

Alchemy 561

Chapter 561: Meteor Shower

Alex walked towards the Tiger Sect with many thoughts running in his mind. The main thought obviously was the fact that his home was in the same world as the game.

'So it was never 2 different worlds. We were just... isolated,' he thought. It was not that dissimilar to the situation of the Crimson Empire itself.

'Isolation from the rest of the world, huh? I wonder how we turned out so differently compared to the Crimson Empire. The technological improvement we have had for years is better than anything the mortals of the Crimson Empire could ever make,' he thought.

He wanted to know what his future was like now. Hao Ya had told him to wait for 30 years. He was told to just sit tight and cultivate.

So what if he did that? Would waiting 30 or 40 years to go back home even be worth it? What would he even do at that time? What would any of them even do at that time?

The world would have moved on by then. Their friends and families would have moved on.

What would even be left for him to go back to? Alex started feeling very anxious.

He couldn't wait to go back home right now because it had been months since he was stuck here. However, if he could only go back 30 or 40 years from now... there was no point to going back.

Especially now that he knew that his other soul was back at home, fulfilling his duties and responsibilities.

He no longer saw a reason to just wait around to go back home. Yes, he still wanted to go back home and see everything he had missed.

But, he no longer viewed it as very important. The priority of having to go back home plummeted to the very bottom.

He reached the Tiger Sect's gate and called his master as well as his senior brother to tell them he was there.

He also made sure to let them know that his face had changed.

Surprisingly, all 3 of them came to see him at the gate.

"I knew it. You wouldn't go die by yourself," Wen Cheng said with a proud face.

"Are you okay, little brother?" Luo Mei asked.

"He's fine. Look at him," Liu Xun said.

They took him back to Wen Cheng's manor and have him sit down to talk. They started asking how he was, and how he was feeling now that Ma Rong was gone.

He told them the truth that he was still sad but was working through his grief quite well. It had especially helped since he managed to kill the man that killed her.

Alex decided not to drop the burden on them of knowing that he wasn't the one they were waiting for.

At least, he didn't want to let his sister know that. He didn't want them to act differently towards him after knowing the truth.

However, he did want to tell his Wen Cheng. He already considered him his master, so he was ready to tell him everything.

After an hour of talking, Liu Xun left to go back to his duty. While Alex asked Luo Mei to leave as well since he had something to talk to Wen Cheng privately.

"You really killed the second elder?" Wen Cheng asked in surprise.

"That's... what I wanted to talk to you about, master," Alex said. "You see... it wasn't me who killed him."

Wen Cheng was confused at first, but once Alex explained everything his eyes went wide.

"From another continent?" Wen Cheng asked in surprise.

"Yes, the real me was from that continent, but now he's gone back, leaving me behind with all the skills and memories," Alex said.

"So... what does that mean? Are you not the Yu Ming we know?" Wen Cheng asked.

Alex struggled to come up with an answer and sighed. "I don't know, master. I still have the same memory, and the feelings I have towards you are the same as well."

"The only way I'm different is that I never got to experience the things that evoke these feelings and memories. I don't know if that makes me a different person or not. In the end, I believe we are the same person, with different souls," Alex said.

Wen Cheng put his hands on Alex's shoulders. "If you have the same memory and feelings, then I will consider you the same person. Don't think too much about it," he said.

Alex's felt a little relieved in his mind. "Thank you, master."

"Alright, go rest. You must be quite tired," he said.

"Not now, master," Alex said. "We have something more important to discuss."

"Something important?" Wen Cheng looked at him with a curious look. "What's more important?" he asked.

"Along the way back from the desert. I looked into the second elder's bag. He didn't have many things, but he did hold a talisman with him regarding information about the sect that was previously lost to you all," Alex said.

He took out the storage bag of the old man. It didn't have anything Alex would consider important aside from a set of ingredients and formation plates, but the talisman with the information was one that he would consider truly important.

Alex handed the talisman over to Wen Cheng who started reading it. As he did, his eyes went wider and wider in shock and surprise. He had never expected the origins of the Tiger sect to be... this incredible.

Nearly a thousand years ago, a group of people saw a meteor shower in the night sky. Some of the meteors landed nearby, so they went to check it.

When they did, they found a small, growing tree about 2 meters tall at the northern shore of the empire.

The golden tree put them in awe and they decided to live around it in hopes that it would bring good luck to them. And good luck it brought them.

Not far away from them, they started finding other various materials. Some spirit stones, some books, some pills, some weapons, some artifacts, and many other things.

The people of that time used these materials to start a small sect. Within a few years, they finished using the spirit stones.

They used the pills, weapons, and artifacts to make themselves stronger as well and improved their sect until it was big enough to become a well-known sect at the time.

The books, however, were useless to them. Aside from maybe 10 or so books, the rest of them were written in a language that wasn't legible to them.

So, the tiger sect could only use some of the books. The rest, they kept them safe for a time when they would understand the language.

During this time, something incredible happened. The tree that they set their sect around started growing hotter and hotter until the ground beneath them melted.

Now other trees in the vicinity were starting to die, and no other plants were growing there.

So, the sect had to move further away and made the location of the tree be known as a sacred land that no one could step in.

As time went by, the tree grew more and more, forcing the sect all the way back to the scarlet city.

Then, 150 years ago, the Emperor ordered all capable sects to set their base closer to the southern forest just to have them protect the civilians.

When they did swap the location, they came across the Black Stele. A stone stele that was written in the same language as the other unreadable books they currently held.

The sect leader was truly fascinated with this stele and didn't want to return back to their original heritage, while the second elder wanted to slowly return back to the place with the tree.

The records mentioned after all that the tree would bear fruit, an incredible treasure in about 50 years.

Seeing that the sect leader was still not agreeing to go back, the second elder tried to become the leader himself.

However, things didn't go as he wanted. The fight that broke out was way too big and many people died.

That was when the second elder realized that in this chaos he could be the only one to learn about this stuff and have the treasure for himself.

So, he either destroyed or stole all the books and records for himself. He also stole some weapons, but was caught in the end and was exiled out of the sect, left to die.

Wen Cheng didn't really care about reading the Second Elder's life after that. While it did mention something about living as a mortal for a few years, having a daughter, Wen Cheng quickly skipped over it and stopped reading.

"They found so many treasures huh?" Wen Cheng said softly. "They were quite lucky."

"Yes," Alex said. "Although it's a shame that so many of the books that were in another language were destroyed or stolen. He probably destroyed what he took too."

"You may be right," Wen Cheng said.

Alex took out two books from his storage bag, something his master had returned to him not long ago.

"Here," he said. "I believe these belong to the Tiger sect."

Wen Cheng took out two books and handed them to Wen Cheng. The first was the Veiled Light technique, and the second one was the Immortal Concealment technique.

"I got these from the old man, which he must've stolen from here," Alex said. He finally knew why some random old man was walking around with an Immortal Grade technique.

These were likely some things that came with the meteor shower. There were various other things that Alex could say came with the meteor shower.

For one, the Black Stele in the Tiger sect was definitely something that came down in the form of a meteor. If it didn't, it wouldn't have made such a massive crater in the sect.

Alex remembered his Heaven's Impact technique was the other thing written in a language that did not belong to them. The person who sold it had claimed that the ones who gave his ancestor the book were immortals that came down from heaven.

'Is this the language of the immortals?' Alex wondered. That also made him question if all of these other things also came down with an immortal.

The ring he was wearing was certainly not something that could be found in the empire, or even the Western Continent itself. Did it come down in a meteor shower as well?

Alex went so far as to think that the Flickering Shadows technique that the Hong Wu sect had was also a skill that came down in a meteor shower.

He wondered what else could have come down in that meteor, and who else had gotten anything from it. That was a question he really wanted the answer to, but he couldn't get it for now.

So, he asked Wen Cheng if he could leave and went back to his sister's place to spend the night there.

Chapter 562: The Skill in the Stele

Alex returned back to his sister's room to talk for a while before going to the other room to rest.

Once again, he had no cultivation method he could use, so he was forced to not cultivate at all. He was fine with that. He had too much on his mind to cultivate right now.

Now that he was finally free, he tried the things he was too preoccupied with to try.

"Status!" he said. However, nothing appeared. That was expected. Everything game-related was gone already after all.

He looked to the top right, the time had disappeared as well. He thought of other things that might have been game-related.

He brought out pills and could no longer see their name or harmony floating around them, but he could tell what the harmony was.

'This pill has 45%,' he thought. It was somewhat simple to tell the harmony. He tried with other pills and even used a pill tester to test it.

As expected he was right about it all. 'Maybe it was never the system that helped me know it, but the Alchemy God's Knowledge,' he thought.

The skill he had gotten at the start was one of the most unique skills he had encountered to date.

Even after having the entire book in his mind, he couldn't read it all. It was like the words themselves had a seal on it that could only be opened once one's cultivation base reached a certain realm and changed their entire Qi.

However, there was something Alex could tell about the book. Surprisingly, it only had 3 more layers to unlock. As for Flame Mastery Scripture, it only had 1 more layer.

Alex took a deep breath and started shuffling through the rest of the skills in his mind, but there was nothing different about them.

"Hmm, what about the focus mode?" he wondered and tried it out. He knew it was a player-only skill, but... he was optimistic.

He shouldn't have been. As expected for it too, there was no more focus mode.

Alex slumped back on the bed. Too many things had changed, and it would take him some time to get used to it.

A smile crept upon his face, a small smile. 'My body evolved huh?' he thought. 'Does that mean it's in the Celestial grade now? I wonder if anything's changed.'

'Wait, does that mean master's body was a Celestial grade body as well?' he thought. 'That should be correct given how strong her body was compared to mine.'

Thinking about his master once more, he started getting sad again. Many things had happened today, major things, but that did not take away the pain he still felt when thinking about his master.

He decided to stop caring about whatever the game elements or himself for now and went to sleep.

Cultivators didn't necessarily need sleep, they didn't even need to care about the day and night cycle, mostly. Having been a mortal merely 7 months ago, the habit of sleeping at night time was still hard to let go of.

Alex slept for as long as he wanted. When he woke up, he couldn't help but feel rejuvenated.

He got up, leaving a bed that looked as good as if it were ironed, and walked out of the door.

His sister was already gone, possibly to train with Du Yuhan. They were after all starting to feel like they were too weak to help when someone they cared about was in danger.

Alex went to find Wen Cheng and asked him about the graduation.

"It's still set to be in 2 weeks, but I can move it forward by a week if you want me to," Wen Cheng said.

Then, he put on a saddened face and asked, "then I will assume you chose Alchemy over normal cultivation?"

Alex shook his head. "No, master. I am choosing to go with neither. I will go do my own thing for now. I... think I found a way to get Pearl back. There are some people in the capital that can maybe take me into the beast's realm."

"After there, I will likely go to the other side to the Luminance empire and find out if there is a way to heal my arm."

"If I can do that, I will come back and help you with yours as well," Alex said.

"I see," Wen Cheng said. "I would rather you don't put yourself in such a precarious position for us. However, I'm proud of knowing that you want to go out and venture into the world on your own. You have my approval."

Wen Cheng smiled towards Alex and patted him on his shoulders. "Thank you, master," he said and turned around to leave.

"Are you okay?" Wen Cheng asked, just as he was about to leave.

"Hmm... I'm fine," Alex said.

"Oh, okay," Wen Cheng said and watched Alex leave. He then slowly looked at his left arm and thought to himself, 'it didn't look like he had a fever or anything.'

He quickly forgot about it and went to do his own thing.

Alex went down to the sect crater. He planned on checking his strength this morning. During yesterday's short scuffle, he had realized that he had gotten stronger, but without the system, he was a little unsure of what realm he had reached in either his body or his cultivation.

He walked past the group of disciples that were fighting in the stages. None of them recognized him at all, which was understandable.

He was making his way to the Training Hall, when he saw something that caught his eyes.

"Ah, the stele," he thought. He hadn't been here in a long time. The last time he remembered being here was around the time when he was in the 3rd Mind Tempering realm.

That was over 2 months ago. Now, he was an entire realm higher. However, there was one problem now.

He no longer had the game system in him to translate the writing for him. Previously, he remembered the other soul reading the writing on it with his spiritual sense, which would give him a general idea of what was written on it, but that was only due to the system.

Would it even make sense to read it now that he was not a player anymore?

'It won't hurt to try right?' he thought and walked towards the Black Stele.

In the morning light, the Stele shined with iridescent glory, which could only be viewed at a certain angle.

Alex took a deep breath. He was both nervous and excited as he thought of using his spiritual sense on the stele once more.

"My spiritual sense has grown a lot. It will definitely not be able to attack me back this time, right?" he thought and opened his eyes to pour out his spiritual sense.

However, just as he was about to, he noticed something.

He could understand the words. He couldn't read them, just like previously with the other Alex, but he could understand them. Unlike the other him, he didn't even have to use his spiritual sense.

He felt exhilarated. 'So it had nothing to do with the system? Then what?' he wondered.

He looked back at the Stele and started reading it with a happy face. However, just as he was doing that, he started feeling a load on his mind.

Just reading the word was hurting him a bit. "Dammit! Is it attacking me for just reading too? How the hell does it realize I am reading it?" Alex thought.

Still, he forced himself to read the Stele.

After reading for a while, understanding the meanings behind those words, he stopped after reading the last word.

His head ached a lot, but it was manageable. 'Holy shit! That was so hard,' he thought.

He rubbed his head and waited for it to hurt a little less. "Is this a sort of security preventing people from reading the stele? I thought it was only supposed to hurt me when I used my spiritual sense," he thought.

After the pain died down a little, he started gathering the information he had learned.

Previously when he had read it, he had learned just two words from it, Attack and Weapon. At that time, he thought it was just a simple physical skill that used a weapon.

However, now he had come to learn it was not.

"Change the shape of my spiritual sense, and turn it into a weapon shape to attack? That sounds amazing," he thought.

Turning spiritual sense into a weapon. He could already change it into a fist and attack, but having a weapon with you that you could use endlessly was pretty amazing.

'I assume this is a mental attack too, right?' he thought. He wasn't sure, and wouldn't be until he could use it.

He decided to test it out and went to the Training Hall.

He asked for a room that would usually be asked by elders. Since the disciple's training room would no longer be strong enough to stop against him, he went with the stronger ones.

He first decided to test out his physical strength. He closed his eyes and took in his cultivation until he felt as nothing but a mortal.

Once that was complete, he looked at the puppet in front of him and dashed towards it.

He had no sword or any sort of weapons on him, so he could only use his fist to strike.

The punch landed on the puppet and a message popped up on it to tell him his strength.

-True Lord 3rd Realm-

Chapter 563: Testing and Training

-True Lord 3rd Realm-

"Oh, I got a little stronger huh? 1 step above my cultivation realm," Alex thought at first, his mind unable to comprehend the increase in strength his body had shown through the puppet.

However, when he did, he had to look back once again to make sure he read it right.

"Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait. True Lord? What the... how did I reach True Lord already? That's like 3 minor realms higher," Alex thought.

He was about 5th Mind Tempering realm in body cultivation when he fought the old man, and now he was at 3rd True lord realm.

'Did I get stronger due to my body surviving the poison... or? No, it's gotta be the fruit of the tree, right?' he thought.

If the tree alone was able to make the ground molten lava, then surely he was burned really bad by it as well. He couldn't imagine how much pain he must've gone through at that time.

He silently thanked the poison for damaging his pain receptors at the time.

"Then what about my cultivation base?" he wondered. He couldn't use his body to hit the puppet due to his body cultivation interfering with the result, so he needed to use a ranged attack.

'Hmm... I only have 3 attacks I can use,' he thought. He had a Supreme Metal root, so it would give a wrong assessment as well. So, the Iron Fist punch was out of the question as well.

He decided to use Palm of the Sun in the end. Alex pulled back his hand and sent out a palm-shaped vibrant yellow attack forward.

The flying palm hit the wooden puppet and showed another piece of information.

-True Disciple 9th realm-

"Wait what?" he exclaimed. That was 7 realms higher than his cultivation was at before. Considering he could always fight 4 realms higher in the self-tempering realm, which would become 3 realms higher in True realms, this meant that his cultivation base was now at True Disciple 6th realm.

'I broke through 4 times without knowing?' Alex thought in surprise. He wondered how he even broke through while his body was busy evolving into a higher grade one.

"Oh wait!" he thought. "Since my body's grade went up, my Qi must've improved along with it as well. That would make sense why I got so strong, instead of it being me breaking through."

"Still, it got strong enough to make my strength go up by a whole 7 realms? That's busted," he thought. Just as he was thinking that another thought came to his mind and a sneaky smile appeared on his face.

"Wait, does that mean I can put out True Master 1st realm attack if I use my metal skill?" he thought.

Alex got into stance once more and punched towards the wooden block. A fist-shaped golden attack flew through the air and struck the wooden puppet again.

Alex waited to see the result, and when it popped up... he got confused.

-True Disciple 9th realm-

"Hmm... wait, what?"

Both of his attacks returned the same damage. This was super confusing to him since he was expecting his metal attacks to deal damage a step higher than his yang attack.

Suddenly, a thought came to Alex.

"No way," he thought. Without thinking, he created a ball of fire, turning it into the shape of an arrow and shot it directly at the wooden puppet.

-True Disciple 8th realm-

"Woah!" Alex thought. His disbelief slowly cleared away as his excitement started reaching sky high.

Without hesitation, Alex put up his palm and tried to create yang Qi from it.

Yellow Qi escaped from his arm and moved in the air, all according to his will. It changed shape, increased in density, and even went back to his body.

"YES!" Alex shouted out loud.

His Yang spiritual root had evolved to become a Supreme Yang Spiritual Root.

"Yes! Yes! Yes!" Alex jumped around excitedly. "I can't believe I forgot about root promoting. After encountering such a rare Yang treasure, obviously, it would've evolved."

He smiled happily and said to himself, "2 down, 5 to go."

Alex continued his testing for a while and understood that those two elements were indeed anomalies. Other elements as expected gave him an attack equivalent to that of a True Disciple 8th realm cultivator.

Still, all of this wasn't really necessary since his physical body alone was stronger than half the elders in this sect.

He was now a little more confident that he could save Pearl easily.

Once he was done testing his strength, Alex felt annoyed that he still couldn't tell his own cultivation base at all. He was way too used to having the system tell him what his cultivation base was that he himself couldn't tell it anymore.

'Dammit, I will have to learn that all over again. For now, let's forget about it. I will ask master later when I see him,' he thought.

He finally stopped testing and started training. He started training.

The training was simple. He just had to follow what the technique in the stele had instructed him to do.

Alex took a deep breath and started by releasing his spiritual energy. Unlike the spiritual sense, the energy came directly from the spiritual sea itself.

Alex could see the slight yellow liquid changing to a slight yellow mist as it appeared in front of him.

"Release a bit of the spiritual sea," he said to himself. He continued with the instruction and said, "condense the energy as dense as you—"

The mist dissipated before he could even move on to the next step. "I need to concentrate more," he told himself and restarted.

He released a bit of the spiritual sea which came out of his mind in the form of a mist and landed on top of his palm.

He then concentrated hard on slightly yellow mist to condense it as well as he could. He concentrated for minutes as he condensed the mist as well as he could, and then released more to condense that onto the condensed mist as well.

Soon, the mist was starting to take a pale yellow, ethereal form that was slowly taking the shape of a sword. The sword he had chosen was the Steel sword he had now lost.

Alex concentrated to keep it in that shape. He couldn't focus on anything else.

Finally, the sword took form and Alex tried to grasp it. However, when he did, his hands passed through the hilt, giving him a bit of a surprise.

In his surprise, he lost a bit of his focus, and the whole sword came unraveling into wisps of mist once again and disappeared.

Alex sighed. He hadn't assumed this would be an easy task, but he hadn't expected it to be this difficult either.

He focused once more and tried to recreate it. It took a while, but he successfully made it again.

He then tried to grasp it again, and same as last time, his hands went through the hilt of the sword.

"Hmm... how am I supposed to use this if I can't even hold it?" he thought. Just keeping the shape in the form of a sword alone was taking all the concentration he could afford.

If he wanted to use this ability, then he would likely need to be more proficient in making the sword.

Chapter 564: The Same Thing

Alex trained for a couple of hours. He wanted to use the sword of Spiritual energy he had finally managed to create, but he was still having a hard time understanding how to grasp it.

Or maybe he didn't grasp it at all. He didn't understand what he was supposed to do. For some reason, that part of the skill wasn't written on the stele.

'I wonder why?' he thought. By the time he left the Training hall, he could at least say that he could easily form a spiritual sword while also concentrating on one other thing... half the time.

The task was so hard that he felt pride in just the slight bit of success itself.

'It's quite demanding of my spiritual sea though,' he thought. If he could make as many swords as he wanted at the same time, he was sure that he would only be able to make about 20 swords.

It was because he had to take time to create each one that his spiritual sea would replenish in time for another sword.

'I don't have anything to do tonight, so I guess I will train with it,' he thought.

He looked at the sky outside and figured it was a little past noon right now.

'What do I do now?' he thought. 'Ah, I should go make some pills.'

He had used up quite a few pills, so he needed to create some healing pills as well as some more that he could use to buy himself a cultivation method for himself.

'Let's go to the production hall then,' Alex thought and walked away from the Training Hall.

Alex got himself an alchemy room in the Production Hall, one that cost him full price because of his absurdly low badge number.

He chuckled to himself when he had heard the price. He shook his head and brought out his cauldron before placing it down on the furnace.

He thought to himself what he was going to make and what ingredients he would be needing for it. If he were to be honest to himself, he was feeling a little nervous about what he was going to do.

He hadn't by himself made any pills yet, so he was both anxious about it, and looking forward to it at the same time.

"No, I can do this. I know what to do. I just have to take a deep breath, and follow the recipe," Alex thought.

He waited for the cauldron to heat up to the appropriate temperature and dropped the first ingredient in.

'8 times— Counterclockwise— 4 seconds per rotation,' Alex knew what he had to do. He sent out his Qi and started moving the ingredient.

He followed the recipe as well as he could, even though it felt incredibly awkward to him to be taking pills.

After half a minute or so, when the ingredient finally turned to powder, all the energy in the ingredient seeped out of it.

Alex felt something wrong with what he was sensing. 'Is that... correct?' he thought. The energy was... just a tad bit stronger than it was supposed to be.

He thought he followed the recipe very well, but it seemed he was still making some mistake somewhere.

'Where did I go wrong?' he wondered while preparing his next ingredient.

He had to now drop the temperature to about 520 degrees before dropping the second ingredient, and he needed to do that in less than 5 seconds, or the powder would start burning.

He controlled the flame with his Flame Mastery Scripture and lowered the temperature to his desired temperature. However, it didn't go down as fast as he wanted it to.

Alex panicked a little and dropped the temperature all the way down to 500 very quickly and brought it back up to 520 degrees right around the time he was to drop the 2nd ingredient.

'I'm... safe right?' he asked himself. He dropped in the 2nd ingredient and followed the recipe.

As for the 3rd ingredient, he had to increase the temperature once again. He thought he was following his instinct and his muscle memory, but once again, he timed it wrong.

He increased it way too fast and had to work to bring it down a little, but it wasn't as smooth as last time, so he knew he screwed up, even if just a little bit.

'Am I really that bad without my real soul to help make the pills?' Alex worried. He knew he just needed a bit more training to get back into business, but it made him feel that everything his body was put through with the other soul was in some ways useless if he had to do it all over again.

He continued with the pill making and after about 15 or so minutes, it was time to form the pill.

He was surprised to notice something. He knew what he needed to do to form the pill in a single one, or if he wanted to, split the pill into two.

"I didn't know I had that knowledge," he said to himself and continued with forming a single pill since this was his first one.

When the pill was out, he had ended up forming a 29% Harmony pill. That... wasn't so bad for a first try, however, he was still disappointed. His other soul would've probably reached about 34% easily.

'How are we the same soul and yet so different?' he thought to himself and proceeded to continue improving.

He closed his eyes and thought of the mistakes he made.

'Spent a bit too much time on lowering that temperature. That temperature went high abruptly. That temperature...'

As Alex continued revising what he had done, he came to get to the conclusion that all the major mistakes he had done... had something to do with the temperature.

"Wait a second," he thought. "That's so weird. Why is only the temperature being affec—"

Alex's face changed when he got the inkling of what was happening. It had happened before... with his master the day she got her new body constitution.

"Am I going through the same thing as Master did?"

Chapter 565: Controlling Constitution

The fire burned silently under the cauldron, preparing it for the next set of ingredients that wouldn't come for a while.

Alex was like the fire too, silent and hot. He didn't know what to think now that he had realized the reason for being worse at alchemy than his other soul.

His Yang energy was building up in his body. It was the same as his master, whose Yin energy built up so much that she couldn't perform alchemy for a long time.

'I must be producing heat around me like Master produced coldness,' Alex thought. It had only been a day since he had gotten the Celestial grade body, so it was understandable that he wouldn't know how to control it yet.

However, he still felt like it sucked since he was intended to make so many healing pills. He didn't want to waste more time trying to relearn alchemy for his new body when he needed to go save Pearl as soon as he could.

He tried to think of ways to counter his heat for now. 'I should be able to contain it for now right?' he thought.

Even his master who would freeze everything around and her make him fear could contain it, so he should be able to as well.

He took a deep breath and tried to contain any aura he was sending out of him right now. He slowly felt the yang energy with his body and willed it to come back to his body.

Surprisingly, it didn't take any more persuading for the Yang energy to enter his body and go deep within him. Within seconds, the yang energy emanating from his body vanished without a single sign.

'That... is weird,' he thought. He remembered his master still having a cold aura around her even when she had completely taken in everything she could.

"Am I doing better because of my Supreme Yang Root?" Alex wondered. That was the only answer that made sense.

He nodded to himself once he was fully done with controlling his aura. Then, he proceeded to make more pills.

This time, there were no mistakes. At least, there were no mistakes that he made by not being able to control the flames like before.

There were still many mistakes, many mysteries to creating pills themselves that Alex probably had no clue about.

He continued making the same pill as before and in the next 10 minutes, turning all of the ingredients into powder.

Next up, was the time to form the pill. As before, he understood that he could split the pill if he wanted to, but he decided not to do that again.

Since he was making a healing pill, it was better to have a single good pill, than 2 mediocre ones.

So, he formed the powder into a single compact pill that could hold more of the energy.

Once the pill formed, Alex brought it out and looked at it. "Hmm... 34%, that's actually pretty good," he thought.

It was only his second try at making pills, and he had already reached a level that would take others over 10 years to reach with common pills.

This rejuvenated Alex's motivation to make more pills. So, he continued making healing pills for the next 2 hours.

Over the course of the 2 hours, on multiple occasions, his yang energy escaped from his body while he was focused on the pills and disturbed his process again.

They weren't as bad as the first time, but his pills still came out worse than desired during those moments.

However, the times he did have them in check, the pills came out quite well. In fact, one of the pills even reached 40% harmony, despite Alex didn't really do anything different.

He was quite happy about that. Unfortunately, he couldn't continue to make the healing pills since his ingredients were finished.

'I ran out so fast,' he thought. There was a pile of ingredients in his own bag that were of no use to him just because he didn't know what pills they could make.

Alex would have to do some tests with them once he was more comfortable with making True pills.

After the healing pills were made, Alex decided to make some other pills he could use to sell for money or use to gather more Qi to breakthrough.

He prepared his ingredients, made sure his Yang energy was in check and started making pills once more.

As he continued making the pill, and the pill was finally ready to be formed, something in him told him that he should try to make this one into two.

Not only would he be able to contain more of the energy using the two pills, it would also be a test on how the thing exactly worked.

Since the other Alex never figured it out, he was going to find out what was happening.

One thing he knew that the other Alex didn't was that, the 'pill-splitting Qi' as he called it was actually a technique, most likely created by the Alchemy god himself, that could be used to separate the pill into two parts.

Similar to what the previous Alex encountered, the technique was mostly automatic in that it formed the pills on its own and even forced energy into them. The only difference now was, Alex had the ability to dictate when to use it.

He no longer had to worry about the pills accidentally splitting when he needed a single, better pill.

Alex employed the technique, and the Qi in his body started moving. They went around his body in a certain pattern and released it in front of him to carve a divide in the powder and slowly form them into two separate spheres of the same size as what the original pill would have looked like.

Alex watched curiously as the vortex started once more that sucked in the energy from the cauldron into the pills.

Once the pills formed, Alex brought them out and checked them.

'24% and 25% harmony, huh?' he thought. 'Meaning, I could have done about 49% if I knew what the technique did.'

He tested the pills and bit and noticed that the two pills were quite hollow, compared to what a normal pill could be. After all, the two pills were formed from the powder that should have formed a single pill.

'Hmm,' Alex thought. 'Since a single pill is supposed to have all the energy in the powder, I guess it makes sense that half the powder can only store half the energy.'

'But that still doesn't answer why the two pills have collectively more energy than what a single pill would have,' Alex wondered. This was something the previous Alex had wondered as well without any luck.

'I should focus on finding this answer,' Alex thought. 'Also, how does pill tester work? How are they able to tell how much harmony a pill has? Isn't Percentage supposed to be relative to the pill? That would make this 25% make no sense.'

He wondered what criteria the tester considered when it formed its assessment. Whatever it was, Alex didn't know. There was not a single piece of information in his brain about the pill testers themselves aside from how to make one.

'So... we only know the blueprint to the testing system itself huh?' Alex thought.

He shook his head and forgot about the questions for now and continued making the pills. Over the course of the next few hours, he made quite a lot of pills.

The highest of which reached 48% on a pill with Metal energy as the final energy. He was so happy to see that he was getting so close to making Heaven-grade True pills.

After he was done, Alex left the production hall. The sun had just gone down, and the lanterns around the sect crater were starting to burn to illuminate the area.

Shouts of fighting still rang from where the fighting stage was. Alex walked the opposite way went back to his sister's house.

When he arrived, he noticed that the door was locked, so he went to find his sister.

As expected, she was training along with Du Yuhan in their Master's training room.

Alex went in and watched as his sister attacked with all her might, sending out slashes, and ice spears at Du Yuhan.

Du Yuhan on the other hand was focused on using Sword Intent as well as his more polished Sword Qi to block the attacks and even force some back towards Luo Mei.

Alex watched the two of them fight for a while before the two decided to stop.

"Do you want to fight too, brother Yu?" Du Yuhan asked.

"It's fine," Alex said. "You guys can fight."

Du Yuhan looked at him with a weird face and asked, "Won't you need to train some more now that you only have one arm to use? Surely you don't think fighting will be the same with a single-arm compared to two right?"

"Hmm, you aren't wrong in that," Alex said. "It would be good to learn how to use sword in ways that benefit me, but unfortunately I don't have my sword now. I broke it in the fight a week ago."

"Excuses," Du Yuhan said. "You can get comfortable with a sword you get later on. For now, use a common sword as I do."

"Come, let's fight."

Alex thought for a bit. He really didn't want to fight as he didn't believe there was any way for Du Yuhan to win against him. However...

"Sure," Alex said with a smile. The temptation to fight was too much for him.

Chapter 566: Graduation

Alex left the training hall with his sister, leaving behind a shocked Du Yuhan.

That hadn't even been a fight. Alex had casually blocked all of Du Yuhan's attack and used an attack of his own to bring Du Yuhan down to his knees.

Even when Du Yuhan used his Sword Qi, Alex could easily overpower it. Alex was excited about the fight, but this wasn't it.

He returned back to his sister's house and went back to his room.

'What am I to do now?' he wondered. Once again, there wasn't anything to do, so he decided to sleep.

The next couple of days went in a similar fashion. Alex spent the majority of the day making something or training his new technique, the one whose name he didn't know of.

Occasionally, he went to the Hong Wu sect to see what was happening.

Finally, his graduation days were fixed. It would take place in the Hong Wu sect first, and then in the Tiger sect the next day.

Alex felt anxious. He had never expected to have to leave this place one day permanently, but that didn't mean he wouldn't have to.

He wished for the auction to take place earlier since he needed a new cultivation method, but it didn't seem like there would be one.

The bi-annual auction seemed to have been canceled after the attack on the city that happened nearly 2 weeks ago.

Alex spoke with Wen Cheng too, but it seemed the sect only had Earth grade cultivation method as well. Most Heaven Grade cultivation methods were in private hands that Alex couldn't have.

Wen Cheng gave Alex his own cultivation method, but it was a Wood affiliated cultivation method, which Alex didn't find very helpful.

Since his wood root was quite bad, he decided not to use it.

"It will be better if I find one with no affinity, metal affinity, or Yang affinity since my roots favor them the most," Alex thought.

Something else had been happening over the course of the last few days. Alex had been slowly and slowly growing hotter, just like his master had.

It wasn't hot enough that he had to stay inside and isolate himself, but it was still causing him some major problems during alchemy.

Worst of all, it wasn't stopping at all. Fortunately, however, he had the yang roots that could control all free yang, so he could contain the yang in him much easier than his master could contain her yin.

For now, he had nothing to worry about. He only feared that there would come a day when he too would have to get holed up in a room somewhere, heating up everything around him.

Alex woke up early the next day and went over to the Hong Wu sect. Today was the day of graduation.

Surprisingly, it wasn't just him graduating. It seemed Wan Li had decided to use the day to graduate as well.

The ceremony was simple. It was held in the Elders hall, where only the elders could view it. The First elder who was acting as the interim sect leader officiated the ceremony.

He gave a small speech, congratulating the alchemists that were graduating and offering them good wishes on things that were to come in the future.

He then called them out by the name, as one by one, they went up to get their graduation award.

The award was simple. Before the ceremony, they had been asked for their nameplate. Now, their award was their nameplate, but it had an 'Alumnus' carved onto it.

Alex got his nameplate back and shook the first elder's hands. He walked away and stood by Wan Li who had already gotten his award.

Alex looked at the word 'Alumnus' and started feeling a little emotional. He had spent so many nights and days in this place that he couldn't help but feel sad, but also, he was sad that his master wasn't here to see him graduate.

She had planned for so long for him to graduate to become an elder, and yet, things never happened the way she wanted to.

The graduation ceremony changed to become an Elder recruitment ceremony.

Wan Li and a few others walked up to say their vows and get recruited as the elder of the sect.

'So... Zhou Mei is the number 1 disciple now, huh?' he thought. It wouldn't take very long for her to graduate either.

The ceremony ended not long after, and the elders congratulated all of them.

"I know you have made up your mind, but there is still time. You can still be an el—"

"Lang Shun!" the Grand Elder shouted. "He's already made up his mind. Don't try to dissuade him now."

The Grand elder then turned to Alex and said. "Congratulations on graduating. I hope you continue to do well and make us all proud."

"Thank you, grandmaster," Alex bowed towards him.

Grand Elder started tearing up a little. "If only your master was here to see you. She would be so proud of you," the Grand Elder said.

Alex talked to the two for a while before leaving outside. Outside the Elders hall, a few disciples were waiting for the rest to come out.

Wan Li had already appeared outside, and the group was done congratulating him.

After Alex walked out, most people didn't recognize who he was at all. Only a select few congratulated him and started asking what his plans were next, which Alex answered without hesitation.

"Mingming, are you really leaving the sect?" Fan Ruogang asked with a somber voice.

"Yes, I am," Alex said.

"Will you ever come back?" she asked.

"Of course," Alex said. "I will come back a lot, but you shouldn't expect me to be around a lot."

"I can't believe it, brother Yu. It feels like a week ago I asked you to help me by being an aid. Now you've graduated as one of the best students. This is just mind-blowing," Kong Yuhan said.

"You're not very far away from graduating as well, brother Yuhan. Keep working hard," Alex said.

"I will," Kong Yuhan said. "Especially now that I have used the flower you gave me, it will be much easier, I suppose."

"It will. Trust me," Alex said.

Zhou Mei was mostly quiet, so Alex didn't bother to say much except wish her good luck on her graduations as well.

Afterward, Alex left the group and went to the alchemy garden to see his master. He reached the top and sighed a little when he saw the plant slowly try to distance itself from him.

"Hey, Master. Were you lonely? I hope senior green has been keeping you company," Alex said, sensing the snake close by. "I came here to let you know that I graduated today. I know you wanted to see me do it very badly, but it seems fate had other plans."

"I miss you master, and I will continue missing you. This is probably going to be my last visit for a long while. I don't know when I will return, but when I do, I promise you that I will be someone you can be proud of."

After a few minutes, Alex left the garden and went out of the gates of the sect. He turned one last time to look at the sect he called home.

This was going to be the last time he got to see the sect for many, many years.

Chapter 567: Sect Treasury

Alex returned back to the Tiger sect late afternoon. He wanted to go practice his spiritual weapon technique.

By now, he was able to somewhat effortlessly create a sword, but using the sword was still a problem for him. As he couldn't hold it in his hands, and since Qi didn't work on it, he needed to think of something else.

However, before he could go anywhere, he got a message on his communication talisman telling him to go to the Disciple's hall as soon as possible.

Alex wondered what the reason was and walked to the sect crater before making his way to the Disciple hall.

The Disciple's hall was also the Elder's hall, so when he reached there, he sent a message to his master, telling him he was there.

He waited a few minutes before Wen Cheng walked out with the First Elder. Alex greeted them both, hiding his curious expression as he wondered why the first elder was with them.

"Come," Wen Cheng called him and took him along away from the sect crater. However, they weren't walking towards the wall or either path that lead to the crater.

Rather, they were walking towards the back half of the mountain, the one that was half gone when the crater formed.

"I've never been to this part of the sect before," Alex said as they walked up the side of the mountain.

There was a staircase that lead a bit up the side and was quite indistinguishable from far away, so Alex was seeing something new today.

"Let's go," Wen Cheng said and walked up.

Alex followed behind and looked up. There were a few elders standing guard in front of a couple of houses built into the walls.

Alex knew this was where the elders that weren't numbered stayed, but this was his first time seeing this.

However, Wen Cheng and the First elder didn't seem to be bringing him to an Elder's house.

Instead, they walked past the houses and went to a massive stone door. There were 2 more elders standing guard in front of the door.

They bowed towards Wen Cheng the moment they saw him and stepped to the side.

Alex curiously looked at the patterns on the door. At first, he thought it was a normal stone door, but it didn't take him very long to realize that it actually had a formation carved onto it.

'It's a seal,' he thought.

Wen Cheng brought out a circular metal plate that had the word 'Leader' written behind it, and placed it onto the stone door.

Suddenly, the door lit up and opened inwards, revealing a dark cavern that was dug into the mountain itself.

Alex could see no light coming from inside the room so it was as dark as he expected it to be.

"Let's go inside," Wen Cheng said and walked in, followed by the First elder and finally, the curious Alex.

"What is this place, master? I didn't even know a place like this existed before," Alex said.

Alex heard a slam just then and turned his head to look behind him. The stone doors had shut themselves and the metal plate flew past him back to Wen Cheng's hand.

When Alex turned back to the front, he suddenly saw light flickering all around him.

Before he knew it, the lanterns that were present in the wall started glowing all around him, illuminating the place like they did the crater in the nighttime.

"This is the sect treasury. Everything the sect has ever owned is stored in this place," Wen Cheng said.

"Sect treasury?" Alex couldn't help but make a shocked face. He looked around in awe as he saw the glistening armors, the stacks of books, and the various other treasures in the room.

"This is your first time here right?" The first elder asked with a smile.

"Yes," Alex said. "What are we doing here?"

"I explained your deeds to the other elders. They know what you did for the sect. Not only did you save the various disciples while nearly dying on your own, but they also know that you killed the Second Elder, Su Chen who was a dark spot in the sect's history."

"So, to reward you for this I persuaded the elders to let you have something from the treasury. This... is my graduation gift to you," Wen Cheng said.

Alex looked around the treasury in shock once more and turned back to Wen Cheng to ask, "I can take a thing from this place?"

"No," the first elder said, killing Alex's excitement in one go.

"You can get 2 things," he said.

Alex's excitement came back in full swing. "Two things? Are you sure?"

"Yes, see what you like, and choose two of the. We will sit here," Wen Cheng said.

"Thank you, master," Alex said and walked forward to see what he could find that he would like.

The treasury room was long and narrow. To his right was a wall full of armor and shield. To his left were formation plates, kept in a stack.

Adjacent to the formation plates were some talismans, and opposite to them was a group of weapons, adjacent to the armors.

Going further up, there was a stack of various different things, including books that were kept in a very orderly manner as well as a few pills.

Alex walked forward and started checking the various things that were on the shelves.

He started with the armors and shields. They looked shiny in the lantern light, and some looked very strong, but... for some reason they didn't appeal to him.

Shields would be useless for a one-handed man like him, but the armors also felt useless once he thought about the fact that he was a body cultivator with a True Lord 3rd realm of body cultivation.

'Yeah, I will have to skip these,' he thought. He went past the armors and looked at the weapons. There were spears, sabers, axes, and even hammers, but barely any swords.

Any sword that was there made him feel like they just weren't for him. 'They just don't seem as good as the steel sword,' he thought.

"Sorry about the swords. Those are some of the things that get taken away the most when we do reward students and elders. After hundreds of years, those are the only ones that have managed to get left behind," Wen Cheng shouted from the back.

"I see," Alex said. 'So in a sense, these are the bad bunch, huh? Better not choose it then.'

Alex turned around towards the formation and talisman shelves and looked around. He picked up a few and noticed that the formations were mostly True ranked formations. Which meant... he could easily make it too.

He wasn't sure what grade he could make, but as long as he was given the blueprint and a metal plate, he could easily recreate them for himself.

As for the Saint ranked formations... he didn't have Saint Qi, so it would be impossible to use it anyway.

He looked towards the talismans and... yeah, they were impossible to decipher for him. The runes required to make the talismans were not something he had knowledge of at the moment, so he couldn't choose amongst them.

Alex shook his head and walked forward to look at the final giant shelf on the wall at the end.

He looked through the various things, hoping to have something here that he would like to keep.

"Do you not like anything?" Wen Cheng asked from behind while Alex was still looking.

"Not yet, but I have yet to look at the books. Hopefully, they have something," Alex said.

He randomly picked up a book and tried to dust it, however, no dust came off of it.

"Oh, these are quite clean," Alex said. He turned around to look at the items that he had walked past, and they were equally clean.

"Do people come here often?" Alex asked.

"Hmm, no. Maybe once a few years," Wen Cheng said, a little confused why Alex was asking.

"Oh, I'm surprised this place managed to gather no dust with barely any visitors in years," Alex said.

"Ah," Wen Cheng understood. "No, it was opened 3 months ago. That was when we cleaned it. Otherwise, it gathers quite the dust."

"Oh," Alex was curious now. "3 months ago... wasn't I still here at that time? I didn't know someone did something to be rewarded," Alex said.

"I believe you were in the Hong Wu sect at the time. And no, nobody got any reward. We opened the place because there was some commotion inside here," Wen Cheng said.

"Ahem, brother Wen, you are a little wrong about that," the First Elder said from the side.

"Hmm? I'm wrong?" Wen Cheng asked.

"Yes," the First Elder said. "There was another commotion not two weeks ago. It happened the night after the bandits were defeated."

"Oh," Wen Cheng said. "I didn't know something like that happened."

"Yes," First Elder said. "It was quite problematic timing too since the commotion happened right as we all lost the ability to use the Qi. It was only later we got to come in to check when I assumed the sect leader role for a few days."

"Commotion right as the Qi disappeared?" Alex asked. He thought of something and started recalling the days in his mind.

3 months ago... that was about a week or two before he was taken to the Beast's realm. If the two commotions were to be caused by the same thing, then there was something that connected them.

'That was the same day as the sand storm in the desert, wasn't it?' Alex realized.

Chapter 568: Silver Stone

Two times, the tree had sent out a wave of Yang energy, and two times there was commotion here. 'That is no coincidence,' he thought.

"What do you mean by commotion exactly, master?" Alex asked.

"Well, there are some books that fall down, along with some of these armors and formations, but that's it. The commotion is usually these armors making noises. They are quite loud," Wen Cheng said.

"Armors?" Alex walked back to the armor and checked them again carefully. Except, this time he used his spiritual sense as well.

'Yang energy,' he thought when he felt the slightest hint of yang energy on those armors.

'Shame I don't need them,' he thought. He then turned back around to the books and thought, 'some of those reacted to the yang energy too right?'

He went on to check them as well. He spread out his spiritual sense and found that they still had some lingering yang Qi in them.

'Hmm... will they...'

Suddenly, Alex let go of the restraint he was constantly putting on himself and let his Yang energy flow around freely.

He kept tabs on the books with the lingering yang, and suddenly they responded with slight vibrations. It wasn't much, but Alex caught the vibration with his spiritual sense.

There were 3 that showed the most response. Alex took back the yang before either of the other 2 noticed what he was doing and checked the books.

He pulled all 3 of them out and tried to read them. He started with the lowest one and when he opened it, he realized it was in a language he couldn't read but could understand.

'Hmm...!' he read the introduction section of the book and as expected, he could understand what the words meant even if he couldn't read it.

The first book was a defensive yang art that created a defensive barrier that could withstand strong attacks.

From what Alex could tell, the technique was a heavens grade technique, and maybe even an immortal grade one.

'That's quite good,' he thought. He continued to the second book and read about it.

This technique was one that helped create a false clone that could be used as a method of confusion and distraction for the enemy. While it didn't have any offensive capabilities, Alex reckoned it could be quite good if used properly.

Finally, he read the one that gave the most reaction when it came into contact with Yang energy.

As he kept reading it, his eyes went wide. 'No way!' he thought.

It was decided, he was going to take this book. "This is my first one, master," Alex said.

"Oh, you chose one?" Wen Cheng looked curiously at the book Alex chose. From what he could remember, he had no way of reading it.

"What about the second one?" Wen Cheng asked.

Alex looked at the doppelganger book that could be useful, but its use cases were so... limited that he didn't want to choose it right away.

'Is there anything else I can take?' Alex wondered and look to the side. There were some pills, some stones, some books, and various other trinkets.

Alex looked at them and couldn't really tell what he could want from them. 'Maybe they have yang aura too,' he thought and released his spiritual sense to check through all of those.

As he did that, he sensed something weird. Rather, he didn't sense it at all.

Alex moved to the object and picked it up. It was a silver-colored rock, about the size of a human head, and weighed practically nothing.

If not for Alex holding the stone, he would have assumed that it was not there at all.

Even his spiritual sense told him there was nothing in his hand. That was perhaps the weirdest thing he had ever sensed.

Even his master who was a void in his spiritual sense could still be told that she was there just based on the dead spot in his senses.

This stone, however, was as if his spiritual sense just passed through it.

'No?' Alex thought when he realized he was a little wrong. He had been limiting his senses to just sense the rock so he didn't notice it, but when he increased the range of his spiritual sense, he realized that the stone was acting as a sort of absorbent that swallowed all of his Spiritual sense.

No matter how far he released his spiritual sense, the stone would swallow all the spiritual sense that he was putting on it.

'This is incredible. Is this a sort of rock that can be used against mental attacks?' Alex wondered.

"Master, do you know what this is?" he asked, showing the silver rock to Wen Cheng.

Wen Cheng walked up to Alex and looked at the rock. "No," Wen Cheng said. "I have seen this here for a long time, but still to this day, I have no idea what it is. All I can guess is it's a special artifact material."

"I guessed so too," Alex said. He was truly fascinated by the stone now. However, since he didn't know what it did, he didn't want to choose it either.

He fell into a dilemma. 'What should I do?' he wondered. No matter what he thought, the doppelganger skill was definitely more useful for him, but... this silver stone that could make spiritual sense useless was also quite useful if he could use it right.

'Uhh...' he was having a really hard time choosing. 'Should I just read that book right here?' he wondered.

He took the book and started flipping through it.

"Disciple Yu Ming, are you choosing that book?" the First Elder asked.

"Uh... no, first elder. I am just trying to see if it is even useful to me since it's impossible to read, you know," he lied and continued reading.

Finally, after a few minutes, he finished the book and closed it. "This language really is similar to the one in the stele, isn't it? Have you managed to figure out what it is?" Alex asked.

Wen Cheng looked at him weirdly. He knew Alex could read the book and was even sure that Alex was reading it right now. The only reason he let him be was that he was his disciple.

"No," the first elder replied. "I don't think anyone has managed to crack the language yet."

"That's unfortunate. Then I guess I will take the stone," Alex said and put back the book.

"What about the other book? Why are you taking it if you don't understand it?" the first Elder asked.

"Um, since I'm going to the capital tomorrow, I will try and see if there is anyone out there that knows this language. It might be a lost cause, but I will try," Alex said.

The First elder could find no faults in his words, so he let him be and accepted it.

"Let's leave," Wen Cheng said and the lot started walking outwards.

Alex looked at the book and put it back into his storage bag, he would use it later tonight, and then he looked at the silver stone too and kept it in his storage. Only...

"Huh?" Alex exclaimed in surprise. The rock wouldn't go into his storage bag at all.

Alex panicked a little. 'Huh? What's happening?'

Alex tried to force the silver stone into the storage bag, but no matter what, it wouldn't go in there at all.

"What's wrong?" Wen Cheng asked, having already opened the door in front of him.

"I don't know, master. I can't put this rock into my storage bag at all," he said, still trying to use his Qi to force it in.

"Is that so?" Wen Cheng asked with a weird face and returned to help Alex, but he too couldn't force the rock into any storage bag.

"That is weird," he said, with his hands rubbing his chin in confusion.

"Do I take it out like this?" Alex asked.

"I don't know," Wen Cheng said. "Maybe swap it for something else?"

Alex thought about it but shook his head in the end. "I want to take it," he said.

It was an amazing rock that blocked spiritual sense. If he could make an artifact out of this rock, he wouldn't even have to worry about Saint realm cultivators finding him.

'I would rather carry it around in a backpack. Not like it's going to weigh me down or anything,' he thought and walked out with it in hand.

The three of them dropped down from the place. Alex took his leave and left to go to his sister's house. He couldn't wait to try out a few things.

As soon as he reached there, he quickly made up an excuse and went into his room.

As soon as he went in, he set aside the silver stone on the bed. The stone was definitely something fascinating, but there was something else that fascinated Alex even more.

'No way I read it correctly, right?' he asked himself as he brought out the book he had acquired from the treasury. It was the thing with the most yang aura around it and definitely something incredible.

He was more sure when he read the introduction of the book, but that... that was simply unbelievable.

He read it once more just to be sure, and as expected, no matter how many times he read it, it still said the same thing.

"Five Yang Divine Path," he read the name with nothing but awe in his eyes. Using a cultivation technique to cultivate the yang and use it to reach the Divine realm.

Alex continued reading it as he had finally found a cultivation technique that suit him the best.

He continued reading it and soon, his eyes went wide. He had underestimated the book.

He had truly underestimated what he had come to acquire. His hands shook while he read the book and the content of it was poured into his brains.

'No way!' he thought. 'Even if this book came down in the meteor shower, there is no way something this good can exist, right?'

Five Yang Divine Path was a cultivation method that contained 5 different cultivation methods that were similar in most ways except for a few which made one better than the other.

The five cultivation methods all ranged from Common grade all the way to Divine grade, and one could only use those cultivation techniques when their Yang Qi was of a certain strength.

This meant that while you had to start with a not-so-great cultivation technique if you persisted and continuously broke through a couple of realms, you could reach a level where you could start using Immortal grade and even Divine grade techniques.

Alex couldn't wait to try this technique. If it worked, he could finally breakthrough from his current True Disciple 2nd realm and continue on his cultivation journey.

He could use the same technique all the way to the divine realm too, so that made him lose the problem of having to find cultivation methods again.

Alex finished reading the cultivation method and decided to try it out. He knew all 5 of the methods but wasn't sure how well his body could handle them. So, he decided to start with the Common grade one.

He sat down on his bed and started cultivating. Within minutes, he realized that it was too easy.

The Yang in his body moved in a very swift manner, and he could feel himself barely collecting any Qi at all.

'No, I have to use the Earth grade one,' he thought and changed his cultivation method.

When he used this method, he felt like it fit him perfectly. The speed of the yang Qi in his meridian wasn't overly fast, and he was collecting a decent amount of Qi too.

However, he felt like he could go a step beyond. So, he changed his method one last time and started cultivating using the Heaven grade method.

He took a deep breath and started moving the Qi in his body in accordance with the technique.

As he did, he found it a bit uncomfortable to his body. It was like his Qi was trying to burst out of his meridians. Fortunately, as a body cultivator, Alex could handle it without any problem.

So, All in all, he could afford to use this method well, however, he didn't dare go a step higher with using the next method in line. He didn't know if his Qi was thick enough to use it or not, but his body was definitely not strong enough.

'It's likely meant to be used by a normal Immortal realm cultivator from the heavens,' Alex thought.

As he cultivated, he could feel the Qi around him converge on him, and soon he became an eye of the vortex.

In the vortex, Alex found serenity. He fell into a deep trance, not the kind where he fell asleep, but the kind where he knew nothing but the fact that he was cultivating.

The serene feeling was something he had never felt before. It was as if he was finally reunited with something he had lost for a long time.

Seconds passed, minutes passed, and hours passed. But Alex knew not how long passed. Alex could no longer feel the time pass.

Just as he was cultivating, Alex heard a large knock on his door. He slowly stopped cultivating and felt disappointed. It was just getting good too.

He shook his head and walked up to the door and opened it.

"What the hell are you doing? Are you okay?" Luo Mei quickly walked into the room and looked around.

Alex looked around with her and didn't notice anything at all. "What's wrong, sister?" he asked.

Luo Mei looked at Alex and frowned. "Are you the cause of it?" she asked.

"The cause of what?" Alex asked.

"This heat. Why the hell is it so hot in this house? I can't even cultivate cause of it," she said in an annoyed tone.

'Heat?' Alex immediately sent out his spiritual sense and realized that there was nothing but Yang Qi in the surrounding.

"Ah, sorry sister. This must've been because of my new cultivation method," Alex said.

"Your cultivation method?" Luo Mei asked in a strange tone. "How is a cultivation method producing this much heat? I couldn't use my spiritual sense to check what was happening, since it kept getting destroyed."

"I'm sorry. I will take care of it," Alex said and took a deep breath to pull back all the Yang energy his body had defused into the air.

Within minutes, the house was back to being cool again, but Alex felt a little uncomfortable this time.

This was just too much yang Qi for even him to hold back. He needed to release it somewhere, but he didn't know where.

Luo Mei shut down the door and left. Alex sat down on the bed with the new problem in hand.

'What the hell do I do now?' he wondered.

If cultivating for just a little while caused this much problem, there would be more problems if he cultivated it for days.

'I need to find a fix to my body constitution problem before it gets any worse,' Alex thought. 'Master managed to do it, so I should be able to as well.'

Alex was very sure that it was possible. He just didn't know how.

'How did master fix her problem again?' he tried to think. Soon a memory surfaced in his mind with a weird feeling attached to it.

He could almost feel that this memory belonged to him, that he was the one that experienced it, even though he was never the one to have experienced this.

The feeling was weird for sure, but not very important at the moment. What was important was the memory he had just found.

He had asked the master how she got rid of the Yin Qi that her body was constantly diffusing and she had given him the answer.

'Since my Yin Qi was getting out of control, I used Yang Qi to contain it,' she had told him.

"Right!" he thought as he finally remembered it. "If she used Yang Qi, I can use Yin Qi. Now where can I f—"

Alex's eyes shined as he realized that he already had the ability to create Yin as much as he wanted.

He sat back down on his bed and started cultivating once more. Only, this time he wouldn't use the Five Yang Divine Path cultivation method. Instead, he would use the final gift his master had given to him.

Her own cultivation method, the Winter Moon Cultivation method.

Alex took a deep breath and started employing the technique and soon the Qi in his body, which was yang, was slowly being turned into Yin thanks to his Yin spiritual roots.

And very soon, things were starting to happen in his body that he had never experienced before.

The last time Alex, or rather the other Alex had tried out this cultivation method, the yin forming in his body had been contested by the Yang in his body and quickly pushed out of him.

This was what Alex had assumed would happen this time as well, and he was hoping to use that removed yin Qi to surround him and contain his Yang Qi.

However, something different happened. Something he hadn't been expecting at all.

The Yin Qi that had barely formed in his meridian were immediately attacked by the excess Yang Qi that was all over his body and meridian.

Within seconds, the Yang destroyed the Yin. However, in the process, the Yang that destroyed the yin got just that bit weaker.

It wasn't what Alex had expected would happen, but it was working.

Alex closed his eyes and started cultivating. He put all of his focus into his body and started producing as much Yin as he could to fight off the Yang Qi.

'I can't believe it,' he thought. 'I finally manage to get a cultivation method that is incredible and suits me perfectly, and yet I'm stuck here cultivating the wrong type of Qi.'

He couldn't help but sigh. 'At least there is a silver lining to all of this,' he thought. 'With this, I can finally cultivate the method my master left me with.'

Time passed, neither fast nor slow. When it came to be morning, Alex finally stopped cultivating. He had been cultivating for nearly 5 hours now, and all he did was convert Yang Qi to Yin Qi and then use the Yin Qi to fight off the other Yang Qi.

Somehow, this one technique had turned out to be more effective than just him containing the Yang aura within him.

In just 5 hours, he was back to being around the same level in yang aura as the first day he left the desert.

The better part about this cultivation method was also that when the Yang and the Yin destroyed each other, Alex would get pure Qi, which due to alchemy he knew was just Yang and Yin linked together in harmony.

'Well, there is the problem that I can't collect any outside Qi, but using a day to clear up 6 days worth of yang in a week might not be a bad idea when I actually start to cultivate,' he thought.

Finally, he got out of bed and stretched. Today was the day. Today was when he graduated from this sect as well.

Alex felt melancholic and shook his head. He turned his head around and saw the silver stone simply laying there on the bed next to him.

Without realizing, he had cultivate next to it all night. 'Right, I forgot about this thing,' he thought and picked it up.

As usual, Alex was a little startled to feel it's weightlessness. 'This surely is a very unique rock,' he thought and checked it again.

Alex put used his spiritual sense again and just as he felt yesterday, it absorbed all of it.

'I wonder if it works the same for Qi as well,' he thought and poured in his Yang Qi.

To his surprise, it did. No matter how much Yang Qi he poured in it, it continued to get filled.

'Wait, can't I use it to keep my excess Yang aura?' Alex thought. As if realizing something incredible, Alex increased the output of his Yang Qi and poured in as much as he could.

A tumultuous amount of Qi was poured into the silver rock and it absorbed every single one of the Qi.

This only made Alex pour in more. 'Just what is this thing? How is it so incredible?' he thought.

Just as he was thinking that, something weird happened. The silver rock suddenly glowed a little with bright silver color and disappeared.

"Wh-What?" Alex was surprised. "Where did it go?"

He looked at himself, his surrounding and even his storage bags. Yet, the stone was nowhere to be found.

'What happened? Did I over do it and break it?' he wondered. That would be bad. If he had known something like this would have happened, he would have never poured in so much of his Qi.

'But it looked to incredible. I didn't know its durability was so low,' he thought and brought out his spiritual sense to search for its fragments

However, just as he did that, he found the rock. The rock was floating.

It wasn't floating in the room, or his storage bag, or anywhere physical either.

It was floating above his spiritual sea in his mind. 'What the hell?' Alex thought.

He immediately put himself into his spiritual sea and appeared on the surface of the water. He looked up high in the air and saw the rock that was about the size of a mountain in his mind, a mountain that was 5 kilometers tall and 5 kilometers wide.

Alex didn't even know his spiritual sea could stretch this far.

'What the hell is this?' he thought. He slowly flew up and touched the silver mountain with his palm. He could feel the texture of the mountain, yet the weight was still missing.

Suddenly, he noticed something. Right where he had touched it, a single silver hair-like strand separated itself from the mountain.

It flew into the air, hovering just like the mountain next to it. Alex had never been this confused before.

In all of his knowledge he had acquired in the past 8 months, nothing came close to describing what was happening.

He tried to grab the silver strand that floated away from the rock and when he did, the strand vanished.

Alex felt like he absorbed it for some reason, even though he wasn't sure about it.

'Can I absorb it? What does it do? Surely not increase my mental strength right?' Alex was excited at the concept of absorbing it.

He placed his palm back on the mountain, and with just a thought, a massive amount of Yellow fog erupted from around him. It quickly enveloped the entire mountain, and Alex started absorbing it.

However, no matter how much he tried, he couldn't absorb it at all. He soon realized that there was no change to the mountain.

'What the hell?' he thought and removed his hand. When he did, another strand of silver hair floated away from the mountain.

'No way,' he thought. 'Am I going to have to absorb this entire mountain one hair-like strand at a time?'

This was an ordeal that he couldn't complete in a single day. If he were to go strand by strand, it would take him an eternity to completely absorb the entire mountain.

'I guess I have that long of a time to spare now,' he thought. He escaped out of his spiritual sense.

That was quite dangerous as in that situation, he usually had no idea what was happening outside.

He made sure everything was in order, and walked out of the room to go see his master, sister, brother, and anyone else he might want to.

After all, today was the day he would graduate from the Tiger sect and leave.