of you Daoists know what a Flameborn Nightbane is?" the man asked, while in tears.

The girls looked at each other and shook their heads as well.

"Never heard of it," Fang Yimu said.

"Yeah, I haven't heard of the name either," Talia said as well.

The man's face fell at the words. "Thank you for your time," he said and turned to leave.

"I've heard of it," Alex spoke, making the man stop in his tracks.

The man turned around with a shocked look on his face. "You have?" he asked.

"It's a poisonous plant, known for its deceptive look," Alex said. "What about it?"

The man's eyes widened. "Fellow Daoist! I beg of you. Please help me."

## Chapter 1398: The 7th Row

"What do you want?" Alex asked the man.

"Can you recognize the Flameborn Nightsbane, brother?" the man asked.

"I can," Alex said.

"Would you mind finding it for me?" the man asked. "I am in desperate need of it."

"I don't," Alex said. "But you must tell us what you need it for."

"It is to save my daughter," the man said. "She has come down with a condition that could only be cured with a certain pill, but the pill requires that one ingredient."

"To save your daughter? Alright, I accept," Alex said. "But, isn't that a poisonous plant? I don't think I've seen a single poisonous plant yet."

"Oh, the 8th row of fields are all poisonous plants," Talia explained. "You can find almost everything there."

"Oh," Alex said. "Will you girls remain here then? I will go with him and see what I can find."

"Sure, your—"

"Great!" Alex cut them off. "If I don't come back in time, I will wait for you on the rightmost field's gate."

The girls nodded and Alex left. The man followed him as well, surprisingly swiftly and the two of them traversed through the mushroom field, to go to the next one.

The man looked middle-aged and just old enough to be a father. He had a somewhat handsome face and a well-maintained body.

He didn't have the highest cultivation base, but a Saint Core 3rd realm was decent enough anywhere.

They arrived on the toll bridge where the man brought out a lot of spirit stones to pay to the man.

"Don't worry, brother. I'll pay for yours too," the man said and was about to pay Alex's portion of the fee too.

But Alex quickly pulled out a badge and showed it to the guards who let him in easily.

The man paused for a bit in confusion and looked at Alex.

"Come on, we don't have much time, do we?" Alex asked the man.

"Right," the man said and handed over the fee before running after Alex.

They both arrived on the 7th field, and Alex had to take a moment to take it all in.

All around him were plants that moved around, their body turning at impossible angles. Vines, roots, everything seemed to move in this place, all of which had just one intention.

To kill whoever came and feed on them.

"Carnivorous plants," Alex said in surprise. "Is that what the 7th row is all covered in?"

"Yes," the man said. "The next one is the poison one."

The man continued moving and Alex followed behind him.



Alex looked around at the various plants, quite fascinated by all of them. It wasn't every day that one got to see kilometers after kilometers of carnivorous plants.

It was a surprise to him how many plants fell under this category.

When someone spoke of Carnivorous plants, one would think about something such as a Flytrap. They would imagine a giant plant with a part that looked like a mouth that would eat their victims directly.

However, that wasn't always the case.

There were plants out there that did not do that but instead used their vines and roots to strangle their victims and use their bodies as nutrients.

Plants that used roots might directly drag their victim underground, suffocate and kill it, and then absorb the nutrients from that.

Plants that used vines would strangle their victim, killing them quickly and ripping them apart to drop the remains around their roots. The dead body parts would then decay and provide nutrients.

Even before that, they would lure other animals using the meat of their victim and kill them as well to gain more nutrients.

There were also plants that either dropped their hard fruit on their target or sent their razor-sharp leaves to cut them up.

One of the trees even used its branches to try and swat its victim.

Since Alex was in their field now, he was the victim of the sense of the many plants. They attacked him, all with the intention to kill.

As for Alex, he couldn't fight back. At least, not as freely as he could have.

There were obvious restrictions even in this place, and one of the more important ones was that they weren't allowed to kill the plants, no matter the situation.

There were people in the sky, ready to notify someone if one of the people down there were in trouble. Before that, no one was allowed to kill freely.

They could, however, gather ingredients from these plants.

Which was exactly what Alex did. He brought out a Midnight-like sword and cut through the many plants that tried to attack him.

He cut the roots, the vines, and the branches. He passed through trees that used luring pheromones to attract their victims and gathered the flowers and saps that created the pheromone.

He gathered the fruits and leaves that were sent down to kill him.

All in all, before he even got to the other side, he had gathered quite a few plants from this field.

The man that came with him seemed to have no interest in gathering at all. He simply dodged where he could and made his way through the many plants effortlessly.

Alex couldn't help but find that weird. 'I need to be careful it's not a trap,' he thought. At the very least, he could tell there was something suspicious about the guy that he couldn't put a finger on it.

The tears he produced seemed genuine, but who could tell if he hadn't used something to make himself cry? 'Is he planning something?' Alex couldn't help but wonder.

Whether he was or not, it wouldn't hurt to be careful.

They arrived at the bridge past the many carnivorous plants and went through it. Finally, they arrived on the 8th row.

The Fields of Poisonous Plants.

Alex looked to the left and counted the bridges parallel to the one he just walked through. '3,' he thought. 'So I must be on on the 4th field.'

Now that he knew what he was he could get started.

He looked around at the variety of plants that had no rhyme or reason as to why they were here, except for the fact that they were poisonous.

Alex stopped in front of them all and looked at the man. "I will need some time to find everything, so we will have to slow it down."

"Whatever you need. Take your time," the man said. He was in a hurry, but he didn't want to ask him to speed up.

"If I may ask," Alex spoke. "What happened to your daughter?"

"An accident," the man said. "She went through Qi deviation while practicing a primarily yin-based cultivation technique and ended up entering a coma."

"I found an alchemist to figure out what had happened to her, and he did. But he said that to heal her, I would need a list of ingredients, of which the Flameborn Nightsbane was the only one I couldn't acquire in the market."

"I came with the alchemist in hopes of finding that ingredient here, but it was only later that we realized that we couldn't recognize the ingredient at all," the man said. "As such, I was forced to look for others to help us, and found you."

Chapter 1399: Searching for the Nightsbane

Alex listened to the man's short explanation of why he was there and couldn't help but wonder about something.

"You can recognize them, right? You knew that they were deceptive in nature, so you must know what they look like," the man asked Alex with an expectant look.

Alex looked at the man and saw a pleading look that only a father could have when they were worried about his daughter. Trap or not, there was little chance that this wasn't a father that wanted to do something for his daughter.

"I've never seen the plant myself," Alex said. The words immediately made the man's face fall. But before he could speak again, Alex continued.

"But I do know what they look like and can recognize them despite their deceptive nature. You don't have to worry about that," he said. "I only hope that they actually are in this place."

"We will be in a lot of trouble if there are none," Alex said and started walking, with the man following behind him.

"Wait a moment," the man said as he quickly showed an artifact that he wore around his neck. "Are you wearing one of these?"

Alex looked at the necklace, wondering for a moment as to what it was before realizing it. "Is that to protect yourself from the poison?" he asked.

"Yes," the man said. "You'll be in deep trouble if you're not wearing one."

"No problem," Alex said. "This mask of mine protects me from airborne poison. As long as I don't touch anything in here, I will be fine."

"Oh," the man said and nodded. "Let's continue then."

Alex nodded and continued walking. He started looking around with his spiritual sense, looking at the hundreds of poisonous plants that were around him. He had to fight himself to ignore every instinct that was carved into his body to stop and gather these plants.

It pained his heart to walk away, leaving them behind as he didn't have the time for that. He needed to get through the entire 10 valleys, find the alchemist that was going to make a pill for this man, and finally could he enjoy this place on his own.

His senses spread around him, the man doing the same as he looked for the Flameborn Nightsbane plant.

As per the name, the Flameborn Nighstbane was a plant that Alex knew just from knowledge to be a dark plant with red spots to it. The useful part of the plants was its leaves which led to those red spots.

However, before being picked from the plant, the leaves weren't dark green with red spots. They were instead bright green with large yellow spots which would only contract and darken when picked away.

That alone would've been fine, but the leaves had a tendency to crumble on themselves to the point where it looked more like a barely ripening fruit than a leaf. That made it extra difficult to recognize the plant.

Alex was on the 4th of the 10 fields and it took him nearly 3 hours to go through it all at a very rapid pace.

"It's not in this field," he said and looked at the man. "I'm going to go to the 1st one and look from there. Wait here for me to come back."

"I'll come with you," the man said.

"But you'll have to pay the fee many times to get through the toll bridge," Alex told the man.

"Doesn't matter," the man said. "The cost is of no concern to me. As long as my daughter's life can be saved, I'm ready to spend everything that I have."

Alex paused and didn't feel like refusing any more. "Very well, follow along then."

They moved to the 3rd field, where Alex started checking everything once again. There were more poisonous plants here, all asking him to take a piece of them, but Alex was too busy to care.

In his head, he was looking for only 2 things.

Either green leaves with yellow spots, or green fruits that looked somewhat ripened. The Flameborn Nightsbane could be as either, so he needed to look out for either.

He also needed to look out for dark green leaves with red spots, but only when they were separated from the plant. Otherwise, just the first two would do.

The man started getting nervous, and Alex sensed it.

"Where is the alchemist you came with?" he asked, trying to take away his focus from the situation to stop him from panicking.

"I left him in the 10th field, all the way over there. We realized we couldn't find the plant after searching this entire area," the man said.

"He didn't come with you?" Alex asked.

"It costs too much for him to come with me," the man said. "I alone was enough for that matter. Besides, he insisted to stay and search for the plants."

Alex nodded and searched for the plant. The two grew quiet and Alex got time to think through things that he had been already thinking for the past few hours.

"May I ask what exactly it was that your daughter used that caused her to fall into the coma? You mentioned that it was a normal Qi deviation, correct?" he asked.

"Yes," the man said.

"Qi deviation leads to a person falling into a coma?" Alex asked. He hadn't heard of that before.

Injury? Yes. Death, even more so. But coma? That didn't feel right. "Are you sure it was Qi Deviation?" he asked.

The man paused for a moment, remaining silent which cause Alex to feel awkward. He turned around to look at the man and saw a hesitating face.

"It... is possible that she absorbed something in order to advance in her cultivation base, which led to her falling into a coma," he said.

"Oh, you didn't mention that before," Alex said.

"I'm sorry, but I didn't see why I had to tell you that to you," the man said. "I don't even know who you are really, other than the fact that you're trying to help me."

"I completely understand," Alex said. "But while it is true that I don't need to know everything, I am also now capable of passing along knowledge because you told me that."

The man frowned. "What do you mean? What can you tell me?" he asked.

"Flameborn Nightsbane... it's not an ingredient that can deal with problems in Yin Qi deviation. Unless there is something that I still do not know about your daughter's situation, the alchemist that you are trusting is lying to you about needing this ingredient."

The man paused.

"What did you say?" he asked.

"Flameborn Nightbane is a plant that is primarily a Fire elemental ingredient. On top of that, it is a poison in itself, that if not neutralized can kill anyone that consumes it."

"While it is possible that a pill made using that can neutralize Yin Qi if there is a strong Yang energy ingredient in the recipe, if it is instead the main ingredient of the pill, it certainly won't be capable of removing any Yin-based problems from your daughter."

"After all, no matter how strong a Fire energy might be, if it encounters Yin energy of similar grade, it will always lose."

#### Chapter 1400: Anger and Frustration

The man's eyes shifted around multiple times before he thought of something. "Is my alchemist lying to me?" he asked.

"No," Alex said. "I'm just asking if you are sure that you're putting your daughter's life in the hands of the right alchemist or not."

"Is there a chance he's lying?" he asked.

"Yes, there is a chance," Alex said. "But... as I said, there could also be a chance that he isn't lying if the pill he is making has a strong ingredient with vital Yang energy in it."

"There are none," the man said without stopping.

"Hmm?" Alex looked at the man curiously.

"There is no strong Yang energy in the list of ingredients for the pill that young man is making," the man said. "I had thought the Flameborn Nightsbane might be what was needed, but... if what you're saying about the ingredient is true then... was he lying to me?"



The man's eyes burned with instant fury as he wanted to go back and kill the alchemist that had suggested he come here and help him find that ingredient.

"Maybe he wasn't lying," Alex said. "Maybe there is something different that is wrong with your daughter. Do you know what?"

"I don't," the man said. "I don't know what happened to my daughter at all. My wife won't tell me. She just says that she is dealing with it while not telling me what it is that she is even doing."

"She spends days in her sect letting our daughter remain in a coma forever. So, I got too fed up with her crap and stole my daughter away from her to heal her."

"I had no idea what is wrong with her, so I took her to the few alchemists I knew, but they didn't know either. That was when I met this young alchemist, who said he could make a pill for me that will most certainly cure her."

"I took the chances and came here with him," the man said. "Oh god! I have been duped, haven't I? He lied to me, just to get here."

"Get a hold of yourself," Alex said. "I might be wrong here. We still don't know. I'm just telling you what I know."

"But... there is no strong Yang ingredient as you said," the man said.

"May I know the recipe?" Alex asked.

The man shook his head. "Even if he was lying for his own gain, I cannot in my right mind give you a recipe that belongs to someone else."

Alex shrugged. It was wrong of him to ask in the first place.

"Maybe the alchemist just saw something that was wrong with your daughter's condition that you don't know. As you mentioned, you aren't aware of what happened to her, correct?" he asked.

The man shook his head.

"You're right," the man said. "I'll confront him when I get to him. For now, let us find the plant just in case."

They returned to searching for the plant but even after going through the 3rd field, they found nothing.

Then, they moved on to the 2nd field, and 3 hours later onto the first.

Alex looked around fully alert at all times, not only to find the plant but also for any suspicious activity. Although the chances of that were getting lower the more he was understanding the situation.

There were still parts of the story that the man told that didn't make sense to him, but he didn't ask him about it.

After searching through the 1st field as well Alex couldn't find the plant at all.

"Let's move on to 5th," he said.

5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th.

It took Alex way too many hours to get through the fields, and even after going through all, he couldn't find it at all.

They were both stumped at the lack of the plant and couldn't help but feel dejected. The man especially started feeling bad at the thought that his daughter may not be healed at all.

"There's still the last field," Alex reminded him and the both of them walked toward that field.

After crossing the toll bridge, they were on the final poisonous field, which was the last chance for Alex to find the plant. Alex walked around the field for an hour or so when the man suddenly spoke.

"There!" he pointed at something.

Alex wondered if the plant had been found by the man, but that was not the case. Instead, he had found a young man walking around the field, focused on the various plants that were around him.

"That's the alchemist I came with," he said before walking toward him.

Alex paused for a moment and quickly followed as well, walking next to the man as they went over to where the young alchemist was.

The young alchemist was a man that looked no older than 25 years old if he were a mortal. He had a cultivation base in the late Saint Foundation realm and wore a dull green robe.

His short hair had a single braid of long hair that hung along the side of his head, tied together at the end by something made up of gold.

He turned around at the noise and saw the man.

"Senior! Did you find it?" he asked excitedly when he noticed that he had come with someone else.

However, the man wasn't listening. He walked straight to the young man and grabbed him by the collars of his robe as he shouted at him.

"Did you lie to me?" he asked in a voice that made the young man's face fall with fear. "Did you lie to me?"

"Wh-what?" the young man was absolutely terrified. "What about you talking about?"

"Flameborn Nightsbane! This man says that it is not something that can cure problems with Yin Qi, and the pill you suggested does not have any Yang Qi to fight Yin Qi at all," the man shouted.

The people in the sky were already alerted that something was happening and were ready to float down. They could not let a conflict fester in the fields unless a fight broke out that destroyed the precious plants nearby.

The young man pushed against the man. "That's not true," he said. "I didn't lie. How the hell would he know if it can or not? I showed you the ingredient list, I told you it can do it."

"But it has nothing to fight Yin Qi," the man shouted.

Alex's spiritual sense spread toward the men in the sky and he told them to stay out of it for now. He brought out something when they looked toward him, and when they saw it, they immediately stopped, hovering over the group just in case.

The man turned toward Alex right after he put away the Dragon Medallion. "You weren't lying, were you?" he asked.

"Of course not," Alex said as he moved forward. "And let go of that alchemist. You still don't know if he's lying or not either. I know you are worried about your daughter, but don't get too emotional right now."

The man finally loosened his fists and took a deep breath to calm himself. He then looked at Alex and asked, "You seem to know a lot more about alchemy than I do. Can you tell me if he is lying or not?"