

Alchemy 1401

Chapter 1401: Yin Taming pill

Alex looked at the terrified young man with a pitiful look, then back at the man who asked him the question.

"I'll try," he said and walked toward them. "Can you give me a bit of space so I can ask him the question?"

The man, still seething with anger, moved a bit away from the two and let them talk.

"What's your name?" Alex asked him.

"Wu Shun," the young man spoke, his voice still quivering slightly in fear.

"Okay, brother Wu Shun. Can you tell me why exactly you need the Flameborn Nightsbane?" Alex asked him.

"To heal his daughter," the young man pointed at the man.

"I understand that, but why that ingredient? What is the purpose of that ingredient?" he asked.
"Because that ingredient is not able to deal with Yin problems."

"No, it can," the young man said adamantly. "It is written as such in my book, and my book hasn't made a mistake yet."

Alex was a little surprised. "Your book?" he asked.

"You damn youngster! You put my daughter's life at risk because of a book?" he shouted again.

Alex quickly moved to protect the young man and stopped the man from advancing. "Please, fellow Daoist. Let me figure out if he's in the wrong or not before you decide to listen to your impulses."

The man snorted and looked aside, leaving Alex to deal with the situation for now.

Alex turned back around and looked at the young man. "May I ask what sort of book is it? Is it a book with recipes?" he asked.

"It's an alchemy book that I got when I came here. It has a list of pill recipes for various pills that can be used in different scenarios."

"One of those pills is called the Yin Taming Pill, and Flameborn Nightsbane is one of its main ingredients," the young man said.

"Yin Taming pill?" Alex asked. He was simply no idea what sort of pill that was. There was another part of the young man's answer that had caught his attention.

"Are you a player?" Alex asked.

"I am," the young man said.

"I see, so you're young," Alex said. He looked back toward the man and back at the young man. "I do not know if you are trying to fool us or not—"

"I'm not!" the young man shouted."

"You didn't let me finish," Alex said. "I was going to say that I will choose to believe you in this instance. However, that belief is going to last just as much as that. You will have to prove to this brother here that you weren't trying to dupe him into finding the ingredient for your own benefit."

"You have to prove that you were doing it for his daughter."

"I am," the young man said. "How do I prove it? I will."

"Swear an oath that the pill you are making will cure my daughter," the man shouted.

The young man was about to speak when he stopped. "I can't do that," he said. The man was about to charge at him when the young man continued. "How can I make such an extreme oath? How am I supposed to know a pill that I've never made will cure your daughter?"

"There is a high likelihood it will, but that doesn't mean I can guarantee it," he said. "That is a preposterous oath to ask of someone to make."

Alex had to agree with the young man. That was an oath that no alchemist in their right mind would make. After all, not every problem was the same, so even if the pill one made was good, there was the slightest chance that it would not work on every single person.

The man was already angry again, but Alex spoke before he could act. "May I see the recipe for this Yin Taming pill?" he asked.

The young man looked at Alex. "Why? Why do you want my pill recipe?" he asked.

Alex sighed. "I'm trying to save you from getting beat up by this man, brother. Do you still want to ask why?" he asked. "I can just leave and let him deal with you."

"No," the young man said. "I'll show it to you. But only that recipe."

"Only that," Alex said. "I have no need for any other."

"Okay," the young man said. "Give me a minute." He took out an empty talisman and started writing into it the recipe for the pill that was called the Yin Taming Pill.

Once done, he passed it along to Alex who looked at it briefly. He had only read the description of the pill recipe when his hopes of it being any useful started to dwindle a little.

When he reached the ingredient, he put down the recipe and closed his eyes. "Give me a minute," he said. He focused on himself, trying to learn everything about the ingredients that were written in the recipe.

The man wondered what Alex was doing while the young man just stood by, looking at the man, hoping he wouldn't attack him instantly.

A few minutes passed and Alex opened his eyes. There was a curious look on his face that had come from reading the recipe.

"What's going on? Did you read the recipe? Is it true?" the man asked.

"The recipe is real," Alex said. "He wasn't lying."

The man paused. "Then..."

"However, it's a little hard to tell whether this recipe will work or not. You can try, but I wouldn't bet on it," Alex said.

The man's eyes narrowed. "What do you mean? What's wrong with the recipe?" he asked.

"Nothing is wrong with the recipe itself. It's just that... the pill he was trying to make is a Yin Taming pill. The recipe would make a pill that would, as the name suggests, tame the Yin that is most likely causing problems in your daughter's body."

"However, just because it tames it, doesn't mean it can destroy it," Alex said. "Again, I do not know what is going on with your daughter, so I cannot say for sure that this pill won't heal her, but I will tell you that the likelihood of it healing her completely is very low."

He then turned toward the young man. "Does it say in your book what this pill is primarily used for?" he asked.

"Yes, to deal with Yin problems," the young man said. "Including Qi deviation with Yin Qi, which his daughter went through."

Alex sighed. "Did it ever cross your mind that this was a pill that was supposed to be eaten when the person was going through Qi Deviation itself, not after it?" he asked.

"Uhh... what?" the young man asked.

"It's a Yin Taming pill. To tame your Yin when it is going out of control," Alex said. "It is not very useful once the damage is done."

"But... but his daughter's body is still full of yin. I'm sure it can be useful," the young man said.

Alex thought for a moment and turned around toward the man. "I can say for a fact that he wasn't trying to dupe you. Whatever he told you, he believed it, even if he might have been wrong."

"That said, we cannot find the Flameborn Nightsbane in this place and so there is no way to tell if the pill will even be helpful at all," Alex said. "Instead... can I ask if I can check on your daughter and see if I can heal her?"

Chapter 1402: The Girl in a Coma

The man looked at Alex with wide eyes. "Would you... would you do that for me?" he asked.

"Your daughter is in a coma. As an alchemist and a doctor, I cannot find it in me to ignore the situation. Especially when it looks like it can not be solved by just the two of you," he said.

The man immediately bowed. "Thank you, young man," he said, crying tears. He could tell by now that the young man he had accidentally brought along was no normal person.

He could tell from the start that he was someone special by the way he constantly hid his face in the mask. Which was why he never dared to ask what his name was.

Given that he was good at looking for ingredients, he could also tell that the young man was an alchemist. Given the special treatment he had received in these places where he could move around without having to pay, the young man almost believed he was someone from the Imperial family.

Maybe a person with close relation to his Majesty, and was thus allowed to use the Valley as he pleased.

"We will have to go back to the courtyard I've rented in the mountains. Will you come with me?" the man finally asked.

"Of course," Alex said.

"Let us leave then," the man said and started walking toward the edge of the 10th field on the 8th row. They could walk outside from there and then could go to where their courtyard was.

If they were anywhere else, they could have to fly up and leave the Valley. Once someone flew above where the guards were floating in their boats, they could not step back into the valley.

The three men arrived outside the Hundred Blossom Valley and quickly made their way toward the Verdant mountain range where the man had rented his courtyard.

He glared at Wu Shun the entire time, more annoyed than angry now. The trip here had been a waste of what they had come here for, but if Alex could save his daughter, he would consider it a success.

However, he found it hard to get his expectations high.

He spoke up to Alex as he needed him to know this before they arrived at the courtyard. "There's something I haven't mentioned to you just yet," he said. "It's about my daughter's condition."

Alex looked at the man. "What do I need to know?" he asked.

"That I am not sure what happened to her," he said.

Alex frowned. "Didn't you say she went through Qi Deviation?" he asked.

"Yes... but that is what my wife told me," he said. "I cannot for certain confirm that she really did go through Qi Deviation."

"Does he know?" Alex asked, pointing to the young man next to him.

"I know," the young man replied.

"I've told this to everyone I have taken my daughter to get healed," he said. "But I must tell you, none have succeeded. They all say that they never saw anything like this before. Which is why I've been struggling to deal with the problem."

"He gave me hope saying he could deal with it... but we can't even find the ingredients to test," the man said.

"I'm sorry, but I really did believe it would work," the young man said.

"That's alright," Alex quickly told the man. "You were never clear on what happened to your daughter, so I was going to check thoroughly from the start anyway. I will then see if I can deal with it."

"Thank you," the man said, but his hopes didn't rise at all. His hopes had been slammed many times before to hope for it again. He was simply going to see if it worked or not.

If it worked, that would be amazing. If it didn't, well... nothing would have changed then.

"Can I ask why your wife hasn't told you what happened to your daughter truly?" Alex asked. "You don't have to answer that if you don't want to."

"She probably did... I just don't trust her," the man gave a pitiful look. "It's not her fault in any way if she did lie, let's just keep it at that."

"Okay," Alex said.

They flew up a mountain and arrived outside an hour and quickly walked in. A few women greeted the man as he came in.

"Is my daughter alright? Has anything changed?" he asked.

"Nothing has changed since you left, my lord," the woman answered. "We've changed the talisman 3 times, and there was no problem."

"Good," the man said. "Tell everyone to stay away from that side of the house for a while, please. Then he turned to Alex and called him.

Alex walked with the man, going to the far back of the house, on the other side of the courtyard. They arrived in front of the room and the man opened the door.

Inside the room, on a bed at the center, was the young lady that was in a coma. She had soft white hair, a fair face, and looked incredibly young.

Alex walked into the room to check on her and noticed a dampness in the room that didn't make sense to him. He continued forward and arrived in front of the girl and looked at her closely.

She wore an entirely white robe and had a talisman on her chest for something that Alex couldn't immediately tell. What he could tell was that the girl was just in the True King realm, not in the Saint realm as he had expected her to be given that they were searching for a Saint rank plant.

"How old is she?" he asked the man.

"She is..." the man paused for a moment. "25 years old."

"Oh," Alex's eyes widened in surprise. That was very young, much younger than he had been expecting at all.

"Did none of the True rank pills heal her?" he asked the father.

"No," the man answered. "Even Saint Rank pills did nothing at all. I do not know what is happening to her. Maybe her Yin is too violent."

Alex nodded a little. He took her hand and tried to see what was wrong with her, but for some reason, he found his Qi obstructed for some reason. He tried to figure out why and realized it was the talisman.

"What's this talisman for?" he asked.

"To keep her Yin contained," the father answered.

"Is it okay to remove it?" Alex asked.

"I don't think it harms her," the father said. "As long as you are fine with the yin, then it should be okay."

"I will be okay," he said and reached for the talisman before ripping it away.

The moment the talisman left her body, the yin that it contained sprung up violently and covered the area. Within moments, the bed was covered in ice and it seeped below them, covering the floor in ice as well.

Within seconds, the temperature in the room dropped by many degrees, making everyone feel cold and desolate in there.

Alex stepped back a little in surprise and so did the other two men. Unlike the two men, however, Alex gulped at the sight he saw before him.

He had seen something like this before. A long time ago.

Chapter 1403: Method to Treat

Misty breaths filled the air as the three men stood silent for a while. Two waited for Alex to do something, while Alex himself was silent because the scene in front of him looked so very familiar.

"Fellow Daoist," the girl's father spoke. "Is everything alright?"

Alex finally came out of his stupor and looked toward the father. "I'm sorry, I started remembering something similar to this," he said.

"You've seen this happen before?" the man asked. He felt hope budding inside of him which any other time he would've squashed.

"Once, and I can't tell if this is similar or not. Most likely not," he said. "I'm sorry I wasted some time. Let me start right now."

Alex walked close to the girl and felt not violent, but rather an intense Yin flow come out of her. It was simply so intense that to normal people the intensity looked violent.

Alex crouched next to the bed and took the girl's hands again. The white-haired girl's listless hands felt so incredibly cold at just the slightest touch.

Anyone normal that held it for too long would get affected by the yin in her body.

Her cultivation was still only True realm and yet the Yin she produced was enough to make Saints shudder at her presence. Perhaps that was the reason why she had gone into a coma.

Her body simply wasn't equipped to handle the intense Yin and that was most likely why she had gone into Qi deviation.

Alex sent his spiritual sense into her arm to check her body, but the moment he did so his eyes widened in surprise and he himself stood back a bit in fear.

"What! What's wrong?" the man asked.

The other alchemist was confused as well.

Alex did not answer and quickly released his spiritual sense to look around the room. He saw the walls, the bed, the two men, and the girl. He also sensed the intense Yin around them, but it posed little threat to his spiritual sense.

'But then why?' he asked himself as he moved back to the girl and used his spiritual sense to look into her body. The moment it entered, it simply disappeared.

It was no different than looking into the Void where the spiritual sense vanished at its touch. However, that wasn't what Alex equated the experience to.

He equated it to the same familiar scenario from a long time ago.

It was very similar to what had happened with his master, Ma Rong.

There were differences, of course, which he quickly latched on to. His master was never ill with Yin, but rather with Yang. It was only after she had been healed that the surrounding started freezing over.

She also had a Yin aura surrounding her that made it impossible to use any spiritual sense or Qi around her. In this girl's case, it was only inside her body.

Once he made himself aware of the differences, he finally stopped thinking about his master and started focusing on the problem at hand. He needed to heal the girl somehow.

He thought of making a Yang heavy pill for a moment, but he remembered something. He quickly reached for her arm and poured some neutral Qi into it. The moment the Qi entered, Alex lost all control of it as it was consumed by the Yin.

"I see," he said, finally understanding a little. "No wonder pills didn't work on her. All energy dies inside her body."

"What?" the girl's father asked.

"Her body is filled with Yin. No pill out there is going to be able to work on her unless with deal with the Yin itself," he said.

"But..." the man panicked. "There is no one who can deal with the Yin. My wife is perhaps the most talented person when it comes to Yin energy, and even she couldn't do anything about our daughter."

"Is that so?" Alex asked, a little surprised to hear that his wife was such a great person. 'Who is this man?' he wondered.

Alex thought for a bit given the lack of every other possible way to heal her, there were only two that he could think of.

"There are only two ways to heal her properly," Alex said. "Either we introduce a lot of Yang into her body to deal with the Yin, or we directly take Yin out of her body to remove it from her body."

The two men heard that and the alchemist spoke. "But no pill works on her. Most of them had most definitely been Yang pill I assume. How are you going to put Yang Qi into her?"

"I have a way," Alex said, but he didn't say anymore as he thought for a bit.

"How... how strong would the Yang need to be?" the man asked with a hesitating face. "My daughter has a Yin body constitution. Would it not be a problem if we introduce Yang?"

"She does?" Alex looked surprised for a moment before turning around toward the girl. 'Of course, she does.'

"Yes," the man said. "Not only that, she cultivates a very strong Yin technique, so if we introduce Yang haphazardly, won't it be a problem?"

Alex nodded. "It could be a problem," he said.

"Also, Yin and Yang don't necessarily cancel each other out all the time, do they? Sometimes, they can also get violent and instead become chaotic in nature. What if that happens inside my daughter's body?"

Alex gave an awkward smile. "I guess that is out of option then," he said. He had already halfway thrown the option out the window the moment he understood that it was going to be his Yang Qi that was going to enter a True realm girl's body.

Such strong Yang Qi would burn the girl's body from the inside while making its way to the Dantian where the Yin was most likely concentrated. He couldn't do that.

"I will have to drag the Yin out then," he said.

The father looked surprised. "Can you?" he asked.

Alex thought for a bit. "I can't guarantee yet," he said. "I've never done it before, but I will have to try."

"Her yin is strong. Won't you get hurt?" the man asked.

"Don't worry about that," Alex said. "I am more than equipped to handle some Yin."

He sat beside the girl for a moment and wondered what he was going to have to do. After a moment of thought, he landed on the idea of using the Undying cultivation technique to absorb the Yin Qi.

After making the decision, he closed his eyes and started using the technique. Immediately, the Undying technique started absorbing Yin from the surroundings to empower his body, and it was so much more fruitful this time around.

While Qi dealt with his body, he finally took the girl's hand to take Yin away from her as well.

Nothing happened at first as there was too much Yin in the surrounding for his body to pull from her. However, after patiently cultivating for an hour or so, once the Yin in the room started lowering, every bit of Yin in the girl's body started moving toward Alex.

Everything was going according to his plan.

Chapter 1404: Connection

As Alex started collecting the Yin Qi, the coldness in the room lowered a lot and the ice around the bed and floor started melting, turning back to water that dampened the floorboard even more.

This had happened before when the talisman could no longer maintain the girl's Yin and had to be replaced, and it was the first time the father was seeing anything remotely close to that without any talisman.

He could tell that whatever Alex was doing, even if it wasn't working, was definitely producing a positive result.

He moved backward, pulling the young man with him as they went all the way back to stand by the wall, leaving Alex a larger working space in the room.

Alex continued absorbing Yin through the girl, pulling what he could from her wrist that he clutched tightly. When he felt the flow of Yin slow down, he looked to see if Yin had run out or something.

It was too fast for that to happen, but he still wondered. After checking with his spiritual sense, he could tell that it was only her arm that he had managed to remove the Yin Qi from, and even that was slowly filling up.

Alex grabbed her other arm as well and started absorbing the Yin Qi from that arm as well. The Yin started flowing back as fast as it did at the start again, and his Undying physique improved a lot more.

This was most definitely more beneficial to him than over 50 days of normal cultivating, he reckoned as he continued absorbing the Yin Qi.

Once the speed from both arms slowed down, Alex realized that he had to absorb it from everywhere. However, he didn't want to do that. There was little point in going around the limbs, collecting Yin, only for them to be filled again.

It could be done surely, but that would take way too long, especially if the girl was capable of generating more Yin Qi somehow.

Instead, Alex decided to go straight for the source.

He left the girl's two hands and moved toward her dantian where the source of all Qi was most definitely going to be. He placed his two palms on top of it and started absorbing the Yin Qi.

At first, the rate at which he absorbed increased from before again as he was directly touching the dantian. But aside from that, nothing much happened.

However a minute or two after he started pulling in the Yin Qi, something happened. The Yin Qi that he was absorbing seemed to suddenly change.

What he absorbed next was something else. Something cold, something dark. What Alex absorbed was still Yin Qi, but it was a grade entirely different from what he was so used to.

The coldness that permeated through his body was too much for even the Undying physique technique to completely absorb. When the remaining Qi flowed through his body back to his Dantian, he felt a connection form between the girl and himself.

The connection... he had felt it before. It was so long ago that he had even forgotten it had happened, but it happening again reminded him of the day he returned back to the Hong Wu sect to find his master unconscious.

There he had absorbed Yang Qi from her to save her, and in doing so, once all the Yang Qi was gone, he had absorbed her Yin Qi.

That was when he had first felt the connection he was currently feeling. That time, the connection had been so short that he didn't even know what he felt exactly.

But now, he could sense it completely.

There was a connection between him and this girl. Not one that was recent, but one from a long time ago. The connection felt archaic, melancholic even.

And what terrified Alex the most was that the connection wasn't even between him and the girl. It was between his body and her body. It was a connection as old as time itself.

Understanding that, a single thought came to Alex's mind.

'Moon Goddess!'

He felt shocked and surprised and stopped the Undying technique out of pure instinct. However, the Yin didn't stop flowing into him.

He was confused for a moment as to what was happening, but then he realized that he had woken something that had until now remained in slumber.

The Yin bead in his dantian rejoiced as it devoured the Yin that flowed into Alex's body. It had come alive when it first tasted the Yin Qi that made it into his dantian, and now it hungered for more.

Using their connection as a pathway, it dragged Yin Qi out of the girl's body, which she had no control over.

Alex thought of moving away from the girl, but he stopped himself from doing so. If the Yin bead was taking away her Yin, then it was the best way to treat her Yin problem.

So, he stayed where he was, letting it absorb all the yin from her. As if it had been holding back until now, after Alex's permission to absorb, it pulled Yin even faster from her body.

The deep connection he felt with her continued, even going so far as to give him a false sense of attraction toward the girl. He shook his head, getting the annoying thoughts out of himself while trying to not give in to them.

The few minutes that followed felt like torture as the connection seemed to want one and only one thing. It wanted the two of them to get together.

But Alex persisted. He focused on what he felt was more important in this scenario. If what he guessed wasn't wrong, then this girl had the Moon Goddess's body. If the connection he felt was anything to go by and what he realized was true, then that could only mean one thing.

Ma Rong had the Moon Goddess's body as well.

His master had one of the greatest physical constitutions any person could have had, and they had all thought it was a simple 'Yin body constitution'.

Not that anyone knew who the Moon Goddess even was to give her body the correct name it deserved.

Alex's mind was in disarray as he tried to figure out just what it meant for this girl to have the same body as his master's.

She was only 25 years old, which meant she was born years after his master had died. Was it just a case of someone being born with the same body as someone else...

Or was it something more?

Bai Jingshen had revealed to him long ago that reincarnation was a real thing that he had learned from his own master.

That made Alex wonder. Was this the same thing?

Was this girl the reincarnation of Ma Rong?

Before he could come up with an answer, the supply of Yin coming from the girl suddenly cut off and the Yin bead stopped pulling anymore.

All the Yin in the girl's body had been taken away and what was left was a girl without any of it.

Alex lifted his hand finally as the connection between them disappeared. When it did, Alex felt something else happen inside him.

His body turned cold from the inside and within moments Alex realized what had happened.

The Yin bead was now stronger than before, and as such, the Yin and Yang in his dantian had a sudden imbalance.

Chapter 1405: A Higher Grade

The moment the cold overwhelmed Alex, he realized that the Yin bead had gained an upper hand on the Yang source that was in his body.

He didn't understand why that was, as both the Yang and Yin sources were both so strong that some little yin from a True realm girl should not have been able to affect it at all.

But it had, and now Alex had to deal with it.

He needed to add some Yang into his body to counteract the Yin that had caused the imbalance. He quickly got away from the girl and realized he needed to get away from this room.

Even with what he had done, this room was still full of weak Yin energy, and that wouldn't be of any help to him at all. Alex quickly walked outside.

The father tried to follow him, to find out what had happened, but Alex was too much in a hurry to say anything. If he let what was happening to continue, he had a feeling that the same thing that happened to his master would happen to him as well.

The excess Yin would cause him to go into a coma, which would require someone with Yin to steal it away from him. The girl could do it probably, but who knew how long it would take for her to wake up.

He couldn't take those chances.

"Stay in the room and look after your daughter," he said as he rushed to the yard in the center of the courtyard. "Don't worry about me. Just look after her."

He didn't even look back when he said that. He simply didn't care.

The sun was slightly lower in the sky at the moment after a long day, so Yang energy in the surrounding was reaching the highest it would for a while now.

He sat on the grass and quickly started cultivating. He needed to absorb some Yang Qi and have it quell the Yin that was acting out. As soon as he started cultivating, Yang Qi flowed into him.

With the Five Yang Divine Path's techniques, he could absorb Yang Qi at a speed that was simply abnormal. With his wide meridians, the Yang simply flowed into his dantian without any problems at all.

Alex quietly cultivated, absorbing as much Yang as he could, that he was taking directly from the surrounding area.

However, his face turned to a frown when he realized that it wasn't working. His plan to absorb Yang Qi to quell Yin was not working at all. The Yin, as he had known from the start, was at a grade that was simply not the same as anything else Alex had known before.

So, the Saint grade Yang Qi that he collected in his body was not capable of quelling it at all. It was simply too weak.

However, Alex wasn't worried at all. In fact, his face grew determined as he planned on doing something that he had been looking forward to since a long time ago but wasn't sure what the right time for that would be.

The meridian pathway in his body that the Qi moved through to create an absorption aura suddenly shifted as they all took even more complicated pathways than before.

Doing so, something changed in the cultivation method that made it even more torturous for Alex.

Suddenly, the Yang Qi he had been pulling into his body nearly sped up tenfold while the quality of the also started improving. It grew hotter, hotter than ever, but Alex's body could handle it, even though it hurt the meridian it traveled through as that complicated and thin meridian wasn't used to taking this much Qi through them.

Alex had known it would hurt, and he had known it would be difficult to cultivate starting on as he wasn't used to it at all. The new cultivation method was complicated and it would take him some time to get used to it.

For now, the Five Yang Divine Path's Immortal rank cultivation technique was the only thing that Alex could turn to, and he did. Now, he could only hope it helped.

With the sort of quantity that came with the new cultivation method, it would take him very little time to fill up his large Dantian inside of him.

Even if the initial time it took to get to the Dantian was much longer, overall it was a much superior technique.

The new Yang Qi, which had formed from weaker Yang Qi coalescing, was much stronger than before. So, when it arrived inside of his Dantian, instead of mixing into the Golden Core that covered most of his body, it remained on its own, away from everything.

However, because of how large Alex's Golden Core was at the moment, there was little room for everything else. So, when more Yang Qi started coming in, they soon started moving toward the two Yin and Yang sources that were imbalanced.

Alex hoped dearly that something happened as he paid all of his attention to pulling in Yang Qi and looked at his dantian.

As he watched, the Yang Qi got closer and closer to the two sources. It finally came into contact with the Yang source, but to Alex's horror, it didn't mix with the Yang source at all.

He was terrified that his last hope wasn't going to work as he had intended. However, when it came to the Yin bead instead, it did go toward it and even touched it.

The moment the Yang Qi touched the Yin bead, they neutralized themselves, turning into strong, but neutral Qi. The Yin in the Yin bead lessened a little bit, but barely enough to make a dent in it overall.

Alex would have to cultivate a whole lot more.

Her meridians hurt as they were being used for a technique that was not supposed to be used until he reached the Immortal rank, but Alex had no choice. Thankfully, he had practiced a few things to expand his meridians as much as he could, so he was suffering way less than he truly would have.

The Yang had a steady flow to his Dantian where it continued to neutralize the Yin Qi. Alex cultivated for half an hour in total before he had to stop. The Immortal rank cultivation technique simply hurt his meridians way too much for him to continue without rest.

The Yin in his body had lessened a bit from what he had seen, but not to the point where he was still out of danger. The coldness was low, but it was there. He would have to continue again once his meridians got some rest.

Half an hour later, Alex continued.

He collected the strong Yang Qi again, sending it to his dantian where it start neutralizing the Yin Qi again.

Even after night fell, Alex continued doing what he did. During the night, his technique would pull normal Qi in the absence of Yang, so he had to pull out a few yang ingredients and crush them to create Yang around him.

As he cultivated infrequently, checking on his status in between mini-cultivation sessions, he realized a few things that scared him... and a few that excited him.

Chapter 1406: Scared and Excited

In between the cultivation sessions, Alex had come across a problem that scared him. And the problem was that the Yin bead hadn't truly gone dormant.

He wasn't sure what exactly happened, but the Yin bead would pull Qi from his Golden Core, pulling it into itself to generate more Yin Qi.

So, when he took a break from absorbing Yang Qi, the bead would make more Yin Qi when he wasn't fighting it.

Thankfully, the rate at which it happened was so low that it wouldn't even go through 10% of his total Qi capacity in an entire day if he left it as is. When it did go through the 10% of Qi, the amount it would produce would be just 1% in return, but the Yin that did come out would be a grade above normal.

1% or 2% wouldn't do much for Alex, but if he was to go on a few days without cultivating, then the Yin Qi would start causing trouble.

That was the part of the situation surrounding the Yin bead that frightened him. However, it wasn't all bad that came from this situation at all.

One of the minor benefits that he gained from this was that his Qi in his Golden Core was continuously pulled away from it, waiting to be replaced.

Since a Golden Core needed to be continuously washed away and refined with new Qi to improve it, to grow it, the created an opportunity for that to happen, even while Alex wasn't cultivating at all.

As long as he didn't let the Yin Qi build up a lot and took care of it, he could benefit from letting it steal away his Qi to turn to Yin Qi.

And that was only a minor benefit. The Major benefit was something else.

When Alex cultivated the new Yang technique, the Yang he collected would be at a grade not dissimilar to the Yin that the Yin bead would produce. So, when they interacted together, they created neutral Qi that had no other attributes.

However, this wasn't just any normal Qi at all. It was a neutral Qi that was far beyond any neutral Qi that he could collect on his own as it was the result of two very strong extremes of Qi.

And, when this neutral Qi formed in his dantian, unlike the Yang Qi, it knew exactly where to go.

It went to his Golden Core and started improving it, expanding it. The rate at which it refined the Golden core was nearly 20 times as fast as normal. Since the neutral Qi that formed was a mixture of both the strong Yang Qi and Yin Qi that were individually over 10 times stronger, the resulting Qi would be 10 times stronger as well, with the quantity being the combined quantity of both of the Qi.

With such a quality Qi, his Golden Core which was so close to crossing the threshold and becoming 80% as large as the dantian itself, grew insanely quickly.

It didn't look like he was going to reach the threshold right away, but it wouldn't take him more than a week to do so at this rate.

That was a concept more than terrifying to imagine for Alex as it hadn't even been close to a year since he had last broken through.

The veined pills had certainly helped speed up his cultivation in the last decade, which had helped him get so much stronger so quickly. He couldn't help but imagine what would happen if he used them with this new technique.

After thinking for a bit, Alex didn't consider it as good of an idea as he had initially thought. It was still going to be 10 times as helpful as the new Qi would be that much more helpful, but it wasn't going to be as helpful without the Yin Qi that took time to form.

He cultivated over the course of the night and finally managed to erase all the Yin Qi that the Yin bead had formed. It would continue to remain minimally active, and that was fine with Alex.

He could just cultivate when he had the time and wouldn't have to worry about it. He wondered if he could perhaps make pills to counter it, but finding ingredients with such strong energy would certainly be impossible.

By the time he had opened his eyes again, the sun had come back up. He had spent a day searching for the Nightsbane, and a day here. It would take the two girls he had come here with to reach the poison fields where he had promised them he would meet, so he wasn't worried right away.

He stood up from where he sat and looked down in surprise to see most of the grass around him had dried up completely. Had his Yang Qi been that strong?

With no more worry to deal with, he stood a step to go toward the room where the girl was. When he remembered the girl, the worry in his heart returned again.

He had momentarily forgotten about her as his own problem had taken precedence. He couldn't take another step as he feared what was in that other room.

Was that a young girl that he had never seen before? Or was that his master, reincarnated into another body once she died?

And was that truly the Moon Goddess or not? The connection made him feel that it was, but he couldn't tell. He had no idea what the Moon Goddess was supposed to be like.

However, given the connection that his body felt, he had no doubt that it was indeed her. So, was his master truly the previous incarnation of the Moon Goddess?

He didn't know how to feel about all of this. It was all too sudden and confusing and he hoped to just get away from it all. However, he couldn't even bring himself to leave.

What if that was his master? He couldn't just leave if he could meet her again.

Finding the courage in himself to meet his master, Alex moved again, going back to the room. He entered and found the father on a stool, sitting next to his daughter's bed. It didn't look like she was still awake.

"Where is the other guy?" Alex asked.

"I sent him to his room," the father said. "He doesn't need to remain here. I can look after my daughter while she rests."

"How is she doing," Alex asked.

"She's still in a coma, but the Yin problem has vanished completely," he said. He stood up and gave a deep bow. "Thank you for healing my daughter."

Alex smiled. "That's alright," he said. He remembered that it had taken his master quite a few days to come out of the coma as well.

"Stay with her for a while. She might remain in a coma for a few more days. We'll have to see if she needs a pill a few days later," he said.

"I see," the man said. "About the payment. How much do you—"

"SENIOR!" a voice from outside as the young alchemist came running in urgently.

"Why are you shouting?" the man asked angrily.

"She's here," the young man pointed outside. "Your wife. She's here."

Chapter 1407: Ice Mist Palace

Alex walked outside, behind the father who left once he heard that his wife was coming. Once outside, Alex looked to the sky and saw not one woman, but instead an entire army worth come into the courtyard.

There were at least 40 people there, and all of them were in the Saint Foundation realm or above, the ones at the front being at the Saint Transformation realm.

They all wore crystal blue and white robes, that had multiple layers to them and wore precious golden jewelries on their head. Each and every one of them looked like a beauty, but the ones at the front were especially so.

Alex looked at one of them in the front, recognizing her. It took him a moment to recall her name, but he did.

Bing Zheshuang, sect master of the Ice Mist Palace.

She looked young enough to be in her early 30s, but it was hard to say if it was her cultivation that made her look young, or her cultivation technique.

"Changing!" the woman next to the sect master spoke up. "Where is our daughter?"

She had a fair face with small nose and red lips. Her black hair was tied behind her, hiding with layers of white veils that were attached to her head using gold and gems embroidered hair clips.

She looked no younger or older than the sect leader and now that Alex was looking at her closely, no different either. It was the way the two women dressed that made them appear unique, but in reality, they were the same.

They were twins.

The young alchemist was hiding behind the man, scared out of his life. In his defense anyone would be scared if the sect master of the Ice Mist Palace took her entire upper echelon and came to confront them.

This was the sect that birthed Song Meifen, the Queen of the Ivory Kingdom, and as such were the most important sect in all of the Ivory region.

Alex looked at the man next to him that the woman had referred to as 'Changying' and got curious if he was from the Ivory Kingdom as well.

It would make sense if he was, seeing as the mother was from that place.

"Why have you people come?" the man asked in a low tone as he stared at everyone.

To Alex's surprise, no one immediately answered back at all. They all looked tense, the sect leader even more so.

Only the woman that was the girl's mother didn't seem tensed in any way other than the worry she felt for her daughter. "Changying! Answer me! Where is our daughter?" she asked.

"Healed and resting," the man said. "Something you refused to do."

"What?" the sect master stepped forward in surprise. "Is... is little Shumi truly healed?"

"Of course," the man said. "Her Yin is all gone and he is much better. She is still in a coma, but she will regain her consciousness eventually."

A small murmur stirred amidst the crowd as they all found it hard to believe.

"Brother-in-law, please do not lie if you are just saying it to send us away. It will only break my sister's heart even more when you take away the hope you just gave her."

"I do not lie," he said. "Unlike you, who said you were healing my daughter and did nothing."

"We did," the man's wife shouted. "Of course we did! You think I would let my daughter stay in a coma forever without doing anything? Every hour I was in a worry, thinking of ways to heal my daughter, but nothing worked."

"Hmph! You didn't try hard enough then," the man said. "How was it then that I healed our daughter in just half a month when you let her remain in a coma for over half a year. You didn't care for our daughter and chose to not heal her."

"You! How can you say that?" the woman started tearing up. "How could you be so hurtful? I... I shouldn't have married you at all. I thought you had changed, that you were no longer your old self... but I was wrong. You are still the same old man that has something wrong in his head."

"I wish, I never—"

The sect master acted, holding back her sister before she said anything more. She pushed her back before moving forward herself.

"If little Shumi is healed, then may I take a look at her and see?" the sect master asked.

The man thought for a bit and answered. "You may look, but you can't take her away. I don't trust you lot to take care of her."

"Oh, we will take her away," the sect master said. "Why do you think I came prepared?"

The man looked at the 40 women who all seemed determined to fight him and smiled, "You count this as prepared?" he asked with a sneer on his face.

The sect master smiled. "If this isn't enough, I have already contacted her Majesty and have let her know what is happening. She had most likely contacted his majesty Jin here and there should be more soldiers coming to aid us. Will that be plenty?"

The man hesitated. He wasn't worried about the fighting part at all. He was worried that he would get the Legion involved. If the Body Legion got involved, he would be in a big trouble.

After all, they had promised to imprison him the next time he caused any problems to them.

"Aren't we all getting a little hasty here?" Alex spoke up. "There is no reason to fight when we should be celebrating instead. The young lady inside has been healed of her Yin ailment. We shouldn't be at each other's throat on such occasion, right?"

The sect master turned her head and looked toward Alex. "And who might you be?" she asked.

"This is the great Alchemy that saved my daughter," the man said. "Treat him with respect."

"Oh, an alchemist," the sect leader's eyes warmed up. "You are the one who healed little Shumi? I thank you for your help. Still, I must make sure that she is truly healed. May I see her?"

"Sure," Alex spoke. "The young girl is resting inside."

The man looked toward Alex and frowned. "Why are you letting her in?" he asked.

"Is she going to poison her?" Alex asked.

"No, but—"

"Harm her? Hurt her? Give her disease?" Alex asked.

"No, she—"

"Is she not the little girl's aunt?" Alex asked.

"She is," the man said.

"Then I'm sure she means no harm," Alex said. "If you're so worried about your daughter, just go in with her."

The man thought for a moment and nodded. "Alright, let's go in," he said.

The other woman quickly ran forward and went in without waiting for any of them. She was way too worried about her daughter to care what the two men had to say. Once in, she looked at the bed where her daughter lay, resting with a calm face and finally accepted that her daughter had indeed been healed.

Once she realized the truth, she wept tears of happiness as she lay next to her daughter.

Chapter 1408: Fate

The sect master and the father entered the room after the woman. The father remained a bit further away from the bed, letting the two sisters hover around their daughter and niece while grumpily looking at them.

He still believed that they hadn't tried hard enough and Alex had to tell him the truth.

"I do not mean to sound arrogant when I say this, but there is very much likely no one in this world that could have treated your daughter. No one except me," Alex said.

"In... in this world?" the man looked toward Alex.

Alex nodded.

Anyone could have absorbed the few bits of Yin in her body, but the stronger Yin in her dantian, the one that had caused her to collapse into a coma was most definitely something that no one could have taken away.

Only Alex, with his Yang body, could have handled the Yin enough to take it into his Dantian. Anyone else would have frozen their entire body before the Yin reached their dantian.

The Yin Bead had helped, but that was only to quickly take the Yin out of her. Even without it, Alex could have taken it all away.

He couldn't tell what would have happened to him in that case. Would the Yin still cause imbalance? He could most definitely control the Yin with his new Yang cultivation technique, so he probably would have had nothing to worry about.

"Are you sure there is no one else that could have helped?" the man asked again.

Alex shook his head. "Her Yin was just that strong," he said.

"I see," the man said. He didn't know whether what he was saying was an exaggeration or not, but the past half a month that he had tried to desperately get his daughter healed sure made it feel like it was all impossible.

"Then it must have been fate that put you in my path that I managed to find you," the man said. "I am lucky."

"Fate... huh?" Alex thought. Was it fate that brought him here today? Was it fate that got the two together?

Was it fate that brought him and his master together all those years ago?

Was it all fate? Or were these just coincidences?

"She truly has been healed," the sect master took a few steps back and wiped her tears. "I cannot believe it."

"I told you two women already that she's been healed," the man said.

The sect master ignored her. "How is she then? Is she going to wake up soon?" she asked.

Alex thought for a bit. That was when he realized that he hadn't checked the girl at all. He knew that a newly evolved body took a while to fully awaken from the coma.

It had taken Alex 5 days before he had woken up, and his master had taken a few days as well. As for how long it would take the girl, it couldn't be more than a week either.

Still, he decided to check her just in case.

He went up to her and took her wrist before sending his spiritual sense through his meridian and blood vessels to look through her entire body. This time around, there was no Yin in her body that instantly stopped it all from working.

He checked through the entire body and nodded. "There is nothing wrong with her. At worst, her body lacks a bit of energy. She had been fighting the Yin for some time, so it will require her body a few days to realize that the fight is no more."

"Once the body redirects the rest of her energy into aiding her, she will wake up. Just prepare a bunch of pills just in case she wakes up weak," he said.

"Is that so?" the sect master said. "Thank you."

"Thank you, sir Alchemist," the girl's mother said sincerely to him.

"It's alright, look after your daughter for now," he said.

He walked away and went back to being next to the father. The two women then prepared to take the young girl away.

"Hey! What are you doing?" the man shouted. "I told you, I'm not letting my daughter go with you lot."

"Brother-in-law!" the sect master's eyes narrowed in anger while the yin aura in her body radiated.

"Changing!" the mother shouted at the same time as her Yin aura radiated as well.

The two sisters were both in the Saint Transformation realm. The sect mater was in Saint Transformation 3rd realm, while the sister was in Saint Transformation 1st realm.

The man said nothing, but he didn't stand back against this either. His Saint Core realm cultivation base that he had been radiating around Alex and the rest stripped away like a veil as a much stronger aura filled him.

Like a candle flame replaced by a bonfire, Saint Transformation 4th realm aura filled the room.

Alex had expected the man to be strong; it was obvious. But he had no way of anticipating that it could be this strong.

The many women outside immediately started preparing to fight the moment they sensed the change in the situation as well. Any moment, the three would start to fight.

"Are you guys insane?" Alex shouted, his voice cutting through the dense aura, surprising the 3 saints. "You are going to bring out such a strong aura in front of a little girl in the True realm. Do you want her to forever remain in a coma?"

The moment they heard that, everyone's aura instantly vanished. They pulled it all back, even hiding it more than before.

"Is... is she alright?" the mother asked.

"She's fine," Alex said. "But be careful around a patient. You guys have lived long enough to know this much."

The three nodded and looked at each other.

"Brother-in-law, I must take little Shumi back. Even the Body Legion will be here in an hour or two to take her away with me. Will you still stop us?" she asked.

The man hesitated. "But you guys didn't heal her. You—" he paused as he remembered what Alex had said about no one being able to heal the girl.

He had a realization that he might have been wrong this whole time and that he had been too hasty in his judgment of the situation.

He had always been hasty.

"May I suggest something?" Alex spoke up. "Since senior Changying here wants to stay with his daughter to look after her health, why don't you take her back after she's woken up and he knows it?"

"We can't do that. We've taken too many away from the sect," the woman said.

"Then... why not take him there?" he asked. "Certainly that is possible, right?"

"Take him... to the Ice Mist Palace?" the sect master hesitated

"Sir Alchemist, the Ice Mist Palace is a place for only girls to be in," the man said himself.

"It's just a rule," Alex said. "Every rule has exceptions. They will make exceptions for you if you can persuade them."

"I knew of an all-girls sect too," Alex said. "But the moment they needed something from me, they cared not for my gender and took me in as their alchemist without hesitation."

Chapter 1409: Payment

The sect master of the Ice Mist Palace looked at the man for a moment and thought as to what she would have to go through to fight against this madman just to take away the girl.

She would most likely survive, and it was a doubt that he would truly hurt Taizhen too. But what about the other girls that were here? She had brought the older ones with more experience, but even then... she couldn't risk anything in here.

She looked toward her sister who was glaring at her husband and wanted to curse her for marrying this crazy man when she told her not to so many times. In the end, she married him and there was nothing she could do.

It wasn't like nothing good had come out of the marriage. Little Shumi had been born to her sister thanks to the marriage, and that had been one of the greatest occasions in the Ice Mist Palace.

What's more, the man had agreed to let her be the disciple there without any conditions. He had changed for the better at that time.

Now, however, seeing his daughter in the condition she was in, she could understand why he would go back to being the same eccentric maniac as he previously was.

"I will allow you a 1-month duration where you can stay in the Ice Mist Palace to look after your daughter," Bing Zheshuang spoke out loud. "After the months's end, if you find that little Shumi has been healed and she had no more problems, you will have to leave. Do you agree?"

The man looked at her in a bit of surprise as he never thought she would compromise. Since she did, he took up the deal. "I agree," he said. "But what if she doesn't wake up at that time? What do I do then?"

"Then..." the woman thought for a moment and answered. "Then, I'll increase the days by 2 weeks each time, until Shumi is healed. Also, I will let you be in charge of healing her if she isn't healed by then."

The younger twin looked up in surprise. "Sister..." she spoke softly.

The sect master gave a look of grimace. "We followed the rules as much as we can, and ended up allowing a father to not care for his daughter in her moment of illness. This is the least we can do," she said.

She quickly turned back around and spoke, "You will either have to live in the main palace and never leave until it is time, or you will have to find a place outside of the sect. Your choice," the sect master said.

"Whatever you want," the man said. He simply didn't care. "I will be staying next to my daughter until she's healed anyway."

"Good, it's a deal then," she said. "Don't you dare go back on it, Changying!"

"I won't," the man said.

The sect master nodded. "Then I will take back Shumi with me. Will you be staying here or will you be coming with me?" she asked.

"I will go wherever my daughter is, obviously," he said.

"Let us go then," the sect master started moving while the young girl was taken out by the mother. The man followed behind them, quickly running after her daughter while remaining a step behind them all.

Alex felt a little weird watching them leave. What should he do here? Should he stop them until she's healed? Should he use his authority to make them stop?

He wanted to learn about whether or not the girl was his master even more than whether or not she had the Moon Goddess's body. Somehow, what should have been more important felt less so than the other to him.

By the time he moved, they had all left and gathered up at the courtyard, ready to leave.

The young alchemist wanted to leave with them too, but seeing the ladies from the Ice Mist Palace who were used to staying by themselves, he hesitated.

Would they kill him if he tried to go with them? It was probably better if he stayed behind and left on his own. Less chance of him being murdered in the middle of nowhere because one of the ladies thought he looked her wrong.

The man walked back from the courtyard and the young man saw hope. Maybe he would take him with him.

"Sir Alchemist," the man spoke.

"" YES?"" Both Alex and the young man spoke at once, and the young man realized instantly that it wasn't him that was being called. He looked away and stepped to the side, while the man looked to speak toward him.

"I was about to ask you for payment when we got sidetracked," he said. "So... about the payment, how should I pay you? Do you want spirit stones, or should I pay you in other forms?"

"I don't need your payment," Alex said. The Yin he acquired from the girl had been payment enough. But of course, he wouldn't tell that to them.

"That can't be," he said. "Not only did you spend your precious free days at the valley here instead to heal my daughter. Surely you must want something in return."

Alex chuckled a bit. "Can you give me something if I ask for it?" he asked.

"I... I can try," the man said.

Alex chuckled. "No, I do not want anything," he said. "Well, if anything, I do want to want to meet with your daughter once she's been healed. I might have some business with her."

"Business? What sort of business?" the man asked.

"I don't know just yet," Alex said. "I'll know when she's awake. For now, you can leave."

"Sir Alchemist," the sect master walked forward. "The Ice Mist Palace cannot let a debt remain unpaid. Please tell us what you wish in return for removing little Shumi's yin and we shall pay it."

"As I just told him, I do not want any payment. If anything, I wish to meet her when the young girl is awake. That's all," he said.

The sect master hesitated a bit. "May I ask why you wish to meet her? What this business of yours that you mentioned might be," she asked.

"I cannot tell you," Alex said. "I'll just have to ask you to keep the gates open when I do come sometime in the future."

The sect master didn't know what to say. "We might have opened our gates for him, but sir Alchemist, we cannot do the same for you, a man. Even as the sect master, I must follow the rules too."

"I understand," Alex said. "I also understand that there are exceptions. How about this? I will arrive at your gates sometime in the future. Then, you can choose to let me in or pay me what you think is worth the service I provided. Is that alright?"

"O-okay," the sect master said, a little weirded out. "May we know your name then?"

"You can call me... Yu Ming," Alex said.

"Alchemist Yu, thank you again for treating my niece," the sect master said. "I shall wait for you to come to our sect in the future. I will repay you then."

After bowing once, the sect master turned around and flew away with the rest of the women from the sect, with the man flying at the front, along with his daughter and wife.

Chapter 1410: Trade

"Something happened, didn't it?" Godslayer's voice spoke once everyone left.

"You were watching?" Alex asked.

"I woke up because of the crazy Yang you started pulling in. I was scared it might come for me like that yellow fog of yours did," he said.

"You should be fine though, right?" Alex asked.

"I am," Godslayer said. "Are you going to tell me what happened?"

Alex thought for a bit and looked to his right. "In a bit," he said and walked forward to stop the young alchemist that was ready to leave alone. He placed his hands around the young man in a friendly manner and asked, "Are you planning on leaving?"

"Uh, Brother... Yu!" he remembered. "Yes, I was just leaving. I have nothing more to do here."

"I see, but surely you can stay behind for a bit right?" Alex asked. "I wish to make some trade."

"Trade?" the young man asked. "What do you want to trade, brother?"

"You have a book full of ingredients, you mentioned. I want to trade for it," Alex said.

"You... you want to trade for my book?" the young man asked. "I'm afraid I can't do that. It's my book and I won't give it away."

"I'm not asking for the whole book," Alex said. "I'm only asking for the recipes inside of it, and I will make a fair trade."

"What fair trade?" the young man asked. "Senior, you cannot give me anything that can make me sell the recipes inside of my book. I know what they're worth. I won't be giving them away."

Alex had to accept that the young man, while not that good at Alchemy, knew what he was talking about. He smiled a bit and let him go.

"Alright, you can leave if you want," he said. "But I want to ask before you leave if you know who the best alchemist in this continent is."

"What stupid question is that?" the young man asked. "It is obviously his majesty, the Dragon Emperor."

"Is he?" Alex asked. "Right now, is it still the Dragon Emperor?"

The young man paused for a while. "No, this time around it's—"

As he spoke, Alex took off his mask, revealing his face to the young man.

"It's... YOU!" he shouted out loud as his eyes widened in surprise. It was impossible to tell if he was answering the question or if he had just recognized Alex.

Alex put the mask back on. "Can I take that exclamation as a sign that you recognize me?" he asked.

"Y- y- y- you! You are the alchemist that— no! You are the King of the Southern Continent! The one that won against his Majesty," he practically shouted.

Alex looked around, making sure there wasn't anyone that saw him, and spoke back to the young man.

"I am willing to trade with you," he said. "I will buy the recipes in that book, and in its stead, I can teach you alchemy that will help you reach close to the same level as me. I cannot promise that you will reach the same level as me, but I can promise that you will reach the same level as the Dragon Emperor."

The young man's eyes were wide enough from the start that it was difficult to say if he even processed anything that Alex said. However, after a moment of not speaking, he quickly thought to react and started saying something.

"Uhh... I'll be at the same level as the Emperor? I heard he's Level 10, the only Level 10 alchemist in the continent. That's impossible for me, isn't it? I can't imagine why that would be something I can reach," he said and looked up at Alex. "Can I really do that?"

Alex smiled, but his face was hidden behind the mask. "Yes, I can promise you will reach the same level as the Emperor. Although I will say this much. It will be hard to make pills on the same level as the Emperor consistently simply due to the lack of perfect ingredients. You will make pills as good as him, but not very frequently," he said.

"Then I'll agree," the young man quickly said. "Are you going to take me in as your student?"

Alex was taken aback a bit. "Student?" he hadn't expected someone to take him as a master. Although he certainly was old and strong enough to be one. Still, to be a master to a Saint Foundation realm cultivator that was the same age as him wasn't what he wanted right now.

"No," he said. "I am not looking to take students right now. What we will do is simply trade. I will give you what you need, and you will give me what I need."

"Okay," the man said with a dejected look.

"Don't worry, I'm not going to hide information from you," Alex said. "Oh, and one more thing. There is another condition, which I'm not sure you can fulfill or not."

"Wh-what requirement?" the young man asked.

"I will need you to move to the Southern continent with me when I leave this continent in less than 19 years," Alex said. "Can you do that?"

"Leave the land? Sure. I have nothing keeping me here," the young man said.

Alex narrowed his eyes at how quickly he accepted. "You... don't have any family here?" he asked.

The young man shook his head. "No family," he said. "Had a sister before, but haven't seen her since the game began. Don't know where she is, or if she even played the game."

Alex remained quiet for a moment. "She's not in the Eastern Continent?" he asked.

"Don't think so," the young man said. "I didn't find her during the Great Search."

"The Great Search... that was when everyone started searching for their people after the game ended, wasn't it? Did you not find your sister then?" he asked.

"No," the young man said with a dejected look.

"I see. Well, she must have either remained in the real world, or just gone to one of the other three continents," Alex said. "You'll know if there is ever a chance to go back."

The young man didn't know how to feel about that. Happy? Joyful? It had been 50 years since he had seen his sister. Truth was, he didn't even remember what her face looked like completely. Just fragments of them here and there.

"I'm sure she's been doing fine either way. She's my elder sister after all," the young man said. "Anyway, I accept your offer... err Your Majesty?"

"Good. Let's make an oath to make sure that both of us remain true to our side," Alex said. "And so you don't reveal my secrets to anyone else."

"I agree," the young man said. "Your majesty." He added belatedly.

The two made an oath and once the oath settled in them, it was confirmed.

"Alright, that's settled then," Alex said. "For now, go to the Dragon Capital and enter the Alchemy school. There you can meet with my people. Take this and tell them I sent you there to learn. They will get you started on any basics that you might not know."

"Once I'm done with the matters I have here, I will return there and give you the knowledge we agreed upon. Then, and only then, I will take the things you promised me."