

The Rich Cultivator

#Chapter 1 - 0. Prologue - Read The Rich Cultivator

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The Zi Continent is the biggest continent in the world. East is spanned with forest. The West has deserts. North is snowy land and mountains. The south is a coastal area with many islands.

It's an ancient world with devoid of any technological development. But has Spiritual Energy all over the world.

On the Eastern side in a particular country called Ligma. New ancient ruins were found by two beggars. They told their findings to the city lord and got wealthy overnight. Inside their newly bought house they are enjoying a party with rented prostitutes. They were so drunk they didn't notice one of the prostitute stole two of their belongings.

It's a copper pot and a phoenix needle.

She took the phoenix needle and the copper pot to the best antique shop in the city.

"This thing is quite heavy copper and a nice phoenix needle" The shopkeeper said.

"Mr.White. C-Can you give me 10 gold coins? These are taken from the new ruins that were found in the forest." The Woman said nervously.

"I have to do some checking. Can you come back tomorrow, miss? "

"No Problem. "

The woman left.

Tyler White is a man in 40s. He has White skin, salt n pepper hair style. Six feet tall. He owns an Antique shop in the city. He buys antiques and resells them. He has experience of being an archaeologist.

"Don't let anyone in. I am gonna do some research." He ordered the guards and went into his lab.

The easiest way to identify pottery with no markings is through its physical attributes, such as its color, texture, hardness, weight, and design.

"This phoenix needle is worth only 10 silvers. Tsk." He threw that away and grabbed the pot, "The design of this pot looks familiar."

He has a vague feeling that he has seen this before. He quickly went to his book shelves and began to take some books. He placed the books on the table and placed the pot near the table on the ground.

He accidentally dropped some bronze coins when he moved the book. It fell into the copper pot. He didn't mind that much as he kept shuffling the pages while slightly bending his body to pick up the coins from the pot.

One coin. Two coins. Three coins.

He had a vague feeling that he had seen this pot somewhere so he just skimmed through the books half heartedly with one hand while picking coins on the other.

Fourth coin. Fifth coin. Sixth coin.

He threw the book and took another one..

Seventh coin. Eighth coin. Ninth coin.

Wait!

He looked at his table where he put the picked up coins.

Nine coins? He used his hand to pick up another coin.

"What the heck is happening?" He mumbled he was pretty sure that there were only four to five coins on the table.

He took the copper pot. He could see four coins in it.

What?

He used his palm to get all four coins. He slowly placed four coins on the table. He looked into the pot again and there were still four coins left.

Tyler's eyes shined. This time poured the coins out thinking that the coins would rain.

Click clonk click clonk

Only four coins fell.

He placed one coin inside the pot and tried to take it. It worked again. He got an extra coin. He took it again and got another coin.

He poured it out and the original coin fell.

He looked at the other coins. It looked exactly like the one he copied. He placed a pencil and got another. He then tried it with a gold coin and it also worked.

"If I pick it up, then it will copy. If I pour it out the effects wear off. Nice." Tyler grinned. He is laughing out loud. He wants to dance and shout because his life is about to change.

"If I sell this I can buy a country. Lol, just kidding. I can make my own country with this. Hahahaha"

He took a book called Rāmāyana. One of the oldest books in his collection. He fastly flipped the page and got the content he was looking for.

The magical pot is Known as the Akshaya Patra, it would produce a sufficient amount of food to properly receive one or up to thousands of guests.

He also took theories and conspiracy books. It also mentioned the Akshaya Patra. Some say it only multiples food. Some say it multiplies anything. Some text indicates it is given by Sun God. Some text indicates that it is given by God of Protection to his devotee. There is also some text that says it happened in multi verse and blah blah blah.

He is not sure about the origin. Anyways, nothing matters for him now. He has the pot.

He checked on the phoenix needle again and found out it is nothing extraordinary. It might worth just 10 or 12 silver coins.

.....◆◆◆.....

Next day.

The girl who sold the copper pot and Phoenix needle came. Tyler has a good reputation that's why customers would leave their things to him without worrying of getting stolen or scammed.

He asked the girl to wait and called a guard and whispered something.

The guard went out and came back after an hour with a middle aged lady with big makeup.

"Madam!" The girl said nervously. She has no idea why Mr.White called her head. She is panicking a little whether they found out that she stole the phoenix needle and the copper pot from those beggars. Stealing from customers has bigger consequences once get caught.

The middle aged woman is the one who manages the brothel. She looked at the girl, nodded and went inside the room. The girl waited outside and didn't know what they were discussing. She looked at the guards of the antique shop and decided not to run away.

"Welcome Madam."

"Mr White. I am glad that you took a fancy to one of our girls. Here is her contract."

"Thank you so much." Tyler smiled.

The madam left the shop with a bag of coins with a satisfied smile without even looking at the girl she sold.

"Miss Lisa. Here is your contract with the brothel. Here is the contract of your ownership to me." He burned both and smiled "Now you are free."

Lisa, the girl who brought the copper pot, couldn't believe what she heard. She needed more gold coins if she wanted to leave the brothel and she knows there is no way she can save that much in her lifetime.

"Here are 2007 gold coins. The Phoenix needle is a needle used by the Empress of ancient times. Its value is more than 2000 gold coins but I have to go to other places to auction it. So I bought you your freedom and 2000 gold coins. Do you like the price? Oh and for the copper pot it is just worth 7 gold coins." He placed a small chest full of gold coins.

"This- this this..." Lisa is totally dumbfounded. Happiness crashed into her one by one.

Lisa took a deep breath and asked, "I have another request Mr.White."

"Yes"

"Can I be a prostitute for one last time."

Tyler is a single, 40 year old man. But that doesn't mean he is a virgin.

Next day, Tyler woke up from the bed. He saw the naked girl next to him.

After sometimes,

At the breakfast table,

"What are you going to do, Miss Lisa?" He asked.

"I am gonna marry a man and try to live a happy life." Lisa said with yearning. She always wanted to live a normal life like others.

"Master! Are you leaving?" A 20 year old young man ran into the house.

"Cool down. Sit." He said.

"Master... B-but why?" He asked.

"Howard. I am leaving to achieve my dreams. This is my lab deed. You are the new boss. You are my only apprentice and assistant. Now you are promoted. Just continue my legacy" He said.

"Oh and my house deed is for Miss Lisa, a gift for her new life." He gave it to Lisa.

"This.. Mr Tyler-"

"This may be goodbye forever. I hope you can take care of this little guy when I am not here. He is just four years younger than you" He said as he ruffled Howard's hair. Howard blushed at her and mumbled 'I am not a little guy.'

That evening he hosted a banquet for his friends and said his 'Goodbye' to everyone. He also saw that Howard and Lisa are getting along well.

The following day, he left the city with hired mercenaries.

"Stay safe and have a Happy journey Master." Howard waved his hand with tears in his eyes while Lisa is patting his shoulder and comforting.

Inside the carriage, Tyler took the copper pot out.

"There is a saying 'Life starts at forty'. My life is just starting. With this I can finally cultivate." Tyler said as he put a piece of apple inside and took out a copy.

crunch

Bloody Sweet

.....◆◆◆.....

Note :

- 400 copper coins = 100 bronze coins = 25 silver coins = 1 gold coin (1/40 lb. of Gold, then 1/50 lb. of Gold)

- Tyler and Lisa don't have any romantic relationship.

- Author's question : What would you do if you got the Akshaya Patra in RL?

Here is the tip : Never copy the money. _cough_ serial numbers...

Chapter 2 - 1. First Step of the Journey

Volume-1 : Speed Run Cultivation

As the carriage rumbled through the dense forest, Tyler inside peered out the window, his eyes scanning the trees for any sign of danger. The guards around him on the horses were a little tense and alert, their hands resting on their weapons.

Tyler could hear the rustle of leaves and the distant chirping of birds, but otherwise, the woods were quiet. The guards around his carriage remained silent, their expressions stern and watchful, ready for anything that might come their way. He felt reassured by their presence and he settled back in his seat, knowing that they would protect him no matter what lay ahead. He hired a mercenary with a good reputation with a lot of money.

He was alone in the carriage. He took out half a baseball size copper pot.

"Big" He said.

The copper pot size increased.

"Expand.. Expand"

The copper pot size increased to a basketball size and it couldn't increase the size anymore.

While reading some books about cultivation he found out some artifacts can be owned by dropping a blood on it. And it worked.

He did some experiments. The copper pot can increase and decrease sizes to a certain level. Now it is easy to carry.

After some time the carriage stopped for a break. Tyler left a glass jar of soil in the sunlight. Then he ate breakfast with others. He saw some ants on the ground. He took an ant and went back to the carriage and closed the doors and placed it in the copper pot.

He took the ant out.

He got a copy of the dead ant.

The real ant is still alive, the copy just doesn't have life.

He poured the ant out.

From experiments and tests he conducted he had a basic idea of how copper pot works.

"It can't copy living things." He mumbled.

But does it only not work on animals and insects? What about the plants?

He looked at the glass jar of soil. There is a copy of radish seed in there.

Radishes are a fast-growing vegetable that can be grown in small containers such as a windowsill planter. They have a short germination period of about 3-7 days and can be ready to harvest in as little as 3-4 weeks.

He wanted to find out whether the copy of radish seed can sprout or not.

"Shrink" He whispered lightly. The Copper pot began to shrink.

After three days' travel the party finally reached the nearby town. This is not the destination of Tyler. But he decided to have a little sightseeing.

He looked at the glass jar on his hand and grinned. There is a sprout on it.

In the center of the town was often a public square or market, where merchants and craftsmen sold their wares and locals gathered to socialize and trade news.

He paid some gold coins to get some information and news.

His goal is to find out 'if there is anything that could make mortals have a spiritual root'.

Tyler's one of the biggest worries is that he doesn't have a spiritual root. He was unable to cultivate. He heard of some natural treasures that can make normal people cultivate. But it cost more than a mortal Kingdom.

The last thing Tyler cares about is money.

He found out there is a witch in the Willow town in the east. They say she has some clue about natural treasure that can make mortals to cultivate.

Tyler's destination is on the exact opposite side.

"No, we got a commission for Cloud City. Not the Willow town." said the mercenary's head. The mercenaries have another client to attend. They don't want to break the contract and spoil their reputation.

"Aight. You just drop me at Willow town and we can close the contract." Tyler simply replied.

They made an agreement.

Soon, the carriage traveled through the east and reached the Willow town. There were some dangerous situations while heading to Willow town. A man lost his arm during fighting the bandits. Tyler gave him some gold coins, even though he already paid his fees. This made the mercenary group feel little regret for not continuing the contract. It's not everyday the mercenary gets a kind and generous client like Tyler White.

Willow town is nothing special. It even lacks population. Most of the people are farmers and hunters.

Tyler and the mercenaries separated after they reached Willow town.

Tyler stayed in an inn. He asked around and found out about the witch. She is the town lord.

That's a little surprising for him.

He went to the town lord mansion. It is easy for him to meet the town lord with some gold coins. The town lord is an old lady in her 50s. While her actual age is more than 100. That's why she has the nickname 'witch'. The rumors are she ate a fruit that gave her longevity. After a small dine, they spoke random things before they started talking about actual business.

"I'll give you my life savings. All I need is the natural treasure that could help mortals cultivate." Tyler begged the lady.

"I have one. But I need enough gold to build roads and make this town prosperous." The lady replied.

"3 million gold coins. But how do we do transactions?" Tyler asked.

"Where are the golds?"

"Where is the treasure?"

After some serious discussion, they both agreed to have a transaction in the town. She even explained how she got the natural treasure.

It was given to her by her husband who is a cultivator. She got the more life span than ordinary person by eating a ginseng given by her husband. She also got four pieces of Nevermelting Ice. Her husband also wanted her to become a cultivator like him. But fate said otherwise.

The following day Tyler bought five pure gold bars using gold coins.

He rented a courtyard and hired many temporary bodyguards. He chose the local hunters with a good reputation.

He made the copper pot grow into its maximum size. Put the gold bars in it and began to take out the copy.

Two weeks later...

The Town lord is not sure how he brought so many gold bars into the town. She thought it might be smuggled under rice and vegetables. She doesn't care about that. She got gold bars worth 3 million gold coins and that's all that matters. She gave a small chest to Tyler.

Tyler opened the chest. A blue glow shined on his face. There is a vial in it. Inside the Vial, is a small ice crystal.

"This is a tiny portion of Nevermelting Ice. After consuming it, one might have a 10% chance of getting a low level ice spirit root." The witch town lord said.

"Only 10% ?" Tyler is a little disappointed.

"Yes. It's all up to luck. I tried 3 pieces before. Didn't get the spirit root. That's why you can buy this only using gold. Or else even if you have lots of spirit stones you might never be able to buy this. This is an extremely rare one. You are already lucky enough to own one." The lady patted his shoulder with emotion. She was also like him hoping to get spiritual roots.

"How to use this thing?"

"Just eat it. If you are lucky you might get ice spirit root." She said and left with servants who were carrying the gold bars.

She doesn't believe that Tyler White can awaken the spiritual roots. He is already forty years old.

He told the bodyguards not to let anyone in and closed the door.

He took his copper pot.

He first opened the vial. He took the piece of ice. It is cold as normal ice except it doesn't melt even though the weather is hot.

He placed the ice in the copper pot.

He is not sure whether the copy function works on cultivation items. He took a deep breath and took out the ice crystal nervously.

He got a copy of the ice crystal.

He sighed in relief and happy as he ate the ice.

The Nevermelting Ice melted the next second when he placed it in mouth.

A wisp of energy passed through his body.

He felt chill in this hot weather.

He didn't feel anything different.

According to the town lord, he could feel the spiritual roots awakening if the Nevermelting Ice worked.

But He didn't feel disappointed and took another Nevermelting Ice piece.

Another one.

And another one.

Finally after 15 pieces of ice, he felt a jolt and the area one meter around him was covered in ice.

"YES! Ice Spiritual Roots! Ice Spiritual Roots! First step of my journey is complete", he was on cloud nine as he looked at the copper pot and Nevermelting ice inside it, " First step is.... half complete"

How could the human heart say 'enough'.

He took out another copy and consumed it.

Chapter 3 - 2. Cloud City

Tyler White's felt so cold and his room was fully frozen. He felt very hungry so he poured out the ice crystal and put it back in vial.

He realized he had visitors in the yard. It was the Town Lord who came to check on him.

She became envious of his luck when she heard that he got a spiritual root. She congratulated him. He bid his farewell to the Town Lord and politely declining the dinner invitation. Well he would have accepted it if she was younger.

Tyler left the town. He recruited some hunters as temporary guards to guard him till he reached the cloud city. On the way he ate some Nevermelting Ice pieces.

The architecture of the cloud city was often simple and functional, with buildings made of local materials such as stone, mud brick, or timber. Streets were narrow and winding, with uneven surfaces that made walking a challenge. The city's layout was often dictated by the natural features of the landscape, such as hills, rivers, or valleys.

Houses were often built close together, with shared walls and little space between them. Most houses had only one or two rooms, and were built around a central courtyard that provided light and ventilation. Wealthier families might have larger houses with multiple courtyards or even two stories.

The reason why he reached Cloud City. This city is under Soaring Cloud Sect.

The Soaring Cloud Sect is one of the Top Sect in the continent.

A piece of meat was placed in front of Tyler White.

The fragrance immediately shot into his nostrils, giving him goosebumps. He felt incredibly good, and he was ravenous. The grilled meat had already turned a golden color, and there was a layer of fat around it.

He is now in a fancy restaurant. The took a bite, the taste exploded in his mouth.

"Yummy!"

"Thanks for the treat Mr.White." The table next to him are the temporary bodyguards he hired. They are also enjoying a lavishing treat. Tyler is paying for it. The last thing he cared about was money.

He called the waiter and gave a gold coin as a tip. Then he asked the waiter about cultivators.

He didn't see a single cultivator till now. He heard of some cultivators roam around Cloud City.

The Hired bodyguards left while thanking him.

Tyler stayed in a luxurious inn. He just ate some Nevermelting Ice pieces. He didn't know about the stages of spiritual roots that much. But he has a feeling that he can still evolve his spiritual roots.

The following day he went to each bar to find out news about cultivators or related things. He spent many golds to get clues about the cultivation sects and cultivators.

A month passed

A 'disappointed' Tyler is sitting in his room. He couldn't find anything about cultivators. He saw them 24 years ago. He was 16 at that time and was unable to cultivate due to lack of spiritual roots. Now he can cultivate, but there is no sign of cultivators at all.

According to the information he gathered, Cultivators stopped visiting the mortal Kingdoms 15 years ago.

He let out a sigh. Took a Nevermelting Ice piece, but didn't chew on it. His body can't handle the cold anymore. He might die if he takes another one.

He went down to the restaurant to have tea. It's a very costly one. The waiter placed the tea with a hearty 'good morning'. Tyler became a regular customer here.

He took sips on the tea, while reading the newspaper.

"Why are you trying to find cultivators?" He heard a voice.

Tyler looked around and there was no one.

"Hey! I am here. Shhh" He heard the voice again.

Tyler looked down. There is a photo of a guy moving like a video. He waved his hand at Tyler and said, "Hello".

"Woah!" He almost shouted.

"Keep your voice down. Kid." The young man in the paper said.

"Kid? I am 40 years old." Tyler's mouth twitched.

"Oh trust me. I might look like 20. But my age is higher than yours." The guy in the paper smirked.

"What... are you?"

"That's not the important stuff here. The important thing is that someone is asking around about cultivation world."

"Yes it's me!"

"About that, we used to accept disciples from the mortal world every year. But not anymore. 24 years ago we stopped doing that. We only recruit every five years. And we keep that silently. Your luck is too bad, because the last selection took out last year." The man in the paper shook his head with pity.

"You can wait for 4 years. Though No one is going to take you in."

"Because of my age?"

"Yes because of your age."

"Why?"

"Age is a crucial factor when selecting disciples. Younger individuals are often preferred, as they are considered to have more potential for growth and development. There are many Foundation Establishment Realm geniuses at your age. "

"Where is this 'cultivation world' you speak off?" Tyler asked.

"It's here."

"What?"

"The continent you are in is inside the Cultivation world. It's just- ok nevermind. If you can get here by yourself then you are qualified to know these things."

"Get Myself there? How?"

"If you can wait for four years, then wait and try your luck. If not, try to find a special formation. That looks like this." Then his image turned into a flower pattern as his voice resonated, "Find the formation, it's near the cloud city. There is a chance you might enter the sect."

Then the image stopped moving just with the flower pattern. He kept the newspaper and began to search for the formation.

'Near the cloud city' and the flower patterns are the only clue that can lead him to the Cultivators. He had to find the flower pattern that is hidden near the city. He didn't know why this mysterious guy helped him. But it's worth a try.

He opened the map of cloud city and province map and looked at the special places near the cloud city.

Volcano, lake, forest.

"I'll choose the volcano first."

The reason why he chose volcano is because of Nevermelting Ice. He was unable to eat any more of it. He feels that if he took another piece, he might freeze to death.

On the way to volcano he met some bandits, this time he didn't bring any body guards. The bandits stopped approaching him when he threw a TNT on to them. They fled when they saw 10+ TNT flying towards them. He bought one for safety and copied those.

Soon he arrived at the volcano.

There is a small way that leads to the inner area. Half a day later, he reached the hottest place his body could handle. Thankfully it's an inactive volcano.

He ate a piece of Nevermelting Ice.

An energy entered his body as his internal organs began to freeze. He fastly walked even further inside. The heat of the volcano helped him as it collided with the cold energy.

He felt warm.

He walked further inside.

He continued to explore the magma chamber from the inside. According to some books, this volcano has not erupted for 4000 years and shows no signs of coming to life anytime soon, so it is safe to enter, probably.

He saw many molten rocks, magma chambers, where mushy lava are residing.

He ate more pieces of Nevermelting Ice.

Soon he found a chamber that has a flower pattern identical to the pattern he is searching for.

"Am I that lucky? Haha.. if this is a novel, unlucky people would say it's plot armor." Tyler laughed. It's like hitting two birds with one stone. He found the formation on his

first try and he also got a better environment to consume the Nevermelting Ice . He entered the chamber as he placed another Ice piece on his mouth. He searched for sometimes to find the formation. He decided to leave as he took another copy of Nevermelting Ice from the copper pot and placed it on his mouth.

Whoosh

An energy erupted from his body. The place around him turned into ice.

"Success!" He shouted. He ate another Nevermelting Ice. He only felt like eating normal candy. He didn't feel any effect. He used all the copies of Nevermelting Ice to its maximum potential.

He totally forgot that he created Ice inside a magma chamber. The Ice turned into steam faster than it could escape, creating a massive steam explosion.

Boom

Tyler White is thrown away to the ceiling. He can feel the death approaching him. He looked at the ceiling and found a familiar pattern.

"The Formation?"

Instead of getting meaty smashed on the ceiling he went through the formation.

A hall built by white jades. There is a formation in the center. A lazy guard half sleepy is guarding the room. Suddenly the formation lit up. The lazy guard immediately woke up from stupor.

A man flew on his back from the formation. He fell on the floor.

"Oh another found the teleportation formation from the mortal Kingdom?" The Guard's eyes shone as he said to himself.

He looked at the man warmly.

The man is none other than Tyler. The impact of falling is not that hard. He quickly rose up. He looked around and saw a white hall and different silver patterns in the whole room.

"This is definitely a plot Armor." He said to himself.

A middle aged man is looking at him warmly as he cupped his hands at him and said, "Welcome to the world of cultivation."

Chapter 4 - 3. World of Cultivation

"Welcome to the world of cultivation." The middle aged man is looking at Tyler warmly as he cupped his hands at him.

'I always wanted to say that.' He thought, 'Thank goodness. Another mortal came from the formation quickly.'

His duty is to be as guardian of this formation until a mortal comes from the formation. After that they will switch another one.

"World of cultivation?"

"Yes, this is the world of cultivation. The Real Zi continent. What is your name? Which country are you from?" The guard asked as he took a scroll and pen began to ask details.

"I'm Tyler White. I am from a country called Ligma." Tyler replied.

"Ligma what?"

"Huh?"

"Nothing. Where did you find the formation?" The guard continued with the question.

"It's from Tortilla Volcanic mountain near cloud city." Tyler answered.

After some series of question session,

"Nice. I'll notify the sects. I know you have many questions. Let me give you a quick brief."

24 years ago, the cultivators decided to separate mortal Kingdoms from the cultivation world. The top sects found an ancient formation that isolated many mortal Kingdoms from the actual world.

For example, the Ligma Country is on the east side. On the western most side is Stigma country. Southern side is Sucma country. If it is before the formation, it would take many years to reach there. But now all mortal Kingdoms are connected together by an enclosed ancient spatial formation where you can travel the whole continent of mortal Kingdoms by foot.

The only way to get to the world of cultivation is disciples selection every five years. Or finding the formation by luck.

The Zi Continent is the biggest continent in the world. East is spanned with forest. The West has deserts. North is snowy land and mountains. The south is a coastal area with many islands.

In this world, there are many sects, each with their own unique styles of martial arts and cultivation methods. These sects are often in conflict with each other, competing for resources and power. Some sects are righteous, seeking to protect the innocent and uphold justice, while others are evil, seeking to dominate and subjugate those weaker than them.

The cultivation process in a Xianxia world involves refining one's body and soul through the practice of martial arts and the absorption of spiritual energy. Through years of intense training and discipline, cultivators can gain incredible strength and power, developing abilities such as flight, superhuman strength, and the ability to manipulate elements.

As cultivators become more powerful, they can transcend the mortal realm and enter the world of immortals, where they can live for thousands of years and gain even greater power. However, the path to immortality is fraught with danger, and many cultivators lose their lives in pursuit of this ultimate goal.

Overall, this world is a place of wonder and danger, where martial arts and magic coexist, and the pursuit of power is a constant struggle. It is a world where the strong thrive and the weak are crushed, and where those who seek to attain immortality must face countless trials and tribulations.

Tyler White was in daze hearing all those. This is a brief introduction to the world of cultivation.

Looking at the dazed mortal, the guard smirked, "Since you found the formation. The formation in the mortal Kingdom will disappear and will appear in southern Kingdoms to find a lucky one. We made it in a rotational method like east, south, west, north. Each sect will be given an equal chance to recruit lucky mortals like you. Since you are from the east side, one of the sects from the east will recruit you.... perhaps"

Tyler was led to a room for rest. He was given many delicacies which tasted even better than those fancy restaurants in the cloud city.

~ _knock knock knock_

"Haha. Not even a month passed. But you already found the formation." He heard a familiar voice when he opened the door.

"It's you sir!" It's the same person who gave him a clue through the newspaper.

"Haha. Yes. My name is Gibbs. You can just call me brother Gibbs. Every representative from the sects should be here."

"Thank you for your help." Tyler copied the hand gesture which he just saw from the guard. He cupped his hands towards Gibbs.

"Haha it's nothing. It's your luck. I just pointed it out because I was bored. My men from the cloud city informed me about you." Gibbs waved his hand.

They chatted a little until they reached a big hall.

"There are seven sects in the Eastern Zi continent. These are representative of their sects." Gibbs pointed at six people and he walked towards them and stood beside them and received a scroll from the guard.

"Sit here." The guard pointed at the chair. The seven figures sat on the seven throne-like chairs. And there is a big table between Tyler and seven Cultivators.

Tyler sat and looked at them nervously.

"He looks old."

"40 years old."

"Hmm.. Too old. Not even a Qi refining Realm"

"He is an archaeologist"

"He is from Ligma country. He ate a piece of Nevermelting Ice and got spiritual roots."

"Oh I remember. 70 years ago there was a Foundation Establishment Realm Cultivator who gave four pieces to his wife in the mortal city."

They discussed with each other loudly and each of them had a scroll of their hands. It has details that Tyler provided to the guards.

"Why is there no spiritual roots test?" One of the women in the group asked.

Gibbs patted his head and said, "Sorry I forgot."

"Ah~ Mr. Gibbs, you are always like this." The Woman winked at him coquettishly.

"Catch", He ignored the woman and threw the orb at Tyler.

Tyler caught the orb. A Bluish silver color light shone on the orb. A layer of frost covered the Ice.

The sect representative who doesn't show any interest in Tyler because of his age suddenly straightened up their back.

"Earthly Spiritual Roots?" One of the guys said. Even Gibbs is dumbfounded.

Looking at the confused look on Tyler's face. Gibbs explained.

Spiritual roots are often categorized into different levels based on their rarity and power.

Mortal level spiritual roots are the most common and least powerful. They are often described as weak and difficult to cultivate, making it harder for cultivators to reach higher levels of power.

Earth level spiritual roots are rarer and more powerful than mortal level roots. They are seen as a sign of greater potential and easier cultivation.

Heaven level spiritual roots are even rarer and more powerful than earth level roots. Cultivators with heaven level roots are often seen as destined for great things and have an easier time achieving higher levels of power.

Immortal level spiritual roots are the rarest and most powerful of all. They are often seen as divine or sacred, and cultivators with these roots are believed to be destined for godhood. They have the easiest time achieving higher levels of power and are often the strongest cultivators.

"You have an ice type called Elemental Spiritual roots which is at Earth level. We don't know what variation is yours. It can only be analyzed as your Cultivation progresses." Said Gibbs.

"You are really lucky to get earthly spirit roots just by eating a piece of Nevermelting ice." Said the woman.

"It's a pity. The Nevermelting Ice can only evolve spiritual roots at earth level not higher." Said another guy while shaking his head.

Even though they were shocked by his luck. But that's all. It's not like they lack geniuses in their sect.

The woman, who is the representative of the Pure Blossom Sect, gave an offer. She looked like a 20+ year old girl. She was the one who tried to flirt with Gibbs.

"You can join our Pure Blossom Sect. We can take you as an Outer Disciple. We have more females than male." She winked at him playfully.

"Our Molten Mountain Sect is famous for fire cultivation. But we do cultivation Techniques for ice and snow. Same treatment as being an outer disciple. You can catch up with your peers quickly." said another guy.

"Our Frozen Heart Sect's main focus is on snow and ice. If you join you will become an outer disciple and I'll give you a gift." Said the cold girl in the group.

"Our Classic Pill Dome..."

Just like that the other three made their offer and finally everyone looked at Gibbs who is using a talisman communication.

"Our Soaring Cloud Sect is the number one sect in the Eastern Zi Continent."

Everyone rolled their eyes.

"I am very sorry. These elders from my sect, they said that they don't want a 40 year old mortal even if he has earthly spiritual roots. They did give you an offer." Gibbs said slowly.

"Like what?" The flirtatious woman asked.

"Being a Servant disciple."

"Oh come on." Everyone jeered.

"What is a servant disciple?" Tyler asked.

Gibbs seriously explained, "Servent Disciples are often responsible for menial tasks and chores such as cleaning, cooking, and running errands, as well as providing assistance to their master. But you will also get cultivation Techniques."

"That's it. No more explanation. Which sect will you choose Mr. Tyler White?" asked the Cold Girl from Frozen Heart Sect.

" I Choose - "

_____ ***** _____

Notes - -

Zi Continent is the biggest continent, the east side is called East Zi Continent. West is West Zi Continent and so on.

Chapter 5 - 4. Soaring Cloud Sect

The Soaring Cloud Sect is one of the most prominent sects in this world. Founded by a legendary cultivator who achieved the pinnacle of martial arts, the Soaring Cloud Sect has grown to become one of the most powerful and influential sects in the land.

The disciples of the Soaring Cloud Sect are known for their exceptional talent and rigorous training.

The Soaring Cloud Sect is also famous for its martial arts. Their fighting style emphasizes speed, agility, and fluidity, making it difficult for opponents to land a hit. Their disciples are taught to move like the wind, striking with lightning-fast speed and disappearing just as quickly. This makes them formidable opponents in battle, and many sects fear the wrath of the Soaring Cloud Sect.

In the Eastern Zi Continent, the Soaring Cloud Sect is a symbol of power, discipline, and righteousness. They stand as an inspiration to all those who seek to achieve greatness through hard work and dedication, and their legacy will be remembered for generations to come.

"Even though servant disciples do not possess the same level of cultivation prowess as full-fledged cultivators, they may still have some level of martial ability or magical talent that can be useful in combat or other situations. They may also receive some training in cultivation or martial arts from their master or from other senior disciples." said Gibbs as he brought Tyler to the Azure Cloud City. One of the cities under Soaring Cloud Sect.

"You don't have to persuade him, Mister Gibbs. He already chose my Frozen Heart Sect." Said the Cold girl who is following Tyler. She is the representative from the Frozen Heart Sect.

"Haha.. I am just talking casually Miss You Meixue." Gibbs laughed awkwardly.

"Just give him what he wants and send him to the Frozen pavilion." Yu Meixue said as she left.

"*sigh* I really wanted you to join our sect. But the elder who is incharge now is another faction and just wants to go against me." Gibbs sighed.

Tyler doesn't know what to say. He just looked around tall buildings, pavilions and pagodas. He could also see dense azure clouds above the city. He ignored Gibbs as he admired the clouds.

Yes, He chose to Frozen Heart Sect in the end. It's better to be the head of a chicken than the tail of an ox.

"Anyways. We, Soaring Cloud Sect specialize in Martial Arts, Spiritual Cultivation and also Body refinement. Yu Meixue gave you a chance to choose one of the body Refining methods from us. I told myself to bring 15 types of best Body Refining Methods. You can choose one from that." Gibbs said.

The reason why he visited Azure Cloud City is because of the 'gift' that Yu Meixue said during the selection. The gift is a Body Refining method from the Soaring Cloud Sect. Looks like the sect owed her.

At that time an young man flew towards them, "Brother Gibbs"

"Brother Tim"

"I heard what was going on between you and Damon" Tim said.. "Damon truly is a fool. His Uncle is one of the elders and he gave the worst offer to prevent this Brother from entering our sect, but what about the other sects?"

"Thus, as you said, he is a fool. He always jumps at any opportunity to make trouble for me." Gibbs shook his head and sighed, "It is as though by doing so, he can demonstrate superiority over me. All this for what, just self satisfaction."

Inside Tiger Pavillion which belongs to Gibbs, Tyler is looking at the 15 books placed before him.

Internal refining method, External refining method, Fire Meteor Body Technique, Black Tortoise Refining Art, Wood Life essence art

He just read the summaries one by one.

He is interested in one particular book.

Elemental Body Refining Method - This type of Body Refining Method involves cultivating elemental energy and integrating it into the physical body to gain elemental abilities, such as the ability to manipulate fire, water, wind and so on

"Are you sure you want this book?" Gibbs asked and warned, "This book is really one of the best Body Cultivation Methods. But it burns a lot of money."

That is the reason why Tyler wants this book.

Tyler nodded confidently as he patted at his bag.

"Take this." Gibbs handed the book to Tyler and said, "30 minutes. You can do anything with this book. But remember to return without any scratches or scribbles. Small advice: just copy the Basic refining and Ice element Refining Chapters from this."

Tyler went to the room. He closed the door. Took some papers, feathers and ink. Then he began to write.

He took a small pill and placed it on his mouth.

cough *cough*

He coughed out of blood as he fell. Five minutes later he opened one of his eyes.

"Looks like no one is monitoring this room." He said. The blood is fake. And the pill is just a small candy bar with beetroot juice inside.

He took the copper pot and made it grow big. He placed the book and took the copy and stored it in his bag. Then he poured the book out and began to copy some basics and ice methods.

Half an hour later, Gibbs entered the room. He took the book back and said.

"Now according to rules. You are not allowed to copy. You can only memorize it. I just made an exception." He winked and said, "You just have to make an oath that you will never share this with anyone."

He swore an oath not to teach them to anyone else. Tyler had lunch with Gibbs. Gibbs really liked Tyler, but it's a pity he didn't become his Junior Brother.

After having a hearty lunch Gibbs dropped him at Frozen Pavillion where Frozen Heart Sect disciples and elders stay. The building is owned by Frozen Heart Sect.

After saying 'goodbye' to Gibbs, He entered the Frozen Snow Pavilion.

There are some Disciples present here

They wore blue and white robes that are embroidered with intricate snowflake patterns. Most of them are women.

"You're back. Get ready, we are leaving in 20 minutes." Yu Meixue appeared then she called, "Priscilla."

"Yes Senior Sister" Another beauty with black and white hair walked over.

"He is a new outer disciple. Bring him to the roof" She said as she flew out.

Everyone looked at her with admiration.

"Hello- " Priscilla wanted to call him junior brother but looking at his middle aged man look she hesitated a little but quickly got her composure.

In this world, strength and status are very important. She was way stronger than Tyler so she just called him, "Junior bro".

"I'm Priscilla, your senior. An Alchemy apprentice." Priscilla proudly introduced herself.

Priscilla guided him to the roof. The Pavillion is a seven story building. She talked about some miscellaneous things and answered Tyler's doubts patiently.

"Is there any restriction?" Tyler asked.

"Naturally." Priscilla nodded. "Upon joining our Sect, until you become a Fifth level of Qi Refining Realm, you are forever forbidden from leaving the mountain."

"Forever forbidden from leaving the mountain?" Tyler Was puzzled.

Priscilla said, "Our Sect is located on the peak of Magic Snow Mountain. If you can't even become a Fifth level of Qi Refining Realm, then you will simply die of age on the mountain. After becoming a Fifth level of Qi Refining Realm, you can often leave, but you'll love to spend most of your time on the mountain, rather than leaving. You have to finish tasks and accumulate some contribution points. The trading on the sect is done only with contribution points and below the mountain is also our turf. You buy anything using spirit stones."

"Spirit stones?"

"Yub. Gold, Silver and so on are mortal currencies. We cultivators use spirit stones. It's common knowledge, bro."

Priscilla then thought something and said, "Don't worry about starting late. you can expand your lifespan."

Tyler brightened eyes and looked at his Senior Sister, "Expand Lifespan?"

She nodded "There are plenty of spirit pills that can be used for Immortal practitioners to extend our lifespan. But unfortunately...to let a mortal have an extended lifespan is thousands of times more difficult than to have an Immortal practitioner extend their lifespans. Still you can extend your lifespan for 10 or 20 years with some longevity pills."

"I saw a mortal lady who is more than 100 years old. She said that she can live another 100 years." Tyler said.

"She must have eaten a piece from Thousand-Year Ginseng. This herb is said to promote longevity and enhance the body's overall health and vitality. But it's very rare." Priscilla just waved her hand like an all-knowing senior.

They reached the rooftop.

Yu Meixue is standing on the boat. The boat is sleek and streamlined design, with a long and narrow hull that tapers at the front and back. The hull is made by a durable and lightweight material, such as metal and enchanted wood, then decorated with intricate carvings and symbols.

Tyler looked at the eye-catching symbol of heart made of ice and mumbled, "Frozen Heart".

"Enough with the chit chat, get on the boat." Yu Meixue said.

Note :

Meixue means "plum snow" in Chinese, and is often used to describe a woman who is not only beautiful but also strong-willed and independent.

Chapter 6 - 5. Frozen Heart Sect

The Frozen Heart Sect is a powerful organization of cultivators who specialize in ice and frost-based techniques. The sect is known for its strict and demanding training methods, which involve enduring extreme cold temperatures and mastering the manipulation of frozen energy.

The Frozen Heart Sect's cultivators are known for their exceptional control over ice and frost, allowing them to create powerful ice spells and freeze their enemies in their tracks. They also have a unique ability to control the temperature of their surroundings, allowing them to create sub-zero environments that are inhospitable to their enemies.

The Frozen Heart Sect's philosophy is based on the idea of purity and detachment. They believe that by cultivating their frozen energy, they can purify their hearts and achieve enlightenment. However, this pursuit of purity often leads to an unyielding and merciless attitude towards those who oppose them, making them feared by many in the cultivation world.

The Frozen Heart Sect is known to be reclusive and rarely interacts with other sects or factions, preferring to focus on their own cultivation and internal affairs. However, they are not above using their power and influence to further their goals, and they have been known to ally themselves with other sects when it serves their interests.

Despite their reputation as cold warriors, the disciples of the Frozen Heart Sect are known for their honorable and just conduct. They are defenders of the weak and oppressed, and many villages and towns seek their protection from marauding bandits and vicious monsters. The sect has also been known to assist other sects in times of crisis, earning them the respect and admiration of many.

In conclusion, the Frozen Heart Sect is a powerful and fearsome organization in the Cultivation World, known for their mastery of ice and frost-based techniques and their strict adherence to their philosophy of purity and detachment. Their reclusive nature and unyielding attitude make them both respected and feared by those in the cultivation world.

Tyler and Priscilla stood on the prow of the flying boat and stared off the scenery. There is a small protective energy barrier covering the whole ship which acts as a wind barrier. This is Tyler's first flying experience. So his mouth grinning unconsciously. Priscilla took a glance at his reaction and felt amused.

"We are here." Yu Meixue said. The boat reached near the Magic Snow Mountain.

A giant pillar that is 624 km (374 mi) in diameter is stretched towards the cloud. It is not a pillar. It is a massive mountain that is 75,000ft tall. Above the clouds is the snowy top. It has many rivers flowing through it. The middle part of the mountain is near the clouds. It is fully covered with dense forest. Finally, the base of the mountain, which has many villages, towns and cities filled with mortals.

The Frozen Heart Sect situated on the top of the Magic Snow Mountain that is constantly shrouded in mist.

Yu Meixue drove the boat above the clouds.

"Wow," Tyler mumbled.

A whole place made of snow and ice. Every building is made of ice and snow. A giant building made of ice is in the center which is atleast a 1 km in height and has a 200m giant 'ice heart' on the top. There are many cities around the sect, which he can't clearly see. But Priscilla explained it to him.

The boat landed near a big gateway (which is also made of ice.) It has beautiful carvings and patterns in blue. Also there are two dragon statues on both sides of the gate.

The protective layer disappeared.

"Woah" Suddenly chilling cold assaulted Tyler. But it was only for a second before it turned warm. Yu Meixue protected him from the cold.

She threw a small red ball towards him and retrieved her power. He caught the red ball and he felt warm again.

"Give it to Priscilla, after the registration." She said as she waved her hand the boat became small and she kept it. Tyler is pretty sure that the boat disappeared at the end.

Tyler stepped into the gateway. He felt like two statues were scanning him. He unconsciously clenched his bag which had a copper pot.

He sighed in relief only after passing the gate. He once again said "Woah". Because there is a big road made of ice that is spread across the whole sect. It doesn't have a pillar. It is just one giant road which is hanging in the air. Lots of people are walking on the ice road. There is also some ice skating on it. And some using sleighs which are pulled by dogs, giant foxes or even some ice dragons.

Only now he noticed that not all buildings are made of ice. There are buildings made of only glass. Glass that is more durable than ordinary glass from mortal Kingdoms.

There are also bricks that look like snow or ice, but definitely not.

Soon he was led to a building which has a signboard with beautiful letters carved on it - 'OUTER HALL'.

Outer Hall is a small white box-like building without any additional floors. When Tyler entered the small building he was shocked because he can feel that the building is actually a lot bigger on the inside.

"The building is bigger?"

"Yeah. It's some sort of formation. I don't know anything about that. Cause I am just an Alchemist." She just waved her hands.

There are three girls who are in their 20s and a man in 30 is waiting inside the hall. They stood up when they noticed Priscilla.

Priscilla just nodded at them and ignored them. She turned to Tyler and said, "This is the outer hall. An Outer Elder will come and explain to you about the rules and everything."

"Senior sister. This thing..." He took out the red ball which Yu Meixue gave.

"Oh there is an Array Formation in the building. So you won't get cold." Priscilla snatched it while letting out a tongue cutely.

"Formation... Arrays" Tyler mumbled, he is slightly interested in these Array formations.

Priscilla, who was walking away, stopped and winked at him, "Oh.. I forgot to tell you. it is my honor to extend the felicitations on joining the sect."

After Priscilla left, Tyler looked around.

There are only a few people he doesn't know. The whole interior looks like he was inside a wooden hall. Nothing like this structure belongs to an Ice covered exterior.

There were some books on the shelf. A wooden table and chair which looks like someone's workplace. He also sat with others. There were some chairs in the center of the room. There are other people who are waiting for the outer elder. He saw a small dragon statue on the table. Its body, its neck, head, long tail, sharp claws, and fangs, its four strong feet, as well as its pair of wings, were all made of ice and stone. Its scales revealed coldness and snow lingered.

Out of curiosity he observed it closer.

The dragon head suddenly turned towards him.

"D-Don't look at me like that! B-baka" The dragon statue shouted at him in a tsundere loli tone.

All the people in the room got surprised.

"G-go and wait there. Outer Elder will arrive soon. " The dragon statue's loli-like voice rang out once more.

"Ok!" He bowed to the statue. He then went to a corner and sat down as he waited quietly. He took a glance at others. He knew that these people were probably the same as him. To Join the sect. But he is quite puzzled. Because unlike him who joined in special circumstances, how could these four join the sect? Guessing their age, the sect won't even take a glance at them, right?

"Hello. Fellow Daoist." The man in the thirties greeted him.

"Hello"

"My name is Fondil Mabols"

"..." Tyler paused for a second and said, "Tyler White." He could see one of the girls is trying to control her laughter and the other two are looking at her in a puzzled expression.

"Where do you come from? Fellow Daoist." Fondil Mabols asked.

"I am from Ligma Country."

"psssst" The girl couldn't control her laughter.

She then lowered her head with a shy red face.

Fondil looked at him as if to find out whether he is getting revenge on him.

They began to talk about random topics.

By talking with Fondil, he learned that these people are from the cities near the sect. Aside from disciples, there are many mortals and Rogue Cultivators.

Rogue Cultivators or Loose Cultivators are Independent cultivators unaffiliated with any school, sect, clan, or other cultivation organizations.

If any of the sect didn't choose him. He might have become a Rogue Cultivator.

Now these four people are from cities near the sect to join the sect as servant disciple. If the servant disciples show good aptitude they have a chance to become Outer Disciples.

A strange smile appeared on Fondil Mabols' face. He surveyed Tyler and spoke in a teasing tone , "You are not a virgin, right?"

Note :

- That giant Heart is not '♥' ... its '❄' which fully made of ice.

- If you don't get what 'Fondil Mabols' is.. Then congrats 🎉👏👏👏

- And also Ligma Ligma?... Ligma what?

Chapter 7 - 6. Outer Disciple

"Eh..."

For a moment, Tyler was speechless.

He opened and closed his mouth, having no idea what to say.

"Haha... Of Course you are not... You already 40+ right?" He patted his shoulder, "Now let's start the registration."

Fondil Mabols stopped up and walked towards the main seat.

"I am Outer Hall Elder Fondil Mabols. Outer Elders are usually responsible for overseeing the day-to-day affairs of the outer hall, such as managing outer disciples, administering resources, and handling internal conflicts."

Tyler and the other three are surprised. That guy was the outer hall elder?

"Haha... I am just bored and playing a prank... are you shocked?..."

"..."

"Now let's get to the business." Fondil clapped his hands with an awkward cough.

Tyler just blinked. Not really a big twist or something.

"Today we are gonna talk about the Cultivation world and cultivators. Let's start with the basics." Fondil Mabols continued.

"Us Cultivators have other names. Immortal practitioners, Qi Stealers, Heaven and Earth power Harvesters." Fondil said as he swept a glance at them. He also made a pose by widening his hand. There was also a little light effect behind him. Then began to talk about the basics.

Tyler felt a little asleep. Those who read cultivation novels know these things. As a guy who wants to cultivate, he has read many novels in that genre. Most of the cultivation novels are similar in that they have almost the same type of stories, same type of characters and same type of world building. The difference starts when the author moves the story.

"They say 100 days to master a spear, 1,000 days to master a blade, and 10,000 days to master a sword right? Everyone needs training. Even if a three year old can play an instrument, that means he has undergone a good training. So never skip your training." Fondil Mabols' explanation continued in the background.

Even though Fondil Mabols started talking. His mind was on something else.

After the explanation and stuffs,

Fondil grabbed and threw that storage pouch into their hands and introduced it very enthusiastically, "You only have to put a mark of your spiritual awareness into it, then you can use it."

Tyler and others showed a surprised expression when receiving the storage bag, and in accordance with Fondil's instructions other than Tyler, they used their spiritual awareness to brand it. Soon after they felt some kind of difference and began to browse the inside.

Fondil did not trouble them this time. When he had received his own storage pouch for the first time, he was also like this and unable to contain his joy, so he absolutely understood the disciples' mood right now. After waiting until they had fiddled enough with the pouch, Fondil handed them five qi refining pills and a token that engraved their names in it.

"You have to earn merit points by doing missions and chores. Only by using that you can trade in the sect. Remember that merit points are money here."

Fondil looked at the one guy who didn't do anything. Of course because he is none other than Tyler White.

"You wait till you get cultivation arts from the library and you can start practising spiritual energy and spiritual awareness." Fondil Mabols nodded at him.

The minimum requirement to start using Cultivation tools is the First stage of Qi refining Realm.

"I don't know how far you can go, I don't know what you can do in the end. The differing ability levels dictate the different things you can do. When you are still a child, your parents won't let you work to earn money. When you are a man, no one will request to use you as a surrogate mother. Therefore, what you can do doesn't depend on anyone else. It only has to do with your abilities," Fondil Mabols said

'What's with philosophy talk?' Tyler thought.

With the token and newly acquired spatial bag, Tyler walked towards the cave he was allocated.

"The strong can conceal the heavens with a flick of their fingers, shattering the void. Ordinary individuals temper their bodies, possessing the strength of thousands of kilograms, capable of splitting mountains."

Tyler heard a voice while he was walking on a path made of fancy stones that have the shape of crystal that looks like ice.

He looked at a martial training ground which is named as No. 404.

Inside the martial arts training ground which is covered with snow, hundreds of warriors are engaged in combat training and spell casting. Their fists and feet clash, unleashing surging energy and causing gusts of wind that tear through the air. The most attractive thing is that most of them are cute young girls or hot middle-aged women.

Even though they were loud, a man who was standing in the corner wearing a blue uniform, spoke in a low voice. But everyone can hear it.

"If a person doesn't make mistakes, he will never know what's right. If a person doesn't have actual combat experience, that person will never do well in actual combat."

After glancing at him Tyler left, he doesn't know why, but he felt that the man just looked at him.

Tyler reached the outer disciple area. It contains a row of huts which is covered by snow. He looked at his slip in his hand and found the hut that he was allocated.

He walked past two ice phoenix statues and entered a pavement then reached the hut. After entering the hut, all the cold disappeared. Even though the disciple Token let him avoid the cold, he just felt like wearing a sweater in winter. But entering the hut vanished all the cold, only warmth welcomed him.

He looked around and found out that he has two more roommates.

"This is gonna be difficult." He murmured.

One of the guys who is topless and meditating heard his murmur just glanced at him and closed his eyes.

Another one who is sleeping at the corner, just said without even opening his eyes, "If you don't like this hut, you can make more contribution or money by completing the missions and renting a courtyard at the living area."

"Money?"

"Spirit stones."

Tyler's eyes lit up for a second and returned normal.

That evening Tyler headed to the Outer Hall, procuring essential books on pill alchemy, herbs, artefacts, formation and arrays.

"These are the basic things you have to study. They are all just for the beginners." The Outer Hall elder said.

He also discreetly inquired about the process of acquiring a private home within the sect. It's best to buy a private Home so that his secret will stay.

But suddenly revealing his wealth might not be a bright move. As the saying goes, The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it. If someone finds out his secret, there is nothing he can do except for regret in misery. So revealing money should be planned, which might make people think that he has a source to get all the money.

To buy those, he first needed lots of spirit stones. The sect gave him 5 Low-grade spirit stones. These are the lowest level of spirit stones and are typically used for low-level cultivation and basic magical artefact power. They are the most common type of spirit stone and can be easily acquired in large quantities.

"No one will care about the source of income but what if someone notices that I have a lot of spirit stones?" Tyler couldn't help but ponder.

Tyler slept in the hut, and the next day he walked towards the Canteen. He got his free meals but for premium meals one has to use spirit stones. Tyler still doesn't want to show his wealth so he decided to eat the free meals. It doesn't taste bad and not so good either. The thing is Premium meals are made with spiritual materials. It means even ingredients like wheat and rice have spiritual energy in it. Which is best for cultivation too.

Tyler ate his breakfast and ran to his classes. Everything was pretty basic introduction on the first day so he felt bored a little. He was alone because the teacher taught him the basics because he is new.

Finally he got a method for cultivating. He happily went to cultivate. Sitting crossed leg, he decided to meditate. He was able to sense the wisp of spiritual energy in a week.

This speed was too slow. After all, Tyler was not young anymore. The older he was, the harder it was for his cultivation to increase in the future.

Another week passed,

"One must be honest, have the capacity to endure, and avoid unnecessary conflicts with others" One teacher said.

Tyler has no idea why there is a lesson on philosophy. As if the teacher could read Tyler's thoughts he said, "Cultivating the character is very important. Just because you

become powerful doesn't mean you can look down on everyone. One must set rules to themselves. The world is vast, there are mountains beyond mountains and ocean beyond oceans. There is always someone better than you and also someone better than that someone."

Just like that Tyler's life as a cultivator started.

Six months passed, Tyler already formed a plan to create fake revenue to hide his actual source.

Chapter 8 - 7. One Year Later

A young master from a big family decided to eat in the new popular restaurant in the street. He called his buddies and his friends and made way to a Castle like building.

The building was situated on a hill, and it looked as if it had been constructed from pure gold. What was most remarkable about it was that there was a massive golden dragon engraved onto the roof of the building, and it was roaring to the heavens, presenting a formidable and majestic sight to behold.

The golden building appeared to be rather similar to the imperial palaces of the mortal world, and all of the mortals passing through the area regarded the building with awe and veneration in their eyes.

The words "Immortal Gather Point" were visible above the gate of the golden palace, inscribed in ancient text.

This is the place where loose cultivators sell their treasures. Also there are a lot of shops inside the plaza that got rented by many people. The place is guarded by Nascent soul realm guards. And also it is under a powerful sect.

The young master paused momentarily to look around, this is the second time he is coming here but still he couldn't help but look at the place in awe.

Upon entry, he was greeted by the sight of a vast and spacious hall. There were many cultivators dressed in different attire in the hall, but the majority of them were at or below the Golden Core Realm, and there were barely Nascent soul Realms .

To the left of the hall was a large shop that was selling all types of treasures, pills, and spirit materials. The wares being sold here seemed to be of a slightly superior standard to the wares sold in the shops in the city, and as a result, it was attracting quite a few customers.

To the right of the hall was another shop with a series of long stone tables placed outside. It seemed to be a shop that exclusively dealt in acquisitions, and there were many cultivators lined up outside, waiting to sell things to the shop.

Then the young master flipped a hand over to produce a jade slip before injecting his spiritual sense into it. It's Map of the Castle. He found the restaurant he was looking for.

He and his friends entered a bustling restaurant. They ordered some food and tasted it

"Young master Bai Songshi, do you like it?" one of the girls in his group asked.

"Delicious, First off, the ingredients were great. I had no idea where they were coming from but every ingredient including the potatoes, corn, rice, flour and meat were all of exceptional standard." The young master whose name is Bai Songshi replied.

"These are all spiritual foods. Of Course they feel good." Suddenly they heard a sound to their left. It's a middle aged man who is sighing at something and drinking wine. Many because he is drunk his tone sounded little rude

"How dare you speak to young master Bai like that." The girl was about to flare up but the young master held her hand to hold her back. The girl blushed and sat.

"Hey waiter, I will pay everyone bills here , except for this man." Everyone in the restaurant heard him and cheered.

The young master had a smug look and looked at the drunken man, but to his surprise the man smiled at him and said , "Thank You."

He was little taken back, he wanted to make the man angry but he got angry instead. In rage he called the waiter again, "Waiter, I will order an expensive drink to every table except for this man's table."

Everyone cheered again and even shouted "Young master Bai Songshi is the best."

The Young Master had a smug look and looked over the table, he was taken back because the man was still looking at him with a calm smiling face and said, "Thank You."

The friends of the young master knew what was about to happen. They tried to stop him but it was too late, "I'll order the expensive desserts to everyone at the table , except for this one."

After saying that, the young master and his friends turned their heads slowly. Unsurprisingly the man was looking at them and smiling and said, "Thank You so much Young Master Bai Songshi."

After the meal the young master paid the bill and called the waiter and asked in low Voice, "Who is that man? Does he have some loose screw in his head."

The waiter looked at the young master while trying to hold back the laughter. He said, "No sir, he is the owner of this restaurant."

The owner is none other than Tyler White. The Restaurant name is "Spiritual Bytes."

It's been a year since Tyler joined Frozen Heart Sect. He is practising a cultivation art called Lake View art. It is water attribute type art. Since his attributes are ice, starting with water is the best and easy way. Even if it is easier for everyone, that is not the case for Tyler.

For Tyler, the cultivation art was far more profound than he had anticipated, and even after an entire year, he was still yet to even understand all of its content. He felt as if he had grasped onto something, but at the same time, he felt as if he understood nothing.

"That is because Lake view Art is the toughest one out there even though it is just qi refining realm cultivation." A pleasant voice snapped out of his daze as he looked at the charming girl in front of him.

"Senior sister Priscilla" Tyler smiled at her.

"Junior brother, Lake View art is nothing but imagining oneself as Lake. That's what my master said to me too. Well I don't understand what that means."

"Imagine Oneself as Lake" Tyler pondered for a moment before thanking his senior sister.

Tyler left the sect and decided to do business. He rented a shop in 'Immortal Gathering Point' plaza and made a Hotel. He doesn't care about ingredients at all. All he needed to copy the veggies. He hired some qi cultivators and some mortals as workers.

He also uses sect names for protection and all. So he has to pay some remuneration on the income to the sect. He doesn't care about the money at all. It is just a facade to hide his wealth.

"What brings you here, Senior Sister?" Tyler asked.

"Am I not allowed to visit? Junior brother?" She asked as she put on an angry expression.

"Of Course not, Waiter bring senior sister her favourite dishes." He gave an order and turned to his senior sister and explained patiently , " I mean if there are any orders that senior sister wanted to give?"

"I don't dare to give any orders to the juniors. I am just lucky enough to become a foundation building realm. Though I am an Inner disciple, I still lack some spirit stones. That's why I came to see my younger brother if you have any jobs for me?"

Tyler was baffled. Well, not fully baffled. Humans are the only creatures in the world where they need money to survive. So it's not surprising that his senior sister wants a job.

"But, isn't the allowance of the sect not enough?"

"Not enough junior brother. You have no idea how much a girl needs to spend solely on herself. Especially when it comes to beauty like me." She slightly showed her curves and gave him a teasing look. The thing is Tyler is famous in the sect for money making. In a year he opened a restaurant and then made some money. No one knows how much he makes. But he already owned a mansion in the sect.

Priscilla is a greedy girl. But that doesn't mean she will suck up to the Rich man. She just wanted to see if there are any Jobs that her junior brother can offer.

"Actually I want a host for my auction hall." Tyler said after thinking for a moment.

"Auction Hall? You have an auction hall?"

"Yes, I am gonna open a new one. It's on the third floor. Senior sister, are you ok-"

"Please Hire me." Priscilla shouted with excitement.

Easily he got an Auctioneer and a beautiful one that is.

Cold lake water flowed out between the mountains and bright moonlight shone, illuminating the lake, giving a sheen that resemble fish scales.

"Junior brother, I don't think it will work." Priscilla said

"Let me try my first senior sister." Tyler said as he dived into the lake. He swam to the bottom and sat crossed legs.

He began to chant the incantation in his mind as he tried to feel the lake. Priscilla rubbed her eyes. Because for a second Tyler vanished and became one with water before turning back. There is no way that could have happened. She thought for herself and continued to protect him.

A gentle energy suddenly enveloped in his heart. Then, it instantly surged into his limbs, bones, and soul, greatly strengthening them.

Tyler White Finally stepped into 1st stage of Qi refining realm.

Tyler opened his eyes and shouted "Yes". But he forgot he was inside the lake so the water entered his mouth. Priscilla laughed and waved her hand. He was thrown out gently by her.

Both Tyler and Priscilla looked at each other and laughed. Tyler has officially become a cultivator.