

## Divine 2551

### Chapter 2551: Ice Flame Continent 8

This disgust emanated from the depths of Ziluo's heart and was expressed without reservation.

Who would want a person with such a low cultivation level to persistently bother them?

Ziluo naturally held this view.

Gu Chaoyan had been examining underperforming herbs when she heard the sharp, disdainful voice. Startled, she turned around to find Ziluo standing there with Kang Yan and several other Kang family members. All eyes were fixed on her, as if she were someone with malicious intentions.

Gu Chaoyan was baffled by what she had done.

Ever since the engagement was called off, Kang Shi had been cultivating in his room. Afterward, he strolled around the clan, encountering mockery along the way. What did it have to do with others?

Why did Ziluo suddenly declare him disgusting?

"The engagement has been broken off, and whatever I do is my own business. Why are you so disgusted?" Gu Chaoyan expressed her displeasure.

Ziluo glanced at Kang Shi.

She snorted.

"It's good that you understand. The engagement has been broken off. I, Ziluo, am now engaged to Brother Kangyan. In the future, I will marry him. We will mind our own business. Don't overthink it. Since the decision has been made, there's no need for regrets. Stop bothering me. Being pestered by a good-for-nothing is truly disgusting!" Ziluo made her stance clear.

Gu Chaoyan frowned as she observed this strong-willed girl.

Honestly,

From the beginning to the end of the engagement, she had at least felt that it was reasonable for the True Martial Race and this girl named Ziluo to call off the engagement. After all, certain matters affected their interests, and they were merely safeguarding their own interests.

She harbored no feelings for this family or the girl.

But now...

She felt genuine disgust.

Keeping to oneself and minding one's own business was the right approach.

Regardless of how inept Kang Shi might be, there was a need for rationality.

"Are you out of your mind? Did I seek you out after the engagement was broken off? Did I approach you? I cultivated on my own and strolled around the clan, never looking for you. Yet, here you are in the herb field, discussing so much, accusing me of pestering you. I believe you're the one doing the pestering," Gu Chaoyan expressed with disdain. "Let's go, the engagement is over. It's none of your concern."

With that, she squatted back down to examine the herbs.

Ziluo had never been shouted at so disrespectfully before. She felt both embarrassed and angry at the sudden outburst.

Initially, she was a bit annoyed by Kang Shi's actions and had come to settle scores with him.

However...

It seemed they were the ones who had taken the initiative to find him. Kang Shi, this so-called “trash,” hadn’t actively sought them out.

She assumed he was here to seek her out.

Moreover, Kang Shi had a history of this behavior. Every year, when he spoke of breaking off the engagement, he would come to beg, lowering his voice.

Logically, it should be the same now.

This good-for-nothing seemed to cling to slim hopes.

Right?

“Kang Shi, what are you saying? How dare you be so fierce with Ziluo? Even if you don’t respect Elder Brother Kang Yan, you should still consider the True Martial Race. You’re quite audacious.”

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“What a fool,” the Kang family’s disciple hastily came to Ziluo’s aid.

In their eyes, Ziluo wasn’t at fault; Kang Shi seemed to be feigning humility more than anyone else.

“Who are you calling stupid? You’re the ones stirring up trouble.” Gu Chaoyan, unwilling to suppress her anger, shot back.

Especially now.

He couldn’t afford to be weak.

With his engagement annulled, he looked bad, and his father’s position in the clan was precarious.

If he continued to endure mistreatment, they’d truly have no standing in the clan.

So from now on, regardless of the circumstances, Gu Chaoyan had to stand up for himself.

The Kang family disciples didn't expect Kang Shi to be so unreasonable.

While everyone in the Anicca Race could be assertive, Kang Shi wasn't known for such behavior.

One of them made a move against Kang Shi.

No matter the words spoken, physical confrontation seemed more fitting.

Ziluo's anger cooled as she utilized her spiritual energy against Kang Shi. However, with Gu Chaoyan in control of Kang Shi's body, he swiftly dodged the attack, and the spiritual energy missed its target.

In the eyes of onlookers, it appeared as a mere mishap, an empty swing of spiritual energy. Kang Shi was deemed lucky.

Yet, luck wasn't a universal trait.

Therefore, without dwelling on it, they continued their assault.

Gu Chaoyan, no longer intending to hide, acknowledged that they wouldn't let him off today. Since they were determined to pursue him, there was no need to seek refuge.

It just so happened that his cultivation had already improved, and he needed a way to make it known.

Now seemed like the perfect opportunity.

Gu Chaoyan skillfully evaded the incoming spiritual energy attacks, wasting no time for anyone to linger. Sending out a surge of spiritual energy, she knocked the assailant away, causing him to fall to the ground and cough up blood.

Initially, his evasion might have seemed lucky, but the extent of the damage inflicted on his attacker was no longer attributable to mere luck.

Kang Yan gaped at Kang Shi.

Could it be...

Had his cultivation, dormant for so many years, actually broken through?

That couldn't be!

Kang Yan persisted in attacking Kang Shi, eager to gauge the extent of his newfound strength.

Confronting Kang Yan, Kang Shi's sixth-level Martial Sage cultivation proved woefully inadequate.

Gu Chaoyan attempted to avoid Kang Shi, devising a strategy to handle the situation herself. Unexpectedly, Kang Yan found himself unable to harm Kang Shi.

This left Kang Yan feeling uneasy.

He promptly ceased his assault, as if issuing a warning. Persisting in pestering Kang Shi would only expose his powerlessness to the clan, diminishing his standing. It was not something he wanted.

"What's the matter? Making strides in cultivation now, and bullying your fellow clan members?" Kang Yan inquired after stopping.

"Everyone has eyes. I didn't initiate the attack. I'm not weaker than anyone else. Throughout, I, Kang Shi, have been the one subjected to bullying. Who else could I possibly bully?" Kang Shi retorted.

"Very well!" Kang Yan held his emotions in check and stated. After a pause, he added, "In the future, keep your distance from Ziluo."

“If you persist in bothering her, don’t hold me responsible for being impolite,” Kang Yan cautioned. Then, with a rigid tone, he addressed the injured Kang family disciple, “Let’s go.”

The Kang Clan disciple wore an ugly expression, casting a fierce glare at Kang Shi before departing in a sorry state.

Had it not been for Kang Shi, he wouldn’t have suffered such a loss of face today. Losing to Kang Shi was undeniably embarrassing.

As the group left, Gu Chaoyan regarded them with incredulity.

He must be delusional.

With plans to head home, Gu Chaoyan’s departure was abruptly halted. The disciples responsible for the medicinal fields wore stern expressions. “Kangshi, you’ve caused damage to these herbs. Figure out how you intend to compensate.”

Gu Chaoyan surveyed the fields, noting a considerable amount of destruction. The damaged herbs were ones that could only barely recover.

During the earlier altercation with Kang Yan and the Kang family disciple, Gu Chaoyan had been cautious in her actions and remained unharmed.

The disciple in charge of the medicinal field arrived, expressing his displeasure. Having stayed indoors during the initial confrontation, he now squarely placed the blame on Kang Shi.

Aware of their inability to offend someone of Kang Yan’s stature, they deemed it acceptable if Kang Shi was mistreated.

Left with no alternative, Gu Chaoyan acquiesced.

She gazed at him deliberately and stated, “I’ll compensate you with these herbs.”

“How do you plan to compensate? Are you suggesting you’ll plant them yourself? Fork over ten Spirit Stones, and we can put an end to this matter,” declared the medicinal field overseer.

Spirit Stones? Gu Chaoyan had none to spare, making it an impractical demand.

“I’ll compensate solely with medicine. In three days, you’ll witness better growth than before. Take it or leave it. If you’re dissatisfied, you can take the matter up with the one truly responsible, like Kangyan,” Gu Chaoyan asserted with unwavering determination, establishing herself as someone not easily trifled with.

“You...” The medicinal field overseer felt a twinge of anger.

However, contemplating Kang Shi’s recent display of power, he reconsidered. Rumors circulated that Kang Shi’s cultivation had seen a recent boost, potentially reopening his conception and governor vessels for further advancement.

No need to pursue this matter further here.

“If you can’t pay, there will be consequences. I’ll report this to the clan,” warned the medicinal field overseer.

“Sure,” Kang Shi agreed promptly.

Confident in the potency of his medicine, Kang Shi also harbored hopes of showcasing his abilities. If the herbs he cultivated garnered attention, he might swiftly attain what he desired.

The medicinal field overseer, satisfied with the swift agreement, was in high spirits. After all, he stood to suffer no losses. The poorly planted herbs were bound to earn him a reprimand, and pinning the blame on Kang Shi would shield him from the clan’s displeasure.

With a glance at the overseer, Gu Chaoyan suggested, “If you can, just leave. I’ll handle it.”

The medicinal field overseer departed without a second thought.

Gu Chaoyan surveyed the herbs. Though undamaged, some had fallen over.

She took out some Spirit Spring Water from her space.

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Having irrigated the Holy Spirit Water in the designated herb area, he returned.

Thanks to the Holy Spirit Water, these herbs would flourish within three days, ready for harvest on the second day. Not only would they be superior to other herbs, but their effects would also be enhanced.

Gu Chaoyan found immense satisfaction in today's accomplishments, feeling a sense of relaxation.

However, others couldn't share in this tranquility, particularly Kang Yan.

Upon returning, Kang Yan briefed his father, the current First Elder of the Anicca Clan, about Kang Shi's recent developments.

"What? Kang Shi's cultivation has advanced? This progress is linked to the annulment of the engagement? There's actual improvement?" The First Elder queried incredulously.

For four years, Kang Shi had shown no signs of progress, leading most to assume he would remain stagnant. It was widely believed that he might end up working outside the clan in a few years.

Unexpectedly...

He had made strides.

"What's his cultivation level now?"

"Kang Yan was defeated outright. He's at least a top-notch Martial Saint," Kang Yan reported.



In truth, Kang Yan suspected Kang Shi had reached Martial Saint and Heavenly levels. However, to ensure his father took the matter seriously, he embellished slightly, emphasizing the top-notch Martial Saint status to capture his attention.

Top-notch Martial Saint?

At the Level Six Martial King Realm, it seemed as if Kang Shi had undergone a sudden and remarkable advancement in a single day.

If this progression persisted, there might not be a place for them within the Anicca Race.

“Yan’er, have Ziluo return to the True Martial Race and expedite the marriage preparations. Additionally, accelerate everything within the clan,” the First Elder advised, “It’s better to forestall trouble than deal with it later. That kid displayed exceptional talent in his youth. Who’s to say if that talent has resurfaced.”

Kang Yan wore an unhappy expression, clearly harboring resentment.

Why?

Why was Kang Shi consistently fortunate from a young age? Despite Kang Yan’s prolonged and arduous efforts, he found himself overshadowed once again by Kang Shi.

“Don’t dwell on such thoughts. Ziluo is already yours, and the True Martial Race will support you in the future. Even if Kang Shi’s talent has returned, he’s aged and has remained dormant for many years. How formidable could he be now? He’s merely reclaiming what was once his,” the First Elder reassured, well aware of his son’s concerns.

Only then did Kang Yan’s mood slightly improve.

He descended to make the necessary preparations.

The next day...

Before dawn, Gu Chaoyan was already in the field, eager to witness the results and prevent any potential interference.

Upon reaching the medicinal field, she observed the herbs brimming with vitality, having grown ten centimeters taller overnight.

Elated, Gu Chaoyan awaited the arrival of the overseer. When he appeared, she pointed at the thriving herbs. "Are you satisfied with my compensation?"

The overseer rubbed his eyes in disbelief. "What? Is this real?"

Upon closer inspection, he confirmed the truth.

This herb, considered relatively precious, was notoriously challenging to cultivate. Even if it managed to grow, it usually did so poorly, halving its efficacy.

Among the 15 overseers of the medicinal field, each had received a seed of this herb, but none harbored much hope given its difficulty to cultivate. It was in their best interest to avoid any mishaps.

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Who would have anticipated this?

From adversity, Kang Shi found an opportunity.

He possessed a unique method.

If he could acquire this technique, wouldn't it propel him to prominence? The future held promising benefits.

"Yes, yes," the overseer of the medicinal field acknowledged. "Could you share the method with me? If you do, this matter will be unrelated to you. Furthermore, I'll reward you generously."

Considered a form of enticement, the offer was fitting, given Kang Shi's current predicament.

"Sure," Gu Chaoyan responded forthrightly.

The overseer seemed unsurprised, anticipating her agreement and appearing quite at ease.

"I can provide you with some low-level pills, although..."

Before the overseer could finish his sentence, Gu Chaoyan interjected, "Find me an alchemy furnace that I no longer want, and I'll assist you in cultivating all these herbs."

Initially taken aback by the sudden request, the overseer paused before comprehending her proposition.

After considering it, he agreed, "Certainly!"

If she wasn't interested in an alchemy furnace, obtaining one would only require spending some Spirit Stones.

Alchemy furnaces were not in high demand.

Those versed in pill refinement were scarce, making it relatively easy to acquire an alchemy furnace.

"Then it's settled. I'll retrieve it tomorrow at this time," declared Gu Chaoyan.

"Sure."

Gu Chaoyan smiled, thoroughly content with the seamless resolution.

Armed with the alchemy furnace, Kang Shi anticipated amassing numerous Spirit Stones and valuable Dharma artifacts soon.

With little else to occupy her time, she either wandered aimlessly or kept herself concealed.

Meanwhile, the Medicine Sect of the Anicca Clan was abuzz with activity. A mysterious figure had cultivated spirit herbs of exceptional grade, boasting remarkable efficacy in pill refinement.

This disciple found himself thrust into the spotlight.

Entrusted by the Medicine Sect with the cultivation of spirit herbs, he received numerous rewards, and his status within the sect soared.

Little did anyone know that this success was tied to Kang Shi.

Simultaneously, the youngest daughter of the True Martial Race's Patriarch, originally planning a two-day stay in the Anicca Race, hastily returned. The First Elder promptly set their wedding date just three days later.

The sudden turn of events fueled speculation about potential developments.

The First Elder merely hoped for mutual cultivation and improvement.

Most accepted the reasoning and refrained from probing further.

Gu Chaoyan, having acquired a rather dilapidated alchemy furnace, devoted her nights to watering the medicinal field and the rest of her time to cultivation. She also utilized her time to refine pills needed by the Anicca Race, ensuring she remained a valuable asset.

This way, she avoided becoming an anomaly while contributing meaningfully.

As for Kang Yan and Ziluo's impending marriage, she scarcely paid it any mind.

However...

Even if she didn't concern herself with it.

Someone else did.

Kang Yan was among those individuals.

It had been no small feat for him to win over Kang Shi's woman. He couldn't just let Kang Shi off so effortlessly.

If Kang Shi preferred not to witness it, that wouldn't be acceptable either.

Kang Yan took the initiative to arrange for individuals to invite Kang Shi and the entire Anicca Race to the wedding venue.

Kang Shi found himself escorted to the ceremony by a multitude of people.

He regarded the entire affair as a mere waste of his time.

However...

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However, others held a different view.

Upon Kang Shi's arrival, they sensed that the wedding would become much more animated.

Regarding Ziluo, the youngest daughter of the Clan Leader of True Martial Race, who was initially engaged to Kang Shi and now married to Kang Yan, there lingered a question of how Kang Shi might feel about it. Perhaps he was unwilling to accept the situation.

Yet, Kang Shi displayed little emotion.

He remained in serene composure, treating the event like any other bystander, as if it bore no relevance to him.

The Medicine Sect disciple overseeing the medicinal field sidled over with a furtive expression. “Did it work?”

Having reaped numerous benefits, his perspective on Kang Shi had undergone a significant shift.

People no longer regarded Kang Shi as a good-for-nothing. His past as a prodigious youth set him apart, showcasing abilities beyond the reach of others—such as cultivating spirit herbs or aspiring to refine pills.

Not everyone possessed the skill to refine pills.

Kang Shi’s interest in it suggested a degree of confidence, and the Medicine Sect disciple believed it could indeed be achieved.

Wouldn’t life improve if he secured the first opportunity to inspect and discuss potential cooperation?

“Okay,” Gu Chaoyan replied, handing him a vial of medicine. “This is for you. If you find it beneficial, come to me, and we can discuss further.”

“Good brother, I knew you wouldn’t disappoint!” The Medicine Sect disciple beamed.

As the two conversed discreetly,

Kang Yan, clad in red attire, approached. “Kang Shi, you’ve also graced us with your presence.”

“She’s fine. Don’t worry. Even though the True Martial Race is reluctant to wed Ziluo to you, I’ll ensure she is well-treated. A beauty like Ziluo deserves nothing less,” Kang Yan assured.

Following those words, Gu Chaoyan caught another disdainful look.

He chuckled. “Stolen goods are always deemed more precious. I have faith in you.”

Kang Yan shot him a hostile glance.

In public, Kang Yan maintained a gracious smile, treating Kang Shi as if he were the lesser party.

“It’s quite audacious,” remarked the Medicine Sect disciple.

“Some people are like that. They possess so little and never appreciate anything good, constantly trying to appropriate valuable things for themselves. They abandon them when they find something better elsewhere. We don’t want such things. It’s better that they’re gone,” Gu Chaoyan asserted seriously.

“What’s wrong with you? How dare you speak that way about Ziluo?” Someone overheard and voiced their displeasure.

“Ziluo? Who’s talking about Ziluo? She’s getting married, isn’t she? We’re discussing keeping pets, discussing what types are suitable and which are not,” Gu Chaoyan clarified with seriousness.

“You...” Accusations of mocking Ziluo surfaced.

Unbeknownst to him, Kang Shi had transformed.

His sharp tongue and changed demeanor marked a departure from his previous self.

“Come on, let’s talk about pet beasts,” Gu Chaoyan insisted earnestly.

Yet, it wasn’t a member of the Kang family who responded.

Instead, the leader of the True Martial Race approached, lifting Gu Chaoyan and declaring, “How dare you show up here? Ziluo has broken off the engagement with you, so you should be aware of the situation, or else...”

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“The Anicca Race won’t retaliate against you because of your father, but the entire True Martial Race won’t spare you. Ziluo is my daughter. You’re useless and don’t deserve her. That’s why you

called off the engagement. Understand this and don't show ingratitude," the Clan Leader of the True Martial Race roared angrily.

Observing the Clan Leader of the True Martial Race, Gu Chaoyan couldn't help but sense that Kang Shi was under immense pressure.

Transitioning from a prodigious youth to a cultivator making no progress was already a significant burden. Now, he endured daily malicious scrutiny from these individuals.

Though he behaved appropriately and didn't overstep, it seemed everyone expected him to act malevolently.

As for the daughter of the True Martial Race's Clan Leader, she seemed eager to criticize him like a toad eyeing a swan.

Were these people truly not delusional?

Having already broken off the engagement, Gu Chaoyan had no intention of getting entangled further.

With an amused expression, she addressed the Clan Leader of the True Martial Race, "The Clan Leader of the True Martial Race is truly amusing. I've done nothing untoward. As a member of the Anicca Tribe, I came here to celebrate. I ate, drank, and remained silent. Yet, you all came here to issue warnings."

"Ziluo isn't some coveted elixir; she's just a woman with her own preferences. She'll marry someone else, and I, Kang Shi, won't dare to claim her," Gu Chaoyan declared.

"You!" The Clan Leader of True Martial Race seethed, tempted to attack.

Glancing at them, Gu Chaoyan added, "He who is down need fear no fall. If you don't want everything to proceed smoothly today, then I, Kang Shi, am ready to keep you company!"

The Clan Leader of True Martial Race suppressed his anger. "Just you wait. I'll teach you a lesson."



There was no need. He truly saw no reason to diminish his standing at this juncture.

Currently, the First Elder nearly had control over the Anicca Race. The imminent change of leadership would usher in the First Elder's dominion. In such a scenario, wouldn't it be a trivial matter to deal with a couple of individuals from the Anicca Race?

The Clan Leader of the True Martial Race held a dismissive view. Even if he aimed to confront the Clan Leader of the Impermanence Clan in the future, it would likely be a simple task.

The Clan Leader of the True Martial Race smiled. "I hope you can always remain so resolute."

"Thanks for your well-wishing; I, Kang Shi, will do just that," Gu Chaoyan replied matter-of-factly.

With a wave of his sleeves, the Clan Leader of the True Martial Race departed.

However, Gu Chaoyan behaved as if the man had never been present. What had he been doing earlier? What was he doing now?

Once the Clan Leader of the True Martial Race had completely left and his attention gradually shifted away from Kang Shi, the overseer of the medicinal field attempted to persuade, "Are you okay? Why be so obstinate with him? It would've blown over with a few words. After that woman gets married, you won't have any involvement. It's not wise to be on his bad side."

"..."

"He wouldn't have let me off either way," Gu Chaoyan asserted straightforwardly.

The overseer of the medicinal field seemed visibly surprised, unsure of her rationale.

Gu Chaoyan elucidated bluntly, "I am Ziluo's embarrassing history. As Kangyan consolidates power, rumors about me will circulate, and Kangyan will take notice. At that point, my fate won't be a pleasant one. Since I can anticipate these consequences..."

“The Clan Leader of the True Martial Race is so astute. Having held the position for so long, how could he not have considered these aspects? He even preconceived them before I did. How long can he tolerate my presence?” Gu Chaoyan inquired.

“It doesn’t lead to a favorable outcome either way. I might as well not be deferential to him. We’ve become apparent adversaries, but he’s exercising restraint. If something were to happen to me, wouldn’t suspicion naturally fall on him?”

“I’m simply taking a gamble,” Gu Chaoyan remarked with a smile.

The overseer of the medicinal field gazed at her, suddenly struck with awe.

This Kang Shi.

Despite limited strides in cultivation, his intellect remained that of a prodigy. Furthermore, he was adept at manipulating situations like this.

In the future, he might genuinely set himself apart from the rest.

This disciple now recognized more facets of Kang Shi’s capabilities.

Deciding to seize this opportunity to align himself with Kang Shi, he understood that for his own future, it was worth a try. Without opportunities, everything he did in life would likely follow the same pattern. The future held uncertainties, contingent on the availability of opportunities.

“Gao Zhuo, call me Gao Zhuo from now on. Entrust the matter of the pills to me. If we collaborate effectively, our chances of survival will surely improve,” declared Gao Zhuo, as if envisioning a distant future.

Gu Chaoyan smiled faintly, sensing that her strategy had succeeded.

Part of the reason behind her earlier words was, in fact, for this individual to overhear. She didn’t genuinely hold that perspective.

Gradually establishing a foothold in the Anicca Race was Kang Shi's aim. Relying solely on his strength had its limitations. To expand influence, he needed to gather more individuals to his side.

This Gao Zhuo.

He might not be a virtuous individual.

However, he possessed foresight and ambition.

That was sufficient. It suited her purpose perfectly.

As long as Gao Zhuo remained loyal, she pledged to provide him with a fitting reward before her departure.

His introduction of his name today signified his genuine desire to ally with her and his approval of her. Gu Chaoyan found herself in good spirits.

"Alright, I'll entrust the pills to you. We can discuss the next steps later," Gu Chaoyan said calmly.

"Okay!" Gao Zhuo agreed with a smile.

The two of them continued to indulge in food and drink without engaging in any unnecessary actions.

Contrary to the concerns of Kang Yan, Ziluo, and the Clan Leader of the True Martial Race, nothing unfolded as they feared. Kang Shi remained as composed as if he had never been engaged to Ziluo.

His inaction further irked Kang Yan and Ziluo.

After all, there were numerous motives behind Kang Yan's desire to marry Ziluo. He sought to compete with the Clan Leader's son, who was once a prodigy. This turn of events did not stir any joy in him, as his goal had not been achieved.

As for Ziluo, she questioned whether she was not as alluring as she had presumed. After all, Kang Shi and the Anicca Clan's patriarch had pleaded with her so earnestly. She had thought...

The two of them entered matrimony with a sense of disappointment.

When the time came for the bridal chamber, others withdrew.

Following that, Ziluo remained in the Anicca Race. The Clan Leader of the True Martial Race departed early the next morning, citing an urgent matter in the clan.

The alterations within the Anicca Race were confined to the First Elder's household, while the rest returned to their usual routines.

Gao Zhuo assembled a group of people.

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He intended to market the pills.

"You can purchase these pills and give them a try. They're highly beneficial for cultivation. Moreover, if used skillfully, we have pills that can aid in breakthroughs. One of those pills can guarantee a successful breakthrough. A bottle of pills is priced at just ten Spirit Stones," Gao Zhuo explained.

Gao Zhuo had garnered considerable renown within the Medicine Sect.

He was the sole expert in successfully cultivating spirit herbs, bringing substantial benefits to the Anicca Clan's alchemy chamber.

Given his recent achievements and his affiliation with the Medicine Sect, his words carried significant credibility.

The pills quickly found eager buyers.

Gao Zhuo collected the Spirit Stones and approached Kang Shi.

Gu Chaoyan continued refining other pills. The quantity was limited due to a shortage of herbs.

Anicca Clan's internal disciples were each allotted a courtyard, allowing them to cultivate herbs. As Kang Shi had consistently held a lower cultivation level, he received a modest courtyard with no herbs in front, enabling him to refine numerous pills.

He possessed a decent quantity of herbs and had even gathered some wild plants for refining.

Without disrupting Kang Shi's pill refining process, Gao Zhuo diligently tallied the Spirit Stones on the side.

Since Gao Zhuo primarily handled the promotional aspect, they split the profits from the pills at a 30-70 ratio. Gao Zhuo willingly agreed, recognizing his suitable share beyond the spirit herbs.

Kang Shi had also assured that special pills would be available in the future, which Gao Zhuo could exchange for what he desired. That was satisfactory.

Gu Chaoyan completed the pill refining process and approached. She inspected the Spirit Stones, commenting, "It's working well."

"Fifteen bottles of pills were exchanged for a total of 160 Spirit Stones. The additional 10-plus Spirit Stones were bought when there were fewer pills available."

"I'll take 48 and leave. The rest is yours," Gao Zhuo stated in accordance with their prior agreement.

"Okay," Gu Chaoyan nodded with a smile. She found Gao Zhuo to be an honest and trustworthy person who hadn't engaged in any deceit and adhered to their agreement.

That was quite satisfactory.

'Of course.'

Gu Chaoyan had no intention of pressuring him to accept more Spirit Stones. They were partners, and each could take what they needed. Forcing more friendship might not be appropriate.

“If there’s a need for more pills, bring them to me. Apart from ordinary pills, there’s no fixed charge for the others,” Gu Chaoyan suggested.

“You want to make an appearance?” Gao Zhuo was a bit surprised.

“Yes,” Gu Chaoyan admitted straightforwardly. “As the Clan Leader’s son, I have to be visible. Only by personally being present can I accomplish anything.”

Gao Zhuo seemed to grasp the idea but also appeared a bit perplexed.

Some aspects might not be straightforward to comprehend.

“I understand,” he said, deciding to follow the arrangements and reap the benefits.

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

Indeed, she intended to make an appearance. How could she complete the mission if she remained behind the scenes?

She aimed not only to reestablish the prominence of the Anicca Race but also to make a mark on the Ice Flame Continent.

Taking it one step at a time was her approach.

At present, she had utilized the herbs from the Ice Flame Continent and this alchemy furnace to produce a significant quantity of pills. Once those who had consumed the pills sold by Gao Zhuo experienced the benefits, she planned to further promote these pills.

Initially, there was no noticeable response to the pills for a day or two. Some even harbored doubts, suspecting that Gao Zhuo had deceived them. However, after using the pills and dedicating three to four days to cultivation, they began to experience the pill's effects. For many individuals whose progress in cultivation had been painstakingly slow, with months passing by without a breakthrough to the first level, the pills catalyzed breakthroughs for almost everyone.

This extraordinary effect drove them to a state of excitement.

Being a race deeply devoted to cultivation, the Anicca Race's members possessed a fervent desire for progress. The remarkable benefits of the pills fueled their enthusiasm, creating a rush to purchase with Spirit Stones for fear of the pills running out.

Gao Zhuo, occupied with tending to the spirit herbs, addressed the influx of people, stating bluntly, "I'm busy. If you want pills, go find Kang Shi. The pills are his, and he has various types available. Approach him for anything you need."

Gao Zhuo conveyed this information during their conversation.

Kang Shi?

The crowd questioned whether they had misheard.

The pills were Kang Shi's?

And there were multiple types?

Kang Shi had long been incapacitated; this was common knowledge.

How could he possess such potent pills?

Despite harboring suspicions about Kang Shi, the effectiveness of the pills prompted them to seek him out.

Their attitude towards Kang Shi differed from that towards Gao Zhuo.

“Kang Shi, come out. Do you have pills? We brought Spirit Stones. Show us what you’ve got,” someone shouted.

Upon hearing the commotion, Gu Chaoyan refrained from emerging and continued her pill refinement.

Despite the continued clamor, when the crowd realized their efforts were in vain, they eventually took the initiative to enter.

Upon entering, one of them accused, “Kang Shi, what’s the matter? Why didn’t you come out?”

Gu Chaoyan, engrossed in her elixir-making, glanced up from the furnace. “What is it? I’m busy.”

Her demeanor exuded a coolness, indicating she was not particularly welcoming to these visitors. It seemed as though her routine had been disrupted.

This stark contrast surprised those who came to purchase the pills. After all, it was Kang Shi. Considering his stagnant cultivation, many were reluctant to acknowledge him. Therefore, they had expected him to appear, but he did not.

Gradually, their initially arrogant attitudes wavered.

One of them questioned, “Gao Zhuo claimed those pills are yours, and we still need them. Produce the pills. We’ve already brought the Spirit Stones.”

Despite a slight improvement, their tone towards Kang Shi lacked politeness and carried an air of entitlement.

Gu Chaoyan, still focused on her pill-making, looked up and stated emotionlessly, “Those pills are gone. I’m not making them anymore.”

“What!” The group grew agitated. Many had hoped to swiftly elevate their cultivation levels, but now they faced disappointment.

“When will they be available?”



“When I have the time,” Gu Chaoyan coldly replied.

Displeasure etched their faces.

How could those pills belong to Kang Shi? It was truly infuriating.

Turning around, they planned to leave.

“But there are a few other types of pills here.”